



# Spoiler

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024

## IN THIS ISSUE

*October Sunday Brunch*

2

*NCCC 2025 Convention*

3

*Hot Rod Museum & Ocean Racing  
Restaurant Cruise-in*

4 – 5

*Waterfront Restaurant Cruise-in*

6

*Car Show Corner*

7

*Members Cars Carry High School  
Homecoming Court*

8

*Halloween Cruise-in &  
Upcoming Events*

9

*Future Tampa Home of Corvette Track*

10 – 11

*New National Corvette Museum Exhibit*

12

*Corvette Toy Run Flyer*

13

*September Meeting Minutes*

14

## PREZ SEZ

Hello and welcome to Fall in Florida!

We've started experiencing a nice break from the 90 plus degree temps and are settling into what we

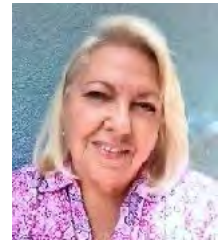
consider Autumn. Our snowbirds will be winging their way south and back into our folds soon. We are happy you are returning. Welcome home!

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES INCREASE

CKCC has been kept very busy by our Social Committee; with at least one cruise-in each month and other assorted little events. See stories about the September and October cruise-ins in this issue. I hope you are availing yourself of at least a few of these activities. They have more in store for you this year. Stay tuned.

## LOSS OF BELOVED MEMBER

Last month we lost another beloved member of our CKCC family. Lynn Kassebaum, sweet wife of our Competition Director Bill Kassebaum, passed from a sudden illness. All of us who have attended any of the autocrosses are very familiar with Lynn. She was like the ninja elf, running all over the place, taking care of anything that needed fixing or attending to. There was nothing that Lynn was asked to do that she didn't complete fully and quickly — and with a smile. Some of us remember Lynn for flying from Melbourne to Mims and back at breakneck speed to deliver the required walkie-talkies and having them back so we could actually start on time. What a treasure Lynn was to our club. Always a quick smile and a hug for everyone. Bill, we are very



*President Janice Greene*

sorry for your loss and we share in that loss with you.

### **TOY RUN NEW STAGING VENUE**

As you know, December is one of our busiest times of the year. Our annual Toy Run is coming up in about a month. Save the date for December 7th on your calendar. Our most fun and “feel good” event of the year is something all of us look forward to. Due to the sale of Eckler’s Corvette Parts Warehouse on Grissom Boulevard in Titusville we have been forced to move our assembly point to a new location. This year we are going to be gathering at the Walmart Distribution Center located at 4505 State Road 524 in West Cocoa. The warehouse is located just east of I-95, off exit 202. Everything else remains the same. Decorate your car and yourself for Christmas, load up your car with toys and join us as we caravan directly to Port Canaveral and Santa’s storage trailer. We need workers to arrive around 11:00 AM. We need your assistance with parking and getting waivers signed. This year the arranging of cars

will be completely new and we may find we have to be a bit flexible. Please come and join the fun!

### **HOLIDAY PARTY PLANS**

Also coming December 14th is our annual Holiday Party. This year it is being held at the Merritt Island Moose Lodge. Food will be catered by Sugar Aunts, a highly rated local catering company. Music will be supplied by Big Pappi, the DJ we use at our car shows and other events. We hope you can join us for a fun evening of socializing, food and dancing. We will be sending out full information on that event in the next couple of weeks so keep any eye on your email inbox.

I encourage you to come join us at our monthly membership meetings. It is here where we make decisions for the Club and catch up with good friends. We hope to see each of you soon.

*Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. I hope it's the start of a wonderful Holiday Season.*

*Janice*



October 6: There were 33 members who braved the rainy weather to have brunch together and enjoy each others company. However, only Charlie & Jane Acton drove their Vette and that's because it's their only car.

A pleasant surprise was Gator's Portside Grill had a new menu that featured a lot more choices and everyone seemed to enjoy the food they received.



# 2025 NCCC Convention



We invite you to join us in the Wisconsin Dells and Lake Delton area of Wisconsin for the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual NCCC Convention August 17 – 22, 2025

The Scenic Wisconsin Dells area is an exciting and beautiful resort area for to gather for partying as well as sightseeing, driving unique roads and exploring everything the area has to offer. Wisconsin Dells is the Water Park Capital of the World.



Wisconsin Dells is about an hour north of Madison, WI. There is plenty to see and do in the Dells and even more throughout the surrounding area. The Host Hotel will be the Kalahari Resorts & Convention Center conveniently located for all activities just off I-90/94 at Exit 92. The Room Rate at The Kalahari will be \$156.03 including taxes, free parking, no resort fee. Guests will have free entry to the Tom Foolery Amusement Park as well as free use of Indoor and Outdoor Water Parks. Entertainment, Parties and both Hosted Tours and Self Guided Tours are in the planning stages. Competitive Events are being planned for 2 Rallyes, 3 Drags, PC Car Show, Concours d'Elegance, Funkhana, Autocross, High Speed (not Time Trials), 2 Scavenger Hunts, Valve Cover Races and an Overall Competitor Competition.

To save travel, Speed events will be run on Tuesday (the 19<sup>th</sup>) swapping tracks around noon. Planning for the Autocross and High Speed Events is focusing on making it possible to give all competitors four runs.



**ROAD AMERICA**  
America's Park of Speed  
Elkhart Lake, WI  
[www.roadamerica.com](http://www.roadamerica.com)



- 1. Pit
- 2. Administration
- 3. Race Control
- 4. Medical
- 5. Race Line
- 6. Start
- 7. Finish



Autocross will be run on the Briggs & Stratton 8/10 mile Motorplex shown above and with an X inside the Racetrack

High Speed will run on the 4.1 Mile Racetrack

All 3 Drag events will be held on Thursday (the 21<sup>st</sup>) at the Rock Falls Raceway just south of Eau Claire, WI. It is a little ways to drive (mostly along I-90/I-94) but so worth it to drag on an NHRA 1/4 Mile track that is so clean, well maintained and professionally staffed!



[www.rockfallsraceway.com](http://www.rockfallsraceway.com)





## Hot Rods & Museum and Beach Racing Restaurant Cruise-in

By John Helm

It's Saturday, September 7 and 18 Corvette enthusiasts are meeting at the Sam's Club parking lot in Cocoa. It's partly cloudy and a balmy 80+/- degrees, looks like a nice day to let the horses run. We get the dangerous part over early getting out of the parking lot then roll north on I-95. About 62 miles later we pull into the lot at Hanksters Hot Rods & Museum, an inauspicious building on Nova Road in South Daytona. A former skating rink, the building houses a treasure trove of 50 to 60 year-old machines for turning gasoline into noise and the smell of burning rubber. Chevys, Mustangs, GTOs, 442s, 440s, and yes a few Vettes, some with 396 and 454 big blocks, to a Volkswagen Dune Buggy, are among the 65 vehicles on display. It isn't a

humongous museum but it is a sales showroom with prices prominently displayed on these nice looking, road worthy treasures.

By noon everyone is ready for lunch so we head to the beach. A short drive south and we pull into Racing's North Turn Beach Bar, a restaurant full of memorabilia about the early, exciting days of NASCAR racing on the beach. The restaurant is located on the North Turn of the former beach track, hence the name. Service is a little slow and I hear a couple of complaints about the food but mine is good and the portions are ample.

Our ride home is uneventful and we even get a free car wash on I-95, which hopefully removed the Love Bugs.



# Members Enjoy Another Great Waterside Cruise-in

*By John Helm*

Saturday, September 21st. was a gorgeous day to take the Vette out for a drive. So 21 intrepid Corvette owners did just that and met for a delicious early dinner at River Rocks Bar & Grill located on the Indian River in Rockledge. The restaurant doesn't take reservations for its covered outdoor dining area, called The Dock but the staff quickly arranged an area just for us and assigned two of the waitstaff to handle our questions and requests. In addition to a beautiful view across the river, a nice breeze kept the temperature nearly perfect.

Service was impeccable with food to match and with the amiable conversation and companionship it made for a very pleasant afternoon. If you couldn't make this cruise-in we hope you can join us for our next dining adventure.



# Car Show Corner

By Barbara Hurn

On Saturday, Oct. 19 Space Coast Vettes held its 21st. annual *Vettes on the Avenue* Corvette show in downtown Melbourne.



This was a participant judged show with awards given out for the *Top 40* and the *Best of Show* cars. The weather was perfect for a car show. There were 222 registered Corvettes present plus 90 registered from the Florida West Coast but most were unable to attend due to the cleanup from hurricane Milton, except the Skyway Corvette Club, which brought 18 cars from Sarasota and received the *Most Participation* award.



Cape Kennedy Corvette Club members showed 12 cars. Connie Kostyra, Bill Young and Noel Comeaux won Top 40 trophies.

Faye Leschitz, Connie Kostyra, Michelle & Noel Comeaux and Lynn Storck won gift baskets.

The show charities were Veterans Honor Flight and Children's Hunger Project.

All in all it was a good day.



# Members Carry Astronaut High School Homecoming Court

By Ellen Schwartz, NCCC Secretary



hurricane and this was a last-minute request. President Janice Greene miraculously found enough convertibles and drivers to save the day. Thank you to CKCC members Janice Greene, Barb Young, Steve Hepp, Bill Shearer and Mike Dougherty. We did suggest that next year the parade have an earlier starting time as the sun was setting before we left the parking lot. The kids were so excited to be riding in the Corvettes. Their enthusiastic admiration for the Corvettes was contagious and included band members and ROTC members nearby enjoying a mini car

On Wednesday October 30th Cape Kennedy Corvette Club provided 5 Corvette Convertibles to carry the Homecoming Royalty in the annual Homecoming Parade for Astronaut High School in Titusville.

The parade had been delayed earlier in the month due to a



show and envious of the riders. Both the students and the staff were very appreciative. It is heart warming to do something good for the community.



# Halloween Cruise-in

*By Roger Wolf*

Since I have been in the Club (23 years) this is the first time that I can remember ever having a cruise-in on Halloween. It was real nice with 14 members gathered at Dixie Belle diner in Harbortown Marina on Merritt Island at 4:30 p.m.



The food and service were great, although a little slow. Social committee member Mary Jo Helm was in charge of the event and after dinner she gave everyone a Halloween treat consisting of two Snickers bars.

## Upcoming Events\*

- Nov. 2:** Cypress Gardens Corvette Club, 7 - Event Low Speed Autocross, Sun N Fun, Lakeland
- Nov. 3:** CKCC Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m., Gators Portside, Port Canaveral
- Nov. 3:** NCCC Chance Rally, North Florida Corvette Association, Jacksonville
- Nov 8 or 9:** Social Meet-Up with Tampa Bay Area Corvette Club
- Nov. 9:** CKCC Cruise-in, Beef O'Bradys, Merritt Island, 4:30 p.m.
- Nov. 12:** CKCC General Membership Meeting: Social, 5:30; guest speaker, 6:30; meeting, 7 p.m. at the Merritt Island Moose Lodge
- Nov. 16/17:** CKCC 14 - Event Low Speed Autocross, American Muscle Car Museum
- Nov. 23:** CKCC Cruise-in, Hemingways Tavern, 1800 W. Hibiscus Blvd. #115, Melbourne, RSVP (863) 241-7043
- Nov. 28:** Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 1:** CKCC Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m., Gators Portside, Port Canaveral
- Dec. 7:** Corvette Toy Run, Walmart Distribution Center, Cocoa, 12 noon staging, 2 p.m. police escort caravan to Port Canaveral
- Dec. 10:** CKCC General Membership Social/Meeting, 5:30/7 p.m., M.I. Moose
- Dec. 14:** CKCC Christmas Party, Moose Lodge, Merritt Island, 6:30 p.m.

**\*Events are subject to change. Please confirm before attending.**



*The Motor Enclave*

## **The Future For Corvette Race Cars: One Man's Solution**

*Taken from Registry of Corvette Race Cars October E-newsletter*

What tops this: A garage mahal in The Motor Enclave, a 200-acre complex with a 1.72-mile race circuit designed by Hermann Tilke with luxury trappings near the Tampa Executive airport — easily reached by gearheads from far and wide?

This is the solution for Corvette enthusiast John Minnick. It hits the sweet spot between (a) spending crazy money for Group 6 Vintage Racing Today or (b) letting his new treasure sit under a tarp.

History: Back in 1966, Jim Mullins of Eugene Oregon turned a 1963 coupe, s/n 30837S119085 into a race car, SCCA log book/roll bar #96-15.

Mullins later sold it to Peter Shutts, a college friend who raced it several years before a wreck at Laguna Seca.

Shutts returned the car to Mullins who sold it to Ron Lowenthal in Florida followed in 1991 by a 2-year restoration.

George Haddad of Fabulous Restorations in Ft Lauderdale recalls reversing the stripe

colors and emulating the Grand Sport by cutting openings in the rear to let air escape.

The next owner Marc Mehl from Long Island NY hired Stan Rachwal of Vintage Motion in Buffalo NY to upgrade the car to compete in SVRA, HSR and the Badger 200 at Road America.

From 2005 through 2021, the next owner Brian Cooper of Bolivar NY, a hamlet south of Buffalo raced in the SVRA Vintage Grand Prix at Watkins Glen and the 2011 Corvette World Tribute at Road America.

Jim Glass, a trusted dealer in Kingston NY acquired the car in June 2024 and will deliver it next month to John Minnick at The Motor Enclave.

The Motor Enclave is based on the 87-acre M1 Concours in Pontiac MI where Brad Oleshansky, a prominent Tampa business figure executed that concept to the max.

We had the privilege to attend the M1 Concours last September for a memorable gathering of Corvettes and pay tribute to the late Reeves Callaway.

*Continued on next page*



Photo credits:  
Richard Martin,  
Wayne Ellwood,  
Corvette Race  
Cars Archive



M1 Concours in Pontiac Michigan



## New Exhibition Opens at the National Corvette Museum

**C**ue the paparazzi & velvet ropes! In October the National Corvette Museum opened its newest exhibition, *An American Love Affair: Pop Culture and Corvette*.

In the hours before the opening, members had an exclusive look at the cars and stories behind legendary Corvettes, including the Corvette-inspired Autobots from the *Transformers* franchise.

"From the silver screen to rock 'n' roll stages, Corvette has always been a pop culture icon. Our new Pop Culture and Corvette exhibition celebrates how America's Sports Car has raced its way into the hearts of celebrities, starring in moments that defined generations," explained Robert Maxhimer, Director of Curatorial Affairs and Education at the National Corvette Museum.

If you missed the member preview, we encourage you to experience *An American Love Affair: Pop Culture and Corvette* for

yourself. National Corvette Museum members receive free admission to enjoy everything the Museum has to offer. From the gateway to the final gallery, you're sure to come across a familiar face from our Membership base that shares the same passion for America's Sports Car.

This immersive exhibition showcases over a dozen legendary Corvettes that have left their mark on popular culture. From the sleek 1959 Stingray Racer driven by Elvis Presley in *Clambake*, to Corvette-based characters like "Sideswipe" and "Crosshairs" in the *Transformers* film series, Pop Culture and Corvette explores how this iconic car has shaped—and been shaped by—entertainment.

Following is the link to view some of the more than dozen cars in the exhibit.

[https://www.corvettemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/750x500\\_Pop-Culture-Exhibit-2-red-Corvette.png](https://www.corvettemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/750x500_Pop-Culture-Exhibit-2-red-Corvette.png)

# 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Cape Kennedy Corvette Club



## TOY RUN

When: 12:00pm Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> - (Rain or Shine)

Where: Walmart Distribution Center 4505 FL-524 Cocoa, FL

Parking will be by Generation C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8

Escort provided by: Brevard County Sheriff & Canaveral Fire Dept.

Who: ALL Corvette Owners (Club Affiliation NOT Necessary)

Donations: Unwrapped Toy or Gift Certificate for Ages 3 – 17

Also Collecting: School Supplies for Teachers and

Gift Certificates for Food for Seniors (Walmart, Publix, Winn Dixie)

Benefits: Disadvantaged Children & Seniors of Brevard County

Departs: 2:00pm Sharp to Port Canaveral, FL

Social: Fishlips Waterfront Bar & Grill (Upstairs)

610 Glenn Cheek Drive Cape Canaveral, FL

For more details: [www.ckcc.club](http://www.ckcc.club) or call (321) 452-6993

Special Thanks To: The Brevard County Sheriff's Office,

The Cape Canaveral Volunteer Fire Department, and



Note: NCCC Insurance only covers NCCC members

**CAPE KENNEDY CORVETTE CLUB  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024  
MERRITT ISLAND MOOSE LODGE**

President Janice Greene called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There were no new members or visitors in attendance. Janice recognized September birthdays and anniversaries.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**Vice President Frank Storc:** Absent

**Treasurer Maryalice Istvan:**

Checking account balance: \$15,917.00

Savings account balance: \$11,105.61

Petty Cash: \$140.00

Pass the Hat: \$283.00

**Secretary Barbara Young:** No corrections or additions were noted by members.

**Competition Director Bill Kassebaum:** Absent

**NCCC Governor, Zach Duys:**

*Reporting for Bill Kassebaum's competition report:* Registration for October's autocross is open. So far, two people have registered. Food trucks are still be worked on. Rolling J's needs to be confirmed. Zach is also going to talk to Bill's Grills on Wheels.

The Porsche Corvette Challenge has been cancelled due to Porsche not agreeing to our new rules. The American Muscle Car Museum is changing their allowance on types of tires for autocross at their facility. They do not want race cars; they want street cars.

*Reporting for Zach's governor's position:* There is a new position, parliamentarian, being added to the region. Zach will give an updated list of nominations for all positions.

Connie is getting a nice volunteer list for the picnic. We need to firm things up with the location, date and time.

Membership renewals started tonight. Renewals are due by November 15<sup>th</sup>. There is now a lifetime membership. \$35 of the \$75 we pay annually goes to NCCC. If one adds

\$300, nothing will have to be paid again. Zach will have the lifetime forms; Brenda will have the annual forms. Also, it is advisable to add your spouse to the membership. If they are not members, they are not covered by the NCCC insurance policy if they come to an event.

**Officer at Large Connie Kostyra** Representing the Social Committee:

September 14 - Beef O'Brady's at 4:30

September 21 - River Rocks cruise-in at 4:30

September 28 - Autocross in Jacksonville

October 5 - brunch at Gator's Portside

October 12/13 - Autocross

October 12 - Beef O'Brady's 4:30

October 31 - Dixie Bell Grill and Bar 4:30

**OTHER REPORTS**

**Spoiler Editor/Facebook Roger Wolf:** None

**OLD BUSINESS**

Car Show: Janice is going to call for volunteers for a pre-car show committee in order to get things rolling. Although Dillard's was very good to us, we are looking for a location with more traffic.

There is a car show at the Moose Nov. 2nd.

Roni Duys updated the progress with the BAC program. BAC will be at the October meeting to inform us about their programs. There are possibilities for matching funds (or 3:1 match) if we donate to them. The school should be opening in January.

The Toy Run is still the first Saturday in December. The sheriff's office is looking for a new location for us to meet. (Eckler's is up for sale.)

**NEW BUSINESS**

The trailer is still in need of repair. It will be looked at during the next Autocross.

50/50 winner of \$80 went to Maryalice Istvan.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

# CKCC SPONSORS

## GOLD

AmericanMuscle.com  
Duys Marine Electronics  
Merritt Island Moose Lodge  
New Smyrna Beach Chevrolet

## CONTRIBUTING

American Muscle Car Museum  
Blue Ridge Awards & Engraving  
Eckler's Corvette  
Fishlips Waterfront Bar & Grill

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