

**2014**

**Memorial Day Fundraiser**

Talladega Superspeedway

Friday & Saturday, *May 23 & 24, 2014*

***- Registration Required -***

**Event Guide**

(Updated 3/16/2014)

www.Vettes4Vets.org

**Vettes-4-Vets is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization** that solely or in partnership plans, organizes, promotes, and oversees fundraising events to help support Veterans. Event proceeds are distributed to individual Veterans, select non-profit organizations, and/or entities in good standing, which help Veterans, current military personnel, and/or their family members in stress and/or need or related cause. e.g., the Vettes-4-Vets UAB Scholarship Endowment.

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**Introduction:**

**Vettes-4-Vets is a 501(c) 3 non-profit foundation.** Our vision is to help military Veterans and their family members in distress and need. We do this primarily by sponsoring fundraisers and special events for concerned patriotic citizens like you. The Talladega Superspeedway Memorial Day Weekend event is our signature fundraiser. You will discover that Vettes-4-Vets is committed to serving Veterans who have protected our freedoms and way of life.

Your participation helps our Veterans, as registration, reception, and merchandise donations go to individual and/or other 501 (c) 3 nonprofits helping and/or honoring Veterans.

This year, the recipients are:

* Three Hots and a Cot (www.cotsforvets.org)
* The V-4-V / UAB Scholarship Endowment Fund for Veterans
* Individual Veteran(s), as determined
	+ “Funding Request Form” available on website @ **www.vettes4vets.org** > Tool Chest > Distributions

**Trustees / Board of Directors:**

Vettes-4-Vets Trustees is comprised with several Corvette owners, Veterans, and patriots.

* Mark Davis President (205) 995-5663
* Jeff Williams Executive Director (205) 492-2515
* Bill Ringler Treasurer (205) ­­­­­978-2114
* John O’Malley Secretary (205) 995-8495
* Terry Truett Creative (205) 613-0024
* John Sellers Investments (205) 862-3395
* Gloria Banes Volunteers (205) 542-1221
* Dr. Brian Landry Development (205) 460-1376
* Lori Banes Social Media (205) 542-0200
* Sydney Slaughter Youth

If you are interested in serving on the Vettes-4-Vets Board of Directors, please seek out, and speak with Mark Davis during the Talladega fundraiser.

**“Show & Shine”** Friday, May 23, 2014

**Venue:** The Outlet Shops of Grand River, Leeds, AL

* Corvettes on display from 2:00 to 5:00 PM
* Vote for your favorite car ($1 per vote)
* Gift cards and Tee Shirts for prizes
* A Corvette Caravan to the Talladega Reception Area will start to form at 5:00 PM and leave once all drivers are in position.

The “Show & Shine” is open to all Corvette drivers attending Vettes-4-Vets fundraiser who want to bring out their cars and show them off to the public. The Outlet Shops of Grand River will provide dedicated parking within the shopping and covered pavilion for participants. Drivers will be directed where to park their vehicle. There will be a staffed courtesy table in the pavilion. As display space is limited, please register to participate in the “Show & Shine” event. Registration will be done through email.

**Best In Show:**

* The public will have the opportunity to vote for their three favorite Corvettes.
* Each $1.00 donated to help Veterans allows the donor to cast their vote.
* Those who donate are entered into a drawing for a chance to win prizes.
* Each driver of the three favorite Corvettes will also win a prize.
* Patriotic, hand-drawn Flag Prints, “Daddy’s Honor” available for purchase.
* Meet our 2014 “Miss Vettes-4-Vets”, Sydney Slaughter

*Sydney Slaughter was recently crowned Miss Shelby County’s Outstanding Teen 2013. The*

*preliminary title is part of the Miss America Organization’s Program for teenage girls ages 13-16.*

**Special Thank You!**

We appreciate The Outlet Shops of Grand River’ssponsorship of our event and hope that it becomes an integral part of the event for years to come.  Please come out and patronize The Outlet Shops of Grand River.

**Address & Directions:** The Outlet Shops of Grand River

 6200 Grand River Blvd East

 Leeds, AL 35094

The Outlet Shops of Grand River is located at Exit 140 along the I-20

corridor between Birmingham and Atlanta in historic Leeds, Alabama,

just minutes from Downtown Birmingham and Highway 280.

**Directions:**

2 hours from Atlanta, GA

Take I-20W, Exit 140, Merge onto US 78 West. Turn right onto Grand River Parkway.

2 hours from Chattanooga, TN
Take I-24W to I-59S, Merge onto I-459, then I-20E, Exit 140, on the right.

4 hours from Nashville, TN
Take I-65S, Exit 261A, Then I-59N, Merge onto I-20E, Exit 140, on the right. Turn right onto Grand River Parkway.

4.5 hours from Gulf Shores, AL
Take Hwy 287 to I-65N, Travel to I-459N, then I-20E, Exit 140, on the right.

**Host Hotel:**

**Holiday Day Inn Express**

Peachtree Hotel Group

240 Vaughan Lane

Pell City, Al 35125

(205) 884-0047

***\**** *In order to get the discount rate when making reservations, be sure to say you are with*

 *“Vettes-4-Vets”.*

*Directions:*

I-20 West from Atlanta to exit 158, turn right and go to 2nd traffic light and take a right. At the 4-way stop, take a right. Hotel is located next door to Cracker Barrel.

I-20 East from Birmingham to exit 158, turn left and go to 2nd traffic light and take a right. At the 4-way stop, take a right. Hotel is located next door to Cracker Barrel.

**Veterans Appreciation Reception /** Friday, May 24, 2014

The Veterans Appreciation Reception will be held at the Talladega Superspeedway, Talladega, AL in the Event Hall adjacent to the NASCAR Museum.

**Proposed Agenda**

**6:00 PM - People Arrive**

* T-Shirt Pick Up
* Museum Opens to V4V participants
* Information Desk (Jeff Williams to staff and answer attendee questions)

**6:30 PM - Program Begins**

* Welcome / Thank You
* Who and what V-4-V does
* V-4-V (money raised, organizations supported, etc.)
* Video team about to make V-4-V DVD

**6:40 PM - Salute to Veterans**

* Read Statement Saluting Veterans
* Introduce Iwo Jima Reenactment Squad
* Iwo Jima Reenactment (Ask audience to rise)
* Pledge of Allegiance (Audience, lead by Mark Davis)
* Iwo Jima Retires Colors

**6:50 PM - General Introductions**

* Honored guests (Veterans/military personnel)
* Organizations (encourage people to visit organization tables)
* V4V Board
* Raffles (stress fundraising)

**7:00 PM - Present Entertainers**

* Entertainment
* 7:15 PM Ms. Vettes-4-Vets Ceremony
* Entertainment

**7:30 PM - Raffles and Drawings Announcements**

**8:00 PM - Closing Comments**

* Review Track Day activities in brevity (more detail at drivers’ meetings)
* Thank You
* After Hour Party at Hotel
* Drive safely
* Entertainment

**Veterans Appreciation Reception** *(cont’d)*

Those going to the Friday night reception can park in the parking lot behind the NASCAR Museum. Access to the parking lot and Museum starts at 4:00 PM.

The Museum has a gift shop worth visiting, but it closes at 5:00 PM sharp.  If you want NASCAR memorabilia, please be sure to patronize the Museum Gift Shop.  The shop will be open on Sunday for those who are staying over.

Upon arrival of the Corvette Caravan, fun & fellowship begins in the parking lot from 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM; perfect time to meet friends, make new ones, and meet the Vettes-4-Vets Team.

**Reception Menu:**

This year’s menu is barbeque, provided by **Country’s BBQ** http://www.countrysbarbecue.com

There will also be a cash-bar during the reception.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

*To drive responsively, one must drink responsively. Safety is paramount.*

**Festivities & Entertainment:**

In addition, several raffles will add to the excitement. You can pick up your prepaid, collectable Memorial Day Event tee-shirt(s) at the reception. Order early at www.vettes4vets.org to get the size(s) you want at a discount. On-site purchases are available both Friday and Saturday while supplies last.

**Volunteers:**

* Sign In at the “Volunteer Check-In” table at the Friday evening Reception or in the Security Building at Track Entrance on Saturday morning. (Contact **Gloria Banes @ 205-542-1221**)
* Pick up your T-Shirt and Meal Ticket
* Confirm your Assignment(s)

**Talladega Superspeedway Track Day** / Saturday, May 24, 2014

**Address and Directions:**

3366 Speedway Blvd

Lincoln, AL 35096

From Downtown Birmingham, AL

East on I-20E/I-59N toward Atlanta

Exit 168, then right onto AL-77

Left onto Co Rd 399/Speedway Blvd

Go ~ 3 miles, Talladega entrance is on right.

From Atlanta, GA

West on I-20W, Exit 173 toward Eastaboga

Left onto Co Rd 5/Co Rd 93/John N Wills Ave

Continue on Co Rd 399/Speedway Blvd for .5 mile

Talladega entrance is on left.

From Nashville, TN

South on I-65 toward Birmingham

Exit 261A, merge left onto I-20E/I-59N

Exit 168, then right onto AL-77

Left onto Co Rd 399/Speedway Blvd

Go ~ 3 miles, Talladega entrance is on right.

From Gulf Shores, AL

Travel North on I-65 toward Birmingham

Exit 173 for North Blvd toward US-231

Merge onto AL-152E/Northern Blvd

Take the US-231N/AL-21N ramp to Wetumpka/Maxwell AFB/Gunter Annex

Keep left at the fork and follow signs for US 231N/AL-21N

Left onto AL-21N/Cong W L Dickinson Dr

Continue to follow AL-21N onto AL-275N

Left onto Co Rd 326/Jackson Trace Rd

Right onto Co Rd 399/Speedway Blvd

Go ~ 3 miles, Talladega entrance is on right.

**REGISTRATION: There are only 500 registrations slots available.**

Each registration will be a single 5-lap, paced session.  Each session will last approximately 12 minutes. This year, we should be complete with pre-sold sessions about 4:30 allowing for 30 minutes of additional runs to give rides to staff and military personnel.

**Drivers:**

Drivers can start lining up at 7:00 AM in one of the several lines at the main entrance staffed by Vettes-4-Vet gate attendants. Drivers are required to sign-in and sign “On track” and “Indemnity” waivers, per Talladega Superspeedway and insurance requirements. Everyone will receive their official participant wrist band for the event, and proceed to enter the staging area through the tunnel. Drivers must be wearing their wrist band and have their windshield ID stickers on the windshields before entering the staging area.

**We will have a registration table outside the front gate area, where drivers can pick-up their window decals and car numbers.**

**There will be an information table inside the garage area for those that want to do on-site registration or we don’t have their information at the front gate for any reason.**

**Track Day:**

* Registration Table opens and Line-up to Sign Up starts at 7:00 AM
* Gate Opens about 8:00 AM to let drivers and visitors into the track
* Driver’s Meetings at 8:30 AM (Jeff will use the PA system for this meeting)
* Morning Track sessions start at 9:00 AM and run until 12:00 PM
* National Anthem, 50/50 Drawing and Recognition Ceremony during lunch break
* Afternoon Track sessions start at 1:00 PM and run until 5:00 PM

**Entrance Lanes:**

There will be 5 lanes at the entrance (Lane 1 will be farthest to your right)

Lane 1 – Cars 1-60

Lane 2 – Cars 61-120

Lane 3 – Cars 121-180

Lane 4 – Cars 181 and up

Lane 5 – Cars without an assigned number

**Garage Assignments:**

Upon entering the track, follow the road/signs to the garage area.  You will be informed to your assigned garage.  Those of you in the first two sessions will line-up at the gate to the pit road area.  Staff will direct you to the correct parking area.  The rest will line-up in and behind the garage.  You are not being assigned a spot for the whole day.  For the afternoon sessions, you will be in a different spot. Please stay with your group if you can.

**Driver Meetings:**

The drivers’ meeting will be short and sweet. It will be held at 8:30 AM for the morning groups of cars heading out. A staff member will provide drivers with additional information in the paddock area, and answer any questions.  A second drivers’ meeting will be held at 12:55 PM for the afternoon groups of cars, if needed.  This is not the time to ask questions.  Please ask questions before the event, via email or telephone.

**Track Sessions:**

* The first session enters the Superspeedway track at 9:00 AM, and from that point on each session goes out as soon as the previous session comes in.
* Only the lead and rear safety vehicles and the current 15 car session will be on the track at any given time.
* Spotters will be in contact with the safety vehicle crews at all times.
* If a session is short (less than 15 cars), we will ask drivers from another session to volunteer to fill up the short session.

**Extra Laps**

Upon completion of scheduled run sessions, if there is track time left, the open sessions will be available to drivers at $25 each. The open sessions are used to give veterans, active military and staff rides.

**Photo Opportunities**

There will be two main photo opportunities.  The first will be on-track.  In your first session, as you drive through the tri-oval area, a photographer will shoot your car.  In your second session, you will be directed through Victory Lane, where a photographer will take your picture.  You will be able to view and purchase your picture inside the track in the Goodyear building.  The photographer also has a web site where you can purchase them at a later date.

**Food & Beverages TO BE DETERMINED**

There will be hamburgers and hot dogs for sale in the paddock area.  This year, the soft drinks will be 20 oz. bottles. All proceeds go to help our Veterans.

* Hamburgers $3
* Hot Dogs $2
* Soft Drinks $2
* Water $2
* Chips $1 for two bags

**Special Mini-Events**

* Favorite Vette/Car
* 50/50 Drawing

**“Best of Show” Contest**

During the day, Staff-members will circulate and pick their overall favorite three cars. The drivers of the first five placing cars will receive an award. Winners announced at the 12:00 PM drivers’ meeting.  Participants may also vote for their favorite cars by ballot.  The ballots will be available at the tee shirt stand.

You can purchase your 50/50 tickets Friday night and until noon Saturday. Raffle tickets are:

1 for $1

6 for $5

15 for $10

25 for $20

The drawing will be held at the 12:30 PM drivers’ meeting on Saturday.

**Vettes-4-Vets Volunteers:**

Volunteers are key to the success of the Talladega fundraising event and are needed to support Vettes-4-Vets personnel during the following:

* **Show & Shine at The Outlet Shops of Grand River,** Friday afternoon, May 23
* **Veterans Appreciation Reception,** Friday evening, May 23
* **Talladega Track Day,** Saturday, May 24

Volunteers are assigned to various activities, such as:

* Front gate
* Parking area
* Garage area
* Assembly area
* Sign-in table
* T-Shirt table
* Merchandise table
* Food service
* Hospitality team
* Set-up team
* Tear down team

Volunteers receive the satisfaction of knowing their efforts help Veterans by contributing to the success of the fundraiser. In addition, Volunteers receive the following:

1. Event T-Shirt
2. Free meal at Reception
3. Free meal at Track
4. Free track session as a passenger in a Corvette

**Volunteer Check-In:**

Volunteers will receive an email prior to the event, showing their assignment(s).

There will be a “Volunteer Check-In” table set up at the Reception on Friday evening for Volunteers to sign in, pick up t-shirt and meal ticket.

If you will be arriving Saturday morning, Volunteers must come to the Security Building at the Track Entrance to sign in, pick up t-shirt and meal ticket.

Those who wish to volunteer should contact Gloria Banes, Volunteer Coordinator and/or go to **www.Vettes4Vets.org** to download and complete the Volunteer Application. Gloria can be reached at (205) 542-1221 or **gmbanes@gmail.com**.

*Talladega Superspeedway*

**RULES and REGULATIONS**

**SAFETY FIRST AND ALWAYS /** Obey the rules at all times

“Violators will be asked to leave the track”

**General Talladega Superspeedway Rules**:

1. **No alcohol or illegal substances allowed on the premises**.
2. **Pedestrians have the right-of-way at all times.**
3. Drive on authorized roads only; we do not have access to the whole infield.
4. Pay attention to posted speed limits, most are idle only.
5. Park in authorized areas only, violators may be towed at owner’s expense.
6. Do not litter…anywhere! ☺
7. The safety crew’s word is final, no exception and, no ifs, ands, or buts.
8. **The safety crew has the legal authority to have you arrested**, under no circumstance argue with Talladega staff.

**On Track Rules**:

1. **Do not pass the safety vehicle leading the session group FOR ANY REASON.**
2. If you have a problem, do not stop on the track, pull below the yellow line on the straight-aways and try to make your way to the pit road, if possible.
3. If you have to make an emergency stop, do so only below the yellow line and, do not get out or exit your vehicle unless well off the driving surface below the yellow line.
4. **Maintain a minimum speed of 70 miles per hour at all times.**
5. **Maximum authorized speed is 100 miles per hour.**
6. Maintain a safe distance between you and the car in front of you.
7. Do not pass the vehicle in front of you as long as it is on the track.
8. Stay above the yellow line on the track in the corners.
9. Stay out of the top lane of the track to avoid debris on track.
10. Drive responsibly at all times.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

 **1.   Will my insurance cover my car if it is damaged on the track?**

a.  Most policies do not, check with your insurance agent to be sure.  Just be careful.

 **2.  Do I need a roll cage or special racing equipment in my car?**

a.  No, this is “highway speeds”.  There is no need for any additional safety equipment.  If your car is DOT approved, it will be fine.

 **3.  Do I need a helmet or fire suit?**

a. No, just wear your seatbelt.  Long pants, shorts, bikinis, etc. are all approved attire.

  **4.  Can I take passengers with me on the track?**

a.  Yes, as long as they are in a seat and are wearing a seatbelt.  There is no age minimum for passengers, but drivers must be 18 years of age.

 **5.  Will there be a place to watch the cars?**

a. Yes, there is an air conditioned building with some chairs, plenty of shaded space in the garage area, and lots of open areas to set-up chairs.  There is also an observation tower that is great for taking pictures and videos.

 **6.  Can I bring friends and family in other cars that won’t be getting on the track?**

a. Yes, they will have to sign a copy of the track waiver too. They can come into the infield and park in a separate parking lot.  They will have access to the garage areas, but won’t be able to drive unless they have a wrist band.

 **7.  Can I bring an RV and spend the night at the track?**

a.  No, we only have access to the track the day of the event.

 **8.  Is there a place to park my trailer?**

a. Yes, there is plenty of space for trucks and trailers.

 **9.  How many track packages can I get?**

a.  As many as you want.

**10.  Will there be time at the end for me to buy additional laps?**

a. Typically yes, but we have to wait and see once the scheduled sessions are complete.  If there is time, we ask drivers to give rides to our staff-members. At this time you can purchase additional laps for $25 each.

**11.  Do I need to pre-purchase the Friday night tickets?**

a. Yes, all the tickets must be pre-purchased on-line at (www.vettes4vets.com) to ensure the appropriate amount of food and beverages are available.  Sorry, there are no on-site ticket purchases.

**12.   What is a window sticker and why are you using them?**

a. The window stickers are static clings that are numbered.  Each registered package will receive one sticker with a unique number on it.

b.  Place this on the driver’s side of the inside of the front windshield of your car so it is visible to staff members.

c. You will be identified by this decal and your place on the track and in the garage will be reserved.

d. If you purchase more than one package, and you intend on using the same car for both packages, then display both decals, and you will ensure your spot on the track for each session.  Please let Jeff Williams know your intentions, so he can schedule your sessions far enough apart so you have plenty of time to join your next session group.

e.    The sticker peels off easily and kept as a “Badge of Honor.”

**13. Is there a speed limit on the track?**

a.    Yes, the pace car will be traveling an estimated 90 MPH.

b.    Session drivers must stay above 70 MPH while on the track.

c.    You are NOT to stop or slow down to make room for higher speeds on the track.

d.    Keep the car in front of you visible at all times and maintain a safe speed and distance.

e.    Watch your mirrors for the car behind you.

**14. What if I want to go really fast and the driver in front of me is a slow poke?**

a.  First of all, your idea of “really fast” might be someone else’s idea of “slow poking it.”  Safety First!   Remember, if you intentionally hold back so you can go really fast, the pace car will slow down.  They are there to keep you and the other drivers safe.

b.  I have been on this track a lot and believe me, it is a lot more fun to maintain a good speed through the corners than to have to stop because the person in the car in front of you is trying to race down the back stretch and beat his buddy’s top speed.  I have had to stop in the corners for this very reason, and that is not fun or safe.

c. If you leave plenty of room between the car in front of you, there should be no problem accelerating out of the turns, and get some good speed on the back straight.

d. Just remember to let off so you don’t run down the car in front of you going into the next turn.  The “accordion effect” is much worse at high speeds on the track than it is on the interstate.  Remember; give yourself room on the track.  We all want to have a good time and go home in the same shape we arrived.

**15. What do I do between my sessions?**

a. With over 250 cars and 500 sessions, there will be about 4 hours between your first run and your second run.  Take this time to walk around and get to know the other car owners, grab a bite to eat, get something to drink, watch the other cars run, take pictures and/or video, enjoy the day.  Remember, we will be having a car show all day, and giving out awards for the top five “favorite” cars; so be sure to clean up your baby.

**16. If there is time and I buy additional laps at the track, can I let someone else drive my car?**

a. Are you crazy!  Why would you let someone else drive your car?  Nevertheless, you can let anyone you want drive your car, as long as they are over 18 years old, have a valid driver’s license, and a wrist band. Please have that person purchase the additional laps personally so they will get the appropriate wrist band.

**Jeff Williams /** Executive Director / Vettes-4-Vets / 701 Percy Drive / Deatsville, AL 36022

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