

CROSSTALK

Official Publication of the Corvette Club of Arizona



Volume 19

Issue 5

Promoting Corvette Enthusiasm, Competition, Socials and Rallies for 50 Years

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From the President



Gordon Stewart

Hello Members,

Finally, on the tails of Summer we are enjoying great Corvette driving weather. Be it a ride to the corner store, or a drive around our Arizona State, it is a wonderful time to enjoy it.

September, we had our Magic Mystery Tour to the Grand Canyon. Hosted by Bartell/Nelson/Platten, it was a blast for twenty-one guests & hosts & hi-lighted by a two-hour train ride to the Rim.

Our calendar for October is packed with fall events, starting with Hagan's Halloween Party on 11/01. We expect a scary event, so bring your broom and bed sheet. The Chevy's in the Park show on 11/02 is at AJ Chandler Park in downtown Chandler. At this point we forecast approximately 130 cars, one of our highest numbers ever expected. Come on out and exhibit your Corvette or Chevy or just come and enjoy the Sunday festivities. Also, our annual Progressive Dinner hosted by Mundy/Minahan/Stewart/Hagan is on 11/15. A few spaces are still available for those who like Greek food and theme.

The slate for the 2026 Board of Directors was completed at the last Board Meeting and emailed to all Members. It is filled out with good Members who are dedicated to the enjoyment of our club. Personally, I withdrew my nomination for President at the recent Board meeting as I believe the team developing was experienced and strong, and it allows me to focus on other initiatives in my life. I have very much enjoyed my role as President and serving you this year. Nominations for Board positions are still open and will close at the Members Meeting on 11/06 when voting takes place (and by absentee ballot.) Votes for this year's Outstanding Member of the Year will be taken at the same time and the winner announced at this year's Christmas Party on 12/14.

Lots of accomplishments achieved so far this year, and more to follow in the months ahead. Enjoy the CCA friendships and events prepared by hard working and happy Members for the benefit of all. Carry on to the momentum of the club's venues and enjoy your Corvette ride....and have fun!

Gordon



From the Activities Director

Charlotte Hughes

Recently I've spent time in Sedona with longtime friends. They were interested in what our Corvette Club was like and what activities we enjoyed. Boy, were they surprised as I recounted our varied list of drivers, over-nighters, meals, car shows and other activities we have had during this year.

This conversation with them got me thinking of how unique CCA is. Where else do you have this variety of events and sharing of time together? Where else can you meet new folks, share your histories of Corvettes, cars, and meet other enthusiasts!

As we come to the close of this calendar year, I thank you for participating, for supporting one another, and for sharing your fun with all of us! If you have suggestions, ideas, comments, that can keep this active group active, please let me or other board members know. It's your club!

Charlotte Hughes, 2025 Activities Director





New Members

Kevin Deihl

Please join me in welcoming three new members to the Corvette Club of Arizona. We're excited they chose CCA and look forward to seeing them at upcoming events and drives.

If you see Doug, Randy, or Kat at an event, please introduce yourself and help them feel welcome.

Membership Update – Total members (as of 10/24): 113

Doug Ray

- Location: Chandler
- Background: Recently retired after selling his insurance agency in San Diego; purchased the home he grew up in.
- Interests: Music and anything that goes fast and loud.
- Car: 2024 White Coupe

We're glad Doug chose CCA after experience in other clubs and look forward to his energy at meets.



Welcome

Randy Hubbard and Kat Zettler

- Location: Gilbert
- Background: Randy is a former teacher; Kat is retired from nursing and volunteers with autistic children.
- Interests: Randy enjoys golf, hunting, fishing, carpentry, and mechanical work.
- Kat enjoys puzzles and volunteer work.
- Cars: 1957 Black Convertible; 1962 Black Convertible; 1963 Black Coupe. These are three of the nine Corvettes Randy has owned; none were newer than 1978

Randy and Kat have completed all membership requirements and are eager to get started.



Upcoming Activities



November	December
1- Halloween Party (Hagan) 2- Chevys in the Park (Deihl) 6- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting 14- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 15- Progressive Dinner (Mundy/Minahan-Stewart/Hagan) 15- Covenanthotrod.com (Smith) 18- Vette Set Dinner-Spinato's (Kerber & Bassett) 20- Board Meeting (Brennan) 27-30- Int'l Auto Show (Katz)	4- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting NO Chicks & Roosters 11- Hosts Thank You Party at Organ Stop Pizza (by invitation) 13- A Capella Holiday Show (Palmer) 14- CCA Christmas Party (Samples/Wyres) 18- Board Meeting (Stewart)
January 2026	February 2026
8- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting 9- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 13- Gilbert HS Drumline Car Show (??)	5- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting 13- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am
March 2026	April 2026
5- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting 13- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am	2- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting 10- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am
May 2026	
3- Gaslight Theatre Tucson (Lombardo & Campise) 7- Membership Meeting Floridino's 6pm dinner/7pm meeting 8- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am	Click the link below for a current listing of statewide car shows to enter or visit! www.arizonacarshows.com
KEY * CCA Event **Non CCA Event	***Vette Set Dinner

50 Years Ago...



Dan Civalier

To get personal for a minute...It is a year of decade milestones for Michelle and I. We both attended our 40th high school reunions. Our marriage just turned 30 this year. A handful of couples in the club hit a new decade of their nuptials too. And our club is at 50.

Microsoft was founded 50 years ago. Videocassette recorders were developed in Japan in 1975. Big Red Gum, Country Time Lemonade, Famous Amos Cookies and Miller Lite Beer were all introduced in 1975. The movie "Jaws" was released in 1975, along with "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Dog Day Afternoon". Saturday Night Live, Starsky and Hutch and Wheel of Fortune premiered in 1975.

The US Army, in its original form of the Continental Army, started June 14, 1775. Big 250! It lead to the creation of our country, which celebrates 250 years next year. Formed by a unique club of people, who had something in common. They started with a lot of ideas, which are still there on paper. Followed by a celebration. Chased by the reality of the exhausting work and great sacrifice ahead.

And our beloved Corvette turned the off-decade year of 72.

Most bystanders probably don't know the story, but the Corvette itself has been threatened with extinction a handful of times. This might sound sad, but it is the reality of life. A big corporation focused on profits for its stockholders and a need to survive another decade or more. A small-volume car, with relatively little profits, becomes the target of cuts. And rightfully so. Keeping it alive was the work of a small club within one of the world's largest companies.

So many changes and yet so many things have endured.

Who knows what the future will hold. To be sure, things will be different. When it comes to the car, it is impossible to imagine the changes ahead. We love the joy of driving, but will that be in our hands 50 years from now?

What's next? What changes will there be? What kind of milestones will be reached? When it comes to the club, when it comes to anything of value to us, we wonder. I think many, like Corvette itself, are going to take another few fights to stay alive. Walt Disney said "success often demands a big price". He also said "togetherness, for me, means teamwork". Let's keep our "team" focused for the "work" ahead.

No matter what, let's enjoy the ride together!

Dan

Vette Set Dinner–Vero's



Dom & Susan Lovino

The Lovinos hosted a vette set dinner at Vero Chicago Pizza Restaurant in Ahwatukee on Aug 26th. This is one of our favorite places for pizza in the valley. There are nine Vero restaurants around the valley. We like this one the best due to its ambience and view of the South Mountain foothills. There were 27 in attendance. We sat at tables of 4, 6 and 8. We made the rounds to each table to say Hi and enjoy seeing everyone. Vero's serves 3 styles of pizza served here, thin crust, butter crust and deep dish. They also serve pasta, sandwiches, and salad. Everyone enjoyed the food and camaraderie. If you missed this event, they have great happy hour specials.



Chicks and Roosters Lunch



September & October



**Chicks Hosted by Eva Platten,
Mary O'Connor and Beth Godina**



Roosters Hosted by Dennis Hughes



**Roosters had a record
turnout of 20!**

Magical Mystery Tour



Mike Bartell/Anne Nelson/Heinz & Eva Platten

After 9 months of planning and anticipating we were off on our Magical Mystery Tour to Williams and The Grand Canyon on Sunday, September 14, 2025.

We all met at Basha's in Gold Canyon. Twenty-one members and 12 cars later we were on our way. First stop in Salt River. Fantastic views and of course a potty break. We then made our way on to Payson, then on to the Galaxy Diner for lunch in Flagstaff. Fantastic scenery the whole way.

Out of the 21 participants, 12 of us were first timers on an MMT.

Our final destination that day was the Grand Canyon Railway & Hotel. We celebrated our first day with dinner at the Fred Harvey restaurant. Of course, we had cake afterwards followed by a Corvette trivia game where everyone was able to win a prize.

At the beginning of the trip, we asked everyone to give us their guess as to where our ultimate destination would be. Tom Palmer was the sole winner.

Monday morning, we were off to the Grand Canyon on the train but before boarding we were treated to a Wild West cowboy show.

The train ride took about 2hrs and 15 minutes and we enjoyed musical entertainment on the way to the canyon. Once in the South Rim we were able to take in breathtaking views, did a little shopping and had lunch at the El Tovar restaurant. On our ride back we were again entertained with guitar music and songs along with complimentary Champagne. But wait there's more. The train was robbed on the way back and a few of us had to give up a few bucks.

That evening was a free night for all but many of us ended up at Pine Country restaurant for a slice of pie. Maybe not a good idea. Heavy on the calories.

Tuesday we all caravanned into the canyon in our cars, stopped at many spectacular look out spots. Before heading back to Williams, we of course had to have more dessert. This time ice cream.

That evening we had dinner at the El Corral Mexican restaurant in town on Route 66
Wednesday morning after breakfast, Tom led a group of thrill seekers to the Canyon Coaster Adventure Park for a mile long ride down to mountain. Fun had by all.
THAT'S ALL FOLKS!!!!

Magical Mystery Tour



Sunday-The Drive & Arrival



Magical Mystery Tour



Sunday-The Drive & Arrival



Lunch at Galaxy Diner-
Flagstaff



Our Destination



Magical Mystery Tour



Sunday-The Drive & Arrival



Ready for the 1st adventure!



Magical Mystery Tour



Mon-Grand Canyon Railroad



Magical Mystery Tour



Mon-Grand Canyon Railroad



A TOAST TO OUR HOSTS!!



PINE
COUNTRY
RESTAURANT
- WILLIAMS



Magical Mystery Tour



Tues-South Rim



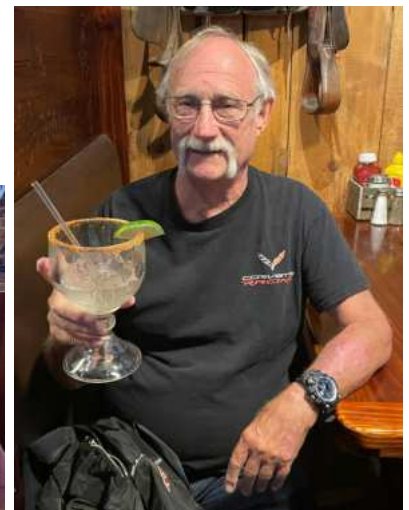
Magical Mystery Tour



Tues-South Rim



EL CORRAL MEXICAN RESTAURANT- WILLIAMS



Magical Mystery Tour



Wed-Mountain Coaster





Prescott All Corvette Show

Heinz & Eva Platten

This was our third time attending this car show, which is hosted by the Prescott Vette Sette Club. This year, registration started on Thursday, September 25th at the Hassayampa Hotel. There, we picked up our packet which contained maps of the area and lots of coupons for local restaurants. Then we checked into our hotel, the historic Hotel Vendome, which is a half block away from the car show. Excellent hotel and fantastic staff! Dinner was at the Barley Hound Gastropub next door to the hotel. We had a coupon for a free appetizer in our packet, so we tried the Roasted Brussel Sprouts, delicious! Our drinks and entrees were outstanding and the portions fairly generous. Then we went to the beautifully restored Fire & Sword speakeasy in the Hotel St. Michael, just reopened in late 2024.

The next morning, Friday, we joined the caravan on the breakfast ride to Jerome. Over 40 cars had signed up for the ride but only 12 made it, many delayed by the flooding. It was a really fun ride up the mountain, riding in the clouds. We met 2 other couples on that ride from Casa Grande! That night we met up with good friend from Prescott at the speakeasy for drinks, followed by an informal dinner at Rosa's.

On Saturday, we were honored to receive the "2025 Best C8" award! The judges spent a good 10 minutes inspecting our car, luckily BEFORE the rain started! We're grateful to the club members who braved the weather and came out to see the show: Kevin Deihl, Gordon Stewart, the Wyres, Bill Kell, Ron Gliot and Tom Marks.

The show by the numbers:

- *How many car registrations?* 338
- *How many awards?* 37
- *Club with largest representation?* Central Valley
- *Traveled the farthest to the show?* Bend Oregon
- *How many C8s?* 75



Prescott All Corvette Show



Continued



Garage Dreams



Kevin Deihl

Garage Dreams Expo: Chrome, Chaos & CCA Camaraderie – October 4, 2025

Arizona woke up flawless, and so did we. With engines rumbling and coffee-fueled excitement, five Corvette Club of Arizona members plus two honorary road warriors rallied at Whole Foods in Chandler. Destination: Garage Dreams Expo near Sloan Park—yes, that Sloan Park. Cubs fans, cheer. Everyone else, groan accordingly.

Four Floors of Full-Throttle Mayhem

This wasn't your grandma's car show. It was a four-story adrenaline buffet, stacked with everything from slammed low riders to retro rods, muscle-bound Mustangs to sleek Japanese imports—and of course, a glorious parade of Corvettes.

- Barbecued Beauty: One C1 Corvette looked like it had been rescued from a bonfire. Charred paint, scorched seats, and a ghost of upholstery—but someone had the audacity (and brilliance) to drop an LS motor in it. Iconic chaos.

- Chromezilla: A Mustang rolled in on 30-inch chrome wheels. Yes, thirty. It looked like a Hot Wheels monster truck on stilts. We stared. We blinked. We questioned reality.

- Low Rider Olympics: Just as we recovered, the low riders started bouncing like caffeinated kangaroos. Suspensions were flexed. Crowds were thrilled. No suspensions were harmed (we think).

Little Legends: Pint-Sized Pandemonium

At 10 AM sharp, the Little Legends race launched—and it was pure, unfiltered joy. Imagine a dozen kids in battery-powered cars, tearing through a twisty track like mini Mario Andretti's. The green flag dropped and chaos bloomed: bumper taps, wild turns, and laughter so contagious it should've come with a warning label.

Drone Racing: Blink and You'll Miss It

Outside the garage, the drones took flight. These tiny turbo-charged buzzers zipped through the air like hummingbirds on espresso. One clipped a tree and spiraled like a dramatic soap opera exit. No photos, but the memory lives on in our retinas.

Refueling at Thirsty Lion

After all that horsepower and hilarity, we cruised to Thirsty Lion at Tempe Marketplace for some well-earned grub. Burgers were devoured, stories were swapped, and laughter echoed like a V8 in a canyon.

Garage Dreams



Continued





Commemorative Air Force Museum

Dave & Patty Friesz

On October 16, 2025, twenty-six CCA members and guests visited the Commemorative Air Force Museum, located at Falcon Field in Mesa. Everyone arrived at the appointed time and a group photo was taken by Dennis Hughes at the front of the museum. We were greeted at the front desk by a volunteer and were surprised by a reduced entry fee for our entire group. We were then divided into two groups for tours of the facility to be led through the displays of aircraft representing multiple aircraft from World War One through the Viet Nam conflict. Our tour guides enlightened us with the history of each flying machine and pointed out unique displays associated with aircraft equipment and historical photos.

The groups were taken outside onto the ramp surrounding the hanger for more history on two flying WW Two Bomber aircraft: a B17 Flying Fortress and a B25 Mitchel. There are only 3 flying B17's left in the world. This particular B17 still is flown and participates in air shows around the USA during the summer months. It is serviced and maintained at Falcon Field. We were invited to venture inside the B17 Sentimental Journey Bomber with the historical painted picture of Betty Grable on the nose and make our way through the cramped aircraft from the tail, all the way to the cockpit. Only a few brave souls of our group attempted this.

As the guide tried to continue with his history of the B17, the new jet engine repair and test facility, recently completed at Falcon Field, began testing a jet engine. The noise was too much, so our outside tour was shortened and all returned inside the museum to a more peaceful environment. The tours were quite informative, and our questions were answered by our very knowledgeable guides. The tours lasted about an hour. There was much more to see and read but, lunch awaited us at Milano's across the street.

Milano's is a family owned Mediterranean\Italian restaurant and has been in Mesa for many years. The service was terrific, and everyone seemed pleased with the quality and quantity of their meals. Everyone expressed that they enjoyed this event, and we definitely enjoyed planning it for CCA.



Commemorative Air Force Museum



Continued



Commemorative Air Force Museum



Continued



Vette Set Dinner–Rigatony's



Dave & Kathy Golec



The Golecs hosted a Vette Set Dinner on October 21 st at Rigatony's. This family owned, authentic Italian restaurant has been in the valley since 1994. 30 CCA members attended.

The ambiance of the restaurant is very warm and rustic.
The service was excellent.

First came drinks and then the famous salad with Rigatony's own dressing (which we were told that they sell at the restaurant) and bread and olive oil.



The entrees came out looking and smelling wonderful! It got very quiet after they were served! Many saved room for desserts. The Spumoni ice cream was a favorite and was quite an impressive serving!



Good service, drinks, food, and friends! As the Italian saying goes
"La Dolce Vita!"



Happy Birthday!



November

2 – Kathy Golec
6 – John O'Boyle
14 – Charlotte McSpadden
15 – Dennis Hughes
20 – Elly Palmer
22 – Anne Nelson
23 – Arlene Craig

December

1 – Gary Bennett
1 – Guy Lombardo
6 – Ron Gliot
8 – Anna Baumiller
12 – Cathy Maiorano
15 – Bev Armatys
17 – Kat Zettler
20 – Jim Kerber
24 – Michael Voyk
25 – Bruce Wyres
26 – Jeffrey Nieman
26 – Patty Friesz
27 – Cheryl Gliot
30 – Beth Godina
31 – Ken Rock





Board of Directors

2025

President: Gordon Stewart
Vice President: Dom Lovino
Secretary: Ron Brennan
Treasurer: Susan Lovino
Membership Chair: Kevin Deihl
Activity Director: Charlotte Hughes
Officer at Large: Cis Eberst
Public Relations Director: Ken Rock

Volunteer Positions

Activity Coordinators: Diana Campise & Nancy Hagan
Crosstalk Editors: Michelle & Dan Civalier
Webmaster: Eva Platten
Technology Consultant: Howard Katz



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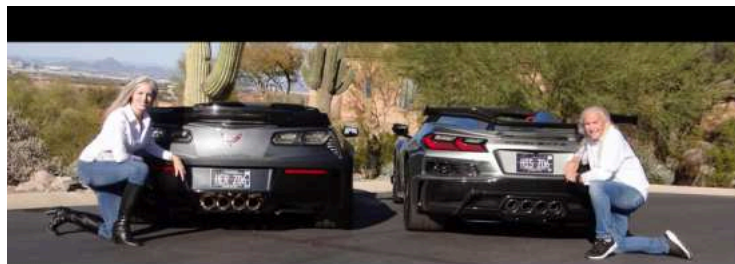
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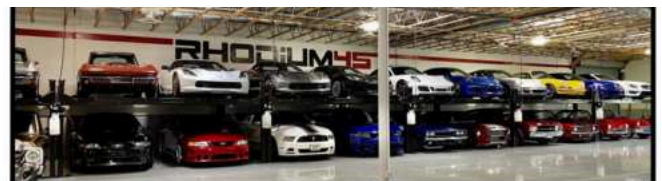
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Three small portrait photos of the team members: a man in a dark shirt, a woman in a blue top, and a woman in a yellow top.

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