

NorCal VIPER News

Winter 2017 Edition



Normandin Bi Monthly Club Dinner

Article and Photos by Rick Mathews

On October 4th the NorCal Viper Club met at Normandin Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram for our bi-monthly dinner. We had 36 attendees including two new members, a prospective member and 12 Vipers join us. Attendees enjoyed a social hour where we got to catch up with our fellow Viperholics, check out all of the Vipers in attendance including a new black ACR on the showroom floor and the Drummer's brand new ACR bought from Normandin.



We also enjoyed a delicious dinner in the showroom along with more fellowship and an update on the Viper production status. All in all, a fun time was had by everyone in attendance. A special thanks to Paul Normandin for hosting a fun evening of all things Viper.



New Club Website

Our club President, Sanjar, has been working very hard on creating a new club website that is a more current design, more cost efficient for the club and most important much more informative, user friendly and packed with features. The new site is live now, so please check it out at <http://norcalviperclub.com/>.

2017 NorCal Viper Club Calendar

Feb. 25 Indoor Go Karting with Mystery Pro Driver

March 11-12* Viper Tracks 3 @ Bondurant School

March 17* Kick Off Party - Joe Sharino Band Club

March 25* Thunderhill 3 Mile

April 8 Guns and Vipers III

April 23 Mountain to Beach Cruise

April 30* Autocross @ Marina

May 7 Tequila Tasting and Pool Party

May 14* Sonoma Track Day

May 20 Pirelli Tire Tech Session

June 1-4# Tail of the Dragon, NC/TN

June 3-4* Thunderhill 5 Mile

June TBD ACR Track Set Up For New Owners

June 25 South Valley Cruise & Poolside Fun

July 16 Hot BBQ and Hot Cars

July 16# Tuscany & Motor Valley Tour

July 22 Lake Tulloch Escape

August 4-6 Mendocino Coast Getaway

August ?? # Viper 25th Anniv./End of Production

August 20 TBD

Sept. 16 Culinary Cruise

Sept. 16-18# New England Lobster Roll

Sept 29-Oct 1 25th Anniversary Blast – 3 Region Event

October 3 Wrap Up Rally at Normandin CJDR

October 8* Autocross @ Sonoma

October 19# Texas Viper Roundup

National VOA Bucket List Events

***Events Not Sponsored By Our Club but May Include a Club Sponsored Activity**

Club Officers

Sanjar Chakamian

President

schakamian@gmail.com



Jim Bray

Secretary

silver8@sbcglobal.net



Aaron Lukianow

Treasurer and Membership

Director

alukianow@comcast.com



Barbara Drummer

Events Director

bdrummer@sbcglobal.net



Rick Mathews

Communication Director

rbm8@sbcglobal.net



Club Website: <http://norcalviperclub.com>

Suggestions: rbm8@sbcglobal.net

Please check the new club website for an expanded and more detailed calendar.

2016 Holiday Party

Article by Rick Mathews, Photos by Dave the DJ

On Saturday, November 19, forty-one NorCal Viper Club members assembled at the San Mateo Marriott Hotel



for an evening of comradery, fun and great food. The evening started out with a champagne cocktail reception in the lobby bar complete with our own signature cocktails. Attendees then moved to the dining room where they were greeted by the upbeat music of DJ Dave, who was sponsored by



Debbie Ferrari and Denis Van Dera, a beautiful roaring fireplace, beautifully set tables and delicious hors d'oeuvres. When each attendee entered the dining room they came upon a table at the entry that was filled with Viper logo paintings in every imaginable color expertly done by club first lady and very talented artist Sheri Chakamian. Each guest was allowed to choose their favorite Sneaky Pete, Fangs or Stryker painting.

After partaking of more social time and delicious appetizers it was



time for dinner. Dinner was an amazing gourmet buffet that had everyone talking about how delicious it was. After dinner DJ Dave really cranked it up and almost everyone took to the dance floor. There was time for free dancing along with a



salsa instruction and many of our club members showing the group their solo moves. At the end of the evening everyone had a smile on their face as they headed to their respective homes. Special thanks go out to event planner and sponsor Barbara Drummer, Sanjar Chakamian for his planning support, Sheri Chakamian for her wonderful Viper paintings, Debbie Ferrari for sponsoring DJ Dave, Rich Bontempi for his sponsorship and Karen Corry for the beautiful Flower arrangements.



Janis McAdon – You Will Be Missed

Photograph by Maurice Liang

As most members know we lost longtime member and undercover board member Janis McAdon to cancer on November 12, 2016. On December 3, 2016 Janis's family held a memorial service in Valley Springs. Our club rose to the occasion and formed a caravan of 21 Vipers to travel from the Bay Area to Valley Springs to pay our respects to Janis's memory and support our good friend Glen. Rest In Peace Janis We Will All Miss You!!



Club Finances

As we all know Viper production will end this year and the source of new members and their dues that provides will end. To keep our club financially viable your Board of Directors would like to ask each of you to consider becoming a club sponsor, either personally or through your business. We have some sponsorship packages that will give you or your business meaningful exposure to our membership and the larger Viper community in general. This exposure would come through a combination of our newsletter, website and through our social media resources. Last year each of our social media outreaches reached a significantly larger audience than your membership. If you would like explore how this exposure can give you meaningful exposure, please contact Rick Mathews by email @ rbm8@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 925-708-5207.

Presidents Message

Happy 2017 and start of the 24th year of the NorCal Viper Club!

As we finished 2016, I took time to review the year and measure our progress toward making our Club the best car club for our members. This is what I normally do in my business and personal life in order to mark the achievements and develop an improvement plan for the following year.

This was the first year of your new and expanded Board and I want to thank **Barbara Drummer, Aaron Lukianow, Rick Mathews** and **Jim Bray** for volunteering and helping me guide this club. I hope we have lived up to your expectations so far and we welcome any feedback.

We started 2016 with 94 members and added 13 new members over the course of the year, for a total of 107. Hopefully everyone has renewed their membership by now so we can continue to grow. Let's make our Club stronger again!

We had four bi-monthly dinner meetings which drew in 118 members. Our nine other events drew in a total of 218 members and our track events brought in 32 members. I want to thank all the event organizers, **Todd Solomon, Shelly Shisler, Karen Hallstein, Debbie Ferrari, Maurice Liang, Andy Hoepfner, Scarlett Fiona Reed, Barbara and Doug Drummer, Michael and Heloise Levy, Paul Normandin, Jim Bray, and Rick Mathews** for their dedication and hard work to make these events a great experience for all of us.

We have already planned a full year of events for 2017, which was reviewed during our Annual Board Meeting with other members and are listed in this newsletter. This year, we are going to change our Dinner Meetings to a weekend Drive and Lunch event so more people can attend and put more emphasis on driving our Vipers. I still hear from many members that Tuesday evening meetings in the Bay Area are hard to make so we are changing them to a fun weekend event. We are planning a kickoff event to start our year and a couple of overnight events this year. These events will be listed on our website as well.

And speaking of our website, we are launching a new and updated website to better promote our Club. The new website is designed with more visual content and more contents in order to encourage people to visit it regularly. For example, we will have a photo gallery of all the events for everyone's access and viewing. We also ask you to submit good quality pictures of your Vipers for inclusion in our website and any feedback you may have. The new website is also easier to maintain and we are doing this in-house which will save about \$1,400 annually. You can reach our new site at this new domain name www.norcalviperclub.com.

We are moving to digital media as of next quarter and will not be printing and mailing our future newsletters. Instead, it will be sent as a PDF document with richer content so you can view it on your computer or tablet and save them to your hard disk. This is how the National VOA sends its newsletter, and it will save us about \$1,000 per year for the cost of color printing and postage. There is also a new section on our new website that you can access all the newsletters.

And lastly, I encourage you to come up with new event ideas and share new experiences with other club members. Northern California and especially the greater Bay Area has much to offer and we should take advantage of it. You don't have to know how to plan the whole event as we are here to help you to organize it,

but I encourage everyone to share ideas and take on new events so we can continue to have great events and memories for everyone.

And one more thing, there are many of you whom we haven't seen in a long time. Please take a look at the event calendar and pick one or two events that you like to attend and mark it on your calendar. Come out and be an active member of your club and help us to make our Vipers and its brand memorable as the car itself will drive off into sunset again.

Sanjar

NorCal Viper Club Members Visit the Bondurant School

Article by Jim Bray/Photographs by Maurice Liang



In late October, 10 members of the NorCal VOA attended the world famous Bondurant Racing School in Chandler, AZ for a three day Viper driving experience. Members received first class instruction on driving their Vipers fast on the track as well as learning accident avoidance and skid control. Members enjoyed



dinner with Bob Bondurant, his wife Pat and Justin Bell one of the winning Viper drivers at Le Mans who is an ACR instructor at the school, an avid Viper supporter and TV personality. Check out the new club website at <http://norcalviperclub.com/> for a more detailed article.

December Board of Directors Meeting

On December 10, 2016 your Board of Directors met to discuss the current status of your club and to continue work on planning for 2017. Topics discussed included the Club's finances, the Holiday Party, the structure of the club calendar for 2017, ways to increase club revenue, ways to make each event more fun and interesting for our members, ways to improve club communication, moving the newsletter to a 100% digital format, creation of a new website, how to best manage the Club's participation in social media and planning for the Annual Board Meeting which was held on January 21, 2017 and had many members in attendance helping your board plan for 2017.

Wisdom Corner

"The harder you work, the luckier you become." – Roger Penske