



FLORIDA GULF COAST REGION VCCA NEWSLETTER

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VCCA GULF COAST REGION
www.gulfcoastvcca.com

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NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION

Our next meeting will be September 22nd at Queen's Pizza, 1834 N Belcher Rd, at 6:00 p.m. Come early at 5:00 p.m. if you wish to eat dinner prior to meeting.

2027 CALENDARS

I know we just got the 2026 calendars done and here I am yapping about the 2027 calendars. I have five photos, Daniel Ruttenbur's 1929 Chevrolet Phaeton for January, Scott Alexander's 1967 Chevelle, Michael Capozzoli's 1969 Corvette, Robert Thacker's 1937 Chevrolet ½ ton, Tom Burtch's 1937 Chevrolet, and Dave Cardinal is going to have his Corvette photographed whether he wants it or not (lol). So, your mission members, is to provide a photo of at least 500KB of your current or past rides. No flat side photos, they only look good if you're trying to sell a car that has hidden defects.

New members, of course your welcome to submit your car or truck and you will get priority in the calendar.

BOARD MEMBERS

Patrick Kroeger, President
pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com

Hal Bruce, Vice President
hbruce984@gmail.com

Debbie Kroeger,
Secretary/Treasurer
dkroeger1996@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Patrick Kroeger, Editor
pkroeger@tampabay.rr.com

Debbie Kroeger, Art & Design
dkroeger1996@gmail.com



Guy Trent	August 10
Bill Goff	August 11
Bob Thacker	Sept 7

Our last meeting on June 23rd at Queens Pizza, had a great turnout. Hope everyone is having a great summer! Looking forward to ramping up again in September.



NEXT VCCA ANNUAL MEET

Now that the 65th Annual meet is over there are discussions going on about the location of where the next Annual meet will be held. In talking to Jim Gephardt, director of the Heart of Georgia region, he is offering Cartersville, GA as a location, which is where they had the Area 9 meet in April. Sarasota County contacted me when we did the Area 9 meet in 2023, so I am going to contact them to see if they would like to get into the fray. I know that this is few years away, but I have some free time to use.

GULF COAST REGION MEET & GREET

Sea Sea Riders restaurant in Dunedin gave us a gift card for our 2026 Car Show and when I talked to Silvia, the owner, she expressed some interest to do a car show at the restaurant. I am going to see her this month and see what she has in mind. I think she was looking to do a brief show-up type show, maybe something that we as group could show up for. Looking to do this in October or November.

Also still planning to do a meet and greet with VCCA members in the immediate bay area in October, probably at John Chesnut park, to attempt to grow our membership in the Region. Probably drinks and snacky type stuff. Need your thoughts.

EARLY 50'S BLUE TRUCK

I went to high school with Bob Colmer, who went on to be a professional photographer all his adult life. We are still friends after 50 plus years and he and his wife Susan live in SC now. He knows of my fondness for trucks and occasionally sends me pictures that he takes in SC. Early 50's Chevrolet truck.



STORING YOUR VEHICLE BY TOM BURTCH



SERVICE NEWS

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SERVE BY SAVING

Service operations necessary to fulfill the operators' wishes will vary to some extent with each vehicle, but the suggestions listed below may act as a guide to servicemen when contacting owners:

1. Proper conditioning of cooling system.
2. Inspection and conditioning of battery and other electrical parts.
3. Inspection and correction, if necessary of carburetor adjustment, fuel pump, fan belt, valve adjustment, and spark plugs.
4. Change of lubricant in engine, transmission, and rear axle.

Prepare for Summer

During the winter months, the chief concern of motor vehicle operators is whether or not the vehicle will start readily and if the cooling system is adequately protected against freezing through the use of various types of anti-freeze solutions. With the coming of spring and summer and the warmer weather, the operators' viewpoint changes, and their thoughts are how best to provide for smooth, quiet performance of the engine, uninterrupted operation, and adequate cooling.

War production requires more and more materials to provide the necessary equipment so urgently needed, so careful checking and correcting now may prolong the life of many parts for additional thousands of miles of transportation. In addition, many articles are needed to keep war equipment operating, and among these are anti-freeze solutions. Undoubtedly, with the demand for materials which requires use of some parts of anti-freeze solutions for their manufacture and the need for cooling

solutions for liquid cooled war machines, there may be little anti-freeze solutions available for operators of motor vehicles in the future. Suggest to owners that they save the anti-freeze they now have. This saving not only is requested by the Federal government, but will supply the necessary anti-freeze protection when the cold weather comes again.

Proper Conditioning of Cooling System

Every passenger car and truck requires attention to the cooling system at periodic intervals and seasonal changes make this service very important because of the use of anti-freeze solutions. Many operators feel they have given the cooling system adequate care by draining the anti-freeze solution and refilling the cooling system with water. This, however, does not properly prepare the system for continued efficient operation.

During the winter months, the cooling system may accumulate rust and corrosion in the radiator from the engine water jackets. This forms a scale which if not removed will eventually clog the water passages and result in inefficient operation of the cooling system and vitally affect engine performance and economy of operation. Proper servicing of cooling system in order to accomplish the desired results should be performed in two operations:

1. Cleaning and reverse flushing.
2. Reconditioning the cooling system.

A good cleaning solution should be used to loosen the rust and scale before reverse flushing the cooling system. Remove the thermostat before reverse flushing as cold water will cause it to close and result in building up pressure which might cause damage.



After the cleaning and reverse flushing operations have been properly performed, the cooling system should be properly conditioned to prevent leaks, retard the formation of rust, and make certain that the engine will be properly cooled. The following steps should be taken to condition the cooling system properly:

1. Check thermostat for proper operation.
2. Examine hose connections and replace only if necessary.
3. Close cooling system drain cocks and fill cooling system with water.
4. Tighten all hose connections and check all points for leaks.
5. Check water pump for leaks.
6. Examine radiator for leaks and tighten the radiator mounting bolts.
7. Warm up engine by running it for 20 minutes at fast idle (approximately 600 R.P.M.), then tighten all cylinder head bolts.

Inspection and Conditioning of Battery and Other Electrical Parts

Cold weather places additional strain on batteries because of the greater difficulty of turning the engine over when it is cold, more use of the lights as night comes at an early hour, and the low temperature of the electrolyte causing slower chemical reactions in the battery cells.

The inspection of the battery should be thorough since, in many cases, minor corrections will make unnecessary the replacement of the battery. The inspection should include:

1. Testing the specific gravity of the battery. If it is below 1.225 specific gravity, it should be recharged.
2. Inspect all terminals; remove any corrosion. If terminals are corroded, they should be scrubbed with a solution of bicarbonate of soda and then given a light coating of vaseline, then tighten securely.
3. Inspect battery for looseness in carrier. If there is any looseness, tighten securely. A battery loose in its carrier may cause loose terminals with consequent corrosion necessitating early replacement of terminals. Further, if very loose, sudden jars may cause the battery case to crack.

If battery test indicates that battery is partially discharged, further checks should be made to determine what has caused the condition. Test voltage and current regulator and, if necessary, reset; then check generator for proper charging rate.

Check positive and negative battery cables and tighten at terminals, if necessary. Inspect spark plug wires and coil to distributor wire. Clean off any grease or oil from the wires and be certain the ends are pressed tightly in the distributor cap and coil. Check ignition timing, and distributor points, set timing properly and clean and adjust distributor points if necessary. Set octane selector for grade of gasoline being used, paying particular attention to setting in accordance with the present lowered octane rating of gasoline. Remove spark plugs, clean thoroughly, and set gap to proper spacing which is .040".

These inspections and necessary corrections will prevent, in many cases, early failure of the parts, and provide a longer period of trouble-free operation, and save many parts which might need replacement if permitted to operate without the corrective steps being taken.

Inspection and Correction of Fuel Pump, Fan Belt, Valve Adjustment, and Carburetor Setting

During the winter months, water and debris is most liable to accumulate in the fuel pump bowl and, if left indefinitely, will cause hard starting, or uneven idling of engine. Carburetor jets may become stopped up, and the carburetor needle valve and seat may be damaged. Careful inspection and thorough cleaning of fuel pump may prevent these things and any future trouble from this cause will be eliminated for many thousands of miles.

Inspect fan belt for wear, glaze, or looseness. In many cases, fan belts can be saved and many more miles of usefulness can be obtained by adjusting the fan belt to proper tension or by removing the glaze. Replace fan belts only when they are beyond correction.

After engine has been normalized, i.e. when oil temperature holds constant for a minimum of five minutes, the valve lash should be checked, and if not properly set, correction should be made. Replacing or replacement of valves can be made unnecessary for thousands of miles if valves are kept in proper adjustment. Valves that are improperly adjusted, particularly if adjusted too close, are liable to burn and warp so that the valve does not seat properly.

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CHEVROLET SERVICE NEWS

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Use care in checking and adjusting valve lash; use a feeler that has not been hammered excessively and prolong the life of these vital parts, as well as the smooth operation of the engine.

Carburetor setting should be checked and, if necessary, set for proper idling mixture and idling speed. Idling speed should be set at 450 to 500 revolutions per minute. The idling adjustment should be set in conjunction with the idling speed. When the proper adjustment has been made, the revolutions per minute may be again checked and properly set. These adjustments are important, not only because of their effect on the smoothness of engine operation, but also because of their effect on economy of gasoline and should be carefully made.

Change of Lubricant in Engine, Transmission, and Rear Axle

There is no single item that contributes more to the long life of parts than proper lubrication. Without lubrication, parts wear very fast and improper lubricant, or lubricants, will cause almost as rapid wear. Chevrolet engineers have given careful study to proper lubrication for the various parts of the passenger car and truck and their recommendations should be carefully followed. Operation of cars and trucks during the cold winter months calls for lubricants that will do their job under winter condi-

tions but should be changed to meet operating conditions of the spring and summer months. Engine oil that is most suitable for cold weather should be changed for an oil best suitable to summer temperatures. Transmission and rear axle lubricants have been developed that give satisfactory lubricant under both winter and summer conditions so that seasonal changes may not be necessary. The engineers recommend, however, that in these cars the lubricant be changed at least twice a year or every 6,000 to 10,000 miles, and more frequently in those trucks that are subjected to severe service.

When draining, use a light flushing oil to flush out the housings. Do not use water, steam, kerosene, gasoline, alcohol, etc.

Check the oil in the engine, the lubricant in the transmission and rear axle and if changes have not been made, make them using the proper lubricant for each point.

Serve by saving means passenger cars and trucks will remain on the highways longer, transporting workers to their jobs, and moving necessary supplies to where they are most needed. Serve by saving will release vital materials for war production which are needed as production increases. Serve by saving parts will provide more service business for servicemen and help "Keep 'em Rolling."

CHANGE IN 1942 TWO-SPEED REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY

A change has been made in the 1942 two-speed rear axle assembly which affects interchangeability of the axle housing cover.

Formerly the differential bearing cap support consisted of two strips of hot rolled steel welded in diametrically opposite positions on the inside of the axle housing cover. These supports contact pads machined on the differential bearing caps to lend additional support against axial movement of the bearing caps due to end thrust of the tapered roller bearings.

The new axle housing cover will be one piece with the bearing cap support areas stamped into the cover material. The support areas, therefore, will not be as deep as they were with the separate strips welded in. To accommodate this construction, the pads on the differential bearing caps were lengthened in order that full contact could be made with the supports.

In servicing these parts, the old axle housing cover, part No. 3651359, may be used with either the new or the old differential bearing caps. The new cover, part No. 3667223, however, can be used only with the new type differential bearing cap, part No. 3667205, otherwise insufficient bearing between the cap and the cover will result.

The two types of covers may be easily identified by the bearing cap support, whether it is welded in or stamped into the cover. The support pad on the new bearing cap is $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick, measuring radially from the center of the bore, while this pad was $\frac{5}{8}$ " thick on the previous caps.

These changes apply to both the 5.64-8.22 and the 6.17-8.22 ratio two-speed rear axle:

Part Name	Old Part Number	New Part Number
Differential Bearing Cap	3651410	3667205
Axle Housing Cover	3651359	3667223

PREPARING VEHICLES FOR STORAGE

More and more owners are requesting information as to the best method to employ in placing their cars in storage. The interest in this subject is increasing as owners wish to guard against damage to the various units of the vehicle.

The following should be done in order to guard against damage which might occur in placing a car in storage:

Paint

1. Store cars in a clean dry place, free from water leaks, bird waste, lime from whitewash and sunlight.
2. Wash, and polish or wax.
3. Cover cars and trucks with either a paper cover or cloth cover.

Tires

1. Cars and trucks should be jacked up so that tires will be clear of the floor.
2. Keep inflated to slightly above operating pressure.
3. If possible, remove wheels and tires and store in a cool, dark place.
4. Pack horizontally—instead of vertically.

Chrome Trim

1. Cover with a coat of light oil, vaseline or cup grease. Do not allow oil, vaseline or cup grease to come in contact with rubber trim around glass. A small brush or soft rag can be used for applying lubricant to chrome parts.

Upholstery

1. Clean and spray with a good moth-proof preparation.
2. Close all windows to prevent dirt and dust from entering the car.

Storage of Batteries

1. Remove batteries from vehicles to facilitate servicing.
2. Check gravity in these batteries at regular intervals of six weeks, except in extremely hot weather when inspection period should be cut down to three weeks.
3. Recharge batteries every six weeks to bring gravity reading to 1.280, or above. In no case should the gravity given be allowed to fall below 1.220. (All specific gravities given are correct at 60 degrees Fahrenheit).
4. Check and correct water level at each inspection prior to recharging.

Radiator

1. Drain to prevent freezing and rust. When draining the cooling system, open the drain cock at the bottom of the radiator and also the drain cock at the lower left side of the cylinder block.

Engine and Gasoline System

1. Drain all gasoline from tank.
2. Run engine until carburetor and fuel pump are empty.
3. Work throttle up and down to facilitate draining carburetor while engine is running. If gasoline is allowed to remain in the carburetor, gum will be formed as the gasoline evaporates.
4. Remove spark plugs and inject into every cylinder $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce of pure lard oil. Turn engine over several revolutions to leave a coating of oil on the cylinder walls. Replace spark plugs.

Clutch

1. Disengage clutch and place a small block of wood between the clutch pedal and the underside of the floor board. This block of wood should be large enough to hold clutch in a disengaged position. A 2"x4"x4" would be quite satisfactory.

Rear Axle, Transmission and Engine Oil

1. Leave in the vehicle, as is.

Hand Brake

1. Leave hand brake in a released position.

Miscellaneous Information

1. All rubber weatherstrips such as are used around doors, deck or trunk openings and window ventilators as well as rubber gaskets with exposed edges around tail lights, cowl ventilator lid gaskets, etc., should be painted with DuPont's "Orel," or other rubber lubricant. (Most service stations have this material in stock for servicing rubber parts that dry out).
2. Front floor mats and trunk mats should be placed in normal position on floor. (Not rolled up).
3. The tops of convertibles should not be collapsed and the shipping cover should be left on, if possible.

Care in treating stored cars will reduce to a minimum any losses and difficulties which might be incurred through the storing of vehicles for any length of time.



FOR SALE

1930's Bennett 30-gallon Lubster, restored to original. Like brand new. Pickup locally only. \$250

Would look great anywhere in the house!



UPCOMING CAR EVENTS

Monthly Car Meets

Dade City Cruise-In - 1st Saturday of Month (except July & Aug), 37918 Meridian Ave, 12:00–5:00 p.m.

Dunedin Cars and Coffee - 1st Saturday of Month, VFW Post 2550, 360 Douglas Ave, 7:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Cars, Of Course - Every Saturday, Dunkin Donuts, 7595 4th St N, St. Pete, 8:00-10:30 a.m.

Dunedin Cruise-In, Every Saturday, McDonalds, 1645 Main St, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Monday Rides & Remedies – Every Monday, The Zoo Sports Club, 5111 66th St N, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Rides & Remedies – 3rd Sunday of Month, The Zoo Sports Club, 5111 66th St N, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

JaxWax Cars & Coffee, Last Sunday of Month, Whiskey Wings–Countryside,
26210 US 19 N, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

For additional event dates click on the links below:

<https://flacarshows.com/events/category/west-coast-of-florida/>

<https://carsandcoffeeevents.com/florida-car-and-bike-events/>

<https://flacarshows.com/events/event/kevins-car-shows-car-truck-jeep-show-10/>

<https://www.judgescarshows.com/upcoming-events>



FLORIDA GULF COAST REGION OF THE VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

www.gulfcoastvcca.com



GULF COAST REGION MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: June 23, 2026 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Queen's Pizza
1834 N Belcher Road
Clearwater, FL 33765

ATTENDEES:

Pat & Debbie Kroeger
Hal Bruce & Pam Simone
Dave & Barb Cardinal
Barry & Bev Richman
Bob & Margaret Thacker

Tom Burtch
Al Robinson
Bob Bernstel
Mike Rabaut

1. **Meeting called to order at** 6:03 p.m.
2. **Minutes:** April 26, 2026 minutes were accepted as distributed. *Motion to accept by Pam and seconded by Tom.*
3. **Recognize/introduce new member(s):** None
4. **Treasurer's Report and Membership Update:**

Previous Cash Balance:	<u>\$1,368.63</u>	As of:	<u>04/23/26</u>
Cash Balance to Date:	<u>\$1,368.63</u>	As of:	<u>06/18/26</u>

Membership/Calendars:

# 2026 New Members:	<u>2</u>
# Members Renewed to Date:	<u>20</u>
# Calendars Sold	<u>18</u>

*2026 Calendars are available for \$5.00 each.
Only have three pictures, need 9 more for 2027 calendar.*

5. **Other Items:**

❖ **2026 8th Annual Car Show**

- Flyers have been prepared.
- Flyer has been uploaded to the Florida West Coast website.

There is an interest in having displays at show (Ferman Chevrolet & Tasca GMC). Al will check with church as to whether they will allow displays.

❖ **Proposed Meet and Greet**

- Proposal to host a meet and greet with local VCCA members (Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco). Send out invites to those members to get together at John Chesnut Park. Maybe provide food (lunch or just snacks)
- Any suggestions appreciated.

Good idea to offer food (lunch or snacks).

- ❖ **Website** is in the process of being updated with current members vehicles and other miscellaneous information.

6. **Next Meeting:** Summer break for July & August. Next meeting will be Sept 22, 2026 at Queen's Pizza

7. **50/50 Drawing:** \$40.00 collected. Mike Rabaut won drawing and donated back to club

8. **Adjourn** – Time: 6:15 p.m. *Motion made to adjourn by Debbie and seconded by Hal.*

Handouts previously distributed:

May/June 2026 Statement of Revenue and Expenses
2027 Car Show Flyer

Minutes prepared by Debbie Kroeger