

FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

April 2016
Volume 2
Issue 3

VCCA GULF COAST REGION
www.gulfcoastvcca.com

TAMPA BAY AUTO MUSEUM/MEETING

The April meeting took place at the Tampa Bay Automobile Museum in Pinellas Park Florida on the 23rd of the month. I believe that the 15 members and guests that attended were very impressed with the facility and the very well restored vehicles that are on display. This museum is truly a unique experience and well worth the time to go and spend an afternoon wondering among the vehicles. The staff are very knowledgeable and really made us feel welcome. Thanks John and Gary!

The Tampa Bay Automobile Museum, located in the Tampa, Clearwater, St. Petersburg area of west central Florida, features a unique [collection of vintage cars and vehicles](#) that demonstrate special creativity and imagination in their history and engineering. They include pioneering front wheel drive and rear engine cars from the 1920's and 1930's, and each vehicle was chosen based on the engineering achievements that made it an important part of the evolution of the automobile. These are the cars that set the standards for the engineering of automobiles today. Visitors enjoy a provocative blend of art and science in 12,000 square feet of gallery space.

The museum is located at 3301 Gateway Centre Blvd., Pinellas Park, Florida 33782, hours are Mon - Sat: 10am - 4pm, Sunday: Noon to 4pm, Closed Tuesdays & Holidays



NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT

Any items that you would like to see in the Newsletter, tech articles, photos, etc. please send to me pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com.

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

There were no new members for the month of April.

NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION

Our next monthly meeting will be at the Tampa Bay Brewing Company restaurant on Thursday May 19 at 7pm. The restaurant is at 13937 Monroe's Business Park, Tampa, FL 33635 which is just off Racetrack Rd north of Tampa Rd near the Eastern border of Oldsmar. As noted last month, Tampa Bay Brewing has also offered their site as a possible venue for a car show so we can view and discuss this alternative at our next meeting.



Cool Tools for the Garage

I love simple tools that do what you expect them to do, are very reasonable to buy and makes you wonder how you got along without them for so long.

The hubcaps on my truck are secured by three clips with the hub cap sliding over them and snapping into place. To take them off, you have to pry between the cap and the wheel. The first removal of the caps showed me that my wheels were going to look pretty sad with all the chip marks from using a regular screw driver and small plastic body putty paddle. I wasn't too concerned at that point since I was going to have the wheels bead blasted and repainted anyway, but I started looking for an alternative. Enter Hot Rod tools nylon glass filled pry bars. These can be bought from Summit Racing or a variety of other vendors. <http://www.summitracing.com/parts/bjo-ath-k-ngl/overview/> They do exactly what I expected, you can remove your really tight hub caps without any worry of paint chipping or scratches on the hub cap as well. And like most good tools, you will come up with more uses for these where to do not want to mar the surface.

The second little gem is a tool that I have used for almost 40 years and for the most part only Firefighters have been the only ones to use them. They are called Howd Straps and every firefighter has at least one or two stuffed in their bunker coat pocket. They are 6 or 12 foot nylon straps with two loops sown into each end and they are incredibly strong. I have one in each vehicle that I own and have used them time and time again. On my truck when I have to work inside the cab I loop one end around the headlight bracket and the other end goes around door latch to keep the door open. They can found at this website, <http://anclotefire.com/product/tools/howd-type-utility-strap-sav-howd/> which is a local business in Tarpon Springs.

I am sure most of you have some tool that you have found that meets the criteria above, if so please share with the rest of us. Email your picks and reasons to me pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com

The April G&D had an article regarding the GM Futurliners. This picture, which is somewhere on RT 66, shows what the Parade of Progress looked like when it rolled into town. More info on the GM Futurliner can be had here. <http://www.futurliner.com/>



The following photo is from Florida Memory, <https://www.floridamemory.com/> which is the record archives of the State of Florida. You can search for photos by name, place, date etc. This appears to be a new Downtown Chevrolet customer with their "well used" trade in. Downtown Chevrolet was in Jacksonville Florida and the building is empty as of this year.



Minutes of VCCA Gulf Coast Region monthly meeting April 23, 2016

Attendance:

1. Roy McGreevy
2. Bob Thacker
3. Tom Burtch
4. Hal Bruce
5. Jim Blanton
6. Bob Young
7. Pat Kroeger
8. Gordon King
9. Randy Coen

Meeting Location: Tampa Bay Automotive Museum, Pinellas Park, FL.

The meeting began at 1:00 with a tour of the museum. In addition to the members, several spouses and guests also attended. A total of 15 people participated in the museum tour and all enjoyed viewing the many unusual and very well restored vehicles.

The monthly business meeting was called to order by Patrick Kroeger at 2:22 PM.

Minutes of 3/13/15 meeting were accepted as distributed

President's comments:

Patrick Kroeger welcomed all to the meeting with special recognition of Randy Coen who attended for the first time. Randy has a beautiful 1966 Corvette convertible which he drove to the meeting and also owns a 1932 Chevrolet which he will soon begin re-restoring after a long hibernation.

Patrick presented Roy McGreevy with a certificate from the VCCA national club for his work on our Gulf Coast newsletter. It was recently recognized as the best new large format newsletter. Thanks again to Roy for his excellent effort both for setting up the newsletter and also establishing our regional web site.

Treasurers Report and Membership Update:

Al Robinson was unable to attend so Patrick reported that our bank balance stands at \$482.11. The recent activity was for our picnic in March where contributions nearly offset costs for a net cost to the region of only \$2.89.

Club activities and fund raising ideas:

Tom Burtch recently had some discussion with the Bay Area Corvette Club regarding participation in the October car show at Dimmit Chevrolet on Hwy 19 in Clearwater. The Corvette club plans to include both Corvettes and other Chevrolet vehicles this year. After further review, Dimmit has decided to limit participation to 1965 and newer vehicles which would exclude many of the Gulf Coast region vehicles, so we will not formally participate as a club. The Bay Area Corvette club is a large well established group in the area and they are interested in working with us if there is a good opportunity.

Tom also reported that Al Robinson has proposed that his church would host a car show if we wish. It offers a large parking lot and easy access (just off East Lake Road about a mile North of John Chestnut park).

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The 50/50 draw was well supported. Jim Blanton was the lucky winner and he generously donated his winnings back to the club. Thank you Jim.

Upcoming car shows:

Shows mentioned:

April 30 - Cruisin' the Park – Rotary Club show at John Clement Park in Palm Harbor

May 7 - Car Shows for Charities Breast Cancer Car Show - downtown Tarpon Springs

May 21 - Car show - United Methodist Church, 1551 Belcher Rd Palm Harbor. Presented by Pedal Down Motors

Old Business - branded clothing

Patrick brought the club T shirts and distributed them following the meeting. If you ordered shirts or if you wish to buy additional shirts, please contact Patrick to arrange purchase. They are priced at \$12 each and are light blue with attractive Gulf Coast VCCA branding.

Caps are not yet available and we are still seeking a source to provide the quality and detail we hope to offer.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Tom Burtch, Secretary - VCCA Gulf Coast Region

National News

The Annual Board of Directors Meeting took place April 6th through 9th at the site of the upcoming 55th Anniversary Meet in Lake Tahoe. Four Board members were reelected for 3 additional years, Bryan Felt, Franklin Gage, David Gowan and Jim Gebhardt. The Anniversary meet is proceeding as planned with over 400 rooms booked and 130 vehicles registered so far. 200+ vehicles are planned to be judged including the PCC. The BOD toured the show field site, the hotel grounds for registration, Field Check and activities including the stage and show area for the banquet. All Regions and BOD members have been asked to sell raffle tickets to help support the Meet. A number of changes have been made for judging the CDPC class to help clarify and standardize CDPC judging...we can discuss these at our next meeting. The Vintage Chevrolet Foundation is active now, and a \$100 donation will make you a founding contributor. A brochure is under development and will be available at the '55th. We are reprinting our membership brochure, so if you need some additional brochures, please let me or member services know. Two BOD officers were re-elected to two year terms; Jim Amos as Treasurer and Jim Gebhardt as Vice President. The BOD meeting was conducted informally on Wednesday evening and through tours all day Thursday. The formal meeting was called to order Thursday evening, from 6 PM to 10:30 PM, and then again from 8 AM to 8 PM on Friday. As you can see, there is very little spare time at a BOD meeting. Many issues were discussed and resolutions reached at the meeting. I am proud to have the privilege to represent Area 9 on the National Board.

Area 9 News

We are only 17 days away from the 14th Annual Area 9 Nationally Judged Meet in Charleston. There are 42 cars registered and there will be two car shows....the Nationally judged cars on Friday and local non member Chevrolets in an open car show on Saturday. There will be a number of interesting tours in and around Charleston available including Patriots Point with the USS Yorktown, a harbor tour including Ft Sumter, walking and carriage tours of the historic homes on the Battery, fine shopping and dining on the streets of the waterfront and a tour of the museum housing the Hunley, the very first submarine to sink a ship. There is something for everyone in Charleston! So even if you don't plan to bring a car, come on over and spend some time with other Chevy lovers. Paul Dimbath, Franklin Gage and Roger & Mary James will be there so your BOD will be well represented! I appreciate the number of HOG members that will be attending and look forward to seeing you there. Jeff, Ronnie and I will be arriving late Wednesday afternoon...safe travels!

Jim Gebhardt
Area 9 Director
VCCA Vice President

For Sale

My youngest son restores gas pumps and other related items and once he finishes them and he if doesn't sell them right away then for some reason they seem to find a home at my house.

This is mid 30's Bennett model 307 oil tank and pump and has been completely restored to like new condition. It is about 4 ft. tall and 10 inches wide and 26 inches deep. He would like to get \$375 for it and I will deliver within 50 miles.



Anyone who wants to list any item for sale please contact Patrick Kroeger at pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com.