

**JUNE 2022** 



**VETTE NEWS SINCE 1981** 

I had the opportunity this past month to participate in a trial run of this year's 2022 Corvettes of Buffalo Caravan. Marty Link has once again developed the route, culminating with the traditional Corvette Wave on Main Street in the village of East Aurora. This year again the route will not disappoint. Jim and Kevin tell me that registrations are coming in at a good rate but registrations from club members have been at a snail's pace. Spots are again limited to 100 cars so get yours in as soon as possible not to be disappointed.

The Kickoff Event started with 35-degree temperatures and 2" of snow on the ground. By lunch time the snow was only a memory and temperatures were on the rise, it was nice to enjoy near perfect weather for the rest of the trip. Everyone enjoyed the itinerary and the socializing, most nights over adult beverages back at the hotel. I want to thank Karen and George Sparks for their help in organizing the start of the COB season.

This month we shook things up a bit, instead of the regular meeting at the church hall we took a road tour to the Corvette Cruise in Groundbreaking Celebration at Van Bortel Corvette. We had a great response with 27 cars caravanning to the event. I want to thank everyone who attended showing their support of our sponsor dealership.

I also want to thank Jim Kuczmarski for setting up this month's Ice cream Social at Andersons and the Weatherbee's for the Dinner Cruise to the Wilson Bost House. Both events were well attended and enjoyed by all. Great Job!

SAVE THE WAVE

President Bob Joseph





#### EDITOR'S NOTE:



Can it be June already? Perhaps this will be the month when full details and costs come out on the new Z06. Several of you have one ordered, though the lists are quite long. Now, a Florida dealership is offering it sooner at a mere \$100,000 over MSRP.

**Dave Spencer** 

Dear COB friends... as we grow together as a club, we are still confronted with horrific scenes like those in the news recently. I am saddened by the hate and bigotry that can exist in our community and for the action of an outsider taking ten lives from us in May.

While it may not seem like much, treating people in our lives with respect and dignity can go a long way in this, the "City of good neighbors". If only everyone could have a common enjoyment thread with others, like the Corvette, just maybe there would be more peace in the world. But I'll get off my soapbox now and just wish everyone good health and good weather for all to enjoy.

Did everyone get a chance to check out Dan Krakowski's video of Van Bortel's New Corvette facility groundbreaking? It's a winner, beautifully done.... Thanks Dan.

I would like to start up a "Car of the Month" series if I can get support from the club. It would feature a member's Corvette and some history behind it. It's a human interest page that is popular in many club newsletters. It all starts when one of you out there sends me info about your special ride. Be the FIRST.

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www.corvettesofbuffalo.com



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Meeting every second Saturday of the month at First Presbyterian Church 9675 Main St. Clarence, NY, 14031 Meeting starts 7:00 p.m.

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

Send Newsletter Articles To: Dave Spencer
E-Mail: c7hotrod@gmail.com
Submissions must be in before the 25<sup>th</sup>
Late submissions will be published the following month.



### **JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:**

1<sup>st</sup> Bob & Donna Harrer 6<sup>th</sup> Skip & Maureen Polowy 13<sup>th</sup> Mike & Lee Buccilli 21<sup>st</sup> Dick & Sue Brownlee 24<sup>th</sup> Jim & Lynn Kelly 28<sup>TH</sup> Lowell & Karen Rothenberger 30<sup>th</sup> George & Karen Sparks





### JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

11<sup>TH</sup> Ralph Nicosia 21<sup>st</sup> John Meyerhoff 22<sup>nd</sup> Paulette Krakowski 24<sup>th</sup> Pamm Seifert 28<sup>TH</sup> Sally Scudder

### Current Planned Club Events June/July 2022 (Includes Website Events)

#### Lynda Graham, Activities Director

June 3 Rich Zahn Memorial Service

June 4 Moose Cruisers Car Show, 905 Main St. East Aurora, NY 1pm-4pm

June 10 14th Annual Depew Car & Bike Show Depew High School 5201 Transit Rd. 5-8pm

June 11 COB Club Meeting - Clarence Church - 7 pm

June 12-17 NCCC Convention Atlantic City, NJ

June 12 AACA Car Show (Antique & Classic) – Village Green Park, 3007 Bowen Rd. Elma 9-4pm

June 17 Van Bortel ZO6 Debut Event

June 22 WNYCC West Herr - All Corvette Cruise, Transit Rd. Williamsville – 4:30pm – 7:30pm

June 26 Autorama 2022, George Lamm Am. Legion Post #622 962 Wherle Dr. 9-4pm

June 26 Ellicottville Distillery 5462 Robins Road Ellicottville, NY. 10-4pm

June 27 COB Corvette Night at the Wurlitzer, 908 NF Blvd. 5-9pm



July 7 Annual Queen of Heaven Carnival Super Cruise, 4220 Seneca St. W. Seneca, NY 5pm-10pm

July 9 Pirates Festival Car Show – Krull Park, Olcott, NY (9am-4pm)

July 9 COB Club Meeting - Clarence Church-7pm

July 10 Annual Harbor Cruise, Point Gratiot Park, Rt. 5 Dunkirk, NY 12-5pm

July 15 Annual St. Johns Cruise Night- 2021 Sandridge Rd. Alden, NY 4pm-8:30

July 16 Burgerfest Car Show- Main St. Hamburg, NY 9-4pm

July 21 "All Cars" Corvettes of Buffalo Super Cruise Eastern Hills Mall 5-9pm

TBD 22nd Annual Canalfest Car Show

July 30-31 Sylvan Beach All Corvette Show – Trip to Sylvan Beach, NY 9am-4pm

July 31 18th Annual Alden Car Show- Alden Town Park, 11am-8pm







JUNE: Requested Church Pantry Donations... paper products

#### Update on All Car Super Cruise

Happy with the success of our Sponsorship Campaign, we finished at \$2330. Sincere thanks to Carole Rotando, Mike Buccilli and Bob Joseph for your help! Thanks as well to Tony Corigliano, Kevin Horan and Bruce Mussehl for stepping up as club members and taking a sponsorship.

I encourage eveyone who can to donate a basket, or team up with other members to create a basket for the Basket Raffle. We seem to have a lot of excitement growing for this raffle. Another option would be to bring a nice bottle of wine or spirit for the baskets I'm putting together. Thank you to Karen Sparks for once again managing our Basket Raffle, with her in charge I know we be successful!

The letter for the basket or gift card donations can be found on our web site. I'll be sure some are available at the next meeting for those who don't have a printer.

Many thanks to Bob Joseph for the hours he has spent working on designing the Flyer for this event. Not sure what I would have done without him.

One last thing for now, if I could ask everyone to save 1 gallon plastic milk or juice jugs. Please rinse with water. We will need these to anchor our pop up awnings at our event.

#### Sue Blum





### ALL CAR SUPER CRUISE

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DASH PLAQUES FOR FIRST 100 REGISTERED AWARDS PRESENTED AT 7:30 PM 50/50 & Basket Raffle 8:00 PM INFORMATION: Sue Blum, 716-903-5753

#### NCM Announces 2022 Corvette Hall of Fame Members Elect: National Corvette

Museum rep John Meyerhoff

BOWLING GREEN, KY, April 29, 2022 – At a ceremony hosted last Friday, the National Corvette Museum announced its 2022 Corvette Hall of Fame Members-Elect. The Corvette Hall of Fame was established by the National Corvette Museum in 1998 to recognize and commemorate influential members of the Corvette community. The intent of the inductions is to confer official recognition upon the most influential individuals in one of three categories related to the Corvette: GM-Chevrolet, Racing, and Enthusiast.

Nominees for the <u>Corvette Hall of Fame</u> are selected by an anonymous panel of Corvette experts. The candidates are then presented to a second group of 100 anonymous Corvette experts, where the final inductees are selected. Since its inception in <u>1998</u>, the <u>NCM</u> has only inducted 75 people into its Hall of Fame.

The 2022 Hall of Fame Inductees are GM-Chevrolet – Ed Welburn, Retired VP, GM Global Design 2022 Corvette Hall of Fame Inductee Ed Welburn, former vice president of General Motors Global Design. Welburn joined General Motors in 1972 as an associate designer and worked thru the ranks to become GM's first-ever Global VP of Design. In that role, he managed a team of 2,500 people in design studios around the world. To help foster a sense of teamwork and cooperation between studios, Ed invited all design staff members around the globe to submit their own designs for the seventh-generation Corvette. He set a high bar, encouraging his team to design a Corvette that could wear the "Stingray" moniker once again.

### Racing - Gary Pratt & Jim Miller, Founders of Pratt &

Miller Engineering 2022 Corvette Hall of Fame Inductees Jim Miller (left) and Gary Pratt (right) of

Pratt & Miller Engineering. In 1989, race car builder Gary Pratt joined forces with successful businessman Jim Miller to form the company "Pratt & Miller Engineering." Bearing witness to the company's incredible successes from its inception, Chevrolet approached the duo about building/campaigning a factory-backed race program beginning with the fifth-generation Corvette. Since its debut in 1999, the Corvette Racing program has had eight wins at Le Mans and secured 15 championships. Moreover, the Pratt & Miller race program has worked closely with Chevrolet to advance the technologies incorporated in the production-model Corvette. The result of their efforts has led to the creation of some truly remarkable Corvettes – including



the <u>2023 Z06</u> due out later this year. They've also established a global fanbase thru their successes on-and-off the racetrack.

Enthusiast – Elfi Arkus-Duntov, The First Lady of Corvette 2022 Corvette Hall of Fame Inductee Elfriede "Elfi" Arkus-Duntov, the First Lady of Corvette. Celebrated the world over as the "First Lady of Corvette," Elfriede "Elfi" Wolff was Zora Arkus-Duntov's wife and an incredible part of the Corvette's rich history. Elfi married Zora in February 1939, just months before the start of World War II. After narrowly escaping Europe at the height of the NAZI occupation in Europe, the couple fled to the United States. Years later, as Corvette's Chief Engineer, Elfi traveled the world with Zora, helping him advance the reputation of America's Sportscar on and off the racetrack. In addition to being Zora's constant companion, Elfi was also a major advocate of the Corvette in her own right. She shared her husband's passion for the Corvette and proved to be incredibly knowledgeable about the car. Her grace, enthusiasm, and passion for both the Corvette and her husband's work made her an inseparable part of Zora's legacy.

After Zora's retirement from General Motors in 1975, he and Elfi would travel the country, attending many Corvette shows together, often sitting for hours to sign autographs and take pictures with fans. After Zora passed in 1996, Elfi became the principal source of information on her husband's life, allowing for the creation of his definitive biography.

Each Corvette Hall of Fame inductee has distinguished himself/herself through their contributions to the Corvette in the category they represent, as well as modeling a consistently high standard of integrity and character that reflects and enhances the reputation of the Corvette and the National Corvette Museum. "This year's inductees are simply remarkable," said Sharon Brawner, President, and CEO of the National Corvette Museum. "The Corvette has long engendered a very passionate following, and we are thrilled that these deserving individuals have been recognized for their own extraordinary Corvette stories." For anyone interested in attending this year's Hall of Fame induction ceremony can purchase tickets in June when registration opens for the Museum's anniversary event. Nominations for 2023 Corvette Hall of Fame Inductees will be open from May 2nd-August 5th, 2022. Learn more at corvettehalloffame.org.



# NCCC News: Mike Buccilli (our new NCCC Governor)

Hello everyone,

Sorry I couldn't make the June meeting, but Lee and I along with other members are going to be in Atlantic city attending the NCCC convention. I wanted to let everyone to know that NCCC has a scholarship program for anyone in your family going to college in the amount of \$1500.00. If you are interested in applying you can go the NCCC website, click on scholarships and follow the directions. I will be at the meeting in July if you have any questions. As always drive safe!



### April 30<sup>th</sup> COB Bistro 93 Brunch:

Actually, many more were in attendance, but these were shots at the end of the meal after many had left.





### May 14<sup>th</sup> Van Bortel Ground breaking for its new Corvette facility:



















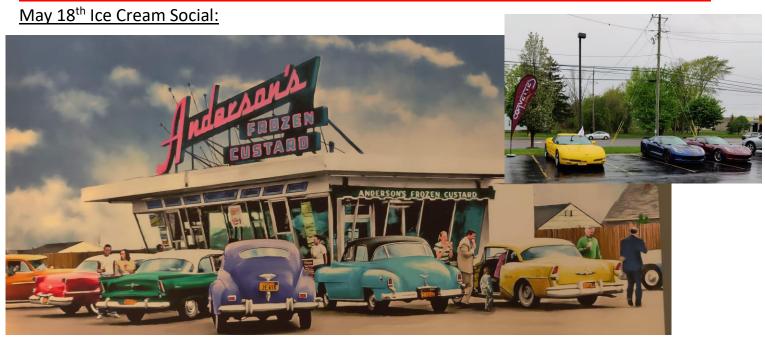




















May 19th visit to the Wilson Boat House Restaurant:



















Pete on 27 Apr 2022: Gary. I was wondering what is happening across the pond at this time. Did your gas prices go up as high as ours did? Our gas went from \$ 3.50 to \$ 4.50 per gallon when that terrible war in Ukraine started. We hope Putin pulls back with his tail between his legs. Rosie and I were to start on our vacation to go to the home where corvettes were built in Bowling Green Kentucky today. Unfortunate I came down with a mild case of the covid and cancelled. I am feeling better every day and look forwards to the next corvette trip May 23rd to 25th (up state NY) to the Thousand Islands. This morning the weather when down below freezing and it snowed a little. Weather will be colder this spring, but this is Buffalo area. I did get the C7 out a couple times just to drive and enjoy a real powerful car and loved every minute. Did you finish you garage and start working on the 72 vette? What is happening over there. Stay safe and save the wave ......Your friend

Hi Pete, hope you over the covid soon, shame you had to cancel the trip. Our regular E10 gas is currently the equivalent of \$6.60c for a US gallon.!!

Still working on the vette end of workshop, as soon as the door is done then the 72 can go in there. Can't wait for that day! Been busy on pianos lately and trying to get the garden straight. Also have been over to Ireland to help settle Ruby and her boyfriend into their new build house. Got a couple of rounds of golf in as well.

There is a corvette meet this Saturday but I am working hard up at the ski lake getting ready for start of our waterski season so will miss it.

Let me have your cell phone number and I will video call you one day when we are out in the vette. All best for now Pete, take care, hi to all in the family and the clubs.

Your friend in the Uk?

Sent: Wed, Apr 27, 2022 3:31 pm

the last snow of the season this spring I hope

Gary. I got an email from Dennis that lives in Germany asking me to check out a 1974 red Corvette about 5 miles from me in Clarence.

It turned out that I know the man and see him at cruise nights. The car was beautifully detailed and correct inside, outside and under neat.

The asking price was \$24,000 a little on the high side, but the car was almost perfect to look at. I told Dennis that the car was a show car, but I would not drive it long distances because of the cost of a break down, age and it wasn't a frame of restoration. To own a car like it you better have someone to keep it running and maintaining it like you do the 1972. As I told you, when you buy an old car, you bought a hobby. It is a good thing to know how to keep it running. I don't know if Dennis bought it, and didn't hear from him after I sent my report to him.

Good to hear from you again .... Stay safe and save the wave -Pete

Hi Peter, went to see an old friend today, Rob is a member of the local corvette club and had this 1980 that he re built and painted. We met again after I bought the 72 and went to the club meet. We hadn't seen each other for 43yrs when I bout a 289 ford V8 motor off him. He has just sold the 1980 to his son

and bought a ford pop hot rod with Rover (Buick 215 ci), so you selling me the 72 has reunited me with a great guy I hadn't seen for years. Life is strange hey?

Take care

Gary. (Ps) the double ended Austin A30 is one he built as an apprentice mechanic when he was 18.











### "TO EV OR NOT TO EV?"

CH 2 - REBATES

Page 1 of 2

FREE MONEY.....ALMOST \$10,000.00 WORTH OF TAX FREE MONEY?????

AAAAAAHHHH NOTHING IS "FREE", BUT THE TAX INCENTIVES ARE TEMPTING.

THERE ARE A HOST OF SOURCES FOR REBATES, ALTHOUGH EVER CHANGING LIKE THE EV ITSELF.

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NEXT MONTH: SEE "TO EV OR NOT TO EV?" CH 3 – COST,

"SPARKY"

#### **CORVETTES OF BUFFALO ADVERTISERS' PAGES**



Jim Kuczmarski's recently purchased Van Bortel Corvette











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#### **Newsletter Editor Notes:**

Restaurateur Russell J. Salvatore and infectious disease specialist Dr. Rajinder Bajwa will be honored when Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center brings back its annual gala fundraising event, the Premier. The black-tie formal, scrapped this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic, will be held Jan. 15 in the Seneca Niagara Casino in the Falls, the medical center announced. The event usually draws a sellout crowd of about 900. The 2020 Premier raised about \$275,000 for the hospital.

Co-chairs of the 2022 event include Buffalo Common Council member Darius Pridgen and his son, Pastor Craig Pridgen, and Dr. Ravinder K. Devgun, Memorial's chief of anesthesiology, and his wife, Sukhmender S. Saran.

Bajwa, Memorial's chief of infectious diseases, led the hospital's response to the pandemic.

Salvatore, owner of Russell's Steaks, Chops & More, has donated millions of dollars to area hospitals, including a major gift to renovate Memorial's welcome center in 2019.

- Thomas J. Prohaska



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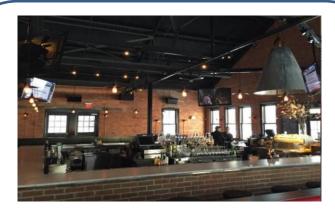
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**Editor Dave** 







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