

NEWSLETTER

Back to the
BRICKS
America's Classic Car Events

Dear Friends!

March 2020

The calendar still says winter, but the recent warm spell reminds us that Spring is just around the corner, and that means cruising and car shows cannot be far behind. It's time to get your prized vehicle out of hibernation, shine it up, "rev" the engine, and make sure it's "road-worthy" and ready for all the exciting Back to the Bricks® events this summer.



IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR

Chrome & Ice™



Now that we've had a chance to catch our breath, the 5th Annual **CHROME & ICE™** Winter Indoor Car Show, February 7-9, 2020 at the **Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center** in Flint can only be described with the word, "WOW!" Sponsored by **General Motors** and brought to you by the **Dort Financial Credit Union**

with special thanks to [ABC-12](#), [Chrome & Ice™](#) 2020 offered visitors an amazing and enjoyable experience at family-friendly prices.



The Lobby was a salute to Flint as the birthplace of America's Sports Car with historical photos of the Assembly Plant where the first 300 production Corvettes were made. Guests were treated to an amazing collection of Corvettes in the Lobby that included one vehicle from each of the 8 generations. Thanks to the [Sloan Museum](#) for providing one of the very first 'Vettes built in Flint, a 1953 Corvette with VIN#112, and the [NATMUS Museum](#) in Auburn, Indiana for the 1971 Corvette Stingray that was the personal car of Gordon

Buehrig, automobile designer for General Motors, Packard, and Stutz. Thanks also to Steve Childs, owner of [Paragon Corvette Reproductions](#) in Swartz Creek, Gary Drago of [Drago's Corvettes](#), and private owners Roger Norton, Jill Bailey, Greg Rasmussen and Tom Brown for bringing their beautiful Corvettes. Special thanks to Kevin Kirbitz and our Presenting Sponsor [General Motors](#) for loaning us the spectacular all-new 2020 mid-engine Corvette which elicited "OOH's" and "AAH's" from everyone.



Beyond the main Lobby, every available space in both arenas, the mezzanine, and the hallway between the arenas, was filled with more than 150 amazing vintage, classic, factory, custom, and collector vehicles of every description, sports cars, muscle cars, hot rods, pick-up trucks, dragsters, and more than 50 sponsor and vendor displays. New this year, Players' Hall behind Arena One was transformed into Rat Rod Alley,

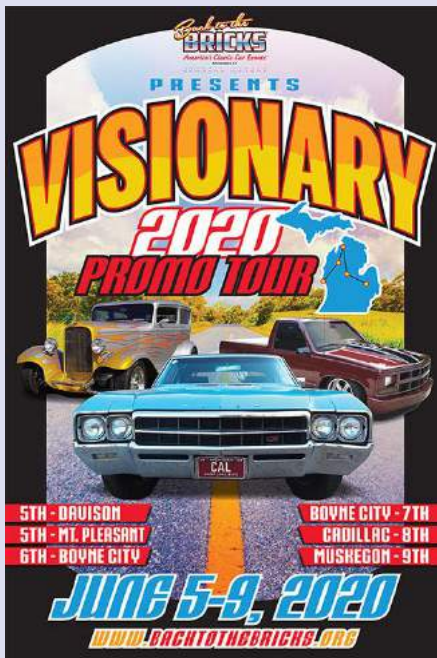
15 of these unique vehicles in one location.

I want to personally thank the Board of Directors, the entire [Chrome & Ice™](#) Team, our faithful sponsors, and a host of dedicated volunteers for a tremendous effort that made [Chrome & Ice™](#) 2020 an outstanding, professional quality event, by far the biggest and best to date! More information, a list of the

giving visitors an opportunity to see winners, and photos are available on the [website](#) or our [Facebook page](#)!



Promo Tour 2020



The 2020 VISIONARY PROMO TOUR, Friday, June 5 - Tuesday, June 9, 2020 is next on the docket! Each year, the Promo Tour promotes Back to the Bricks®, generating excitement for the August "Main Event" in downtown Flint, and showcases the unique features and boosts the economy of the host cities we visit. Event Chairperson Rhonda Rau and the entire team are working diligently behind the scenes to make this year's tour an exciting and memorable experience. Don't miss the adventure and camaraderie as we tour our beautiful state together.

The fun begins on Friday, June 5, 2020 with a delicious breakfast buffet for tour participants at St. John's Parish Hall in Davison.

The itinerary includes an overnight stay on June 5th in Mt. Pleasant, and two nights (June 6th and 7th) in Boyne City with a car show at Classic Instruments on Saturday, and the Main Event Downtown on Sunday. From Boyne City, the Tour will travel to Cadillac on June 8th where the city is planning a Lumberman-themed event so pack your best Lumber Jack attire, and be prepared to show off your axe-swinging skills.

Long-hauler awards for participants who visit every city will be passed out on

Tuesday, June 9th in Muskegon, our final host city, at the official conclusion of this year's Tour. On Wednesday, June 10th, we are encouraging everyone to take advantage of one last chance to say goodbye at a coffee and doughnut stop at the [Sundance Buick GMC](#) dealership in St. Johns on the way home.



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American Classic Car Events
Presented by GENERAL MOTORS

VISIONARY 2020
PROMO TOUR

DAVISON Friday, June 5 - St. John Parish Hall Kick off Breakfast	BOYNE CITY Sunday, June 7 - Downtown
MT. PLEASANT Friday, June 5 - Downtown	CADILLAC Monday, June 8 - Downtown
BOYNE CITY Saturday, June 6 - Classic Instruments Car Show	MUSHEGON Tuesday, June 9 - Downtown

REGISTRATION FEE OF \$45.00 ENTITLES YOU TO:
2 T-Shirts, 2 Name Lanyards, Participant Window Cling, Participant Window Card, Goodie Bag, Tour Book, Free Breakfast and several other participant discounts and perks.

REGISTRATION:
February 7, 2020 - May 1, 2020 midnight cut off. **No exception.**
Register at
WWW.BACKTOTHEBRICKS.ORG

IMPORTANT: Registration for the "Visionary" Promo Tour **ENDS MAY 1, 2020. NO EXCEPTIONS!** Reserve your spot **TODAY**, and don't forget to book your hotel in each city at the **SAME TIME!** There are a limited number of rooms available in each area that we visit, so don't delay. As hotels are filled, they will be removed from the list. For more information, or to register, click the [PROMO TOUR Link](#).

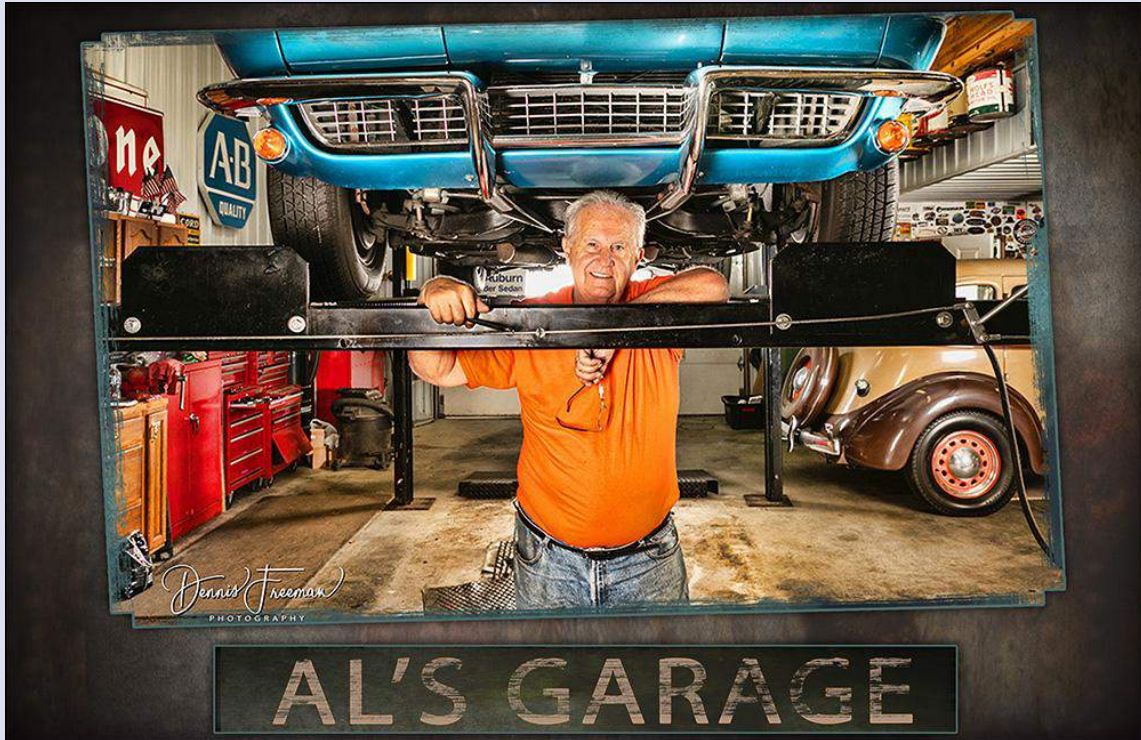
Scholarship Program



Finally, if you or someone you know needs money for school, it's not too late to apply! The Back to the Bricks® SCHOLARSHIP Program provides assistance to high school seniors in Flint and Genesee County who plan to pursue post-secondary study/training at a college or technical school in auto-body repair/painting, automotive design, auto mechanics, electrical/manufacturing/mechanical engineering, robotics, sales and marketing, software development for automotive applications, welding, or a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) related program. The application DEADLINE is MARCH 20, 2020!! For more information, CLICK the [link](#), or contact a high school guidance counselor.

Steve Hobson,
Chairman of the Board
Back to the Bricks®, Inc.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



Vol. 1, #5

Al's Garage

This past weekend my wife and I traveled to Punta Gorda, Florida to attend a local automotive swap meet. Over-hearing some of the conversations between some of the vendors and swap meet attendees, I heard a couple of them referring to cleaning out their garages and the time had come to do some serious garage cleaning. This brings me to this month's topic; cleaning out the garage of 'stuff' I no longer need and probably will never use.

I told my wife when we return home in early April, that I need to conduct what I refer to as the 'five-year purge of my garage'! It seems every five years I get the itch to conduct a thorough purge of the garage of stuff that is no longer useful. Stuff that I put up in the rafters, stack in corners, jam into cabinets, trip over, etc. My 'stuff' usually includes twelve inch long pieces of wood of all shapes, small pieces of steel brake lines that I did not bend properly, various pieces of steel and aluminum, old worn out auto parts, tires, and sometimes even used motor oil.

On the back wall of my garage is a large section peg board. This is where I hang my prize collection of car parts; intake manifolds, bracket of all shape and

sizes, fancy valve covers, distributors and the list goes on. Most of this 'stuff' is new and the shelf life of these items is forever. The problem is that I am not going to be here forever and the letting go of some of this 'stuff' can be traumatic as it surely represents an end to a personal era. Simple reasoning for hanging on to this 'stuff' is, 'I might need some of these parts in the future' forgetting the fact that some of these parts have been hanging on the wall for the past twenty years.

One of the dilemmas that I have faced in the past was once the purge was completed and the stuff has now become junk and has found its way to the curb for junk day, invariably I find myself needed a small piece of steel, tubing, wood or whatever, for that project I might be working on. The local auto parts store, Home Depot, and the hardware store love me as I find myself buying more 'stuff' to replace the 'junk' I just got rid of. And the cycle begins again.

Keep on rollin'

Al Hatch

See what's happening on Facebook & Twitter



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