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# VETTE NEWS

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Volume 26, Issue 05

May 2007

## *President's Corner*

The Corvettes of Buffalo is growing, which I think is great! Please join me in welcoming our newest members Susan Krezmien, Marie Ulrich and Larry Ienco that were voted into the club during the April meeting. When the club votes in new members, we not only increase the size of the club, our votes bring in new Corvette enthusiasts that share our passion for America's greatest sports car. And just as a reminder, all new Members of the Corvettes of Buffalo have a responsibility to the club, which is "to help with the structure or duties of a specific Club activity". The Club is counting on our new and existing Members to get involved and have some fun! That's the reason you joined the club!

By the time you read this, the Corvette wheels will be in motion! Cruise nights have started, and some of you may have attended the Maplefest Car & Craft Show in Franklinville, NY or maybe you had your Corvette on the track during the Watkins Glen Opening Day event. Check the web site for updates to the Calendar of Events, and join us for as many events as possible. And yes, we have some new events planned this year, so check it out. We're going to have a lot of FUN this season.

Please keep the dates of July 22<sup>nd</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup> available to participate at our GM Super Show and the All Corvette Caravan. These club sponsored events have been very successful in past years, and we expect full attendance from the membership. Pete Ricigliano has the sign up sheets for the GM Super Show, and we need your help. As Frank Pastore mentioned at the April meeting, the All Corvette Caravan is limited to 125 Corvettes and pre-registration is advised.

## *What's Happening*

- ☞ May 12 - **COB Club Meeting – Clarence Church 7 pm**
- ☞ May 13 - Sonnenburg Gardens Mother's Day Cruise – Wine Tasting & Dinner – Canandaigua, NY  
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<http://www.steamboatlandingonline.com/>  
<http://www.sonnenberg.org/>
- ☞ May 27 - Olcott Super Cruise ( 1pm – 4 pm)
- ☞ May 28 - Memorial Day Parade, Delaware Ave., Kenmore, NY – see Mel Skeide
- ☞ New member to be voted in Donn Schubert .



*2008 Corvette: ICONIC SPORTS CAR RECEIVES LARGER, MORE POWERFUL LS3 6.2L V-8 AND HOST OF DRIVING, INTERIOR REFINEMENTS. Read more at <http://www.corvettemuseum.com/specs/2008/index.shtml>*

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Vice President	Pete Ricigliano 716-634-6101
Secretary	Linda Bonus 716-695-7643
Treasurer	Mel Skeide 716-876-1194

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Jim Lawson	716-838-2920
Frank Pastore	716-694-9024
Reas Graber	716-634-4656

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Sunshine Comm.	Ruth Mussehl 716-685-3281
Webmaster	Jim Bonus

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Meeting every second Saturday of the month at

First Presbyterian Church  
9875 Main St. Clarence, NY  
Meeting starts 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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Send Articles To:

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E-Mail : [jwbonus@adelphia.net](mailto:jwbonus@adelphia.net)

*Submissions must be in by 26<sup>th</sup>*

We have reservations for 250 people at the Colden Lakes Resort, on a first come basis. We expect this event to be a sell out, so sign up soon!

There are some trips planned for this year that require some overnight travel, and there is still time to sign up if you're interested. See Phil Gionet about the Stowe Vermont All Corvette Show trip from June 14<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>. The NCCC Convention is June 16<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> and you should contact Pete Ricigliano for details. The Sylvan Beach Corvette Show is July 29<sup>th</sup>. The Corvettes at Carlisle is August 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The Newport, RI trip will be September 20<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will be discussing these and other events at future meetings, but don't hesitate to contact me or any Board Member if you have a question.

And remember, Save the Wave!

***Skip Polowy***

## ***Club Inventory***

If you have any Club property in your possession, or you know where some club property may be stored, the Board would like to have it listed on the club inventory list.

Please write down what items you have and pass it along to Pete Ricigliano at the next club meeting or as ASAP. Pete will also have a inventory list form at the next meeting to document any items.

**Note: We are NOT asking you to bring these items to the meeting, we just want to list all the items the club has acquired through the years. In the future, we will determine if these can be used or should be maintained by the club.**

We appreciate your help to list all the club property.

***The Board***

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## ***1<sup>st</sup> Cruise to Dunkin' Donuts***

Sunday April 19 marked the first cruise to Dunkin' Donuts for COB! The weather was great which brought everybody and their brother out. Cars were coming and going all evening. We had Larry and Donna Petro cruise down even thou they had just gotten back from Texas the day before. We even spotted George and Karen Sparks! It looked like half the club was out for this one.



**COB CONVENTION!**

## ***Fast Freddie's***

A gang of COBer's went to Fast Freddie's for a spirited evening of sprint style go kart racing. The gang had Pete, Skip, Jim B, Jake B, Mel, Dick Lynch. With Jim Lawson on the side lines with Roberta and Diane. With the gang running 5 heats for the night the action was fast and furious. We had a few spinouts and crashes. ( I never did ask Peter if he was sore later after the T-Bone). All in all it was a fun evening with a stop afterward for, (as we all would guess FOOD) pizza, wings and good conversation. There will be another event organized at Fast Freddie's sometime in the future. With a little more notice instead of just a gang we can have a whole posse going. This way COB could have the whole place to ourselves. Maybe we might even get the girls to drive!

## ***Corvette History***

**May 1, 1957:** A fully-synchronized four-speed transmission is first made available on the 1957 model Corvette, as a US\$188.30 option.

**May 1, 1988:** The first round of the SCCA Corvette Challenge race series is held in Dallas, Texas. Mark Dismore wins the race.

**May 21, 2000:** The Nevada Open Road Challenge is held on a 90 mile stretch of highway S.R. 318 between Lund and Hiko. 78 of over 200 cars are Corvettes. A modified 1992 Corvette takes top speed of 227 MPH. Another Corvette averages 207 MPH, taking first place.

**May 25, 1986:** In Indianapolis, Indiana, the 70th Indianapolis 500 race is held. A yellow convertible 1986 Corvette is the official pace car.

**May 28, 1978:** In Indianapolis, Indiana, the 62nd Indianapolis 500 race is held. A 1978 Corvette is the official pace car, driven by Jim Rathmann. This is the first Indianapolis 500 pace car with a stock drivetrain.

**May 28, 1995:** In Indianapolis, Indiana, the 79th Indianapolis 500 race is held. A 1995 Corvette performs the role of Official Pace Car.

**May, 1956:** Zora Arkus-Duntov builds the Corvette SR-2 Sebring racer.

**May, 1994:** Both Corvette C5-R race cars run at the Circuit du Mans.



**Is That An Emerson Dumont**

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## ***Our Newest Member***

A few things you will have to know before I can go on with my story. It begins many, many years ago in a time where loyalty and family pressure was the norm. Uncle Dick worked at the Ford Stamping Plant as a die maker and he was responsible for every 4 door Ford vehicle that you saw on the road. Talk about a man with pride (he had it). When we would go to car shows and my uncle would be looking at the fit of the 4 door Ford vehicles to make sure they were in tolerance. You did not dare look at a GM or Chrysler and heaven forbid the foreign models. It was instilled in your brain (so I thought) that you needed to support your family and when your uncle worked at Ford, you better drive a Ford Product. Now mind you, I can not ever recall that my Dad or anyone else in the family, especially my Uncle, actually saying this, but you know that it just was UNDERSTOOD.

Since the beginning of my driving experience I have had over 30 vehicles and yes every one of them except a 66 MG and a 64 VW Dune Buggy, were Fords. I joined the Navy in 1976 and went to boot camp and technical schools and finally ended up in Charleston S.C. for duty on a Nuclear Submarine. While in Charleston a shipmate of mine had a 1977 Black Vette. What was unique about this color was that the last time I believe a black Corvette was manufactured was in 1969. He was being shipped overseas and could not take the car with him. He asked me if I would be interested in buying it from him. I loved the look and everything about this car, but remembering the commitment I had about Fords, I passed up on this sale. After four years, I received orders to come home and be stationed at the Reserve Center in Buffalo. I went out looking for a new car and a friend of mine worked at a local dealership Lou Awald and invited me to a seminar that the dealership was putting on. I really wasn't interested but my buddy said there are free drinks and how can a sailor say no to free booze. I walked into the showroom and it was love at 1<sup>st</sup> site.

In middle of the showroom was a 1980 Corvette Sport Coupe. I looked at the sticker and for around \$13,000 and it was all mine. This was one of the prettiest automobiles that I have ever seen, a Frost Beige with Doeskin interior. I put a deposit down and went out drinking with my buddy. Throughout the whole evening I was on an emotional rollercoaster, should I or should I not, was going through my head all night. Finally the next day I went back to the dealership and explained my dilemma and they gave me my deposit back, but the salesman said I was hooked and sooner

or later I would own a Vette.

I stayed in the Navy for 30 years and I promised myself a retirement present (a toy car) if I made it till the end. Well the time had arrived and I retired in August of this year and I went out looking for a toy car. I looked at about 10 Mustangs 65-68 and every time the frame was rusted. I found a really nice 68 Mustang in Lackawanna and asked my son-in-law, Tim, to come look at it with me. After a few moments of being under the car Tim said that the frame was rust proofed but all they did was cover up the rust. Again, feeling down, I was beginning to doubt my dream. On the way home, Tim asked me why I did not look at Vettes and I stated my family thing and also I said I know nothing about Corvettes except they are cool looking. Tim (is a mechanic and a big GM guy) says that if I bought a Corvette he would work on it. What a deal! So I went and bought an Auto Trader and my search began.

I spotted a 79 in the paper and called the owner. I went right over and looked at it. It had over 100,000 miles on it but I found out this was a Canadian car so it was actually around 64K. The outside was really nice but the interior was cracked and weathered. I told they guy my son-in-law would come over tomorrow and look at it. The next day was Columbus Day and I had the day off and happened to be on Transit Road so I stopped at Corvette Performance and talked to Larry Lewis. He said it would cost between \$3K and \$3.5K to restore the interior. I said I would really have to think about this. He also mentioned that a friend of his was selling an 85 and it had only 2 owners and both were in their 70's. He said it had around 36K miles on it and was in great shape. I said that I was really looking for 80 Fawn Beige if possible but thanks for letting me know. As I drove home I was thinking to myself this was stupid of me to not at least look at the 85, what did I have to lose. When I arrived home I call Larry and asked if he could give me the number for the 85, he said he would call them and give them my number. The seller's son-in-law called me and we made arrangements so I could see it. Tim went with me and I could not believe the shape the car was in. We took it for a ride and I was in love. I had to have it and the only thing stopping now was not my family values and loyalty, it was my wife. How in the world can I convince her that we needed this car in our garage! Went I got home I told her of my find, she was not as excited as I was and I knew that this was going to be a bigger challenge than to explain to my Uncle that I'm buying a Corvette.



She hesitantly went to look at the car the next day, but no words were spoken all the way there. She looked at the car with a quick glance and then went back to our SUV again not saying a word. I talked for a little bit to the owner and he later said to me that he thought there was no way I was going to buy his car (just by the way my wife looked). On the way home you could cut the air with a hack saw (thank goodness I did not have one in the truck). After a period of time she said "I just don't understand a man wanting a 22 year old car." Then she said "And how much is the insurance on it?" I explained that I have wanted a toy for a long time and I said I check with the insurance company and said it would cost \$230 ..... and then she interrupted and said "a month are you nuts or what." I said no this was for a whole year and that the insurance was low because they classify it as a classic. The conversation ended and when we arrived home she went downstairs and I went to my office. I said to myself this is not worth having an argument over a car. I finally went downstairs and she said she wanted to talk to me. She said she would only agree if I promise one thing (oh brother here it comes). She wanted vanity plates on the Vette saying "DonnJudy". I'm thinking to myself that's it, vanity plate in exchange for my Vette, should I act excited or look like I'm contemplating on this, hell no I was excited and I ran upstairs and called the seller and said CAR SOLD so loud the neighbors could hear my screech.

he phone rang about 2 minutes after I bought the Vette, and the man on the other end said, "Sorry it took me so long to get back to you but I was out of town. If you are still interested the 66 Mustang convertible it is still available and he would make my wait worth the while." I said sorry I just bought a Corvette and I'm not changing my mind this time.

Two days later I'm driving my dream car home and stopped at a light, this guy (young kid) next to me in one of those foreign supped up cars with the loud exhaust was eyeing me up and wanting to race. The light turned green and he took off like a bat out of hell. I gently pushed down the gas pedal and proceeded to the next light and you guessed it he was waiting for me again. He signaled me to lower my passenger window and he said "man are you a chicken or what", I said in a calm and proud manner, "Son, I have a Corvette need I say more!", and I raised the window up just as the light turned green and drove my baby to her new home.

I have done very little to her so far. I had her detailed

(John's Motors), pinstriped (Jim Prohaska), replaced the front shocks (Bilstein Shocks) and added some little things.

The best part of this story is two-fold:

1. My wife now says when talking to people about the Vette, You should see "OUR" new car and how nice it looks. Now she may understand why a man wants a 22 year old car. She now loves it and in the spring I may let her drive it!
2. I recently told my Uncle about the Vette and he said that they are really a sharp looking car and he hope I really enjoy it; he said it should be a fun car to drive. So maybe it was a perception on my part after all. Not sure but it really does not matter now. My wildest dream came TRUE!

*Donn R. Schubert*

### *Sue's Meeting Cookies*

Here is the recipe for those delicious cookies Sue Krezmien brought to our meetings

- Beat together 2 cups Crisco, 1 ½ cups brown sugar & 1 ½ cups granulated sugar. Add 4 eggs & 2 tsps. Vanilla.
- Mix together 4 ½ cups flour, 2 tsp baking soda & 1 tsp. Salt. Add to above mixture (Crisco, sugars & egg mixture) Add 2 cups chocolate chips & 2 cups rice krispies.
- Bake at 350 degrees, 13-15 minutes on ungreased cookie sheet. Makes 50 cookies

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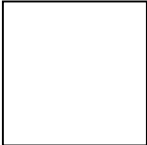





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