

Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The Talepipe Newsletter



December, 2015

President: John Doria, Vice President/Treasurer: Richard Wetherby, Secretary: Jean Doyle,
Directors: Arthur Armstrong, Bob Fritz, David Huber, Jim Quinn
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.



**HO HO, HO - IT'S
TIME TO PARTY:** Come
celebrate the culmination
of another great year for
our members at the annual
Christmas Banquet on

Tuesday evening, **December
8th** at Halifax Plantation in
Ormond Beach. Happy hour

begins at 6:00 p.m. with a cash bar. Dinner will be served beginning around 6:30. By now you have made your entrée selection, decided what to wear, and sent your check to Richard. So now, the only thing left is to make sure you can find your way. Ormond Beach residents probably know their own way, but for those coming from Daytona Beach and places to the south, here are the directions: Take I-95 N to Exit 278 (Old Dixie Highway). Turn right at the end of the ramp. Proceed 1.8 miles and take a

right onto Monaghan Drive into Halifax Plantation. Take the first right onto Halifax Clubhouse Drive, which dead ends at the Clubhouse. Parking is on left and right side.

AND, please don't forget to share the richness of your life with those a little less fortunate by bringing some nonperishable food or paper items with you to be donated to the Family Renew Center in Ormond Beach.

It would be a wonderful present if all the members could be present.

KEEP THE SPIRIT FLOWING....with the car show and boat parade in New Smyrna Beach on Saturday, **December 12.** We will meet at 1:15 p.m. in the parking lot at Kohl's Department Store on Taylor Road in Port Orange. Leaving early is essential to get a good parking spot all together on a very crowded Canal Street.

....**AND STILL MORE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**....when we visit the Casements to see the beautiful Christmas trees and decorations at the winter home of John D. Rockefeller. A 10:00 a.m. tour is planned just for us on Thursday, **December 17th**. Let's meet at Bealls (corner of Williamson and Granada) at 9:30 a.m. and proceed as a group. Lunch will follow at Peach Valley Café on beachside. Members, please wear your tangerine club shirts. If you aren't in the holiday spirit after this adventure, there is no hope for you.

ELECTION RESULTS: Congratulations to our new Board of Directors. Bill Geize will join incumbents Bob Fritz and Dave Huber to complete the slate of officers for 2016-2017. They will join John Doria as President, Arthur Armstrong as Vice President, Mickey Fritz as Secretary, and Richard Wetherby as Treasurer. Congratulations to all! We will be expecting some great direction from our new leaders.

A BIG WELCOME goes out to Rick and Sheila Minor, Wayne and Tina Cantrell, Rick Demichina and Gloria Renneker, and Ken and Jamie Hawes who have shown an interest in becoming members. Thanks for looking us over, and we hope you like what you see. We look forward to seeing you at future events.

GOODBYE TO OLD FRIENDS: The following members did not renew their memberships for the 2016 year. We enjoyed knowing them, and we wish them well in their future endeavors.

Amy Anderson - sold Corvette
Jack Kiember and Yvonne Mandley - sold Corvette

Harry Horchler - moving to TN
Sandra Gatz - plans to sell Corvette

Warren Brasch - Inactivity
Chuck Konopsky - Inactivity

Hopefully, they will visit whenever the opportunity arises and know that they are always welcome.

A FLASHBACK TO THE PAST: A very interesting yet strange cast of characters invaded the home of Bob and Mickey Fritz on the Saturday night before Halloween. From the sweet to the sublime, the rough to the rowdy, the horrible to the hilarious, they were all there.....including an invasion of Minions..



Do you see a resemblance?

Be sure to check out the photo gallery where you will find Dave Huber as a farmer (can you spell cow? e-i-e-i-o); Maya Branden as a sexy French maid (oo-

la-la); Bob Wolff as a biker of the pedaling kind, and Linda Wolff as a biker babe of the Harley kind; Bob Fritz as a Swiss Highlander (♫yodeleiho♫); Mickey Fritz as a happy witch (with a distinctive giggle), Leslie Armstrong as a kitty cat (meow); Art Armstrong as Dr. Ben Dover, the proctologist; Steve Slaton as a Japanese Samurai; Anita Slaton as "An Accident Waiting to Happen" (depicting some of her own dilemmas); Vin Giglio as a Minion; Tracy Giglio as a scary green witch (with really cool shoes); Jean Doyle as a '50's bobby-soxer and Ed Doyle as her '50's Greaser boyfriend; Gary Swanson as a soccer coach and Cindy Swanson as a refreshment barker (cold beer here); Bill Geize as a Minion, Bill Neway as a freaky jester/joker, and Evelyn Neway as a bloody Sock Monkey. Evelyn, by the way, won the prize for the "best costume." Lots of good eats and sweet treats, including a "brainy" punch, cheesy eyeballs, and miniature mummies, complemented the fun. At the end of the evening, the group sang "Happy Birthday" to Mickey, who was celebrating her special day; then proceeded to devour her surprise birthday cake. (Photos by Mickey and Evelyn.)

A PEEK INTO THE FUTURE: January 3rd will be the first Dining on the Run (DOTR) of the new year. Mark your calendar for brunch on the banks of the Intracoastal Waterway at The Grille at



Riverview in New Smyrna Beach. Details will be in the January Newsletter.

ROLLIN', ROLLIN', ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER: Neither Creedence Clearwater Revival nor Tina Turner had anything on us as we rolled down (or up) the St. John's River on the *Barbara Lee*. Nineteen members, including John and Sally, Dave and Maya, Art and Leslie, Bill G., Gary and Cindy, Richard, Jim and Ginny, John R., Bob W. and Linda, Bill N. and Evelyn, and Ed and Jean, embarked on a 3-hour dinner tour aboard an authentic paddle wheeler. The food was very good, and the service was excellent. Tea, coffee or water never reached the bottom of the glass before they were refilled. The meal began with appetizers of pasta salad, fresh fruit and vegetable trays, and the most delicious warm sticky-buns that "required" return trips to the appetizer table. The entrée was your choice of prime rib (cooked your way), teriyaki or lemon pepper salmon, or a chef's salad entrée, along with a salad and appropriate vegetable accompaniment. All food is prepared fresh on the boat, including the homemade warm rolls served with dinner. Follow this up with a delicious cake with a delightfully-creamy chocolate frosting and you have a recipe for some contented diners.

Entertainment was provided by a guitarist and the emceeing was provided by the owner/operator. The weather cooperated as the waters were calm, but

the breezes were hot... so hot that all the gators apparently sought the coolness of the water as none were seen, and we were certainly looking for them. The comments from the participants were quite favorable and very complimentary of this Dining on the Run adventure. Oh yes, all this and special VIP parking too. (Photos by Bill G. and Richard)

HOLIDAY TRADITION: It has become an annual tradition to feature in our December edition, a recipe that received a lot of accolades at the Halloween Party, and this year is no exception. Although there were many culinary delights available that evening, everyone seemed enamored with the delicious dip provided by Evelyn Neway. Pumpkin lovers will love this recipe, and even those who don't relish the flavor of pumpkin will find this a delicious change from the normal sour cream-based dips.

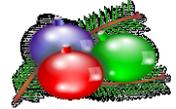
HARVEST PUMPKIN DIP

1 - 8 oz. package cream cheese, softened
2 cups confectioner's sugar
1 - 15 oz. can solid-pack pumpkin
3 teaspoons of pumpkin pie spice
1 teaspoons vanilla extract
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground ginger
Apple, pear slices and/or ginger snaps

In large mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar gradually. Add pumpkin, pie spice, vanilla, and ginger; beat until smooth. Refrigerate several hours. Serve with fruit and/or cookies. (Very good with gingersnaps).

This is a great dip to serve as an appetizer while family waits for dinner to be served, or as a night-time snack. YUM!

**THIS &
THAT**



Frank and Leanne Fedele welcomed a new member of their household when their '72 Ontario Orange convertible was traded for a snazzy new 2015 Torch Red convertible. Congratulations to the Fedeles for the Club's 5th C-7, but the 1st C-7 convertible!

Condolences to Bob and Linda Wolff on the passing of Linda's brother in November. We are so sorry for your loss.

On a happier note, Mia Wolff, the 10-year old granddaughter of Bob and Linda, was featured in the fall edition of the Daytona Beach Museum of Arts and Sciences (MOAS) quarterly magazine. Mia's drawing/painting of alligators in a pond is indicative of a budding artist and certainly of proud grandparents.

Belated anniversary wishes to the Niswanders who were inadvertently left out of the November Newsletter. Dan and Karen celebrated with a trip to Willamette Valley, Oregon - pinot noir country. Congratulations and have a drink of that wine on us!!

Birthday wishes are in store for five of our members. Those born in December under the Sagittarius sign are intelligent and fun-loving. Sometimes their excessive optimism makes them behave carelessly. They enjoy mental challenges and have high energy that keeps them moving. They must be allowed to roam free but will always return home. Those coming under this sign are Maya Branden on the 3rd and Sandy Cassella on the 11th.

Those born under the sign of Capricorn are prudent and practical. Their ambitious nature does not allow them to give up easily. They are vigilant and plan things out very carefully. Perseverance and tolerance are their greatest qualities. Our Capricorns are Herb Gersel on the 25th, Bob Fritz on the 29th and Ken Crick on the 30th.

Happy birthday to all.

Open the champagne! The Armstrongs are celebrating #18.

Congrats to Art and Leslie and to many, many more.



Just a gentle reminder that the monthly Newsletter is your information source for all club news ... the news of what's presently going on, a review of what has occurred during the past month, and a preview of what's to come. Unless you attend the meeting, this is your ONLY source of information. Please read it so you, too, can be informed. And, as always, your suggestions for improving it

are always welcomed. Is there enough Corvette news? Is the font easy to read? Do you like the format? What additions or deletions can you suggest to make this a better tool for our members? Please let Jean know your thoughts.



CORVETTE CHATTER

Color Change Alert: Any time we hear about color changes on new Corvettes, it's pretty big news. It looks like two colors are being phased out of 2016's production - Night Race Blue and Daytona Sunrise Orange Metallic. The good news is that an early build-out usually signifies new color exteriors for the next model year. What this also means is that if you wanted a Corvette with either of these colors, you may have missed the boat. The last day to order a Night Race Blue Corvette was November 12th while Daytona Sunrise Orange is available to order through December 17th. Night Race Blue will then disappear from the Corvette color pallet by the end of December while Daytona Sunrise Orange Metallic will hang on through January.

In the market for a used Corvette?

You might want to learn from the School of Hard Knocks attended by a retired New York school administrator. Robert Broncatello was excited about picking up a used 2009 Corvette with less than 19,000 miles, listed on the Internet with a dealership in Montana. After making several phone calls to Robert Jones, Broncatello decided he had found the

Corvette of his dreams and flew on a one-way ticket to Montana to pick up the car. Unfortunately, that's where the story turns sad. Come to find out, there was no Jones Auto Sales, no Robert Jones, no Corvette, period! Broncatello was smart enough not to send any money to the dealership, wanting to avoid a scam, but he is still out a couple of thousand bucks for the airplane ticket from New York. He just can't figure out why the ruse. "Usually when I find a car online that is a scam, I tell them I'm coming down to look at the car, they call me back and say the car's just been sold. But in this case, I spoke over the period of three days. Had conversations with him other than about the car. He was having a driver pick me up from the airport and take me over to his dealership, which was on 1st Avenue. And it doesn't exist." Broncatello says he has no hard feelings and simply bought another one-way ticket Wednesday. Now he is back in New York, still searching for a Corvette. Here's hoping he finds one at the many legitimate dealerships out there.

Amazing Is The Word! It still amazes me every time I hear about someone working in the profession of selling cars who does not know how to drive a manual transmission. Not only that, but when an accident like this one happens, the inevitable excuse of confusing the brake and clutch pedals is laughable. It seems that a Corvette Z06 with a sticker price of \$95,830 was launched into the front windows of a North Carolina dealership by a salesperson. The Corvette Z06, leaving a set of burnout marks on the floor, smashed into the front windows of the dealership which sent glass all over the front of the Z06 and killed a poor potted ficus tree in the process.

The impact of the car also pushed out part of the bottom wall which doesn't bode well for the lower front of the Corvette where you'll usually find a \$3,000 carbon fiber splitter. Making matters worse is the fact that the car was custom ordered for a customer. Let's hope he was not on-hand to witness the abuse of his new car. And speaking of this being a customer's car, if it were you, would you take delivery of a "fixed" Corvette Z06 that had been launched into a window and wall? I don't know many who would. The crash is being blamed on the salesperson reportedly confusing the clutch and brake pedals. The last time I checked, the clutch was on the left and it has a much different feeling when being applied as that pesky brake pedal in the middle. It's kind of crazy in this day and age that there are salespeople who are paid to know every fine detail about a Corvette Z06, yet have no idea what it's like to drive one. We're betting this salesperson is wishing his customer would have ordered the Corvette Z06 with the 8-speed auto instead.

Barn Finds still happen: One morning Larry Fisette got a phone call. "I understand you buy old Corvettes?" to which he answered, "Yes, I do." "Well, my brother has one." "What does he have?" "A '54" was the answer to which Larry immediately replied, "I'll take it." The caller went on to explain there was a problem, however. It seems there was a '62 that had the '54 blocked inside an old barn in Illinois. (Now this is the kind of problem most of us would love to have.) Apparently, the caller and his brother, who had been in the farming business and real estate for more than 40 years, were selling off some of their properties, one of which was the barn that housed the two Corvettes.

The '54 was dusty and dirty but completely intact with no body damage. The '62 was setting up on blocks. Here were two brothers, Lewis and Richard, who worked together their whole lives. They acquired quite a little empire. Lewis bought a rust free '54 Corvette in California that he never exposed to the elements." He drove the car a couple years and then bought the '62. But, as time went on, he and his brother got so busy developing their businesses, they parked the cars in barns and there they sat for 42 years. Now folks, this was a recent find. Don't you just wonder how many treasures are still out there undiscovered? What a Christmas gift finding something like this would be. We can only dream. If you wish to read the rest of the story, go to www.superchevy.com and search for "barn finds in Illinois."

(Article submitted by Mickey Fritz)

PHOTO OF THE MONTH: Look closely at the photo! Yes, it really is a four-door C7. Rarely have traditional sports cars morphed successfully into multiple door versions of themselves and most never garnered approval from management over the years. Artist Casey Shain recently produced an idea of what a four-door C7 might look like. It's a good-looking rendering and shows the viability of an extended Corvette range but ultimately resuscitates a question that has been floating around for years.

Should Corvette become a brand all by itself, divorced from Chevrolet? Porsche proved the viability of such an idea by

introducing the Cayenne in 2002 and followed with the awkwardly styled four-door Panamera. These cars were the antithesis of the 911 and yet sales skyrocketed. Fast forward to today and Porsche has sold 47,000 vehicles in the US market, with seven different models. Corvette sold 35,000 cars with one. Certainly this has been noticed by GM and you can bet they are looking at the options.



A HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

May your holiday be rich with love, warm with friendship, happy with good health, and blessed with the joys of the Season. We have enjoyed bringing you the news of the Corvette Cruisers this past year and look forward to another year of recording Corvette Club memories. Here's wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, and a healthy and happy 2016. See ya next year on the pages of the "Talepipe."

Jean and Ed

(If this sounds a little familiar, it's because it is the same wish we gave you last year, but it expresses so completely what we want to say, we just had to use it again.)