

The Vapor Trail

March 2018



Vapor Trail Vettes, P.O. Box 5241, Santa Maria, CA 93456

Presidents Message **By Clay Beck**

Dear VTV Members,

Well the winter months are nearly behind us and Spring is soon. About time for your cars cleaning and maybe a wax job. Gerry is looking for a run in a couple of weeks. He is trying to dodge this unexpected rain that we are currently having.

In April we have plans to run with the Cobra Club for a BBQ at the Estrella Warbird Museum in Paso Robles. Make sure you make reservations by March 24th. I remember a run with the Cobra Club a few years back to Lake San Antonio for a BBQ and it was great. The drive to the lake was pretty good too.

I'm sorry I missed the March meeting however, I was working the Diablo Canyon refueling outage. A lot of hours went into this endeavor, but its over for me now. My work was done on the night shift and I'm recovering now back on days. I feel like a zombie but now on my second day it getting better. Hope to see you all on our next run

Have a nice day, Clay



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March Birthdays

- 03 Kathy Beck
- 07 Larry Wright
- 13 Bill Santmyer
- 21 Jim Carson
- 27 Pamela Wright
- 31 Jeff Palmer



April Birthdays

- 07 Holly Palmer
- 12 Gale Haugen
- 19 Gerry White



2018 Board Members

President	Clay Beck	481-4597
Vice President	Gerry White	315-0070
Treasurer	Chuck Robertson	934-0694
Secretary	Position Open	
Governor:	Gale Haugen	773-4515
Newsletter	Gale Haugen	773-4515
Sunshine Lady	Brenda Parks	315-0070
Web Master	Chuck Robertson	934-0694

March 1, 2018 VTV Meeting Minutes
By Chuck Robertson/Bev Erickson

The meeting was opened at 6:30 by Gerry White. In attendance was: Brenda Parks, Gerry White, Beverly and Cliff Erickson, Jeff & Holly Palmer, Chuck Robertson Dave Schultz, Jan Webb, Gale Haugen, Hector Paz, Doug Nicoll, and Bruce Potter.

Gerry announced the March birthdays: Kathy Beck, Larry Wright, Bill Santmyer, Jim Carson, Pamela Wright, and Jeff Palmer.

Approval of Meeting Minutes.

Gerry called for a motion to approve the February Minutes. The motion was made by Cliff and seconded by Chuck. It was approved by all present.

Old Business – Chuck Robertson

Chuck talked about the companies that had responded to requests for proposals to build a new web site for the club. He asked if anyone had questions on the list he sent out after the last meeting. Doug asked about other companies, but they did not respond to the request. Chuck recommended that we go with SEON. Gale made a motion to accept SEON as the company to create our new web site. Cliff seconded it. It was passed by all present.

Chuck then started a discussion on the proposed by-laws changes. After going through several sections with growing uncertainty as to what was proposed and why, Gale recommended that the discussion be tabled until the Board could go over the proposed changes and provide a better explanation of what was proposed and a recommendation of what should be changed.

Treasurers Report—Chuck Robertson

Chuck gave the treasurers report. Details of February's income and expenses were discussed. A motion to accept the report was made by Jan and seconded by Gale.

Vice President Report – Gerry White

Gerry talked about upcoming events – the April fun run will be to the Cobra Club BBQ at the Estrella Warbird Museum in Paseo Robles. Those going need to get their reservations in by March 24th. The April meeting will be at CJ's in Arroyo Grande and May' will be at Giovanni's in Orcutt. He announced that he hadn't established the fun run for March but would send out an email soon with the details.

March 1, 2018 VTV Meeting Minutes
By Chuck Robertson/Bev Erickson

Vice President Report – Gerry White

Discussion on what city the meetings should be at focused on what places the members liked to meet at. It was recommended that everyone send Gerry suggestions as to acceptable restaurants. Gale mentioned that she needed notice of the events so that she could ensure that it was entered into the regional calendar. This is necessary to ensure we are covered by the NCCC insurance.

Governor's Report– Gale Haugen

Gale stated that the NCCC had reversed itself and would send out membership cards again this year, but this would be the last time. We also need to have members sign a waiver anytime we do a group event. She brought up the change in the URL to get to the national NCCC web site. It is now www.corvettenc.org. Gale also briefed that Corvettes of Bakersfield are now a NCCC club and that they were holding their annual Gambler's Classic in Laughlin on April 19 & 21. This will be a sanctioned event. The schedule of events is on their web page.

Around the Table

Holly stated that she and Jeff were going back to Spring Mountain to take advantage of the discount given to new Corvette owners at the driving school.

Hector stated he was glad he was no longer the treasurer.

Bruce stated he finally had heat and AC in both Vettes. He stated that he now knew how to get to the solenoid vacuum operated hvac in a C-4. It entails taking out the whole dash! He was encouraged to do a tech article for the newsletter.

Gerry asked what it took to get Brenda a name tag and Gale said she would order one.

Holly added that they had a clear paint protection sheets added to their cars and Doug said that Bryan Dobbins was a great source for that sort of work.

The 50/50 drawing was \$30 and was won by Brenda. Clay's name was drawn for the **Nametag drawing**, but he wasn't in attendance so another \$5 was added to the pot. Bev won the **Goodie Bag drawing**.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33.

Tech Corner—Tips for Keeping Your Corvette in Top Shape

Submitted by Clay Beck

Corvettes are surprisingly reliable and inexpensive to run, but basic maintenance cannot be neglected. This simple maintenance item checklist will keep your Corvette running for many more trouble-free years.

Corvettes are such wonderful machines. Despite the highly capable chassis and powerful engines, they are surprisingly reliable and inexpensive to run. 100,000 miles is nothing for a 'Vette; however, basic maintenance cannot be neglected. This simple maintenance item checklist will keep your Corvette running for many more trouble-free years. And the best part is that you don't need to take your Corvette to a mechanic. Even the most novice of car owners can do most of these maintenance projects themselves.

1. Oil Changes

Regular oil and filter changes are cheap insurance against engine wear. The modern LS/LT V8 engines are robust, but when it comes to engines, there are many metal components rotating very fast and getting quite hot, resulting in a lot of friction. As engine oil ages and breaks down, its lubricative properties are lessened, increasing friction and resulting in excessive engine wear.

2. Serpentine Belts

Do you like having functional power steering, air conditioning, and a water pump that prevents your engine from overheating? If your answer was "yes" (and it should be), then you should not skip out on regularly replacing your Corvette's serpentine belt. Also known as the accessory or drive belt, it powers all of your engine's accessories via a series of pulleys on the front of the engine. As the belt begins to age, it can exhibit cracking, begin to slip as it spins, or snap entirely. Running the engine sans belt (and water pump!) is obviously not recommended. Replacing the belt once every few years is \$20 and 20 minutes well spent to not be stuck on the side of the road.

3. Transmission Fluid

Originally, Corvettes featured a traditional front-engine, rear-wheel drive layout wherein the transmission was bolted directly behind the engine.

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However, as of the C5 generation 'Vette, the Corvette Team has moved to a rear-mounted transaxle with a torque tube linking the engine and gearbox. This is great for improving weight distribution. Very forward thinking tech, but the basics still apply, namely that regular gear oil changes minimize transmission wear from the gears or synchronizers and will help retain a smooth shifting action. Consider changing the manual transmission fluid annually as \$40 well spent to enjoy banging gear changes at the drag strip without issue.

4. Differential Oil

Your Corvette's diff takes a beating from things like high RPM drag launches, burnouts, high G-force cornering and other things that put a lot of load on the differential when 400+ horsepower and performance driving is involved. Keeping the diff cool and well lubricated with fresh oil will massively increase longevity when you're driving the car like it was meant to be driven.

5. Clutch Fluid

Most Corvettes have a separate reservoir for the clutch and brake fluid. This is a very good thing, as Corvettes are notorious for ruining their clutch fluid with clutch dust and contaminants. The issue is exacerbated by hard launches and other things that tend to abuse clutches. As the clutch fluid is further contaminated, gear changes are made more difficult and additional clutch wear is possible. If you're at the 1320 and you keep missing the 1-2 shift and you don't know why, then check the reservoir. Fortunately, the quick fix is a piece of cake, remove the old fluid with a baster or fluid extractor and replace with fresh brake fluid.

6. Brake Fluid

Your brakes use hydraulic pressure, exerted through the brake pedal and master cylinder to push brake fluid through the lines, to the calipers, where the caliper pistons squeeze the brake against the rotor. Brake fluid is hygroscopic, meaning that it is prone to absorbing moisture over time. That moisture reduces the efficacy of the hydraulic system in a very severe and noticeable way. If the brake pedal seems to sink further in its travel and feel soft and spongy, you have just boiled the brake fluid and induced moisture into the system.

Tech Corner—Tips for Keeping Your Corvette in Top Shape

Submitted by Clay Beck

This can seriously reduce available pedal pressure and brake force, meaning less stopping power and a very inconvenient situation when you're approaching T1 of Willow Springs International Raceway at 140 mph.

7. Suspension Bushings

It's all fun and games until a ball joint collapses. Suspension bushings allow the suspension arms to articulate and maintain the suspension geometry. Worn bushings will result in sloppy handling, worsening tremendously at the limits of grip, give you poor tire wear, and in certain cases, bring about your demise. If a ball joint is allowed to completely fail and separate, the suspension could collapse and smash the wheel into the suspension, or the body of the car. In some cases, a wobbly wheel hub and let go, and when those let go, they usually let the whole wheel and tire go from the car as well. Yikes.

8. Tires

This one sounds relatively benign compared to collapsing suspensions and imminent demises, so what gives? People balk at the thought of tires being one of the most important changes you can make to a car, at least until they try to channel 650 horsepower worth of Z06 through two worn rear tires. It's true: no one other change will so severely affect braking; cornering; acceleration; ride comfort and general stability, like tires. Don't be the laughing stock of your local Cars and Coffee when you crash into the median trying to accelerate quickly onto the main road. Sticky tires save lives and egos! Besides, we can save the Cars and Coffee crashes for the Mustangs.



Author Unknown (2018, March). Tips for keeping your Corvette in top shape. [Corvette Forum Online](http://www.corvetteforum.com). Available: www.corvetteforum.com

Club Members Business Cards



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Dave Schultz

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<https://www.wfhm.com/wfhm/verna-nicoll>

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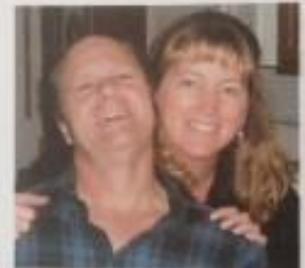
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Vapor Trail Vettes Sponsor

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FOR SALE!



CB

For Sale

The "For Sale" section of the newsletter does not have to be car oriented. If you have anything you would like to advertise in the VTV newsletter just let the editor know. Pictures along with the price and details is appreciated.

For Sale

Barely used TOYO racing 17" and 18" tires. Cost about \$1200 for the set. Willing to sell very cheap. Call Dennis, Galaxy Plumbing, at

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NCCC, VTV & LOCAL EVENTS

Day	Date	Event	Location	Sponsor	Comments
January 2018					
Saturday	13	VTV Fun Run	Los Alamos	VTV	
Saturday	20	West Coast Regional Governors Meeting	Escondido	WC Region	
February 2018					
Thursday	1	VTV General Meeting	The Pantry, SM	VTV	
Sunday-Sunday	4-11	12th Corvette Pirates cruise aboard the Carnival Breeze to the Bahamas and Key West.	Depart from Galveston, Texas		
Friday-Sat	23-24	National Governors' Meeting	Sheraton Westport, St. Louis, MO	NCCC	
March 2018					
Thursday	1	VTV General Meeting	Floriano's Mexican Food	VTV	
Saturday	10	Fun Run to Botanical Gardens.	Santa Barbara	VTV	Cancelled due to rain.
Sat-Sun	23-24	19th Annual Non-Sanctioned Autocross	Riverside County Fairgrounds, Indio, CA	Palm Springs Corvette Club	
April 2018					
Thursday	5	VTV General Meeting	CJ's, Arroyo Grande	VTV	
Saturday	7	10th Annual Museum Tour & BBQ.	Estrella Warbirds Museum, Paso Robles	Central Coast Cobras	Howard 805-423-1095
Saturday	7	VTV Fun Run—Cobra Club Event	Paso Robles	Central Coast Cobras	Register before 3/24/18
Thurs—Sat	19-21	21st Gambler's Classic	Riverside Casino & Resort. Laughlin, NV	Corvettes of Bakersfield	2 Sanctioned Events
Saturday	21	Lompoc Springfest	Ryon Park, Lompoc		
Saturday	28	43rd All GM Beach Classic Car Show	Ruby's Diner , Redondo Beach	The Vette Set	WC-401-001
Saturday	28	Porsche Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	PCA CA Central Coast Region	Register at Motorsportsreg

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NCCC, VTV & LOCAL EVENTS

Day	Date	Event	Location	Sponsor	Comments
May 2018					
Thursday	3	VTV General Meeting	Giovanni's, Orcutt	VTV	
Friday-Sat	4-5	National Governors' Meeting	Sheraton Westport, St. Louis, MO	NCCC	
Saturday	12	VTV Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	VTV	WC-518-001, 002
Saturday	19	West Coast Regional Governors Meeting	TBD	Allen Morris	
Fri-Sun	25-27	West Coast Customs Crusin Nationals	Santa Maria Fairpark		
June 2018					
Thursday	1-3	Pismo Beach Car Show	Pismo Beach		
Thursday	7	VTV General Meeting	TBD	VTV	
Saturday	9	VTV Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	VTV	WC-518-003, 004
Saturday	16	Porsche Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	PCA CA Central Coast Region	Register at Motorsportsreg
July 2018					
Thursday	4	4th of July BBQ	Shell Beach	VTV	
Sun-Friday	15-20	59th Annual NCCC Convention	Best Western Plus Landmark Hotel & Suites, New Orleans, LA	NCCC	
Saturday	21	VTV Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	VTV	WC-518-XXX, XXX
Saturday	28	Arroyo Grande Car Show	Arroyo Grande		
Saturday	28	Porsche Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	PCA CA Central Coast Region	Register at Motorsportsreg
August 2018					
Thursday	2	VTV General Meeting	TBD	VTV	
Saturday	11	7th Annual OC Vettes Poker Run			WC-325-001
Saturday	25 (Tent)	14th Annual Wheels 'n Windmills Car Show	Solvang		Registration Opens Mid-May

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NCCC, VTV & LOCAL EVENTS

Day	Date	Event	Location	Sponsor	Comments
September 2018					
Friday-Sat	7-8	National Governors' Meeting	Sheraton Westport, St. Louis, MO	NCCC	
Saturday	15	Fiesta Car Show	Foursquare Church	Foursquare Church	
Saturday	15	Porsche Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	PCA CA Central Coast Region	Register at Motorsportsreg
Saturday	22	19th Annual Cruisin' for a Cure for Prostate Cancer	Orange County Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa		
Saturday	29	West Coast Regional Governors Meeting	Marie Calender's Restaurant. Victorville	Allen Morris	
TBD	TBD	VTV Fun Run	TBD	VTV	
October 2018					
Thursday	4	VTV General Meeting	TBD	VTV	
Fri-Saturday	5-6	14th Annual VTV Event	TBD	VTV	Pending Approval
Saturday	13	VTV Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	VTV	WC-518-005, 006
Saturday	20	People's Choice car Show	TBD	Corvette Super Sports	WC-326-001-6
November 2018					
Thursday	1	VTV General Meeting	TBD	VTV	
Saturday	3	Porsche Autocross	Santa Maria Airport	PCA CA Central Coast Region	Register at Motorsportsreg
Friday-Sat	9-10	National Governors' Meeting	Sheraton Westport, St. Louis, MO	NCCC	
TBD	TBD	VTV Fun Run	TBD	VTV	
December 2018					
TBD	TBD	VTV Christmas Party	TBD	TBD	

CENTRAL COAST COBRAS
BBQ
at
ESTRELLA WARBIRDS MUSEUM

Drivers local and from the South meet at the Park and Ride Atascadero at the Curbaril Exit off Hwy 101 between 10.30 and 11.00 a.m.

Drivers from the North meet at the Salinas Airport between 9.45 and 10.00 a.m.

We will park under the wings and around the historic Warbirds

Estrella Warbirds Museum
 4251 Dry Creek Road,
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Open to all cars

Classic,
Hot Rods
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RSVP by
 March 24

if participating in either the BBQ and/or Museum Tour contact:
 centralcoastcobras@yahoo.com

Howard (805) 423-1095

Mike (831) 624-1456



10th Annual
SATURDAY APRIL 7

Tickets available at the venue

Entrance Fee - Free
 Museum Tour - \$5
 BBQ fee per person - \$15
 Served 11.30 - 12.00

**Exact Cash Amount Appreciated*

Join us for the 21st Annual Gamblers Classic Corvette Run

Register now for our 2018 Gambler's classic!

With the success of Gambler's Classic 20, we have decided to DO IT AGAIN! Yup Gambler's Classic 21 is set for April 19 – 21 2018. We will be returning to The Riverside Resort Hotel and Casino in Laughlin NV.

The Riverside Resort has proved to be a great partner in the past and really stepped up to the plate and gave us the same prices that we have enjoyed in past Gambler's Events. To make reservation please call The Riverside direct at 800 227 3849, use code C/CORV8 to get the special rates.

We have included a Registration form for your convenience, please fill out and return ASAP to ensure your slot in this Classic Event.

Thursday night April 21st we will get together for an Early Arriver's Mixer and new early check in from 5 pm to 7 pm in the Star View Room. This will be a great opportunity to kick off the event and meet past and new participants. We will offer a special raffle that night for all who attend.

Corvettes of Bakersfield was founded in 1967 so to celebrate we are going with a 1967 theme this year. You can dress up in 1967 garb, long hair, tie dyed clothes. Our entertainment will also play music from the late 60's and newer.

- **Special Hotel Rates**
- **Fenced in secure lot**
- **Great Trophies**
- **Poker Fun Run – Three states on the same run**
- **Great Raffle Prizes**

Proceeds donated to local Bakersfield Charities

If you have any questions please feel free to call Bob Vella @ 661 809 7387 or use our contact form

SEE YOU THERE!