

GENTLEMEN... START YOUR ENGINES!

Indoor Karting with VAFA By Jim Albright

The March meeting of the Virginia Fiero Association was held on Saturday the 21st at American Indoor Karting on Airline Boulevard in



Portsmouth. Members began arriving around 1:45 and shared 30 minutes of "Fiero chat" before heading in to check out the racing. Attendees included the usual suspects - Bob Carlson in his white '88 coupe (with an out of state family member along for the ride), Bill Benton with his black/silver '87 GT (looking fine), Rob Jensen in his red late model GTO (he REALLY needs to start driving the FIERO!), and Jim Albright in his burgundy '88 Formula (nose up and cleared for takeoff!). After watching the on track action for a bit, the gang headed upstairs to register and sign the release forms absolving the facility of any and all responsibility for any possible harm we might inflict on ourselves. We then returned to the ground floor for our rules briefing, then to the locker room for helmets and neck braces. After a short wait for the previous race to finish up, we strapped into the carts for a single file start. The fun really began as
(see VAFA Karting on page 2)

VAFA March Meeting By Bob Carlson

The March meeting was held on Saturday, March 21st, at American Indoor Karting in Portsmouth, Va.



Attendance is slowly improving, and we spent some time discussing ways to continue to increase it. Please let us know if you have any ideas that will get people to come out and play. If something will get you to join us, others may enjoy it too, so let us know. But regardless of the turn out, the folks who did attend, (Bill Benton, Rob Jensen, Jim Albright, and yours truly...Bob Carlson + a relative named Joe Laskowsky) showed up with three good looking Fiero's and one modified GTO 🙄 (at least it's a Pontiac). We all had a GREAT time and those who missed the meeting, missed another VAFA first. Read Jim's write-up to find out more. As usual, we started with discussions of our latest Fiero project updates and upcoming plans. Rob reported on the status of his engine swap. He's... "🎵 on the road again 🎵!" At least enough to drive around the block without a catastrophic failure.

Once the meeting kicked-off, Jim provided a report on the status of the paperwork for VAFA. To date he has established a bank account for better accounting of club funds and is still working on achieving tax exempt status as a non-profit organization. Next we talked about the Club website and membership. As I said in January we are striving to keep it updated, and if you haven't been there in a while, you need to go and check it
(see March Meeting on page 2)

(VAFA Karting continued)

everyone attempted their best Mario Andretti passing technique during the 8 minute race. The on-track action is similar to a real event, with blue “move over” flags being aimed at anyone whose pace wasn’t up to the driver behind them. The karts are good for approximately 45 MPH on the tight track, with sticky tires and disc brakes that generate tenacious grip under braking and cornering!



Definitely a good forearm workout! All too soon, the checkered flag fell and we pulled into the pits and exited the karts. After turning in our safety gear, we headed back upstairs to relive the action and do some bench racing, while ingesting some refreshments to help get our voices back☺. A nice feature at American Indoor Karting is the printed results sheets, which break down each race with each drivers lap times. The club meeting was held while we watched the racing action below through the large glass wall over the tracks. A fun time was had by all, with several vowing to return to try to shave a few tenths off their best lap times – the place could get very addictive!

(March Meeting continued)

out. Those of you that have been around a while may know that one of the bonuses of our website is that all members receive a club email account. One of the measures we will be phasing in is to move the delivery of club business emails to that address. Currently that email is setup to auto-forward to your regular mail account. If you find you aren’t getting club notices, please contact one of the officers through the website to verify we have the correct email address on file for you. So you can see we are working hard to make your club better. But all this work won’t mean much if the club goes bust and all of these features (bank account, mail box, website with email, all need to be funded). So please pay your dues if you haven’t already done so. Club email accounts for past due members will also be phased out.

Finally, we made plans for the next couple of meetings. The April meeting will be held at the Virginia Beach “Crusin the Beach” Car Show on April 18, 2009 (see VAFA Visions for details). We’ve also been “invited” to show off a couple of Fieros at the Williamsburg on April 19th. If your Fiero is in great shape and you want to SHOW it off at a ritzy location, let me know and I’ll put the show organizer in touch with you. Other things in the works are the meeting in May is being planned for Outlaws Rod & Custom in Norfolk, VA (2712 Wyoming Ave.) and hanging out at the Cruise-In at the Hampton Roads Harley Davidson in Yorktown, VA (6450 George Washington Memorial Highway) in June.

The President’s Corner **By Rob Jensen**

Hey gang. Hope all is well. Another month down and another newsletter off to you all. For those who missed March's meeting, you missed a great one. We met at American Indoor Karting and it was a great time. It was a fun event, and worth the money. If your looking for some great fun, you have to stop by and run the track a few times. We have a bunch of events coming up. Please take a moment to review them all and attend when you can. This month we are meeting at the beach car show. This is a great event, and again, I hope you can all attend or at least show up for the meeting. For a more serious tone, we need to mention dues.

A bunch of folks have not payed dues for quite some time. This may be an oversight on the club, or maybe you just forgot, either way we have to mention it. We are talking \$5 for a year. This is not a significant amount, so it should not be met with a lot of resistance. Please make every effort to pay up. We have established: a checking account, a savings account and are working very hard to take care of the clubs "official" paperwork. Please take a turn on the dues and send/pass/give them to an official as soon as possible. And finally I will pass my usual statement, please attend the monthly meetings, bring ideas for events and try to bring one new member. Take care and I'll see you soon.

Rob

VPCCC Monthly Meeting By Bob Carlson

There was no VAFA representative at the March meeting of the Virginia Peninsula Car Club Council, so we missed a great meeting with an excellent guest speaker. Doug Dobson of Pittsburgh Paints and Glass (PPG) discussed new automotive paint products. I'll publish the notes I received via email from the council, but we don't always get notes, so VAFA really NEEDS a volunteer to attend the monthly VPCCC meeting on the peninsula. Please let us know if you can help out.

Bobby Martin (Councils new Secretary) of the Tidewater TransAm Club took these notes and shared them with the council.

Council Meeting Minutes for 03/19/09.

Hal Hartel opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with a quick mention of the Daily Press' "In the Driver's Seat" insert in Friday's paper. It's not just an automotive sales advertisement section; the DP is always looking for local car owners stories to publish. So check out the Friday DP and contact Kathy Van Mullekom kvanmullekom@dailypress.com if you have a story to submit.

Hal announced to the council a change in the secretary position. Mr. Larry Hanson has stepped aside after expertly performing this function for many years. Hal then presented Larry a certification of appreciation for council's gratitude for all Larry has done. Larry was also given a Deputy Barney Fife (Andy Griffith Show) mouse pad. As many of you know, Larry (or as he states, his wife) owns a replica "Mayberry RFD" 1963 Ford Police car, very popular in the area.

Brian Stilley provided an update for the Virginia Fall Classic in which a vibrant discussion ensued regarding the development of a VFC calendar. A proposal was made to implement photograph guidelines for a higher quality calendar in hopes of better sales. Under consideration is to limit the number of cars a club would portray in their photograph submission. There was also discussion about the cost of having a calendar entry (\$200), and Hal indicated there is no way to reduce the fee due to the overall cost of getting the calendar produced (\$2,000).

Treasurers Report: Bob McKenzie reported the expenditures for computer printer ink (\$129.24), council donation to the Olivet Christian Church

(\$100.00) and a payment to the Treasurer of VA for State Corporation Commission (\$25) leaving a balance of \$1014.93 in the council's coffers.

Guest Speaker: The council was treated to a return engagement with Doug Dobson of Pittsburgh Paints and Glass (PPG). Mr. Dobson discussed two new automotive paint products (Aquabase and Envirbase) that are only now being made available here on the east coast. Aquabase and Envirbase are two European lines purchased by PPG. Both are a true "water-based" base coat and meet the more stringent California environmental regulations.

- They dry faster than "solvent-based" base coats 2 of 2
- Dries with airflow versus temperature
- Can be sanded immediately where as "solvent-based" base coats require a 20-30 minute wait
- More pliable/flexible than "solvent-based" base coats
- Two to three times more brilliant than "solvent-based" base coats
- Solvent-based is a lacquer thinner that the Government is attempting to outlaw

Car Show Announcements: Brian Stilley briefed the council on a few of the upcoming car shows within the local area.

- March 28th: 2nd Annual York High School car show; 9300 Geo. Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown
- March 28th: Tidewater MOPAR Club and Hall Dodge "Show and Shine"; Hall Dodge, 3443 Virginia Beach Boulevard, Virginia Beach
- March 29th: Middle Peninsula Classic Cruisers "Gloucester Daffodil Festival" car show; Gloucester Main Street Shopping Center/Gloucester Court House
- April 18th: Cruisin' Virginia Beach car show on the "boardwalk"

Charles Hopkins of "Hops Place" www.hopsplace.com announced a car show for July 25th at their location (320 West Pembroke Avenue, Hampton). The PPG show truck will be there. This is a very big deal, because this truck is normally only available for national events such as "Good Guys".

Tom Norris reminded the audience of the Relay for Life car show at Eagle Harbor, 13480 Carrollton Boulevard, on April 24th and May 15th (6-9pm). Tom also discussed the Smithfield Friday night cruise-in at the NAPA (1802 South Church Street), the first and third Friday of each month, April through October.

Another gentleman announced a new Saturday night cruise-in at the Virginia Beach Farmers Market (3640 Dam Neck Road), starting April 25th. The cruise in is the fourth Saturday of each month through September.

VPCCC Happenings

Here are the upcoming local shows and Cruise-Ins for the next month. Details are available on the VPCCC website (www.vpccc.org).

04/19/2009 - The Albemarle Classic - Rallye & Tour.

04/19/2009 - Virginia Chevy Lovers 2009 Spring Dustoff. Annual Virginia Chevy Lovers Spring Dustoff at the Smithfield Center, Smithfield Va. Open to any Chevy OR Chevy-powered vehicle built prior to 1985.

05/02/2009 - Summer CarTastic Car Show. All makes and models. Held at Hampton Chevrolet, 1073 W. Mercury Blvd., Hampton, VA. 9am-4pm

05/02/2009 - 3rd Annual SEVMC Spring Car Show. All makes and models are welcome to the Spring Show which will benefit the USO.

05/03/2009 - Footers Sports Pub Annual Car and Truck Show to raise money for TACA (Talk About Curing Autism. Location is at 4676 Princess Anne Road in Virginia Beach, VA.

05/09/2009 - Relay for Life Car Show at Cecil Proffitt's, Windsor, VA (American Cancer Society fundraiser) Rods, Muscle Customs Rare opportunity to view Cecil's personal museum of Rodding and Farming in Tidewater (including the old general store).

05/09/2009 - 5th Annual Charles Harding Memorial Car Show & American Cancer Society Relay For Life Fundraiser Car show. Held at: Randolph-Henry High School (755 David Bruce Highway Charlotte Court House, VA 23923)

Local Cruise-Ins

Tuesday Every Tuesday night, the First Flight Cruisers of the Outer Banks, gather at the Hooters of Kitty Hawk for a cruise-in. Starting at around 6:30 until 9:30-10:00. Come join us!!

Friday Middle Peninsula Classic Cruisers hosts "Let's Talk Cars!" at the Gloucester Main Street Center, Gloucester Courthouse, every Friday night starting at 6 pm from April 3rd till October 2009.

Friday Langley Christian Church 175 Fox Hill Road Hampton, Va will be hosting a Friday night Cruise-in Every Third Friday night 6-10 P.M. Weather permitting May through October.

Saturday 2009 every Saturday night the Classic Cruisers Car Club will host its weekly Cruz-ins beginning April 18 until October 17 at Hampton Roads Harley Davidson in Yorktown (6450 George Washington Mm Hwy). (1989 & older vehicles.)

CCCHR Monthly Meeting

By Bob Carlson

There was no VAFA representative at the March meeting of the Car Club Council of Hampton Roads at Priority Chevrolet in Chesapeake, Va. and unfortunately, no one from VAFA was able to attend. The minutes haven't been published or distributed. Let's hope for better luck this month.

VAFA Membership Dues

The dues for this year were set at \$5.00 (WHAT A BARGAIN!) and everyone was asked to pay as soon as possible. Dues may be paid in person, or mailed to the club address at: 2133 Upton Drive, Suite 126 - Box 204, Virginia Beach, VA 23454. Make checks/MO out to: VAFA.

VAFA Visions

by Bob Carlson

The April VAFA meeting will be held on April 18, 2009, at the beach in conjunction with the



The Cruisin' Virginia Beach Car Show turns the boardwalk into a local version of "Route 66" with cars and trucks from yesterday and today competing for trophies and cash prizes at this one-day event. Hot rods, street machines, classic cars, and trucks line the boardwalk for 25 blocks. Sponsored by: the City of Virginia Beach, Pepsi, and The Oceanfront Inn



The event registration fee is \$25 per vehicle (in advance), \$30 the day of show and free for spectators. It's held right on the boardwalk between 2nd and 31st Streets. Day-of-show registration begins at 7:00am at the municipal parking lot at 18th & Arctic Avenue. Check-in for pre-registered vehicles is from 7:30am-10:00am at various boardwalk entry points: for us it's GM at 14th Street. The show will be held rain or shine. The car show hours are 10:00am-4:00pm on the boardwalk. The burnout competition is held from 5:30-8:00pm. The registration form is available for download at: <http://www.beachstreetusa.com/events/CruisinVaBeachCarShow>

The only way we can ensure that we can park our cars together is to arrive at the same time. To do this, Rob has arranged for VAFA members who want to show their cars to meet up with the 757 GTO Club at the Virginia Beach Convention Center at 7:30am on Saturday and proceed to the entrance as a group. Or, if you'd rather join us later for the monthly meeting, we'll be parked on the boardwalk somewhere near 14th Street. We'll be heading to one of the nearby eateries around 1:00pm.

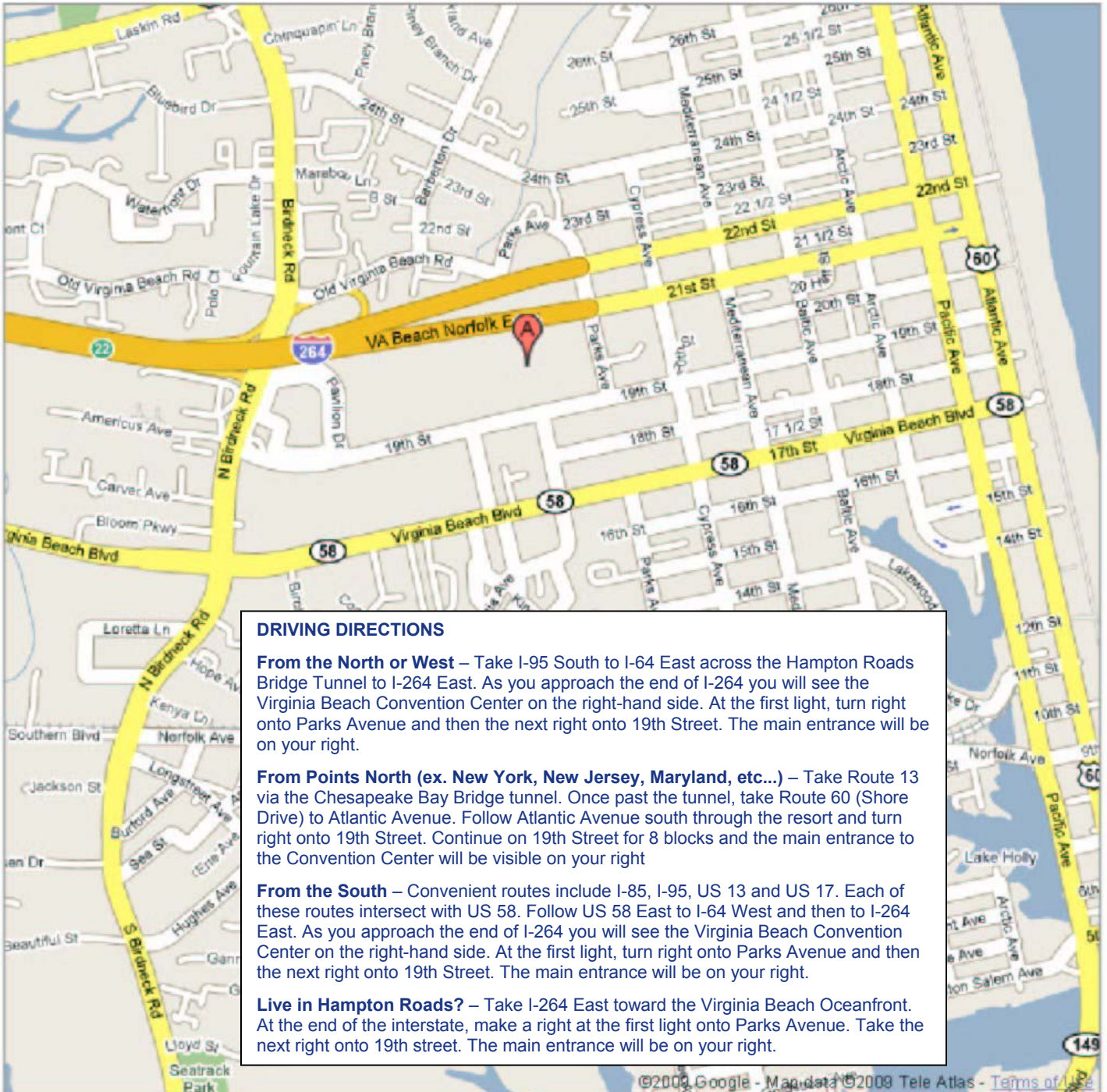


Address **Virginia Beach Convention Center**
1000 19th St
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Get Google Maps on your phone



Text the word "GMAPS" to 466453



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From the North or West – Take I-95 South to I-64 East across the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel to I-264 East. As you approach the end of I-264 you will see the Virginia Beach Convention Center on the right-hand side. At the first light, turn right onto Parks Avenue and then the next right onto 19th Street. The main entrance will be on your right.

From Points North (ex. New York, New Jersey, Maryland, etc...) – Take Route 13 via the Chesapeake Bay Bridge tunnel. Once past the tunnel, take Route 60 (Shore Drive) to Atlantic Avenue. Follow Atlantic Avenue south through the resort and turn right onto 19th Street. Continue on 19th Street for 8 blocks and the main entrance to the Convention Center will be visible on your right

From the South – Convenient routes include I-85, I-95, US 13 and US 17. Each of these routes intersect with US 58. Follow US 58 East to I-64 West and then to I-264 East. As you approach the end of I-264 you will see the Virginia Beach Convention Center on the right-hand side. At the first light, turn right onto Parks Avenue and then the next right onto 19th Street. The main entrance will be on your right.

Live in Hampton Roads? – Take I-264 East toward the Virginia Beach Oceanfront. At the end of the interstate, make a right at the first light onto Parks Avenue. Take the next right onto 19th street. The main entrance will be on your right.