



*We're more than just the car!*

October  
2025

## VETTE NEWS





# ***My View from the Drivers Seat***

## ***Bob Joseph President***

*September was an eventful month for the Corvette Club of Buffalo. The month kicked off with the Van Bortel Cruise-In, a fantastic event sponsored by Kitty Van Bortel, which brought together Corvette enthusiasts for a day of fun food & music. Following this, the COB's 21st Annual Caravan proved to be a resounding success, drawing participants from as far as Albany to celebrate our shared love for driving our Corvettes. A special thanks goes to John Biggie for organizing a trip to the Alliance Corvette Gathering in Lancaster Pa. and to Bardstown, Kentucky, which allowed members to explore new roads and make lasting memories. The Double Decker Bus Tour, organized by Denyse Weatherbee, was also well attended, providing a unique way for members to connect and enjoy crime stories of the less savory parts of Buffalo's lower west side. Additionally, Mike Erdey received a fantastic response to the Financial Guys Super-Cruise, which was put together at the last minute, showing the club's support for spontaneous events. The month wrapped up with the final Cars and Coffee event at Eastern Hills Mall, where members enjoyed each other's company one last time for this season. To cap off the month, eight club members set out on a trip to New Hampshire for the 2024 NCM Caravan Reunion. As summer comes to an end we now transition into fall events, looking back on a great season while preparing for a few fall foliage rides before storing our cars for the winter months ahead.*

**Bob**



### ***-In This Issue-***

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Murder Mystery Tour***

***Van Bortel Cruise In***

***21<sup>st</sup> COB Caravan  
Wrap up***



**COB VP REPORT OCTOBER 2025**

*Reminders of Summer are still lingering on. Thus, our beautiful rides can enjoy the wonderful sunny days that remain. The leaves are not turning yet, but in a flash, they will be falling.*

*For those of you that have not put your beauties in storage, please take advantage of this "extra" driving time and email your pictures to Dan Krakowski at: [Krakowd@gmail.com](mailto:Krakowd@gmail.com)*

*They will look GREAT on the COB "BIG" screen.*

*Reminder: our annual "Columbus Day Ride" to SPRAGUE'S MAPLE FARM and the beauty of the FALL season should be in full color on Monday October 13, 2025 see photos below:*





## COB NCM AMBASSADOR OCTOBER REPORT 2025

Although "Corvettes at Carlise" and the "31<sup>st</sup> NCM Anniversary Celebration" have come and gone, don't feel left out. There is so much information available to let you in on what took place.

For example all this talk and conversation about the "ZORA" is still a "hot" topic among fellow Corvette enthusiasts. The following link will take you on an incredible journey of "Zora's" Corvette. Enjoy: <https://www.corvetteblogger.com/2025/09/01/corvette-museum-debuts-1974-stingray-owned-by-corvettes-first-chief-engineer-zora-arkus-duntov/>

Yes, we intended to "entice" you to delve into one of the many "treasures" that you will find at the National Corvette Museum. The "Museum" is far more than a collection of Corvettes. It is filled with exhibits and tremendous history of "America's Sportscar". Besides Zora's one and only Corvette that he owned and drove, he and his wife, Elfriede "Elfi" Wolff, "The First Lady of Corvette" who was a constant, supportive presence at his side, sharing his passion for the car. They are honored figures in the history of the Chevrolet Corvette and are both "interred" at the National Corvette Museum.

Although Zora passed away in 1996, his dream and legend live on. For more about his connection to the museum click on the following link: <https://www.corvettemuseum.org/zoras-racing-helmet-goggles/>

We invite you to visit and take in the fabulous Corvette history at the National Corvette Museum. Perhaps a chance to take a Corvette Assembly Plant Tour.

"Save the Wave"

George and Karen Sparks

PS Don't forget to enter the NCM Sweepstakes click on link for more info:

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/1967-corvette-convertible-sweepstakes/>

Remember "Ya gotta be in it, to win it" and please use the COB QR code:



Ever wonder if Harley Earl ever owned a corvette? Click on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIlrHU7LBWY>



**Tony Malagisi Governor**

**Why are NCCC Dues going up?**

*I wish that I had better and more through news to report to you as your COB Governor to the NCCC.*

*But I don't, and I have been asked by many people "why are our NCCC dues going up", especially after being told (last month) that they would stay the same going into 2026. Here is the only explanation that I have for you at this moment.*

*Earlier this month Ray Schafer (Ray represents 7 Northeast NCCC Clubs which includes us ) attended the NCCC quarterly meeting in St Louis. There were many discussions around the upcoming NCCC Convention being hosted in Syracuse and especially the shortfalls that the NCCC Organization faces going into 2026.*

*Ray said, The National Council dues have not been changed since 1987 and it was due. As for the timing of the change, I do not know the impression that was around the room that the change wouldn't be until next year.*

*Ray said he should have more information at the November meeting. As to why budget shortfalls three largest impacts are*

- 1 - insurance*
- 2- meeting*
- 3 - officer expenses.*

*Continued on page 20*



*This month's featured car  
is a 2015 Z51 Stingray  
Coupe in Torch Red  
Owned by Ron & Barb Fuhrhop*



## **OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT: BOB JOSEPH**

**V. PRESIDENT: GEORGE SPARKS**

**TREASURER: NORMA JOSEPH**

**SECRETARY: KAREN ROTHENBERGER**

## **Board of Directors**

Mike Buccilli--Terry Decker--Kevin Horan  
John Biggie—Wayne Scudder  
Denyse Weatherbee--Joe Weatherbee

## **Visit Us At**

**[www.corvettesofbuffalo.com](http://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com)**

*Send newsletter articles to:*

*Bob Joseph-- Interim Editor @ [r3359j@aol.com](mailto:r3359j@aol.com)*

***Submission Deadline 25<sup>th</sup> of the Month***

## **Hilton Apple Fest**



**Saturday Oct 4th, 8am -  
4 pm. This is Rain or  
Shine event!**



**<https://www.corvettemuseum.org>**



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Please address all correspondence to: Corvettes of Buffalo P.O. Box 161 West Seneca, NY 14224





**CORVETTES**  
of Buffalo

Lynda Graham  
Activities Director

### **Hilton Applefest**

October 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-5:00pm  
Leaving from Tim Hortons 9:30am  
6393 Robinson Rd. Lockport, NY 14094

### **Peek N Peek Fall Festival**

October 11<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-3:00pm  
Clymer, NY

### **October Meeting**

October 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm  
Clarence First Presbyterian Church  
9675 Main St. Clarence, NY 14031

### **Pulaski Day Parade**

October 12<sup>th</sup> 1:00-2:00pm  
Assembly time: 11:30  
Williamsville South School  
5950 Main St. Williamsville, NY 14221

### **Sprague Maple Farms Lunch Cruise**

October 13<sup>th</sup> Departing 12:30pm  
Leave from Made in America Store  
1000 W. Maple Ct. Elma NY 14059

### **Men's Luncheon**

October 15<sup>th</sup> 12:00-2:00pm  
Danny's South  
4300 Abbott Rd. Orchard Park, 14127

### **Safe Driving Course**

October 25<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-3:00pm  
Clarence First Presbyterian Church  
9675 Main St. Clarence, NY 14031



Additional events can be found  
on the Events page of the  
Corvettes of Buffalo website.

*Used with permission of National Corvette Museum*

## Clarence Food Pantry



*Jan-Paper Products*

*Feb-canned meat, spaghetti & sauce*

*Mar-laundry & personal care*

*Apr-cereal, condiments, condensed milk*

*May- boxed & canned dinner foods*

*Jun-paper products*

*Jul- canned meat, spaghetti & sauce*

*Aug-non-perishable items (Picnic)*

*Sep-Laundry & Personal items*

***Oct-boxed & canned dinner food***

*Nov-unwrapped toys*



HAPPY  
Birthday  
DAY

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Donna Biggie
- 3<sup>rd</sup> PeJim Brett
- 7<sup>th</sup> Jim Pepe
- 8<sup>th</sup> Marty Link
- 9<sup>th</sup> Jim Kaznowski
- 9<sup>th</sup> Frank Pastore
- 12<sup>th</sup> Chris Balmas
- 16<sup>th</sup> Cindy Erdey
- 16<sup>th</sup> Kathy Huber
- 18<sup>th</sup> Dan Krakowski
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Ken Kaczka
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Dave Spencer
- 26<sup>th</sup> Joe Peluso
- 27<sup>th</sup> Cheryl Antkowiak
- 27<sup>th</sup> Marianne Pastore
- 28<sup>th</sup> Joe Weatherbee
- 29<sup>th</sup> Dan Wroblewski

HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY

- 12<sup>th</sup> Jim & Nicolette Brett
- 16<sup>th</sup> Ralph & Dawn Sardo
- 18<sup>th</sup> Jim & Sharon Kaznowski
- 29<sup>th</sup> Bob & Debbie Tkach

**September**  
**Jim Pepe**  
**\$90.00**





**COLUMBUS DAY RIDE  
And Late Lunch  
RAIN OR SHINE EVENT**

**SPRAGUE'S MAPLE FARMS**

1048 Portville-Obi Road, Portville 14770

**Monday  
October 13**

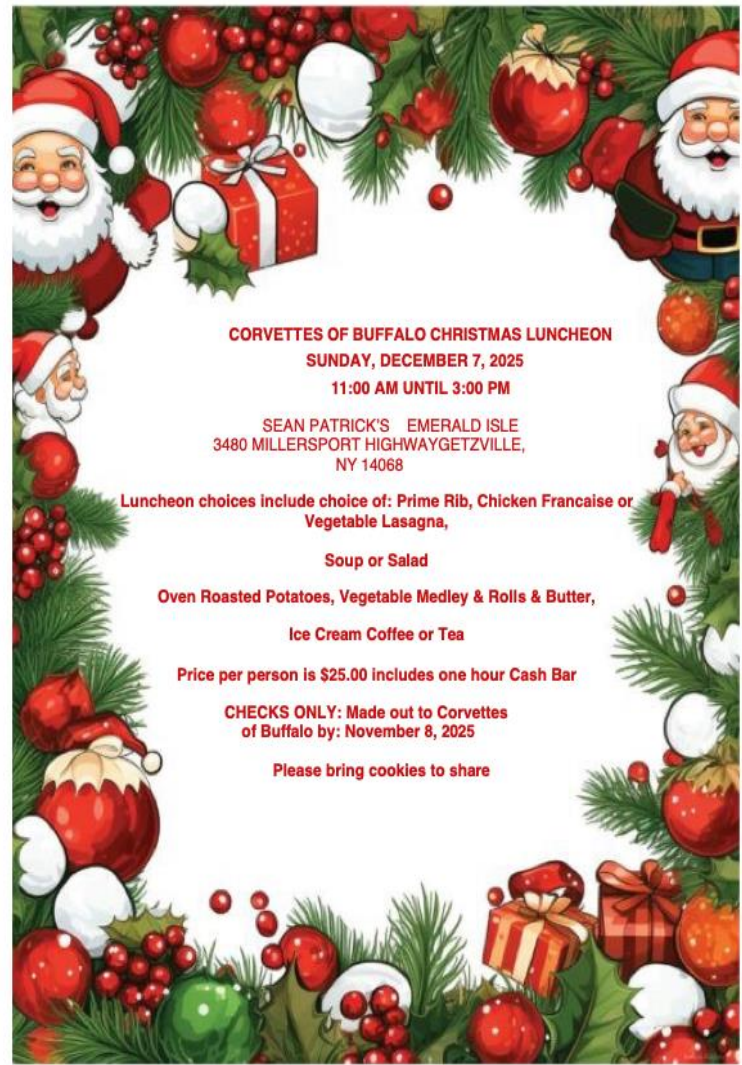
**LEAVE  
12:30PM  
Arrival approx 2 PM**

**Made in  
America  
Store, Elma**

We will take a 63 mile drive to Sprague's for Lunch via Route 16 and ride back on your own. Sprague's will provide separate checks.

We will need a count to give to the restaurant. Please call Karen or George Sparks to reserve your spot. All COB Members and Friends are invited to celebrate an early Thanksgiving TOGETHER!

buffalogeorge@gmail.com  
Home 716 627-0013  
George 716 432- 8799  
Karen 716 432-8114



## Membership Dues:

*Dues were determined at the July Board of Directors meeting for the 2026 calendar year and are due at the September Business meeting.*

*We were advised of an increase in our NCCC dues on September 16<sup>th</sup> therefore, we are forced to increase our dues to the following amount.*

**Single Membership:     \$75.00**

**Couples Membership: \$115.00**

# ***2025 ELECTION PROCEDURES***

## **Article Thirteen: Elections:**

1. The attendance record for the year's meeting/activities in lieu of meetings will be recorded in the September newsletter for all members eligible to be nominated for any officer or Board position.
2. **Election procedures will be published in the August newsletter for member review.**
3. The election process for officers and board members is as follows:

a.) **September Business Meeting** - Nominations for office. Those members named will have the opportunity to either accept or decline each position to which they have been nominated.

b.) **October Business Meeting** - Nominations may be reopened by a majority vote of the members in attendance as long as the person(s) to be nominated is (are) present at this meeting. Those members named will have the opportunity to either accept or decline each position to which they have been nominated, after which nominations are closed. Individuals nominated in September and not able to appear at the October business meeting must arrange to submit their decision, in writing, to the President. If this notification is not received prior to the October meeting, the member's name will be removed from the ballot. Those "accepting" are to submit an article, to be published in the November newsletter, outlining their qualifications, accomplishments, goals, etc. for the particular office, which they desire to hold.

c.) **November Business Meeting** - Elections by written, secret ballot. Names of members running for, but not elected to the office of president will automatically be placed on the ballot for vice president, if he/she desires. Additionally, the names of members running for vice-president, but not elected to the office of Vice-President will automatically be placed on the ballot for Board of Directors, if he/she desires.

d.) **Proxy vote** - a vote by proxy must be submitted to an officer or Board of Director member in order to be recognized. The vote must be received in a sealed envelope.

## **Article Seven: Board of Directors:**

4. The Directors to be chosen for the ensuing year shall be elected at the November meeting of the organization in the same manner and style as the officers of this organization. They shall serve for a term of one (1) year.





See over 100 more  
Photos of the Caravan on the COB  
Flicker Gallery







September 8, 2025

Dear Community Supporter,  
We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you and your business for your generous support of Corvettes of Buffalo's 21st Annual Caravan. Thanks to your assistance and the participation of 107 Corvette owners, our event successfully raised over \$22,000 to benefit Kids Escaping Drugs. Over the past six years, our collective efforts have contributed more than \$128,000 to this meaningful cause, directly supporting the youth of Western New York. None of this would be possible without the involvement and dedication of our supporters. Your continued commitment allows us to make a real difference in the lives of local kids.

### With Appreciation

Bob Joseph  
President

Kevin Horan  
Co-Chairman

Corvettes of Buffalo  
P.O. Box 161  
West Seneca, NY 14224  
21st Anniversary Caravan



# Lancaster-Bardstown:



KENTUCKY  
*Bourbon*  
TRAIL.



*Find more photos of the  
trip at the COB  
Flicker Gallery*





THE  
**FINANCIAL GUYS**  
SUPER CRUISE



**COB Men's Luncheon**



**True Crime Tour**





# BUFFALO CARS & COFFEE



## 2024 Corvette Caravan Reunion



Mount Washington Hotel & Resort



Eight COB members made the trip to the Grand Summit Resort in New Hampshire to reconnect with friendships made during last years caravan. We enjoyed 4 days of sight seeing and driving our cars enjoying the fall foliage.

The following members have submitted their names and required letter for nomination to the board of directors of Corvettes of Buffalo for Fiscal 2026.

All members must make their intentions known before close of nominations at the October meeting with a letter submitted for the November Newsletter.



*Hi, I'm Paul Jedrysik and would like to add myself as a COB board member candidate 2026  
I have been an active member for 4 years and have attended and strongly participated as a volunteer in many of the events. COB is heading in a positive direction with new members and different events being added. I believe I can add some fresh ideas and keep COB moving forward.*

*Thank You in advanced for your vote. Go COB!  
Paul Jedrysik*





***Please consider this my nomination to run for the Board of Directors for Corvettes of Buffalo.***

***This would be my third year on the board. My reason for running is to take an active role in organizing events. I work with fellow board members, offering suggestions and ideas. This year my husband Joe and I have hosted several Dinner Cruises. We organized the ride to Batavia, visiting the Holland Land Museum, along with lunch at Alex's Place and dessert at Oliver's Candy and Ice Cream. We did the Road Rally of the Tonawanda's and Double Decker Bus Tour. Joe and I are hosting this year's Christmas Party I volunteered for this year's Caravan helping with registration. I would appreciate your continued support.***

***Denyse Weatherbee***



***Please consider this as my nomination to run for the Board of Directors of Corvettes of Buffalo. Having been on the board for two years, I listen to what the club members would like to do, and with the help of my wife Denyse we ran the Road Rally in Tonawanda with lunch after, helped out with the Caravan, hosted a number of Dinner Cruises, Double Decker bus Tour, and the up and coming Christmas Party, among other things to make this club a successful club. I would appreciate your vote. Thanks to all COB members for your support.***

***Joe Weatherbee***



***Please consider my nomination to run for the board of directors of Corvettes of Buffalo***



***This would be my 5th year on board. I have continued to learn so much in the past few years working with great members. The passion I have for helping the club has hopefully been noticed. Being part of our most successful caravan again this year was a great focus for me this year. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> caravan I have co-chaired in the past 5 years. Without all the volunteers we have here we would not be the club we are, and you can count on me again to help our fantastic Corvettes of Buffalo organization!!! Thanks again and I would appreciate your support.***

***Kevin P Horan***



***My name is Lynda Graham and have been activity director for over 12 years. I have arranged our yearly pizza party. 2 years ago arranged a train ride in Medina and a luncheon. I would appreciate your vote.***



***My name is Bruce Graham and I am requesting your vote as a board member. I have been a member of the club for over 15 years. Have hosted the yearly pizza party for over 8 years. Been on the committee for the by-law changes. I have been a former member of the board and are looking for your vote.***

**To the Members of Corvettes of Buffalo:**

***I am running for the position of Member of Board of Directors in Corvettes of Buffalo, and I am asking for your support. For the past 8 years, I have been an active member of our Club. Additionally, I have Chaired several events, such as Christmas Party, Annual Picnic, several monthly cruise dinners, Ladies' Luncheons and the beloved Sprague Maple Farm Columbus Day Event. I enjoy organizing the Basket Raffle for the Caravan, and formerly for the Cruise, which always has been very successful.***



***I believe I would consider myself a Corvette enthusiast. I love talking about Corvettes to others and promote our club wherever possible. I am a Lifetime Member of the National Corvette Museum and Elfi's Sisterhood. I accompany my husband, George, on triannual trips to the NCM, where we participate in Ambassador 's meetings and Ambassador Academy.***

***I believe I can make meaningful contributions to COB as a member of the Board of Directors, with your support.***

***Respectfully,  
Karen Sparks***

# **New Member Profiles**

## **Shea Gallagher—Tony & Peggy Revetti**



*I started working at the garage at age 17. Bob, the owner of the garage, had lost his job when the Ford Plant in New Jersey permanently shut its doors. So he bought his own garage, a Sunoco, in Northern New Jersey. I started out pumping gas, and it wasn't long before Bob asked me if I was interested in working on the cars. Good deal for Bob paying me \$3.35/hour to fix cars, and a good deal for me on learning how to fix cars. Bob was a funny guy with a good sense of humor. He would arm wrestle anyone who came to the garage, including a 17 year old kid (me). I never saw him lose.*

*One day Bob rode in on a 68 corvette he bought. The vette was beat on pretty good and he asked me if I was interested in helping him rebuild it. You bet I was! We stripped the car to prep it for a paint job; the paint job alone cost \$3,000, which was a fortune back then. Once we got it back from the paint shop we slipped a rebuilt 427 six pack into the engine bay. I'll never forget the first time we took her for a ride after the rebuild, but that's a story for a different day.*

*The garage became a hub in my life. My whole family got to know Bob and Bob got to know my whole family. I met a few other car guys who became fast friends. We all had fun fast cars and we were always hanging around the garage or meeting at the garage. They were great times, meeting at the garage and going cruising.*

*Continued on next page*



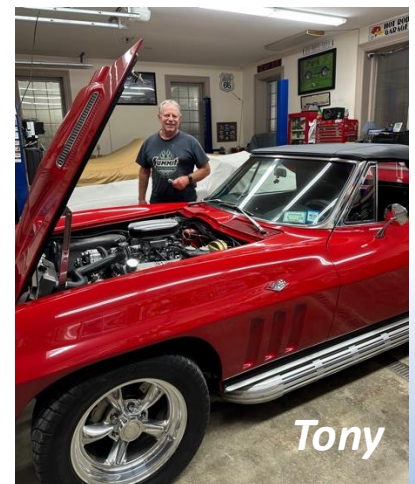
*Time moves on and I ended up moving from New Jersey to Buffalo, married a Buffalo girl, had two daughters, a career, a great life. But no sports car during that time, there were other priorities. That changed a few months ago as I purchased my first Corvette. I wanted a classic, and picked up a 2003 Millenium Yellow beauty. My wife and I have been enjoying her, and we recently wanted to see how she would do on an extended trip. So we took her to Ohio, and visited the Pro Football Hall of Fame, among other places, and had a great time. She did great, we can't wait to make more memories.*

*In the early 1980's the interest rates spiked, and Bob was forced to sell the garage and the corvette. Shortly after he sold the garage I heard he got a job fixing vending machines. That upset me, it didn't seem right that he had to sell the garage and the corvette. I lost track of Bob over the years and never saw him again. Bob had a big impact on my life for that season. He gave me a life-long skill of maintaining and repairing cars. He gave me a passion for cars. He showed me how to persevere thru a difficult car repair. He showed me how to deal with people both the good and the difficult. And he showed me the open road is always there and with that, freedom.*

*Shea Gallagher*

*Just a couple notes about my darling wife (Peggy) and I. Growing up in Salamanca NY, my love for Corvettes started when I was 18, that's when I found my blue 71 convertible. However, I sold that car about three years later when we started our 21st year career in the United States Navy. By-the-way, if anyone knows of a 71 Corvette still running around with a Faux Leopard Skin interior that I saw fit to install at the time, I would love to cross paths with that car again.*

*Since then, our taste in Corvettes have become a little more refined. We currently enjoy a pair of 66 stingrays and like many other people we have a 1978 pace car that we stored away with 13,000 miles on it in 1985. We have two adult children, Dan (35) and Jessica (32), along with (4) terrific grandchildren. We are expecting a new addition to the Family sometime soon as we are hoping to adopt a burgundy C7 Grand Sport as soon as that special one avails itself... We are sincerely looking forward to meeting and spending time with all the club members.*  
*Tony and Peggy.*



## ***New Members***

***Gus Routhier, Jr.  
Sharon Vicchio-Routhier***



***Six years ago, I became the proud owner of a 1989 red Corvette convertible-350 engine, six-speed, and pure fun to drive. I bought this car not only for the thrill of the ride, but also because I love the process of restoring cars. I have completed some restoration on the interior, installed a new convertible top and tackled a variety of other repairs. My plan is to refresh the car's appearance while preserving its originality.***

***My wife and I recently participated in the 2025 Corvette Caravan, joining more than 100 Corvettes cruising through the community. It was an exciting experience-not only for the chance to admire the variety of models, but also for the camaraderie shared within the group. We look forward to joining the Corvettes of Buffalo, meeting new friends who share our enthusiasm for cars, and participating in both social and charitable events.***

***Respectfully submitted:***

***Gaston (Gus) Routhier, Jr***

***Sharon Vicchio-Routhier***



*As many of you know, I have made my opinions/suggestions known to the NCCC board.*

- 1. Have the quarterly meeting on ZOOM - this would eliminate travel, hotels and meal expenses.*
- 2. I would like to see a detailed expense report about where the big hitters are in our budget. From there they can look into methods to help reduce that big expenses w/o reducing the benefits to the member clubs.*

*One thing we are trying to cut costs for is Blue Bars. It is a great quarterly publication that many people enjoy. The cost of that color 50 page publication is high and the mailing costs are outrageous. This is why we are trying to do our part by switching over to receive electronic copies of the publication.*

*We are asking our COB membership to sign up to receive it electronically. Please see Linda Graham at the sign up table and sign up at the next meeting.*

*When I find more information about this matter I will pass it on to you,*

*Tony Malagisi*

## **Corvette News**

### **Lighting the fuse on a Rocket:**

<https://www.corvette-mag.com/issues/180/articles/first-drive-2025-zr1>

### **Corvettes at Carlisle 2025:**

<https://www.corvettemagazine.com/2025-corvettes-at-carlisle/>

### **No Longer Priced for the Masses:**

<https://www.autoweek.com/news/a65616197/2026-chevrolet-corvette-zr1x-price-reveal/>



# COVERED WAGON P R O M O T I O N S

## *Club Official Clothing*



*Located in the Members section of the COB Website*

## Photo & Video Gallery

*Find additional photos from this and past issues at:*

<https://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com/gallery>



**Road Atlanta**

*October 8-11*

<https://www.imsa.com/weathertech/weathertech-2025-schedule/>





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*Bob & Norma Joseph took delivery of  
their 2026 Z71 Colorado  
from Matt & Van Bortel Corvette!*



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**Email:** [mfagenbaum@vbchevy.com](mailto:mfagenbaum@vbchevy.com)



**Web:** [www.vanbortelcorvettes.net](http://www.vanbortelcorvettes.net)



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**Greg Franzek**  
**Service Manager / Select Xpel Installer**

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# TITAN

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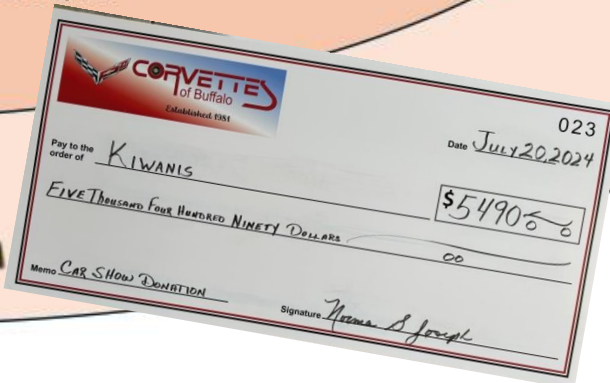




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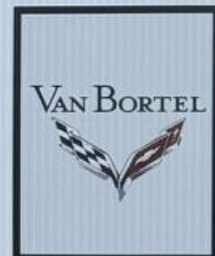
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Corvettes of Buffalo offers ad space in its monthly newsletter, on its website. Please review existing ads and newsletters at [www.corvettesofbuffalo.com](http://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com).

Our ad rates for one year, beginning with receipt of payment, are:

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