



**June**  
**2005**  
**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 Marie Callender's on the First Thursday of the Month (**Second Thurs. this month!**)

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

Meeting At 7:30 p.m.

**27630 The Old Road (at Magic Mountain), Valencia, CA**

*Next meeting: July 7, 2005*

## **SCVCC Officers 2004/2005**

NEW OFFICERS COMING SOON!!

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<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Bill and Judy</u> <u>Thomas</u>	<u>661-295-1216</u>	<u>Wthomas674@aol.com</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Bob Siecke</u>	<u>661-259-0227</u>	<u>bobs5@attbi.com</u>
<u>Activities</u> <u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Howard Butler</u>	<u>661-298-4209</u>	<u>HButler@executive.com</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>Loren Davidson</u>	<u>661-296-3564</u>	<u>ldcrossbow@comcast.net</u>
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### **President's Message**

Hi everybody. Well, all good things come to an end, they say...This will be my last President's Message! I have had the pleasure of serving as the Club's President for three years and WOW!! have things changed. We've grown in numbers from about 30 to 100, and more importantly, we've met many new friends and shared many wonderful times and events together.

Now that the elections for 2005/2006 are official, and Howard will be a great President, I want to address sort of a touchy subject.....Renewal Dues. Our dues are only \$60 a year\* (about a tank and a half of 91 Octane) and this year we will have a new Treasurer, and keeping track of who has paid was difficult enough even for our seasoned pro, Bob Sieke, THEREFORE pay the correct amount\* at the July meeting or mail it to the PO Box in July. The revised bylaws give members 60 days to pay and allows for just one e-mail reminder before membership lapses. Once membership lapses, the open spots will be given to the people patiently waiting on our prospective member list.

\*New members only pay their pro-rata share of \$60.

That sort of brings me to another touchy subject -- heck, I'm not running for re-election -- if your interest in the Club has evaporated or you don't see yourself actively participating in the Club's future activities, please let one of the new

Board members know so we can open up your spot for someone on the waiting list.

My friends, let me close by saying thanks for your support. I have truly enjoyed the last three years! And here's to next year!! It will be GREAT!

Live long and prosper, and Happy 'Vetting,

Fred

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### **The Jack Barber Memorial Run - Kernville**

As most of you know, Jack Barber was valued member of our club, Treasurer for two years, and an all round great guy when was taken from us by a tragic accident. Jack and Carol loved the camaraderie and excitement of the Kernville run, in spite of complications with reservations one year, and in remembrance of him and his family the Club named this run after him.

Initially Jack and Carol's son, Michael, planned to join this year's event. However, as the time drew near he changed his mind. He did, however, favor us by sharing his thoughts about his beloved father and Corvettes..... Thank you, Michael.

### **My American Passion**

As a young boy I was immediately drawn to cars, motors, anything w/ wheels. My mom shares the story of when I was a baby and I would sit and spin the wheels of my toy cars, just staring at the spinning wheels.

My first introduction to Corvettes was when the family would get together and watch old slide shows. Grandpa would set up the screen, and dad would set up the projector. Us kids would groan, "Not the old slides, again"!

But we really loved looking at pictures of our parents in their younger days. I would especially enjoy the old pictures of cars. My grandpa was a car nut, and would treat himself to a new "Buick" every other year. My favorite pictures were of my Dad's first Vette, a black on black, 1963 split window with Mickey Thompson mag wheels. Every slide show I would make them tell the story of how they came to own such a legend. In 1965, as newlyweds on the slim salary of an Army 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, my dad came home from work in that legendary car. Times were tight for a while, but the fun far outweighed the struggle, as Mom and Dad enjoyed many trips including Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, with the '63 giving them a pass to park in the infamous "Corvette Coral".

As a boy, I filled my room w/ pictures of Corvettes. I assembled models of a '67 Big Block as well as an '85 C4. It wasn't until late 1993 that Dad once again realized the dream. This time it was a '91 C4 with 12,000 miles. I'll never forget driving home and spotting that beauty sitting in the driveway. It made the hair on the back of my neck stand straight up. She was indeed a beautiful car. Perfect white paint w/ dark tint and black leather interior sitting on the stock, chromed rims. Dad spent hours cleaning out the garage to make room for the new toy.

I didn't dare ask to take the Vette without Dad sitting right there beside me, and together we enjoyed some great times in that car. There was, for example, the annual Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach. Every year we would pass by the 20 and 30 dollar parking areas until we found a free spot on the street, usually 1-2 miles from the race!! As we walked through Long Beach's finest neighborhoods, we would remind ourselves how many beers we were saving by not paying to park. One of my favorite trips was the run to Irwindale Speedway. We met up with some members and caravanned down to the track. That was my first experience driving in a "run", and what a thrill it was. Once at the track, we met with other Corvette Clubs from other areas and parked in a special area, much like what I imagine Elkhart's "Corvette Coral" would be like. The best part of the evening was when we all pulled out on the track and did a parade lap. Dad let me drive. What a special memory.

After 10 years with the C4, Dad finally decided to upgrade, and upgrade he did. He managed to find a black on black 2003 C5 Z06 with very low miles. The car was in North Carolina and the owner agreed to trailer it out to Las Vegas, where Dad and I picked it up. Dad and I flew out to Vegas one afternoon and met the owner at a hotel parking lot. As the car eased out of the enclosed trailer, a funny feeling came over me. It was the similar to the feeling I had when I first spotted my Dad's white C4. Similar to a child coming downstairs at Christmas time to find something special under the tree. We took turns driving back from Vegas. What a thrill that was!! If opening up a Z06 doesn't put a huge smile on your face, you need to check your pulse!!!

It has been a year since my father has passed, although it feels like yesterday. I can't explain exactly why I can't be here with all of you to celebrate my father's life and passion and for Corvettes. It's just too soon.

There will be a day in the near future when I, too, will be a proud owner of American Passion that is called Corvette. And when that day comes, you will see me tearing through the canyons of Kernville, just as my dad once did.

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As you will see from the following story written by Moira Moe, the Jack Barber Memorial Run was a terrific event!!

## Jack Barber Memorial Kernville Run Story By: Moira Moe Pictures By: Howard Butler & Ron Bauer

The 2005 Jack Barber Memorial Kernville Run over May 20-22 was an outstanding success. Our group gathered at the Carl's Jr and Howard read a few statements from the Barber Family thanking us for keeping Jack in our hearts and then we headed out 'promptly' around 9:30. We were led by Ron Wolfson up Bouquet Canyon through the twists and turns, zooming across the north end of Antelope Valley through the Poppy Preserve. Interesting side note: there are streets named for each generation of Corvette C-6 through C-1 there!!!



The weather was perfect, the air was clear, and we had lunch plans at the Apple Shed in Tehachapi. A lovely place to stop, a fabulous gift and souvenir shop for the ladies, simple lunch fare for the guys, and a functioning train track running behind the building. Well, 9 Corvettes driving into Tehachapi at lunchtime garners a bit of curiosity, a real estate guy in town who owns a yellow C6 got a phone call, and he showed up to

find out what our gang was up to!

On the road, the 'Wolf Pack' headed straight to the places people in a hurry would never think of. We wound up and down, and all around, through the solar windmills, meadows, and remote farmlands. There was a windy, little road, with 40+ miles of free-range cattle which was fun. It would have been **great** fun if there hadn't been a guy in an Oldsmobile sedan from Arizona who would not get out of the way (flashing headlights and honking horns did not persuade him).



Still, it gave us the opportunity to avoid the cows that were resting or grazing alongside the road.



Where cattle are allowed to roam freely, meadow muffins and road apples happen, and wide tires will cause them to become airborne. Laurie Woodson's little Travel Tip: Carry Meguiar's Quick Detailer to tidy up those little mishaps. Tight turns are a good idea on narrow mountain roads, but not too tight. Scott Leighty's C5 hugged a little too tight and will be needing some plastic surgery ☹. Meguiar's can't help

there. Our condolences, Scott.



We arrived in Kernville at the Whispering Pines Lodge where we were greeted by the Manager, Nadine (who is leaving next month to get married, move to Bakersfield, and go to Nursing school, best wishes to her), and the Jensen party (Sr and Jr) who had opted to take a direct route via GTO and Truck. A quick unloading of the Corvettes and we were around the pool chatting about the drive up, and enjoying some refreshments. Dinner was at Ewing's Steakhouse, loftily perched above the raging Kern River. Close enough to walk to and back from Whispering Pines.



Saturday morning the line at the breakfast part of the B&B started EARLY. Eggs, breakfast meats, potatoes, fruit, and heavenly baked goods were plentiful and delicious. After the eating was done, 11 of us headed over to Sierra South rafting adventures, got suited up and took the happy bus ride to the launch site. (Lots of Photos coming soon to the SCVCC website).

The Kern River is about 4 times higher this year than it was last year at the same time, and the Class 1 and Class 2 rapids offered a better ride than in past years ☺ Yippee, we were some Happy Rafters. Wet and chilly, but the experience was awesome, a great adrenaline rush, and it provided Howard the opportunity to release his inner child, paddle splashing at our sister raft. Bill Jr. ducked, Cheryl got drenched, rumors of retaliation ran rampant, no idea if there is an expiration on the 'hit'. More photos coming soon!!!

Kernville has some wonderful little antique shops, boutiques, and stores for the fisherman/camper/outdoors activities junkies. After rafting and shopping, we regrouped 'round the pool again in anticipation of our next feeding.



Dinner was at Johnny McNally's, which is just a few miles north along the Kern. McNally's is a very hospitable place, good food, good service, and a nice atmosphere. Bill Jr. decided to take on the 40 oz. steak with great gusto, which he conquered, thus



ending the question 'Where's the beef'.



After dinner, a stroll across their footbridge resulted in a second misfortune for Cheryl Jensen. Last year she lost her cell phone to the river, this year she twisted her ankle and possibly broke her foot. Be extra careful on Cheryl's Bridge; better



yet, *stay off of it.*

Returning to the Lodge, we opened some refreshments by the pool, told tall tales, and listened to the sounds of the forest, and the river coursing it's way below. A little visitor raccoon stopped by to see if we were all behaving, but he left without saying much. There is a peacefulness that surrounds you in the forest, and it is very relaxing. We were hopeful that our party-by-the-pool did not keep our neighbors or the critters awake.

Sunday morning, the line up for the breakfast buffet was in place earlier than the day before, and Nadine's Famous French Toast was gone faster than a brand new Z06. We at the end of the line, didn't even get crust!!!! Still, the quiche was tasty and the coffeecake, delightful.

Departing Whispering Pines, a handful of us decided to take a chance on a quick trip north to the Trail of 100 Giants, the gateway to the Sequoias. The journey was a beautiful drive but



unsuccessful, as the Road Closed sign stopped us short of our goal. Plan B was to cross over Sherman's Pass to the highway, but the Pass is still closed due to snow. *And none of us brought chains!!* Fall back to Plan C, we took the front road (178) around



Lake Isabella and 395 through Mojave to the 14 on home. There were places where we could open up the throttle and feed that need for speed. It's good to have horsepower!!!!

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### Elections

**President: Howard Butler won election to serve as President for the 7-1-2005/2006 term.**

**As Bob Sieke decided to not stand for re-election, all 10 nominees to the Board of Directors were elected.**

**The old and new Boards will meet later in June to fill all the officer position. These positions will be announced at the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**Bylaws: A quorum was present and by a show of hands, the Amendment to the Bylaws allowing changes to the Bylaws passed unanimously. Immediately thereafter, the revised Bylaws also passed by unanimous vote.**

**Thanks to everyone who participated.**

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**And finally, news about the new C6.R racing results: Next Page**



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## Corvette Racing Reigns

### with 1-2 Finish at Rainy Mid-Ohio

*Fellows and O'Connell Win Again in Wet and Wild Race*

**LEXINGTON, Ohio** - Corvette Racing drivers Ron Fellows and Johnny O'Connell scored their second consecutive victory with the new Corvette C6.R in today's American Le Mans at Mid-Ohio, but the win was anything but routine.

Fellows' No. 3 Compuware Corvette was second in the GT1 class at the finish, but a 20-second penalty levied on the leading No. 4 Compuware Corvette driven by Oliver Gavin and Olivier Beretta elevated Fellows and O'Connell to the top step of the podium. O'Connell and Fellows tallied their 23rd ALMS victories, setting the series record for career wins. Today's result was the 24th 1-2 finish for Corvette Racing.

The race began under cloudy skies, and weather radar showed that rain was imminent at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. Sprinkles began with 45 minutes remaining in the 2-hour, 45-minute race, and the final 10 minutes were run under wet conditions.

"It was very difficult with the conditions today and driving required total concentration," said Fellows, who drove the final stint in the race-winning Corvette on slick tires. "Both Corvettes had a solid lead over the GT1 field, so we just had to keep it on the road when it started to rain."

The decisive moment came with five minutes remaining in the race. The twin Corvettes pitted together for a splash of fuel that would take them to the finish. Fellows was first into the pits, but Beretta was first out.

"Both cars were running very close and needed a couple of gallons of fuel," explained Corvette Racing program manager Doug Fehan. "The No. 3 car came in first but didn't stop quite short enough; when the No. 4 pulled into its pit, the No. 3 couldn't get out. The No. 4 Corvette took the lead, but was penalized 20 seconds because one of the crewmen didn't have his goggles in place during refueling. That penalty moved them to second.

"All in all, it was an exciting race with an unexpected finish," said Fehan. "We never come away from an event without learning something. Most important, both cars are in perfect shape and ready to go to Le Mans."

Beretta was disappointed by the sudden turn of events, but celebrated another strong

From the GM sponsored and Corvette Museum supported website.

**SAVE THE WAVE!!**