

# **Vette Gazette**

Also on easternmasscorvetteclub.org

December 2020

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# Goodbye 2020!







# President's Message

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I trust everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. I know for me it was quite different and I assume it was for many of you. We certainly have a lot to be thankful for (even during this pandemic). We have America's No 1 sports car and we know how to have fun. We have made wonderful friends by being a member of EMCC and we have a lots of members who work hard to make our Club exceptional. The list goes on......

Thank you to all of the members, officers and chairs for their hard work during this unusual year. All of your efforts are greatly appreciated and hopefully, 2021 will be another great social year for EMCC. We managed to enjoy our friendships and our Vettes this past season and it can only get better. I am sure that many of you are in the process of tucking away your babies or have already done so. I am already looking forward to spring and cruisin' with SMOKEN.

I also want to thank everyone for thinking about our members who have had health issues this past year. It is so nice to hear that they have been contacted by phone, cards, texts, and some in person, being socially distanced and safe. May 2021 be a healthy, happy year for us all. Please continue to keep in touch with each other during the "down season". Prayers are being sent to those who are working on feeling better.

Please keep in your prayers Carolyn Collins and her family over the loss of our dear friend, Dennis. Also, please keep Ida Johnson and her family in your prayers over the loss of our dear friend, Arne. Both Dennis and Arne have left us with many wonderful memories and are truly missed.

It is coming up on the time to pay your dues for year 2021-2022. Dues is \$50/year. We also have calendars available to the membership at a cost of \$10 if you want to pick it up or \$12 if you would like to have it mailed to you. So, please take a minute and write your dues/calendar check out payable to EMCC and mail it to our P. O. Box 291, Medfield, MA 02052 as soon as you can. Bill is waiting for it and tallying it all up.

I want to give a thank you shout to Bob Gardner who has taken it upon himself to honor our member's birthdays on FB by remembering our members on their special day. Great job, Bob. It is appreciated.

This Gazette will be the last Gazette for the season and it's publication will resume in the spring when the season begins. Please take some time over the winter to write an article/pictures and send it to Gerry to organize for our upcoming Gazettes. This is OUR club and we all should participate in making it the BEST and sharing some stories with us all. Remember, your article does not have to be Corvette related. We love getting to know our members better. I will keep you informed of pertinent info by email.

Some birdies told me that they are hoping to get more golfers involved in the Friday golf group. If you are a golfer, please keep your eyes and ears open for more information. From what I have hear, the EMCC golfers have been having a super time on the course and the friendships are growing.

The Board will continue to have ZOOM meetings, so if you have any concerns, information or questions, please contact me or one of the officers. Also, don't forget to contact Judy if you hear of any member who is experiencing health issues.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President this past year and I look forward to working with you and the present officers for the upcoming year. All of you have made my position an easy one. We are a great team and I appreciate all of you. The comradery in this club is second to none. Let's keep it going. Thank you all.

Have a wonderful holiday season and especially, a healthy, happy 2021.

SMOKEN Mal



# **Executive Board & Chairpersons**

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

**President:** Mal Smith

781-706-5762, AuntieMal@aol.com

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

Secretary: Steve Syliva

508-505-8208, tyrysy@comcast.net







Treasurer: Bill Schroeder

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**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



## 2020 From the Board

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Can't believe 2021 will be my sixth year as Treasurer for EMCC, however it's been enjoyable staying on after being President. I've enjoyed working with two past President's Steve Sylvia, Steve Wilson and our new President Mal. We have such a fun club, great friends, cruise's, functions ETC. I'm happy to report we've kept our annual dues at \$50 for Members and \$25 for Associate member since 2008; with no pressing needs for increases in the foreseeable future. Our major expenses remain annual Anniversary and Christmas parties. We still are able to maintain appropriate donations, Sun Shine, name tags, new member welcome gifts and misc. expenses. Hopefully, after this difficult and stressful year and we're all vaccinated we can plan our Anniversary Party in early, mid summer.s

A full Treasures report will be forthcoming documented in our Board meetings minutes and President Mal's updates.

Reminder - 2021 Dues are Due ,must be received by February 28th; at present we have seven members paid. Please send your CHECKS (NO CASH) to EMCC PO Box 291, Medfield MA 02052 If you requested a 2021 EMCC calendar please add \$12 for delivery or mail, \$10 if you made arrangements with Steve to pick up.

### WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR BILL



My role as Membership Chair this past year has been very interesting and productive. As a relatively new member of the Club, I assumed this role wanting to make some meaningful contributions to the Club specifically to improve membership and the efficiency of admitting new members.

The best part of my experience has been working with the great people who comprise the Executive Board and Chairs. The cooperation has far exceeded anything I ever experienced in my many years in the corporate world. Being new in this role, the Board and Chairs have been helpful and supportive in every way possible.

One of the first things I did was reorganize the many years of membership records I was provided so my successor can easily locate information in the future. Membership applications can be located efficiently for any member who has ever been in the Club.

I also drafted a Membership Information Form for new members to complete for publication of their individual information to serve as an introduction in the Gazette.

Finally, I converted the Club By-Laws to a Word format to more easily allow possible changes to be made in the future.

The Club website has been very effective in producing many inquires about Club membership and directly resulted in securing a number of new members in 2020. Any inquires from the website have been referred to this writer and a Membership Application promptly provided via E-mail along with information on the Club.

Our new members in 2020 include: John Siraco, Fran Blake, Stephen Boccuzzi, Jack Cooney, Rhonda Dutton, Barry McColgan Steve Campbell.

Currently the Club has: 77 Members, 3 Associates, 5 Honorary, 85 Total

Under the leadership of President Mal Smith, I know we are all looking forward to a great 2021 cruising season.

To all of you and your families, have a safe and happy holiday season.

See you on the road in 2021!!!!!!!! - Bob



## 2020 From the Board

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Seasons greetings and Happy New Year from the EMCC Facebook crew ... me.

The club's Facebook page has grown to 264 people roughly three times EMCC's paid membership. We welcome all who have an interest in Corvettes, and seeing some of what the club is about to our page.

The page is a venue to post pictures of your cars, CARtoons, information related to Corvettes, service tips, and any other related information. We try and provide up to date information for club and outside events.

I personally am in touch with a large number of other clubs and at times find interesting information to "borrow". Generally something is added to our page on a daily basis so I encourage everyone to check it

out on a regularly.

One of the great things about our page is that it is set up so that members can add their pictures or other content directly to the page ... please do but keep it club/car related. Because of the open nature of the page any page members have the ability to post. In the beginning some were worried that inappropriate content might be posted. It hasn't been a problem and when a post goes up I receive a notification and check it out making sure that it fits the tone of the page.

Recently Bob G. saw a post about a deal on Corvette jackets. He informed me that he bought one and is very pleased with it. So you never know what you might find on our page. Bob how about posting a picture of you in your new jacket?

Needless to say it's been a tough year for everyone, except maybe the toilet paper manufacturers, and as we roll into 2021 I am sure that everyone has their fingers crossed that the vaccines soon on the way will change things for the better and cruises and car shows will be back again next season.

I would like to thank Bruce, Jim G., and those who put time and effort into seeing that our club was able to have a number of safe events during the year for the membership.

Stay safe, keep warm, and see you on the road in 2021 ... Keith



2020 is the year to go down in history like no other. The EMCC members kept it together through thick and thin. Starting with Static Tuesday every week from 4:00pm or sooner to 7:00pm at Rocky's Ace parking lot.

Billy from Family Pizza would put out red cones to save our spaces. Every second Tuesday the club would buy pizza from Family. Sometimes we'd have 20 cars social distance and enjoying pizza. I served the pizza to everyone with my mask, gloves and hat with paper plates, napkins and bottled water. The whole season we never had 1 case of posi-



tive Covid-19. Looking forward to doing it again next year.

This year we did the calendars again. Printed 40 and all were sold. Now we need to deliver them all by either mail or drop off.

2021 has to be a better year for events and cruises. Can't wait



## 2020 From the Board

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I really enjoyed being social chair this year for EMCC. It was fun researching and exploring the venues for potential cruises.

I tried to do a fair amount of research ahead of time and hopefully that paid off. That being said, I appreciate everyone's patience when things didn't go as smoothly as I would have liked.

Although it was certainly challenging this year with the pandemic, we managed to arrange a good variety of outings and had great turnouts at all of the events. I hope it was a fun season for all.

I'd like to thank everyone who came out and supported the cruises as well as those members who organized and led cruises for the group. Input from members is always appreciated. So if you have an idea for a cruise that you would like to lead in the upcoming season please get in touch with me and I will be sure to discuss it with the board.

Looking forward to cruising with you all again in 2021!

-Bruce



Hmm I am not really sure when I started as Sunshine. I do know it was a while ago and before me it was Hutch, John Hutchings, a former friend and member who did an incredible job. I knew he would be a tough act to follow. I have tried.

This position allows me to keep track of the membership's journeys in health and illness. I enjoy picking out the cards. I particularly enjoy the flexibility to send something else when a card is not enough, or a plant etc would be a better choice. Sometimes I hand write a card particularly in times of long illnesses.

This position has truly made me appreciate how precious life is and how in the blink of an eye it can all change. We have had many losses and they remain in spirit. As we end the year like no other, I am grateful if I have touched someone on behalf of our membership. Along the road we have also had babies, and moves and more...

There are those that can still use our thoughts and prayers, Bob Feigen, Bob Wodogaza and Danielle McAuley. Please take a moment to say a prayer.

"Be Safe and Well"

-Judy



# Club Calendar: Looking Back

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# Club Calendar: Looking Back

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# Club Calendar: Looking Back

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# Club Member Birthdays

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## Humor

#### www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

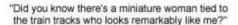
## And the winner for best license plate this year is this guy.















### How you know you're in a good neighborhood



Not to brag, but I just went into another room and actually remembered why I went in there.

It was the bathroom,but still....





I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do, it's because I missed my exit.





Visited my doctor today. He told me my sugar was too high .

So I came home & moved it to a lower shelf.

## Humor

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Think I better sit down. I'm exhausted.



Finally I understand why cars have these things...



ifunny.Ce









Dear Santa Claus, when I asked you for a 30 year old escort, this is not what I had in mind







## Humor

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#### Medicare PART G - Nursing Home Plan (Author Unknown)

So you are an older senior citizen and can no longer take care of yourself and the government says there is no Nursing Home care available for you. So, what do you do? You opt for "Medicare Plan G".

The plan gives anyone 75 or older a gun (Plan G) and one bullet. You are allowed to shoot one worthless politician. This means you will be sent to prison for the rest of your life where you will receive three meals a day, a roof over your head, central heating and air conditioning, cable TV, a library, and all the Health Care you need. Need new teeth? No problem. Need glasses? That's great. Need a hearing aid, new hip, knees, kidney, lungs, sex change, or heart? They are all covered!

As an added bonus, your kids can come and visit you at least as often as they do now! And, who will be paying for all of this? The same government that just told you they can't afford for you to go into a nursing home. And you will get rid of a useless politician while you are at it. And now, because you are a prisoner, you don't have to pay any more income taxes!

Is this a great country or what? Now that I've solved your senior financial plan, enjoy the rest of your week.



Sitting by the window of her convent, Sister Barbara opened a letter from home one evening. Inside the letter was a \$100 bill her parents had sent. Sister Barbara smiled at the gesture.

As she read the letter by the window, she noticed a shabbily dressed stranger leaning against the lamp post below. Quickly, she wrote, "Don't despair. - Sister Barbara," on a piece of paper, wrapped the \$100 bill in it, got the man's attention, and tossed it out the window to him. The stranger picked it up, and with a puzzled expression and a tip of his hat, went off down the street.

The next day, Sister Barbara was told that a man was at her door, insisting on seeing her.

The next day, Sister Barbara was told that a man was at her door, insisting on seeing her. She went down and found the stranger waiting. Without a word, he handed her a huge wad of \$100 bills.

"What's this?" she asked.
"That's the \$8,000 you have coming Sister," he replied.

'That's the \$8,000 you have coming Sister," he replied "Don't Despair paid 80-to-1."

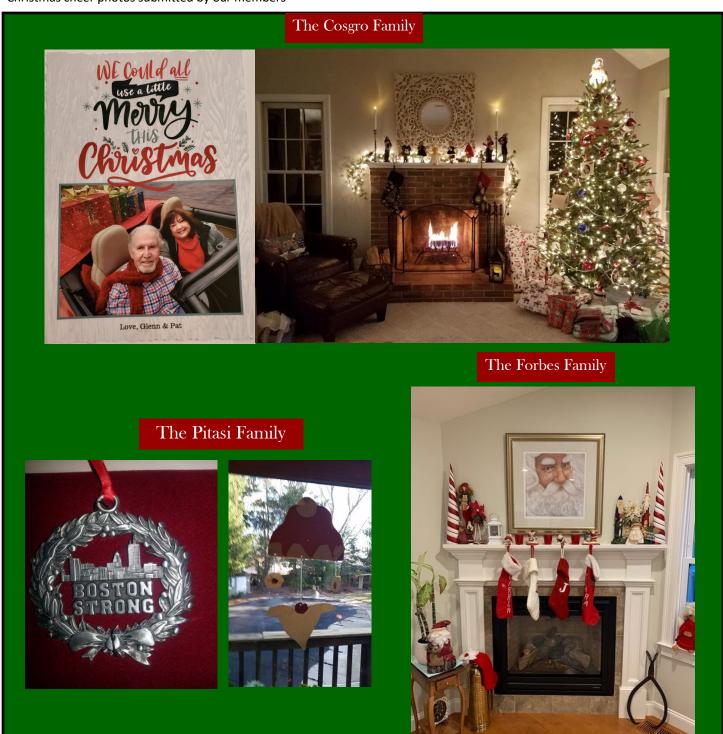




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### Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members





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### Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members

#### TI E E I





#### A Ghost from the Christmas Past

I thought a few of the older members (in membership) would appreciate a little blast from the past.

When I was putting up my Christmas tree, I came across these ornaments. Does anyone else have them? Joel and Maureen ????

We use to give everyone who attended our Christmas Party an ornament upon their arrival. These are from the years 1984 and 1985.

**SMOKEN - Mal** 





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### Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members

#### The Wilson (Santa's Helper) Family





Got an emergency notice on the EMCC hot line, "Santa needs help!" Some of the reindeer have come down with covid and cant fly.

I told Santa EMCC is ready to help. And were "Good to go"

Merry Christmas to all.

- The Wilson Family







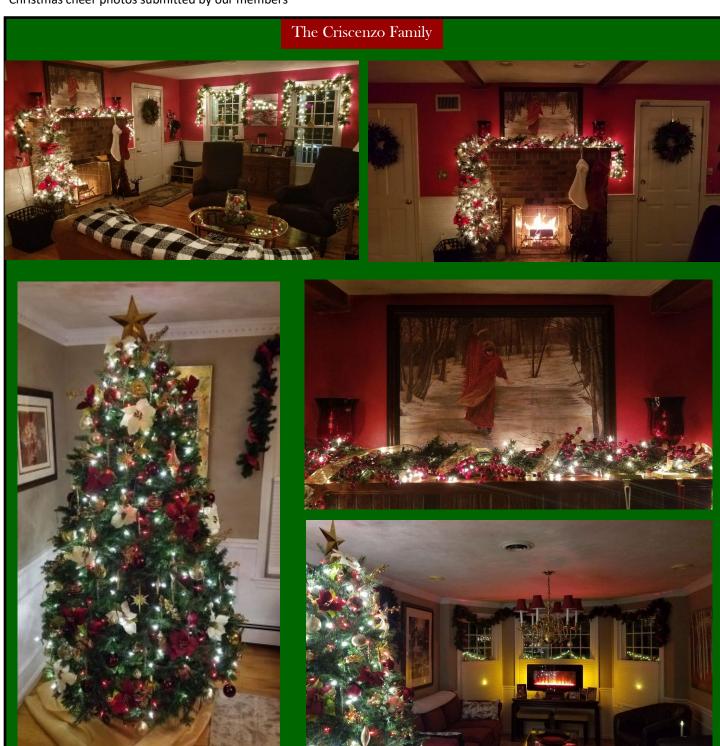




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Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members





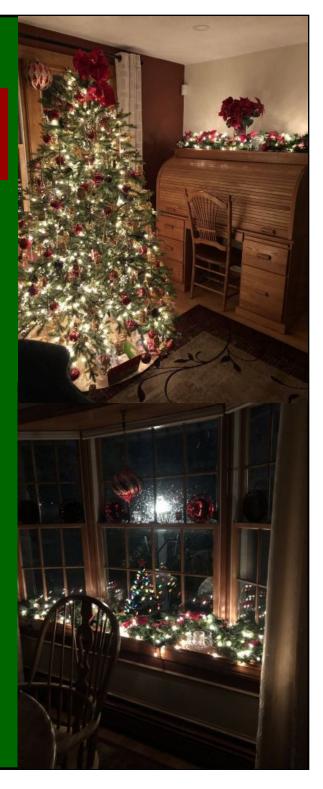
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## Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members



The "Smoken" Smith Family





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## Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members



The Baker Family





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### Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members











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### Merry Christmas from our Members

Christmas cheer photos submitted by our members

### Holiday Cheer!

By Gerry Criscenzo

### **Irish Hot Toddy!**

This is my recipe. The hot Chai tea has all the spiced Toddy flavors of cloves and citrus zests. Boil water (leave room for Jameson). Add Chai tea bag. Add cinnamon stick. Add honey to taste. Add Jameson to the tastes that warm your cockles.

Cheers!





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#### Cruise for Danielle

Story by Smoken Mal. Photos by Gerry Criscenzo.



When this Club is called upon, especially for an act of kindness, we come out in droves.

On October 31<sup>st</sup> a visit to Danielle McAuley was planned via a drive-by her home in Norwood, but a snow storm the day before caused us to postpone the event until the following Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. I have been told Corvettes and snow don't go together.

On the 7<sup>th</sup>, 27 Vettes gathered at the Walpole Mall (what a site) and Bill Schroeder led us all down the street to Mill Pond Circle for a spectacular Drive-By Danielle's home. Danielle, her niece, son and friend were at the end of the driveway waiting for the "show of love". After driving around her circle a few times, each car slowed down in front of Danielle and shared a few words and good wishes with her. We then parked our Vettes around the neighborhood and gathered safely for a short while before everyone disbursed. Impressive!!!

Thank you to all who took part in that very emotional event. Danielle was very moved by it all. She recalls when all of us did the same thing for her husband, Wally, over 20 years ago when he was in his last stages of life. She felt very special and extends her thanks.

As most of you know, Danielle is in hospice care at home. She is fighting the battle of lung cancer. She has the greatest spirit.

There are a group of Corvette Diva friends who have been visiting with Danielle every week or so and she continues to brag about EMCC members and how great they are. She would love to receive a card from you.

#### **SMOKEN Mal**







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### Newest Additions to Keith's Michigan Family





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# EMCC Member is GT-2 Championship Winner Words by Glenn Kurkjian. Photos submitted by Glenn M. Kurkjian

Not to blow my own horn but I won the GT-2 Championship with SCCA this year with my Vette!

These are some action pictures and one of myself with the car.

Full Story and Pics at https://pittalk.org/road-racing/ congratulations-2020-nerrc-champions/









# **PSA**

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## **EMCC Merchandise**

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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

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

Visit the store at <u>corvettemuseum.org</u>



Want to add bling to ANYTHING?

Visit <a href="https://www.facebook.com/glendasglitzydesigns/">https://www.facebook.com/glendasglitzydesigns/</a>.

Order directly from Glenda or you can send her your favorite item(s) and she will "bling" it for you. Even masks! Just ask Mal!







## **Editor's Note**

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### Fond Auld Lang Syne

By VP and Publisher/Editor, Gerry Criscenzo



Here we are, at the end of 2020. One the most challenging years of our lives, which I think is safe to say, applies to most or even all of us. For some people, it may have been more challenging than bad, and I am grateful to fall into that category.

I've tried, as much as possible, to maintain pre-covid normalcy wherever I could. Take, for example, my morning routine and commute. (Yes. Unlike most of you, I'm still a working stiff). The commute to my office is about 45 minutes. Mornings are cold now, so I press my remote car-start to warm the car (one of best \$250 I ever spent). Make my coffee, pour it into my travel mug and then head out. I'm a news person so I catch up, flipping to a few different stations. Depending on traffic I'll arrive at work in about 45 minutes ... back at my house.

Yes, I drive around, drinking my coffee, listening to news, and review my day on my way to "work." I find that I do my most creative thinking in the car. Oh, and I'm self employed, though, I try not to be late because my boss can be a jerk.

Why would I do this? Sanity. To get outside. See life outside. Drive the Vette, of course, though not now. I did this "commute" precovid because, as an IT consultant, I can work mostly from home so most of that didn't change.

Working from home can be a blessing for some people and a nightmare for others. For the ones where it is a nightmare, they may be thankful to have kept their jobs, and perhaps were psyched at first but then learned how it can be physically and psychologically challenging. Physically, it can be challenging if your living situation is not conducive to it; kids, no private space, inefficient space, inadequate technology and more. Psychologically, the sudden loss of contact can cause deep depression. It also puts you at a disadvantage compared to colleagues who are in the office, not working from home. You are perceived as working less and it makes climbing the corporate ladder very challenging. This is all the tip of the iceberg.

I'm the gregarious type, so personally, I prefer to go to an office. I look forward to onsite client meetings, even now. With no meetings, my commute is one of the things I do to get me out of the house and keep me sane.

During all "this," its important to find ways of maintaining normalcy wherever you can to keep sane. Regarding EMCC, our fabulous Board was committed to maintain our club activities, and we, as a club, found ways to safely do so. A big shout out to The Bruce! It's actually been a very active year, and had the appearance of being "normal." Sure, we couldn't do exactly what we wanted but we were able and willing to have fun. Damn it!

As we gladly leave 2020 in the rear view, I am honored, like my fellow Board members, to help play a part in planning for 2021 to be a great year for EMCC. I, for one, will have a newfound appreciation for the freedoms of auld lang syne that will soon be restored to us.

Chrissie and I wish everyone, and your families Happy Holidays, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. Please be safe so we can see in the spring.

Cheers!

-Gerry Criscenzo VP, EMCC

