

Spoiler

MAY/JUNE ▪ 2019

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PREZ SEZ

What's been happening in the club since the last issue of the Spoiler newsletter? First, I am very pleased with the great member turnout for the May and June Sunday Brunch at Fishlips. Fishlips has been a steadfast sponsor of our club for many years. Also we had a great turnout for the May and June monthly Cruise-Ins to *Island Time Marina and Restaurant* in Cocoa Beach and to the *Florida Roadhouse* restaurant in Edgewater. The club also participated in the Cocoa Memorial Day Parade. Afterwards we met for food and drinks at the Time Out Plus Sports Bar. My thanks go out to the Social Committee for arranging these successful events.



Our Race Team

The CKCC Race Team has been busy participating in May and June starting with the 6 Event Autocross held at Fun & Sun in Lakeland on May 18 and a 6 Event Autocross held on June 25 at the Truck Driving Course in Green Cove Springs. June 1, five of our members headed to Stark, FL to participate in the High Speed Time Trial on the road course at the Firm. Through the race teams efforts our club remains in First Place in the NCCC Florida Region and highly ranked both nationally and regionally in the men's and ladies division. The competitive events in Florida will be shut down during the hot summer months but will resume in September.

Cars & Coffee

Eckler's Cars and Coffee has been suspended until the fall. At the June meeting I announced that Cozette would be leaving Eckler's but I am happy to let you know she has been offered

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and accepted a new position that will keep her working at the Titusville facility. She will continue to work with the car clubs and coordinate the Eckler's sponsored shows.

Murder Mystery Train Ride

Our club social committee has arranged a special murder mystery train ride from Ft. Myers on Saturday, Nov. 2. While on the train we will have a five course meal and help solve the mystery, "Via the Fabulous Los Kelly." Barbara Marshall is in charge of this event and needs to know if you plan to attend so please contact her at 954-232-3755 or larry-barbara@comcast.net. Those attending will spend the night in Ft. Myers. On the return route back home on Sunday, we are thinking of stopping at the Muscle Car City Museum in Punta Gorda and possibly also stopping to see Bill Tower's private car collection at his home in Plant City.

July Meeting Later

Remember the July meeting will be held on the 3rd. Thursday, July 18 at the Moose Lodge due to five members of the Board of Directors will be attending the NCCC Convention in Denver, CO the week of July 6-12.

Apollo Moon Landing 50th Anniversary Parade

On Saturday, July 13, club members will be involved in the celebration of the Apollo 11 50th Anniversary of the moon landing with an Astronaut Parade in Cocoa Beach. My thanks go to Mike Coppage and LeaAnne Wojcieszak for representing and coordinating our participation in this wonderful event.

I just received an email from the Titusville Downtown Merchants Association inviting our club members to display cars for their celebration of Apollo 11, 50th Anniversary that they are holding in downtown Titusville on Friday night, July 12 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

There will be an email and calendar updates to keep you informed of future club functions and other Corvette activities you may wish to attend.

***Save the Wave,
Bill***

Tech Tip

By Roger Wolf

Back in 2016, a little more than a year after we bought our 2015 Stingray, we heard an occasional loud bang when the transmission shifted at low speed under normal driving. In addition, I noticed that the tach showed the engine fluctuating about 300 RPMs on the highway in cruise control. After searching on www.corvetteforum.com I discovered many other owners were having the same things happening to their cars. After a little more research I found out that there were a batch of bad torque converters installed in some 2015 cars and that Chevrolet was replacing them so I took our Vette into the dealer. After the technician road tested the car with me in it he thought it might be the torque converter and after further testing would replace it if it was bad. It definitely took care of the problems we were experiencing.

Fast forward to May 2019. We noticed that the car occasionally started shuttering when the transmission shifted to the upper gears during normal driving. Again after a little research I discovered that this was another common complaint about the 8-speed trans, which is in several GM models. I discussed this with some CKCC members who own C7s and some were having the same issues. Tom Dickmann said his was doing the same thing so he took it to the dealer. Unfortunately it took Tom four trips to the dealer to get it resolved. The last time he asked the dealer for a new car, which of course they said they couldn't do. Hmm? When I called the dealer and told the service writer what our car was doing he told me that in December 2018 GM engineers figured out that it was the trans fluid causing the problem with the torque converter lock-up and GM sent a bulletin out to the dealers in January. After leaving our car at the dealer all day and night they claimed it was fixed. The explanation on the dealer receipt listed several tests performed, which showed the failures and it said to drive the car 200 miles to give the fluid time to completely cure the problems. So far it seems to be fixed.

The CKCC Racing Team

By James Patterson

I raced at the Roebling Road Race Track for the first time in November of 2016. It was a great time but I was the only CKCC racer there. In 2017, I had to work so Charlie Acton was the only CKCC racer to make it. In 2018 I was the lone attendee again. Every year the Roebling folks talked about lower and lower attendance. It was hard to understand why something that much fun was so poorly attended. The great thing about NCCC racing is that you're out on the track by yourself. Run hard if that's the challenge you want. Run medium if you want some speed and a lot of fun. Run conservatively, take care of your car, have fun. It's up to you.

Then I started to remember how hard it seemed to get to Roebling. Learn the rules. Learn the classes. Learn the tech requirements. Learn what is required of the car and most of all learn what needs to be done to get a high speed license. Do it by yourself.

Well, there it is. That's the solution. Make it easy to get to Roebling. Instead of going solo year after year, make it a team sport. More fun with more friends.

As usual Bill Shearer said it best. Bill, the team and I were down in Naples racing. He had a tough morning and just couldn't get to the finish line with speed. His arch nemesis was beating him. Bill asked several of us our line to the finish and went back out in the afternoon with jaw set and fists clinched. Each time out he chipped away at the lead. Finally he slashed a screaming hot time to take the group FTD. He jumped out of the Vette yelling in celebration. Several in the team came up to give him high fives and congratulations.

Bill said, "Man this is fun, and it's so much better to have someone to enjoy it with."

We decided to start a racing team to promote the sport and mentor Corvette enthusiasts that wanted to experience the racing side of the greatest American sports car. A racing team will provide several benefits to the club and its members. Promote the sport, score club points and make it easy for members to compete.

It's not hard to get your high speed license. You just have to go step by step by step. The hard part is learning the steps. By being part of a team, you have a large base of knowledge that is openly shared. A team is a group of people that enjoy making their teammates successful. When we have two drivers in the same class that beat up on each other, we find a way to have one of the cars change class. Then we have two drivers taking two first place wins over driver from other clubs. CKCC points go up and their points go down.

We started with five diehard racers to create a strong knowledgeable base. We went to ten racers when we attracted sometime racers that wanted to get more involved. As this year has progressed, we have attracted more and more new members that have enjoyed the embrace of a team. We want to know what the individual racer wants and how can we make them successful. We now number SEVENTEEN and have two prospective members.

CKCC is number ONE in the region!

Build a team, they will come!



MAY BRUNCH





Old Cocoa Dealer Had Racing Heritage

By Mitch Morgan

In 1955 my Dad got the position of Service Manager at Indian River Chevrolet in Cocoa. In the 1950s and 1960s Indian River Chevrolet was



the prime Chevy dealership in Central Brevard and I think for most all of Brevard County. There are several Corvette owners here in Brevard that bought their cars new at the dealership. The address for Indian River Chevrolet was 607 Florida Avenue, and the Time Out Sports Bar Plus now occupies that address. Dad worked at IRC for several years before moving on to another dealership. I can remember him bringing home some small scale car models and giving them to me. Where are they now? Who knows? Like many of us I no longer have some of my prized childhood possessions.

Anyone associated with IRC in the 1950s and 1960s knows the name Pat Patterson. Pat came to Florida in the 50's and his love for speed brought him to the car industry. He made a name for himself as not only a top salesman with IRC, winning many Southeast GMC top awards, but also a top racer for IRC. He held the Pro Stock

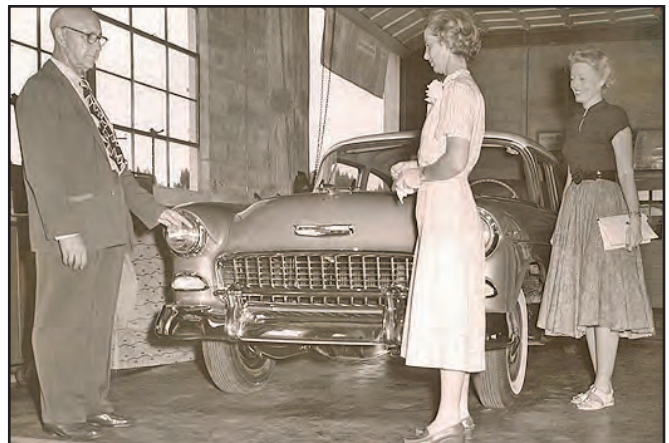
Title for 3 years from 1961-1963 with his prized 409 HP Chevy Biscayne. I can remember going to the old Valkaria Speedway and watching him race. And I think he also raced in later years at the old Eau Gallie Speedway. Pat's 409 car



later became known as the "Dixie Rebel." Pat also mentored Bob Dance and sold him his first race car. Supposedly Pat raced with another top drag racer who was one of the first organizers of CKCC. Anyone know who that is?

Those of us "oldtimers" who grew up in the Cocoa area will always remember Indian River Chevrolet. Many Corvettes went off that showroom floor to delighted owners, as well as other Chevy models.

Every time I go by there or go in to eat or drink at Time Out I think about my Dad. He died way too young at the age of 52.



Cruise-Ins

May

The May 18th cruise-in was at Island Time Marina and Restaurant in Cocoa Beach. This was a new venue for our cruise-ins. The dining area we were seated in is inside the restaurant and air conditioned. There is also food served in a covered outdoor bar that is adjacent to an entertainment stage as well as other outdoor locations, which were very popular because of view of the Banana River and the docked boats.



(Continued on following page)



June

By Lois Lacoste

What does a 17-car Corvette caravan, 38 people and four birthdays create? A GREAT time at *Florida Road House* restaurant in Edgewater.

On Saturday, June 15th, 17 beautiful club member Corvettes arrived at our starting point at Sand Point Park in Titusville. After signing our waiver, Bob Lacoste led the group on a beautiful drive north on U.S. 1 to Edgewater. The restaurant



Bill Shearer, Dick Merrill and Christine Dobsha all gave new meaning to "ride 'em cowboy" as they saddled up for their birthday celebration.

manager and his two servers had everything ready in our private dining room. Our food arrived in an amazingly short time considering we all ordered from the menu, which included a nice variety of steaks, seafood, pork chops, BBQ ribs, hamburgers, soups and salads.

Everyone enjoyed the afternoon so much that many did not want to leave. Be sure to talk with those who attended this great cruise-in so you don't miss another great time at our next cruise-in, which will be to *Marsh Landing* in Fellsmere on Saturday, July 20.

Memorial Day Parade

By Patsy Shearer



On Monday, May 27th about a dozen CKCC members met in downtown Cocoa Village near the *Parrish Grove Inn* to participate in the Cocoa Memorial Day parade. We arrived in the heat of the day but the parade did not start until 6 p.m. so by then it was much cooler. There were several Corvette generations represented, including C7's, C6's, C5's, C4's and Beth Cavallaro's Vintage 1959. Pictured standing next to it is Beth's daughter Samantha, a youth member of NCCC and CKCC. She graduated from Rockledge HS in 2017 and attended the University of South Florida in

2017-18 on an NCCC Scholarship. During the fall of 2018-19 school year, she attended school in Australia before returning to USF. Her Mom, Beth is a member of CKCC and teaches PE at Fairglen Elementary. Rumor has it that she is applying for an NCCC scholarship for 2019-20. Good luck Samantha.

After the parade ended we parked our cars in the City Hall lot and joined other CKCC members at the *Time Out Plus Sports Bar* across the street for some socializing and great food and drinks.

CAR SHOW NIGHTMARE: The Saga of Dirty Clutch Fluid

By Gary and Faye Leschitz

On Saturday May 5th went to Ponce Inlet LightHouse Park for the *Vette's at the Light* Corvette Show. We arrived at 7:30 a.m. and started detailing our 2008 Velocity Yellow Z06. This show is well attended and the Judging is strict. Faye details the interior, glass, trunk, rear end and exhaust pipes. I do the body, wheels,

chrome and engine compartment. When done we check each other's work to make sure we didn't miss anything. We have a system and it works great for us.

As Faye was removing the drivers side clear protective mat, she noticed a problem. Her thoughts were, this can't be good and called me to come and take a look at the clutch peddle, which was all the way to the floor. I couldn't believe my eyes! I said, "What did you do?" She quickly reminded me that I was the last one to drive the Vette. I tried to pump up the peddle

to no avail. I checked the clutch fluid and it was a little low and dark. I thought the only other thing it could be is the clutch slave cylinder. I talked to John Franklin, who was showing his 67, and checked around to see if anyone had the fluid. John suggested Barbara take Faye in their SUV to find a parts store and get the fluid. They found some, of all places, at a 7-11 convenience store, which was surprising. I siphoned the old fluid out of reservoir and replaced with new and pumped the peddle several times but it did not help. Now I thought it must be the slave cylinder. It was getting hot and very humid outside by this time. I was extremely frustrated. Faye suggested we finish the car because judging was going to start soon. At this point I really didn't care but Faye convinced me. While the car was being judged I made towing arrangements with Good Sam's Club for a flatbed truck, which is best for towing a Vette. I informed them we were at a car show at Lighthouse Park with 150 cars and would have to wait until the show was over and the cars were gone. To my surprise I knew the flat bed driver from many years ago. He did a expert job of carefully loading the Z06.



He had to place boards under front tires to lift the front nose to prevent the spoiler from touching the ground and being damaged. I also called Ron's *Corvette Interiors Plus* and explained what happened. He said to call back when we started heading to his shop in Titusville and he would meet us and open his shop to place the car inside, since it was Saturday and it was closed. Thankfully John and Barbara waited with us. Faye rode with Barbara, and I rode in the flatbed truck, and John in his 1967 on our slow trek back to Titusville. We realized we didn't have

our house key, as we always use the programmed garage code in the Vette.

Carl, the flatbed driver said, he would go to our home, climb on the flatbed, and access the car to open the garage door and get the house keys so we could get in after dropping off the car. This was out of his way but he gladly obliged us. I then drove our SUV to Ron's and Carl followed. Carl carefully unloaded the car and we pushed it in Ron's garage.

By this time it's after 5 p.m. and tiredness, frustration and hunger had set in. I finally got to join Faye and our good friends at *Shilo's Restaurant* in Titusville for much needed "Libations" and dinner. Our day ended with laughter and great fellowship with John and Barbara, Peter and Barbara Lenhard, and Tony and Alice Valdes who also joined us but couldn't make the show. We are so grateful to John and Barbara, Carl, Ron and Tony for coming to our aid in time of need.



Congrats to the Franklin's on their C2's People's Choice award, Peter and Barb Lenhard for their 2nd Place C3 Judged Class award. Faye and I received the 2nd Place award in the C6 Judged Class.

By the way, Ron had to replace the clutch slave cylinder, which is a lot of work but he had it ready in just three days. The Z06 has only 16,000 miles on it but it's still 11 years old so I learned a lesson — change the clutch fluid more often.

Vette's at the Village Show

By Gary and Faye Leschitz

We went to *Vette's at the Village* on Saturday June 15th. This was their 20th annual show held in St. Augustine at the *World of Golf* and as usual it was a fun time. This is a Top 40 People's Choice Show.

Attending from CKCC again was John and Barbara Franklin, newer members Peter and Barbara Lenhard, and Faye and I. Former members and friends who also attended were



Pete Paris, and Mike and Maggie Shannon who came up from Port St. Lucie — a three hour ride. If you preregister early enough, and say you belong to a club, they park you together on the day of the show.

We had lunch at the *Caddy Shack*, Bill Murray's Restaurant, and just finished when looking



outside I noticed people walking with umbrellas. Ugh! I let everyone know at the table and we all rushed out to our cars to close the windows, except John and Barbara, their's were closed. It turned out to be a light shower but we still had to wipe our cars when it stopped. Overall we had a great time together.

They started the awards around 2 p.m. and all four of us won Top 40 plaques. Faye and I also won a drawing for a \$50 Eckler's gift certificate, which will help purchase a new bra for the Z06.

Vette Masters Show

By Gary and Faye Leschitz

On Saturday, June 8th we attended the Vette Masters 8th Annual Corvette Show at Beaver Chevrolet in Jacksonville. Vette Masters' members are such nice people and the trophies are always spectacular so we really enjoy coming to this show, plus they come to our show. We met John and Barbara Franklin, and Peter and Barbara

Lenhard from CKCC. This was our seventh year attending this show, which is always a great time. The weather forecast was 60 percent chance of rain but thankfully it didn't rain until we were on our way home, after a visit to my Son and family. Peter and Barbara won 3rd. place in C3 class; John and Barbara won 2nd. place in C7; and Faye and I won 1st. place in C6 class. Approximately 125 cars competed.



Welcome, New Members!

Welcome to our newest members, Robert and Beth Reggiannini who joined our Club in June. They live in Melbourne and drive a 2004 silver coupe. Their special interest is participating in cruise-ins.

NCCC and CKCC Events

July 7: Brunch, Fishlips, 10 a.m., Port Canaveral

July 7-12: NCCC Convention, Denver, CO

July 12: Display of Cars show in downtown Titusville

July 13: Apollo Moon Landing 50th Anniversary Astronaut Parade, Cocoa Beach, 8:30 a.m.

July 18: CKCC Social/dinner, 5-7 p.m., meeting 7-8, Moose Lodge, Merritt Island

July 20: Cruise-In, Marsh Landing Restaurant, 44 North Broadway Street, Fellesmere, 4 p.m. Caravanning from

Rockledge Mall: meeting at 2:15, departing at 2:30

July 27: Victory Casino Cruise, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Port Canaveral

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

August 8: CKCC Social/dinner, 5-7 p.m., meeting 7-8, Moose Lodge, Merritt Island

August 17: Cruise-In, Mellow Mushroom, Port Orange, 4 p.m.: Caravanning from Titusville Lowe's, meeting at 2:45 p.m., departing at 3:00

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

September 6-7: NCCC Governor's Meeting, St. Louis

September 12: CKCC Social/dinner, 5-7 p.m., meeting 7-8, Moose Lodge, Merritt Island

September 14: Saturday - Ralley, North Florida CA, Jacksonville

2019 CKCC SPONSORS

DIAMOND

*Eckler's Corvette
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GOLD

The Vette Doctor

SILVER

All State Pallets

BRONZE

*Blue Ridge Awards & Engraving
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Join Our Facebook Group

If you'd like to see and post photos of members and their cars at CKCC and other Corvette events, join the CKCC closed group on Facebook.

All you have to do is be a paid up member of CKCC, go to Facebook, search Cape Kennedy Corvette Club and ask to join.

2019 CKCC Chairpersons

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