

FAST PAST



Fall/Winter 2019 - 2020

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**Official newsletter of the
Canadian Council of Corvette Clubs - Eastern Region**

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E - Elected A - Appointed

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President's Report - November 2019



Fast Past Editor position ... one more time!

The Corvette community lost a great man in February of this year. Paul Dunn (GMCC) stepped forward with enthusiasm in 2018 to take on the production of this newsletter. He did a terrific job with the one issue he was able to complete. I am asking everyone to give serious thought and help us find the next person who can take on this role. The skill set required is to be able to use tools such as Microsoft Word, Microsoft

Publisher and some basic photo editing software. Some creativity as well and attention to detail are helpful as well. I assure you there is plenty of support from those of us, including yours truly, who have done this job in the past. Please email me at cindyw@prcc.ca if you'd like to chat.

Speaking of Paul, I was honoured to meet Paul's daughter, Tracy Dunn, in May, on my drive east to NS. I had arranged to meet Tracy, and GMCC VP, Angela Bourgeois, for lunch. Three hours later, it was clear that



Tracy is every bit as wonderful a person as I found her dad to be. To show Tracy, her mom, Della, her sister, Laurie and her daughter, Molly, how much we appreciated Paul, I presented Tracy with an executive appreciation plaque from CCCC-ER. I know the Maritime clubs all miss Paul; he really left a big hole in that family.



President's Report ... Continued from Page 4

I want to thank all the submitters to this issue of Fast Past. There are some terrific club stories and trip reports on the following pages! It has been one heck of a year with the arrival of the 2020 C8 Corvette occupying a lot of our attention. Make sure you read to the end! You will not be disappointed.



I want give a giant thanks to all our sponsors and advertisers for their role making 2019 a fantastic year for the CCCC-ER clubs. A highlight was the raffle for a member to attend the **C8 Corvette Reveal** in Tustin, California, in July. Jamie Dewhurst of Chevrolet Canada reached out and we worked together to make it happen. Mike and MaryAnn Wood from Corvettes of Western Ontario were the lucky, and very excited, winners! After returning home, Mike commented, "that was a great experience and although we were thoroughly exhausted when we got home it was a lot of fun." The GM Canada team and dealers reps who were in attendance were awesome hosts!

The Wasaga Beach Corvette Club took on hosting this year's CCCC-ER 'Concours Nationals'. They were brave and took on a brand new venue with lots of new features. It turned out very well. WBCC Governor for CCCC-ER, Doug Fraser, writes about some of the details further on in this issue.

Congratulations to club president, Kevin Daniels, and CCCC-ER Competition Director, Sandy Haars, for an excellent outcome. To all who volunteered to plan and execute the event, thank you! And to all the show participants, you are what makes these events successful. Congratulation too all Class, Signature and Diamond award winners; the amount of dedication and effort you expend is not lost on any of us!

Showing your Corvette can be very rewarding and source of great pride. See the events page at quadceast.com for info.

2019 Concours Nationals - Results

Generation	Street Show & Shine	Concours Prepared	Modified
	- Closed Hood -	- Open Hood -	- All Generations -
C1	1st - John Wilk		1st John Bull (C3)
C2		1st - Kevin Daniels 2nd - Ron Froman	
C3	1st - John Gvazdaitis 2nd - Paul Giampyzzi	1st - Phil Morello 2nd - Mary Louise Bull	
C4	1st - Paul Hill	1st - Yvette Aube	2nd Mark Sweeney (C3)
C5	1st - Chris Doswe	1st - Paul Santero 2nd - Dawn Shaughnessy	
C6	1st - Sam Omburcolo 2nd - Paul Wouter	1st - Ron Currie 2nd - Ron Hillier	
C7	1st - Steve Megill	1st - Casey Haars 2nd - Jessica Bigalke	
SIGNATURE CONCOURS	GOLD MEDALLION Ron Froman - 1967	GOLD MEDALLION Rick Tweedell - 2003	GOLD MEDALLION Phil Morello - 1980
DIAMOND AWARD	Street Show & Shine - Chris Doswe -	Concours Prepared - Kevin Daniels -	Signature Concours - Ron Froman -

President's Report ... Continued from Page 5

We had a wonderful Recognition Awards Event & Memorial Cruise this year. Great participation, an excellent, scenic and successful rally, a delicious catered meal at the Senick Farm in Essa were all capped off by informative presentations in the 'classy barn'. Thanks to Jamie Dewhurst and Matt Stokes of Chevrolet Canada and David Swain of Mobil 1; we appreciate your time to keep this passionate audience informed and for your continued support!

Lake Country Corvette Club members, Diane and Gary Fisher, were recognized with the Brian Merkley Award for their continued dedication and support of CCCC-ER in so many ways. We also inducted our first members into the 'CCCC-ER Hall of Fame'. Bob & Lynne Fisher and Sandy & Casey Haars were presented with their award and place of distinction on our website. I encourage you to visit the 'MEMBERS' section on our website (www.quadceast.com) where you will see the 'Hall of Fame' page. We also awarded the recognition to the 2018 Participation Series 'TOP TWENTY'. Keep an eye out for some pictures that will make their way up to the website. And also, don't forget to cruise our website; we welcome your feedback.

That's all for now. Have a great winter and safe travels to wherever you may venture out in this great country and beyond.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for good health in 2020. Regards,

Cindy



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ... Turn your 2020 CTMP Corvette Corral experience into something extra special. Janet Polasek and the volunteer team are an integral part of the Corvette Corral at the only Canadian stop for the Mobil 1 Sportscar Grand Prix.

Help them make this an outstanding weekend.

Please reach out to Janet at janetpolasek@cogeco.ca and see how you can help out next July!



Please join several of your CCCC-ER friends & other enthusiasts for great fun at the Corvette Corral - Friday, July 3, 2020 to Sunday, July 5, 2020.



Location: Bowmanville, Ontario

Track: Canadian Tire Motorsport Park

Race Duration: 2 hours 40 minutes

Tickets to the 2020 Corvette Corral will be available online early in 2020 at:

<https://canadiantiremotorsportpark.com/collections/events-tickets>

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Wasaga Beach Corvette Club

By Doug Fraser

We have said it before, and we are saying it again. Wow! Where has the Corvette driving and show season gone? What was with the Summer of 2019? It just flew by – like a ZR-1 on steroids. And now, here it is again – Fall Fast Past submission time.

2019 proved to be a not-business-as-usual year for WBCC. Our modest club grew its membership yet again, this year boasting 25 members. WBCC continued morphing itself into a social club with fun gatherings and member-inspired “cruizes” as our raison d’etre. We were delighted to welcome back our spot as the first CCCC-ER sanctioned show event of the season – Spring Fling. In the months following Spring Fling, club members volunteer to organize and lead a “cruise” where members can bring their Corvettes (or their “tin”) and head for parts unknown so to speak. Oh, and food – there just must be good food en route too. So, without further adieu...

Spring Fling 2019

This year’s points scoring “Fling” saw two major changes. Firstly, WBCC got to host the coveted Concours Nationals and, for those who do not participate in Corvette shows, it is the primo annual event that judges only the cream of the crop of showroom condition vehicles. Second and perhaps most stressful was our change in venue.

WBCC brought Spring Fling BACK TO THE BEACH as we thanked Mike Jackson GM in Collingwood for the amazing support over the years and we embraced our new home back in Wasaga Beach. Our new host was Wasaga’s own Canadian Tire location. Sunny albeit cool weather made for an amazing day. The day saw north of 130 Corvettes, some new vendors – all of which would not have been possible without the generous help in judging, organization and who-knows-what-all, from our members, members of other clubs, our friends and even family. We would be remiss if we did not thank our many sponsors, both local and national for making Spring Fling a great success. To name but a few: Autoglym, Lakeside Auto, Canadian Tire, B&B Corvette Restorations, Shoppers Drug Mart, Pizza Dees, Hagerty Insurance.



In the interest of brevity and space, the following are just two of the social cruises we enjoyed this year...

Orillia Boat Cruise

Well we got lucky and squeaked out a great day on August 18th boat cruise. The drive up and the boat cruise were pleasant, and we had clear weather. It wasn't until, as we finished our dinner, that the skies opened up. The rain came down heavy, some got wet and others waited it out. You can see the rainbow over the harbor as we were getting ready to leave.



Diamond in the Ruff (Utterson)

For the past few years, WBCC has enjoyed an “annual” end of cruising season detox event near Huntsville ON at a top-drawer golf resort called Diamond in the Ruff. The event typically occurs in October and beyond the deadline date for Fast Past submissions. This issue we are playing catch-up. It is a weekend event where we rent 5-star cottages on the resort and enjoy each others company, good food, a campfire and even games (Dang, the women are good at Pictionary). Here is a pictorial look at the mayhem of DitRs past...





Donations to Charity

This must be one of our true “feel good” moments being a member of WBCC. Each year, our club is committed to helping local charities. Again, this year, the members selected Hospice Georgian Triangle (Campbell House Palliative Residence) and the local women’s shelter My Friends Place. The two organizations had only heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the support. Suffice it to say, it was our sincere pleasure to donate \$1000.00 each to these very necessary charities.





Last and By No Means Least

We are honoured to salute two of our own for becoming inaugural members of the CCCC-ER Hall of Fame. Sandy Haars (shown here) and her husband Casey are two-time recipients of the Brian Merkley Memorial Award as well as having multiple 1st place finishes in annual Participation events. They have competed extensively in the Concours Program and Signature Series events over the years. Their support for the hobby is without question and can be found at just about every Corvette event volunteering wherever they can. Sandy became Competition Director for the CCCC-ER in 2018. Congratulations!



THE C-1 CORVETTE

By Murray Oliver, Lake Country Corvette Club

Over 70 years ago, the American GIs who tooled around Britain during WW II came to appreciate the agility and finesse of the British sports car – especially the MGs, that could easily handle tight turns and the hilly back roads of rural Britain. By the time these servicemen arrived home, automobiles had not been manufactured from 1942 till the war's end in 1945. A huge demand for anything that had wheels had allowed both large and small automakers an unprecedented market to sell their wares. By the 1950s the North American economy had turned around and now people had money to spare and many former servicemen remembered the fun and thrill of driving sportscars overseas.

Harley Earl, GM's iconic automotive designer, recognized this demand and determined to develop what would be "America's Sports Car". In only 30 months time, his supposition was put to the test by displaying a two seat Corvette at the initial GM Motorama at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in Manhattan in January 1953. The public reaction was so positively overwhelming, that the first Corvettes rolled off the assembly line just 6 months later at the Flint Michigan Chevrolet plant on June 30, 1953. Cited below is brief synopsis of the first generation of Corvettes – the C1 – and the salient points that made this such a popular ride.

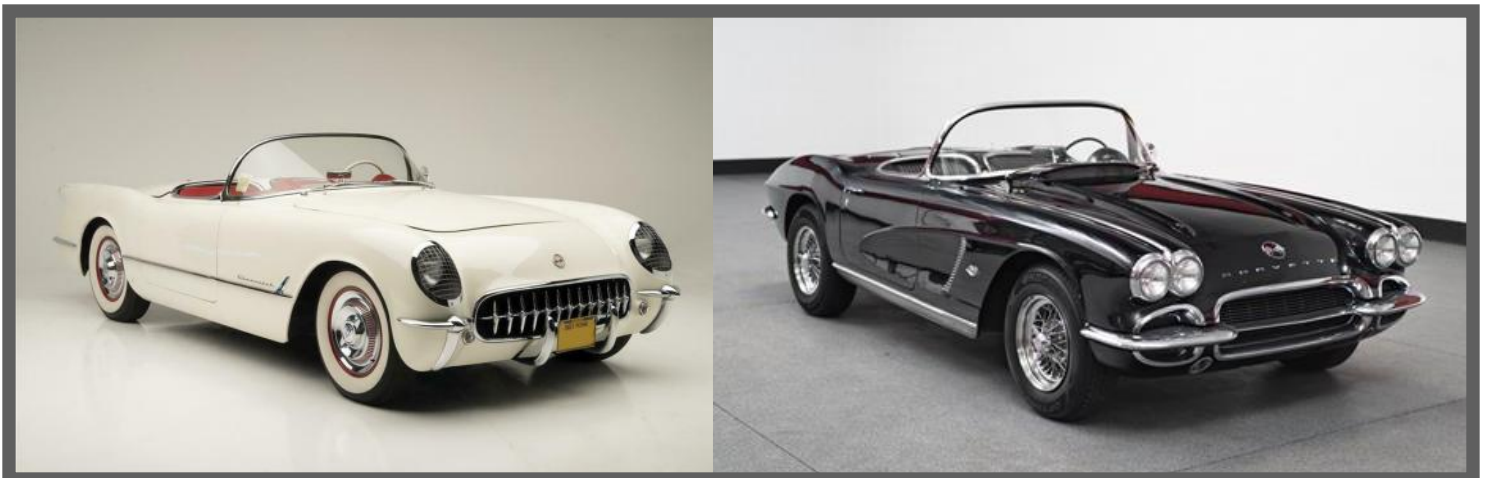
1953 Introduction of the first commercial fiberglass body sports car – only 315 Corvettes were sold

1954 In addition to the initial white only colour, blue and red was now also available. Although virtually identical from the previous year a sales increase to 3,640 models were sold.



- 1955 The 265 CID V-8 was introduced, increasing horsepower from 155 hp – six - to 190 hp. A standard transmission was offered and now the Vette became a true sports car. Low sales of 700 cars threatened it's very existence however.
- 1956 New styling offered sculptured side coves, and additional horsepower and interior conveniences like roll up windows and outside door handles were introduced. Demand increased five-fold to almost 3500. Belgian born Zora Arkus-Duntov is hired to improve chassis development and eventually he influences the most significant engineering changes in future development.
- 1957 The new 283 V8 now offers a Fuel Injection that offers 283 hp. The Corvette is becoming quite recognized on both the street and the track. Sales almost double and it's future is assured.
- 1958 Despite a national economic downturn, sales increased by 2829 units and Corvette turned a profit for the first time. Dual headlights were introduced as was the dummy air scoops flanking the grill and mounted into the side coves. The instrument cluster now moved in front of the driver and additional chrome spears mounted each front fender and were also placed on the trunk lid.
- 1959 The car is slightly larger and plushier. Added options such as positraction, limited-slip rear differential, and a four speed manual transmission are offered. The 283 V-8s now range from 245 – 290 hp with fuel injection and high compression. Snowcrest White is the most popular colour this year.
- 1960 Chrome is diminished. The Corvette profile is raised when 3 teams compete at LeMans. (One team finishing 8th). Chief Designer, Harley Earl retires and William Mitchell gets the nod as successor. Route 66 debuts Oct 7 on ABC and features a '60 Vette. First year to top 10,000 unit sales. (NB: Sue Roehner from our LCC Club owns a sharp one)
- 1961 The rear end gets a makeover, as a flowing "ducktail" allows an increase in trunk space by 20%. Gone is the toothy front end to be replaced by a mesh grill. Small circular tail lights are introduced as are simple bumperettes positioned below them. This will serve as a styling trademark for years to come. The two tone painted side coves and the wide whitewalls make their last appearance.
- 1962 Engine displacement continues to climb and now reaches 327 CID. The Rochester fuel injection system can deliver 360 hp. Mitchell tones down the styling by eliminating much of the chrome but added the ribbed rocker panels and aluminum appliques to replace the cove strakes. Factory air and power brakes are now optional.

The 1962 Corvette ended an era that started with a very risky introduction, but eventually matured with advanced engineering, and styling that resulted in skyrocketing sales. And that is only the beginning of the Corvette story ...



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Hello to all 'Quad C' clubs; we hope you had a great summer.

It's been a busy summer at PRCC with the shows and social events. We welcomed four new members this year which is always a great boost to the club.

January found the club going to Neb's Fun World in Oshawa, for a change of venue; the evening included bowling, and Go-Karts and different games.

February found us at one of our favorite restaurants the Greek Tycoon in Whitby. The flaming cheese is always a big hit and tastes great.

This year we decided to change our charity and the membership voted to support Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre in Oshawa. They are a totally non-profit organization. One of our members received help from the centre a short time ago.

On May 4th we held our annual Progressive Dinner and the weather was actually good for the first part of May. Travelling as a convoy of Corvette's to the four different houses is always a great scene to see going down the road.



At the first 'Quad C' show of the year, Spring Fling, held by the Wasaga Beach Corvette Club, which was also the CCCC-ER Concours Nationals competition show, our own Rick Tweedell competed in the Signature Concours class and was awarded the gold medallion and a certificate of the level award.

Our first PRCC show of the year at our sponsor, VanDusen Chevrolet in Ajax on June 15th, was well supported even though the weather was unsettled and cool.



The June social event took us to Five Paddles Micro Brewery and Brock Street Micro Brewery both in Whitby. The tours at both breweries were informative and interesting. After the tour at the Brock Street Brewery we enjoyed a great meal.

In July for a bit of a twist we visited the Spirit Tree Cidery in Caledon. The tour was very interesting. I didn't know you could do so many things with apple cider.

On September 7th, fourteen cars from the club headed out to the **CCCC-ER 2019 RAE & Memorial Cruise**. It was a great day weather wise and it's always good to see the members from the other clubs for a chat.

On September 28th, we held our Summers End show at the Oshawa Executive Airport and the weather was not good to us, but it was still a good day.

On October 5th we took a trip to 'Model A' Acres B&B in Clarington, where the owner of the B&B makes full size replicas of different planes, a tank, train and PT boat. The knowledge Ian has about the different planes was unbelievable. The tour took approx one hour and the cost was only ten dollars a person.



Our last social event for this year will be our annual Christmas Dinner Dance on December 7th at the Royal Ashburn Golf & Country Club.

On behalf of the members of the Pine Ridge Corvette Club we would like to wish the clubs of 'Quad C' a Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Years.

Dave Parenteau
PRCC President







March 9-10 The Motorama Custom Car & Motorsports Expo was held at the International Centre in Mississauga. We had six cars on display. The weather co-operated and there was a high attendance.

Memorial Bricks

At the present time, it is our intention to have 4 Memorial Bricks installed at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky, to honour the members we have lost and who do not yet have their names engraved on Memorial Bricks surrounding our Club Brick.

By Brian Striemer

Jim Prescott – The King of Bling

In late March we saw the passing of a long-time member, Jim Prescott. Jim bought his Corvette in 2007. It had everything – factory and aftermarket – from its gull wing doors to the custom steering wheel – hence the name “King of Bling”. It fit and it stuck. It was an easily recognizable Vette.

April 28th Spring Cruise saw us heading through small towns and villages to Elmhurst Lodge on Rice Lake. We had the sun shining upon the thirteen cars in attendance. The venue, with its views across the Lake, together with amazing food, was enjoyed by all.

May 11th Ladies’ Day was an event organized for ladies only. This was the first one and hopefully many more to come. This was not a car show, just an opportunity to get together for lunch with ladies from other Clubs.

June 16th The 9th Annual Yorkville Exotic Car Show showcased luxury cars, including a Ferrari, Lamborghini, McLaren, Corvettes, and an Aston Martin Vantage. The well attended event raises funds for Prostate Cancer Canada.



June 23rd Dreamvettes show

There were over 100 cars on display at Ontario Motor Sales in Oshawa with numerous COD members in attendance to make up the various teams who ran all of the various functions required to make the day a huge success. This event allows us to make our annual contribution to the Lakeridge Cancer Centre. Thanks to everyone who attended from the various clubs.

Canada Day Parade Port Perry

We had 21 cars from the club participating and guest cars. The streets were lined with spectators. I personally had the honour of escorting my 98 year old mother-in-law, Grace Elliott. Grace was a plane spotter in Britain during the Second World War.



Canada Day at the LEGION

We had a small, enthusiastic group of C.O.D members who attended at the Lawson Road Branch to participate in their celebration.

July 5 - 7 COD at the CTMP Corvette Corral

Approximately 10 COD members (including four who annually volunteer at the Corvette Corral) attended this year's Mobil 1 SportCar Grand Prix to watch the Corvette Race Team in action.

July 18th After hearing and reading all the hype, looking at online photos, watching YouTube videos, the long awaited C8 was revealed. On July 18th General Motors took the wrappings off to show what the camouflage had been hiding! Our own Sue Woodland was a guest in attendance for the reveal in California.



'Big M' meeting

July 24th Weekday Cruise

We cruised thru stunning country views, ending with a delicious lunch at the Montrose Inn in Belleville.

July 25th Many of our members attended the *Corvette Invasion* in Kingston last year. As a 'thank you' to those clubs that participated in the 1st Annual Kinston Corvette Invasion. EOCC invited the Presidents of each Supporting club to a Thank You dinner held at the Royal Military College in Kingston. COD was well represented by Chuck and Linda, Ed and Gail, Roy and Rosanne and Patty to celebrate the successful 2018 event.



August 17th Offsite General Meeting.

Roxanne and John Chiusolo, again, generously offered their lovely property in Newcastle for the event. As part of the fun and games, Dave and Connie Collins and Roxanne Chiusolo surprised us by performing a Screech ceremony and 12 eager individuals were made honorary Newfoundlanders.

August 24 - 25, 2019 The AutoFest Nationals

Showcased at Oshawa's Lakeview Park, we had a good attendance of COD members and their stunning vehicles. The weather was perfect for the two days with lots of laughs and camaraderie.

September 28th

13 COD Corvettes attended the Summers End Show hosted by PRCC. Rain did cut the show short, but we had two members, Sam Dickey and Brian Baker, who took home awards. Thanks to Pine Ridge Corvette Club for hosting the event.

As well, on September 28th, the Randy Taylor Memorial Cruise to the Brighton Applefest Car Show was held. Hopefully next year it won't conflict with the PRCC show.

New this year was the setup of a Facebook page for our members where we can share photos and information.



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Niagara Corvette Club

By Rick Gladman

Another busy cruising season for the Niagara Corvette Club, with some very unique adventures taking place, besides our propensity for eating and ice cream. We usually start off with dinner and a bowling session (see, dinner again). Five-pin bowling created a few aching bones with balls flying all over the place (on the bowling

alley). This year we are going to attempt dinner (again) and ten-pin bowling at our new meeting venue, JJ Kapps Backyard BBQ and Grill (which also handily includes a bowling alley. I hurt already!

One of our members hosts several potluck dinners during the year and this year was no exception, well except for the eating part. It featured a Spam contest as to who could create the best Spam dish, using only Spam (ever tried it?). More eating! The evening also included a Bocci Ball tournament (more balls in play) but the weather kept us indoors where we soon discovered that garage floors usually have a slope to them.



We usually attend a local community theatre groups current presentation (the play Skin Flick, no comments please) which included a dinner beforehand (what...eating again?). In May, the Western New York Corvette Club paid us a visit which we do every year, alternating back and forth to their side and our side. It usually includes eating somewhere and this time we enjoyed a tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright homestead in Western New York, followed by dinner and of course ice cream.



June saw a number of different cruises, including an organized tour down to our local seaside resort, (Port Dover), resplendent with palm trees and the best Perch fry you have ever had. And of course, ice cream after, June also had a very unique adventure, when we participated in the Ron Fellows Performance Driving School at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park (Mosport for all us old racers). We were the first Corvette club to sign on and 18 cars showed up for laps around the track under the watchful eyes of Ron, Linda and his instructors, all of whom are either a current or former professional race car driver. We did hot laps (well it seemed like hot laps to us) in Cadillacs, Camaros and Corvettes. It was followed by a substantial dinner in their lovely media centre, catered by a local restaurant. It was a great adventure which we hope to repeat.



July featured our annual Corvette car show at our local sponsor's dealership, Brian Cullen Motors, as a 'Quad C' sanctioned event. 142 cars showed up which was fabulous and we managed to raise almost \$4,500 for our favourite charity, the Niagara Children's Centre. We are grateful for all the 'Quad C' members who came to support us.

August was relatively quiet with a number of members attending the National Corvette Museum's 25th anniversary cruise, and a wonderful time was had. The Club joined up with the Ohio Caravan who were very hospitable entertaining us Canucks.



In September we went down to the Ellicottville, New York, Rock and Roll Weekend which features a very large all breed car show, and of course, eating and a delightful drive after along Lake Erie's southern shore. September saw us take a dinner cruise (gee, more eating) on the Grand River, while some of us had an interaction with the Halton Police and missed the cruise altogether. (You had to be there to hear this story.). Also in September, we were favoured with a visit from the Westchester, New York Corvette Club with 12 of their cars coming up for a tour of wine country. We took them around Niagara with stops at the Laura Secord home, Brock's monument, the floral clock, and then a drive along the parkway, followed of course by lunch.

During the summer we also had visits to several members who have amazing garages at their homes with all sorts of cars and memorabilia. We also did a tour of Randy Conly's Rod shop in Smithville where we saw the restoration of a 1935 Chev and a 1971 Chevelle SS. Lunch, of course followed by a tour of Stingray Auto's facilities with eight Vettes undergoing various stages of repair and restoration.

All in all a great season and now the sad time has come to put the cars away. Oh well, I am sure we will find time to get together for some activities, and of course eating! Our Christmas banquet is November 23rd and our membership continues to grow as Vettes see the benefit of joining Corvette clubs, particularly of the 'Quad C' variety.



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The C8 Reveal

My California Experience

By Sue Woodland
Corvettes of Durham

When GM introduced the Next Generation C8 Corvette in July at Tustin, California, they chose a venue that sounded like an odd place...a blimp hanger, one of two hangers erected by the US Navy during WWII. The hanger, however, was actually an excellent choice due to its spaciousness and how GM 'dressed it up' for the occasion.

I had the great privilege of attending The C8 Reveal as a guest of our Quad C-Eastern Region President, Cindy Wilcox; Cindy was invited by GM Canada. Thank you again Cindy, for this opportunity - to be there in person was exhilarating, enjoying the sights and sounds from start to finish! I very much enjoyed spending this time with you.

We flew to LA the day prior to The C8 Reveal. At Los Angeles Airport, we chose a 2019 Torch Red C7 Coupe as our mode of transportation. The car rental staff were as excited about us attending The C8 Reveal, as we were to be driving away in such a rental.

It was still early; so a visit to the famous Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles was our first stop. It's a car museum well worth visiting...four floors of fabulous vehicles, including some that were designed and built in Southern California and numerous award-winning race cars including the No. 2 Corvette driven to 1st place by Briggs Cunningham at the 1960 Le Mans race. The Petersen's main floor entry, and even the parking garage, contain vehicles on display. Be sure to put this Museum on your bucket list and take your camera! And if you're a member of the National Corvette Museum, the entry fee to the Petersen is waived!

We spent several hours in the Petersen leaving just as they closed for the day. But why leave? Their restaurant was open, offering a reasonably-priced menu and it was an easy decision to enjoy dinner there.

Still daylight (and with a 3-hour time difference on our side), it was time for a spin around LA's famous streets in our Torch Red C7: Sunset Blvd., Wilshire Blvd. and Hollywood & Vine. Hundreds of people and street vendors lined the sidewalks; lots of cars; restaurants and bars all open and police patrolling on bicycles. Later on, navigating the way to our hotel was fairly simple until coming across a construction road closure right beside our hotel...and we were on the 'wrong' side of the closure! The last adventure for the day was Cindy's excellent manoeuvring around it through residential side streets!



Reveal Day was warm and sunny, as they all were during our stay at 21C or 22C, without humidity, while back in the GTA everyone suffered with 30+ temps and high humidity! By early afternoon we were ready to find our way to GM Canada's host hotel, located literally across the street from very wide beaches fronting the Pacific Ocean with Catalina Island in view! We pulled up at the Paséa Hotel and Spa in Huntington Beach in our rental Corvette and were warmly greeted by GM staff and given our Reveal Credentials, event agenda, souvenir C8 lapel pins, hats and C8 Commemorative Coins (Cindy's is Torch Red, mine is Blade Silver). Cindy and I chatted with several GM Canada executives who all told us they were glad to have us there for this special event. We were among Chevrolet

dealers from across Canada – some of whom we knew - and, befitting his status in Corvette Racing and beyond, Ron Fellows was there too. Each person we spoke to was keen to see this new car in its full colour and minus the camouflage we had seen for months online.

A buffet supper and refreshments were provided for GM Canada guests in a hotel meeting room literally looking out at the Pacific! Until this trip, I had not been to the west coast, so this was a beautiful sight to take in! When it was time to go, GM Canada's guests boarded luxury coaches that drove us to the Reveal venue roughly 30 minutes away.

One of the airport car rental staff had told us he lives 'across the street' from the blimp hanger. A strange sounding phrase, but easily explained when we arrived at The C8 Reveal venue. At the time the hangers were constructed, this was empty land but over the years, urbanization took hold with hundreds of houses, apartment high rises and shopping areas springing up leaving the Blimp property standing out against this urban scene with a mountain range in the background.

The *Tustin Blimp Hanger* and an unused second hanger stand in a wide field well back from the street. They're huge structures standing 17-stories high and 3+ US football fields in length! The Event hanger exterior was 'dressed' in Corvette banners and when the doors opened we saw white Corvettes representing each of the seven generations parked inside the front portion of the Hanger.

Parked with them were three CERV Vehicles (Chevrolet Experimental Racing Vehicles) dating back to Zora Arkus-Duntov's interest in developing a mid-engine Corvette.



The field in front of the hanger had been transformed into a welcoming area of white tents for vendors of C8 goods, a racing simulator, a Corvette Racing display with the current and past two generations of race car, a 'cocktail lounge' complete with sofas and easy chairs as well as a "Corvette Corral" where invited Corvette owners from the area displayed their Vettes. Like all gatherings of Corvettes everywhere, a variety of generations, models and colours could be seen in this Corral. Food trucks and picnic tables completed this outdoor area.

Literally thousands of Corvette enthusiasts were there from around North America. GM and Corvette 'royalty' were all there; the National Corvette Museum was represented by the new CEO, several staff and some of their Board members. And, of course, Ron Fellows was among us.

Finally it was time for The C8 Reveal event to begin. Chairs on tiered rows of risers had been erected so that everyone had a seat with an unobstructed view of the stage. Preliminary remarks from two past US Astronauts were the first hint of the aerodynamics of this new Corvette. Music played and the curtain rose to reveal three C8s in Torch Red, Arctic White and Elkhart Lake Blue racing toward us from the rear of the stage, lights along the sides of the stage reminiscent of an airport runway! Other hints of 'aircraft' appeared throughout the Reveal; 'cockpit' described the driver's seat and a photo of a fighter jet overlaid with a photo of the C8 was shown. It was an excellent show...full of colour and sound and "choreography".

Following The C8 Reveal, waiters circulated with trays of hors d'ouvres while the audience swarmed the stage to see the cars, get into them and take photos. You can imagine how crowded it was! We were all interested in getting up close but weren't always successful. There would be, however, another chance for us tomorrow.

We viewed displays in the front portion of the Hanger which had earlier been hidden behind screens. We saw exterior colour bumps, brake caliper colour choices, wheel choices, three seat choices, interior colour samples, all option parts were on display. A fourth C8 in Zeus Bronze was available for sitting, inspecting and picture-taking; Michelin's Lead Development Engineer was on hand with a sample of the Pilot Sport All Season 4 tire; cut-aways of the C8 chassis and a side view of a complete chassis were also on display.

Too soon it was time to head back to the GM Canada host hotel for "After Glow", an apt name for their late-evening reception where we continued talking about this amazing car and the spectacular event we had witnessed. It was well after 11 pm (local time) when Cindy and I left, tired out and ready for a good nights' sleep! But not before checking out Facebook postings and photos!

Another warm and sunny morning greeted us on Friday. Following breakfast hosted by GM Canada served on an outdoor patio at the Paséa, we attended their C8 update and Q&A geared to the Canadian Chevrolet dealers in the audience. One particular detail that stood out was the base price for a C8 in Canada – under \$70,000! Ron Fellows gave a presentation about The Ron Fellows Performance Driving School in Nevada, stressing the importance of C8 owners taking the high-performance training offered there.

Our second trip by luxury coach to the Blimp Hanger was next, where we had another brief time to visit the vendor booths (yes, to shop!) before our allotted time with Chief Engineer, Tadge Juechter and Phil Zak, Executive Design Director, Global Chevrolet. Their presentation focused on the close relation between engineering and design - both interior and exterior design - in the creation of the new mid-engine C8.

This was another opportunity for our group of 60 to get into the cars, open the rear trunk and the 'frunk', figure out the unique instrument panel, learn about servicing the vehicle (remember – it's a mid-engine), ask Tadge and Phil one-on-one questions and take more photos of the C8s, this time without obstruction. What a car! This mid-engine C8 is the culmination of Zora Arkus-Duntov's dreams; it's a very fast car: zero to 60 in under 3 seconds! And it's a fabulous-looking vehicle – sleek and stylish; roomy and comfortable for both driver and passenger! The interior is made of high-quality materials that spell "luxury"! We heard at The C8 Reveal (and I saw at the NCM 25th Anniversary Event in August) that soft-side luggage will fit into both 'trunks'. I'm keen to enjoy my first trip in a C8 and test this out!

When our time was up, other groups took our place to have their allotted time with Tadge and Phil. The buses returned us to the Paséa where we said our good-byes and thanked our GM Canada hosts! Although The C8 Reveal portion of our time in Southern California was over, we still had the rest of the day and evening to enjoy!

Lunch on a shaded outdoor patio and walking the length of the Huntington Beach Pier allowed us to enjoy the warm California air! We watched as dozens of surfers rode the waves to shore and I dipped my feet in the Pacific. Another Red C7 spin northbound on the Pacific Coast Highway was next, where it runs immediately beside the ocean in some areas with a noted Wildlife preserve on our right just north of Huntington Beach. We meandered through small towns, enjoying the Vette's AC and nav system as well as the sight of some lovely houses and gardens. In the cool of the evening, we sat outdoors on our hotel's patio and reminisced about our experience at The C8 Reveal, who we met and talked to and our overall time in California.

Way too soon, our California time came to an end! On departure day we enjoyed one last spin on the freeway to the airport and flew home to resume normal lives. But what an experience to treasure! And memories too! So many photos yet to sort through!

In closing I want to again thank Cindy for her kind invitation! And thank Travis Hester, (now GM Canada Past President), Jamie Dewhurst, Matt Stokes and their other colleagues for their generous hospitality over the two days. The C8 Reveal and related activities were spectacular events and something I'll long remember and cherish!



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TECH TIPS: Corvette

Winter Storage

Well, it is that sad time again of putting your Corvette into hibernation until spring. I have done a reminder of suggestions for good storage practice for your pride and joy. One of the main things is put a fuel stabilizer and an ethanol additive in your gas tank then go for a short drive. Then fill your gas tank full, less air area in the gas tank less condensation area in the gas tank.

I always recommend changing the oil before putting the Corvette away before the winter; this way there is no possible sludge or contaminants sitting in the engine all winter. I also recommend an oil change in the spring to remove any possible sludge in the oil pan or condensation. I know, I know ... seems a little much but a oil change is better than motor wear.

Now a thorough clean of the inside and out to include treating the rims and tires and put a good coat of wax on the outside. Before you do a complete vacuum inside the car, remove everything from inside the console, glove pouch/compartments, rear storage compartment or trunk. This will prevent possible mildew and not attract critters. Get a storage Tupper tote to place all of your inside contents in and store for the winter.

Now you can park your Corvette having the tires on cardboard or 1" blue Styrofoam, or 1" wooden board, or old Coroplast signs (that are left over from garage sales, old For Sale signs or election signs) or whatever you use to keep the tires off the concrete. If you are not storing your Corvette on concrete it is a good idea to put a plastic tarp completely underneath your car. You don't have to remove your battery to hook up a battery tender or smart charger but if you do remove your battery, put a charge on it every 30 days and bring it to full charge.



Top off all your fluid levels, this will also let you know if you have a possible leak in that system. You can put a couple of moisture absorbers inside the car and then to help keep furry little creatures out. I like to use laundry dryer sheets; they smell a lot better than moth balls. Place these dryer sheets everywhere, inside the Corvette on the floor, in back area and storage compartments, in the engine compartment (after engine is cold). Toss them underneath the car, put them around the outside of the car ... don't cheap out and try and save some for next year; use them all up. Your baby depends on you. Get some towels and wrap them individually around your exhaust tips and fasten the towels with rubber bands or string to keep the mice from getting into your exhaust. If you can it is a good idea to put towels around your air intake/air breather too (you can put dryer sheets on top of these too). Don't forget to dust the car off and put a car cover on to protect it. I like to cover my Corvette with cotton bed sheets ... yes cotton bed sheets.

It is not necessary to start your Corvette unless you are going for a drive. Even starting your Corvette and bringing the engine up to temperature, does not allow the components to go through their procedures like the same as when driving the car. Later component failure is possible. Also starting your Corvette during storage will build up condensation in your exhaust. It always helps to do a storage checklist. This way in the spring before you start and move your Corvette you don't forget to remove something. Hope this helps. If you have any questions, you know where to reach me.

John Bull

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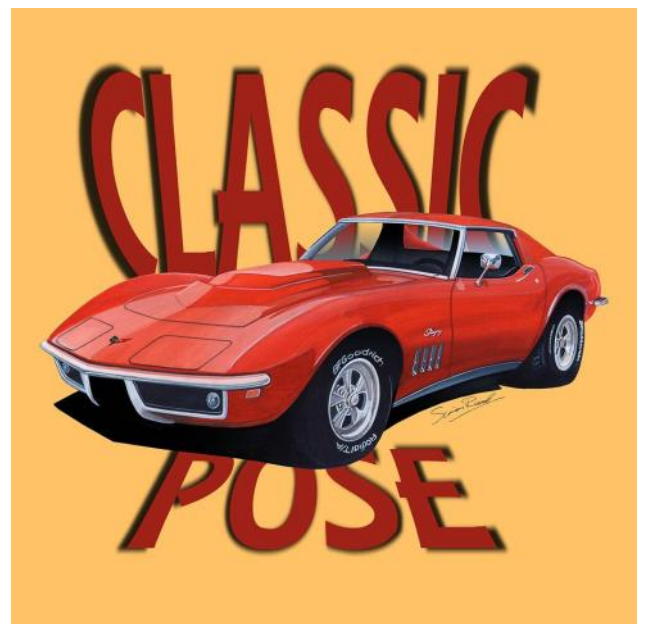
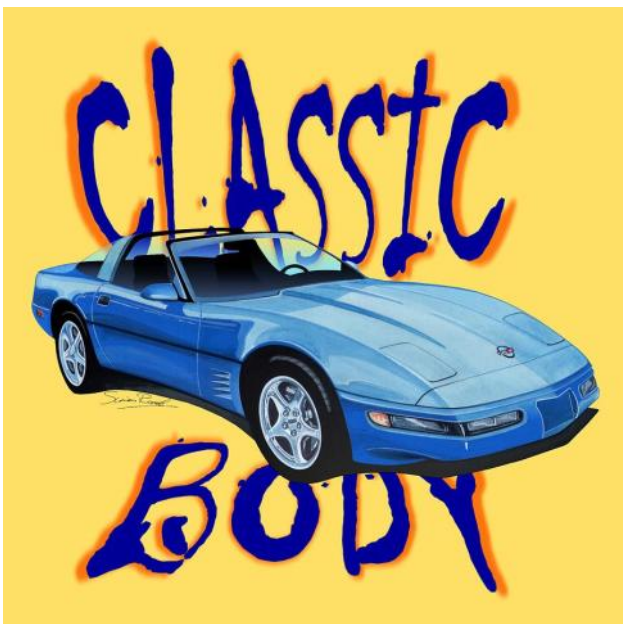
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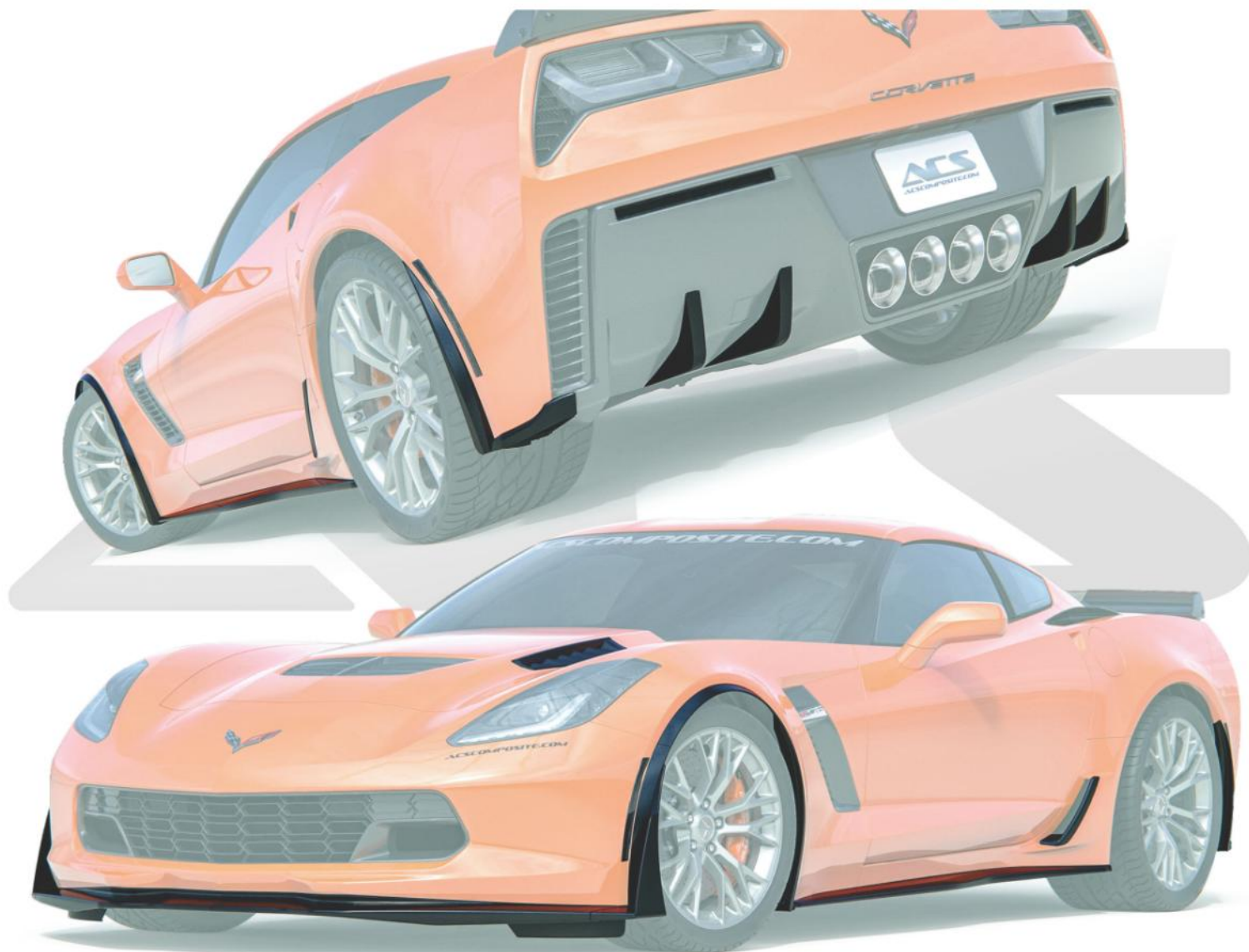
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MUSKOKA FALL TOUR OF COLOURS



LCCC tour of colours October 5th, 2019 underway, started at Tim Horton's just past Weber's on Hwy 11 north of Orillia. You remember Weber's, the location of 'Hot August Nights' where the Corvette is featured, and home of the world famous burgers. Corvettes lining up to head north became an instant photo opportunity. The weather was beautiful and the leaves in full colour; reds, orange, yellow - magnificent. To the delight of locals, we paraded through the main street of Huntsville, kids waving and yelling, "look at all the Corvettes." Then on to Dorset, a pretty little Muskoka village, including a stop at Robinson's hardware store. Not only hardware but groceries, clothing, of course souvenirs - one of those gems you got to go to. Have to mention that Robinson's had posted a sign welcoming Lake Country Corvette Club. Once we all had finished enjoying Robinson's, it was over the bridge, on our way through the village of Baysville and on to dinner at the Blue Moon Junction Restaurant in Severn Township. We had reservations as a group of 45 for dinner. A fantastic and fun day was enjoyed by all. Oh ... not the end of our season as we have our annual Christmas party happening again this December. 2020 can't wait





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Greater Moncton Corvette Club

By Trueman Copp and Margaret Mayes

Our Fall season begins with monthly meetings held at Lounsbury Chevrolet, Moncton branch.



A couple things from our short summer. On Aug 6, two Corvettes, Dave Gates and Trueman Copp, along with Margaret Mayes, left for Nashua, New Hampshire to see the unveiling of the new 2020 Corvette.

August 11, we toured to Dover, stopped at President Roger Bourgeois' home and viewed the great set up in his Corvette garage, continued on to Belliveau Orchard then continued on to the home of our members, Lana and Bob Cooke where we were treated to a wonderful BBQ.



Carlisle, Pennsylvania on August 21 weekend

Fourteen Corvettes from GMCC, NSCC and NLCC made the trek to Carlisle. It was a success for at least two of our members, winning celebrity picks: Gina & Chris Harlow, their first time and quite something to be proud when you consider the volume of beautiful Corvettes to choose from; and Jeanne & Lindou Cormier, their 4th time, and also a great achievement.

August 17 - We left Moncton and crossed the bridge to Gateway Mall on PEI where we met other Vettes. More than 60 Corvettes then drove to Tignish PEI to have lunch and tour the Stompin Tom Museum . The PEI club hosted us in Charlottetown for a BBQ.



Greater Moncton Corvette Club >



On September 15, we did a shipyard tour of Albert County and did a interesting tour of the First Bank of NB in Riverside-Albert.



On September 22, 22 Corvettes left Moncton for a day trip to St Martin's where we stopped at the Caves. This is a spectacular view to see the caves that the strongest tides in the world have carved out along the shore. The tides rise 40-50 feet twice a day . At low tide, you can walk into the caves on the ocean floor. We had some of the best seafood at the Caves restaurant, then continued on the Fundy Trail stopping to view some of the most picturesque views along this newly opened trail. It was so great to see the 22 Corvettes as they curved around the hills, dips and valleys of this tour.



**Corvette Autism Resource Centre
cheque presentation**



**First Bank of New Brunswick , Riverside Albert,
Building was moved three times**



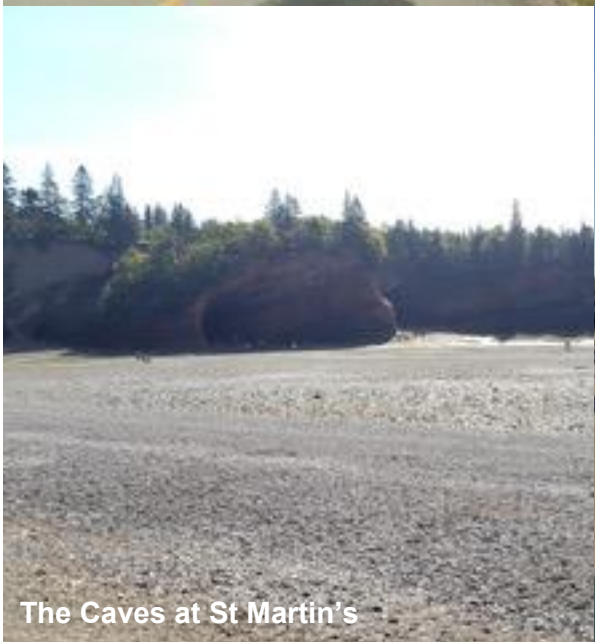
Run to Fundy Park, September



Shipyard Tour



The Caves at St Martin's



Ryan's Run
Fund raiser for NICU, Moncton Hospital
Over 250 cars, all makes and models.
25 Corvettes, raised more than \$5000.00



Ryes Run to be held October 6 to raise monies for Moncton Hospital.

October 13 - our president run is scheduled. This is a little mystery tour to Nova Scotia, meeting up with NS Corvette club touring, around Wentworth Valley, visiting Jost Winery, continuing on the Sunrise Trail to Port Elgin and back home.

October 19 is our 'Leisure, Leaves and Lobster Run', led by Trueman Copp. This tour will take us from Riverview to Riverside-Albert with a stop to view the monuments to the Acadian and Irish settlers. We will continue on and visit "Studio On the Marsh", owned and operated by Michelle

Larson. Here we will be able to view and/or purchase spectacular art works. We will be given an interruptive talk by Ducks Unlimited director, Mac Dunfield about the Acadian dykes built on the marsh as well of the works of Ducks Unlimited. Then we continue our tour to Alma, purchase lobsters at Collins Lobsters and maybe sticky buns at the bakery. Then we continue to Fundy Park and stop at Goshen Snowmobile Club and feast on our lobsters.

October 25 - we plan our yearly trip to Hampton Middle School car show fundraiser for school activities. We will finalize our Fall and Winter activities with our Christmas partying in December where this year is Crazy Sweater theme.



A special thank you to
Margaret & Trueman for
taking on this task,
in memory of
Paul

Cindy



Remembering Our Corvette Friends

Paul Dunn
Greater Moncton Corvette Club
Passed February 17, 2019

It is with great sadness that in February we heard of the passing of our member and friend, Paul Dunn. I met Paul about 14 years ago. When Paul joined our Corvette Club, he immediately volunteered for different club related tasks. During the last 4 - 5 years, Paul was our communication director, sending countless email messages to our members and other Corvette clubs. He also had a huge passion for photography and therefore soon became our official club photographer. Paul captured the essence of all the club events and runs. He took it upon himself to catalogue his photos and produce commercial grade, soft covered, memory books, taking orders from our members who wanted a copy. He produced a book for each year from 2014-2018. They will forever be treasured.

Paul was also in the process of preparing his second Canadian Council of Corvette Club - Eastern Region, Fast Past issue. Our club members were very pleased when we heard, in the last months of 2018, that he had taken over as Editor of that magazine; what an honour.



Jim Prescott 'The King of Bling'

Corvettes of Durham

Passed August 6, 2018



With heavy hearts we announce Jim's passing on March 19, 2019, following a brief illness, surrounded with the love of his son and daughter. Jim was the cherished husband of the late Marilyn; dearest companion and "Honey" of Cecile Bourgeois.

Wonderful, caring father of Dianne Miller, John Prescott and his wife Andrea. Proud Poppa of Brock, Dylan, Hunter, Logan & Chelsea. He will be lovingly remembered by his sister-in-law Aureen Landon.

Jim retired from General Motors after 38 years of service. He will be remembered as an avid member of the Corvettes of Durham, supporter of Ducks Unlimited and his love of NASCAR.

Rest in Peace, Jim, knowing you were a very, very special person.

John Schaeffer

Pine Ridge Corvette Club

1946 - 2018

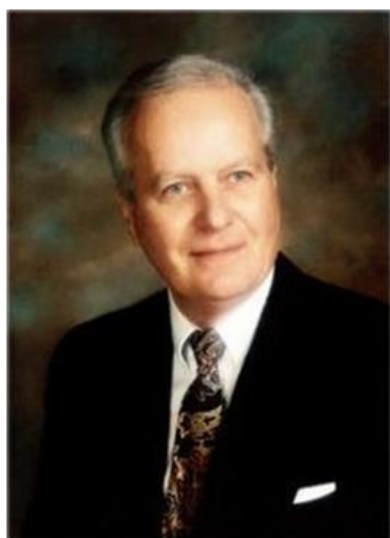


It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of John Schaeffer during a Caribbean cruise on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at the age of 72. Beloved husband and best friend of Susan (42 years). Will be lovingly remembered by his brother Dave (Lynn), stepson Rob, and nephew Steven along with their families. John was a long term member of the Pine Ridge Corvette Club. He was born in Toronto on January 17, 1946. He was a graduate of the University of Western Ontario with a double major in English and Psychology. He worked with the Canada Revenue Agency for 30 years until his retirement in 2015, and will be missed by many of his colleagues and friends.

Brent Bamford

Corvettes of Western Ontario

Passed September 30, 2018



BAMFORD, William 'Brent' - With sadness, Brent Bamford passed away on Sunday, September 30, 2018, after a dignified battle with cancer, at St. Joseph's Hospice in London, in his 76th year. Beloved husband of Ilene for 52 years.

Brent was a member of CWO from 2014 to 2018. He was always a car guy, having several muscle cars over the years, ending with Corvettes. He was a big fan of Mosport races, and later IMSA racing. He made the trek down to Canadian Tire Motorsports Park annually to be part of the Corvette Corral. In 2018, just months before his passing, he led a convoy of 10 CWO cars to this IMSA venue and showed us why he had this passion. It was a great weekend, but Brent was struggling with the demands of just being there. It was his last big effort.

A teacher and later a principal, he left a positive and lasting impression on his students over the years. He was a scuba diver and was responsible for finding the wreck of the Wexford steamer that went down in Lake Huron in "the big storm" of 1913 - all hands were lost. He made his way to Grand Superintendent in the Masons and was also involved in Boy Scouts. He loved cars and loved giving back to the community. Anyone who ever met him realized immediately he was a gentleman with a kind and supportive natural disposition. He is missed by the many people in the many areas he touched.



Vickey Sue Bell

Greater Moncton Corvette Club

1952 - 2019

Vickey Sue Bell, 66, of Dawson Settlement NB, passed away peacefully on April 13th, 2019 at the Moncton Hospital with her family by her side. She was born in Moncton on September 13, 1952.

Vickey was very personable and loved being around people. She and her husband, Lawson, owned and operated the Dutch Valley Bed & Breakfast in Sussex for several years where Vickey was able to show her hospitality to everyone that walked through their door. After moving to the Dawson Settlement area she worked at the Hopewell Rocks for a time and last worked at KENT Building Supplies as the Marketing

Coordinator. She had a passion for working outdoors in her flower beds and landscaping; her rock walls and beautiful flowers were definitely a labour of love. She was a member of the St. Mary's Anglican Church. She had a beautiful alto voice and was a member of the Hillsborough Alumnae Choir and belonged to the music group 'Close Harmony' who sang at many different functions to help raise money for several different charities and were well known in the area.

Aroldo "Harold" MANCINI

Niagara Corvette Club

Passed away April 8, 2019



MANCINI, Aroldo "Harold" Passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, at the Greater Niagara General Hospital on Monday, April 8, 2019 at the age of 57. Beloved husband of Emily Mancini. Dearly loved father of Rosa Mancini (Jason) and Francesco Mancini. Dear brother of Joe (Ana) Mancini and brother-in-law of Mary Rinaldi and Sam (Patricia) Larosa. Dear uncle of Jennifer, Anthony, Alessandra, Giuliana, Ava, Ella and Samuel. Sadly missed by his cousins John DeSimone, Dominic (Palma) Lori, Elda (Roger) DeSimone-Ireland and Mary (Norm) Marcon. Cherished son of the late Franco and Rosa Mancini and son-in-law of Carmela and the late Francesco Larosa. Harold owned and operated Souvenir City on River Road in Niagara Falls for many years prior to his retirement.

SAWICKI, Arlene Grace

Niagara Corvette Club

Passed away March 8, 2019



Passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Friday March 8, 2019 at the age of 76. Cherished wife of Edward Sawicki for 57 years. Loving mother of John and his wife Kristal, Todd and his wife Jodi, Alison and her husband Bryan Hillier. Grandma will forever be in the hearts of Jessica (Danny), Kyle (Kailey), Victoria Grace, Victoria Anne, and Sarah. Dear Great Grandmother of Brooklyn, Rebecca, Aleksa, and Aria. Arlene is survived by her sister Karen and her husband David Gilles.

Arlene was the wife of Niagara Corvette Club member, Ed Sawacki and the mother of NCC member John Sawicki. She was an active supporter of the NCC.

Wasn't that a party! The 25th Anniversary Caravan to the NCM in Bowling Green, Kentucky

By Susan Schaeffer
PRCC

We'd had such a great time at the 20th anniversary caravan in 2014, that I signed up John and myself for the 2019 caravan as soon as the notice arrived. Then the unthinkable happened, John passed away. The deal was, once you were signed up, you couldn't cancel and get a refund, you had to find someone to take over your reservations. I was telling my grandson Kyle about the caravan and he was very interested in hearing all about it. I casually asked, would you be interested in going with me, which was met with an enthusiastic, "Hell ya" so I continued planning the trip with Kyle, and I'm so glad I did.

The Sunday before we were scheduled to leave, there was a driver's meeting at the Addison dealership in the west end. Addison was one of our major sponsors. Jamie Crane, the Captain of the Ontario Caravan, told us all about what was planned and we received our handbook, maps and the most generous swag bag I've ever seen. It had to be worth well over \$100 as it included a well-made duffle bag large enough for a couple with the 25th Anniversary logo embroidered on it. We learned there would be 60 Corvettes in our group.

The following weekend we stayed overnight in Mississauga for an early start the next day, Sunday. Our first stop would be Cleveland. Prior arrangements had been made at all the hotels to have our cars parked together with extra security. The planned activity for Cleveland was a visit to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Special arrangements had been made for them to stay open from 6 pm to 9 pm, just for our group. It is a really fun place to visit with many interactive displays as well as rock memorabilia.

We had a police escort leaving the hotel until we reached Hwy #2 where we made our way to Dayton, Ohio for a visit to the National Museum of the US Air Force. Now for someone who likes to fly planes, this is a candy store. I swear I could spend a week there. It is a huge place with planes and more planes, movie clips and lots of information. Being handicapped was no problem as they had dozens of electric scooters you could borrow.

Next stop was Indianapolis. Those who were signed up for the Indy track experience received a special sticker to apply to the windshield. Driving the Indy Track was a great experience. They weren't parade laps unless it's a parade going around 110 miles an hour on the straight away. We had three fast laps that were over too soon. Really fun! Then next door we went to the Speedway Car Museum. After our visit, we departed for the Big Woods restaurant for lunch, then it was off to Louisville for a tour of Churchill Downs, Home of the Kentucky Derby.



After our tour, we headed to the Drury Inn hotel in Bowling Green which was our home base while in Bowling Green. The Drury Inn is a lovely hotel and was perfect for a group that wants to socialize. Not only is breakfast included but around 5 or 5:30, they have a happy hour with nachos, tacos and other food and you can buy mixed drinks for \$.75 cents each (yes it isn't a typo) maximum 3 per person. Naturally we took full advantage.



The next day, Wednesday, we had a day of leisure when you could visit the NCM before all the crowds arrived, or you could participate in the Go Kart races for the Addison Cup. Now, the racers were happy to race, but the spectators had the opportunity to wager on the racers and cheer them on. It was very well organized similar to a hockey pool. The racers had practice laps, qualifier laps and then race laps with an enthusiastic crowd of fans cheering them on. The winners received a beautiful trophy as well as a medal on a ribbon. I was so proud that Kyle came in first (one second off the track record), followed by Gerry Pancott in 2nd place and Daryl Senick took 3rd. It was great fun and then the track staff asked the ladies if they'd like a go. The only thing was that they had to have closed toe shoes. Since most had sandals, they ended up wearing their husband's sneakers. The winners of the pool did well with some winning twice for wins of \$40 or \$80.



Many of us had signed up for laps at the NCM track. It is a beautiful, well laid out track more like Mosport than the Indy oval. You had a four hour time slot so you could do your 3 laps and then get off the track and back in line for another 3 laps. On the first laps, the poor fella in front of us thought it would be a Sunday drive around the track and was obviously timid and eventually put on his signal, pulled over to let us speed demons by and got off the track. I felt sorry for him and would like there to have been a separate line so people could enjoy the track experience at their own pace. We, on the other hand found that as you lined up for another set of laps, the cars thinned out until only the "racers" were left and the laps were fast. Kyle remarked that I never say slow down, it is always, "get up there" and "here's the straightway, GO!" No, I'd rather crash and burn than slow down.

Kyle and I had made reservations to attend a fish fry (catfish) at Boyce General Store which was really fun. Catfish is delicious and tastes nothing like fish. If anything, it tastes like chicken and has a similar texture only more delicate. They had a blue grass band which was really good. The museum and the town had a full schedule of things and attractions available to entertain you if you wanted.

Once back at the Drury Inn, there was the usual drink deal and a tailgate party in the parking lot. As we walked into our room there was another surprise waiting: a big bag full of car detailing products thanks to Lucas Oil. I was so tired I could hardly stand up so I went to bed while Kyle represented us at the tailgate party. He now knows everyone by name, what car they drive, what they've done to it and what they are planning to do. He had a ball and everyone was so friendly towards him.



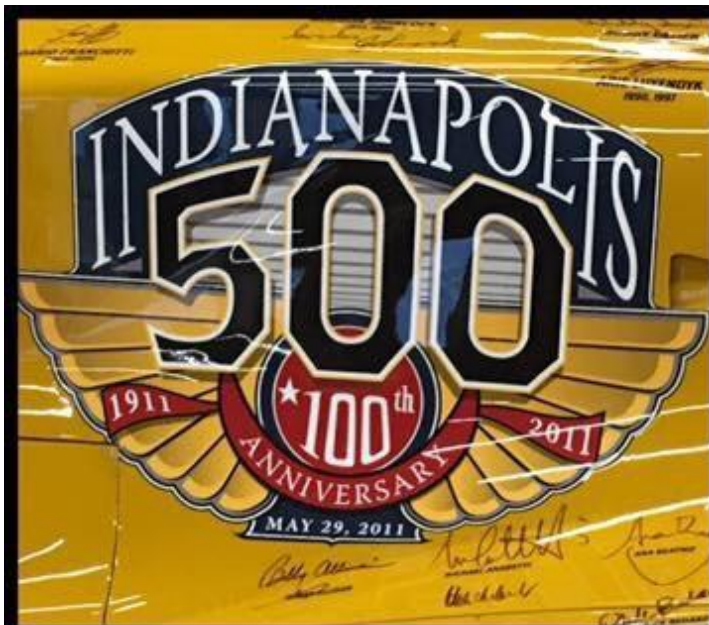
Thursday we did the parade arrival at the NCM and saw how they had repaired some of the cars caught in the sink hole but others, too damaged to be restored, were still on display. The sink hole was fairly fresh during the 2014 Caravan. Later that afternoon was the concert with the 'Jefferson Starship' and another group, 'Faithfully' followed by fireworks. Back at the Drury, we held another tailgate party.

Friday we had signed up for a bus tour. We went to a butterfly and ecological park, then off to Reid's Livery Winery for a tour and tasting. For lunch we stopped at the Mellow Mushroom for what was the best pizza, best wings and best brownies and cookies, EVER! Then it was back on the bus and off to Chaney's Dairy Barn for ice cream. A really good quality ice cream. Back at the Drury Inn we enjoyed another social. Some went for a swim or a hot tub and then there were those cheap drinks. Just a great group of people.

Some were going on to drive the Tail of the Dragon, but John and I had done it at the end of the 2014 Caravan plus Kyle had to go back to work. We took two days to get home. This was a trip of a lifetime. I figured out how much the trip had cost: \$2500 for Hotels; \$200 for Gas; \$400 for Meals; another \$450 for registrations for other activities and about \$500 for shirts and other souvenirs; making a total of over \$4,000. Making the trip with my grandson ... priceless.

This caravan only happens every five years. It would be a shame to go through your life enjoying your Corvette but never experiencing this once in a lifetime trip. If you're alive and kicking in 2024, you should go. I know I will (or at least Kyle will for sure).





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