



## NEWSLETTER

November-December 2014



**ALL CORVETTES ARE RED!**

*That's What Mark Bales Says, on the September Trip to Gila Hot Springs*





NEWSLETTER  
November-December 2014



THE CLUB'S BRICK AT THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM IN BOWLING GREEN, KY.





November-December 2014 A Newsletter for Corvette Enthusiasts 115 Members

www.scottsdalecorvetteclub.com

Dorinne Dobson, Newsletter Editor  
ddobson58@cox.net



*In this issue...*

***Our 15th Anniversary  
Celebration, Trip to Gila  
Hot Springs, NM, Prescott  
Vette Show, Polo Matches  
in Scottsdale, Carlisle  
2014, 2014 NCM Caravan,  
Driving Experience at  
Bondurant, and Much  
More...***

**Meetings:**  
SCC meets the 2nd Wednesday  
of each month at 6:00 PM for a  
dinner meeting.

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

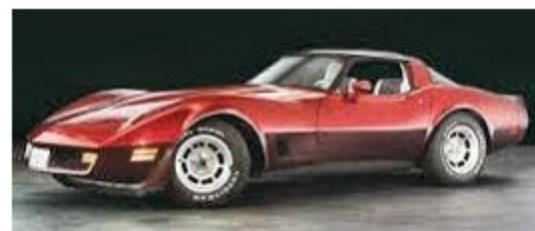


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### Scottsdale Corvette Club Mission Statement

*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.*

### 2014 Board of Directors

#### President

Steve Patricola (480) 636-1241 [spatric@cox.net](mailto:spatric@cox.net)

#### Vice President

Ken Harder (480) 585-3359 [krichtard51@cox.net](mailto:krichtard51@cox.net)

#### Treasurer

Mike Cassel (480) 563-2598 [mcassel@wickpilcherins.com](mailto:mcassel@wickpilcherins.com)

#### Activities Director

Walter Juessen (480) 483-7886 [juessen@aol.com](mailto:juessen@aol.com)

#### Membership Director

Mark Bales (480) 471-7365 [wmbales@gorvw.net](mailto:wmbales@gorvw.net)

#### Secretary

Manny Siprut (480) 361-5706 [mannysip@aol.com](mailto:mannysip@aol.com)

#### Governor

John Walch (602) 663-5168 [johnwalch@hotmail.com](mailto:johnwalch@hotmail.com)

#### Member-at-Large

Frank Tasnadi (623) 332-4571 [Gbpo01@yahoo.com](mailto:Gbpo01@yahoo.com)

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## SCC Birthdays!



### November

Joe Cheesebrough - Nov. 1  
Kathy Bales - Nov. 2  
Connie Cassel - Nov. 4  
Gurmit Walch - Nov. 5  
Dawn Siprut - Nov. 14  
Lyn Trayte - Nov. 16  
Larry Capek - Nov. 18  
Joann D'Alessandro - Nov. 22  
Judi Findsen - Nov. 27  
Barb Follette - Nov. 30  
Manny Siprut - Nov. 30

### December

Mark Dismuke - Dec. 4  
Steve Patricola - Dec. 7  
Gloria Ketterl - Dec. 9  
Rick Cartell - Dec. 11  
Bill Thart - Dec. 13  
Steve Bidwell - Dec. 14  
John Runyon - Dec. 16  
Sharon Quigley - Dec. 20  
John Zimmerman - Dec. 21  
Terry Patricola - Dec. 24  
Bill Follette - Dec. 29





## **Coming Events!**

Nov. 12 - Club Dinner Meeting  
Nov. 15 - Trip to Sabino Canyon in Tucson  
Nov. 19 - Vette Vixens Dinner - Men's Poker Night

Dec. 3 - Board Meeting  
Dec. 6 - Toy Run to Van Chevrolet & Holiday Party

Jan. 14 - Vette Vixens Dinner/Men's Poker (NOTE DATE CHANGE!)  
Jan. 21 - Club Dinner Meeting (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!)  
Jan. 24 - Mystery Trip  
Jan. 28 - Board Meeting

Feb. 11 - Club Meeting at VAN CHEVROLET (PLACE CHANGE)  
Feb. 18 - Vette Vixens Dinner - Men's Poker Night  
Feb. 20-22 - Trip to the Boneyard and Colossal Cave  
Feb. 25 - Board Meeting

We have included the Board Meeting dates in case you have a topic you would like the Board to discuss. Just let us know prior to any of the Board Meetings.



*Patrick Dennis and Linda Beyerle were married in a small private ceremony, Saturday, September 13th.*

*"And they lived happily ever after..."*



The members of  
 Scottsdale Corvette Club  
 join together to send out to  
 LARRY BLOOM  
 our heartfelt good wishes for  
 a speedy recovery!!



## FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

By Steve Patricola

Well, 2014 is coming to a close, and we had another good year at SCC. Whether it was the mystery trip in January, Capitol Reef National Park/Boulder, Utah in May, to the upcoming Toy Run and annual Club holiday party, the Board has a mantra: "Just Have Fun," which drives our decisions to offer you various trips and monthly Club meetings at Gainey. In total, 268 members participated in trips and special dinners this past year.

In my mind, the highlight was the special 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner held in September. The room décor, the dinner, the pictures, and the speakers all made for a fabulous evening - 71 members in attendance. Everyone who was there said they had a very good time and enjoyed themselves. Speaking of Club dinner meetings, our average attendance for this year was 45 with only 10 no shows for the entire year. We appreciate everyone's commitment and understand that life throws curve balls that affect our commitments, but, as a reminder, if you RSVP and don't show up the Club still has an expense, so please try to attend if at all possible. Thanks.



The planned October trip to Monument Valley was cancelled, and that slot was taken over by the trip to Gila Hot Springs/Gila Cliff Dwellings National Park in New Mexico, with 5 cars and 9 members participating. Likewise, the quarterly ethnic epicurean dinner was also moved to October, and I believe that 34 members - could be more - attended the Havana Café night out. The food was good, and the service excellent.

Our Club started the year with 108 members and that grew to 115 members. It's renewal time and, as always, we expect some attrition which is normal as people move in different directions, have health-related issues or sell their Corvettes. We thank all those members who have been with us and wish them well.

There were four Board seats open for this year's Board elections, and there were no members who volunteered as nominees. In light of that, the four positions were filled by existing Board members except for membership director. Mark Bales is retiring from the Board, and we thank him for his dedication, commitment and love of the SCC. I'll miss his late night emails that helped us stay focused and on point, but most of all I'll miss his friendship at the Board meetings. Mike Cassel, Manny Siprut,

John Walch and Frank Tasnadi (Mark's replacement) will be the Board members who will be accepted by acclamation during the November Club meeting.

In addition, the Board decided to have a National Corvette Museum ambassador, and Phil D'Alessandro has accepted appointment to this non-Board position. He will provide us with updates on what's happening with NCM including events and raffles. Welcome, Phil, We look forward to your involvement.

Another change will be management of the Vette Vixens dinners. Carol Lipsky has resigned, and Fran Harder will be the coordinator for 2015, with Kathy Bales assisting. Thank you, Carol! We wish Fran well in her new role.

On November 15th, we will be going to Sabino Canyon in Tucson. Walter has sent out notifications for DCI (a non-SCC-sponsored event) to be held on November 22nd. And of course he has sent notification for the Toy Run and holiday party to be held at Gainey Ranch on December 6th.

Terry and I will be away for the next two Club meetings so we want to wish all of you happy holidays and be safe if travelling anywhere.

Steve



Terry and Steve



**SCC MEN!  
SAVE THE DATE!**

**THIRD WEDNESDAY  
EACH MONTH!  
POKER NIGHT!  
WATCH YOUR EMAIL  
FOR DETAILS!**



***NORMA PARKER'S NAME WAS  
DRAWN IN THE MEMBERS'  
DRAWING AT THE OCTOBER  
DINNER MEETING... ALAS, NORMA  
WAS NOT PRESENT...***

***The members' drawing at the November  
dinner meeting will be for \$50.  
You must be there to win!***





## Editor's Corner

By Dorinne Dobson



Wow! I hope you don't think I've gone crazy with this newsletter! It's a whopping 118 pages, and I didn't write any of it except this little blurb for the Editor's Corner! We are so lucky to have so many members contributing articles and photographs! I am overwhelmed with gratitude!

Walter's calendar of activities for 2015, outlined on pages 17-18, looks like another outstanding set of adventures.

Phil continues to contribute articles that convey his enthusiasm for everything Corvette! His articles on the Solid Axle Corvette Convention and his attendance at Carlisle will have you drooling to attend at least one of these events next summer.

I love Frank's article on the trip to Gila Hot Springs. He will have you laughing, and we'll all be calling Dorothy "Wilma" after reading about her beef bone dinner. And check out Fran's photograph with eerie

ghostlike lighting in the haunted Opera House.

Ken wrote two great articles on our fabulous 15th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and the party at the Polo Matches.

You'll get some more laughs when reading Mark's story about the day of driving instruction at Bondurant Driving School (see page 103).

And of course Rollie came through again with a great article on the Prescott "Wet Vette Sette Corvette Show."

A new contributor in this issue is John Ketterl who was telling me about their excursion on the 2014 National Corvette Museum Caravan. This was at the party at the Strimbu's home in Prescott after the rainy car show. I said to John, why don't you write a little article for the newsletter. And John came through with an article that will make you want to do this - but you have to wait five years now! Till the next NCM Caravan in 2019.

Save the Wave! See you all soon.

Dorinne

### About the Cover Photo

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The photograph on the second cover of this issue of the Newsletter is the brick at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky, that the Club purchased some years ago, back when Carolyn Van Santen was Activities Director and our informal liaison with NCM. The RR-452 is our official NCCC Roadrunners Region number, 452. The brick is located in Section 20 at the Museum.

This photo was obtained by the Club's new NCM Ambassador, Phil D'Alessandro. When the new position was being discussed, Mark Bales remembered the Club purchasing a brick "back in the day," and asked Phil to see if he could find out about it as part of his duties. Pictured at the top of the next page, in front of the National Corvette Museum, is Phil and his wife, Joann, with their 2013 ZR1.



With such an auspicious beginning, we'll be looking forward to more information from our new NCM Ambassador! Good work, Phil!

**DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR  
CLUB NAME TAGS TO THE  
MONTHLY MEETINGS AND  
EVENTS! WITH ALL THE NEW  
MEMBERS, IT WILL HELP  
EVERYONE GET BETTER  
ACQUAINTED!**





## CLUB TRIPS/ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

Courtesy of Walter Juessen, Activities Director

**I ♥ A Mystery**

**January 24**

**IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER  
MYSTERY TRIP!**

We don't know where we're going, but  
we'll see you there!

**February 20-22**

Trip to Boneyard & Colossal  
Cave, near Tucson



**HOUSE  
PARTY!**

**March 28**

House Party at Aaron &  
Jackie Berkowitz's Home

**April 4**

Copperstate  
1000 Field of  
Dreams Car  
Show

**April 26-28**

Trip to Supai  
Village

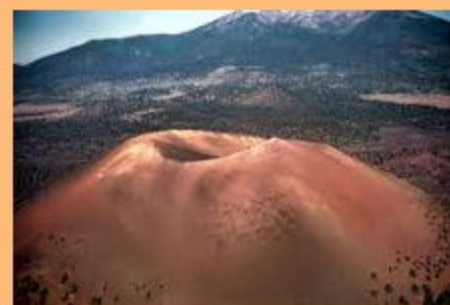


**May 15-17**

The Coronado Trail  
South to North

**June 13-14**

Trip to Sunset Crater and  
Flagstaff



## CLUB TRIPS/ACTIVITIES FOR 2015 - Continued

July

NO ACTIVITIES!



August 6-10

Trip to Monument Valley  
and Moab, UT

September 12

House Party at Phil & Joann  
D'Alessandro's Home in  
Fountain Hills

**HOUSE  
PARTY!!!**



October 3

Box Canyon near Florence

November 14

Trip to Organ Pipe National  
Monument and Casa Grande



December 2

Toy Run to Van Chevrolet  
and Holiday Party



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## Welcome to the Scottsdale Corvette Club Store

The Scottsdale Corvette On-line Store Is Now Open For Business!!

<http://ScottsdaleCorvetteClub.ClubStore.US.com>

### Check It Out!!

Check out the site! Along with Men's and Women's apparel, you will find accessories ranging from blankets to duffel bags. All available with the club logo. In addition you will find a Racing Legends Store, Track Store and Books and DVD's. (logo not available)

When you order, you will be asked to register. It is safe, secure and spam free. **Note: there is a box for membership number, but you can leave it blank.** Keep in mind that Firefox does not inventory our apparel, it's all made to order. The time from order to ship will be longer than the usual web clothing suppliers. Expect 10 work days, give or take.

We are offering the store as a service to our members. The prices are set as low as possible. The Club doesn't make a profit from the sale of products with the SCC logo. The benefits are the ability to offer a wider range in product and pricing opportunities, ability for club members to order whenever they want, and the savings for the club by eliminating the need to inventory apparel. So, check it out!

## **SAVE THE DATES - FIRST SATURDAY EVERY MONTH!**

### **CORVETTES & CAFFEINE**

*Scottsdale Road between Thomas & McDowell*

**FREE DONUTS, BAGELS & COFFEE!**

*Shoebox Swap Meet - If it fits in a Corvette,  
bring it along!*

*Corvette Focused - Over 100 Corvettes and  
growing with each event!*

**RSVP REQUIRED AT**

<http://corvettesandcaffeine.com>

### **SCOTTSDALE MOTORSPORTS GATHERING**

*at the Shops at Gainey Ranch*

*8877 North Scottsdale Road*

*All kinds of exotic cars in the parking lot for a  
free drive-up car show.*

*In the summer the cars arrive fairly early in  
the morning - 7:00; 8:00 when it's cooler.*

**WILL WE SEE YOU AT ONE OF THESE  
EVENTS ON SATURDAY, DEC. 6?**



### **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 EMAIL FOR  
DETAILS ON THE NEXT OUTING  
ON NOVEMBER 19!  
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**





*STORY BY KEN HARDER  
PHOTOS BY MARK BALES*



## 15th Anniversary Celebration

*On September 9, 2014 over 70 members gathered at Gainey Ranch Golf Club to celebrate the Club's 15-year anniversary. Planning for the event began a year ago, when Past Presidents Mark Bales, Mike Cassel, Manny Siprut and Ken Harder were part of a sub-committee and tasked to make recommendations for the event to the full Board. The full Board made some tweaks, and away we went. And what a night it turned out to be!*

*An excellent buffet (heavily subsidized by the Club) included Roast Sirloin, Salmon Medallions, Spinach and Cheese Ravioli, Herbed Red Potatoes, Grilled Zucchini and Yellow Squash, Southwest Caesar Salad, and Warm Rolls and Butter. Gainey also outdid themselves with an Anniversary Cake (see photo on the previous page) beautifully decorated with the Corvette emblem! The food was great, and each member who attended received a Corvette pin (supplied by Club sponsor Van Chevrolet and GM Chuck Mullins, who was in attendance with his wife Karen), and each couple also received a 44-page handout, which covered the Club's early history, Charter Members, membership rosters (including the year joined), past Board listings, Membership Guide, activities listing over the past 6 years, radio setting instructions, past dinner meeting locations and why we are at Gainey, background on Vette Vixens, Men's Poker Night, and an article on the Ronald McDonald House, one of the two charities we*

*support.*

*Before dinner, the cocktail hour was held in the Lakes Ballroom, which, given the attendance, required us to utilize the full room. Members enjoyed a montage of over 1200 photos of Club members attending house parties, events, day-long and extended trips, special dinners, car shows---and one thing was quite clear--- the pictures proved that our car club "JUST WANTS TO HAVE FUN."*

*President Steve Patricola kicked off the evening's festivities with a warm welcome and an overview of the agenda for the evening, and turned the meeting over to Ken Harder, the Master of Ceremonies. Ken introduced Jim Dobson, who gave an overview of the early club, its Charter Members, its incorporation, and the origins of our relationship with Van Chevrolet. Chuck Mullins was the next speaker, and he thanked the Club for the opportunity to sponsor the Club, which has been a mutually beneficial relationship for both of us over the years. Chuck considers many of the Club members his friends, and again reminded Club members to see him FIRST when you are considering the purchase of any car from his dealership. Mark Bales gave an overview of our Current Membership, some historical growth numbers, interesting facts of longevity of members by year joined, and talked about some of the Membership information in the packet. Walter was then introduced*





*The elegant setting for our 15th Anniversary dinner at Gainey Ranch Golf Club*

*to talk about many of the "lighter moments" and funny stories and happenings over the years. While Walter told some of them, he had also asked various Club members to comment and tell their own stories over the years. Some of the members who assisted Walter in this effort included the Dobsons, Mark Bales, Mike Cassel, Hugh Anderson, Steve Patricola, Ken Harder, Chuck Weschler, and many more. We enjoyed lots of laughs, even those who may not have attended some of these activities enjoyed hearing about some of the faux-pas, missteps, U-turns, near misses*

# 15th Anniversary Celebration



*President Steve Patricola*

on running out of gas, being lost in parking lots, and visiting landfills instead of finding a major air force base! The handout listed all of the places the Club has traveled to, including many places we have visited more than once. Walter has been our Activities Director for eight years, longer than any other Activities Director, and has attended more Events than anyone. He is currently putting together our 2015 Calendar, which will have a diversity of activities, trips and places to visit with our Corvettes!



*Emcee Ken Harder*



*Jim Dobson, First SCC President*





*Chuck Mullins, GM at Van Chevrolet*

*Manny Siprut gave a history of our Holiday Party and Toy Run; Ken Harder talked about the many Dinner Meeting locations we have had, some of which we were "fired" from, others closed, others couldn't provide the service we wanted, etc. We have been at Gainey since 2008, and Ken explained the criteria the Board has used to evaluate our Dinner meeting location. He emphasized that we have no plans to leave Gainey Ranch.*

*Dorinne Dobson provided our members with an overview of how Vette Vixens was started, and how it has evolved over the years. Many of our Club members have*



*Walter Juessen, Activities Ditector Exceptionale*



*Mike Cassel Discussing Activities with Walter*



Manny Siprut at the Podium

been involved in leading this effort, and she acknowledged those members who have served to coordinate these very popular ladies events.

Ken Harder also discussed the Club's support of the Ronald McDonald House, where we help maintain a 2 bedroom unit for families whose children may be in a long term fight with various diseases at Phoenix Children's hospital. This relationship has been in place over 9 years, and various members have donated their time, furniture and other household items, and financial support to this effort during that time.

Lastly and most importantly, the meeting was turned back over to Steve, for several Special Recognition Awards. First, Steve recognized those Charter members who were in attendance, who received Corvette emblem computer mouses. The Board also gave special plaques to Jim Dobson, for his efforts in organizing, incorporating and setting the foundation for what is now one of the largest and most fun Corvette Clubs in the Southwest; a special plaque was given to Chuck Mullins, who has been the Van GM since the Club was incorporated and has been a great friend to the Club; Mark Bales presented a special plaque to Dorinne Dobson for her outstanding contributions as Editor of our Newsletter; and Ken Harder presented a special plaque to Walter Juessen for his tireless work as our Activities Director and Master of Fun over the past several years.

It was an entertaining and educational evening, as many new club members may have learned things that they did not know, and many older members may have known but had forgotten!!! It was a great celebration of the fun and camaraderie the members of our Club have enjoyed over the years, and what we hope will continue into the future. As Mark Bales said, this Club is all about our Members, and it is up to us to make this as enjoyable and fun as we can. Given the excellent information that was contained in the Handout, if you were not able to at-





*The Award Winners - Walter, Dorinne, Jim and Chuck*

*attend the September 9 celebration, Frank Tasnadi will have copies of the Handout at our next Club meeting on November 12. Every member (one copy per household) who did not receive one should ask him for a copy.*

*Ken*



*Our Presidents: John Runyon, Hugh Anderson, Jim Dobson, Mark Bales, Steve Patricola, Manny Siprut and Ken Harder  
(Mike Cassel not pictured - but he's on page 34)*



## TRIP TO GILA HOT SPRINGS, NEW MEXICO - SEPTEMBER 2014

Story by Frank Tasnadi - Photos by Mark Bales & Fran Harder





## Trip to Gila Hot Springs

The latest Scottsdale Corvette Club event started out like many others, meeting at the Indian Bend retail center and heading out from there. Destination: The Gila Cliff Dwellings in New Mexico. So on a sunny Thursday morning five Corvettes (Mark and Kathy Bales, Walter and Michele Juessen, Dorothy Durby, Ken and Fran Harder, and Frank and Lisa Tasnadi) led by Walter and Michele and their 638-horsepower ZR1 rocket on the Arizona open road toward New Mexico and our eventual destination of Pinos Altos, NM.

Traveling out the US 60 east to Globe seemed pretty routine, but I thought to myself: how can five shiny Corvettes, filled with nine fun loving people and a slightly cooler but sunny fall-ish day be routine? Conclusion: It can't. This trip was a winner from the very beginning!! Sliding through Globe we pointed our bumpers towards Safford, AZ. In between we encounter some rather straight, lonely, fairly level roads. It's Walter in front, then Ken and me with the others a little bit behind. All of a sudden I wonder what is wrong with my car, seems to be running smoothly, but I am losing ground - big time - to the leaders as they pull away into the distance. It didn't take long to realize the two in front of me had nailed their respective accelerators and were speeding away. There was nothing wrong with my car

...me maybe, but not the car. So in a somewhat delayed reaction, I too nailed it, bringing my C7 to 112 (a PR in the new car) before catching the two hot doggers in front of me who had by now slowed down. Later conversation discovered Walter made it to 150+ and Ken to 125, both slowing because the road conditions worsened quickly. We may be fast but we are not foolish!

We had lunch in Safford at La Tienda Del Sol, another great little restaurant. We all wondered aloud....how does Walter do it...almost always picking great places to eat? Onward to Lordsburg, NM and eventually Silver City. Everyone is doing well. We are creeping along (seems like it after 100+ earlier) through Silver City when Dorothy gets on the radio: "My car is making funny noises." We pull into a parking lot almost immediately, pop the hood, looks good, underneath...nothing wrong...hmmm. After a short deliberation, we decide to keep driving, miraculously the noise went away just as mysteriously as it began. Later we discovered the noise came and went coincidentally along with the loud, large group of cicadas doing their thing in the local woods next to our highway. A slightly red-faced Dorothy admitted...probably nothing wrong with the car. :)



**Trip to Gila Hot Springs**

We arrive at our first hotel - actually it was a group of very nice log cabins - around 5:00 p.m. There to meet us were Chuck and Sandi Weschler. They had driven up from their summer place in Flagstaff to join us. Everyone was tired but excited to be in the tall trees with the smell of pine in the 72 degree fresh air....awesomell! The Bear Creek Motel and Cabins is our home for the next two nights. The cabins are rustic but clean 2-story units with the sleeping quarters upstairs. They have everything you need including cable HD TV and free WIFI. Although the latter was painfully slow, it still was free. Happy hour on the Juessen's patio and off to dinner. The Buckhorn Saloon, Restaurant and Opera House....yes, you heard that right...Opera House...was



Bales' and Durby's Cabins & Vettes

**COCKTAILS AT BEAR CREEK**



about a mile away, too far to walk. Like the cabins, the Buckhorn is quaint and rustic but very nice and friendly. The menu was well rounded with steaks, chops, seafood, etc. available. Friday's and Saturday's feature prime rib but as this was Thursday we opted for the other menu items. Everyone's food was good, especially considering we are in the middle of nowhere! We decided to make reservations for





At the Buckhorn Saloon

the next night too. We also made an appointment to tour the Opera House, and it turns out it is a *haunted* Opera House!

The highlight for the next day was to be our trip to the Gila Cliff Dwellings, more on those in a moment. To get there we had to travel about 35 miles on The Trail of the Mountain Spirits Scenic Byway...aka ...NM Highway 15. Well, this isn't really what I would call a typical highway. It is **very** curvy and narrow with countless tight turns and elevation changes along the way. It is heavily wooded, giving the road surface a strobe light effect as you drive. I love it...the entire thing, strobe and all!! If you have ever done the Road to Hana on Maui you know what this is like, except this has much greater elevation changes. It is supposed to take two hours to complete the journey, but they don't know SCC



On the Way to the Cliff Dwellings



## Trip to Gila Hot Springs

very well! **45 minutes** :) later we arrive at the Cliff Dwellings. I knew right then that we had just completed the best part of the day. Heck, I can't wait to go back!!!!



Dorothy, Fran, Sandi and Kathy  
on the Climb to the Cliff Dwellings

The Cliff Dwellings were indeed very special. Seven caves on the face of a cliff were first inhabited in 1276. The inhabitants are known as the Puebloans of the Mogollon area. Geronimo was reportedly born nearby at the "Headwaters of the Gila." To get



Chuck Ascending the Path to the Cliff Dwellings

there, we had to hike. Initially Walter said it was an 18-mile round trip hike, but the smile on his face quickly gave it away. Just over a mile with a fair amount of **up** at an altitude of over 8000 feet had us old geezers gassed by the time we got to the caves, but we all made it! It was a guided or self-guided tour with the entire thing lasting a little over an hour. We then took the obligatory trek to the gift shop, and finally we are on our way back to NM 15 and its curves...yippee...I can't wait!! But slow your horses, Frank, you had made a deal with the lovely bride on the way to the Dwellings. She gives



## Trip to Gila Hot Springs

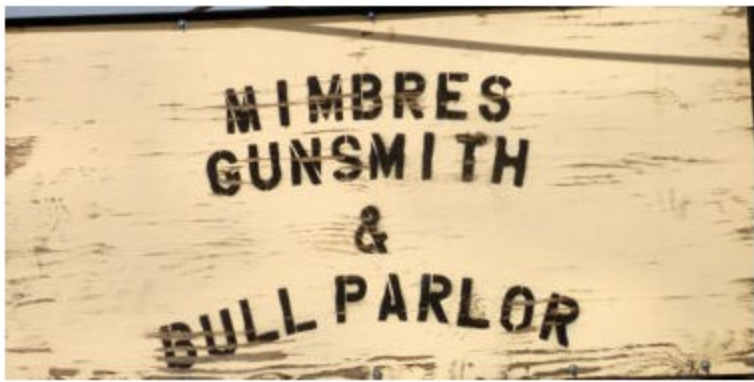
me minimal grief about my aggressive driving there and we will drive slowly (and painfully) back, the last car in the SCC pack for the return trip. Even though Lisa admits to having fun going fast, a deal is a deal!!

We head back and have lunch at the Mimbres (it's the name of the town) Restaurant, Gun Smith and Bull Parlor. Hey, if the other place has a haunted Opera House, I suppose this place can have a Bull Parlor, whatever that is!! As we are being seated by an elderly gent, more elderly then us even, I notice Walter and Michele really talking it up. What's going on, I wonder. Well, it turns out the old guy seating us has a Swiss



The Cliff Dwellings





What the Heck is a Bull Parlor?

accent...Walter and Michele are Swiss and picked up on that right away. As you might imagine, a lengthy, happy but totally indecipherable conversation ensued for quite some time. Again here, Walter gets it right with another excellent restaurant in the middle of nowhere...complete with a new Swiss buddy. Funny though...I couldn't get Swiss cheese on my burger...what's up with that??

That night we go back to the Buckhorn where most of us got the pretty decent but overly done prime rib...and...the promised tour of the haunted Opera



What the Heck is a Bull Parlor?

House. Back in the 1870's this was a rip roarin' Opera House, Saloon and Dance Hall. One night the Opera House caught fire, all of the doors were locked from the outside and emergency escape tunnels were blocked - by whom and why no one knows. Over 80 people lost their lives in a totally consuming fire that night. The now rebuilt OH is haunted by those 80 poor souls from so long ago. If you check the picture, you will see the ghostly energy coming down from the top of the photo towards us. Was the heavy rain and thunderstorm activity that night their way to welcome us? Maybel!!!



In the Haunted Opera House



## Trip to Gila Hot Springs

The next morning we are up and out by 10:00 a.m., heading for Pine Top, AZ. We had another excellent lunch at the Bear Wallow Restaurant in Alpine, AZ. After lunch we experienced another rain storm. As we motored along, we suddenly noticed what looked like snow on the road and all around us. It had apparently sleeted quite heavily just moments before our arrival giving the appearance of snow. No problem, just drive a little slower. Onward to our destination of Pine Top. Once there, we all retreat to our rooms at the local Holiday Inn for a little R and R before dinner.

Our happy hour was in the hotel's breakfast area. I had checked out a local market, Eddie's Country Store (best smoked bacon you will ever have can be bought there) and purchased a large jar of pickled eggs for my donation, along with a bowl of pistachios, to the happy hour cuisine. Much to my surprise, but not Lisa's, not many would even try the delightful little eggs. Ken, Dorothy and Walter were the only brave folks willing to give it a shot....they liked it. So much that Dorothy went back the next day and bought her own jar.



Group at the Pit Stop



Walter and the Pickled Eggs

## Trip to Gila Hot Springs

Dinner our last night was at Charlie Clark's Steak House, a fine local restaurant that has been around since the 1880's. Red meat, as you might imagine, is the mainstay of the menu. Many of us did prime rib for the second night in a row. Even though the night before was good, this was much better. Walter discovered a larger cut, not on the menu, and was the only one willing to give the 24-ounce cut a try. The rest of us carnivores settled for smaller cuts, fish or fowl. Everyone except Dorothy, that is, she went for the beef rib bones. When they arrived...OMG...they looked like something from the Flintstones!!! I was getting pictures in my mind of Dorothy seated in her Torch Red Vette with one of those drive-in trays affixed to her door glass and the Vette tipping on its side....really!! She couldn't finish them that night. She is probably still chomping away on them. For this she has earned the nickname of Wilma!

In the morning we all left as we chose to. Walter and Mark and brides left unexpectedly early as Mark's home refurbishment sprang yet another leak and flooded the sunken living room. Little actual damage inflicted because the floors are bare concrete, stripped from the last flood a little over a week ago.



Dorothy, aka Wilma, and her "Flintstone" Ribs

A four-day trip, 11 great people, 6 Corvettes and memories to last for years. To sum it up...in the spirit of Dorothy's Flintstone ribs, we had a Yabadabadoo good time!

Frank



## SAVE THE DATE! MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24!

The Auxiliary of the Boys & Girls Clubs  
of Greater Scottsdale invites you  
to a dazzling day of friends,  
food and fun!



## Visions of Sugarplums

Want to have lunch at the Scottsdale Princess with a fantastic fashion show, plus shopping at some fabulous boutiques? Member Krysha Sorce is active in this organization and has offered to secure a table or tables for any SCC members interested in attending. The cost is \$85 per person, with all proceeds benefitting the Boys and Girls Clubs of Scottsdale. Call or email Krysha at 847-682-5506 or [kryshalky7@aol.com](mailto:kryshalky7@aol.com).



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

Mark Bales  
Phil D'Alessandro  
Patrick & Linda Beyerle Dennis  
Jim Dobson  
Bill Follette  
Ken & Fran Harder  
Walter Juessen  
John Ketterl  
Steve Patricola  
Krysha Sorce  
Frank Tasnadi  
Rollie & Lyn Trayte  
John Walch

## 2014 National Solid Axle Corvette Club Convention Lancaster, PA, August 18-20, 2014 Story and Photos by Phil D'Alessandro

The majority of the SCC members are not Solid Axle owners - you know, the old guys with hard rear ends, and so this article is to let everyone know more about Solid Axle in case you get the hankering for a C1.

Be not confused, Solid Axle and NCRS are separated by light years. Solid Axle owners love to drive their cars, regardless if there is a Meyer's frame under it or an LS2 or LS3 sits in the engine bay. NCRS, and I am a member, is dedicated to the preservation and restoration to factory standards, of the earlier Corvettes. NCRS members drive their cars too, just not to the extent of Solid Axle. Bottom line, two great clubs, just with different goals.

Two years ago, the National meeting was right here in our own backyard, Fountain Hills, and while we attended, it was in a rental Buick, only somewhat resembling a C1. This year, the National Convention was in Lancaster, PA, home of the Amish, Julius Sturgis Pretzels and the Wilber Chocolate Factory (actually in Lititz, PA), need I say more, and while our C1 was sitting in the garage here in AZ, we at least had a Corvette, our LeMans Blue 2006 Z51 coupe.



Phil's 2006 Z51 Coupe



This is the Wilber Chocolate factory display but they had samples.



## National Solid Axle Corvette Club Convention

Julius Sturgis actually invented the "hard" pretzel by accident. He left them in the oven too long, and when he attempted to convince his uncle the sell them, the denial led him to open his own company. Prior to the "hard" pretzel, they were all soft, and at the old factory site store, they still make them that way; the best by the way.



The National started with a reception on Monday evening, and while almost all the National Chapters were represented, the attendance was a total of just 68. John Marsh, the Arizona Solid Axle President, asked me to represent the Chapter since we were the only members attending the National. More on the business meeting later.

The social program was well planned and managed by Brad Bean, SACC Vice President. Tuesday was a cruise to Amish country with tours and lunch. We, Joann and I, have a home in PA and have been in Amish country before so we decided to sidetrack to Lititz instead. Come on, soft pretzels

and a chocolate factory vs., well you fill in the rest. Tuesday dinner was at a dinner theater, the Dutch Apple, and the show was Hair Spray, not New York Broadway but well done and plenty of food to accommodate most if not all.



Wednesday was a road trip in the morning to Ludwigs Custom Auto facility.





# National Solid Axle Corvette Club Convention

The owner restored and painted Brad Bean's car, below.



A small but complete shop, he is currently working on a car obtained from the Lembrecht Chevrolet auction. If you are not familiar with this auction, the owner rarely sold the trade-in cars, just put them in a field and had a collection of early cars with almost no mileage on them in the garage. Ludwig purchased a 1959 BelAire with four, yes four, miles on the odometer. Sounds great except that the back window was gone and 50 years of environment entered the car. By the way, Lembrecht Chevrolet was in Nebraska, not known for mild winter weather. Pictured at the top of the next page is the car as it is being restored. Think they have a ways to go.

Before lunch, the club was invited to Jeff Barbour's home and his private collection, and what a collection. His large two-story garage had an eclectic collection of cars, motorcycles, dirt track race cars, as well as classic cars. See photos at right.





# National Solid Axle Corvette Club Convention

A lunch break was next at Boehringer's family drive in and it gave us the opportunity to get a wide angle of all the C1s and a couple of interlopers with their newer cars.



Our lunch break was at a roadside stand where the owners are only open in the summer and make all their ice cream themselves. Hamburgers are hamburgers and hot dogs are hot dogs but great ice cream is a real find. I have marked this spot to visit again.

We returned to the hotel, the Willow Valley Resort, on our own. Early afternoon was the Business Meeting of SCC and here are the highlights:

Membership has remained somewhat constant over the past eight years at approximately 1,250. There are three Regions: East, Central and West with eight active Chapters: Northwest, SoCal, Arizona, Sunshine, Red River, Michigan, Mid-Atlantic and Central Great Rivers. The 2015 National Convention will be in Tacoma, Washington, and the committee is looking into tying the Convention in with the FunFest of Corvette Central for 2016. The organization is financially solid, and the membership dues cover the prize-winning magazine, "On Solid Ground" at almost \$33,000 and

insurance for all National and Chapter Officers which is basically "Errors and Omission" coverage.

Elections were held and Greg Medico, a member of the Corvette Club of Arizona (they are based in Chandler), was elected to an open position.

Wednesday evening wrap-up reception and dinner featured a presentation by Adam Boca of the National Corvette Museum, concerning THE hole. Very informative. As you might know, the cars that are not being restored such as this one,



will be on display at the museum and four others that can be restored, will be by GM.

The 2015 National Solid Axle Convention will be July 29 thru August 1 in Fife, Washington (near Tacoma), hosted by the Northwest Chapter. They have planned quite an event including trips to the LeMay Family Car Collection, a visit to



# **National Solid Axle Corvette Club Convention**

Griot's Garage (you know these guys) for a session on paint restoration, a night cruise with Griot's, a visit to Art Morrison Garage and a tour to Classic Reflection Coachworks. All in all, a great trip. Consider it if you are an SCC member.

In summary, we had a great time, again, Corvettes and great people equal great times. If you are thinking about getting a C1, the 1953 thru 1962 models, and have any questions, we are most fortunate to have in our local area, some of the most knowledgeable and helpful individuals I have ever met. The vast majority have forgotten more than I will ever know, and they are very generous with their time in helping find, repair, restore or just talk about C1s. Remember, owning a C1 does not mean taking it to NCRS standards - it means enjoying the car, period.

Phil



*Take a day trip to Tucson to visit Sabino Canyon and have lunch. The perfect way to spend a Saturday in November!  
If you want to go, contact Walter at [juessen@aol.com](mailto:juessen@aol.com).*

## **PRESCOTT WET VETTE SETTE CORVETTE SHOW**

**Story by Rollie Trayte**

**Photos by Linda Beyerle Dennis, Lyn & Rollie Trayte & Mark Bales**

About a dozen sturdy SCC veterans headed North up the hill to Prescott on Friday, September 26th, for the Eighth Annual Prescott Vette Sette Corvette Show, despite the forecast of cloudy skies and rain on Saturday. The erstwhile Prescott Motor Lodge served as home base in all its eclectic funkiness, and Kim welcomed the SCC crew with the obligatory beverage.

A few hiked up to the Hotel St. Michael on the square for the welcoming reception, while others of us chose a power nap and quick side step over to the quickie mart next door for some liquid libation. We chose to remain in camp at the Lodge and ordered what was arguably the best pizza on the planet, consumed around the newly placed gas fireplace on the deck outside the office. It was



# Prescott Wet Vette Sette Corvette Show



Red Vettes at the Motor Lodge

an early night by most accounts, with a light smattering of rain throughout the evening as a precursor of the Saturday to come.

Saturday morning brought gray skies but ambitious polishing as we headed for the square - sneaking in just before the 50-car parade from another club, and we dutifully took our places along the western curb of Whiskey Row where the bars were already populated with a number of broken down regulars who came out onto the side-

walk to stare briefly at the cars, torch up another Pall Mall, hack up half a lung and trudge back inside for another round.



Getting into the Car Show



Foster & Rollie Before the Rain



Clockwise from upper left, Foster, Jerry and Patrick with their Vettes at the Show

We performed the wax-on, wax-off ritual several times. . .and wiped off rain drops defiantly as the sun periodically poked through the darkening clouds. We were joined by more SCC members that headed up from the Valley Saturday just in time to watch the showers and wind intensify as the morning progressed. Show organizers announ-





ced at 11:30 a.m. that the show would close at noon, and at 12:01 p.m., a stream of southbound pick-up-truck traffic started weaving its way through the Corvettes as the Prescott folks warned that high winds and heavy rains were approaching.

Clockwise from left, Linda, Rollie and Tali with their Vettes at the Show

# Prescott Wet Vette Sette Corvette Show



Several of us stashed our cars in the concrete parking garage behind Whiskey Row and headed to the Gurley Street Grill - remarkably located a block west of the square on (you guessed it) - Gurley Street for lunch and a well deserved cocktail as the winds picked up, the skies opened and a mixture of rain and hail pelted the old territorial capital. The rain briefly subsided after lunch, and several of us high-tailed it back to the carports at the Motor Lodge just before a torrential rainstorm dumped more than an inch an hour on the area, causing flooding along the square

and a well-documented red C6 that fared poorly when the owner decided to open the door and let the floodwaters fill the interior as onlookers questioned the absence of logic or the level of intoxication.... We're told however that the car did start and depart. (See photo below)



Back at the lodge, we watched the rain beat on those cars not fortunate to have covered parking and later headed up the hill in Prescott to the home of Pam and Jerry Strimbu for an incredible view of the valley from their home while we enjoyed dinner and refreshments as the evening



Vettes at the Strimbus' Party



chilled. As always, Mark Bales documented the day with photos as did our friends, Lynn and Steve Delano from Prescott, that can be viewed by following this link: [www.photoshow.com/watch/DX4Ti9AT](http://www.photoshow.com/watch/DX4Ti9AT)

A hearty thanks to Pam and Jerry for a terrific evening in the post-precipitation of Prescott - we can only imagine the incredible views from the Strimbu porch in better weather.

More than 285 Corvettes were registered for the event, and although about a dozen canceled, the best guess was that close to 200 cars showed up along with vendors of all kinds and an appearance from Corvette Guy Mike Furman from Criswell Chevrolet in Maryland. (See Mike's post on Corvette Forum

[www.corvetteforum.com/forums/c7-general-discussion/3539987-i-drop-shipped-myself-into-prescott-az-for-a-surprise-vette-show-visit-pics.html](http://www.corvetteforum.com/forums/c7-general-discussion/3539987-i-drop-shipped-myself-into-prescott-az-for-a-surprise-vette-show-visit-pics.html).

# Prescott Wet Vette Sette Corvette Show

We're told that 2014 might be the last year for the show given the aging population of the Prescott Vette Sette, but for those of us from whom this has become a tradition - we'll probably go up next year regardless just to hang at the Motor Lodge with the gang - great fun. Thanks to all who made the trek.

Rollie and Lyn



It Was Plenty Rainy in Prescott!



## 2014 National Corvette Museum (NCM) Caravan Trip

*By John Ketterl*

One item on our bucket list was to travel as much of America's Road, US Route 66, as possible. After we bought our 1988 dark red metallic Corvette convertible in April 2012, my wife, Gloria and I, heard about the NCM's 20th Anniversary that was scheduled for August 22-29, 2014. The event included caravans of Corvettes that would travel from all over the USA to Bowling Green, KY to celebrate this 5-year event. We felt this was a great opportunity to fulfill this bucket list item so, in November 2013, we registered to participate in the Southwest Caravan that included sub-caravans from AZ/NM, NM, TX and OK to travel east to end up in Bowling Green KY, the GM assembly plant for all new Corvettes.

Early on, the NCM set up an online chat server for the participants to communicate anything and everything related to the caravan including what to bring, what to



wear, side venues and trips, radio and communications, and much, much more. This was an enormous help since we were newbies to caravan travel and needed some guidance about what was the most important stuff to load into our huge 1' X 2' X 1' shoe-box-sized rear compartment in our C4. (The fact is, we almost bought a C5 on the trip solely because of the larger size trunk space, but that is another story.)

After a briefing at 10 AM on Friday August 22 at Midway Chevrolet by the AZ/NM caravan leader, Holt Davis, about the rules of the caravan and what to expect and what not to expect, we started off to Williams AZ around noon. The AZ/NM caravan started earlier that day in Tucson and traveled to Phoenix where more cars joined the armada. At this point we were about 22 cars, give or take a few. The intent was to travel to Williams to meet up with a larger caravan, the SoCal/SoNev group, which started from Ontario, CA earlier that day. This caravan was joined in Las Vegas by more Corvettes and totaled about 150+ cars when they pulled into Williams. With the addition of the AZ/NM cars in Williams, the caravan grew to about 180 cars.

The town of Williams really went out of their way to welcome the combined caravan to their community. They set up the eastbound US Route 66 street with reserved parking for Corvettes, only to allow the proud owners to show off their personal chariots to the town

folks and other chariot owners. The town opened their doors to the caravan participants with discounts, coupons and other incentives to utilize the local establishments including eateries, bars, and antique shops of all sorts and even set up a band to serenade the Corvette chariot owners.

The next morning, all 180 Corvettes lined up on westbound US Route 66, three abreast, for a police escort thru town to allow the town residents a final review of all the cars before they left town. This final parade traveled west to the western edge of Williams to a turnabout then reversed direction using eastbound one-way US Route 66 to join Interstate 40 heading east to our next stop of Albuquerque, NM, 340 miles away.

Traveling through Flagstaff, Winslow (and don't forget Winona), Two Guns, St. Joseph, and Holbrook, AZ, was a fascinating trek that brought back memories of trips past when we were much younger. The organizers of the caravan encouraged side trips to the Meteor Crater, the Painted Desert or the Petrified Forest. The pace of the caravan was about the speed limit so spending a little time at one or more of these places was possible.

After an hour and a half lunch break in Gallup, NM, the caravan headed eastward again. Glo and I decided to eat at a truck stop east of Gallup that conveniently included a gas fill-up as well as a blue plate lunch. While pumping gas for the thirsty Vette, one of the gas station



## 2014 NCM Caravan

patrons, who had traveled from California, was astonished at the number of Corvettes that passed him (he counted more than 20 that passed him one after another at one time), and he said he was psyched to buy a Corvette when he gets home to Albuquerque. It just shows that success in numbers has a very strong influence in swaying how people react.

Traveling east from Gallup was gorgeous with the red-orange mesas and canyons against a cobalt blue sky. Traveling through Grants and Laguna, NM, with their obvious Native American heritage was an experience that many in the USA would really enjoy. Albuquerque could be seen beneath the Sandia Mountains from a few miles out of town. After checking into the hotel, the evening festivities included another showing off of our chariots at the Reliable Chevrolet dealership. These hosts provided a DJ with period appropriate tunes, read 60's and 70's music, with some great finger food. In Albuquerque, the caravan increased in size by more than 20 cars from northern New Mexico and El Paso, TX areas.

The next morning, after a hotel sponsored buffet breakfast, all of the 200 or so Corvettes lined up, this time 4 abreast on pavements that surrounded 2 of the larger host hotels, for the trek to Amarillo, TX. This time, the caravan left I-40 a few miles east of Albuquerque and traveled northward though the east side of the Sandia

Mountains on SR14. This leg went though various smaller towns some of which are artist colonies. The slower pace allowed for some scenic views of the east side of the Rio Grande Valley with some country-style roads and amenities.

We made it to I-25 near Santa Fe (we broke from the caravan to get some gas) and followed it for about 60 miles to US Route 84 trying to catch up with the rest of the caravan which was a futile effort. We exited the interstate at this point and headed toward Santa Rosa, NM. The great part of this leg of the trip was that it was a straight 2-lane road with virtually no town speed traps to limit the speedometers of the pack. I was told that, at one point, the leader of the caravan opened up his yellow C6 to 130 MPH for several miles just to let the car breathe in the clear high desert air - to clean their pipes, so to speak. My C4 wasn't that fast but doing 85 to 90 on this rural stretch did nothing to catch up with these 2-lane highway Corvette daredevils. We joined I-40 again just west of Santa Rosa to travel east for lunch in Tucumcari, NM.

After lunch at a 1950's style diner in Tucumcari and fresh gas (read that however you want), we headed east for Amarillo, TX, our next overnight stop. This leg was mostly prairie for scenery with the sporadic sightings of wind turbines that provide electrical energy for the Southwest including Arizona Public Service customers.



## 2014 NCM Caravan

*Just outside of Amarillo is the Cadillac Ranch with the 10 half-buried Cadillacs that attract worldwide visitors each year.*

*The evening events in Amarillo consisted of a host hotel opening up their patio to the caravan participants for hors d'oeuvres and a box lunch provided by the local Amarillo Corvette club. By this time, the caravan totaled more than 250 cars due to meeting up with the Oklahoma/Texas Panhandle Caravan group in Amarillo. At this point, the caravan leadership was turned over to Tuna Dobbins and his wife, Susan, from Oklahoma. Their task was to lead the group the next day to Tulsa, OK, and then to Cape Girardeau, MO. The day after that, the larger caravan would travel to Nashville and then to Bowling Green.*

*Unfortunately, instead of heading east with the caravan, we had to leave the caravan in Amarillo and return to Phoenix for a previous commitment. However, the caravan experience was great for both my wife and me. We met some of the nicest and most courteous people ever. My hat goes off to all the organizers who spent 4 years preparing for the trip by traveling the roads and personally experiencing the local cuisine and staying at the hotels before the caravan registration was even set up. Each registered participant was given a fantastic travel booklet that contained turn by turn directions and colored Google Maps with notations about how to get to*

*hotels and other events during the caravan trip.*

*The organizer/leader of the Southern California caravan, Hib Halverson, the leader of the SW caravan, has been the captain for 3 of these NCM caravans and would like new blood to spearhead the next 25th NCM anniversary caravan. Hib did a phenomenal job of getting the local captains together to organize this event. Holt Davis was the captain of the AZ/NM caravan, and his yellow C6 had all the antennas, decals and markings of any road rally pro. These two gentlemen, and Tuna Dobbins, know more about racing cars including Mustangs, Roadrunners and Corvettes, than anyone I know. I had the good fortune to sit with Tuna and Holt in Amarillo, and these two old street racing buffs spent more than an hour and a half reminiscing about the cars they once owned and what they did to them to add even one more horse power just to beat some teenage hot-shot on the street!!*

*Tony Megowan spent 3 or 4 months, straight, volunteering his time and resources to develop and put the Route Book together including the Google maps with color glossies. His wife Paula acted as the CFO and was the primary contact for gathering sponsors to help finance the event. There were countless others that contributed significant time and energy to making this caravan event a success. My kudos to all these folks for making the event that much more fun and enjoyable.*



## 2014 NCM Caravan

*Although it may be too early to tell at this point, I know I will be ready to do another caravan based on the experience we had on this recent trip. I hope the 2019 NCM caravan comes soon as I would really like to take the full trip to Bowling Green.*

*John*



For a panoramic view of the scene at the Polo Games, check out Fran Harder's slide show at [https://](https://plus.google.com/109422547550405995168/stories/8f5234f4-9df8-3f99-9f36-546eef2c35e21494f60fc99?gpinv=AMIXal81F77PnwAiwoN3ncgWgk44WUWmOdnZfdXBqCgrdUSR1kNCMseNNbJ2ZEh1yqaLs-phprysL9eVUpn9G69yloQe3H_IF1xSxjWDj81U_eQ1)

[plus.google.com/109422547550405995168/stories/8f5234f4-9df8-3f99-9f36-546eef2c35e21494f60fc99?gpinv=AMIXal81F77PnwAiwoN3ncgWgk44WUWmOdnZfdXBqCgrdUSR1kNCMseNNbJ2ZEh1yqaLs-phprysL9eVUpn9G69yloQe3H\\_IF1xSxjWDj81U\\_eQ1](https://plus.google.com/109422547550405995168/stories/8f5234f4-9df8-3f99-9f36-546eef2c35e21494f60fc99?gpinv=AMIXal81F77PnwAiwoN3ncgWgk44WUWmOdnZfdXBqCgrdUSR1kNCMseNNbJ2ZEh1yqaLs-phprysL9eVUpn9G69yloQe3H_IF1xSxjWDj81U_eQ1)



## BENTLEY SCOTTSDALE POLO CHAMPIONSHIP HORSES & HORSEPOWER

Story by Ken Harder

Photos by Bill Follette, John Walch  
and Fran Harder

This is the fourth year of this event, which is an "unofficial" event for our Club. Two years ago, and again this year, the Club was invited to show off our cars, along with Ferraris, Lamborghinis, Bentleys, Porsches and the like, prior to seeing some of the best polo that you can find anywhere in the United States. What can be said about this event is that it is most similar to a Kentucky Derby, with beautiful people nattily attired, in a beautiful setting, surrounded by beautiful cars, incredible horses and athletes, loud music, and great weather. Each Club



## Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championship

member who decided to bring their car and agreed to stay the entire day (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) was given free tickets to the event, including their car mate.

There was competition on Saturday, and an ALL-STAR match between Saturday's top players took place on Sunday alongside the USPA (United States Polo Association) Governor's Cup. Sunday's action was highlighted by some of the best polo players in the world, including Julio Arellano, the top polo player in the U.S., and Patrick Uretz, of Westmont College in Santa Barbara, the top U.S. college player. Also participating were top female polo players including Sunny Hale (U.S.), Sarah Wiseman (Great Britain), Paolo Martinez (Argentina), and the top professional gay polo player in the world, Caroline Anier of France. This international cast of players highlights both the importance and significance of this event, which has become the premier polo event in the United States. Sunday's action included two polo matches, with Team Heineken defeating Sears Vacation Team 5-4 for the Governor's Cup. And in the best match of the weekend, the all-star match, Team Bentley defeated Team Barrett Jackson 6-5.

Don't know anything about Polo? Well, some background. It certainly is a rich person's game, as many



players own many very expensive horses. The reason you need lots of horses is that each horse is only used for one chukka, which is essentially equivalent to a quarter of a period in other sports. Each team consists of just four players, and in a match, they play 4 chukka of 7 minutes each. Once a goal is scored, the teams change ends. There is no goalie and a goal is scored when the hard plastic ball is shot by a player through two poles which look like football goal posts without the crossbar. The idea is to score more goals than your opponent, and the player usually hits the ball from the right side of his horse. There are certain fouls that can be called, and there are two referees on horseback monitoring the play. The field can be 300 yards long and as much as 200 yards wide, and at halftime, it is tradi-





tion that the audience come onto to the field and tramp down the grass kicked up by the fast running and turning horses. Of course, it is always wise to watch where you are walking so that you do not tramp down the horse pooh! Our reserved seats were right along the field's edge, and our group enjoyed both the polo and the opportunity to people watch.

Champagne is the drink of choice, and the polo match may be the least interesting thing going on at any point in time. Sunday's activities capped a weekend that included previews of the Barrett-Jackson Collector Car Auction, the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show, the First Canine Couture Fashion Show (yes, dog



**Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championship**

fashion), the LIVE Larsen Art Auction, the World's Longest Catwalk Fashion Show (yes, cat fashion), and Horse Chip Bingo (don't ask!), benefitting Phoenix Children's Hospital. What a day, what an experience, and what great fun!

Ken



The Beautiful People of SCC

The young lady in the foreground was John Walch's guest, Heather Andrus Carl, a member of his international coral team and a horse lover and rider.

Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championship

[Contents](#) [Close](#)



Upper left, action right in front of our tent,  
up close & personal  
Above, Dorothy, Fran & Krysha with horse  
At left, Dorothy, Krysha and Fran with  
unknown woman who stepped in to pose with  
them  
Below , polo players relaxing between  
chukkas







**HAS INVITED**



**AND**



**TO AN OPEN HOUSE AT 2324 EAST VAN BUREN, PHOENIX  
ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2014, 9:00 A.M. TO NOON**

**COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST, CORVETTE PARKING, AND DOOR PRIZES!**

**THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL SCC EVENT - PHIL D'ALESSANDRO IS COORDINATING.  
CONTACT PHIL AT [Pdalessandro9@gmail.com](mailto:Pdalessandro9@gmail.com)**



## Advanced Driving Experience at Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving

Story & Photos by Mark Bales

Over the course of two weeks in October, seven SCC members attended the AAA Advanced Driving Experience held at the Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving. On October 3rd, myself, Walter Juessen and Jerry Strimbu strapped on the racing helmets, followed by Dorothy Durby on the 4th and Ken Harder, Rick Cartell and Tom Georgiou (along with their sons) on the 18th.

What follows are the experiences from October 3rd. I understand everyone had a blast, but Jerry and I faced a unique challenge in taking the course ... Walter.

The day began at 9:00 AM with registration and a run-down of the day's activities. There were six fifty-minute sessions:



C7s at Bondurant

Contents Close

Autocross, a AAA sales pitch, Hot Laps in a Z51 Stingray, Go Carts, Skid Pad and then ending with the Quick Lane Change. A fairly decent lunch was also provided. Plus there were plenty of opportunities to meet the man himself, Bob Bondurant. All for just \$49.

For me, the highlights were the Autocross and Hot Laps. I would have paid the \$49 just for the Hot Laps! For the Autocross, each driver was allowed one practice lap and two timed laps. Unfortunately, in Camaros and not Corvettes. Winner in our group was Walter, followed by Jerry and then me. In Jerry's and my defense, the times were close (see results below).

13	Bob M.	✓	32'33	30'82
14	Walter J.	✓	25'68	25'18
15	Rick K.	✓	24'91	24'75
16	Cherl S.	✓	32'59	32'71
17	Tracy S.	✓	25'24	24'94
18	John L.	✓	28'63	27'77
19	William B.	✓	25'65	26'03
20	Robert M.	✓	28'46	27'45
21	Dani's H.	✓	28'18	25'75
22	Melce M.	✓	28'11	25'35
23	Pearl M.	✓	40'23	39'03
24	Jerry S.	✓	25'92	25'51

The Hot Laps were two laps around a short track in a Z51 Stingray, with one of Bondurant's professional drivers behind the wheel. I was very impressed with their driving skills. I was more impressed with the Stingray's performance. Other



## AAA Advanced Driving Experience

than better brake pads, these are bone stock Z51 C7 Corvettes. It was evident the C7 was designed with a lot of input from the C6.R program.

Irony for the day came from the "Sales Pitch." AAA was trying to sell a device that monitors your driving habits. Of course, the Big Brother use of that information was never clearly stated, but it was obvious. The day's courses were certainly designed to make you a better and safer driver, but also a faster driver. The device is designed to raise your insurance rates if you do too much of the latter.

We skipped the Go Carts. Hot day, heavy jackets required and the course didn't look all that neat. So we ended with the Skid Pad and Quick Lane Change, both involving "help" from friend Walter.



Jerry Ready for Hot Laps



Walter and Jerry

Technology has improved the "skid pad." No longer do they wet down a concrete pad. Rather, old Cadillac CTS's are fitted with four out-rigger wheels, each controlled by the instructor using hydraulics. Each wheel can be raised to reduce drive wheel or front wheel traction, simulating driving on wet/icy surfaces. Challenging enough without help from a "friend."

Three students to a car with the instructor, each student taking their turn. I rode with a married couple. The wife was first up. It was obvious she had no intention of learning anything. She just wanted to do do-nuts. Laughing with glee she ignored the instructor, and her husband yelling at her from the back seat.

Finally, my turn. It was more difficult than it looked. It was even more difficult when my cell phone began ringing. Whoever called left a message. It was Walter telling me, "Turn left, turn left!"





Skid Pad

The Quick Lane Change was as described. Build up the car's speed to 40 mph and then steer to one of the two lanes with the green light. Walter and Jerry shared a Camaro. On one of Walter's runs, he hit a cone marking the lanes. It flew about twenty feet straight up in the air, and landed in the exact spot it had been placed. That drew applause from the Bondurant guy who didn't have to run down the track and replace the cone.

What happened when Jerry took the wheel will be hotly debated for years. I can only tell you what I saw and heard as an observer. Jerry built up speed... In first gear. You could almost see the pistons bouncing against the hood of that Camaro. Needless to say, the instructor pulled Jerry over to explain the operation of a transmission. However, I think there is more to the story. Quoting Jerry, "Please note

that nearly blown engine was result of 'helpful' co-driver's activities---same mischievous individual who is responsible for the distracting phone call as well as numerous pre-parking laps around suspected parking spaces on Club trips....is there a pattern here?"

If you haven't done this, and it comes around next year, I recommend it. If you don't belong to AAA, find a friend who does.

Mark



Walter and Mark



## CARLISLE 2014

### A Report From the Front

Story and Photos by Phil D'Alessandro



For some attendees to Carlisle, it was the middle of the three-event tour. The National Solid Axle Club meeting in Lancaster, PA, then directly to Carlisle, to be followed by the 2014 Caravan to Bowling Green on Sunday immediately at the close of Carlisle, all in all a solid three plus weeks. Once the preliminary numbers were in, we decided that 7,000 plus Corvettes and perhaps upwards of 18,000 people in Bowling Green was a bit much for us, so we ended with Carlisle.

Was there a theme in Carlisle besides the 1964 Corvette? I would like to point out that you could have spent the entire day looking at some wonderful '64's. The best though was Reggie Jackson's black fuelie. This man knew what to collect. If '64's were not your "thing," then the theme was the 2015 Z06.

Carlisle for us started on Thursday afternoon, visiting the "field," getting the "goody bag" which is getting less and less of a goody bag. They should rename it the advertising bag. Thursday, not much going on, vendors still setting up, so easy to get in, get oriented and then going back to the hotel. But, if you were looking for parts, Thursday is a great day. Just know that the on-site bank does not open until Friday, so either have the cash or make a deposit to hold your item(s).



## Carlisle 2014

As a member of the Natural Glass Corvette Association in New Jersey, a Club member had secured rooms at a nearby hotel (3 miles) for the past ten plus years. Our waiting list grows each year, so reserving a room at the end of each year's event guarantees a room for the following year. I know of some of our Arizona members who rent a house and share expenses, and it works for them.

Going to Carlisle takes preplanning, including your "I need" list. Besides the array of manufacturers, parts vendors are in the hundreds with thousands of parts, some real, some not so real. It is truly a "buyer beware" environment.

Friday really starts the show. At 9:00 AM, technical seminars started, including a complete engine conversion by Petris Enterprise on the main stage. Autograph sessions throughout the morning leading up to the 12:30 overview of the 2015 Z06 by the GM Team.



As you all probably know, the 2015 Z06 will be in coupe with removable top and convertible, both 7-speed manual and again for the first time, an 8-speed automatic. 650 horsepower, 650 foot-pounds of torque. Base price will be \$78,995. There will be three levels of performance enhancements, with the top 3LZ with Z07 performance package, the most track-ready Corvette ever. And, it will be less than \$100,000, assuming your dealer doesn't stick it to you with a phony markup and you don't check off every box on the 32-page order forms. GM will make as many of them as we order, no limited edition.

***Just reported, 0 to 60 under 3 seconds and 60-0 in under 100 feet! WOW!!! That level of performance is unmatched for the price. The teams in Italy and Germany must be shaking their collective heads.***



2015 Laguna Blue Z06 Convertible





Don't care for blue, how about yellow?



Or, the new Shark Gray?

This gray looks better here than in real life, very muddy looking. Not my first choice but if you give me one .....

The ten colors for 2015 include a return of Sunrise Orange and the new Shark Gray. They replaced the Lime Rock Green and Cyber Gray.

Here's what 37,288 2014 Corvette orders were applied to:

2014 CORVETTE MODEL YEAR DATA FINAL- 37288 TOTAL			
Exterior		Interior	
Torch Red	19%	Jet Black Leather	39%
Arctic White	17%	Jet Black Suede	8%
Black	16%	Adrenaline Red	21%
Cyber Gray	11%	Gray Leather	8%
Laguna Blue	9%	Gray Suede	2%
Crystal Red	8%	Kalahari Leather	14%
Velocity Yellow	6%	Kalahari Suede	3%
Blade Silver	6%	Brownstone Leather	1%
Night Race Blue	5%	Brownstone Suede	4%
Lime Rock Green	4%		

Of the 37, 288 2014 Stingrays, 71% were coupes, of which 41% included the Z51 option. The 29% that were convertibles included 15% with the Z51 option. Most buyers went to the top with 3LT packages.

Young and old, the GM tent was filled with potential customers:



## Carlisle 2014

GM has not forgotten the Stingray for 2015. Here are the wheel options:



Looking at the complete list of options, you could load up a 3LT Convertible and you are in Z06 pricing. Think I know which way I would prefer to go. How about you?

Night Race Blue coupe, adrenaline red interior, blade silver full stripe, red brake calipers, automatic (?), and these wheels:



Well, gotta dream about something legal.

So, that was Carlisle 2014 for us. A little wet, but it was Carlisle. On your bucket list? Go at least once.

Phil







**WHERE ARE YOU GOING ON SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 25TH?**

**IF YOU'RE PARTAKING IN SCC'S MYSTERY  
TOUR ON THAT DATE, YOU WON'T KNOW  
WHERE YOU ARE GOING TILL YOU GET  
THERE!**

**This is a trip you won't want to miss. It  
promises to be entertaining... and  
mysterious...**

**WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR DETAILS!  
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 7TH!**

**SCC ANNUAL TOY RUN TO VAN  
CHEVROLET AND CLUB DINNER  
PARTY**

**We'll caravan to Van in our Vettes to deliver  
the Toys, then we'll party at the Gainey  
Ranch Estate Golf Club! You won't want to  
miss this event!**



FIND **NEW** ROADS™



*For a great deal on any Chevy product, not only Corvette,  
contact Bob Ostapovich, 480-220-3242.*

*For the best in service, contact  
Jay Ford, 480-368-3951 or  
Chris Davis, 480-368-3909.*

*Make sure you mention that you are with the  
Scottsdale Corvette Club!*