



SPRING
2014

VIPER OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF THE CAROLINAS
NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the new Carolina's VOA Quarterly Newsletter!!! While the VOA forum is a great method of communication, we also wanted reach out to our members with a quarterly newsletter. We will share information about past and upcoming events to be sure ALL club members are in the loop!

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Mayhem Dyno Highlights - VOA of the Carolinas First Event of the Year!

By: Seth Green



The first event of the year kicked off in Raleigh, NC at Mayhem Motorsports. The club sponsored a FREE Dyno event to Carolina VOA members which also included lunch. We had 16 Vipers in attendance not to mention Seth and Mike who brought their vintage MOPARS to get a little bit of dyno tuning in.

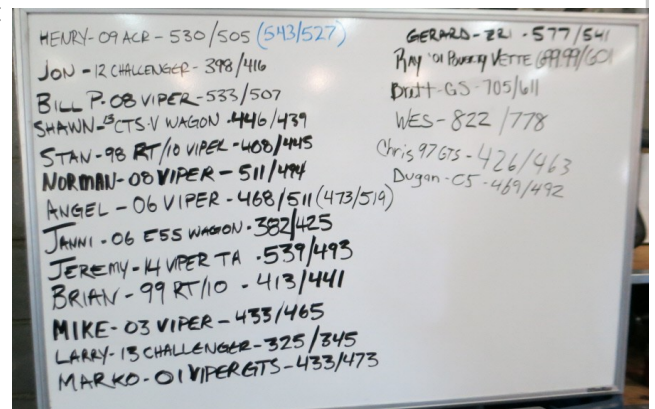
With high barometric pressure and cool temperatures it was the perfect day to do max power runs. The event kicked off at 10:00am and went until about 4:00pm. We made numerous runs in the morning and throughout the afternoon. From Chris' 1997 GTS to Jeremy's 2014 TA there was representation from every generation of Viper V10 motor in between.

Factory advertized specs for the Viper:

- GEN 1: 1992—1995 / 400hp, 465lb-ft, 488ci, 9.6:1 CR, Forged
- GEN 2: 1996-1999 / 450hp, 490lb-ft, 488ci, 9.6:1 CR, Forged
- GEN 2: 2000-2002 / 450hp, 490lb-ft, 488ci, 9.6:1 CR, Cast
- GEN 3: 2003-2006 / 500hp, 525lb-ft, 505ci, 9.6:1 CR, Cast
- GEN 4: 2008-2010 / 600hp, 560lb-ft, 510ci, 10.2:1 CR, Cast
- GEN 5: 2013-2014 / 640hp, 600lb-ft, 512ci, 10.2:1 CR, Forged

The Dodge Viper V10 motor is power tested at the factory with the power rating at the crankshaft with all accessories and a factory exhaust and intake system installed.

It is generally accepted that the car's power train contributes approximately 15% power loss at the rear wheels. As you can see on the power board, the factory significantly underrated the power in the early generations.



Above: The power board showing the progression in Hp through the generations of Vipers.

Mayhem Dyno Highlights (continued)

Overall the day was a huge success with having such a great turnout. The club was able to excite some rivalry from the Corvette owners by selling off dyno runs as a small fundraiser for the club. Henry brought car weighing scales to make a direct comparison between his 2009 Hard Core Package ACR and Jeremy's 2014 Time Attack. The results are outstanding, see below!

Most importantly, everyone had a great time and we thank everyone for coming out. It was a great way to kickoff the 2013 Viper season!

THE CARS!!!



Big shout out to Angel who drove his Viper over 8 hours to join us for Dyno Day. (Above: Brian, Terri, Mike, and Angel)



Henry's 2009 Hard Core ACR was the first Viper of the day to do a max power run. After resting and cooling for several hours, it increased 13hp from the first run.



Possible the greatest highlight of the day was catching the attention of Dugan and Nina. We had the pleasure of welcoming them into the club several days after the Dyno Day event! (Above: Dunan and Nina's 2005 SRT-10 Convertible)

Get Your Motor Running Event at Brian's Garage!

With Spring just around the corner, your Carolinas VOA wanted to make sure everyone was prepared for the upcoming year of fun and excitement.

Our Region's President, Brian Kennedy, graciously opened up his home and his garage to the entire club on **Saturday, March 22nd** from **10:00am - 4:00pm**, to host our "**Get Your Motor Running**" event. With a huge garage, lots of parking space, and 2 lifts available to perform oil changes, it was the perfect venue for such an event.

Our club Vice President, Mike Reeves along with fellow Carolina's VOA Member Al Humphries from Capital Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram in Garner were instrumental in making this event possible. They provided their parts van fully stocked with the appropriate OEM oil filters, differential, clutch, transmission, and brake fluids available for purchase at wholesale cost. Mike's dealership has also generously offered to supply a disposal tank on-site and they properly disposed of all the oil for us.

A BIG thank you to Capital Chrysler Jeep Dodge RAM in Garner!



Group photo in Brian's front yard later in the afternoon.



Craig, our resident maintenance expert, posing with a Mopar Brand oil filter as he assists Marko with an oil change.

(Left) How to stop on a dime.

Get Your Motor Running Event at Brian's Garage! (Continued)



Bob and Joyce Copley drove 360 miles round trip to swing by and join the fun for a few hours!



Brian filling out a custom made work order form made just for this event.



Last oil change finally finished well after dark.



Empty oil bottles after the day was over.



Al giving some advice on which gear oil to buy for the Viper's limited slip differential.

MOPARS at the Rock!

MOPARS at the Rock took place at Rockingham Dragway in Rockingham North Carolina. The Carolinas VOA participated in the annual car show as well as the drag racing and swap meet.

We had a great showing of Vipers at this event! We had 2 caravans roll into Rockingham from Raleigh and Charlotte. We also had numerous snakes arrive from many other areas...even Virginia!. Our newest members Logan and Leeanna joined us in their 96 GTS...another fine addition to our group. It was nice to meet Emily, Kristian's wife too! We also got to meet Scott from Sanford with his beautiful 96 GTS.



Brand new VOA T-shirts to show of club pride!



Caravan on the way to the Rock!



New "easily removable" Carolinas VOA windshield stickers

Meet Your Zone Directors!

Charlotte, NC
Director - Patrick Brown
(pbrown811@gmail.com)

Raleigh, NC
Director - Seth Green
(seth_green57@outlook.com)

Greenville, SC
Director - Angel Bonet
(pachyty@yahoo.com)

Wilmington, NC
Director - Lance Knowlton
(lance.knowlton@gmail.com)

Charleston, SC
Director - Kristian Ray
(kristianray2003@yahoo.com)

The map on the top of the page illustrates several key pieces of information:

1. The Zone Director names, locations, and contact information.
2. A general illustration of the zone layout throughout the states.
3. A population density of members across the North and South Carolina area. (Blue Pins indicate a current VOA member location)

This year the Carolinas Region broke down into five separate zones based on geographical area and driving distance. The concept behind the zones is reach out to places in North and South Carolina that do not have a dense population of Viper owners. We want to encourage zones to meet quarterly for luncheons and Viper gatherings to show off their cars, have fun, and invite new members into their area.

Below is a brief summary of several Zone Luncheons in the month of March:

Raleigh Luncheon - March 1st - Tribeca Tavern in Cary NC. We had approximately 20 members and guests in attendance. Although there was still residual salt on the road, several members drove their Vipers to the luncheon. Everyone was welcomed with a big surprise from Seth Green when they found out that they would be mailing letters to potential Viper owners! We had lots of fun together and look forward to the next luncheon.



Charlotte Luncheon - March 15th - Quaker Steak & Lube in Concord, NC. With over a dozen members and guests in attendance everyone had a great time at the Quaker Steak & Lube. Brittany artistically made a custom “fangs” cake for the group luncheon and just about everyone drove their Vipers to the restaurant.



Greenville Luncheon - March 29th - Quaker Stak in Greenville, SC. Three members were in attendance and they drove their Vipers to the luncheon despite the rain. Incidentally, they ran into an SRT group while they were there. The Dodge Neon owners got a kick out of seeing Vipers show up to the same location!

Look forward to the next round of Zone Luncheons coming up in the month of June. Contact your Zone Director for details!

Meet Fellow Carolina VOA Members

Al Humphries

Hometown: Garner, NC

“I am the Fixed Operations Director at Capital Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram in Garner NC, one of Chrysler’s largest volume dealerships in the Southeast. In 2012, I was awarded Mopar Master. This prestigious award is from Chrysler Corporation for being in the top 100 Parts Departments in North America. I have always been intrigued with anything that has an engine or wheels. I took my first automotive class in 9th grade and rebuilt my first engine when I was 15 years old. My first job was at age 15 and a half and I was a part-time auto parts salesman. That was the beginning of my career in the automotive industry and I am in my 33rd year to date and still going strong. I have owned many other vehicles in my lifetime but never anything like this. This is a true, street legal racecar. I found out that until you have driven one of these cars, words



can’t explain what its like to have this much power and intense handling capabilities that this vehicle has. Many years ago I received a metal sign from Chrysler. This sign had a Blue Viper GTS with white stripes. I hung this sign in my home garage in hopes to one day be fortunate enough to own a Viper just like this. March 2014 I became a proud owner of a 2006 Blue with white stripes Viper GTS and member of the VOA. My wife and I are very excited about being a part of the VOA family and look forward to the many upcoming events ahead of us this year and the years to come. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all Carolina VOA members to call or visit our dealership for special parts & service pricing and discounts. (919) 795-1841 Al Humphries.”



Kristian Ray

Hometown: North Charleston, SC

“1992 Portland Oregon International auto show is how my love with the viper started. As a bright eyed eight year old, I was running around looking at all the cars when something caught my eye. On a raised stand and surrounded by a red velvet rope, there was a brand new viper. I was blown away. It was hands down the coolest thing I have ever seen. This started several years of models and posters. Once in a while I would see one on the road, but it was very rare. After finishing school and odd jobs here and there, I decided it was time to do something with my life and I joined the Air Force. For the first several years while in the military, I filled my need for speed with sport bikes but always longed for the day I could own a viper. The dream turned into a reality after my second deployment and a long time away from home. We purchased a 2003 viper. After a couple years I got the itch for modifications and couldn’t see tearing into a perfect car, so we sold the 2003 and picked up a 700hp super-charged 2006 coupe. It’s still hard to believe that there’s a Viper in the garage. I am very fortunate to have my loving wife Emily, who likes cars and lets me live out my dreams.”

Meet Fellow Carolina VOA Members

Dugan and Nina Rossi

Hometown: Fuquay-Varina, NC

Dugan and Nina are newlyweds living in Fuquay-Varina, NC with their two pit bulls, Zoe and Dharma. Nina inherited their viper, known as 'The Juggernaut', from her older brother, Dom, who passed from brain cancer in 2013. They are truly enjoying continuing his dream of owning such an amazing, head-turning car. Dugan has always been a true lover of all things cars; he has worked in the automotive industry for nine years. Fun fact: he was officially cancer-free as of March 31! Nina works from home for a mobile app company and has always had a love for fast cars.

They are already so grateful for all the new friendships they have built through the VOA and are looking forward to all the great trips that are planned for the VOA in 2014!



Stan Weitman

Hometown: Apex, NC

"I am a retired NY State medical court reporter. A collector and seller of antique glass. I have written three books on glass. I also enjoy shooting, freshwater fishing, photography and gardening. I found my 1998 Viper RT/10 in Oregon on EBay. I wanted exclusivity, power and comfort. I drive it whenever the weather permits and enjoy showing it off.





If it fits on or in a Viper, it's at **PartsRack!** Take it from the professionals. Supporting Viper owners and the Viper community since 1996. If you are a Viper owner who is passionate about your car, who wants a no-bull approach to upgrades, maintenance or repairs, why not "share your passion" with a fellow hands-on enthusiast with over 21 years experience? Please, give Jon a call, or send him an email.

Website: <http://www.viperpartsrack.com>
 Email: partsrack@aol.com
 Phone: 360.837.3937



Carolina Viper Club members can contact **Mike Reeves**. Mike is the sales manager at Capital Chrysler Jeep Dodge in Garner. Mike is also a Viper owner, and a member of the Carolinas Viper Club.



Mike Reeves
 New Car Sales Manager
 Capital Chrysler Jeep Dodge
 Garner, NC
 Email: mreeves@capitalcjd.com
 Phone: 919-582-0202



“A personal mission: The Viper inspired Brian Kennedy at a young age.”

Article from SRT News ([link to original story on the bottom of the page](#))



When Brian Kennedy saw a photo of the Viper concept car that debuted at the 1989 Detroit Auto Show, he vowed that one day he would own a Viper. In fact, the goal of obtaining a Viper would set in motion his eventual career path. In early 1993, while still a teenager, he spied a Viper on the road for the first time and followed the Snake for miles just to get a glimpse of the car in its full splendor.

Kennedy took his first ride in a Viper in 1996 at his college graduation party, when a family friend pulled up in a 1994 Viper RT/10. His desire to purchase a Viper partly inspired him to found his personal business, a software company that keeps track of preventive and repair maintenance on vehicles. Kennedy diligently saved for two years, and in 1998 bought his first Viper, a 1994 RT/10 with 250 miles.



Fellow Vipers currently in the garage of Kennedy, now 40, include a 1996 GTS, a 1999 Viper R/T 10, a 2001 GTS and a 2006 SRT-10[®], which is one of only 16 VO19 cars ever built. Newer additions to his car collection are a 2013 SRT[®] Viper Launch Edition and a 2014 SRT Viper Time Attack. Kennedy also drives a 2014 Jeep[®] Grand Cherokee SRT[®].



“The sheer beauty of the Viper is what drew me to it,” said Kennedy. “The Viper has definitely evolved over time. I like them all. I can’t say I’d pick one over the other. The new Vipers have come such a long way. They are a supercar and the perfect driving car. It’s something that you can enjoy on a daily basis that doesn’t wear you out.”

While each of his Vipers is driven on the street, Kennedy, who hails from Pennsylvania but now resides in Raleigh, North Carolina, has an even stronger affinity for his 2013 Launch Edition. He considers that Viper his daily driver, as long as it’s not raining and he is driving alone. Kennedy has taken the Launch Edition to the race track as part of a club event, but he prefers driving his Vipers on the street versus “tracking” them. He also attends cruises and car shows throughout the North/South Carolina area with his Vipers.

“People are mesmerized by Vipers,” notes Kennedy. “It’s something you don’t see very often and that’s what I love about the Viper. They are unique and low-volume. Even when I see one driving down the road, I’m stretching my neck to look at it, because you just don’t see them around that much.”

With a wife and three children, Kennedy needed a more family-friendly vehicle. Enter the Grand Cherokee SRT, which he purchased earlier this year. Kennedy previously owned a 2006 Grand Cherokee SRT and sold that before he moved to North Carolina, three years ago.

“In its own way, the Grand Cherokee SRT is just about as much fun to drive as the Viper,” he admitted. “We actually call it our ‘Family Viper.’ When I walk out of the mall with my family it puts a smile on my face and I look forward to the drive home.”



Kennedy has become a true ambassador of the SRT brand, sharing with family and friends his experiences with his Vipers and Grand Cherokee SRT. The father of three is not the only one in his family with an SRT product. His father is the proud owner of a 2013 Dodge Challenger SRT that he picked up last summer.

“The quality of products from the SRT brand is amazing,” said Kennedy. “I’ve been so impressed with that fact over the last few years. SRT has really taken it up a notch. The SRT brand is so personal. It’s nice to be able to go to events and speak with the engineers and have engineering chat sessions on the forums. They are so accessible and it’s such a personal experience that I don’t think you get with any other car company.”



Over the years, Kennedy has made some minor modifications to his Vipers. Usually it’s just small tweaks to the exhaust or other such components. The most drastic modification he made was supercharging his 2001 GTS. No matter the year of Viper, he enjoys driving them all, and thanks to the usually mild climate in the Carolinas is able to log plenty of miles.

“Driving the Vipers really makes my day,” said Kennedy. “If I am having a bad day, and go out and drive one of those cars, it totally lightens me up and is a real pick-me-up. To hit that button and hear that engine rumbling is music to my ears. I absolutely love it. There is no other car like it in the world.”

<http://www.drivesrt.com/news/2014/02/a-personal-mission-the-viper-inspired-brian-kennedy-at-a-young-age.html>

2014 Carolinas VOA Tentative Event Schedule

May 3rd – Vipers Invade Wilmington, NC We will visit the Wilmington C&C, enjoy lunch, take a scenic cruise, and then visit a local Viper owner from Wilmington who has graciously offered us to visit and hang out and socialize at his “man cave”. **Thread Started: <http://driveviper.com/forums/threads...ington-May-3rd!>**

May 30th – June 1st – Tail of the Dragon, Gatlinburg, TN (<http://www.tailofthedragon.com/>) Please mark your calendars for one of the ultimate events of the year! We are making plans to join our Viper Club friends from Alabama / Tennessee for the annual Tail of the Dragon cruise. We had over 50 Vipers in attendance last year!!! The Tail of the Dragon is considered by many as one of the world's foremost motorcycling and sports car roads. Anyone looking for an exciting drive will enjoy this stretch of US129 with 318 curves in 11 miles! This will be a 2 or 3 day weekend event that will include other activities so please mark your calendars!

June 6th and 7th - NARRA (formerly Viper Days) – Virginia International Raceway – Alton, VA (<http://narraonline.com/>) NARRA is within reach! Anyone that wishes to attend or sign up for driving instruction, please see the NARRA website for additional information.

June 13th - 15th – Vipers Invade Charleston, SC (<http://www.patriotspoint.org/>) We will visit Charleston C&C, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, and then head over to Patriot's Point to tour the battleship, aircraft carrier and/or submarine. Then, we'll take a scenic drive to Mepkin Plantation, meet for dinner, and then possibly do some go carting! We plan to have a block of rooms reserved for Friday and Saturday night.

July 18th – 20th - Viper Owners Association National Homecoming Event, Detroit, MI Chrysler is opening the doors to the Viper plant and their other facilities to us. In addition, National has A LOT of great activities planned for this weekend as well. This is a spouse friendly event too and you won't want to miss what they have in store. Itinerary will be released soon, so mark your calendars!

August 15th -17th – Mopars at the Beach, Myrtle Beach, SC - (<http://www.moparsatthebeach.com>) Once again, Mopar Week kicks off for the third year with events in and around the Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina. Some of the locations of Mopar Week events will be Hard Rock Cafe, Hooters NMB, the Carolina Tavern, Myrtle Beach Speedway, Wheels of Yesteryear, Inlet Square Mall and other places in and around the Grand Stand area. Members are more than welcome to attend the entire Mopar Week, but the main event is on Saturday so we will focus on getting a block of rooms for Friday-Sunday.

August 23rd -24th – ALMS @ VIR - Alton, VA - (<http://virnow.com/>) Cheer on SRT's Viper GTS-R during the ALMS @ VIR races.

September – 12th -14th – Vipers slither to Biltmore!!! - Asheville, NC (<http://www.biltmore.com/>) We've had a lot of members request a repeat of this event for 2014, so we're going to deliver! The Carolina's VOA region will be hosting a grand Viper event at Biltmore! Biltmore is the largest privately owned home in the United States with over 178,000 square feet and 250 rooms! Mark your calendar now as this will be an exciting 2-3 day event you won't want to miss.

Oct. 11th -12th – Carolina Motorsports Park – (<http://www.carolinamotorsportspark.com/>) The Florida region has invited us to join them at Carolina Motorsports Park for a 2-day track event. More info to come.

November – Carolinas VOA Annual Holiday Party Location and exact date TBD.

We also have a few surprises in store for this year! 😊 As always, we welcome your input. This is YOUR club so please do not hesitate to get in touch with us regarding any comments, ideas, suggestions, etc. I hope you are looking forward to this year as much as we are! Your Carolinas VOA Team, Brian, Mike, Craig, Seth, & Chris

Miscellaneous Announcements

Have you visited the new VOA forums lately?

The VOA online forums has a dedicated area for the NC/SC Viper Club. So be sure to visit our forum in order to keep updated. We also post many photos of recent events and it is also a great place to get to know everyone.

Just go to <http://www.driveviper.com/forums> and scroll down below the VOA Regional Forums section. Click on “*Southeast*” and you will reach our *North & South Carolina* section! If it is your first time visiting, feel free to introduce yourself in our new “*Carolinas Check-In*” thread! You will need to register in order to post messages, but it is very easy....and free.



Carolinan

States: North Carolina and South Carolina

We're always looking for ideas!

We are always looking for feedback from our members. PLEASE feel free to e-mail Brian, Mike, Criag, Seth or Chris if you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas for the club. If you would like to be involved with planning or executing an event for VOA members, please let us know. We will help in any way we can and get the word out to membership!

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