

Beachcomber News

February 2019

BCC NEWS

2019 began on a very somber note as we learned of the passing of a longtime friend of the Beachcombers, George E. Smith. His presence will be felt at the many things the Beachcombers do, especially the Landstown Cruise In's, our Fall Car Show and several of the parades the BCC participate in. George was a cornerstone of the Beachcombers Corvette Club and will be missed.

At the January Monthly Business Meeting there was a discussion regarding the purchase of an "In Memory" brick at the National Corvette Museum (NCM) in honor of George. After some discussion a suggestion was made that the board take an action item to discuss and develop standardized guidelines regarding purchasing bricks at the NCM for any of our Beachcomber family. This item was a topic for discussion at the January Business Meeting, the results of which will be discussed at the February Business Meeting.

Several Beachcombers attended the funeral home visitation for George on January 17th and 18th and close to 100 vehicles were driven to the graveside memorial on January 19th. The majority of these vehicles were Beachcomber Corvettes. Following the graveside memorial there was a huge gathering of George's family and his many friends at the Outback Steak House in Redmill Commons. John Kummings gave a Beachcombers tribute to George, sharing with everyone what George meant to all of us. Great job John. Several stories were told and a toast was made honoring George.

The Car Club Council of Hampton Roads (CCCHR) events coordinator, John Herbert, stated that George's usual parking spot at all of the 2019 Landstown Cruise Ins will be roped off as a tribute to and in memory of George. Additionally, I've been informed by the Smithfield Lions that they intend to honor the life and memory of George at their first Cruz-In on April 5th. There will be more information forthcoming regarding BCC participation at this event. And, on April 6 the 1st Annual George E. Smith Memorial Car Show will be held at Landstown Commons. These are but a few examples of the love and appreciation for all of what George did for the car community in Hampton Roads. His memory will certainly not be forgotten.

Keith Reitnouer sent a link to a video from the 2018 Virginia Beach Veterans Day Parade. In that video, if you look hard, you can see George doing one of the things he enjoyed most – escorting a VIP in his C2. The link is <https://youtu.be/TOPZ3HA6beo>. Thanks for sharing Keith.

At the January Monthly Business Meeting, Jimmy discussed the need for BCC representation at CCCHR and the need for a dedicated person or persons to act as the Landstown Cruise-In organizers. The following BCC members volunteered for these positions;

- Joe Pine is the new CCCHR representative,
- Jeff Biggs has the lead and controls the purse for Landstown Commons Cruise In's, with Gordon Patterson, Tommy Starnes, Mike McGinn, Mark Conrad, Mike Ware and Adam Graham all volunteering to assist as necessary.
- A special thanks to all of you for rising to the need.

The Beachcombers have not received a timeline for renovations at the Virginia Beach Library therefore, the plan is to continue the Beachcombers Monthly Business Meetings at the Kempsville Recreation Center with our after meeting socialization at Finn McCool's restaurant until further notice.

The January after meeting get together at Finn McCool's did not live up to the expectations of many as the wait staff and kitchen seemed to be unprepared for our arrival. The manager that night said they were overwhelmed by the large crowd and agreed they weren't properly prepared. After subsequent conversations with Finn McCool's management I have been assured that they will be ready for us in February. We have decided to give them another chance before looking for another venue.

Did you know?

- The original 1953 Corvette offered only 2 options – a heater for \$91 and an AM radio for \$145 and that a 1953 Corvette with all the options would set you back a whopping total of \$3,749.
- The Corvette boasts a family that's 2 million strong and continues to grow year after year. In fact, in 2012, Corvettes accounted for nearly 1/3 of all sports car sales in America!
- We all know that Corvettes are fast. When we talk of how fast Corvettes are, we instinctively think of going forward. But, a 2014 was clocked at 53 miles per hour in REVERSE. That not the fastest ever recorded but still pretty remarkable.

LOOKING BACK AT JANUARY

January 5 – Cars & Coffee followed by breakfast at Citrus.

January 8 – Beachcombers monthly Business Meeting at the Kempsville Recreation Center.

January 9 – Beachcomber Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. at Anchor Allie's.

January 16 – Beachcombers Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Pop's Diner.

LOOKING AHEAD INTO FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 2 – Cars & Coffee 7:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Virginia Beach Convention Center Parking Lot followed by breakfast at Citrus at 357 North Great Neck Road.

Saturday, February 2 – Valentine Fun Run – Everything is in place for this popular annual event. It appears as if the weather might cooperate as well. We will meet at Greenbrier Mall at 10:00 a.m. (adjacent to Abuelo's Mexican restaurant) and after signing the customary club waiver, we'll proceed on toward Wakefield, VA. We will make a short pit stop near Wakefield, after which we'll continue on for about 40 miles of country road driving, ending up at The Virginia Diner. The Virginia Diner has been featured on Diner's, Drive-In's and Dives and is noted for their fried chicken and country ham. Please refer to the flyer you have received via email promoting this event. The BCC Treasurer will distribute a \$10.00 bill to each person at the Virginia Diner to offset the cost of their meal. If you have not already signed up, please RSVP me at joewryk@aol.com as an accurate head count for the restaurant is needed.

Tuesday, February 5 – Beachcombers monthly Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Kempsville Recreation Center, Room No. 4, 800 Monmouth Lane, Virginia Beach. The meeting will be followed by a visit to Finn McCool's restaurant located in Providence Square Shopping Center.

Wednesday, February 13 – Beachcomber Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. at Anchor Allie's, 357 Independence Blvd. Come join in on the good food and great company, please RSVP Lenny Zingarelli at 757-636-2045, by email at lzingarelli@verizon.net or by acknowledging on Facebook. Thanks Lenny. **Please note the RSVP point of contact change for this month.**

Wednesday, February 20 – Beachcombers Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. - Pop's Diner, 1432 Greenbrier Parkway, Chesapeake. As always, all members are welcome to attend.

LOOKING BEYOND FEBRUARY

Saturday, March 2 – Beachcombers Chili Cook-Off – Connie and Rob Clyburn have once again agreed to host this popular annual club event in their marvelous home. So here is your opportunity to show off your culinary skills and prepare a pot of award winning chili. Yes, award winning, as prizes will be awarded for the first three most popular pots of chili as voted on by your fellow club members. Just think, bragging rights for an entire year. As in the past, if you're not bringing chili you're asked to bring a dessert or appetizer. For those with a last name beginning with an A through M please bring a dessert and those with a last name beginning with an N through Z bring an appetizer. A flyer will be sent to you soon detailing this event. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Business Meeting for those interested. If you haven't added your name to the sign-up sheet or can't make a meeting to add your name, please RSVP me at joewryk@aol.com.

NEW Tuesday, March 12 – Tech Night at Rick Hendrick Chevrolet, Norfolk from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Rick Hendrick Chevrolet has extended an invitation to the BCC for an up close and personal look at their Service Department. They are committed to be the premier Corvette dealership in the region, not only in sales but also in maintenance and repair. Here is your opportunity to see where your Corvette goes when it's dropped off for service and to talk with the service technicians that will be working on your Corvette. Refreshment will be served, courtesy of Rick Hendrick Chevrolet. There will be a sign-up sheet at the next Business Meeting. If you have a specific question or area you'd like addressed let me know.

Saturday, March 16 – Saint Patrick's Day Parade, Norfolk. The application has been submitted for 15 cars to drive in this parade. We're still waiting for acceptance confirmation.

NEW Saturday, March 17 – Saint Patrick's Day Parade in the Outer Banks. Kelly's 30th Annual St. Patrick's Parade kicks off on Sunday March 17th at 1 pm in Nags Head, NC. All are invited to join in! There is no limit as to the number of BCC cars that can attend. Details to follow.



NEW Saturday, March 23 – If you're wanting to get a head start on car shows for 2019 here's your chance – the 2019 York High School Car Show, located at 9300 George Washington Memorial Hwy, York, VA, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. This car show is one of the local, out of the area, car shows that the Beachcombers regularly attend. If interested, contact Heldur Liivak at soccerbear53@gmail.com. Heldur will coordinate a meeting time and location. If we enter as a group we'll will be parked together. Thanks Heldur.

NEW Sunday, March 24 – Beachcomber Bowling – at Pinboy's from 3 to 5p.m. This event has been moved from a fall time activity to one earlier in the year as the weather seems less cooperative in the spring. Warren Hiteshew, the BCC resident bowling expert, will be on hand to show us "how it's done" and give advice. Bill Kalien has confirmed the details with Pinboy's and more information will be provided as the time draws closer.

NEW Saturday, April 13 – Trip to ZIP. This is our customary trip to ZIP Corvettes in Mechanicsville, VA. With the BCC sponsoring the Cruise In at Landstown Common on April 27, this is a great opportunity to get those items you'll need to get your Vette ready. ZIP is anxious to see us and is offering a 10% discount on any purchases you make that day. Afterwards, we'll proceed on to our second most popular pastime – lunch. I have made reservations at ROMA's Italian Restaurant for our group. ROMA's is a family owned and operated eatery and has excellent food. Hank Reisenbichler has volunteered to take the lead on mapping an alternate route back to Tidewater with the possibility of a stop at one the areas wineries. Thanks Hank.

NEW Friday, April 19 – Springtime Charity Laps at Virginia International Raceway (VIR). Drive to Alton, VA where you can experience what your Corvette has to offer on this 3.27 mile road track. The track offers twists and turns that will challenge all levels of driver's experience.

If there is enough club interest we can "add on" a trip to Whitetop Mountain which is about 3.5 hours west of VIR on US58. Whitetop Mountain holds the title for highest elevation in the entire state, 4400 feet. On clear days, it's possible to see into the neighboring states of Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, and West Virginia.

This would be a weekend getaway where after driving the Charity Laps at VIR we would continue west on US58 to Whitetop Mountain. On Saturday we would drive to the summit of Whitetop Mountain and drive other scenic roads and proceed home on Sunday.

Those not interested in going on to Whitetop can travel home from VIR independently. If you're interested in Whitetop Mountain but, do not want to drive the charity laps, you can travel to with the group to VIR but opt to not drive the track.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, please let me know and I'll look into hotels, eateries, etc.



Saturday, April 27 – This is the first date in 2019 that the Beachcombers will be hosting the Cruise In at Landstown Commons. We'll need volunteers for morning set-up, those willing to work the event and closing. The other dates the Beachcombers will be hosting Cruise In's are; 05/25, 06/22, 07/20, 08/17, 09/14 and 10/12. The date selected for the BCC Car Show is 09/14 with 09/21 as a rain date.

2019 Corvette Caravan – Registration is open for the 2019 National Corvette Caravan scheduled for August 28 - September 1, 2019. This event only occurs every five years with thousands of Corvettes from across the country converging on Bowling Green. Information about the Regional Caravan for our area can be found at www.corvettecaravan.com/va-nc-sc/. The BCC is planning an "add on" as we return to Tidewater following the caravan. The plan is to travel home via The Tail of the Dragon in NC and to drive some of the other scenic roads. I have blocked rooms at the Quality Inn & Suites in Robbinsville, NC for those interested. This "add on" will extend our homeward travels by a day or two. Our National Corvette Museum Ambassador, Ed Munden has the lead for this event, contact Ed at 252-339-2234 for additional information. There will be more information to follow regarding this mega event.

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

Information and schedules for other area events can be found on Web Sites for the Car Club Council of Hampton Roads (CCCHR) www.carclubcouncil.info/ or by contacting Joe Pine and the Virginia Peninsula Car Club Council (VPCCC) www.vpccc.org. or by contacting Heldur Liivak

Joe Wryk
Vice President – Events
Beachcombers Corvette Club