

FIRST CLASS GLASS

The Official Newsletter Of Santa Clara Corvettes



August 2021
Volume 46, Number 8



Cover Story

A good sports car should not only have excellent capabilities in acceleration and braking, but also the ability to demonstrate momentum as well as composure around corners. I always had lightweight lower horsepower cars, and then I started to think about higher horsepower cars. This was the time when the C7 Grand Sport was introduced to the market and I became intrigued.

Nestled between the Stingray and the Z06, the Grand Sport has the best of both worlds. Its power is more accessible and manageable. Its published track times were very close to that of the Z06. Then Chevrolet announced the release of the Carbon 65 Corvette, a commemorative limited model (650 made) to celebrate its 65th birthday. It

started with a Z06 and the Grand Sport with 3LZ and 3LT package respectively. It had special paint; ceramic matrix grey. It had carbon trims for rear



spoiler, front chin splitter, and side rocker extensions. The upgraded interior was decked out with carbon fiber trims with competition seats. The car could be ordered with a 7 speed manual or 8 speed auto, and could also be ordered with Z07 or ceramic brakes. The door sills are a special Carbon 65 plate and comes with the brake calipers painted blue.

This car immediately appealed to me and felt this was the one. After patiently searching, I finally located one at Paramus Chevrolet in New Jersey. I guess the timing was right, because it was near Christmas and sports cars sales in the northeast region was very slow, as it was competing with the snowy weather and holiday shopping. This one was a manual, but did not have the Z07 package. I was able to secure a really good deal and purchased it before the New Year.

After the car was delivered, I started driving it. I received lots of compliments from people. I love the color and the carbon trims combination, the car looked race ready. In midday sun, it looks off white, but in the late afternoon with evening lighting, it takes on a light blue-grey hue. I have taken the car to many great roads surrounding the Bay Area. To learn how to exploit the potential of this car, I took the Ron Fellows Corvette School in Nevada outside Vegas. This was an event sponsored and subsidized by

GM. I had a wonderful experience there, and I highly recommend taking a course at that club for those who like performance driving.



I have done a few track days with this car; although I did not push the car hard, but still had a ton of fun. I am still learning to probe the potential of the Grand Sport, and I will need some coaching as well as more seat time. The performance limit is high with lots of grip available. The car is very comfortable considering its size and is very easy to drive fast. The gear shift is notchy, and may need some practice getting into the correct gear. The pedal position is perfect for heel and toe. Soon I will try out the autocross with this car.



The C8 is technologically more advanced; it is faster and can achieve better track time than the outgoing C7. But cars like the C7 will no longer be made and will be considered to be the best of the old school Corvette. GM has perfected this layout and its mechanical design was optimized. It has the traditional well portioned FR GT car look. It is a little less precise than the C8, but in return you are rewarded with the ability to flick your own gear and be more involved with driving the car and that's enough to make me smile each time I take the car for a spin.

Bexter Yang

President - Greg Selzer



Third Gear

Right about now you start saying things like, “Is it (pick a month) already? Even last year, during the middle of COVID, I said that. Time just flies. The difference this year is that as time is flying, we are all doing more and more which makes it all a LOT more fun.

On July 7th Santa Clara Corvettes had our first face to face (non-Zoom) Business meeting since Spring 2020. Thanks to **Alan Templeton’s** and **Ken Jacksteit’s** efforts, we were able to test out concurrent Zoom capability. The goal was to be able to allow members who are still uncomfortable with indoor face to face meetings or who live long distances away to be able to attend. It would also help address the overcrowded problem that we sometimes experienced at our meetings. Well, the experiment worked. We identified a few bugs that we can fix and will roll it out to the membership at our next face to face meeting.

Yesterday, we had our first face to face social event since Spring 2020 too, the SCC Picnic.

What a treat it was to see everyone together again. Social Directors **Linda Lariz** and **Cheryl Klynn**, with their small army of volunteers, put on a great event. Even the weather was perfect! Thank you to everyone who helped with everything from set up to cooking to raffle to cleanup. And all the cooking and baking from all the attendees. It was a fun event. **Cheryl** and **Linda** will fill you in on all the other events that they have coming up including a SJ Giants game, a Nike launch base tour, and our first face to face TGIT (again) since Spring 2020!

Beyond our own social calendar, the rest of the car universe is opening up as well. The Corvette car show season is starting up late this year (for good reasons) with NCCA’s Vette Magic on August 8th and our very own Corvette Spectacular will be on September 19th. There are car shows virtually every weekend in the greater bay area. Just pick out the kind of car you want to see and go!

It’s great to see everything opening up but COVID refuses to go away quietly. Please stay abreast with the latest health guidelines as you get out, and stay safe.

Greg

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A thanks to our Club Member Photographers:

Teri Brickey	Lois Banks	Bob Nastasi
Jeanne Corrinne	Mark Koller	Romulo Rimando
John Warner	Bexter Yang	Dave Johnston
Sandy Mendia	Al Thompson	

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
From the Membership Desk

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, 'life is a journey not a destination', and the journey is oh so sweet when taken in a Corvette.

I kicked off my summer with a Southwest Road Trip with the Gemini Crew. We hit 6 states in 15 days, so this is the first of a series of articles devoted to that adventure.

Road trips are special, most of us can recall rambling around in the backseat of a wood-paneled station wagon or (insert your car) traveling across the country. A rite of passage we shared with our own kids by traveling in mini vans. Now our kids and grandkids carry on the tradition, and they have swapped out the mini vans for the luxury sedans, hybrids and tricked out Mercedes Sprinter Vans.

We logged over 600 photographs and 47 videos to capture the experience of five couples but, in the interest of space I will keep it short and share travel quotes and pics.

"In life it's not where you go, it's who you travel with." (Charles M Schulz)



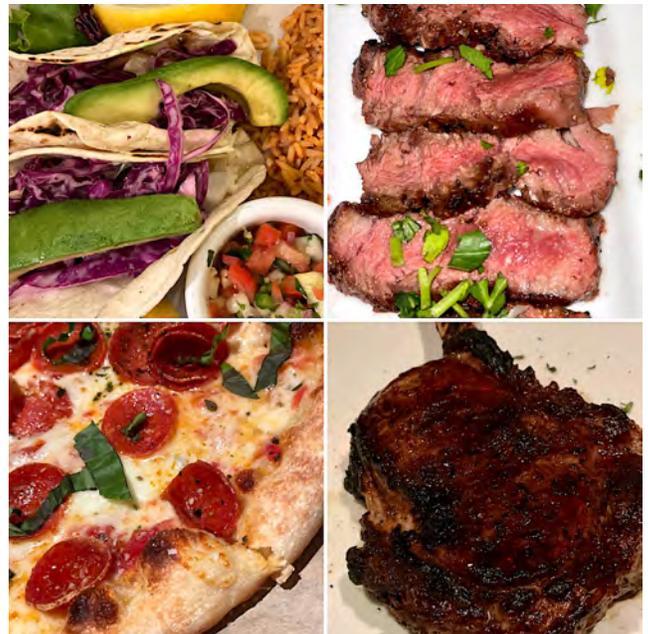
"You can't find the right roads when the streets are paved." (Bob Marley).



"A tourist is a fellow who drives thousands of miles, so he can be photographed in front of his car." (Emile Garnest)



"Your body is not a temple; it is an amusement park enjoy the ride." (Anthony Bourdain)



On to membership, we have 196 members, 64 single and 66 family. 3 new members joined, please welcome **Nancy** and **Jeffery Fullerton**, and **Michael Woodward**.

Remember, if it's behind you it doesn't matter - enjoy your ride.

Until next month.....

Al Thompson

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Social Directors Cheryl Klynn & Linda Lariz



We're back!! Did you hear it? Did you hear the roar of Corvette engines arriving en masse at Hellyer Park on Sunday, July 25? You should have been there with seventy-nine of your Santa Clara Corvettes family and friends to celebrate the first time we've been together at a social event since March of 2020. It was our annual picnic. We've been waiting for it for so long and it did not disappoint.

There was so much catching up to do. Friends (with actual faces revealed) were able to hug, laugh, talk face to face and enjoy being with one another. The facility was better than we had



remembered, the trees have grown in since we were last visited, and it was warm but shady with a breeze blowing in from the lake. The tables were groaning with wonderful side dishes and delicious desserts brought to share with one another. Potlucks are the best.

Chefs **Chuck Vivian**, **Bob Kuwada** and **Lois Banks** were

joined this year by a new chef, **Lee Klynn**. As always, our chefs prepared for us a delicious, barbecued meal. This year we opted for a traditional American



BBQ and served hamburgers, hot dogs, and chicken apple sausages. Chef **Lois** brought along her cleaver and portioned out rotisserie chickens. Needless to say, no one went home hungry (and some took home dinner as well).

We had games; lawn darts, horseshoes, Jenga and cornhole available. But guess what? Everyone wanted to spend their time with friends. That being said, **Keith**

Mendia and his lovely assistant, **Jerry Banks**, did a lively business with a poker hand. **Sandy Mendia** and her lovely assistant, **David Johnston**, introduced us to a new dice game that is a



favorite with the Juggers's Club. It was a huge hit, many thanks to the Juggers for the loan of the game. Tickets won at the games were deposited into empty Talenti ice cream containers (big thank you to **Lee Klynn** for eating all that chocolate sorbet over the years to supply containers) for a chance to win their choice of twenty-five raffle prizes.

The heart and soul of these events are our friends who volunteer and make them happen. They show up early for set up, decorating and whatever else is needed. At the end of the day, the volunteers step up again for clearing and cleaning. This is what our Corvette family is about, pitching in and make our events successful by being a part of them from start to finish. Thank you one and all, **Linda** and I truly couldn't do it without you and are grateful to all of you.

Upcoming events – Tuesday, July 27, **Keith Mendia** has planned his annual SCC night at the San Jose Giants. You'll read more about that in the next issue of First Class Glass.

August 13 we will have our long overdue tour of the Nike Missile Site in the Marin Headlands, yes, it's a Friday but we wanted to try a weekday event on for size. Sign up online and join us for an interesting tour of our former defense system conducted by a fellow Corvetter who was stationed at the Missile Site.

Thursday, August 19 will be our first face to face TGIT. Remember that our TGIT's have been a once a month event pre-pandemic. Join us from 4:00 – 6:00 at the Grub Burger Bar in Santa Clara (corner of Lawrence Expressway and Homestead Road). The Kittens had a trial run lunch at Grub last month and we give it two thumbs up. Great food, good parking. Order and pay at the counter and your food is delivered to your table. We will be gathering under their big outdoor tent.

Stay tuned, keep those cars tuned, and let's get out and about and enjoy our Corvettes and our friends.

Your Social Directors,

Cheryl and Linda



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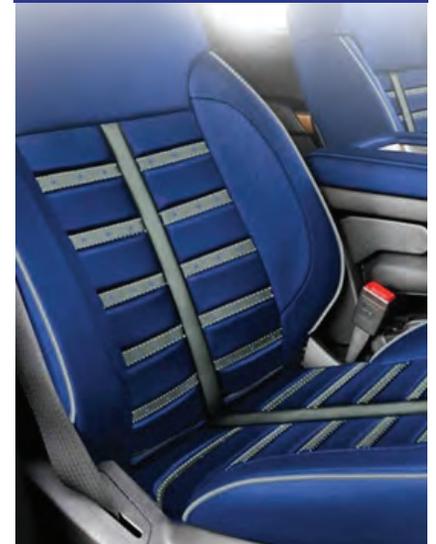
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What's Happening with the "C8 Watch" Now?



Here is the latest I have been able to find out on the C8 Watch. We have to talk about the new Z06 because that is what everyone else has been talking about since July 19, 2021. GM released the 2023 C8 Z06 "Teaser" video with sound only. "The Streets will never sound the same."

The new Z06 will have a 5.5 liter naturally aspirated flat-plane-crank V8, just like the 1-2 finishing C8.Rs at the Daytona 24. What will the price be? Horse Power Obsessed provided this info from their Youtube channel.

Sources say between \$85-\$90K to start for the base model. More like \$130K for the fully loaded Z07 package option. This is by far dollar for dollar still the best bang for your buck to get a track ready powerhouse. Instead of 550 hp like the race cars, the street version will be between 615 - 620 hp, at around 480 lb-ft. Plus it will look awesome.

GM has confirmed we will see it soon. Hopefully in the fall per Horse Power Obsessed. Here is a link to their video with more info. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JyvzycQfU8>

In case you want to just play it over and over here is the link to GM's C8 2023 Z06 Trailer. Set your monitor to full screen and then turn up the volume. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iQqi9s2Q2E>

Is your new C8 rusting from just washing it? What you need to know is there is a design flaw in the strut housing. When it rains or when you wash your car the water trickles down to the exposed strut towers and sits there until it dries. This can over time cause some issues with minerals building up and rusting the nut and bolt. To eliminate this and give you peace of mind you are not going to end up smelling stagnant water or attacking the metal you can buy aftermarket covers that go on top of the strut towers. If you have magnetic ride be sure you order the correct ones to fit over the top. Here is a link to Radiator Grill Store <https://www.radiatorgrillstore.com/product-page/c8-corvette-strut-covers-from-aor>

While you're on their website check out how to protect your radiators from bug and rock damage to aluminum fins. They also sell protective screens for intake and radiators.



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

Geno Brickey

TPS Motorsports Cars & Coffee 7-11-21

On 7-11-21 Mike Mak and TPS Motorsports put on another great Cars & Coffee event in Santa Clara. Santa Clara Corvettes members in attendance **Dave & Cindy Jacobson, Jerry & Lois Banks, Gary & Geneva Leighton, Jeanne Corrinne, Collins Orton, Mim Petersen, Roger Wiley, Alan Templeton, Geno & Teri Brickey, Bob & Donna Courtney, and Bob & Joanne Nastasi.** Mike Mak was gracious enough to let some members and others drive his awesome C8. It is all performance and a road car all in one package. Wow! Handles corners like you are sitting in your easy chair at home only more fun.



Caravan to Idol Beer Works Lodi 7-11-21

The day started as a bright Sunday morning as the caravan left Starbucks - Milpitas. Santa Clara Corvettes had a small representation of six vehicles that participated in the convoy to San Joaquin County. Attended by **Mark Koller, Romulo & Star Rimando, Al & Shari Thompson, Brian Barlow, Al & Gloria Fuerniss, Scott Fuerniss, Eric & Christy Marquez, and Les & Kathy Brandin.**

The designated rally point had a variety of stunning Corvettes spanning all generations; including many C8s that represented WSCC from Northern California. This year's annual event had an excellent turnout, and really great people, and cars.

While 100+ Corvettes prepared to travel to the final designation of Idol Beer Works in Lodi - all participants were also greeted by an unexpected air exhibition performing right above Highway 5 and the Flag City truck stop.

Although the temperature exceeded 100 degrees, it was a pleasure to see all the cars and members reunite. It couldn't be a better day to take a break, and enjoy an ice cold beverage.

Romulo Rimando



SCC Annual Picnic 7-25-21

Santa Clara Corvettes held their Annual Picnic at Hellyer Park in San Jose on a clear, warm, summers day in the Buena Vista group site. American style cuisine fit the happy mood of the day. A lot of conversations about Corvettes and just catching up with SCC friends made the time go by quickly.



SCC Annual Picnic 7-25-21



SCC Annual Picnic 7-25-21



SCC Annual Picnic 7-25-21



SCC Annual Picnic 7-25-21



18 - Santa Clara Corvettes - First Class Glass

Take Me Out to the San Jose Giants Ball Game 7-27-21

Santa Clara Corvettes had their annual tail-gate-party before the San Jose Giants baseball game. Those in attendance were **Keith & Sandy Mendia, Lynn Dieckmann, Bob & Donna Courtney, Jerry & Shirley Svindal, Jan Minearo, Sue Clooney, Chuck Vivian, Linda Lariz, Geno & Teri Brickey, Lee Klynn, Blair Barbour, David Wilson, David Wilson's cousins Carl and Angela, Mim & Chris Petersen, and Danny Lopez family (5)**. Thanks to **Keith Mendia** for setting this event up. There was so much food and cold beverages to enjoy before game time. Everyone enjoyed the game; SJ Giants won 9-0. Enjoyed being on the jumbo score board dancing to YMCA and more between innings songs.



19- Santa Clara Corvettes - First Class Glass

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Corvette Powered Exhibit Now Open

Until Late April 2022

By [Mariah Hughes](#) July 13, 2021

What does it mean to be “Corvette Powered”?

It’s winning your class at the 24 Hours of Le Mans and finishing 9th overall in 1965, cruising over the waves at 60+ mph in the late 1990s and early 2000s, winning the country’s most prestigious automotive award concerning custom and hot rod car owners and builders – the Ridler Award, and it ALWAYS means that there is a Corvette engine involved!

Visitors to the National Corvette Museum can now step into an exciting exhibit, *Corvette Powered*, that showcases vehicles, specifically mid-century non-General Motors/non-Corvette vehicles, that utilized Corvette engines, and drivelines.



At a time when America’s automotive industry was lacking, the small-block Chevy V8 engine changed everything. It was quickly discovered that other engines could not compete with Chevrolet’s engineering of the Corvette engine. As a result, some manufacturers, rather than developing their engines, approached Chevrolet and purchased Corvette engines or drivelines for their cars.

As Ed Cole once said, “when the 1955 Chevrolet engine was in the design stage, we were



aware of its potential as the hot-rod-able V8. We wanted a high-performance V8, and we achieved our objective.”

The use of Chevy’s small-block was used in European and American sports cars to boats showcasing that the Corvette engine has powered more than just Corvettes over time. As explained by



Director of Collections/Curator, Derek E. Moore, “this exhibit shares a piece of Corvette history and explores the stories of unique vehicles and



their use of Corvette engines.” Vehicles to see in the exhibit include a 1958 Scarab, 1967 Bizzarrini Strada, 1965 Impala built by

Chip Foote, a 1966 Excalibur, 1969 Mangusta, 1977 Avanti II, and more.

The new Corvette Powered exhibit explores select stories and the reason they chose Corvette engines to power their vehicles. Stories from Italy to America, Wisconsin to California, and from paved roads to glass-smooth lakes will grace the Exhibit Hall at the Museum until Bash of 2022.



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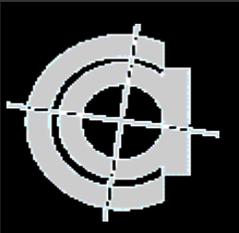
SCC Charity Coordinator - Maxine Wiley

In July and until August 21st, SCC is continuing its quest to raise money to purchase bikes for Turning Wheels for Kids. We have raised enough money for 4 to 6 bikes, depending on the size of bikes that TWFK purchases. *Hopefully, we can increase that number to 6-8 bikes by the middle of August.* Any donation amount will be a great help, not only to purchase bikes, but also to purchase helmets and locks. Donations that are made now are crucial for the purchase of the bikes for this holiday season. The supply of bikes and parts are limited and to reach their goal, TWFK must get their orders in early. Go to the SCC website and follow the links to TWFK's info to make your donation. If you donate, please let me know at wiley_ma@sbcglobal.net so I can give you points, and so that we can track the amount donated by SCC members.

Tish and **Dan Niehans** are once again heading the SCC Team for the Turning Wheels for Kids BIG BIKE BUILD on December 4th. Not only have they donated money to purchase several smaller bikes, they will also be hosting a pre-build luncheon and training session for the SCC volunteers. You do not

need to be an experienced mechanic to join in on the fun. We need at least 16 SCC volunteers to help with the build. From all reports from members that have done this in previous years, it is a great experience, being fun and awe-inspiring to see hundreds of bikes being built in a short amount of time. If you can join in on this opportunity, let **Tish** know at tish@niehans.org.

Save the date notice: Saturday, October 30th, is the day SCC will be serving breakfast to over 300 people at Hope's Corner. We need to raise \$600.00 by then to donate towards the cost of the meal. If you can help, please send *a check made out to Hope's Corner and write SCC on the memo line.* Please send the check to *SCC PO Box 2634 Santa Clara, CA 95055.* Please let me know that you donated, so I can track the amount to make sure we can cover the costs of the breakfast. So far we have 10 people signed up to help serve breakfast, but we need to have 10 more volunteers to join us. The shift will start at 8:45 am, finishing around 11:30 am. Please let me know if you can help.



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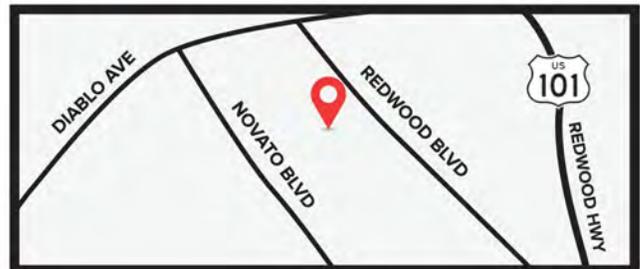
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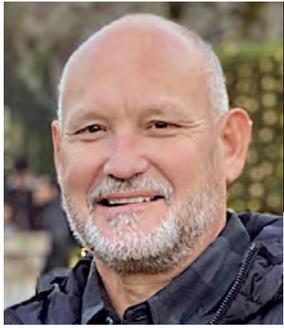


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Mark Koller: Competition Car Show

Let the show begin! A few weeks ago, a group of us had the opportunity to attend the Idol Beer Works Event in Lodi. After a long year of waiting, although not an official car show, it was a great opportunity to see over 150 Corvettes and their proud owners attending an officially sponsored Corvette Event. Now, as I write this article, Vette Magic, the first WSCC Corvette Type 5 Car Show is just a few weeks away. Soon enough Corvettes of all generations will be prepped and polished, driven to, parked, touched up, admired and judged. Next up to bat will be our very own 2021 Corvette Spectacular.

To help prepare your cars for the upcoming shows and judges, here are a few tips and recommendations on waxing your car from our friends at Road/Show by CNET:

- **Read the labels:** Some waxes require time to let the product haze, others do not. Make sure to read instructions to achieve the best results.
- **Make sure you use it correctly:** Always ensure there is plenty of shade in the area before waxing a car's paint. Direct sunlight and these products do not mix well.
- **Circles are a no-no:** It may feel right to apply wax in a circular motion, but the best car waxing method is to apply the product to a clear coat in a back-and-forth motion. This is true whether you use a machine or apply by hand with a microfiber cloth.
- **Look into a clay bar kit:** Modern cars feature a clear coat for a variety of reasons. Though it's a personal preference, skip a cleaner wax and look into a clay bar or clay mitt kit to remove contaminants from paint before waxing.
- **Don't expect wax to fix every scratch:** A clear coat of wax can fill in light scratches and help protect the paintwork, but don't expect wax to fill every visible scratch.

Most of us have personal preferences when it comes to the products we use on our cars. However, if you happen to be in the market for a new one, here are the 2021 Best Car Waxes recommended from Road/Show by CNET.

- **Best Overall Car Wax:** Chemical Guys Butter Wet Wax (\$18-\$60 per 4 oz - 1 gallon)
- **Best Overall Car Wax Runner-Up:** Meguiar's Deep Crystal Carnauba Wax (\$10/16 oz)
- **Best Carnauba Car Wax:** Griot's Garage Premium Carnauba Paste Wax (\$35-\$45/12 oz)
- **Best Carnauba Car Wax Runner-Up:** Chemical Guys Lava Luminous Glow Infusion (\$70/8 oz)
- **Best Liquid Car Wax:** Liquid Glass Ultimate Auto Polish (Technically not a wax) (\$37/16 oz)
- **Best Liquid Car Wax Runner-up:** Meguiar's Ultimate Liquid Wax (\$32/20 oz)
- **Best Spray Car Wax:** Turtle Wax Ice Synthetic Spray Wax (\$5-\$11/20 oz)
- **Best Spray Car Wax Runner-Up:** Adam's Detail Spray (\$13-\$162 per 16oz-5 gallons)

Mark



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510-913-4905

Vice-President: Cameron Brown
408-267-8849 cambrown47@gmail.com

Secretary / Communications: Ken Jacksteit
VP@WSCC.net

Social Directors: Cheryl Klynn and Linda Lariz
Cheryl: 650-207-4497 Cheryl.Klynn@gmail.com
Linda: 408-802-1755 linda@playnlearnpreschool.com

Publications Directors: Geno Brickey and Jerry Banks
Geno: 408-952-9133 geno116@sbcglobal.net
Jerry: 408-702-7848 J.lbanks@comcast.com

Treasurer / Webmaster: Alan Templeton
SCCTreasurer@gmail.com

Motorsports Director: Rick Bronner & Collins Orton
Rick: bronnerrick@gmail.com
Collins: 650-208-9035 PipeDr96@outlook.com

Car Show Director: Mark Koller
koller1854@gmail.com

Membership Director: Al Thompson
310-877-5377 SCCorvettes.membership@gmail.com

Appointed Positions

SCC Historian: Keith Mendia
408-268-7411 keithmendia@gmail.com

WSCC Representative: Malcolm Lawton
408-464-1538 mb1123@hotmail.com

Charity Coordinator: Maxine Wiley
650-207-5132

Social Media: Mike Mak
Mikem@tpsmotorsports.com

Points Chair: Sandy Mendia
408-888-0643 sandymendia81@gmail.com

Hospitality Chair: Ken Edgar
408-355-5035 banyon51@aol.com

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408-859-8301 Jminearo@yahoo.com

Goodwill Ambassador: Shirley Svindal
408-247-4881 svindal2@comcast.net

Corvette Spectacular Chairs:
David Wilson: 408-464-4444
Nicole Wilson: Nicole121wilson@gmail.com

SCC Upcoming Events!

August 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				

September 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		

- 2 Ice Cream Sandwich Day
- 4 Zoom Social at 6:30pm and Business Meeting at 7:00 pm
- 6 International Beer Day
- 6 National Root Beer Float Day
- 8 NCCA Vette Magic Car Show at Blackhawk
- 13 Nike Missile site in Marin
- 16 National Tell a Joke Day
- 19 TGIT 4:00 - 6:00 pm Grub Burger Bar
- 25 Board Meeting at noon

- 1 Social at 6:30 pm and Business Meeting at 7:00 pm
- 4 Santos Family Car Show Alviso 7am
- 5-10 Zion and Bryce Canyon Park tour
- 6 Labor Day
- 12 NBCC Auto-x (tentative)
- 16 TGIT Casa Lupe 5-7 pm
- 19 Spectacular Car Show
- 26 Nostalgia Day Classic Car Show, Livermore 9 am - 4 pm
- 29 Board Meeting at noon

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

August Birthdays

- 02 - Lynda Andriotti
- 04 - Shirley Martin
- 07 - David Ireland
- 08 - Chuck Vivian
- 08 - Robert Courtney
- 08 - Timothy McVey
- 15 - Beth Mostovoy
- 15 - Betsy Franco
- 16 - Chris Petersen
- 16 - Kraig Kurucz
- 16 - Ron Beck
- 17 - Reesa Lawton
- 21 - Teri Brickey
- 23 - Stephen Wong
- 24 - John Gibb
- 25 - Roger Pendenza
- 28 - Liz Bronner



August Anniversaries

- 1998 - Keith Mendia
- 1998 - Sandy Mendia
- 1998 - Steve Merrick
- 1999 - Andy Hoepfner
- 2003 - Jim Barnes
- 2003 - Walt Kimball
- 2004 - Jerry Banks
- 2004 - Lois Banks
- 2004 - John Lux
- 2007 - Liz Calhoon
- 2007 - Stuart Calhoon
- 2013 - Gary Linford
- 2017 - Tony Olea
- 2018 - Brian Barlow
- 2018 - Mariselda Barlow
- 2020 - Brenda Leonard
- 2020 - Douglas Leonard
- 2020 - Hazel Lee
- 2020 - Kurt Lee
- 2020 - David Mills



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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 (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.