

from the desk  
of  
Frank Baudo...



April is here; the days are longer as the temperature gets warmer and more pleasant with each new day. As the saying goes "Spring has sprung"! Likewise, our event calendar gets filled each week of every month with activities for all of us, having fun in the sun. Our webmaster, Tom Quina has just updated our calendar with a new look by highlighting monthly club events for our members to participate in.

So far, the past few months have been great and very well attended. Our monthly "mystery dinners" and other club events have had a great turnout. Better yet, there's more to come as the season progresses and our events move into the summer months with lots to do and places to visit. Your continued participation and support are what makes all of this possible and you are most appreciated for doing so.

As a final comment, may I express my gratitude for all those organizers, activities people and our members making all of this a great club to be a part of. Also to our "snow birds", have a great summer and we'll see you in September.

Semper Fi...

*Frank*



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**For all your Corvette Needs**  
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**It Pays to Maintain**



As a proud Corvette owner you most likely realize the importance of maintaining your Vette. No doubt you wash, wax and pamper your car frequently. I know this to be true because I have the good fortune of seeing your Vettes around town. I've also seen it at Club meetings. I share the pride you have in the Corvette.

At the same time, you also know the importance of maintaining the mechanical state of your Vette. That's where we can assist. At Service Chevrolet we've been building an award-winning service department based on the value of quality work and fair pricing. From oil changes to brake work, custom exhausts to transmission flushes, Service Chevrolet is equipped to perform virtually anything your Vette might need

Our technicians are Chevrolet Certified as well as being A.S.E. certified. This means we know your Vette inside and out. Plus, we'll treat you and your Vette with a specialized level of service you won't find anywhere else.

Each and every Corvette (and its owner) is treated with care and professionalism. We even wash and clean your Vette at no additional charge as our way of recognizing the special value we place on your car.

Whether you purchased from Service Chevrolet or not is irrelevant. We want to be YOUR full service Corvette Headquarters.

To prove it I have authorized the following for one month only: Purchase any accessory... Corsa or Boria exhaust systems, custom floor or trunk mats, color keyed third brake lights or any official GM Corvette accessory and you'll get 15% off just by mentioning the Corvette Club.

When you arrive at Service Chevrolet please ask for me, Bill Donnelly. I would be pleased to meet you and to exceed your expectation.

Give us a try.

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

**Birthdays for April**

Sanya Kovac	April 7
Larry Spurlock	April 21
Clinton Atwell	April 22
Linda Fallon	April 29
Cathy Papitto	April 30

**Birthdays for May**

Stuart Huston	May 6
Marlene Ulisky	May 7
Anthony Chila	May 8
John Ferro	May 12
Sue Smith	May 14
Dick Cantner	May 14
Hal Gore	May 16
Nancy Michaud	May 18
Nan Dunne	May 26
Tom LaRocca	May 29
Frank Casano	May 31

*Happy Birthday to everyone!*

**Sunshine Report**

Welcome to our newest members Edward and Sharon Bloom, and Frank Nardi. Check our web site for current



happenings and lots of fun things to do in and around Vero Beach.

We also have a "SHOUT OUT" system on our Yahoo Group that lets you invite club members to do other fun things you may find. If you need any help with this please call me.

We would like to send a ray of sun with Paul Magee on his way back north. He will be having surgery and we wish him all the best. Dave and Melinda will also be leaving us soon. We wish them all a safe journey, and hurry back with those great chairs!

"As I grow older, I pay less attention to what people say, I just watch what people do".(Andrew Carnegie)

ZORO

## MARCH DINNER CRUISE

Clint and Karen Atwell were the leaders of the pack for the dinner cruise. The choice for the evening was The Eagles Nest Restaurant in Sebastian. It was really interesting that as we were turning in the driveway two large buzzards were sitting under the sign. Was this a warning? As it turned out not for that night. The place was nice and the food was great. The staff had a special menu for us with eight selections.

Clint and Karen came with prizes galore. I think every couple left with a prize or two. The evening was full of great friendship, loads of laughs and fun.

We even have a picture of Bill kissing Marlene instead of Dan.



# Activities

## COMING IN April

- 4-5 - Fri - Sat - Acura Sports Car Challenge of St. Petersburg
- Corvette Corral - 2:45 Duration Street Race
- 11 - Friday - General Membership Meeting
- 12 - Saturday - Uptown Altamonte 2008 Corvette Show Hosted By Florida Corvette Club, Inc.

## CLUB EVENT FOR APRIL

- 19 - Saturday - Paddle Wheel River Cruise on the Miss Stuart
- 19 - Saturday - Vettes at the Port Car Show Hosted by Cape Kennedy Corvette Club
- 29 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise Our Host Bob & Georgia Irish

## COMING IN May

- 6 - Tuesday - Board of Directors Meeting
- 9 - Friday - General Membership Meeting

## CLUB EVENT FOR MAY

- 17 - Saturday - Lunch Run to World Famous Dixie Crossroads and cruise back to Vero down the beach road. Titusville, FL
- 17 - Saturday - Vettes at the Light hosted by Ponce Inlet Corvette Club
- 27 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise Our Host Tom & Syl LaRocca

Check the **WEB Calendar** for details

## Vette Girl comes to DigitalCorvettes.com!

Picture this. I'm in the passenger seat of this embarrassing minivan and it's barreling down the highway at 80mph. Becky is at the wheel, it's rush hour, and she's nearly rubbing the paint off the slower car in front of us with her license plate.

"I don't know why people are in the fast lane if they aren't going to go fast", she says while almost simultaneously hammering the throttle and executing a perfectly timed series of high speed precision lane changes and throttle/brake maneuvers that put a dozen slower cars behind us.

As my heart rate eased back to a normal I could only feel impressed with what this girl just pulled off in a minivan with a suspension best described as Jello and horsepower best described as having an iron deficiency.

After I let out a "hmmm" and scratched my goatee, the conversation then went something like this: You ever race on a track before? "No." Ever driven a Corvette? "No." Can you drive stick? "No." You want to? "YES!"

So the next day I get on the phone and lined up for Becky a summer of the coolest race tracks and coolest high-performance events for her to try. Then I measured her head for a helmet.

Vette Girl is an internet TV show that will take you along from Day 1 as Becky and crew zigzag around America and sample all there is to offer a lead foot girl in a borrowed Corvette Z06.

Road racing? Drag racing? Drifting? Salt flats? She's there.

But first things first, Becky needs to learn to drive stick ... on the way to her first track event.

First episode of the internet-TV show "Vette Girl: An American Adventure", starring Becky Anderson, produced by Patrick Gramm and DigitalCorvettes.com, airs May 2008 on DigitalCorvettes.com.

## TRIP TO MARAGRITAVILLE

### 160 to 0(That's Mile Markers) in two days

AutoWeek By DONKLEIN 3/13/08

With its 6.2-liter, 430-hp LS3 V8 and estimated top speed of 190 mph, the 2008 Chevrolet Corvette convertible theoretically can whisk you from Miami to Key West in about 50 minutes. Factor in real-world obstacles such as stop signs, traffic and the Florida Highway Patrol, and the 160-mile trip stretches to about three hours. But to enjoy the journey fully, you'd be wise to allow at least two days.

The Florida Keys are remarkable for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the series of bridges that links them, allowing this to be a road trip instead of a boat trip. Route 1 (a.k.a. the Overseas Highway) officially opened for business in 1938. Much of it was built on the skeletons of its ancestors, primarily the remains of bridges originally constructed for the Overseas Railroad, which was largely destroyed in the Labor Day hurricane of 1935. The entire highway was essentially rebuilt in the 1980s, but many artifacts still can be seen. The rusting remnants of the original Seven Mile Bridge running parallel to its spectacular replacement provide an eerie monument to the pioneers who built the "Highway That Goes to Sea."

For the avid road-tripper, the secret to enjoying Route 1 is getting off Route 1. Many first-time visitors are surprised to discover that at any given point, they're just minutes from either the Atlantic Ocean (on the left if you're heading west) or the Florida Bay. In fact, Route 1 runs so close to the water that it's common for restaurants with entrances on the highway to have rear decks that abut the bay, making for spectacular sunset dinners.

Naturally, the Keys abound in water-based activities--fishing, snorkeling, diving, sailing, kayaking, swimming and glass-bottom-boat tours. But you also can have fun along Route 1 without getting wet. For example, at Sugarloaf Key, you can take an ultralight aerial tour and maybe (no promises, folks) get to do some 0-to-60-mph testing on the old airstrip.

If you go

The whole idea is to be flexible, so instead of making reservations before you go, you might want to wait until you're there and have found an area where you'd like to spend the night. The exception is Key West: It's always busy there, so do reserve ahead.



### Best Key Largo restaurant

This one is easy: Sundowners ([www.sundownerskeylargo.com](http://www.sundownerskeylargo.com)), MM 104. Multiple award winner for both food and view. Start with a mango daiquiri, followed by the Key Lime Seafood entree. You'll definitely know you're on vacation



### Best lunch

No Name Pub, (305) 872-9115, North Watson Boulevard, MM 30.2. Since 1935, more than 90,000 visitors have stapled dollar bills to the walls (and ceiling, rafters and doorjambes). Fresh seafood and gigantic pizzas

## Holden to get Corvette's LS3 V8

By GREG MIGLIORE AutoWeek 03/26/08,

The Chevrolet Corvette's vaunted 6.2-liter V8 will be used to boost the power of several Holden vehicles, the automaker said in March.

The ClubSport R8, GTS, Senator Signature Maloo R8 and WM Grange will get the LS3 engine, which was new for the 2008 Corvette.

The engines in the Australian cars will make about 425 hp--or slightly less than the 436 hp that a Corvette with active dual exhaust pumps out. The aluminum engine has iron cylinder liners and a displacement of 378 cubic inches.

Holden said it expects the LS3 to be in some of its cars by April. The engines are built in North America.

General Motors has been trading heavily with Holden, its Australian subsidiary, in recent years. Holden developed the new Pontiac G8 and its yet-to-be-named sport-truck sibling. Those cars also will use detuned versions of the LS3.

Holden's rear-wheel-drive Zeta platform underpins the forthcoming Chevrolet Camaro.

GM also is dropping the LS3 into Vauxhall's VX R8 and CSV R8, which are sold in the United Kingdom and the Middle East, respectively, as well as Holden cars in New Zealand.



### Habitats.

We be workin', and we love it. If you would like to broaden your horizons and reduce your stress, you are invited. Call Tony, David, Jimmy G. or Danny. Will talk you in.

### Dan's Positive Thoughts

Thank you God. Thank you God. Ain't it wunnerful. Great day picnicking, car- watching and hanging out under the oaks with nice Corvette friends. Sure does add up to a positive experience. It is one we especially appreciate due to the efforts of Pat Lundell and her crew of Dessert Princesses. Even our fine lady Linda Fallon, who could not attend due to a conflict, sent brownies.

Paulie Walnuts and Sanya Novak, and Bob and Nan Dunne, could not attend due to the flu. We thought about them for 7.8 seconds before we ate. We know the .8 is more than usual, but you must remember that the weather was Z O Good.

April is Beth's boat ride, you need to RSVP. May is drive and eat, you can follow or lead. June is St. Augustine, and you need reservations now.

Keep Smilin'  
Your Activities Crew!!



### CORVETTE RACING SCORES SIXTH SEBRING 12-HOUR GT1 VICTORY

#### O'Connell Notches Record-Setting Seventh Sebring Class Win with Magnussen and Fellows.

SEBRING, Fla., March 15, 2008

Johnny O'Connell, Jan Magnussen and Ron Fellows drove their No. 3 Compuware Corvette C6.R to an eight-lap victory over their teammates Oliver Gavin, Olivier Beretta and Max Papis in the No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R.

O'Connell became the all-time leader in Sebring victories with his seventh career win on the historic circuit. His victory broke a longstanding tie with motorsports legend Phil Hill, who tallied six victories on the Sebring course.

"Every record you get is special, but this was probably the most special," O'Connell said. "I've been coming here for 18 years, and I can't think of a better hot rod than the Corvette C6.R to set the record."

"It's huge to break Phil Hill's record," O'Connell continued. "Phil is the embodiment of everything that was wonderful about that era of sports car racing. When you meet some of your childhood heroes, they're a disappointment, but when I met Phil, he was the coolest cat in the world. He talked about the beauty of the cars he competed in and the spectacle of this race. When you spend time with someone who is that deep and insightful, you come away with a much better understanding of how special this race is."

"When you win Sebring, you share it," he noted. "It's not about one guy. I got my first ALMS win with Jan in 1999, and I've won some 25 races with Ron. I can't think of two finer gentlemen and race car drivers I'd rather share this win with."

Tonight's victory was the third Sebring win for Fellows and O'Connell as teammates. The pair won previously with Gavin in 2002, with Franck Freon in 2003, and with Papis in 2004. The car made 10 pit stops totaling 13 minutes a minute and a half less time in the pits than the closest competitor.

"Today's race was unfortunate for the No. 4 car, but we ran well all day with the No. 3," Fellows said. "My crew chief, Dan Binks, and the guys had flawless pit stops. Johnny and Jan did a great job, and I couldn't be happier than to win Sebring with these guys. Just like Le Mans last year, we kept plugging away. It's a tough, tough track; it's hard on equipment and physically demanding. I think all three of us feel we have some unfinished business at Le Mans, and that's the next big prize we're going to shoot for."

Magnussen celebrated his second career Sebring victory after winning with Gavin and Beretta in 2006. "I'm so happy for everyone in the team, and I'm especially happy for Johnny to get the record," said the Danish ace. "Seven wins are amazing. The No. 3 Corvette performed beautifully all day long, and there were zero problems. We were fast in the beginning, stayed out ahead, and toward the end we made sure we were consistent and didn't make any mistakes. I can't wait for the rest of the season!"



Hollyann with Johnny O At the Friday dinner with the drivers.



Hollyann holds the American Flag for the #3 Vette in the pre-race talking with Johnny O before he went to work breaking records.