



NEWSLETTER
September-October 2011

Mark's Grand Sport
at the Blue Swallow Motel
in Tucumcari, NM





Sept/Oct 2011 A Newsletter for Corvette Enthusiasts 93 Members

www.scottsdalecorvetteclub.com

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In this issue...

*Vettes on the Rockies,
Mark's Vintage Motel
Adventures, Iowa Car
Collection, SCC's
Corvette Store, Coming
Events, And Much More...*

Meetings:
SCC meets the 2nd
Wednesday of each month
at 6:30 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.

2011 Board of Directors

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SCC Birthdays!



September

Roseann Ostapovich - Sept. 5
Richard Weiland - Sept. 6
Ken Harder - Sept. 10
Karla Redford - Sept. 13
Carol Lipsky - Sept. 24
Bob Avondo - Sept. 25

October

Michael Bulfer - October 2
Larry Bloom - October 4
Kay Schaffroth - October 6
Bob Bailey - October 17
Cheryl Bloom - October 25



Coming Events!

September 10-11 - Trip to Antelope Canyon
September 14 - Club Dinner Meeting
September 21 - Vette Vixens Dinner - Men's Poker Night
September 28 - Board Meeting

October 1 - Ethnic Epicurean Dinner
October 12 - Club Dinner Meeting
October 19 - Vette Vixens Dinner - Men's Poker Night
October 26 - Board Meeting
October 29 - Private Party at Gary & Kathy Gash's home

November 9 - Club Dinner Meeting
November 11-13 - Trip to Palm Springs for The Follies
November 16 - Vette Vixens Dinner - Men's Poker Night

December 7 - Board Meeting
December 10 - Toy Run and Holiday Party

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.



FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

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By Manny Siprut

Dawn and I returned from our annual summer trip to IA on Aug. 22nd, and it's great to be back home. On our return we traveled through and stayed in Estes Park, CO and Santa Fe, NM. And now, thanks to Walter, the Club has lots of activities queued-up for all of us.

At least eight of us gathered for a night of poker on Wednesday, Aug. 24th at Walter's. This also included some great sandwiches and other munchies. As is typical at our games, there were those that went home with extra funds in their pockets and



From the Driver's Seat

those that had to go home a bit light. Either way, I think all had a great time. We meet once a month, and if you are interested in joining, let Walter know.

We have a Club trip coming up on Saturday, the 10th of September, to Antelope Canyon and returning on Sunday.

Then on Oct 1, we have one of our Epicurean Dinners scheduled at an "Asian Fusion" restaurant. If you haven't RSVP'd, contact Walter.

And after a long absence, we have scheduled a House Party on October 29th at the Gash's. These are always great fun, so be sure to register and join us.

During the next couple of months the Board will begin working with Walter on putting together our activity calendar for 2012. If you have some ideas/suggestions, be sure and let Walter or another Board member know.

With the help of Mark Bales, our SCC now has an "online store" for seeing and ordering SCC articles, like shirts and hats. Mark will be telling us more about this in September.

Hard to believe we will soon begin the last quarter of the year and we have to think about Board elections. If you have an interest in serving on the Board, or just want to discuss the issue, just contact one of the current Board members.

Manny



**SCC MEN!
SAVE THE DATE!**

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

ATTENTION ALL SCC MEMBERS!

WEAR YOUR SCC NAME BADGES!

We have quite a few new members, and several of them have requested that we all wear our Club name badges when we are together. It makes it so much easier for everyone to get acquainted and remember names.

Editor's Corner



They tell me fall is right around the corner. I don't know about you, but I'll believe it when

the weather starts to cool off a bit.

This issue of the newsletter is exciting with two features from Club members about their adventures during the summer. Mark Bales has written a superb article, replete with great photos, about the charm of vintage motels along Route 66. Manny Siprut has treated us to another photo display of some of the autos in the collection of Dennis Albaugh in Des Moines, Iowa.

Walter and Michele Juessen's account of the Club trip to Vettes on the Rockies in early August will make you sorry you didn't sign up to go along, as they obviously had a great time driving the mountain roads and enjoying the cool temperatures.

Dorinne



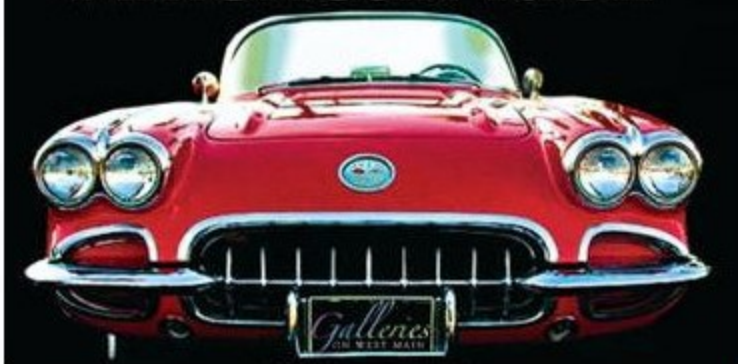
NOV. 11-13!

**TRIP TO PALM
SPRINGS
FOR THE FOLLIES!
CHECK YOUR
EMAIL FOR
DETAILS!**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS
IS SEPTEMBER 25!**

**EMAIL
WALTER AT JUESSEN@AOL.COM**

The Original American Idol.



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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!

If you have any questions, or feedback, please let Mark Bales know.

VETTES ON THE ROCKIES 2011

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY WALTER & MICHELE JUESSEN

08/03/2011 15:42

WE MET AT OUR USUAL MEETING POINT AND, AS THE LEADER OF THE "GANG," I POINTED OUT TO ONE MEMBER (MY WIFE) TO TAKE PICTURES OF THE TRIP AND WRITE THE TRAVEL REPORT FOR THE NEWSLETTER. SHE REFUSED CLEARLY TO DO THE WRITING AND POINTED TO MYSELF FOR THIS "JOB."

THE WHOLE GROUP (ONE CAR) HEADED VIA FLAGSTAFF AND KAYENTA TO MOAB,UT. FROM FLAG TO MOAB THE ROAD (SEE PHOTO ON PRIOR PAGE) WAS SURPRISINGLY "EMPTY," NOT A LOT OF TRAFFIC, SO I DECIDED TO LET THE "BABY" LOOSE TO CLEAN UP SOME PIPES AND OTHER ESSENTIAL PARTS.

WE ARRIVED IN MOAB RIGHT ON TIME. FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT JOINED OUR OVERNIGHT TRIPS, A VERY IMPORTANT TIME TARGET...HAPPY HOUR!!!

WE HAD DINNER AT OUR USUAL STEAKHOUSE (WE WERE THERE LAST YEAR!) AND WENT FOR A DRINK AFTERWARDS AT

A KARAOKE BAR, WELL FOR ONE DRINK. THEN THREE PEOPLE AND US FOUND ANOTHER WATERING HOLE AND GOT OUR NIGHT CAP.

DAY 2

JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT (AT LEAST FOR ME) - REGULAR TIME 7.00 AM, HAD TO GET UP AND READY TO LEAVE FOR ARCHES NATIONAL PARK. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THE GROUP (1 CAR) HAD TO MAKE A U-TURN ON THIS LONG STRETCH OF 5 STRAIGHT MILES. MISSED THE EXIT BY AN INCH. WE DROVE AROUND AND STOPPED TO LOOK AT THE VIEWS FOR ALMOST 2 HOURS AND MUST SAY IT IS A VERY BEAUTIFUL PARK.

TO GET TO I-70, WE WENT VIA SR 128, SOUTH OF THE PARK, EASTWARDS. 70% OF THIS ROAD YOU HAVE THE FEELING TO DRIVE ON THE BOTTOM OF THE GRAND CANYON (THE SMALL VERSION) ALONG THE RIVER. AMAZING! SINCE I DID THE GRAND CANYON BY BOAT, I KNOW WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT. TRAFFIC WAS VERY LIGHT

AND I LET THE BABY LOOSE AGAIN TO CLEAN..... YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

ARRIVED JUST IN TIME (REMEMBER 5:00 PM?) AT BRECKENRIDGE TO JOIN THE OTHER HALF OF THIS TRIP'S PARTICIPANTS, FRAN AND KEN HARDER. THEY WERE THERE ALREADY SEVERAL DAYS. THEIR CONDO WAS ON THE 3RD FLOOR AND, AS WE FINALLY GOT THERE, WE HAD TO TAKE A DEEP BREATH, SINCE WE ARE AT 9603 FEET!

HAD DINNER AT A CAJUN PLACE WHICH WAS VERY GOOD. DROVE BACK TO THE HOTEL AND COULD NOT FIND A PARKING SPACE. 92% COVERED BY CORVETTES. TRIED TO BACK UP AND "BANG" RIGHT INTO ANOTHER CORVETTE. GREAT!

CHECKED IT OUT, ONLY TO FIND OUT THAT MY CAR HAD NOT A SCRATCH SINCE I HIT THE OTHER CORVETTE WITH MY SPLASH GUARD AND MY TIRE. LEFT A NOTE WITH MY PHONE NUMBER AND WENT FOR A NIGHT

CAP AT THE HOTEL'S WATERING HOLE.

DAY 3

THE GROUP (NOW 2 CARS) MET AT A RELATIVELY EARLY TIME (10:30 AM) TO DRIVE AROUND DILLON LAKE, WHICH IS VERY BEAUTIFUL. THEN OFF FOR LUNCH AT BEAVER CREEK. WE DECIDED TO GO BACK AND EXPLORE THE TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE, WHICH IS A NICE LITTLE OLD MINING TOWN. FOUND AN OUTSIDE BAR AND THOUGHT MIGHT AS WELL HAVE AN EARLY HAPPY HOUR. OH, FORGOT - GOT A PHONE CALL FROM THE OWNER OF THE CAR I HIT BARELY THE NIGHT BEFORE, AND WE AGREED TO MEET LATER THAT DAY. WE MET AROUND 5:00 PM, AND THE GUY WAS "GLAD TO MEET" ME. WOW, I THOUGHT HE WILL KILL ME, BUT WHEN HE SAW MY CAR HE WANTED TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT AND WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE DAMAGE ON "MY" CAR. WE EXCHANGED NAMES AND ADDRESSES, AND HE SAID DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, SINCE THERE IS



The Group

ACTUALLY NO DAMAGE AT ALL, JUST SOME BLACK STRIPES, WHICH HE ALREADY CLEANED.

FOR DINNER WE HEADED TO A QUITE INTERESTING PLACE - SWISS HAVEN RESTAURANT. SINCE WE ARE ORIGINALLY FROM SWITZERLAND, WE KNEW WHAT THE MENU WAS ALL ABOUT, BUT WAS IT AUTHENTIC?

YES, IT WAS, AND THE FONDUE WAS ONE OF THE BETTER ONES WE HAVE HAD. EVEN THE HARDERS LIKED IT VERY MUCH. AT LEAST THEY SAID SO, AND IT WAS THEIR FIRST FONDUE EVER.



The Other Half of the Group

WE SAID GOOD BYE AFTER DINNER, BECAUSE FRAN AND KEN HAD TO LEAVE NEXT MORNING EARLY. SO THE GROUP AGAIN WAS ONE CAR ONLY. WE HEADED FOR A NIGHT CAP AT THE HOTEL.

DAY 4

ANOTHER EXTREMELY EARLY WAKE-UP CALL ON SATURDAY SINCE THE REDUCED "GROUP"

WANTED TO DO A ROUND TRIP FROM BRECKENRIDGE VIA LEADVILLE, INDEPENDENCE PASS (12,095 FEET) TO ASPEN, GLENWOOD SPRINGS AND BACK TO BRECKENRIDGE. BEAUTIFUL AREA AND ANOTHER PERFECT DAY. FOR THE WHOLE TRIP WE HAD THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WEATHER, JUST SUNNY AND WARM, EXCEPT ABOVE 10,000 FEET. AGAIN, NOT A LOT OF TRAFFIC AND, BY NOW, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

BEFORE WE WENT BACK TO THE HOTEL IN BRECKENRIDGE, WE NEEDED TO CLEAN THE CAR FOR THE SHOW NEXT MORNING. MY CO-DRIVER REFUSED TO TOUCH A TOWEL, SO I HAD TO HIRE SOME KIDS TO TAKE CARE OF THAT PROBLEM. DINNER AND NIGHT CAP WE HAD AT THE HOTEL TO SAVE GAS!

DAY 5

NOW THIS WAKE-UP CALL WAS JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT (5.45 AM !!!), BECAUSE WE HAD TO DRIVE TO FRISCO TO PARK THE CAR FOR



Independence Pass - Road pretty deserted,
you know what I mean!



Walter at Independence Pass

THE SHOW. THE TEMPERATURE WAS 38 DEGREES, BUT SUNNY.

PARKED THE CAR, DID SOME FINAL CLEANING AND DECIDED NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SHOW-N-SHINE COMPETITION. THERE

WERE ABOUT 350 PLUS CARS, ALL NEATLY LINED UP ON MAIN STREET, AND WELL ORGANIZED.

AFTER TAKING CLOSE TO 100 SHOTS OF ALL THE CARS, I DISCOVERED 4 OTHER ZR 1'S (2 RED/1BLUE/1 SILVER), BUT ACCORDING TO MY "NEIGHBOR CORVETTES" I HAD A LOT OF "VISITORS." AT 9:30 AM, MY WIFE LEFT TO CHECK OUT THE LOCAL ANTIQUES SHOPS, AND I DECIDED TO PLANT MY CHAIR IN THE SHADE AND TAKE A NAP, SINCE IT WAS A ROUGH SATURDAY MORNING.

BY LUNCHTIME THE CITY AND THE SHOW WERE PACKED WITH PEOPLE, AND I MET SOME NICE AND INTERESTING PEOPLE.

WHEN WE FOUND OUT THE THE WINNER ANOUNCMENT WOULD NOT OCCUR TILL 2:00 PM, WE LEFT FOR LOVELAND PASS. BEFORE THE EISENHOWER TUNNEL OPENED IN 1973, THIS PASS WAS THE ONLY CONNECTION BETWEEN VAIL AND DENVER. THE PASS IS OPEN ALL YEAR LONG, BECAUSE



TRUCKS WITH HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CANNOT GO THROUGH THE TUNNEL. ANOTHER GREAT DRIVE UP TO THE TOP (11,990 FEET), BUT HAD TO SLOW DOWN, BECAUSE OF COMPLAINTS FROM THE PASSENGER SEAT. THEN BACK TO THE HOTEL FOR DINNER AND YOU KNOW WHAT.

DAY 6

WAKE-UP CALL EARLY, AND YOU KNOW THE REST. WE PACKED UP AND LEFT VIA GLENWOOD SPRINGS AND McCLURE PASS TO MONTROSE AND FOR A PIT STOP AT TELLURIDE. I WANTED ACTUALLY TO GO VIA CRESTED BUTTE/KEBLER PASS, BUT AFTER A COUPLE OF MILES ON GRAVEL AND CONSULTING THE LOCALS, WE HAD TO SAY "NO."

AGAIN NOT A LOT OF CARS ON THE ROAD AND ... YOU KNOW IT BY NOW.

THAT NIGHT WE SPENT IN CORTEZ AND SINCE WE HAD "EARLY WAKE-UP PLANS," WE SKIPPED THE "YOU KNOW WHAT."

DAY 7

BECAUSE OF GAINING AN HOUR ENTERING ARIZONA, WE CHECKED OUT MESA VERDE PARK, ANOTHER GREAT PARK AND WORTH A TRIP WITH A LARGER GROUP OF SCC PARTICIPANTS. WE SET THE DESTINATION TO FOUR CORNERS. WELL, IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN THERE FOR SEVERAL YEARS, THERE IS NOW AN "INDIAN ART MALL" AND NO MORE THOSE LOUSY, ROTTEN SHEDS. PLUS A NICER LAYOUT OF THE ACTUAL POINT. BUT STILL IN AND OUT WITHIN THE HOUR, HEADING TOWARD CHINLE/CANYON DE CHELLY.

I KNOW THAT SOME MEMBERS KNOW THE 160/191 TO I - 40. WELL, IT IS PURE JOY TO DRIVE THESE ROADS WHEN THERE IS NOBODY THERE AND NOTHING TO LOOK OUT FOR, EXCEPT THE OCCASIONAL COMPLAINTS FROM THE PASSENGER SIDE.

PASSED PAYSON AND ARRIVED ON SCHEDULE IN SCOTTSDALE, ONLY TO NOTICE THAT I HAD 4,605,302,668.05 DEAD BUGS

SMEARED ON THE FRONT OF THE CAR.

BOTTOM LINE:

THERE WAS AT ONE POINT INTEREST BY SIX COUPLES FOR THIS TRIP, BUT AS YOU KNOW - CHANGE OF PLANS - CAN ALWAYS HAPPEN. PLUS THIS WAS A WEEK LONG TRIP, WHICH THE CLUB HAS NOT DONE.

WE SAW A LOT OF INTERESTING THINGS AND WITH THE WEATHER COORDINATING JUST PERFECTLY, THERE IS NO QUESTION WE WILL DO IT AGAIN NEXT YEAR. PLUS THERE IS MUCH MORE TO SEE IN THAT AREA. COLORADO IS BEAUTIFUL, ... BUT NOT AS BEAUTIFUL AS ARIZONA.

GHOSTWRITER FOR WJ

Editor's Note: Walter signed the article as above, "Ghostwriter for WJ." I guess he thought he would fool you all. But what a great article! And doesn't it sound just like Walter?

Also, please note that, as always, Walter writes only in capital letters - no offense.....

Thank You,
Thank You,

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

Jim Dobson

Walter and Michele Juessen

Manny Siprut

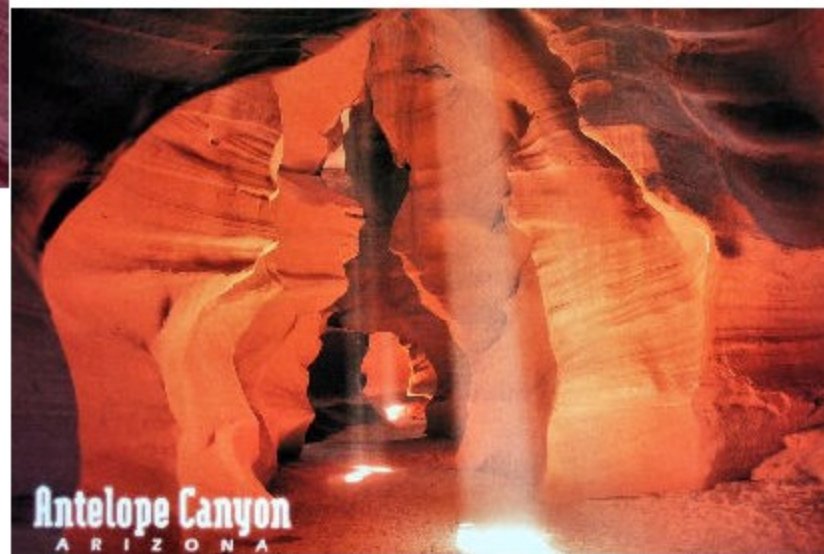


SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2011

DON'T MISS OUT ON SCC'S
WEEKEND TRIP TO
ANTELOPE CANYON NEAR
PAGE, ARIZONA!



If you've never been to the slot canyons up by Lake Powell, near Page, Arizona, you are in for a treat! The canyons were formed by erosion, mostly floodwaters, and the colors are spectacular. The canyon walls are full of swirls and curlicues. This trip is right around the corner - hope you all enjoy yourselves.



Corvette Bridge Returns to Road America

Chevrolet Celebrates Homecoming in the Heartland with Ceremony at Landmark Overpass

ELKHART LAKE, Aug. 21, 2011 - Great tracks are known by great landmarks. The Dunlop Bridge at Le Mans, Eau Rouge at Spa-Francorchamps, the Pagoda at Indianapolis Motor Speedway instantly identify these celebrated circuits. For generations of road racing fans, the Corvette Bridge was the symbol of Road America - and now it's back.

Standing like a sentinel at the approach to Turn 6, the Corvette Bridge has witnessed amazing feats by drivers and machines since it first carried the Corvette logo in 1963. Over the years, the Corvette branding has reflected changes in graphic design and marketing objectives. Now after a hiatus of 16 years, the Bridge is back.

Representatives of Chevrolet and Road America celebrated Chevy's homecoming today as part of the Corvette World Tribute, a high-horsepower salute to Chevrolet's 100th anniversary and Corvette's racing heritage. Accompanied by historic race cars and legendary Corvette personalities, the bridge was re-dedicated in a star-spangled ceremony between races.

"The relationship between Chevrolet and Road America runs deep," said Russ Clark, Chevrolet Product Marketing Director, Midsize/Performance Cars and GM Racing. "As we celebrate Chevrolet's 100th birthday, it's fitting that two icons of American racing, Chevrolet and Road America, join forces. Road



America is known as 'America's National Park of Speed,' and Corvette is America's iconic sports car. We're very proud to celebrate our mutual heritage here in the heartland of America.

"The cars and drivers participating in the Corvette World Tribute have written volumes in Corvette's racing history," he added. "Today we celebrate our past and look forward to Corvette's future success at Road America and around the world."

Chevrolet's multifaceted marketing partnership with Road America includes an Official Vehicle program and activities during the track's numerous events, including the American Le Mans Series, NASCAR Nationwide Series, GRAND-AM Rolex Sports Car Series, AMA Superbike, SCCA June Sprints and National Championship Runoffs, and historic car and motorcycle races.

"We're honored that Road America has played a key role in

Corvette Bridge

Corvette's racing heritage from the track's opening in 1955 to today," said George Bruggenthies, Road America president and general manager. "We're excited to celebrate and renew this longstanding association with Chevrolet. To commemorate this event, we are rededicating the Corvette Bridge, a signature landmark for our fans at the track and our worldwide TV audience."

The Corvette World Tribute also featured a charity auction organized by Dan Binks, crew chief of the No. 3 Compuware Corvette C6.R, to benefit Camp Anokijig ("We Serve") in nearby Plymouth, Wis. The auction of Corvette Racing memorabilia raised more than \$52,000 for the camp, which is open to boys and girls ages 7-16.

"My family has supported Camp Anokijig for decades," Binks said. "We truly appreciate the generosity of Corvette Racing's fans and friends. Their contributions ensure that the camp will continue its programs that encourage positive values, personal growth, great adventures, and outrageous fun."

Corvette Racing's next event is the two-hour Baltimore Grand Prix on Saturday, September 3, starting at 4:30 p.m. ET. Live video coverage will be available on ESPN3.com in the US and americanlemans.com for international users. ABC will televise the Baltimore Grand Prix on Sunday, September 4, at 4 p.m. ET.

SAVE THE DATE!

FIRST SATURDAY EVERY MONTH!

***Impromptu Car Show at Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf at Gainey Ranch Shops,
8877 Noroth Scottsdale Road***

***All kinds of exotic cars in the parking lot for a drive-up car show.
In the summer the cars arrive fairly early in the morning - 8:00 or earlier. In the cooler months at 9:00.***

SEE YOU THERE ON OCT. 1ST?



A STEP BACK IN TIME ON ROUTE 66



Story and Photos by Mark Bales

Since moving to Arizona in 2001, I've driven back to the Midwest more than a dozen times. On several occasions, I've taken the opportunity to explore what is left of the Mother Road, Route 66. I never had the courage, however, to stay in any of the original Route 66 motels I found in towns off the Interstate. I always opted for one of the newer chains.

This summer that all changed, when I decided to take a chance. In June I booked a night at the historic Blue Swallow Motel in Tucumcari, NM. That stay led to a night at the Wagon Wheel Motel, Cuba, MO on a second trip I made in August. On my return I spent a second night at the Blue Swallow. Other than to fill in the gaps, the national chains will never see me again.

Growing up in the '50's, I have fond memories of summer family vacations. There were no Interstates, at least where we traveled. There were no Holiday Inns, Ramadas or Comfort Suites. Only small "Mom and Pop" motels to spend the night. If the room had a TV, that was good. If it was a color TV, that was even better. If the motel had a pool, Wow!

Both the Blue Swallow and the Wagon Wheel took me back to that era. Lying in bed at night, I could imagine our '54 Buick outside the door. Memories of trips to the Ozarks, Colorado and other points West came flooding back. For a brief moment I was a young boy from St. Joseph, MO.

With one foot solidly in the past, both motels have moved forward with the times. Cable, flat-screen TV's (Wagon Wheel) and free Wi-Fi. Both are very old, but very clean. Are these motels for everyone? Probably not. Unless you go for one of the more expensive suites, the rooms at the Wagon Wheel are typical of Depression era motel rooms... Small! The furniture at the Blue Swallow is old, and the bathroom fixtures are original 1939.

But, if you want to comfortably step back in time, I highly recommend both motels.



Old Pontiac in front of the Blue Swallow Inn

Blue Swallow - Tucumcari, NM

I've stayed in Tucumcari a couple dozen times. Until June I always stayed at one of the chain motels, east side of town. Based on TripAdvisor reviews (133 Excellent out of 167) I decided to try the Blue Swallow.

Construction started in 1939, and finished in 1942. The original owner, W. A. Huggins, sold the motel at a loss. Due to WWII gas and tire rationing, people weren't traveling. Ownership is sketchy until 1958. Lillian Redman, who received it as an engagement present, owned the motel from 1958 to 1998. Times were hard when Interstate 40 opened and travelers by-passed Route 66 through Tucumcari.



Neon lights at the Blue Swallow

In 2005, Bill Kinder and Terri Johnson purchased the motel from Dale and Hilda Bakke. For Bill, restoring the old motel was a labor of love. There were set-backs. In 2006, a hail storm destroyed all of the signature neon lighting. Bill also began re-placing some of the newer furniture with 1950 period pieces and repainting to match the original colors.

In May of 2011, suffering from cancer, Bill sold the motel to Kevin and Nancy. Kevin had lost his job in Michigan and decided on a major career move. He and Nancy have never operated a motel. But you would never know. They are heavily involved in further restoration. New paint,

new mattresses, new neon. They live in the quarters behind the lobby.

The rooms are adequate in size, as is the bathroom. The bathroom fixtures are origi-



The Blue Swallow in neon

A Step Back in Time on Route 66

nal, so expect some rust stains in the sinks. However, I found them to be spotless on both visits. The dial phone is also original, and works. On my second visit, I was the first to sleep on a brand new mattress.

The real fun is the people you meet. Route 66 fans drop by all day. Some end up staying after meeting Kevin and Nancy and seeing the rooms. In the evening, guests sit outside to enjoy the neon lights which turn on at dusk. On both occasions I made new friends from the room next door. One man from Chicago, riding his Harley to LA and back. Another young German riding his Honda from Kentucky to LA.

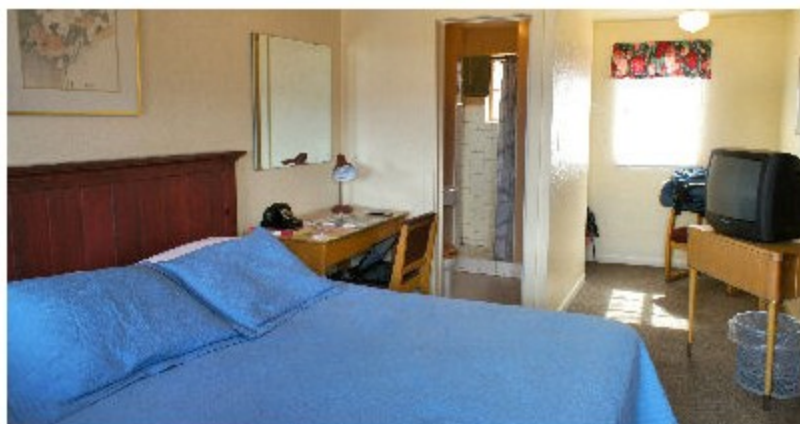


Chenille bedspread with Blue Swallow design

The Blue Swallow was also the inspiration for the motel in the animated Disney movie, "Cars."

Wagon Wheel Motel - Cuba, MO

I learned about the Wagon Wheel from a Route 66 explorer I met at the Blue Swallow. Heading back to Chicago in August, I decided to give it a try.



Room at the Blue Swallow Inn



The Wagon Wheel was built in 1935 by Robert and Margret Martin. Leo Friesnham was chosen as the builder. His combination of local stone, design and seemingly indestructible mortar has endured for 75 years. The Wagon Wheel is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1947, the cabins were purchased by John and Winifred Mathis. John designed the famous Wagon Wheel neon sign at his kitchen table, changing the name to Wagon Wheel Motel instead of Cabins. In 1963, Pauline and Hallie Roberts purchased the motel and continued to run it for 40 years. After Hallie's death, Pauline married Harold Armstrong, who operated the motel until 2008.

Connie Echols purchased the motel from Harold's son in 2009. She immediately began a major restoration, including gutting all the rooms, replacing fixtures and converting the old café to a gift shop. And what a job she's done!



Wagon Wheel Motel in the late 1940's



The Wagon Wheel Office as it looks today



Mark's Second Room at the Wagon Wheel



The Wagon Wheel Motel

A Step Back in Time on Route 66

My first room was, small. Very small, and typical of Depression era motels. However, it was very new, and clean. I decided to splurge on one of the suites. The price, at \$110 was \$50 more than a standard room, but cheaper than the Drury Inn I stayed in the night before. When I opened the door, I almost fell over. The room looked like something you would see on one of those design shows on HGTV. The walk-in Jacuzzi shower was almost as big as the first room I checked out. Well, okay... But close!



Second "Suite" at the Wagon Wheel



First room at the Wagon Wheel



Walk-in shower in second room



Rods at the Wagon Wheel

*Too my surprise, three late '40's Chevy customs checked in. One, Corvette powered. Three couples driving those beautiful customs from Texas to Indiana. Two of the customs had over 100,000 miles, each. When I expressed my surprise and appreciation that the owners actually drove these works of art, one responded, "If you don't drive 'em, they ain't worth sh*t."*

All in all, my stay at the Wagon Wheel was a lot more fun than at the typical chain, and the room nicer. Connie couldn't have been more accommodating.

If you ever decide to "get your kicks on Route 66," I highly recommend the Blue Swallow and the Wagon Wheel.

Mark

The following release was sent to me by my Wickenburg "car guy" friend, and it should be of interest to those of you with

MECHANICAL CURIOSITY

DETROIT - Electronic stability control systems like StabiliTrak are already proving to help prevent crashes. The 2012 Cadillac SRX wrings a new benefit from the system - removing water from brake components during wet highway driving conditions.

Drivers can feel more in control in soggy conditions because Auto Dry Brakes can help to improve overall brake effectiveness during rainy conditions on the highway.

Why does this technology matter? The U.S. Department of Transportation says 620,000 crashes on the nation's roadways in 2009 - one in 10 - occurred in the rain.

"The important thing is to assure the brakes are as dry as possible before the driver applies the brake pedal," said Randy Leek, a General Motors brake development engineer. "We designed this feature to ensure that the brakes provide optimal braking performance while driving in inclement weather."

Auto Dry Brakes work with the SRX RainSense automatic windshield wiper system, or when the standard windshield wipers are operating, and the SRX has been traveling over 20 mph continuously for more than four miles without using the cruise control. A slight amount of hydraulic pressure is generated by the StabiliTrak hardware, which pulses pressure to the vehicle's brake calipers at intervals to wipe water from the brake rotors while the car is moving.

With drier rotors, when the driver does apply the brakes, the brake system operates more effectively, giving a more-assured stopping feel and better brake effectiveness in wet conditions.

Auto Dry Brakes are designed to apply pressure to all four of the SRX's disc brakes at roughly six kilometer intervals, while the accelerator is applied. The system works seamlessly with StabiliTrak, anti-lock brakes and traction control without the driver knowing anything is happening.



SUMMER CAR SHOW IN DES MOINES, IA



BY MANNY SIPRUT

Summer Car Show

Some of you might recall that I attended Dennis Albaugh's Car Show in the summer of 2009 in Des Moines IA. This summer, I had another opportunity to attend his car show, which is only the second time that Dennis has opened his collection to the public. He has a very special collection of about 150 cars, which includes every Chevrolet convertible model produced beginning from 1913, including all the Corvettes and Camaros. He is obviously a huge Chevy fan, and has, for example, at least a half dozen '57 Chevys with various options.

The car show is a fund raiser for the local high school, and he invites others to bring their cars to add to the show. The event is held at his private 18-hole golf course, where he has a 10,000 square foot home and also a Club House. The Club House includes his work offices and the lower level is where he stores and displays the majority of his collection. The cars brought in by others were displayed on a couple of the fairways.

Who is Dennis Albaugh? He is reported to be the wealthiest person in Iowa, worth approximately \$2 billion. And how did he make his money? Herbicides!

Enjoy the photos!

Manny



Summer Car Show

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[Click on the photo to see a better view](#)



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At left, Old
Wood-Paneled Bus with
fancy outfitted
interior. Pretty fancy
Camping!





Here's Manny looking at all the Corvettes





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Editor's Note: This 1916 wooden truck looks very much like one we saw at Barrett-Jackson a couple of years ago.





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

**AARON BERKOWITZ WOULD HAVE
WON \$50 AT THE AUGUST
MEETING, BUT HE WAS NOT THERE!
YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN THE**

**\$75 CASH PRIZE AT THE
SEPTEMBER MEETING!**

**2011 Historic Prescott
All Corvette Car Show
September 23-25, 2011
On the Courthouse Square
in Prescott, AZ**

**This is not an official SCC event, but SCC
has participated in this event over the past
several years. The car show is on Saturday
morning, with other activities on Friday
evening and Sunday. Check the website for
details and registration information:**

www.prescottvettesette.org/

**If you just want to drive up for the day on
Saturday to see the car show, there are
usually around 200-250 Corvettes there.**

**And it's a nice cool place to spend an
afternoon in Prescott, the mile-high city.**





SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH!

HALLOWE'EN FESTIVITIES
AT
KATHY & GARY GASH'S HOUSE!

WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR
DETAILS!



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***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 SEPTEMBER DINNER.***

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



**EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE
ROADRUNNER REGION OF NCCC**

September 24-25

Arizona Competition Corvettes

Low Speed Autocrosses in Taylor, AZ (White Mtns.)

Contact Paul Hamersly at LT4CE@yahoo.com

October 1-2

Verde Valley Vettes

Gimmick Rallyes at Larry Green Chevrolet in

Cottonwood, AZ

Contact Larry McCarty, 928-634-5745

October 5-9

Vettes and Rods (not an NCCC club)

11th Annual Corvettes & Ghost Riders Tombstone Run

Go to website for more information: [http://](http://corvettesandghostriders.com/)

corvettesandghostriders.com/



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