

Beachcomber News Letter

May 2020



BCC NEWS

- ❖ I hope this News Letter finds all of you in good health and weathering these trying times in the best way possible. If you are like many, you've probably been able to catch up on several of the little things you've been putting off for a long time. But, think on the positive side – once this passes and our lives return to somewhat normal there will be no reason not to attend all of the Corvette gatherings and enjoy the BCC comradery. You can be certain that the BCC Board will stay focused on doing what we feel is in the best interest of our Club. Therefore, I ask that you pay particular attention to any BCC announcements as they may update you to items that might affect your plans regarding Club related events.
- ❖ One thing we can all do is to try to help the Local Small Businesses (LSB) in your community, which includes local eateries. The Virginia Beach City Council has voted to eliminate the city's meal tax for the months of May and June in an effort to ease the burden caused by the coronavirus pandemic. This might help more people who decide to patronize our local eateries. Also, while we may not be able to visit some of these LSB's we can support them by buying gift cards for future use after the pandemic is over. Patronizing these establishments will help ensure they'll be there once life returns to normal.
- ❖ We've had new meeting invitation cards printed and ask that you keep them handy. If given the chance, you can share your BCC experience with other Corvetters and give them one of our meeting invitation cards. Word of mouth is one of the best means to attract new members to join our Family and the meeting invitation card acts as a visual reminder of who we are and where we meet. These cards will be available at future Monthly Business Meetings but if you need some sooner just let me know and we'll work something out to get them to you.
- ❖ Hopefully all of you are aware of the date change for the Club's largest event of the year "Vettes At Waterside District" (VAWD). Jimmy Clemmer has worked diligently and has coordinated the date change to July 10 and 11. Volunteers will be needed first thing in the morning the day of the event to help get things rolling. At the next available Business Meeting there will be sign-up sheets for various positions that need to be filled along with BCC Members who are willing to park in the MULE area at Waterside. Here's your chance to sign-up, show-up and help-out.

One new item for this year are "Vendor Sponsors". Vendor Sponsors are those vendors that are willing to pay \$300.00 for a 10X10 tent, two chairs and a table from which they can sell their merchandise or advertise their product from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are aware of someone or a business that might be interested in becoming a vendor sponsor, please contact Jimmy or me as there are guidelines that have been established that must be adhered to.
- ❖ **NOTICE:** I'm challenging all of you with a homework assignment – and that is to look at your information in the BCC Roster and verify it is up to date. During the recent reach out to our members and the search for various model Corvettes for a September event it became apparent that several phone numbers were incorrect and several members' car models was not accurate. To check your information you must access the BCC Roster on the Beachcombers web site. You'll need to log-in with your user name and password. Then go to the Documents Section, Members-Only, Miscellaneous Files, then open the latest Membership Roster, and there you can view the EXCEL file that contains what is on file for your contact information and at the bottom of the EXCEL file there is a tab labeled "Corvettes". Clicking on that tab will take you to the list with everyone in the Club and what Corvette(s) they have. So, I'm asking that you look at the BCC Roster and if any of your information has changed, i.e. your email address, postal address, phone number(s) or model Corvette(s) you own please contact Joel Wolf by email at wolfmanok@hotmail.com with the correct information and he will update the BCC Roster accordingly. If you are unable to check your information please contact me and together we'll check it. Thanks.

- ❖ The Beachcombers Corvette Club (BCC) membership is currently holding strong at 117 families.
- ❖ Michele Suttle, our BCC merchandise representative, is the point-of-contact for name tags and other BCC merchandise such as ball caps, t-shirts and parade flags. The cost of name tags are \$10.00 each. Michele can also help with obtaining information about monogramming the BCC logo on your favorite shirt or for ordering apparel with the BCC logo applied. You can talk with Michele following the Business Meetings or via her email address msuttle@verizon.net.
- ❖ If anyone has an article of interest or some other newsworthy item(s) they would like to share with the Club via the Beachcomber News please let me know.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE APRIL (ON-LINE) BUSINESS MEETING *(See Sharon's Minutes for the Complete Report)*

Old Business:

V.A.W.D. - Jimmy Clemmer: New Dates: July 10 – Meet & Greet July 11 – Day of the Event NEW flyers, registration forms and cover letter have been sent out. Eventbrite has been contacted by Mike Ware. Emails will be sent out with the new dates. If you cannot attend in July, a refund can be requested.

Rick Hendricks is still on board to be our major sponsor. Wash Me Please will still be taking a vendors spot.

Christmas Party: Meeting at the Hilton Doubletree in Virginia Beach was canceled. Catering coordinator has been furloughed.

**Invitation cards have been printed and will be distributed to members whenever we have our next business meeting.

**Trailer Inventory has been completed.

New Business:

**Drawing for VIR passes was done during the FB live meeting. Members registered for the drawing via email. Winners were John Kummers and Joe Wryk.

**In 2022 the Beachcombers Corvette Club will celebrate their 40th Anniversary. An Anniversary Committee needs to be established to prepare for this event.

General Discussion:

**Still need someone to head up trip to VIR.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Without exception, 1954 – present Corvettes were either built in Bowling Green, Kentucky (from 1981 – on), or St. Louis Missouri. The only exclusion was the first year, 1953. All 300 debut models were built on a dedicated line situated in the middle of Chevrolet's huge Flint, Michigan, car-and0truck assembly plant. There, any assistance required from the engineering department was minutes away. Corvettes built in Flint wore VIN tags starting with E53F, the forth character (F) denoting Flint, Michigan. When the St. Louis plant opened for business, the VIN prefix was changed to E54S, with the forth character (S) representing St. Louis.
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- In 2010, the Z51 performance package, a legend among weekend racers since its 1984 introduction, was replaced with the Grand Sport, a specific model. Unlike the \$1695 Z51 of 2009, which didn't alter the external appearance of the car greatly, Grand Sport ran roughly \$5000 more than base hatchbacks and roadsters. They included external touches such as the ZR1's wide body, ZR1 front and rear fascia's, and the hash-mark front fender graphics seen on the 1996 C4 Grand Sport and some of the 1963 light-weights in addition to the expected suspension and brake upgrades. 850

- On C7, Z51 and Z06 equipped cars, the rear horizontal duct on the passenger's side fed air to a fan driven cooling module for the electronic limited-slip differential (eLSD). Z51 production was 20611 out of 37288 cars in 2014, 13523 out of 34240 cars in 2015 and 12737 out of 40689 cars in 2016. The arrival of the supercharged Z06 caused the drop after 2014, as it attracted some would-be customers with its 195-hp advantage. ⁹¹²

LOOKING BACK AT SOME OF THE THINGS WE DID IN APRIL

All April events / activities were postponed or cancelled due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

A LOOK AT WHAT IS PLANNED FOR MAY

Saturday, May 2 – BCC Annual Trip to ZIP. This trip has been postponed, the new date is to be determined.

Tuesday, May 5 – BCC Monthly Business Meeting. At 7:00 p.m. the virtual edition of our meeting will take place on Facebook. Look for an invitation from John Kummers in the next few days.

Monday, May 25 – Victory Junction Spring Charity Laps at VIR. VIR has not yet made decision regarding the cancellation or postponement of this event

Thursday to Saturday, May 28, 29 & 30 – NCM Bash in Bowling Green, KY. Kickoff of the NCM onsite event season. As in past years there will be a large contingent of GM engineers and designers from Warren Tech Center, and the Bowling Green Assembly Plant ready to answer your every question. They are also expecting several configurations of the new 2020 Corvette! The 2020 Bash will also feature the Ribbon Cutting for the Performance Gallery, and the Entombed Corvette exhibit, a discussion about the recently acquired XP 987 GT, and the renderings for the Silver Pearl Sisterhood supported Damsels of Design Rendering!

SOME OF THE THINGS THAT ARE PLANNED BEYOND APRIL (ALL DATES ARE TENTATIVE)

Saturday, June 20 – 10th Annual Flying Proms Symphony Airshow. Located at the Military Aviation Museum, 1341 Princess Anne Rd, Virginia Beach. Something new for the Beachcombers, the Flying Proms Airshow at the Military Aviation Museum! Gates open at 3PM with the concert beginning at 7PM. Experience a musical spectacle unlike anything you've ever seen at the Flying Proms Symphony Airshow! This one of a kind event in America, inspired by a rich British tradition, features a full symphonic orchestra playing to the flights of vintage warbirds. With themes grabbed from the most popular of aviation and adventure films, listen to these classic cinematic scores as aircraft perform aerial maneuvers they only hoped to achieve on the big screen. As the sun sets, and the aircraft take their stations alongside the crowd, the orchestra continues into the night with a selection of patriotic melodies in celebration of our nation's history. The final overture is punctuated with a grand fireworks display, the perfect end to a magical evening.

This outdoor concert and air show seems to be the perfect opportunity for us to get together and enjoy a unique event. There will be food vendors on site or you can bring your own picnic goodies. Beverages are allowed as long as they are non-alcoholic, as they are sold on-site. The price of admission allows you to wander through the museum's rare and vast collection of vintage aircraft, and enjoy some of the new experiences at the Flying Proms. Ticket prices are \$35.00 per person and \$40.00 at the door. More details to follow.

NEW INFO Friday & Saturday, July 10 & 11 – Vettes At Waterside District (VAWD). This is the BCC event of the year and one you don't want to miss. By now all of you should registered on Eventbrite, if you haven't, you don't want to procrastinate as you may find the event sold-out. On Friday, July 10, there will be a "Meet and Greet" for all of the participants who have registered for Saturday's Corvette gathering. See the attached flyer.

NEW Friday through Sunday, August 21 to 23 – Join the Beachcombers for a fun time at VIR as we once again watch the Corvette Racing Teams in action competing in the WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. This International Motor Sports Association (IMSA) racing series is based in the United States and Canada and is a result of a merger between two existing North American sports car racing series, the American Le Mans Series and Rolex Sports Car Series.

In all likelihood we'll depart early on Saturday August 22 and drive to VIR to enjoy the pre-race activities and watch some of the preliminary racing. Later in the afternoon we'll drive to the Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham in Hillsborough, NC where we have 10 rooms blocked for the night of August 22, 2020. This hotel is about 40 miles south of VIR, with a room rate of \$60.00 plus tax which includes breakfast. To reserve one of the rooms call them at 1-919-245-3102 and be sure you tell them you want the Beachcomber rate of \$60.00 plus tax.

Visit the VIR website to learn more about the race weekend events and to purchase Corvette Coral tickets.



NEW INFO Saturday, September 19 – Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America (TRAACA) 47th Annual Meet featuring a Special Exhibit; “The Evolution of America’s Corvette”.

I have sent off the list of BCC members who volunteered to participate in the TRAACA event on Saturday, September 19, 2020 (see the attached file). If your name appears on the list you should have received an email from Bob Parrish, who is the TRAACA coordinator for this event. In his email Bob provided additional event details along with a "Special Corvette Exhibition Registration" Form that needs to be filled out and returned to him along with a digital photo of your Corvette for their event program. If your name is on the list and you did not receive an email from Bob please contact me as soon as possible. Of the 35 cars they were looking for, the Beachcomber were able fill the slot for 25 of them. Well done to all the volunteers. If you have questions please contact me.

Sunday, February 20, 2021 – 3rd Annual Cruizin Corvetter’s Cruise – I know this is a long way off but if you wish to join your fellow Beachcombers on a Caribbean Cruise aboard the *Enchanted Princess*, departing Fort Lauderdale, FL on Feb 20, 2021 you need to begin planning early. This cruise is a 7 days cruise with 3 port stops. The port stops include the Princess Cays, Bahamas; St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and St. Maarten. For more information please talk with me or, if you’re ready to book your cruise contact our cruise planner, Chelsea, at 1-800-901-1172 ext. 41651. I’ve spoken with Chelsea, and found out that the current Princess promotion for the Free Drink Package, Free Wi-Fi and Free Gratuities has been extended to the end of April 2020. Make sure you let Chelsea know that you want to be linked to the Beachcombers Corvette Club Booking. If you are a first time cruiser with Princess Cruise Lines be sure you let Chelsea know and she can help you get additional On Board Credit (OBC). Below is a brief look at this itinerary.



| Date | Port | Arrive | Depart |
|--------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Sat, Feb. 20 | Ft. Lauderdale, FL | | 4:00 p.m. |
| Sun, Feb. 21 | Princess Cays, Bahamas | 9:00 a.m. | 5:00 p.m. |
| Mon, Feb. 22 | At Sea | | |
| Tue, Feb. 23 | St. Thomas, Virgin Islands | 10:00 a.m. | 10:00 p.m. |
| Wed, Feb. 24 | St. Maarten | 7:00 a.m. | 6:00 p.m. |
| Thu, Feb. 25 | At Sea | | |
| Fri, Feb. 26 | At Sea | | |
| Sat, Feb. 27 | Ft. Lauderdale, FL | 6:00 a.m. | |

Joe Wryk
 Vice President, Events
 Beachcombers Corvette Club
 757-342-9207
 joewryk@aol.com