



# FLORIDA GULF COAST REGION VCCA NEWSLETTER

Jan, Feb, March 2025  
Volume 11  
Issue 1, 2 & 3

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

## BOARD MEMBERS

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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, here 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

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## NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION

Our next meeting will be our March Meeting/Picnic, It will be on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at John Chesnut Park, Shelter 12, at 12:00 p.m. See the following page for the flyer.

## 2025 CALENDARS

The 2025 Calendars are available for \$10.00 at one of our meetings or \$14.00 by mail (Bulk mailing will be determined at time of mailing). If you are a new member, you will receive a free calendar with your membership.

Now is the time however to start thinking and planning on your 2026 photo submission. Please send at least a 500KB photo of your pride and joy to [pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com).

## GULF COAST REGION SHIRTS

Our Gulf Coast Region shirts with our new logo are available. They are again in the light blue color. Polo shirts are \$20 and t-shirts are \$13.



Bill Soman	March 1
Kenny Stowe	March 8
Ray Baker	April 4



## **MARCH MEETING/PICNIC**

Just a reminder of our March picnic/meeting on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at John Chesnut Park, 2200 East Lake Road, Palm Harbor, Shelter 12. Shelter is reserved from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. if you want to come early or stay later to enjoy the park.

The Club will be providing Publix platters and paper items, so please bring a dessert to share and your favorite (and legal) beverages. **Please let us know if you plan to attend (and eat lunch) by March 21<sup>st</sup> so that we can have enough platters for everyone.**

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!



## **2025 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CAR SHOW**

Our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show, on February 22, 2025, was not as large as last year due to competing car shows that day, however we did have 73 registered! We had near perfect weather and a great turnout of some really spectacular cars.

The cars in the event went from a 1929 Chevrolet Phaeton to a 2021 Chevrolet Corvette and a great variety in between.

We have gotten pretty good with getting these shows organized, however we could not have done this without the help of the following people on Show Day, Bob and Jennie Bernstel, Hal Bruce and Pam Simone, Tom, Althea and Nick Burtch, Pappy Papenfuhs, Al Robinson, Bob and Margaret Thacker, Dave and Barbara Cardinal, Debbie Kroeger and Guy Trent.

Two notable awards were the Member Vehicle that is voted on by the show participants, was awarded to Al Robinson's 1934 Chevrolet Master, First Place Chevrolet to Rich Diorio's 1960 Chevrolet Impala and Best of Show to Keith McKee and his 1958 Chevrolet Impala.

We also had the privilege of Honor Flight having an informational booth at our show. Karen Maex, the representative from Honor Flight and George Chapman and others from the Toymakers Of Eastlake, who make our best of show trophy.

Following is a List of 2025 Trophy Winners

### **BEST OF SHOW**

Keith McKee      1958 Chevy Impala



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## Camaro

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Karen Palmisciano	1968 Chevy Camaro
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	John Roush	1967 Chevy Camaro Coupe

## Chevy

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Rich Diorio	1960 Chevy Impala
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Steve Mogil	1957 Chevy Bel-Air

## Corvette

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Michael McCarthy	1965 Chevy Corvette
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Bruce Rerick	2020 Chevy Corvette C8

## Ford

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Bill Bartlett	1966 Ford Galaxy 500
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## Foreign

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Joseph Bolick	1998 Porsche Boxster
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Mike Siebel	1974 Volkswagen Camper

## Mopar

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Linda & Jack Kenyon	2023 Dodge Challenger
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Rick Jones	2000 Plymouth Prowler

## Mustang

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Larry Reynolds	1989 Ford Mustang
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Cheryl Hormes	1965 Ford Mustang

## Other Domestic

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Mike Houde	1972 Oldsmobile
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Larry McLees	1966 Oldsmobile 442 Tribute

## Pontiac

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Bill Rickert	1968 Pontiac Firebird Convertible
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Marianne Anderson	1967 Pontiac LeMans

## Prewar

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Michael Marsilio	1930 Dodge DC8
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	David Franklin	1938 Lincoln Zephyr Town Limousine

## Street Rod

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Rich Chiaro	1932 Ford Highboy
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## Truck

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Nancy Disharoon	1990 Chevy Silverado
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Keith Evert	1954 Chevy Truck



## **MEMBER VEHICLE**

**Al Robinson  
1934 Chevy Master**



**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE CHEVY**





## THE TOYMAKERS OF EAST LAKE





**PICTURES FROM SHOW**









## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Zephyrhills Swap Meet**

I called the Dealer Auction Exchange (DAX) and was told that they are only planning a Zephyrhills classic car auction this year. They have dropped the car corral and swap meet.

As you probably know, the original owners of the grounds held large classic car swap meets and shows for many years. These were big events in spring (Feb) and fall (Nov) which filled the Festival grounds and they also had vintage car races at the adjacent dirt track in earlier years. About 10 years ago the owners contracted the Carlisle Group to manage the spring and fall shows (with auction and swap meet). This lasted for a few years before the Carlisle Group moved their show to Lakeland. The swap meet and show at Lakeland only lasted until about 2022 (?) when they dropped the swap meet and now, they just offer a classic car auction.

The Zephyrhills shows with swap meets continued at a smaller scale after the Carlisle group left and about 2-3 years ago, I believe the property was purchased by DAX (mostly for use as vehicle storage and for regular dealer auctions). DAX continued with spring and fall classic car events (auction, car corral and swap meet), but advertising and commitment by DAX was weak and attendance steadily declined. I'm not surprised that they ended the swap meet, but it seems like the end of an era for our area.

Submitted by Tom Burtch