

Corvette Gazette

A Monthly Publication of
The Indian River Corvette Club

February, 2008

Vol. 8 No. 2

From the desk of Frank Baudo.....

"Enthusiasm" overcomes adversity and changes the dynamics of an organization and one's self. As President of this great club I will strive to continue at being consistent with my monthly message, keeping focused on our purpose, namely, building friendships and an enjoyable atmosphere for everyone. Likewise, I'm counting on each of you to make that so, simply by your attendance and by being there! Your presence makes a difference and your participation creates and enthusiastic energy that becomes contagious.



Our activities committee has already done a great job lining up the calendar with events designed for your many varied interests much of which comes from your feedback and experience. Now, here's where YOU come in, get involved, participate and be there!

Our love of the Corvette is part of the fabric that knits us together and rightfully so. The Corvette has been part of the American Dream since it's inception in 1953 and truly has become an American ICON.

Likewise, being proud owners and members of The Indian River Corvette Club has a place in keeping with that heritage. So for now, let's look forward to the many events that lie ahead, enjoy our cars, enjoy our club and most of all respect and enjoy each other!

Semper Fi.....

Frank

Jim's Jottings

Love is in the air! Valentine's Day is such a 'lovely' holiday. Chocolates, flowers, candy hearts, you get it. It's also a perfect time to affirm our 'love' of America's true sports car. The Chevrolet Corvette. It's hard to explain the special feeling this car stimulates to someone who hasn't been around a 'Vette or two. Yet all it takes is one ride. So, for Valentine's Day I propose we all pledge to give someone a ride in a 'Vette! Ok well maybe that's a bit far-fetched but really, isn't the car special? Of course it is!



How lucky are we to have such a super fantastic Club. We celebrate the car yet we revel in the friendship it brings via our Club. This Valentine's Day let's share our love of the 'Vette'. Besides, it's calorie-free.

Service Chevrolet has it's best selection of new and pre-owned Corvettes since a year or so ago. We'd love you come take a look and see what's new. Of course, the ownership and management is committed to taking care of Club members. Also, in the Service Lane, we're always providing 'Club Treatment' for all 'Vettes'.

If we ever fail to meet your expectations we want to know about it. Really. This isn't just lip service, it's true. We want to know.

Happy Valentine's Day fellow members. Now, pass the chocolates please.

Jim



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For all your Corvette Needs

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MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays for February

Betty Brousseau	February 3
Joan Magee	February 5
Leslie Spurlock	February 9
Pat Lundell	February 14
Dave Myers	February 22
Kelly Castillo	February 23
Hollyann Quina	February 24
Wayne Sandlin	February 28

Birthdays for March

Terry Smith	March 15
Tom White	March 17
Christine Grant	March 18
Dan Bryant	March 25
Karl Steene	March 25
Ken Porter	March 28
John Mulligan	March 31

Happy Birthday to everyone!

Sunshine Princess Report

Welcome to our newest member **John Ferro**. Check out our web site for all the latest fun club events (ircorvettes.com). Look for the "SHOUT OUTS" for things to do between club events.



Two rays of sunshine go out this month to our **President Frankie Baudo** who has caulker tunnel syndrome, and **Dan Bryant** who has upper, lower, medial, lateral, scapula, muscular trauma. A speedy recovery to you both. The Habitat crew needs you.

A special birthday wish for **Pat Lundell** who is having her birthday on **Sweet Hearts Day**. Happy Birthday to all our **February** members and know that blessed are they who laugh at themselves, for they shall never cease to be amused.

ZORO

Activities Smactifities

We are going racing on Feb. 23rd.



Steps: 1. Meet at 1-95 & 60 Mobil at 11:00. If you live in Sebastian skip this step.

2. Go to 1-95 and 514 and have lunch.

3. Go to Andretti Thrill Park on Babcock, north of Palm Bay Road, and race. (Discount coupons are available), 4. Meet at 4:00 at the Downtown Grill on 192 in old town Melbourne for braggin' and steel drum music. You can bring friends or family and you can choose any or all of the steps. Please come.

We are going to a car show on March 29th.



Register now. See Danny Bryant.

We are supporting Karl Steene and his antique car club at the best car show in the area. And, we do not have to travel. It is a show. We will have a picnic afterward and the club is buying food from Bono's. Pat Lundell is the hostess and she will need volunteers. Please speak up!

This is a two parter. If'n you do not want to show, that is fine. But all picnickers must sign up in order to insure the correct food order.

We are going on a boat ride on April 19th.



Beth Butcher is the hostess. You must sign up to ride. The boat Captain needs a body count and you are the bodies. RSVP soon.

Activities

COMING IN February

2 - Saturday - American Lung Association's Cars for the Cure 2008! - Car Show Colonial Town Park in Lake Mary, FL

8 - Friday - General Membership Meeting

CLUB EVENT FOR FEBRUARY

23 - Saturday - Andretti Thrill Park & More...

26 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise Our Host Louie & Cyn Seo

COMING IN March

4 - Tuesday - Board of Directors Meeting

7-8 - Fri - Sat - Eckler's Corvette Reunion Celebration, FL

12 - 15 - Wed - Sat - 56th Annual 12 Hour of Sebring Sebring, FL – Corvette Corral

14 - Friday - General Membership Meeting

25 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise Our Host Clint & Karen Atwell

CLUB EVENT FOR MARCH

29 - Saturday - Annual Antique Auto Show and CLUB PICNIC

Riverside Park (Under the Oaks), Vero Beach

Check the WEB Calendar for details

56TH RUNNING OF THE 12 HOURS OF SEBRING

America's premier sports car race takes the green flag on Saturday, March 12th. This will be the first American Le Mans Series race of the year.

This season will have several new entries as well as the defending champion Audi and Acura teams. The factory sponsored Corvettes will be racing for Corvette pride and tradition.



Sebring's 17 turn, 3.7-mile circuit is one of the most fan friendly circuits. All tickets allow fan access to garage areas and the drivers. If you are going to go remember to order tickets with Corvette Corral access. Tickets can be ordered before February 15th with a big savings. You can call 800-626-7223 for information.

Corral tickets include parking, tented area, and lunch. Lots of other perks too. The Corvette drivers come to the corral for autographs and pictures. Paul Graham, the factory manager will be there to speak and answer questions. Tom Hill that handles our problems that relate to your car is always available to talk to owners.



It really is a fun filled day. The race, the entertainment (you have to see it to believe it) and all that happens make for a fantastic event.

FANTASTIC TURNOUT FOR DINNER RUN

Our first dinner run of the year was a fabulous EVENT. Ro and Dan Bryant took the large crowd to the Gizina Grill at Oslo Road and U S #1. The Grill has a true Asian look. The plants, pictures, vases and table decor are very attractive, lots of red, black and white. The wait staff was very attentive and handled the large group quickly.

I checked out what other's were having and it all looked great. Teriyaki beef or chicken with rice, shrimp tempura, sesame chicken or beef and five or six other choices were available. Dinner was served in courses of appetiser, salad, soup and the main course.

A good time was had by all, what a great choice. Thanks to Dan and Ro for such a great evening.



The world's fastest street-legal car

Boutique automaker unveils a 1,183-horsepower road rocket

By Stuart Schwartzapfel
Business Week
Jan. 24, 2008

On Sept. 13, 2007, the Shelby SuperCars' Ultimate Aero became the fastest production car in the world. The event took place on a temporarily closed, two-lane stretch of public highway in Washington State. In accordance with Guinness World Records' strict policies, the car had to drive down the highway, turn around, and make a second pass in the opposite direction within one hour.

The Aero posted 257.41 mph.

The Aero broke the official record held by the Volkswagen's \$1.6 million Bugatti.

The Bugatti costs 2.5 times as much as the Aero.

NASCA's wind tunnel found the Aero to be aerodynamically stable at speeds up to 273 mph before it ran out of road.

This is an American built car.

Jerod Shelby (no relation to Carroll Shelby) realized his financial success by developing patents for Advance Imaging Technology. He developed a radiation-free medical device that uses sound waves to scan for breast cancer.

The Aero does NOT have traction control - it is pure sports car.

It takes three and a half months to hand build the Aero.

It broke Ferrari Enzo's slalom course record.

**It is still deeds
not dialogue that count.**

**Don't ever confuse an open mind
with one that's vacant.**

Corvette has a future--but maybe a lighter, greener one

The 2009 ZR1 may be the tops for Corvette horsepower in the future.

By RICK KRANZ, AUTOMOTIVE NEWS 0/22/08

The Chevrolet Corvette will live on despite tougher fuel economy rules. But the redesigned car, expected in about 2012, could be lighter and smaller than today's Corvette.

And the V8 that powers the Corvette of the future may be smaller than the one used today.

"I don't think we're going to design a 700-hp Corvette," Tom Wallace, vehicle line executive for the Corvette, said at the Detroit auto show. "What's going to be more important is fuel economy, carbon footprint and green. We have already paid a lot of attention to those areas. Where we can pay more attention is pounds per horsepower."

Two engines are offered for the 2008 model year, a 430-hp 6.2-liter V8 and a 505-hp 7.0-liter V8. The 2009 ZR1 features a 620-plus hp supercharged 6.2-liter V8.



Wallace won't talk about specifics of the next-generation Corvette. But he said if the car's weight was dropped by 300 to 400 pounds and a 4.7-liter V-8 is offered with 150 fewer horsepower than the 2008 models, the "pounds per horsepower are the same."

Wallace said he envisions a Corvette that is "more fuel efficient ... even nimbler than it was before. But he said no decision has been made about horsepower or engine size.

The 2009 ZR1 will have a top speed over 200 mph.

Rather than trying to top those performance numbers, Wallace said: "I think we need to say, 'We reached performance levels that are pretty good. Let's maintain those and improve fuel economy.'"

24 HOURS ROLEX RACE

The Rolex race is always different. Some years it's cloudy, some years it's REALLY wet and every now and then it's just right. This year it was cloudy, wet and cold.

Friday the Heritage race took place, which are autos twenty- five years or older. One of the cars was on display and we had a chance to talk to the owner, Chuck Haines of St. Louis, MO. He is the proud owner of a 1968 Howmet Turbine TXGTP3. The car has shaft driven turbine similar to a Bell Jet Ranger with 425 HP and runs on jet fuel. Also, has a top speed of 200 mph. Looks good to, a Blue ribbon winner 2001 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance for best in class.



The Rolex race was slowed to a crawl several times because of terrible weather. Montoya, Pruitt, Rojas and Franchitti won the race in their Telmex car owned by Chip Ganassi and Felix Sabates.

The weather may have made the race a mess but it didn't spoil our fun. We had tons of fun, loads of great friendship and fantastic food the whole time.

FELLSMERE FROG LEGS FESTIVAL

After a trip to Fellsmere to eat frog legs, see the sights and wander through the crafts it seemed like a good idea to adjourn to Captain Hiram's for some entertainment and drinks.

The sunset was great and the food was even better. We had a lot of fun sitting around and talking and watching the fishing boats bringing in their catch of the day. This was a very relaxing afternoon. What more could you ask for, a nice drive, a fantastic sunset and a lot of great friends.

For those of you that missed this, you also missed Danny Bryant's karaoke entertainment tryout.



START MAKING PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR NOW!!!

National Corvette Caravan returns to Bowling Green in 2009!

All Roads Lead to Bowling Green!

An endless line of Corvettes and a multitude of your fellow Corvette enthusiasts filling the roads and highways crossing the country seeing new sites and meeting new people, making new friends; this is life on a National Corvette Caravan and you can join in the fun, share the excitement and be part of one of the largest moving car events recorded.

Caravans will depart from various locations during late August and early September 2009, all timed to arrive for the National Corvette Museum's 15th Anniversary Celebration on September 3-5, 2009.

HELLO FROM BETTY AND ALLAN ERDE!!!!

Ro and I received an invitation from Betty and Allan to come over to see them in their new home.

Needless to say we said, YES, how soon could we come? The answer was how soon could you get here? So on Wednesday we were off to see the Erdes. It was great to see them after their move over six months ago. We met them at the Market Square center and Allan took us all to lunch. We had a great time catching up on events. Betty is having some health issues and has been unable to find a doctor in their area. She is doing much better and hopes to be as good as new very soon. They both wanted us to tell everyone hello and they will try to see us all soon.

Since Betty and Allan live in a golf car community Ro and I think they should get a golf car that is Corvette styled. We saw golf cars styled as stretch lemos, pick up trucks and every brand of vehicle you can imagine.

We took a few photos while we were there,

What a great visit!

Hollyann

