

Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The Talepipe Newsletter



January, 2015

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

A NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Cruisers:

Happy New Year to all. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas Holiday season. The board and I are looking forward to another great year ahead. We currently have the first six months of DOTR's listed on our club calendar, and we are sure there is something for every appetite. I know that there are cruisers who know about places of interest that we could drive to.... and of course, eat. Please inform me or a board member of those places. Don't forget to mark your calendars for a fun filled year of cruising (and eating) in 2015. Looking forward to seeing you at our monthly meetings and our club activities.

*Happy New Year
John*



OUT WITH THE OLD—IN WITH THE NEW: That's what we do when January 1st hits. Some of us take it as just another day, but most of us declare this to be a new beginning in our life, a time to start over and adopt habits that will make us healthier and happier. It's time for **RESOLUTIONS**. But are you having a hard time coming up with some fresh ideas? Are you stuck in a rut with the same old ones you make year after year i.e., eat healthy, lose weight and get more exercise, and then break them shortly thereafter? If this sounds like you, here are a few suggestions you may wish to consider for a good beginning to the New Year:

- * Resolve to attend more club events this year than you did last year.
- * Resolve to get to know at least 5 members a little better.
- * Resolve to faithfully read the Newsletter every single month, 😊 and print it out for your spouse or partner (if they don't read it online).
- * Resolve to clean the wheels, the interior, and the windows each time you wash your Corvette.
- * Resolve to wear the official club shirt to club functions when so designated.
- * Resolve to be a little quieter at club meetings when the meeting is in session (so the Secretary can record what's going on).
- * Resolve to be a little more patient with the wait staff at Friday's and all the other restaurants we attend as a club.
- * Resolve to drive your Corvette more this year than you did last year.
- * And, oh yeah, resolve to eat healthy, lose weight, and get more exercise.

If the above sounds a little familiar to you, it is with good reason. It was taken from last year's Newsletter, and because the message remains pertinent, it has been recycled (and tweaked just a bit). Good luck on making your resolutions, AND sticking to them!

LET'S EAT: Hold off on the resolution to lose weight until after our first Dining on the Run for 2015. That's when we go to one of our favorite breakfast spots at the Pine Lakes Golf Club in Palm Coast. Perhaps they will again charm our taste buds with the peach-stuffed French toast, or the strawberry banana bread pudding, or some new concoction their able chefs can cook up, all for a very reasonable price. Let's meet at Bealls in Ormond Beach (in the shopping center at the corner of Granada and Williamson Blvd.) on January 4th at 9:15 a.m. for the short cruise to Palm Coast. What a delicious way to start off the New Year!

DECK THE HALLS.....and the banquet



room, and the tables. That's just what the Halifax Plantation did in

preparation for our annual Christmas Party held there on December 9th. Thirty of our members decked themselves out as well to end yet another successful and fun-filled year for the Corvette Cruisers. Following a delicious dinner of either prime rib or crab-stuffed shrimp, the group was entertained by a slide show review of the past year and a few remarks by our president, John Doria. Since the club had so many outings that began with rain, Santa thought it fitting to present umbrellas (with our club logo) to our members. (Perhaps being prepared

with an umbrella will surely keep the rain away in the future.)

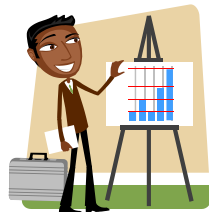
The spirit of giving was truly evident with the huge mountain of nonperishable food items brought in by our members for those less fortunate. Thanks to David Huber for delivering the seven grocery bags full of goodies to the Family Renew Center in Ormond Beach.

And before the end of the evening, Jean Doyle announced that the charity receiving the most votes for the proceeds of our 50/50 drawings was the local chapter of the American Cancer Society. A check for \$260 will be used for their Look Good, Feel Better program serving the Greater Daytona area.

A beautifully-decorated facility, very attentive servers, an excellent meal, the chance to visit with friends, and the spirit of giving - isn't that part of what Christmas is all about? (Photos by Bill, Lars, Jean, and John D.)

JANUARY IS STATS MONTH:

Our annual status report is again a very interesting mix. Since the club increased its membership limit to 30 memberships, the following numbers are sure to change soon, but as of January 1, 2015, we have 24 memberships made up of 43 active members from the "Greater Daytona" area: 2 from Palm Coast; 14 from Ormond Beach; 12 from Daytona Beach, 2 from South Daytona, 2 from Daytona Beach



Shores, 7 from Port Orange; 2 from Edgewater; 1 from Holly Hill and 1 from Deltona. At this time, our club members own 28 Corvettes: 7 Blues; 7 Reds; 5 Yellows; 4 Silvers; 2 Blacks; 2 Oranges; and, 1 Green, of which 15 are coupes and 13 are convertibles. This year we lost our C-1 in the count when the Luthers decided not to rejoin, but we will very soon have a C-7 on board. The remaining generational spread is as follows: 2 (C-2); 4(C-3); 3 (C-4); 5 (C-5); and, 14 (C-6), of which 15 are manual and 13 automatic transmissions. Don't ya just love statistics? Can you tell I do? Read on.....

COLOR CAPERS: Did you ever wonder where Corvette gets some of its color names? Maybe a "red" or "yellow" or "green" or "blue" is good enough for you, but back in the early '70's the trend for naming colors leaned much more toward the exotic. There was Mille Miglia Red in '71-'75; War Bonnet Yellow in '71-'72; Brands Hatch Green in '71; and Bridgehampton Blue and Mulsanne Blue in '70-'71. Many were named after famous race tracks around the world. To date, there have been 34 different blues (not counting aqua, turquoise or the metallics)? And in 1966 and 1967, there were 3 different blues offered in each year, none of which had the same name. Strangely enough, there was no blue in 1962. Daytona has played prominently in the color-naming process with Daytona

Yellow, Daytona Blue, Daytona *Sunset Orange*, and new for 2015, Daytona *Sunrise Orange*. In 1977, there was Chartreuse, but only one was produced. (Maybe we can guess why! 😊) And in 1955, Harvest Gold made its debut (perhaps to match our Harvest Gold refrigerators and stoves?). Do you REALLY know the official color of your Corvette, or is it just red, green, blue, yellow, etc. to you?

“UNOFFICIAL” CLUB EVENTS: Even though not deemed official club events, (which means we did not have to wear our club shirts and they weren't recognized as such on our club calendar), the following two events stirred interest by several club members and were decided as impromptu gatherings.

The first was the December 13th car show in New Smyrna Beach attended by several club members including John, Sally, Herb, Shirley, Dave, Jack, Art, Leslie, Bob F., Bill, Bonita, and guests Gary Swanson and Dan and Karen Niswander. Many stayed on to watch the NSB boat parade following the show. (Photos by Bill and John D.)

The second was the Open Hangar event at the New Smyrna Airport attended by Ed D., Jean, Bill, Bonita, John D., Mike, Jim, Ed A., and guests Dan and Karen Niswander, Bill Geize, Will Masotta, Gary Swanson, and Pat and Sandy Cassella; eleven Corvettes plus one unknown who

just happened to follow us in to the private parking area next to the planes. Although not as many as last January, several World War II bombers and other interesting old warplanes were on display. Also, this time there was the added bonus of World War II and other military jeeps on display. As a follow-up to a very enjoyable morning, thanks in part to beautiful weather, lunch at Lost Lagoon was a nice ending to a nice afternoon. Mike, Bill G., Jim and Dan - was that beer infused, confused or abused???

THIS AND THAT:

We've had several prospective members at our last few meetings and some other events. Keep your eye out for them, introduce yourself, and make them feel welcome. Next month, we hope to have an announcement of some new members.



A very happy birthday wish goes to Ed Anderson, our only January baby. Ed shares his birthdate with Alan Alda, the beloved Hawkeye on TV's M*A*S*H*. Happy birthday to you both.

Our heartfelt condolences go to Mickey Fritz on the passing of her mother two days before Thanksgiving. The death of a loved one is always a tragedy, but

especially so during the holidays. Our thoughts are with you and Bob.

CORVETTE CHATTER:

A long relationship has always existed between NASA's astronauts and the Chevy Corvette. In 1960, Jim Rathmann - owner of a nearby Chevrolet dealership and winner of the Indianapolis 500, convinced General Motors to give the Mercury 7 astronauts brand new Corvettes for publicity and advertising benefits. Alan Shepard and Gus Grissom were known for racing their Corvettes on Florida's Space Coast highways near Cape Canaveral. Space-race pilot Chuck Yeager drove the Corvette pace car for the 1986 Indianapolis 500. But what's happened to these Corvettes and where are they now? You will find out right here in next month's Newsletter. Stay tuned.

Of the three repairable Corvettes that fell down the sinkhole at the Museum, the 1 millionth, a white convertible, will be the hardest to bring back to its former glory. Restorers have begun what's expected to be a long process. At age 22, it will be difficult to find or create replacement parts. Plus, restorers will be forced to salvage as much of the original components as possible. It's considered the most valuable of the three, as Car and Driver lists its worth at \$750,000.

As a follow up to last month's Photo of the Month story on Peter Max, it has been reported that the Pop artist has been slapped with a lawsuit by the two men who sold his Corvette collection. They are suing the '60s psychedelic art icon and his agent for \$1 million, claiming Max asked them to sell off his trove of 36 Corvettes — one for each year between 1953 and 1989 — in exchange for a 10 percent commission they never got. Max has yet to respond to the lawsuit.

Rick Hendrick did it again. He recently took delivery of VIN #001 2015 Z06. Always choosing black, Rick adds this one to the other two C7 VIN #001's he recently purchased; the first 2014 Stingray Coupe, and the first 2014 Stingray Convertible. Gee, it must be nice to be Rick Hendrick!!!

A little humor never hurt anyone - and according to Pat Robertson, the televangelist, neither does a little speed. On a recent edition of the 700 Club, a viewer told Pat Robertson about her husband's insistence on driving above the speed limit, even when he wasn't late, and asked if it was a sin to speed. Robertson admitted he may be the wrong person to be asking such a question. "You're asking a guy who had a Corvette with a 430 hp engine, who is now driving a car with about 650 hp." He also drove 30 laps around Charlotte Motor Speedway in a stock car. "I don't get tickets, I pay attention,"

Robertson said. "But there was one night up in the mountains when there wasn't anybody around this 4-lane highway late at night, and I did get that little bug a little over 200 miles an hour."

"Two-hundred!" his co-host exclaimed. Robertson backed off and said he meant to say 100 because the car wouldn't go 200. But is speeding a sin? According to Robertson, it is only when you drive recklessly and put someone's life in danger. This story just goes to show you that a little "Need for Speed" is in all of us.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH (as seen on the Home Page): The Corvette Daytona Prototype for the TUDOR United Sports Car Championship will have a new look in 2015. Chevrolet has developed new Corvette DP bodywork that reflects styling cues of the C7 Stingray production car. The new look bodywork has been testing at the Speedway for the Rolex 24 on Jan 24-25. "The relationship Chevy's racing programs have to our auto production lines is extremely important. The relevance of race car to showroom is a hallmark of our racing heritage," said Mark Kent, Chevrolet Director of Racing. "The success of the Corvette Daytona Prototype program is a point of pride for Chevrolet. Having the Corvette C7 DP competing for overall victories enhances the perception of the Corvette brand and allows America's sports car to compete for overall victories in North America's most important endurance events."

The frontal area sees a striking change in design from the previous generation Corvette DP, including updates to the hood surface, headlights and radiator inlet area. The rear window area also has been updated. At the rear of the car, the Corvette DP will take styling cues from the C7 including the rear taillights.

The C7 generation of Corvette DP looks to continue Chevrolet's impressive record in North American prototype racing since 2012. The Bowtie brand won the 2014 Prototype Engine Manufacturer championship in the inaugural TUDOR Championship. That followed two consecutive Daytona Prototype Engine Manufacturer titles in the GRAND-AM Rolex Sports Car Series - the forerunner of the TUDOR Championship along with the American Le Mans Series. In three years since its debut, the Corvette DP has claimed 22 race victories including the Rolex 24 at Daytona and the Petit Le Mans in 2014.

Cheers!!

