



# Vette Gazette

Also on [easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

May 2020

## **FAST TRACK LINKS**

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*Virus or Not,  
Ladies & Gentleman  
Start Your Engines!*

Photo by Bob Hanson



# Presidents Message



COVID-19 has changed our lives and the way we live. I am hoping that all of you are staying healthy and safe.

Our Corvette season is undergoing lots of changes this year. We are off to a late start with our social events. Hopefully, even with social distancing, we will soon be able to enjoy our “toys” and the wonderful folks that make up EMCC and the Corvette community.

Quite a few of the scheduled Corvette events have been cancelled and many of them have been postponed to a later date. As soon as possible, we will attempt to have events that we can work into the Orders from our government.

One of the events that has been postponed is the Celebration of Life for Dennis Collins. It is now scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup>. All the plans are the same.

It has been nice to hear that members are keeping in contact with each other during this pandemic. Some of the members have gotten together for a small cruises. A short cruise in the Corvette does take the stress out of life as we are presently experiencing it.

As many of you know, I had emergency surgery on April 21<sup>st</sup>. The anchors in my shoulder from my surgery on December 4<sup>th</sup> loosened and dislodged. I had some heavy duty plates put in my shoulder with stronger screws and hopefully, that will do the trick. I am starting recovery all over again. Keep me in your prayers.

Bill S did attempt to put together an EMCC parade of “appreciation and thanks” to go by the Norwood Hospital and by a few of the local nursing homes, but the Town of Norwood felt it was too congested and would not work. That being said, we thank all of the folks who are making it possible for us to survive during this very difficult time.

As soon as we are able to schedule meetings and events, we will let you all know. In the meantime, pick up the phone and call a club member or two and let them know you care.

We’ll be cruising soon.....I promise.





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# Executive Board & Chairpersons

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

**President:** Mal Smith  
781-706-5762, AuntieMal@aol.com



**Vice President:** Gerry Criscenzo  
508-735-9311, gcriscenzo@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Steve Sylvia  
508-505-8208, tyrsy@comcast.net

**Treasurer:** Bill Schroeder  
781-769-2389, wrs600@gmail.com



**Social Chair:** Bruce Kolovson  
508-789-7780, ski1000@verizon.net

**Membership Chair:** Bob Hanson  
617-840-8202, rhanson3@verizon.net

**Publications Chair & Webmaster:**  
Gerry Criscenzo



**Sunshine:** Judy Pitasi  
508-966-9026, rdvette72@aol.com

**Facebook:** Keith E. Jacobson  
617-527-2100,  
kamerakeith@gmail.com

**Eastern Mass Corvette Club is a non-profit social club for Corvette owners.**

EMCC sponsors and attends many Corvette events throughout the year, including: regional car shows, Corvette displays, cruise nights, Fall Foliage Cruises, multi-club Corvette cruises throughout N.E., and seasonal get-togethers.

**Eastern Mass Corvette Club**  
**P.O. Box 291, Medfield, MA 02052, US**



# Club Calendar

[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

Due to the Corona Virus State-Of-Emergency, all regularly scheduled public gatherings such as lunches, member and board meetings are canceled. Special events have been rescheduled. [Our website](#) is frequently updated and has the most up-to-date event information for details, postponements, cancelations, new locations and times.

**Lunch:** Every Wednesday at a different location from a member's suggestion. Look for email or check our website

**Static Cruise:** We gather at public parking lot, and just chill. Every second Tuesday, the club provides Pizza.



**Board Meeting:** Last Monday of every month.

**Member Meeting:** First Monday of every month.

**May 2020**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Member Meeting	<b>5</b> Static Cruise	<b>6</b> Lunch	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> PIZZA Static Cruise	<b>13</b> Lunch	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Static Cruise	<b>20</b> Lunch	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Board Meeting	<b>26</b> Static Cruise	<b>27</b> Lunch	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						



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# Special Events/Cruises

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

Dates, locations and details are subject to change especially due to the Corona Virus Emergency. Again, [Our website](#) is frequently updated and has the most up-to-date event information for details, postponements, cancelations, new locations and times. Please check before planning to attend.

## ALL THE FOLLOWING ARE CANCELLED (unless noted as postponed)

**May 2:** Wash 'n' Shine / Pinch's Shop . 1420 Main St, Millis, MA 02054, USA ([map](#))  
9am – 12pm, Coffee and Donuts, Pinch's Cell 508-335-7261

**May 7:** Bass Pro  
Club parks in section 14 (1407) across from Olive Garden. Please bring a can(s) of food to donate.  
3:00pm-ish to dusk.

### **Postponed from May 9 to June 27th**

Dennis Collins' Celebration of Life.  
9:15am – 2:00pm. Lake Pearl, 299 Creek St, Wrentham, MA 02093, USA ([map](#)) We will gather at the Rice Complex in Wrentham at 9:15am for a Drive By of Dennis' house. It will end at the Lake Pearl Pavilion on Creek Street.



**May 21:** Bass Pro  
Club parks in section 14 (1407) across from Olive Garden. Please bring a can(s) of food to donate. 3:00pm-ish to dusk.

**May 24:** GCCC Spring Fling  
8am-4pm. Budweiser Brewery Experience, 221 Daniel Webster Hwy, Merrimack, NH 03054, USA ([map](#))  
All Details on: <https://gcccspringfling.shutterfly.com/> and on <https://www.facebook.com/events/385480325606749/> Or Call Dean Gagne 603-472-3524. Email: [eventsgccc@gatecitycorvetteclub.com](mailto:eventsgccc@gatecitycorvetteclub.com)





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# Club Member Birthdays

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

# Happy Birthday

Mal Smith

Frank Fontana

Bob Gardner

Rose Henault

Jack Kirkham





# Humor

[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)



Spray throat 3 times a day for anti coronavirus







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# Humor

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## Social Distancing Pickup Lines:

If COVID-19 doesn't take you out... Can I?

Is that hand sanitizer in your pocket or are you just happy to be within 6ft of me?

Since all the public libraries are closed, I'm checking you out instead.

You can't spell virus without U and I.

Baby, do you need toilet paper? Because I can be your Prince Charmin.

I saw you from across the bar. Stay there.

Without you my life is as empty as the supermarket shelf.

Hey Babe! Can I ship you a drink?

You can't spell quarantine without "U R A Q T".

I really can't stay.

Baby it's COVID-19 outside.

Anyone else's car getting 3 weeks to the gallon at the moment ?

Quarantine is going well but I'm pretty sure the cat is cheating



**There's nothing like a little tomato soup to soothe the soul. Even if it's cold. Over ice. With a celery stalk. And vodka..**





# Humor

[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## Bonus Points for Entertainment Value







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# Member Submissions

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## HOW I SPENT THE WINTER PANDEMIC OF 2020

by Robert Gardner

A part of history. That's how I view our current situation. My brother Donny was six years old when Pearl Harbor was attacked. I was born six months later. I have no memories of World War II but he remembers collecting grease and fat for Army, saving string and aluminum, and rationing. He was a part of that world-shaping event. This is our moment in history. We have been attacked just as surely as those soldiers and sailors enjoying a sunny Sunday in Hawaii. And just as his world would never be the same, for so many reasons, so our world has forever been changed, continues to change in ways we have yet to imagine. Historians call his The Greatest Generation. I wonder how they will judge us fifty years from today.

Barbara and I have so far spent this period of isolation peacefully. It was my idea to finally attack the "stuff" that has collected in our basement and so we spend a part of every week at this task. Since most of the stuff is Barbara's, it falls to her to determine what will be saved and what will go, either to Goodwill or the trash. Earlier in the year we were afforded Pink Bags by our town of Franklin to put out reusable stuff once a week. That's gone away for the duration. We still have regular trash pickup but an allotment of one barrel per week only so that limits how much stuff makes it to the dump every week. But it's something and each hour spent down below gives a feeling of accomplishment.

I have also tried to learn how to play mahjong, a tile game devised by the Chinese to drive round-eyes crazy. Barbara has given me up as unteachable. We play killer games of Mexican Train instead. We have discovered Netflix and Amazon, something we never bothered with before. I even tried cooking, agreeing to prepare dinner one night every week. That lasted one week! Meals On Wheels such as Doordash or Ubergrits have not worked out for us and have been abandoned. We do our bit weekly, dressing up like the James Gang, and heading off to the market. I confess I have not done well with masks. The only ones we could find were left over from our daughter-in-law's treatment and they either fog my glasses or tear the hearing aids out of my ears. And goodness, don't so much as clear your throat in the produce aisle. The stares you get.....



I must say I did not expect to miss our regular Wednesday lunches as much as I do. I miss the laughter and the mixed take on current events and sports. Oh, and I miss the Corvette Chatter, too. I still don't have Stealth Pumpkin out of storage. I fear the terrible weather we've had this month and all the moisture deposited around the barn will keep it contained for a while. But no great loss because with the exception of a few nice days, this weather sucks. I did have a pleasant surprise in the form of a surprise visit from Bill and Steve traveling in separate cars for an appropriate social distance encounter in my driveway. What a grand idea.

The worst of this event is no one knows what will happen or when it will end. The best minds and the wisest of pundits have no clue. That's what makes it so difficult to endure but that's also what makes it historical, because it's never happened to any of us before. I hope we are up to the challenge.





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# Member Submissions

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## What Have You Learned From This Lockdown?

Replies By Joel Baker



### What have you learned about yourself?

I would have liked to do more except with my injury to my shoulder I cannot get my arm to move that much. I can't even make a sandwich!

### What have you learned about your spouse?

My wife is working from home: we get up at 8 a.m. we have breakfast and she starts work 9:00 a. m. and she works till 5:30. She sells employee benefits. All day she's in touch with her clients helping them with issues.

### How are you entertaining yourselves?

Maureen works all day. So after dinner we play cards rummy, cribbage or scrabble.

### What do you miss most?

What I miss most is talking with the guys from the club. I met up with Big Joe to give him Mal's ice machine and we talked for about 10 minutes. It felt good. Of course I was in the Corvette.

### How have you celebrated any special occasions?

Maureen had a birthday on April 20th. We were going to get take out from Basil's in Medfield but they were closed. We got it from Novato's.

### What are you grateful for?

I'm grateful for my wife. We get along great.

### What's the first thing you're doing when the lock-down is lifted?

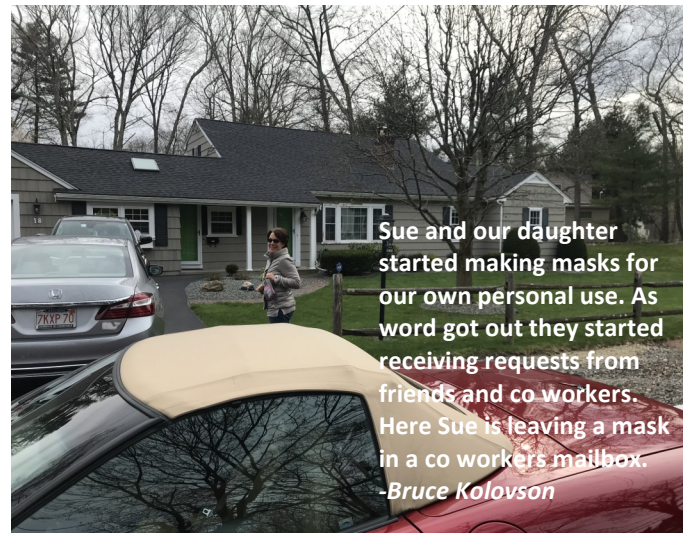
I'm going to get a haircut and then I'll try to get up to Maine.

### What will you never do again after the lock-down is lifted?

Play cards



We did a drive by birthday celebration in Holliston today for one of Sue's coworkers. - Bruce Kolovson



Sue and our daughter started making masks for our own personal use. As word got out they started receiving requests from friends and co workers. Here Sue is leaving a mask in a co workers mailbox. -Bruce Kolovson



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# Member Submissions

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## THE BEAST SPEAKS

Interpreted by JOHN DWYER



To my old friends, hello again! To my new friends, please allow me to introduce myself. My name is **The Beast**.

I was given to John back in the 90's by my caretaker of these past 31 years, John. Until this past year when I got a plastic garage, I've always been an outdoor car. Needless to say, that led to a less than show-car finish. As the sun eats away the seals, leaks abound. Sometimes I had two inches of water in my foot wells.

Covers didn't help unless multiple layers and a tarp were used and tied down property. That didn't last for long ... John wanted to go for our Sunday morning blasts whenever it was dry. The temperature didn't matter, depth of snow on the ground, sand, salt - if the streets were dry - we went.

Sometimes when he used a cover, it would freeze to me. When John ripped it off, it felt like a 15 foot band-aid being ripped off along with some paint and more than one nose emblem going with the cover. John took care of the water problem by removing the door panels and cutting out the rug in the foot wells. If it was above freezing, he just pulled out the drain plugs and let the water out while I was warming up.

If below freezing, and there had been a lot of those rides, John just pried up the iceberg that had formed and tossed it aside. Windows down of course, year round - it's always summer in an old Corvette. Attitude, yes - it's part of the name.

All old school. To John, too much is not enough. I like that. If the music is too loud, you're too old. He can't hear squat anyway. I was surprised when he put the "quiet" Hooker inserts in my side pipes, but he did opt for the 4" pipes.

So, my paint was going to hell, my interior was trashed, and I looked nasty. But, John and I were happy.

My engine and everything on my frame had been replaced multiple times to keep up with the newer generations. And we found out that auto crossing was a lot of fun. The more sideways the better. John put a Kraft paper lunch bag with a straw on it into my map pocket and told the riders it was a "manual air bag".

(continued on next page)





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# Member Submissions

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Because of John's slowing reaction time, increasing age and not liking getting beat, he gave me rack and pinion steering, adjustable shocks, a reinforced frame, huge sway bars, a 425hp crate motor, new brakes and topped it off with a 6 point roll cage that you have to look for. Now I can back up his bullsh\*t.

Can I compete with a C6 or C7? Hell no! We all know our sons can now kick our ass. No ABS, no traction or launch control, etc. Remember how brutal those late 60's early 70's cars were?

I want to play, but John just nods his head at them, puts me in a lower gear to make more noise, blips the gas to make me jump a bit, then does his Fonzi act. Too cool to play.

So ... attitude, nasty, no bulls\*t. I am The Beast!!!

Those freezing winter rides ... awesome! One of the reasons the windows are always down is because John had so many layers on he didn't fit with the windows up. Couldn't be cool without his arm on the sill either. Heat? Really? C3 heaters are useless, but the headers run right underneath your feet: 4 big tubes. I kept his feet nice and warm, so why not roll down the other window, too.

John had a black motorcycle jacket with orange stripes he bought 2 sizes too large so he could bundle up under it with an orange watch cap, and an 8 foot long orange scarf he wore. Once we hit Rt 95, out the window went 3 feet of scarf, a la snoop and we were off to play on the exit ramps. The kids in the vans and SUV's loved it. The parents, I'm sure, thought he was drunk, high or dumber than dog poop. But everyone smiled and some shook their heads.

Old man, old car.... We don't get too many nasty looks. Some folks get annoyed that the noise drowns out their cell phone. Some have no idea what I am, and some do a neat double take.

Stay tuned for my next article when I tell you all about how beautiful I am now. -The Beast



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# Member Submissions

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## EMCC Board Cruise

Words and Photos by SMOKEN Mal  
April 14, 2020



Well, it just happened..... The Board was texting among themselves keeping each other up-to-date with Corvette news and cancellations, and a cruise was planned. Gerry, Steve S, Bill, Bob H and Bruce (and Sue) headed to South Weymouth to Mal's house. We formed a line around the cul-de-sac and off we went, lead by Mal and Big Joe. It was Big Joe's first ride in the new SMOKEN.

Mal took everyone for a cruise from So. Weymouth to Hingham and then to Hull

and along the beach at Nantasket. It was a perfect day for a few Corvettes to enjoy the sites. From Nantasket, we headed back to Weymouth through all the back roads and we disbanded at the entrance to Route 3 in Weymouth. Mal and Joe headed home while the others headed on the highway to the Walpole area.

It was a fun time while keeping distanced and following the rules.



SMOKEN Mal







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# Corvette News

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## Lockdown Breakout Cruise

Words by Gerry Criscenzo. Photos by Keith E. Jacobson

With almost one quarter of EMCC members showing up at Lake Pearl on Wednesday, April 28, it was apparent that we need to get out ... and drive!

Our Social Director, Bruce Kolovson, organized the cruise and plotted the route for what turned out to be a spectacular day. Mother nature gave us a break from the storms and provided us with sun, warmth and clear blue skies as our caravan wound it's way from Lake Pearl to Ashland State Park. I have to say that one the best parts of these cruises, is when pedestrians smile, point and watch when they realize it's a caravan of Corvettes.

While out of our cars, everyone social-distanced (new verb), and it wasn't too hard to converse through our masks.





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# EMCC Merchandise

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)



Order all EMCC merchandise, hats, clothing, bags, etc, directly from Tri-Valley Sports.

You can also bring your own items for them to customize with our EMCC Club logo, your name, etc.

**106 Main St. Medway, MA 02053, 508-533-5080** <http://tri-valleysports.com/>

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The National Corvette Museum's offers many types of Corvette apparel.

Visit the store at [corvettemuseum.org](http://corvettemuseum.org)



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Want to add bling to anything?

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/glendasglitzydesigns/>.

Order directly from Glenda or you can send her your favorite item(s) and she will "bling" it for you.







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# For Sale

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)



One set of West Coast Corvette 3-piece chrome wheels. 19" front and 20" rear - 2 have minor curb rash.  
Original price \$3,800 plus tax , I am asking \$800 o.b.o.

Stock C6 Z51 front brake calipers (no brackets) - asking \$50 o.b.o.



Please Contact:  
robertrandall123@yahoo.com  
508-245-5856

Thanks, Bob

In anticipation of our pending move to Florida, I am selling an Eagle Lift.

This is a 4 post 10 position lift, 110V, and includes ramps, casters, 3 drip trays and a jacking tray. This is an 8000 lb model.

Below is the web site for the lift.  
Pictures below, I bought the lift new in 2014, It is in like new condition, Used for winter storage, and oil changes.

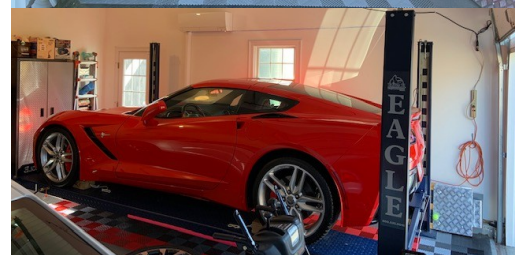
<https://www.eagleequip.com/category/4-post-car-lifts.html>

If you have any questions please give me a call at 781-910-7522.

List Price \$2590, Asking \$1200 or best offer.

Thanks for looking.

John Donovan  
C 781-910-7522  
[john722010@gmail.com](mailto:john722010@gmail.com)





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# Editor's Notes

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[www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org)

## Will I be a better person after this?

By VP and Editor, Gerry Criscenzo



Reflection is a hot topic right now: How are we learning to make ourselves better? This is what I have learned thus far.

In a time when all relationships are being tested, I am eternally grateful for the relationship that I have with my wife. I'm self employed, work from home, and before she retired in November, we have always loved spending a great deal of time together. What we have learned most in a time when our freedom to move about is restricted, is that it really doesn't matter what color the wine is, or what's left in bar cabinet.

On the note of working from home: I know many people who are regretting what they wished for.

The freedom of moving about is what I miss most; can't just visit friends or family or invite them over. For some, this might be a blessing. I get it.

Technology, however, has allowed us to stay connected, even though that meant an avoided learning curve for some (see, it wasn't that hard). It just required the right motivation, like, not "seeing" family. For my band, technology provided us with [a way to connect with fans](#). We would not have even considered exploring this, but it's likely that public events will be changed, at least, for the foreseeable future. How quickly will you return to a restaurant or where large crowds gather? You can't eat with a mask on.

One of the first things I will do when this storm lifts, and I know I am safe, is give my Mom a long hug. What I'll never do again is let my supply of toilet-paper or wine run low.

*We get knocked down, but we get up again  
You're never gonna keep us down.  
She drinks a Vodka drink.  
He drinks a Lager drink.  
We sing the songs that remind us of the good times.  
We sing the songs that remind us of the better times.*

*Cheers to the better times to come. Soon.*

*Gerry & Chrissie*

