



# FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

April 2017  
Volume 3  
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VCCA GULF COAST REGION  
[www.gulfcoastvcca.com](http://www.gulfcoastvcca.com)

## GUEST SPEAKER

We were very fortunate this month to have John Hackett as a guest speaker at our meeting; John has a lengthy career as a classic car appraiser and consultant and spent about an hour covering that aspect of our hobby as well as other interesting and informative insights. John has also very graciously offered to sponsor and pick our Best of Show Trophy for our upcoming car show in October. Thanks, John for a great deal of information.

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## CAR SHOW

We will have a car show meeting May 20<sup>th</sup> at the car show site, East Lake Methodist Church on East Lake Rd. at 2:00 pm for anyone who would like to get involved. Updates at the May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting

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## 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](mailto:pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com).

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## MEMBER INFORMATION

We have seven T-shirts, four XL and three L if anyone is interested, \$12 at a meeting or \$14 mailed. Contact Patrick Kroeger.

We have five 2017 Calendars left, so if anyone is interested, please contact Tom Burch.

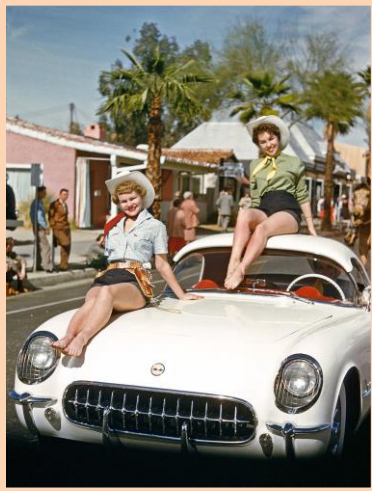
I would request that our members who did not have their vehicle in this year's calendar to take some pictures of their vehicle(s) for submission for next year. If you are working on a vehicle, those make great calendar pictures as well as daily drivers or complete restorations. We would like all members to be represented in our annual calendar.

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## NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION

Our May monthly meeting will be on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Perkins Restaurant in Clearwater at Gulf to Bay and US 19.

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1955 and two women sitting on your brand new Corvette in Palm Springs CA. Since I was 4 in 1955, can anyone tell me why this would be good idea?

### **My 1937 Chevy Frame “Jig” By Tom Burtch**

If you have the “bones” of a donor car, the portion of the frame that goes under the body shell makes a good body stand. Cut off anything that protrudes and add caster wheels for mobility. I also added a brace at the front for stability before I removed the two front cross members. The floor of my car is very rusty and this assures I can move the body around if needed while keeping it in proper alignment during the time it is off the frame.





Floor repair is much easier if working at a comfortable height. In addition to the front cross tube I mentioned in earlier, I also added one at the back. They were a sized for a 1 ½ in heavy wall square tubes to fit inside. These make a solid base for lifting the body onto blocks to provide a good working height.

After repairing the floor from the top, I wanted to finish welding and repairs to the bottom side and lower body edges. With strong body mounts the frame will support the body when tipped, so I added brackets to the tubes to allow rolling the body shell on its side using a mobile engine hoist.



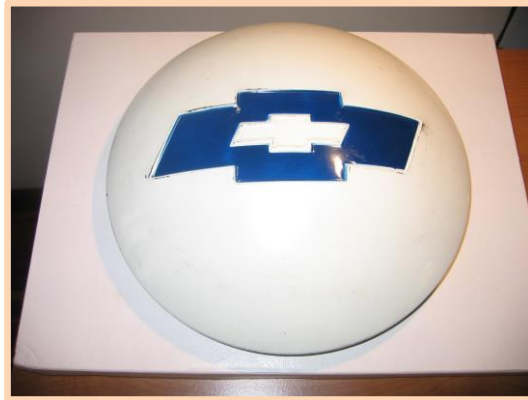
This offers good stability and access to complete most of the remaining floor and lower body repairs.



I hope you enjoyed my low tech and low cost approach to support a rusty body during repairs.

**FOR SALE:**

For Sale - 1954 and early 1955 Chevrolet pickup hub caps. These are painted white with a blue bow tie and were used on the base pickup. I have ten and they are New Old Stock. Never installed, but some have scratches and paint deterioration from long storage. \$20 each or all 10 for \$100. Call Tom Burtch 727-203-5179 or [tomsoldcarhobby@yahoo.com](mailto:tomsoldcarhobby@yahoo.com).



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**NOTE:**

Items listed will run for two issues and then deleted. Any member is free to list items and we ask that price be included. Send items to Patrick Kroeger at [pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com).

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**Minutes of VCCA Gulf Coast Region monthly meeting April 27, 2017****Attendance:**

1. Pat Kroeger
2. Roy McGreevy
3. Bob Bernstel
4. John Hackett
5. Al Robinson
6. Hal Bruce
7. Ray & Lola Baker
8. Tom & Althea Burtch
9. Mike Rabaut
10. Tom Burtch
11. Dave Cardinal

**Meeting Location:** Perkins Restaurant, 2626 Gulf to Bay Blvd, Clearwater FL, 33759

The meeting was called to order by Patrick Kroeger at 7:07 PM.

**Minutes:**

Minutes of 3/18/16 meeting were accepted as distributed.

**President's comments:**

Patrick Kroeger welcomed all to our first meeting at Perkins Restaurant. Perkins provided a separate room for the meeting and we expect to continue our monthly meetings here (on fourth Thursdays) for the balance of the 2017 calendar year.

Patrick recognized Ray and Lola Baker who recently joined the Gulf Coast Region and this was the first meeting they have attended. Thanks to Ray and Lola for coming from Sarasota and for sharing the story of their ongoing restoration of a 1936 Chevrolet pickup.

Patrick also reported that Jim Gebhardt (Area 9 director and a Charter member of the Gulf Coast Region) was elected VCCA President for a two year term at the recent national VCCA directors meeting in Bowling Green KY. Bowling Green was selected as the site for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary VCCA National meet in 2021. More details should be in the next G&D Magazine.

**Treasurers Report and Membership Update:**

Al Robinson reported that our bank balance was at \$908.20 as of April 31 and we now have 26 members.

**Guest Speaker:**

John Hackett of Classic Automotive Consultants spoke about appraisals, diminished value insurance claims, auctions and car collections he has known around the world. He told many interesting stories and gave a real insight into an exciting part of the collector car hobby. John was the host of the popular syndicated radio show "This Old Car" which was broadcast from St. Petersburg for many years. He is a highly qualified vehicle appraiser and currently owns and operates an automotive appraisal/inspection/valuation service in St. Petersburg, Florida ([www.classicautomotiveconsultants.com](http://www.classicautomotiveconsultants.com)). John also offered to sponsor the "Best of Show" trophy at our October 21 car show and to select the Best of Show vehicle.

**Branded Clothing:**

Patrick reported that we have re-ordered T shirts with our region logo and branding and now have medium and large sizes available. Please contact Patrick ([pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com)) if you wish to purchase T shirts.

**Car Show:**

East Lake United Methodist Church leadership has approved the use of their property for our car show on October 21, 2017. Several Gulf Coast Region members met at the church property on March 25 and show plans are well underway.

- Patrick showed a flyer which is nearly finalized and the classes and trophy offering is set.
- Bob Bernstel reported that he already has a door prize lined up from Coolside Gelato Bar- nice job Bob!
- Roy McGreevy will soon set up a site for on-line advance registration and payment.
- As mentioned earlier, John Hackett will select the best of show vehicle and sponsor the best of show trophy.

**Another show planning meeting will be held in May and Patrick will communicate details. All Gulf Coast Region members are welcome to attend and participate in the planning meetings.**

**Name Tags:**

We agreed to purchase clear tag pockets and Tom Burtch will make insert tags with names for all members. These should be ready for the May meeting and will be distributed "live" to save on postage costs.

**Member Contact List:**

Tom Burtch circulated a grid of information which members have agreed to share and asked those in attendance to update and to add significant others to the list if missing. The updated list is attached for your reference. Please note that some members did not check off agreement to release personal data or used an old form without the consent check off. The names of significant others only shows for those who included information on their membership registration or added it during the meeting. If anyone wishes to add or change any information, please contact Tom at [tomsoldcarhobby@yahoo.com](mailto:tomsoldcarhobby@yahoo.com). This contact list will not be on the website but will be distributed as changes are made.

**Next Meeting:**

Our next regular meeting will be on Thursday May 25 at 7:00 pm at a Perkins restaurant, 2626 Gulf to Bay Blvd in Clearwater. We expect to have Brando Pistorius (of Pistorius Collectible Autos & Restoration Services in Odessa) as a guest speaker.

**50/50 Draw:**

The 50/50 draw was won by Jim Blanton who generously donated his winnings for a \$57.00 total benefit to the region. Thanks Jim for your generosity.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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