

FLORIDA GULF COAST REGION VCCA NEWSLETTER

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VCCA GULF COAST REGION
www.gulfcoastvcca.com



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WEBSITE

If any of you have visited our website, you have seen on the opening page some of our member's vehicles. However, there is more room for additions. Please send me photos and information regarding your vehicle so that we can add it to our website.

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Pat Kroeger, Editor
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NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION

Our next meeting will be on March 28th at John Taylor Park, Largo FL., at Shelter 5. We will have lunch at 12:00 p.m. and meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. Shelter is reserved for all day if you wish to show up earlier. See attached Flyer for more information.

2021/2022 CALENDARS

The 2021 calendar is done and available for purchase, \$10 at a meeting or \$13.00 mailed. I have three cars for the 2022 calendar so far, but it is never too early to think of submitting your vehicle photos. We have photos in the 2021 calendar that showed the actual member with their vehicle, so we would like to continue with that as much as possible. Also, restoration photos are interesting as they show the progress of your pride and joy! Please send at least a 500KB photo of your pride and joy to pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com.

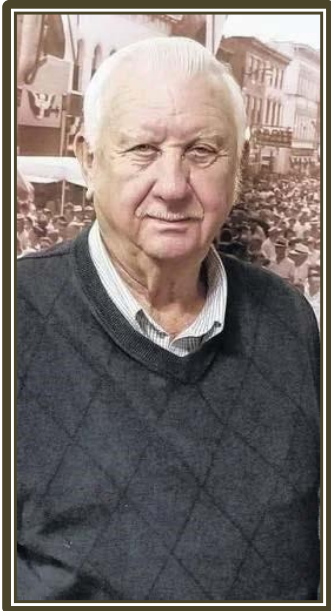


MISCELLANEOUS

We have polo shirts, T-shirts and hats available. The Polos will run \$28 each with a \$2.50 surcharge for XX and XXX shirts. The T-shirts will be \$15 each and will have the large logo on the back and the small logo silk screened on the front like the current T shirts. The hats and will be \$15.00 each. Contact our Treasurer, Hal Bruce at 727-415-8123.



IN MEMORY JIM BLANTON



1938 – 2021

James Edward Blanton, 82, of Lutz, Florida, passed away Saturday, January 10, 2021 at St. Joseph's Hospital North.

He was born July 1, 1938 in Lucasville, a son of the late Alvin Marion and Gladys Opal Widdig Blanton.

Graduating from Valley High School in 1957, Jim was a Cabinet Maker and the owner/operator of the Humidor Store in Tampa, Florida. Jim loved working in

his business, collecting antique cars, and was an avid sports fan especially his beloved Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Jim is survived by his wife, Sally Hoschak Blanton whom he married February 5, 1960 in Tampa, Florida; one son, Mark Blanton of Lutz, Florida; and two brothers, Harold Blanton of Hillsboro and Charles Blanton of Lucasville.



Jim was a founding member of the Gulf Coast Region and had been a great member to our club with his help in our annual car shows and was the main cook at are bi-annual picnics that we had every November and March. Matter of fact, there are some of us who wished that we had monthly picnics to have some of his grilled Sausage with onions and peppers more often.

I think that I speak for all of us that Jim Blanton will be missed and that we all are better people for having knowing him.

UPDATE ON 2021 19TH ANNUAL VCCA AREA 9 MEET

Debbie and I have done some preliminary information gathering on the possibility that our region would host an Area 9 meet in October of 2021.

We are looking at October 20-24, 2021 as the date for this meet. Hotel and site of meet will be at the LaQuinta Inn and Suites and Quaker Steak & Lube which are located side by side.

This month we will review and update previous projected costs and activities that were planned and present the info to the executive board.

Tentatively, we have planned the following activities for the listed days:

- October 20th, Wednesday - First Day of Registration at hotel, field check of vehicles for judged show, early bird reception at hotel with snacks
- October 21st, Thursday - Second day of Registration at hotel, field check of vehicles for judged show, Judging school, Tour of Tampa Bay Auto Museum
- October 22nd, Friday - Registration Table, Judges Meeting/Breakfast, Field Check of vehicles for judged show, Judged Show, Pirate Ship cruise, Madeira Beach
- October 23rd, Saturday - Registration table, Dali Museum Tour, Banquet and Award Ceremony
- October 24, Sunday, Event Over.

As we get further into this, everything will get fine-tuned and better organized. Any and all suggestions and comments, please forward to us.



PREPPING FOR PAINT

Mike Rabaut

During this time of COVID, I have had plenty of time to start the process of painting the 1940 Chevy PU that I have been working on. Growing wise with age, I decided I would pass on some of the wisdom that I acquired by the many mistakes I have made. In the process of organizing my thoughts, I decided to share some of the basics about preparing for paint that I've learned ... so here goes....

Surfaces....

Wood surfaces are easy to paint. The wood is usually comprised of fibers which allows the paint (liquid) to be absorbed into and around the fibers therefore holding the paint (liquid) in place. If the wood has been previously painted, you will need to create something for the paint to hold onto, so you scratch the surface with sandpaper creating a mechanical bond.

Metal surfaces are not porous and there are no fibers for the paint to hold onto, so you need to treat it as wood that has been painted. You need to create a surface that the paint can bond to by sanding, sandblasting or other methods of creating a rough surface so a mechanical bond with the paint can form.

Sandpaper.....

One way to create the mechanical bond necessary to hold the paint to the metal is by scratching it. Sandpaper is nothing more than an abrasive material, of a specific size, that is glued to paper....hence "sandpaper". It is important that the grain size be exactly the same so that the scratches are all the same size. Sometimes cheap sandpaper does not have good quality control so the scratches will not be uniform and that makes it hard to get rid of the scratches later so be aware!!!

Sandpaper roughness is measured in the size and the grit of the grains that make it rough. Size ranges vary, but I use sizes 80 grit to prep the metal, and 180 - 400 grit to smooth the primers and 1000-1500 grit to color sand the paint. Going beyond that, it is almost impossible to glue the abrasive particles to paper so you mix them into a cream and call it a compound.

As a side note, toothpaste is a compound, a paste, with grit added to it just like compound for your paint. It's the size of the grit that's different. You could use paint compound on your teeth and they will probably come out white by grinding off all of the stains but probably destroy the enamel on your teeth in the process because of the coarse grit. The grit in toothpaste is really fine and appropriate for teeth but it also might be good for polishing rings, etc. Electric toothbrushes are just like buffing wheels, use them too much and you can grind off all of the enamel on your teeth..... be aware. I know, dentists use them but notice they don't use them on you for very long!!

Some new types of sandpaper coming out are made differently. Instead of grains of abrasive materials, it has small fingers, something like a hairbrush with very small bristles. I mean really small.... maybe a bad analogy..... anyways, it can achieve grits approaching 5000!! So in some cases, you don't need to use compound!!! One such paper is called Trizact and it's made by 3M. It's great for color sanding out junk that gets in the finish paint! I spent a lot of time there.....

Surface Prep...

When you buy steel, you can get two basic types (at least for my purposes). There is hot rolled and cold roll. Either will work but hot roll comes coated with a scale from the mill known as mill scale! It's very hard so it is tough to scratch, hence paint doesn't like it. You need to remove it. I use muriatic (pool) acid to remove it with lots of water. The reaction creates a poisonous gas so do it outside away from living things (you wear a mask) or just make sure you buy cold roll steel, and for our purposes, it works just fine. It usually comes with an oily coating to retard rusting, which comes off easily.

To get the paint to stick, you will need to prep the surface.

First, you will need to get rid of all the stuff that will come off. That means dirt, oil, old paint, snow (if you're up north) and RUST!!!

To make steel, you take iron oxide and heat it up to drive off all of the oxygen bonded in the metal. When steel is exposed to oxygen, it turns back into iron oxide (which is the steel's natural state). It's not a structural material so it will crumble and fall apart.... BAD. Water has a lot of oxygen in it (fish breathe it). So it's a good idea to keep steel away from water unless you can coat it with something that does that.... that's where paint comes in. So you need to choose a paint (that includes primers and such) that keep water out. The paint is there to protect the metal, the last coat, the color is there for show!!!

A general rule, keep water as far away from the metal as possible.

The first coat of paint (called a primer) needs to stick to the metal. There are two ways to do this.

The first is an etching primer. This type of primer has an acid in it. It etches the metal giving the primer a way of grabbing the steel, and therefore creating a mechanical bond.

Unfortunately this type of primer is not moisture proof....bummer!!!

The second type of primer is Epoxy primer. It requires that you physically scratch the surface with 80 grit sandpaper or it will not form a proper mechanical bond. This type of primer is moisture proof....YEA!!!



So how do I scratch the surface?? Use 80 grit sandpaper and some form of Dual Action sander (recommended).... it gives you random scratches, not a belt sander, it gives you straight scratches....harder to cover up. See pic left.



How about sandblasting??? Well first of all, sandblasting (which can produce heat and warp panels) doesn't make scratches. Yes, it does rough up the surface but it's questionable if the mechanical bonding is sufficient for your primer. It creates more small pits (see pic left) than scratches.

You can see the difference between the dull sandblasted area and the shiny sanded area, with scratches on this door.



Why not sandblast and use etching primer? Because etching primer is not moisture proof. Well then, with all that old paint and oil, dirt, RUST and etc, how do I get it all off??

Well, I sandblast all that I can, then scratch it with 80 grit sandpaper, then apply Epoxy Primer. I can now work on it whenever I want without fear of rust. That is if you don't break the primer barrier. I do all the repair work after I get it into epoxy. Then re Epoxy it if I need to...

The big problem is RUST. As I said before, steel in its natural state is basically rust! So by keeping oxygen (contained in water) away, you won't have any rust. That's why Arizona, which has air with little water in it, doesn't have a lot of rust. Michigan has a lot of rust because of the salt they put on the roads.....but, that's a different chemical reaction, but the same problem.....

You can get rid of the rust by sandblasting, sanding with 80 grit sandpaper or by using phosphoric acid (Ospho or something like it). The problem with both sanding and sandblasting is that in those processes, clean metal is exposed to our high moisture laden air. After you clean it, it rusts quickly again. If you decide to put Ospho on your newly blasted/sanded parts, you will only fill up the scratches/pits left by your removal process with the dried Ospho, along with the powered phosphates caused by the chemical reaction of the phosphoric acid and the rust. So now you're filling up the scratches/pits that you need the primer to bond to.....bummer.....

You could wash the Ospho off the metal by reapplying the Ospho then washing it off before it dries....as recommended by the company but now you're putting water where you don't want it.

I like to have the parts sandblasted to remove paint and expose all the problems I didn't see before.... then I sand them down with 80 grit and then epoxy prime them. I like to think of sandblasting as a process used for cleaning off the metal, exposing problems so I can then scratch it then prime it. Then, when I get around to it, (it's not going to rust now) I can repair anything that needs to be done.... fill with filler, weld up holes, messing up the primer of course..... welding and hammering does that. I then sand with 80 grit, re-prime with epoxy to seal off the moisture ...again covering any metal exposed by your repairs also covering any filler that might be exposed.... filler is porous to water.... epoxy seals that... then move on to the next piece.

If you have any questions, let me know. I'll try to deal with surface primers and your finish paint later...



**1926 Chevrolet Touring and 14' Trailer
Package deal – not one without the other
\$12,000**

1926 Chevrolet Superior Touring

Good condition.

Fun vehicle for parades, shows & nice days.

Runs and Drives good

Owned it since 1969 and always inside storage.

\$2000.00 in mechanical improvements in last 6 months.

Honeycomb Radiator in need of a Flush.

Vacuum Tank works well.

Make an appointment so I can have it at the house.



Trailer is a 2018 EZ Hauler 14' front Vee.
X-tra tall

W 7', H 7.5', L 14' + front wedge
Tandem Axles with Electric Brakes
15" G rated Tires
Full Aluminum body and frame
Ventilated with Solar Power Vent.
2) E-Track rail tie downs
14) 2x4 holders for dividing inside.
12) "D" & "O" ring holders
4) Tie Straps + 4 Tie Down Straps
Must be seen to appreciate.



Contact: John Wood
Trinity, FL 34655
715-271-5155
Email: wood34655@yahoo.com,

*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

Minutes of VCCA Gulf Coast Region monthly meeting January 24, 2021**Attendance:**

1. Bob & Margaret Thacker
2. John Davis
3. Tom Burtch
4. Hal Bruce & Pam Simone
5. Howard & Emily Seymore
6. Al Robinson
7. Bob & Jennie Bernstel
8. Dennis Denninger
9. Pat & Deb Kroeger
10. Bev & Barry Richman

Meeting Location: John Chestnut Park, 2200 East Lake Road, Palm Harbor, FL, shelter #12. Another fine day in the park. The meeting was called to order by Patrick Kroeger at 1:00 pm.

Minutes:

Minutes of 12/13/20 meeting were accepted as distributed.

President's Comments:

Patrick welcomed Barry and Bev Richman who attended their first Gulf Coast region meeting. Barry is a long time VCCA member who first joined in Ohio when he owned a 1931 Chevy. He now lives in Palm Harbor for much of the year and has a 1958 Corvette in Ohio and a Nash Metropolitan convertible here in Florida. The Richmans drove their Metropolitan to the picnic and it looked right at home with the old Chevys and GMCs in the parking lot.

Patrick welcomed Pam Simone who reported that she recently became a member of the Gulf Coast region. Pam and Hal have been regular members and although VCCA memberships include spouses and significant others, Pam decided to get her own voting membership (and free wall calendar) in support of the club.

Patrick also recognized Bob Bernstel with gifts of appreciation for his presidency over the last two years. The customized cup and valve caps were held up in the Christmas mail and arrived too late for the last meeting. Thanks again to Bob for a job well done.

Treasurers Report and Membership Update:

Hal Bruce presented the financial summary and noted that the Gulf Coast region bank balance stood at \$2,009.50 on December 31, 2020. We closed 2020 with 37 members and 31 have renewed to date for 2021.

Mecum - Kissimmee:

Hal Bruce reported on two Mecum auctions held in January – at the Osceola Heritage Park in Kissimmee and at Rick Treworgys Muscle Car City in Punta Gorda. Hal attended two days at each location and had some good insights and comments. Although slightly fewer than previous years, there were still about 2,700 vehicles auctioned over the course of the Kissimmee event which ran January 7-17. Attendance seemed weaker but the proportion of sold cars (meeting reserve) was high and many sales were made remotely by phone or internet.

Sales at Muscle Car City on January 22-23 were exceptionally strong. This was a “no reserve” auction with many very desirable vehicles, but most had not seen use in several years and would require reconditioning to be road ready. Many sales were well above expected market values showing that there is a strong collector market.

Lakeland Car Show / Club Information Space:

Last year the Gulf Coast region had a space in the swap meet at the February “Winter Extravaganza” event at Lakeland Sun-n-Fun park. We booked a space for this year also. Tom Burtch reported that the car show and swap meet parts of the 2021 event, which was scheduled for February 19-21, have been cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions. There will just be an auction with only bidders and sellers allowed to attend in person. Our reservation has been transferred to 2022, so we will have a club space for the event on February 25-27, 2022.

2021 Membership Cards and Member Contact List:

Tom Burtch distributed 2021 CY membership cards to those who attended the meeting. Those who have not yet got their 2021 cards will receive them by mail.

Tom also updated the member roster to include 2021 members. A copy of the contact list is attached to the minutes. Note that this is solely for use by Gulf Coast members to keep in touch with each other. Please do not share contact information outside our membership group.

Remembering Jim:

Jim Blanton passed away on January 10, 2021. Jim was a founding member of the Gulf Coast VCCA region and a long time VCCA member who belonged to the various regional VCCA groups active in Florida in prior years. Jim was a very dedicated and active member who regularly attended meetings and events and willingly pitched in to help with anything needed. Many spoke of great memories of Jim. He was at our December meeting and today’s meeting seemed a little empty by his absence. He was a great person who is truly missed. His family are planning a local memorial service, but details are not yet available.

East Lake Church:

Al Robinson reported that all indoor facilities at East Lake United Methodist church are currently closed due to Covid issues. Once things return to normal, they look forward to hosting future shows on the church grounds.

Area 9 Meet:

Patrick reported that the plans for an Area 9 VCCA meet in Florida in October, 2021 are still on track and more information should be available at the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

There will not be a general meeting in February. The next general meeting is Sunday, March 28th at 1:00 pm at John S. Taylor Park, 1100 8th Ave SW, Largo, FL 33770, shelter #5. This location has lots of open space and tables for those who wish to arrive early and enjoy a picnic lunch.

The Gulf Coast VCCA region directors plan to meet in February to discuss plans for 2021.

50/50 draw was won by Bob Bernstel.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

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



Just a reminder of our Picnic Meeting, Sunday March 28th, at John S Taylor Park, Shelter 5 from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The park is at 1100 8th Ave SW, Largo, FL 33770.

Please bring your own food, drinks and lawn chairs so that we can social distance.

This is a rain or shine event, however with good weather, we could make this a mini car show as well so bring your Chevrolet or GMC to show off with!

