

CAMARO CORNER



Celebrating
Great American Performance

November 2010

The View from the top.

November 2010

Here we are, winding down yet another year. The old adage that the older you get, the faster time seems to go by certainly is true, for me at least. I'll be 60 years old in less than 3 years and when I bought my first Camaro brand new in 1974, I don't believe I ever even considered that I might be sitting here still writing about Camaros. Unbelievable!

2011 will be here before we know it, but we've still got a couple months of 2010 to get through, so let's get right to it.



By Doug Warren,
WMCC President

November WMCC Club meeting, Sunday, November 7:

The November Club meeting is often the last Club meeting of the year that we still have our Camaros out for, before the snow flies. So, we'll plan another driving event, only this time it will be in the southern regions of Michigan while we try to get one last look at any fall colors that are still hanging around.

As in the last several November Club meetings, we will be meeting at **B & G Discount**, which is located about ½ mile south of Schoolcraft on US131. The address is: **15632 S. US131, Schoolcraft, MI 49087.**

We'll be LEAVING B&G's parking lot at **12:30pm**, for the color tour/cruise, so if you plan on shopping (and it's recommended) plan on being there early enough to be done

by then. They open at 9am. Hopefully we'll be able to enjoy one of those glorious, clear and crisp fall days and one last cruise as a group, before we put the cars up for the winter.

We'll end the cruise at a nice restaurant for our Club meeting and dinner. Pray for good weather.

The Muscle Car & Corvette Nationals, Nov. 20 & 21, 2010:

Don't forget about the **Muscle Car & Corvette Nationals** show on November 20 & 21 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois (Chicago area).

This is the second annual show, and if the success of last year's event is any indication, you will not want to miss this show. Our old buddy, Bob Ashton (from our Autorama days) is the show chairman and has worked tirelessly to get the top muscle cars in the nation at this show. I would highly recommend you attend, I know I'm planning to go again. You can keep up on all the latest developments on their website: <http://mcacn.com/> Pssst If you like cars (duh), you *really* should make an effort to attend this show *really!* You won't be disappointed.

WMCC annual Christmas Party, Saturday evening, Dec. 11:

One of our most enjoyable traditions for

WMCC is our annual Christmas Party. Carl & Teresa Lins have very graciously hosted our Christmas Party for the last several years, but have asked for a much deserved break this year. Therefore, we're looking for a new home for the party. I have heard that there may be an interest in hosting the party by one or two of our WMCC families, but have not heard anything definite. So, if you would be willing to host the Club Christmas Party, let me know ASAP! *Thanks!*

The Sunday Drive Road Rally report:

Before last month's Club meeting, John Smith came up with a totally unique and fun road rally that had everyone enjoying a nice autumn drive through northern Kent and

southern Newago Countys, while they followed the funny story of a couple taking a "typical" Sunday afternoon drive.

While the results varied from car to car with some people getting a little lost. A few others did very well. It was very obvious that Dave & Angie Kemp, as well as Al & Alan Jr Boyer followed the route flawlessly. When they turned in their mileages, they were both just a few tenths of a mile off from the Official Mileage, with Dave & Angie just a couple of clicks closer. Therefore the Kemp's took first place and the Boyer's a very close second. Congratulations to all!

Club group photo in front of Berger Chevrolet:

Don't forget to order your copy of our fantastic group photo from Ray. They are only \$30 each. He still has a couple that are already printed up, and can get more printed as needed. Contact Ray with your order: zmanrc@hotmail.com

2011 HOT ROD Power Tour Dates & Cities

Saturday June 4
Cocoa Beach, FL
Port Canaveral

Sunday June 5
Valdosta, GA
South Georgia Motorsports Park

Monday June 6
Montgomery, AL
Montgomery Motorsports Park

Tuesday June 7
Nashville, TN
LP Field

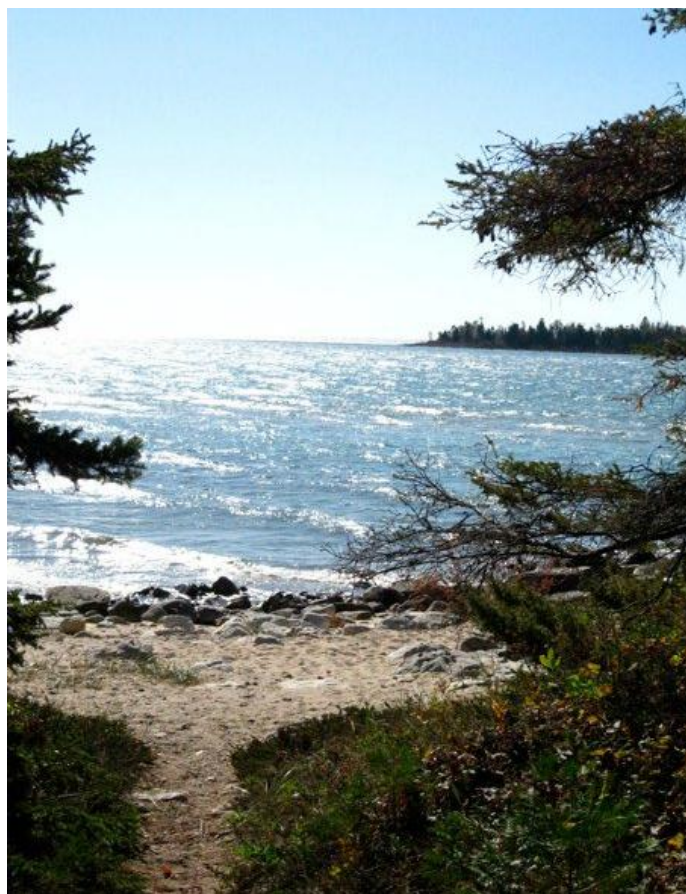
Wednesday June 8
Indianapolis, IN
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Thursday June 9
Muskegon, MI
Downtown Muskegon

Friday June 10
Detroit, MI
Metro Beach Metropark

Saturday June 11
Detroit, MI
Long Haulers Ceremony (Location TBD)

Get all the Power Tour updates by texting "HRPT" to "59925."



2010 Fall Color Tour by John Smith

We left Ionia on Thursday morning about 15 min. late which is pretty good for us and met the rest of the group at M-57. We made our first potty stop in Marion and then took a break for pictures at Lake City. The city park let us get the lake in the background, and somebody left a big old caddy in the way, but we managed.

We took a lunch break at White Tails lounge in Kalkaska. The service was iffy, but the food was OK. The waitress told us about the specials then raised the price because they didn't start until 4pm. When we were leaving she was doing the same thing to another couple.

When we got close to East Jordan, I realized that I had never been to Boyne City before so thought it would be a nice place to go. Dennis Michael's thought so too, since they had spent some time there last summer for a boat show. This is when all the fun began. I got turned around in East Jordan so we had Dennis lead us to Boyne City. There's some great roads around there.



We went to the city marina for some more pictures on the water front. The grounds keeper had a nice 68/9 Ford L T D convertible that he drove every day and he told us to go just outside of town to Classic Instruments Shop. His son was part owner. He said that they would welcome us with open arms and had a lot of neat stuff to see.

He wasn't kidding. John was great and they had a whole bunch of neat stuff to see. Apparently at one time they restored cars, but now they concentrate on just the instrument clusters, though

they will do some car work too. The place reminded me a lot of Nyle's shop, only with more cars. They had everything and a story to go with each item, from the 30's on up. There was a "Viper want-to-be", too. The story goes that the person wanted to buy Viper from Chrysler but never could make the deal with them or the government, so he made 2 cars from the viper drive line and a lot of carbon fiber. It has gull wing doors but is not so rounded as a Viper, but a little more pointed. They set the 24hrs record at Le Mans, and then the factory Viper boys came down and took it back! They also had a barn find, some mid-40's convertible from the area, but didn't do anything but clean it up and it looked awesome.

John told us we had to stop back down the street to Brownie's. He's a Mopar guy, but said we would not be disappointed. He told us the Corvette club was coming tomorrow, and that we could call and set it up again for next year.

Brownie Mascow is his name and we found him in a T-shirt and Blue jeans finishing up stripping a 68 Dodge Dart. He too was glad to see us and was very welcoming. He had one Pontiac there, but he had not even started on it yet. I never thought I would see a 1,700,000 dollar Mopar in Boyne City, but he had one! It was a 1970 Challenger R/T with a 426 hemi. One of only 15 left. I guess because they didn't make very many and they wrecked a lot over the years, not very many have survived. I think he said the car had appeared in over 140 publications and was the model for a collector's diecast car, and much, much more. Brownie also had a '70 Hemi Cuda, triple black, that is the only one made triple black. Besides the Cuda and Challenger, he



had some "big bodied" Mopar performance cars. There was a '63 Plymouth Fury and a '64 Plymouth Belvedere, both with 426 Max Wedge engines and a '65 Plymouth Savoy with a 426 Hemi which looked like one of those "factory race car" light weight (no radio, no back seat, no heater, etc) specials that the factory slipped through from time to time during that period (kinda like a GM COPO). Pretty cool stuff!



Between those two stops, we were very glad that we went through Boyne City. As we headed out of Boyne City we were running later than planned, so we just shot up 131 to Petoskey, we got split up in town but met at a gas station on the far side of town, and we were on our way to Harbor Springs. As luck would have it, we got into the tunnel-of-trees behind a KIA minivan with some old guys in it. Ugggghhhh !!!!! They weren't in any hurry at all, so that made some of the really good parts, kind of drag on.

The Legs Inn restaurant was the same as always, packed with a 20min wait. But the beer was good at the bar. Mike and Sue Miller called about 4pm and said that they were already at the motel. It was just dusk when we left Legs. The next section of road was very winding but a little rougher than we would have liked. Once we got closer to Mackinaw you would get a glimpse of the bridge with the lights on which was pretty cool. We saw a huge porcupine walking down the road and luckily nobody hit it.

When we checked in at the Driftwood Inn, wouldn't you know it the only people who were out of a room were Jan/Al and Randy/April. We figure they re-rented the rooms because we were late getting in but Mike and Sue told them we

were coming. HmMMM.....

Friday we got a late start with everybody moving to the Wayside Inn just up the street. As it turns out that we saved 6 more dollars per room and the rooms were bigger and quieter.

We left St. Ignace around 11am and headed north on the Mackinaw Trail. We went past the casino, just to show everybody where it was, the bridge over the Carp River is getting the "Obama fix" so we had to get on I-75 and go north to M-134 and make our way over to Detour. This road had two stops, gas at Cedarville and then after you get past the mine, it runs along the shore line close enough to see the water a lot. Every time I would see a spot that looked good for pictures, we were by it. I didn't want to turn around, but we found a road side park. You couldn't see the water very well, it was just through the trees, about 50yards but the trees were perfect color and the sun had just enough spots to shine through, so it was very pretty, the whole parking area was covered with leaves, making it look like we were parking in the woods.

When we got to Detour they were already loading the ferry and I pulled right down in the way, we confused some of the hunters that were getting on, but we didn't hear any complaints. We stopped at the public marina and took some more pictures. Caribou Drive out the back side of Detour was a beautiful road with lots of curves and plenty of color. This merged us back onto M-48 which took us into Sault St Marie. We passed a little hole-in-the-wall that had a sign on top that said Gibby's Bar. There was more construction on M-48 so we got back on the X-way for a short time. There is a road that runs along the river from about 9 Mile into town, if you remember the news saying that there were some counties that were turning paved roads back to gravel for cost savings, well this was one of them! So we had to turn around again and back track just a short 1/2 mile. Getting to the Sault we were passing the city marina and had to make a potty stop. It was a nice place for more pictures, too.

Once we got downtown the plan was to eat at a little sports bar, a nice place with rock interior walls and a copper ceiling. Maloney's is the name but once again construction got in the way. They are redoing the sewers in Sault St. Marie and everything was brown with dust. So we

backtracked again about 2 miles, this time to a smaller place called Antlers. The inside of Antlers is decorated with all kinds of stuffed critters. The food was good and not too high priced, either.

We bi-passed the locks because of the construction, and headed to Brimley and the Indian Cemetery with a look out on a very high hill. By this time we are driving into the sun and the glare of a 4th gen windshield was tremendous and almost made me stop at the bottom of the hill. We came to a sharp right-hand turn and then a one lane paved road with at least a 40 degree incline, through the trees, with no guard rail, what a hoot. Once on top, the view was the best I have ever seen, across the river there is a large windmill farm, 180 of them, the most I have ever seen before was maybe 50. On this day at least 100 or more were visible. Some of the group took advantage of the back drop and one by one moved the cars in place and took pictures.

We got back on the road to Tahquamenon Falls, by way of the Lake Shore Drive (which runs along the shore of White Fish Bay) out to M123. This time Randy was leading and traffic was light. This was some of the best roads so far and we made up some time too. We made a stop in Paradise for gas again and then onto the Falls. We opted to head straight to the Falls without stopping at the brewery and gift shop and went straight to the upper falls, My mistake, it turns out that is the one with the gift shop and all! As we were parking we noticed a Ford Model A Club was also in town. They drove them up from down south. It made us feel pretty good to be riding in our "old cars" looking a lot more comfy. It turns out once we got done viewing the falls, we all sat on the porch in big rocking chairs and conversed a little while. We started back to St. Ignace down M-123 and a vote was taken to have supper at the Mackinaw Grill, which is a kind of a nostalgic place with a Caboose for part of the front of the building.

Dinner was OK at the Mackinaw Grill, I was tired and we left shortly after eating but I hear that if you stayed a little later, that there was a red 2010 Camaro that did an awesome burnout. It even had a really loud exhaust! You will have to get the rest of the story from somebody else. LOL

Saturday morning we knew we had to get an early start and I think we were on the road by 9:30am, which was pretty good. We started out heading west on US-2 along the shore of Lake Michigan. Trying not to upset the locals, we followed traffic for a little while until I just couldn't handle it any longer, so we cautiously worked our way around a lot of traffic. I was finally able to set the cruise control at 64 mph to play it safe. Being up front, I didn't see a lot of the action, but I heard that Dave Verberg was doing some kind of stress test back in the line somewhere!

Just past M-77, we made our first potty stop of the day and it worked out well, because this was just about 15 miles away from Big Springs. I wasn't sure exactly where I was going, so Dennis Edwards took the lead with his GPS. We skirted around Manistique and it took us right to the river, we were only one turn off, but we made it OK. I don't think I mentioned earlier, but at the Falls on Friday we were late enough that we didn't have to get entry permits, but the Park Rangers were working the park at Big Springs so we all had to pay. They started the new law with a \$10 yearly permit that they sold us, the only bad part was it expires on your birthday.

After getting parked and looking around, and yes, more pictures again, we made it to the raft over that goes over the springs. There's a large hand wheel driving a rubber tire that moved us along two steel cables. The water was crystal clear and watching the sand move when the water came out was mystic. I think we over powered the rubber tire and it started to slip, but we made it back to the dock. We didn't stay around for the next group to see if they made it in. At this point Derek and Vicki had to head out and



start the trip back to Wisconsin, something to do with their horses. We enjoyed the time that they did spend with us.

We then back tracked out to M-94 and headed north to Munising to the Pictured Rock Boat Tours. Again, great color along the river and nice winding roads. We made it to the boat dock in time to get our tickets at the \$9 savings for booking a week early and do a little shopping. We got in line on the first boat we came to which was the last boat out. They sent 3 boats out at a time about 5 minutes apart. I think our whole group got on the upper deck. In the harbor it was pretty nice, sunny with just a little breeze. Our plan was to pass the points of interest on the right side of the boat, but keeping far enough over that everybody could see and then on the return trip, we would be closer to experience the height of the bluffs. But when we rounded the point and entered Lake Superior the wind picked up and it got cold in a hurry. The colors on the rocks were not as brilliant as some of the photos you might have seen, but the trees were still in great shape. After about 15 minutes of the cold, about half of the group went down to the main cabin to get out of the wind. After about 20 minutes, they were all back up stairs because someone lost their cookies down stairs. Yuk!

I was kind of surprised with the amount of rock that had fallen down and the black manganese wasn't present where the new rock was exposed. The arch is filled in about halfway up now, you used to be able to get a small boat through there. Another thing was the large White Pine tree growing on top of the rocks without much soil but it had a root going across a 20' span to the mainland and this was probably both feeding the tree and holding the rocks up. When the boat turned around to head back to the dock, the wind was then at our back, making the trip back much more enjoyable, one could even say pleasant.

After the boat tour the plan was to head to Grand Marais', but which road to take was up in the air. Dennis Edwards and myself have both been in this area a lot in the winter, so we weren't sure which roads were paved or not. We decided to go back on M-28 and then up M-77, both of which didn't disappoint with the colors. M-77 had its share of curves and valleys and not much traffic so the ride was enjoyable. We picked up

the pace a little. It never really occurred to me that Grand Marais' was only 33 miles north of M-28 so that only took about 20 minutes. Getting into town the Brewery that was on our schedule was packed with people watching Michigan State beat up on the U of M, so we opted to go to the Sportsman Lounge instead. It was a nice old building with crooked floors. I think we overwhelmed the waitress once again with a group this size, so there were some mistakes.

After dinner we headed back down M-77 to M-28 choosing to head back down M-28 instead of US -2. A stop in Newberry for fuel found us the cheapest gas of the weekend, \$2.98 per gallon for premium. We only spotted a couple deer on the side of the road, they really aren't present, like they are in the lower part of the state. I think it's because they have to work harder for their food in the U.P.

Sunday we went to the bridge overlook on the west side for some pictures with the bridge in the background. This sure is a popular spot for taking photos as we had to wait for some trikes to finish their pics. While we were getting our photos a group of hot rods up and had to wait for us. The other group had a mix of nice cars and even a truck, I guess they weren't too fussy about who they hung out with. LOL There was a late 60's Chevelle, a Cutlass, and I think a Fat Boy, but I don't remember what kind. The truck was a 50's vintage and then a couple of those "M" cars, too.

At that point we kind of went our separate ways, Mike and Sue headed back to Wisconsin, Dennis & Ronnie and Dennis & Bonnie went straight down across the Bridge towards home. Not being in any big hurry we headed down M-23 with Gib & Tammy, Randy & April, Al & Jan and John Jr. & Tiea. Al & Jan split after Rogers City. The trip down M-23 was as nice as the rest of the weekend, ending in Bay City for an early supper with the trip back west and home for us. It was a fantastic weekend spent with good friends and beautiful Michigan scenery!



2010 WMCC Club Photo at Berger Chevrolet



2010 WMCC Berger photo

If you would like a print these will be 16x20 and will be mounted on thin styrene board to keep them flat. Cost will be \$30 each. These will need to be picked up as I won't ship the mounted ones. If you plan to be at the next club meeting and want one, email me and you can pay me at the meeting. Otherwise you may mail a check to the address below.

If you need one (or more) shipped the cost is \$30 shipped. However these will not be mounted. They will be rolled in a tube. You may send a check to the address below.

If you want a high res email copy for background or to print your own just email me. zmanrc@hotmail.com

For those that have not purchased from me before. I use a professional lab. Everything is printed using archival inks on professional paper.

Thanks, that was a fun shoot.

Ray Cochran
1944 Sunburst Ct.
Zeeland, Mi. 49464

2010 Events Calendar

*(*denotes Official WMCC Event)*

WMCC Monthly Membership Meetings:

- *Nov 7, 2010 WMCC Club Meeting – Color Tour/Road Rally – South. Three Rivers/Battle Creek area
- *Dec 11, 2010 WMCC Annual Christmas Party/Club Meeting - TBA
- *Jan 2, 2011 WMCC Club Meeting – TBA
- *Feb 6, 2011 WMCC Club Meeting – TBA
- *Mar 6, 2011 WMCC Club Meeting – TBA
- *Apr 3, 2011 WMCC Club Meeting - TBA

All Camaro (& F-Body)/ All Chevrolet Events:

Mar 4-6, 2011 30th Anniversary Chevy Vettefest, Stephens Center, Chicago, IL

Other Automotive Events of Interest:

Oct 31, 2010 Swap Meet, Allen County Fairgrounds, Fort Wayne, IN

Nov 20,21, 2010 2nd Annual Muscle car & Corvette Nationals, Rosemont, IL (Chicago)

Jan 10-23, 2011 NAIAS – COBO Hall, Detroit, MI

Feb 11-20, 2011 Chicago Auto Show – McCormick Place, Chicago, IL

Feb 25-27, 2011 59th Annual Detroit Autorama, COBO Hall, Detroit, MI



October 2010 WMCC Meeting notes

October 3, 2010

Present: Doug Warren, Ed Peterson, Ray Cochran, Rick Michaels, John and Cheryl Smith, James Smith, Beth Landrum, Rhys Dykhouse, Al & Alan Boyer Jr, Dave & Angie Kemp, Nick Kemp, Dave & Gay Verburg, Dennis & Bonnie Edwards, Dennis & Ronnie Mykols

WMCC Fall Color Tour: Leave from Pilot station in Ionia and plan to leave there at 9:00 a.m. John gave a preview of our trip next week. Thursday we will leave going up through Cross Village and to St. Ignace to the Driftwood Inn motel and that will be our hub. Friday we are going to the Sault St Marie and T. Falls, and then on Saturday we are going to go to Munising to the pictured rocks. John stated everyone is still welcome and there are rooms available.

Today's Road Rally- Thanks was give to both John Smith and Doug for our fun rally today. Dave & Angie Kemp won first place and Al & Alan Boyer Jr won second place and were presented award. They were only separated by three tenths of a mile! Very close.
November Club Meeting: Dave Kemp will set up this same type of meeting next month to start at B&G Discount store in Schoolcraft.

Berger Show: Doug stated last month we talked about the Berger show and stated he talked with Matt and he is very receptive of the changes we would like to make.

F-Body at the Barns was very wet and not many cars showed up due to the rain. But those that did, had a good time.

NEOCC Fall Classic show @ Summit Racing: We had a great time at the NEOCC show, very nice show and everyone enjoyed the show. Angie talked about the snake that was on her car when they went to do photograph. Doug expressed the Berger car got a lot of attention. Doug talked about the American Pride Camaro that was unveiled at the show. We should consider going to this show again next year.

Berger Photo's: Ray brought in the Club group photo from Berger for purchase at \$30.00 each. They turned out awesome! He stated he still has two and stated he would order more if anyone would like to order one.

Chicago Show: Doug talked about the Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show in Chicago that is coming up.

Christmas Party: December 11th and Angie stated she thought it would be held at Bob and Joanne's house? We'll have to verify and get a place locked down by next month's meeting.

Detroit Autorama: Doug spoke this would be a fun trip.

Power Tour 2011: Ends in Detroit but no other information is available yet.

New Members: Rhys and Beth bought the red Berger car that Doug took to Ohio. They are looking at becoming new members that attended today. Doug stated they should talk to Matt as he is willing to pay a year's membership for anyone that buys a car.

Doug adjourned the meeting and we all enjoyed a nice meal at the Northern Trails Bar & Grille on M-82.



**Don't Miss the Next WMCC Meeting
Sunday November 7th, 2010 B & G
Discount in Schoolcraft, MI
See Newsletter for details.**

The Western Michigan Camaro Club

is dedicated to the enjoyment, preservation and promotion of the Chevrolet Camaro as the premier four passenger sports car ever. The club was formed in 1975.

Meetings

The WMCC holds monthly membership meetings on the first Sunday of each month. Times and location vary, so see the Newsletter or check the club's web site at www.wmcamaro.org for specific times and locations, or call one of the officers.

WMCC Officers

President: Doug Warren 616.531.7482
Vice President: Gary Crippin 269.273.5051
Secretary: Bonnie Edwards 517.765.9929
Treasurer: Anita Warren 616.531.7482
Membership: Shelley Crippin 269.273.5051
Webmaster: Brent Findley
Newsletter Editor: Gary Crippin 269.273.5051
Club Archivist & Photographer: Ray Cochran

Club Sponsor

Berger Chevrolet ~ BERGERCHEVY.COM

Website

www.wmcamaro.org

Watch www.mifbody.com for the latest info on upcoming **WMCC** events.

Camaro Corner



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