

# Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The “Talepipe” Newsletter



JANUARY 2022

**President: John Doria; Vice President: Gary Swanson; Treasurer: William Simmons;  
Secretary: Jamie Hawes; Directors: Elizabeth Byrne, John Pona, Robert Wolff;  
Newsletter Editor/Membership: Jean Doyle**

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster Restaurant, 2625 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach. We invite you to dine with us (Dutch treat) around 5:30 p.m., and stay for the meeting at 6:30.



Hopefully, 2022 will be a great year as we dig our way out of the doldrums caused by the Corona Viruses that plagued the 2021 year. May 2022 be a healthy year for all.

**A NEW YEAR MEANS NEW IDEAS**...and we want yours!! Do you have an event you want the club to participate in, a new restaurant for the club to try out, a new car show for the club to attend? Let a board member know. Don't know who the board members are? They are listed right at the top of this Newsletter, in the yellow box. Remember, this is YOUR club. Let your voice be heard.



## Welcome

Say hello to our newest members, John Bayliss and Susan McCracken. They are originally from West Virginia, but make their home in Ormond Beach. John and Susan are the proud owners of a 2019 ZR1 black convertible as well as a 1976 red Stingray coupe. Welcome, John and Susan, to the Corvette Cruisers. Happy to have you “on board.”

## Coming Up

**FIRST DINING ON THE RUN (DOTR) OF THE YEAR:** It might sound like a long way to go for a burger and a beer, but word is that the drive is certainly worth it! The Ford Garage Restaurant in St. Augustine is the perfect spot for

a bunch of Chevy Corvettes – huh? Yep, you read that right, we will be driving to a Ford Garage not only to dine on their prime burgers and their craft beer but to see some interesting memorabilia. We will leave from Beall’s parking lot in Ormond Beach at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, for the special brunch offered by the restaurant. It will be good to see everybody again after the Christmas holidays, and attendance will be a great way to start off the new year. The trip is about 70 miles, so have your tank filled. See you on the 9<sup>th</sup> !

**BOARD MEETING:** The Board of Directors will meet on Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. John and Sally Doria will host the meeting at their home at 802 Wingate Trail in Port Orange. If you have anything you wish to add to the agenda, please let one of the officers know. The next 5 months of Dining on the Run locations will be decided as well as some other items.

**NEXT MONTH:** We will have our new membership list available after yearly dues have been paid. Also, a new “Members Only” ID and Password will be sent out to all members.

# Reviews

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

The 2021 year came to an end for the Corvette Cruisers at our annual Christmas party at Mario’s Italian Restaurant on Monday, December 6. Following our meal, which got generally good reviews, John thanked the generosity of our members, who supplied a mountain of food items

for a local food bank. He also thanked the officers and the directors for their dedication and the work they put into making 2021 a successful year. Even with Covid19 remaining in the forefront of our minds, we still managed to get in thirty-nine events, including the Fun Run (thank you Jamie and Ken), and the Fernandina Beach trip (thank you John and Sally).

John, in his usual fashion proceeded to tell a few Christmas jokes, along with the aid of a children’s book of riddles. Very few of us were able to decipher the riddles on our own, but a collective groan was heard when the answers were read. John gave a hint as to where our first Dining on the Run for 2022 would be and wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and to please keep in mind George and Penny Weissgerber, club members who have had some very bad luck thrust upon them in a very big way. A round of applause was given to John as he was thanked for his leadership as president of our club. One final announcement was made that Bill Geize was attending his last event with the club. Bill has fallen out of love with Corvettes, at least for the time being, and does not plan to buy another. We all hope Bill changes his mind.

Presents, presents, who has a party without presents? Four big beautiful poinsettias donated by the club were given away to winners Aliah Wall, Ed Doyle, Bonita Richardson, and Tom Bonnett. Because the Bonnetts would be traveling and felt they would be unable to properly care for the plant, they graciously asked to pick another recipient. This time the winner was Evelyn Neway. One of our newest members, Susan McCracken, won a beautiful Corvette throw, donated by Liz and Edie Byrne, and Cindy Swanson won a jigsaw puzzle of a ’61 Corvette, donated by Bill and Bonita. Because our 50/50 is charity related, and because everyone was in a charitable mood, \$87 was raised, with half of that going to the winning ticket held by Sally Doria, who has never won a 50/50. Jamie presented all attendees with a goodie bag, made up of various

chocolates, cookies, and other Christmas treats. Thanks to all donors and congratulations to all the winners.

As the evening came to a close, wishes for a happy holiday season filled the room, as we look forward to 2022 with eager anticipation. Attending the party were Art and Leslie, Tom and Sandie, Liz and Edie, John D. and Sally, Ed and Jean, Del and Patty, Julius, Bill G., Shirley, Ken and Jamie, Brenda, Barry and Beverly, Bud and Mary, Bill N. and Evelyn, John P. and Rose, Bill S. and Bonita, Gary and Cindy, Patrick and Aliah, Bob and Linda (briefly visited), and John Bayliss and Susan McCracken.

### **CORVETTE CHRISTMAS/TOYS FOR TOTS SHOW:**

It was a beautiful sun-filled sky that greeted close to 100 Corvettes at the first ever New Smyrna Beach Chevy's Corvette Christmas on Saturday, December 4. The event raised over 200 toys for the local charity Toys for Tots. Club members attending were Vin and Tracy Giglio, Bob Wolff, Gary Swanson, Bud and Mary Mullennix, Bill Simmons and John Doria.

Congratulations to Bob for his runner-up honors in the C2 generation class with his 1964 convertible. All in all, the show was a great success and plans are to make it an annual event.

Reported by John Doria

### **MUSEUM DELIVERY:**

"The best laid plans of mice and men, often go awry." Poet Robert Burns said it best.

As some of you know, John and Sally took the special museum delivery of their new 2022 Rapid Blue convertible at the Corvette Museum. The plan was to fly to Nashville, rent a car to drive to Bowling Green, spend the night, pick up their Corvette at the museum, return the rented car, and

drive back to Florida. All sounds neat and tidy until you factor in one tiny detail --- a terrible, deadly tornado that ripped through Kentucky, including Bowling Green, on the very night the Dorias were there. Luckily, they survived, but several Bowling Green areas experienced heavy destruction. The roof of the Corvette plant was damaged, a fire broke out at the plant, and 122 of the 'Vettes on the assembly line were damaged beyond repair and had to be crushed. Power was out in the entire area, and John received the call that delivery was canceled due to loss of power. So, after arrangements were made to keep the rental to drive back to Florida, at about an hour's drive south of Bowling Green, John received a call that the power was on and the Museum would go ahead with the delivery; however, it would be closed to the public. A quick reverse put the wheels in motion. However, In the words of John and Sally, the whole experience was a bittersweet one...the excitement of getting the VIP treatment and your new car, but at the same time knowing that the entire town of Mayfield KY was wiped off the map, took a lot of the pleasure out of the experience.



# This & That

**DID YOU KNOW?** Raise your hand if you love Cheddar Bay Biscuits from Red Lobster! Well, you can thank Florida for the original restaurant. Opened in Lakeland, Florida in 1968, Red Lobster started as a quiet eatery and then eventually was acquired by General Mills and expanded to over 700 restaurants around the globe.

**MONEY MONEY:** A drawing was held at the Christmas party where Sally Doria took home the prize of \$43.50. Congratulations to Sally, who says she is a first-time winner. Thanks to all for boosting the donation to charity. Your number is coming up.

**WELL-WISHES NEEDED:** Please keep the Weissgerbers, George and Penny both, in your thoughts and prayers. The past year has been a rough one for them. As you may know, during the early part of 2021, George was hospitalized for three months for chronic pulmonary hypertension. During his recovery, Penny was his main support and caretaker. He was just getting on his feet when he and Penny came to our pizza night at Giuseppe's. But the tide turned in late November, when Penny fell and broke her hip and then subsequently fell again causing a cranial hemorrhage. This all happened when the rest of the world was only thinking Covid-19. Our hearts are with you. GET WELL SOON!

**BIRTHDAYS:** Sandie Bonnet will celebrate her birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and Barry Luckenbach will celebrate his on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday to you both.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Tom and Sandie Bonnett, Barry and Beverly Luckenbach, and John and Rose Pona will all be celebrating an anniversary this month. Congratulations to all.

**OFF THE MARKET:** Bill and Bonita have changed their minds and decided to hold on to their '13 Velocity Yellow 427 a bit longer. Last month, I reported it was for sale.

**CORVETTE NEWS:** I usually devote an entire section to Corvettes, but the news coming from GM or Bowling Green has been slim to none. We do know the tornado has slowed down production again.

# Fun Corner

