
VETTE NEWS

Volume 27, Issue 9

September 2008

President's Corner

Our 4th annual Caravan was a huge success again this year and I am proud to announce we exceeded our charity goal for the "Kids Escaping Drugs." The Caravan of Corvettes was led by Bob Kaczmarek, along with four Police Motorcycle escorts, followed by 125 beautiful Corvettes! The assembly at Michael's Banquet Facility, sponsored by West Herr Chevrolet of Hamburg, included a great breakfast sandwich, coffee, juice & pastries. Steven Berry and the West Herr Chevrolet dealership has been a generous sponsor and we cannot thank them enough for helping make this charity event so successful. We also received several great positive comments from the Caravan participants and ideas to consider for the 5th Annual All Corvette Caravan in 2009. While many club members helped make this the best Caravan and the largest COB fundraiser of charity donations, I would like to especially thank Lee & Mike Buccilli, along with Donna & Larry Petro for coordinating the charity raffle items. They stepped up to the task and did an outstanding job! More details will be shared at the September meeting.

The COB picnic was another great club event that everyone enjoyed. A special thank you to Reas Graber for reserving the Clarence Town Park pavilion. For the 2nd year in a row, the heavy rain and damp weather did not affect the food, fun and family atmosphere that we enjoyed. The picnic committee, Karen & Lowell Rothenberger and Donna & Jim Gangloff did an outstanding job! Thank you again! – But we are now looking for a new committee to step up and organize the 2009 Picnic!

Continued on pg2

What's Happening

September 5-7

McDorman Chevrolet

***Corvette Show – Columbus, Ohio
– see Frank Pastore***

- September 6 Buy American –UAW Car Show – Walnut St., Lockport, NY 9am – 4pm
- September 6 Antique Boat & Vintage Car Show – Buffalo Launch Club, Grand Island 9am-3pm
- September 7 WNYCC – Glen Campbell Car Show – Clarence WNY Event Center – 9am-4:30pm

***September 13 COB Club Meeting
– Clarence Church – 7pm***

- September 18 Charcoal Corral Cruise – Perry, NY – 5:30pm – 9pm
- September 20 Crusin the Downs Car Show – Batavia Downs, 11am-4pm
- September 21 Colden Fall Festival- Colden Fire Hall, 10am-5pm
- September 28 Tubby's All Clubs final Get Together – Angola, NY

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of Buffalo

www.corvettesofbuffalo.com



Officers

President	Skip Polowy 716-741-7677
Vice President	Frank Pastore 716-694-9024
Secretary	Linda Bonus 716-695-7643
Treasurer	Mel Skeide 716-876-1194

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Jim Bonus	716-695-7643
Jim Lawson	716-838-2920
Jim Brett	716-684-9364
Reas Graber	716-830-7500

Committees

Membership	Marianne Pastore 716-694-9024
Newsletter	Jim & Linda Bonus 716-695-7643
Phone Comm.	Nancy Graber 716-634-4656
Sunshine Comm.	Karen Rothenberger 716-675-9467
Webmaster	Jim Bonus

Meeting every second Saturday of the month at

First Presbyterian Church
9675 Main St. Clarence, NY
Meeting starts 7:00 p.m.

Corvettes of Buffalo is open to all Corvette owners and enthusiasts over the age of 21

Visit us at <http://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com/>

Send Articles To:
Jim Bonus,
1012 Castlebar Drive
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
E-Mail : <mailto:jwbonus@roadrunner.com>

Submissions must be in by 26th

Continued from pg2

Please give it some thought and I hope to see a few members volunteer in the near future.

Just to report, Carlisle was great again this year. Thousands of Corvette enthusiasts packed the fairgrounds along many, many beautiful corvettes on display & for sale! One COB Member bought a beautiful Torch Red Convertible and really enjoyed his ride all the way back to Buffalo! Congratulations Sam!

The September meeting begins the process of Officers nominations for the next year. This is a great club because we have Members that participate and get involved to make events happen. This requires leadership and a spirit of wanting to help the club. If you are nominated in September you have some time to think about your desire to help the club in a leadership position. The club is always in need of new ideas from talented Members that can help the club to grow in many ways.

I hope to see you at the September meeting!

Save the Wave!

Skip Polowy

Dues and Nominations

At the September meeting we will begin collecting the annual membership dues, which is \$65.00 for Couples or \$50.00 for a single member. The nominations for Officers and Board members will also begin at the September meeting.

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Joe Smith
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New Members

My name is Mary Carol Plott and I am a prospective member. I have been a Corvette enthusiast since 1969 when I purchased my first Corvette. It was a 1967 Goodwood Green roadster, 427 ci., 390 hp, 4 speed. I had the car for less than a year and it was stolen and never recovered.

I purchased my next Corvette in 1971. I drove it right out of the show room! It's a 350 ci., 270 hp, 4 speed, roadster, War Bonnet Yellow. It went through a complete body off restoration several years ago. This is my primary show car. I drive this car to all events in Florida. This past January this car took Best of Show at the Classic Corvettes of Orlando Corvette show in Kissimmee, Florida, held at Old Town. There were 139 Corvettes in the show.

Other Corvettes in my garage include a 1967 Marina blue, 427 ci., 400 hp, 700R automatic, tri-power, which I drove the length of Route 66. In addition, I have a 1981 Silver coupe, 350 ci., 190 hp, automatic and a 2001 Torch Red Z06 coupe, 346 ci., 385 hp, 6 speed. As you can see I am definitely a Corvette enthusiast!

I am a Florida resident and will be spending summer months in the Western New York area. I hope to be able to continue to go to shows and cruises during the summers with my fiance John Meyerhoff and the Corvettes of Buffalo members that I have had the pleasure to meet during the past two months. I don't think there is anything better than, nice cars, good restaurants and good friends!

Mary Carol Plott

This is Rich Zahner & Carole Rotando & we are the proud owners of a 1994 (c4) red convertible with black interior & black top. We have had our Corvette for three years now. It has a total of 27,500 miles.

I have been involved in the classic car community for about 7 years. First with a 1970 Monte Carlo which I still have.

During the summer of 2005, I began to search for a 1955, 56 or 57 Chevy. The more I looked, the more I realized I was not going to find what I was looking for in my price range. During this search I began to see many Corvettes for sale. It has always been a dream of mine to own a Corvette. A dream I thought would never come true.

Seeing all these Corvettes for sale, I started to seriously think of obtaining one. Talking to existing Corvette owners, including some COB club members, I was advised as to what to be aware of in the various generations. After weeks of searching, I remembered a friend of mine was talking of selling his. I called him and he confirmed he was getting ready to advertise it. I asked him the price, which was more than I wanted to pay and told him I needed to think about it. I did so for a whole 2 hours. I called him back and told him I wanted the car .

I became the proud owner of a Corvette and realized a dream come true. Besides that, we forgot how much fun a convertible could be.

Rich Zahner & Carole Rotando

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RODNEY REISDORF



New Members

Since before I could legally drive, I have been a “car guy”. It may have started by inventing a “reason to cruise” the family sedan back and forth in our North Buffalo driveway but it quickly became a lifetime of learning and respect for the Great American Road Machine! I graduated from the driveway to my first job at Hoegel’s Service Station in Buffalo (Starin and Hertel) during the beginning years of our beloved Muscle Car era. What I learned from him and our many acquaintances since those early days has brought countless friendships and a true enjoyment of many classic cars. (And some cars that weren’t so great, too!)

Fast forward from the 60’s to the summer of 1982 when Joan and I met. I was the proud (original) owner of my 1975 Olds 88 red convertible and she, the owner of a 1964 red Corvette roadster. So, the truth is out....she was the one who owned a “vette” first! And **NO**, I did not marry her because she had good taste in cars....when you get to know her better, she may share the painful story of selling the ’64. Ah...life’s regrets!! That said, it is important to have a partner who shares in an “appreciation” of cars—especially when either of us begin to search for the NEXT acquisition. And there have been MANY during the last 25 years!

Which brings us to finding our 1992 C4 coupe in July 2007! After talking with long time friend Ron Giovino about his prized Z06, he suggested I look on UsedCorvettesforSale.com to search for the elusive “different Corvette” that we could both drive and enjoy! Enter the posting from Old Saybrook, CT for just that special one...***six speed, low miles, black w/grey, nearly perfect!*** Almost too good to be true! After several calls and research, it was time for the road trip to New England! The rest is history! We returned to Old Saybrook two weeks later to drive it “home”.

We have known about the unique Corvettes of Buffalo Club through Bruce and Ruth Mussehl for a long time.

As prospective members this spring and summer, we have attended meetings, car shows, cruises, and several events including the Car Caravan last weekend. What a pleasure it has been to meet so many of you and to experience great fun and friendship-- your trademark!

Thank you for making us feel so welcome!

Bob & Joan Meegan

Indoor Winter Storage Available.

Limited space from Oct. 15th, thru April 15, 2009. \$250/season.

Early bird discount to members \$235/season.

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John Anticola at 983-5690

To the Caravan Committee

You did a WONDERFUL job organizing the event. The driving route was beautiful, the multi-community police escort worked great and even the weather worked in your favor. Each one seems to get better and better.

Ed and Pat Danahy

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Corvette Caravan

COB put together another successful Corvette Caravan on Sunday, Aug. 17th. Our sponsor, West Herr Automotive had breakfast sandwiches, pastry & coffee provided by Michael' Catering for all the participants before the ride. The 2 hr. trek thru the southern tier on a beautiful morning went off without a hitch.. A total of 125 cars from various corvette clubs, as well as anyone who just wanted to go for a drive took part We even had Channel 4 News interviewing Steven Barry, from West Herr and our own Lee Buccilli about our caravan and what a great activity it is for a great cause..

The local police , sheriff's departments & state troopers, as always, did a tremendous job of blocking off intersections enabling the caravan to follow the route without any inconvenience. We even had some on-lookers waiting in Springville thanks to an article John Meyerhoff placed in the Springville Journal.

On to Colden Lakes for a buffet lunch & more fun. A special thanks to Bob Kaczmarek who mapped out this years route. Lee & Mike Buccilli and Donna & Larry Petro for heading up the Chinese Auction and the big raffle which included the grand prize of a flat screen TV, with proceeds of over \$5,000 going to Kid's Escaping Drugs. Thanks also to all the members who helped sell tickets for the raffle(all 1,000 were sold), 50/50 and for the baskets. Hope everyone enjoyed themselves

Corvette Caravan passes through Springville Sunday, August 17

Corvettes of Buffalo will host their Fourth Annual Corvette Caravan on Sunday, August 17 sponsored by West Herr Chevrolet.

The Corvette Caravan, consisting of 125 Corvettes will assemble at Michael's Banquet Facility in Hamburg at 9 a.m.

The Corvette parade will pass through the Village of Springville at the intersection of Springville-Boston Road and Route 39 at 10:30 a.m. and proceed south to Ellicottville on Route 219.

The Corvette parade will travel around the block, making their second pass through Springville

at Route 240 and Route 39 around 11:20 a.m.

Proceeds raised by the Corvette Caravan will benefit Kids Escaping Drugs.

Money will be raised from the parade registration, Chinese Auction and Raffle. Funds will also be received from West Herr.

"It's a great activity for a great cause," said John Meyerhoff of Sardinia, who noted that he will be driving a 1969 Corvette.

For more information contact President Skip Polowy of Clarence at 741-7677 or contact John Meyerhoff of Sardinia at 496-8841.



Mid Ohio and the Corvette Race Team

July 18th found Linda and myself cruising on down Rt 71 in Ohio to the Mid Ohio Race-track. The mission was to be part of the action of the ACURA Sports Car Challenge and watch the Corvette C6R Race Team. Well, we were not disappointed, the weekend was great!

We arrived at noon, put our infield parking pass in the vette's window showed our tickets and got our first of three wrist bands "pink". We had to wear it all weekend and it wasn't removable! Thru the gates we made our way in to the infield to find the Corvette Corral, Hospitality tent, and one of the last parking spots left. Off to the Hospitality Tent to register and get the second wrist band "yellow and can't take it off" to be used as admission to the tent, the Paddock, and the Pits for the remainder of the weekend.



Friday was practice day for all racing teams from the ALMS and the Indy Racing League. The sound of the cars was just awesome, especially the Corvette C6R. You didn't have to see it coming, you could hear the low throaty sound of the push rod V8! With the Indy cars was the smell of ethanol. Sniff enough and it might get you going. Next stop was the Paddock and Pit Area. We were just in awe at the amount of trucks, equipment and motor homes used by the racing teams.

The Corvette Paddock was a two truck arrangement with awnings and special flooring covering an area the size of my house. The same held true in the Pit area. The Pit boxes were state of the art especially the Corvette Box. They had a set up with 18 screens viewing all sections of the race track. All the pit boxes had a Direct TV dish mounted on them and pointed to the sky to receive their video signals.



Ron Fellows at the Pit Box

The one thing that was everywhere was TIRES! I have never see so many racing tires, they where every where you looked, and not just two but ten or more in racks or just laying on the ground.

Day two, race day, had us arriving at the Corvette Corral before 8 AM for two reasons, one to get a parking space and two to register for the parade lap at the end of the day. Again we receive a wrist band! Red for the driver, blue for the passenger now we are wearing three. They only register the first 100 Corvettes for the parade lap. The Hospitality Tent hosted a Corvette team driver session and other GM technical people, raffles for guided pit tours and a hot laps on the track with an experienced driver. No we didn't win. They had a new ZR1 on display along with the official 2008 Indy Pace car. The tent proved to be a great base for the balance of the day as the temperature reached around 90 .



They provided tables and chairs, water, snacks and private toilets all day. We set up our chairs at esses , sat down and watched an awesome race and just waited for the Corvettes to come around and around. The end of the race found us back at the tent waiting for the parade laps to start. The parade lap was lead by the 2008 Pace Car for two sometimes fast and sometimes standing still laps. We met up with the Rochester Club at the corral and talked to some members that we had met at the 3 Brothers Winery tour. Rochester had cruised up with 14 cars and had a sign posted for their parking area

To sum it all up Linda and I just had a great time and can't begin to describe what an event it is. You just have to be a part of it. I took a lot of pictures which are posted in the web site gallery and video which will be on the web site. Linda and I will plan to do it again next year. So if you are interested in joining us let us know.

Jim & Linda Bonus



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At The Esses



The Corvette Paddock



Anybody Got The Keys

Corvette History

- **September 1, 1992:** Corvette chief engineer Dave McLellan formally retires, staying on as a consultant until his replacement is named.
- **September 2, 1994:** The National Corvette Museum opens in Bowling Green, Kentucky. 4000 Corvettes attend. Over the three-day weekend, 118,000 people visit the museum. The gift shop does US\$1 million in business.
- **September 3, 1996:** Workers at the Bowling Green, Kentucky, Corvette plant begin assembling the first production 1997 Corvette.
- **September 4, 1998:** The following people were inducted into The Corvette Hall of Fame at the National Corvette Museum: The Corvette Hall of Fame inducts Ed Cole, General Motors President and Chief Engineer of Chevrolet, Bill Mitchell, head of General Motors Design staff, Joe Pike, Corvette promoter and editor of Corvette News and founder of the National Council of Corvette Clubs (NCCC), Larry Shinoda, designer and member of the 1963 Sting Ray design team, Zora Arkus-Duntov, first Chief Engineer of Corvette
- **September 8, 1998:** Baseball team St. Louis Cardinals president Mark Lamping presents team member Mark McGwire with a red 1962 Corvette, after McGwire hits his 62 home-run of the season
- **September 9, 1955:** Zora Arkus-Duntov races a disguised 1956 model Corvette with a V-8 engine at the Pike's Peak Hill climb, setting the stock car record of with a time of 17:24.05
- **September 13, 1973:** General Motors show a 266 ci two-rotor Wankel engine test Corvette at the 45th German Motor Show in Frankfurt, Germany. The car is called Corvette 2-Rotor, (code name XP-897GT) with a steel body.
- **September 29, 1953:** The automotive press get their hands on a Corvette for test and review, as the Corvette is officially released. Eight Corvettes are made available to the press at the Milford Proving Grounds.
- **September, 1997:** 9,000 Corvette owners attend a special weekend gathering at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Chevrolet introduces the 1998 convertible Corvette.

September COB Anniversaries

11 th	Shirley & Jim Belter
13 th	Mary & Pat Mangan
15 th	Lorry & Harry Kwiek
25 th	Diane & Mel Skeide

COB Birthdays

1 st	Peter Ricigliano
5 th	Kathie Eckert
7 th	Lee Buccilli
7 th	Carol Kenny
12 th	Mary Mangan
14 th	Lowell Rothenberger
16 th	Larry Petro
17 th	Shirley Belter
19 th	Alexis Frank



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Voting Eligibility

The following members are currently in good standing and are eligible to vote in November's elections

Arnot, Shirley	Lynch, Dick
Balmas, Carl	Lynch, Lori
Balmas, Chris	Mangan, Mary
Belter, Jim	Mangen Pat
Belter, Shirley	Mussehl, Bruce
Bonus, Jim	Mussehl, Ruth
Bonus, Linda	Buccilli, Lee
Boyle, Mary	Buccilli, Mike
Boyle, Robert (Rob)	Pastore, Frank
Brett, Jim	Pastore, Marianne
Brett, Nicolet	Polowy, Maureen
Brownlee, Richard	Polowy, Skip
Brownlee, Sue	Ricigliano, Pete
Collucci, Gene	Rothenberger, Karen
Dworzack, Steve	Rothenberger, Lowell
Dworzack, Carol	Schafer, Ray
Eckert, Craig	Schafer, Debbie
Eckert, Craig	Schubert, Don
Eckert, Kathy	Schubrt, Judy
Erdey, Mike	Seifert, Ed
Frank, Alexis	Seifert, Pamm
Frank, George	Skeide, Diane
Iraci, Sam	Skeide, Mel
Gangloff, Donna	Strychalski, Roberta
Gionet, Phil	Ulrich, Marie
Giovino, Connie	Wroblewski, Dan
Giovino, Ron	Wroblewski, Debbie
Graber, Nancy	Zelasko, Jim
Graber, Reas	Wosilait, Arnold
Huber, Dave	Wosilait, Lillian
Ienco, Larry	
Ienco, Lynn	
Kaczmarek, Bob	
Kinney, Carol	
Kinney, Jack	
Kirkland, Rich	
Kirkland, Pat	
Krakowski, Dan	
Krezmien, Susan	
Kwiek, Harry	
Kwiek, Lori	
Lawson, Jim	

The following members have attended five meetings or activities and will be in good standings and be eligible to vote in November elections if attending one more meeting

Artieri, Pat
Collucci, Bernie
Danahy, Ed
Danahy, Pat
Eckert, Charles
Eckert, Sharon
Erdey, Cindy
Gangloff, Jim
Huber, Kathy
Meyerhoff, John
Petro, Donna
Petro, Larry
Ricigliano, Rose
Tkach, Bob
Violino, Grant

The following members have attended four meetings or activities and will be in good standings and be eligible to vote in November elections if attending two more meeting

Anticola, Susan
Anticola, John
Hoffman, Barb
Obrian, Pam



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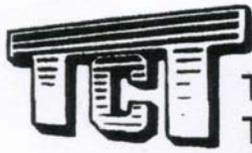
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