

Snake Bites



Winter Party

Cruise Nights

Zoom Cruise

Drive by Birthday

A Motor City Viper Owners Publication

Winter Spring 2020 ~ Volume 25 Issue 1



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to all you cooped up motor heads! I know that if you're like me, you're bored with trying to set a new record height with Jenga blocks, solving 1,000 piece jigsaw puzzles, and cleaning out parts of your house you haven't looked into for years. I hope that you and your family are safe and healthy. Please, as frustrating as it gets, stay safe and be smart – those who have gotten the Coronavirus that I know have told me that it is nothing to treat casually. Most of them have survived, but none of them wants to go through it again.



Your Board of Directors has been working hard to try to figure out some event programming with a Viper emphasis to cure your blues. Hats off to Bob Swartz for leading the series of virtual cruise nights. Participating in them at least lets our members see each other and communicate in real time. We're going to try to hold our Cars & Coffee at High Octane Café at the end of May after the Governor's stay at home edict ends. Please plan to maintain minimum distancing and other safety measures as we begin to open our live events.

After that, we'll try to keep as many events on our normal schedule as the status of the pandemic allows us. We're looking at some creative options to hold our Annual Meeting (normally the Spring Brunch) later in the Summer. As of now, the organizers of the Woodward Dream Cruise say the event is still on. We're still planning on having our West Coast Lighthouse Tour. So, stay tuned as we scramble to figure out ways to have fun with our cars and still stay safe.

During this down time is a great opportunity to do maintenance and upgrades on your Viper. If you don't do it yourself, remember that many of the specialists who help us on our cars are small businesses who can use the work right now. Please help them stay afloat so that they will be there for us in the future.

We'll get through this, and remember there's a gang that is working on ways to enjoy whatever freedom we can carve out in the meantime. Just keep safe and make sure that you can be there to enjoy the festivities.

Bruce Heckman

Editor's Message

I feel it is important to publish something acknowledging the pandemic and how it has affected MCVO. Without our scheduled events this issue is anemic, your new membership directory has more content than Snake Bites. It was after I sewed the mask, in the cover photo, that the idea as to what this issue would reflect came together. The mask was a surprise for the V.P., Technology Director and my hubby, thankfully one mask was enough for all three!



So how long does it take to unravel MCVO's calendar? About 60 days or less.

I always find pleasure in putting the cars away in the late fall. They are clean, safe and available to be worked on, admired or sat in without having to wash, gas up or worry about some yo-yo rear-ending me. But Covid 19 has taken this to a new level. The last time I drove a Viper was in November, at last check Bruce was told even with proper social distancing a bunch of Vipers driving around was not allowed and our "stay at home order" was extended to the end of May. Now I'd be very happy getting ready for a driving event! Its nice to go for a cruise, but being alone driving a Viper wasn't why we joined the club.

We do have a brand new event, *Virtual Cruising*, created and hosted by Bob Swartz earning him the title "MCVO Zoom Master".

A big thank you to Susan Andring for bringing the MCVO decal to fruition, they are available for purchase from our merchandise director Lori Emerling. Her contact info is available on the club's website under "Club Information", click "Board Members" and scroll to her name which has a hot link to her email.

What a sad time in the world. So many people have lost their lives, essential workers have been pushed beyond what should be asked of them and nearly everyone has had their financial security eroded or completely lost. Gary and I hope you and your loved ones are as secure and healthy as possible and negotiating this new reality we're faced with.

Looking towards a speedy, safe and effective vaccine,

Ann Rappaport

snakebiteseditor@zoho.com

June

- 4 - MCVO Club Meeting
- 13 - Snakes Invade Shelby Twp.
- 17 - Cruise Night
- 27 - Avian Experience

July

- 2 - MCVO Club Meeting
- 11 - Cohoctah Cruise & BBQ
- 15 - Cruise Night
- 18 - Blue Water Cruising Tour
- 25 - Mopars at the Red Barns
EOI

August

- 1 - High Octane Cars & Coffee
- 6 - MCVO Club Meeting
- 13 - Dream Cruise Thursday Dinner
- 15 - Woodward Dream Cruise
- 29 /30 - GingerMan Race Day

September

- 3 - MCVO Club Meeting
- 5 - Snakes in the Grass
- 10/13 - West Coast Lighthouse Tour
- 16 - Cruise Night
- 19/20 - Chelsea Autocross

Important Information-

All events are subject to existing orders and directives from governmental bodies.

Events published here are not guaranteed.

Notification of event status will be sent via email and posted, when appropriate, on social media, as it draws near.

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Treasurer - Rick Reuter
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Club Advisor - Mike Cipponeri
Newsletter - Ann Rappaport
Membership - Marty Heitkamp
Motorsports - Mike Sutton
Photography -Susan Andring
Social - Diane Cipponeri
Technology - Gary Rappaport

During the driving season often there are more events as well as changes to listed events. For the latest information please reference our club's calendar at **www.MCVO.net** thank you! Please note: details for club events are emailed to members.

Club Board Meetings are on the 1st Thursday of each month. Please check the website for time and locations. Everyone is welcome.

Advertising is available in Snake Bites, please send a request for further information.

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PrayersforPryce



Susan Andring

Cruising for Pryce

Marty Heitkamp

One of the local Detroit car clubs, Detroit Area Modern Mopar or DAMM, organized a birthday drive by for a very special 5 year old that is battling stage IV cancer. He was supposed to go to Walt Disney World through the Make-A-Wish Foundation but due to the Corona Virus his trip was cancelled. So instead of the trip he was entertained by a parade of close to 500 cars, that's right, almost 500 cars that drove by his house. We had 6 MCVO members show up and participate on a beautiful sunny Saturday afternoon.

The group met at a local high school and then caravanned for the drive by. The Oakland County Sheriff's Office helped in blocking off traffic on part of the route. All sorts of cars and trucks participated, from exotics to daily drivers to beaters. People drove what they brought to help put a smile on a young man's face and to make a memorable birthday for him. Many of the cars sporting Happy Birthday Pryce signs to boot. The birthday boy was waiting for everyone, sitting on a couch under a canopy on the front yard. As I drove by you could see the ear to ear smile. Pryce, so glad you enjoyed your special day!



PrayersforPryce



PrayersforPryce



Steve Choryan
Thank you
Team Lily Foundation
Batventador
and Kevin Reini



PrayersforPryce

Pryce had an amazing birthday!



PrayersforPryce

Thank you
Marcus at Copeland Entertainment



Katie Redmon



Ernest Conigliaro



Angelica Lopez

Pryce Redmon in his Oakland County Sheriff's uniform, he was made an honorary Sheriff.

Editor's note: To see an amazing video, shot by Andy Zale, go to the Facebook page *Prayers for Pryce*.



MCVO extends a warm welcome to these new members:



Kevin Helm- Westland

Dave Thomas- Troy

Kevin Gray Rossford, OH

Cacin Turner- Detroit

Steve Urbanec- Washington Twp.

Bradley Wey- Pottersville

Paul Zlotoff- Birmingham



January Cruise Night

Food and good friends equal another fun time with MCVO members. The food was good and many members attended. Sadly this seems like 2019 instead of just 4 months ago.



February Cruise Night Was at Ikes Restaurant and arranged by Rick Jakacki, with help from Marianne Peggi.



Virtual Cruise

Ann Rappaport

As Bruce and I mentioned Bob Swartz has put together on-line, Zoom hosted, virtual get togethers. He's hosted 3 if I remember correctly and members are having a really good time!

I was busy and couldn't join the most recent one, but I heard a lot of laughter and conversation as friends realize how much they miss each other. Bob set his background so that it rotated through some of his photos entertaining everyone.

To find out when the next virtual get together is, check for a club email or check the club's web site under "Upcoming Events". The more people the better!



Winter Party 2020 Style

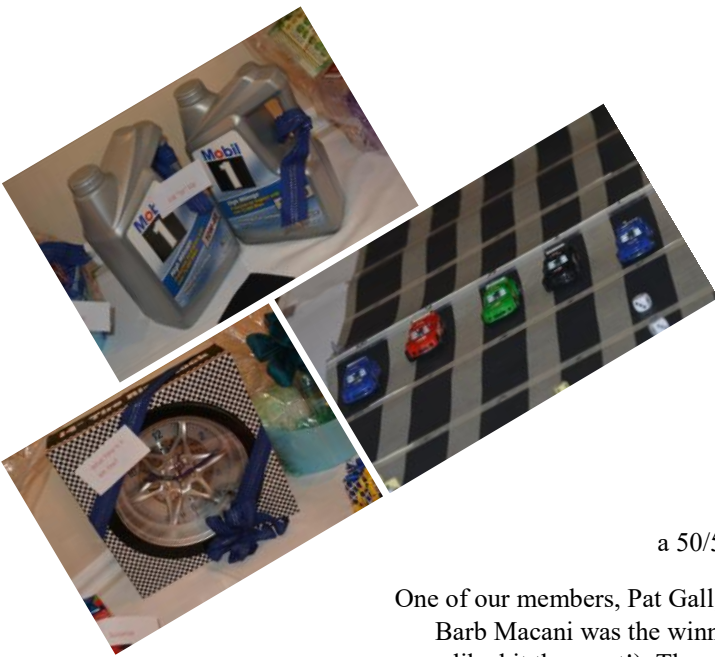
Diane Cipponeri

Who would have ever thought that this year's Winter Party would turn out to be, as of this writing, one of the only MCVO events held from January thru May this year?

I'm sure we are all waiting for the time when this quarantine is lifted, we can gather safely and drive our cars again.

However, we did have a great turn out of members and were treated to a delicious buffet dinner complete with dessert, games, a 50/50 drawing, a Viper car race and nobody went home without a gift.

One of our members, Pat Gall, graciously donated a basket full of various size Viper car models. Barb Macani was the winner of the car race and received that basket as her gift. (I think Rich liked it the most!) The extra Viper models were handed out to all the members as gifts too.





Thanks to the members who volunteered their time to be Blackjack dealers. They made the games competitive and everyone still had fun. The games were the focus of the evening. I suspect every player's goal was to win the most chips even though we don't count or tally them. Regardless, it provides us with a few hours of entertainment .



And last, the 50/50 raffle was won by member Marty Heitkamp. Marty very generously donated his winnings back to MCVO. Very much appreciated Marty. Thank you.

Thanks to all who attended and we're already looking forward to being able to have next year's event!



Photo Credits:

Susan Andring

Rhonda Wright

Ann Rappaport

Gary Rappaport

John Wright

Individual photo credits for the
Birthday Drive By article
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