



# My Way

NEWSLETTER OF THE PERSONALIZED CHEVROLET CHAPTER (PCC)

## 2024 LEADERSHIP

PCC DIRECTOR:  
JIM KARRAS  
director@pccvcca.org

PCC ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/  
AWARDS COORDINATOR:  
JIM GEBHARDT  
assistantdirector@  
pccvcca.org

PCC SECRETARY:/TREASURER  
SABRINA KARRAS  
secretary@pccvcca.org

## NON-OFFICER APPOINTED POSITIONS

PCC WEBMASTER &  
SOCIAL MEDIA ADMIN.:  
JIM KARRAS

PCC NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
JEFF PETTIS  
editor@pccvcca.org

### PCC ADVISORS:

RON MARCIANO

GENE ROGERS

FRANKLIN GAGE

PCC NATIONAL BOARD  
LIAISON - BRYAN FELT—  
(b.felt@sbcglobal.net)

## PCC is looking for Liaisons

*Liaison definition: ....noun.... a person who establishes and maintains communication for mutual understanding and cooperation*

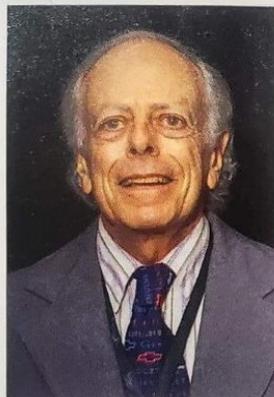
In an effort to expand the PCC chapter and help promote our chapter, the PCC is looking for individuals to take on the position of Liaison. PCC would like the person or persons to work in their perspective region with the regional director, area chapters, and individuals who might have question on the PCC and to help promote and advocate for the PCC. To be a local go-between for the PCC. If you have any questions or an interest in this position, contact Jim Karras and he can fill in the blanks. Thanks for your consideration.

## AACA NATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Some of you may be saying, "Why is this in the **My Way** newsletter?" Look to your left and see Franklin is listed as one of our advisors. I can tell you from experience.....he could just as easily get this award from the VCCA and has been a strong supporter of the PCC since it's inception.

### FIALA OLD FAITH AWARD

Member best exemplifying true spirit of AACA founders



### Franklin Gage

An award in recognition of his untiring effort of actively pursuing individuals to join AACA. Franklin is a great salesman for AACA and is always out in the aisle with the *ANTIQUÉ AUTOMOBILE* magazine and a membership application, telling the public about AACA and the benefits of becoming a member. This enthusiasm has resulted in AACA gaining many new members over the years. Franklin is also a dedicated judge, with more than 100 credits.

His face was smooth

# CURRENT 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS WELCOMING PCC PARTICIPATION



- **May 1 - 4**

**All Cal Meet hosted by the Sacramento Valley Region and held in Galt.** Tours available followed by a dinner banquet at Brewster's Restaurant. For more info, contact Mario Briseno on 916-698-1175 or brisenom@att.net.

- **June 10 - 14**

**46th Middle West Meet hosted by Areas 4 & 5 in Dubuque, Iowa.** Includes 2 full days of touring. For more info contact Tim Larson at birdcam69@gmail.com.

- **June 12 - 16**

**Annual Northwest Meet hosted by the Columbia River Region and held in The Dalles, OR.** For more info: crr.northwestmeet.2024@gmail.com.

- **July 24 - 28**

**Annual 61st VCCA Central Meet hosted by the Cuyahoga Valley Region and held at the Best Western Plus in Strongsville, OH.** For more info contact Janice Carter at centralmeet2024@gmail.com.

- **July 12 - 17, 2026**

**2026 Anniversary Meet west of the Mississippi at Rapid City, SD.** Judging will be held at the Central States Fairgrounds. Plenty of touring opportunities. Mark your calendars!



Burma-Shave was a part of motoring history. Burma-Shave was a brand of brushless shaving cream sold from 1925 to 1966. The company was notable for its innovative advertising campaign, including rhymes posted throughout the nation's roadways. The rhymes changed from time to time but always had a message. A new addition to **MY WAY** will be words of wisdom from our past.

**And cool as ice**

## Message from our new Director

On behalf of the incoming PCC leadership team, I wanted to send you out the results of the election which occurred during the week of March 11<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>. The membership participation in this mid-term election was astounding with an impressive 44% turnout! Thank you to each member that took the time to complete the electronic ballot and participate in your chapter.

With 100% support of those casting ballots, here are the results:

### Incoming Mid-Term 2024 Officers:

PCC Director – Jim Karras – ([director@pccvcca.org](mailto:director@pccvcca.org))

PCC Assistant Director – Jim Gebhardt ([assistantdirector@pccvcca.org](mailto:assistantdirector@pccvcca.org))

PCC Secretary/Treasurer – Sabrina Karras ([secretary@pccvcca.org](mailto:secretary@pccvcca.org))

### Program Coordinators:

- PCC Newsletter Editor – Jeff Pettis ([editor@pccvcca.org](mailto:editor@pccvcca.org))
- PCC Awards Coordinator – Jim Gebhardt
- Membership Coordinator – Sabrina Karras
- PCC Webmaster & Social Media Coordinator – Jim Karras

### PCC Advisors and Liaisons:

- PCC Immediate Past President and Senior Advisor – Ron Marciano
- PCC Advisor – Gene Rogers
- PCC Advisor – Franklin Gage
- PCC National Board Liaison—Bryan Felt ([b.felt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:b.felt@sbcglobal.net))

Thank you to Ron and Gene for the many years the two of you worked so hard to support the members of the PCC. The incoming 2024 leadership understands there are big boots to fill! We are committed to making the two of you and the membership proud.

In the upcoming weeks, your leadership team will meet virtually, to plan for our next chapter quarterly meeting. Jeff will begin preparing for the next issue of the “My Way” newsletter to be published. Jim G. will begin setting up shop for the issuance of the awards for the 2024 judging season. Sabrina will be working with Gene to make the necessary arrangements to transfer the banking responsibilities, other treasurer and secretary functions, and membership support from Washington to California. I have already begun making updates to the website.

Once Gene and Sabrina complete their work, I will work with Sabrina to establish member electronic application and payment functionality to the website for new and renewing members. We will also work on a submission process for judging data from area meets to be submitted via the website.

Don't forget, we are asking members to work together to arrange at least one PCC hosted tour in each VCCA area between now and the end of 2024. Sabrina already has plans for Area 1 for a tour to be held in August. To have a tour sanctioned, you can complete a 10.4 and send it to [tours@pccvcca.org](mailto:tours@pccvcca.org). We will forward it to National and provide you with assistance. We urge you to invite all VCCA members in your area, if possible, to help spread the word about the PCC within the VCCA.

Finally, the PCC was chartered in 2014, which means we are celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Congratulations to Jim Gebhardt, Franklin Gage, Ron, and the membership for growing the PCC to more than 80 members strong. It's an honor to have been a part of the chapter from the very beginning and I look forward to doing my part in this new role going forward. Watch out for the May Issue of My Way for more information about the latest happenings of your PCC!

Until then, safe travels.

Sincerely,

Jim Karras

So nice

**Introduction:** As your “new” newsletter editor I thought I should introduce myself. My name is Jeff Pettis and my wife Sue and I live in Eau Claire, WI. I have had an interest in cars for as long as I can remember and Sue is a good sport about the whole thing. We have mostly Chevrolet’s but I must admit I have one Ford in the mix. After high school I went to trade school and got a degree in Auto Body Repair. I worked in a body shop for a few years and ran my own shop for awhile before changing my career into law enforcement. My area of expertise was crash investigation—thus the email address (carwreck1050@yahoo.com). I got back into body work when my son started asphalt racing. We ran some nice looking cars and twice got the best looking car award. So back to school to refresh my understanding of body work. When I first started you didn’t need a degree in chemistry, now it is almost a necessity. I took on simple little winter projects until I retired and then started some major—multi-year projects. A few pictures of our race cars and some of my projects follow this. I have done newsletters for other organizations so I am not NEW to being an editor. One thing I learned along time ago.....I need YOUR help. I would really appreciate any items you might have, news, articles about your cars, events you attend, and awards you have received, items you are looking for or have to sell. I would like to carry on the great work our “founders” have started with the PCC Newsletter (thank you Ron) but your help is necessary. As we go along, I might run some occasional or intermittent articles such as items for sale or wanted, helpful hints, shop tricks, etc. I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Let’s keep  
our chap-  
ter strong.



And oh Louise!

## So you are planning a trip....

• *by Randy Noeldner*

*The following is an article a friend and fellow tour enthusiast came up with when he surveyed other local club members and captured their thoughts about touring and how to Be Prepared.*

While it is nearly impossible to determine what might fail on our vehicles when on a tour, we all have tools and parts along when we leave. Much of the preparation we do for the ride starts with inspecting our cars and trucks and doing the required preventative maintenance. If you have never been on a tour with a club or group, it is something you should consider. You will learn something and hopefully enjoy yourself with others of like-minded interests.

We never want to have a failure or breakdown when on a tour, but occasionally it happens. It is amazing the knowledge our club members have. More than likely when a trouble occurs, members are able to diagnose the problem. Often times individuals go back to their car or truck to get the required tool or part to fix the problem. It always amazes me what items folks have in their vehicles to get themselves or other club members out of trouble. I have seen people pull tools and parts out of their cars that I had never considered taking along on a tour. This has happened on more than one occasion. This prompted me to ask other club members what tools and/or parts they recommend taking along when going on a tour.

So what parts and tools should we have in our vehicles on a tour? There are a number of things to consider. Is it a one day trip or several days of being on the road? Is the vehicle older or small in size which can limit the space available for parts and tools? Is there a trailer or chase vehicle participating on the tour? Whatever the situation, it is always a good idea to plan ahead and perhaps split up taking along some of the bigger items. Below is a list, in no certain order, of parts and tools that members suggested to have along on tours.

Tools: pliers, screwdrivers, Crescent wrench, set of wrenches, socket set, hammer, electrical tape, Allen Wrenches, Infrared Thermometer, hack saw, ignition wrenches, breaker bar, flash light, spark plug socket, flat file, round file, jack knife, needle nose pliers, Vice Grip, lug wrench, scissors, specialty tools that are vehicle specific, jumper cables, jump start battery pack, gas can, straining funnel, Fix-A-Flat, assortment of bolts, electrical wire, bailing wire, duct tape, pen light, wire connectors, wire nuts, alligator clips, fire extinguisher, garbage bags, hand cleaner, rags, paper towels, bungee cords, bottle jack, floor jack, 12-volt air-compressor, wire ties/connectors, tow strap, motor oil, water, brake fluid, power steering fluid, coveralls, 12/6 volt electric test light, volt meter, phone charger, phone HELP list (by MSRA—named Who You Going to Call), road flares or triangles, First Aid kit, rain suit, reflective vest, umbrella, gloves, 12 volt – 120 volt converter, Rain-X, glass cleaner, bucket, sponge, car soap, drying towels, chamois, car wax, micro-fiber towels, car spray detailer, whisk broom, zip ties, maps, tablet and pen.

Parts: starter, generator, points, condenser, coil, ignition cap, spark plugs, spark plug wires, max fuse, Buss fuse, tail light bulbs (6/12 volt), electric fan relay, Bendix, fuel filter, fan belt, hose clamps, return throttle spring, and spare tire. One member suggested that a small travel bag or case be put together depending on the year of the automobile. For example, a bag for Model A's, a bag for 1932-1948/1949-1953 Flathead Ford V-8's, another bag for 1950's models. Each bag would contain items appropriate for the vintage automobile of that era.

I appreciate the input from everyone who responded. Paul Oman said that on short trips, he leaves most of the stuff home and just worries. However, Paul added that what you worry about seldom happens. My favorite response came from Harry Miller. Harry told me: "The most important thing to bring along on a trip is cash—as much as you can carry."

(The next issue of *MY WAY* will have a break down of this list.)

**He smelled**



***The FIRST VCCA–PCC Driving Tour is coming.  
August 24–Los Angeles  
Area 1 Driving Tour to the Petersen Automotive Museum***

The next newsletter will have the signup details for the first VCCA-PCC Driving Tour. As was mentioned in Issue 2 of *My Way*, one of the best ways to promote the club is to put together a Driving Tour with other PCC members, but invite VCCA and other friends for the ride.

If you are thinking about this particular tour, you are in for a treat. Besides all of the other great cars and exhibits the Petersen has, they will have a special exhibit set up called, “General Motors’ Marvelous Motorama: Dream Cars from the Joe Bortz Auto Collection.” This will be the first time the Petersen has ever shown a vehicle in junkyard condition. These cars are survivors as many of the Motorama cars were destroyed or otherwise lost after the exhibition that ran from 1949 to 1961.

This is not all of the Joe Bortz collection. He has concept cars from Chrysler, Ford, American Motors, and Hudson.

**1954 Pontiac Bonneville Special**



**1955 Chevrolet Biscayne**



**1953 Buick Wildcat**



**1955 LaSalle II Roadster & 4 door Sedan**



**1953 Pontiac Parisienne**



For more information and to see the full story go to: <https://www.hagerty.com/media/automotive-history/jewels-of-gms-motorama-grace-the-petersen-automotive-museum/>



**Deadline for the July/August Newsletter is June 15, 2024**

## VCCA Touring and Passport Program....cont.

In the last issue of *My Way* the Touring and Passport program was encouraged and the Mission Statement and Introduction was given. To continue with that effort a couple of steps will be introduced. This information is taken directly from the Touring Guidelines Manual.

### C. Responsibilities of a Tour Master

Any VCCA member may perform the duties of Tour Master to plan and conduct a Tour. The Tour Master must complete a Sanctioned Tour Request form #10.4T to obtain approval for the tour. The request must include the Tour Title, location and dates. The sanctioning of all Tours will permit an accurate record to be maintained. The Sanctioned Tour Request form is an editable/savable and printable format and can be found on the National website at [www.VCCA.org](http://www.VCCA.org) or from your Area Director as listed in the G&D.

### D. Required Tour Approval

All tours require the approval of your Area Director in order to accrue VCCA Touring Mileage. Above approval also applies to driving Tours held in conjunction with meets. A separate Sanctioned Tour Request form 10.4T must be submitted for a tour in conjunction with a meet.

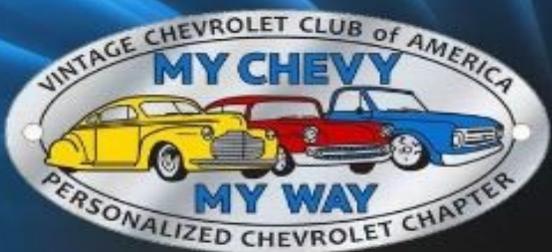
Each VCCA member requesting approval for their Solo Tour is required to send the completed 10.4T Form to their Area Director.

### E. Sanctioned Tour Request Form—#10.4T

**Form Availability and directions for its use:** are found on the VCCA Website [www.VCCA.org](http://www.VCCA.org) under Member Services tab in the Resource Center (you must log in) or contact your Area Director. Please refer to the directions sheet to fill out the form.

*Next issue will have additional information on the process of setting up a tour.*

## PERSONALIZED CHEVROLET CHAPTER



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