

# FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

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VCCA GULF COAST REGION  
[www.gulfcoastvcca.com](http://www.gulfcoastvcca.com)

## PICNIC/MEETING

March 13, 2016 we held which we hope will be an annual event, our first Gulf Coast Region picnic at John Chestnut Park in East Lake. Unfortunately, the weather was doubtful with rain in the forecast, so only three optimistic members brought their Chevrolets to show, Tom Burch's '32 Sport Roadster, Hal Bruce's '70 Camaro Z/28 and Al Robinson's '34 Master. Great time despite the overcast weather and next year bigger and better.



## NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT

Temporarily, beginning with this issue, Roy McGreevy has entrusted Debbie Kroeger to do the newsletter due to Roy having to spend more time on his employment. Debbie will try to maintain the high standard that Roy has set with the newsletter. Roy will still maintain the website and you can still send your vehicle photos to him for inclusion on the site.

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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## NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Welcome new members Randy Coen of Tampa, Ralph Wescott of Largo and Gordon King of Largo.

Also a quick **get well soon** for Howard Seymour and Ralph Wescott.

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## NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION

April 23, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at Tampa Bay Auto Museum at 3301 Gateway Centre Blvd, Pinellas Park, FL.

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## Florida YOM License Plates

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When I first got my truck and started the title transfer and registration process I inquired about what the reduced tag fee was for an antique vehicle. I have had YOM (year of manufacture) tags before, most recently on a 1969 Chevelle that my wife had, which had a 1969-70 Florida tag from Indian River County.

I had planned on a YOM tag for my truck later on down the line, since finding a good quality 1936 Florida tag was not going to be very easy. When I got the antique vehicle tag, in powder blue with white lettering, I decided that I needed to expedite the search for a 1936 YOM tag. I found a 1936 Florida tag in pretty decent condition, faded but not rusted out, at a swap meet in Zephyrhills and not only was it a 1936 Florida Tag, it was also a light truck tag. Perfect! I thought.

At that time Florida was not real keen on approving a YOM tags that were in poor quality condition or were they open to approving restored tags either. I none the less took a chance and had mine restored to like new and submitted it to the DMV with a really smoozy letter telling them how much I appreciated their hard work.

Two weeks later, my tag got sent back with the current year decal in place (crooked) and bit of paint chipped off one of the corners.

The State now does accept restored plates for authentication but faded or rusted plates will still be rejected.

The price for YOM tags are reasonable, mine is about \$45 a year and since you have to have a tag anyway, you may as well have a better looking one than the powder blue with white lettering that is showing up on 1975 Dodge Mini Vans!

Here are some links about the authentication process,

<http://www.scplates.com/Home/yom/florida> Florida License Plate gallery

[http://www.worldlicenceplates.com/usa/US\\_FLXX.html](http://www.worldlicenceplates.com/usa/US_FLXX.html) and

<http://www.tvraaca.org/yomprocedure.htm>, a guide to submitting a plate for authentication

<http://www.ebay.com/gds/Florida-YOM-Plates-May-Be-Refurbished-Repainted-/10000000013509678/g.html>, codes for Florida Plates

<http://www.floridalicenseplates.com/codes.php> and two License Plate restorers,

<http://www.finishyourplates.com/Prices---About-the-Business.html> and

<http://www.mojoartworks.com/> who I used to restore mine.

Aug. 28, 1939. "Golden Gate International Exposition, San Francisco. General Motors exhibit of 1940 and 1939 GMC Suburban's with Pan American Airways Clipper Ship at Treasure Island. Bay Bridge in background." The Boeing 314 flying boat is the *Honolulu Clipper*.



The following photos are 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. These photos are from 1936 and it appears that Chevrolet had skywriting planes doing promotional work in the State of Florida.



**Minutes of VCCA Gulf Coast Region monthly meeting February 18, 2016****Attendance:**

1. Bob Thacker           Member
2. Tom Burtch           Member
3. Hal Bruce            Member
4. Pat Kroeger           Member
5. Andy Swaney          Member

**Meeting Location:** Captain Jack's Bar & Grill, Tarpon Springs, FL

The meeting was called to order by Patrick Kroeger at 7:05 PM.

Minutes of 1/21/15 meeting were accepted as distributed

**President's comments:**

- Patrick Kroeger noted that the meeting location was changed at very short notice due to the permanent closure of Beef 'O' Brady's in Largo only a few days earlier. The return to Tarpon Springs was a temporary move for this meeting. For March we will combine the meeting with our spring picnic so this will be a weekend gathering. The tentative plan is to have the picnic at Eagle Lake Park in Largo on Sunday March 13 in the afternoon. Patrick will confirm availability of the park and will provide details later.

**NOTE – After the meeting Patrick checked and Eagle Lake Park is not available so the picnic will be at John Chestnut Park which is at 2200 East Lake Road S in Palm Harbor on March 13.**

Howard Seymour was hospitalized briefly earlier in the week and was not able to attend the meeting. Patrick will call to see how he is doing and we wish Howard a speedy recovery.

**Treasurers Report and Membership Update:**

Al Robinson was unable to attend the meeting but provided a summary which Patrick presented. The bank balance stands at \$455 as of February 12, 2016.

**Old Business - branded clothing**

We have identified a source for branded clothing. If there is enough interest we will offer logo t shirts and caps with the VCCA crest and the Gulf Coast region name. Patrick showed samples of the shirts and caps. The t shirts will sell for \$12.00 in sizes up to XL and \$13.60 for sizes XXL and larger. These will be printed in two colors on a blue material. The caps will be priced in the range of \$12 to \$15 each with the actual price to be determined based on the cost. The caps will be embroidered so the thread count and complexity of the design will determine the cost and we don't have the final amount yet. Patrick will be contacting those who were not at the meeting to determine the interest for an initial order. We need to commit to purchase at least 20 t shirts for the manufacturer to proceed.

**Club activities and fund raising ideas:**

Picnic March 13 at John Chestnut Park in Palm Harbor. If good weather, please drive your old Chevy or GMC.

Possible tour/visit to Tampa Bay Auto Museum in Tampa in April or May

Offer from Tampa Bay Brewing restaurant in Oldsmar for club meetings in a separate meeting space and as a possible venue for a car show. We will consider a future meeting there and a possible car show later this year.

**Upcoming car shows:**

Shows mentioned:

March 5-6 at Bradenton Motor Sport Park

March 12 – Autos for Autism show in Tarpon Springs

March 19 – Show and Shine under the Oaks – St Andrew’s Church in Dunedin

March 19 – Suncoast Hospice

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

**Report on Heart of Georgia swap meet – Marietta Georgia**

Tom Burtch travelled to the one day swap meet held on February 13 in Marietta GA.

This was run by the Georgia VCCA region and is their main fund raising activity for the year. The region has 22 members and about 8 were actively involved in running the swap meet. This is an annual event that has been held for 7 years and has been very successful most times but is very dependent on the weather which dramatically affects turnout of vendors and spectators. The meet was held in a large park with a horse showing arena so the facility was large and well serviced. Vendors paid \$25 per space (a double long parking space so about 10’ x 25’ in size) and the spectators paid \$5 admission. Unfortunately the weather was extremely cold (about 25 degrees at 8 am) and the attendance was down significantly from prior years with only 20 vendors setting up. They expected to just break even this year and are investigating a date about 4 weeks later for next year.

This appears to be a manageable activity for a region of our size if a suitable facility and date can be found. A park, community center, arena, fair grounds or even covered parking lot would be possible locations so long as they offer sufficient space and shelter from rain. Please contact Tom if you have suggestions on a venue or would like to explore the idea of a VCCA Gulf Coast swap meet. We will see if there is enough interest to host one in our region.

**Newsletter:**

- Please submit any ideas or input for the newsletter by the end of February to Roy McGreevy. His email address is roy2@rdinventions.com.

- Thanks to Andy Swaney for running the 50/50 draw. It yielded \$30 for the club due to winner Bob Thacker’s generous donation of his prize. Andy noted that he will be going North after next meeting and hopes someone will volunteer to continue the 50/50 draw until he returns in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

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

**Minutes of VCCA Gulf Coast Region monthly meeting March 13, 2016****Attendance:**

1. Bob Thacker
2. Dave Cardinal
3. Tom Burtch
4. Ed Bittman
5. Hal Bruce
6. Jim Blanton
7. Bob Young
8. Pat Kroeger
9. Al Robinson

**Meeting Location:** John Chestnut Park, Palm Harbor FL.

The meeting was called to order by Patrick Kroeger at 12:10 PM.

Minutes of 2/18/15 meeting were accepted as distributed

**President's comments:**

- Patrick Kroeger welcomed all to the combined picnic and monthly meeting. Several spouses/significant others attended and a few members drove their old cars to the event despite a threat of rain. The weather remained cloudy but dry and the picnic was a great success.

The April meeting will be a tour of the Tampa Bay Auto Museum at 3301 Gateway Centre Blvd.

Pinellas Park, Florida at 1:00 PM, on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, with our business meeting to follow. Admission will be \$5 per person if we have 12 or more members.

**Treasurers Report and Membership Update:**

Al Robinson reported that our bank balance stands at \$485 and we now have 20 members.

**Newsletter**

Roy McGreevy has a new job which requires lot of his time for now and he asked for someone to take over the newsletter preparation. Roy will continue to maintain the web site and may return to the newsletter if workload permits. Deb Kroeger has volunteered to prepare the newsletter, so please provide any input to her at [pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com). Please share ideas and any interesting newsletter topics with Deb as member input is key to a good newsletter. Thanks to Deb for taking this on since the newsletter is a key visibility point for prospective members to see what we are doing in the Gulf Coast region.

**Old Business - branded clothing**

Patrick circulated a form for members to add or update their requests for branded T shirts and caps. We have enough interest to commit to the initial order and will proceed to set this up with the supplier.

**Club activities and fund raising ideas:**

Tampa Bay Brewing restaurant in Oldsmar has offered to host club meetings in a separate meeting space at their restaurant in Oldsmar. We will meet there for May, June and July and return to our schedule of meetings on the third Thursday of each month. The May meeting will be on May 19. Tampa Bay Brewing has also offered their site as a possible venue for a car show.

Andy Swaney was unable to attend the picnic, but had noted that he will head back to Virginia in April for the summer season and would like to pass over the 50/50 coordination to another member for the summer. Al Robinson volunteered to take this on. Thanks to Andy for initiating this popular addition to our meetings and helping to boost the bank account as well.

**Upcoming car shows:**

Shows mentioned:

March 19 – Show and Shine under the Oaks – St Andrew’s Church in Dunedin

April 9 – Trinity – Medical Center of Trinity on State Road 54 near Little Road

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM and the picnic followed

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