

# NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends!

September 2019

## It's A Wrap!

The 15th Annual Back to the Bricks® is history, and there aren't enough superlatives in the dictionary to describe the events of 2019.

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## Tune -Up Parties



The excitement began August 5-10 with late afternoon/early evening cruise-in/car shows, music, food, and fun in Davison, Clio, Linden, Fenton, and Swartz Creek. Saturday's "double-header" included a craft show and food trailers in Mount Morris, a children's carnival, video game trailer, and basketball in Beecher, and more cool cars. [ELGA Credit Union](#) sponsored a T-shirt giveaway in each community, and our signature Back to the Bricks® Root Beer proved to be a big hit with the crowds. Each of the host communities reported record numbers, and we are already exploring ways to accommodate more cars and people at the [TUNE-UP PARTIES](#) next year.

# Lapeer Dragway

For the first time, Back to the Bricks® fans kicked off Main Event Week with drag racing and a burn-out contest on Monday, August 12th at the **LAPEER INTERNATIONAL DRAGWAY**. General admission was free, and those who wanted to show off their racing prowess could do so at a 50% discount. Thanks to LID, one of our newest sponsors, for an afternoon and evening of fun and fast cars. Based on the tremendous turnout and positive feedback, BttB® at the LID may become an annual event.



## "Bricks Flicks"

Main Event Week kicked into high gear on Tuesday, August 13th with the 10th Anniversary "**BRICKS FLICKS**." A capacity crowd enjoyed an evening of family fun at the US-23 Drive-In Theater on Fenton Road with plenty of classic cars, a DJ, and country crooner Dave Lagness, followed by a FREE encore performance of "American Graffiti," the same feature length film that was shown at the first movie night ten years ago.



## Wednesday & Thursday Events



## Swap Meet

Wednesday and Thursday, the annual [SWAP MEET](#) was held at the Kirkridge Presbyterian Church in Grand Blanc. Every year, it gets a little bigger and better. Bargains abound, and I have yet to leave empty-handed. The [ROLLING CRUISES](#), led by Grand Marshall, Cheryl Sclater, Public Relations Manager for ELGA Credit Union, began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday at [Mott's "Applewood" Estate](#). Edward Renahan, author of a new biography on the life of Charles

## Rolling Cruise

Stewart Mott, was on hand to meet drivers, and autograph his book. The cruise route stretched from the red "bricks" of Saginaw Street in Downtown Flint, through the City of Burton and Grand Blanc Township, to the City of Grand Blanc, and back again as thousands lined the streets to see classic cars and vehicles of every description. Rain showers couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of the brave souls that came to watch or participate in the 2nd Day of the Rolling Cruise on Thursday.

## Hot Dog Lunch



ELGA Credit Union teamed up with Meijer to host Friday's traditional [HOT DOG LUNCH](#) for cruisers, (free to anyone driving a classic, collector, or custom vehicle). Kevin Mack, Ryan Evans, and Mike Henry from the TV show, *Counting Cars*, were there to sign autographs and pose for pictures. Fans of the show also had an opportunity to meet our [CELEBRITY GUESTS](#), and check out their cars at the concert Friday night and Saturday on the Flat Lot.

## Cruise "N" Concert



### Old Days

Downtown Flint was a hotbed of activity on Friday as exhibits and vendors set up on the Flat Lot, and a stage was erected for the **CRUISE "N" CONCERT** brought to you this year by MacPizza, LLC, a proud franchisee of **Little Caesars**. By 5 PM, Saginaw Street was closed to regular traffic, and classic cars claimed all the available parking spaces. From the stage, the "bricks" in front of the Water Street Pavilion were a virtual sea of lawn chairs as a huge crowd



### Surf's Up

gathered for the FREE concert. Highlights included young recruits being inducted into the armed forces, Dave Lagness singing "God Bless the USA," special recognition to "yours truly" for 15 years of service to Back to the Bricks® (more about that later), fireworks, and two fabulous bands, "**Old Days**", a Chicago tribute band from right here in Genesee County, and "**Surf's Up**", nationally acclaimed Beach Boys tribute band from California.

## Saturday Show



Drivers began arriving around midnight to secure a spot for the **SATURDAY SHOW**, and shortly after dawn, an amazing array of vintage, classic, and collector vehicles were in place on the streets of Downtown Flint. Special thanks to **Halo Burger** for opening early for breakfast. The **Opening Ceremony**



There were vintage **Buicks** at Factory One, the launching pad for **General Motors**, our Presenting Sponsor, and a **Corvette Reunion** near the Durant Hotel. ELGA Credit Union offered on-the-spot financing to prospective buyers at **Classic Car Sales** (aka the Car Corral). Special thanks to **ABC-**

included a salute to our veterans, and a military flyover. Thousands strolled the "bricks," enjoying the fun that has become synonymous with one of the nation's biggest and best FREE car shows.

12, our faithful sponsors, committee members, and volunteers for all you did to make the 15th Anniversary Celebration of Back to the Bricks® a tremendous success!

## Al Hatch

In closing, it is public knowledge that I have decided to "retire" from an active role in Back to the Bricks®. To be truthful, I am only a small cog in an well-oiled machine, and I am leaving you in very capable hands. It has been a labor of love with an amazing group of friends, Vice-President Steve Hobson, our Main Event Coordinator Dave Wood, the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and a host of volunteers who have worked so hard to make the vision we shared 16 years ago a reality. They are the driving force, the engine that gets the job done! Back to the Bricks® is an event to which the entire community can point with pride, and with their leadership, I am confident that BttB® will continue to thrive and grow. Thanks to our many sponsors for your faithful support through the years. You are the "fuel in our tank" that keeps us going. "Hat's off" to everyone involved with Back to the Bricks®, the Board of Directors, committee members, sponsors, municipalities and government entities, city and county officials and employees, public safety officers, vendors, a host of volunteers, and the community at large. Together, the dream has become a reality, and will continue. It's been a great ride! Thanks for the memories, and Keep On Rolling! Maybe I'll write a book.



## Frankenmuth Auto Fest

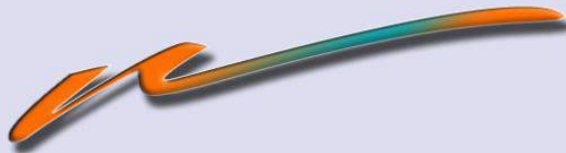
P.S. Looking for something to do this weekend? Every year on the weekend after Labor Day, more than 2500 amazing cars and thousands of car enthusiasts converge on the picturesque city of Frankenmuth to enjoy the festivities and raise money for charity. Back to the Bricks® is proud to participate in the 36th



Annual Frankenmuth Auto Fest, September 6-8, 2019. More than 40 vehicles from Back to the Bricks® will be there on Main Street to support our friends in the classic car community.

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CORDially,  
*Al Hatch*, Founder and Board Chair  
Back to the Bricks®, Inc.



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