

# Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The Talepipe Newsletter



March, 2015

President: John Doria, Vice President/Treasurer: Richard Wetherby, Secretary: Jean Doyle,  
Directors: Skip Crowder, Arthur Armstrong, Jim Quinn, David Huber  
Newsletter Editor: Jean Doyle (with a little help from Ed)

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at T.G.I. FRIDAYS, located on the corner of Granada Avenue and A1A in Ormond Beach. We invite you to dine with us (Dutch treat) at 5:30 PM, and stay for the meeting, which begins at 7:00.



## NEW MEMBERS:

- Bill and Evelyn Neway are new to the area, having moved to Florida in October from Pennsylvania, They reside in Port Orange and drive a beautiful 2003 Anniversary Red Convertible.
- Will Masotta and Donna Bly, reside in Ormond Beach, having moved here from Connecticut. They drive a really sharp 1963 Riverside Red split-window coupe.
- Pat and Sandy Cassella also live in Ormond Beach, and have a Connecticut connection as well. (Pat is Will Masotta's nephew.) The Cassella's drive a 1969 LaMans Blue big block beauty.

Welcome! Glad to have you on board!

**DOTR FOR MARCH:** Will March come in like a lion or a lamb? We will know first-hand as we make our way to the Koffee Kup Restaurant in Daytona Beach on the first day of March. The Koffee Kup is a cozy, little diner popular with the locals. It gets high marks for a good, reasonably-priced breakfast in a homey, country-like atmosphere. The club last ate breakfast here in July of 2010, and it was given a "thumbs up" by those attending. Let's see if it still meets our expectations. Meet at Beall's in Ormond on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:15 a.m. for some down-home country cooking. Yeehaw!

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:** The Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the home of John Doria. Any member who wishes to attend

is more than welcome. Just give John notice (phone, text or email) that you will be attending so he can plan on how many to expect.

**SPRING AHEAD:** Don't forget to change the clock on your Corvette (and everywhere else) on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, the beginning of Daylight



Savings Time. Aaahhhh, one extra hour of daylight to enjoy our Corvettes. Now where is that darn manual to see how to do it?

**IT'S TIME FOR TOM:** The Tom Gibbs Corvette, Camaro, and SSR Display will be held on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 2:00 at the Tom Gibbs Chevy Dealership in Flagler County (on Rt. 100). Remember that this is a FREE event (no registration fee), so plan to come as we try to win the club participation award for the second straight year. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. at Beall's in Ormond Beach (corner of Williamson and Granada) for the trek up I-95. Door prizes, 50's and 60's music, and food and drinks (served by a local high school club for a donation) will be available. Shine up the Vette, throw in some lawn chairs, a cooler if you wish, and get ready for a good time.

**AGAIN, WE MOURN.....**the loss of a member and friend. Ed Anderson passed away unexpectedly on February 9. Ed and Amy have been members since 2013 and had just decided to make Florida their permanent home. Our thoughts and prayers are with Amy at this sad and difficult time.



**CORKY BELL'S REVIEW:** Are we lucky or what? Ever since Santa Claus brought us the umbrellas for Christmas, we have not had the misfortune to have to use them. We are 2 and 0 for beautiful weather on our DOTR's for 2015. On a breezy, bright, balmy 72° day IN FEBRUARY, sixteen Corvettes with twenty-eight members (and one guest) made their way to Corky Bell's on the banks of the St. John's River in Palatka, FL. (Should we feel guilty when our friends and families to the north have been experiencing snow, snow and more snow? Nah!!) Everyone managed to stay together even with the occasional truck or car cutting in on our "Corvette Convoy." After being seated on the deck and ordering our drinks, the chatter became lively and animated, culminating in a few overturned drinks and a few strange looks from other patrons. Geez, you just can't take some

folks out in public --☺ Corky Bells is a seafood restaurant with a southern twist, based on some of their side dishes (collard greens, cheese grits, okra and tomatoes). But judging from the comments heard from the group, every-one seemed well-satisfied with their meal, which ended just as the wind began to whip up to a fevered pitch. (Many of us remembered another time at this restaurant when the wind got so fierce, it ripped a sun umbrella out from a table and sent it soaring through the air over the roof of the outside bar, just missing a few of our heads.) We knew, then, it was time to go. Also with Super Bowl XLIX gearing up to start in about 3 hours, many needed to be back in time for various Super Bowl activities. Making the trip a big success and a lot of fun were Skip and Joan, Dave and Maya, Jack and Yvonne, John D and Sally, Gary and Cindy, Art and Leslie, Herb and Shirley, Ed and Jean, Bill and Bonita, Jim and Ginny, Bob and Mickey, Steve and Anita, Richard, Bill, John R., and Mike with his brother Pete.

(Photos by John D.)

**DINNER NIGHT OUT:** First there were twenty-four, then there were sixteen after six last-minute cancellations and two no-shows. Perhaps the thought



of eating outdoors when the temperature was expected to be in the low 50's was enough to change several minds. But even with a bit of a chill in the air, the brave sixteen of Steve and Anita, John Reis, Bill Simmons and Bonita Richardson, Bill Geize, Gary and Cindy Swanson, along with Cindy's brother Ted and his wife Tish visiting from South Carolina/New York, John Doria and Sally Clutter, Bill and Evelyn Neway, and Ed and Jean Doyle met at The Garlic in New Smyrna Beach for the club's semi-annual dinner night out. Several members did not drive their Corvettes since parking is tight, valet parking might be used (not with MY Corvette!!), and a cruise was not actually involved. But the joke was on those who didn't. The restaurant had cordoned off a special parking area for Corvettes Only, right in front of the door. Bill and Bonita, Bill and Evelyn, and John R. were the only ones able to take advantage of this special privilege. In the parking attendant's own words, "We just wanted to dress up the place a little and Corvettes certainly do that." Realizing that the temperature would be pretty nippy during the dinner hour, an executive decision was made to play it safe and dine indoors. Entertainment was provided by a singing pianist and a bass player, which made it a little difficult to carry on a normal conversation. However, the food was excellent, although a little on

the pricey side, but certainly plentiful. A lot of "doggy bags" went home that night, but something tells me the doggies aren't going to get these leftovers. It was too bad more members could not attend. If the club ever decides to go here again, let's plan to go for the early bird menu and make sure it will be warm enough to comfortably eat outside.

**LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD:** April is a busy month, so just to give you a "head's up" on upcoming events, the following is provided. Easter falls on the first Sunday of the month, which is usually the date for our Dining on the Run, and we do not have a DOTR on holidays. However, the following Sunday (April 12) is the "Art of the Automobile" held on Beach Street in downtown Daytona; a fun, free, and popular event enjoyed by members in the past. Sandwiched in between these two dates is the beginning of the Mini-Golf tournament on April 10, with subsequent dates of the 14<sup>th</sup>, the 17<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup>. Our monthly meeting is the 21<sup>st</sup>, and the annual club picnic is the 25<sup>th</sup>. Can you spell B-U-S-Y? We may have to postpone the April DOTR to St. Augustine until May. Watch the April Newsletter for the information you need to know on all of these events. (You can get a sneak peek at the Mini-Golf tournament schedule and rules by

accessing it from the Home Page under Upcoming Events.)

## THIS & THAT

**Happy Birthday** to our members born in March (and to some of the celebrities that share their special day). Good, Good, Good, Good Vibrations to Sally Clutter and Mike Love of the Beach Boys on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Do blondes really have more fun? We could ask Leslie Armstrong and model Elle MacPherson who celebrate on the 29<sup>th</sup>. And last but not least, it's "Hammer Time" for Steve Slaton and Jim Quinn who share their birthday on the 30<sup>th</sup> with singers M.C. Hammer, Eric Clapton, and Celine Dion.

### Corvette Owners Mantra



**Congratulations** to John and Sally DORIA --- yep, you read that right. John and Sally decided to make it official and tied the knot on Thursday, February 12, 2015, in a small, intimate

ceremony in Port Orange. Best wishes for a long and happy life together.

**And the Winner of the 50/50**

**Drawing Is** .....Nobody.....because Somebody forgot the can with the tickets. Oops! Not to mention any names, but it looks like we can't do without you, Richard!!

**Our Next Meeting** falls on St. Patrick's Day. EVERYBODY'S Irish on March 17<sup>th</sup> so **WEAR YOUR GREEN.**

**In Memoriam:** In honor of our two recently departed members, a charitable donation was made from the Club - to the American Lung Association in memory of Ray and to the National Kidney Foundation in memory of Ed.

**Christmas Gifts Remain:** Hey, if you were a club member for the 2014 fiscal year and were unable to make it to the Christmas Banquet, you have a really nice gift waiting for you. John Doria has been carrying them around with him ever since. They will be waiting for you at the next club event. Please pick up.

**Farewell** to Skip and Joan Crowder who are relinquishing their membership in the club. The Crowders have sold their Z06 and have no plans to purchase another Corvette (yet). They plan to concen-



trate on watching their health more closely. The club will certainly miss Skip as a Board Director and Joan as our Social Activities Coordinator. Both have done an outstanding job in these capacities and will be sorely missed at club events. Thank you for your service to our club. And who knows, the Corvette bug may bite you again soon.

## CORVETTE CHATTER

**Another Top Prize for Corvette:** An engine made by General Motors' Town of Tonawanda plant for the Corvette Stingray was named one of "Ward's 10 Best Engines" for 2015, the second consecutive year the engine earned the honor. The LT1 small block 6.2-liter V8 was among 37 engines and propulsion systems Ward's reviewed from 12 manufacturers. Ward's evaluated their power, fuel efficiency, new technology and refinement, and compared the attributes with data for similar engines. The award-winning engine from Tonawanda "is the heart and soul of the seventh generation Chevrolet Corvette and it proudly upholds the 60-year legacy of small-block engines from General Motors," said Tom Murphy, executive editor of Ward's Auto World digital magazine.

(Editor's Note -- Richard Wetherby worked at the Tonawanda plant.)

### **Design Taken From the Corvette:**

Subtle design elements of the Corvette - from the hexagonal taillights to its taut hood -- will be recognizable in many of Chevrolet's upcoming cars, according to General Motors global design boss Ed Welburn. Designers are working harder to infuse Chevy's next generation of cars, several of which are scheduled to appear over the next year, with some DNA from the brand's most iconic nameplate, the Corvette. "As Malibu and Cruze and Volt come to market, you'll be able to see a subtle link between some of the form vocabulary for all of them and Corvette," Welburn told *Automotive News*. "I always look at the hood of the Corvette and the sectioning, the way it's taut, very lean, very sporty," Welburn said. "That will be a part of really everything we do for Chevrolet." Chevy wants to leverage the Corvette aura as it looks to elevate exterior design as a competitive edge. The seventh-generation Corvette has been lauded for jet fighter-inspired styling that leans toward a European supercar. "Stunning design -- that's something we really want to push," Chevrolet global chief Alan Batey said in an interview last month. Welburn says the Corvette's squared-off taillights -- a source of controversy among loyalists -- will be hinted at "in all other Chevrolets, I think in a very positive way." "In the past," he said, "we never really took advantage of iconic vehicles like the Corvette the way we are today."

**A Feel Good Story:** Wendy Smith hopes her luck is changing. After being diagnosed with Stage 4 Breast Cancer recently, Smith found out a few days later that she was the winner of a 2014 Cyber Gray Stingray in a fundraiser sponsored by the Dale Earnhardt, Jr. Foundation. Wendy had to battle breast cancer three times in the last 7 years, but she was thinking of others when she plopped down \$25 to buy a raffle ticket from the foundation, which raises money for the underprivileged, especially children. Smith was at her job for the City of Greenville NC when she got a call from Kelly Earnhardt Miller, sister of Dale, Jr., who oversees the foundation, telling her that she had won the car. After the initial shock, Smith traveled to Mooresville NC to pick up her car and meet Dale Jr, who also paid all the taxes and fees on the new car. It's nice to see a Stingray bring a ray of joy into the life of someone who can use some cheery news these days. As Wendy says, "Good things can happen even when you feel like you are at the bottom."

**PHOTO OF THE MONTH (as seen on the Home Page):** Is it a bird, a plane??? Nope, it's a boat! Here is the ultimate machine for those who just love Corvettes and boats, and of course, carbon fiber. This vessel was built by Pier 57, a Tennessee-based company for a mere 1.7 million dollars. The Vette enthusiast should feel right

at home climbing into the cockpit which closely resembles the C6. Genuine Chevrolet parts were used for all of the Corvette features. Note those recognizable in the photo below.



While you may feel comfortable inside, you would be in a whole new world of horsepower "under the hood." The carbon fiber boat houses a pair of 1,350 hp turbocharged Mercury Marine V8's, and to top it off, they resemble the LS9s found in the ZR1 thanks to the engine covers. The combined engines produce about 2,700 hp which helps to push this craft in excess of 180 mph! Now one can't show up at the launch ramp with the coolest boat strapped to a shoddy truck and trailer, right? Of course not, and the proud owner of the ZR48, (named from a combination of the ZR1 and the length of the boat, 48 ft.) is well aware of it. He went above and beyond to make sure each aspect of his setup is top notch. The tow vehicle is immaculate in and of itself, but don't overlook the custom trailer which is

equipped with a generator, water tank, power washer, engine flush system, LEDs throughout, 5 televisions, a stainless steel floor, and air-ride suspension. Once the boat is loaded, it can tilt on its side during transport allowing it to fit within the standard highway width requirements.

VERY COOL INDEED!



### *An Irish Blessing*

May the luck of the Irish  
Lead to happiest heights;  
And the highway you travel  
Be lined with green lights.

**HAPPY ST. PADDY'S DAY!!**