

## 2013 Chapter Officers

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Board of Directors  
Mike Derbidge  
Sam Otero  
Doug Schwartzenberger  
Gary Schwartzenberger

## Upcoming Events

**Jan 10:** Chapter Meeting 7:00-9:00 PM @ the South Room of the Idaho Falls Activity Center, 1575 North Skyline Dr., Idaho Falls

**Jan 17-19:** National membership meeting in Phoenix, AZ – contact Dorothy and Mert Houdek at [booklady@middendorf.com](mailto:booklady@middendorf.com)

**Feb 14:** Chapter Meeting 7:00-9:00 PM @ the South Room of the Idaho Falls Activity Center, 1575 North Skyline Dr., Idaho Falls

**Apr 21-26:** Chrome Glidden in Borne, TX – contact Steve and Debbie Mergele at [spm@gvtc.com](mailto:spm@gvtc.com)

## Eastern Idaho Chapter 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2013 is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Eastern Idaho Chapter of the VMCCA. To help celebrate this achievement, we are featuring special articles throughout the year on the history of the Eastern Idaho chapter. This month's article recalls the formation of "...an antique and classic auto club." "Chapter One – In the Beginning" starts on page 3 and is authored by Steve Bemount and Rich Eagle.

The rare photo below from Rich Eagle is from the first outdoor gathering of the club in the Shelley City Park.



## Assignments/Reminders

### Activities

Volunteers at January Chapter Meeting

### Treats

Volunteers at January Chapter Meeting

## January Brrrrreakfast - Jan. 12

Come join us for a January Brrrrreakfast on Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am at the IHOP on Hitt Road in Idaho Falls. Come one - come all - embrace the cold!



## Future Events

**May 19-27:** Heritage Tour in Tiffin, OH. – contact Mike and Shirley Doherty at our31modela@gmail.com

**Jun 9-16:** Eastern Nickel Tour in Alexandria Bay, NY – contact Bill Preston at avantey@excite.com

**Jun 23-29:** One and two cylinder in Marion, OH – contact Dave and Debbie Vasel

## Christmas Dinner

The 2012 Christmas Dinner was a huge success. We had 56 members in attendance. We had prime rib and salmon at Stockman's. In addition to electing the new slate of officers we had a special visit by Santa Claus who helped Joy with the distribution of the "white elephant" gifts. Everyone had a great time sharing tales of the season and swapping new stories about the future. Thanks to Joy for making the arrangements.

## Items For Sale

1977 AMC Pacer, 66k mi, 2dr/wagon w/cloth bucket seats, automatic, yellow w/wood sides, one owner, asking \$5,000. 1986 Buick Riviera, 2dr/automatic, 103k mi, asking \$3000. Both cars stored inside for past ten years. Call Barbra at (208) 754- 4374

1965 Jawa 125cc street bike. Runs and looks great – very few miles on it. Great gas mileage. Call Terry Parsons @ 233-0776 or Sam @ 234-2917.

For Sale; 1953 Buick Super, Model 50/56R, Riviera 2 door hard top, runs and drives great, \$6,500.00 obo. Will consider some type of trade for a Model A Ford closed car in good running condition not needing restoration. Call Sam Otero @ 240-7580.



Eastern Idaho Chapter website at <http://www.eivmcca.org>

## In the Beginning – Chapter One – Steve Bemount and Rich Eagle

The year 2013 marks the 50th Anniversary of the club that became the Eastern Idaho Chapter of the Veteran Motor Car Club of America. I was privileged to be part of the first few formative years of that great adventure. Many of us were just kids, and we had an epic great time. Over the next number of months, I would like to share with you some of those special memories.

On Saturday evening, March 2, 1963, in Idaho's territorial centennial year, a first meeting was held at the citizens' room of the Bank of Commerce in Blackfoot, Idaho. I wasn't quite 18 yet and hitched a ride from Idaho Falls with John Dawdy. The purpose of the meeting was to consider forming a club in the Snake River Valley area for those folks with a common interest in antique and classic automobiles. Paul Bragg and Larry Pratt were the primary sparkplugs promoting the idea. There was a good turnout and plenty of interest. An antique and classic auto club was formally organized at that first meeting with Paul Bragg as President, Larry Pratt as Vice-President, and Mrs. Bob Eddy as Secretary-Treasurer.

On Friday, April 5, a second meeting was held in the Probate Court Room of the County Courthouse in Idaho Falls. At this meeting a committee consisting of Doug Spencer, John Dawdy, and Steve Bemount was appointed to draft a constitution for the club and to prepare suggestions for the formal name of the club.

Members of the club appeared on KID-TV to promote our newly formed club on Monday, April 15. Those members were Paul Bragg, Larry Pratt, John Dawdy, and yours truly. We also brought two antique autos into the studio. Paul Bragg brought Doug Spencer's 1929 Ford A Phaeton and I brought my newly acquired 1927 Chevrolet Sedan giving us both a meticulously restored car and a nice original car. The studio gave the owner of each car a nice commemorative photo. That very weekend, John Dawdy had accompanied my Dad and me to Anaconda, Montana, where we had purchased the little Chevrolet and driven it home. We hadn't even had time to register it. As seen in the photo on page 4, it still carried its Pioneer Montana plates. Three days later I turned 18.

The club met a third time on Friday, May 3, in the District Court Room of the County Courthouse in Idaho Falls. A draft constitution was discussed and a few minor changes made. Various possible club names were also discussed and the name Snake River Vintage Car Club was selected. It was decided to present the revised constitution and the proposed club name to the members in attendance at the next gathering for formal approval.

The club's very first outdoor function was held on Sunday afternoon, May 19, at the Shelley Park. Photos of that day are regrettably very scarce, but from a 16 mm film taken by Rich Eagle's dad there appear to have been about eight antique autos present. I remember how blown away we were the first time we saw Gary Taylor arrive from Ashton with his beautiful original 1937 Packard Super 8 Sedan. Other member cars in attendance included Larry Pratt's 1929 Buick Coupe, the Keller family's 1928 Ford A Tudor, Doug Spenser's 1929 Ford, and my 1927 Chevrolet. At the business portion of the meet, it was voted to change the name of the club from Snake River Vintage Car Club to Snake River Vintage Auto Club. This new name and the club's constitution were then formally adopted by those members in attendance. President Paul Bragg appointed John Dawdy to complete the remainder of the term as Secretary-Treasurer to replace Mrs. Eddy, who had resigned.

A trophy was presented to Gary Taylor and his 1937 Packard for traveling the furthest to attend that first meet in Shelley. John Dawdy won the slow idle race driving Larry Pratt's 1929 Buick. Remarkably, Rich Eagle was able to extract a photo (on page 1) of this race from that 16 mm film. We appear to have a walking adjudicator pacing the cars keeping an eye on the finish line. I also want to share one of my favorite photos below, which was actually taken that day, of Steve and Rich next to the 1927 Chev—just a couple of teenagers hamming it up for the camera.



### Questions on the Newsletter?

Contact the Newsletter Editor

Jeff Pack – [jpack@pintlar.com](mailto:jpack@pintlar.com) - 552-1264

## President's Message



Monday, April 15, 1963 – Founding members of the Eastern Idaho VMCCA took a 1929 Ford Model A Phaeton and a 1927 Chevrolet sedan to KID-TV in Idaho Falls to promote the club.

Thanks to all for your confidence in me to lead our Chapter for two years. I know I have an experienced leadership team that can help lead the chapter into the future and I am counting on all to help me as well. I am looking forward to the swap meet and the Western National Tour "Drive Me to the Moon". Please remember that the January meeting requires the reading of the by-laws so if you have recommendations for changes please bring them with you.

Also, we need to start thinking about the 2013 calendar of events. Do we want a Valentine's potluck or a St. Patrick's Day event?

I will bring the sign-up sheet for the Swap Meet.

Again, thank you for your support and confidence. Any and all suggestions for the upcoming years will be considered and greatly appreciated.

Bring your ideas to the meeting.

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The chapter is looking to reduce costs – we will **discontinue** sending hard copies of the newsletter to members that have not paid dues for the current year. We will send the newsletter via e-mail to anyone interested. If you have an e-mail address please send it to the Newsletter Editor (jpack@pintlar.com).

*the Gasline*

Eastern Idaho Chapter of VMCCA

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