

CROSSTALK

Official Publication of the Corvette Club of Arizona



Volume 20

Issue 3

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

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From the President



Dom Lovino

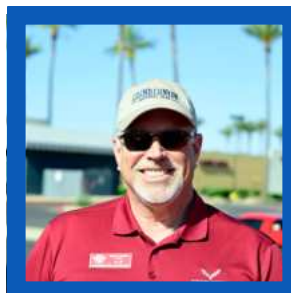
We are celebrating the 250th anniversary of our republic this 4th of July. I truly believe we live in the greatest and best country in the world. While it may not be perfect, we enjoy many freedoms and opportunities most others around the world cannot fathom. I thank every veteran who stood up and served to defend and protect our God given rights and freedoms. I thank all of you who take the time to vote as "We the people" decide our destiny and enduring success, not our government officials. While we may celebrate this day differently, we are afforded the opportunity to enjoy being an American and celebrate our freedom. The next time you hear our national anthem, stand up and proudly sing it out loud. Be patriotic and display "old glory" with prominence and greatness it stands for this 4th. Be proud to be an American! We drive America's sports car on top of it all. How cool is that!

Happy Birthday America!

Dom

A Patriotic and Proud American

4th
of July



Activity Director



Charlotte Hughes

We have driven, eaten, explored, learned, forgotten (!), conversed, relaxed, read maps, misread maps, and spent happy hours all over Arizona so far this year. Well, I suppose we haven't explored the southwestern part of our state yet. But the year isn't over yet!

I thank Rocco for sharing with me ideas and tips for CCA Activities. On a really hot day this week I paged through a folder he gave me a while back.

Drives and activities from 2011 – 2022 were in there, with driver information, routes, places to stay and menus from restaurants. Although these activities are not very old, I felt that I was experiencing the past with former and current CCA members. I also learned more about the really good routes with turns, bridges, vistas, rocks and wildlife.

We're halfway through this CCA year. Please continue to refer to our calendar, it has quite a few activities planned. There are listings with a variety of places to go and things to see. Our thanks to Bob Bassett, who keeps that calendar up to date. And I thank all the members who have been event hosts this year. You'll see there are a few months with a light schedule. If you're interested in planning a drive, an overnight, a Vette Set Dinner, or something we've never tried before, please let me know. We can work toward the end of the year as enthusiastically as we have enjoyed the first half of the year.

Best wishes,
Charlotte



Upcoming Activities



July		August	
2- Membership Meeting Floridino's 4:30pm social/6pm meeting 10- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 16- Board Meeting (Smith) 17-19 New Mexico Driver (Platten)		6- Membership Meeting Floridino's 4:30pm social/6pm meeting 7- Reba & Dolly (Campise) 13- Vette Set Dinner (Stewart/Minahan) 14- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 20- Board Meeting (TBD)	
September		October	
3- Membership Meeting Floridino's 4:30pm social/6pm meeting 11- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 17- Board Meeting (TBD)		1- Membership Meeting Floridino's 4:30pm social/6pm meeting 3-4 Wine Tour in Sonoita Driver (Platten) 9- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 24- Progressive Dinner (Campise/Smith/ Henry/Palmer)	
November		December	
5- Membership Meeting Floridino's 4:30pm social/6pm meeting 8- Annual Car Show at Martin Auto Museum, Glendale 11- Chicks & Roosters Stone & Barrel 11am 17- Board Meeting (Bassett)		3- Membership Meeting Floridino's 4:30pm social/6pm meeting <i>Hosts Thank You Party (TBD)</i> 13- Christmas Party (Sample) No Chicks & Roosters Lunch 17- Board Meeting (Lovino)	
See flyers on the CCA Website for more information and details on how to register for all of the listed activities!!		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 ***Save the Date	

Monthly Meetings



May & June



Gaslight Theater, Tucson



Lombardos & Campises



The two-day drive was hosted by Roc and Diana Campise and Guy and Norma Lombardo.

We had 26 participants, traveling to the Gaslight Theatre to see a melodrama called *"009 License to Thrill"*. We left McDonald's on Riggs Road in Sun Lakes at 9:15am on Sunday. We traveled the scenic routes of 87 and 79 South. Heinz and Eva Platten, who live in Casa Grande, were picked up by Gordon Stewart and Onalie Minahan at their house. The four of them joined our caravan at the Circle K in Catalina.

After a pitstop in Catalina, we arrived at Little Anthony's Diner at noon for lunch. Little Anthony's is next to the Gaslight Theatre and is a 50's/60's themed diner with memorabilia both inside and outside the restaurant. Outside there were numerous classic vehicles including a 1960 pink Cadillac, 1960's VW bugs, VW "hippie" vans, 57 Chevy wagons and a vintage pink travel trailer. They sat us together and had a full menu of delicious entrees which were served in large portions perfect to split. The food and service were excellent. After lunch, some people elected to check in early at the hotel before proceeding to the Gaslight Theatre for the 3:00 p.m. show.



Gaslight Theater, Tucson



Continued

We took up two full rows of seats in the middle section of the theatre, which provided an excellent view of the stage.

The live house band got the whole crowd singing oldies including “Uptown Girl”, “Love Train” and “You Can’t Hurry Love”.

After the warmup music was over, the show began. We were treated to a fun show based on characters from the numerous James Bond movies over the past 65 years. The music of many of the James Bond movies was also incorporated into the show.

The melodrama featured both clean cut heroes and James Bond movie villains. The audience cheered the heroes and enthusiastically booed the villains. We sang along with all the live songs played by the house band. The popularity of all the James Bond movies over the past 65 years made the performance one of the best shows we have seen in the past seven years.

The Gaslight Theatre provided free popcorn and served drinks to the crowd before and during the show. The Corvette Club of Arizona was mentioned after the show. Audience members who had May birthdays and anniversaries were given free ice cream. After the show, the cast performed songs and comedy sketches for 30 minutes. The show was over at 5:00 p.m.



Gaslight Theater, Tucson



Continued



We decided to try a different place for dinner other than the usual Piazza Gavi. We went to a country western bar called "*The Maverick, King of Clubs*" which was only 10 minutes from the Gaslight Theatre. The staff at the Maverick went out of their way to make us feel welcome. The sign in front of the restaurant had "Welcome Corvette Club of Arizona" and there was reserved parking in front of the restaurant for our Corvettes. There was a great band playing, and a large dance hall of people dancing to the music. Some Corvette Club members joined in with the locals dancing. The dinner menu was mostly bar food and was great quality. Service was fast and we were all done by 7:30 p.m.

Many of us congregated in the large breakfast area in the Hampton Inn for adult beverages after dinner.



Gaslight Theater, Tucson



Continued

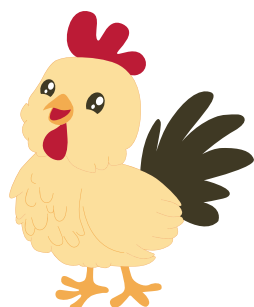


On Monday morning the Lombardo's and the Palmer's took the scenic drive up to the top of Mt. Lemmon. The curvy road provided the perfect Corvette driving experience. After the 2 ½ hour trip up to the top and back, The Lombardo's and Palmer's enjoyed Buffalo Chicken Wings and Beef on Weck meal for lunch at the "Anchor Bar" in Tucson. The Anchor Bar is one of 8 franchise locations of the original bar which invented chicken wings decades ago in Buffalo, NY.

Chicks & Roosters



May – Palmers Host



Williams & Grotto Caverns



Roc & Diana Campise

What a trip! As usual, meet, drive, eat and drink. Jam packed event to cover all of the senses.

Started the day at our usual McDonald's to form our caravan. Took about an hour to reach the staging area. From there we headed to our lunch location in Cornville, AZ through winery row and finally stopping at Up the Creek.



Continuing on we sped through Sedona on a Friday afternoon, wasn't that a laugh, past Slide Rock and into Williams. What a day, bright and sunny with gale force winds. Well not quite, but, hold on to your hats.



Williams & Grotto Caverns



Continued

Checked into the hotel and decided we needed a little libation, so we got together for a series of grape drinks after a grueling drive. You probably noticed from their smiles, everyone was happy and ready to partake. By the way, our dinner house was across from the wine tasting, making it easy for the wobbly ones.



Red Raven, Red Raven, an Alfred Hitchcock movie, don't we wish. It is actually one of the best dinner houses in Williams, not the typical hamburger, fries, hot dogs and shakes fare.

We just left the drinking of the grape and it started all over again. More drinks, more food and a good time.

By the time we finished our meal, we all sauntered off to the hotel and met in the breakfast room. Here we go again, more snacks and oh yes, libations.



Williams & Grotto Caverns



Continued

Next morning, off to the caverns!! Arrived in style, gathered under Max for our group picture and got ready to go down over 200 feet by elevator to begin our tour and lunch.



This was interesting, this area was to house 2000 people in the event of a catastrophic event. The storage facility included water, food rations and personal items. Some of the drum covers were used as toilet seats. A novel idea for a bomb shelter. The only problem was it had several air vents to the surface which is not ideal in the event of an atomic blast.



Williams & Grotto Caverns



Continued

Lunch at the crystal room was over 200 feet below the surface with a balmy 56 degrees year around. Food delivery was hoisted up from below the dining room through a pulley system.



Williams & Grotto Caverns



Continued

Well guess what? More food, more drinks, more fun.



Williams & Grotto Caverns



Seligman



Monument Valley Driver



Heinz & Eva Platten

Heinz and I have driven by Monument Valley several times over the last decade and finally decided to take a guided private tour of the places not seen on the public 17-mile road. We were grateful to have a few intrepid CCA members join us for a long weekend of laughter, sightseeing, shopping and, of course, eating.



On Thursday, March 26, 2026, Gordon Stewart, Onalie Minahan, Henry and Sue Walker and Heinz and Eva Platten met at the McDonald's in Sun Lakes and headed north to meet Ron Brennan in Mesa. After a scenic drive on Utery Pass Road, Beeline and Bush Highway, we arrived in Payson, where we stocked up on essentials for our journey and continued on to Holbrook.

Since it was too early to check into the hotel, we visited Jim Gray's Petrified Wood Company, a gem in Holbrook and widely recommended by the locals for expert advice and fair prices. Here we learned about how those beautiful petrified wood pieces are made and did a bit of shopping.



Monument Valley Driver



Continued



After checking in to the Best Western and freshening up, we walked over to Mesa Italiana Restaurant just down the street for an early dinner. This is another gem in Holbrook; excellent service, food and drinks. We met some interesting fellow diners, including two French couples who were doing Route 66 on Harleys, all the way from Chicago to Santa Monica. They were also staying at our hotel and stopped to admire our Corvettes the next morning.

We worked off some calories by walking back to the hotel. The front desk clerk was kind enough to open the breakfast area for us, so we had a private room for our evening social hour.

On Friday, after breakfast, we stopped by the Painted Desert Indian Center, where we admired Navajo goods and learned quite a bit about how the various types of gemstones in jewelry are obtained and processed. After a bit more shopping, we headed off for Monument Valley. One of the Indian roads provided a shortcut; it was pretty rough but, fortunately, we all made it through ok. We stopped in Chinle for a quick bite at the Subway. Normally, we would stop at The Junction but it was closed due to plumbing issues.

Arriving in Monument Valley, we checked into our hotel, Goulding's Lodge, and discovered that each room had a beautiful view!



Monument Valley Driver



Continued

That night, we met for dinner together in the Stagecoach Restaurant, across the parking lot from our rooms. Every meal was delicious! Ron somehow acquired a suite with an extremely large patio, so we met there for our social hour after dinner.

On Saturday, we embarked on our various private tours. Here are some of our favorite photos from the tour. Later that night, we once again enjoyed a social hour on Ron's patio.



Monument Valley Driver



Continued



On Sunday, Ron returned home and the rest of us headed for Flagstaff for cooler weather. The first stop was the Galaxy Diner for lunch and milkshakes. The milkshakes were so good that no one shared, although Gordon and Onalie were kind enough to share their banana split



After lunch and checking in at the hotel, Gordon, Onalie, Sue and I headed off for the visitor's center in Flagstaff, where we planned to work off a few calories, do a little shopping and get some history of Flagstaff. There was a 10% chance of rain and, would you believe it, it poured with thunder and lightning. When the visitor's center closed, we huddled under the awning to stay dry. The thunder was especially loud and we all screamed.

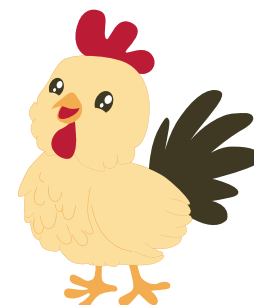
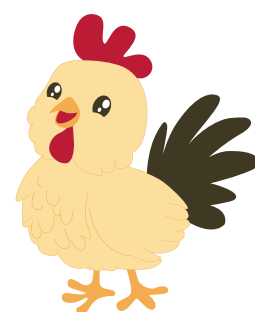
The restaurant for dinner, Lumberyard Brewery, was only a 2 minute walk away but there was no way to reach it without getting drenched. Henry to the rescue! From the hotel, he managed to find us and shuttled us over to the restaurant while Heinz Uber'ed over. Luckily, we got a table before the locals descended and filled out the restaurant. By now, the rain had stopped and we were able to walk back to the hotel, where we enjoyed a fun social hour in Gordon and Onalie's room.

The next day, Monday, we went our separate ways back home. Heinz and Eva took the scenic route and enjoyed fudge and ice cream in Payson while Henry and Sue enjoyed lunch and pie at the Rock Springs Café.

Chicks & Roosters



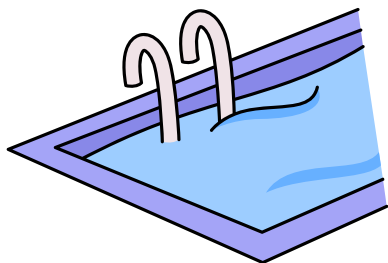
June



Pool Party!!



Frank & Nancy Hagan



Food
fun &
CCA
friends



Brio Vette Set Dinner



Rich & Judy Hoffman



All 27 of us had a great time and wonderful dinner at Brio Italian Grille.

The restaurant was very accommodating and the decorations, provided by Judy, were a red, white, and blue theme for our 250th Anniversary of America's Freedom. The Chef came out and was very friendly and enjoyed the challenge of trying to feed us all at once, even though Judy said he didn't have to do that. It truly is a beautiful restaurant tucked into San Tan Village.



Birthday Wishes!



July

1 Susan Lovino
1 Frank Montanile
3 Neil Pivar
14 Bob O'Connor
18 Sue Henry
22 Howard Katz
28 Bruce Mundy
30 Tina Pivar
31 Mary Ellen Hayden



August

3 Mark Kohler
5 Jim Thorne
11 Kevin Deihl
11 Edwin Armatys
17 Gordon Stewart
24 Bill Hayden
25 Eva Platten
26 Gary Radvany
28 Gloria Hedahl
28 Cecile O'Boyle
31 Mike Bartell





President: Dom Lovino

Vice President: Mark Godina

Secretary: Don Smith

Treasurer: Susan Lovino

Membership Chair: Kevin Deihl

Activity Director: Charlotte Hughes

Officer at Large: Eva Platten

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Nancy Hagan

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If you would like to purchase shirts, hats and jackets please visit our website (www.proudownerdesign.com) and click on the "Sanmar" tab located on the home page.

Once you do that you can browse from thousands of items that we can put the club logo on. Simply call us or e-mail us with the product number, color and sizes that you need and we will get back to you with a price for those items. You may also purchase your own items and have us put the club logos on for you.



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