

First Class Glass



September 2017



The official newsletter of Santa Clara Corvettes



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Stuart Calhoon – President From the Driver’s Seat



Summer’s winding down! Our warmest season ends on September 22 this year, so be sure to get out with your Corvette and enjoy it while the season lasts.

Our big Spectacular Car Show (Sept 17) is less than 3 weeks away. It will essentially mark the end of Summer. Our members in key positions for this show have been working hard and intensely to make it a great event. It takes over 100 people to pull off a show of this magnitude, so it is easily SCC’s biggest undertaking (and largest moneymaker) of the year. Please ask how you can help, if you haven’t done so already.

The big Grand Prix – IMSA race weekend at Laguna Seca is also coming soon, with the Corvette Corral all weekend, the Corvette Racing Banquet (Sat, Sept 23), the Corvette parade laps and main race (Sun, Sept 24), and a Hooked-on-Corvettes track day (Mon, Sept 25). This is always a popular series of events for club members, so come on down and check it out.

As we’re sneaking up on the last quarter of the year, it’s time to be thinking about nominations for three important purposes:

1) Local charities to which you would like SCC to contribute. Nominations must be written, 150 words max, and submitted to any Board member by Oct 1. Details are located in the 2015 CHARITY DONATION POLICY, available on our website. These nominations were supposed to be submitted by June 1, per the policy, but I am extending that deadline to October 1. Membership voting will occur at the November Business Meeting.

2) Nominations for our 2017 Corvetter of the Year. These nominations must be written, 100 words max, and received by a Board member prior to November 1. Voting by the membership will occur at the December Business Meeting. Details are given in the SCC YEAR-END AWARDS AND POINT STRUCTURE, also on our website.

3) Nominations for the 2018 Board of Directors. You may make nominations at the October or November Business Meetings. The election will occur at the December meeting. Details are contained in the SCC BYLAWS 2014, on our website.

For the documents mentioned, go to our website: <http://sccorvettes.org/documentsforms/>. You don’t need to log in to see them.

Stuart

About the Cover “Once in a lifetime!”

Total solar eclipses are extremely rare in North America, and few here are lucky enough to experience totality anywhere near an eclipse path’s centerline. I was determined to see the *Great American Eclipse of 2017* and drag some Corvetters with me, starting my plans for **The Totally Eclipsed Adventure** more than a year in advance.

A group of adventurous Corvetters joined me for much of my voyage, crowned with a colossally outstanding astronomical involvement. We traveled scenic and fun byways, viewed beautiful vistas, saw educational presentations, and had a promised happy adventure. The cover shows our event decal and a visit to beautiful Sahalie Falls in the Willamette National Forest.

Some of the group joined the expedition in progress, and some departed early for other commitments, but all experienced eclipse totality along with many other wonders and delights. This issue of First Class Glass is peppered with pictures from the trip. More details appear on page 19.

Steve Wells



White River Falls, south of The Dalles, Oregon

Rick Riccardi’s provided a link to many of his pictures from the run: <https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMLkGczsLhHRDJgs3Ojzfp4sLCXoIVW7yawfQjuumLInnXyL66QTnGAbAkRhyNRcg?key=TjRfUUg2MHVmcTZ5MkppcnhyUDRyRog1dmJvVTdn>



Cliff Martin – Membership Director Welcome!

Hey fellow members it's that time of year again, as you read this article we are quickly approaching our annual car show, "SPECTACULAR".

When we think about what it is that makes Santa Clara Corvettes an outstanding car club, we think about events like Spectacular. This truly is a culmination of our members coming together to ensure our major event of the year is, well, in a word.... **Spectacular**. This year, to date, we have 147 volunteer slots filled, 13 of which are volunteers from other Corvette clubs. Within the 147 volunteer slots, 134 are SCC members and within the 134 we have approximately 20 members volunteering for more than one area. I share this with all of you not only to acknowledge and show appreciation for those members, but also to point out that of our 216 members, we have 114 members volunteering to help make *Spectacular 2017* a success. As much as we all appreciate the numerous hours members have devoted to SCC, this is

also a time for other members to reflect on how they too can contribute to the success of our club.

As Membership Director I would like to challenge all SCC members to find something within our club that interests you and volunteer maybe 5 hours or more per year. Remember, Santa Clara Corvettes is only as strong as our membership.

Speaking of members, we currently have 142 memberships: 66 individual and 76 family memberships; this all translates to 216 members.

As we are entering the Fall of the year, it is time to begin thinking of membership renewals. Keep in mind that if your membership application is received after Dec 15th, you will pay an additional fee. I realize most club members are aware of this, but this is also to inform new members of this requirement.

Ok, I think that's it for me.....signing off...

Cliff



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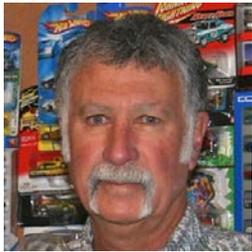
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Keith Mendia & David Wilson Social Directors



We want to specially thank 4 members for putting on Social events in August. First is **Rick Riccardi** for organizing the group traveling to Carmel for the Carmel Mission Classic Car Show at the mission. This was in the middle of *Car Week* in Monterey which features the Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion, Pebble Beach Concour, and multiple big auctions. Rick and 18 members had a great time.

Second is **Steve Wells** who put together a 10- day road trip through Oregon and Idaho to view the Total Eclipse on August 21st. This was a huge undertaking and we are looking for all the details when the group returns.

Lastly, **Joyce and Nick Feimer** who hosted a great BBQ at their beautiful home in San Mateo on Saturday, August 26th for all the participants in the 2-day Mad Cow SCC Autocross held at the Cow Palace. After a warm day of racing and working it was such a pleasure to come to their home and be treated to such a great dinner. It was so nice to sit and relax on their patio with so many friends.

Our club is truly a family and this just proves it when our members come forth to make such contributions. **Rick, Steve, Joyce and Nick** – you guys ROCK!!!

Coming this month is the *Mid-Week Run to Lick Observatory* and beyond by **Rick Riccardi** on Wednesday, September 14th. Be sure to get signed up for this fun driving event.

Now, on to *Spectacular* for our biggest club event of the year.

Let's go Agitate some Asphalt!!



Keith

Another month has gone by and with it another TGIT. This month we visited Bramble & Bier, which is owned by and located right behind Jack Rose Libation House in San Jose. Due to an issue with yellow jackets in their beer garden (more like bee garden!), we were seated inside instead of outside as originally planned, but had a great time nonetheless! They had an extensive selection of domestic and international beers, as well as brambles, which is their signature cocktail. They were excited to host us, which was made evident by the “WELCOME SC CORVETTE” on their street sign! Overall I thought it was a nice change of pace and well-received by those I spoke to. It may be worth a revisit.

For September’s TGIT we will be revisiting an old favorite, **Pizz’a Chicago** in Santa Clara. You may remember that Pizz’a Chicago was the winner of our *Pick Your Favorite Pizza* contest of 2016. Great table-side service AND great pizza—who could ask for more? Even those who don’t usually care for deep dish pizza (like myself) couldn’t get enough! And if you’ve had enough pizza and are looking for a change, try their soup of the day, which on Thursdays is a fabulous Italian Wedding soup. Festivities start at 4 PM on Thursday, September 21st.

Looking ahead to October, Nicole and I will be opening up our home for one of our favorite annual club events, Spooktacular. The party will be held on Saturday, October 28th beginning at 6 PM. As usual we will be asking for volunteers to come early to help set up for the event. If you are able to help, please see me or Keith. We also ask that each attending party bring an appetizer or desert. We had a great turnout last year and some Spooktacular costumes, so I’m looking forward to what our members come up with this year! We will be announcing more details in the next month, so stay tuned and get your costumes ready!

“Live For Today...Plan For Tomorrow...Party Tonight!”

David

New Race Car

by Stuart Calhoon

Well, I broke down and bought a race car. I’ve been struggling for some time with how much “abuse” I’m willing to heap on my C7. It’s the common dilemma of trying to do everything with one Corvette. You end up compromising all of the activities.

So eventually I concluded that I really needed a dedicated race car. Although I have never owned one before, this approach appealed to me. I can have a car that is set up specifically for competition, and I don’t have to feel bad

about thrashing it. Also, this does give me an option to try out real wheel-to-wheel racing with SCCA or NASA, if I want.

So which race car do I get? I wanted to stay within the Corvette family. A little research revealed that the C5 Z06 is hands-down the Corvette to base a race car on. But rather than finding a nice one and converting it, I decided to find one that had already been converted.

Continued on page 8

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New Race Car *continued for page 6*

I eventually found a 2002 Z06 down in LA that had been fully converted, and had a lot of success on the track. The owner is moving on to another Corvette race car, and put this one up for sale as a Corvette ready to race, "turn-key" as they call it.

Besides being a well-sorted-out car, this one appealed to me because it has a new LS6 engine and a newly rebuilt transmission. Mods and upgrades have been extensive, but some of the key ones include:

- Light-weighted down to ~2,900 lbs (even with full roll cage)
- Long-tube headers
- Coil-over suspension
- Big Brake kit
- Forgestar wheels
- Additional cooling (engine oil, transmission fluid, brake ducts)
- Rear wing, front splitter
- Carbon fiber wide-body fenders and bumper
- Fire suppression system
- Cool suit system

Being a bit on the tall side, the first thing I did to the car was to install a custom driver's seat. So I actually fit comfortably inside the cage.

After agreeing to buy it, I had to wait several weeks while the transmission was being rebuilt (long story). When I finally picked up

the car, its first outing was a track day at Buttonwillow. There, after one session, the transmission started making some ugly noises, ending my day.



So now I'm waiting for another transmission to be rebuilt (under warranty), which I will pick up and install by mid-September. I'm hoping to debut the car down at Laguna Seca at the Corral and the track day in late September. (Meeting the 90 dB sound limit may be challenging.)

In six months, I'll give an update on how it's going.

Stuart

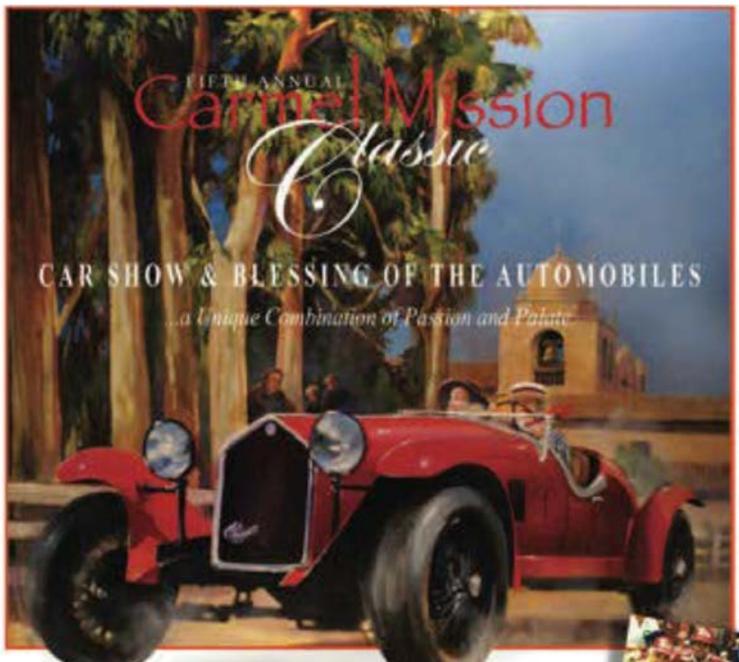
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Totally Eclipsed Adventure *West of The Dalles*



What's News?

It is great to be able to do something nice for a stranger. Several months ago SCC was contacted by Leslie Lapp who was putting together a party for her father, **Robert Simmen** who was turning 90 in July. She asked if our club could bring a few vintage Corvettes to the big party being held at a church in Los Altos. I spoke with Leslie who said her dad was a big Vette fan and had owned a 59 and 62 back in the day.

I contacted our members who own C1, C2, & C3 Corvettes to see if we could assist. Fast-forward to the Birthday Boy's big day, and all of this was to be a surprise to him. I picked him up at his home in Sunnyvale in the 1960 Corvette accompanied by Sandy in our 2017 Grand Sport. Lots of the family were there, and it was a real surprise for Bob. I drove him over to the church (top down), and there to meet us was the whole party and the vintage Corvettes of **Lou Marincovich, Cris Schiebold, and Dave Spellman**. I dropped Bob off to a big round of applause from the crowd. After things settled down, we offered rides in the Corvettes to anyone wanting one, and we had quite a few takers. Some rides were quite spirited as requested.

It was a very beautiful day; a great setting for the party, and the Corvettes made it all the more memorable. We invited Bob to visit us at Spectacular, and I hope he comes. He is a very warm and intelligent man with lots of stories to tell and loves Corvettes. I hope you get a chance to meet him.

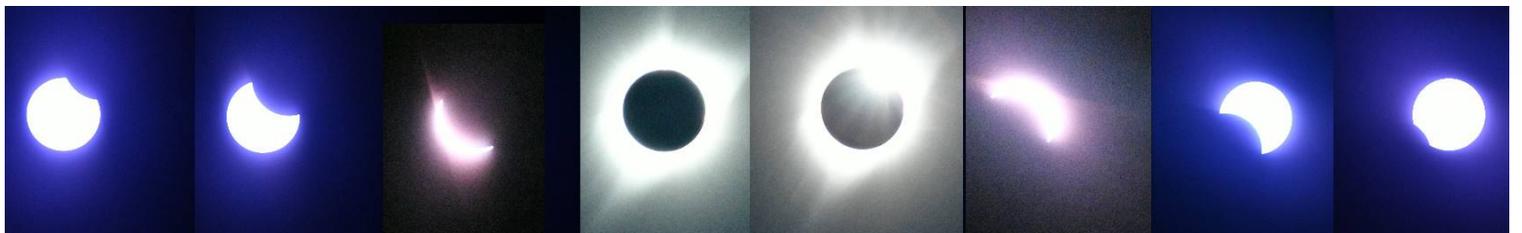
Thanks to **Sandy, Lou, Cris, and David** for taking the afternoon to make a very special day for a special man.

Keith



Immediately following Spectacular, a collaboration of 11 diehard SCC members in 6 Corvettes are taking 27 days to travel 7,000+ miles around the Northern Great Lakes all the way to Washington, DC, and finishing up in Vegas for Convention. With all the places to visit and things to see and do in between, there will surely be many stories and photos to be shared, so good luck to all and have a great time.

Yolanda & Jack Atkinson





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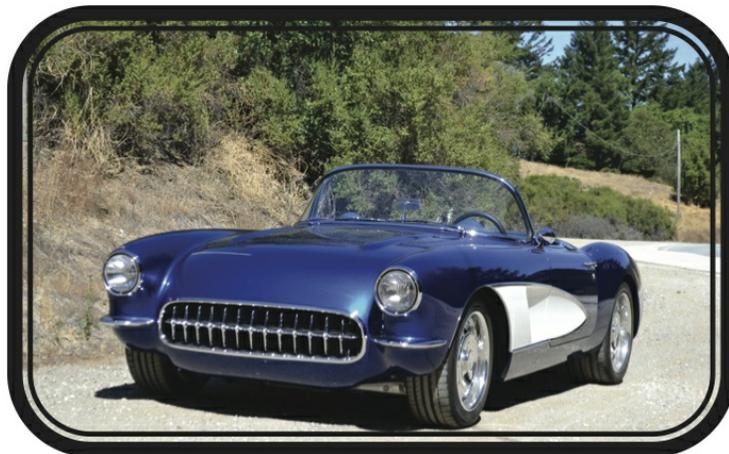


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Collins Orton – Competition: Motorsports

The SCC Auto-X season concluded with Mad Cow IV on Aug. 26–27 at the world famous Cow Palace. We had 84 drivers on Saturday and 72 drivers on Sunday.

Wow, what a great turnout! This very fast course was designed by our own Rick “General Mayhem” Bronner. Other track input came from Jim “Mr. Smooth” Barnes and Collins Orton.



The Auto-X Army was out in full force and was greatly augmented by Sea Scout Ship 145 of Redwood City. The Sea Scouts were a great help for setting up the course and maintaining the 600 traffic cones that were being knocked around all day during the Auto-X racing. These young men were also able to ride with a number of the Auto-X participants. They also brought a boat they had built, a nice 35-HP powered small runabout. Fast and fun, I would love to get a ride in it someday. A huge thank you to Sea Scout Ship 145.



Phil Moser, who does not auto-X, came out to the Cow Palace and helped all weekend. Phil is typical of the kind of person that helps out with club events that he may not be directly involved in. This is the type of unselfish club member that makes SCC so successful. So the next time there is an event that needs people please consider helping out even if it not something you would normally participate in. Thank you Phil Moser!!!

Our next event will be the All Corvette Track Day at Laguna Seca on Monday, Sept. 25th. This is a WSCC/Hooked On Driving event.

The INSA races will conclude the day before, so the track should be in excellent shape for us amateurs. Regular Track Day (HPDE) sessions will be run along with Taste of the Track for those that would like an introduction to this very fun type of driving. Your Corvette was designed and built for this type of driving. Please see the WSCC website for more info or give me a call. October 18, SCC is hosting the Auto-X at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway as part of the Corvette Convention on October 17–22 in “Fabulous” Las Vegas. We will need the Auto-X Army to turn out for this event. The course will be huge, designed by Stuart Calhoun. This is a great incentive to attend Convention.

Also on October 18, WSCC and Hooked On Driving are hosting a Track Day at Spring Mountain. This is a wonderful place. Really nice track conditions; beautiful Club House facilities. This will be a thrilling Day for all. The cost, \$200, is a bargain. Again this is another part of the Corvette Convention in Las Vegas.



Both of the Las Vegas events are available for registration through Motorsportsreg.com. When you sign up for Convention, the Auto-X and Track Day and all the other events are listed for you to select.



I look forward to seeing you all at the track!

Collins



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Steve Wells – Publications Director Found between the Seat and the Console

Totally Eclipsed Adventure

The great eclipse trip had been a mongrel science experiment since I first started planning it more than a year ago. Enthusiastic potential attendees appeared and disappeared from the list. Had there not been another of the marvelous Yojack adventures just a couple months earlier, surely there would have been a larger response to my frequent exhortations to see this once in a lifetime event (or twice for a lucky few.)

We ultimately ended up with 11 persons in 7 Corvettes as a diverse group with equally diverse attendance plans. Alphabetically by last name, the attendees were Bob and Donna Courtney, Jack Friedman (a former SCC member) & his friend Linda Munroe, Bruno & Elizabeth Motta of Diablo Valley Corvettes, Rick Riccardi, Greg Selzer, Lowell & Janice Vivian, and me, Steve “the instigator” Wells. Some arrived on the evening of the second day. Some departed early for other SCC events. And a few made the complete adventure, filled with amazing sights. Most impressive of all, for all of us, was the solar corona haloed moon covering the sun, leaving “our” field in Smiths Ferry, Idaho in deep twilight. The crowd of many happy hundreds of instant friends cheered. The planet Venus, visible only as a low sunrise or sunset object, hung impossibly visible near the zenith, looking like an errant Jupiter forsaking midnight for noon. The temperature dropped, warming again as the sun slowly reappeared like a shining diamond on a ring of light.

Along with the eclipse itself, we visited unusual and beautiful places, stayed in delightful accommodations, and had wonderful meals. Sights included beautiful waterfalls: Sahalie, White River, Multnomah, and Latourell Falls; geological wonders: Smith Rock State Park, John Day Fossil Beds, and Hells Canyon; man-made endeavors: Pendleton Woolen Mill, Timberline Lodge, and Tillamook Cheese; and stunning views: the Columbia Gorge Vista overlooks, Cannon Beach, and the lofty redwoods along the Avenue of the Giants.

Especially memorable accommodations included the charming Hartland Inn, The Dalles Inn, the rustic Park Motel, and the Bayview. Marvelous memorable meals appeared at Los Mariachis, the amazingly situated Taprock Northwest Grill, the Pine Tavern Restaurant, the energetic La Laguna Family Mexican Restaurant, and the historic Baldwin Saloon.

We did experience a few downsides. There were many large regional forest fires. Smelly smoke hid enormous Mt. Shasta from our stinging eyes. And the haze covering the Wallowa Mountains (Oregon’s Little Switzerland) removed the Mt. Howard tram ride from consideration. But one downside produced an upside. A missed turn produced an hour of some of the most fun driving of the trip—a natural autocross along the scenic Snake River to and from the Hells Canyon Creek Visitor Center. Even the wrong road helped make the trip an unforgettable adventure.

Steve

Here’s a link to Rick Riccardi’s pictures from the eclipse run:
<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMLkGczsLhHRDJgs3Ojzfp4sLCXoIVW7yawfQjuumLInnXyL66QTnGAbAkRhyNRcg?key=TjRfUUg2MHVmcTZ5MkppcnhyUDRyRog1dmJvVTdn>





Dave Katz – Competition: Car Show

Twenty-eight SCC members made the trip to Oakhurst for Southern High Sierra Corvette's Vettes Under the Oaks Type I car show on July 29. Southern

High Sierra Corvettes is the club that saved the car show competition series for 2017 by agreeing to host the required third Type I car show. As if hosting a Type I show wasn't enough, the venue was used as an evacuation center for victims of the Detwiler fire. They did a great job and presented awards that looked like automobile parts and were made by students in the auto shop class at Yosemite High School. Hopefully, the car show raised enough money to buy needed equipment for the auto shop class.

The following members received top awards.

First place: Jerry and Lois Banks, Ron and Carol Beck, Geno and Teri Brickey, Stuart Calhoun, Wayne Dorsey, Al and Gloria Fuerniss, Tom and Nancie Kalivoda.

Second Place: Lee and Cheryl Klynn, Roger Martin, Rick Riccardi, Mim Petersen, Ray and Dana Taylor.

Third Place: Dave Katz

FFA (Future Farmers of America) Choice: Wayne Dorsey

Club Par: Santa Clara Corvettes with 18 cars.

Twenty-four SCC members attended the Vette Magic 42 Type V car show at Blackhawk. The following members received top awards.

First Place: David and Cyndy Jacobson, Tom Kalivoda, Dan and Tish Niehans.

Second Place: Keith Mendia.

Third Place: Gil Garcia.

President's Choice: Dan and Tish Niehans.

People's Choice: Wayne Dorsey.

Club Par: Santa Clara Corvettes with 16 cars.

Nine members attended the Hot August Days car show hosted by Family and Friends Corvettes in Vallejo. The following members received top awards.

Second Place: Gil Garcia, David and Cyndy Jacobson, Tom and Nancie Kalivoda.

Third Place: Rob Lezama.

With only six cars in the show, our club par winning streak came to an end; but we have had a good run with five straight club par wins. I am hoping we have a beautiful day for Corvette Spectacular and a very successful show.

Looking ahead to October, NCCA is hosting a Type V car show at Ledson Winery and Vineyards near Santa Rosa on October 7. Then it's on to Convention in Las Vegas.

Dave

Family and Friends Car Show



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FIRST CLASS GLASS

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Incorporated in 1975
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SCC Upcoming Events!

- 2 Santos Family Car Show
- 2 NCAA Run to Laguna Seca
- 6 Business Meeting
- 7 RED-C Casual Run
- 7 Tahoe 49 (Corvettes of Fresno) begins – 9th
- 10 Vette Magic 42 Drags
- 14 Midweek Run to Lick Observatory
- 17 Corvette Spectacular
- 21 TGIT: Pizz'a Chicago
- 22 Race: Continental Tire Grand Prix / IMSA – 24th
- 23 Corvette Racing Banquet
- 23 Ironstone Concours d'Elegance
- 24 San Jose Country Club 7th Annual Motorsports Show
- 25 Track Day – Hooked on Corvettes
- 27 Board Meeting

- 4 Business Meeting
- 7 Corvettes at the Castle Car Show and Wine Tasting
- 12 TGIT (Location to be announced)
- 14 Milpitas Veterans Commission 5th Annual Car Show
- 17 WSCC Convention in Las Vegas begins – 22nd
- 25 Board Meeting
- 17 Corvette Spectacular
- 28 Spooktacular

September 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

October 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	23	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/01 – Gil Garcia
- 9/03 – Bob Kuwada
- 9/04 – Dave Katz
- 9/08 – David Ray
- 9/09 – Rick Piras
- 9/11 – Malcolm Lawton
- 9/12 – Nancy Spellman
- 9/15 – Jack Atkinson
- 9/17 – Dave Bonar

- 9/17 – Collins Orton
- 9/18 – Linda Lariz
- 9/22 – Lou Marincovich
- 9/24 – Janie Kelly
- 9/24 – Lisa Selzer
- 9/26 – Alan Templeton
- 9/27 – Leslie Boone
- 9/28 – Debbie Hutchings
- 9/28 – Ralph Yonusoff
- 9/29 – Nick Feimer

- 1990 – Roger Barnes
- 1994 – Jeanne Corrinne
- 2002 – Gary Rost
- 2002 – Pete Sommer
- 2006 – Gregg Medaglia
- 2007 – Stuart & Liz Calhoon
- 2010 – Dwight Martin
- 2012 – Bill & Sue Clark
- 2013 – Dianne Glass
- 2014 – Paul Petach
- 2016 – Don & Carolyn Perry
- 2016 – Jacky & Jennie Tran
- 2016 – Tim Swain



Santa Clara Corvettes

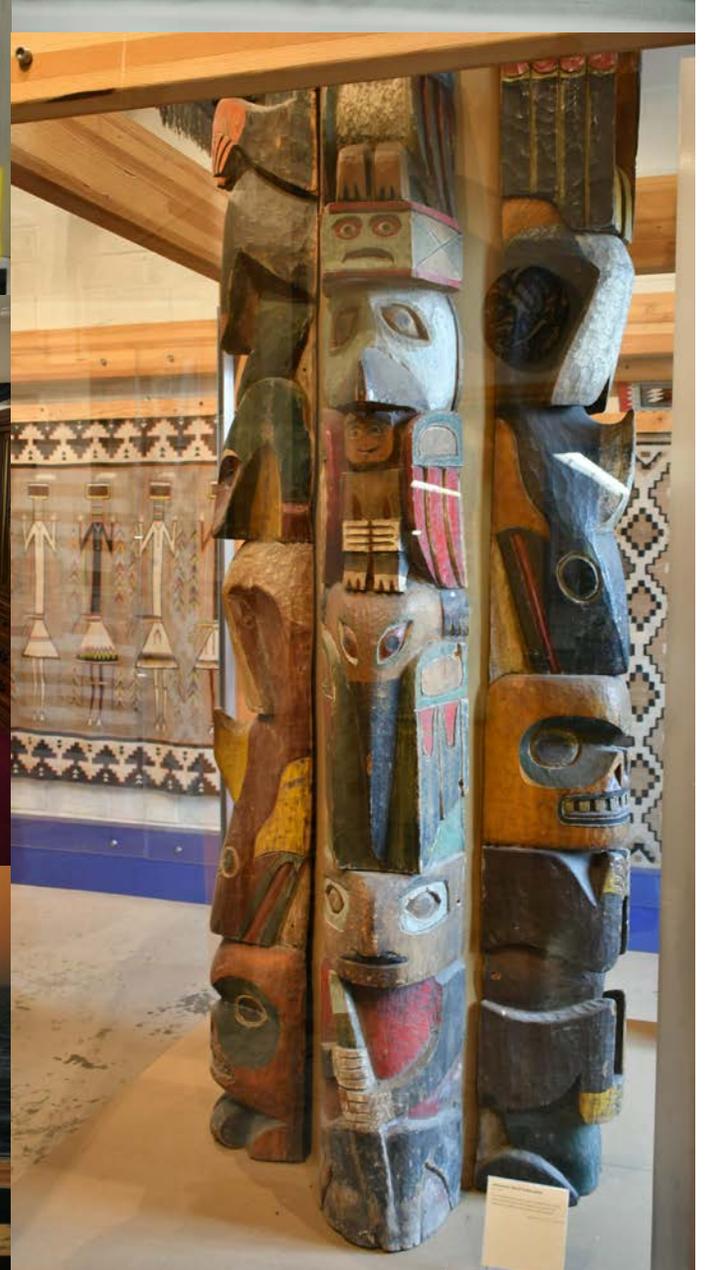
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To:

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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 (½ block up from San Antonio Rd.) Meetings start at 7 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. Visit us on the internet at www.sccorvettes.org for information, pictures, and the latest events.