

P.O. Box 1175  
Canyon Country, CA  
91351



**MARCH**  
**2004**  
**Newsletter**

**SAVE THE WAVE!!!**

## **Santa Clarita Valley Corvette Club**

Please note that if you received a hard copy this Newsletter, the Club's records show that you do not have e-mail – if you do have e-mail, please advise Fred Seeley at [fredseeley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fredseeley@sbcglobal.net) and we'll send the Newsletter electronically!

**Website: [santaclaritacorvetteclub.com](http://santaclaritacorvetteclub.com)**

Regular Meeting at Mulligan's on the First Wednesday of the Month

**Social Hour at 6:30 p.m.**

Meeting At 7:30 p.m.

25848 Tournament Rd., Valencia, CA 661-255-3356

*Next meeting: April 7, 2004*

## SCVCC Officers 2003/2004

		Telephone	e-mail address
<u>President</u>	<u>Fred Seeley</u>	<u>661-250-0125</u> <u>Fax 250-1470</u>	<a href="mailto:fredlseeley@sbcglobal.net">fredlseeley@sbcglobal.net</a>
<u>Vice- President</u>	<u>Jack Barber</u>	<u>661-255-9081</u>	<a href="mailto:jackbarber84@cs.com">jackbarber84@cs.com</a>
<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Bill Thomas</u>	<u>661-295-1216</u>	<a href="mailto:Wthomas674@aol.com">Wthomas674@aol.com</a>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Bob Siecke</u>	<u>661-259-0227</u>	<a href="mailto:bobs5@attbi.com">bobs5@attbi.com</a>
<u>Activities Committee</u>	<u>Howard Butler</u>	<u>661-298-4209</u>	<a href="mailto:HButler@executive.com">HButler@executive.com</a>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>Loren Davidson</u>	<u>661-296-3564</u>	<a href="mailto:ldcrossbow@attbi.com">ldcrossbow@attbi.com</a>
<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Fred Seeley</u>	<u>661-552-4204</u>	<a href="mailto:fredlseeley@sbcglobal.net">fredlseeley@sbcglobal.net</a>
<u>Webmaster</u>			

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YOUR NAME HERE -- SEND IN AN ARTICLE..... JUST LIKE GREGG KUSHINER DID -- SEE HIS ARTICLE ON OUR ADOPTED HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

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### IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- The March 20 Adopted Highway Clean-Up
- With Post Script by Donna Bledsoe
  
- UPDATE ON SCVCC EVENTS
  
- Corvette at the Indy 500
- 
- A giggle

### PLAN AHEAD:

July 4 Parade -- was a lot of fun last year

August 7 -- Annual Picnic -- at Lake Piru this year

October Car Show

# Adopted Highway Clean-Up

March 20, 2004

by Gregg Kushiner

Nineteen members of the club showed up on a beautiful morning to execute the Club's obligation to clean up our stretch of adopted highway. They were Andrew & Howard Butler, Trish & Howard Yamamoto, Linda Ogden, Jim Bancroft, Gregg Kushiner (the Black Hole of 50/50, Badge It or Lose It funds, and raffle prizes), Bill Jensen Sr., President Fred Seeley, Donna Bledsoe, Cindy & Gene Schmidt, Loren Davidson, Jim Bancroft, Barrie Bennett, Judy & Bill Thomas, Nancy Spicer and Daniel Hipp. Donna Bledsoe brought her bright red restored '56 Ford F-100, and Bill Sr. brought his tubbed, lowered hot rod Chevy for support and collections.

The group dispersed after Gene Schmidt distributed the required traffic vests, trash pickers, and gloves. Things got wild and woolly as the first group out on the highway dodged a flying motor home hubcap and Bill Sr. got put in for a Purple Heart cutting his finger in an unrelated incident.

. Our area is Old San Fernando Road starting at 13<sup>th</sup> St. on the south and runs to the bridge at Magic Mountain Parkway on the north, and the group noted that it looked pretty good because of the great job we did the last time. Among this year's notable "collectables" were a counterfeit \$20.00 bill found by Loren, a couple of hubcaps (both in pretty good shape), a set of lock picks found in the gutter in front of one of the used car lots, a bunch of the usual squashed car parts, train and track hardware, nuts, bolts and other destroyers of low profile Z-rated gumball tire\$, beer cans, butts and of course the requisite abandoned shopping cart. This year's "Messiest Demographic Group" award goes to the customers of Carl's Junior, their stuff seemed to be everywhere.

After a couple hours of clean up, we all regrouped for a few sodas and beers provided by Fred. About half the group left for home and other appointments and the rest of us went over to Saugus Café for lunch. The last entertainment of the morning for those who were looking was Barry's "smoking bottle rocket exit" in "Da Killa Z-06" while Gene pretended he had something in his eye. That thing is awesome, can't wait to see it at Willow Springs next month!

A job well done and a lot of fun at the same time!! Nice way to start the weekend.

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Postscript Message

Another personal view of the highway clean-up....

Donna wrote a few days later via e-mail:

"Just picked up the pictures from the cleanup last Saturday and after looking at them I began to enjoy the day once again.

When I first saw Jack taking our pictures in the '56, I got a little nervous and

told Bill Sr. that my husband didn't usually allow me to drive it.

I think with the first clutch grind, had he not been a trouper, Bill would have gotten out.

Once, when I couldn't get the truck into gear at all, we coasted through one intersection, and a young man, with a grin on his face, pushed the truck a bit so I could park along the road. (The young man thought I was alone as Bill was hiding his head.)

But we rallied and with each shift, poor Bill would just shudder.

THEN, we had it down pat. I had charge of the steering wheel, accelerator, clutch, and brake, and Bill was navigating and shifting. I thought we made a good team."

*Editor's note: Anyone who's driven a '56 Ford truck knows how hard it is to steer that thing -- and it takes **real** biceps to flip U-turns!! Check out Donna's!!!*



## SCVCC ACTIVITIES

**April 10 - 2nd Annual SCVCC Corvette Trivia Challenge Fun Rally.** Since we all had such a grand time last year, we're going to promote this to other Corvette clubs. I got a lot of great feedback from last year's inaugural run, so expect more this year. Don't wait until the last minute to cram for this exam. I've had a whole year to think about it, so you've been warned. :-) We'll have a spectacular lunch along with prizes and awards. You don't want to miss this one!!! Details at the next meeting.

**April 24 - Wine Tasting and tour of the Agua Dulce Winery.** Now that they have re-opened we plan to sample their finest wines and take a behind the scenes look at the wine making process. Space is limited so let me know if you plan on coming. The cost is \$10 and you get to keep the glass. Agua Dulce Wine Club members are free. At the January meeting it was approved that the club will pay for some snacks (cheese & crackers), but bring a sack lunch and we'll have a picnic afterwards. We'll meet at Denny's off of Hwy 14 & Sand Canyon exit. Plan to leave at 10:30am so get there a little earlier. We'll caravan out Soledad Canyon Road to Agua Dulce Canyon Road and then over to Sierra Highway.

**May 1, 2004 - Saturday** The Antelope Valley Corvette Club annual POKER and POPPY RALLYE. Note that entry fee goes up if not received by April 20. This annual event features both a poker run and a rallye (sic) out through this hills that may or may not be covered in California poppies. A raffle follows the event. The SCVCC has had a good turnout for the last several years. Last year we didn't win much but we had a nice lunch together at a local restaurant. For info call Bruce Jacobson at 661-946-2201.

**May 14-16 - Kernville Run.** We'll be staying at the Whispering Pines Lodge (877) 241-4100. <http://www.kernvalley.com/whisperingpines> I called yesterday and they have 4 rooms left and so if you're planning on going get your reservations made ASAP. Naturally, River Rafting will be the highlight of the trip, but there is a complementary country gourmet breakfast that I hear is just out of this world.

## 2004 INDY 500 PACE CAR!!!

DETROIT, March 12, 2004 - The 88th running of the Indianapolis 500 on May 30, 2004, will bring together two powerful symbols that stir the imaginations of enthusiasts around the world... Chevrolet and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway... as a 2004 Corvette Convertible will serve as the Official Pace Car of this year's Indianapolis 500.

Corvette will perform 500 pace car duties for record sixth time. This marks the third consecutive year and time overall that a Chevrolet product has served as the official vehicle – the most appearances by any brand.

“We're proud that this year's Memorial Day classic will showcase America 's favorite sports car at the greatest spectacle in racing,” said Brent Dewar, Chevrolet general manager. “As the 2004 model year is the last of Corvette's current design, pacing the Indy 500 acknowledges the significance the vehicle has played in American culture.”

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway has been the site of many memorable events since the facility opened in 1909. Similarly, Chevrolet has a rich heritage in racing that extends back to company co-founder and namesake Louis Chevrolet, a gifted engineer and talented race car driver who competed in the Indy 500 four times. More recently, Chevy Indy V8 engines have won 103 open –wheel races, including seven Indianapolis 500 victories.

“The Indianapolis 500 and Chevrolet have had a long relationship,” said Tony George, president and CEO of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. “It's an honor to have Corvette lead the field and also to have the Chevy Indy V8 competing for the win on May 30.”



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The 2004 Corvette that will serve as the Indy 500 Pace Car is virtually identical to the Convertibles available today through local Chevrolet dealerships.

Like race cars, the duties of a pace car can be long and strenuous. During the last two races, for example, the Chevy pace vehicles cars led the field for a combined 84 laps (210 miles) of the total 400 race laps (1,000 miles) run, at an average lap speed of 75 mph. Even during green flag race conditions, the pace cars patiently run at idle, ready for action at a moment's notice. Very few modifications were made to the Corvette to prepare it for this year's role: heavy-duty transmission and power steering coolers, a lower restriction muffler system, four-point racing-type safety belts and a safety strobe light system.

A white and blue two-tone paint treatment incorporates Americana-themed graphics, tying into Chevrolet's new "An American Revolution" marketing theme. The theme captures Chevrolet's pride and passion for innovation, and for success not only in motorsports, but also as it launches 10 new car and truck products in 20 months.

General Motors Corp. (NYSE: GM), the world's largest vehicle manufacturer, employs about 325,000 people globally. Founded in 1908, GM has been the global automotive sales leader since 1931. GM today has manufacturing operations in 32 countries and its vehicles are sold in 192 countries . In 2003, GM sold nearly 8.6 million cars and trucks, about 15 percent of the global vehicle market. GM's global headquarters are at the GM Renaissance Center in Detroit . More information on GM and its products can be found on the company's corporate website at [www.gm.com](http://www.gm.com).

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**Chevrolet has paced 14 previous Indianapolis 500 races, more than any other brand:**

2003	Chevy SSR	1986	Corvette
2002	Corvette 50th Anniversary	1982	Camaro Z28
1999	Monte Carlo	1978	Corvette
1998	Corvette	1969	Camaro
1995	Corvette	1967	Camaro
1993	Camaro Z28	1955	Bel Air
1994	Beretta	1948	Fleetmaster

**SAVE THE WAVE!!!**

**ROUTE 66 ON THURSDAY, April 15**

**A parting giggle.....**

You know that many members of the SCVCC are happily retired (and remind us working stiff's about that every now and then)

This story reminds me of them..... Sent to me by another friend who is also long retired:

### **Retired People**

Younger working people frequently ask retired people what they do to make their days interesting. I thought you might like to hear what happened to me last week.

I went downtown the other day, to visit the bank. I was only in there for about 5 minutes, when I came out and there was a city cop writing out a parking ticket. I went up to him and said, "Come on, buddy, how about giving a senior a break?" He ignored me and continued writing the ticket. I called him a Nazi. He glared at me and started writing another ticket for having worn tires. So I called him a road apple. He finished the second ticket and put it on the windshield with the first. Then he started writing a third ticket, and this went on for about 20 minutes. The more I abused him, the more tickets he wrote.

I didn't give a hoot ... My car was parked around the corner.