

Nuts & Notes Newsletter

HIGH ROLLERS
LAS VEGAS CHAPTER VMCCA, INC.

June 2026



Owned by: Bill Ramsey
2020 Chevrolet Camaro 2SS LT-1

In This Issue

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 - Birthdays | 7 - Harrison House meet |
| 3 - President's Message | 8- Upcoming Events |
| 4 - Minutes of the Membership Meeting | 9- Upcoming 2026 Activities |
| 5 - Past Activities | 10 - Denny Rutkoski Memorial |
| | 11- High Rollers Store |

Board of Directors

President

John Pendergast
702-523-2940
jpjmarketing@earthlink.net

Vice President

Anthony Adsit
702-561-2230
anthonyadsit@gmail.com

Secretary

Brian Pucio
818-434-6801
mercman47@outlook.com

Publications Vice President

Hartley DelValle
702-789-9704
hartley.delvalle@gmail.com

Treasurer

Judy Pendergast
702-436-2940
jpjmarketing@earthlink.net

Membership Vice President

Paul Rolland
702-370-4087
rolland01@gmail.com

Activities Vice President

Jeanie Prouty
702-896-7622
jeanieprouty@gmail.com

Past President

Danny Barnett
702-306-2708
HUDSONDAN@EMBARQMAIL.COM

Chairs & Volunteers

Tour Master

John Munoz
702-490-7811
jmunoz7@ur.com

Photographer

Any attending member

Historian

Danny Barnett
702-306-2708
HUDSONDAN@EMBARQMAIL.COM

Club Store

John Pendergast
702-523-2940
jpjmarketing@earthlink.com

Sunshine Chair

Donna Pucio
702-321-0979

Telephone Committee

Skip Yarema
702-235-8010

Social Media Secretary

VACANT

Western Region Director

Dion Stams
702-688-2073
dionstams@sprintmail.com

The High Rollers Chapter of the VMCCA is a 501(C)(7) Not-For-Profit Organization.

See us on the Web: www.HighRollersLasVegas.com

June Birthdays

Anthony Adsit 6/10

Doug Wheeler 6/11

Paul Rolland 6/24

Ann Macmillan 6/24

James Lukavich 6/30

June Anniversaries

Doug & Kay Wheeler 6/26



July Birthdays

Ava Lukavich 7/6

Kay Wheeler 7/11

July Anniversaries

Ray & Linda Waber 7/6

Richie & Sharon Clyne 7/7

Hugo & Carli Medina 7/28

President's Message

We made it through another Show & Shine. I just want to thank all 11 volunteers that helped out to make it a successful event. We actually gave away all the awards and didn't take any home. I especially want to thank Paul and my wife for all they did through the year to keep everything on track. We had several returning entries from the 14th Annual Show & Shine that took awards. We also gained a new member.

Let's welcome our newest member: R.J. & Lynn Stepan from our Annual Show & Shine.

As everyone has heard we lost a true hobbyist last month; Denny Rutkoskie. The Memorial Service was held at his garage in Washington City, Utah on 6/5. There was over 300 in attendance. I think all the clubs he was a member of was well represented from Las Vegas and surrounding Southern Utah. After talking to a few people that were close to the family, the collection will remain intact. After talking to some of his local car enthusiasts, it sounds like the verdict is still out on what really happened. He wasn't making a U-turn as the media reported. So, we have to wait and see what the verdict is.

It was decided that we would offer a lower rate of \$5.00 for children under 12 at the Pizza Run and Pic-Nic. We want to be a family club and not a bunch of old guys with old cars. After all, who are we going to pass the torch to when we move on? We need to keep our kids interested and expose them to the idea of touring and driving our vintage cars.

We really need a Nominating Committee Chair. For those of you who do not know what a nominating chair's duty is, it's to convince members to step up and help run the organization and fill positions on the board. All positions are open and some of us really need a break. This could even be movement within the existing board. The board positions are as follows President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Activities VP, Membership VP, and Publications VP. If you want more information on what's involved please contact me and I will send you the job description.

This past Saturday we had a visitor to our back yard and I figured it was the next-door neighbor's. Well, when I started texting the neighbors, it wasn't. So, one of the neighbors who is into rescue and saving the planet, told me to post it on a Facebook group. While posting it, the neighbor found a post on 5/22 that a family was visiting from Washington state and their dog got away and they couldn't find him. So, between face chatting and IDing the little guy the aunt came and checked him out, called her niece, who verified it was him, and took him home. They said there was an award for finding him and I said the award is him going home. So, with that said the funds went to the veterinarian.



Happy Touring,
John Pendergast

HIGH ROLLERS CHAPTER of the VMCCA minutes for June 9th , 2026

High Rollers Chapter of the VMCCA for June 9th, 2026

7:00 Pledge of allegiance was led by Past President Danny Barnett.

7:01 Rollcall was taken by secretary Brian Pucio. All board members in attendance except Anthony Adsit. 21 members total.

7:03 New members/guests was Ann McCormick.

7:04 President John Pendergast stated that the Show and Shine was a success but the weather was an issue. He also stated that we Got two new members from the show. John reported that there were 300 people in attendance at Denny Rutkowski's service.

7:05 Treasurer Judy Pendergast read the Treasurers report and the show numbers. First to accept said report was Brian Pucio and Second was John Munoz. All were in favor.

7:07 Secretary Brian Pucio read the minutes from May's meeting. First to motion to accept was John Munoz and second was Skip Yarema. All were in favor.

7:08 EVP Anthony Adsit was absent.

7:08 Past President Danny Barnett had nothing to present.

7:09 Activities VP Jeanie Prouty spoke about the Harrison House. This will be the June 20th . John

Said 5pm. for Harrison House. Look for details in the Nuts & Notes. The Pinball Hall of Fame be earlier in the day look for info in the Nut & Notes. July 18th is

The Pizza run. \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. It will be at Amore A Taste Of Chicago. August 15th is the Ice Cream Run In Boulder City. Brian and Donna are heading this up. John Munoz said perhaps the Boulder City Railroad Museum for October and its \$12.00 for adults. Jack and Danny reported on the Great Race coming June 26th to Kingman. We still need an Event for November. Sign up sheets were on the back table.

7:32 Membership VP. Paul Roland had member info on back table.

7:33 Publications VP. Hartly Delvalle reported needing info an photos for future publications.

7:50 Show and Shine Chair Paul Rolland said we had 37 registered cars and 35 showed up. The financial report on the Show and Shine Was read. Motion to accept report was first by John and second by Brian. All were in favor. Next year is the 16th Show and Shine.

8:00 Sunshine chair Donna Pucio had nothing to report.

8:01 Telephone Chair Skip Yarema and Joan Saucier said call are going out.

8:03 Old Business is 3rd quarter Board meeting is August 25th @ Amore Taste of Chicago at 6 P.M. Septembers outing will be the Pinball Museum. We still need an event for November.

8:03 New Business was we still need a Nominating Chair Person and a Social Media Person.

8:04 John Munoz spoke about Dennys accident and how new laws are trying to take old cars off the roads.

8:09 50/50 drawing was won by Clair. She won \$42.00 and donated it back for McPherson College Scholarship

Next meeting will be July 14th.

8:10 Call for motion to adjourn the meeting was first by Brian Pucio and second by John. All were in favor.

15th Annual Show and Shine

The Show and Shine was a success. The club will be sending McPherson college the funds for their general scholarship fund. The day started out warm and continued to get hotter and windy. All volunteers were on time and the setup went quickly. There were 37 cars registered for the show and 35 were present, with 2 no shows. Only four High Rollers cars and 31 non-members were in the show. Membership packets were placed in non-member's cars.

The parking crew did an excellent job placing the cars. Raffle and voting ticket sales went well, thanks to the volunteers manning those positions. The awards were presented ahead of schedule, but some winners had left due to the heat and wind. We are trying to contact them to ensure they receive their award. Teardown went well. After teardown was completed, some volunteers got together for dinner in the Skyline. The air-conditioning was a welcome relief.

A big thank you to all the volunteers that made the Show and Shine possible. You were all very important in this endeavor. Hope to see everyone for the 2027 Show and Shine.

Paul Rolland





The Car Club Activity for June 2026 will be the Harrison House

The car club activity for June 2026 will be the Harrison House, 1001 "F" Street, which has planned a "Havanna (Cuban) Nights" activity. The house is a former Westside guest house, now designated as a Cultural House with a Cultural Director--Reshaun Baldeo who is the Director of Cultural Programming. The house was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in May 2016. Clayutee White, Director of the Oral History Research Center at UNLV explained the historic designation in a newspaper article. The house was added to the Las Vegas Historic Property Register in July 2014.

The activity for June 2026 was selected as June 20, 2026, which is the same night the Harrison House is putting on "Havana Nights". "Havana Nights" will run from 5:00 - 9:00 P.M. on June 20, 2026, Saturday. This event is being planned for Youth, age 10 - 12. There will be activities, music, and food vendors. Admission is free. The only money you might spend will be for any food and drinks you might purchase.

I met with Katherine "Katie" Duncan, manager of the Harrison House, on May 23, 2026. I was meeting friends for lunch at Jerry's Nugget on May 23, 2026, which was the same day as the funeral of Ruby Duncan (no relation to Katie). Ruby Duncan was a former civil rights activist. The funeral for Ruby Duncan was scheduled at the Second Baptist Church on Madison Avenue, just around the corner from the Harrison House. I took a chance on my way to Jerry's Nugget and went by the church, thinking I might be able to contact Katie Duncan after the funeral. The funeral started at 10:00 A.M. I went by the church at 11:30 A.M., the funeral was not over--cars were in the church parking lot and on the street; and the hearse was still outside the church. I decided, after leaving Jerry's Nugget, to take a chance and go back by the church. I arrived at the church at 2:30 P.M. There was no one around. I went around the corner, which put me on "F" Street and at the Harrison House. There was a car on the driveway, so I pulled in. (I had stopped at the house another time after leaving Jerry's Nugget, but no one was around. I did get out of the car that time and looked around and obtained a phone number for tours.) I went to the door, rang the bell, Katie Duncan answered the door and invited me in. (Katie told me she is not related to Ruby Duncan and has spent the last 24 years telling people that! She said she went to Ruby Duncan's wake on Friday evening, the day before the funeral, thinking she would just be there for a few minutes; instead, she said it was a formal gathering, with a program running from 5:00 - 8:00 P.M. She said she had never seen anything like that.)

I spoke with Katie about visiting the Harrison House on June 20, 2026, and later in the conversation mentioned I am in a car club; and it would be the car club visiting the house. Katie was very excited about the car club, suggesting it would be really something to have cars from the car club representing the decades that the house was open. She asked me about the years and makes of cars in the club. When I mentioned the club would be interested in visiting the home on June 20, 2026, was when she told me that the next-door neighbor, Abraham, was planning "Havana Nights" for that date, with it being for Youth age 10 - 12.. I felt that would work for the club.

Katie told me that the children, again, ages 10 - 12 would be across the street, not at the house, that only adults would be in the house, in the event, for example, someone wanted a beer. I agreed with that.

The Harrison House was built for Genevieve Harrison in 1942, with several additions added later to reach its current size of 1,716 square feet. There were three cottages--the house next door was one of the cottages. One of the cottages burned down; There is still one in the back. Genevieve moved from Texas to Las Vegas during World War II to capitalize on the defense and wartime labor economy. Genevieve operated the house as a boarding house from 1942 until her death in 1957. It was then operated by her sister until 1960. The house provided a place for Black people seeking a divorce to stay to establish that six-week Nevada residency, as well as business professionals and travelers. Entertainers such as Sammy Davis, Jr., Nat King Cole, Pearl Bailey, and Harry Belafonte stayed at the house. Sammy Davis stayed so often that a room is named for him. The suite in the back is still referred to as the Pearl Bailey Cottage. Segregation existed during these times, so, although Black entertainers could perform at hotels on the Strip, they could not stay at the hotels. A more recent visitor of the house about two years ago was the entertainer, Usher. Bonanza Road acted as the legal and social boundary, dividing Black and white communities. Due to its safe and luxurious accommodations, featuring marble tile floors, Persian rugs, and private suites, the property was listed in the "1949 Negro Motorist Travelers Guide" which was published from 1936 to 1966. Efforts through today are to revitalize the house to serve as an educational center, museum, and community hub. The house was awarded \$95,690 in November 2018 from the Nevada State Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation to support the restoration of the property to be used as a cultural center. It is the only known surviving example of an African-American boarding house in Las Vegas.

One of the more recent events involving the Harrison House was on February 23, 2026, at the Mob Museum where the Mob Museum and Harrison House teamed up to remember the Moulin Rouge, which was celebrating its 70th anniversary. The program featured storytelling, music, and dance. (By the way, tickets for this event were \$55.00--our going to the Harrison House on June 20, 2026, will be free.) The Moulin Rouge was the first racially integrated resort in Las Vegas, when it opened in 1955. It was a national sensation with its dancers on the cover of "Life" magazine. The most recent event at the Harrison House was on May 24, 2026, which was "Moulin Nights". Katie wanted me to attend that event--I really would have loved doing that; but I had been in Las Vegas all day on May 23, 2026, having left Pahrump at 9:45 A.M. and not getting back until 6:00 P.M. I just could not double back the next day.

The Harrison House has been featured in local newspapers and on local T.V. stations. Tom Hawley, a reporter for Channel 3, wrote an article about the house in February 2018, shortly before his unexpected death.

I have been to the Harrison House/in that neighborhood about a half dozen times, on different days and at different times and have found the same thing each time--it is a very quiet neighborhood, nobody around.

Hope to see you at the Harrison House on Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 5:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Jeanie Prouty

Pinball Hall of Fame

I have decided to include the Pinball Hall of Fame on June 20th, the same day as Harrison House which is at 5 PM. We will meet at the Pinball Hall of Fame at 10am and check out the vintage pinball machines and more modern games. They have plenty of quarters there, but if you have a bunch of quarters, I'm sure the operators would love to have them. Afterwards, about 1pm, we'll head over to the Ahern Hotel for Lunch where they have a very reasonable menu and great food. The Ahern resort is a non-gaming boutique hotel. While there you can check out the vintage cars they have on display.

The Pinball Hall of Fame is located at 4925 S. Las Vegas Blvd. Las Vegas. Russel and LVBLVD next to Harley Davidson.

Ahern Hotel & Resort is located at 300 W. Sahara on the north side of Sahara.

Submitted by: John Pendergast

The Club Annual Pizza Run

The club's annual pizza run will be at Amore's on East Sunset--further details will be in the June and July 2026 newsletters. Carla and Anthony Adsit are handling this pizza run and have everything in place.

I just want to remind everyone that there is a club charge of \$10.00 per person for the pizza run which includes soft drinks, water, pizza. If you wish to order an alcoholic drink, salad, or anything else, you would personally need to pay for that.

The pizza run is set to begin at 3:00 P.M. with pizzas started to be ordered/cooked at about 2:30 P.M. You may arrive at any time you wish, but, again, the pizza will only start to be ordered by about 2:30 P.M. Thank you for your cooperation.

Submitted by: Jeanie Prouty

ACTIVITIES FOR 2026

DATE	ACTIVITY	Volunteers Host(s)
January 17th	Dust-Off Breakfast, Chloride, AZ	John & Judy Pendergast
February 21st	Pioneer Saloon Tour & Lunch	Jeanie Prouty
March 14th	St. Patrick's Day Parade & Lunch	Harry Ranson
April 24th	Las Ventana's Car Show	John Munoz
May 16th	15th annual Show & Shine	Paul Rolland
June 20th	Harrison House and lunch	Jeanie Prouty
July 18th	Annual Pizza Run	Anthony & Carla Adsit
August 15th	Ice Cream Cruise to Boulder City	Brian and Dinna Pucio
September 19	Pic-Nic	
October 17	TBD	John and Judy Pendergast
November 21st	TBD	
December 5th	Electric Light Parade & Dinner	Dion Stams
December 8th	Holiday Awards Banquet	Tom & Betty Rowlett



Denny Rutkoski in his garage 2023

It is with a heavy heart that I tell you we have lost a great car hobbyist. Denny was involved in a collision doing what he loved to do and that's driving one of his vintage Model T's. The Model T was hit by an F450 towing a trailer. You can read the full story in the KSL.Com News.

Denny was always upbeat and never had a negative word about anyone or anything. We all should follow his lead in life. He joined our chapter in May 2017. We had no idea he was such a car collector when he joined, but we found out really quick that he knows cars. We toured his collection back in 2023 and found out what a true hobbyist is. What a garage and the collection so well taken care of and maintained. It was just incredible! You could get in and start any of the vehicles and they were road worthy the moment you drove it out of the garage. That tour we drove our 380SL and it decided to be a vintage car and not start for the trip home. We tried different things but to no avail. Denny quickly said take my truck and trailer. We loaded the car on the trailer and we were on our way home. His words were; "It's all part of the hobby. Just give a call and let me know when you are returning with the setup". Needless to say, Judy and I were shocked at what just occurred. We weren't total strangers, but still, it's his truck and trailer. He wasn't worried about it. On another tour he drove his 1937 Buick Roadmaster to The Valley of Fire and we stopped to take pictures and next thing you know he and Darrel are driving the 380SL and Judy and I are driving the Buick. Again, he said "It's all part of the hobby".


Please keep his, wife Jackie and the Rutkowski family in your thoughts and prayers. We will really miss Denny.

There will be a memorial service this Friday at his garage in Washington, UT. starting at 11am to 2pm The address is: 1483 Midway Street, Washington, UT



HIGH ROLLERS CLUB STORE

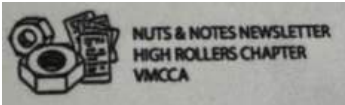
HATS	\$20.00
PLATE FRAMES	\$35.00
HIGH ROLLER PATCHES	\$5.00
VMCCA WINDOW DECALS	\$1.00
MEN'S L.S. DRESS SHIRTS	\$28.00
WOMEN'S L.S. DRESS SHIRTS	\$28.00
L.S. DENIM SHIRTS	\$35.00
POLO SHIRTS (SM. MED. LG. XLG)	\$36.00
POLO SHIRTS (XXLG)	\$40.00
SWEAT SHIRTS	\$40.00
YELLOW WIND BREAKERS (ALL SIZES)	\$38.00
SWEATSHIRTS	\$35.00
LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRTS (M-XXL)	\$22.00
(3-4X)	\$26.00



CLASSIFIED ADS

Classifieds are free
to High Roller Members.

List your car related items in Nuts & Notes.



H. DeValle
6762 Montsouris Park Ct.
LAS VEGAS, NV 89130