

VENICE VETTE GAZETTE



Our Club Sponsors
Click on sponsor's logo for website



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Vice President	Terry Tracy
Treasurer	Bill Jereb
Secretary	Kathy Dowell
Membership Director	Lou Sauppe
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Club Photographer	Scott Eckman
NCM Ambassador	Mike Walsh
New Member Orientation	Lou Sauppe
Newsletter Editor	Steve Bieglecki
Quartermasters	Bob Bortolot and Sandra Lewis
Social Committee	Kathy Tracy
Sunshine Celebrations	JoAnn Royal
VFC Car Show	Mike Heiner
Web Master	Don Kerndt
Technical Advisor	Jim Mattar

Contact information for Board Members and Committee Leaders can be found on our **Club Website** [here](#)

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The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the Tuesday before the next scheduled club meeting

President's Message



I hope you all had a safe Memorial Day. I won't say happy because too many lives were lost since the inception on Remembrance now Memorial Day. Thank you to all of our Veterans.

Since my last article we have been keeping busy! Several of us had a great time having dinner and playing darts at the Ice House Pub in Punta Gorda. Some of us were better at it than others but we all had fun! And that's what it's all about.

This time of the year a good number of our members have returned to their "summer homes" or have gone on extended vacations. We do miss them but thanks to our social chairlady, Kathy Tracy, there is still the opportunity to join in the various events she has planned.

Before you know it, we will all be back together again. One of the things we, as a club, have tried to do is to give the opportunity of our members to get together after the meeting for fellowship. This is a chance for new and "mature" members to get together and get to know each other in an informal environment. We realize that new members feel lost at first so these events after the meetings give us all the opportunity to have a one on one. Remember we were all "new" at one point in the club.

Last year we were having difficulty finding a venue for all of our members to go after the meeting. During the summer months we will be trying to find a location that can accommodate a large group.

One of the things we could consider is having two locations available in the Venice area. If anyone has a suggestion please call or email me.

As always, if you have a question or concern, please don't hesitate to call.

If you are a new member and introduce yourself to me you might get a special gift!

Enjoy your summer and stay safe!

Linda Gomes

Board Member Messages

Vice President's Message

On April 30th our Trophy Sponsor Full Blown Chaos held a Celebration of Life for their team member, Kayla, with a Classic Car Show.



April Showers brought beautiful weather for Skyway's Corvette Show on St. Armand's Circle although we didn't bring home any trophies, a delicious lunch was enjoyed at the famous Columbia Restaurant.

On 13 May Sam and Sue Militello, Jim and Irene Vautrin, and Terry and Kathy Tracy made the trip to One Daytona for Ponce Inlets Corvette Club's All Corvette Show. Jim was a late decision to attend these events, but with another VFC member's cancellation we were able to get Jim into the show. However, once again no trophies but a great venue directly across from the World-Famous Daytona Speedway.



The men's breakfast was held on Third Thursday at Skillet's in Venice. The monthly quiz left everyone pondering the fuel formula of $R+M/2$ which is displayed on gasoline pump nozzles.



And another Memorial Car Show on May 20th for the late Doug Woods, President of the Florida West Coast Car Club. Doug had been the only president for FWCCC.



All in all a very eventful month some happy times some sad. Now looking towards a relatively quiet June with many members heading north for the summer.

Terry Tracy

Upcoming Social & Car Show Events

Venice Florida Corvettes monthly membership meeting is the 1ST Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the Venice Community Center.

June 2023

Thursday

1

VFC Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

William H. Jervy, Jr. Venice Public Library

6:00 PM

More Info



[View](#)

Saturday

3

Autocross Buckingham Airfield

Buckingham Airfield

****New Entrance on Park Rd****

8:30 AM

More Info



[View](#)

Saturday

3

Home Depot Quarterly Car Show

Home Depot

10:00 AM

More Info



[View](#)

Saturday

3

Cruisin on Dearborn

1:00 PM

More Info



[View](#)

Sunday

4

Cocoplum Cars & Coffee

8:00 AM

More Info



[View](#)

Sunday

4

Autocross Buckingham Airfield

Buckingham Airfield

****New Entrance on Park Rd****

8:30 AM

More Info



[View](#)

Tuesday

6

Monthly Membership Meeting

Venice Community Center

6:00 PM

More Info



[View](#)

Thursday

8

Ladies Lunch - Lighthouse Grill

Lighthouse Grill & Tiki

12:30 PM

More Info



[View](#)

Sunday

11

Combined Corvette Club Lunch - Laishley Crab House

Laishley Crab House

1:00 PM

More Info



[View](#)

Thursday

15

Men's Breakfast C.O.R.V.E.T.T.E.S.

Skilleys-Village-Shoppes

9:00 AM

More Info



[View](#)

Don't forget to check your email for....



Start Your Engines

For weekly updates of VFC events

VFC now has a New Facebook Page

The club has created a FaceBook page for members to share Corvette and club related information.

<http://facebook.com/VeniceFloridaCorvettesClub>

There is a link on the club website in the top left corner of the page when using a computer and it is at the top of the page when using a phone to access the website. Members who are FaceBook users are encouraged to visit the page and click on the "like" button.

Food Bank Donations

We will be collecting non-perishable food items at this month's members meeting. Cash or check donations will be given to the designated food pantry for this month. You may also make a donation, by presenting a check to Bill Jereb, our Treasurer, made *payable to the "Louis and Gloria Flanzer Trust" rather than VFC*. The "Louis and Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic Trust" will gift match to South County Food Pantry, our designated food pantry.

Toiletries Collection for Homeless Children

Please keep the homeless children in mind as you enjoy your travels. Any **travel size** items will be appreciated. Collect the amenities in hotel rooms or, If you are not traveling, browse the travel size items at your local Walmart or Target and add a few items to your cart. Items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and skin friendly wipes are always in demand. Of course, any items are welcomed.

North Port Coalition for Homeless/Needy Children, Inc.

AKA



If you don't have time to shop, cash donations are great fully accepted. As always, **I will be collecting items at the monthly meetings.** Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Susan Jakob

Using your Credit Card for VFC Events

When making payment for a club event with your credit card, the charge on your credit card statement will read: VENICEFLCORVETTECLUB

If you have any questions on payments, please contact Bill Jereb.

Suggestion Box

Wish the club would do something you enjoy? Did your old club have an activity that we don't do that you really enjoy? Let us hear from you. Send your ideas to me and I will distribute them to the proper people for consideration. Steve Bieglecki sbieglecki@gmail.com

Membership News



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Richard McKee
Linda McKee
Scott Trapp
Sue Trapp

Quartermaster's Corner

The club is in the process of selecting a new vendor for our logo merchandise. As we move to a new vendor all new orders should be put on hold. As soon as the board selects a new vendor, information about the company and the available products will be shared with everyone.

Bob Bortolot does have many items currently in stock. Check and see what he has. All items are sold at cost.

Quartermasters: Bob Bortolot and Sandra Lewis



Our 2023 Show Shirt

Celebrations



6/2 George Poynter
6/2 Mike Alexandratos
6/3 Carl Huber
6/3 Erwin Jakob
6/6 Donna Hoffman
6/6 Robert W Hoffman
6/7 Don Feuerstein
6/10 Michael A Collison
6/15 Joseph Russo
6/16 David E Nilson
6/16 Jan Hahn
6/16 Leslie Hahn
6/16 Lisa J Liberatore
6/16 Donna Castellano
6/17 Joseph Dunhill
6/18 Eugene Worcester
6/18 Chuck Woodrum
6/20 Cathy Gilgenbach
6/25 Bobin Coons
6/25 Debbie Rogers
6/28 Robert Bortolot
6/28 Brian Parkin
6/28 Barry Krasker
6/30 Jack Babich



6/4 Al & JoAnn Royal
6/8 Allan & Janet Eckle
6/11 Lee & Mary Ellen Snell
6/15 Robert & Genell Marshall
6/16 Robert & Donna Hoffman

Click [here](#) to log into our website for an up-to-date list of club member's **Birthdays and Anniversaries** for the next 90 days

From the Museum



2024 NATIONAL CORVETTE CARAVAN

Every Five years Corvettes a special event happens for Corvette owners. Caravans begin in all states, first at the club level then joining other clubs at the state level, finally joining the other caravans from all over the country arriving, at Bowling Green Kentucky. Bowling Green is the home of the National Corvette Museum and the Corvette Assembly Plant. Over the 2024 Labor Day weekend, August 29 to August 31, 2024. Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Museum.

The Venice Florida Corvettes Club caravan is in the early stage of planning for the 2024 event. For past caravans VFC to this event have been either two or three travel days. The three travel days caravans include a stop on the first day at a location where they can enjoy their corvettes. One time the stop was at the Sebring racetrack. Another time it was at the Daytona track. We arrived early enough so there was time to enjoy the track museum and be able to drive our cars on the track. Not racing but parade laps (kind of). The evening there was a dinner for all the Corvette clubs making the stop.

The second day off to the stop in Georgia. Rest up and grab a bite. The third day we arrive in Bowling Green. Register then off to dinner or to the Museum to take part in the events. in 2019 that include a concert by Jefferson Star Ship in the Museum's outdoor amphitheater.

The events in and around the museum are outstanding. They include seminars, discussions, Q&A sessions with Corvette mechanic, lady's oasis, silent auctions, car displays, touring laps at the NMC motor park. In addition to

all that there is enjoying the National Corvette Museum.

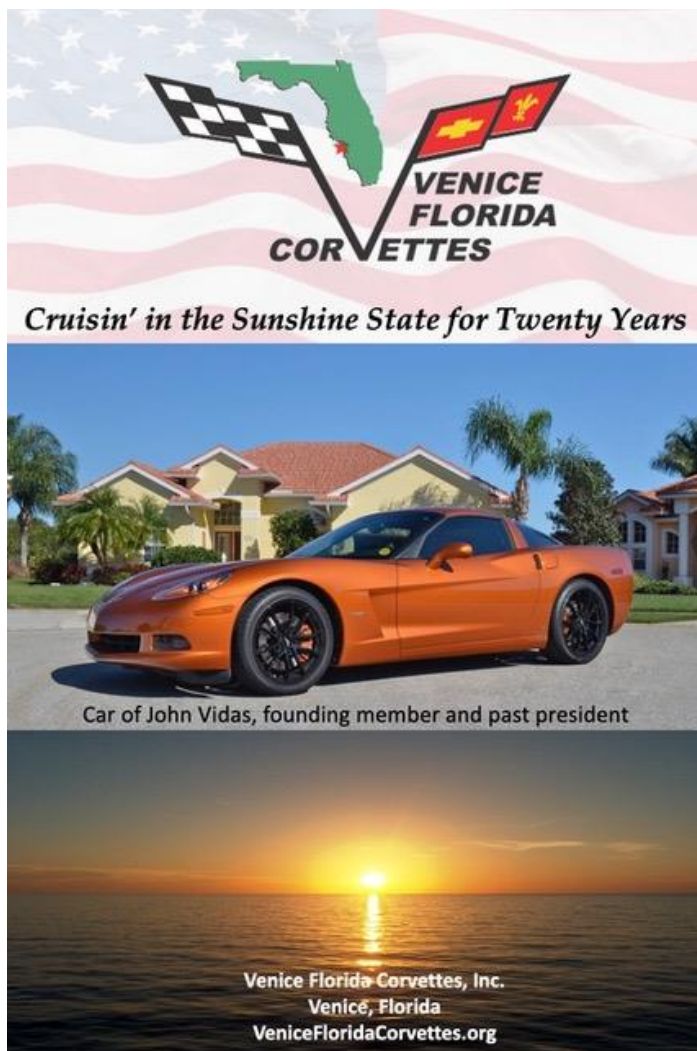
The days past quickly and then it is time to head home. Or maybe not. Prior VFC caravans have separated some to return home and other to continue their caravan to some place interesting. That could include running the 'Tail of the Dragon' or visiting Biltmore at Asheville NC.

The national caravan to the National Corvette Museum is an event to be remembered by all Corvette owners!

Click [here](#) for **all** the latest news from the museum

Car Shows & Competitions

Corvettes on St.Armand's Circle



Our 2023 NCM Banner



See the VP column for more car show news



Social Events, Special Interest

Monthly Ladies Lunch at The Venice Yacht Club

5/9

On a beautiful May afternoon, 19 ladies gathered for a fabulous lunch at a fabulous venue. Thanks to Lynn Mison, we were treated to a private room at the Venice Yacht Club. As the ladies gathered, they were given a chance to win one of three glass flowers (April showers, bring May flowers), a cute snappy bag (made by Kathy Tracy and Sue Jakob) and a list of questions related to the attendees. The cash bar provided drinks while the ladies tried to find who fit the question being asked, i.e. who has lived in Mexico and who is a math teacher from New Jersey. It was a great way for the ladies to get to know a little more about each other. The lunch buffet was delicious, the venue superb and, as always, the company was awesome!



Reporter: Kathy Tracy

All Members Lunch at Pinchers

5/23

The ever-popular Pincher's was the venue for our May 23rd all member lunch. President Linda Gomes arrived early and lined up the Corvettes. What a wonderful site to see in the parking lot! The group then enjoyed a great lunch and lively conversation.



Tech Events, News & Workshops

Tune into the Corvette Blogger for the latest Corvette news



Click on the link below to find out about everything Corvette - America's Sports Car! Join Steve Garrett, as he talks about what's going on in the world of Corvette. Hear guests from the industry along with the latest news and information about the Corvette.

<http://www.anchor.fm/steve-garrett>

10 Corvette Facts You Probably Don't Know (But should)

Over 70 years and 8 generations, there are a ton of interesting Corvette facts for fans to learn about. Here are 10 most people don't know!

By: Michael Palmer, The Corvette Forum

1. The 1963 Split-Window's 1930s Germany Inspiration



Becoming a member of the Corvette family -- as a fan or an owner -- is a gateway to seven decades of engineering, design, performance, and fun little anecdotes that tend to be forgotten over the course of eight unique generations. So the editorial team and I thought it would be fun to highlight 10 Corvette facts that most people probably don't know.

To start, let's talk about the 1963 Corvette Sting Ray split-window. Everyone knows (or should know) the split-window was only produced for a single model year. As it turns out, the most beautiful American car ever designed... was a bit unsafe in terms of rearward visibility. What you might NOT know, however, is the story of how the iconic split window design was inspired by an ultra-rare car that was produced in 1930s Germany and later brought back to the States as a "spoil" of World War II.

According to Director of Design **Dave Holls**, the GM design team borrowed a **1938 Adler Trumpf Rennlimousine** in the summer of 1959 for a photography session. Apparently, SVP of Design, **Bill Mitchell** later saw these photos, gave them to C2 designer **Larry Shinoda**, and said, "This is what I want."

2. The Original Corvette Logo was ILLEGAL



Designed by Robert Bartholomew, the original Corvette logo featured both an American flag and the checkered flag used in racing. However, the United States flag code (still) says, "The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever." So, despite what modern-day America looks like with U.S. Flags Anywhere Everywhere All At Once, 1950s GM executives pivoted to a logo that included the Chevrolet logo and the fleur de lis, which was rumored to be Louis Chevrolet's family crest.

3. The Corvette was Named After a WWII Warship



Today, mention the word Corvette and people are likely to picture a two-seat, American sports car. But, prior to the 1950s, the corvette was the name of a small, Flower-class World War II warship that itself was named after a 19th century class of wooden French warships. As described in the 1951 novel *The Cruel Sea*, by Nicholas Monsarrat, corvettes were "two hundred feet long, broad, chunky, and graceless: designed purely for anti-submarine work, and not much more than a floating platform for depth charges, she was the prototype of a class of ship which could be produced quickly and cheaply in the future, to meet the urgent demands of convoy escort." The corvette-warship name continues on through today.

4. Corvettes Used to be a LOT Cheaper



It's hard to look at old advertisements and not envy previous generations for the prices of new cars from bygone eras. Naturally, the process of inflation is the main difference between Then Prices and Today Prices. But even with inflation considered, Corvettes used to be a LOT more affordable. For example, the original base price for the 1953 Corvette was \$3,498, which is equivalent to about \$39,692.57 in 2023 (according to the [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistic Inflation Calculator](#).) For reference, the average price of **a new vehicle in February 2023 was \$48,763**. And, of course, the base C8 Corvette now starts north of \$60,000. Although, to be fair, modern Corvettes offer a lot more in terms of luxury, technology, safety, and performance.

5. Sting Ray vs Stingray



If you're lucky enough to order a brand new C8 Corvette, the base model is lovingly dubbed the Stingray. This aquatic name/badging dates back to the XP-87 development car, aka the Stingray Racer. The C2 Corvette generation carried on the name from 1963 to 1967 as the **Sting Ray** (two words). Now, most people will argue that Sting Ray was only used to refer to C2 Corvettes. But here's the interesting part. When the C3 Corvette debuted in 1968 the Sting Ray badging was indeed missing. **But GM brochures actually continued referring to the 1968 Corvette as a Sting Ray.** For 1969, the badging returned as the (all-one-word) **Stingray** and remained through the 1976 model year. The Stingray name then took a break until 2014, with the debut of the C7.

6. The Only True 30th Anniversary Corvette



As discussed earlier, the Corvette debuted in 1953. So it was no surprise that Chevrolet wanted America's longest-running sports car to launch the new C4 generation ahead of its 30th anniversary. So the goal was set to launch the C4 in 1982. But the C4 was such a dramatic leap forward that numerous delays pushed its launch back. First to 1983. And then again to 1984. Which means, every single "1983 C4 Corvette" was technically a prototype "pilot assembly" vehicle. That's right, no 1983 Corvettes were manufactured for and sold to the public and the Corvette missed its own anniversary. And, of the 43 pilot assembly vehicles produced that year, only one survived. This lone 1983 Corvette was actually the fourth model built (on June 28, 1982) and you can see it at the **National Corvette Museum**.

7. Don't Stand So Close to Me



Approaching a modern vehicle with a key fob in your pocket is likely to set off a little light show while unlocking your doors and trunk(s). 30 years ago, things were very different. But as always, the Corvette was leading the way with new technology. **The 1993 C4 Corvette was the first car to be equipped with a proximity key fob remote control.** To be clear, key fob remotes with buttons to unlock the car were already pretty common on many vehicles. But this 1993 "experiment" was the first to allow drivers to simply approach their Corvette and have the doors unlock automatically. However, unlike modern fobs, you still had to use a physical key with your 1993 C4.

8. Magnetic Personality



The Corvette has long been an engineering testbed for new technologies that trickle down into other GM vehicles. Most notably this applies to performance engines as well as suspension components. Not only was the 1990 Corvette ZR-1 the first Corvette to feature a computer-controlled adjustable suspension, but the 2003 Corvette 50th Anniversary Edition was the first to feature magnetic selective ride control. Magnetorheological dampers -- often referred to as MagneRide or MagRide dampers -- are filled with a magnetic fluid that can be adjusted on the fly to a variety of firmness settings. Additionally, these systems -- more so today -- are able to monitor current and road conditions and adjust the way the suspension reacts, which results not only improves performance but also offers a smoother more comfortable ride. And, for the Corvette, that technology debuted 20 years ago.

9. The C7 Corvette Could Have Been Mid-Engine



That's right, a full generation before the (pictured) C8 Corvette. Here's the story: when Corvette Executive Chief Engineer **Tadge Juechter** and team developed the C6 Corvette ZR1, it was the first supercharged Corvette in history. It was also the quickest. At the time, the engineers realized the future potential of Corvettes wouldn't be limited by power, but rather by traction. Therefore, from an engineering point-of-view, it was time to pivot to a C7 generation with a mid-engine layout that had been dreamt of since the days of **Zora Arkus Duntov**. But when GM went into bankruptcy during the financial crisis of 2008, Tadge and crew had to cancel those plans. In fact, the Corvette itself almost died during this time. But fortunately, one of the regulators brought in to help GM through bankruptcy was a Corvette fan, so the C7 -- an evolution of the C6 rather than a revolution -- became a way to not only save the Corvette but also GM itself.

10. I Can't Drive 55... In Reverse (But It's Pretty Close)



Generations of Corvette enthusiasts have drooled over benchmarks like quarter-mile and 0 to 60 times. But almost all of these facts and figures apply to Corvettes traveling forward. But it turns out that the C7 Corvette Stingray is actually reasonably quick in reverse. Sure, it can't actually do a 0-60 run. Nor can it drive 55 (much to Sammy Hagar's disappointment). But it can manage a whopping 54 mph in reverse, which helped a man named **Scot Burner set a Guinness World Record last year.**

Image Source: GM

VFC Classifieds & Member Businesses

VFC Classifieds

Click [here](#) to go to our club classified section of our new website

Member Businesses

If you have a business and would like to see it displayed in the newsletter, please e-mail your business card to Steve Bieglecki (sbieglecki@gmail.com)



Click on the card for more info about this business

