



Spoiler

APRIL-MAY 2021

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PREZ SEZ...

We are finally seeing us getting ahead of the covid pandemic. Most of our members have been vaccinated and feel safer about attending the general membership meetings and other club activities.



Bill Shearer

The Moose Lodge asked if we could move our Thursday night meeting to Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. The board agreed on Tuesday and the club voted at the May 11 General Membership Meeting in favor of the move.

AUTOCROSS RACING

On April 17 a group of members traveled to Green Cove Springs, Florida to compete in a 7-event autocross hosted by the North Florida Corvette Club and on May 8th several members traveled to *Sun and Fun* Airport to compete in a 6-event autocross hosted by Cypress Gardens Corvette Club.

SHOWS

The show season has begun after being dormant for more than a year. On April 24 a number of members entered in the Stuart Corvette Club's annual show held at Keiser University Campus in Port St Lucie. Next John and Barbara Franklin were invited to participate in the *Festival of Speed* show in Ocala on May 1st. Then on May 15 some members traveled to Ponce Inlet Corvette Club's first *Vettes At One Daytona* show across from the Daytona Speedway.

Continued on next page

SUNDAY BRUNCHES

We had excellent attendance at our Sunday Fishlips Brunch in April and May, perhaps helped by most of us finally receiving our Covid-19 vaccinations.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Our club was invited to be part of the Cocoa Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 31 and several members participated (see photos on pages 9 & 10). Prior to joining the parade some of us made a short detour to drive by an assisted living home to put a smile on a resident Corvette enthusiast's (Mark) face as he watched our procession of Corvettes. Then after the parade we enjoyed getting together with everyone at *Time Out Plus Sports Bar*.

SOCIAL EVENTS & SUGGESTIONS

The Social Committee is building a calendar for future activities so if you have any club activity suggestions, please don't hesitate to share your ideas with a committee member or me.

During the summer most NCCC South competitive events and shows are not held due to the extreme Florida heat. However, some of us will be heading to the cooler north to the NCCC Convention being held from Sunday, June 13 through Friday the

18th in Cleveland, Ohio. We're looking forward to visiting the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame* and enjoying a dinner cruise on Lake Erie, plus running in the low speed autocross. The next *Spoiler* issue will contain articles on our experiences.

Finally don't forget the Dillard's Father's Day Show, Merritt Square Mall, June 19. dillardscarshow@gmail.com.

Save the Wave,

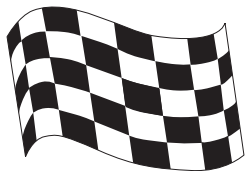
Bill

DILLARD'S FATHER'S DAY CAR SHOW

SATURDAY
JUNE 19TH 2021
DILLARD'S MERRITT
SQUARE
12-4

Registration starts at 11am
preregister by emailing
dillardscarshow@gmail.com

All types of cars welcomed
\$10 donation to Inheritance of Hope for entry
Raffles, music, chick-fil-a



CKCC Race Team Report

By James Patterson, Competition Director



MAY COMPETITION

May was an incredibly busy racing month. The guys and gals of the CKCC Race Team have been very busy too. I am glad we had such a big turn out in Lakeland. See video from Matt of RearWheelDrive on YouTube. Matt put a camera on CKCC Race Team member Steven Goodbread's car. Watch Steve's run at about 8 minutes, 30 seconds via the following link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ra_mHr0DI5Q We now have more than 3700 points with the second place club more than 1000 points behind.

I went to one AutoX in Ohio and another in Michigan in May. Karen and I went to Painsville Ohio the last weekend and I raced all three days. Karen worked and I believe that will carry us to over 4000 points. Windy City put on an event the last weekend and that should gain them more than 1000 points. It will be close. We shall see.

It would be so nice to go to convention and be the number 1 club in the nation, out in front of everyone — the big boys, the

perennial leaders of the NCCC nation. It's fun to think big, aim high, then charge straight at the finish line.

UPCOMING CONVENTION

Convention is June 13–18! Are you going? Only two people dropped out of the Time Trial but six additional people have signed up. This could be a new beginning for NCCC.

The High Speed Event will be held at Nelson's Ledges Race Track. I plan to get some more track time before then. Karen and I will participate in the Concourse, Low Speed, and High Speed Events. The High Speed Autocross at Nelson's Ledges Raceway has been converted into a Time Trial. I have been contacted by the East Ohio Region to post on Facebook and support their choice. I will do all that I can.

I believe CKCC will receive recognition for being the number 6 club in the nation for our participation in the 2019 season. It will be a great honor to be part of that success.

Come on up to Ohio, race, see the sights, and most importantly, let's have fun. •

Brake and Clutch Fluid Maintenance

By Bill Kassebaum

Both the brake and clutch systems on Corvettes (C4 and newer generations for hydraulic clutch) use some type of brake fluid as the working fluid. Some early C4 (1984-1986?) cars used a special GM hydraulic fluid with special friction modifiers added. Generally, you can use DOT 3, 4 or 5.1 in your Corvette brake or clutch system. The major difference between these three fluids is the dry/wet boiling point. The higher the DOT number the higher the boiling points. There are some other differences, but boiling point impacts us the most. Some manufacturers sell brake fluid with much higher boiling points. You can replace your current DOT 3/4 fluid in your system with DOT 5.1. It is usually not recommended to mix them, but in a pinch you can.

DOT 3, 4 and 5.1 are all hygroscopic. That means it will absorb water from the humidity in the air around it. And we have plenty of humidity here in Florida! Moisture laden brake fluid can lead to corrosion and/or rust of the brake components that it is in contact with. In addition, you could start to feel mushy or soft brake pedal when you trying to stop. Brake fluid may have a slightly fishy smell and has a different (silky) feel than engine oil. Photo 1 shows the different colors of fresh and used brake fluids.

When my wife and I bought our 2007 C6 Z06 it had only 5400 miles on it. I did not initially believe I needed to think about some of my usual periodic maintenance items for the new car since it had so few miles on it. This is an incorrect assumption for brake and clutch fluid. Time and humidity are the enemies of most brake fluid. Most vehicle manufacturers recommend changing the brake fluid every two years. If you are racing your Corvette, you need to do it more often.

Our Corvette had very dark fluid in both the clutch and brake master cylinder reservoirs. I decided I would change the fluid in both systems to DOT 5.1 made by Bosch. It is definitely yellow and not clear like DOT 3 and 4. Matches our yellow car.



Photo 2 – Special tools recommended to perform fluid replacement. Small and large syringe, tubing and bottle to catch old brake fluid.



Photo 1, left to right – Fresh Bosch DOT 5.1, old DOT 3 from the brake master cylinder, fresh DOT 3/4, and the fresh DOT 5.1

Continued on next page

The clutch hydraulic system on our C6Z does not have the capability to bleed the system. There is not a bleed screw on the slave cylinder. But there is an alternative method to replace most of the fluid. It is called the Ranger Method. I will not go into the details of how it is done but here are the basic steps. Check the internet for more detailed steps of the [Ranger Method](#).

- a) Remove cap. Be sure to protect your Corvette paint during this and all other brake fluid activities.
- b) Draw all the fluid out of the reservoir using a syringe. Refill with new brake fluid.
- c) With engine off, pump the clutch pedal full top to bottom 30 times.
- d) Reinspect the fluid in the reservoir. If it is not clear or slightly yellow, repeat steps b) through d). Repeat as required.
- e) Clean the cap and diaphragm and install on reservoir.

For our brake system I drained and refilled the reservoir three times as you can not fully remove all the fluid through the single fill cap. There is a partition with a small slot to allow filling between the front and rear sections of the reservoir. Once I had done that, I was ready to bleed the brakes and remove most of the old brake fluid from the system. The ABS portion of the brake system will not be accessible during the following system bleed method. A small amount of old fluid will be trapped there. But during future brake fluid maintenance this small amount will eventually be replaced. I plan to change the clutch and brake system fluid at least once per year.

The service manual for our 2007 C6Z suggests that the brakes be bled in a specific order: RR, LF, LR and then RF and since the calipers on our C6Z have two bleed screws bleed the inside first then the outside.

Traditionally, bleeding the brakes has been a two-person job. One person to step on and



Photo 3 – Dirty brake fluid from the clutch and brake reservoir. Both were nearly black.

This took 5 or 6 times with the dirty clutch fluid. I also removed the brake fluid from our brake cylinder reservoir the same time I removed it from the clutch reservoir. Photo 3 is a picture of the fluid that first came out of the clutch and brake reservoirs.

then release the brake pedal and the second to open and close the bleed screw. This must be carefully coordinated to not draw air back into the system and successfully bleed the brakes.

Continued on next page

In the past, I have discovered that even shade tree Corvette mechanics can bleed brakes solo. I first used an inexpensive vacuum brake bleed system many decades ago and still have the system. See Photo 4. There are also pressure bleed systems that pressurize the master cylinder, but they are expensive (\$300) and mostly used by dealerships and professionals.

But a few years ago, I have discovered (in my opinion) is a better method of solo brake bleeding, Speed Bleeder Screws. Replacing all your brake caliper original bleed screws with speed bleeder screws makes bleeding brakes an amazingly easy solo task. See Photo 5 for the workings of a speed bleeder.



Photo 4 – Typical inexpensive auto parts store vacuum brake bleed system. Cost is less than \$50.

desired speed bleeder less than a complete turn and then ensured the master cylinder reservoir was full and then climbed into the car and pressed the brake pedal to the floor and released it until clean new fluid came

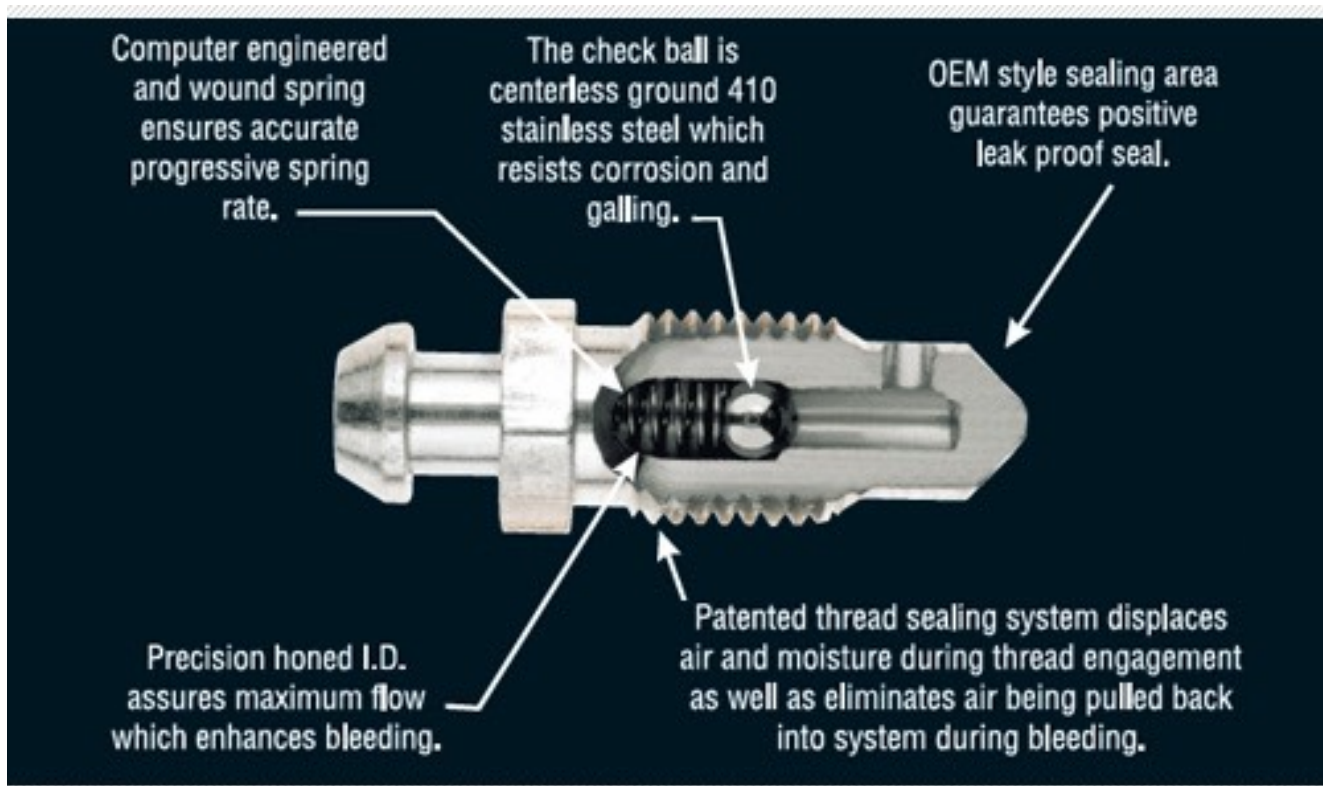


Photo 5 – How a speed bleeder works. Courtesy of Russell Performance[®]. Cost is about \$12-15 for a pair.

I replaced all 8 of the caliper stock bleeder screws with speed bleeder screws. I then attached a tube to the inside speed bleeder screw and ran the tube into a catch bottle in a convenient holder, so it was secure. See photos 6 and 7 on next page.

To use the speed bleeders and bleed each corner of the car, I simply cracked open the

out the bleeder screw. I found that it took between 10-15 brake pedal full down and release cycles to bleed all the old fluid out of the brake lines and caliper piston cavities for the inside bleeder screws. The outside bleeder screws took between 8-12 brake pedal full down and release cycles to get clean new fluid out of the bleed screws.

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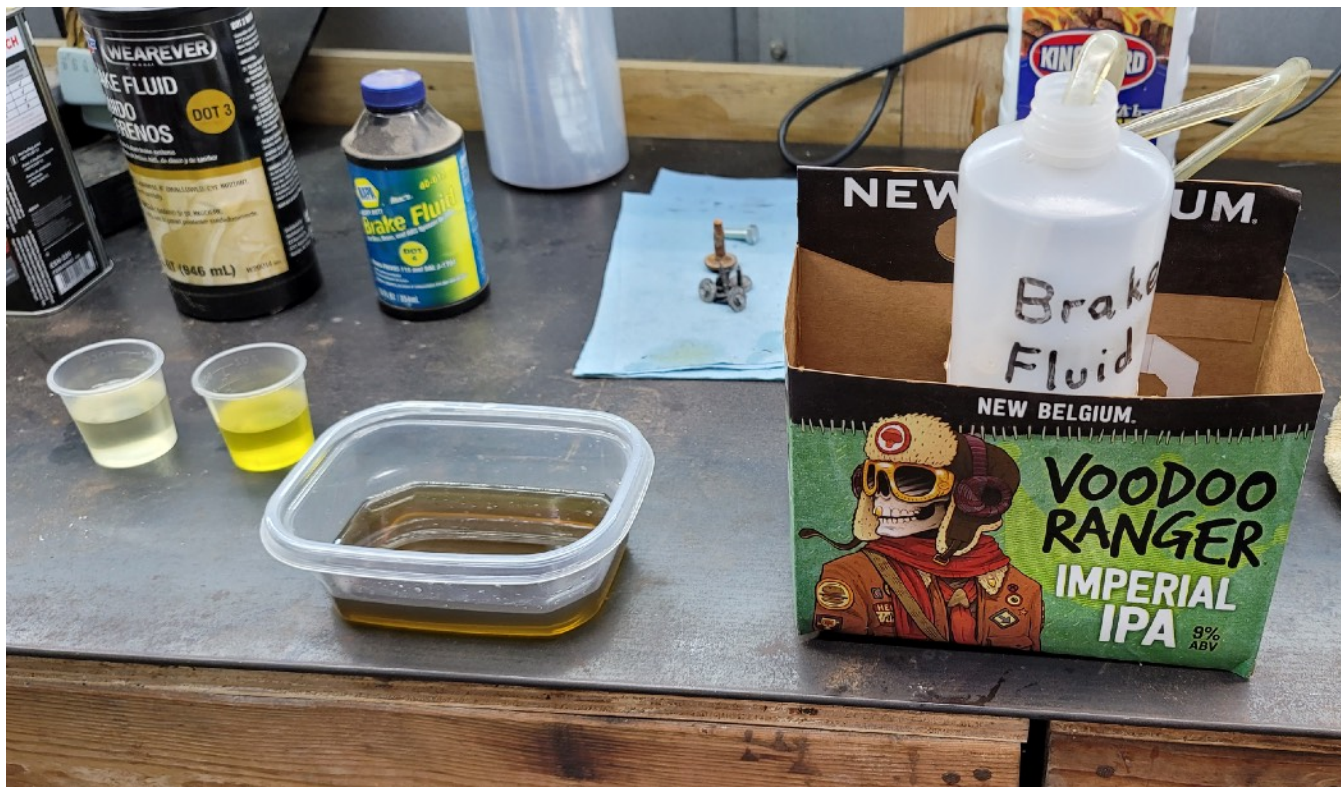
I took a small sample of each bleed screw output at the end to verify that the fluid was the same color as the new fluid I put into the brake master cylinder reservoir.

An important note: Please ensure you keep the brake master cylinder reservoir topped off between each bleed screw opening. I found that even with 15 full pedal cycles on our C6Z, there was still sufficient fluid remaining in the reservoir to ensure no air was inadvertently pumped into the brake system. But your system may be different so be careful. Maybe even have your standby second bleed team member monitor the reservoir level and bleed screw output till you learn your car's brake system.

After completing all four corners of our C6Z, I made sure all the bleed screws were adequately tightened, remounted the wheels and tires and took it out for a spin around the neighborhood. I found I had a rock-solid brake pedal and great brake response. •

Photo 6 – Speed bleeder screw with nipple adapter with tube run to catch bottle.

Photo 7 – A typical beer delivery device repurposed as catch bottle holder.



Memorial Day Parade

By Patsy Shearer



May 31 – Before the parade, which went through Cocoa Village, several CKCC members met at the Rockledge Mall to cruise by a Corvette lover's residence who lives in an assisted living facility near by, which the club had done a few years ago. There were several children in the yard who were telling him the Corvettes were cruising by just for him. It seemed to make his day and the children enjoyed it also.



After the cruise-by we drove a short distance to join the rest of the cars, a total of 27, parked on Derby Street. We joined the parade and circled Cocoa Village twice, and



then drove to "Time Out Sports Bar" afterward for socializing and dinner. Most of us who were in the parade and several members who didn't participate in the parade filled up three sections in the restaurant, plus George Halkovic, his son Jake, Bill Shearer and even the newly weds Kevin and Amanda Charles, came in to say hello. •



Members Win Show Awards

CORVETTES AT KEISER

April 24 — Several members of CKCC entered their cars in the annual *Corvettes at Keiser* car show, hosted by the Stuart Corvette Club in Port Saint Lucie. Those who did not enter a car met at the Rockledge Mall and caravanned to the show.



Winners

Jerry and Lea Ann (left) Wojcieszak – 2013 Grand Sport, and Connie Kostyra (right) – 2019 Grand Sport, received **Top 40 awards**.

Peter & Barbara Lenhard (center) – 1969 coupe, received a **Special Recognition award**.

After the show many members went to the West End Grill restaurant for lunch/dinner where there was ample parking for our Vettes and everyone seemed to enjoy the food, drinks and friendship.

FESTIVALS OF SPEED

May 1 — Barbara & John Franklin were invited to attend the first *Festivals of Speed* car show presented at the new World Equestrian Center in Ocala. The show had approximately 180 cars of all types both foreign and domestic that were displayed on a paver setting that surrounded the main outdoor arena where the NSBA show was conducted. It was a judged show and the Franklin's won **Best Contemporary Corvette**

with their new C8 black coupe.

VETTES AT ONE DAYTONA

May 15 – Barbara & John Franklin drove from Kissimmee to Titusville to join CKCC members Gary & Faye Leschitz, Peter & Barbara Lenhard and Jerry & Carol Walsh to caravan to Daytona and enter their cars in Ponce Inlet Corvette Club's first car show at One Daytona, which is located directly across from the Speedway. This was the largest all Corvette show of the season. There were more than 150 pre-registered cars and 50 registered at the show. Our club entered four cars and two judged cars were proven to be winners. Gary & Faye won 3rd place in the C6 category and Peter & Barbara won 3rd place in the C3 category. Unfortunately



there are no more planned local all Corvette shows until the Flagler and Space Coast Clubs host their events in the fall. •



Welcome, New Members!

Gary & Sharon Bridge

The Bridges live in Sebastian and own a 94 black coupe. They're mainly interested in autocross racing.



Robert Hill

Bob lives in Merritt Island and owns a 2021 Torch Red coupe. He's interested in autocross racing, cruise-ins and social activities.

Ronnie Gasque

A resident of Melbourne, Ronnie owns a 2001 maroon coupe and is interested in autocross racing.

Gail Grant

Gail lives in Dade City and owns a 2008 red coupe. She's also mainly interested in autocross racing.

Mike & Nicole Miller

Mike and Nicole live in Melbourne and own a 2020 black coupe. Their interests include autocross racing and cruise-ins.

James & Maryalice Istvan

The Istvan's live in Merritt Island and own a 1998 pewter convertible. They're mainly interested in cruise-ins.

Coming Events

June 13-18: NCCC Annual Convention, Cleveland, OH

June 26: Cruise-In, Mulligan's Beach House restaurant, Sebastian, FL

July 4: Brunch at Fishlip's, 10 a.m., Port Canaveral

July 13: CKCC Social/Meeting, 5:30/7p.m., Merritt Island Moose Lodge

July 24: Cruise-In, Cat Fish Place, St. Cloud. Meet at Sam's Club (S.R. 520 & I-95) 2:30, depart at 3:00, arrive at 4:00.

Aug. 1: Brunch at Fishlip's, 10 a.m., Port Canaveral

Aug. 10: CKCC Social/Meeting 5:30/7 p.m., Merritt Island Moose Lodge

Aug. 27: Cruise-In (TBA)

Sept. 5: Brunch at Fishlip's, 10 a.m., Port Canaveral

Sept. 14: CKCC Social/Meeting, 5:30/7p.m., Merritt Island Moose Lodge

Sept. 26: 7-event Low Speed AutoX, Green Cove Springs, FL

Oct. 3: Brunch at Fishlip's, 10 a.m., Port Canaveral

Oct. 12: CKCC Social/Meeting, 5:30/7p.m., Merritt Island Moose Lodge

Oct. 16: Space Coast Corvette Club Show, Melbourne

Oct. 16-17: 14-event Low Speed AutoX, American Muscle Car Museum, Melbourne

Oct. 24: Low Speed AutoX, Green Cove Springs, FL

Oct. 30: Low Speed AutoX, Fun N Sun, Lakeland, FL

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

As a paid up member of CKCC you can join our closed group. Simply type Cape Kennedy Corvette Club in the search window and ask to join.



Membership Meeting Minutes

MAY 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Shearer at 7:05 PM.

A quorum was met as determined by the Secretary.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Membership.

OFFICER REPORTS

President, Bill Shearer

New members and visitors were welcomed.

Cape Kennedy Corvette Club (CKCC) members with Birthdays and Anniversaries in May were recognized.

Bill made an announcement that John Salamone, one of the CKCC founding members, passed away recently.

Treasurer, Vivian Iduate

The most recent balance sheet was provided for review on each table.

Secretary, Bill Kassebaum

A copy of the draft minutes from the last CKCC meeting were placed on each table for review. No questions or comments were received. A motion was made by Roni Duys and seconded by Lynn Kassebaum to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

NCCC Governor, Zach Duys

Zach stated he was developing a list of CKCC members that were going to the NCCC National Convention in June (13-18). He requested that if any members were going to see him for details. Zach said that the last day to register is May 31, 2021.

Zach said that there was NCCC national meeting and reported the following: CKCC was first in NCCC club points; Rene Cardenas was first in NCCC men's points; Roni Duys was first in NCCC women's points; NCCC has 16,390 members for 2021; NCCC has 234 affiliated clubs for 2021.

Officer at Large, Dave Elseroad

New in position, no report.

Past President, Randy Anderson

No report.

Vice President, John Franklin

No report.

Competition Director, Jim Patterson

Not present. No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Report, Co-Chairs – Janice Greene & Brenda Teixeira

Continued on next page

New members and visitors were identified and welcomed to CKCC.

Two new members were introduced and two visiting couples considering membership.

Social Committee, Lois Lacoste

The cruise to the Stuart Car Show April 24, 2021 was attended by NCCC and all had fun.

The next Fishlips CKCC brunch is June 6th at 10 AM.

There will be a *Vettes at One Daytona* show by Ponce Inlet Corvette Club. Members who plan to attend may want to visit the new Buc-ee's in Daytona, the biggest gas station in Florida.

A Memorial Day Parade in Cocoa Village will be May 31st with drive-by of Mark's home before parade. We will meet at the Rockledge Mall. After the parade CKCC members are planning to meet at Time Out for dinner.

NCCC Regional Membership Director, Patsy Shearer

Patsy provided more details for the Memorial Day Parade and drive-by for Mark. Details will be provided in an email to all members and an announcement will be placed on the CKCC Facebook page.

Spoiler Editor/Facebook Administrator-Moderator, Roger Wolf

Roger reminded all members that they are welcome to join the CKCC Facebook group and provided guidance on how to join. It is a private group.

Roger stated that the *Spoiler* newsletter is now a quarterly publication.

Roger stated that the club website is being reviewed for update and is in bad shape with lots of old inaccurate information. An effort has been initiated to identify needed changes.

CKCC Port Show

The 2021 Port Show has been cancelled. CKCC needs to evaluate having our annual show at the American Muscle Car Museum (AMCM) for 2022. CKCC needs to establish a team of members to investigate having our show at AMCM. More next month.

Bill also stated that there is a car show June 19th at Merritt Square. More info later.

Old Business

Port Show – As stated above there will be no CKCC car show this spring at the Port. Bill Shearer discussed the possibility of moving the CKCC spring car show from the Port to the American Muscle Car Museum.

Janice Green and Judy Thompson made a motion and second to have CKCC provide a gift/plaque to the Harbor City Grade School in memory of John Salamone. BOD will discuss at next meeting.

New Business

Bill Shearer stated we still need to get with Moose lodge about a Cars and Coffee at the Moose lodge. Moose lodge will have breakfast available. Will discuss next meeting.

Bob Pietrasko asked why there has been no effort by the club to plan events related to drag racing instead of only autocross. Bob stated that he has brought this up several times. Bill Shearer told Bob he would investigate.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.48 PM by President Bill Shearer.

CKCC Meeting Minutes recorded and submitted by:

Bill Kassebaum, CKCC Secretary •

CKCC SPONSORS

DIAMOND

American Muscle Car Museum
Eckler's Corvette
Lloyce Campbell

GOLD

USSG • Vette Doctor

SILVER

Duys Marine • Fishlips • Rustys
Gator's Dockside

BRONZE

Blue Ridge Awards & Engraving
N Sync Computer Systems
Stan's Cocoa Corvette

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