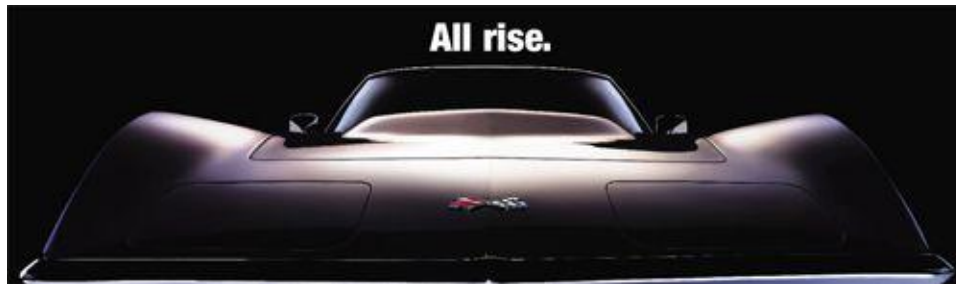


Venice Vette Gazette



January 2012

Venice Florida Corvettes Club Newsletter

Sponsored by Bill Buck Chevrolet

Club Web Site:

www.venicefloridacorvettes.com

Newsletter Editor: [Bill Sabatino](#)

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the Tuesday before the club meeting.

Executive Board

President	<i>Jim Vautrin</i>
Vice President	<i>Tom Taylor</i>
Treasurer	<i>Rick Wheeler</i>
Secretary	<i>John Marchiando</i>
Membership Director	<i>John Vidas</i>

Committee Leaders

2013 VFC Car Show	<i>Tom Taylor</i>
Quartermaster	<i>Al Royal</i>
Social Director	<i>Barb Sabatino</i>
Sponsor Liaison	<i>John Vidas</i>
Sunshine Celebrations	<i>JoAnn Royal</i>
Technical Committee	<i>Kent Mitchell & John Vidas</i>
Web Master	<i>Don Kerndt</i>

President's Message

I would like to start this month's message by saying thank you all for your support through 2011 as your Vice President. I am

also looking forward to being your President for the upcoming year of 2012. I would also like to take this time to thank John Wessel, our outgoing President, for his support and guidance throughout the year. This past year was a busy one with social events, brunch, beach picnics and car shows. Barb Sabatino has done a great job keeping the club busy and now with her "staff", I would suspect an even more active year with additional ideas and suggestions. I am also looking forward to getting started working with my new executive board members. I feel that I have a strong board and that always results in good leadership. As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions that you think will improve the club's operation, please do not hesitate to contact me direct either by phone or by e-mail. My Tel. # [941-697-5469](tel:941-697-5469), and address: vautrin2@embarqmail.com. Thank You.

Jim Vautrin

Vice President's Message

First of all, Happy New Year..... may we all get through 2012 with our happiness, health, corvettes and sanity intact. As your new Vice President, I can only think of what my dad said to me when I became a Vice President of a bank in Vermont in 1972.... "If you were going to be president of something, why did you pick vice?" I am honored to serve this club as Vice President this year, and hopefully can do as good a job as Jim Vautrin did in 2011. As a member of this club for only a year and 1/2, I have already learned that in addition to Corvettes, the membership is about fun, friendships, and food. May 2012 be a continuation of VFC's past successes and may I contribute willingly and wisely. Thank you for the opportunity.

Tom Taylor

Upcoming Activities & Events

Venice Florida Corvettes monthly meeting is the 1ST Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Venice Community Center.

- Dec. 29 VFC Board Meeting - Jim Vautrin's Home
- Jan. 3 VFC Meeting – Venice Community Center – contact Jim Vautrin
- Jan. 15* Big Cat Refuge & Lunch – contact - Sue Marchiando
- Jan. 24-29 Mecum Auction – Kissimmee – Rick Wheeler
- Jan. 28 Rolling Thunder Car Show VHS – contact – Ron Wencil
- Jan. 29* Bagel Run & Devereaux-Kaiser Car Show - Sarasota – contact Barb Sabatino
- Feb. 15-22* Mardigras Trip W/Naples Club – Houma, LA – contact John Vidas

* Caravan planned

Quartermaster Corner

Quartermaster team member John Marchiando has moved from the Quartermaster team to his new position, Club Secretary.

Please stop by the Quartermaster table at the January meeting and welcome the Zuberers to the team. Debbie will be at one end of the table helping you choose the correct size for your Club jacket or polo. See Debbie too if you want your name embroidered on any of the Club apparel. It's only \$5, tax included! Charlie will be at the other end handling sales of the winter wear, the sweat shirts and long sleeve tees. The Royals, Al and JoAnn will be in the middle, handling the rest of the Club paraphernalia. As in the past, Bob and Jan Beech will be ready to jump in at a moments notice when things get hectic! The January meeting is one of the busiest of the year. We hope to be set up and ready to sell by 6:30. See you then.

Quartermaster Al Royal

Board Meeting

If you would like to bring up a topic for discussion or you're just interested in what goes on at the executive board meeting come join us. The meeting is open to all members. The meetings are at the Venice Community Center at 7pm (see calendar for date).

Suggestion Box

Wish the club would do something you enjoy? Did your old club have an activity that we don't do that you really enjoy? Let us hear from you. Send your ideas to me and I will distribute them to the proper people for consideration. [Bill Sabatino](#)

Corvette Trivia

1968 to 1982 - Did you know?

- The 1970 – 1972 Corvettes were the last to feature chrome bumpers front and rear. In 1973, the front bumper changed to body colored flexible plastic. In 1974 the rear bumper followed suit.
- In 1973, aluminum wheels were again available as an option, but the same problem that plagued the 1963 aluminum wheels, the inability to hold air, kept these out of the hands of customers until 1976.
- The rear view mirror in the 1974 Corvette was increased to a width of 10".

January Celebrations

Happy Birthday January



- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Paul Scalisi 5th | Michael Walsh 17 th |
| Jim Woodruff 5th | Irene Latta 18 th |
| John Brooks 5 th | Gerry Purcell 18 th |
| Carolyn Buday 5 th | Marilyn Purcell 18 th |
| Brad Fales 6 th | Kathy Novic 19 th |
| Paul Asdale 7 th | Robert Miller 20 th |
| Dave Dunham 7 th | Gayle Ramey 22 nd |
| Anello Cocchi 9 th | Jake Delaney 23 rd |
| Rosann Dunham 13 th | Stan Gdowski 24 th |
| Angela Falge 14 th | Ken Mahai 27 th |
| Donna Gogliucci 15 th | Don Bauerle 31 st |

Happy Anniversary January



- Jerry & Jan Loy Ostoin 6th
- Bob & Chris Schmehl 8th
- Ronald & Anna LaPlaca 16th
- Jim & Diana Woodruff 17th
- Gerry & Marilyn Purcell 18th
- Glen & Christine Kirtley 20th
- Michael & Karan Raymond 20th
- Tom & Sally Taylor 21st
- Rudy & Trish Krantz 26th

Guess Who

Last month's answer:



Mike & Meri Progen

If you would like to stump the viewers send your pictures to sabatino.fl@gmail.com

Ponderisms

- If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?
- Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?
- Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

Joshua House Poker Run

Bay Area Corvette Club hosted a poker run on December 3 to benefit the Joshua House, a haven for displaced children. Four VFC cars caravanned to Largo to meet with more than 25 Corvettes (and their owners) for a full day of driving the greater Tampa Bay area. Cars were dispatched in one of five different routes to visit various Wing House restaurants to collect a poker card and complete a scavenger hunt questionnaire, ending at the Clearwater Wing House for prize awards and sharing stories of the day's adventures. Bay Area Corvettes raised more than \$1100 for a worthy cause, and hosted a fun and well organized Corvette outing.

Reporter Rick Wheeler

Ho Ho Ho Party

The annual VFC Christmas Party was held on Sunday, December 4th at the Venice Yacht Club. It was a beautiful, balmy December evening when 85 VFC members arrived



for this annual event. The party started with drinks and hors d'oeuvres at 6:00 PM. For



an hour everyone was able to mingle and visit other members all while enjoying the great food and drinks. The yacht club was beautifully decorated in and outside as it always is. Outside many of the boats that were in the Holiday Boat Parade were moored in the slips with all their lights and decorations on.





President John Wessel welcomed everyone and Curt Norton was kind enough to do the invocation.



Dinner was served at 7:00 PM and was delicious starting with the salad and continuing on through to the Black Forest cake for dessert. Our returning music group, Sound Investment once again provided easy listening music during dinner then had everyone out on the floor dancing and letting their hair down after dinner. This fun group always promotes positive comments and we are lucky to have them. I think it is safe to say that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the party.



Many thanks to everyone who helped make this party a success. A special thanks goes to Chris Schmehl for helping with the planning and execution and to Tony Berta for tracking the money, selling the drink tickets, and writing the checks. Both of you and a few other Christmas elves were very helpful. A big thank you to all involved.

Reporter Barb Sabatino

Passing The Gavel



Tuesday, December 6, 2012 at the Venice Florida Corvette Club's monthly membership meeting John Wessel conducted his last official duty by "passing the gavel" on to incoming president, Jim Vautrin.

Reporter Jane Wessel

VFC Honors

The VFC membership honored Barb & Bill Sabatino at the December 2011 meeting for their continued dedication and



contribution to our club. Bill is a past Club Secretary, and current publisher of our VFC monthly newsletter which has become a leading Corvette Club newsletter in Florida. Barb has been our Social Director for several years and through her dedication and effort keeps our social calendar very active with new and exciting places to caravan to. Because of Barb's efforts we always have large attendance at our social events, especially when it is time to, "put the feedbag on". For this coming year Barb has appointed several other members to assist her with the duties required to keep our social activities moving forward.

John Wessel, outgoing President, presented Barb & Bill with a gift from the membership as a token of our appreciation. VFC really appreciates everything they do for us.

Reporter John Wessel

Siesta Trolley Holiday Light Tour

On Saturday, December 10th, seven VFC Corvettes and one tin car headed north on I-75 to Dutch Heritage Restaurant where we met four other Corvettes for an early dinner.



All 27 members enjoyed our meal which was very tasty. Especially the broasted chicken on the buffet, it was delicious and enjoyed by several members. After dinner there was just enough time for a little shopping in the gift shop upstairs and out in the restaurant store before leaving to meet the trolley and two more members for the light tour.

When we arrived, we were met by Geoffrey, our driver and the ladies who checked us in.



We had 29 members on the trolley which was decorated with garland and twinkling lights. Christmas music played all the while Geoffrey drove in and out of the local subdivisions along Bee Ridge Road showing off the decorated houses.



We started out at Tuttle Avenue and made our way East of I-75 for the grand finale at Grace Baptist Church where we climbed off the trolley and strolled through the grounds marveling at the thousands of beautiful, various colored lights on display.



The lights were synchronized with the Christmas music heard all around the Church property. Once inside we were greeted in the lobby by many volunteers who offered fresh cookies and cocoa to everyone. Inside the beautifully decorated church, an organist was playing and again, the lights were synchronized with the organ music. This is a beautiful light display open to the public. It is free and well worth the ride to see. The Church and grounds were a great way to end our tour and definitely the highlight of the evening. All members in attendance enjoyed this, our last VFC social outing of 2011 and are excited for their upcoming holidays and spending time with family and friends. It has been a busy, fun year and I look forward to working with our newly formed social committee in the coming year. 2012 promises to be even better! Wishing all of you and healthy, Happy New Year,

Reporter Barb Sabatino

Member Businesses

If you have a business and would like to see it displayed in the newsletter, please e-mail your business card to Bill Sabatino.

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