

A NOTE FROM Z0PREZ

EL ENDO

We have crossed the finish line on my lap. We have had semi-unwavering support and the pit crew has placed first in loyalty, effort and style. The volunteers, Service Chevrolet, and fans have all contributed to an atomic year, and I have enjoyed the privilege. Although it is my prayer that there will be many more laps, this one will be my favorite.

None of this would have been possible without you---the owners. Your patience with our restaurant; your help with desserts; your generosity with Habitats, Toys for Tots and our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq; and your understanding of the crew and officers, just to name a few, is totally appreciated.

No organization can succeed with self-serving people at the head. This group has stood for grace and hospitality, and many hours of hard work in the pits. The experience earned serving such a diverse group has fed our souls. All the individual efforts to return our club to a positive state have been duly noted and will be entered in the history book.

Frankie and his crew will look to you for your continued help for our next lap. Play fair and accept all efforts as sincere, and we will fly.

And, to the owners who threw debris on the track, and tried to slow up the crew, it just made the ride bumpy. It didn't hinder us from reaching the finish line.

Let me end my year as your president with some of the best words to share:

Thank You!

Atomically yours,
ZORO

P.S. How people win shows some of their character, how they lose shows it all.

**We hope that everyone has enjoyed
the club activities
in 2007!**

We are looking for bigger and better activities in 2008!

**We wish everyone Happy Holidays
and Prosperous New Year**



MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays for December

Steve Grant	December 2
Cyn Seo	December 7
Bill Ulisky	December 8
Alan Papitto	December 14
Louie Seo	December 19
Bonnie Porter	December 20
Judy Gallagher	December 25
Carl Michaud	December 27
Birgitta Byers	December 29
Dave Lundell	December 31

Birthdays for January

Paul Magee	January 6
Ro Bryant	January 14
Sherri Brower	January 16
Gorden Byers	January 18
Paul Kovac	January 30

Happy Birthday to everyone!

Jim's Jottings



Season's Greetings. I would like to take this opportunity to express my enthusiasm and gratitude for having been affiliated with the Club.

Both my wife Jan and I are so grateful to have made your acquaintance. I'm sure you already know it but this Club is comprised of some really fun-loving, warm and caring persons. On an individual basis, members have welcomed us and treated us as though we were charter members.

On the professional level, the Club has demonstrated the gigantic size of its heart over and over again. From the Habitat for Humanity "Corvette House" to the Toys-for-Tots campaign this Club gets involved.

Additionally, the entire staff at Service Chevrolet thanks you for your patronage and loyalty. We exist because of and for you. We're proud to be the Club Sponsor.

We wish you peace, good health and goodwill. Guess it's true...a Corvette brings out the best in people. You're living proof.

Happy Holidays to you and yours.

,We love this Club!

Jim

**FUN IN THE SUN AT CYPRESS GARDENS
INDIAN RIVER CORVETTE CLUB
HAS GREAT TURN OUT!**

We didn't get there as a group, however, once we were all there, we ALL had a great time. Dan & Ro Bryant, Terry & Sue Smith, Bob & Georgia Irish, Harry & Linda Fallon, Frank & Connie Baudo, Greg & Beth Butcher, Larry & Leslie Spurlock, Dave & Pat Lundell, Bill & Marline Ulisky and Tom & Hollyann Quina along with Bobby & Becky Waitf (Dan's life long high school buddy) were all in attendance supporting our club.

Dick & Lucy Kessler were also there, but were registered as Stuart Corvette Club members.

The weather was great and the gardens were really beautiful. Tom and I spent hours photographing the flowers and garden areas.

The car show did not have as many cars as expected but we really went for the GARDEN PARTY, not the show.

The Admiral's Inn did everything they could to make our stay as nice as possible. The party on Saturday was better than the average, not hot dogs and hamburgers. Chicken fingers, cheese trays, desserts, chicken wings in three flavors and much more. Free beer and a cash bar. Friday night the band in the bar was super, much better than the average bar band.

SAVE THE WAVE!!

Hollyann



Activities

COMING IN December

- 1 - Saturday Vero Beach Christmas Parade
- 8 - Saturday - Annual Christmas Party

COMING IN January

- 8 - Tuesday - Board of Directors Meeting
SPECIAL DATE
*Officers and Directors are asked to please attend,
Club members are always welcome!*
- 11 - Friday - General Membership Meeting
NEW MEETING PLACE
- 9 - 12 - Wed - Sun - NCRS - Winter Regional Meet
Old Town, Kissimmee, FL
- 19 - Saturday - Reflections In Glass XXV
Corvette, GM Car & Truck Show - Boca Raton, FL
Hosted by America's Corvette Club
- 24 - 27 - Thur. - Sun. - Grand Am Rolex 24
Daytona International Speedway
- 29 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Dan & Ro

Check the WEB Calendar for details



Prez 2008

It's hard to believe that 2007 is almost coming close to being called "last year". In reflection, our club has successfully accomplished its primary mission of being the best and friendliest club of its kind. Much of the credit goes to Ro Bryant, our board members and the endless efforts of Sue and Beth who worked so hard to help provide the many great events of "last year".

We will be missing Betty and Allan Erde who recently moved to the Villages in Central Florida. She is an icon in all that she endeavored to do and will be missed by all of us.

As we move forward we intend to continue with the many events that we all enjoy and anticipate along with adding some new ideas. Our new activities committee consisting of Beth Butcher, Georgia Irish and Dan "the man" Bryant will be working on putting together all of the above along with seeking your input for the kind of events that are of interest to you. Visits to museums, picnics, rallies, caravan trips, weekends at resorts or on boats are all but a few of what we hope to consider; it's up to you, so get involved! We all need to make a contribution in order for us to succeed.

This years new board will strive to encourage everyone participation and involvement. Hollyann and Tom Quina will continue their tireless role as editor for our clubs Newsletter and Webmaster respectively. Thanks to them we have the best of both worlds via all the news that's fit to print and the Internet. Thank you guys, many times over for all that you do. I'm looking forward to working with you in the months to follow.

After the holidays I will be meeting with our new board to frame the new years activities and business related issues. In the meantime, may each of you along with your families enjoy the forthcoming holiday season; may it be filled with love, peace and joy.

Semper Fi,

Frank



Paul Graham Appointed Plant Manager of GM Bowling Green Assembly Plant

General Motors today announced that **Paul Graham**, currently assistant plant manager of its Fairfax Assembly plant, was appointed plant manager of the Bowling Green Corvette Assembly Plant, effective Jan. 1, 2008.

Wilmer Cooksey, the current plant manager at Bowling Green, will retire, effective March, 1, 2008. Graham began his GM career in 1980 as a college student intern at GM Truck and Bus in Flint, Mich. In 1986, he became an associate manufacturing engineer at the plant, then moved on to become a supervisor of production in 1987 at the GM Ft. Wayne Assembly plant in Indiana. In 1992, Graham moved on to GM Baltimore Assembly in Maryland to assume an assistant superintendent of Maintenance position, and over the years held positions of increasing responsibility at the plant before returning to GM Ft. Wayne Assembly to an area manager of the Body Shop position in 1995. In 1997, Graham went to Guanajuato, Mexico to assume a platform program manager position with GM of Mexico. In 2000, he returned to the United States and was appointed assistant plant manager of the GM Shreveport Assembly plant in Louisiana. Graham was appointed assistant plant manager of the GM Oklahoma City facility in 2005. He was appointed to his current position in 2006.

FOR SALE

Pratt and Miller Corvette C6.R #3 Race Car

Driven by **Johnny O'Connell, Jan Magnussen and Ron Fellows**
Price: \$650,000.00 SKU: #***CORV5504

Corvette Details:

No bling but much zing. Special everything, including things we can't tell you about. 1 owner, 1 seat. Low miles, but driven very fast. Always garaged. Never driven on public roads. Cared for by loving owners, cursed by the competition. One of only a few. Available only in Velocity Yellow. Championships and Drivers not included. Only for sale because Ms. Pratt said it is time to clean out the garage. Yes this is really for sale. For more information please call or email.

Specifications:

Chassis 005 that raced in LeMans (finished 2nd in class) and in the 2007 American LeMans series
575 Horsepower, 6000-rpm redline
7-liter small block V8
2425 lbs hydroformed steel chassis with composite body
Longitudinal front engine, rear wheel drive
Tunable to the low drag demands of LeMans or the high downforce requirements of Mosport.

Service
Chevrolet



The Name Says It All!

**Contact Jim Pagano
Corvette Specialist
For all your Corvette Needs**

567-8371

HISTORIC BOK SANCTUARY

A short distance from the Cypress Garden Party, is Bok Tower, so we took a side trip with a group of members. The lush gardens surround Bok Tower which is 205 feet tall and houses a 60 bell carillon. The bells weigh from 11oz to 6 tons with a total weight of 60 tons. The Tower was built over two years in 1927-1928. Rose colored marble, peach stone and stained glass windows make it a truly beautiful wonder.

Afternoon recitals can be heard for miles, the Tower is build on the highest land in Florida which is called Iron Mountain. The Window by the Pond is part of the natural observatory. This is one of the most peaceful place I have ever seen.

Lunch is served in the Carillon Cafe and a gift shop is located next to the cafe.

Check out the pictures, if you didn't go along you may may want to visit another time.



New Year New Meeting Place



One of the best things about the New Year is the change of meeting places. Many members have requested that we make a change. With the new venue we will have a more diverse menu. There is also a larger meeting area and a bar area for after the meeting, if anyone is interested.

We will be meeting at the Best Western Motel on west route 60. There is plenty of lighting with loads of safe parking.

The meeting time and dates are the same, only the location has changed. Check your website calendar for additional information.

If you have not been coming for some reason, why not give the new location a try AND come and join the fun.



Activities Committee

From the activities department, Sue and I would like to wish you all a wonderful holiday season.



Wow, it is really hard to believe we are coming to the end of 2007! I guess it just goes to prove the old saying, time flies when you are having fun. It seems as though it was only yesterday when we were attending our first event in January, with the 3 Club lunch in Sebastian.



Sue and I want to thank you all for participating in all the other activities in the past year. We tried to have a large variety of events this year. If you have any suggestions and/or comments for next year, please let me know. We want to know if there is an activity that you would like to repeat or not to repeat. (I promise you I am not offended with any criticism, in fact, criticism makes us better.)

I want to personally thank Sue for all of her hard work over the year. As you know, after serving the club since the beginning of time, Sue is going to pass the torch so that she can spend some precious, well-deserved time with her family and just be a participant in the activities.

For next year, I want to thank Georgia and Dan who have agreed to help with activities. We do hope that 2008 calendar will be even better than 2007. Look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas party.

Have a Happy Holiday Season

Take care and don't forget!

Save the wave :-)

Beth

**Those who matter
don't judge me,
those that do
don't matter!**

Top 5! The Cars That Defined Corvette

Automotive enthusiasts love to compare their favorite cars to cars made by the competition and Corvette owners are no exception. We'll put our beloved American sports car against any comer. But its not just owners that engage in this practice. Comparisons to the competition often start at the factory and often with a car that only exists on paper. In our top 5 list, we take a look at the cars that have served to make the Corvette a world class sports car.



#1 - Jaguar Xk120

In 1952 Harley Earl was designing the first American 2-seat sports car. Sitting in the design studio while the Corvette was being drawn was the Jaguar XK120. The XK120 had the characteristics that Harley was aiming for: huge long hood, minimal two seat passenger area and a short rear deck. This same philosophy would be the basis for the Corvette for more than 50 years.



#2 - Shelby Cobra

In 1963 Carroll Shelby's Cobras were cleaning up at the track. The cobra was a pure racing machine and it dominated the racing circuit in the mid-60's. Corvette's Chief Engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov had a plan for the Cobra and it was called the Grand Sport. While the Grand Sport project only resulted in the production of just five cars, they easily returned Corvette to the winners circle. Technology and testing from the GS program filtered down to the production Corvettes. Chevrolet's big block 427's replaced fuel injection and by 1967, the L88-equipped Corvette was beating Cobra on Sundays and winning in the dealer showrooms on Monday.



#3 - Dodge Viper RT/10

In 1991 Dodge introduced the Viper and the American horsepower war was back on. The Viper was the Corvette reincarnated. Long, lean and with a massive engine, the Viper was built for performance first. The Viper debuted with a V10 rated at 400 horsepower, 25 more than the 375 hp Corvette ZR-1. Other characteristics of the Viper included side exhaust and an AC delete option (no air conditioning). Vipers would dominate the performance arena until the arrival of the C5 Z06 Corvette in 2001.



#4 - Toyota Supra

In the late eighties, GM was in the beginnings of the C5 project with a projected launch date of 1993. The competition at the time was mostly Japanese and the lead competitor was the Toyota Supra. Toyota threw down the challenge first, calling their late 80's Supra Turbo a "Corvette-Killer". As the C5 Corvette was being drawn, it was the Supra that it was benchmarked against. By the time the C5 Corvette was actually produced in 1997, the Supra's influence had waned until about only 40 Supras per month were being imported into the US.



#5 - Porsche 911 (Carrera)

2005 brings us the C6 Corvette and the competition has shifted from Dodge and Toyota back to European manufacturers like Porsche and BMW. During development, the C6 Corvette was measured time and again versus the Porsche 911, literally. Chief Engineer Dave Hill would talk how the C6 Corvette was shortened to roughly the same dimensions of the 911. Interestingly, the Porsche Carrera, the sixth version of the 911 was also introduced in 2005.

Targeting Porsche, a car known world-wide for quality and performance at a price normally double that of the regular production Corvette was a gutsy move by the Corvette engineering team and based on the performance of the C6 Corvette Z06, the gamble was a success.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Corvette Z06 Chosen to Pace 50th Daytona 500 in 2008

The Daytona 500 is arguably the most prestigious race on NASCAR's seemingly endless yearly racing schedule and for the last four years, Corvette has led the pack of race cars as the Official Pace Car. 2007 Daytona 500 winner Kevin Harvick, flanked by representatives of the Daytona International Speedway and General Motors, made a surprise appearance at last week's Central Florida International New Car Show in Orlando, Florida to announce that Corvette would be back for the fifth consecutive year as Pace Car for the 2008 Daytona 500.



Next year's race will be even more special as 2008 marks the 50th anniversary of the Daytona 500. The 2008 Corvette Z06 Pace Car pays tribute to Daytona's golden anniversary by being decked out in a stunning "Anniversary Gold" exterior paint with Red, White and Blue racing stripes. Like previous years, the Daytona 500 logo adorns the doors while the Chevrolet bowtie graces the hood in red.

The current top-of-the-line Corvette is ideally suited for the pace car duties at Daytona. The Corvette Z06, with 505 horsepower, has more horsepower than the NASCAR sprint cup race cars it will pace. Other than the integrated light bar and strobe system, the Corvette Z06 Pace Car is nearly identical to the street version.

"Chevrolet has been inextricably linked to NASCAR from its inception and we are honored to support the golden anniversary of the sport's premier race the Daytona 500 with a very special Corvette Z06 Pace Car," said Ed Peper, Chevrolet general manager. "The Corvette Z06 has established a tradition in leading the pack at Daytona, which reflects Chevrolet's commitment to racing and the fans."

"Talk about a 'wow-factor,'" said Speedway President Robin Braig. "It's the perfect piece of machinery to help pace a star-studded field at 'The World Center of Racing' for the historic 50th running of the Daytona 500."

The 50th Anniversary running of the Daytona 500 will be held Sunday February 17, 2008.

New LS9 Engine???

Somebody slipped an envelope under the door of Jalopnik, and the boys there found some General Motors-sourced shots of the supercharged V8 that's going to power the big-bang Corvette model to be unveiled at the Detroit auto show in January.

GM isn't happy to see this stuff out there. But here's what can be gleaned from the pics:



- The engine is designated LS9
- Displacement is 6.2 liters
- A twin-screw supercharger sits on top the intake manifold.
- Liquid-to-air intercoolers are integrated into the supercharger housing.
- A beauty cover, trimmed in blue, sits on top that supercharger.

We doubt this will be the last leak of info on the new ZR-1, Blue Devil or whatever the killer Corvette will be named, before the Detroit show gets going.

2008 Corvette Limited Edition Sport-V

Malibu Boats, the World's #1 selling tow boat manufacturer, has coupled their expertise and advanced technology to mold America's most beloved sports car to one capable of seafaring travel. Known also for their C4 and C5 Corvette platforms, this new C6 Sport-V will take on the title of being the faster inboard water sports boat ever produced.

Malibu Boats will make a Coupe and Z06 edition available for order by their impatient captains. Both will be fitted with the cove styling and stainless steel exhaust. The Z06 package includes Z06 emblems, trailer wheels and the notorious 7.0 liter "LS7" engine, which propels the C6 Sport-V with 505 horsepower and 470 lb.-ft. of torque.

Look for a future feature article on the making of this Malibu boat on www.DigitalCorvettes.com

