

Corvette Cruisers of Greater Daytona The "Talepipe" Newsletter



MAY 2020

President: John Doria; Vice President: Gary Swanson; Treasurer: William Simmons;
Secretary: Jamie Hawes; Directors: Arthur Armstrong, William Geize, Linda Wolff;
Newsletter Editor: 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 Boulevard and A1A in Ormond Beach. We invite you to dine with us (Dutch treat) at 5:30 p.m., and stay for the meeting, which begins at 7:00 p.m.

**WELCOME TO THE
STRANGEST NEWSLETTER
EVER.**

Coming Up...

... actually, there's not much coming up. As our country has come to a stop, so has our club activities. At this time, we are at a standstill as to the future plans for the Corvette Cruisers. We will play it on a day to day basis with a wait and see attitude, and maybe things will get back to normal soon. Watch for emails.

We hope you have been taking out your Corvette for some R&R, because even they get a little lonely cooped up in the garage all day. (This is a hint, Ed Doyle!!)

So far April has been a total wash out on our activities, and May might be as well. We

would have been having lunch at The Table in DeLand for the May DOTR under normal circumstances, and we missed having Breakfast at The Tulip in Flagler Beach for April. These, as well as our golf tournament and the club picnic, will be rescheduled for a later date.

Birthdays are one thing that will be coming up, (whether we want them or not). Several in our club will be celebrating in May:



Bonita Richardson – 5th
Lars Connelly – 7th
Will Masotta – 10th
Donna Bly – 22nd
Bob Wolff – 29th

Happy Birthday to all and enjoy a piece of virtual birthday cake.

Happy Anniversary wishes go to Joe and Sheri Lekan and Ed and Jean Doyle. Congratulations go to both couples for getting through the "stay-at-home" orders and still be celebrating.

Reviews

Since there is nothing to review, I thought I would take this opportunity to share a little Coronavirus humor. Many of you have probably seen some of these, but it never hurts to repeat a laugh:

* I don't think anyone expected that when we changed our clocks, we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.



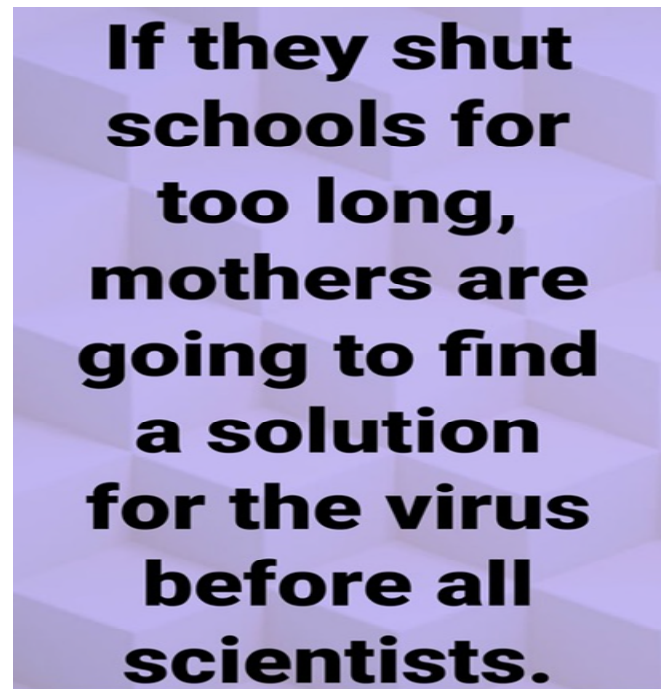
* My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately, that when I pee, it cleans the toilet.

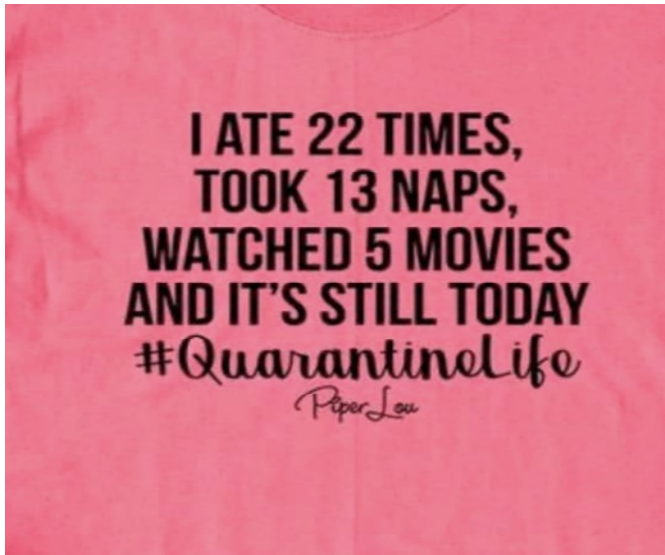


* I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.



* PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe that all is well in the kingdom.





Member's Input

(for car guys/gals only)

Gary Swanson recognized the fact that I might have a difficult time coming up with news. Therefore, he was kind enough to submit the following story, which was written by him in 2012 or 2013.

While visiting Cindy's brother, Ted and his wife Tish, in South Carolina, I had the opportunity to meet some interesting car guys. We'll start out with Ted's good friend, Don, who is a retired used car dealer. Don owns 14 cars at the present time, mostly from the 80's and 90's. He recently joined the local AACA region in Greenwood, and purchased Ted's '74 Corvette so he would have a car old enough to participate in AACA events. Some of Don's other interesting cars include a C-4 and a C-5 Corvette, 1 2002 Thunderbird, and a 2012 Camaro SS convertible. Don belongs to three area car clubs in the area, and thus knows where lots of neat cars are stashed.

One evening, we paid a visit to Hartmut vonSeelen, a Grand Am sports car racer in the GT class. Don had only met him one night at a cruise-in, but he was happy to show us some of his cars, even though we had shown up at his (very nice) house unannounced. I was thoroughly impressed when the garage door went up! Inside were two Lamborghinis, two Ferraris, two Porches, and a '95 Corvette ZR-1 with 52 miles on it. One of the Porches was a classic 1962 roadster, and the other was a 2005 V-12 Carrera. The Carrera was his favorite and I could certainly see why. He told of an event for exotic cars in Utah that he attended where the state police blocked off a 16-mile stretch of straight and level road for the day and let the boys "have at it." He had a framed speeding ticket hanging in his garage for doing 135 mph over the speed limit (200 in a 65-mph zone) for which he received an \$800 fine that was donated to charity. Other cars in his collection that were stored elsewhere included racing car stored a 1960 Cadillac convertible, a '57 fuel injected Corvette, and two '67 Corvettes, both with the 427 ci-435 hp engine. He also is a regular on the

* Do your part ---- stay apart. 'Tis better to be 6 feet apart, than 6 feet under.



Sorry to all you golfers out there. This one really doesn't have to do with the Corona Virus, but it just cracked me up. I laughed and laughed. Hope you do too. (I guess they are social-distancing though.)



Happy Mother's Day to all the Moms out there.

racing circuit, with a road near Sebring, FL, and he had also competed in the 2005 Rolex 24 hrs. of Daytona. Despite his obvious success in life, he was very down to earth and hospitable in showing us his garage on the spur of the moment.

The next day Don took us to meet a couple of brothers, Richard and Joe Woods. Their pockets may not have been quite as deep as Helmut's, but they were certainly as interesting, and also very willing to show us what they were up to. Richard is retired and filling his days building a resto-mod '56 Chevy 210 two door. He is hoping to have it on the road this summer. He had a great steel building to work in that he had constructed himself. The brothers are strictly Chevy guys and Richard also had a '67 Camaro coupe, a '66 Nova, a '63 Nova convertible, and a '53 Chevy two door that his grandfather had bought new. He also had an all original, except for one repaint, 1961 Bel Air two door post, 6-cylinder with "three on the tree". The one non-Chevy was a '38 Pontiac four door street rod he had built years ago and had traveled many miles in. It did, however, have Chevy 350 power.

After spending an hour or more with Richard, he took us up the road to brother Joe's shop. Joe is a retired metal fabricator, and now uses his huge shop to house and work on his cars. Joe is an avid '65 Chevette fan, and currently owns 8 or 9 of them, ranging from show cars to parts cars. His current project is a frame-off resto-mod '65 Chevette convertible. The frame has just been powder-coated in red, and the body is on a rotisserie that he constructed. Some of his other cars include a '32 Chevy street rod that he had built years ago, then sold and then bought back several years later, a stock original '32 Chevy sedan, an all-original '57 Bel Air convertible, and a '93 Corvette.

As one could imagine, both brothers' shops were chock full of spare Chevy parts, everything from wheel covers hanging on the walls to engines sitting on the floor. It would be quite a "picker's paradise" for anyone building a 50's or 60's Chevrolet.

As we already know, some of the nicest people in the world are car people, and these three guys are prime examples. Whether they make their money mainly with the heads like Helmut, who pay others to work on their cars, or are more hands-on guys like the Woods brothers, or kind of in between like Don, they all have

one thing in common, their passion for cars. And, as I have described, they like sharing and talking about their cars with those of us who are interested. It was a treat to meet all of these guys and I look forward to visiting them again some time to see what is new or completed next time. As they say in the south, these are the "good old boys."

Gary Swanson

Thanks, Gary, for sharing this story with us. Sadly, Gary shared that Don passed away three or four years ago and his car collection has since been liquidated.

MORE CAR NEWS: Not only has the Coronavirus affected the lives of everyone we know in some form or another, it has affected the life of the new Corvette as well. Only 2,695 C-8 coupes been produced thus far with no indication as to when the plant will resume. 😞

