



# The Spoiler

MAY/JUNE ISSUE • 2017

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## PREZ SEZ...

During the month of May we had our first members only **Test and Tune Autocross** at our new track at the American Muscle Car Museum in Melbourne. We had 19 members show up to run their cars in this event. I could tell there



were a few who were a bit nervous in the morning about running their cars. However, by mid day the smiles on their faces appeared to have become a permanent fixture. I was thrilled to see how excited the members were after their first ever autocross. I still remember the day our competition director Kevin Charles gave me a ride in his Z06 in an autocross event. I wore that smile for many months after the event was long over. If you haven't done an autocross in your Corvette you haven't really lived the Corvette experience. You have got to try it at least once. We have a wonderful track so don't let this opportunity pass you by. Add it to your bucket list and cross it off as soon as you get the first chance. Ask Roger Wolf, he was a little reluctant at first but once he got out on the track... well... you have got to let him tell you the story.

*Continued on next page*

AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CORVETTE CLUBS

## Supporting Charities

At our June meeting we presented a \$750 check to the Mooseheart Charity. Mooseheart Charity is a residential childcare facility that provides a home for children in need from infancy through High School. Mooseheart cares for youth whose families are unable for a wide variety of reasons. Some have lost one or both parents while others are living in environments that are simply not conducive to healthy growth and development. The heart of the program is Family Teachers providing a consistent, systematic method of care, with emphasis on social- skills and development skills essential for the success in later life. I am so happy to be a member of a club who recognizes the importance of our youth and gave so generously to help them. Thanks again to all you for making this donation possible.



## Cruise-Ins Going to One Location



Starting in August we will be settling in to one location for our Saturday Cruise-Ins at 4 p.m. We have selected Cheers Seafood & Grill in Rockledge.

Our cruise-ins and Sunday brunches each month

have been averaging 45 to 50 members.

Thanks to all of you for supporting these events and be sure to tell Karla, our Social Chair, and her team what a great job they are doing.

The summer is on us full strength and due to the intense heat we have slowed down just a bit with scheduled events for July and August. However, the Social Team and the Board are making plans for a fun filled fall and winter.



It's wonderful to be a part of such an active club.

Keep 'em shined and the wheels on the ground!

*Randy Anderson  
CKCC President*

# 50th Anniversary Plans and Survey Results

## PLANS

Plans are underway for CKCC's 50th Anniversary celebration. We have planned activities that will be of interest to old and new members alike.

### Friday, October 6

Everything begins at the Radisson Resort at the Port. The first event is a reception from 6:30 until 10:30 p.m. County Commissioner Jim Barfield, will present a proclamation by the Commission recognizing CKCC's 50 years of service to the community. There will be 1967 Corvettes on display in the banquet room along with memorabilia and photographs from the past. CKCC member Bill Shearer will provide background music while hors d'oeuvres are served and refreshments can be purchased at a cash bar.

### Saturday, October 7

We will take a tour of the Cape Canaveral lighthouse, which has been restored to much of its previous glory. It is also the area that the early astronauts would take their Corvettes for a spin. Afterwards we will take a cruise-in to a restaurant in the area for lunch and then head back to the hotel to participate in some fun activities taken from CKCC and NCCC convention events of the past.

Saturday night is dinner and dancing to DJ Andy Burke.

### Sunday, October 8

We will have breakfast at the Radisson Resort at the Port on Sunday and continue sharing. Two astronauts\* have been invited to attend and hopefully will have Q&A sessions about their backgrounds and flying on the shuttle.

## SURVEY RESULTS

Below are the results from the survey conducted at the June 8 meeting.

The committee really appreciates the input from the members.

1. Do you plan to attend the 50th Celebration Weekend? YES – 53, NO – 8
2. Would you like to visit the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse on Saturday? YES – 52, NO – 9
3. Would you like have lunch together after the Lighthouse visit? YES – 50, NO – 3
4. Do you favor doing a 50/50 at cruise-in and/or Fishlips until the Anniversary weekend? YES – 49, NO – 11
5. Would you be willing to participate in some activities? YES – 52, NO – 5
6. Are you interested in staying at the Host Hotel-Friday or Saturday Night? YES – 20, NO – 33

We have a block of rooms until September 6th – Group Rate is \$129.00 per night.

THANKS AGAIN, CLUB MEMBERS!

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*\*Shuttle astronauts, Bruce Melnick and Jon McBride, became members of CKCC to share their love of Corvettes. McBride has made arrangements for the Club's annual photograph to be taken in the Rocket Garden at the Kennedy Space Center Visitors Complex. Photographs and information about the astronaut connection to the Corvette may be found on the wall leading into the theater at the National Corvette Museum.*

# JUNE CRUISE-IN

The June CKCC Cruise-In visited River Rocks restaurant on US 1 between Rockledge and Melbourne. Approximately 50 people attended and all had a great time and a delicious meal. I heard several members say that it is one of there favorite places to take out of town company.

I will say that it was a little hot when we arrived at 4 p.m. but by 5:00 it was great sitting out of the patio looking at the water and eating great meals. I did not hear any complaints.

*Karla, We need to go back but at 5 p.m.  
Patsy.*



## Autoshop Donation

Long time Club members Charles and Miriam Sikes, head of CKCC's Charitable Donations Committee, presented a check for \$500 to the Brevard County Schools Foundation for Satellite Beach High School's automotive class at the Vettes at the Port show. Many students of this class have gone on for advanced training to become mechanics at some of the nations top businesses. Congratulations go to the class instructors and students!



# ***May Test & Tune Autocross***

MAY 20: This was my first experience as a driver at a Test & Tune. It was great that we were able to walk the track and listen to dialogue from an experienced driver on how to set the car up to maneuver around the course. How to enter and exit the different types of gimmicks (gates and slalom) to complete the course and what was expected.

After we completed walking the track we were able to take one parade lap where you slowly drive the course as a group to get a better feel



and a driver perspective of the track layout. For the first session, we broke into two groups of approximately 10 cars per group to begin the timed runs. Each group was given three timed runs. Once the runs were completed we took a break to review the times and were given the opportunity to ask questions of the experienced drivers. We were asked if anyone was interested



*Experienced Driver Charlie Acton*



in riding with an experienced driver to get some on course instruction as a passenger and a driver

This session we were able to do two timed runs as a passenger with an experienced club member. During the run, the experienced member pointed out and talked about efficiencies on how to better complete the course. Then the experienced club member did two runs as a passenger with the inexperienced club member pointing out the inefficiencies and discussed how to correct them.

For the final session, of the day, we broke back into our original groups and ran the course again for three more timed runs. It was great to see improvement made from the timed runs from earlier in the day and also to have the understanding of why you were able to complete the course with better ability. It was also helpful to hear comments from spectators as well as club members that were working the course. There were issues where a gate was completely missed and this driver would not have known that unless a club member working the course pointed it out and a spectator showed this driver a diagram of the course.

All in all it was a super-fun day, and I look forward to the next event.

*By an anonymous member*

*Test & Tune continued on next page*

## My First and Not Last Autocross

It took two years of planning, but I finally scratched off an item in my bucket list. That item was to drive my 2004 C5 Z51 Corvette in an Autocross. One of the numerous reasons that prompted me to join CKCC was the club's interest in Autocross. I think I have always had an interest in most forms of road racing, but life never presented me with the opportunity to indulge. So, when my C5 fell in my lap and I found CKCC, I knew it was now or never. Well, when the first test and tune was scheduled earlier this year, I planned to attend, but it didn't work out.

So, when the May Test and Tune was scheduled, I knew I had to attend and drive. Fortunately, my very significant other, Karla, also loves to drive fast cars and told me I wasn't going without her.



the car. I felt that I not only needed to learn my car's handling characteristics, but to learn to trust it to do what I asked of it. What helped a lot was to ride with a more experienced driver. Actually, it was definitely an eye opener to find that these Corvettes could be thrown around to that extent.

Well, Karla and I went into the second set of laps with a more aggressive attitude and knocked about 12-15 seconds off our times. Fortunately or unfortunately, depending how you look at it, our times were good enough to get us really hooked on Autocross and we can't wait for the next time we can drive our car like it was meant to be driven.

Since I bought the car, I have always said its capability far exceeded my abilities, but maybe after enough times around the track, that will no longer be the case. I think it's time to buy a couple of helmets and maybe a C6 with more torque out of the gates and maybe knock 5-10 seconds off our times. It's good to have goals in life, especially at this stage of our lives.

Finally, a word to other members that have thought about trying Autocross but are bit nervous about it. I say just try it. If nothing else, the experience will give you a better appreciation of what your Corvette can do, and at the same time, it will definitely improve your driving skills.

*Al Dalluge*



So, needless to say, we both attended. We were both a bit nervous when we got there, but finding that there other novices attending and with the guidance and assistance of the more experienced drivers, we were put more at ease.

Well, the first three lap times were definitely not impressive, but we were both a little hesitant to try for speed until we got the feel of the track and

## Welcome, New Members!

Al York, a former CFI at Vandenberg, CA and in FL while also working for NASA, lives in Merritt Island and owns a 2004 coupe he appropriately named Red Jet.



Larry and Barbara Marshall, who were members of America's Corvette Club in Pompano Beach for 17 years, recently relocated to Merritt Island and drive a 2015 Coupe.



## Car Show Winners

### JACKSONVILLE

Five couples of CKCC members went to Jacksonville and took away the prizes last month. Charles and Miriam Sikes took C6 first place and top 30. Tony and Alice Valdes took a top 30 win. Bob and Evelyn Fitch took top 30 and C7 first. John and Barbara Franklin won a top 30. Congrats to all of the winners.



### ST. AUGUSTINE

John & Barbara Franklin and Gary Leschitz were chosen to represent their class in a staging area with their Blue 1967 Stingray and 2008 Velocity Yellow Z06 and both received Top 40 Awards.



## Upcoming NCCC and CKCC Events

**August 6: CKCC Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m.**  
Fishlips – Port Canaveral

**August 10: CKCC social & meeting, 5:30 & 7 p.m. – Merritt Island Moose**

**August 19: CKCC Cruise-In, 4 p.m.**  
Location TBA

**August 21-25: NCCC Convention\***  
Bowling Green, KY

**September 3: CKCC Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m.**  
Fishlips – Port Canaveral

**September 2, 3 & 4: 21 Low Speed Events**  
Nashville CC, Shelbyville, TN

**September 8 & 9: National Governor's Meeting**  
St. Louis, MO

**September 14: CKCC social & meeting, 5:30 & 7 p.m. – Merritt Island Moose**

**October 6, 7 & 8: CKCC 50th Anniversary Celebration – Radisson Resort at the Port**

**October 14-15: CKCC Low Speed Autocross**  
American Muscle Car Museum

**October 21: Space Coast Vettes Car Show**  
Downtown Melbourne

*\*For NCCC events, look at the flyer on web site at [www.ncccsouth.com](http://www.ncccsouth.com)*

## NCCC Convention

If you are still interested in going to the NCCC convention the registration deadline is August 1. Go to [www.NCCC.org](http://www.NCCC.org) and click on Convention for more details. Day passes are available on site.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the  
La Quinta Inn & Suites Dalton, GA  
Phone #1-706-272-9099  
August 19, 2017  
Reservation is under: Corvette Club

This hotel is located in area with lots restaurants and it's an easy drive to Bowling Green.

If you are interested in doing the "touring laps" at the new Motorsports Park on Wednesday, August 23, please contact Cindy Urenda (Convention2017@corvettesncc.org). The cost is \$40 per driver.

You will need your convention registration number and your NCCC member number.

There will be two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Any questions should be directed to Cindy.

*Thanks, Brenda*

## Day Passes

If you would like to come to the NCCC Convention for a day or two, there are day passes available on line. Look at [www.corvettesnccc.org](http://www.corvettesnccc.org) and go to conventions. Next find 2017 Convention "Online Day Pass Registration" and choose your day or days.

The prices vary depending on the activity.

Sunday is \$35.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday is \$50 since the following food is included:

Monday— dinner

Tuesday – dessert

Friday – breakfast (and I think you can pay extra for the banquet) Tuesday and

Thursday are \$40.

## Get Your Car Photographed For The Web Site

We are adding new members and updating photos of current members with their cars on the web site so if your car is not pictured or you've changed cars, please let me know in advance if you'd like the photo taken at the monthly Fishlips Brunch or Club meeting.

*ROGER WOLF, CKCC Photographer  
Merritt Island, FL  
321-459-5084  
[photographer@ckcc.club](mailto:photographer@ckcc.club)*

## 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 and Friend Me (Roger Wolf in Merritt Island) and request to be added.



## **NCCC Corvette Convention August 21-25, 2017**

According to the NCCC Convention calendar, the convention begins on Sunday night August 20 with an informal gathering/band. Of course, the hospitality room will be open. Cars entering the events can be teched. The Corvette Mall will be open for purchasing items.

**Monday** is the Rallye and the Awards Dinner. It is also the day for the eclipse. Members are asked to dress in "business casual." The hospitality room will be open and the Corvette Mall will be open for purchasing items.

**Tuesday** is the drags, bus tours and party. The hospitality room will be open and the Corvette Mall will be open for purchasing items.

**Wednesday** is the low speed event and hoe down party with a band. Several tours are planned. A bourbon taste dessert will be served. The hospitality room will be open.

**Thursday** is the high-speed event at the museum. Naturally the hospitality room will be open. There are several tours. We will celebrate our 50th Anniversary with several other clubs celebrating anniversaries. Wear your 50th Anniversary shirt. The theme of the party is "retro."

**Friday** starts with the convention breakfast. Usually those winning awards during the convention will get their awards. The golf tournament is during the day. The banquet/dinner party is that night.

**Saturday** conventioners will head home.

## 2017 Club Sponsors

**DIAMOND**

*USSG*

**EMERALD**

*(available)*

**PLATINUM**

*The Vette Doctor*

**GOLD**

*Beckman-Williamson Funeral Homes*

*Eckler's Corvette*

**SILVER**

*Blue Ridge Awards & Engraving*

*Cemex*

*Fishlips*

*N Sync Computers*

*Ruddicks Detail*

## Volunteer Chairpersons for 2017

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

**Charles & Miriam Sikes**

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VETTES AT THE PORT SHOW

**(Chairmanship Open)**