

# Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The Talepipe Newsletter



September 2016

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.

**READY FOR BREAKFAST?** The Cracked Egg Diner in Daytona Beach Shores is ready to serve us up some good cookin'. Let's show them we are ready to eat. The

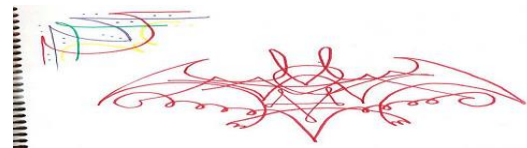


March, 2016 issue of *Southern Living* rated this restaurant one of the South's best breakfast spots, and we all know this magazine knows what they're talking about! So let's give it a try, especially since it's in our own backyard. We'll meet at the Sunshine Park Mall at 8:30 a.m on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. (Remember, this is the **SECOND** Sunday of the month as the first is Labor Day Weekend.)

**POWER LUNCH?** The Board of Directors will have a lunch meeting at The Ale House on ISB on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. All members are always invited to attend board

meetings, however, if you plan to come, please let John Doria know so he can make reservations. If you can't come but have an agenda item, let any board member know.

**TOUR AND LUNCH:** Let's get together on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> with our friends at the Ponce Inlet Corvette Club for a combined tour of Chris Cruz Artistry in Deland. Chris Cruz is known as Florida's airbrush wizard and is responsible for a lot of the custom work you see on motorcycles and Corvettes in the area. We will leave from Kohl's in Port Orange at 9:45 a.m. The tour is about an hour long, and we will follow up with lunch at the Pit Master BBQ in Deland. Please let John know before Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> if you plan to go. It would be nice to have a good turnout.



## IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS:

- 1) If you plan to attend the **Eckler's Reunion** on Saturday, October 8th, hopefully you are registered as they may have reached their limit by the time you read this. If you haven't, go to [www.ckcc.club](http://www.ckcc.club) to see if there is still room. This is the first time in several years that Eckler's has had their show, so it is expected to draw a big crowd. (Cost -- \$30)
- 2) **The Flagler County Corvette Club** car show "Corvettes at the Beach" takes place on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. However, registration for judged classes closes on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$35 up to the day of event, however, no judging if registered after the 16<sup>th</sup>. See their website at [www.flaglercountycorvetteclub.com](http://www.flaglercountycorvetteclub.com). This will not be a club event this year, but several members are planning to attend.
- 3) **The Marian County Corvette Club** Car Show is coming up on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Although not an official club event, several have expressed an interest in attending. More information will be provided next month. Put it on your calendar.

**FOOD AND FRIENDS:** Nine Vettes, sixteen members, (Bill G., Bill N., Evelyn, Bill S., Bonita, John D., Sally, Liz, Edie, Sheila, Rick, Ken H., Bob F., Mickey, Jean, Ed) and one guest made their way to the Lost Lagoon

on a hot, steamy Sunday morning, the last day of July. Following the buffet brunch of all-you-can-eat eggs, bacon, sausage, shrimp & grits, biscuits, fried potatoes, fruit, pastries, French toast, and assorted breads, we were able to set up camp in the shade of the huge old oak trees on the grounds. Participation at the car show seemed quite small by comparison to other times our club has attended, possibly due to the heat, but our contingent certainly helped to fill the lot. Evelyn had a lucky door prize number, winning a \$10 gift certificate to Lost Lagoon. Liz and Edie thought it would be a good idea to stop by Culver's for an icy treat before calling it a day, for which they received no argument from the majority, especially since Culver's TEXT club was offering a free lemon ice with strawberries. (Is this becoming a Corvette Cruiser habit??) It was a nice ending to a nice day!  
(Photos by John D. and Jean)

**WHAT A CROWD!!** The DOTR to the Blackwater Inn can certainly be called a success. Those arriving early to the parking lot of Beall's were treated to a rendition of "Old Blackwater" on Bill Geize's car CD player to get us in the mood for our destination. The Vettes just kept rolling in, along with a few curious stares from Beall's shoppers. Soon, thirty members pulled out heading to Astor, FL to the Blackwater Inn amid some mighty black rain clouds. Sprinkles turned quickly into a deluge with everyone hoping their lawns were getting some of that glorious water. As is the case

with most Florida showers, we were out of the heavy rains just as quickly and just in time to exit our cars. Our tables of four were set up to afford the best views of the water. Enjoying the salad bar, a rare treat these days, and the delicious choices from Trigger Fish to Scallops, Catfish to Shrimp, Flounder to Gator and much more were Bill Neway (aka "My Little Petite Scallop") and Evelyn, Art and Leslie, Dave and Maya, Ken and Jamie, Bob and Linda, Richard and Pat, Rick and Sheila, Rick and Gloria, Edie and Liz, Vin and Tracy, John and Sally, Herb and Shirley, John Reis, Bill Geize, Joanna Oswald, Bill Simmons, and Ed and Jean. Of course, in keeping with tradition, Ed and Jean were the last to be served, but, hey, somebody has to be last, right? Thanks to all for the great turnout to a great day, even with the rain. (\*\*Be sure to ask Bill about his alias.) (Photos by Jean and Linda)

**IT'S NOT TOO EARLY**....to be thinking about your Halloween costume. Next month will be our Halloween party (this year at the home of Bob and Linda Wolff) and you need to start making plans.



**NO MONEY DUE YET:** Usually at this time of year, we begin to remind you that dues are upcoming. However, THIS year that will not be the case. (No, you are not getting a free year!) The Board of

Directors decided that the club's fiscal year will now coincide with the calendar year and membership will run from January through December, instead of November through October. Annual dues will now be due and payable by the end of December, so technically, you will get an extra two months for free. (Free is always good!) Please note that you do not have to remember this now. You will be getting plenty of harassing messages in the Newsletter to remind you when dues come due. 😊

**A TALE OF TWO BRICKS:** You may remember reading the Charles Dicken classic "A Tale of Two Cities" when you were in high school. Well, this is "A Tale of Two Bricks" instead. Some Background information: When Jim Quinn retired as president of the Corvette Cruisers in 2014, the club commemorated his service with an engraved brick at the Corvette Museum, as seen here. On a recent trip to the Corvette Museum,



Ed and Jean looked up both the brick for the club and Jim's brick, as is customary when

they visit the museum. Imagine the shock and surprise of finding Jim's brick in the following condition. That's right, it was completely blank, except for a little anthill. Apparently, the elements had taken a toll on the engraving, or



perhaps the materials used were subpar. After a few phone calls to complain that this was unacceptable after only 2½ years, the Museum agreed to replace the brick free of charge. So now the brick looks like it did on



day one, maybe even better. If you are planning a trip to the Corvette Museum,

please make sure you check out the club's brick and Jim's brick to ensure that this "Tale of Two Bricks" ends here. Ask Jean for the location of both bricks if you go.

## THIS AND THAT

**THE BAD LUCK CORNER:** Well the saying goes, "If it weren't for bad luck, we'd have no luck at all." This seems to be coming true for some of our members lately.

**Bad Luck #1:** Bonita Richardson had to fly out to Colorado to take care of matters after a violent golf-ball-size hail storm took out windows, damaged her roof, and caused havoc in other areas of her house.

**Bad Luck #2:** Dave Huber is wearing a new accessory these days, however, not of his choosing. Dave tripped on a step, fell and broke his ankle and must wear a boot cast from toe to almost the knee --- not much

fun in this hot weather. Not too good for driving either, huh Dave? Prior to this accident, Dave was resting on a bench in a local store when the bench collapsed. Result, Dave now has a sprained wrist to match his broken ankle.

**Bad Luck #3:** If bad luck comes in threes, then the Doyles should be safe for a while: Sunday, Week 1: Ed lands in ER with symptoms of heart attack. An overnight stay and many tests reveal pneumonia. Sunday, Week 2: AC dies. Temperature outside 96°, inside 93°. Oh what a night!! Sunday, Week 3: Computer bites the dust, no hope for recovery. RIP friend. Still no email. What could be next???

Do you have any bad luck stories that we don't know about? Share them with Jean. Misery loves company, you know.

**Birthdays:** Last month was the last in the series of personality characteristics for those born under a certain zodiac sign. The descriptions always seemed to be right on. Hopefully you agreed with yours. From now on, as you place another candle on your cake, we will be wishing you a successful, happy, and healthy year ahead. Celebrating in September are:

Joanna Oswald - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Karen Niswander - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sherry Ellgard - 10<sup>th</sup>  
Linda Wolff - 14<sup>th</sup>  
Trish Ardler - 18<sup>th</sup>  
Shirley Gerstel - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Ed Doyle - 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Happy Anniversary** wishes to Pat and Sandy Cassella, Bob and Mickey Fritz, and 61years for Herb and Shirley Gerstel. A toast to all for many more!!



**Update on Steve Slaton:** Anita reports that Steve is regaining some feeling in his lower extremities. He has begun extensive rehabilitation to develop his upper body strength, as well as the use of his legs. He now has a van that is wheel-chair accessible, so Anita and Steve can leave the confines of their home for a change of scenery. They are starting to talk "Disney" so progress is being made. We are all pulling for you, Steve, and we hope to see you and Anita at a Corvette function sometime soon.

**Show her the money:** Liz Byrne was the big winner of \$29 from the 50/50 drawing at the August meeting. See Edie, it pays to come to the Corvette Club meeting instead of going to Bingo.

**Our hearts** and thoughts are with Sherry Ellgard, whose family and friends are experiencing the wrath of Mother Nature first-hand. Sherry is from Louisiana, where her daughter and grandchildren reside, and the devastating floods have taken a toll on her family. Some relatives have lost everything. Please keep Sherry and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Let's Meet and Eat!** Most of the photos in the Photo Gallery depict the club members decked out in the official tangerine club shirts. So here's a couple of pics that show we really DO have other clothes (especially blue ones). These shots were taken at a recent meeting.



Meetings tend to be a little light in attendance during the summer months, understandably so with vacations, snow birds, extreme heat, etc. But let's gear up for fall and start attending the meetings. We need your input and ideas. Besides, we don't want John Doria to have ALL the fun. Remember also to become a Stripes Member at Fridays. It's a good value as all kinds of coupons will be coming your way once you sign up and start accumulating those points.

# CORVETTE CHATTER

**THE STATS ARE IN:** The national Corvette Museum has compiled the information for the 2016 model year, and in total, 40,689 Corvettes were produced. Of those, 52.6% were Stingray coupes, while 28.4% were Z06 coupes. Convertibles saw a lesser number this year with only 12.4% for the Stingray, and 6.7% for the Z06. Regarding colors, white and black dominated. Arctic White was most popular with 21%, followed by Black (17%), Torch Red (15%), Shark Gray (12%), Laguna Blue (9%), Long Beach Red (8%), Corvette Racing Yellow (7%), Blade Silver (6%), Daytona Sunrise Orange (2%), Night Race Blue (2%), and even though it was not available until very late in the model year, Admiral Blue still snagged 1% (336 cars). One stat that continues to dwindle year after year is the manual gearbox. Only 23% of the 2016 C7 buyers said yes to a third pedal, with the Z06 coupe being the most popular and the rarest being the Z06 convertible (only 590 built with the manual transmission. Might the manual gearbox as we know it go the way of the dodo bird? The number of manuals produced overall is down 10% over the 2015 model year.

**RUMORS ABOUND:** More and more news about the elusive C8 is finally starting to make its way out to the public. The latest report on the next generation comes from

the *Detroit News* who cited unnamed sources as saying the mid-engine Corvette will debut in 2019 while the front-engine C7 will stay around until 2021. This appears to follow the C8 timeline we've been hearing about the C7 and C8 programs overlapping. Switching the architecture from front-engine to a mid-engine design would be the most radical change since the 1963 first came in coupe body design. And while that change was done 10 years into the program, getting current enthusiasts on board for the C8's radical makeover may be a lot harder than explaining the benefits of putting the engine behind the driver. (Remember the hubbub about the C7's controversial tail light design and then multiply that by 1000.) So to keep the lunatic fringe at bay as the mid-engine Corvette begins production, GM will continue to offer the current front-engine C7 Grand Sport and Z06 models through 2021. This will allow three years to grow and gain acceptance before the front-engine model is retired. The *Detroit News* goes on to say that the mid-engine program, shelved during the 2009 bankruptcy, is now being championed by Mark Reuss, GM's Global Product Development Chief. "It's happening. Mark Reuss wants it," says an unnamed former GM employee and he adds, "It's the worst-kept secret in town." REMEMBER, these are still rumors, but educated rumors that make sense.

**MORE RUMORS:** Another five images of the 2018 Corvette ZR1 prototype have made the news, and this time it's wearing a

massive rear wing spoiler. The prototype was captured in broad daylight out of GM's Milford Proving Grounds and the photos look to have been shot at the same distance that captured the first images of the mid-engine C8. The C7 ZR1 is rumored to have 700 hp and that wing may be needed for additional down force at high speeds. The wing is much different than anything seen since the 2010 Z06x concept. But *Car and Driver's* Don Sherman thinks we might also be looking at the first Corvette equipped with active aerodynamics. These work by automatically adjusting the rear spoiler's angle based on driving speeds. The faster the speed, the more the angle changes to increase down force. For highway speeds, it may adjust to improve fuel economy. And yes, it is believed there will be a "race" setting for maximum down force regardless of speed. (Again, RUMORS that have a way of coming true.....or not.)

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH

(as seen on the Home Page):

Do you ever wish you could take the Vette to the grocery store, but worried that you have no room for the groceries? What about those quick little jaunts to Home Depot, but have no place to haul the lumber? Love Corvettes, but miss the pick-up? We have just the thing for you. This little beauty

combines the best of both worlds - a C4 that's been hollowed out and finished off to accommodate the most discriminating shopper. Just goes to prove once again you can turn that Corvette into anything you want with a little bit of imagination.



### Ending on a light note (and a space filler):

Since most of us are of retirement age or getting close to it, you may consider the many options you have available as to where to retire.

#### You can retire to Phoenix, AZ where...

1. You are willing to park 3 blocks away from your house because you found shade.
2. You've experienced condensation on your butt from the hot water in the toilet bowl.
3. You can drive for 4 hours in one direction and never leave town.
4. You have over 100 recipes for Mexican food.
5. You know that "dry heat" is comparable to what hits you in the face when you open oven.
6. The 4 seasons are: tolerable, hot, really hot, and ARE YOU KIDDING ME??

#### You can retire to California where...

1. You make over \$450,000 and you still can't afford to buy a house.
2. The fastest part of your commute is going down your driveway.
3. You drive your rented Mercedes to your neighborhood block party.
4. When someone asks you how far something is,

you tell them how long it will take to get there rather than how many miles away it is.  
5. The 4 seasons are: Fire, Flood, Mud, Drought.

**You can retire to New York City where...**

1. You say "the city" and expect everyone to know you mean Manhattan ....
2. You can get into a four-hour argument about how to get from Columbus Circle to Battery Park.
3. You think Central Park is "nature."
4. You believe being able to swear at people in their own language makes you multi-lingual.
5. You've worn out a car horn. (IF you have a car).
6. You think eye contact is an act of aggression.

**You can retire to Minnesota where...**

1. You only have three spices: salt, pepper, and ketchup.
2. Halloween costumes have to fit over parkas.
3. You have seventy recipes for casseroles.
4. Sexy lingerie is flannel with less than eight buttons.
5. The four seasons are: almost winter, winter, still winter, and road repair.

**You can retire to The Deep South where...**

1. You can rent a movie and buy bait in the same store.
2. "Y'all" is singular and "all y'all" is plural.
3. "He needed killin'" is a valid defense.
4. Everyone has 2 first names: Billy Bob, Jimmy Bob, Joe Bob, Betty Jean, etc.
5. Everywhere is either: "in yonder," "over yonder" or "out yonder".

**You can retire to Colorado where...**

1. You carry your \$3,000 mountain bike atop your \$500 car.
2. You tell your husband to pick up Granola on his way home, so he stops at the day care center.
3. A pass does not involve a football or dating.
4. The top of your head is bald, but you still have a pony tail.

**You can retire to Nebraska where...**

1. You've never met any celebrities, but the mayor knows your name.
2. Your idea of a traffic jam is three cars waiting to pass a tractor.
3. You have had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" on the same day.
4. You end sentences with a preposition: "Where's my coat at?"

**FINALLY, you can retire to Florida where...**

1. You eat dinner at 3:15 in the afternoon.
2. All purchases include a coupon of some kind -- even houses and cars.
3. Everyone can recommend an excellent cardiologist, dermatologist, proctologist, podiatrist, or orthopedist.
4. Road construction never ends anywhere in the state.
5. Cars in front of you often appear to be driven by headless people.

Since we are all from different parts of the country, I think we can relate.