

INSIDE: VETTES & VINO, MAD COW III, DIY, RED SCORPION, CONVENTION NEWS, SCC EVENTS

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JUNE 2017



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President - Stuart Calhoon From The Driver's Seat



Greetings, Corvetters!

Of all the events advertised on our May calendar, I managed to attend:

- May 3 – Business Meeting
- May 6 -- NCCA's 60th Anniversary celebration in San Ramon;
- May 7 -- Autocross at Sonoma Raceway
- May 11 – Hooked on Corvette track day at Thunderhill
- May 21 – Mad Cow III autocross at the Cow Palace

That means I missed 3 non-SCC car shows; the **Williams** luncheon and coastal tour; the **Vettes and Vino** weekend; a **TGIT** on the 18th, and the Type V **Abel Car Show**. Call it sensory overload – I can't attend everything. I'd be curious to know – was there anyone who attended all 12 of our May events? How about 9? This club can definitely keep you busy.

As a teaser, I want to mention 3 topics that I've been involved in recently. I'd love to expound on all of them here, but any one of them would quickly overwhelm the space I have available for this humble column. So here is brief information on each topic – I plan on making more info available elsewhere.

1. Chinese Travel Show filming: About 6 weeks ago, I was contacted by the producer of a Chinese Travel Show. They're filming in the USA for several months and wanted to highlight some of the more interesting activities they could find. They apparently found SCC, and my contact information, through the website. After a flurry of e-mails back and forth, I agreed to provide 4 Corvettes of different generations, and their owners, in an outdoor setting for interviews and some driving. This all took place on Tuesday, May 23.
2. Shock Controller: Last month I alluded to an upgrade I made to my car, with the promise to report back how it worked. Well, I've got the data, and I'm ready to report. The upgrade was a DSC Sport "Shock Controller." It does real-time, high-frequency adjustments of the Magnetic Shock Absorber stiffness. Bottom line – I found it to improve the overall ride on rough roads, and my autocross times by 2%.
3. Thunderhill times: I've also been trying to work out how fast I can go on the 3-mile course at Thunderhill, given the constraint of leaving my car relatively stock. Variables include tires and alignment (and that DSC Controller mentioned above). I think all tracksters will find this future article to be of interest.

Stuart

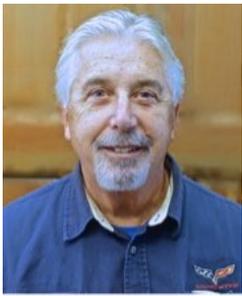
Cover Car

Featured on this month's cover is **The Red Scorpion**, an exotically gorgeous Corvette Z06 convertible owned by SCC's own **Peter Osel**. Peter has lived in **Munich, Germany** since 2008 but maintains membership in SCC.

This is Peter's third Corvette, combining the plain air attributes of his former **C5 50th Anniversary convertible** with the power of his heavily modified **2007 Z06**. The Red Scorpion is a **2017 C7 Z06 A8** in Long Beach Red Metallic. So far it has received the **Geiger Cars** Carbon Fiber body kit (front spoiler with fins and undertray, plate holder, grill, rear diffuser with fins, rocker panels, and rear spoiler), **APR Performance** Carbon Fiber tail light bezels, fender and hood vents, **GM** Splash guards, and **smartTop** and **Window Valet** modules.

The cover photo was taken in front of the **Hotel Italia Palace in Lignano, Italy**. He joined a group of Corvettes of the **Corvette Club Bayern** and took Red Scorpion on her first long trip. Every generation of Corvettes was represented in the 800 mile convoy from Munich to Italy.





Welcome!

Cliff Martin - Membership Director

Well it seems like we went from cold chilly days to our current very welcomed warm, and now to those upcoming hot

days. I for one enjoy this time of the year. With the warmer weather we all have numerous opportunities for some really great runs. For our many new members keep an eye out for **Rick Riccardi's RED-C** runs, usually once per month on a Thursday and posted on Facebook as well as through emails. I have truly enjoyed joining in with Rick's group on many runs enjoying the beautiful scenery, challenging roads and of course the comradery as well as those great restaurants.....Thanks Rick.

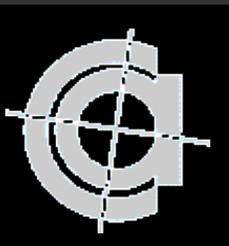
With regard to membership.....we are again on the rise. We now have 209 members; 63 individual and 73 family memberships for a total of 136 memberships. Club members please join me in welcoming new members; **Newsom and Dot Shows** (previous members), **David and**

Gina Domenichini, Myra Tallerico, Greg and Pippa Spencer, and Greg and Lisa Selzer.

New members please take advantage of your membership; get involved, volunteer at club events and have fun.

We are all so fortunate to belong to such an active and well managed club. I feel I can speak for all club members and take this opportunity to thank the many club members who volunteer to help promote the various club events; from car shows, auto-cross, TGIT's, business meetings, our outstanding First Class Glass publication, the many social activities offered, our very own "Spectacular" car show, picnics, those adventurous Jack and Yolanda excursions as well as the many other fun filled activities. So new SCC members let me say once again; get involved, have fun and help make this club even stronger as we move into this exciting year. Remember we are only as strong as our Membership...

Cliff



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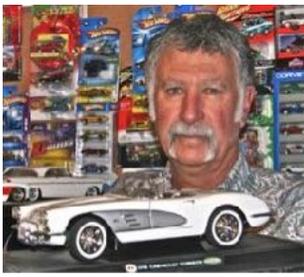
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Social Directors Keith Mendia & David Wilson



Those of you brave enough to get in the commute traffic line to Almaden Valley and our TGIT at Mo's on 5/18 were treated to some excellent food and tasty beverages out on their shaded patio. We had 42 members show up and had most of their large patio to ourselves. We hope you enjoy the new venues that we are experiencing this year. Having these events on Thursdays really opens up the possibilities for us.

Our next TGIT will be on Thursday, June 15th beginning at 4pm at **Grill-Em Steaks, Burgers and Sports Bar**, 2509 S. Bascom Ave., Campbell, CA. Here is a chance for you to grill your own steak if you like or have their people do it for you. A fun place and a nice outdoor patio for our party. Come on over and enjoy the afternoon with your buddies.

Moving on to July, we have 2 big events planned that you will need to sign-up and prepay to attend. Our **Annual Picnic** is Saturday, July 15th and will be held at **Hellyer Park** in San Jose at the **Buena Vista Group Area**. The cost is \$10/member which will be refunded to you when you arrive (net being FREE). The cost for non members is \$25 which is not refundable. This is a new location for us and I think you will really like it. Please bring your Corvettes as there is loads of parking right at our area. We usually get more than 100 members attending this fun event so please get signed-up now. If you have a favorite side dish or dessert that you would like to share, please bring it along with your favorite adult beverage. We will cover the entrees (BBQ Steaks & chicken), water, soda etc.

The second Social Event in July is **SCC Night at the San Jose Giants** on Tuesday, July 25th. This is home town professional baseball at its best. We have some great seats, great weather, great food and our home team, the San Jose Giants to entertain us. Cost is \$15/person that includes admission and our free tailgate party. Bring a jacket, your appetite but **DO NOT** bring your Corvette. Parking is \$10/car so come with your buddies and save. Tailgate party starts at 5pm, game at 7pm. Look for us in the parking lot and park close. We will be easy to find, just look for the party! This is an excellent event to bring your whole family and neighbors.

All the information on all these events is found on the SCC website calendar. Any questions, contact Keith or David.

Let's go agitate some asphalt!!



Keith

Let me begin by giving a huge (yuuge?) thanks to **Nicole Wilson** for putting together an amazing weekend for **Vettes & Vino**. We began our wine weekend with a leisurely cruise to **Paso Robles**. Our first destination was **Eberle Winery**. Upon our arrival we were ushered to a private tasting area our hosts had set up down on the winery floor. Surrounded by stainless vats of wine, we were able to sample a variety of wines. After the last wine was poured, I asked our tour guide if we could get a sample of their reserve cabernet. A quick check with the manager and we were enjoying a bottle of deliciousness. From the tasting we went outside for a photo op in front of the vineyards followed by heading underground into the first wine caves ever dug in Paso. We got to learn a little history of the area and the caves. A little bit about the wine making process. We finished up with a visit to the gift shop where everyone loaded up on bottles and "frog balls". If you have to ask.....

Our next stop was **Le Vigne**. For the second stop in a row we had winery employees coming out to admire our cars. We immediately moved into the barrel room for a private tasting. Each member was presented with a cheeseboard with five specially selected cheeses. Each cheese was perfectly paired with the wines we sampled. There was a large charcuterie tray for everyone to share. At the end of the tasting everyone got to take home their Le Vigne cheeseboard. Once again we migrated into the gift shop to load up on wine. This time we were also able to pick up cheese from their world class cheese shop.

Third in line was **Shale Oak**. This stop definitely had the best greeting. As we walked up the path toward the tasting room, two ladies came out with large trays of wine glasses pre-filled with a nice cold rosé. They put together a nice area on the patio for us with several umbrellas to offer us shade. I do have to say that Shale Oak offers up some of my favorite wines in the Paso Robles region. I may have picked up a bottle or two.

After checking in at our hotel and relaxing for a bit, we saddled back up and headed to **AJ Spurs** in **Templeton** for dinner. **Keith** and I shared a one-pound ground sirloin AND a massive calamari steak dinner. **Steve Wells** earned himself a free t-shirt by putting away the TWO POUND STEAK! When was the last time you had a delicious, generously portioned, reasonably priced dinner that included soup, salad, sides, and dessert? I know when it was for me!

Sunday morning saw most members having breakfast at **Margie's Diner** and heading home on a route designed by **Jack Atkinson**. For **David Johnston**, **Gary** and **Nancy Linford**, **Nicole**, and myself, it was time for day two. We began with a yummy breakfast at a little café in Templeton. Following breakfast we went to **Sextant Wines**. A beautiful tasting room and good wines made for the perfect start to day two. **Epoch Estate Wines** greeted us for our second stop.

continued on pg 17



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While few are pictured here, dozens of members had a nice visit to **Mo's** for our May TGIT event. Good food, great happy hour specials, and good friends.



TGIT at Mo's

Thursday, May 18

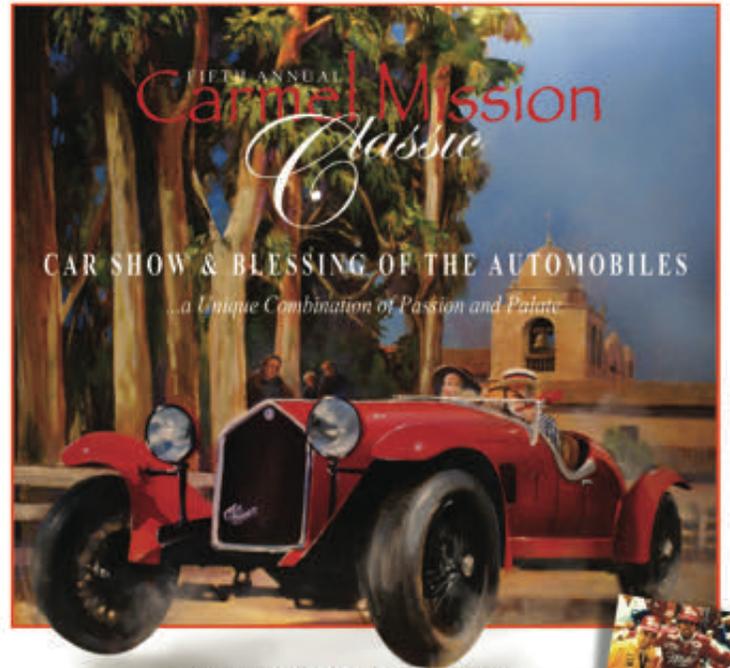
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DIY: When Plug and Play... Isn't

By Stuart Calhoun

"Arghh! I try to work on my Corvette when it's something I think I can handle. The latest mod was the installation of a new shock controller (DSC Sport). Plug and play, they said. Easy.

Well, I encountered a connector I was not familiar with – a hinged device that actually pulls the connectors together, or pushes them apart when opening. I managed to damage the connector, and now it appears I'm really going to pay for it. Replacing the connector involves replacing an entire wiring harness with multiple connectors – very complex. Not replacing the connector means extreme difficulty plugging in the new part (or

putting the old one back). And if you don't get it in all the way, it doesn't work right, sends all kinds of fault signals to the various computers, and causes even more problems -- like the car refusing to start.

Update: Thursday, April 20: All good. I got the new controller in and working fine. My computers are not fried. Turns out all I had to do was remove the seal / gasket that comes in the connector. That dang thing was bunching up, preventing the connectors from mating properly. So I took it out. Now mating is easy. Everything works. Just like it was supposed to. Of course, now the assembly is not water-tight. That could come back to bite me. So I will

wrap the whole thing in electrical tape – seal it the old-fashioned way.

Have I uncovered a design flaw? Or just exposed a trap for unwitting DIY'ers to fall into? I don't have enough information to know for sure. But I have to go with Option 1. This is not a good design. Good designs should be intuitive enough to allow well-intentioned owners to muddle through them without damaging anything.

I'm just very fortunate that I did not fry several expensive computers, which I would have had to pay for. Thank you, thank you, gods of mechanical and electrical things. I live to fight another day."



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Mad Cow Auto X



What's News?

The continuing adventures of the GORRWETOTH* group!

(* Gang Of Roaming Retirees With Extra Time On Their Hands. Name bestowed by your editor - they have no idea.)



Alan Templeton and David Johnston attended Rick Bronner's open house and high-end product display at Century Stereo. There were some very sweet-sounding speakers (if you happen to have some extra cash laying about), some super HD/high resolution big screen TVs and a new (to us) product that was about the size of a fat cell phone that you could pair with some headphones (also available there) for some mid-blowing sound(s). Some really cool and impressive items being demonstrated- fortunately (for us) we left our checkbooks and credit cards elsewhere. We had to leave just before they started serving some great-smelling Mexican food, but then we had some pretty good Mexican food at Niehans' pre-CO Run get-together.



Wayne Dorsey, Rob Lezama, Larry Osborne and Roger Wiley attended the First Annual Moose Lodge Car Show in Sunnyvale, supporting the Cops Care Foundation, Fantasy Flight Program. They received a tee-shirt, beverage and lunch-all for the price of admission. They also received the satisfaction of contributing to a charity, the fellowship of being with SCC club members and a beautiful day for a car show.

Wayne Dorsey, Larry Osborne, Dave Johnston, Gary Leighton and Rob Lezama ventured south to Casa de Fruita for lunch- just for something to do... any excuse to drive our Corvettes! Beautiful day, good company, good eats and, as an extra added attraction, we stopped by The Grove (just 2 miles west on Hwy 25 towards Hollister) so that Gary, Larry and Wayne could see the layout. SCC had a social function there about 4 years ago.



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While attending the April 22, 2017 Lexus Grand Tasting Event at the 2017 Pebble Beach Food and Wine Festival, Debbie and David Hutchings saw Carol and Ron Beck who graciously volunteered their time at that event.



And while not exactly a motor sport... in preparation for their move, the Spragues donated "Mom's piano" to neighbors across-the-street. Here we see the furniture in question making its 200 foot journey. Fortunately, we were not cited by MHPD during our wild street cruising escapades.

The realtor insisted we retake the exterior photos of our (Sprague's) house so that the Corvette could be included. The Blue Shark is now appearing in listings across the country, including this one from the New York Times!



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Collins Orton: Competition, Motorsports

Hello **Santa Clara Corvettes**, the Auto-X season has really

events at their historic facility. We even had Bleacher Seating this time for better viewing of the competition. Thanks Diana.

The Auto-X Army was out in full force. We cannot do these events without participation from many individuals. Just to put this in perspective, we need approx. 20-22 people for corner workers, timing etc. for each run group; we usually have 4 run groups each day. You can see how important the Auto-X Army is to our

ability to run these events. Please think about this when you come to these events, we need you! Please stick around to help out.

Also in May, a number of SCC members participated in "Hooked On Corvettes" at Thunderhill. Plenty of Corvettes on hand. **Stuart Calhoon** did spin out and he

published the video on **Facebook**. You are a brave man Stuart. This writer had a couple of spins that will not be published.....Many of us parked along with our sponsor **Abel Chevrolet**. **Rich Willhoff, Derek Abel** and their crew are very helpful and terrific guys. If you need service for your Corvette, these guys are top notch, (ask fellow SCC members)!

Our next auto-X event will be at **Marina** on **Saturday June 24th**. We will need volunteers to help staff this event because many of our regulars will be away on the Run to **Colorado**. So, even if you do not want to Auto-X, please come on down and help with setup, teardown and operation of this event. **Rick Bronner** is in charge of this one. The course has been designed and I can see where it will be very exciting.

Our last SCC Auto-X event of the season will be back at the **Cow Palace** on **August 26th and 27th**. Motorhome parking will be available. Cost is \$25.00 per night.

Please see the SCC website for all Auto-X event results. Thanks to **Sandy Mendia** and **Scott Simpson** for all of your hard work putting all of the event results together.

Looking further down the road to September and October, there will be Track Days at **Laguna Seca** the Monday following the **IMSA** races. And another Track Day at **Spring Mountain**, near **Las Vegas**. This one is part of the **WSCC Convention**. Check it out. SCC is hosting the Auto-X event at Convention. This will be held at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. These are all great venues.

That is all for now.

"See You at the Track"

Collins

See photo, SCC member **Chuck Vivian's** 2009 Z06 waiting to run at Mad Cow III. Chuck competes on 200 Tread Wear Tires (street tires). His abilities are amazing. **Cris Schiebold** was there with his gorgeous C2. Our famous author, **Lou Marinovich** ran his '67. His new book **True North** is a hit with SCC members. Many really nice cars.



I would like to extend my congratulations to all competitors and especially to those that were Top Time of Day, Men and Women. **Don Herzer** received the Distance award.

Diana Colvin, of the Cow Palace, was on hand as well. They are really appreciating our Auto-X

DAVID'S SOCIAL REPORT CONT...

This normally packed winery was able to give us tons of personal attention since it was nearly abandoned for Mother's Day. That trend continued at **Adelaida Vineyards** where we were able to take over their board room to eat our lunch and enjoy an impromptu private tasting. I'm thinking I may go wine tasting every Mother's Day. For our last stop we tried out **McPrice Myers**. This up and coming Paso winery had some great wines and a cool vibe. I expect to hear great things about them in the future. We finished the day with an unbelievable dinner at Artisan Restaurant. I could eat there every night.

Monday started with a quick breakfast at Margie's Diner. We jumped on 101 North and headed to **Soledad** to investigate the **Santa Lucia Highlands wine AVA**. We stopped for a tasting at **Wrath** and enjoyed their wide pinot selection. Then we headed over to **Hahn Family Wines**. The wines were wonderful, but that

wasn't the highlight. The view! The View! The View! Did I mention the view? After standing in awe for a while, we finally got in the car for the last time and headed home. Nicole, we all can't wait to see what you put together next!

On Thursday, July 20, we will have the chance to enjoy some incredible German food and drink at **Ludwig's German Table in San Jose**. **Keith, Sandy, Nicole**, and I went last week to "investigate" this new TGIT spot. After relaxing in the biergarten with a few liters and sausages, we realized this place is perfect. Keep an eye on the web calendar and next month's FCG for more details.

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David

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Some of you will remember the impromptu gatherings at the shopping center parking lot at **Scott and El Camino** in **Santa Clara** a few years ago. That event was discontinued when the shopping center got remodeled. Since then the group has become like nomads searching for a location to call their regular home. New ownership of the **Cambrian Plaza** (Camden & Union) has welcomed the group at that location but getting the word out has been a slow process. A small portion of the group met there the first Tuesday in May with clear skies and mid-90 degree temperatures. Some of the warmer prospects were: **Wayne Dorsey; David Jacobson; David Johnston**. If anyone is interested in being placed on an email notification list for future gatherings of this group, please advise **Don Harr** (former SCC member) who is maintaining such a list: z11shark@comcast.net

A few more from the Mad Cow Auto-X





Dave Katz: Competition, Car Shows

Two WSCC Type V car shows were held in late April. Technically, the Type V car shows are social events and not competitive events.

Nevertheless, the host clubs present awards using whatever criteria they choose for selecting the winners.

NCCA hosted **A Legend on Display 37 at Blackhawk Plaza** on April 23. Their club members picked the top three cars from each generation of Corvettes. There was also a people's choice award and a president's award for best in show. **Santa Clara Corvettes** ran away with club par with 23 Corvettes in the show.

The following members received awards:

First Place: David and Cyndy Jacobson – C5, Cliff Martin – C7, Dave Spellman - C3.

Second Place: Ken Jacksteit – C7

Third Place: Mim Petersen - C4.

Corvettes of Lodi held their **Picnic in the Park** car show on April 29. Santa Clara won club par with 12 cars in the show.

Corvettes of Lodi gave an award to the top Corvette in each generation as well as three people's choice awards and a kid's choice award.

The following members received top awards:

First Place: Gil Garcia - C4, David and Cyndy Jacobson - C5.

On May 20, **Abel Chevrolet** held its 9th annual **All GM** car show. Abel doesn't present any awards for their show, but if they did, I think SCC would have won club par with 34 members and 24 cars.

Remember, to qualify for a year-end competition award for car show from either SCC or from WSCC, you must compete in at least two of the three **Type I** car shows – **Vette-O-Rama** in Concord, **Vettes under the Oaks** in Oakhurst or **Corvette Spectacular**. The Type V car shows count for club participation points but do not count for competition points.

The car show competition series kicks off with **Vette-O-**



Rama in **Concord** on June 10. I have made lunch reservations at **The Old Spaghetti Factory**.

On June 29, Santa Clara Corvettes will have a display of cars for the car show portion of **Mountain View's Thursday Night Live**. We still have room for three more cars in this event.

Dave

Uncle John's Trivia Corner

- Highest recorded temperature in Alaska: 100°. Highest recorded temperature in Hawaii: 100°
- Whale oil was used in automotive transmission fluid as late as 1973
- Chance a driver will swerve out of his/her lane while talking on a cell phone: 7 percent
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The advertisement features two green frogs on either side of the text. The word "Frogs" is in a large, green, serif font, and "Boat & RV Storage" is in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below this, the text "Secure Storage For Boats, Trailers, Motor Homes, and Autos" is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, contact information for Bill Hughes is provided, including a website and two phone numbers.

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David Wilson's haul from the Vettes & Vino run

FIRST CLASS GLASS

The monthly publication of the Santa Clara Corvettes club
Incorporated in 1975
Mailing Address:
Santa Clara Corvettes
P.O. Box 2634
Santa Clara, CA 95055-2634

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Robert Kuwada - rkuwada@sbcglobal.net

Cliff Martin - dervet07@gmail.com

SCC Upcoming Events!

JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

JULY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 3 Swim Party
- 7 General Meeting
- 10 Vette-O-Rama
- 12-27 Western Roadtrip
- 15 TGIT - Grill'Em Sports Bar
- 24 Auto-X at Marina
- 28 Board Meeting
- 29 Mountain View Thursday Night

- 5 General Meeting
- 10 Vette Day at Saratoga Car Show
- 15 SCC Annual Picnic at Hellyer Park
- 20 TGIT - Ludwigs
- 25 SCC Night @ The San Jose Giants
- 29 Vettes Under the Oaks Car Show

*Some dates may be added after this goes to press so always check the sccorvettes.org website for the most current

June Birthdays

- Powars, Marilyn 06/03
- Kennedy, Sue 06/04
- Hoepfner, Andy 06/05
- Kono, Mary Ann 06/05
- Reed, Scarlett 06/05
- Kaehler, Paul 06/06
- Petach, Paul 06/07
- Smith, Steven 06/07
- Courtney, Donna 06/10
- Piellusch, Marilyn 06/14
- Gee, Ray 06/15
- Fuerniss, Gloria 06/16
- Alomia, Vince 06/19
- Kimball, Walt 06/20
- Eriksen, Jaye 06/24
- Shonk, Steven 06/27



A Chevrolet Corvette will once again lead the field of 33 to green for the start of the Indianapolis 500 -- this time, it's a Corvette Grand Sport.

This marks the 14th time a Corvette has served as the official pace car, a tradition that began in 1978, and the 28th time a Chevrolet has paced the field dating back 1948. In fact, no other vehicle has served as the pace car more than the Corvette.

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95055-2634



To:

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The Vettes & Vino Tour - May 2017

Santa Clara Corvettes is a not-for-profit organization formed to appreciate the Chevrolet Corvette. Our monthly business meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Los Altos Masonic Building, 146 Main Street in downtown Los Altos (1/2 block up from San Antonio Rd.) Meetings start at 7:00 PM. All interested Corvette owners and enthusiasts are invited to attend. For more information, contact anyone on the Board of Directors, or write to: Santa Clara Corvettes, P.O. Box 2634, Santa Clara, CA 95055-2634. Visit us on the internet at www.sccorvettes.org for info, pictures, and the latest events.

Send contributing articles and photos to: jeffsprague@gmail.com