

# Beachcombers Newsletter

## January 2022



***“Life’s too short to drive a boring car”***

### **BCC NEWS ITEMS**

- ❖ With close to one hundred Beachcombers on hand, the Beachcombers Christmas Holiday Party was held on Saturday, December 11 and was a huge success. The gift exchange was fun where a lot of surprise gifts were swapped. And of course, the photo booth proved to be a popular attraction.  
Throughout the evening door prizes were given away including a weekend stay at the *Double Tree by Hilton*, *Adams Car Care Products* and other surprises. There are two fabulous Grand Prizes, a women’s and a men’s *Seiko Watch* donated by Barb and Pete Schultz.  
A huge THANK YOU goes out to Connie Miller and her team of volunteers for organizing a terrific party.
- ❖ **REMINDER** – The January Monthly Business Meeting will be at the Central Branch of the Virginia Beach Public Library, located at 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach starting at 6:30 pm. Following the Business Meeting we will be gathering at *Reginella’s* for food and camaraderie.
- ❖ As of this writing we are at 112 families strong, with the below listed as our newest members, please help make them feel welcome;
  - Anastasia & Michael Salonga in a beautiful 2022 Black Coupe with Mulan Red interior
  - Charlene & Tony Cerza with their 2016 Silver Convertible (**Waiting on Check**)
- ❖ At last month’s Business Meeting we heard from Tim Krehbiel who shared that he, Preston Powers along with a team of volunteers are working on plans for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022. This will include an aerial photograph of the Beachcombers cars to commemorate our anniversary and a party to commemorate this milestone event. If you have an idea for the photo or a location for a party, please share it with Tim. As a side note, Preston Powers has arranged for the NCCC to feature our photo on the back cover of the Blue Bars magazine in the Fall of 2022.
- ❖ The Beachcombers has a new National Corvette Museum (NCM) Ambassador, **Mike McGinn**. Mike will be keeping the Club up-to-date regarding NCM activities and events. If you have questions please reach out to Mike or search the NCM website. Ed Munden served in this capacity for the past ten years and decided to step aside. Thanks Ed for all of your efforts.
- ❖ We have been informed that our current website will no longer be available beginning in April of 2022. This is due to the current webmaster’s decision to get out of the web maintenance business. Therefore, we are exploring options to ensure we don’t lose our website. These options include finding a new webmaster who will maintain our current website as well as finding someone who can develop a new more up-to-date website. If you know of someone who is skilled in the area of web development please share their contact information with the Board.
- ❖ Michele Suttle is the point-of-contact for BCC merchandise such as ball caps and parade flags. Michele can be reached at [msuttle@verizon.net](mailto:msuttle@verizon.net).

### **MERCHANDISE**

A link, [business.landsend.com/store/beachcombers](https://business.landsend.com/store/beachcombers), has been developed where you can directly order an apparel item from Lands’ End and have it embroidered with the BCC logo and shipped to you or, there are two local options for having the BCC logo embroidered on your apparel item.

- **American Eagle Embroidery:** Debbie Kidd, 3108 Woodbaugh Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23321. Call for estimate (757-673-8337). Or:
- **Design 4 You:** 4554 Virginia Beach Blvd Virginia Beach, VA 23462. Call for estimate (757-456-0428).

## **NAME TAGS**

Wearing your BCC name tag identifies you as a Beachcomber and helps everyone know who you are. If you want to purchase a name tag, please visit.

- **CROWN TROPHY** is located at 3200 Dam Neck Rd., Suite 103, Virginia Beach. Their phone number is 368-7534, their web address is [www.crowntrophy.com](http://www.crowntrophy.com) and their hours of operation are, Mon, Wed & Fri 9 – 5, Tues & Thurs 9 – 6. They are closed weekends & holidays. Contact them to place an order for a Beachcombers Corvette Club name tag. The cost of a name tag is \$9.95 (pin backing) or \$11.70 (magnetic backing). The turnaround time is about 3 days.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

If you are driving a late model Corvette you probably know the manufacturer recommends the use of *Top Tier* 93 Octane Fuel. But have you ever wondered what *Top Tier* actually means?

### **What Is Top Tier Gas?**

Top Tier fuel is gasoline that has a greater amount of **detergent** additives than the EPA requires. Detergent additives help keep engines clean.

### **How Does Detergent in Gas Work?**

Federal law requires all gasoline to contain a minimum level of detergent to prevent performance-crippling deposits from building up in the fuel delivery system of a car. If, for example, the intake valves or fuel injectors become clogged with gunk, they can cause the engine to hesitate, idle roughly, knock, ping, or suffer reduced fuel economy.

### **Experts Say It's Worth Paying Extra to Prevent Engine Damage**

Not all brands of fuel are created equal. It matters which gas station drivers patronize. A study by AAA found that 75 percent of U.S. motorists choose a gas station based primarily on price. However, experts agree that it's worth paying a few pennies more per gallon – if that – to fill your car, truck, or SUV's tank with what's called "Top Tier" fuel.

### **Top Tier Is a Brand Developed by Automakers**

Back in the early 2000s, a number of automakers decided that the government's standards didn't go far enough to keep modern engines clean. To address their concerns, they developed a stricter set of standards. These standards led to the release of Top Tier gasoline in 2004. Participants in the program include Audi, BMW, Chrysler, General Motors, Honda, Mercedes-Benz, Toyota, and Volkswagen. To claim to be Top Tier, a gasoline company must include detergent additives in specified amounts to minimize engine deposits.

### **Which Gas Stations Sell Top Tier Fuel?**

More than 50 brands offer Top Tier gas and diesel fuel in the U.S. That means there's a good chance there are one or more stations offering it near you. Arco, Chevron, Gulf, Mobil, Phillips 66, and Texaco sell Top Tier gas, along with most other major gas station chains. Smaller brands, convenience stores, and retailers like Costco and Meijer also sell Top Tier gas. You can check the full list of participating brands on the [Top Tier gas website](#).

You can tell if a given retailer is selling Top Tier gas by looking for the trademarked Top Tier logo. It may be located on the pump, pump handle, canopy over the pumps, or station window. You can also ask the station operator if you don't see the logo displayed.

## Top Tier vs. Premium Gas

All of a participating brand's available grades must adhere to Top Tier standards. However, you should still stick with the type that contains the octane level required for your vehicle. Paying 20 cents or more per gallon for premium fuel will not provide more protection if your engine runs on regular.

Your owner's manual can tell you the type of fuel recommended for your vehicle. If your vehicle requires premium fuel, you'll usually see it noted inside the gas cap cover or on the instrument panel by the fuel gauge.

## Is Top Tier Gas Worth the Extra Money?

Yes, Top Tier gas is worth the extra money. The benefits are not a myth. Filling your tank with Top Tier fuel may not even cost more than using gas sold by non-certified brands. AAA says the added expenditure averages around 3 cents per gallon. The extra engine protection it brings is worth every penny.

Specifically, [AAA found](#) that in six separate 4,000-mile simulated examinations, running on Top Tier gas reduced intake valve deposits by a factor of 19, compared with fuel without the extra additives. Researchers tested six brands of gas, three of which were Top Tier. AAA's results also indicated that continued use of fuel without the Top Tier additive package could result in getting 2% to 4% lower mpg, increased emissions, and a greater chance of maintenance issues.

Not only that, but the study also showed that moving up to Top Tier gas can reduce or remove existing carbon deposits left behind by non-certified fuel by 45% to 72% over 5,000 miles of driving. If your vehicle begins to idle rough when cold or hesitates when you accelerate, AAA suggests that switching to a Top Tier brand for several fill-ups may correct the problem.

## LOOKING BACK AT WHAT WE DID IN DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 7 – Monthly Business Meeting.

Wednesday, December 8 – Beachcombers Breakfast.

Saturday, December 11 – Beachcombers Christmas Holiday Party.

Sunday, December 12 – Suffolk Airport Cruise-In.

Tuesday, December 14 – Christmas Holiday Lights in Newport News.

Wednesday, December 15 – Monthly Beachcombers Board Meeting.

## MAJOR HAPPENINGS IN JANUARY

**NEW EVENT** Saturday, January 8, 2022 – Cruzin Corvetters Gathering. Join us as we get together to discuss the March 5 Caribbean Cruise on January 8 at *Lendy's Cafe*, located at 1581 General Booth Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA at 3:00 pm. Here you'll see who is cruising with you and we'll try to answer any questions you may have. If you've not signed-up for this cruise and are a "maybe I'll go", please join us and let us convince you of what a good time you'll have.

**UPDATED INFO** Thursday – Sunday, January 27 – 30, 2022– ROLEX 24 at Daytona. Beachcombers depart for Savannah enroute to Daytona for the ROLEX 24. John Kummers will be leading the group traveling to Daytona. The plan will include meeting at Greenbrier Mall along with a stop in Suffolk. Details regarding the time will follow.

2022 should prove to be an exciting year for Corvette Racing and their fans, starting with the inaugural Rolex 24 at Daytona, January 29-30. As we all know Corvette Racing is an iconic brand in endurance racing.

The 2022 IMSA campaign will be a combined version of the GTLM C8R modified to race alongside GT3 machinery in GTD Pro which is replacing GTLM. The cars will consist of revised aerodynamics, slightly decreased power and anti-lock brakes which when tested back in June in Detroit presented some problems.

New for the C8R fans. Corvette racing has decided to get fully involved in in the World Endurance Championship (WEC) circuit. In addition to IMSA they will take on the six-round WEC calendar with the No. 64 car being driven by Tommy Milner and Nick Tandy. This means they will be competing for the GT Manufacture's World Championship alongside Ferrari and Porsche starting with Sebring in March and will include races Monza, Fuji and Bahrain.

While the plan is to race both cars on as many of the circuits as possible the plans have not been finalized. But according to Doug Fehan, Corvette Racing Brand Ambassador, "the biggest change is dividing the team between IMSA and WEC. On Friday, December 10 it was decided that both cars will race in the Rolex 24".

Chevrolet's GTD Pro entry will be the prelude to the arrival of a new GT3 Corvette making its debut in 2024 and will be available customers; GT3 rules demand that a minimum of 20 cars must be sold in the first two years.

For those new to the Beachcombers, we have made this multi-day road trip for several years and have always had a good time. If IMSA racing is something you enjoy or is something you'd like to learn more about, you won't be disappointed by attending this race. The weather can be unpredictable, but we've always managed to make the best of it and the race still goes on.

We'll depart for Daytona on Thursday, January 27 and drive to Savannah GA, where we'll spend the night and then drive into Daytona on Friday, January 28. Rooms have been blocked at the Iris Garden Inn in Savannah and at the Sunset Inn, formerly known as the Days Inn by Wyndham, Daytona Beach Downtown, under the Beachcombers Corvette Club name. To reserve a room at the Iris Garden Inn for Thursday January 27, call 1-912-777-5002 and ask for one of the rooms reserved for the Beachcombers Corvette Club at the rate of \$69.00 (plus tax). To reserve a room at the Sunset Inn for January 28 – 30, call 1-386-255-4500, and ask to speak to Sandra. Sandra can be reached from 5:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesday through Saturday, let her know you wish to reserve one of the rooms blocked for the Beachcombers Corvette Club at the rate of \$119.00 (plus tax). **To take advantage of this rate you must reserve your room prior to January 10.**

On January 31, after checking out of the hotel you're on your own as some may be taking side trips to other adventures and others heading directly back home.

## **MAJOR ACTIVITIES BEYOND JANUARY**

**NEW EVENT Sunday, February 13, 2022** – Valentines Fun Run. Join us as we celebrate Valentines by combining a Fun Run with a stop for eats at *The Virginia Diner*. Details are still being pulled together but the plan will be something like; meeting at Greenbrier Mall, driving towards Suffolk to meet other Beachcombers, explore some of the area backroads and finally end up at *The Virginia Diner*. The BCC will provide each participating member with a \$10.00 bill to be put toward the cost of their meal. **This will be a sign-up event.**

**NEW INFO Saturday, March 5, 2022** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cruzin Corvetter's Cruise – There is time for you to join us in enjoying the sea air and sunshine while on a Caribbean Cruise. Just imagine, being with your Beachcombers friends on a Caribbean Cruise aboard the *Sky Princess*, departing Fort Lauderdale, FL on March 5, 2022, for a 7-day cruise with three port stops.. For more information please talk with me or, if you are ready to book your cruise, contact our cruise planner, Chelsea, at 1-800-901-1172 ext. 41651. 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).

For those of you planning to drive to Fort Lauderdale, I have blocked 10 rooms at the Iris Garden Inn in Savannah, GA for Thursday, March 3, 2022. The room rate is \$109.00 (+tax & fees) for a one-night stay. I recommend you book your room independently for your pre -cruise stay on Friday, March 4, in or near Fort Lauderdale, FL.

There will be a pre-cruise get together on January 8 at *Lendy's Cafe*, located at 1581 General Booth Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA at 3:00 pm. Here you'll see who is cruising with you and we'll try to answer any questions you may have.

Below is a brief look at the itinerary for this cruise.

| Date          | Port               | Arrive   | Depart   |
|---------------|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Sat, March 5  | Ft. Lauderdale, FL |          | 4:00 pm  |
| Sun, March 6  | Princess Cays      | 9:00 am  | 5:00 pm  |
| Mon, March 7  | At Sea             |          |          |
| Tue, March 8  | St. Thomas, VI     | 10:00 am | 10:00 pm |
| Wed, March 9  | St. Maarten        | 7:00 am  | 6:00 pm  |
| Thu, March 10 | At Sea             |          |          |
| Fri, March 11 | At Sea             |          |          |
| Sat, March 12 | Ft. Lauderdale, FL | 6:00 am  |          |



The map shows the cruise route starting at Ft. Lauderdale, FL in the United States, heading south to Princess Cays in The Bahamas, then to Grand Turk, St. Maarten, and St. Thomas in the Turks & Caicos Islands. The route ends at St. Kitts in the Caribbean Sea. A note indicates that port substitutions and order may vary.

Saturday, March 12, 2022 – 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade. The Beachcombers have been invited to participate in this fun time parade on Saturday, March 12, 2022. I'll be putting out a flyer and sign-up sheet closer to the event date but think about participating. Since the date of the parade conflicts with the Caribbean Cruise, I'll need a volunteer to act as the lead for this event, please contact me if interested. This will be a sign-up event.

CANCELLED Saturday, March 26, 2022 – Airfield Shooting Club Event. Due to insurance liability concerns posed by the BCC Board of Directors this event has been **CANCELLED**.

Friday & Saturday, May 20 & 21, 2022 – 2022 Vettes At Waterside District (VAWD). We have a plan! After much consternation it appears as if we have a solid plan going forward for next year's VAWD. Thanks to Jimmy Clemmer's persistence and vision for making the Beachcombers annual event one of the best this area has to offer. Please keep your eyes on future Beachcomber Newsletters for more details.

Saturday - Friday, June 12 - 17, 2022 – 2022 NCCC National Convention. This convention is being hosted by the East Region of NCCC and will be in Atlantic City, NJ. The goals of the NCCC East Region for the Convention are to highlight a region of the country that many NCCC Members have never visited, to show clubs from across the country we can run a smooth convention, have fun, and provide convention participants with positive memories. Any profit made at Convention will help fund the East Region and hopefully keep us with a sound financial footing for the future. The convention is a week-long event, but you do not have to be there for the entire week.

The host hotel is Harrah's Resort and is a first-class facility in Atlantic City. A room rate of \$119.99 applies. Refer to Things To Do & Attractions in Atlantic City / Harrah's AC Resort & Casino more information, go to; <https://www.corvettesnccc.org/2022Convention/Convention2022.php>.

This would be a wonderful opportunity for the Beachcombers Corvette Club to show the NCCC East we are willing to participate and be an active part of the East Region.

If you are interested in going to the convention please let me know so we can start planning. This will be our first experience to see the fellowship of belonging to a national organization. Please provide feedback so we can start planning for the convention. **We joined for the cars and stayed for the people!**

NEW EVENT Thursday - Saturday, August 25 - 27, 2022 – Corvettes At Carlisle. Carlisle! Why are we talking about an August event today? A few reasons:

The fair ground is offering a 20% event discount, as follows. Please make sure to mention that you are with the Beachcombers Corvette Club of VIRGINIA. We're attempting to have a group of forty 40 cars attend this year, in recognition of our Club's forty years. Once the Club reaches 25 cars, we qualify for a 20X20' canopy for our gathering place. [Carlisleevents.com](http://Carlisleevents.com) Ph.717 243 7855.

The Hotel search engine shows that 79% of the rooms in the area are already booked. We have secured a block of rooms at The Econo Lodge, 1252 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle, Pa. Phone 717 243 8585.

The price is \$159.99 average per night, based upon a three-night stay. Make sure that you mention you're with the Beachcombers Corvette Club. Shopping around finds that prices range from \$185 to \$250, average per night. There are less expensive motels, farther away from Carlisle, but involve some miles of travel, which may be appealing to some.

Our Club is on the Carlisle Drop Down menu so you can register for the 2022 Corvettes at Carlisle, be sure you register under the name Beachcombers Corvette Club of VIRGINIA. Carlisle is offering a 20% discount which is good until January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The fun field or show field tickets are \$80.00 (\$64.00 if registered by January 3<sup>rd</sup>). If you want to drive in the Saturday night Parade there is an additional \$30.00 charge. Also the 20X20 tent will be provided with parking around it once we meet the 25-car requirement. No additional cost for those signing up. Those Club members who already have signed up for reserved parking will be included in the Club count if they email Jodi to identify as members of the Beachcombers Corvette Club of VIRGINIA. Jodi's email is [Jodim@CarlisleEvents.com](mailto:Jodim@CarlisleEvents.com).

More details will follow as the date draws closer. If you have questions please reach out to one of the Carlisle Planning Committee members, Ed Bickman, Jeff Biggs, Wade Ridgely, or Jim Cyr.

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