



The month of July started off with a bang when club members Jeff and Karen hosted a 4<sup>th</sup> of July party at a park near their home. The following weekend we had a nice cruise across the river to have lunch at Wang Gang Asian in Edwardsville, Ill. The owner is a huge Viper fan and provided lunch and really took care of us. After lunch we headed to Bobby's Famous Frozen Custard for some of the best ice cream in the mid-west. It was really nice of Mike Perkins to let some of the local kids climb all over his car with ice cream on their hands and faces! Oh wait, that part was just Mike's nightmare and thankfully he woke up with no sticky fingerprints on his car!

The cooler temperatures this summer had attendance up at the many track events around the area. The SCCA Performance Driving Experience hosted a few events at Gateway IR, and it was great to see some new members out there. NARRA also had very good participation from our members across the county. As the end of August, we found ourselves at Ray's home for his traditional rockin' pool party. The food was great, as everyone brought a dish, and Bob and Geri's concoction of "mango octane boost" was the liquid refreshment of choice.

Before the summer ends we still have three great events to go. We've once again been asked to slither down the streets of Manchester for their annual Homecoming Parade. We'll also be heading south on some fun twisty roads to Crown Valley Winery in Ste. Genevieve, MO for wine tasting and some live music. The last weekend in September will find us over at Gateway IR for the Monster Mopar Weekend. This will feature many classic Mopar vehicles on display and at the drag strip.

Our members have shown their generosity for the kids again as member Steve Wedel is working with RideMakerZ for an event at Children's Hospital in St. Louis. We were able to raise over \$1000 to purchase cars so the children can make their own Build-A-Viper. We will also have local media there to cover the event. At the end of October we're off to Springfield, MO for the Premier Motorcars event. This event was a blast last year and we had over 50 Vipers attend from several different states. In early November we're going to do a Poker Run and Wedel's will host the Holiday Party in December. More details to follow at [www.dodgeviperclub.com](http://www.dodgeviperclub.com) If you are a Gateway member and are not receiving e-mails from me, please contact me so I can add you to our email list for frequent updates and details on events.

**Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Manchester Homecoming Parade:** We will meet at the Office Depot lot on the south west corner of Manchester and 141 at 7:45. If it is storming or pouring rain, we will cancel. Light rain or chance of; you make the call. You may want to bring candy to toss to the kids along the parade route.

**Sept 19<sup>th</sup> Cruise to Crown Valley Winery:** Gateway Member Marty R. has contacted Crown Valley Winery in Ste. Genevieve and has arranged our visit on September 19<sup>th</sup>. They have wine tasting available and are offering us a 15% discount on all goods and services if we have a least 20 people. Click here to check out their website <http://www.crownvalleywinery.com/> We will meet at the commuter parking lot at the south west corner of Hwy 270 and Hwy 30 at 11:30am and leave around 11:45am and arrive about 12:45 pm.

**Sept 25<sup>th</sup> Monster Mopar Weekend at Gateway:** This year is the 25th annual event. We can show our cars as a group and park in the infield of the oval track. For those who want to enter the car show, the Viper class is 39. The cars are judged on Saturday, but they hand out awards on Sunday. Saturday the registration is from 8am to 2pm and judging from 12pm to 5pm. For those who are entering the car show I would suggest you plan on being there both days, which is \$50. If you just want to enter the oval and park with everyone else but not be judged it's \$45. You can register via the link below, and if you do it before Sept 4th you will get 2 tickets for the whole weekend included. This link also will provide info to those interested in participating in the drag racing event. I plan on showing my SRT-10 (class 39- Viper) and racing the GTS in the Pro class. <http://www.monstermopar.com/registration/carshow.html>

**Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> Children's Hospital Build-A-Viper Event:** The Gateway Viper Club has arranged a special afternoon at St Louis Children's Hospital to make a difference in the life of many children. PLEASE put Saturday October 3rd into your calendar and plan on making a child's life so much happier! The event officially starts at **1pm** so plan on getting to the hospital early. We will be giving you exact details over the next few weeks.

**Oct 17-18<sup>th</sup> Viper Premier Weekend:** Our good friends at Premier Sports Cars have generously offered to host our Viper multi-regional event once again. Last year, we had over 70 people from 10 different states. Holding the event in October this year will hopefully allow for some great Fall foliage scenery on our cruises. We meet at Premier Sports Cars at 11:00am Saturday morning. Premier will again host the event and have lunch provided for us. While at Premier, we will be able to see their inventory of exotic cars and visit with Viper members in attendance. We will depart Premier around 2 pm and enjoy a scenic cruise on our way to Branson where we will have lodging accommodations. Covered parking will be available, and security will be on hand to watch over our snakes. Later that evening we will enjoy dinner and entertainment in Branson. Sunday morning we will have brunch together, and then everyone will be free to spend the day seeing the sites, shopping, go-carting etc. And I'm happy to announce that our very own VCA National President, Chris Marshall, as well as the Grailkeeper himself, Herb Helbig, will be joining us for the weekend! I have sent attachments out to the club with the hotel info and itinerary. Please LMK if you need me to resend it. **We will meet Saturday morning at 7:45am at the Moto Mart at I-44 and Allenton/Six Flags exit #261 in Eureka. We will depart at 8:00am.**

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Perkins Poker Run** – details to follow

**Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Party at the Wedel's** – details to follow