



# The Sentinel

Winter 2024

## Spring Meeting:

**Saturday, April 6, 2024:** The Spring General Membership meeting is scheduled for Noon at the **American Legion Post 63**, 8047 Ortonville Rd., Clarkston, MI. The next *Sentinel* will be published in April 2024.



Winter Meeting at the fire station. picture: J.Tweedie

## The Winter General Meeting

For 2024, the MVCCMI kicked off the year with their Winter General Meeting at Oakland Twp. Fire Station #2, 1888 Rochester Rd., Oakland Twp., MI. on Saturday, January 6.

**Assembly:** All rose, faced the U.S. flag and recited the pledge of allegiance. The group then observed a minute of silence for long time MVCCMI & MVPA member, 1st Sgt Mike Brink, US Army (retired), who passed away on 12/27/23. He was a Veteran of the Vietnam War and Desert Storm. R.I.P. Top.

**Quorum:** A quorum was established with six sitting Board members present. Trustee Koenig was out of town. In total, twenty-one members were in attendance. There were three guests, David Pitts, Camille Guillen and Aaron Farmer,

## Military Vehicle Collectors Club of Michigan

The MVCCMI is a non-profit educational organization created to promote the preservation of antique military vehicles. The group meets at least four times a year at various locations.

### **Officer / Trustee Contact Info: (Effective Winter 2023)**

T. Shelswell	(586) 212-9523	<a href="mailto:Terry.Shelswell@gmail.com">Terry.Shelswell@gmail.com</a>
Curt Kitter	(810) 765-3107	<a href="mailto:ckitter2@att.net">ckitter2@att.net</a>
Bill Nutting	(586) 634-7993	<a href="mailto:foneman14@yahoo.com">foneman14@yahoo.com</a>
James Tweedie	(248) 210-6103	<a href="mailto:tweedie_engineering@yahoo.com">tweedie_engineering@yahoo.com</a>
Remi Seabolt	(248) 830-1340	<a href="mailto:riseabolt@aol.com">riseabolt@aol.com</a>
Steve Koenig	(586) 876-0786	<a href="mailto:bsam1967@att.net">bsam1967@att.net</a>
Matt Hobig	(586) 665-0614	<a href="mailto:hobigusn@yahoo.com">hobigusn@yahoo.com</a>

### **Club Dues**

All members: \$25 yearly - \$5 Discount for MVPA Members

**Meeting Place:** Locations vary.

**Sentinel & Website Editor :** Rick Forys [rf@r-jweb.com](mailto:rf@r-jweb.com)

**Web Site:** **[WWW.MVCCMI.ORG](http://WWW.MVCCMI.ORG)**

the latter pair from SRI. Aaron then joined at the meeting, becoming our newest member. We also welcomed newer member Art Schmiede, who attended his first meeting.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Fall 2023 meeting, (available on demand), were accepted and approved by popular vote.

**Financial Report:** The club's finances and roster were reviewed. With 68 paid members, the roster is down by nine from last year's total. Kitter also reported that the account balance has declined some, due to inventory restocking in late December.

**Old Business:** CO Shelswell briefly reviewed the events from the last quarter of 2023. After several weather delays, the Fall Color Tour finally ran on October 21st. Five trucks made the chilly but dry voyage to Hell and back, with no

*Be sure to renew your MVPA membership. If you don't belong, join up today!*





#### **Old Business Continued:**

incidents. Thanks go out to Loren Roberts for setting everything up for the trip. We had six trucks participate in the Oxford & Lake Orion Xmas parades on December 2nd, which was cold but dry. However, the next day saw a cold rain, which caused members to sit-out the Rochester parade.

**Merchandize:** As planned, the 2024 edition of the MVCCMI Calendar was available earlier than in past years, and sales were brisk, but a few copies are still on hand. Thanks to all that participated and helped make this year's project successful. Get yours now! As mentioned, the PX was restocked at the end of the year to prepare for the 2024 season.

**Upcoming Events** on our 2024 calendar were outlined. *See event calendar, page three.* The group then discussed and identified nine weekly/monthly car shows in the area for the coming summer/fall, which could be great opportunities to visit with our MVs. Hear more about this during the April GM mtg. Following this, an idea was purposed for a July or August MVCCMI "Social Event" to meet at a park or a member's place for a BBQ, possibly combining an MV workshop. The coming year was summarized: **Four** General Membership meetings, **four** workshops, **four** MVCCMI-driven events, **twelve** events that the MVCCMI participates in, at least **six** parades, plus a large number of weekly / monthly events. A busy year for sure!

**"For Sale"** Matt Hobig gave a status of items listed in the club market. Loren Roberts' M38A1 and related gear are still for sale, and no other items have been offered.

**New Business:** Our guests from the SRI, Camille Guillen and Aaron Farmer, expressed their enthusiasm for the planned joint AoFF'24 event, and indicated their team looked forward to

*The meeting had 21 members and 3 guests. picture: J.Tweedie*

working together again to produce a great show. They also informed us that their locomotive *Pere Marquette 1225*, was brought back into service in the late summer of 2023, and is performing well. Joint meetings will resume soon to prepare for this June event.

Due to recent events, policy changes have been made concerning the collection of emergency contact information. The event sign-in sheet has been modified adding an emergency contact, and the information will be added to the roster.

Safety meetings will now be conducted at the beginning of all multi-day events to verify registration, discuss the plan for the day, any weather issues, or other announcements. Group texts will also be used at multi-day events to improve internal communications.

The MVCCMI roster will be provided to all members before the April meeting. Please verify your info, and make any necessary changes. A request to share cell #, email and emergency contact info will be sent to all paid members. No reply = "no".

It was announced that membership dues will be increasing in 2025 by \$5.

The annual membership drawings were held. Matt Hobig won a free year of club membership. The MVPA membership drawing was not held, as everyone there was already a member.

Finally, S. Redman won the 50/50 raffle this time around, and donated it back to the club.

#### **Nominations and Elections of Officers and**

**Trustees:** CO, Terry Shelswell and XO Bill Nutting were re-elected by acclamation. Jim Tweedie chose not to run for the Secretary position, which went unfilled at the meeting. The Treasurer, Curt Kitter, remains in office to

**Meeting Continued:**

maintain banking continuity. This year's Trustees are Remi Seabolt, Steve Koenig, and Matt Hobig.

**Open Forum:** Matt Hobig and Remi Seabolt will reach out to their respective reenactor groups to enhance relationships with the MVCCMI. Shelswell will contact Mission BBQ HQ to attempt to develop a working relationship with them. He will also determine if the MVPA has any national relationship with this restaurant chain. Shelswell will reach out to the *Rosies* group leadership in order to further develop our relationship with them and invite their members to our events.

**Adjournment:** After a request for any other business, comments or questions, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2024, at the American Legion post 63, Clarkston, MI.

**Winter Meeting Attendees:**

Terry Shelswell	Curt Kitter
Bill Thatcher	Remi Seabolt
James Tweedie	Chuck Chapman
Bill Nutting	Don Carter
Ed Pash	Sue Pash
Jim Turza	Beth Turza
Matt Hobig	David Pawlowski
Scott Redman	Jim Reuter
Jeff Benton	Terry Pitts
Matt Hobig	Dan Brown
Eric Richardson	Arthur Schmiede
(N) Aaron Farmer	(G) David Pitts
(G) Camille Guillen	

**2024 Events**

Here is a brief rundown of the events we are planning for 2024. More will be added as the details become clear. (POCs in parentheses.)

- **Spring Gen Member Mtg. - Apr 6**  
*American Legion, Clarkston MI* (Shelswell)
- **Pontiac Transport Museum Tour - Apr 27,**  
*Pontiac, MI.* (Shelswell)
- **Findlay Military Show - May 18-21**  
*Findlay, OH* (Chapman/Forys)

- **"Vietnam Tribute Event" - May 18-19 -**  
*SANG Museum - Harrison Twp., MI* (Shelswell)
- **Memorial Day Parades - May 27**  
*More info soon*
- **Summer Gen Member Mtg. - June 1** *NW Construction, Taylor, MI* (Chapman)
- **Arsenal of Freedom Festival - June 14-16**  
*Steam Rail Institute - Owosso, MI* (Tweedie)
- **Independence Day Parades - July 4**
- **WWII Breakout - July 6-7** *Chesterfield Township - Living History* (Causley)
- **Goodrich Car Show - August 3-4**  
*Goodrich, MI*
- **Firebase Chesterfield - August 10-11**  
*Chesterfield Township - Living History* (Causley)
- **Good Old Days, Richmond, Sept. 8 -**  
(Kitter)
- **MVPA Convention - Oshkosh, WI - Sept 12-14**
- **MV Show & Tribute to First Responders - Sept. 13-15** *Mueller's Orchard, Linden, MI* (Lentz)
- **Autumn Gen Member Mtg. - Oct 5 -**  
*Pontiac Transport Museum - Pontiac, MI* (Shelswell)
- **MVPA-HA JH'24 Convoy - Oct 2024 -**  
*Winnipeg, Manitoba - New Orleans, LA* (Shelswell)
- **Detroit Veteran's Day Parade - Nov. 10 -**  
*Detroit* (Shelswell)
- **Veteran's Day Event - Nov. 11** *Stahls Museum - Chesterfield Twp* (Seabolt)
- **Veteran's Day Event - Nov. 11** *Mission BBQ - Northville Twp, MI* (L Roberts)
- **Veteran's Day Event - Nov. 11** *Mission BBQ - Troy, MI* (Benton)
- **Veteran's Day Event - Nov. 11** *Great Lakes National Cemetery* (Pitts)
- **Oxford/Lake Orion Parades - December 7**  
(Seabolt)
- **Rochester Parade - December 8** (Thatcher)



## *Veterans Day with some BBQ!*

Marking Veteran's Day at Mission BBQ

- By Rick Forsys

In November of 2023, Military Vehicle Collectors Club of Michigan members returned for a third time to observed Veteran's Day at the Mission BBQ's location in Northville. On a brisk but mostly sunny morning, members assembled with their vehicles before the opening, and took up positions on the grassy areas in front of the restaurant. Not long after, we met with Mission BBQ Community Ambassador Vivica Townsin, who filled us in on the details of the day, and by 11AM, nine vehicles had accumulated, stretching out facing busy Haggerty Road. Varied responses from passing motorists were near constant. Veterans and people of all ages started to filter in to see the trucks and ask questions. A number of veterans recounted stories or shared memories that seeing the particular MV brought to mind.

As a club, we're very happy to say that we've been able to increase the number display vehicles every year. For 2023, nine trucks made the trip to Northville Twp., offering a good variety of MVs in both size and age. We had a couple of 1950's Willys Jeeps, two WWII half-ton Dodges, a three-quarter ton Dodge M37, two M923 five-tons, a recently retired Marine Corp M1163, plus a 1944 Studebaker M29C Weasel.



*SSGT Tim Brown from Southfield, MI sang the National Anthem.*



*Jim Turza displayed his Dodge WC27 half-ton ambulance.*



*1952 Dodge M37CDN owned by Shelswell driven by Don Carter.*



*1952 Willys M38A1 brought by Terry Shelswell and a CJ5 displayed by Wells Werden line up with other club vehicles.*

**Veterans Day Continued:**

Mission BBQ also had their company branded M35A3 on hand to make an even ten Military Vehicles.

After the people got a chance to check out the trucks, the official event started with a Flag-Folding Ceremony performed by the American Legion Post 32 - Livonia, MI Honor Guard,

followed by the national anthem, sung by Staff Sergeant Tim Brown, from Southfield, MI. Shortly after, the Mission BBQ doors opened and veterans of all ages, sizes and branches of services took their place in line to enjoy their hours, and the Mission team didn't quit until all were served.



*Ed P. brought his newly acquired 1941 WC15 Command Car.*



*Tim Tomlinson rescued this 1944 Studebaker M29C Weasel.*



Tom Roberts brought a second 1990 M923A2 driven by his wife.



Tom Roberts attended with his 1990 M923A2 five-ton.



Robert Baldwin drove his 2007 M1163 Growler to the event.



Mission BBQ features a fleet of customized smoker-touting M35A3s that have become part of their unique branding.

### Veterans Day Continued:

This year also saw another location open in Troy, MI, and member Jeff Benton didn't waste any time to join the tribute there. In addition, we had other members attending the Stahls Museum event with their vehicles, so it was a busy day for the MVCCMI.

Besides establishing the Troy location for next year, we have since learned that a new Mission BBQ location has opened, and members have already been in contact, offering additional possibilities.

Once again, members enjoyed the opportunity to bring their vehicles out to help salute veterans, the veterans and public liked seeing the trucks, and everyone loved their lunch! I can't ever remember seeing a happier bunch of veterans.

November 11, 2023 fell on a brisk but sunny Saturday, and we were happy to get nine vehicles out to mark the day.





## Fall Colors Tour

By Rick Forsys

Dry, sunny days are not always easy to come by in October, and as it happened, the date for the MVCCMI Fall Colors Tour changed several times before a reasonable opportunity presented itself. Finally, the group was able to make a go of it on the Twenty-first, however we certainly lost some participants due to the date changes. Regardless, five trucks showed up at the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528, in Plymouth, MI, at Zero-Butt-30 hours for a chilly Saturday drive to HELL... Michigan, that is.

Fulfilling a long time ambition, member Loren Roberts, with the help of other members planed the entire tour from Plymouth to Hell and back, including lunch at the long well-known Hell Saloon. He also lead the convoy for the day, although due to an issue with his Jeep, he rode with Steve Koenig in his M151A1. Loren did a good job planning it all out, and everything went pretty well for his first time. I'm sure that all who participated appreciated his efforts!

Besides Steve and Loren, we had Wells Werden in his CJ5, followed by Robert Baldwin & wife with his little 2007 M1163 Growler. We also had a couple of five-ton 900 Series trucks to bring some weight. Tom Roberts brought his wife to join us in his 1990 M923A2, and Bill Nutting drove his M934 "Mr. Wonderwagen", pulling a trailer for recovery options.

The group departed and made their way out of Plymouth, heading west to Hell just as the Sun was starting to shine. There definitely was some color to

*The small group gathered at the Plymouth VVA at Zero-Butt-Thirty hours to make the run to Hell, MI and back.*



*Everyone's ready to go, coffee is a wonderful thing.*



*The back part of the group heads out of Plymouth .*



*Wells Werden had a good time with his Willys CJ5.*



*The command vehicle for the day was Steve Koenig's M151A1.*

see, but the skies were mostly cloudy and dark, however besides an occasional sprinkle, it was mostly dry. As the convoy got farther west, they took a scenic route along a river which everyone seemed to like.

I had cut ahead of the formation to be there when they arrived in Hell. Shortly after I got there, a



*Bill Nutting drives his M934 "MrWonderwagen".*



*Robert Baldwin made tracks in his little M1163 Growler.*



group of five or six classic cars pulled in, parking in the Saloon lot. I left in the direction the convoy would be coming from, armed with a radio to scout a good photo location. Once in position, I could use the radio to know of their approach.

Finally, the radio squawked and I left my heated car to get into position. As I made my way, a DeLorean whipped past me, and when I turned around, a silver line of nine or ten of them snaked their way by. It was impressive seeing them all together. Within two minutes the radio crackled again, "Look at all those DeLoreans!" I knew they were close! In another minute, the convoy appeared around the corner. It was time for lunch!

The group enjoyed the break and the chance to get warm again, and everyone was having a good time. The food was good, but with the packed house, not

necessarily fast, and outside, the skies were steadily darkening. After a discussion, it was decided to shorten the route back, with members leaving the group when they got to their turn to go home. The rest of the group remained on the direct route back to Plymouth.

All in all, we had a fun and successful day. It was a small group, but everybody seemed to enjoy the ride. The weather wasn't the best, but the roads were decent and the colors were out. A big thanks goes to Loren for a job well done putting it all together. The plan is to try it again this October. It really was a good day in Hell!



Tom Roberts brought some five-ton muscle with his M923A2. (Left) A DeLorean club joined us on the route.



The Hell Saloon has existed in one form or another for.... a real long time, and has always been very popular. (Below) These club members can now say they have been to Hell and back with the MVCCMI.





# Michael L. Brink



## 1949 - 2023

**1SG MICHAEL BRINK SR.**

**USAR RETIRED**

**RANK**  
First Sergeant

**SERVICE**  
1969 - 2009

**PRIMARY UNIT**  
1970 - 1971, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment

**UNITED STATES ARMY**



The MVCCMI was saddened to learn of the unexpected passing of longtime member Mike Brink, age 74 of Madison Heights, Michigan, on December 27, 2023. Mike was married for fifty-three years, and had two sons, and a handful of grandkids. He was a proud US Army retiree (First Sergeant), having served honorably for 25 years, with a time of service

that ranged from the Vietnam Conflict into the Iraq Wars. Mike also worked for the United States Post Office for more than 30 years, retiring as a supervisor. He enjoyed bowling, working on cars and military vehicles, deer hunting and spending time at his cabin up north. Most of all, he loved his five grandchildren who were the joy of his life. R.I.P. Top.

## FOR SALE



### 1953 Willys M38A1

1956 M100/M367 Trailer

1942 replica M3A1 37mm ATG

1945 Bantam T3-C trailer project

**Package Deal!**

Loren Roberts

mslrr53@gmail.com - 313-657-9514

## FOR SALE



### 2018 Middlebury 24' enclosed trailer

Bill Thatcher

wrt1@comcast.net - 248-991-4399

## Military Vehicle Preservation Association

*Established in 1976 to preserve Historic Military Vehicles*



*Joining the ranks of the MVPA allows you to enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded people, to give new life to an "Old Soldier" or just enjoy the historic significance of vintage military ground transport.*



**WWW.MVPA.ORG**

**MILITARY VEHICLE  
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION**  
**HISTORY IN MOTION**

MVPA Members receive all MVPA Periodicals!



P.O. Box 520378 \* Independence, MO 64052 - (800) 365-5798 \* (816) 833-MVPA \* [hq@mvpa.org](mailto:hq@mvpa.org)