FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

January, February, March 2025

2025 7th ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Our 7th Annual Car Show, on February 22, 2025, was not as large as last year due to competing car shows that day, however we did have 73 registered! We had near perfect weather and a great turnout of some really spectacular cars.

The cars in the event went from a 1929 Chevrolet Phaeton to a 2021 Chevrolet Corvette and a great variety in between.

We have gotten pretty good with getting these shows organized, however we could not have done this without the help of the following people on Show Day, Bob and Jennie Bernstel, Hal Bruce and Pam Simone, Tom, Althea and Nick Burtch, Pappy Papenfuhs, Al Robinson, Bob and Margaret Thacker, Dave and Barbara Cardinal, Debbie Kroeger and Guy Trent.

Two notable awards were the Member Vehicle that is voted on by the show participants, was awarded to Al Robinson's 1934 Chevrolet Master, First Place Chevrolet to Rich Diorio's 1960 Chevrolet Impala and Best of Show to Keith McKee and his 1958 Chevrolet Impala.

We also had the privilege of Honor Flight having an informational booth at our show. Karen Maex, the representative from Honor Flight and George Chapman and others from the Toymakers Of Eastlake, who make our best of show trophy.

Following is a List of 2025 Trophy Winners

BEST OF SHOW



PAGE 4

FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER January, February, March 2025

Camaro

1st Place Karen Palmisciano 1968 Chevy Camaro

2nd Place John Roush 1967 Chevy Camaro Coupe

Chevy

1st Place Rich Diorio 1960 Chevy Impala 2nd Place Steve Mogil 1957 Chevy Bel-Air

Corvette

1st Place Michael McCarthy 1965 Chevy Corvette 2nd Place Bruce Rerick 2020 Chevy Corvette C8

Ford

1st Place Bill Bartlett 1966 Ford Galaxy 500

Foreign

1st Place Joseph Bolick 1998 Porsche Boxster 2nd Place Mike Siebel 1974 Volkswagen Camper

Mopar

1st PlaceLinda & Jack Kenyon2023 Dodge Challenger2nd PlaceRick Jones2000 Plymouth Prowler

Mustang

1st PlaceLarry Reynolds1989 Ford Mustang2nd PlaceCheryl Hormes1965 Ford Mustang

Other Domestic

1st Place Mike Houde 1972 Oldsmobile

2nd Place Larry McLees 1966 Oldsmobile 442 Tribute

Pontiac

1st Place Bill Rickert 1968 Pontiac Firebird Convertible

2nd Place Marianne Anderson 1967 Pontiac LeMans

Prewar

1st Place Michael Marsilio 1930 Dodge DC8

2nd Place David Franklin 1938 Lincoln Zephyr Town Limousine

Street Rod

1st Place Rich Chiaro 1932 Ford Highboy

Truck

1st PlaceNancy Disharoon1990 Chevy Silverado2nd PlaceKeith Evert1954 Chevy Truck

FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER January, February, March 2025

MEMBER VEHICLE

Al Robinson 1934 Chevy Master







1ST PLACE CHEVY

FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

January, February, March 2025



THE TOYMAKERS OF EAST LAKE



FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

January, February, March 2025

PICTURES FROM SHOW













PAGE 8

FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER

January, February, March 2025















PAGE 9

FLORIDA GULF COAST VCCA NEWSLETTER January, February, March 2025

MISCELLANEOUS

Zephyrhills Swap Meet

I called the Dealer Auction Exchange (DAX) and was told that they are only planning a Zephyrhills classic car auction this year. They have dropped the car corral and swap meet.

As you probably know, the original owners of the grounds held large classic car swap meets and shows for many years. These were big events in spring (Feb) and fall (Nov) which filled the Festival grounds and they also had vintage car races at the adjacent dirt track in earlier years. About 10 years ago the owners contracted the Carlisle Group to manage the spring and fall shows (with auction and swap meet). This lasted for a few years before the Carlisle Group moved their show to Lakeland. The swap meet and show at Lakeland only lasted until about 2022 (?) when they dropped the swap meet and now, they just offer a classic car auction.

The Zephyrhills shows with swap meets continued at a smaller scale after the Carlisle group left and about 2-3 years ago, I believe the property was purchased by DAX (mostly for use as vehicle storage and for regular dealer auctions). DAX continued with spring and fall classic car events (auction, car corral and swap meet), but advertising and commitment by DAX was weak and attendance steadily declined. I'm not surprised that they ended the swap meet, but it seems like the end of an era for our area.

Submitted by Tom Burtch