



Great Lakes Chapter – Volvo Club of America Meeting
Minutes / Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 6:00 pm
Tony M's Restaurant, 3420 S Creyts Rd, Lansing, MI 48917-8505

President: David Irvine **Secretary:** Mr. Irvine filling in for Joyce Webb **Treasurers:** Transition from David Riedle to Jeff Von Holten.. In attendance, Mr. David Irvine, Jeff and Gwen Vol Holten, Janet and John Mendler, Al Bulgrin, Greta VanStee, David Riedle.

- **Budget** – update, David Riedle, Treasurer is resigning, As per our bylaws, the board has decided to appoint Jeff Von Holten to take over for the remainder of the term. David Irvine, David Riedle and Jeff Von Holten went to Comerica Bank to sign required paperwork. David and Jeff are discussing if Quicken, which is relatively inexpensive, is the best way to go. Membership has gone up and our running balance is \$1695.69. We recently paid \$100 for the Irv Gordon Memorial Brick at Gilmore.
- **Membership spreadsheet** – now up to date, Mr. Irvine saves on google docs but retains the master.
- **Presentation / Member Bio** – David Lau – see end of agenda
- **Volvos at Gilmore VIII** – July 18, 2020. Still planning on a “meet” unless anyone comes up with ‘brilliant” idea for something different. People have written to me about coming THIS July!
- **Promotion of Club** – Social media, promotion, cross pollination of other clubs/activities. Brochures have new stickers, and have been replaced at dealers around central and west Michigan. David will get to the East side Michigan Dealers.
- **Future events** –Spring Dust off. Dave Lau and David Irvine have been working on the agenda. A survey monkey has been created to keep track. Please look at this DRAFT survey with the agenda. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5VTMK3X>.

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019. 5 – 7 pm. Sesi Motors has agreed to work with us to either offer the refreshments or the location and split the cost of the refreshments. Requesting \$100 maximum. David and Jo Lau has done a BBQ at their house. Requesting \$100 to cover the Saturday costs. If attendance is high from the survey results, we would consider boosting that amount. Hard to “bring a dish to pass”. Mr. Lau mentioned that the folks at the Ypsilanti Barn will have the Volvo be the Featured Marque. The coordinator of the St. Johns Concours D'Elegance may be our speaker that weekend. David Lau suggested the Side Track Restaurant. After regrouping at his house for a driver's meeting, we would go to see John and Dorothy Grace's collection which includes a Jensen Volvo 1800 and do an hour long cruise around Washtenaw County. Jo would stay behind to cook and could use some help. From Jo's notes:

- SATURDAY MAY 4, 2019:
- 10:00 am. Drive in for car meet to Ypsilanti Barn
- 11 am talk.
- 12:30 pm. Sidetrack for lunch.
- 2:00 pm Driver's meeting at Lau's
- 3:00 pm. Drive to the Grace's collection, continue with an hour long cruise around Washtenaw County
- 5:00 pm return to the Lau's for a cookout / hang out / bonfire, brief meeting.

- **Appoint a sign replacement committee** - Al Bulgrin, update. We will revisit if we need more permanent ones or signs to get us by as we get closer. Greta has a lot of wire sign posts that could be used to attach to what is developed.
- **Establish a single repository for club materials** - Signs have been at the Webb's in the past. Mr. Irvine is cleaning his attic so brochures and the small handful of mugs are all we have!
- **Volvo artifacts** (loaner car, hood ornament, images, for Gilmore Museum). Volunteers to obtain. UPDATE/Discussion. People have been contacting us about Volvos in "estates" that they wish to find a new home for. Easy tax deductible donation for a car donation.
- **Partnerships** We continue to partner with members in IL and WI.
- **More dinners!** It seems folks would like more informal food events. Little work, more fun. Maybe at Car Events. UPDATE
- **Review annual membership** fee, retention. As we are moving towards a simplified club, how about we stop charging membership? A goal for 2019 initially is to spend down to \$1000, which would include the expenses to the spring dust off, and web hosting. For 2020, we will focus on doing the Gilmore "Meet" or other, and revisit if the club should become totally informal and sever from VCOA and officially "dissolve?" The group agreed we should spend down our balance by having activities. Rather than the \$2000 we have averaged, we will try to keep it at \$1000. We will revisit the club's structure and involvement as we go and if we continue or just become less formal / do various light activities.
- **New member's bio** - brief write up. David, please provide a list of new members to Mr. Irvine.
- **"Green table"** - Members bring items to trade, display, give away, discuss, or sell.
- **Janet and John Mandler** – Update on Guinness Word Book of Records Longest Parade of Volvos. We have a contact at the St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce and would be willing to work with us if we were to cross the Mackinaw Bridge. As this will take time, we are discussing doing this in 2021.
- It was discussed Mr. Irvine should contact other Volvo Chapter Presidents. It is one of many things on his "list."
- **Open Forum** – other ideas to pursue.
- **May meeting** – Next "official" meeting will be informal during the "Bonfire" early evening at David Lau's May 4, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted, David Irvine



Feature Members – David and Jo Lau

I tell people I earn my living in the recording studio upstairs, and spend it in the garage downstairs. Semi-retired now, I've been an audio recording engineer for about 40 years, working mostly with symphony orchestras, choirs, and other fine arts clients. My passion for old cars began with a 1960 Thunderbird I bought as a 7 year old used car in 1967 for \$500. My daily driver in college, I decided to keep it even when the wife and kids came along. About 6 years ago I became enamored with those funky half-car half-truck things, and found a 1964 Ford Falcon Ranchero that I've restomodded with a 5-speed and a rumbling V8. The Volvo 1800ES is a recent acquisition from an online auction a year ago. I've loved these since they were new in 1973 when I could only afford the Pinto wagon at half the price. This one looked so nice under the Florida palm trees, in my granddaughter's favorite color, I was smitten. I took off with my trailer to haul it home (a good thing, because it hardly ran!). Spending every spare hour this winter on mechanical and electrical

restoration, I'm hoping it's ready for the Spring Dust-Off May 4. Part of the challenge is I've decided to install a rather comprehensive tri-amplified sound system in the car with mostly period-correct car audio components I've had sitting around for decades. Remember, I'm an audio guy!

David & Jo Lau



