



Vette Gazette

Also on easternmasscorvetteclub.org

April 2021

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Spring has Sprung!



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President's Message

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Happy Spring! Time to get the Vettes out and use them as often as we can. We have a lot of fun, safe activities for EMCC this year and we are all looking forward to seeing everyone after the long winter.

We have already had our first Static Cruise Nite on March 9th. The final count of attendees was 20 with 12 Vettes in attendance and a treat... a 2021 C8 owned by new member, Bob Mahoney. There will be many more Tuesday Static Cruises, weather permitting. Please always stay tuned to emails from Steve for an update. We will be resuming second Tuesday pizza night. Chef Steve is ready to serve you.

This past season has brought us some sadness. We lost our Associate Member, Michael Wodogaza to Covid. Michael was a kind and loving familiar face among EMCC. He will be missed by us all. We also lost long time Honorary Member, Danielle McAuley to cancer. Danielle fought the fight with cancer for quite some time and now is at peace with her husband (former member) Wally. Please keep these two special people in your prayers.

I have been told that Bruce and his lovely assistant, Sue, have been planning some wonderful cruises and, of course, some with dining. Eating is one of the things that we do well. I ask that the members step up to the plate this season and plan an event. We are looking for some ice cream runs, dinner events, a nice cruise in our Vettes..... We hope that Thursday evenings will be a night for a get together. It doesn't need to be elaborate, just a plan to get us together. Judy was talking about a trip back to Los Carbos for those wonderful margaritas.

Speaking about Club participation, I ask that every member take the time to contribute an article to the Gazette. The article does not need to be long, it just needs to be..... It would be nice to hear about your passion for Corvettes and how it started. We would like to hear of a trip that you took, or an incident you experienced that warrants sharing. Please take a minute or two and write an article for OUR Gazette.

I have been in touch with many of our local Clubs and they are not having many of their events that they have had before COVID. Some of the organizers are attempting to have Cruise Nites and Coffee Meetings provided that the Covid restrictions are somewhat lifted. Mass Cruisers is planning to have their Bass Pro Thursday Cruise starting April 8th (and every other Thursday) subject to on-going Massachusetts Covid 19 mandated outdoor event gathering restrictions. Time will tell.

We will be resuming our Membership Meetings as they were in the past. We will be having our meetings in the back room of Conrad's at 7 PM and as in the past, many of us will be having dinner before the meeting at 6 PM. Our seating will be different for dinner as you can assume. Our first meeting will be held April 12th. I hope you will be able to make the meeting. It will be nice to see everyone. Masks at the meeting, please.

A few of our members have been taking the time to visit with some of our members over the winter. Recently, Bill S and Steve S visited with Bob Feigen and Paul Worsley. Many members have been keeping in touch with each other by phone over the winter. So nice to hear!!!!

I am looking forward to seeing you all very soon. Be safe and stay healthy.

SMOKEN MaI, PREZ



Executive Board & Chairpersons

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

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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



From the Board

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org



Static Tuesday March 9, 2012. This was the start of this annual event, and what a start it was. We had 20 members show with 10 cars and a C8 by our newest member Bob Mahoney.

On every 2nd Tuesday we order pizza from Family Pizzeria in the parking lot and paid for by the club with around 25 members attend.

Billy the owner, supports us with special prices on pizza and also puts red cones to save our parking spaces in the parking lot.

EMCC did this event all last year with a great showing every week and with not 1 COVID positive test.

So we will continue this event again this year and I'm sure with the same success. Show up with or without your Corvette.

Steve Sylvia
Secretary



It's exciting looking forward to turn the corner and start getting back to somewhat normal after such a horrible and very disturbing pandemic year. It's time to get our vaccines, clean our Corvettes and start coming to our Tuesday evening Static Cruise evenings. We have already had two Tuesday evenings with pretty good attendance.

Bruce has already starting to fill the calendar for many fun Club events and Cruisers; contact him if you would like to sponsor an event. Since we were not able to have our annual February EMCC Anniversary Party, we're considering something this summer, more to follow.

Thank You all for getting your 2021 dues in so quickly, we've never received all club dues paid and deposited before March 1st. A special thanks to our Membership Chair, Bob and Secretary, Steve assisting in making this possible.

On a sobering note and painful reflecting on this past year, we'll always greatly miss our past members and friends - Dennis, Arne, Danielle and Mike. May we always keep them and their love ones in our thoughts and prayers. Dennis, Arne and I had a very unique CLUB connection; years ago we all had Arctic White C3's coupes.

Looking forward seeing you all soon,

Bill

Treasurer



From the Board

[.eastermasscorvetteclub.org](http://eastermasscorvetteclub.org)



CRUISIN' TIME 2021. From Model A to Z06

Story and Photos by Keith E. Jacobson

My car show cruisin' season kicked off on Sunday, March 27. The temperature was in the upper 60s, blue skies, and bright sunshine...a perfect day. A "Casual Car Meet" was on at Mill Village in Sudbury. Somewhere around two dozen showed up for this very nice low key event. There was social distancing and just about everyone was masked up.



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From the Board

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It's been a relatively quiet off season for membership. We did welcome one new member, Bob Mahoney, with his new C8 right out of the box. There were a number of inquiries regarding membership mainly through our website however the prospective members either lived out of our area (referred to other clubs) or did not return the applications that were forwarded to them.

Currently, there are 74 Paid Members, 2 Associates and 4 Honorary. We had a very successful campaign to rapidly collect the annual membership dues and payments for the calendars. All members have paid their annual dues.

For me, It has been a long winter working from home but it sure beats commuting into downtown Boston every day. Work has kept me very busy as I have not even uncovered the C7 yet. Still remains quietly sleeping in my garage but not for long. Shortly there will be the roar and music blasting heading south to EMCC events and cruises marking the true end of winter.

I guess my Corvette highlight of the winter was a static cruise with my die-cast car collection in Natick.



I left out my Mustangs as I leaned when I joined EMCC any referral to a Mustang was a serious breach of Corvette loyalty.

Yes, I got the "infamous vaccine," Johnson & Johnson, one and done, so I am fully prepared for the EMCC season.

I hope everyone is healthy and rested for what should be a great upcoming season of cruising and events. We have discussed many potential exciting cruises and activities at our Board Meetings.

See you all soon.....on the road of course!!!!

Best regards to all,

Bob Hanson



Club Calendar

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Vaccinated or not, social distancing is STILL IN EFFECT!! Please respect those who are social distancing and wear your mask, including Static Cruises. Our website has the most up-to-date details for postponements, cancelations, new locations and times. Watch emails for last minute and weather related changes.

STANDING EVENTS

- **Static Cruise:** Every Tuesday, weather permitting, we park, chill, and get to know more about each other. Every second Tuesday of the month, the club provides Pizza for MEMBERS. Check easternmasscorvetteclub.org for times and where.
- **Wednesday Lunches:** Wild card. Check our website and look for emails.
- **Thursday Cruises:** Wild card. Check our website and look for emails.
- **Board Meeting:** Last Monday of every month.



Member Meetings: 2021's first member meetings is at Conrad's, Walpole, April 12th, 7pm, in the backroom. Dinner before the meeting at 6 PM. Seating will be socially distanced. Masks at the meeting, please.

Special Events/Cruises

Check [Website](#) for details

Actual meeting times and locations may vary.

Watch email or check with Bruce at ski1000@verizon.net

- 4/15 5pm, Beef Barn, Bellingham. Meet at Lake Pearl
- 4/17 Time TBD, Daffodil Days, Newport, Meet at Lake Pearl
- 4/29, 5pm, Medway Café, Medway. Meet at Lake Pearl
- 5/16 Memorial Cruise, All details TBD



BASS PRO 2021 is tentatively on! Watch our website and emails.



Club Member Birthdays

eastermasscorvetteclub.org

Happy Birthday

Current & Belated Birthdays while the Gazette Hibernated

January

Joe Jacobs, John Pinciario, Steve Wilson, Kevin Miller, Peter Way, Larry Lepore, Alan Factor, Glenn Cosgro, Bob Randall, John Siraco, Fran Blake

February

Steve, Syliva, Glenn Kurkjian, Bruce Kolovson, Joe Doyle, Les Brown, Steve Campbell, John Forbes

March

Nicole Rutkowski, Larry Colvin, Richard Marcus, Peter Musto Musto, David Yee, Barry McColgan

April

Jim Gable, Maureen Baker, Keith Jacobson, Ed Forsberg, Jay Kublin



Humor

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org



"Our neighbor is at the door. You only washed your Corvette 5 days this week, so he's concerned."





Member Submissions

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DONALD OSBORNE/AUDRAIN INTRODUCE LINKAGE MAGAZINE

Story and Photo by Bob Gardner

I recently received gratis a copy of a new magazine, Linkage. Linkage is published by Donald Osborne. Some of you may have seen him on Jay Leno's automobile show. For a while he was also on a car auction tv show. I don't remember its name. He is a debonair sort of fellow with a lot of knowledge about classic cars and their value. The internet describes him as a classic car historian, author, and celebrity. He is also the newly appointed CEO of the Audrain Automobile Museum in Newport. Linkage is also a website, linkagemag.com. The magazine will be published quarterly.



The magazine's tagline is "Geared for the Automotive Life" and it certainly is that. In his opening editorial, Osborne promotes the magazine's "informed, reasoned opinion" based on first-hand experience. For a while Hemmings published something similar that I subscribed to, something like Classic Cars and Exotics. It was excellent, full of stories of ancient races and race cars plus the latest auction values of any number of makes and models.



Sadly, it's gone out of print. Linkage seems to step into those shoes with a vengeance. The articles were very well written and clever ranging from The World of Cars to an article on Ken Lingenfelter, his Corvettes and Ferraris. Of course there's lots of auction information listing classics of all description and how they sold. There's commentary for those interested in buying a classic or restoring one. And finally, there is promotional stuff from the Audrain. Linkage comes printed on quality, heavy stock. It's gonna last. And that's a good thing because you won't be getting another for three months. The images, too, are first class. Even the advertising is high end.

All this comes at a price, of course. The blow-in I got in my copy of Linkage was a postcard offering me one year for \$59. That's fifteen bucks an issue and at that price I'll have to think about it. It's kinda pricy for something which is basically bathroom reading, if you get my drift.



Member Submissions

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

My Love For Corvettes

Story & Photos by Judy Pitasi

My Love of Corvettes

For over 30 years now I have been a member of Eastern Mass Corvette Club. I do have to admit my love of cars started as a young child. My Dad always had the work car and the Nice car. The Nice car was always American made Chevy some Fords. I remember on Saturdays helping him clean and polish his Nice car. In my teenage years all my friends were car people. GTO's, Nova, even an MG but not many corvettes. I spent Saturdays again as a "Mag Hag" polishing wheels and cleaning cars. We had the Andy Corbett car wash. You would wash the car then drive 100mph on Route 93 to dry it.

My cousin, Gerry Maguire, a former Member of EMCC introduced me to the club and what would become my love of Corvettes. I borrowed an 86 Convertible to attend the Vineyard Vette Voyage, after having attended the previous year in my metal car. I again found myself cleaning and polishing and had so much fun with the group. A story for another time, lol. The following year from the same mechanic I borrowed an 87 T-top. This confirmed that a convertible, was for me the only way to go. The following spring when talking with my mechanic, he told me that even though his cars had never been cleaner, it was time for me to "buy your own damn car" and he was right!

A midyear convertible was my choice. Unfortunately at the time it was not my budget. Thanks to Wild Bill we found a car that was not only in my budget, but it was a convertible!

My 1972 is a matching numbers with air. I bought the car and although I really wanted a midyear at the time, fell in love with it. It had over 100,000 miles on the motor and burned 2 quarts of 50 weight oil every 200 miles, kind of a fog behind me lol, but I loved it and still do.

I had the motor rebuilt shortly after I bought it. A tomato can was welded on the rot on the exhaust and off I went, for over 20 years. Yes I did very little, not proud just no cash at the time. There were Mountain Melees', more Vineyard Vette Voyagers, Power Tours, Corvette Museum runs and much more.

Over the past 3 years I finally gave the car the attention it needed. I finally took the headers off and replaced the exhaust and had standard mufflers. The mufflers were a problem and have been replaced with Magnaflows, add to that a Gene Pierotti paint job she is beautiful now!!

I am always glad my Dad instilled the love of cars in me. I feel a piece of him rides with me whenever I am in the vette. I think also he helps me see the cops before it is too late, lol. My best part of all of this is the people I have come to know through the years as a member of Eastern Mass Corvette Club, my car family.





Member Submissions

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On Your Bucket list?

Story and Photo by Keith E. Jacobson

The 2021 car season is underway. Many events are being listed and others are already canceled. Many of you have heard me speak about the Woodward Dream Cruise and separately Corvettes on Woodward. My friend, Larry Courtney, is once again scheduling the Corvettes on Woodward event.

In his words "Corvettes on Woodward is beginning on Wednesday August 18. Please let me know if you will be attending. Our annual charity Corvette Event is held in the middle of Dream Cruise Week, in the suburbs of Detroit, Michigan.

We begin at 10 AM Wednesday with tours of GM Heritage Center, GM's private museum.



Following our visit we head over to the DoubleTree Hotel on Woodward in Bloomfield Hills at noon for a big meet and greet. Over 400 Corvettes usually attend. Vettes come from all over the US and Canada. Some of our friends from Europe and South America come to visit. This is where we hold our food drive for Open Hands Food Pantry. We ask for a 10.00 dollar donation and any non perishable food. We will have food available for purchase, a DJ, and usually a Corvette surprise.



Thursday our day begins with a tour of the Lingenfelter Collection at 10 AM. Afterwards many head over to the Moose Preserve on Woodward for a late lunch/early dinner.

We usually have other tours booked. I am sure as we get closer to the date they will come aboard. Katech Engineering, Detroit Parade Company, Weber's Wildlife Museum, Stahl's Automotive Foundation, and Henry Ford Museum are some of the possibilities. I will update the schedule soon as I hear from them.

Friday, I really would like to rent Waterford Hills to give some a chance at a track experience. I am looking at everyone from a novice to experienced drivers. Please let me know if you would be interested. Of course there would be parade laps. MichiganCorvetteEvents@gmail.com or text 586-876-6923 with questions, suggestions, are you attending?

I realize with the rules are ever changing and we need to be mindful. I have rented the lot. My cut off is in May. I will hold this date open until August 1, 2021"

The Big Daddy is on Saturday ... the Woodward Dream Cruise !!! I have seen this on several lists of the top 10 car events to see before you die and it is an event to die for. I have been twice and it doesn't get old.

Last year Woodward ran unofficially. This year there is no announcement yet. Typically there are 30,000 - 40,000 cars participating and 1,000,000 spectators. If you have never been this should be on your bucket list. I hope to be there this year ... time will tell.



See you on the road ... KAMERA KEITH



Member Submissions

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Cobra: From Idea to Built (Part 1)

Story and Photo by Larry Colvin



So, what is a life-long GM (Pontiac, Chevy, GMC) guy doing with an iconic sports car powered by a big-block Ford? Good question!

I started out in high school with a '65 GTO, then a '69 396 Nova SS, then a couple of 4th gen Camaros, Chevy (inherited my father's '74 C10 pickup) and GMC trucks.

In 1998 I found a 1966 Corvette, quite by accident, in the next town to where our family house is located in Vermont. It was at a local restorer's shop I visited with a friend who had business there. I was not looking for any car.

The '66 was in good but dirty condition with 19,000 original miles. It was Nassau blue and entirely original with the exception of tires, shocks, and belts. I wound up buying it and driving it back to Massachusetts from northern Vermont. My first Corvette! I joined the EMCC through Jack Mitchell who had been a work colleague, and the NCRS. After driving the '66 for a year, I undertook a full body-off restoration to original specs. This 19-month process resulted in a 99-point NCRS Top Flight car. I had a great time doing the car. I did most of the mechanical work with great help from Bob Smith. The other work was out-sourced.

In 2005 I was doing consulting work for General Motors in Detroit and bought a 2005 C6 Corvette through the GM employee discount program. An ideal Corvette situation: a new one and an old one!

In 2008 my late wife was diagnosed with cancer. During those few years I hardly used either Corvette. I sold the '66 in 2009. In 2010 I traded the 2005 in on a 2010 Grand Sport, which I still have today.

In the last few years I started thinking about another interesting car. I thought about another C2, perhaps a "driver". However, I know that I would not leave a "driver" alone, that pretty soon I would be into another restoration and I was not looking for a project that large again. I was thinking about something a little louder, rougher, and less polished than the C6.



Enter the idea of a Cobra. Big, loud engine in a little car, no frills, what you see is what you get! My first exposure to Cobras was in the early '60's when my family was in Florida visiting my grandparents and my Dad and I went to Sebring for the 12-hour race. The Cobras and Ferraris were battling it out. The Ferraris had the upper hand: much more aerodynamic and faster. The Cobras came bouncing around the corners but *nothing* sounded like a Cobra going by!

(Continued next page)



Member Submissions

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Cobra: From Idea to Built (Part 1)

Story and Photo by Larry Colvin

So, the idea of a Cobra began to take shape. Obviously I could not remotely afford a real Cobra, and who would drive an original on the street anyway!

I did a bunch of research on Factory Five Racing (FFR) kit offerings. Looked like a fun project but a lengthy one, and I am not getting any younger. Projects like this have an unfortunate tendency to lose momentum and never finish.

Around this time, I happened across an internet ad for a Cobra replica for sale in Michigan. It was built by a firm called Superformance in South Africa. Superformance has close connections to Shelby and makes an array of reproduction vehicles including Cobras, Cobra Coupes, GT-40's, and Corvette Grand Sports. They provided all the Ford vehicles for the movie "Ford vs Ferrari". Superformance imports "roller" chassis (no engine or transmission) vehicles into the US and the rest of the world. In America the cars are sold through a small network of dealers. Importing roller chassis vehicles allows Superformance to avoid US safety and emissions regulations. A buyer purchases a vehicle and then can choose almost any engine/transmission combination to be installed in it. As mentioned above, Superformance also imports a replica 1964/1965 Corvette Grand Sport.

I liked the idea of a car built in a factory by people who build these cars for a living rather than one built by amateur builders...like me!

(Read Part 2 in the next Gazette)

2020 The Year That Wasn't

Story and Photos by Keith E. Jacobson



I don't need to say that it has been a tough year for members of the car community ... so I won't. Corvette Clubs on both sides of the border have kept busy to varying degrees.

The Eastern Mass Corvette Club is a very active and social club. Although the season wasn't what we wanted, the club hosted member events, encouraging masks and social distancing. There were a variety of activities. We always had a weekly static cruise on Tuesdays, with the second Tuesday of the month being a free pizza night.

Thursday cruises were often for ice cream or dining ... outside with the normal precautions. We had a few drive by cruises for people's birthdays and members in ill health. The big club event of the season was our Columbus Day cruise to Maine. People participated depending on their comfort level. Many have now put their cars away for the season. We are all hoping that in 2021 we will have an effective vaccine and cruise nights and car shows will resume.

Stay safe





Member Submissions

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A Letter by John Elegant

Submitted by Keith E. Jacobson

Covid challenged our Corvettes club's activities this year!

At the same time, in our club we remain healthy so putting our circumstances into perspective, we are glad to be living so we can resume our club's full activities, we hope, in the spring or in the summer of 2021.

Our Corvette club's 2020 Covid challenges are a very small price to those who paid the ultimate price of their now permanently living in their new homes on the wrong side of the grass — and also the ultimate tragedies others have suffered due to their losing someone within their family.

To be more specific, during 2020 our club specifically had to Covid cancel monthly meetings (at least most months for at certain times modified number and outside gatherings were allowed), eliminate annual special activities, and cut off unique Corvette other events too. All three of these negative circumstances became our norm this year. Was it more than an inconvenience? For sure. Did we and do we still miss the camaraderie of getting together in so many ways with our fellow Corvette club members? Absolutely, for many Corvette club people are not just fellow club members but are also close personal friends. Yet, we did manage to creatively have some road tours and we did have fun doing a few outside, socially distanced, smaller-sized meal gatherings.

Each of us likely knows someone who due to Covid is no longer living. Almost each of us had or still has some much-lesser-important but still real negative economic consequences — some extremely severe and still horribly impacting them right now and probably forever. And even of lesser importance, each of us were majorly unfortunately impacted or in most cases ended our Corvette, family and other plans that were important to us in 2020. And of course those impacts will continue for the rest of this year and into at least the beginnings of 2021.

But to put all this into perspective, except for those who lost family and/or their businesses, our personal plans being “messed up” are truly of little consequences to our being able, to paraphrase, “live another day.” At some point in 2021 we will resume our Corvette club meetings as they were, and to conduct our special Corvette functions we used to do. So we do not focus on the negative of the horrors of Covid — as for most of us this has been truly just major impediments and inconveniences, AND we look toward to a brighter horizon in 2021, not just for us selfishly but for all others who are not fortunate enough to own a Corvette, for them to also more typically and with more enjoyment, live in their post-Covid vaccine world down the road. We wish for all to regain meaningful economic employment and for those who have paid the ultimate family sacrifice, to have them start to find little ways to regain joy in their hearts.

We are not feeling sorry for ourselves; instead, we are focusing on better days ahead for all!



In Memory

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

EMCC has lost two of it's best this past winter.....

On January 27th, Michael R. Wodogaza, Associate Member to his father, Bob Wodogaza (member of EMCC since 2009), passed away at the age of 49 from COVID. Mike was loved by all who met him. He attended many of our events along with his dad and was a constant smiling happy face at our monthly dinners (before meeting) at Conrad's and at all times when he took part in events.

Mike's services were private due to the COVID restrictions in place. He will be remembered in our prayers and will always be in our hearts.

-Mal



*Your hope has sustained us...
Your friendship has surrounded us...
Your love has given us strength...*

Thank you for your kindness during our deepest sadness. It is sincerely appreciated and will always be remembered.

With Love,
The Family of
Michael R. Wodogaza
February 16, 1971 - January 27, 2021





In Memory

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org



On February 20th, Danielle McAuley, Honorary Member of EMCC, lost her battle with cancer. She put up a great fight and kept her spirits high.

Danielle was the wife of former member, Wally McAuley who also died from cancer (service related) about 20 years ago. Danielle was an active member of the Club and had a strong friendship bond with many of the members especially some of the females. She was always ready to help with anything that needed to be done. She had a passion for cooking and loved sharing some of her "treats" with us. She will be missed by us all. She has left us with many great memories.

There was a graveside service for Danielle and many of the Club members were in attendance. There were over 150 attendees at the service, socially distanced. Her family is hoping to have a Celebration of Life for Danielle in the future.

-Mal





EMCC Merchandise

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

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

Visit the store at corvettemuseum.org



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. Even masks! Just ask Ma!





Editor's Note

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Fond Auld Lang Syne

By VP and Publisher/Editor, Gerry Criscenzo



Many of you have asked when my band will be performing again. The short answer is currently, "I have no idea."

Here's a longer answer as to why.

Those of you that have seen me perform know that I am a "spirited" performer. I am no shoe-gazer and feed on the crowd's energy, kind of like a vampire; I feed on the crowd's energy which drives my passion to play and then I want even more.

Many musicians are like me and it's now been more than one year since we last "fed" and to say I am "dying" to play is an understatement. Equally suffering are the patrons of local live music. They miss us as much as we miss them. Before Covid, I think patrons had taken local live music for granted. I believe that will change if the local live music scene ever rebounds.

While Covid has decimated many industries that are receiving funding or programs, there is barely a word being spoken about the massive collapse of the live music industry. Forbes reported that the live concert industry lost \$30 billion in 2020. But concerts, like sporting events will return.

"Local" live music, however, is on the precipice of a major culture shift. Many musicians from cover bands, dance bands, wedding bands and more have permanently left the industry due to financial hardship. Many venues have also permanently closed affecting the sprawling supply chain of technicians, dancers, venue staff and many more support staff. How can a venue survive when it can't predict when they should hire performers, or when to have staff or how many? The situation is dire and being largely ignored by corporate America and politicians.

For me, playing/performing is a passion and not a primary source of income. For many, however, it was both. Like me, the ones who haven't given up, have no idea if or when life and music will resume as they once knew it. I've received calls from a couple of clubs that are barely holding on to "discuss" some dates for outdoor shows this summer so we're keeping our fingers crossed.

For now, all I can say is, get vaccinated, continue wearing masks and when the time comes, show your support for local live music because at that point, it will all be up to the fans.

-Gerry Criscenzo
VP, EMCC