

# Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The Talepipe Newsletter



APRIL 2018

President: John Doria; Vice President: Arthur Armstrong; Treasurer: Richard Wetherby;  
Secretary: Jean Doyle; Directors: Elizabeth Byrne, William Simmons, Gary Swanson;  
Newsletter Editor: Jean Doyle (with a little help from Ed)

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at T.G.I. FRIDAYS, located on the corner of Granada Avenue and A1A in Ormond Beach. We invite you to dine with us (Dutch treat) at 5:30 PM, and stay for the meeting, which begins at 7:00.

## Coming Up

**SATURDAY DOTR FOR APRIL:** April Showers bring May flowers, but we hope the rain will stay away while we have lunch on the deck at J.B.'s Fish Camp in New Smyrna Beach. This was a popular spot with the Cruisers the last time we had lunch here, so we are going to do it again, but this time on a **SATURDAY**, April 7<sup>th</sup>. We will leave from Sunshine Park Mall at 10:45 a.m.



For an added treat, since that Saturday is also Gary Swanson's birthday and the Swanson's live a stone's throw from J.B.'s, they have graciously invited anyone who wishes, to stop by their home after lunch for ice cream and cake. Thank you, Gary, for having a birthday on our DOTR day!!

**READY, SET, PUTT.....**April means it's time for our annual miniature golf tournament.

Come on out, enjoy the ocean breezes, and have a little fun. Round 1 begins on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at Congo River on A1A in Daytona Beach Shores. Meet at the course at 7:00 p.m. The rules will be handed out at that time, and the schedule can be found on the club's calendar.



Remember, you do not have to be a good golfer (few of us are) to compete in a friendly little rivalry on the golf course. And the best part of the evening just might be the trip to the ice cream parlor after the game. Even if you feel you can't commit to all 6 rounds (only 4 are needed to compete), play what you can, even if it's just a game or two. We play for fun.....the competition is just an added bonus. Round 2 will take place on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at Pirate's Cove on A1A in Ormond Beach, and Round 3 will be played on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at Pirates Island on A1A in Port Orange, and Round 4 is back at Congo River on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Some courses offer us group rates but watch local publications for coupons. You may wear your club shirt if you choose, but it is not mandatory. However, a Corvette shirt of some type should be worn.

**PICNIC TIME:** Come one, come all to the annual Bar-B-Que picnic on Saturday, April 28th at Reed Canal Park in South Daytona. The



picnic will again be catered by Dustin's, who won the hearts and stomachs of the Corvette Cruisers in the past. The picnic will run from 11:00 to 2:00, so throw some chairs in the car and come on out and enjoy this FREE dinner on the club. How often do you hear the words "free" and "dinner" in the same sentence? (Directions: If you are coming from the south, enter the parking lot off of Nova Road on the right just PAST the lake. If you are coming from the north, drive PAST Reed Canal Road and make a U-turn on Nova, since Nova is a divided road at this point. (DO NOT turn onto Reed Canal Rd.) Enter the parking lot on the right PAST the lake. Pavilion #1 is at the end of the parking lot on the left. Club shirts are NOT required. Dress comfortably. Alcohol of any kind is not permitted in the park. Sweetened and unsweetened tea will be available. John will be taking a count of those planning to attend.

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:** If you are planning to attend the Ponce Inlet Vettes at the Light Car Show on May 5<sup>th</sup>, you must submit your reservation before the end of April. The forms can be obtained from their website at [www.picorvetteclub.com](http://www.picorvetteclub.com). Cost is \$35 early registration and includes a tee shirt, a reduced rate tour of the lighthouse, and a door prize ticket. We had two winners from our club last year, so sign up your car and let's try for more this year. C6 and C7 class divisions are by coupes and convertibles, which is different than previous years. The show runs from 10-2.

# Announcements

Perhaps you are unaware of the changes in the tax codes enacted recently by our state government. One major change that affects us is that taxes will now be imposed on all clubs and organizations, no matter what the size. This will dramatically affect us even though we have a non-profit status. To combat this unfair decision and let our voices be heard, several of our club members have decided to join with some other Corvette clubs and groups in Florida for a trip to Tallahassee to protest this decision. Buses have been contracted and will leave from the Speedway about 7:30 a.m. Ideally, the trip would take place on April 15<sup>th</sup>, tax day, but because of logistics in organizing, and the fact that the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday, the protest has been scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to go, please let Jean know. A box lunch from Honey Baked Ham will be available to all participants. More specific details will be forthcoming at the April meeting and the May Newsletter.

# Reviews

**DINNER NIGHT OUT:** On Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, ten hungry club members met in the early evening at Kohl's in Port Orange for a scenic drive to Sinatra's Ristorante in Cassadaga. Four Corvettes, a new F-150, and a vintage Camaro arrived at the restaurant to find a beautiful 1960 Corvette parked there as well. That meant that Lenny and Patsy drove in from Crescent City and would be joining Bill & Evelyn, Bob &

Linda, John & Sally, Bill G., Richard W., and Gary & Cindy for dinner. Our group of twelve was just the right size for conversation, and we were able to get to know Lenny and Patsy a little better. It was a gorgeous evening, and everyone seemed to enjoy their Italian dishes and the ambiance of the old hotel that houses the restaurant. As far as we know, no one got their palms read though! (Photos by John D.)

**Submitted by Gary Swanson**

**TOM GIBBS DISPLAY:** Sorry to report that



there is nothing to report. In my absence, my correspondents let me down. Perhaps we will have information next month on the outcome of the Tom Gibbs Corvette and Camaro Display.

**DOTR TO MT. DORA:** What a beautiful day to take a drive in a Corvette! Blue skies, low to mid 70's, not much traffic on the roads – a perfect day to take in Mt. Dora. Led by Rick Demichina in the first group, and John Doria in the second group, we were in for a bit of a surprise to learn that Mt. Dora was having a festival. (Don't they always??) Thinking that the restaurant had a parking lot, twelve Corvettes turned into a hilly, gravelly, dusty lot only to find out it was only available to vendors. Ugh!! Drivers' skills were tested turning around and making their way out of the tight lot, trying to find a spot on the street. Apparently, everyone was accounted for as we made our way to the restaurant from all different directions. Our tangerine shirts sure came in handy finding everyone in the festival crowds. A bright sunny little area was set up for us at 'Pisces Rising,' a trendy little eatery with tables

for four overlooking Lake Dora through a menagerie of windows. A Sunday brunch and the regular lunch menu were both offered. Some of the entries were indeed unique, (ex: a sliced plantain instead of the usual bun for a sandwich; a concoction of pork, lamb, and beef in a tortilla wrap.) After lunch, several walked around the town to visit the shops and the street vendors. Enjoying the day, the drive, and the dining were Liz, Edie, Gary, Cindy, Sally, Bill N., Evelyn, Bill G., Bill S., Richard, Bob, Linda, Rick M., Sheila, Tom. Sandie, Ed and Jean, along with our trip leaders John D. and Rick. (Photos by Richard and John D.)

**NATIONAL PARTS DEPOT VISIT:** On Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, Gary and Cindy, Edie, Liz, Rick D. Ken Hawes, Bill N. and Evelyn, and Ed and Jean set out to Ocala to enjoy a tour of a private collection of truly classic cars. When we arrived at the location, we were happy to see Lenny and Patsy waiting for us in the parking lot. NPD is a mail order company, so inside the doors we were greeted by a few display cars, a long counter and several desks and lots of catalogues. But a few steps into the area behind the front counters was a showroom that is hard to describe. Well over 200 classic cars of most all makes and models were neatly parked side by side. Each car in the collection had a story to tell and Larry, our knowledgeable guide, knew every one of them. What an experience!! Some of the comments by our members included, "Unbelievable," "Overwhelming," "Amazing," "Something Else," along with several "OMG's" along the way. A few of the most memorable (at least to me) were the 100 millionth and the 300 millionth Ford production car; cars with unique options like the first removeable hardtop; a car owned by Nelson Rockefeller; original Indy and Daytona pace cars; an original Trans

Am presented to Burt Reynolds exactly like the one he drove in "Smokey and the Bandit," (the first of five presented to him replicating the five used in the film); a Ford GT; a car auctioned for charity and autographed by such notables as Lucille Ball, Mohammed Ali, the Rat Pack, Ed Asner, Mary Tyler Moore, Valerie Harper, Fess Parker, and many, many more Hollywood stars. This collection was certainly not brand specific. There were Fords, Chevys, Mustangs, Mercuries, Lincolns, Cadillacs, Pontiacs, Porsches, a Bentley, just to name a few, but interestingly, only 3 Corvettes. Once we finished touring the main showroom, Larry took us to his work area where we were amazed to see many more cars, each and every one with a uniqueness unparalleled (and a story to go with them). It would take days to look at each one and read about it. Also, along with the cars, the walls were lined with display cases of other collectibles such as cameras, diecast cars, posters, including an autographed poster of everyone who worked on the first Ford Mach 1. So much to look at and take in. But eventually, our feet were hurting and our stomachs were growling as we said goodbye with a huge thank you to Larry for this wonderful opportunity that is not open to the public. We then followed the suggestion from Sandie VonKutzelben, one of our new members, to try Brick City Southern Kitchen for lunch. Thank you, Sandie, for the great choice. Bar-B-Q was the specialty of the house and everyone raved about the great food...a wonderful ending to a wonderful day. Many thanks go to Gary Swanson for arranging this trip and for being the leader of the pack. It will be a tour we won't soon forget.

(Photos are by Jean who always forgets to include people in her shots,)

**SPRING TURKEY RUN:** If you could pick the best day you could possibly imagine as far



as weather was concerned, then it would surely be the day we had on Saturday for the Spring Turkey Run.

Sunny, but not hot or humid – good parking in the infield, right in the

middle of the food vendors and the show cars, not too far away from the prize patrol---just an all-around perfect day. Sadly, we missed the "bunny girl," who wasn't there celebrating her birthday as in years past when she invited us to partake in her birthday celebration of a catered feast. But other than that, Mike Mills, Gary Swanson, Pat and Sandy Cassella, Will Masotta, Rick Demichina and a friend, Bill Neway, Bill Simmons and Bonita Richardson, Bob and Linda Wolff, Bud Mullennix, John and Sally Doria and Ed and Jean Doyle spent the better part of the day at the Speedway enjoying the sights, sounds, smells and tastes. Several others attended on Friday, and no doubt, some will attend on Sunday. Most (but not all) followed the directions in the Newsletter to wear the tangerine club shirts on Saturday, but I won't mention any names. In the door prize department, our club fared pretty well. Winning door prizes were Bob Wolff (always a winner), Rick Minor (who was there on Friday and wisely left his ticket with someone), and Jean Doyle who all picked up some pretty nice freebies. Rumor has it that Will Masotta found (and bought) a really sharp 2000 Magnetic Red Convertible. We shall soon see if the rumor becomes reality. Gary ran into Ted Vernon of South Beach Classics looking over the offerings. He brought 12 cars of his own with him to hopefully unload.



Although the Spring Turkey Run (about 1300+ cars) is about 1/4<sup>th</sup> the size of the Fall Turkey Run (5000+ cars), the smaller venue is sometime preferred in order to see more and not be so overwhelming. (Photos by John D.)

it was the only logical decision. Sometimes, it seems the weather reports go overboard and may end up being a lot of hype, but it's just something one never knows. The safety of our members is of utmost importance.

No meeting, no \$50/50.

## This & That

You might have remembered that this month begins with April Fool's Day. Was there an article that had you scratching your head? Did you think for one minute the Corvette Cruisers were heading to the capitol to protest? Perhaps the only thing we might wish to protest is the cost of a new Corvette. And no, there is no tax being imposed on small clubs. Gotcha... APRIL FOOL!!!



Joanna Oswald is sporting a different Corvette these days. She traded in her yellow 2016 C7 for a beautiful crystal red 2011 C6. With Steve being such a tall guy, they discovered there is much more leg room in the C6.

Happy Birthday wishes for April go to Bill Geize on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sheila Minor on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Gary Swanson on the 7<sup>th</sup>, Mary Mullennix on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and Bill Simmons on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ken and Jamie Hawes will be celebrating an anniversary this month. Congratulations!!

Our March meeting was the first time I can recall that a meeting has been cancelled. Tornadoes in the area, torrential rain and hail predicted, watches and warnings all day long –

If you are a fan of **My Classic Cars** on the Velocity channel, you might be interested to know that Dennis Gage filmed an episode at the drive-in Christian Church in Daytona during the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Day of the Duels. The episode will air on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. on the Velocity Channel, so you may wish to set your DVRs, especially if you were there. You may have made a cameo appearance without realizing it.

Did you know that there is a logo-embroidered shirt/cap/sweatshirt/jacket order form in our Members' Only Section? Check it out, look it over, and if you want any of the club apparel in your choice of colors and styles, print the order form and give it to John Doria. You will need the ID and Password to get to it, as with anything in our Members' Only section.

## The Fun Corner

If you don't look back at your car after you park it, you own the wrong car.



# Corvette Chatter

**ALL ROADS LEAD TO KENTUCKY.... for the 25th Anniversary of the Corvette.** When we first started talking about this, the year 2019 seemed so far off in the distance that nobody paid much attention. But 2019 will be here before we know it and NOW is the time to make your plans if you want to join the thousands of Corvettes from all over the country descend on Bowling Green, Kentucky for the anniversary celebration of the National Corvette Museum. Hosted only once every five years, the 2019 event will also mark the Museum's 25th Anniversary. Remember that the Florida Caravan delegation starts in Daytona Beach. Hotel reservation information and all other information can be found on our website. From our Home Page, click on the last item on the left side, then click on the state of Florida.

**LAWSUIT #4:** The C7 Corvette Z06's overheating woes continue. The last week of February, General Motors was served a fourth lawsuit alleging the high-performance Corvette is plagued with cooling system defects, and that the automaker was aware of them. GM previously addressed the matter in 2016 and said the 2017 Corvette Z06 would "boast improvements to remedy the situation." Flashback, the sports car was unable to complete a lap at the 2015 *Motor Trend* "Best Driver's Car," and the cooling system was one of many issues that day. At the time, GM said less than 5 percent of Corvette Z06s may exhibit overheating issues. But, the lawsuit says otherwise. The lawsuit states over 30,000 cars exhibit overheating issues, which causes the car

to enter a "limp mode" to protect itself from further damage. Most owners complained that the Z06 overheats within 15 minutes of track driving, though some claim the issues has occurred at freeway speeds on public roads. Lawyers argue this puts drivers of the car in an unsafe situation. Lawyers representing the plaintiffs will seek reimbursement for owners who have purchased aftermarket parts in an attempt to fix the cooling system defects and costs for those who have taken their cars to dealerships for what the lawsuit called "futile repairs."

## From the Archives



It's time for the Golf Tournament and here we are preparing to make up the rain date in the 2016 series. I think everybody can be identified as all are still in the club. Come on out and join us for a little fun and some friendly competition as we putt our way to victory and an ice cream reward.

# Photo of the Month

(as seen on the Home Page)

Yep, another barn find, or should we say garden find. This rare 1956 was found just outside Muncy PA, and after some haggling with the owner, was sold to local Corvette fancier Kim Walker. It seems the car was purchased in 1957 by the original owner and was used as daily transportation until 1972. It still wears the original Venetian Red with Polo White exterior paint and beige interior. It is equipped with a three-speed manual and a 265-cubic-inch engine. Walker doesn't know which of the three engine options lay under the hood because he didn't want to open it, which meant removing all the vegetation growing on it. That was part of the appeal when he displayed it at Corvettes of Carlisle. His wife watered the car every day before the show so that none of it died off. The front of the car has a modified opening, which he told us, was done by the owner who liked to dabble with mild customizing. It was parked at some point in 1972, next to his garage where it slowly sank into the ground until early August 2017.



