



MAY-JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER



Rosie and Jim Gargano took delivery in Iowa in March of their new 2020 C8 Corvette!!



May-June 2020

A Newsletter for Corvette Enthusiasts
160 Members

www.scottsdalecorvetteclub.com

Dorinne Dobson, Editor

ddobson58@cox.net

Meetings:

SCC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. for a dinner meeting.

Meetings are held at:
Gainey Ranch Golf Club, Ballroom C
7600 Gainey Club Drive
Scottsdale, Arizona



In this issue...

Coming Events, Members with New Vettes, SCC Member Mike Oster Publishes Book, Vanity Plates for Our Beautiful Corvettes, Costco in the Time of the Coronavirus, Tech Corner, Thumbnail Book Reviews, and Much More...

2020 Board of Directors

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SCOTTSDALE CORVETTE CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance the experience of Corvette ownership through the support system and fellowship of its members. This is achieved in an interactive social environment of monthly meetings, activities, road tours and a newsletter.

This forum invites the sharing of experiences, knowledge and fun, while creating an atmosphere that perpetuates the leadership position of America's only true sports car. All that is asked of its members is professionalism, integrity, personal ethics, and a love of the Corvette.

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SCC BIRTHDAYS!



Nan Harvel	May 1
Daniel Martin	May 1
John Ketterl	May 4
David Nelson	May 5
Jan Kellogg	May 7
Dale Lippert	May 11
Linda McClelland	May 15
Roger Ceilley	May 18
Mike Lipsky	May 18
Brenda Brandt	May 21
Dick Kulczycki	May 25
Glynis Romanica	May 28
Marie Camacho	May 28
Michele Juessen	May 30
Maria Patterson	May 30
Ken Barry	May 31
Tammy Schroden	May 31



Sal Ricotta	June 10
Sue Kulczycki	June 13
Frank Perno	June 13
Steve Rabin	June 14
Jeanne Lingley	June 14
John Cahlamer	June 14
Joel Patterson	June 16
Robert Frederick	June 25
Cheri Benner	June 27
Laura Becker	June 28
Kevin Kelsey	June 30
Janet Martin	June 30

FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

By *Steve Patricola*



Here's Steve in a C8 ... smile ...

This installment of my article will be a little different.

Because most members fall into the higher risk category, your Board of Directors felt that it was incumbent to be responsible, prudent and follow the Presidential Task Force's recommendations, i.e., social distancing, remaining home, not meeting with more than 10 people,

etc. Considering this, the Board moved the April meeting to August 12th, and the May meeting to January 12th, 2021.

With the new task force guidelines announcement this week, we will be waiting for the Governor's directive to determine the fate of the June. Luckily, these moves have not cost us any money, and Gainey Ranch has been a good partner working with us... ..so kudos to them in this turbulent time.

This pandemic has had a worldwide chilling effect on every country and everyone. I cannot speak for anyone else but, the phrase, "business as usual," takes on a whole new meaning for me.

Will our lives be the same as before the Corona Virus or fundamentally changed? A simple handshake, a hug or a peck on the cheek today is taboo and may go the way of the dodo bird. Will the personal freedoms that most of us, not all of us, took for granted, be eradicated? Will facial recognition, drones and government overreach be the new norm?

I surely hope not but I do believe that, like after December 7, 1941 and September 11, 2001, America and Americans will never be the same, and all signs are that we the people are rallying. I also believe there will be a re-awakening of American innovation.

Just look at what has transpired since the travel ban was initiated on January 31st. Since then, companies like Abbot Labs creating 15-minute tests or True Value (Ace Hardware) converting a paint facility to create hand sanitizer or GM teaming with Ventec Life Systems to make ventilators, or even Moderna Inc. (biotech) has begun human trials on a corona virus vaccine, and there are more stories like this if you care to investigate. All that in about 75 days... think about that.

In addition, while there is an unemployment tsunami occurring, the DOW is up 15% in two weeks despite the crisis. That is the best two-week performance since 1938. Think about that.

We the people have an obligation to our families, our friends and our neighbors to put aside petty political differences and help in any way we can. Whether we talk on the phone, do zoom calls, volunteer or just exchange hellos and warm wishes to others while walking (are you listening,

Walter?) ... your impact on other lives can never be measured. Think about that.

So, make the best of what could be a lot worse situation... tell your loved ones you love them even if you're not there. Have a glass of wine, chill out because before long we will be looking at all of this in the rear-view mirror or rear-view camera for some (smile).

God bless: The healthcare professionals on the front lines; the unfortunate folks who have contracted the virus and those lost along with their grieving families; America, the President and all elected officials who are grappling with this crisis. Keep them in your prayers.

Lord willing, see you down the road.

Steve



From Rollie Trayte:
Bowling Green's COVID-19 Shutdown May Delay C8 Convertible Until 2021

With auto production shut down as part of the measures to quell the spread of COVID-19, many hopeful car owners are having to wait for their orders to be fulfilled. That wait may be especially tough for those with 2020 Corvette orders, as the long-anticipated first production mid-engine Corvette just started shipping before its Bowling Green assembly plant went quiet.

That could mean we may not see the **first-ever production hardtop convertible** Corvette until 2021. To read all about it, [click here](#).



From my Wickenburg "car guy" friend:

C8 Corvette Owners Bothered by Dashboard Glare: Exclusive (from *GM Authority*)

With the first units of the mid-engine Corvette finally in the hands of owners, some are complaining about an intrusive dashboard glare that's affecting visibility.

[Read more here.](#)



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Dorinne Dobson

Mark your calendars for Cinco de Mayo - May 5 - to be sure and order a copy of SCC member Mike Oster's new book that is coming out on that date - unless of course you want to snag a FREE ebook copy in which case you can do so within the first five days - i.e., May 5-9. Read more about Mike's book on [page 9](#) of this newsletter.

Hey! Members Jim and Rosie Gargano are the first SCCers to acquire a brand new 2020 C8! You saw the Garganos pictured with their beautiful Corvette on the cover and you can read all about it on [page 8](#). Unfortunately, until the self-quarantine period is over, Jim and Rosie are stuck in Iowa. They were hoping to get back to Arizona for a while before summer. Let's hope we get to see them and their beautiful car in the next month or two.

We had a very nice response to our request for photos and stories about your "vanity" license plates, as you will see starting on [page 10](#).

You probably noticed this issue is considerably smaller than usual, but with all events in the past two months having been canceled, and all of May's events being canceled, and who knows what will happen in June - there is just not that much to report. Thanks to Patrick Dennis, Rollie Trayte, and my Wickenburg "car guy" friend we have some interesting tidbits in this issue about Corvettes and other things of interest to all you "gear heads" in the Club.

Now that Mike Oster's book is completed and will be available to the public on May 5th, he may have more time to devote to the Club. In addition to the announcement of his book publication, Mike also sent along a little story about his trip to Costco during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can find it on [page 19](#); I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did.

As always, I want to say thank you to all of you who contributed photographs, articles, matters of interest to Corvette enthusiasts like us, and ideas to make this issue of our Club newsletter the best it can be!

Until the next issue, Save the Wave!

Dorinne

COMING EVENTS!

May 13th - Club Dinner Meeting - POSTPONED TO JANUARY 13, 2021

May 20th - Vette Vixens Dinner & Men's Poker Night - CANCELED

May 27th - Board Meeting - PENDING COVID-19 GUIDELINES

June 10th - Club Dinner Meeting - PENDING COVID-19 GUIDELINES

June 17th - Vette Vixens Dinner & Men's Poker Night - PENDING COVID-19 GUIDELINES

June 25-29 - Trip to Moab, Utah - PENDING COVID-19 GUIDELINES

July - NO ACTIVITIES

August 8th - Basha's Museum of Western Art

August 12th - Club Dinner Meeting - rescheduled due to cancellation of May meeting

August 19th - Vette Vixens Dinner & Men's Poker Night

August 21st - Amazon Warehouse Tour

August 26th - Board Meeting

We have included the Board meeting dates in case you have a topic you would like the Board to discuss. Just let a Board member know prior to any of the Board meetings.



The SCC Store utilizes Lands' End because of its reputation for customer service and the quality of their merchandise. The feedback from our membership has been very positive, and we plan to continue to use this site as our Club store.

For new members only, you'll need to create an account. You can do that by clicking on the following url:

<http://business.landsend.com/store/scottsdalecorvetteclub>

Once there, go to the top of the page and click on MY ACCOUNT, and select CREATE AN ACCOUNT. Complete the information, submit it, and that will be it - and here's the best part: You can immediately start to shop. Should you have any issues, please contact Lands' End @ 1.800.587.15417 and they are available weekdays 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. CST.



Members with New Corvettes

Jim and Rosie Gargano and their new 2020 C8 Torch Red 2LT Z51 Coupe



A couple of years ago we read that Corvette would be coming out with a mid-engine car. I had purchased my 2016 Z06 from Woodhouse Chevrolet in Missouri Valley, Iowa, and asked to be put on a list for the mid-engine Corvette. At that time I was the number two person on their list, but a year ago the first person dropped off, and I became the top one on the list. When the time came to order, I was scheduled for the second week of production which was in early December. Then the strike came and all orders were pushed back. My TPW was then the second week of production which was February 10. My C8 was built on Feb. 11th and sat in Bowling Green until March 9th when it was shipped out. My dealer received it on March 11th.



At left, Jim and Rosie's C8 wrapped and ready for delivery; at right, cleaned and ready to drive away

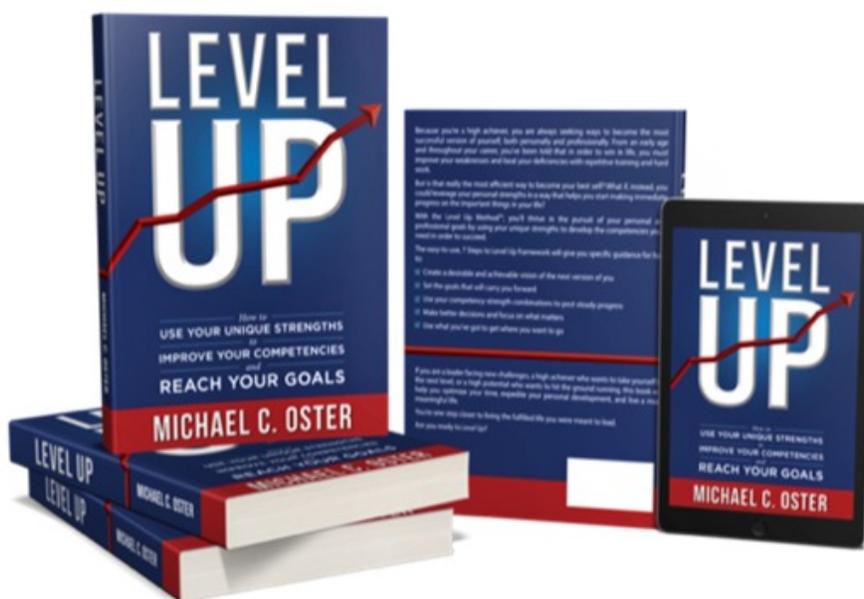
My C8 is a Torch Red 2LT with two tone adrenaline seats. It is a Z51 with Magnetic Ride Control, PTM and GT2 seats.

Jim Gargano

SCC MEMBER MIKE OSTER PUBLISHES BOOK!

Those who have been with the Scottsdale Corvette Club for a while may remember Mike and Susan Oster. They were active in the Club and led several fun trips. Mike gave us some entertaining presentations during our dinner meetings and wrote a few truly funny articles for our newsletter. What happened to them? Mike warned us a couple of years ago that he was going to write a book...to the exclusion of all of his extracurricular activities. He's finally finished. Perhaps, as he says, in more ways than one.

We are pleased to be among the first to announce the launch of his book *Level Up: How to Use Your Unique Strengths to Improve Your Competencies and Reach Your Goals*. It offers a new and powerful way anyone can use to become an improved version of him- or herself. As we emerge from the current unpleasantness and are able to focus on what our lives will be in the future, Mike hopes his book will be useful and life-changing for those who read it.



It will be released *May 5–Cinco de Mayo!*—on Amazon. The first few days of a book's launch are critical to getting the book in the hands of readers. During this time the algorithms, whatever they are, work their magic and can add crucial momentum to a book's trajectory. To help this along and maximize the number of people who can read the book, Mike will offer the ebook for FREE for the first five days.

During the May 5-9 period, every sale (a free ebook counts as a sale) and every positive review count a lot toward getting on the Best Seller list. With our help, maybe he can make it.

Please consider taking advantage of Mike's free ebook promo and leaving a review. Mike has warned us that the ebook, at 528 pages, would be too much of a slog for even *him* to read. If you like what you see in the ebook, you may wish to score your own copy of the hardcover or paperback, a very readable 376 pages.

The next time we will see Mike and Susan may also be the next time some of us see each other. They will be leading our Andy Devine Days Rodeo trip to Kingman in September. Yeehaw! Watch the newsletter and your inbox for details.

VANITY PLATES FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL CORVETTES!

PART I - PLATES WITH STORIES BEHIND THEM

Ken Mitchell - Photos of the license plates for my 4 1/3 Corvettes



The "NOKONEZ" plate is on my '89 C4 Autocross Race Car.

The plate stands for "No Cones" because in the type of racing I do a cone hit while running the course is a time penalty against my lap time.



KENZZ06 is on my 2003 Z06



The "TOY4KEN" is on my '93 C4 40th Anniversary Coupe (Ruby Car). This plate has a long interesting history. I had to fight for this plate with the California DMV back in the mid-eighties. Originally, I had this plate assigned to my Motorcycle. At the time when I applied for the plate, it was available according to DMV thus, I applied and paid for the plate. Weeks later, I received a letter from the DMV that said: my application was denied because the plate was already issued. Upon further investigation by me (I had access to the DMV files back in those days) I learned that the plate was issued to another person a couple of weeks after I applied for the plate. I also learned that some of the DMV system in the State were being operated by their new automated system and some by the old paper non-automated system. My application was submitted through the manual non-automated system. The other applicant submitted his application to a DMV Field Office that was operating with the new automated system. So, I filed a complaint and they ruled in my favor. They had to notify the other applicant that his "TOY4KEN" plate was being revoked and that he would have to either apply for an alternate plate or be issued a regular issued plate. I'm sure he wasn't happy about that. I sold the Motorcycle and bought the '93 Ruby car in 1993 and transferred the plate to the Ruby Car.

Ken Mitchell (continued)



The "NOKONES" plate is on my '13 Grand Sport Manual Tranny Coupe. I occasionally autocross my Grand Sport thus, the "No Cones" plate like my '89 C4 Autocross car except that the last letter is the "S" whereas, the last letter on my '89 Autocross Car is a "Z" in order to have two plates that read "no-cones." The "K" was used for both plates just to be different and original. I had both of these plates in California.



"LILVETT" is on my '19 Club Car Golf Cart

David Sacks



Here is my license plate - DAS 47. This plate is not about my car. My current Vette (2016 coupe) is the third car that has worn this plate. The prior Vette that carried this tag was my 2004 C5 convertible. There was a non-Corvette car in between. This plate is about the charity that it funds: Extraordinary Educators - The fee goes to the Arizona public educators who propose extraordinary activities, projects or lessons for students in kindergarten through grade eight. I am a product of excellent public schools and am a firm believer in the necessity of having a good public education system. I also think the plate is very artistic. The plate itself has my initials and the year I was born. Sometimes when someone asks, I jokingly say that 47 was my football number.

Larry and Charlene Capek



C'EST MOI is French and means "It is me." Charlene's first language was French. At right is Zac, our French poodle, studying the Corvette instrument panel.



Don Harvel



76USMA - This plate is on my 1953 Commemorative Edition Corvette (on a C5 frame). The 76 on the plate is my class year graduation (1976) and the USMA is for the United States Military Academy (West Point, NY).

To make this car even more special - it is plated as car #76 made by Advanced Automotive Technology (AAT) in Farmington Hills, MI. The license plate and the car # from AAT make this car very special to me!

John and Gurmit Walch



LVREEF - "Love coral reefs" - since that is and has been my job for over 40 years. Our car is now registered in Wisconsin (much less expensive), and the eagle design is the environmental option. We have a pair of eagles that fly by our house almost daily so it was an easy choice. Looking forward to being back in AZ this fall!

Bill Follette



The CH-3E is the U.S. Air Force's version of the Sikorsky S-61 amphibious transport helicopter developed for the U.S. Navy.

Later, 50 CH-3E's were modified for combat special operations missions as well as rescue missions with armor, defensive armament, self-sealing fuel tanks, and a rescue hoist. They were used extensively in Southeast Asia under the nickname "Jolly Green Giant."

The Air Force Museum's CH-3E (above) -- known as *Black Mariah* -- is a veteran of the Southeast Asia War. It was attached to the 21st Special Operations Squadron in Eastern Thailand. Painted flat black (hence the nickname), it was used for highly classified special missions.

I flew these aircraft in combat on Special Operations missions with the 21st SOS throughout Laos in 1971-72. The aircraft were sent back to the U.S. and formed the 320th Special Operations Squadron (Air Force Reserves) at Luke AFB, AZ where I flew the very same aircraft, including the *Black Mariah*, from 1975 to 1990.



Rollie and Lyn Trayte



Rollie says: "The letters spell out my profession all these years:
Se Cu Ri Ty"



The license plate on Lyn's car can be interpreted two ways:
REALTOR 8 or Rollie Lyn Trayte

Dale Lippert



Dale says: "My license plate demonstrates my love for Hawaii and playing the ukulele - UKEMAN"

John Prenzno



John says: "638 hp ...good ... bye"

Jerry and Pam Strimbu



Jerry says: 'I've attached a picture of our C7 license tag for potential inclusion in the upcoming article about them. The choice for the tag was driven by the fact that when we got the car there were very few C7's on the road (Our car was the first C7 to be delivered to a Club member). The idea was to help identify the car as a 2014 C7 Z-51 since most drivers did not know what kind of car it was. We have a C8 on order, and we'll probably go for 20C8Z51 for that one when it arrives; it was supposed to be built the week of March 16 but is now on the line awaiting assembly in Bowling Green.'

Frank Perno



Frank says: "I did three tours in Vietnam 1964-67."

Leon Boyd



Leon says: "Here's the plate on my 2017 Grand Sport. I am a retired Southwest Airline Captain."

Mark and Kathy Bales



MYHEART

Our second Corvette was a brand new 2002 Light Pewter Metallic convertible. Fully optioned including the 6-Disc CD Changer in the trunk. Remember those? Kathy and I loved that car. Of the five Corvettes we've owned, it remains one of our favorites. I did a few minor modifications. Favorite was the addition of the GHL exhausts purchased from and installed by our very own Jim Dobson. Deep throaty American muscle sound, with little to no annoying drone at cruising speed. I could go on, and on. Hurst short throw shifter, Vararam induction, and those sweet GHL exhausts.

I was never into personalized plates. Didn't dislike them. Just never thought about 'em. Until Kathy surprised me with my first one for the '02. "MYHEART." Of course, as a savvy husband, I thanked her but suggested it would better read "MYHEART2" as she would certainly always be No. 1.

The story of "MYHEART" ended with the sale of that '02. I found a smoking hot deal on a slightly used 2006 C6, from a private party. Loved the '02, but wanted to move to a C6. We bought the car, but with one huge reservation. Neither one of us liked the color. A color that looked good in your garage, but not in ours. Other than that, a great buy. However, we just couldn't get away from that one huge drawback. Kathy would not allow me to move "MYHEART" to that C6. She was right. It never was.



TRZ51

The TRZ51 might seem obvious to most, but I was surprised what I considered a brilliant vanity plate, failed repeatedly. Loving my new '16 Torch Red C7, I tried to revive, "MYHEART." Kath was in agreement. Unfortunately, ADOT wouldn't let me have it, so I decided to try for something different. Something that expressed "Torch Red Z51." After a few different attempts, ADOT finally gave me TRZ51.

I was thrilled! I ran to Kathy and showed her what I got. She asked, "What does TRZ51 mean?" Okay... She's not a car person. I told her that Corvette nuts in the Club will know. Fast forward to the next SCC event. To show Kathy others would recognize the significance, I asked a respected member what he thought of my plate. He responded, "I get the Z51, but what does the rest of it mean?"

Ken and Fran Harder



At left, Ken and Fran Harder's plate - Z51 252. Ken says: Our "2014 has a Z51 package and was the 252 Stingray made in the C7 roll-out year."

Walter and Michele Juessen



Walter says: "Because GOTSCHA has 2 horsepower more than CETCHME, it was fun when we drove to Los Angeles on I-10."

Nate Van Keuren

I had a vanity plate for many years on my old 1966 Ford Bronco. Here is an old photo of my Bronco, and also one of the vanity plate:



The third picture is from a 4 X 4 club rally back in 2008. There were so many kids there, I brought along washable poster paint and let the kids paint my Bronco for fun. They had a blast, and it all washed off later. Don't think I would do that with my Corvette!

The story behind GO4 S66 is this: First read the plate - it is "Gophers 66." The Bronco being a first-year 1966 Ford Bronco explains part of it. The Gopher was from a nickname my uncle in Blythe, California, gave



me. My family lived in Denver, and every few years we hopped in the family car and went to Blythe to visit my cousins and Aunt Rose and Uncle Mac. I must have been 10 or so at the time. I did not appreciate my aunt's cooking, so I would stuff my cheeks full with food, run to the kitchen and spit the food out the kitchen window! My uncle was so amused, he started calling me "Gopher," and the nick name stuck. Years later I got in the 4 X 4 world and it seems everyone needs a CB radio call sign, sometimes referred to as your "handle." If you don't have one, they will award you one, often to tease you of past embarrassing events. Examples are "cactus butt," "gas gauge," "dip stick," etc. - all from trail episodes. Rather than risk a silly call sign, I said my handle is Gopher. That was that, and since I had a '66 Bronco the vanity plate was requested and approved by ADOT. I had that Bronco for 22 years and climbed mountains in Moab, Utah, ran gold mine trails in Colorado, raced up sand dunes in Mexico and California, and hit nearly every back road trail in Arizona.

Corvettes are my newest interest, and I'm loving my 60th Anniversary 427 collector's edition convertible. Drive safe and stay well everyone!



Steve Rabin



Steve says: "As a financial advisor, I tend to be against wasting money and am fiscally conservative. Buying such an expensive car runs contrary to my financial discipline. Use the "A" in the plate - Alter-Ego."

PART II - PLATES THAT NEED NO EXPLANATION



Joel and Maria Patterson's "SPEED FIX"



David and Linda Nelson's "I BE FAST"



Paul and Janelle Swenson's "FUN LIFE"



Mike and Carol Lipsky's "OUR C7"



John Parker's "ROOM FOR 2"



Jim and Rosie Gargano's "C8 Z51"



Jim Voice's 2008 Corvette C6 with a 1959 body

COSTCO IN THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS

By Mike Oster

Before the current unpleasantness, I bought one of those 30-pack roles of Charmin at Costco. (If you have a C-7, don't you *love* the trunk space?!)

Now Susan and I were running low, so I thought I'd join the senior follies one morning at Costco when they let us in at 8:a.m. on Tues/Wed/Thurs. Last Thursday was sunny and warm so I decided to go for it.

When I pulled in the lot at 7:45 a.m., the scene looked like the line for Pirates of the Caribbean.

If you haven't participated in this event, here's what to expect:

Military precision of sanitized carts arranged in a long snaking zigzag line. Upon presentation of your Costco card, you are introduced to your freshly wiped cart. There you stand. And wait.

I guessed there were 300 people ahead of me. Preparing for the worst—hours to get in the store and no TP when I got there—I asked one of the supervising employees what to expect.

He replied, “No worries. You'll all be inside within a half hour and we have plenty of toilet paper for everyone.” Whew.

Then he asked if I would like to hear a song. He was holding his iPhone, so I assumed he would play something for the two of us. I asked, “any song?” He replied, “as long as it doesn't have profanities.” Then I realized he was controlling all the speakers in the parking lot with his phone. I looked at the crowd—PLU (people like us)—and said, “how about *Wait for the Midnight Hour*, by Wilson Pickett?” Of course he had no idea what I was talking about. But he found it. And he played it.

When it came on, people started swaying a bit in time to the music. As the line began to move, they shifted from swaying to nodding their heads in time to the music as they shuffled with their carts to the store. Some were smiling. Most probably had no idea why they were nodding their heads and smiling at 8 a.m. They certainly weren't doing so 30 minutes earlier.

This was one of my best experiences ever. Don't you love our generation?!

Here it is, to get *your* head nodding:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rixhkdO_IdU

See you in the line,

Mike



From Patrick Dennis, a nice follow-up to our trip to Phoenix Art Museum in February:

**LEGENDARY PORSCHE 917/30 TAKES HOME 2020 AMELIA ISLAND
CONCOURS TOP HONORS**



We saw this car up close and personal at the Legends of Speed exhibit at Phoenix Art Museum, as detailed in the March-April 2020 newsletter. [Click here](#) to read all about it.



Patrick Dennis suggested, as a point of interest for the Tech Corner, this story on the small block engine development. The small block is the engine that underpins our modern Corvettes.

Chevy Small-Block: The Little Engine That Did is an interesting story from Hagerty's. [Check it out here](#).



**SCC MEN!
SAVE THE DATE!
THIRD WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH!
POKER NIGHT!
WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR DETAILS!**



**Don't forget to wear your Club name tags!
With so many new members,
it helps us all get better acquainted!**



**SCC WOMEN!
SAVE THE DATE!
THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH
MONTH THE VETTE VIXENS MEET FOR
COCKTAILS AND DINNER -
DRIVE YOUR VETTE OR NOT
WATCH YOUR CALENDAR FOR
INFORMATION ON THE NEXT DINNER!
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

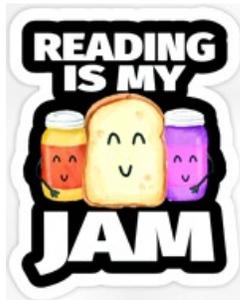


**DON'T FORGET THE MEMBERS'
DRAWING AT THE MONTHLY DINNER
MEETINGS!**

**YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.
THE PRIZE MONEY STARTS OUT AT
\$25.00 AND INCREASES BY \$25.00
EACH MONTH.**

**BE SURE TO BE THERE!
YOU MIGHT WIN!**





THUMBNAIL BOOK REVIEWS

By Dorinne Dobson

The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien. I didn't expect to like this book because it's about the Vietnam war. When offered a free copy in exchange for partaking in an online discussion though, I thought why not give it a shot. I'm glad I did because I really liked this book! Surprise! It's not about the merits of that war, but rather about the burdens and fears of the American soldiers who were sent there to fight a war in which they had little knowledge or interest. The draft was still in place back then, so it was not a matter of choice if you were drafted for active duty. I loved the author's depiction of the things they carried - not only the actual physical things they carried, but the dreams, the memories and the emotions they carried, the fatigue, boredom, sorrow, fear, at times even terror they carried with them. The humor the soldiers resorted to in the most sordid circumstances that sustained them through such difficult experiences was often morbid, or some would say "gallows" humor. I would recommend this book as a worthwhile selection.

The Gown by Jennifer Robson. I read this book on recommendation by SCC member Stacey Chulew. She said she loved it, and I have to agree with her - I loved it too. This is historical fiction, taking place in London in 1947, just two short years after the end of World War II. The announcement of Princess Elizabeth's marriage to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten was a welcome distraction for the British people who were still suffering the effects of the War. The story centers on the making of Princess Elizabeth's wedding gown and follows the people behind the scenes doing the intricate embroidery and sewing of the gown. In 2016, more than a half century later, the granddaughter of the chief embroiderer of the gown, arrives in London from Toronto to attempt to find out how her grandmother came to possess a set of intricately embroidered flowers that she had left to her granddaughter on her death. This is a story with a little intrigue, a little romance, and a lot of very interesting historical information.

This Time Together - Laughter and Reflection by Carol Burnett. If you were a fan of Carol Burnett's television shows with her comedy team 'back in the day' - or even if you weren't - she keeps you smiling and shedding a tear once in awhile over her adventures in show business. I really loved it!

Memory Man by David Baldacci. Being a fan of David Baldacci for some years now, I embarked on reading *Memory Man* with my usual enthusiasm. I was not disappointed. This is a superb mystery. Baldacci spent a lot of the book fleshing out and explaining the character of Amos Decker, a very complex protagonist with special mental talents (hyperthymesia - a autobiographic memory caused by a football injury in his freshman year of college) and extreme emotional disability caused by the loss of those he held dear through the unsolved murder of his wife, ten-year-old daughter and brother-in law. When we get to the mystery and watch Decker sift through the evidence with his remarkable intelligence and memory for every detail, the story becomes compelling. I think this book is a perfect opening for more books starring Amos Decker, which I understand have already been written by Baldacci. I will be sure to read them all.

***The Hypnotist's Love Story* by Liane Moriarty.** Another intriguing tale by one of my favorite authors, this story stars Ellen, the hypnotherapist, who ably helps other people solve their problems but is less successful with her own relationships with men. When Ellen meets Patrick, a widower with a young son, he seems ideal, and she is encouraged that she has finally found "the one." But it turns out that there is one problem: Patrick is being stalked by his ex-girlfriend, Saskia. Saskia follows Patrick, and now Ellen, everywhere; she is always turning up in unexpected places, so that Ellen and Patrick are always looking over their shoulders to see if she is there. The novel is written from the alternating perspectives of Ellen and Saskia, so you get an in-depth view of Saskia's point of view and the misery of her current life. The author manages to combine light-hearted humor with empathy and plenty of suspense, making this another book that I found difficult to put down.

***Miracle Creek* by Angie Kim.** From the book's introductory chapter entitled "The Incident" narrated by Young Yoo to the very last chapter 350 pages later, the reader is trying to figure out who set fire to the hyperbaric oxygen therapy tank in the town of Miracle Creek, Virginia. The resulting explosion killed two people, an 8-year-old autistic patient and the parent of another young patient, and maimed several other people. Young and her husband Pak are Korean immigrants who own and operate the facility treating children with OCD, ADHD, sensory and autism spectrum disorders as well as adults with infertility issues. After the first chapter, the story continues a year later as a courtroom drama with separate segments of the story told from the point of view of each of the people who participated in one way or another in the operation or use of the therapeutic facility. Everyone involved has lied or been dishonest in some material way in their interactions with each other. This is an engrossing story that is not only very informative about health issues about which one may know little, but also it will keep you guessing about who set the fire and why until the very end.

***The Prayer Box* by Lisa Wingate.** If you read *Before We Were Yours* a year or two ago by this author, you will want to read another of her books. This is the story of Tandi Jo Reese, a single mother of two children, who moves to Hatteras Island off the coast of North Carolina to escape from an abusive boyfriend. She accepts a job cleaning out the old Victorian mansion of Iola Anne Poole, a 91-year-old long-time resident of the Island who had passed away. Iola Anne was a hoarder, and the job of cleaning out the house was not an easy one. Tandi finds a closet full of prayer boxes - 81 in all - containing scraps of paper on which Iola Anne had written letters and notes in the form of prayers to God detailing each year of her life in the old house. The letters and the sentiments and information contained in them end up changing Tandi's life. If you're looking for something else to read during this self-quarantine period when life has slowed to a crawl, I can recommend this book.

Happy reading!

Dorinne



From Patrick Dennis:

Who Owns Who in the Auto Industry

An interesting article from *Motor Trend* listing in alphabetical order all the automotive brands and their ownership histories. [Click here](#) to read all about it.



A great big THANK YOU to all who contributed articles, photographs and/or other items of interest or information for this issue of the Newsletter! Those who contributed to this issue are:

Mark Bales
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 Joel Patterson
 Frank Perno
 John Prenzno
 Steve Rabin
 David Sacks
 Jerry Strimbu
 Paul Swenson
 Frank Tasnadi
 Rollie Trayte
 Nate Van Keuren
 Jim Voice
 John Walch

From Patrick Dennis:

Here Are All the Future Corvette C8 Models & Variants: Exclusive

GM Authority has put together a comprehensive guide of all the future Corvette C8 models and variants expected to be on the way during the vehicle's lifecycle. To see what's in store, [click here](#).





RUSSO AND STEELE CREATES NEW DIVISION: RS COLLECTOR AUTOMOBILE SERVICES

Founder and CEO Drew Alcazar returns to his roots, with a full spectrum of resources

(SCOTTSDALE, AZ)-- Drew Alcazar, co-founder and CEO of the famed Russo and Steele Auctions, which celebrated its 20th year during Arizona Car Week, recently announced the launch of an exclusive new extension of his passion for the hobby, that offers “a full spectrum of resources” under the division moniker: RS Collector Automobile Services.

The acquisition of a state-of-the art, 40-plus thousand square foot facility in Scottsdale, Arizona will provide dedicated resources for private sales, restoration, detailing, storage, consulting and collection management services and also serve as the Corporate HQ of Russo and Steele Collector Automobile Auctions. Each service department incorporates Alcazar’s “busted knuckles and dirt under the fingernails” experience of nearly 40 years in the hobby, beginning with his first full “body-off” restoration at the age of 15.

There are many automobile collections with diverse types and values. Ultimately, the hobby is largely based on transactions — buying and selling. This is where RS Automobile Services, Alcazar believes, hits the sweet spot.

“RS Collector Automobile Services is the natural evolution of what I always wanted: to offer a complete docket of services and resources for select collector car enthusiasts,” exclaims Alcazar. “Auctions are just one facet that can represent the end of a journey, or the beginning of a new adventure for an enthusiast.”

Along with his wife Josephine, Alcazar rose to world-wide acclaim with Russo and Steele Auctions, which has sold thousands of collector cars to an engaged and entertained audience in their famous “in the round” format. The new division, is the brainchild and the culmination of Alcazar’s decades of experience, that includes successfully executing thousands of sales transactions; award winning restorations; and a lifetime intimately involved in every aspect of the collector car hobby.

“One exclusive and unique caveat is that all consignments offered through the RS Collector Automobile Services Private Sales Department, must be onsite for inspection inside the 8,000 square foot private showroom,” Alcazar mandates.

This will ensure personal representation by Alcazar himself and avail the related resources onsite for every element of the transaction from marketing presentation for sellers to pre-purchase Inspections for buyers by qualified experts.

“Knowledge is power,” explains Alcazar. “The more things that people know, the better equipped they are going to be to make good decisions and thoroughly enjoy the hobby. It’s the decisions made in haste that are the times the fun gets taken out of this.”

“This is my baby now.” Alcazar explains, “Now, it’s my turn. Having ‘survived’ and loving every second of 35+ years as a professional in the collector car space, RS Collector Automobile Services comes full circle, providing the ultimate environment to maximize the enjoyment of our mutual hobby. At the very core – isn’t that what, not only collector cars, but also life is really all about?”

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DISCLAIMER

The event below is provided as general information for our SCC Members. This is not an SCC Club-Sponsored Event and may not be covered by NCCC insurance.

Members should contact the organizers directly if interested.

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of this event:

<https://www.scuderiasouthwest.com/smq>

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