



# Scottsdale CORVETTE Club™

September/October 2023

www.scottsdalecorvetteclub.com

151 Members

## 2023 Board of Directors

### *President*

Tim Szkatulski (602) 513-6298  
[tskatulski@gmail.com](mailto:tskatulski@gmail.com)

### *Vice President*

Larry Heitz (480) 747-2296  
[larry@larryheitz.com](mailto:larry@larryheitz.com)

### *Membership Director*

Rich Kosina (480) 205-7180  
[richkosina@cox.net](mailto:richkosina@cox.net)

### *Treasurer*

Mark Morales (520) 975-7069  
[marknyse4u@gmail.com](mailto:marknyse4u@gmail.com)

### *Activities Director*

Dave Sacks (480) 529-7123  
[sacks.da47@gmail.com](mailto:sacks.da47@gmail.com)

### *Secretary*

Steve Rabin (480) 396-9337  
[srabin@cox.net](mailto:srabin@cox.net)

### *Governor*

Ed Luse (714) 328-7911  
[Edluse3499@gmail.com](mailto:Edluse3499@gmail.com)

### *Programs*

John Snook (949) 233-6138  
[jwsnook@gmail.com](mailto:jwsnook@gmail.com)

### *Members-at-Large*

Sami Weir (480) 227-8520  
[samiweir@gmail.com](mailto:samiweir@gmail.com)

Al Banen (602) 377-2147  
[baroninstructor@aol.com](mailto:baroninstructor@aol.com)

Jerry Strimbu (480) 235-5004  
[drjstrimbu@hotmail.com](mailto:drjstrimbu@hotmail.com)

### *Newsletter Editor*

Mark Bales (480) 471-7365  
[wmbales@gorvw.net](mailto:wmbales@gorvw.net)

### *Dinner Meetings:*

*SCC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM.*

*No meetings in June/July/August/December.*

*Meetings are held at Ancala Country Club, 11700 E Via Linda, Scottsdale  
Reservations Required*

## *In This Issue...*

	<i>Page</i>
<a href="#"><u><i>From the Drivers Seat</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>2</i></u></a>
<a href="#"><u><i>Members Making a Difference</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>3</i></u></a>
<a href="#"><u><i>New Rides</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>5</i></u></a>
<a href="#"><u><i>My First Corvette</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>8</i></u></a>
<a href="#"><u><i>Calendar of Events</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>9</i></u></a>
<a href="#"><u><i>Sign Up Genius Tips</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>10</i></u></a>
<a href="#"><u><i>Vette-Togethers</i></u></a>	<a href="#"><u><i>11</i></u></a>




Proudly sponsored by  
**VAN CHEVROLET**  
8585 E Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
**480-559-8379**  
[www.VanChevrolet.com](http://www.VanChevrolet.com)



**CHEVROLET**  
FIND NEW ROADS™

## Scottsdale Corvette Club Mission Statement

*To enhance the experience of Corvette ownership through the support system and fellowship of its members. This is achieved in an interactive social environment of monthly meetings, activities, road tours and a newsletter. This forum invites the sharing of experiences, knowledge and fun, while creating an atmosphere that perpetuated the leadership position of America's only true sports car.*

*All that is asked of its members is professionalism, integrity, personal ethics, and a love of the Corvette.*



## *From The Driver's Seat*

*By Tim Szkatulski*

Hard to believe it is already the first of September. Of course, you would not know it by the weather, as earlier this week I believe it was 117 degrees. The forecast is for it to finally cool down over the next few days, we will see. Hopefully you had a good summer and were able to get away to some place fun and cooler.

Even though the club has been dark with our monthly meetings over the last three months, the club has been active. I had the chance to enjoy a couple of dinners with members, one at Nick's Italian and the other at Rusconi's. I enjoy the small dinners as I get to know members of the club better and develop friendships.

The activity committee headed up by Dave Sacks has been busy planning activities for the last part of this year and into next year. You should have received an invite to complete a questionnaire for proposed activities. Hopefully you have taken the time to complete this questionnaire as the committee uses this to plan events of interest to the members. The deadline for completing the questionnaire is September 5<sup>th</sup>, so if you see this before then and have not completed it you still have time.

I have been working on finalizing the Holiday Party, which will be on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Grayhawk where it has been the last few years, so mark your calendar. For those new to the club, it is a fun event. We start the day with a drive to our sponsor dealership Van Chevrolet and donate to the Toys for Tots, take a group picture and then it is off to Grayhawk for drinks, dinner and dancing. This year we will be having a DJ who will play background music during cocktails and dinner and for dancing after dinner. If you have some favorite songs, let me know and I will add them to the play list.

In other club news, the board has reevaluated the club's membership in NCCC. Our club is a social club with the common denominator being our love of all things Corvette. In the early years of the Club, we joined the NCCC for the insurance and for some their sponsored activities. For the last few years, the club has not participated in NCCC activities but kept the membership for the insurance. Early this year one of the members was talking to a Haggerty Insurance agent and told him about the club and the agent indicated they insure clubs. We received a quote and based on the quote, the board feels it is best to leave NCCC and insure with Haggerty. This will take place this fall. All current members are also members of NCCC to the end of the year. If you would like to keep your membership in NCCC, talk with Ed Luce and he will work with you to keep your NCCC membership going forward.

The board has also been looking at the monthly dinner meetings. The club has been at Ancala for a number of years and it has been an up and down relationship. Ancala has nice facilities, plenty of room for parking our prize Corvettes, but their performance has been up and down. For those who were at the May meeting, it was definitely a down. We have been discussing different venues or formats for the meetings. If you have some ideas on venues or maybe a change to the format, please let me know. In August, I sent out an email asking for input on the meetings, thank you for those who sent comments in, they have been shared with the board. I will keep you updated.

Look forward to seeing you at the fall dinner meetings and at some of the events the activity team has scheduled for the fall.

We just want to have fun.

Tim Szkatulski, President.

## Members Making A Difference



### WALK FOR ALS

Suzy Poulter and Frank Tasnadi will again be taking part in the annual *Walk For ALS* in honor of Suzy's mother and Frank's brother who passed away from ALS. If you would like to support them, here is the link to donate or join the walk for the Suzy Cruisy & Tasnadi Team.

[https://secure.alsaz.org/site/TR/Endurance/General?pg=team&fr\\_id=1120&team\\_id=1740](https://secure.alsaz.org/site/TR/Endurance/General?pg=team&fr_id=1120&team_id=1740)



### Visions of Sugarplums

#### Krysha Sorce

As many of you know, I am a retired teacher. I spent 26 years in the classroom helping students learn and progress in life. When I retired I wanted to continue providing role models for the children in our community, and wanted to be a part of an organization that would serve the local youth.



While spending my winters in Arizona in 2006 I was invited to attend a luncheon fashion show sponsored by the Auxiliary of The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, and found out how much this organization values the youth of our community. The Auxiliary ladies work together to maintain and nurture partnerships with our supporters, our clubs and our Thrift Shop. Through our fund raising and service projects we award scholarships and provide many other services to the youth. There are 9 branches where the children attend after school programs.

Our Visions of Sugarplums Luncheon and Fashion Show is our most successful fund-raising event of the year, and I encourage Scottsdale Corvette Club ladies to attend this fun

event. Please join me, Krysha Sorce, and our chairperson, Cheryl Bloom, on Thursday, November 9. 9:00AM registration and shopping at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Scottsdale. There will be plenty of opportunities to visit with friends and family, and shop for the holidays.

Please visit [www.TheAuxiliary.org](http://www.TheAuxiliary.org), or contact Judy Frost at 602-550-5288 or [JudyFrost@cox.net](mailto:JudyFrost@cox.net).



## They Say Its Your Birthday!



### September

Dorie Morales 6th  
 Arian Flores 8th  
 Tali Amir 10th  
 Ken Harder 10th  
 Jerry Strimbu 10th  
 Gloria Ketterl 12th  
 Rob Deacon 13th  
 Karla Redford 13th  
 Daisy Urrea 13th  
 Randy Phillippe 17th  
 Carol Lipsky 24th  
 Charlene Capek 26th

### October

Muffy Bennett 3rd  
 John Rippinger 7th  
 Brian Anton 10th  
 Tammie Neaves 10th  
 Janet Tasnadi 13th  
 Julie Goodhue 17th  
 Frank Tasnadi 18th  
 Kandy Ricotta 22nd  
 Janelle Swenson 23rd  
 Cindy Berger 24th  
 Cheryl Bloom 25th  
 Philip Berger 30th  
 Darlene Heavlin 30th



***We're gonna have a  
Good Time!!***



**SCC WOMEN!**

**SAVE THE DATE!  
THE THIRD WEDNESDAY  
OF EACH MONTH**

**THE *VETTE VIXENS* MEET  
FOR COCKTAILS  
AND DINNER -  
DRIVE YOUR VETTE OR  
NOT.**

**WATCH YOUR EMAIL  
FOR DETAILS.**

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



**SCC MEN!  
Save The Date!**

**Third Wednesday  
Most Months.**

**POKER NIGHT!!**

**WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR DETAILS!**



**DON'T FORGET THE  
MEMBERS' ONLY  
DRAWING AT THE  
MONTHLY DINNER  
MEETINGS!**

**You Must Be Present To  
Win!!!**

**THE PRIZE MONEY STARTS OUT AT  
\$25.00 AND INCREASES BY \$25.00  
EACH MONTH UNTIL THERE IS A WINNER!**

**BE SURE TO BE THERE!  
YOU MIGHT WIN!**



### Lands' End

With their reputation for customer service and quality merchandise, the SCC utilizes Lands' End as our Club Store.

<https://business.landsend.com/store/scottsdalecorvetteclub/>

For New Members: You'll need to create an account. Go to the top of the above page and click on MY ACCOUNT, and select CREATE AN ACCOUNT. Complete the information, submit, and that's it! You can immediately start to shop. Any issues, contact Lands' End @ 1.800.587.1541





## ***The Z06---A Dream Come True***

***By Jim Gargano***

Our new 2023 Corvette Z06 HTC is like a dream come true. We had wanted one ever since they were first announced. We ordered it almost two years ago from a small-town Iowa Chevrolet dealer and actually didn't think we would ever get it. The dealer put us number one on his list at that time and

agreed to sell it to us at msrp---which he did. This is the tenth Corvette Rosie and I have owned. We have certainly experienced a lot of changes in Corvettes in our years of ownership.

We were so excited being able to buy our first one---a yellow 1976. It was fun, loud and fast but not very comfortable and the T tops leaked and squeaked. But it was a Corvette and we loved driving it. The others we owned were all amazing and each one had a personality of its own.

I believe most of us are in love with Corvettes because they are the true American made sports car----plus they are fun, sporty and fast.

My need for speed goes back to my childhood years when we used to build and race in Soap Box Derby contests. The cars we built were unpowered and relied on gravity to move you down the hill. It was always so much fun to speed down the hill and try to be the fastest.

When we were young, we loved cars and we all knew each make and model. In the fall it was fun to go to the dealerships to see the new models. Back then it was quite the event as the car dealers made a big deal about the new car introductions. And we enjoyed going to see them and always wishing we could have one.

I have been so fortunate through the years to have been able to drive on racetracks and road courses in Atlanta, California, Talladega, Iowa, Texas, Kansas City, Birmingham and Arizona.

Perhaps the highlight of my quest for speed was to be able to try and break the 200 mph barrier. A number of years ago a company called World Class Driving offered an opportunity to drive over 200 mph.

My wife Rosie knew how excited I was when I heard about it so she bought the driving experience for me and gave it to me for my birthday. The driving event was held at the Mojave Air and Space Port, 80 miles north of Los Angeles.

We arrived in Mojave the night before and there was a reception for us drivers and our instructors. The next day we were escorted to the airfield and attended a class explaining everything about the experience we were about to participate in. It might seem simple but there are many things to learn especially since that kind of speed means travelling the length of a football field in one second.

We spent the morning learning how to get a running start to give us the maximum speed prior to attempting to break the 200 mph barrier. We had to learn to do a 90 degree turn at around 60 mph so we could generate enough speed to break 200 mph on the 13,000 foot runway.

## *Jim's Story continued...*



We drove a variety of supercars during the morning on the airstrip familiarizing ourselves with their performance abilities—Lamborghinis, Ferraris, Audis, Bentleys, Maseratis, Porsches --and were able to get speeds up to 175 mph. It was really fun to be able to drive all those supercars as we knew it was a buildup to what was coming in the afternoon---and driving those cars was a once in a lifetime opportunity for most of us.

The car we used to attempt to break the 200 mph barrier was a silver Mercedes McLaren SLR, which they told us had a list price of \$500,000. They told us the 620 hp engine was capable of going at least 208 mph.

We were to have three chances to do it. I did 206 mph on my second run and I can tell you it was the most exciting and exhilarating experience I have ever had. As you approach 200 you can feel the front end start to lift (it might have been my imagination) and your peripheral vision is a blur. I am sure my heart rate was off the charts. There are braking cones towards the end and you have to be aggressive in order not to run off the runway.

Like I said earlier this was the most exciting thing I had ever done and was a great birthday present.

Unfortunately they stopped offering this course around a year after I experienced it due to insurance issues and the inability to secure runways that had the distance to accommodate those kinds of speeds.

So for us to finally have our own supercar so to speak was the culmination of many wishes and dreams over the years.

The C8 Z06 is a powerful car and it sounds so different than my regular C8. The thing we notice about the Z06 is that it gets off the line and puts you back in your seat well past 125 mph—it has so much power.

The C8 on the other hand is quick out of the hole but at 90 it doesn't keep hauling like the Z06.

The regular C8 is a wonderful car—probably the best value of any sports car and one we really enjoy-- but the Z06 is in a class of its own. It has a completely different sound and is very easy to drive and gives you exciting speed while being very comfortable.

In mid September we are taking our new Z06 to the Iowa Speedway to drive for a day. We are going there at the invitation of a large Iowa Chevrolet dealer who has rented the track for the day. We are looking forward to seeing how it performs on the track which they have configured to be part road course and part oval.

I know all Corvette owners are thrilled with their cars no matter what generation they might be.

Corvettes are exciting to own and drive and we certainly enjoy driving our dream come true.



*Jim's Story continued, with a spectacular finish!!*



**You can't take it with you...**

**(Shout-out to Rollie Trayte. Rollie has provided 99% of the fun Corvette related "filler" for this newsletter, past newsletters, and hopefully newsletters to come. Thanks, Rollie!)**

# MY FIRST CORVETTE

**Editor's Note:** This could be a new feature. With few activities over the summer, the newsletter is a little sparse. A couple board members offered some ideas. This one is from our pres, Tim, and plays well with Jim Gargano's article above.

I'm going to kick it off, but what we're looking for from future contributions...

1. Your first Corvette.
2. What drove you to it. (No pun intended)
3. What you liked.
4. What you didn't like.
5. Any interesting/funny/poignant stories associated with it.
6. Photos if you have 'em.

**Looking for volunteers for the November issue. First come, first published. If I don't hear from anyone, I'll be calling you! :) So, here goes...**

Our first Corvette was a 1997 C5 Arctic White Coupe. You may recall, 1997 was a short model year. The C5 was introduced on March 7, 1997, after a thirteen year production run of the C4. With a late introduction, only 9752 Corvettes were produced.

We lived in Valparaiso, IN, and I spotted the '97 on a Used Car lot. Something told me I had to have that Corvette. After a few weeks I approached Kathy with what I considered logical reasoning. "We drive a family SUV and a family sedan, and we don't even have a family, so let's buy that Corvette." It kind of worked as she agreed to go see and test drive the car. And that was the clincher.

Valpo is surrounded by farmland, so we took the Corvette out on a rural two-lane. Remember, although the "Malaise Era" of automotive performance ended in 1984, the effects of emission and safety standards, along with fuel prices, were still felt into the '90's. Most cars were still sluggish performers. So imagine our surprise when I buried the pedal. Slammed into the seat-back, and holding on for dear life. Wow. Deal done.

When we brought the car home I spent hours in the garage, cleaning, polishing and just staring at it. Kath thought I might get a blanket and pillow and sleep in it.

I had read the first year C5 had some quality issues. Since we bought it used, the previous owner must have taken care of them. Never had any problems with it. Loved the look and performance. Surprised it was a comfortable cruiser. What I didn't like was the GM parts bin interior. Rented a Chevy Cobalt and noticed the steering wheel and stereo were the same as my Corvette.



Each of our next four Corvettes offered improvements, but my first Corvette will always be one of my favorites.

*Mark Bales*



## September

9th - AZ Commemorative  
Air Force Tour/Lunch  
13th - Club Meeting  
20th - Vixens/Poker  
22nd - Prescott Vette  
Sette Show

Mini Events

## October

7th - Detroit Coney Grill  
11th - Club Meeting  
15th - SCC Cruise For  
A Cause  
18th - Vixens/Poker  
25th - Board Meeting

Mini Events

## November

8th - Club Meeting  
15th - Vixens/Poker

Mini Events

## December

**No Club Meeting**  
10th - Toy Run &  
Holiday Party  
6th - Board Meeting

Mini Events

## *Message from Dave Sacks - SCC Activity Director*

*(Editor's Note: You received this message via email, but felt worth repeating)*

### **TIPS FOR USING SIGNUP GENIUS**

SCC members have had many questions about using SignUp Genius (SUG), especially when they want to make changes to their profile or update their status for a specific event. There are two ways for a member to use SUG.

1. Just use the link that is sent with an event invite or with an event message.
2. Create your own SUG account that includes SCC activities.

I would venture to guess that most members use Method 1, which has limitations, including not being able to make changes to your sign up for an event or to modify your user profile. **The best way to use SUG as a SCC member is to set up your own account.**

### **HOW TO SET UP AN INDIVIDUAL SUG ACCOUNT**

Like anything else involving computers, setting up your own account may seem complicated at first, but once you do it, it becomes easy to use and gives you maximum control over your event signups.

1. Go to the SUG home page at [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com).
2. Click the "Login" tab.
3. Look for and then click "New account" below the blue Facebook bar.
4. Fill in your name, email, create a password, click that you are not a robot, and then click the green "Register Now" bar.
5. Based on using your SCC email (see below), your account will populate with SCC activities.

**VERY IMPORTANT!!!** - When you enter your email address (especially if you use multiple addresses) it is critical that you use the same email address that you use for SCC activities. This is the address at which you receive SCC activity invites from SUG. If you do not use the same email address, SUG will set up your account but will not be able to link SCC activities to it.

### **HOW TO USE AN INDIVIDUAL SUG ACCOUNT**

When you log into your individual account you will see SCC Signups that you have been invited to as well as items that you signed up for.

1. You will be able to sign up for an event. When you do, after selecting either the active list or the waitlist, please SCROLL to the bottom of the page and click on "**Save and Continue**". Failure to do so will result in your signup not taking effect. Note that sometimes the site's Privacy Statement obscures the Save and Continue button. If that is the case, just X out the Privacy Statement.
2. Then enter the Quantity for your reservation. If the slot is for Cars or Rooms, enter "1", and if you are a couple, list both your names under "Comment". If the slot is for Individuals, enter 1 for a single or 2 for a couple. Again, if you are a couple, list both your names under "Comment".
3. Then click the "Sign Up Now" button.
4. If you want to change your reservation, go to "Items that you have signed up for" on your homepage. Then click on the sign up that you want to change. You will be able to cancel or modify your reservation.
5. If you want to change your Profile information, go to "Settings" and then "Profile" from the drop down menu bar at the top. You can find the drop down menu bar by clicking the round button with your initials. You will be able to change your name, email and contact information. As stated above, do not change your email to make it differ from the one used as your SCC registration email.

# ***Vette-Togethers...***

## **Dinner at Rusconi's American Kitchen**

August 15, 2023

Tim Szkatulski

On the night of August 15<sup>th</sup>, 16 members met at Rusconi's American Kitchen for drinks and dinner with other members. In talking with the Chef/owner Michael Rusconi before dinner, he was telling me that he looked out in the parking lot at the Corvettes and he showed me a picture of his fully restored 1966 Corvette Convertible, Black on Black, with Air.

As we were finishing our dinners he stopped by both tables and talked about his Corvette and answered questions about the restaurant and his background as a chef and thanked us for coming in. From listening to the conversations and seeing the empty plates a good time was had by all. The one exception may have been Rich, who was not that crazy about the crispy potato puree that came with his dinner.

I want to thank Sami Weir for organizing the dinner, unfortunately Sami was recovering from a bout with Covid and was unable to attend.



Don't trust social media!

Actually, I've heard a few of our members say this. Two or three Corvettes ago...

---

**I'm not buying  
any more  
Corvettes for the  
rest of my life....**



**False Information**

Reviewed by independent fact-checkers

**Editor's Note:** One of our members (thanks, Juan!) asked if we might consider a section of the newsletter for “for sale” or giveaways. He also suggested a Tech section. A place to ask/answer tech questions.

We think both are worth considering. We'll be looking for your input for the November/December issue.

[www.VanChevrolet.com](http://www.VanChevrolet.com)



8585 E Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd • Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
**480-559-8379**

For a great deal on a Corvette  
or on any Chevrolet, Buick or GMC product,  
contact Matt Cerreta.

For the best in service, contact David Rudzki

*Make sure you mention that you are with the Scottsdale Corvette Club!*

**FIND  
NEW  
ROADS™**



**CHEVROLET**

[Back](#)