

Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona

The Talepipe Newsletter

March, 2013



**President: Jim Quinn, Vice President: Art Armstrong, Secretary: Jean Doyle, Treasurer: Alice Luther, Directors: John Doria, Ed Doyle, David Huber
Newsletter Editors: Ed and Jean Doyle**

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at T.G.I. FRIDAYS, located on the corner of Granada Avenue and A1A in Ormond Beach. We invite you to dine with us (Dutch treat) at 6:00 PM, and stay for the meeting, which begins at 7:00.

WELCOME...to our newest members, Ed and Amy Anderson from Connecticut. The Andersons have owned a place in Daytona Beach for over 25 years but just recently with Ed's retirement, have decided to give Florida a try on a more permanent basis, at least for six-months at a time. Ed and Amy drive a really nice 2007 black coupe. Welcome!!

DINING ON THE RUN FOR MARCH...will again take the Corvette Cruisers up the coast to St. Augustine, this time for a leisurely lunch at "Cap's on the River" right on the banks of the Intracoastal Waterway. Let's meet at Beall's at 10:00 a.m. on March 3rd and take the scenic drive up A1A to Vilano Beach.



REMINDER: March 9-17 is Bike Week in Daytona Beach and the surrounding areas. Drive extra carefully during this time and watch out for those bikers.

LAKERIDGE WINERY HERE WE COME...

On the member interest survey, the 2nd top vote getter (after the Stetson Mansion) was a trip to the Lakeridge Winery in Clermont FL. Throw some chairs in your Corvette and meet us at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 23rd for a Corvette-friendly cruise on the back roads of Central Florida. The annual seafood festival on the grounds of the winery overlooking the lush vineyards should provide some good eating along with a wine-tasting tour and live music. A \$2 charitable donation is required during this special event.

PANCAKES GALORE:

Dining on the Run for February proved to be a unique and interesting experience for the Corvette Cruisers. Eleven Corvettes made their way to DeLeon Springs State Park to cook up some good eatin'. Art and Leslie led the way, followed by John Reis and his guest Delanie, Mike Mills and his brother Pete, visiting from Chicago, Ed and Amy Anderson, who moved here from Connecticut and are attending their second



event with the club, Bob and Mickey Fritz, John Doria and Sally Clutter, Al and Linda Blake, Ed and Jean Doyle, Bill Simmons and Bonita Richardson, Herb and Shirley Gerstel, Dave Huber and Maya Branden, and Harry and Carolyn Horschler, who were forced to drive the family car when their 'vette decided it didn't want to go (dead battery). Three tables were set up and ready for us after a very short wait. During the wait we checked out the beauty of the park and spotted a few manatees searching for the warmth of the spring. At breakfast, everyone surely had their fill of pancakes; pancakes with blueberries, pancakes with strawberries, pancakes with pecans, pancakes with bananas, pancakes with all of the above, whole wheat pancakes, along with a few eggs, sausage, ham, and bacon thrown in for good measure. Making one's own breakfast proved a new experience for some, and in other cases, the true chefs in the crowd seemed to take the reins. Al Blake found out the hard way that pancake batter didn't go too nicely with the jacket he wore that day, especially since it ended up all over his sleeve. Bill and Bonita went exploring on some of the trails after breakfast, while others hung around the park and chatted. Although a little breezy with a definite chill in the air, the day was beautiful and seemed to be enjoyed by all. (Photos by Mickey and John D.)

NOT ENOUGH TO WIN....the participation award from the Tom Gibbs Corvette/Camaro/SSR Display, but we did have fourteen Corvettes make a strong showing. The weather report was a little scary with the coldest temperatures of the winter expected for the weekend, but lucky for us, the frigid temps didn't move in until AFTER the show. Once the sun came out, it was a pretty mild day. Chuck Konopsky, John Reis, Skip Crowder, Jim and Ginny

Quinn, Art and Leslie Armstrong with both of their 'vettes, Ed and Jean Doyle, Joanna Oswald in her new 2007 Yellow convertible, Sis, Steve Terrell's sister, driving Joanna's old yellow C5 coupe, Bob and Mickey Fritz, Jack Keimber and Yvonne Mandley, Al and Linda Blake, Herb and Shirley Gerstel, and Ed and Amy Anderson, who completed their third event with us, enjoyed getting to know each other a little better as we sat in the parking lot chewing the fat (and I don't just mean the hot dogs that were served by the Flagler high school kids.) It was here that we found out that the Corvette Cruisers have a definite Connecticut Connection with the Gerstels, Andersons, Jack Keimber, Fritzes, and the Blakes. (Frank and Leanne Fedele are also from Connecticut but were not at the show.) Also at the show were Ray and Sandy Gatz who were displaying their twin SSR's. Door prizes were few and far between for the Cruisers this year. Jim Quinn won a heavy-duty tape measure and Linda Blake won a Corvette mouse for her computer. Oh well, maybe next year for the rest of US. (Photos by Skip)

CRUISE-IN AT THE FLY-IN: Sometimes events in the area may not be deemed as "official" club events, but several attendees make it worth a mention. John Doria and Sally Clutter, Ed and Jean Doyle, Art and Leslie Armstrong, Bob and Mickey Fritz, and Ed and Amy Anderson ran into each other (well, not literally) at the monthly cruise-in at the Spruce Creek Fly-In. About 170 cars of all makes and models, plus a lot of visiting customized golf carts made for an interesting way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Among the participants with his 1973 yellow Corvette coupe actually driven by Elvis Presley was Ron Strauss, a former member of the club. Ron was just starting to get back into things after the passing of his

wife Betty in December. It was good to see him again, and those who knew the Strausses had a good visit with Ron. Rumor has it, however, that this Cruise-In may have been the last the Fly-In will host. We will keep on top of this story.

CAR SHOWS IN AREA: Many car shows are happening in and around our area that may be of interest to our membership. To name a few specific to Corvettes are (1) the 2nd Annual Whiskey River Vettes on April 27th in Jacksonville; (2) the Ponce Inlet "Vettes at the Light VII" on May 18, and, (3) the Flagler County "Corvettes at the Beach" on October 13. Dates for other car shows in the area may be found on the Corvette Cruisers calendar, accessed from the Home page.

NOTES ABOUT OUR MEMBERS:

An Apology....goes out to Al Blake whose name was, inadvertently, left off the birthday list in last month's Newsletter. Al's birthday is the 28th of February. Hope you had a great one, Al.

Birthdays for March include.... Sally Clutter on the 15th, Leslie Armstrong on the 29th, Jim Quinn AND Steve Slaton share the 30th. Happy Birthday to all!

Cruisers of another Kind....Lars and Carole Connelly just returned from a cruise to the Eastern Caribbean aboard the Royal Caribbean ship, *Freedom of the Seas*. Steve and Anita Slaton just returned from their cruise also to the Eastern Caribbean aboard the Disney Cruise Ship *Fantasy*. All report a wonderful time. We sure were happy to find out you were NOT aboard the Carnival Triumph.


Our Condolences.... go to Joanna Oswald on the passing of her daughter in January following a long illness. Our hearts are with you.

Congratulations... to Al and Linda Blake on becoming grandparents again. Also, to Richard Wetherby and Marsha Mims on their recent engagement.

Good-bye to the Fritzes: We just welcomed Bob and Mickey back to Florida in last month's Newsletter, and we are saying good-bye to them this month. Maybe next year they will stay a little longer with us in the Sunshine State before returning to TN. We will miss you both AND that 1969 blue beauty.

Remember, if you have a news item about yourself or know of a news item about any of our members, please get the information to Jean Doyle.

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

On meeting nights, the social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:00. Unfortunately, our social hour sometimes carries over into the meetings and makes it awfully hard to hear our soft-spoken president. Let's visit, and get as rowdy as we want, before or after, but not during. SHHHHHHHH!!! 

CORVETTE NEWS FROM ED: Did you know that there is a connection between the new C-7 and a member of the Corvette Cruisers? The new LT1 engine that will be used in the C-7 will be assembled in Chevrolet's Tonawanda Engine Plant in Buffalo, NY. This is the same plant that one of our own, Richard Wetherby, was

employed before retiring and moving to the Sunshine State.

Early next year, GM will move its performance build center, which produces hand-built high performance engines for Corvette specialty models to Bowling Green, KY from Michigan, adding about 20 jobs to the Bowling Green plant.

About 20% of the Corvettes produced are equipped with the hand-built engines. These include the ZR1, Z06, 427 convertible, and Grand Sport coupe with manual transmissions, and have dry sump oiling systems similar to NASCAR engines. A skilled builder assembles the entire engine, from start to finish. When complete, a plaque with the builder's name is attached to the right front of the engine.

AND... if you would really rather build your own engine, well, that can be arranged too. While placing your order for a new Z06, 427 convertible, or ZR1, simply check RPO # PBC, and for an extra \$5,800.00, you will be scheduled for a date at the engine plant.

RACE PARTY: Jim and Ginny Quinn hosted their annual Daytona 500 race party on Sunday, February 24th. Joining them to watch the race were Skip, Joan, Steve, Anita, John D., Sally, John R., Chuck, Bill, Bonita, Richard and Marsha. Everyone devoured a big pot of Jim's Sloppy Joes as well as an array of appetizers and desserts brought by the guests. While the men seemed to get "into" the race, the women gathered together for a "lively" game of Mah Jongg. With Jimmie Johnson winning the race, the lucky person drawing his name was none other than Jim Quinn who took the top prize (an apt reward for those great Sloppy Joes). AND, the winner of the first one out of the race, (or would that be the loser?) was Skip Crowder, who took the loser prize, having drawn Joe Nemechek.

One particular highlight of the party was the announcement that Richard Wetherby and Marsha Mims have become engaged. How nice to share this wonderful news with the Corvette Cruisers! Congratulations to Richard and Marsha. As always, the party was lots of fun, the race was uneventful (thank heavens, after the Nationwide fiasco), and everyone at the party probably got home long before those attending the race. We will all look forward to next year's party at the Quinns, right Jim and Ginny? (Photos by John D.)

GOOD TO SEE YOU: Bob Wolff, former member of our club, stopped by to say hello to everyone at the February meeting. His wife Linda was a little under the weather but also says hello. We hope to see the Wolffs again soon.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH (as seen on the Home Page): These photos of the new C7 introduced at the Detroit Auto Show in January were taken by a friend of our webmaster, who wanted to share them with the club. Also, Chuck Konopsky was a guest at the show when the 2014 Corvette was unveiled. The word Chuck used to describe his experience....."Unbelievable."



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!!!

AND

