

<u>President's Message November 2018</u>

# THE CLOCKS MOVE BACK...EMCC MOVES FORWARD

Summer is gone and fall has taken over. The leaves are turning color and the air has turned cooler. It's is a great time to get out our Corvettes and look at the foliage, your window down, arm out, and brisk fresh air. Life is good.



October went by very quickly. We had two major events during the month ... a great cruise to the Big Apple for the Columbus Day weekend and a terrific turnout for the annual fall foliage tour to the American Heritage Museum at the Collins Foundation.

In November we will continue to cruise, as long as, the weather cooperates. Some events may be last minute so keep checking your Emails, Facebook, and/or the web site. Bob Gardner will be leading the EMCC Thanksgiving food handout and mark your calendars for our Christmas party to be held on December 1st.

Thanks to all who help make EMCC Fun!

Steve "gdtogo" Wilson, EMCC President





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# Lady Liberty ... And More

Story by Judy Pitasi Photos by Rosemary Fontana



On Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, we met on the Mass Pike for the EMCC Columbus Day weekend event. Jim and Kay, Pinch and Patty, Larry and Lina, Frank and Rosemarie, Bruce and Sue, Brian and Andrea, Rick and Jackie, Ed and Joanne, and Mal and myself. This was my first Columbus Day weekend with EMCC and also my first long weekend as a passenger . We started out on the Mass Pike which immediately proved to be a challenge. A tandem trailer



dropped one of it's trailers right in the middle of the road. Luckily all were able to safely maneuver around it and continue on. The next issue was a large bump, seriously, really LARGE...again all ok! We made a scheduled stop in Litchfield which was a delightful town



and had a scrumptious lunch at The Village Restaurant on the Green. Our next stop was at the Litchfield Distillery which provided an interesting tour of a young distillery with lots of samples. Unfortunately we were delayed there for a while due to a motorcycle accident which happened right at the entrance/exit to the distillery. It was a good thing we were there because several of our members, Larry, Ed, and others took to the streets to help out by directing traffic...The good news is all seemed to be ok.

Onward to Stamford and we checked into our hotels. Here Jim snd Kelsa joined us.

Dinner that evening was suggested by Larry and Lina and we headed to the Kona Grill. The menu there was interesting... Chinese, Thai, pasta, and a little of everything. It was on our way to the restaurant that we met Lester who would prove to be not only our shuttle driver but a hot S#\$T.



We piled in the van and off we went. Dinner was fabulous.



On Saturday morning we all boarded the Amtrak train...some almost boarded another train, but I will say no more about that. Off to Penn Station in New York City. Penn Station proved to be a challenge; figuring out and getting tickets and which trains to take, but alas...we are a good group and got it done! This is where Mal and I left the group and I am told Bruce will talk about the trip the rest of the group took to the Statue of Liberty and the World Trade Center area.

Mal and I boarded the subway and went to the World Trade Center area, having been there



many times before we decided to just do the Freedom Tower. Unfortunately, the clouds decided we would not, at least not right when we got there. So we headed out to take a leisurely look at the city. Weather was drizzly and gray but how can we not be happy? We were in the Big Apple!! We came across a place in Tribeca Seraphina's, where we had a great lunch and then on to Soho...love these parts of New York. We had to meet someone to pick up our show tickets so we hailed a cab (right before that I found \$15 on the street!)

The cab ride proved to be a challenge. The traffic was awful and we were at least 20 blocks away from the theater. Our cab driver did what he could and kept apologizing. Our concerns were we would miss the connection for the tickets or even worse we would be so late they would not seat us. Luckily we made it (that \$15 helped with the extra cost). We were whisked into the theater and only missed one number. "The Book of Mormon" was one of the funniest shows I have ever seen! It was written by the people who brought us South Park so keep that in mind if you decide to see it.

We took the train back to the Freedom Tower and even though it was cloudy, decided to

head in...so glad we did. The elevator is an awesome experience in itself. The view was limited but we could see right below. For me, personally, it was a difficult experience having seen one of the towers fall and then to see this view. I am truly glad I did it. We headed to the new mall that is under the area. We had a wonderful dinner at a huge store named Etaly which was a combination of Whole Foods and a couple of formal restaurants rolled into one...pricey but yummy.



Then we were off to the subway to head to Penn Station. We did meet up with the others who also had a fabulous time. We received the red carpet treatment from Amtrak and boarded the train back to the station. This is where we got creative. There were 17 of us and the shuttle van only seats 10-12 with some squishing and seat sharing...we all piled in!!!! Leave no one behind! Our driver, Lester, even had a guest in the vehicle!!! Lots of laughs and comments and silliness and the best part is the driver took us on a nut ride with lots of bumps....a blast!

By the time we returned, the majority of the group was wiped. A few of us decided to catch the game and little by little the group grew...a late night for sure.

Sunday off on a cruise led by Jim and Kelsa Morrill...beautiful day beautiful roads....off to a bridge out on the Hudson at



Peekskill. Lunch was the Peekskill Brewery...see the pattern here? Then a trip to the Lincoln Depot Museum. Lincoln stopped here briefly, once while alive once while dead. A long cruise back was



enjoyed by all. We then spent some time at the pool and hot tub...snacks and cocktails with lots of laughs.

Some of us walked over to dinner from the hotel...Italian...good.

On our final day we headed back on coastal roads...and our lunch destination was Mystic, CT. Ed and Joanne were taking us to this restaurant on the water, but unfortunately it was closed...who would have thought? Luckily we found a location that could

accommodate parking for the Corvettes and us!!! Lunch was in at the Captain Daniel Packer Inn and was again good food, good wine, and good friends.

I look forward to possibly going on another Columbus Day Weekend in the future.

Thanks to everyone's hard work making this event a wonderful experience. A special Thanks to Jim Gable, Jim Morrill, and Ed Forseburg and an extra thanks to Mal for putting up with me as her B%\$ch in the car!!!

## **MEET OUR MEMBERS**

Story and Photos by Gerry Criscenzo

Hi I'm Gerry Criscenzo. My wife is Chrissie. I have three adult step kids; 2 sons and one daughter. The boys are local and our daughter lives in LA.

My baby ... is Sunna a Velocity Yellow, '09, C6, LS3, LT3. It is 100% stock, 43K miles. Sunna is Viking for the Norse Goddess of the sun. Chrissie sometimes gets jealous :). I've owned and restored three C3s in the past, a '77, '80, & '81.



Prior to Vettes, I restored a few '69 and '70 Mustang Mach Ones. I've been a dealership service manager for BMW, Porsche, Audi, Mercedes, Mazda, VW. and GM. I changed careers to IT for 15 years, owned a home remodeling company, and now put all the customer service experience to better use and now am a Customer Experience Consultant for small to mid size companies. <u>www.askcxp.com</u>. Also, if you're fan of Bob Seger, I play bass in "Live Bullet," a Bob Seger tribute band. <u>www.livebulletband.com</u>.



Looking forward to meeting you all and having some great fun on the road.

# A FEW WORD FROM OUR V.P.

Merry Christmas from the V.P..Wow, can you imagine, Christmas is almost here.In fact, our Christmas Party is barely a month away.

We are again having our Christmas Party at the home of Joe Lorusso, in Walpole, who so generously offers it to the club for this special event. As an aside, Joe is sporting a new look this year – thin. Thanks go to Joe.



<u>The party will be held on Saturday evening, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6-10</u>. This year we thought we would change it up a bit and have an appetizer pot luck event. The last few years we had so many yummy appetizers brought by all the members to share that by the



time we were to have dinner, we were all full. This year, we are asking everyone to bring an appetizer to share. We will have a few desserts and will supply water. If you wish to have an adult beverage or something other than water, please bring it along. I know there are some very creative folks out there, so please bring your specialties to share.

I would appreciate an email at <u>auntiemal@aol.com</u> to let me know you will be attending the event and to let me know what you will be bringing.

There will be a few emails circulated with more details about our casual holiday gathering. I certainly hope you can make it. (Ed. note exact address will be sent in an email)

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# A Common Interest

#### Story and photos by Arne Johnson

The approach to describing a car show is often very routine. One may discuss its charity donations,



the food available, the raffles, and awards etc. . Aside from all the commentary there is another strong virtue to a car show. I believe it's the comradery that one finds in sharing a common interest in cars. It doesn't really matter if it's a directed event of all Corvettes or a mixed event of multiple brands of automobiles. An example of friendships that can and do develop can be demonstrated by a young man named Nick.



Nick has displayed his '68 Chevy pickup at numerous shows. His first was at Mass Bay. It was a cold day and Nick happened to park next to me. He told me it was his first time showing his restored pickup. He was clearly uncomfortable with the weather and the lack of a chair. Those who know me are aware that I usually carry a spare chair. I offered Nick a chair and a spare jacket I also had in the trunk. Later in the day I met members of his

family including his parents. His father is an avid Model A Ford owner. As time went by I made a point to speak with Nick at other shows. Nick once took two awards at the Kidde-Fenwal show. This year he displayed his pickup alongside Bob Grenier, Kevin Miller his wife Gail, and myself. It has been years now that I have enjoyed Nick's company and have watched his two children grow up. If you think about it, I am 80 years old now and Nick is still a young man but, despite the difference in age we have a common link in cars. I enjoyed the show at Kidde-Fenwal this year and the fact that money was raised for charity and yes Bob Grenier won again with his '59 Corvette.



# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual"Vettes to Vets"

Story by "Smoken" Mal Smith Photos by Keith E. Jacobson

Karen Blandini and her crew always do a wonderful job in putting together this awesome event each year. They work on it all year long and it shows. There were Corvettes from all over New England, the northeastern part of the country, and Canada that attend this heartfelt event to honor our American Heros – our Veterans. This year the final count of attendees was 741 Corvettes. Wow!

This event is always held the last Sunday in September, rain or shine. This year it fell on September 30<sup>th</sup>. As we all know Corvettes don't melt and the veterans look forward to seeing us with no mind of the weather. This year it was a beautiful day and was the largest turn-out to date. We bring the vets all sorts of items such as shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, socks, hats, toiletries, etc., which are collected and distributed to the vets at a later time. We also make financial contributions to cover other items that the vets might need. EMCC does a nice job with contributions. In fact, John Dwyer who was unable to attend came to see us off and gave me a cash contribution to present and Steve Wilson, who also was unable to attend the event, came to see us off and brought bags of clothing and items for the vets. That is what this is all about.











Eight EMCC members met at Joe's American Bar and Grill at 8:30 AM for the drive to the staging area in preparation for the cruise to Edith Nourse Rogers VA Hospital in Bedford. We were met by five more members when we arrived. The comradery of all the Corvette folks in attendance lasts for an hour or two and really expresses what Corvetting is all about – friendship among others who enjoy the same vehicle.



At 11:00 AM all of the Corvettes leave the staging area for the cruise to the hospital. The Vettes are adorned with flags and decorations. The streets along the way are filled with on-lookers, waving their hands and American flags, appreciating our favorite hobby and showing their support for our Veterans.

Upon arrival, we are instructed where to park around the grounds of the hospital by a very

courteous group of folks. Then, we are served food which is prepared and served by the troops from Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford and the festivities begin. There is a Color Guard presentation, the Pledge of Allegiance, speakers, lots of



music and a lot of mingling among the vets who come out of the hospital to visit with us and check out our Vettes. In fact,



the vets vote on their favorite Vette which becomes the Vette featured the following year on the V2V logo. Check out the picture of the vet we met along the way. He looks happy and quite good for his age, eh?

I am already looking forward to this event next year. Put it on your calendar, please!

























### NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM





### Newly Remodeled KidZone Opens at National Corvette Museum

### **State Farm Good Neighbor Grant Funds New Exhibits**

If you ask any Corvette owner when they first fell in love with the iconic American sports car, almost every enthusiast has a story. Often it was a neighbor or relative who owned a Corvette and helped encourage the love or seeing a new model on the showroom floor that created a goal of future ownership. But today, that memory and story can be made at the National Corvette Museum in the newly remodeled <u>KidZone</u>. A ribbon cutting was held on Thursday, October 18 to celebrate the grand opening of the space designed to grow car enthusiasts from a very early age.

"We took a different approach when developing the activities for this space," said Katie Ellison, Marketing and Communications Manager. "We wanted it to be both educational and fun, so we looked at the life cycle of a car, and what it takes to bring a vehicle from an idea to reality."

The space starts off with stations for children to sketch their ideas for a car, referencing the steps that car builders use. Kids then use blocks and wheels to put together their own vehicle before giving it a test drive down a series of ramps. A tactile wavy path allows kids to pretend they are a car being driven over different surfaces before climbing in a 'test car' to perform their own crash test. The <u>KidZone</u> also features a service station with a car you can change the tires, exhaust and air filter on, and a driver's license photo op. A mini street scene rounds out the exhibit complete with 1950s era Chevrolet pedal cars, with one being sponsored by Tri-City Corvette Club of Southeast Texas.

"We worked to incorporate aspects of the STEAM educational approach which focuses on science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics," said Deb Howard, Education Coordinator. "The more hands-on activities we can offer, the better understanding kids will have of the concepts."

State Farm Insurance has awarded a \$10,000 Good Neighbor grant to the National Corvette Museum to provide financial support for the new <u>KidZone</u> as well as driving programs held at the Museum and NCM Motorsports Park.

"State Farm supports the communities where we live and work through Good Neighbor Citizenship company grants. We have a long history of promoting auto safety by partnering with a number of organizations on safety awareness initiatives," said Judy McConkey, Public Affairs Specialist with State Farm. "We believe in promoting child passenger safety and seat belt safety, and the new KidZone exhibit is a great way to target both parents and kids with our message."

"State Farm has been a proud sponsor of the National Corvette Museum's driver safety efforts since 2012," said Jonathan McDaniel, local State Farm agent. "Our grants to the Museum are nearing the \$100,000 mark and today I presented a \$10,000 check to the Museum, which brings our giving to \$96,500 to be exact!"

The funding has provided support for programs including Tire Rack's Street Survival school (a teen driving program offered at the NCM Motorsports Park), MEchanics clinics (teaching basic car care and maintenance) and other education programs. The State Farm Good Neighbor Grants are awarded in three areas: safety, community development and education. In addition to the State Farm grant, initial funding for the KidZone was provided by the Bowling Green Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, and National Corvette Museum Lifetime Member Eugene Nagowski in memory of his late wife Patricia.

The Museum is open daily, 8am-5pm CT and is located at I-65 Exit 28. Access to the KidZone is included with regular Museum admission. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids age 6-12, and free for children under 6.



**BASS PRO NO MO'** 

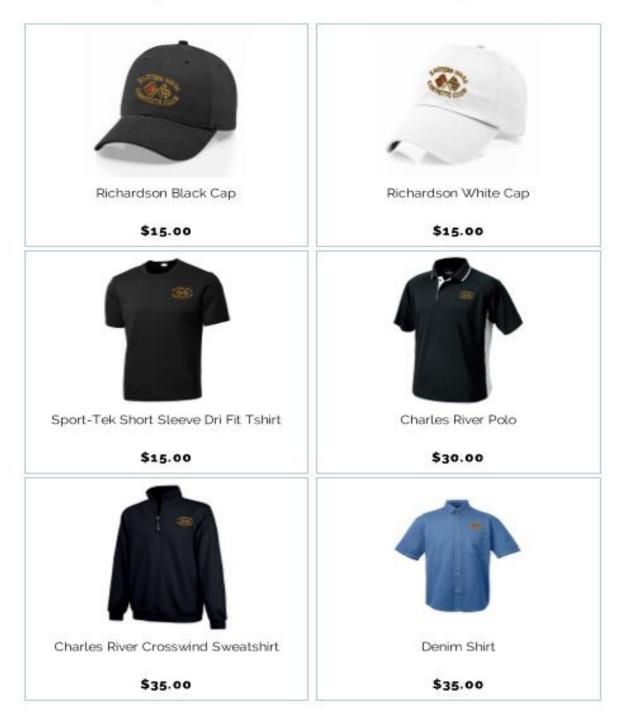
Story and photos by Keith E. Jacobson

On Thursday, September 27, it was Factory Five day at the Mass Cruisers/Bass Pro cruise night. The Sunny and mild afternoon brought out many of the regular crowd, as well as, a nice contingent of Factory Five cars. The daylight is getting shorter and the afternoons cooler and many people skedaddled out as clouds moved in and the air got chilly. By the time you read this the Bass Pro season will be over for the year and many of us will be thinking of putting our cars up for the winter. I was able to attend many terrific events this year and spend time with old and new friends...I hope you did too.





### Eastern Mass Corvette Club



### Order Online



#### http://tinyurl.com/mxapf5z

Tom Sager | (508) 533-5080 | tom@tri-valleysports.com

## SPINDLES AUTO CLUB

Story & Photos by Keith E. Jacobson

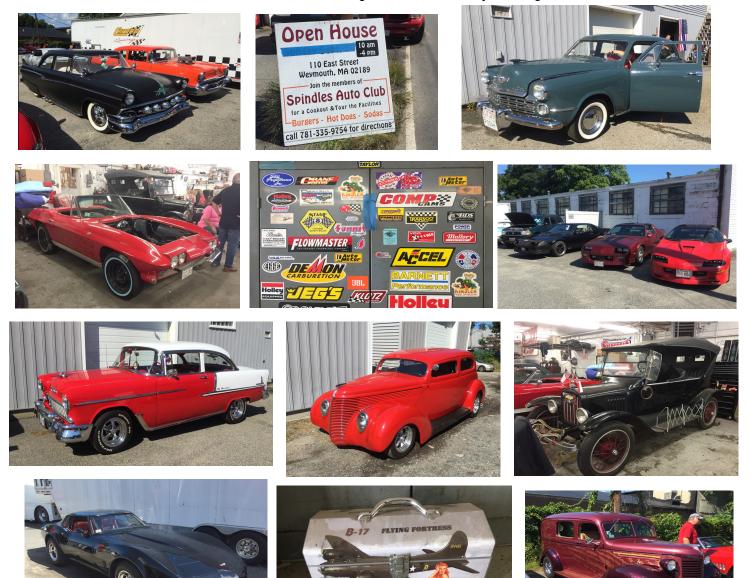
In my continuing quest to attend different events this year I happened upon a post inviting all to the Spindles Auto Club open house at their "infamous club house" in Weymouth on



to Club open house at their "infamous club house" in Weymouth on Saturday, September 29th. I was told that the club had somewhere around 60 members and they have garage space with 29 bays. Members can rent space to store and/or work on their project cars. They lucked out with a warm sunny day for the event and what a



warm, friendly, and inviting group of people...as are most of us car people. Every few steps someone said make sure you get something to eat. The amount of food there was impressive highlighted by two, mile high apple pies, that I was told each, contained four types of apples. Well ya know I had to try it...excellent!!! All kinds of cars were there in different stages of work and restoration. One car was on a rotisserie built by the car owner. A 'Cuda was in year four of restoration and I was told there was probably one more year to go. I was impressed by the obvious talent of the club members and hope to attend next year's open house.



# **VETTES TO VETS - PART TWO**

Story by Gerry Criscenzo Photos by Dan Musselwhite

The Corvette...does any nation have a car that represents the ideals of its nation and the people who drive them who have so much patriotism and respect for the people who have fought their nation's freedom?





"Vettes to Vets" profoundly answers that

question. Seven hundred forty one Corvette owners, proud owners, from up and down the east coast, Canada, and beyond gathered in unification for a simple yet powerful statement: "United We Stand" to honor our heroes.

Eastern Mass Corvette Club (EMCC) "represented!" About ten members met bright and early (yaaaawn) at Joe's

American Bar & Grill in Dedham for the cruise to the Bedford Mariott and others caught up with us there the staging point. It's always a great sight ... Corvettes as far as the eye can see. The 741 Corvettes in attendance this year broke last year's record of 625. I spoke with a few vets and it's really not possible to capture their appreciation of this



event. It's one they've come to look forward to each and every year. Of all the club "cruises" no other has such a deep and meaningful impact on both driver and warrior.







# TANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Story and Photos by Keith E. Jacobson



Eighteen Corvettes meetup on October 14 for the club's annual fall foliage tour. This year

our destination was the American Heritage Museum featuring the Jacques M. Littlefield Collection at the Collings Foundation in Hudson, MA.. Upon arriving friendly staff directed us to a spot where we were all able to park together. We were greeted by Robert (Bob) Collings, who along with his wife Caroline, founded the foundation. We were promptly escorted into the magnificent car collection where he talked

about the cars housed there. Some of the highlights were a 1932 Duesenberg SJ Dual-Cowl Phaeton, 1927 Rolls Royce Springfield Phantom 1 Phaeton, 1928 Pierce Arrow Series 81

Limousine, and so much more. The Springfield moniker on the Phantom 1 is because <u>Rolls Royce produced cars in Springfield</u>, <u>MA from 1921-1931</u>.

After our tour of the cars we walked across the property to a new building that housed the collection of military vehicles and other artifacts. There were video presentations and an amazing display setup for viewing the collection. One particularly moving display was a piece of steel, from the World Trade Center, displayed between two American flags.

After the tour some people left for other obligations, while other members opted to go to The Fireplace Room at The International, in Bolton, for lunch. It was a great day for a cruise thanks to all who helped in making this a memorable event.







1932 Duesenberg SJ Dual-Cowl Phaeton 1906 Stanley Steamer Touring Car

1927 Rolls Royce Springfield













# Heritage Museum and Gardens Sandwich, MA

Story and Photos by Les "Rooster" Brown

On my trip back east, this year my sister and I spent a day at the Heritage Museum and Gardens in Sandwich, MA (on Cape Cod). It was a partly cloudy day which made for interesting photography. The Heritage Museum and Gardens offers beautiful gardens (not at this time of year,) a carousel, an exhibition building, and the auto museum.



If you are interested in seeing this fine display of autos you must act fast. It will be there until the museum's normal closing date in October this year.

I look forward to going back next year when the antique cars are back.

It is the auto museum that I present to you today. It is a two-story building that normally houses the Lilly Collection of antique automobiles. Currently it houses a special exhibit on the Indy 500. Twentytwo cars are displayed on the two levels including race cars from the years 1912 thru 2005, three pace cars, and one specially car (truck.)



# NÖVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

#### **Andy Bleadon**

#### November 28

Alan Cohen Fran Favara Joe Lorusso II Joe Mello Sam Pappas Bill Schroeder Bob Smith November 27 November 25 November 25 November 15 November 16 November 14 November 22



Deadline for the gazette is one week before the board meeting...I will try to accommodate late submissions ... Thank you

#### **EMCC Membership**

As of September we have 81 paid members, 2 associate, and 3 honorary

<u>Next Board Meeting</u> Monday – October 29th at 5:30 PM at EMCC Club President Steve Wilson's house

<u>Next Business Meeting</u> <u>Monday – November 5th at 7:00 PM</u> <u>at Conrad's, 905 Main Street, Walpole</u> Come early at 6:00 to enjoy dinner & schmoozing

### "WHERE YOU COME FOR THE CARS ... BUT STAY FOR THE PEOPLE"

#### 

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

> We meet at 7:00 PM on the first Monday of every month at Conrad's - 905 Main Street, Walpole, MA

#### PLEASE JOIN US !!!

E.M.C.C. P.O. Box 291 Medfield, MA 02052

WEBSITE: easternmasscorvetteclub.org

# **SEE YOU ON THE ROAD**

As I sit to wright this I am a little sad. Looking out my window I can see the garage where my Corvette is now officially off the road for the season. For those of you who store your cars...if you don't plan on driving your car until springtime check with your insurance company. If you don't already do this



there is a storage rate where you are fully covered but can't drive your car on the road. Saves me a few hundred bucks each year.

This month I was surprised by two Vettes to Vets (V2V) stories being submitted and I ran both. V2V is probably the largest all Corvette event in the area and the different stories and photos supported both being run. For whatever reason V2V left me with an especially good feeling this year, so much so, that I am considering staying overnight the night before next year, attending the banquet, and buffet breakfast the next day. Maybe this will be a club event?

I may sound like a broken CD but each month I am thankful to those who have stepped up and contributed to make the gazette what it is. You help your club and me in putting out something that I hope is enjoyable.

So this month's thanks go out to in order of appearance to:

Steve Wilson our club president his comments each month enable me to start assembling the gazette.

Judy Pitasi and Rosemary Fontana for a story and photos on the Columbus Day trip. When I read it I was sorry that I didn't go ... hopefully next year. Let's see what Jim G. cooks up.

Gerry Chriscenzo, our newest member, who not only helped out with a Meet Our Members but also surprised me with a V2V story ... most appreciated. From the new guy no less.

"SMOKEN" Mal our V.P. for the holiday party and the other V2V article. Remember "Everybody Loves Raymond"? In EMCC it's everybody loves Mal.

Arne ... if you don't know how awesome I think Arne is ... you must not be reading your gazettes.

Les "Rooster" Brown, our Arizona member, contributes interesting articles and great photography from events he attends. Shout out for some articles to make us jealous while we are suffering from the New England winter and you are enjoying the Arizona sunshine.

Last but not least my friend Dan Musselwhite. I met Dan at V2V the first year I got my car. Dan is a member of the Vettes in Perfection (VIP) Corvette club out of the Albany, N.Y. area. Dan was kind enough to share photos from this year's V2V event...especially his drone shots that my selfie stick is way too short to take.

To all who have helped out in the past, present, and will in the future ... thank you. SEE YOU ON THE ROAD ... KK

# LAST LAUGHS

