

VENICE VETTE GAZETTE



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VFC Car Show	<i>Mike Heiner</i>
Web Master	<i>Don Kerndt</i>
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Contact information for Board Members and Committee Leaders can be found on our **Club Website** [here](#)

The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 2nd of each month.

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President's Message



First of all, I want to thank Kathy and Terry Tracy for taking on the Gazette! And thank you Steve Bieglecki for your many years of service to our club!

The Gazette is a great way to keep up with all the different activities the club has done during the year.

And, we have had a very busy year! Each month we have had a men's breakfast at various restaurants in the area and the ladies have been busy with luncheons. There have also been several member lunches and dinners at Prime, Pinchers, Twisted Fork, Linger Lodge and The Italian Grill to name a few. These events are always a great way to get together in a casual setting and to get to know each other better.

Some of us spent the day at Sebring watching some amazing races and cars. Unfortunately, we weren't able to drive on the track due to one too many accidents and time constraints, but it was a fun day!

We've gone to Arcadia Rodeo, a Braves vs. Rays Spring Training game, we played darts at the Ice House in Punta Gorda, visited the Coral Castle in Homestead and the Navy Seal Museum in Ft. Pierce. Those are just a few things!

Our Vette Together Car Show was as good as ever! Thanks to all the volunteers and see you March 17th!

At the end of the year members participated in Trunk or Treat for Halloween and the Venice Holiday Parade. The parade is so much fun and the faces of young and old alike are worth it! I just bought new lights for next year!

Our end of the year event was the Holiday Party at the Venice Yacht Club. It was wonderful! The food, venue, music and, of course, the people made it a very special evening.

Please, look at the event calendar each month and sign up. We have so many hard working people in our club that plan things in order to give us

opportunities to see and do things we wouldn't think of or do on our own.

I know that the coming year will bring the chance for all of us to enjoy ourselves, our cars and each other.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year!
Save the wave!



Remember to "Save the Wave!"

Linda Gomes

Board Member Messages

Vice President's Message

I'm excited as I look forward to being your Vice President in 2024. I've been a member of the Club since 2015, and this will be my first time to serve on the Board. I have had several 'Vettes but the current car I drive is a 2017 Red Grand Sport. Some of the activities I have enjoyed include autocross and social activities, especially the road rallies, road trips and caravans to events in Florida.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the car shows in 2024. The new Monthly Car Show Committee (Al Royal and John Vidas) will be promoting one show per month. That Committee will be sharing information through our monthly meetings as well as through the weekly Start Your Engines email. I encourage more of you to participate in these monthly shows as representatives of our Club.

Since I am new to this role, I hope you will feel free to talk to me and offer suggestions of ways I can serve you as your vice president. I look forward to getting to know more of you in the year to come.

Happy New Year and SAVE THE WAVE!!

Lewis Stogner

Past Vice President's Message

My year as Vice President has ended and I sincerely hope everyone had a great Christmas or holiday and a Happy New Year. Kathy and I traveled North to visit family and friends in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. The year has been filled with many wonderful social and car events and we both look forward to another outstanding year.

Terry Tracy

Letter from the Editors

Greetings! We are excited about taking on this endeavor of documenting the events and activities of our club for the prior month. But first, a big thanks to Steve Bieglecki who has been the editor for the past several years. He has done an outstanding job and deserves high praise.

Kathy has worked on newsletters before so this project is not new to her although new software versions can be a challenge. Terry is a great proofreader so together we feel we can accurately publish a newsletter that captures important information.

You will notice some changes as we are not as savvy as Steve. One thing that will change is the publishing date. To get accurate information monthly, the newsletter will be published the first week of the month. We will include the current month's birthdays and anniversaries and the first week of the following month, so no one is missed.

Also, if you have any suggestions for what should be included (or excluded), please let us know. We have deleted some of the technical articles as we will focus on club events and activities. We look forward to serving the club in this capacity.

Terry and Kathy Tracy
Editors

Quartermaster's Corner

The club has selected a new vendor, and we hope to have all the pricing and size availability information in the coming month so that we can place the items on our club storefront on our website.

Our goal is for everyone to be able to order any item on-line (including show shirts) as we have very limited quantities on hand. We will still be the sole supplier of member t-shirts and one name badge per new member.

Quartermasters: Bob Bortolot and Sandra Lewis

Don't forget to check your email for....



Start Your Engines

For weekly updates of VFC events

Food Bank Donations

We collect non-perishable food items at each month's members meeting. Cash or check donations will be given to the designated food pantry for this month. You may also donate by presenting a check to Bill Jereb, our Treasurer, made *payable to the "Louis and Gloria Flanzer Trust" rather than VFC*. The "Louis and Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic Trust" will gift match to South County Food Pantry, our designated food pantry.

Toiletries Collection for Homeless Children

Please keep the homeless children in mind as you enjoy your travels. Any travel size items will be appreciated. Collect the amenities in hotel rooms or, if you are not traveling, browse the travel size items at your local Walmart or Target and add a few items to your cart. Items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and skin friendly wipes are always in demand. Of course, any items are welcomed.

North Port Coalition for Homeless/Needy Children, Inc.

AKA



If you don't have time to shop, cash donations are great and fully accepted. As always, I will be collecting items at the monthly meetings. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sue Jakob

Using your Credit Card for VFC Events

When making payment for a club event with your credit card, the charge on your credit card statement will read: VENICEFLCORVETTECLUB

If you have any questions about payments, please contact Bill Jereb.

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 us and we will distribute them to the proper people for consideration. Terry Tracy – tptracy111@gmail.com or Kathy Tracy – kjtracy216@gmail.com

Membership News



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Brian & Joanne Cinco
Peter & Kathleen Damian
Bob & Carmela Fair
John & Leslie Reisinger

Celebrations



1/2 Della M Rogers
1/2 Valerie Miller
1/5 Joan Brinton
1/9 Alan Keil
1/11 Scot Deagan
1/14 Stephen Bieglecki
1/15 Gayle Jereb
1/16 Russ Hartley
1/17 Dennis R Sliepen
1/17 Michael J Walsh
1/18 Lewis Stogner
1/19 Frank Vassallo
1/19 Steve G Rockow
1/19 Debi Dobies
1/19 Pamela Worcester
1/19 Julie Brown
1/20 Robert Miller
1/23 Peter J Schwan
1/23 Walter Isom
1/25 Cindy Dolan

2/1 Sue Kujawa
2/3 Jill van Brero
2/7 Raymond Gomes



1/27 Terry and Kathy Tracy
2/7 Jan and Leslie Hahn

Click [here](#) to log into our website for an up-to-date list of club member's **Birthdays and Anniversaries** for the next 90 days



Harbor Corvette Show

Venice Florida Corvettes members caravanned from Laurel Road, some from the Home Depot in East Englewood and others met us at the show. We filled the 20 spaces that Harbor Corvettes had saved for us and it was enough for President Linda Gomes to collect a trophy and \$100 for Club Participation. The \$100 will be donated back to the show sponsor's charity.

The weather was Florida perfect, about 80 degrees and sunny. We moved our chairs around to take advantage of the available shade.

Awards were presented promptly at 3:00 with five of our members bringing home a Santa trophy. Tom Christie, Ray Gomes, Russ Hartley, George Poynter, and Vito Guido won Best of Show in Class.

Harbor Corvettes supports our March show and were very appreciative of us supporting theirs. Let's do it again in 2024!



Social Events

Holiday Dinner & Dance

Sorry if you missed the VFC Holiday Dinner and Dance. You probably should consider it next year. The venue, Venice Yacht Club, was beautifully decorated for the season. The food was delicious and the wait staff excellent. Members started dancing as soon as Music Box Duo started playing.

The only downside, it was hard to remember the names of many of our members. We all looked different without our yellow shirts and of course, no first names were embroidered on our sport jackets or cocktail dresses.

I believe all who attended will agree to go back to the Venice Yacht Club in 2024 and sign up that band!

Reporter: JoAnn Royal



JoAnn Royal welcoming our members.



Newly elected VP, Lewis Stogner, showing off the likeness to the gnome party favor.



Dancing to Music Box Duo

Ladies Lunch – Cookie Exchange

What a fun day the VFC ladies had at the monthly luncheon. It was a cookie exchange and so many great cookies were shared. We lunched on sandwiches and salads, had a little wine and, of course, COOKIES! The ladies looked for specific ornaments, but no one found the pickle. The reading of "The Night Before Christmas" gave the ladies a chance to pick my crafted picture frame wreath. We also got glass ornaments made by Kathie Dowell. Fun, games, and surprises filled the day.

Reporter: Kathy Tracy



Displaying their “party favor” – picture frame wreaths

Venice Symphony Holiday Spectacular Concert and Dinner

Despite the downright nasty, rainy weather, members braved the night and came out for dinner and a concert. The staff at Cassarianos was waiting for us to arrive and promptly served drinks and food. Everyone enjoyed their meal and the privacy the backroom gave us. Then, back out into the elements and to the Venice Performing Arts Center. Gentlemen with umbrellas escorted many of us into the cozy, crowded lobby. Soon we filed in and found our seats. Several favorites were performed including Wizards in Winter (Transiberian Orchestra) and “Setting the Trap” from Home Alone. As always, the concert was superb.

Reporter: Kathy Tracy



Cookies for swapping



Looking for special ornaments



Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast at EGGS-TRAordinary Cafe was EXTRA ORDINARY! Many returning members made this our highest attended breakfast of the year. Twenty-three members enjoyed camaraderie and great food. Many thanks to Matt and his staff as food was served in a timely manner so no one had to wait. Russ Hartley won the door prize of a coffee table book on the Art of the Corvette.

Reporter: Terry Tracy



Tech Events, News & Workshops

INDY NEWS

Gil de Ferran dies at age 56. The 2003 winner of the Indy 500 had a stroke and heart attack while racing with his son at a Concors Club Track in Opa-Locka, Florida.

Corvette Racing News

The first event of 2024 in which Corvette races is the Rolex 24 at Daytona International Speedway, on January 27-28, 12 pm-12 pm. If you cannot attend, you can watch the entire event on Peacock.



Technical Tip for charging a deeply discharged battery.

The following process is recommended but Optima Batteries

This is a recovery method for the do-it-yourselfer using the equipment you've got in the garage. With this option, you're going to trick your traditional charger into charging the deeply discharged AGM battery.

Here's what you need:

Battery charger (under 15 amps)

Jumper cables

A good battery, preferably above 12.2 volts. (It can be an AGM or flooded battery - it doesn't matter.)

The seemingly dead, deeply discharged AGM battery

A voltage meter

A watch or timer

Now, here's what you do:

Hook up the good battery and deeply discharged AGM battery in parallel – positive to positive and negative to negative. Do not have the charger connected to the battery or turned on at this stage.

Now, hook up the deeply discharged battery to the charger. Turn on the charger. The charger will "see" the voltage of the good battery (hooked up in parallel) and start providing a charge.

After the batteries have been hooked up for about an hour, check to see if the deeply discharged battery is slightly warm or hot to the touch. Batteries naturally become warm during charging, but excessive heat may be an indication that there really is something wrong with the battery. Discontinue charging immediately if the battery is hot to the touch. Also discontinue the process if you hear the battery "gassing" — a hissing sound coming from the safety valves. If it's hot or gassing, STOP CHARGING IMMEDIATELY!

With your voltage meter, check back often to see if the AGM battery has charged to 10.5 volts or above. This generally takes less than two hours with a 10-amp charger. If it has, disconnect the charger from the wall outlet and remove the good battery from the deeply discharged battery. Now, only the deeply discharged AGM battery should be connected to the charger. Turn on the charger and continue until the AGM battery reaches a full charge, or until the automatic charger completes the charge process. In most cases, the AGM battery will be recovered.

VFC Classifieds & Member Businesses

VFC Classifieds

Click [here](#) to go to our club classified section of our new website

Member Businesses

If you have a business and would like to see it displayed in the newsletter, please e-mail your business card to kjtracy216@gmail.com or tptracy111@gmail.com



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