

July 2023

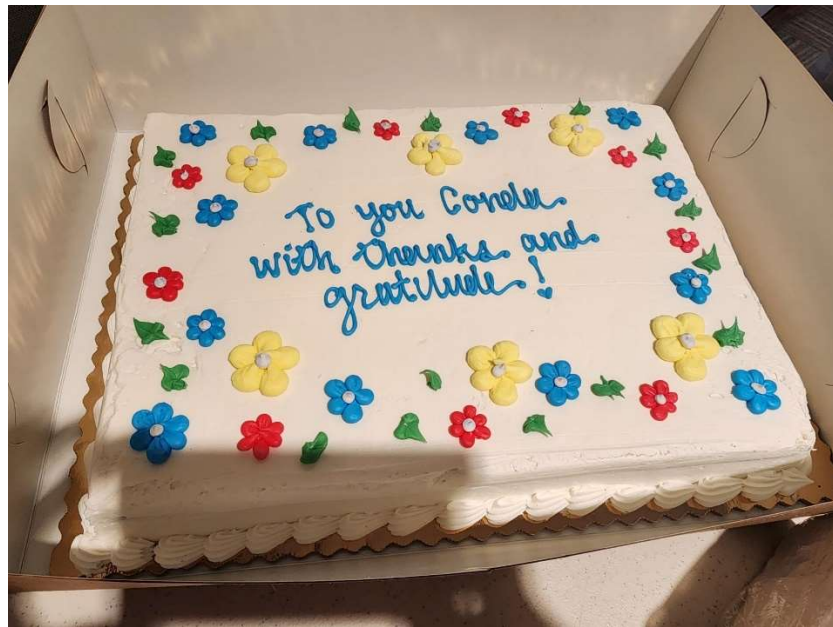


# The Orange Pits

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## OC VETTES PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is July and the end of OC Vette's fiscal year, and this is my last President's message. I am retiring from the Board after 20 years of serving as both Treasurer and President. It has been my pleasure to serve in both of these capacities, and I have enjoyed working with all of those that have also served with me. We have accomplished quite a bit in the last 20 years and the club has become a second family to me. The new Board will take over August 1, and I have no doubt will do a great job continuing to make OC Vettes the great club that it is. My next "job" with OC Vettes is to "officially" be the newsletter editor, which I have also been doing the last few months. Many, many thanks to Ray and Ellie Cranston for making my last meeting as President the most memorable with a cake and such kind words. I am looking forward to many more years as a member of OC Vettes and partaking in as many activities as I can!



Conda

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## OUTING TO SEGERSTROM AUTO MUSEUM

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## DRIVE ON THE EDGE JULY 15

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On July 15, 2023, 11 members of the OCvettes joined the Mile High Club in all its glory.

Starting in La Canada on a sunny, balmy day they gathered in front of TARGET to start on an adventure of driving to the edge of the earth on windy roads through mountainous crevices into a majestic forest of pine trees travelling higher and higher on roads that were designed to be driven in a CORVETTE only to stop at a mile high restaurant nestled in the trees and overlooking a valley that stretched to edge of the horizon.

Lunch was ordered, and served on a breathtaking patio where the members enjoyed a delicious meal with each other in the shade. A few gathered and walked a little in the forest, up the hill, and pictures were taken. Joining the Mile High Club was fun for everyone as they went about their merry way, smiles

on their faces with new memories to share. It was so much fun that next year we are already planning to conquer Angeles Crest Highway from beginning to end.

Thank you everyone for sharing this great adventure with Bernie and Stephanie for it is you that made the trip so worthwhile.

Bernie & Stephanie

(Editor's Note: Photos will be in next month's newsletter)

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**UPCOMING EVENT  
LIONS DRAG STRIP MUSEUM  
SEPTEMBER 16**

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**LIONS DRAG STRIP**

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The Lions Automobilia Foundation and Museum was founded in December 2019 by Southern California businessman and car enthusiast, Rick Lorenzen. It's nearly 100,000 sq. ft. facility includes galleries featuring Southern California's infamous car culture and motorsports history. The experience begins as visitors walk in thru a 1960's speed shop with genuine parts hanging off the walls and then enter the Main Street Gallery lined with classics automobiles parked in front of a 1950's diner. The visitor experience has been described as mind-blowing, as each gallery reveals the human experience with the

automobile. Lions is more than just a museum. The Lions Automobilia Foundation takes preserving automotive history to the next level with its onsite restoration facility. As visitors walk through the galleries, they will find that many of the vehicles on display were restored by the Lions Team.

Steven Bronston is hosting this event. We have pre-purchased 25 tickets to get the reduced rate of \$11.00 but can add more if we need to. They've also provided on-site preferred parking for us but possibly not all of our cars will fit, first to reply will get priority parking. Please reply back to me how many will be going. Family members and friends are welcome also. Do not send any money at this time. It looks like we'll be passing on their offer of the box lunches, so I'll do research on some local restaurants and let you know later. I'll send out emails with a list of attendees. Contact Steve if you have any questions (work: 714-572-6072; cell: 714-458-1675).

Below is a link to an episode of the "Gearz" cable TV show where they featured the history of Lions Drag Strip and the museum. The entire video is about 25 minutes long, but the Lions share (pun intended) is only about the first 10 or 12 minutes, turn off after that if you so decide. It shows the interior of the museum along with some of the race cars, street cars, and some custom cars. I believe they also have the largest collection of Willys cars under one roof.

<https://staceydavid.com/gearztv/episodes/s17/s17ep8>

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## **BAKERSFIELD/BUCK OWENS CRYSTAL PALACE**

### **August 26-27**

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#### Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 3001 Buck Owens Boulevard, Bakersfield. 661-395-9800. Room rates: Single King: \$130.99. Double Queens: \$140.99 plus tax and deposit. Our contact at the hotel is Jasmine Luna.

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**ANAHEIM HILLS 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE  
(Photos In Next Month's Newsletter)**

**JULY SOCIAL-MORENO'S RESTAURANT  
(Photos in Next Month's Newsletter)**

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**CAR PHOTOS FOR THE WEBSITE**

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As Summer Rolls in it is time to detail the Corvette and get it ready for taking those beautiful So. California drives we all enjoy so much. It is also time to have your Corvette photographed for the website if you have not done so in the past. For those of you who are new to the club, we would like to put your Corvette on our website. You can submit your favorite picture of your Corvette or you can contact me and I will photograph your Corvette for you. If I photograph your Corvette, you will be given a photo CD with the best images that have been retouched and are ready for printing.

Call me at 714-981-5875 and we can discuss this further and set up a time to meet.  
Bernie DeMarkey

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**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

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	<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>		<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>		<b>CLUB MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARY</b>	
July		July		July		Years
2	Michael Dix	10	Brian & Margaret Hoiem		Jaye Brown	30
12	John Treece	14	Dave & Chris Hamel		Gary & Judy Oedekerck	28
15	Daryl Martin	20	Bob & Cecil Blattenberg		Tony & Vicky Siragusa	18
17	Ron Pavek				Janet Cherry	13
17	Nancy Ward					
20	Tony Siragusa					
23	Kevin Donnelly					
27	Janet Walsh					

28	Matt Beucler					
Aug		Aug		Aug		Years
3	Bob Burggraf	3	Mike & Lori Blume		Henry & Sue Walker	7
4	Tronya Nelson	12	Steve & Marion Bronston		John & Patti Patun	1
8	Lisa Tally	13	Leo & Donna Mann			
15	Patti Patun	28	Ron & Val Molendyk			
20	Jim Lundal					
21	Lori Blume					
22	John Azze					
23	Jaye Brown					
28	Ruth Worden					

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## O C Vettes Club Apparel

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OCV clothing and hats can be ordered from Land's End. To start, view products online at: [https://business.landsend.com/store/oc\\_vettes/](https://business.landsend.com/store/oc_vettes/). Decide on the merchandise you want to purchase. The official OCV color is royal blue, and the typical club shirt is a button front polo shirt. As you place your order, you will be able to add the club logo to your purchase. Select the logo color that works best with your shirt. If you need assistance in ordering just call 1-800- 587-1541 between Monday and Friday from 7AM to 7 PM CT. Their friendly staff is waiting to help you with your order.

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## NEW OFFICERS

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Congratulations to the 2023-2024 OC Vettes Board!

**President-Leo Mann**  
**Vice-President-Bernie DeMarkey**  
**Secretary-Carol Thompson**  
**Treasurer-Ray Cranson**  
**Director-Steve Bronston**

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*OCV Events in Blue and Italic.* For more info contact Conda Takanabe at (714) 595-1070

DATE	EVENT	HOST
<i>July 25</i>	<i>OCV Board Meeting-Keno's Restaurant</i>	<i>Conda Takanabe</i>
<i>August 1</i>	<i>OCV Business Meeting, Santa Ana Elks Lodge, 1751 S. Lyon Street, Santa Ana. Dinner cost is \$24 per person.</i>	<i>Elected President</i>
<i>August 15</i>	<i>OCV August Social-Wood Ranch, Anaheim Hills</i>	<i>Barb Hall</i>
August 19	Corvette Super Sports Car Show	
<i>August 22</i>	<i>OCV Board Meeting, Keno's Restaurant, 5750 E. La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, 6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Leo Mann</i>
<i>August 26-27</i>	<i>Trip to Bakersfield/Buck Owens Crystal Palace</i>	<i>Ron Molendyk/Betsy Slauson</i>
<i>August 27</i>	<i>Santa Ana Elks Lodge Car Show</i>	
<i>Sept 16</i>	<i>Trip to Lyons Dragstrip Museum</i>	<i>Steve Bronston</i>
Sept 30	Santa Clarita Valley CC Car Show	
Oct 21	Las Vegas Corvette Association Car Show	
<i>Oct 25-28</i>	<i>Cambria Trip</i>	<i>Manns, Cranstons, Wards</i>
<i>Dec 3</i>	<i>OCV Christmas Party, Alta Vista Country Club</i>	<i>Ray and Ellie Cranston</i>
August 6, 2024	Corvette Pirates Cruise	

## Cambria Getaway October 25-28, 2023



Hi Club Members!

The Manns, Cranstons, and Wards have planned an OC VETTES trip to Cambria Pines Lodge in beautiful Cambria, California. We will leave the morning of Wednesday, October 25th to drive to where the "pines meet the sea". We will enjoy three nights at the Lodge, returning home on Saturday, October 28th. On our way up the coast, we plan to stop in Buellton for lunch at the Hitching Post. (We will also be making "comfort stops" along the way.)

October is the month Cambria puts on their "Scarecrow Festival" and contest. The local businesses, etc. compete to create the most creative "Scarecrows" and display them all over the quaint little town. We have planned a "cruise" thru town as well as



along Moonstone Beach and up Highway 46 to enjoy the views. We might stop at a winery or two we find along our way.

The Cambria Pines Lodge is a destination to be enjoyed as well. Nestled atop a hill, there are wonderful gardens, a spa, pool, lounge, and a restaurant/dining room. Each room has its own fireplace. A hot buffet breakfast, (included), is served every morning in the dining room.

Fifteen (15) rooms are blocked for our Club members (more will be available if needed). There are several types of rooms available at our discounted rate. Rates range from \$169.15 to \$237.15 plus 12% tax. Since this is a popular time at the Lodge, reservations should be made by September 10th. Make your reservation by calling Cambria Pines Lodge, (805) 927-4200. PLEASE USE THE OCVETTES CODE #9626556.

Any questions please call Donna Mann (714) 323-3555, or Nancy Ward (714) 300-3794. Please let one of us know when you've made your reservations.

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## MICHAEL DIX GOES TO PRISON

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C8s can be spotted almost anywhere these days; long gone are the days of "First C8 seen in Ohio" and other such rare sightings. Still, this is probably the first C8 to do parade laps in a prison yard. Though photos inside are, of course, not allowed, the picture below shows a very dusty 2020 Corvette that just finished the morning with several hundred inmates in Corcoran prison outside of Fresno.

Planning for this event began long ago, and was successful only through the help of the Bill Glass Behind the Walls prison ministry, who coordinated entry for the Corvette and 3 motorcycles seen here with the car. After an extremely thorough examination of both vehicles and drivers, we were led through a series of gates and alleys to one of 4 prison yards where 2 – 300 inmates were enjoying a couple hours of sunshine. Officers pointed to the far end of the yard, then made a circling motion with their hands to signal we could do parade laps around the partially paved yard. We were told to make all the noise we wanted, but no burn-outs and no wheelies. After opening up the exhaust (track setting) and backing up to the concrete dorm walls, it was determined the only way the 'Vette could make as much noise as the Harleys was to set it on fire and blow it up. A couple of the inmates offered to make that happen, but the group decision was to just remove the top and put the car on display on the basketball court.

This whole ordeal was repeated a couple hours later in "Charlie" yard, another section of the prison, and in both yards was a HUGE draw. The

prison has a very high ratio of men serving life sentences, so this was likely the only modern Corvette many of them would ever see. All of the inmates were very respectful, and crowded closely around the car but never actually touched it. Maybe all car shows should be surrounded by gun-toting guards in towers!

Will it ever happen again? We'll see.

Michael Dix



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**OC VETTES**  
**Minutes of General Meeting**  
**July 5, 2023**  
**Santa Ana Elks Lodge**

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- I. Welcome.
- II. Flag Salute
- III. Approval of June General Meeting Minutes – 1<sup>st</sup>, Bernie - 2<sup>nd</sup> Larry.
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Membership – New Members, welcome John and Angelica. Visitor – Richard, looking for a C5, C6 Corvette, gathered information and left.
  - b. NCCC Governor – nothing to report
  - c. National Corvette Museum – nothing to report
  - d. Apparel – nothing to report
  - e. Newsletter – Conda will be sending her first official newsletter on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. She will be adding a column for a recipe corner every month with recipes to share. Suggestion joke corner as well.
  - f. Member News- Dr. Ruth Nichols received her PhD two weeks ago – Congratulations! The Hamels are celebrating their golden anniversary (50 years).
- V. Board Nominees
  - a. President – Leo Mann
  - b. Vice President – Bernard DeMarkey
  - c. Secretary – Carol Thompson
  - d. Treasurer – Ray Cranston
  - e. Director – Steve Bronston

A ballot will be forwarded by email to members to vote online. The above will take office August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

- VI. Committee Appointed Positions:
  - a. Membership
  - b. NCCC Governor
  - c. National Corvette Museum
  - d. Apparel
  - e. Website
  - f. Newsletter
  - g. Member News
  - h. 50/50
  - i. Homecomings

Anyone wanting to volunteer, please contact Conda Takanabe.

- VII. New Business
  - a. Benevolence – David Walsh Donation – kindly donate to David Phinney Foundation.

- b. Received a thank you from the Amyloidosis Foundation in memory of Tram Hartzog.
- c. Trouble with checks beings cashed with CHOC donations. \$1,000.00 was not cashed. \$125.00 was sent and remains outstanding. Conda will follow up.

#### VIII. Past Events

- a. Segerstrom Auto Museum – 30 people arrived and viewed an outstanding collection of cars that cannot be driven.
- b. June Social at Panda Restaurant – 36 people attended. Food was good and everyone had fun.
- c. July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade – BBQ. Tony Siragusa reported that 13 well decorated cars were in the Parade. It was an enjoyable event with an old town atmosphere. The parade was short and we were well received. Donna Mann reported that 18 people attended the After Party at Leo and Donna's. Lots of great food was brought and everyone enjoyed relaxing and socializing n the back yard.

#### IX. Future Events

- a. July 11<sup>th</sup> Bunco hosted by Nancy Ward/Poke at Bob's Mancave
- b. Angeles Crest Drive on the Edge (Bernie and Stephanie – Bernie advised an email will be sent to everyone with complete instructions. Plan is to gather at the Target parking lot in La Canada (Exit 20, 210 Freeway) at 9:00 am, everyone leaving at 9:30 am. Taking the back route as #2 is currently closed. Advising to gas up before the shell station as price is very high in La Canada. Lunch at Mount High Ski Resort. Bernie also advised that if anyone wishes to have their car photographed for the Website to contact him to arrange for a shooting.
- c. July Social – Leo – Moreno's Restaurant on Katella in Orange on Wednesday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm. Expecting 35 people.
- d. Bakersfield Buck Owens Trip – August 26-27 (Ron Molendyk and Betsy Slauson). 16 people so far signed up – Getting information for hotel reservations. Looking at Buck Owen's Crystal Palace, Country and Western Show, Breakfast at the Crackerbarrel. Will close at the end of this week.
- e. Lions Raceway Museum – September 16 (Steve Bronston) - Museum of Race cars which is very interesting. Also suggesting a trip to Palm Springs in August.
- f. Cambria – no updates
- g. Xmas party – Sunday, December 3, 2023
- h. Corvette Caravan – Janet Cherry reported that hotel information will be registered mid-September. Reservations will go fast, suggestion to make them as soon as possible. Meeting for people going on a Saturday in August 2023 with Janet and Jerry to talk about arrangements. Email will be sent to everyone.

#### X. Member Forum-Car News

- a. Conda and Leo had their daily drivers totalled. Drivers are unharmed and negotiations are ongoing with Insurance companies.
- b. Jerry Wheeler's son is getting married on July 22, 2023.

Next meeting August 1<sup>st</sup>. Please let Leo know of any Agenda Items by July 29, 2023.

Conda said her farewells as President of the Club. She has been on the board for 20 years and President for twp. She thanked the board and event planners for their support. Ray and Ellie Cranston thanked Conda for all her hard work and presented a cake in celebration for Conda's time spent as President.

50/50 Draw – Vicki S. - \$80.00

Prize winners – Ellie, Jane and Chris

Adjourn - 1<sup>st</sup> – Tony, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Junkin, Acting Secretary

# ALL CORVETTE CAR SHOW

NCCC Sanctioned – WC-326-001



## Saturday, August 19, 2023

CORVETTES ONLY car show hosted by **CORVETTE SUPER SPORTS**. Net proceeds will benefit our local charities.

Car show will be held at the **BUENA PARK ELKS LODGE**, 7212 Melrose Street, Buena Park, CA 90621

**SHOW HOURS** are 9:00AM – 2:00PM. Arrival and parking begins at 8:00AM

**REGISTRATION** is only \$35 until August 5<sup>th</sup>; \$40 after that day, including day of registration

**RAFFLE PRIZES** will be available during show hours, with **AWARDS** handed out at 1:30pm

This is a **PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS** show – ballots will be provided to each entrant to the show

Trophies ~~~ FOOD ~~~ DRINKS ~~~ Music



**CONNELL  
CHEVROLET**  
Serving Orange County Since 1960

CLUB SPONSOR



HOST



EVENT SPONSOR

Payments can be mailed to: Tony Schavone, 1909 Canyon Drive, Fullerton, CA 92833

**Make sure you include your check for \$35 (\$40 after 8/5) payable to CORVETTE SUPER SPORTS**

Any questions? Please call or email Tony Schavone (chairman) at 562-900-1222 or [tschavone@yahoo.com](mailto:tschavone@yahoo.com)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB AFFILIATION/NCCC# \_\_\_\_\_

MODEL YEAR/GENERATION \_\_\_\_\_ please circle: STOCK or MODIFIED

As a participant in "All Corvette Car Show", the undersigned agrees to hold harmless CORVETTE SUPER SPORTS, Connell Chevrolet, and the Buena Park Elks Lodge from any known or unknown damages, injuries, losses, judgements, and/or claims of any kind that may be suffered by/from any entrant to his person or property. Non NCCC members are not covered by NCCC Insurance.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# 2023 Santa Ana Elks Lodge Inaugural *Charity Car & Motorcycle Show*

## Sunday August 27, 2023

**CAR CLUBS AND  
SOLO RIDERS WELCOME!**

Car Entry Fee \$40  
Day of Show \$50  
Motorcycle \$25/\$35

Inaugural  
Price for  
Vendors \$50



Awards & Drawing  
Winners at 2:00 p.m.

**ENJOY MUSIC,  
DRAWINGS, VENDORS  
FOOD AND FUN!**



Come meet Elroy the Elk & receive a coloring book and crayons. (while supplies last)



Santa Ana Elks Lodge #794  
1751 S. Elk Lane  
Santa Ana CA 92705

Free to spectators

Food and drinks available for purchase

No outside alcohol allowed

Vehicle and Vendor registration on the back. For info call Ernie (213) 925-4443 Vince (714) 616-9811

Sponsored by the Santa Ana Elks Monday Night Football Committee



# CORVETTE PIRATES



AHOY!

#18



## SAIL ALONG WITH THE CORVETTE PIRATES ON OUR 18TH CORVETTE VACATION TO PARADISE

.....  
7 DAYS - APRIL 6, 2024

### ON CARNIVAL'S BRAND NEW MEGA SHIP THE JUBILEE

Join us for a 7 day Western Caribbean Cruise aboard the BRAND NEW beautiful mega ship - the Carnival Jubilee while sailing our way to paradise! Everyone is welcome!

We start our awesome journey from the fun and fabulous Port of Galveston and head to the warm beaches of the Exotic Western Caribbean. We shall visit these fantastic ports of call: Mahogany Bay, Costa Maya and Cozumel 7 fun filled crazy days with 100 fantastic Corvette friends in paradise..it doesn't get any better than that!

So much Corvette Pirate fun planned for this epic 'ocean view' Corvette vacation!  
Too much to list here - go check out the crazy fun!

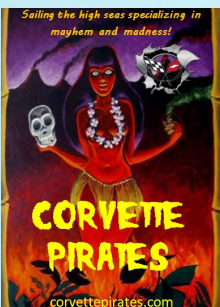
Corvette Pirate adventure starts here --> [www.corvettepirates.com](http://www.corvettepirates.com)

[Laurie TEX Schwab\\_vettetex@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.TEX.Schwab_vettetex@gmail.com) 602-790-5788

"See Ya Later Alligator Travel"



HORSEPOWER OR RUM ... WE ALWAYS HAVE FUN!







The Orange Pits is the monthly Newsletter for the OC Vettes Club of Orange County, CA. This newsletter is intended to inform our membership about club news and events. Articles to be submitted for publication in the newsletter should be submitted on the night of the monthly General Business Meeting or sent via email to Newsletter Editor CondaTakanabe at: [btakanabe@msn.com](mailto:btakanabe@msn.com). All written correspondence to the club should be mailed to:

OC Vettes  
P.O. Box 27183  
Anaheim, CA 92809

O C Vettes (OCV) is a Corvette club based in Orange County, California. OCV is a non- profit organization affiliated with the National Council of Corvette Clubs (NCCC). OCV is an active supporter of Children’s Hospital of Orange County (CHOC).

O C Vettes is a club of individuals who appreciate driving Chevrolet Corvettes and enjoy socializing with fellow Corvette owners. Currently, OCV has over 100 members who enjoy a varied calendar of events. Car shows, day trips, overnight trips, extended trips or other events are usually scheduled each month. Membership is open to anyone interested in Corvettes. More information is available on our Web site at [www.ocvettes.com](http://www.ocvettes.com).

## O C Vettes 2022 - 2023 Club Officers

### BOARD MEMBERS

<b>President</b>	Conda Takanabe	(714) 595-1070
<b>Vice President</b>	Leo Mann	(714) 970-7746
<b>Secretary</b>	Carol Thompson	(714-749-1486
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ray Cranston	(562) 665-1709
<b>Director</b>	Bernie DeMarkey	(714) 981-5875

### VOLUNTEER OFFICES

<b>NCCC Governor</b>	Mickey Lookman	(714) 767-1053
<b>Membership Chair</b>	Donna Mann	(714) 323-3555
<b>National Corvette Museum Ambassador</b>	Jerry Wheeler	(714) 471-0658
<b>Web Site/Apparel Coordinator</b>	Sue Lookman	(714) 767-3458
<b>Newsletter/Historian</b>	Conda Takanabe	(714) 595-1070
<b>Member News</b>	Jane Wheeler	(714) 801-0678
<b>50-50 Coordinator</b>	Masako Burggraf	(714) 936-8528
<b>Homecoming Chair</b>	Conda Takanabe	(714) 595-1070