

Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The “Talepipe” Newsletter



JANUARY 2024

**President: John Doria; Vice President: Gary Swanson; Treasurer: A J Marquardt
Secretary: OPEN; Directors: Keith Hardin, John Pona, William Simmons:
Newsletter Editor/Membership: Jean Doyle**

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster Restaurant, 2625 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach. We invite you to dine with us (Dutch treat) around 5:30 p.m. and stay for the meeting at 6:30.



WELCOME 2024

As we ring in the new year with new-found hope and thoughts of peace in our own lives and that of our country, let's resolve to make 2024 our best year ever and the best for the Corvette Club of Greater Daytona!! This is the time I usually suggest some resolutions for you to consider, but instead, I will just let you make them on your own this year. (**HINT:** Resolving to participate in more club activities this year would be a good start.)

Coming Up

FIRST DOTR OF THE YEAR:

If your resolution involves losing weight, wait until after our first Dining on the Run for 2024: a

trip to Beaches Restaurant in Villano Beach (St. Augustine) on Sunday, January 7th. Perhaps, the weather will be nice enough to dine on the deck, but even if Mother Nature doesn't cooperate, dining inside is a great alternative. Let's meet in the Bealls parking lot on the corner of Williamson and Grenada in Ormond Beach and prepare to leave at 9:45 a.m. Orange or blue club shirts, please. (**HINT:** A great resolution would be to attend this first event for 2024.)

FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR:

January 16th is the 3rd Tuesday of the month, so that means it's "MEETING" day. Come to the Red Lobster on ISB, enjoy some Cheddar Bay biscuits, meet some prospective members, and hear what's in store for the Corvette Cruisers in the new year. (**HINT:** Attending ALL the meetings in 2024 would make a great resolution.)

PIZZA TIME:

Who's ready for PIZZA? It's time we got back into the swing of things with a pizza night at Giuseppe's Steel City Pizza, 3658 S.Nova Rd. in Port Orange. Bring your appetite on Tuesday, January 23rd and meet at the restaurant at 5:30 p.m. Club shirts are optional. (**HINT:** A really, really good resolution would be to wear club shirts to functions when indicated.)

BOARD MEETING:

The first meeting of the new and returning Board of Directors will take place at 6:00 p.m. on January 2nd at the home of John Doria, 802 Wingate Trail, Port Orange. Let any board members know if you have something to place on the agenda.

NEXT MONTH:

We will have our new membership list available after yearly dues have been paid. Unfortunately, the Newsletter must “go to press” before we know who’s renewing their membership. Also, a new “Members Only” ID and Password will be sent out to all members. (**HINT:** Reading the Newsletter as soon as it comes out would make a wonderful resolution.)

A NEW YEAR MEANS NEW IDEAS

.... and we want yours!! Do you have an event you want the club to participate in, a new restaurant for the club to try out, or a new car show for the club to attend? Let a board member know. Don’t know who the board members are? They are listed right at the top of this Newsletter, in the yellow box. Remember, this is YOUR club. Let your voice be heard, and your dues count!

Reviews

TOUR OF THE CASEMENTS:

Five couples took a Christmas tour of the famous winter home of John D. Rockefeller, known as the Casements. The amount of history is enormous for this national treasure, and the following is just a tiny peek of it as reported by Keith Hardin:

John Rockefeller was actually the 2nd owner of the Casement house, purchased in 1918. The house was built in 1913 by the Reverend Huntington of Connecticut. Rockefeller was a big car enthusiast and liked the Ormond area because

of its racing activity. The Casements got its name from all the beautiful, hand-cut casement windows that adorn the mansion. Henry Ford was a close friend of Mr. Rockefeller and presented him with the first car off the assembly line. In 1963, the house was put on the National Register of Historical Places. The private golf course on the ocean and Granada was a favorite place for Rockefeller and it’s a well-known fact that he was quite good at it. Today, aside from tours, the house is used for art classes, cooking classes, weddings, and other events.

Those who enjoyed the somewhat long-winded narration, and the many beautifully decorated Christmas trees were Bill and Joan Rowe, Keith and Cindy Hardin, Bill Simmons and Bonita Richardson, Khalid Akkari and Vicki Anderson, and Patrick and Aliah Wall.

CHRISTMAS PARTY:

The culmination of another successful year came early for the Corvette Cruisers. On December 7th, thirty-three members celebrated the annual Christmas party at the Crane Lakes Restaurant in Port Orange. The large-capacity room where everyone was able to walk around and visit was a definite improvement over past years when the dining area was quite crowded. A quick survey was conducted on the spot and all unanimously voiced approval with their meal selection, the portions, and the service. The pastries from The Bake Shop in Edgewater provided a great top-off to a festive meal.

John gave a short summation of the year, stating the club members had the opportunity of participating in over 36 events in 2023 and emphasizing that the club is what we make it by taking part in club activities. He thanked his Board of Directors, the Newsletter Editor, and all who helped make the year a success. He then tested our trivia knowledge in general and our Corvette knowledge in particular. Several members scored as high as 15 or better out of 20 questions, proving we are not just pretty faces, but we DO know something about Corvettes.

On a serious note, the recipients of our charity donations were announced after an on-line vote from the members. Two donations of \$500 each were awarded to The Council on Aging Meals on Wheels program and The Family Renew Program of Volusia County respectively. In a special award, Aliah Wall accepted a \$200 check from the club for her charity to aid the poor children of the Philippines.

In keeping with the holiday season, some beautiful poinsettias were presented to the lucky winners of a drawing: Gary and Cindy Swanson, Bill and Joan Rowe, John and Sally Doria, and Don and Susan Veatch. The night came to an end with a few jokes and the best of wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2024.

CORVETTE CHRISTMAS:

Over 100 Corvettes met at New Smyrna Chevy on Saturday, December 9th for the annual Toys for Tots Campaign. Many toys were collected that day for needy kids in the area. Jeremy Kiel, always the great host, provided delicious pastries and lots of prizes for several lucky attendees. Those attending from our club were Vin Giglio, Gary Swanson, Randy Sweeney, Keith Hardin, Bill Simmons, John Doria, John Pona, Bob Dutcher, and Julius Frittelli.

This & That

GOOD-BYE OLD FRIENDS:

Edie Byrne and Dan and Johnette Bernosky have notified the club that they will not be renewing their membership for 2024. We wish them the best in the new year and for all years to come. (There will, no doubt, be others who decided not to renew. Edie, Dan, and Johnette let us know before the renewal deadline.)

Happy Birthday to Bill Rowe on the 7th...the only birthday for this month. Bill, you have the month all to yourself.

Happy Anniversary to John and Rose Pona the only anniversary for this month. John and Rose, you have the month all to yourselves.

A Free Dessert?

Who doesn't like a free dessert, or a free appetizer, or a free drink? You can quickly qualify for one if you have the Red Lobster app. All you need to do is scan your bill and you instantly gain 2x or 3x the number of reward points. You have nothing to lose and some real yummy freebies to gain. I have a Brownie Overload waiting for me. Download the My Red Lobster Rewards app today! (**HINT...**a resolution that will be easy to keep.)

Speaking of Red Lobster:

Just happened to run across this headline.



You know we contributed to this loss, as this was one of our most popular dishes on meeting nights. It was truly a good deal for us...for them, not so much. Guess we won't be seeing this special any time soon.

Speedy Recovery to Bob Cornyn, who recently underwent some skin surgery. Bob and Linda were unable to attend the Christmas Party due to the unexpected orders from the doctor. Bob, we're pulling for you. Get well soon

.Correction:

Last month in the DOTR Review of JB's Fish Camp, Bob and Linda Wolff were inadvertently left off the list of those attending. I can truly attest that Bob, Linda, and that '64 were in full attendance. Sorry for leaving you out.

2024 Club Calendar:

A new club calendar can be found on the Home Page under "Upcoming Events." Though it is quite empty now, it will fill up quickly as events are planned.

Fun Corner



Fred and Wilma got what they wanted for Christmas!!

Corvette Clips

There will no longer be a Corvette Clips section in the Newsletter. However, if someone has a special article, a new announcement or some other Corvette-related information they would like to share, I will be happy to include it in the following Newsletters. Since I lost my Corvette news source in March, I have had a difficult time searching out information that is pertinent to our members. Thank you for understanding. (**HINT:** make a resolution to send Jean any **timely** info about Corvettes.)



*Now that you have made your own resolutions for 2024 with no help from me, let's seal it with a toast.
Here's to 2024 --- make it a great one.*