



Vette Ventures

The Newsletter of the **Corvettes of the Bay** Car Club

DECEMBER 2022



**Dan Terrien
President**

terrdL28@yahoo.com

Corvettes of the Bay

P.O. Box 13122

Green Bay, WI 54307-3122

Website:

www.corvettesofthebay.org

Email:

Corvettesotb@gmail.com

Facebook:

Corvettes of the Bay



Reflecting on 2022...

This being the final newsletter of 2022, let's take a moment to reflect on the momentum our club has gained over the past year.

Our newsletter expanded with our Community Connection column that featured eight different guest writers throughout the year and highlighted partnerships and other ways Corvettes of the Bay connects to and is part of NE Wisconsin and the greater automotive community.

In that same spirit, we forged a stronger relationship with, and found a new home at The Automobile Gallery for our displaced COTB Member of the Year plaque. Ideas evolved to the point that a custom stanchion was designed and manufactured for the plaque and put on permanent display at the gallery. The final stage of the plan is ongoing, with member Corvettes being rotated in and out of the gallery approximately every two months.

That wasn't all that the club accomplished on the community front in 2022.

- We broke out the old COTB tent and the application forms to not only gain new members, but to help some non-profits with a club display at the Optimist's Precious Metals show and at the Automobile Gallery's Cars and Guitars show.
- We planned four different excursions to various retirement homes to share the joy of Corvette ownership with folks who can't get out much anymore.
- We surprised teachers at a small local school for teacher appreciation day with rides to and from lunch.
- We partnered with the American Legion to give thanks to those who sacrificed everything for our freedom with Memorial Flag placement at the cemetery.

We made progress in growing the number of club runs. By my estimations, we increased the overall number of events/runs by almost 50% over 2021. There were many besides those already mentioned, but two that should be noted were a wonderful summer party at Primal Eats, and our first organized overnight run since 2019. We still have what I know will be an amazing Christmas party coming up on January 6th. (Remember, your check for \$15/person is your RSVP, due no later than December 30th!)

Behind the scenes many processes, policies and procedures were more clearly defined and executed. Our website was streamlined and cleaned up.

We also hit a record number, 247 members! With all those members, we were able to maintain such a large showing at monthly meetings that we had to secure the Village Grille's banquet facility in Bellevue starting in July '22. This arrangement should be able to continue through 2023.

Lastly, some thanks and congratulations are in order, first to our new board members Terri Villiesse (treasurer), Mary Ann Torrez (secretary), and Luann Poll (member at large). Thank you to outgoing board members Liz and Gary Kelling, and Diane Lyman. Thank you to Jason Dellise, Chuck Templer, and Cathy Harrison who will continue to serve on the board, and Deb VandenAvond and Diane Lyman who will continue to serve in their unelected positions of Communications Coordinator and Newsletter Editor, and thank you to everyone who ran for a board position!

...it has been a great ride! Merry Christmas!!

Dan Terrien



Corvettes of the Bay Monthly Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2022

Call to Order: President Dan Terrien called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm at The Village Grille, Bellevue, WI with 82 members in attendance.

Approval of November Minutes as posted: President Dan called for a motion to approve the minutes as posted in the newsletter. Motion was made by Dan Linssen and seconded by Ken Lyman.

Membership: We have a returning member Mark Finco, who owns a 2023 Z51 Red Mist. Guests who are thinking of joining were Jeff & Mary Zellner, who own a 1984 C4 coupe. Thank you to everyone who has already renewed their dues for 2023.

Treasurer's Report: Diane Lyman reported the status of the club's assets, membership is currently 243 paid members and 4 honorary members. President Dan called for a motion to approve treasurer's report, motion was made by Cheryl Yursis and seconded by Mike Golla, motion approved.

Scrip Program: Diane reported that for the month of November we sold \$700.00 worth of Shell gas cards and \$90.00 worth of Kwik Trip car wash cards. The cards are on sale at each meeting.

2023 Budget: Diane presented the budget, reviewing each item, including a new line item approved by the board to cover the cost of printing meeting agendas. A motion to approve the new budget was made by Dan Linssen and seconded by Luann Poll. The 2023 budget will be posted on our website www.corvettesofthebay.org for members to view.

Club Capital: Dan reviewed the club's financial assets and the plan to create an Emergency Fund/Savings Account at the end of this year. He also reviewed our Corporate Property List, which is posted on our website and will be updated as necessary.

Election Results: First, a big thank you to the election committee (Gene & Linda Blohowiak, Dan Brunmeier), the nominating committee (Sue Rabideau, Dan Brunmeier), also for everyone who ran for the board.

Our 2023 Board of Directors will consist of President Dan Terrien, Vice President Jason Dellise, Treasurer Terri Villiesse, Secretary Mary Ann Torrez, Members at Large Cathy Harrison, Chuck Templer, and Luann Poll. Congratulations!!

And a big Thank You to the current members who are leaving the board, Diane Lyman, Elizabeth Kelling, and Gary Kelling, who all served for the maximum three years.

Diane Lyman has agreed to continue as our Newsletter Editor in 2023, and Deb VandenAvond will continue to update our events calendar and send club email reminders for 2023. Thank you to both!!

Summary of Past Runs and Events: Joe & Sue Rabideau had a meet-up at Long Drive Supper Club in Hobart, 49 members attended. Great meal for all, and they even saw some employees from Wally's Supper Club working there.

Upcoming Runs and Events: We still don't have anyone that has volunteered for a gathering/dinner meet for the month of December. If you are interested, please send an email to Deb VandenAvond at debvan64@sbcglobal.net, and she will forward on.

Christmas Party!!! January 6, 2023, cocktails are at 5:00 pm and dinner at 6:00 pm, Riverside Ballroom, Green Bay.

Must pay your fee no later than December 30, \$15 per person. Make checks out to COTB and mail to:

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P.O. Box 13122
Green Bay, WI 54307-3122

Spring Run - Please bring ideas forward if you are interested.

Member of the Year for 2022 has been selected and will be announced at the Christmas party on January 6.

Corvette News: There was no Corvette video because the restaurant was having internet problems.

Pete Bilski thanked everyone for their suggestions regarding the Annual Drive to End Alzheimer's, and changes are being planned for next year.

Adjournment: President Dan asked for motion, motion made by Fred Bartman and seconded by Ed Villiesse, meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Elizabeth Kelling

Corvettes of the Bay Secretary



Corvettes of the Bay “Community Connection”

Written by guest columnist John Gunnell

Email: gunnellj@tds.net

How the Corvette started my auto-writing career

At this time of year, I always think back to the fall of 1978, when I moved from Staten Island, N.Y. to Iola, Wis. to work as an editor at *OLD CARS WEEKLY*. I had started writing small articles—mostly car show reports—a year or so earlier. At that time, I was working as a dairy department manager in a big supermarket. Old cars were just a hobby for me until I made that move and the 1978 Corvette Indy Pace Car made it happen.

The release of the '78 Corvette IPC was delayed several times. Corvette fans were talking about it. Many wanted to buy as many copies of the so-called limited-edition model as they could, since it was expected to become a “quick-classic” or instant collector car.

The list price of a '78 Vette was \$13,653. However, buying a Limited Edition replica of the Indy Pace Car could cost you lots more. It had distinctive black-over-silver paint and red accent striping. The package (RPO code Z78) included special new lightweight high-back seats, special front and rear spoilers, P255/60R15 white-letter tires on alloy wheels, lift-off glass roof panels and nearly all Vette options, plus IPC decals (unless you omitted them). The silver upholstery was leather or leather with smoke gray cloth inserts.

The limited-edition Pace Car replica was created to commemorate the selection of Corvette as Pace Car for the 62nd Indy 500 on May 28, 1978. Production of 2,500 was planned, but many people who saw a pre-production version at the February New York Auto Show wanted one. The goal grew to 6,500 units, roughly one for each Chevy dealer.

Pace Car buyers would also have to endure a selection of “forced RPOs” (items installed at the factory whether wanted or not). These included power windows, A/C, sport mirrors, a tilt-telescope steering wheel, a rear defogger, an AM/FM stereo with either an 8-track tape player or CB radio, plus power door locks and a heavy-duty battery.

Before long, the original \$13,653 list price meant little, as speculators eagerly paid double that amount and more. I distinctly remember stories about a Wisconsin supermarket chain owner who purchased seven of the cars once they came out.

They didn't come out on time, however, and that is the reason this particular Corvette model got my writing career going. In the spring of 1978, *OLD CARS* (it wasn't weekly yet) had sold a lot of advertising to an event called Auto Expo that was being held at the New York City Coliseum. A racing writer named Marv Brudno covered that beat for them and had the Auto Expo assignment, but he passed away very suddenly, just before the show opened. *OLD CARS* editor Terry Boyce asked me if I thought I could talk my way into the show and cover it for them. I told him I was willing to try to do that.

When I got to the show with a friend of mine who took photos for me (I didn't do that back then), the talking-in part went well. There was a black and silver Corvette with lettering on the door parked in an alcove at the Coliseum. Although I didn't know it, that car was the first regular production Indy Pace Car shown to the public. At the press preview, that car was not even on prominent display. My friend Mike took some quick black-and-white photos of it and then went on to shoot the older Classic cars at the show.

Well, as things turned out, I was able to sell that photo of the Indy Pace Car to 13 different publications. I did not make a whole lot of money doing so, but it lit a fire under my hopes of quitting the supermarket business and becoming an automotive writer. By September of 1978, *OLD CARS* had made a decision to switch to weekly publication. To do this, they needed additional staff and I was hired. I had no journalism degree and I had no job experience, but I had done a little work as the editor of two club newsletters and I had my photo of the first production-type Corvette Indy Pace Car. The rest is history!

*John Gunnell lives in Iola, Wis., where he worked for **Old Cars Weekly** for 30 years. He also writes for the **National Corvette Owners Assoc.** and regularly does appraisals of classic cars, including all of the vehicles in Green Bay's Automobile Gallery.*

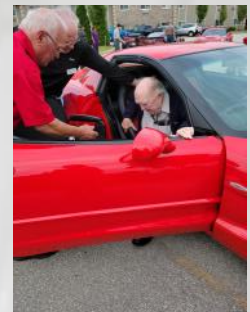
(see photo on next page)

The Community Connection column is new in 2022 and is meant to highlight partnerships and various ways that Corvettes of the Bay connects to, and is part of, Northeastern Wisconsin and the greater automotive community. Please submit ideas for guest columnists to Dan Terrien at terrDL28@yahoo.com.

This isn't the first '78 Corvette Indy Pace Car, but it shows how that first one looked.



Emerald Bay Retirement Community, Hobart
September 20, 2022
(bringing joy to the residents on a beautiful day)



MERRY
CHRISTMAS



2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Dan Terrien
BOARD MEMBER
Cathy Harrison

VICE PRESIDENT
Jason Dellise
BOARD MEMBER
Gary Kelling

SECRETARY
Elizabeth Kelling
BOARD MEMBER
Chuck Templer

TREASURER
Diane Lyman

You get out of your club what you put into it.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

PENNY BARTMAN (DEC 1)
CAROL LENIUS (DEC 2)
SUE RABIDEAU (DEC 2)
CHRIS BOETTCHER (DEC 7)
MARK HENDRICKS (DEC 8)
ROCHELLE (ROCKY) HOCKERS (DEC 8)
SHEILA JAEGER (DEC 8)
JIM WOEPSE (DEC 14)
AL SADUR (DEC 15)
ALLISON BROWN (DEC 17)
GUY RINGLE (DEC 17)
KATHY OTT (DEC 19)
TONY STEFFEN (DEC 19)
GENE BLOHOWIAK (DEC 23)
KATHY ROHDE (DEC 26)
TONY YAGGIE (DEC 28)
BARBARA COLLINS (DEC 29)
DELPHINE RICHARDSON-WACH (DEC 29)

MONTHLY DINNER RUN LEADERS 2022

December open

SEASONAL ICE CREAM RUN LEADERS

ADDITIONAL RUNS

Chicken Run open

Christmas Party Jan 6, 2023 Deb VandenAvond, Sally Northrop, Cheryl Yursis

Start thinking about runs you would like for next year. It's never too early to plan!

When you have selected a specific date for your dinner or ice cream run, or to volunteer for an open month, e-mail the details to debvan64@sbcglobal.net.

Deb will add it to the events calendar on the website and e-mail the members.

Visit the Events/Community tabs at www.corvettesofthebay.org to see the most up-to-date list of events!

FOR SALE

2014 C7 3LT Z51, White w/Red interior. 11K miles. \$48K
Call Dan Lardinois 920-639-8465

SCRIP Cards available for purchase at monthly meetings

- Shell Gas Cards - \$25, \$50, and \$100 amounts

- Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards - \$30 each for 5 Ultimate washes

Contact our treasurer to purchase cards.

Contact The Editor

If you have any questions or concerns with the content of the newsletter, or would like to submit an article, please contact the editor, Diane Lyman, at dtlyman@hotmail.com.

Corvettes of the Bay

P.O. Box 13122

Green Bay, WI 54307-3122



Meeting Location



The Village Grille

1390 Bellevue St.

Green Bay, WI

*Corvettes of the Bay
Meet here on the first
Tuesday of every month at
7:00 pm*

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