

FIRST CLASS GLASS

The Official Newsletter Of Santa Clara Corvettes



February 2021

Volume 46, Number 2



My Corvette Story... by Mike Mak

Ever since I was a kid growing up in South Side Stockton, CA I've always loved cars... especially American Performance cars such as Camaros, Mustangs, and Corvettes. South Side Stockton was the lower income side of town and I never saw a Corvette driving around the neighborhood. South Side Stockton was rough but luckily, I had great parents and a dad who didn't hesitate to keep his boys in line. My father always drove domestic cars and always bought Fords and GMs... he felt an obligation to the country for allowing him and mother to immigrate to the USA to always buy American cars.

The Corvette which really captured my love of the car was a red C4 with a body kit and gold BBS wheels



which was always parked at the Bank of Stockton where my father banked. I believe it was a Greenwood body kit... for me it was like how some people see a super or rare classic car. This was the supercar for the kid who was born to new immigrant parents, born during WWII in China and Hong Kong living in South Stockton. Every time my father would go to the bank it was always parked up front.... likely owned by one of the employees there.

Fast forward several decades and through several Mustangs. Yes I'm a big Mustang fan too .. and still have a 88 Saleen which was my dream car in high school. Time was never right to ever own a Vette as other things in life always got in the way including building my tech business Surplus Computers and then came family and kids. Once the kids came and they started playing sports and other activities...a Vette wasn't practical. As many of you know there is a period of your life when you have kids your life becomes theirs.

On July 19th the C8 Corvette was released to the world and I was BLOWN away with what I am seeing before my eyes. Yes, there were rumors of a Mid-Engine C8 but I never really thought it would

happen. That same day I showed my wife the pics of the C8 and told her how I wish I could buy it but didn't feel it was the right thing to do since I had just bought a brand new 2019 Ranger, still can't believe that truck was \$40K, and was about to send our son off to college to a private school. AMAZINGLY she told me "Just buy it... you work so hard...you deserve to have something nice for yourself". So after prodding from my wife, friends, suppliers, and employees I decided I was going to get one. I helped rationalize the purchase by telling myself it would be a great company vehicle for my company TPS Motorsports to help showcase the products and services we have for the greatest American Sports car ever produced.

Shortly after I made it public I was going to purchase a C8, Rich Wilhof of Abel Chevrolet contacted me and offered to sell me one at MSRP... how could I say no. The deposit was left over the phone and the waiting began for when I would be asked to configure the car on July 30th, 2019. It wasn't till March 12, 2020 I was asked to configure the car by Derek Abel. I almost didn't configure the car as the start of the Covid outbreak was just starting to spread and



there were rumors that a Bay Area Shelter in Place was looming...it happened 4 days later. Obviously I was terrified for my businesses as both my businesses, TPS Motorsports and San Jose Batting Cages, rely on people having discretionary income and with the Shelter In Place order there was A LOT of unknowns. Buying \$76K car was the last thing on my mind... thoughts of the last economic crash was raging through my mind... maybe I would just sell the car off.

Continued on page 11

President - Greg Selzer



A Small Light

There is a light at the end of this COVID-19 tunnel. It is a small light right now but it is there. A vaccine is being rolled out as we speak and I'm looking forward to hearing from club members as they get it. Understandably, there is a lot of excitement in the voices of those that have received it already. Kind of an early Christmas present. For me, even thinking about it is like the old lottery advertisement, "what would YOU do with 20 million dollars?"

2021 will have a lot of bumps on the road to recovery though. Santa Clara Corvettes will be monitoring the changing health orders and we will be prepared to have safe events as soon as we can. We learned how to successfully do that last year and we will certainly do it again.

One of our biggest club successes last year, autocross, is already off and running for 2021. The first autocross event is scheduled for March and eight are currently being planned for 2021. It's an outdoor event, with a limited number of people, all spread out, and a great way to enjoy your car. It is an easy thing to pick up as a

beginner, so if you haven't already done it, put it on your calendar.

Gears are also beginning to turn, very slowly for Corvette Spectacular on Sunday September 19th. The date has been pinned down and some general planning has been started. We're laying low until we see what the year looks like, but we will be ramping up when the time is right. Stay tuned.

Another highlight for 2021 is our new Charity Coordinator, **Maxine Wiley**. **Maxine** has been collecting nominations for charities to support in 2021 and will be rolling out a plan in February. I'm really looking forward to seeing what she comes up with.

In 2021 we will also be taking a hard swing at the National Corvette Museum club newsletter, and website contests. Last year's submittals placed us just off the podium, in 4th and 5th place. Afterwards, we reviewed the NCM scoring sheets and now have a good idea of how to be a serious contender for the top spot. Thanks to **Alan Templeton** and **Geno Brickey** for laying the groundwork for this.

Looking forward to a great 2021,

Greg

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A thanks to our Club Member Photographers:

Teri Brickey	Dave Johnston	Mike Mak
Ken Jacksteit	Bob Nastasi	Keith Mendia
Alan Templeton	Al Fuerniss	Collins Orton

Wanted
Cover Car Photographs
For 2021 First Class Glass Covers
Contact: Geno Brickey
geno116@sbcglobal.net
Jerry Banks
j.lbanks@comcast.net



Welcome!

Al Thompson - Membership Director

Greetings Santa Clara Corvettes

As the New Year begins, Santa Clara Corvettes is optimistic and hopeful that the challenges with 2020 will soon be in our rear-view mirror and we can get back to doing more of what we love —driving the Vette. Until then here are five things you can do while complying with latest mandate:

1. **Read before you speed.** ‘The Complete Book of Corvette’ by Mike Mueller a five-star read that covers every generation starting with the (C1) 1953 to the highly touted (C8) 2020.
2. **Life’s a Parade.** Whether it is a graduation or a Birthday celebration car parades are a fun way to show off your car and make someone’s day. Check out our Facebook for ways to join in the fun.
3. **Best in Show.** It has been a while since we have had to ‘wax-on and wax-off’ so to speak and get our cars show ready. In preparation for car show season (fingers crossed) check your

inventory to ensure you have everything you need such as cleaning solutions, microfiber towels, wheel brushes, car wash mitts etc.

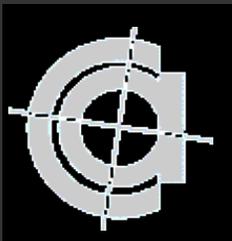
4. **Start your engine.** Keep the battery charged by letting your car run for at least five minutes per week.
5. **Under pressure.** I know some of our cars are dying for attention, before we put it on the road, check the tire pressure. Make sure it meets the manufacturer’s recommendation.

Now on to membership. Membership has seen minimal growth. Since we last met, we have had two new members join our Club **Alan Jung** and **Dan Pellow**. We are starting the year off with 155 Members.

From the Membership Desk we would like to thank **Stuart** and **Liz Calhoon** for their service and contribution to Santa Clara Corvettes, they will truly be missed.

Until next month....

Al Thompson



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TPS Speedlab is located in Santa Clara by appointment only. Open Monday-Friday from 10AM-7PM, Saturdays available by appointment.



Social Directors Cheryl Klynn & Linda Lariz



“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times” – Charles Dickens.

Well, Mr. Dickens certainly got that right. 2020 was the best of times in that we managed to keep SCC unified and communicating. We (as far as we know) lost no members to this dreadful virus that is devastating our world. And... we kept in touch with our Corvette family one way or another.

It was the worst of times in that we did lose several of our long time members to other maladies. We will miss each of them. We learned to be isolated, to do more puzzles, cook more meals, learn new skills (cutting and coloring hair for example). We learned that we can do what we need to do to keep ourselves and our global family safe. Hang in there, the end is in sight.

On the bright side, we learned how to celebrate and have fun online. Not as much fun as in person but nonetheless.

Last night’s Virtual Awards Zoom Meeting was a perfect example of our celebrating from a distance (cue Bette Midler...). We started with our usual “meet and greet cocktail time”. So much chatting and

laughing, we loved seeing our friends in (and with) high spirits.

President **Greg Selzer** did a wonderful job of conducting the festivities and reviewing 2020 in a positive spirit that kept the audience engaged and happy. Well done sir, well done. It will be a pleasure to work with **Greg** again in 2021. Our presenter’s slide shows were amazing. We’d like



to thank all of them for bringing our meeting to life. Many hours were spent creating their slides. Huge shout out to **Alan Templeton** for managing not only our Zoom meeting but making sure our presentations were cohesive and flowed seamlessly.

A huge thank you to **Sandy** and **Keith Mendia** for their loving video memorial tribute to **Buzz Marston**. We can always count on **Sandy** for our background slide show that runs during our Awards Banquet but, she and **Keith** outdid themselves making this tribute to our winner of SCC’s first Legacy Award.

And... a heartfelt thank you to all our members for staying the course through this difficult year. 2020 is in the rearview mirror. It is our deepest hope that within the next few months we will once again be together, laughing and joking, meeting up in person and heading out as the SCC Posse to enjoy our beauties on the open road.

Be well friends.

Cheryl and Linda





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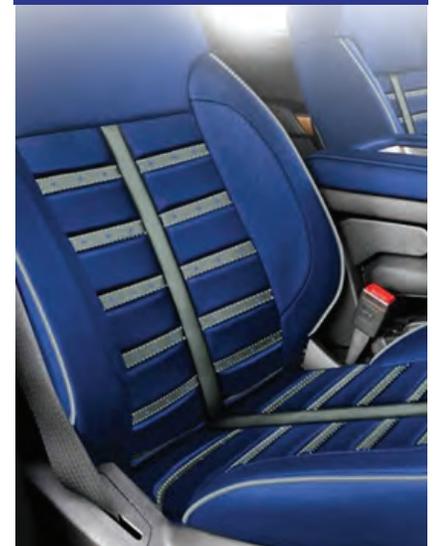
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My Corvette Story... by Mike Mak

As Covid-19 started to change lives throughout the world something VERY STRANGE happened to my business TPS Motorsports... business EXPLODED! Since our customers throughout the country were forced to stay home, didn't go out to eat, or take any vacations as the world was locked down they were buying parts to upgrade their vehicles and all the local customers were bringing in their cars to us to work on. I had completely forgot that I had ordered a C8 from Abel until I saw a white one in Morgan Hill and at that very moment I decided to keep the car. On 9/3/20 I was given a TPW (Target Production Week) of 9/21 and on 10/20 I was told my car was sitting in a lot in Milpitas awaiting transport to Abel Chevrolet. I honestly couldn't believe I was going to pick it up soon.

On November 7th at about 12PM I arrived to pick up my car from Abel from Sales Manager Anthony Wong. The car



looked A LOT better in person and it was AMAZING. The car was ordered with black competition sport seats, red seat belts, dual tops, and Z51 Upgrade package. The one package many ordered which I didn't was the front lifting lip.. my reasoning for not ordering it was we were likely going to upgrade the suspension and didn't want to worry about the self leveling feature.

Break-in miles-GM programmed into the C8 a lower rev limiter of 4000RPM. So after work I would take the C8 on long drives to rack up the miles. After 4 days of my receiving my C8 I was able to break the 500 mile "granny mode" and really let the RPMs fly while driving on Highway 1 near Half Moon Bay.

Ride quality & driving impressions-After 2300 miles in 2 months the car is by far the best driving sports car, maybe car, I have ever driven hands down. On a recent 400 Mile/ 5 hour trip to meet Magnuson Superchargers in Oxnard CA about the development of a kit for the C8, yes TPS Motorsports will have the 1st Supercharged C8 on the West Coast, I was shocked how comfortable the car was.

The car rode as nice as just about any car I've ever owned including past Mercedes Benz and BMW's I've owned. The

only thing those cars had over the C8 is they had less road noise were more roomy. The ride quality is even more



amazing when you take into consideration the car is riding on 19" & 20" wheels. This is a car which you could EASILY drive as your everyday car which I have been using it for.

Handling - The handling is very good for a car straight from the dealer showroom floor. So good I don't think most owners will upgrade the suspension if they opt for the Z51 Package.. it's that good. The car is extremely well balanced and is VERY easy to drive at very high speeds.. I've had it over 130MPH on deserted roads and it didn't feel anywhere close to 100. In fact, I had a customer who I let him take the car for a drive and he ended up pulled over going 105 accelerating onto 101! Luckily the CHP officer was nice enough to let us go. Around corners the car is very planted and never feels like it will be tail happy. For me I will upgrade and tweak the suspension because that's what we do at TPS Motorsports. This car actually drives amazingly well in the rain as I was caught in heavy rain on the way home one day. We are working on a new spring package which we'll have released hopefully by the time autocross season starts.



continued on page 12

My Corvette Story... by Mike Mak

Ergonomics- I like the controls on the LCD screen but don't like the controls on the center console at all. IMO, the buttons/ control are too small to figure out what they are used for. The heating and AC system is great and will blow hot enough to melt your 7-11 Slurpee. I opted for the Competition Seats and love them BUT they may be a bit tight for someone that is much wider than I am... I have a 34-35" waist. As far as headroom there is plenty even for taller drivers, I had a customer who was 6'2" drive the car and he fit just fine. The audio system is great and features Apple integration and works very well. Love the heated seats and steering wheel.

Trunk / Frunk Space-GM did a great job with maximizing room for luggage by having a frunk (Front Trunk) and a trunk. The rear trunk also doubles as storage for the removable Top. On a recent business trip I had 2 duffel bags and my computer notebook in the front Frunk. The frunk is actually large enough to fit my 15 year old daughter in it as we tested it by having her sit in it and was able to close the hood... check out the video on the Santa



Clara Corvettes Facebook page which shows us testing the trunk space. With both trunk and frunk 2 persons could easily have enough room for quite a bit of luggage. I haven't compared it to the previous C7 but I believe it has more luggage space. The benefit of the way GM designed the luggage storage is, unlike previous generations Corvettes, the luggage in the trunk won't hinder vision through your rear window.

Rearview Mirror/ Front & Backup Cameras- One of the really cool features GM designed into the C8 is the rear view mirror. The rearview mirror is literally an LCD screen which displays the feed from the rearview camera OR if you don't like it you can flip it down and it works like a traditional rearview mirror. The front camera is great as it turns on when the car is slowed and displays what is in front of your front spoiler and has actually saved my front spoiler several times.

Power- The car has 495HP and it actually feels a bit underpowered. BUT the 495HP in this car is VERY deceptive because the power comes on so smooth unlike many other V8s I've driven including the C7, Mustangs,

and Camaros. The engine is very refined and the torque curve is very linear with about 370-380LBs of TQ starting at about 2500RPM. HP pulls all the way past 6500RPM which is the redline. Another interesting feature to the C8 is it has variable redline which changes based on engine



temps. When the C8 is initially fired up the redline is kept about 3500 rpm but once warm the engine is free to spin up to its regular 6,500RPM redline.

Driving Modes- My Z51 equipped C8 has 6 different driving modes. Touring mode which is what I usually have it set for which gives you the most comfortable ride and a good balance of handling. Sport mode makes the suspension firmer and activates Performance Shift features which keep the car in a lower gear for improved response. If there is no spirited driving happening the car will revert back to Sport mode automatically. I've driven it in Track mode several times and it is a blast... the car shifts far more aggressively and has a much more aggressive exhaust note. The exhaust, IMO, sounds too quiet. I'm not sure if it's because the car does a good job of sound deadening exterior sounds OR if maybe I'm just jaded by being around performance cars all the time.

Wow factor- If you don't like attention don't get this car... EVERY WHERE I went people were pointing, giving thumbs up, asking me to rev the motor, asking me to do a burnout, etc. When the car is parked in front of our facility people come by all the time just to look at the car. At one time had a women in her late 60's at a gas station say out of the blue in Santa Cruz "That's a BITCHIN Car!" My wife actually doesn't like the car as she says it draws too much attention. 😊

So if you're looking for a new Vette and have been contemplating getting a C8... GO BUY IT. The car is that good and you'll love every moment of owning one. I've enjoyed every moment I've had to drive the car and I've allowed about 7 people to take it for drives including our own **Mim Petersen**. This car, like all Corvettes, needs and should be driven which is why I gladly allow my friends and customers to take it for a spin. If you're ever near our shop in Santa Clara come on by and I'll be glad to let you take it for a spin... now go take your Vette out for a drive.

2020 Virtual Awards Banquet



Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet



2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet
Welcome - President Greg Selzer

2020 Started out normal--Then it wasn't
Our lives all changed as we adapted to the new health orders
Santa Clara Corvettes adapted too
Together, we turned a bad year into a good year
Tonight we recognize what we have accomplished together




2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet
Recognition-Appointed Officers

Historian - Keith Mendia
Points Chair - Sandy Mendia
WSCC Rep - Malcolm Lawton
Spectacular Chairs - Nicole and David Wilson
Goodwill Ambassador - Shirley Svindal
Hospitality Chair - Ken Edgar
Clubwear Chair - Jan Minearo
Social Media Director - Mike Mak




2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet
Recognition-Board of Directors

Vice President - Cameron Brown
Secretary - Ken Jacksteit
Treasurer - Alan Templeton
Publications - Geno Brickey, Steve Wells
Membership - Al Thompson
Car Show - Romulo Rimando
Motorsports - Stuart Calhoon, Collins Orton
Social Directors - Cheryl Klynn, Linda Lariz




2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet
Special Recognition-by Greg Selzer

Bill Hughes
Member and owner of
Frogs Boat and RV Storage, Morgan Hill
Free SCC club trailer storage, discounted rates for members

Dave Johnston
Veterans Day Web page with Alan Templeton
Website photo project
First Class Glass Contributor
NCM Banner Project

Keith Mendia
Website photo project



Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Publications
Geno Brickey and Steve Wells



2020 Newsletter Points Contributors

Dave Johnston - First Place
Here are the list of most contribution to First Class Glass newsletter in 2020.

Dave Johnston
Writing articles
Are You Leaking?
What's in a Name?
Hood Liners... Flashy? Or Classy?
Abel Toy Drive
Photos and Online news content and so much more.

2020 Newsletter Points Contributors

Ken Jacksteit - Second Place

Writing articles
Surprise Birthday Parade
Lodi Caravan
Yuleck Cross Country Adventure
Photos
Proofreading

2020 Newsletter Points Contributors

Bob Nastasi - Third Place

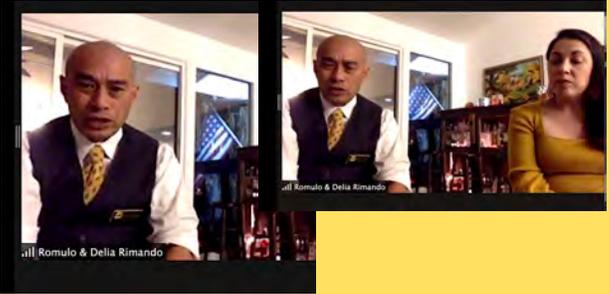
Photos
Holiday Party
Bryce's 5th Birthday photos
80th Birthday Parade
Auto-X photos
Short Articles

2020 Virtual Awards Banquet

Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Car Shows

Romulo Rimando



2020 Scheduled Car Show Events - All Canceled*



Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Motor Sports

Stuart Calhoon and Collins Orton

Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

A Season Like No Other

Seven events at the Cow Palace
Fully COVID-19 Compliant
Alliances with Other Car Clubs
Success Thanks to Many People



Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

2020 Mad Cow Series
Top SCC Drivers in Class

Rick Bronner	John Warner
Stuart Calhoon	Sandy Mendia
Steven Smith	Mim Petersen
Keith Mendia	Lou Marinovich
Anthony Olea	Chris Petersen
Chuck Vivian	Roger Wiley
Bob Courtney	Ron Minearo
Collins Orton	

Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Autocross Army

Jerry Banks	Lois Banks	Blair Barbour
Jim Barnes	Ron Beck	Jeff Bradford
Rick Bronner	Stuart Calhoon	Bob Courtney
Joyce Feimer	Nick Feimer	Barry Goldine
Steven Goldine	Bill Hughes	Kris Kaehler
Lee Klynn	Malcolm Lawton	Gary Linford
Mike Mak	Sandy Mendia	Keith Mendia
David Mills	Ron Minearo	Jan Minearo
Tony Olea	Collins Orton	Chris Petersen
Mim Petersen	Greg Selzer	Steven Smith
Alan Templeton	Chuck Vivian	Barbara Warner
John Warner	Roger Wiley	

Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Thank You to Everyone Who Participated and Helped

We'll See You in 2021

Stuart Calhoon and Collins Orton
2020 Motorsports Co-Directors

2020 Virtual Awards Banquet

 Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Social

Cheryl Klynn & Linda Lariz



 Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Participation Awards

Awards to the top 25% of members earning participation points

Special thank you to members who planned/hosted events:

David and Nicole Wilson - Super Bowl Party
Carol Beck - Grand Canyon Railroad Tour
Blair Barbour - Paso Robles trip (cancelled)




 Santa Clara Corvettes
2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet



 SANTA CLARA CORVETTES

 2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

In Memoriam

A moment of reflection for the members of Santa Clara Corvettes that we have lost in 2020

- Don Harr
- Hal Malone
- Buzz Marston
- Mike Charsinsky

 2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Special Award Presentation

A new, annual, award for Santa Clara Corvettes members

It recognizes those who have been outstanding members over many years

It does not replace Corvetter of the Year

It is the Santa Clara Corvettes Legacy Award

 2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Legacy Award

Ruth and Buzz Marston Legacy Award

Video

Created and presented by Sandy and Keith Mendia

 2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet

Legacy Award

(Text from the award)

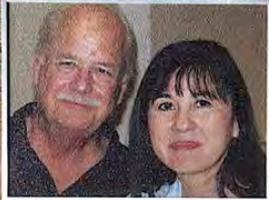
"This award recognizes individuals whose efforts year after year have made Santa Clara Corvettes a better car club. For the many hours dedicated to improving club activities and the experience of all the members of Santa Clara Corvettes"

 SANTA CLARA CORVETTES

Legacy Award

This award recognizes individuals whose efforts year after year have made Santa Clara Corvettes a better car club. For the many hours dedicated to improving the club activities and the experience of all the members.

In Recognition of Buzz & Ruth Marston




For providing truly unique opportunities to members of Santa Clara Corvettes, including Corvette Racing Team Banquets and tech talks at local racing venues, private tours at the National Corvette Museum, and access to the C7 and C8 reveal events. Buzz was also responsible for the outstanding support from many of our largest club sponsors.

"On With The Dance"



A CARAVAN TO WSCC CONVENTION WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Historian: Keith Mendia

I came across some pictures the other day that reminded me of one of the most interesting Corvette Caravans that I have ever been on.

It was back in 2002 and the WSCC Convention was being held in Yerington, NV. If you have never been there, it is a small community about 1 hour southeast of Reno. It has one main street running through the middle of town, 4 motels and a casino. It also has a small airport! All of this made for a great venue for Convention.

We found out during breakfast in Lockeford, CA that they were going to do dynamite blasting above Hwy 88 about the time we would be passing through. We made a quick decision to take an alternate route over the Sierra, Hwy 4. It looked interesting and off we went.

We arrived at Alpine Lake and the town of Alpine just about noon and we all stopped at this great mountain restaurant with a big parking lot and went in for lunch, beverages and relaxing. When we all got back to our Corvettes we headed out. Almost immediately we were on fresh asphalt that was smooth as glass. Wow, won't this be a smooth ride. The road was about 1 1/2 car wide but that was OK.

We came around a corner and there was lots of dust in the air, noise and a pickup stopped in the middle of the road. Down the mountainside came a herd of cattle (about 300 of them) complete with cowboys and herding dogs. Our new position now was the rear of the cattle drive. We followed the trail drive for about 3 miles and finally they headed off to open range. This was all very exciting and some great photo ops. One thing it wasn't, was clean.

That many cattle process a lot of food and are not choosy about when they drop the remains. We drove through this manure the whole time along with the cows bellowing and the cowboys shouting. You could hear the pieces being picked up by the tires and splashed against the fender liners.

The rest of the trip went pretty well and we arrived in Yerington later that afternoon. After we checked in, we all headed to the only self-spray carwash in town and took turns trying to clean up the aftermath of this excursion. It was pretty funny to see people on their hands and knees with the sprayer trying to get the cars underside clean and smelling better. It all washed off and we had a good laugh about our "cattle drive" experience. **Continued on page 17**



Sandy & I were asked to lead the caravan of about 15 Corvettes to Yerington. Our 2002 Z06 was new and we gladly accepted. The original plan was to take Hwy 88 out of Jackson over the Sierra summit, through Minden and end at Yerington.





We have included some pictures for your enjoyment. If you would like to get the whole story, I would suggest you go to the Club History portion of the website and go to year 2002, then Newsletters-August First Class Glass issue. Margie Zamora tells the whole story of the Convention on pages 3,5 &6 and there are pictures on pages 7,10-11. The article is labeled Yerington 2001 but should read 2002.

Zora never designed Corvette to be cattle herders but they work well on smooth trails.

Cheers,

Keith Mendia



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What's Happening with the "C8 Watch" Now?



Here is the latest info I was able to find out on the C8 Watch. At the time of this writing lucky new C8 owners are taking their 2021 deliveries home. Once you take possession of your "supercar" and spend the extra time and money on clear bras and wraps and ceramic coating for protecting the awesome paint then you may think you're done. Well maybe not so fast. Take a good look at the front end of your new beast with massive air intakes on each side. In order to protect your investment and radiators you need to keep the pebbles, insects and debris from damaging your cooling system. You have seen what happens to bugs on the windshield at 110mph so imagine that bug or pebble hitting your exposed radiators.

Now there are some aftermarket companies that have front inlet screens and grids. Some companies have a full set for all radiators. They vary in the number of pieces and sizes of grid opening. Here is a link to the Daily Downshift! YouTube video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U37mDw-W_DQ. Watch them installing something that every Corvette C8 owner should consider buying. These easy-to-install radiator grille covers protect your radiators from damage and any road debris. The black plastic mesh finish looks incredible and gives your car a completed stock look.

You will want to check out C8 vetteparts online for another companies front inlet protection. This has a less complicated method of installation. Check out their product YouTube video installation at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJbGuJlq5sk>.

YouTube video by 519 AutoTech vlog #3 at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYonXptOxbM> shows you how he installs a set of radiator protector mesh for all radiator inlets. He also talks about his new aftermarket larger mud guards.

Horsepower Obsessed takes a closer look at installing the C8 vetteparts online version. They show a quick install at YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMC5zNGwZ-E>

Watch the videos and you decide what is the best protection for your C8.

Stay tuned for more to come on the latest C8 Watch.

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[EducationMuseum News](#)

Hey Alexa, Play Corvette Trivia

By [Corvette Museum](#). January 21, 2021 [No Comments](#)

Part of the National Corvette Museum’s mission is to educate the public on Corvette, and that mission is now offered in the form of a game with the help of Amazon’s Alexa. Anyone with an Alexa-enabled device can participate in the new Corvette trivia game simply by saying “Alexa, Play Corvette Trivia.” (note: on some devices you may have to enable or turn on this feature within your Alexa app)

Alexa will ask you a series of Corvette history questions and the game keeps up with your points as you play. After each question are additional facts and details, allowing you to dive deeper into the various stories behind Corvette through each question. Players get three wrong answers before they are out... but don’t worry, you can play as many times as you like.

“The tech committee was brainstorming ways to engage with our enthusiasts and we were talking about different games you can do through Amazon, so we looked up what it would take to build some skills,” shared Chris Huffman, IT Operations Manager. “One thing led to another and we create the trivia game.”

Museum Educator Deb Howard plans to help in updating the trivia questions periodically, with some of the answers available through the [Vettecademy YouTube](#) series. “We think our audience will enjoy mastering the questions and answers, so we’re excited to freshen those up, giving them the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of Corvette and keep them entertained.”

Chris says they’re working on some additional new interactive applications for use in the Museum including augmented and virtual reality. “Over the years a lot of new, affordable options have become available for Museum use and we’ve been testing some of those out. We’re excited and hope to roll out some new interactive offerings for our exhibits later this year.”

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What's News?

A RETIREMENT PROJECT (HA)

by Bob and Donna Courtney (editor in chief)

My retirement project started 40 years ago when I purchased a 1969 T-top Corvette.

It has been a project from the day I got it home. Halfway home (I bought it in southern California) the engine started knocking.

After a couple of engine teardowns, I found a melted cam bearing and replaced the engine.

I then ran the car for a number of years with a junkyard 327 engine. About 1990, I put the original engine back in the car. I was never happy with the way it ran.

So I parked it and it hardly ever saw the light of day. During that time, the paint started to develop a bad case of orange peel.



Busy with life and three Corvettes later, I finally pulled this 1969 out of my daughter's garage to start putting it back into running shape.

As of February 2021, it will be three years that I have been at work on this project with the help of others (**John Warner, Greg Selzer & Jerry Banks**). As you all know, retirement projects are long and slow moving, and everything else gets in the road. I will be providing a number of short articles about the major pieces of work on the car that have been somewhat

completed to-date. However, there is no real order to the items worked on for the project.

The pieces all overlap each other a great deal of the time.

The major pieces of project have involved the following:

An engine overhaul (started first but finished next to last)

Fuel injection with an ignition update

Front and rear brake updates

Coil-over front suspension

Rear suspension modifications

Reupholstering the interior

New wheels and tires

The first article will be titled: Want more tire under your C3? This is the first part that I really finished on the car. The old tires were 34 years old; therefore I had to do something (new tires & wheels!) in order to succeed at the first test run around the block.

Success! The car made it around the block but with minor problems.

More to follow.





Collins Orton & Stuart Calhoon: Competition, Motorsports



Welcome to the Autocross Army and Mad Cow 2021 Autocross Series

A final note, we must say farewell to **Stuart** and **Liz Calhoon**. They are moving to Cape Cod. **Stuart** has been very involved in all facets of Santa Clara Corvettes for many years. As Co-Motorsports

Why Autocross? It turns out autocross is the easiest and safest way to put your car on a track. It is open to all levels from the first timer who just wants to see what his car can do to the seasoned veteran who is after that perfect run. Of all types of racing, it's the easiest on your car. Since laps are time limited wear and tear is minimal. Worried that your new Corvette is too delicate, don't be. A little tire and brake wear is it. It's also one of the least expensive ways to "race" your car. A typical autocross event is well under \$100 a day. I've been an avid auto crosser for over 15 years and still get a thrill every time out just like my first time. If you haven't tried it yet, I invite you to come to one of our events this year at the Cow Palace in Daly City. It's also a lot of fun just watching. I guarantee you will get hooked just like me. So I hope to see you there!

Rick Bronner

We expect to put on a couple of Driver Training schools this year. The instructor is our very own, Champion Autocrosser, Mary Pozzi. Mary brings a wonderful sense of humor and easy to understand instruction to these events. Autocross is an event for all, Ladies and Gentlemen. Also in our plans, is a special Track Day at Sonoma Raceway this summer.

Schedule for 2021 All Events at the Cow Palace
March 27-28
April 24-25
June 26
July 25
August 21-22
September 25
October 23



Director, **Stuart** brought innovation to our Registration and Timing systems, and he is a first class Autocross Racer and Track Day Driver. We are going to miss **Stuart** at the Track and we will miss both **Liz** and **Stuart** as they embark on a new adventure in Province Town, Mass. at the tip of Cape Cod.

2021 Motorsports Co-Directors

Rick Bronner (General Mayhem) Phone/Text 408-318-4826, E-mail Bronnerrick@gmail.com

Collins Orton (Captain Caravan) Phone 650-208-9035, E-mail Pipedr96@outlook.com

Collins Orton and Stuart Calhoon



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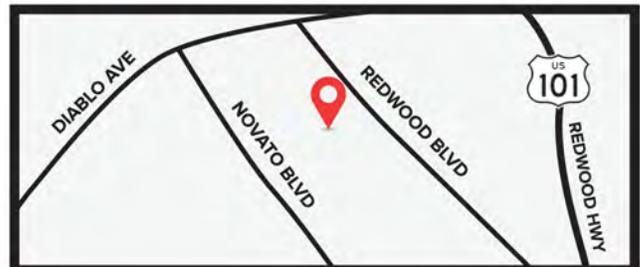
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FINANCIAL FOCUS
Remote Work May Offer Financial Benefits
February 2021

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us have been forced to work from home. But once we've moved past the virus, many workers may continue working from home. More than one-third of companies with employees who started working from home now think that remote work will stay more common post-pandemic, according to a Harvard Business School study. This shift to at-home work can affect people's lives in many ways – and it may end up providing workers with some long-term financial advantages.

If you're one of those who will continue working remotely, either full time or at least a few days a week, how might you benefit? Here are a few possibilities:

- Reduced transportation costs – Over time, you can spend a lot of money commuting to and from work. The average commuter spends \$2,000 to \$5,000 per year on transportation costs, including gas, car maintenance, public transportation and other expenses, depending on where they live, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. If you are going to work primarily from home, you should be able to greatly reduce these costs.

- Potentially lower car insurance premiums – Your auto insurance premiums are partially based on how many miles you drive each year. So, if you were to significantly reduce these miles by working from home, you might qualify for lower rates.

- Lower expenditures on lunches – If you typically eat lunch in restaurants or get takeout while at work, you could easily be spending \$50 or more per week – even more if you regularly get coffee drinks to go. By these figures, you could end up spending around \$3,000 a year. Think how much you could reduce this bill by eating lunch at home during your remote workday.

- Lower clothing costs – Despite the rise in “casual dress” days, plenty of workers still need to maintain appropriate office attire. By working from home, you can “dress down,” reducing your clothing costs and dry-cleaning bills. As you can see, it may be possible for you to save quite a bit of money by working from home. How can you use your savings to help meet your long-term financial goals, such as achieving a comfortable retirement?

For one thing, you could boost your investments. Let's suppose that you can save \$2,500 each year by working remotely. If you were to invest this amount in a tax-deferred account, such as an IRA or your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan and earned a hypothetical 6% annual return for 20 years, you'd accumulate more than \$97,000 – and if you kept going for an additional 10 years, you'd have nearly \$210,000. You'd eventually pay taxes on the amount you withdrew from these accounts (and withdrawals prior to age 59½ may be subject to a 10% IRS penalty), but you'd still end up pretty far ahead of where you'd be otherwise.)

You also might use part of your savings generated by remote work to help build an emergency fund containing a few months' worth of living expenses. Without this fund, you might be forced to dip into your retirement accounts to pay for something like a major home repair.

Becoming an at-home worker will no doubt require some adjustments on your part – but, in strictly financial terms, it could lead to some positive results.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
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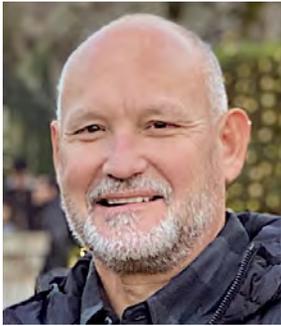


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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Mark Koller: Competition Car Show

If you have a Corvette you have leather seats. Keeping those seats clean will help them last longer and maintain their allure.

Vacuuming regularly is the best defense, being careful to remove dirt and debris around stitching and crevices. Follow up by applying a cleaning solution.

Caution, leather on C7 and C8 Corvettes have been treated from the factory. GM recommends only using mild soap and water. For untreated leather there are many equally effective cleaners available, this choice usually boils down to personal preference. Or you can make your own. Thanks to the DIY Network, here are a few tips:

Never use bleach or ammonia-based cleaners as they can damage leather.

Mix 5 parts warm water to 1 part Castile soap or liquid dish soap in a bucket. Dampen a cloth with the solution and wipe the leather surfaces. Don't saturate the leather, as water could pool and seep through the seams into the cushion and may stain the leather. Wipe the leather clean with a second cloth and dry thoroughly with a towel.

For untreated leather you can mix 1/2 cup of olive oil with 1/4 cup of vinegar in a spray bottle. Spray the seats, let sit for 5 minutes and wipe.

To prevent future stains, act fast. Immediately clean up as much as possible to reduce the effects. Do not scrub or blotch. Some staining will occur no matter how fast you act. These common household items can help.

Toothpaste: Dab non-gel toothpaste on the stained area and use a toothbrush to gently scrub away the stain or scuff. Wipe the area with a clean cloth and dry with a towel.

Nail Polish Remover or Rubbing Alcohol: Dip a cotton swab in nail polish remover or rubbing alcohol and blot the stain. Once the stain is lifted, clean the area with a mild solution of warm water and liquid dish soap. Follow up with a clean damp cloth.

Baking Soda: Best for removing grease and oil stains. Sprinkle it on the stain and rub in with a damp cloth. Let sit for a few hours or overnight. The baking soda will absorb the oil. Wipe the powder off with a soft cloth. Follow up with a damp cloth to remove any residue and dry with a towel.

Once the leather is clean, it's important to maintain hydration to prevent drying and cracking. While untreated leather benefits from conditioners with UV additives, the C7 and C8 have been treated from the factory, so wiping with a clean damp microfiber towel will work. Through proper cleaning techniques we can all extend the life of our Corvettes' leather and keep them looking their best for years to come.

Mark



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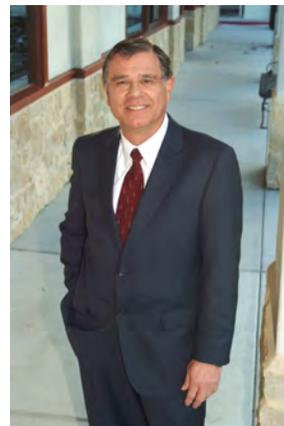


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SCC Upcoming Events!

February 2021

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						

March 2021

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			

- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 3 Zoom Social at 6:30pm and Zoom Business Meeting at 7:00 pm
- 11 TGIT Zoom Valentine's Day
- 12 Lunar New Year
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 President's Day
- 24 Zoom Board Meeting starts at 6:30 pm

- 3 Zoom Social at 6:30pm and Zoom Business Meeting at 7:00pm
- 4 TGIT Zoom Get together
- 14 Daylight Savings Time
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 TGIT St. Patrick's Day Zoom
- 27 Passover
- 28 Palm Sunday
- 29 Holi Festival
- 31 Zoom Board Meeting at 6:30 pm

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

February Birthdays

- 03 - Thelma Mendez
- 06 - Peter Osel
- 12 - Miriam Petersen
- 13 - Lisa Palermini
- 14 - Peter Taylor
- 17 - Lee Klynn
- 17 - David Wilson
- 19 - Roger Wiley
- 22 - Blair Barbour
- 22 - Joe Castellano
- 25 - Barbara Warner
- 27 - Bill Hughes
- 28 - Eric Marquez

February Anniversaries

- 2001 - Cynthia Jacobson
- 2001 - David Jacobson
- 2006 - Peter Osel
- 2013 - Betsy Franco
- 2013 - Thelma Mendez
- 2013 - Roger Pendenza
- 2013 - Peter Taylor
- 2020 - Thomas Carl



P.O. Box 2634
Santa Clara, CA
95055-2634



To:



Postage

2020 (Virtual) Awards Banquet Closing Remarks

In 2020 we turned a bad year into a good year

We know what we can accomplish together

Don't take your foot off the gas

Full speed ahead to face to face gatherings in 2021!

Thank you and best wishes to you all for the new year!




Autocrossers Tony Olea, Collins Orton, Ron Minearo showing the 2021 "Pink Hat" Competition has begun. Details to follow.



Al and Gloria Fuerniss pick up their new Convertible. You can tell they are smiling.

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 information, pictures, and the latest events.