



Fuel Line



December 2021

**Newsletter of the Central Arizona Region
of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America
www.centralarizonaregionvcca@shutterfly.com**



December CAR Christmas Party

The CAR Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 5th at 1:00 at Dillons Restaurant, located on 59th Ave, north of the 101 Freeway. Come hungry and ready to have some fun! There will be a gift exchange (of the stealing type) - gifts not to exceed \$20—marked for man or woman. Please RSVP to Diane so she can make the correct amount of reservations. Be there or be square!



New “In The Spotlight” Section Each Month

I would like to ask all CAR members to send me pictures and a story on your Vintage Chevrolet or another car from your garage. The other members would like to hear about your car(s) and see what they look like, as we have not been able to get out and see them in person. So send in those pictures and stories so I can get them in the upcoming Fuel Lines.

CENTRAL ARIZONA REGION: of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America was organized for the purpose of restoring and preserving Vintage Chevrolets. We welcome anyone who has a sincere interest in sharing their knowledge and experience in the history and enjoyment of the automobile.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: An active member in good standing is defined as an individual or family who has paid into both the National VCCA and the Central Arizona Region. This entitles the member to a subscription to the local regional newsletter, the "FUEL LINE". Any paid member may participate in the business meeting and all club events, both regional and national. Membership in the VCCA does not require ownership of a Vintage Chevrolet. For information concerning Central Arizona Region – VCCA please contact one of the following officers or board members. MEMBERSHIP DUES for CENTRAL ARIZONA REGION (any individual or family) \$20./year (half of National), NATIONAL VCCA: \$40.00/year. Dues are payable on January 1st and delinquent after February 1st. Please include your National and Local number on your renewal.

Payable to: **Central Arizona Region/VCCA** and mail to the current **C.A.R. Treasurer**

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Send all news items and advertisements by the 15th of each month to:
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Chapter Application for Membership

Welcome

CENTRAL ARIZONA REGION Chapter of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America

Name: _____ Spouse _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ Cell: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Occupation or Business: _____

Email address: _____ Children _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Central Arizona Region #
Must be a member of Vintage Chevrolet Club of America

Vintage Chevrolet Club of America National #
Thank you for your generous support and participation in this association.

Recommended By:

YEAR (1949)(Style Line; Touring)	MODEL (Deluxe)	MODEL# (Deluxe)	BODY STYLE (2-4 DR, Coupe, etc)	COLOR (BK)	CONDITION (Showable, etc)

Presidents Message

Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. The Holiday season has started, decorations are coming out of boxes and trees are going up everywhere. We are looking forward to the Chevy Club Christmas party on the **5th of December**. Then on the 17th Ed and Linda are having the "STAR" party where you can see the stars and planets through a giant telescope up close. Hope to see you at both of these fun events. Here is wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy Merry **Christmas** and New Year. Diane

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 4 - Surprise Christmas Car Show - Surprise

Dec 5 - **CAR Christmas Party - 1 PM @ Dillons Restaurant - 59th Ave North of the 101**

Dec 9 - SMHS 9th Annual Car Show - Peoria

Dec 17 - **CAR Star Party - 5 PM @ Ed & Linda Behies home.**

Dec 25 - **Merry Christmas!!**

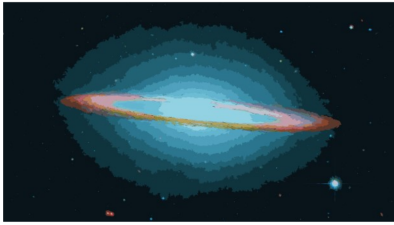
Jan 1 - Happy New Year!!

Jan 27 - RM Sotheby's Classic Car Auction - Phoenix

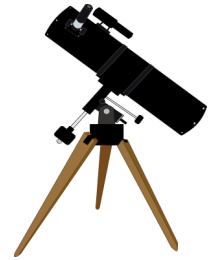
Jan 28-30 - MAG Classic Car Auction - Fort McDowell



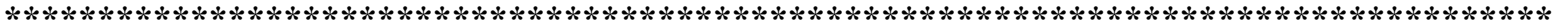
*Love it on Christmas when a label on a present says "From Mom & Dad,"
and you just know that Dad has absolutely no idea what's inside.*



Annual Star Party Friday, December 17th



Be sure to mark your galactic calendar for Ed & Linda Behie's Star Party on Friday, December 17th at 5PM. It is a chance to view the heavens up close and personal through some cool telescopes. The club will supply subs and drinks - bring a dish to share. It is always a very interesting and fun evening. Please RSVP to Ed & Linda. See you there!




Everything for the "Well-dressed Car."
Give Style-Setting Genuine Chevrolet Accessories
THIS CHRISTMAS

Make this Christmas a Christmas of real surprises, with gifts that thrill and delight. Mother and the whole family have wanted and can enjoy throughout the year. For a change, why not get something for your Chevrolet—the family car in which you'll spend so many happy, enjoyable hours and days in the months ahead.

Think what a lot of comfort a heater will bring on chilly days. Or a radio—your choice of the features of the car wherever you drive! Your Chevrolet dealer has these and many other attractive, useful gifts for the car, ready wrapped in beautiful gift packages—and at prices to suit your Christmas shopping allowance.

CHEVROLET MOTOR CO. DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The Christmas...Gifts that please
SHOP AT YOUR CHEVROLET DEALER'S GIFT STORE

- DUAL-PURPOSE HOT WATER HEATER \$14.95
- RADIO \$13.95
- SEAT COVERS \$2.95
- FOG LAMPS \$5.95
- REAR VIEW MIRROR \$4.95
- GENUINE CHEVROLET RAINBOW \$37.95

1938 Chevy Christmas Ad

"For the whole family...
CHEVROLET'S THE CHOICE!"



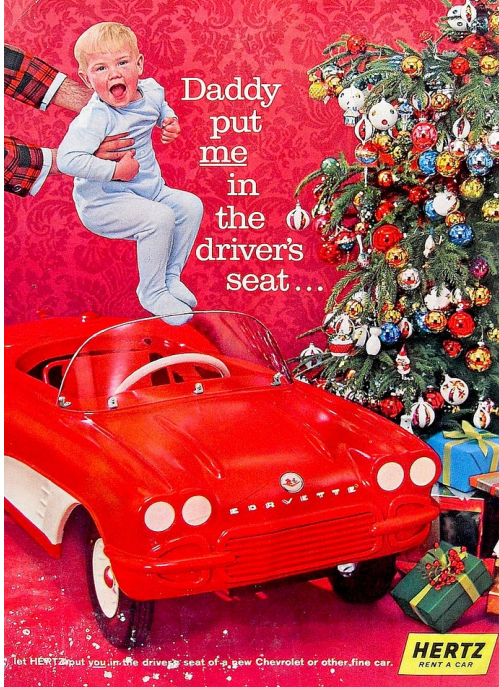
SEE YOUR LOCAL CHEVROLET DEALER

CHEVROLET ACCESSORIES

ALL PRICES REDUCED \$45

1939 Chevy Christmas Ad

Daddy put me in the driver's seat...



Let Hertz put you in the driver's seat of a new Chevrolet or other fine car.

HERTZ
RENT A CAR

1960 Chevy Corvette Christmas Ad

Different Names For Different Things

Beauty Parlor - A place where women curl up and dye....

Chickens - The only animal you eat before it is born & after it is dead...

Committee - A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours....

Dust - Mud with the juice squeezed out....

Egotist - Someone who is me-deep in conversation....

Handkerchief - Cold storage....

Mosquito - An insect that makes you like flies better...

Raisin - A grape with a sunburn....

Secret - A story you tell to one person at a time....

Toothache - The pain that drives you to extraction....

Tomorrow - One of the latest labor saving devices of today....

Yawn - An honest opinion openly expressed....

Wrinkles - Something other people have,, similar to my character lines..

Old - I very quietly confided to my friend that I was having an affair.
She turned to me and asked "Are you having it catered?"
And that, my friend, is the definition of "OLD".



Why do people - including seasoned mechanics - still insist on putting a block of wood under a car battery?

For 99 percent of a 12-volt lead-acid battery's service life, it sits on a metal shelf somewhere in your car, pushing electrons around with gleeful abandon. That metal shelf, an electrically conductive surface, never once gets implicated when mechanics go to diagnose dead batteries, and rightfully so. Yet many mechanics, professional and amateur alike, absolutely refuse to put batteries on a concrete floor without a block of wood underneath and continue to admonish others for doing so, believing that the concrete bears total responsibility for draining a battery.

So why do people fear battery-to-concrete contact? The hard plastic cases that have been standard in battery construction since, idunno, the Nixon administration, were designed specifically to eliminate the possibility of grounding through the case. Some people, [like CarTalk's Tom and Ray Magliozzi](#), have pointed out that, prior to the hard plastic cases, batteries had porous hard rubber cases ([and even wood cases](#)) that could conceivably leak battery acid to concrete floors and create a conductive path to ground. But it's been generations since that was the case, certainly long enough for the myth to wither and die, right?

But wait, alternative theories abound. One posits that the block of wood doesn't prevent the conduction of electricity from battery to concrete but the conduction of heat. This theory seems based on wood's insulating properties (plastic's an insulator too, for what it's worth), on the observation that batteries appear to lose their charge in colder temperatures, and the assumption that colder temperatures lead to increased rates of self-discharging. While it is indeed true that the chemical activity that produces an electric charge slows down at colder temperatures (just as the [chemical activity that leads to rust formation](#) slows at colder temperatures), that only means that the rate of self-discharging slows down at colder temperatures. ([TIFI has the math](#), for those interested.) The appearance of a loss in charge in cold weather comes from the battery's reduced ability to output amperage; the battery still has the same state of charge and will work just as well as it previously did if allowed to warm up. As Tom and Ray pointed out, cold temperatures should lead to increased battery life while warmer temperatures will drastically increase the self-discharge rate and decrease battery life.

There is a similar argument that it's not the cold itself that causes the battery to fail, but a sustained difference in temperature between the bottom and the top of the battery, which causes damage to the plates. This seems implausible unless you have a salamander blowing hot air just over the top of the battery while it sits on a winter cold floor. Perhaps this argument is based on material failures from temperature cycling or the observation that the concrete floor remains relatively cool as the garage's ambient temperature rises, the latter of which should be seen as the true culprit. Whatever the case may be, it's not the ground contact that is causing the battery to fail, rather the temperature of the garage as a whole.

According to other theories, the block of wood isn't there so much to protect the battery as it is to protect the floor. If you've ever worked in a parts store, you know how used batteries get tossed around. Sometimes they leak, and sometimes the sulfuric acid inside attacks the concrete.

(Continued next page)

In the days before sealed batteries, the process of topping off batteries with electrolyte may very well have resulted in spillage, so a block of wood or a broken-down cardboard box would have been a good idea to protect the floor. Maybe the block of wood shows up in those big chains' employee manuals as a way of getting the counter guys to slow down and treat the batteries - and the floor - with care. Still others point to how even battery manufacturers store batteries on pallets of cardboard and wood, ignoring the fact that battery manufacturers move their product around with forklifts and not by hand.

To get to the truth of the matter here, it's worth discussing what does cause a battery to die. In normal use, batteries charge and discharge via electrochemical reactions. Batteries do - over time and when not connected to a trickle charger - self-discharge, and how long it takes them to do so depends in part on the ambient temperature, as discussed above. They are also susceptible to carbonized dirt and dust forming a bridge between the terminals and leading to increased rates of discharge. (Similarly, we've read that thin layers of electrolyte or humidity on the exterior of the battery can also cause a bridge; if this is the case, then we'll point back to the conditions of the garage as a whole and battery abuse as the culprits, not the concrete floor.) When batteries are not in use, that's about it.

It's also worth pointing out what circumstances generally cause batteries to die: sitting unused for extended periods of time, deprived of its regular charge/discharge cycle, not connected to a battery maintainer, subjected to periods of heat, and likely left in a place where dust and dirt can accumulate between its terminals. Doesn't help that it's typically older batteries near the end of their service lives that get left on concrete floors. In which case, it should be expected for the battery to self-discharge in almost no time at all, regardless of whether it sits on a block of wood or the garage floor or on a car's battery tray. All batteries have a shelf life, and the circumstances in which somebody would put a battery on a garage floor for more than the time it takes to do a quick repair are almost guaranteed to shorten that shelf life. Thus, a block of wood under the battery is no more than a totem, some sort of evil eye that people who do not understand how lead-acid batteries work use to try to ward off the dread dead battery.

So go ahead and put that battery directly on the garage floor. If it's good and new and you get back to it right away, it'll still be good and new and useful when you do. If it's a junk battery on its last legs, don't be surprised that it dies soon afterward.

(Thanks to Dan Strohl –Hemmings Motor News)





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