

Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The Talepipe Newsletter



MARCH 2017

President: John Doria; Vice President: Arthur Armstrong; Treasurer: Richard Wetherby;
Secretary: Mickey Fritz; Directors: Bob Fritz, David Huber, & William Geize;
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.

TIME FOR TOM.... Tom Gibbs Corvette Display, that is. Saturday, March 4th is the date, Bealls in Ormond Beach is the place to meet, and 8:00 a.m. is the time to leave. Let's make it 3 in a row for best club participation. Coffee and donuts provided in the morning, lunch available for a donation to a local high school club in the afternoon. It's one of the shortest shows around lasting from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the price can't be beat. Shine up the Vette and throw some chairs in the trunk. We'll listen to some good tunes, chat up a storm, and have some fun. See you there.

PARADING TO PALATKA: Corky Bell's Restaurant has been a favorite of the seafood lovers in our club for some time now, even when it was known as Gator's Landing. Regardless of the name,



the food is always good and the view from the deck is spectacular. If you are not a seafood fan, Corky Bells offers many other choices. Hopefully, it will be a beautiful day for dining on the deck. We will leave from Bealls in Ormond at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, March 5th. Review the menu at www.corkybellsseafood.com.

SLIDE INTO SPRING....with the Spring Turkey Run at the Speedway on March 24-26. If you are interested in going, you must pick up a parking pass from John Doria after the March meeting. The club has paid for these parking spots, so do not pick up a pass if you are not going to use it. We will be parking in a similar area as last year, known as the Playground area. You must register on-line at www.turkeyrun.com event registration. Cost is \$30 for Friday through Sunday. You can come and go at your discretion and as often as you wish. Saturday will be

deemed "Club Day" when the biggest majority of our club members plan to attend. Enter at Gate 70 on Midway Avenue across from the entrance to the Daytona International Airport. Be sure to pack your chairs and wear your club shirts on Saturday.

CAVORTING AT THE CAPE: Even though the Cape Kennedy "Vettes at the Port" car show isn't until April 8th, registration must be made by March 25th. Register online at www.ckcc.club or see John or Jean for an application. Cost is \$30 and includes a tee shirt and some nice



discounts at many of the great restaurants at Port Canaveral. If you haven't been before, it's a nice way to spend a

Saturday afternoon near the water, sharing the port with the cruise ships. Details of where and when to meet will be in next month's Newsletter.

DRESSED FOR DINNER: (and NOT in our tangerine shirts.) Tuesday night, March 28th is the date for our semi-annual Dinner Night Out, this time at the River Grille on the Tomoka in Ormond Beach. We will leave from Bealls in Ormond at 5:30 p.m. for dinner at 6:00 p.m. You do

not need to wear your club shirt. Be casual and comfortable and ready to dine!

DELIGHTED IN DELAND: The February Dining on the Run took us inland for a great brunch at the Victoria Hills Golf Club in DeLand. A lovely ride through the countryside culminating at the cozy clubhouse made the Dining on the Run experience for sixteen members and two guests an enjoyable one. The added bonus of a complimentary Bloody Mary or Mimosa certainly put a little kick in our step. A quick vote showed a virtual tie of 7 Bloody Marys and 7 Mimosas, and one tie-breaker of a Virgin Mary. (Since it was also Super Bowl Sunday, our vote seemed to have been a premonition of the outcome of the Big Game!!) Though just five selections for the brunch were on the menu, every breakfast item was represented, from Eggs Benedict, to Omelets, to Pancakes to French Toast, and all served with a complimentary Bloody Mary or Mimosa and their signature blueberry muffin. Everyone seemed quite happy with the quality and quantity of food, the good service and the excellent price of just \$10.00 including coffee or tea. And did I say there was a complimentary Bloody Mary or Mimosa? Perhaps our new slogan might be "We Meet to Eat, but Cruise for Booze." Enjoying the day were Bill Geise, Bill Simmons and Bonita Richardson, Bill and Evelyn Neway (with guests John and Rita, Bill's brother and sister-in-law

visiting from PA), John and Sally Doria, Bob and Mickey Fritz, Liz Byrne, Edie Byrne, Richard Wetherby, Rick Demichina, Dan Niswander, Rick and Sheila Minor, and Ed and Jean Doyle. The restaurant has a lot of specialty nights, such as \$5 Burger night, \$12 Pasta Night and the Sunday Brunch for \$10. And, oh yeah, there is a complimentary Bloody Mary or Mimosa with the Sunday Brunch. 😊 Many vowed to take in one of the specialty nights as Victoria Hills Golf Club was deemed a definite "thumbs up."

BOWLING AND BEN-GAY: This wonderful soothing muscle salve may have been our best friend the day after 12 participants and 3 cheerleaders



enjoyed a rousing evening of bowling at Ormond Lanes. A slow start early on eased us into the game, where the 2nd game brought us to our peak performance. After that, we all understood the phrase, "We aren't as young as we used to be." Scores were everywhere from a low of 51 to a high of 180, a feat accomplished by Bonita Richardson, closely followed up by Bill Simmons with a 160. (We knew we were in trouble when Bill and Bonita exited their car with their own ball and shoes.) I quickly figured out that the worst part of bowling is having to turn around and face all those eyes as you slink slowly to your seat after a particularly gruesome roll.

Some interesting comments were overheard explaining a less than perfect performance: "my thumb stuck", "my shoes were too slippery", "the floor is not level", "my ball left my hand too quickly", "I tripped on my shoelace", and my all-time favorite, "I had my eyes shut". Thanks to all the bowlers (Bill Simmons, Bonita Richardson, Rick and Sheila Minor, Bill Neway, Joanna Oswald, Lars Connelly, Evie Swartout, Bill Geize, Art and Leslie Armstrong, and Jean Doyle) and all the cheerleaders (Edie Byrne, Liz Byrne, and Evelyn Neway, who cheered the best of rolls and the worst of rolls) for making it a really fun night.

BEWARE OF THE BIKES: March 10-19 marks Bike Week in Daytona Beach and the surrounding areas. Please drive with extra care during this time and watch out for those bikers.



NEEDED NEWS: If you know of ANY news about ANY members, PLEASE let Jean know about it. I want to make sure everybody knows when someone does something exciting.....or has something exciting done to them. I want to make sure not to leave anyone out. If someone had surgery, is in the hospital, or is just feeling under the weather, let me know.

If someone wins the lottery, gets a new Corvette or has any other happy news, let me know. I can only report it if someone reports it to me.

FOTO FLASH: Our Club needs a photographer! You may have noticed that there were no photos from our first DOTR of the year and none from this past one. (Although John D. did

take a few, they were too dark for publication). You don't need any special equipment, just a phone that takes pictures and a desire to help record our Corvette memories for all to see. You may be thinking.....'how many pictures do we need of us eating?', but a little creativity can go a long way. The pay is non-existent and the perks are few, but if you are interested, please start snapping at our next event.

MEETING MADNESS: A committee has been established to find a more desirable place to hold our monthly meetings. The necessary criteria have been determined by the Board of Directors, and the committee is charged with the task of finding a location that matches that criteria. Those serving will be Art Armstrong, Bob Fritz, Liz Byrne, Bonita Richardson, and Will Masotta.

BIOGRAPHY BLITZ: She's baaaack! And she's coming after you with a vengeance. If you haven't completed a biographical sketch, it's time to do so in 2017. That WAS your resolution, wasn't it? Ask Jean for a form or she can email you one. Let's get 100% participation on this project.

SLIPPING INTO SPRING: Don't forget to set the clock on your Corvette (and everywhere else) one hour later on



Sunday, March 12th, as we spring ahead to Daylight Savings Time. We DO lose an hour of sleep, but when you are retired, as are most

of us, who cares? Aaahhhh, but we do get one extra hour of daylight to enjoy our Corvettes. Now go find your manual to see how to change that clock. And speaking of springing ahead, keep reading.....

A FLORIDA FANTASY ---- circle May 18-19 on your calendar and save this date. Finally, after talking about it for years and years, the club has decided to take the plunge and plan a Sunrise to Sunset Corvette Cruise across the state. We will watch the sunrise at breakfast at Crabby Joes on the Sunglow Pier, follow the sun towards the west (avoiding I-4 at all costs), have lunch on the way, check into our waterfront hotel, eat a nice relaxing

dinner and watch the sun set on the gulf. The next morning after a complimentary breakfast, we will venture to the Muscle Car Museum in Punta Gorda to see an unbelievable collection of rare muscle cars from eras past. All car guys and gals will surely enjoy this museum.

SHIRTS FOR SALE: Jean will be taking orders for our club tee shirts at the annual picnic in April. These are the screen-printed shirts with the American Flag on the back and our club logo on the front. They can be ordered in any color you wish (other than red, black or navy), but we must have an order of 24 to get them at the low price of \$7.50 each. Let Jean know if you are interested by the March meeting to see if there is enough to make the cut.

PERFECT THAT PUTT...for our annual Mini-Golf tournament. It's coming soon! April 11 is the date we begin our search for the best (and worst) golfer in our midst. Unlike Bowling, physical fitness is not a particular requirement for this event, so plan to come and join the fun. The dates are on the calendar and there will be lots more about it in next month's Newsletter. (Ice Cream MAY be involved.)



THIS & THAT

Get Well Wishes are in order for David Huber, who underwent some serious knee cap repair and adjustment surgery at the end of January. We know Dave will be back on his feet (AND his knees) very soon.

Birthdays will be celebrated this month by Jamie Hawes on the 12th, Sally Doria on the 15th, Leslie Armstrong on the 29th, and both Jim Quinn and Steve Slaton on the 30th. Have a wonderful day and why not celebrate all year long!

I was so excited about the amount of the 50/50 drawing for January (\$52 - the largest to date), I forgot to mention who the winner was. The big winner for this big amount was Bill Simmons. Congratulations, Bill!

Sad news for Jean Doyle. After losing her oldest sister in December, she lost her only other sister in January. With a cancer diagnosis for Ed and Jean's daughter in November, the past three months have been brutal.

More bad news with the announcement that Charlie from Daytona Beach Golf Club passed away. To those members who helped out with the Folds of Honor car show, you know that Charlie took very good care of our club. Unfortunately, due

to his passing and other circumstances, there will not be a show this year.

News You Can Use....Did you order your tangerine club shirt without your name and later decided that you would like to have it put on? Edie and Liz found this place in the Volusia Mall who will embroider your name while you wait in the font you wish for \$10.00. Daytona Embroidery has been in business for over 15 years and is located in a kiosk between J.C. Penney and the center court. Check out Liz and Edie's shirts for an example of the work.

The Viet Nam Veterans of America, Chapter 1048, are selling coupon booklets as a fundraiser. They include lots of restaurants, Ormond Lanes, Miniature Golf and a whole lot more. The cost is \$20 and can be obtained from Rick or Sheila Minor. You will get your cost back quickly in savings. ALL proceeds go to Veterans in need.

Two members have new Vanity Plates on their Corvettes. Have you seen them????? Be on the Lookout for who it might be.

Sadly for the club, but happily for the owners, we no longer have a 1963 Split Window coupe in our membership. Will and Donna Masotta sold that beauty and are on the lookout for something a little more modern. Knowing Will and his love affair with Corvettes, it won't be long until he finds one.

The Edgewater Elks Club is sponsoring a car show on March 19th from noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 820 Park Ave. in Edgewater. Entrance fee is \$5.00.

WooHoo - Sandy Cassella is \$45.00 richer after she won the 50/50 drawing at the February meeting. Maybe she is luckier when Pat's not there. (Just kidding, Pat!)

Welcome to prospective member Barry Phillips of South Daytona, who attended his first event of three in becoming a full-fledged member of the Corvette Cruisers.

CORVETTE CHATTER

There are a lot of Dale Earnhardt Jr. fans in our club, and it looks like Dale is a fan of Corvettes. Check out his newest ride, a 2017 Grand Sport Coupe in Torch Red!



While some fans were suggesting that the car may be a gift for his new wife Amy, it's most likely part of the fundraising efforts for the [Dale Jr. Foundation](#), which raises money for his charities by raffling

his personal Corvette each year. Dale buys the Corvette early in the year and drives it. Then a lucky fan can win Dale's ride by buying a raffle ticket through the foundation's website. Oh, what a lucky winner that would be. Good color choice, Dale! (And welcome back to NASCAR!)

Visitors Can Watch 1962 Corvette Get Restored: It's been 3 years since the sinkhole opened up inside the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green. Eight Corvettes fell into the more than 30-foot sinkhole. Five of the Corvettes were damaged beyond repair, and so far, a 2009 ZR1 Blue Devil was restored, as well as the 1994 "One Millionth" Corvette. And now, the last of the three to be restored, the 1962 Corvette, was removed from the museum display and transferred to a garage where it will undergo the restoration. The work will be performed in the museum and guests will be able to watch the progress. It needs about \$15,000 worth of new parts, a complete front end assembly, hood panel, and windshield. Thanks to General Motors, all \$25,000 in restoration expenses have been recovered.

OOPS...The driver of this vehicle transporter certainly did not have a good day on the job. The trailer, loaded with brand new C7 Corvette Stingrays and Z06s, was involved in a bizarre wreck involving another semi in Alabama.



It's "bizarre" because, as the original report points out, it left the semi that was not carrying Corvettes with a large tear down the side and the Corvettes on the transporter in really bad shape. It looks as if the two trucks collided in a merge of some sort. The Corvettes at the rear got it the worst, with two of them nearly ripped in half. The top car at the rear of the vehicle transporter also collapsed on top of the bottom car after the transporter's structure likely gave way. It's not a pretty picture, to say the least. Thankfully, no one was hurt in this freak accident, but the Corvettes heading to new homes have likely seen better days.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

(as seen on the Home Page):

For all you Corvette enthusiasts out there who have always wished you could take the whole family in your Corvette, here's your answer.

What is claimed to be the only surviving four-door production 1979 Corvette America (not to be confused with the Corvette parts company of the same name) is up for sale on eBay, with the bid

climbing to \$12,650. The seller claims that Chevy actually planned on annually producing 40 of these Corvette America cars, to be built by California Custom Coach in Pasadena. There was a lot of overhead in building these cars since each required cutting two cars in half and mating them together to extend the wheelbase by 30 inches, enabling installation of four seats, four doors, and four T-tops. For some reason, the idea never took off, probably because a base Corvette sold for about \$13,000 back then so the outrageous \$35,000 asking price of the Corvette America made it economically unfeasible.

In all, a prototype and five other Corvette Americas were produced before Chevrolet pulled the plug on the project, according to the seller, who claims that his is the only one believed to have survived until today.

He also claims that one of the Corvette Americas sold for \$500,000 five years ago, (though there is no evidence of the sale on the Internet), and that another one was on eBay for \$300,000 six months ago. He's offering his at the "Buy It Now" price of \$60,000. Not sure who might pay that kind of price, but the car is kind of interesting, as an oddity. The seller notes that there are no exterior door latches on the customized doors, and you unlatch the doors electronically by punching in a code on the keypad on the driver-side windshield by the A-pillar. He also points out that the car has a rear opening

hatchback that was a preview of the actual 1982 Corvette. The seller says he has all paperwork and documents from the factory in Pasadena and that the car is complete with original blue plates and documents. Do we have any takers on this one?

Jean's Editorial Comment: U-G-L-Y!!

Irish Blessing

May your pockets be heavy,
And your heart be light.
May good luck pursue you
Each day and each night.



Everyone is Irish on the 17th of March.

HAPPY ST. PADDY'S DAY!!