

# THE EARLY HISTORY OF SCOTTSDALE CORVETTE CLUB

By Jim Dobson

## Part I. The Original Undocumented Scottsdale Corvette Club

The Scottsdale Corvette Club was started by Jeff Thomas in 1996. Jeff put a lot of time, effort and money into establishing the club. The focus was that of a non-traditional club and, as a consequence, there were no dues, organizational structure or organized events. He had a list of members, which included everybody that had ever attended a meeting and taken the time to complete an application.

Jeff Thomas, the originator of the Scottsdale Corvette Club concept, was a very unique individual. His motivating drive was to live Corvettes twenty-four hours a day and he felt that his followers should do the same. He would bring boxes and boxes of literature to each meeting, and often he would have people bring in Corvette parts and put on mini-seminars. We would also have drawings for door prizes that he had purchased. His enthusiasm for Corvettes was unending. His short-comings were that he lacked organization and delegation. He would announce what we were going to do but delegate no one to follow up and make it happen.

I first became aware of the Scottsdale Corvette Club through a series of classified advertisements appearing in the *Arizona Republic* under the automobile classifications. I had always kept a close eye on the ads looking for good deals on cars or parts, especially Corvettes. The ads promoted the Corvette Club meetings which were being held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. I never paid too much attention to them as we had sort of burned out on the Corvette club scene in 1990 and had not been active for a few years.

One evening Dorinne and I had gone out to Garcia's Mexican Restaurant for dinner, and I heard the sound of auto racing coming from one of the secluded rooms. Being curious, I stuck my head around the corner where I saw a TV set up and a VCR tape was being played of the Corvette autocross from the annual Corvette gathering that occurred over the 1998 Labor Day weekend. As I was peering at the TV, Jeff Thomas approached, and when he found out that we had a Corvette he invited us to join in the meeting. Since we had already ordered our meal, we elected not to join them that evening.

I continued seeing his ads in the *Republic* and finally decided to check out the meeting on the first Tuesday of May, 1999. At this meeting, I met Dick Kulczycki, a long-time Corvette owner and learned that we both were driving 1994 convertibles. The meeting was at Sam's Café on Scottsdale Road just south of Shea Blvd. They had great chicken caesar

salad, and we had a great time talking about Corvettes. It turned out that Dick had participated in the pre-race activities for the Indy Car Series Race in April at Phoenix International Raceway where Corvettes from the area were organized to do a lap or two around the raceway.

When I attended my second meeting with Dorinne, Mark Shaw showed up driving "our" 1972 Corvette convertible that we had owned from early 1973 through October of 1995, also his first time to attend a meeting.

We continued to attend some meetings and participated in a few out-of-town trips. Our first trip was led by a couple who never became members of the "Documented Club." It was memorable because we went to Jerome by way of Yarnell Hill, a great drive, but our leaders stopped in Yarnell and took a side trip to the Stations of the Cross. After what seemed like a long time, they returned to continue on to Jerome. It seems that the couple leading was shopping for a house in Jerome and again disappeared, never to surface again. After waiting for quite a while, a group of us decided we had been in Jerome long enough and decided to return home to the Valley on our own.

We participated in a few trips including the Natural Bridge and Canyon Lake. The last and most important "trip" that we participated in was an expedition to Biosphere II scheduled for the Saturday after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday night meeting. Dorinne was otherwise occupied, so I convinced my son to go along with me. We arrived at the meeting place in Ahwatukee at the appointed time to find Terry and Mary Turley waiting. The announced departure time arrived, and no one else was in sight. We waited for several minutes for others to show up, but after about half an hour, we decided that we represented the group that day. We discussed whether we should go or not and came to the conclusion "WHY NOT." With that we were off with Terry leading the way in his 1998 Silver Bullet.

We decided to travel the off-freeway route through Florence and Coolidge. It was at this point we experienced the first of Terry's "U-TURN" specials. My son recognized that we had made a wrong turn, and I had to get Terry's attention by flashing my lights and getting him to stop. This was pre-radio days and a precursor to the Club's adoption of the radios that we use to this day.

The main subject of conversation on the big trip to Biosphere II was the need for planning and organization since so many of Jeff's plans went astray. Both Terry and I agreed that if the Club was to succeed it would need some organization and structure. The only problem was how to get through to Jeff what was so badly needed.



together a proposal to present to the Chevrolet dealers in the area. Since we were the Scottsdale Corvette Club, it was felt that our first choices would be a Scottsdale automotive dealer. At the time there were two Chevrolet dealers in Scottsdale. Dick Kulczycki and I volunteered to make the presentations to the dealers on our list.

After careful consideration of the responses to our proposals for sponsorship, we selected Chuck Mullins and Van Chevrolet as the dealer that most closely matched our expectations for the promotion of America's oldest and true sports car and Chuck's ideas and plans for the future growth of Corvette sales and exposure of the Club.

Our official sponsorship agreement with Van Chevrolet started effective May 1, 2001, and Van's Corvette sales and the Club have grown each year.



CHARTER MEMBERS - 1999

HUGH ANDERSEN & JANE\*

KURTIS BELL

LLOYD BENNER\*

TRIP & AMIO BUNCHMAN

JIM & DORINNE DOBSON\*

ROBERT GANZ

TONNY GUSTAFSON

JOHN D KRETZ

DICK & SUE KULCYZCKI\*

SCOTT McPHERSON & DEBBIE

JOHN & NORMA PARKER\*

MARK SHAW\*

TERRY & MARY TURLEY

20 MEMBERS; 10 MEMBERS CELEBRATING --15 YEARS--- AS MEMBERS!



## REMEMBER WHEN

*Reprinted from the September-October 2013 issue*

*Of the Scottsdale Corvette Club Newsletter*

*With Board elections coming up in November, and with next year – 2014 – being the Club's 15th anniversary year, it seems like an appropriate time to remember those who have served as the illustrious Presidents of the Scottsdale Corvette Club. Photos of each President are included after the statements of their tenure.*

*Jim Dobson was our first president, serving from incorporation in August 1999 until December 31, 2002.*



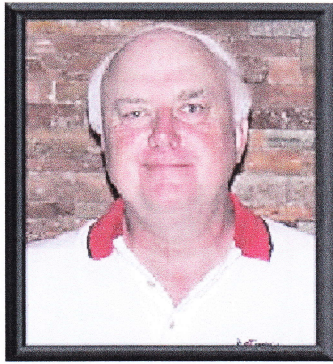
*Hugh Anderson was president during 2003 and 2004.*



*Mark Bales served as president during 2005 and 2006.*



*John Runyon was president during 2007.*



*Mike Cassel served as president during 2008 and 2009.*



*Manny Siprut was president during 2010 and 2011.*



*Ken Harder was president during 2012 and 2013.*





*Steve Patricola is President in 2014.*



*REMEMBER WHEN*  
*Reprinted from the November-December 2013 issue*  
*Of the Scottsdale Corvette Club Newsletter*

*Board of Directors*

*August 1999 – February 2000*

*Jim Dobson, President*  
*Scott McPherson, Vice President*  
*Mary Turley, Treasurer*  
*Terry Turley, Tour Director*  
*John Kretz, Communications Director*

*In February 2000, Tonny Gustafsson joined the Board as NCCC Governor, and Scott McPherson took over the newsletter as Communications Director*

*January 2001*

*Jim Dobson, President*  
*Scott McPherson, Vice President/Editor*  
*Mary Turley, Membership/Treasurer*  
*Terry Turley, Director of Activities*  
*Tonny Gustafsson, NCCC Governor*  
*Dick Kulczycki, Member-at-Large*  
*Chuck Weschler, Member-at-Large*

*January 2002*

*Jim Dobson, President*  
*Scott McPherson, Vice President/Editor*  
*Bob Findsen, Membership/Treasurer*  
*Chuck Weschler, Director of Activities*  
*Dick Kulczycki, NCCC Governor*  
*Terry Turley, Member-at-Large*  
*Hugh Anderson, Member-at-Large*

*In May 2002 Mark Bales joined the Board as Newsletter Editor.*

*January 2003*

*Hugh Anderson, President*  
*Scott McPherson, Vice President*  
*Bob Findsen, Membership/Treasurer*  
*Chuck Weschler, Director of Activities*  
*Mark Bales, Newsletter Editor*  
*Dick Kulczycki, NCCC Governor*  
*Jim Dobson, Member-at-Large*



January 2004 – January 2005

*Hugh Anderson, President*  
*Scott McPherson, Vice President*  
*Mike Cassel, Treasurer*  
*Chuck Weschler, Membership Director*  
*Carolyn Van Santen, Director of Activities*  
*Mark Bales, Newsletter Editor*  
*Dwayne Collier, Secretary*  
*Dick Kulczycki, NCCC Governor*

January 2005 – January 2006

*Mark Bales, President/Newsletter Editor*  
*Chuck Weschler, Vice President*  
*Mike Cassel, Treasurer*  
*Carolyn Van Santen, Director of Activities*  
*John Runyon, Membership Director*  
*Lon Durby, Secretary*  
*Bob Cherner, NCCC Governor*

January 2006 – January 2007

*Mark Bales, President/Newsletter Editor*  
*John Runyon, Vice President/Membership*  
*Mike Cassel, Treasurer*  
*Walter Juessen, Activities Director*  
*Dorothy Durby, Secretary*  
*Chuck Weschler, NCCC Governor*

January 2007

*John Runyon, President*  
*Manny Siprut, Vice President*  
*Mike Cassel, Treasurer*  
*Walter Juessen, Activities Director*  
*Dorinne Dobson, Membership/Newsletter Editor*  
*Dorothy Durby, Secretary*  
*Alice Pfeffer, NCCC Governor*

January 2008 – January 2009

*Mike Cassel, President*  
*Manny Siprut, Vice President*  
*Dave Leiva, Treasurer*  
*Walter Juessen, Activities Director*  
*Rollie Trayte, Membership Director*  
*Dorinne Dobson, Secretary/Newsletter Editor*  
*Alice Pfeffer, NCCC Governor*

January 2009 – January 2010

Mike Cassel, President  
Manny Siprut, Vice President  
Dave Leiva, Treasurer  
Rollie Trayte, Membership Director  
Dorinne Dobson, Secretary/Newsletter Editor  
Alice Pfeffer, NCCC Governor

In March 2009 Ken Harder joined the Board as Member-at-Large

January 2010 – January 2011

Manny Siprut, President  
Ken Harder, Vice President/Treasurer  
Dorinne Dobson, Membership/Newsletter Editor  
Ben Walker, Secretary  
John Barrett, NCCC Governor  
Mark Bales, Member at Large

January 2011 – January 2012

Manny Siprut, President  
Ken Harder, Vice President/Treasurer  
Walter Juessen, Activities Director  
Mark Bales, Membership Director  
Mike Cassel, Secretary  
Chuck Weschler, NCCC Governor

January 2012 – January 2013

Ken Harder, President  
Manny Siprut, Vice President/Secretary  
Mike Cassel, Treasurer  
Walter Juessen, Activities Director  
Mark Bales, Membership Director  
Steve Patricola, NCCC Governor

January 2013 – January 2014

Ken Harder, President  
Manny Siprut, Vice President/Secretary  
Mike Cassel, Treasurer  
Walter Juessen, Activities Director  
Mark Bales, Membership Director  
Steve Patricola, NCCC Governor  
Mike Lipsky, Member-at-Large

July 2013 – Mike Lipsky resigned from the Board

September 2013 – John Walch was appointed to fill Mike Lipsky's unexpired term





## **Membership Guide**

### **September, 2014**

#### **Events**

1. Try to attend as many Club meetings and events as possible. Be sure to wear your name tags to Club meetings to help your fellow Club members recognize you.
2. If you have signed up for an event, and can't make it, please contact the event organizer as soon as possible. This is particularly critical when reservations have been made at restaurants, hotels, etc., and includes the monthly dinner meeting. If the club incurs any charges due to last minute cancellations, then the canceling member is responsible to reimburse the club for said charges.
3. There may be a small charge per member for some events (house parties, holiday party, etc.). These charges are non-refundable for last minute cancellations. The charge has likely been allocated towards food, refreshments, host expense, etc.
4. Beginning with the Board, we ask that all Club members provide a welcoming environment to new members.
5. Club members are encouraged to contribute their thoughts/ideas on current or future meetings and events.

#### **Email**

1. Club members are sensitive to the number of emails they receive. For this reason the club email list is maintained exclusively by the Membership Director and should not be used for commercial or political purposes.
2. Mass email communication to all members is restricted to the President, Membership Director, Newsletter Editor, and Activities Director. If a member believes they have information relevant to all club members, please send it first to one of the above board members and they will decide whether it should be shared with the entire club. This does not restrict email communications between individual club members.
3. The co-chairs of the Vette Vixens maintain a separate list, but the above rules would still apply

#### **Membership/Dues/Board Elections**

1. To retain membership you must own a Corvette automobile at some point during any of the twelve month periods of membership.

2. Membership renewals are processed in October of each year. You will receive an email notification, well in advance of the due date, and appreciate a quick response. The National Council of Corvette Clubs charges a penalty for late renewal. The cost for late renewals will be passed on to the member.

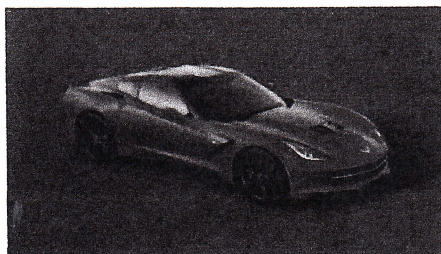
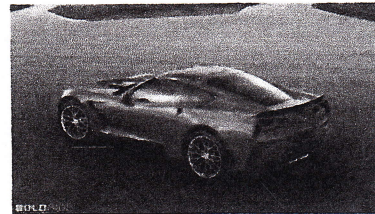
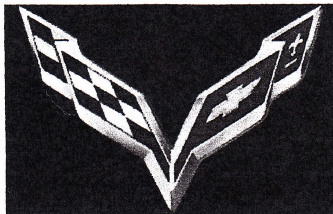
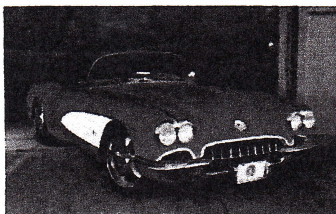
3. Board elections are held during the November dinner meeting, or electronically prior to the meeting if required due to the number of candidates. Official notification of the upcoming election will be communicated no later than mid-October. Opportunities to apply for a Board position will be presented well in advance, and no later than the September Dinner Meeting.

### **Rules of the Road (Caravans)**

1. Seatbelts will be worn at all times.
2. All participants are encouraged to have 2-way radios.
3. All cars will keep a reasonable space between them.
4. Keep the car behind you in sight.
5. Make every effort to drive in the right lane on highways.
6. Obey all speed signs and traffic signs.
7. To expedite turns, double up for double left turn lanes. To expedite moving the caravan through stoplights, double up at the intersection on four lane roads. Return to single file after turn or stoplight.
8. Regroup after several stop lights or stop signs.
9. When parking, back in if at all possible.
10. Do not pass other club cars unless for safety reasons, or as instructed by the caravan leader or another member.



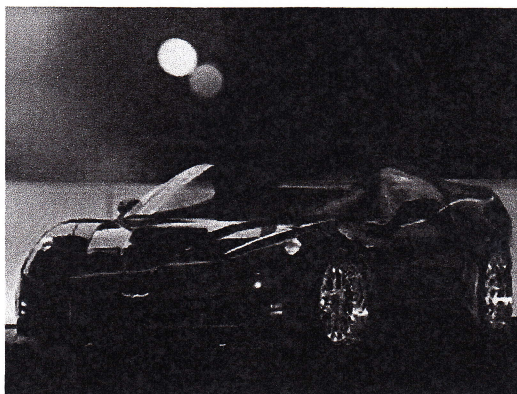
**1999 - 2014**



## **ACTIVITIES OVER THE YEARS**

**BESIDE THE MONTHLY MEETINGS,VIXENS DINNERS,POKER NIGHTS,THE  
QUARTERLY SPECIAL DINNERS AND THE YEARLY TOY RUN AND CLUB  
PARTY,WE HAD A LOT OF OTHER ACTIVITIES,EITHER DAY TRIPS OR SO  
CALLED "OVERNITES".**





## **DAY TRIPS**

**OLIVE MILL IN QUEEN CREEK**

**ARIZONA WINGS (MESA)**

**WALNUT CANYON (EAST OF FLAGSTAFF)**

**COLOSSAL CAVE/SAGUARO NATIONAL STATE PARK (NEAR TUCSON)**

**APACHE TRAIL - NO CORVETTES - JUST SUV'S**

**KITT PEAK (NEAR TUCSON)**

**TORTILLA FLAT**

**BOYCE THOMPSON ARBORETUM (NEAR SUPERIOR)**

**BAGDAD (NORTH OF WICKENBURG)**

**SEDONA - PEEK JEEP TOUR**

**TALESIN WEST (SCOTTSDALE)**

**SABINO CANYON (NEAR TUCSON)**

**VERDE CANYON RAILWAY (COTTONWOOD)**

**BOAT TOURS CANYON LAKE/SAGUARO LAKE**

**CASA GRANDE RUINS**



**SAN XAVIER MISSION (NEAR TUCSON)**

**JEROME/PRESCOTT**

**ARIZONA WINE COUNTRY (SOUTH OF TUCSON)**

**BIOSPHERE 2 (NEAR TUCSON)**

**MOUNT LEMMON (NEAR TUCSON)**

**TUBAC/ TUMACACORI**

**RIORDAN MANSION IN FLAGSTAFF**

**TONTO NATIONAL BRIDGE (NEAR PAYSON)**

**MYSTERY CASTLE(PHOENIX)**

**LOST DUTCHMAN MINE (NEAR TORTILLA FLAT)**

**TITAN MISSILE MUSEUM (NEAR TUCSON)**

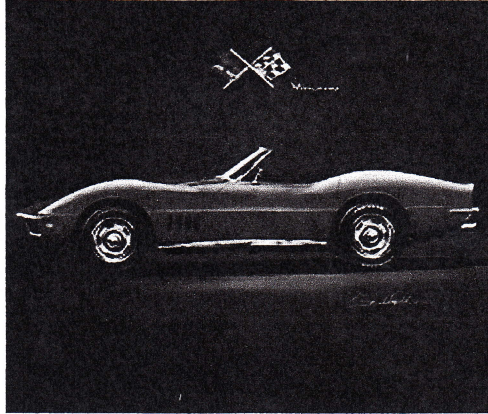
**GO CART RACING**

**SEVERAL "MYSTERY TRIPS" :**

**CARDINAL FOOTBALL STADIUM - D-BACKS STADIUM, MARTIN CAR  
MUSEUM,SOUTH MOUNTAIN RANCH IN PHOENIX.**

**HOUSE PARTIES WITH DIFFERENT "MOTTOS":**

**HALLOWEEN PARTY,MEXICAN FIESTA OR JUST A "REGULAR" PARTY**



**MONUMENT VALLEY**

**ZION AND BRYCE CANYON**

**MONTEREY CAR SHOWS/LAGUNA SECA (CALIFORNIA)**

**CAPITAL REEF (UTAH)**

**MOUNT GRAHAM (SOUTH OF SAFFORD)**

**TOMBSTONE CARSHOW**

**BISBEE**

**PRESCOTT CAR SHOW**

**CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT (EASTERN ARIZONA)**

**KARTSCHNER CAVERN**

**SOME EVENTS AND TRIPS WE DID MULTIPLE TIMES OVER THE YEARS.**

**SEVERAL TRIPS ARE PLANNED TO DO AGAIN IN 2015!**

**HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US,JUST TO HAVE FUN.**







## DINNER MEETING LOCATIONS 1999 - 2014

**Sam's Café**, Scottsdale Road south of Shea - we were fired with no notice

**Macaroni Grill** (across Scottsdale Road from Sam's Café) - temporary while we searched for another meeting place

**Café Terra Cotta**, at the Borgata on Scottsdale Road north of McDonald Drive - the Club outgrew the meeting room

**Leo's Deli**, 5101 North Scottsdale Road - upgraded to the Gainey Hyatt Regency

**Hyatt Regency Scottsdale at Gainey Ranch**, 7500 East Double Tree Ranch Road - we were fired by new (not interested in sports car clubs) general manager

**Split Window Diner**, 11056 North Saguardo Boulevard, Fountain Hills

**Garduno's of Mexico Margarita Factory**, The Shops at Gainey Village

**Tutti Santi**, 64<sup>th</sup> Street and Greenway

Above alternated as interim spots while searching for replacement for Hyatt

**Jilly's American Grill**, 7301 East Butherus Road - went out of business with no notice to the Club

**Scottsdale Thunderbird Suites**, 7515 East Butherus Road - temporary while we searched for another meeting place

**Gainey Ranch Golf Club** - our current dinner meeting place, representing the best of all of the above put together!



## SCOTTSDALE CORVETTE CLUB

### MEMBER SURVEY SUMMARY

(1 -5 scale with 5 as top score)

	<u>03/10</u>	<u>02/11</u>	<u>04/12</u>	<u>4/14</u>
Monthly Dinner Meetings (overall rating)	3.98	4.36	4.41	4.33
• Content	3.83	4.47	4.45	4.39
• Social	4.52	4.72	4.74	4.58
• Location/Facility		4.31	4.43	4.45
• Food	3.48	3.47	3.45	3.90
• Value	3.69	3.59	3.59	3.92
Activities (overall rating)	4.26	4.57	4.64	4.65
• Quantity/Variety	4.23	4.56	4.67	4.63
• Day	4.30	4.74	4.65	4.57
• Weekend	4.12	4.44	4.69	4.59
• Dinners	4.40	4.43	4.70	4.62
• Value	4.26	4.54	4.63	4.48
Membership Enjoyment	4.42	4.72	4.65	4.68
Leadership	4.56	4.78	4.81	4.78
Value	4.50	4.64	4.69	4.62
SCC Newsletter				
Overall Quality				4.92
Articles of Interest				4.72

## SCC ARTICLE APRIL 2014, CLUB MEMBERSHIP SURVEY SUMMARY

The Board would like to again thank the members (approx. 50) who participated in our recent annual Club satisfaction survey. Our Club has hosted the survey over the past five years and the ratings continue to reflect a high rate of satisfaction from our members. Below you will find a full summary of the ratings on the individual survey questions over the past years. In addition many members provided valuable comments to help guide the Board as it continues to develop content and activities (just too many to publish).

You will notice that the ratings have not varied much over the past years, other than the "food category" which reflects some improvement. The Board will continue to work with the management staff at Gainey Ranch to reach high levels of satisfaction. It is worth repeating that the Club has spent many years exploring and experimenting with various venues for our dinner meetings. And, to date, Gainey Ranch continues to be our most desirable choice, based on our criteria.

The Board established 10 basic criteria for a monthly meeting venue:

1. Reasonably nice facility and amenities
2. Good parking where our members are comfortable with the safety of their cars
3. Central Scottsdale location
4. Private room without competing noise or distractions
5. Separate checks
6. Reasonable pricing
7. Reasonable quality of food
8. Satisfactory service from mgmt and staff
9. Efficient ordering and payment processes
10. Facility must be able to accommodate varying guest attendance from 25 to 65 guests

We have not been able to come close to replicating the benefits of using the Gainey Ranch Country Club. Getting a private room, timely service, separate checks, efficient payment system, and satisfactory food (yet not outstanding), and at a reasonable price has worked extremely well.

Based on multiple comments about our monthly dinner meetings, the Board has decided to modify the meeting schedule to begin at 6:00 pm (instead of 6:30), to allow those members who wish to enjoy a full hour for cocktails and visiting prior to our 7:00 pm dinner.

Although "house parties" are popular with our members, we haven't had enough volunteers to host. So if anyone has an interest in hosting, please let a Board member know!

The Board will continue to review and incorporate other member's ideas whenever possible.

# THE VETTE VIXENS STORY

By Dorinne Dobson

One day long ago, circa 2000, two female members of the Scottsdale Corvette Club put their heads together and said: "Wouldn't it be nice if we could get some of the gals in the Club together and go out to dinner, just us girls?" We talked about it over a few months and finally we put it to the test. The instigators were Mary Rigali (no longer a member) and Dorinne Dobson. Mary was the leader and she investigated the restaurants and sent out emails to let everyone know the time and the meeting place. The criteria for restaurant choices were: (1) no chains; (2) they must be interesting; (3) new is definitely a plus; and (3) not too far afield from the Scottsdale area. We soon discovered other criteria: that we wanted to patronize only places that would give us separate checks.

Those first few years, we often had only four or five in attendance, but we always had a wonderful time together.

At some point Mary received a request from the Club President, Jim Dobson, to find a name for the group. He told her that if we couldn't decide on a name among ourselves, he would pick a name for the group. The pressure was on! A number of names were suggested and bandied about. We voted and chose the name "Vette Vixens." I must admit I didn't personally like the name much at first, but it has grown on me over the years and now it seems like a natural moniker for the group.

When Mary left the Club, Donna Reagan took over the leadership role, and we went to many great places. When Donna got too busy with her political commitments, both for her family and her own, I took over the leadership role. It was one I relished because I love to eat out, and I read all the local news and reviews on restaurants. When Jim and I moved to Wickenburg, Dorothy Durby took over the reins and she has done an admirable job of keeping us up to date on the latest restaurants.

Some of the interesting places we have visited over the years include:

- Basis – New American Cuisine, 410 East Thunderbird in Phoenix (two times! Once when I was in charge and again a year or so ago when Dorothy was the chief.)
- Bloom, 8877 North Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale
- Café Ted at the Citadel at Pinnacle Peak & Pima Roads in Scottsdale
- Capital Grille, 16489 North Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale
- Eleve, 3118 East Camelback in Phoenix
- Eurasia Bistro at the Scottsdale Athletic Club
- Latilla at the Boulders Resort in Carefree
- Lon's at the Hermosa Inn in Phoenix
- Mosaic, 10600 East Jomax in Scottsdale
- Rancho Pinot Grill, 6208 North Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale
- Remington's at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort in Scottsdale
- Vu at the Hyatt Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale
- Malee's Thai at Desert Ridge in Phoenix
- Zinc Bistro at Kierland Commons in Phoenix
- Convivo Bistro (back when it was owned by Chef Jeffrey Beeson) at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Northern in Phoenix
- Deseo at the Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale
- Ibiza Café at 4400 North Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale
- Marquesa at the Princess Resort in Scottsdale



- Medizona at 7217 East Fourth Avenue in Scottsdale
- Tapino's at 7000 East Shea Boulevard in Scottsdale
- Maria's When in Naples (now gone and replaced by Tapino's above)
- Trader Vic's at the Hotel Valley Ho in Scottsdale
- North at Kierland Commons
- Sassi at 10455 East Pinnacle Peak Road in Scottsdale
- Eddie V's Edgewater Grill at the DC Ranch Marketplace in Scottsdale
- Ocean Club Fish House at Kierland Commons
- Wildfish Seafood Grille on the Scottsdale Waterfront
- Windows on the Green at the Phoenician Resort
- The Greene House at Kierland Commons
- Arrivederci at Scottsdale Road and Thunderbird in Scottsdale

And there are many others, now defunct or replaced by other restaurants. Just last month we went to the Spotted Donkey at El Pedregal in Carefree, where I can personally tell you that the stuffed pasilla peppers are tremendously good!

*Reprinted from the May-June 2007 Issue of the Scottsdale Corvette Club Newsletter*

### UPDATE OF THE VETTE VIXENS STORY FROM MAY 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 2014

We have been to countless interesting restaurants since the listing above, which I noticed is incomplete at best. We won't try to reconstruct the list of restaurants we've been to, but we do want to recognize the leaders who followed in the years after:

Kathy Bales and Jane Runyon  
Sue Kulczycki and Sandi Weschler  
Fran Harder and Dawn Siprut  
Terry Patricola, Carol Lipsky and JoAnn Taylor Rice  
And our current leaders:  
Carol Lipsky and Kathy Bales

We should also note that we've expanded our horizons somewhat. We have had a couple of lunches, instead of meeting in the evening for dinner. And a couple of months ago we met at 4:00 p.m. at the Phoenix Art Museum to see the Hollywood Costume Exhibit and then had dinner at a small downtown Phoenix restaurant, Centurion, that was an interesting choice with excellent cuisine.

Here's to many more years of delightful Vette Vixen dinners, giving us women members of SCC the opportunity to meet and chat about something other than Corvettes while relaxing with a glass of wine and an excellent meal.

*(One final note: I hope the list of "leaders" is complete. I did consult with some other members and think everyone has been included. If not, please let me know and I will correct the record, and please accept my apologies for the omission.)*



## Men's Poker Night- Come Join US

For years, the female members of our Club (the Vette Vixen's) have gone to dinner (or an occasional lunch) on the third Wednesday of each month. About a year and half ago, the guys decided to take this opportunity and begin a Poker Night, hosted by one of the members. The hosting member provides the food and beverages, and each person attending contributes \$5 to cover the cost of the host. After a short discussion, the cards and chips are counted and then the cards fly! Chips are valued at \$.25 and the initial buy-in is \$10. For those of you who may not know much about Poker, there are many different games that can be played, with each player getting anywhere from 5 to as many as 9 cards (some of which may be common to all players) and the idea is to make the best 5 card hand that one can. In order of priority (or the hand that beats other hands), the hands that can be made are as follows:

5 of a kind (only with a wild card)

Straight Flush (e.g. 5-6-7-8-9) of same suit

4 of a kind

Full House (e.g 3 sevens, and two 5's)

Flush (any 5 cards of one suit)

Straight (e.g 4-5-6-7-8) cards may be of different suits

3 of a kind (e.g. 3 Aces)

2 pair (e.g. 2 eights and 2 nines)

1 pair (e.g. pair of Kings)

In a game of seven card stud, the player receives two cards face down and their third card face up. Whoever has the highest card on board makes the initial decision to check (no bet) or bet ( we limit the bet to not more than 4 chips). Subsequent players then decide to call the bet, raise the bet, or fold. The fourth, fifth and six cards are dealt face up and the process continues as outlined above. If there are still people playing, the last card is dealt down, another round of betting takes place and a winner is determined. An offshoot of this game is called "Chicago", where the high hand splits the pot with the person who may have the high or low spade face down, which is specified before the deal. The idea behind this game is to keep people from folding with the idea that they may win half the pot by catching the high or low spade.

Other games played include 5 card Stud; 5 card Draw; 7 Card Stud; Chicago (as described above); 7 Card Roll your Own; Wild Card games where the wild card is specified before the deal, (e.g. deuces wild); Texas Hold'em; Omaha, Crazy Pineapple, and a whole lot more. Of course, Poker is a zero sum game which means that if there are winners, there may be one or more losers. Win or lose, just ask the folks who play, everyone considers themselves a winner because we have lots of laughs and a great deal of fun. Even if you haven't played before, this is a friendly game where we help you learn and even assist you so that you don't decide to play losing hands. It truly is a fun night and we encourage you to join us at one of our upcoming Poker Nights.

*Reprinted from the March-April 2010 issue  
of the Scottsdale Corvette Club Newsletter*

## **RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE REFURBISHMENT COMPLETED!!**

**By Ken Harder**

**Photos of Finished Project by Mark Bales**

**Photos of Work in Progress by Fran Harder**

The Scottsdale Corvette Club can be proud of the apartment we support at the Ronald McDonald House in Phoenix. Our refurbishment project was completed on February 12, and the finished project looks terrific!



**Kitchen**



**Living Room**



The "crew" worked hard, had fun, and finished around 2:30 p.m. A small group returned on Sunday for touch-ups and a last minute decision to paint the closets.



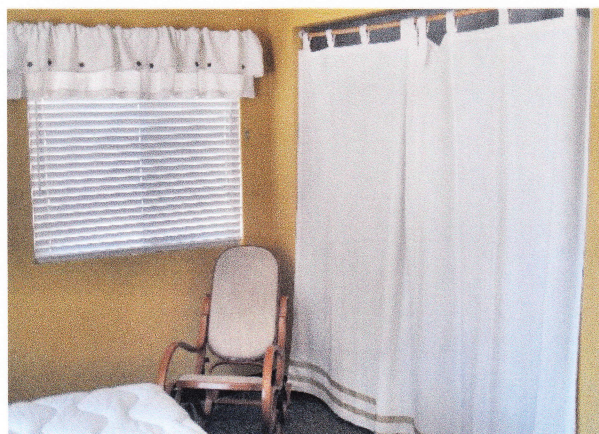
Sue Freaking Out



Dawn



Karen



Another View of Parents' Room

This project started in November when Project leaders Ken Harder and Ben Walker visited with Rita Andonian, Manager of the Ronald Mc Donald House (RDH) and decided upon the scope of the project. It was then determined that the work would be completed in late January or early February, 2009. Ken then asked Club members to volunteer and the first weekend in February (6&7) was determined to be the best weekend for a majority of the volunteers to work. An "Interior Decorating" team of Kathy Bales, Dawn Siprut and Michele Juessen assisted Ken in the selection of the paint colors, new drapes and shower curtain, new lamps, and blinds which needed to be replaced. Mike Cassel provided transportation support for the ladders and all the painting materials. On February 2, Kathy and Ken decided to paint all the ceilings in the apartment and spackle all the "dings" in the walls so that the "Primo Painting Crew" could finish painting all the walls on Saturday, February 6.

Saturday was a great day to paint (although we would have preferred to be driving our Corvettes!), with early morning coffee and donuts and a "boom box" to allow painters to sing and dance while they painted! The Primo Painting Crew included the following Club members:

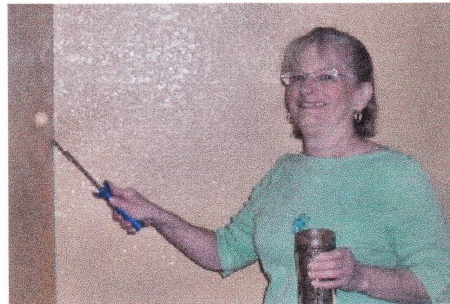
Kathy Bales  
Linda Cherner  
Sue Kulczycki  
Sue Loveridge  
Dawn Siprut

Kris & Ashley Leiva  
John & Karen Barrett  
Chuck & Sue Weschler  
Fran & Ken Harder





Fran



Sandi



John



Ken



Chuck

The following week, Kathy and Mark Bales and Ken then shampooed all the rugs in the apartment, replaced closet and hallway curtains, installed the new shower curtain, replaced the lamps and blinds and installed a new television set. Kathy did an excellent job color coordinating a new valance as well as decorating and replacing the closet curtain in the children's bedroom while Mark repaired, replaced and cleaned over a dozen model Corvettes which are mounted on shelving in the children's bedroom and the bathroom. Walter and Michele Juessen also donated a Corvette Car Lamp for the children's room, which I'm sure the kids will enjoy. Light bulbs were installed or replaced, and all the appliances were cleaned. Several RMH volunteers wanted to see what we had done, and offered wonderful comments about the room colors and décor.

Over 120 volunteer hours were contributed to this project by our Club members, and Ken, on behalf of his fellow Board members, would like to thank all the volunteers for their contributions to this worthy project and cause. Please enjoy the pictures of the volunteers at work and the finished work product!