

The Prez Says

A bright and shiny New Year is here to greet us! Happy New Year to you all. We have so much to look forward to.



Many things will be done just how they have always been done. Some things will be handled a little differently. As the Board assesses responses to proceedings and events you will experience small changes. We always welcome everyone's input and encourage you to share your thoughts, likes, and dislikes.

Completing 2019, and celebrating our 20 years together, has been a joy to me. As the past president I appreciate each one of you and your contributions to the club. Your faithful attendance makes each event and meeting a unified special gathering. As the future president of 2020, I look forward to many exciting times together. The club calendar is already posting a variety of things we can participate in.

February 20th is a special tribute performance, by **Russ Anderson**, of **Elton John's music**. Sign up fast; the seats are close to full. **Beth** will have **Tom** post the dinner plans before the concert on the web. Hope to see a lot of you there.

Our mystery dinner ride was hosted by **Sue and Terry Smith**. 30 people were in attendance. We ate at the **Green Marlin**. The food was very tasty and the service was great. Three door prizes were given out. The winners were: **Susan Steinbach, Tom Quina, and Greg Butcher**. Thanks to all of you, the night was wonderful.

Activities

COMING IN FEBUARY

- 13 - Thursday - General Membership Meeting
C.J. Cannon's at the Airport Terminal Building
- 20 - Thursday - Rocket Man Show - A Tribute to Elton John
- 25 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Our Host Greg & Beth

COMING IN MARCH

- 3 - Tuesday - Board of Directors Meeting
Officers and Directors are asked to please attend,
Club members are always welcome!
- 12 - Thursday - General Membership Meeting
C.J. Cannon's at the Airport Terminal Building
- 19 - 21 - Thur - Sat - Super Sebring 2020
- 31 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Our Host Tony & Shari

COMING IN APRIL

- 9 - Thursday - General Membership Meeting
C.J. Cannon's at the Airport Terminal Building
- 28 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Our Host Louie & Sue

For Details See Club Calendar On The WEB

We have lost a few members due to scheduling conflicts and obligations. We regret not getting to enjoy their company anymore. We have some new members that have just joined. Please make them feel welcomed. Take the events you attend as a time to get to know them. We are excited for club growth and camaraderie. We have had five members sign up this month already. It is hard to believe the first month of 2020 has passed. There is an anticipation about how the year will go. I'm just glad to be sharing it with the **Indian River Corvette Club**. Best wishes and regards as we set this road rally on coarse.

Take advantage of the shout outs, **SAVE THE WAVE**, see you at the next meeting.

SUE

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays for February

Sherry McKee	February 12
Brad Grandage	February 13
Andi Smykowski	February 19
Dave Myers	February 22
Hollyann Quina	February 24
JoAnn Mercklinghaus	February 26

Birthdays for March

Marino Silva	March 3
Curtis Randolph	March 7
Terry Smith	March 15
Judy Thurston	March 21
Dan Bryant	March 25

Birthdays for April

Joyce McCall	April 1
Gene Benoit	April 6
Bill Manville	April 7
Clinton Atwell	April 22
Judi Manville	April 25

Happy Birthday to everyone!

January Dinner Cruise

Terry and Sue were our hosts for the January dinner cruise. Their choice of restaurant was the **Green Marlin** which is located on U S1 in Vero Beach. It was a great dinner choice and all the food was served in a timely manner with everything hot and looking very tasty. I ordered a taco salad and it was loaded with black beans, diced tomato, three types of lettuce, shredded cheese and more, it was served in the largest taco shell I have ever seen. The taco salad was one of the best I have eaten. The only one flaw was they had no taco sauce, it was still great with ranch dressing. I will order it again. Tom had the fried shrimp with french fries and cole slaw and he said they were delicious.

There was a nice member turnout for the first dinner cruise of the year. Check out the pictures and see who made it. It was a great start for the New Year.

A thank you to **Terry and Sue** from all of us for hosting the first event of the year.

Save the Wave,

Hollyann



Mecum Car Auction

Hello all, Beth Butcher here with a little update of activities

2020 started right out of the gate with a big bang at the Mecum Car Auction in Kissimmee on January 2, through the 12th. Mecum always delivers with thousands of great cars, opportunity to socialize with like-minded car enthusiasts and lots of other types of entertainment, this year did not disappoint.



In fact, I found it more exciting than ever, as included Dave Myers 2001 conversion corvette. This was a bitter sweet moment, but Dave's corvette did sell on the first Saturday of the event.

The superstar of this year's auction was The Bullitt, the original 1965 Ford Mustang driven by Steve McQueen.

It was refreshing to see a car of that era that was still 98 % original; she brought in a cool 3.4 million.



Also appearing at the auction, 1 of the 11 Eleanor used in creating the movie Gone in 60 seconds, as well as the 58 Plymouth Fury, from the movie Christine.



In addition, Mecum has really step up the quality of musical entertainment. There is a large stage with lots of seating near the food court that provided daily live music This could be tied to the fact of the large number of high end guitars that were auctioned off each day. On the second Saturday, we were treated with a surprise appearance from some of the members of the Steve Miller Band.



36 rare vintage Corvettes found in a Manhattan garage after they were abandoned for decades will be raffled off for charity

Corvette Heroes is hosting a nationwide raffle of 36 Chevrolet Corvettes — one from every production year between 1953 and 1989.

Before being restored for the contest, the Corvette collection was hidden in different Manhattan garages for 25 years.

Benefits from the giveaway will go to the National Guard Educational Foundation.



The Corvette collection has an unusual backstory: this isn't the first time all 36 of the Corvettes have been given away together. They were originally a part of a 1989 giveaway that landed the cars in the hands of a Long Island man who then passed the cars along to artist Peter Max.



Max, however, left the Corvette collection untouched in multiple Manhattan garages for decades before the current team acquired the fleet and decided to host a new giveaway.

The sweepstakes collection includes a Corvette from every production year in 1953 to 1989. This does not include the 1983, the one year Chevrolet didn't make a Corvette, although Chris Mazzilli, a Corvette enthusiast and integral player in the



giveaway, created his own version of a 1983 Corvette for an episode of History Channel's special series "The Lost Corvettes" which focuses on the restoration of the 36 car collection.

Vette Racing at Daytona: Record Distance in C8.R Debut

corvetteblogger.com - Corvette Racing – 1/26/20

Corvette Racing's new Chevrolet Corvette C8.R finished its maiden race with a fourth-place finish in the Rolex 24 At Daytona to start the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship.



Antonio Garcia, Jordan Taylor and Nicky Catsburg led the team's effort Saturday and Sunday in the No. 3 Mobil 1/SiriusXM Chevrolet Corvette C8.R, which had a mostly trouble-free run in its competition debut. The trio completed 785 laps for 2,794.6 miles – the greatest distance for any Corvette entry in Rolex 24 history.

The No. 3 C8.R led twice and was in contention for victory in its first race for the majority of the 24. The performance showed the potential of the mid-engine Corvette, which was developed simultaneously with the 2020 Corvette Stingray. "It was a tremendous honor to debut the Corvette C8.R at the Rolex 24 Hour at Daytona – 22 years after we debuted the C5-R in the same location," said Jim Campbell, US Vice President Performance and Motorsports. "I'm so proud of our team and how they prepared and executed the race with the 2020 mid-engine Corvette. I can't wait for the rest of the season and watch the excitement from our fans grow with every race."

The No. 4 Mobil 1/SiriusXM Corvette C8.R of Oliver Gavin, Tommy Milner and Marcel Fässler underwent multiple trials Saturday and Sunday, but the trio ultimately finished the race as well. While things looked optimistic in the first eight hours with the team racing inside the top-five, an oil leak near the ninth hour forced the No. 4 Corvette into the garage for

extensive work. Complicating matters, the leak was in an area that required the team's crew to remove the engine in order to make the repair.

Diligent and non-stop work for nearly nine hours brought the Corvette back into the race with the aim of evaluating tire settings and setup options to help the No. 3 for the end of the race.



"The Rolex 24 At Daytona is a demanding race, so to even finish here with a brand-new car with a brand-new engine is a major accomplishment," said Mark Kent, Chevrolet Director of Motorsports Competition. "To have both of the new Corvette C8.Rs finish – and one of them nearly finish on the lead lap – is a tremendous reflection of the strength of this car and this program."

ANTONIO GARCIA, NO. 3 MOBIL 1/SIRIUSXM C8.R – FINISHED FOURTH IN GTLM:

"I'm proud that at least one car finished near the lead lap. For sure every time out we want to win and do the very best possible. Today, this was the best possible result. Probably we didn't have enough pace to be on the podium or to win. Once we lost track position and not having many yellows, we had to react to that and be aggressive on the strategy. A yellow would have put us a little ahead and maybe given us a chance to fight. But I'm proud that we gambled and tried to do better than what we actually might be. Instead of being comfortable with fourth, we went to try and win it. I'm very happy the Corvette C8.R went across the finish line for the first time. It wasn't a win, but I'm sure that knowing how it

reacts and how much room there is for development, this Corvette will be a winning machine before long."

JORDAN TAYLOR, NO. 3 MOBIL 1/SIRIUSXM C8.R – FINISHED FOURTH IN GTLM:

"I think it is impressive to have a finish like this. It's always difficult with a brand new car and limited testing to go 24 hours without issues. That's a testament to the team, Corvette Racing, Pratt & Miller, the Corvette brand and everyone that is behind this program. It's a good start to the season. Obviously we wanted to be on the podium or win the race, especially when you have a flawless race. If you would have told us two weeks ago that we would have no issues all the way through the race, we would have taken that all day long. I'm excited for the rest of the year." On Wayne Taylor Racing's overall victory: "Obviously that is a great team. This is their third win in four years and only one year without finishing on the podium. It's an incredible team and incredible victory. A lot of good guys on the team are like family. I'm very happy for them."



NICKY CATSBURG, NO. 3 MOBIL 1/SIRIUSXM C8.R – FINISHED FOURTH IN GTLM:

"There isn't much to be disappointed about. All the people that worked on this Corvette, tested the car, developed it... they can be proud. To come to Daytona for the first time with a car this new and being in contention to win for a long time is quite remarkable. I've seen it happen in a

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very different way in the past. It's something to be proud of. It's not so nice to finish just off the podium in P4. But we can be happy with this first event. We have some time and work to do in order to improve for Sebring. From my personal standpoint, this is a great team, a very nice car and very nice people. I really enjoyed it. Personally, I'm somewhat in the middle about my performance. I'm happy with the pace. There were some small mistakes that shouldn't have not have been there. But in the end, we can all be quite happy."



OLIVER GAVIN, NO. 4 MOBIL 1/SiriusXM C8.R – FINISHED SEVENTH IN GTLM: "Today has been a huge learning experience for everybody at Corvette Racing. Whenever you do a race of this magnitude against the competition we have in our class, you have got to learn stuff. There is nowhere to hide. There are no ifs, buts, maybes. It is the truth. We come here with a very fast Corvette, a car that has been developed well. But there are some things we need to go away and work on. You just look at the desire, the will and the drive of the guys to get the car fixed and back out there on-track. They worked some eight hours to fix that oil leak that we had. It's amazing to see that these guys that have been working so hard for so many months, on getting this program up and running and ready. Then testing and then ready for here at Daytona, then put in a shift like they did today. It is pretty humbling. It is a testament to the drive and desire of everyone at Corvette Racing."

TOMMY MILNER, NO. 4 MOBIL 1/SiriusXM C8.R – FINISHED SEVENTH IN GTLM:

"Obviously we're disappointed with our day, but can't be too unhappy.

We've had a lot of fun getting to this point for the debut of the new Corvette C8.R. A lot of hard work went on today and yesterday. It hasn't gone as we would have wished, but the car is brand new after all. This is why we go racing and why we compete in races like this. It's a true test of man and machine. We use every opportunity whether it is a race or a test to improve ourselves and the cars.



"We learned a lesson today about the car, and the Corvette Racing guys will make some adjustments to make the car even stronger. The team can be proud of what the car has shown today. The No. 3 guys were in the hunt for the win almost all race. For us and the Corvette fans, there is obviously a bright future for this new Corvette C8.R."

MARCEL FÄSSLER, NO. 4 MOBIL 1/SiriusXM C8.R – FINISHED SEVENTH IN GTLM:

"In general, our race started very positive. We were taking care of the car and conservative. Going into the race, we knew we should save the car until two or three hours before the end. We were pushing as hard as we needed to but not over the limit. It was going smooth until the oil leak. For sure it's a pity, but we know everything is brand new and some of these things can happen. The positive side is that we know the other Corvette is running well without any issue and is very good. It is positive too for the next races. It's too bad that it was our car that had an issue but that is racing. We will get over it, improve and be better for other races where we can still perform like we can."

The Second Shift Started

corvetteblogger.com - Keith Cornett - 1/29/20

Ah, the sound of the production line humming in Bowling Green, KY. can only mean one thing...it's Corvette season!!

Last year, GM CEO Mary Barra made the trip to Bowling Green to announce the addition of 400 new jobs and a second shift that would be added to the Corvette assembly plant to handle all those new C8 Corvette orders. With one week to go before the start of production for customer cars, the plant's second shift officially started up this past Monday.



The Corvette assembly plant has been building an estimated 500 or so Captured Test Fleet vehicles since December and our understanding is that those will be completed sometime this week. It's also possible that if those cars are finished early, then the start of production for customer cars could even start this week.

When up to full speed, the Corvette assembly plant will be running two 8-hour shifts Monday through Friday and the anticipated line speed will allow the production of 11.6 new Corvettes per hour. As they were building CFTs, we don't believe they are yet operating at that 11.6 cars per hour goal.



Members of the Corvette Team have confirmed that the goal is to begin customer deliveries in late February but as Corvette Production and Marketing Manager Harlan Charles told us at the Corvette Corral, they only have one opportunity to make a good impression, and so the quality control processes will be reviewing everything before those first customer cars are delivered.