



MAY, 2023, VOL 7-3

NEXT MEETING JUNE 8, 2023

WWW.VILLAGEVETTES.COM

Visit our website at www.villagevettes.com for changes and updates to the schedule

VILLAGE VETTES CORVETTE CLUB

2023

EVENTS SUMMARY

MAY

05/19 Thur	Crumps Landing Homasasa (GL NEEDED) Filled	
05/25 Thur	Peck's Cove, Crystal River (Don DiBartolomeo/Kathie Skedel GL)	15 Spots Available
05/28 Sun	Flags for Veterans Bushnell National Cemetery (Rich Rose GL)	Registration Open

JUNE

06/03 Sun	Flag Removal Bushnell National Cemetery Rich Rose GL)	Registration Open
06/15 Thur	St. Johns Riverboat Cruise & Lunch Sanford (GL NEEDED)	Reg. open 26 Spots Available
06/22 Thur	Stumpknockers on the River, Dunmellon (GL Tony DiSalvo)	Registration opens 05/22
06/24 Fri	Vettes On the Square Brownwood	(32 Cars) Filled

JULY

7/3 Mon	Drive the Square w/Hot Dogs at Nahas (Don Chaney/Jim Logudice GL)
7/11 Tues	Norwood's Treehouse Restaurant, New Smyrna Beach (GL NEEDED)
7/20 Thur	Old Sugarmill Pancake House, deLeon Springs (Doug/Ellen Fetherstone GL)

AUGUST

8/15 Thur	Prime 3 Steakhouse Leesburg (Bob/Helene Aisenstat GL)
8/?	Dixie Crossroads Titusville (Dan/Kathie Scukanec GL)

DATES TO REMEMBER

9/22 Fri	Vettes On the Square Brownwood	(32 Cars)
9/30 Sat	Brownwood Car Club Showcase	(48 Cars)
10/?	Color Run TBD	Registration Begins in July
11/10 Fri	Vettes On the Square Brownwood	(32 Cars)

**GROUP LEADERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR SEVERAL EVENTS,
PLEASE STEP UP AND VOLUNTEER... BE A LEADER!**

Please remember that our activities and events may change a bit from time to time so please check the calendar for latest news and updates on activities. Also, we are selling out quickly on many of the events so register early if you're intending to attend and, if the registration is full, make sure to use the "Waitlist" button in case someone cancels.

Presidents Message

I know that I harp on this quite often but I have to express my disappointment in the number of members who can stay up late to participate in the Honor Flight. On April 19th we had only nine cars to escort the veterans arriving home from Washington, DC. We are twice the size of the Nomads and they were able to field approximately fifty motorcycles. Even the Touch of Glass Corvette Club brought more cars than we did. Please try to dedicate one night that you can stay up late and participate in this very worthwhile event.

Kudos to Jim Loguidice and Mike White for an extremely successful *"Blessing of the Vettes"*. On April 22nd we had an all-time high of 184 Vettes from our club and seven surrounding clubs. The event had a net profit of \$4,272.16 from donations, sales, auction & 50/50 tickets. Besides the major donations of Liquid Lights and On The Spot Detailing a special thank you goes out to club member, John Hall. He is best known for his John Hall's Alaska Tours. He graciously donated an Alaska cruise for one person which was valued at over \$8,000. A second person on the tour would receive a steeply discounted price. Later, in speaking to John, I found out

On April 29th the club participated in the *"Car Showcase in Brownwood"*. We were the only club of the seven clubs in the show that had all twenty-four cars show up. This was most likely due to the threat of rain and a lot of the clubs not wanting to get their cars wet. The event started out well but after a little rain, and the threat of further storms, The Villages cancelled the show and entertainment. While totally understandable, it was a shame in that the storm didn't materialize and the sun came out a little after 7:00.

On May 28th the club will participate in the *"Flags for Fallen Veterans"*. We will meet at Colony Recreation Center at 6:45 AM and depart for Florida National Cemetery at 7:15 AM. The procession will be escorted by the Sumter County Sheriff's Office all the way from TV to the cemetery. **Please go on our website to register for this event so that we have a count as to how many will participate.** Additionally, we also need people to go back to the cemetery for flag removal on June 3rd. We will meet at Eisenhower Rec Center at 7:45 AM and leave at 8:00 AM. Please register for this date also.

For those of you who don't attend many meetings, I have some exciting news for you. The Villages has embraced having numerous dates set aside for the car clubs to showcase their vehicles. For this year our club has four more dates to display our cars on the squares. Thanks to the efforts of our Activities Director, Wayne Johnson, our cars will be prominently displayed on the square and not one of the side streets. Registration is open on the website calendar to signup for all the car shows. If you have been previously closed out from a show, this is your chance to get involved.

Hope to see everyone at our meetings this year.

Rich Rose

Blessing of the Vettes



The 8th Annual "Blessing Of The Vettes" event occurred on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at the George Nahas Chevrolet dealership with 184 Corvettes in attendance.



The personable Clark Barrios officiated the non-denominational blessing event as well as providing a high energy musical performance.

Festivities included a commemorative dash plaque, an auction, a 50-50 raffle, door prizes, and refreshments. The net proceeds of \$4,272.16 will benefit our club's designated charities. (Wildwood Soup Kitchen, Village Honor Flight, Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch, and Operation Shoe Box)

Participants had the opportunity to take home a myriad of great prizes. Bob Navigato won the pre-event promotional Liquid Lights \$500.00 certificate. Mike White won the \$600.00 Certificate towards detailing and wrapping services donated by On The Spot Detailing. Nahas Chevrolet provided a number of Corvette accessories that were quickly scooped up at huge savings. An Alaskan cruise, valued at over \$8,000.00, offered by member John Hall, was acquired with a \$2,400.00 bid. The bidder received another "deep discount" for a companion ticket.

A heartfelt "thanks" to all the volunteers who aided in making this event the most successful event to date. It was a fun-filled event with everyone departing with a smile on their face



Blessing of the Vettes, con't.





**** REMINDER ****

**TO ALL VILLAGE VETTES
MEMBERS**

**THE PLACEMENT OF
"FLAGS FOR FALLEN VETERANS"**

**AT BUSHNELL NATIONAL CEMETERY TAKES PLACE ON
SUNDAY, MAY 28TH, 2023**

You do NOT need a ticket for this event but registration is highly recommended. We've received confirmation from the cemetery and we are registered as Village Vettes Corvette Club. With a police escort from Colony Cottage, along with the NOMADS motorcycle club, we will travel as a unit and enter the cemetery together. The order of the caravan will be bikers, Corvettes and all other vehicles.

Anyone is welcome to join us in the caravan. You do not have to have a motorcycle or a Corvette. All other vehicles will fall in behind the Corvettes

We will meet and line up at Colony Cottage Rec Center @ 6:45AM (latest) and depart at 7:15 a.m. sharp!

Flag placement will begin immediately after taps are played at 9:00 AM. Our assigned sections will be given to us in advance. When parking at our designated section(s) avoid parking on the grass if possible. (There is a possibility of damaging the cemetery irrigation system).

Cemetery Event Team Leaders will have set out bundles of flags.

**** 2023 Volunteer Flag Placement Instructions ****

- What to bring:
 - (1) Large screw driver or similar with a tape marker 4 inches from the tip
 - (2) Your own bottled drinking water if you wish
- Placing the Flags:
 - (1) Flags only go in the front of a headstone or marker; (not on the back)
 - (2) Place the flag 12 inches from the CENTER of gravestone/marker, and 4 inches deep (up to the tape mark on your screwdriver).
 - (3) After placing the flag:

Say the veteran's name aloud and thank them for their service/sacrifice



AMBASSADOR

Michael Grinder, VVCC Ambassador; Email: socratesjac@aol.com ;
Cell: (703) 282-3083



Can you believe it?? May already, dry roads, mostly, warm air, clear skies!! Time to take the roof off, put the top down, fill the tank and drive. Drive baby drive. The museum is waiting for your visit and displays are polished and gleaming in the lights. The big event is obviously the 30th anniversary in 2024 but before then we have the 29th anniversary, raffles and other fun things to do including plant tours. There have been some personnel announcements as well. I'll start with the personnel.

Retirement

The Executive Director of the Bowling Green Assembly Plant, Kai Spande, has announced his intent to retire the end of June 2023. His replacement has not been announced. Kai is also the National Corvette Museum Chairman of the Board being elected for the 2022 – 2024 term. There was not mention of his roll for the remainder of this year and the next following retirement from General Motors. Kai has spent 30+ years with GM and it was under his supervision that the Bowling Green plant restructured to produce the C8. Additionally, he created a new paint building to place the Corvette in the forefront of paint quality. It was also under his tenure that the Z06 production was started.

Caravans 2023 29th and 2024/Museum 30th Anniversary

Mike White is our Club point of contact for our participation in the 2024 Caravan and Museum 30th Anniversary events. Mike should be contacted if you have any questions regarding the caravans. Routes have not been chosen yet the most obvious of which is Interstate 75 through Atlanta. My wife and I have traveled that route several times and, although my wife previously lives in the area, we prefer the longer distance of Interstate 10 into Alabama and then north ending up on Interstate 65 into Bowling Green. Mike will announce his selections in the next couple of months.

Plant Tours

Tours of the assembly plant have been reinstituted but they must be purchased through the Museum. Scheduling will be done at the time of purchase and there are some restrictions: no open toe shoes, no cameras or bags. I tried to schedule a tour during the time our Z06 was being assembled with no luck. Too little notice. We are scheduled to pick up our new car on May 19th and intend to take the tour, again, that day. If you are in the area, it is well worth your time and money to take the tour. Sorry, don't remember the cost.

Raffles

The Museum gets its funding primarily through two means: membership dues and raffles. There are five cars being raffled in the not too distant future:

On May 18th, a raffle will be held for a 2023 Black convertible. Tickets are \$200 of which there will be 1500 and 963 remain available as of this writing.

A Torch Red Coupe will be raffled on June 15 for \$100 per ticket with 1633 available out of 2000.

A 70th Anniversary Carbon Black VIN 0001 will be raffled on June 29th for \$300 per ticket of which 1623 out of 1953 are available.

And, finally, a 2024 (yes the next model year) Arctic White Coupe will be raffled on September 2nd with unlimited tickets available for \$20.

The Kentucky gambling regulations are such that you must contact the Museum directly to purchase raffle tickets. And, yes you can win. One of our own won a car through the raffle a few years ago resulting in lifts being installed in his garage.

The E-Ray Is for a Different Type of Corvette Person

While traditionalists might not want electronic assists,
C8 customers are more ready for the change.

BY LUCAS BELL
JAN 17, 2023



The C8 Corvette has been the single most transformational American sports car during its entire 70-year run. Whether you look at the mid-engine platform, a lack of a manual gearbox, or a flat-plane V-8 on offer, the C8 is almost unrecognizable from the seven generations of Corvette that preceded it. The introduction of the all-new 2024 Chevrolet Corvette E-Ray shakes up the fan-favorite recipe even further, adding electrification and eAWD to the lineup for the first time. While that's enough change to make some die-hard fans cry foul, General Motors believes the E-Ray will attract a new crop of Corvette buyers.

From the moment the cover came off of the first C8 Stingray, things changed in the Corvette fandom. Folks who would have never considered purchasing a Vette were suddenly lured in by the striking mid-engine design, as Chevrolet has stated in interviews. Exotic car buyers turned to GM for the first time, intrigued by what the General could achieve with an engine in the optimal location. The car also brought a much younger customer base than before, with the C8 starting to score conquest sales against brands like Ferrari and Lamborghini. Not exactly the type of customers who typically care about pushrods or bore spacing. Executive chief engineer Tadge Juechter hopes the E-Ray can impact the make-up of the customer base in a similar way as the Stingray.

"Mid-engine by itself brought in a bunch of new customers," Juechter told R&T at the E-Ray launch event. "People who had never been in a Chevy store before, people who have never bought a General Motors product before. I'm hoping this brings people in too. I think it's the perfect entry point for somebody that's interested in a car like this."

The E-Ray Is for a Different Type of Corvette Person

There's a lot to be interested in as far as the E-Ray is concerned. A single electric motor is now mounted above the Corvette's front axle, working in tandem with the Stingray's LT2 V-8 to provide eAWD. The electric motor provides 160 hp and 125 lb-ft of torque, bringing total output of the E-Ray up to 655 hp. The motor is fed by a 1.9 kWh battery pack, which is charged while driving the vehicle. The E-Ray receives the wider bodywork and tires of the Z06, as well as Magnetic Selective Ride Control 4.0 dampers. GM says the eAWD and added power allow the car to do 0-60 mph in 2.5 seconds, as well as a 10.5-second 1/4-mile run. That means the E-Ray surpasses the Z06 as the quickest Corvette ever, but Juechter maintains that the two cars are not competing with one another.



“The Z06 is pretty strongly flavored if you will,” said Juechter. “It’s not something that somebody who has never driven a Corvette before is looking at like cool, I’ll go drive that. It’s more like this thing is serious. This doesn’t ask much of you at all. It’s really just turnkey hybridization, enormous performance, quite good efficiency and nice.”

Corvette chief engineer Josh Holder further noted that the E-Ray and Z06 might also find themselves better suited for different types of performance driving customers. Whereas the Z06 is a honed and focused track machine, it is often a bit too much car for something like a local autocross event. While the E-Ray is equally wide, the power delivery and the ability to torque vector on the front axle should make it a tight course weapon. Depending on where you find yourself spending the most time, both cars aim to offer compelling performance options for their respective buyers.

“We need to try and show them that it can enhance performance, not try to convince them that it can enhance it,” Holder told R&T. “We often say we bring in technology on Corvette, but it’s not just for the sake of it. It’s to make the car better, and electrification is no different.”

As a result of the new customers that came with the mid-engine platform shift, GM is also keenly aware that people are already familiar with this type of hybrid tech. While traditional Corvette customers might not jump at the opportunity to try an electrified C8, those who cross-shop with other exotic offerings just might.

“The exotic car customer and other people are very open-minded to this because they’re aware of this kind of combination technology in other brands,” said Mark Stheiner, assistant chief engineer for hybrid drive systems. “So we bring that to the table here. Okay, die-hard pushrod small block customers, this might not be their bag. But there are lots of people that are very excited about the car. It’s a different slice of the market.”

When the 2024 Chevrolet Corvette E-Ray arrives this year, it will certainly undercut many of the other hybrid exotics on the market. That said, the car is quite a bit more expensive than the standard Stingray, with the base 1LZ coupe starting at \$104,295. Opt for the convertible and the MSRP jumps to \$111,295. Those prices barely slip beneath their respective Z06 equivalents. Juechter confirmed that GM is happy to build whatever mix of Corvette models that customers want. Who that customer ends up being will be the thing to watch

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 19, 2023



**Chris Cruz
Artistry**
Deland, FL



CONVERTING AN F150 WITH A HARLEY DASH, TAIL LIGHTS AND FRONT GRILL



**67 FORD
MUSTANG**

Chris Cruz Artistry Deland, FL





Welcome New Members

List of New Members as of March, 2023

Arch Simonson

He lives in the Village of Bonita He is from Orlando, FL and has a 2000 C5, Mag. Red, Vert

Les and Jan Pritchard

They live in the Village of Pine Hills. They are from West Virginia and they have a 1958 C1, Red, Vert and a 2023 C8, Blue, Targa

Daniel Kiefner

He lives in the Village of Fenney. He is from New Jersey and has a 2023 C8, Red Mist, HTC

Stephen Bertolacci and Joy Sell

They live in the Village of Hawkins They are from New York and they have a 2019 C7, Yellow, Vert

Jim and Maraci Wallace

They live in the Village of St Johns. They are from PA and Brazil and they have a 2023 C8, White, HTC

Tony DiGennaro and Yvonne Winthers

They live in the Village of Osceola Hills. They are from Long Island, NY. They have a 2088 C4, Red, T-Top

Jim Ballard and Ida Massenburg

They live in the Village of Chatham. They are from Charleston, SC and they have a 2012 C6, White, Targa

*Let's give a warm welcome
to our newest members!*

CALLING ALL VETERANS

If you served in 1975 or earlier and are interested in participating in an Honor Flight trip to Washington D.C. please contact our President, Rich Rose at ra_rose@hotmail.com

CLUB HISTORY

We are hoping to archive important information about our club's begining and growth over the years. If you possess any information or material that you believe belongs in a club archive please contact Paul Bova at bovapaul@gmail.com or call 352-205-2242.

Have your Corvette Featured in Daily Sun

"As you are aware, the Daily Sun newspaper does highlight articles about cars on a weekly basis.

If you would like to have yours taken into consideration, here is the contact information.

Donovan Conaway
(352) 753-1119 Ext. 5400
Donovan.Conaway@thevillagesmedia.com

TOTAL MEMBERS 539		
FAMILIES	229	
SINGLES	81	
GEN	Qty	% Tot
C8	85	24%
C7	109	30%
C6	54	15%
C5	45	13%
C4	21	6%
C3	22	6%
C2	11	3%
C1	13	4%
Tot.Vettes=		360



VVCC BOARD MEMBERS

Rich ROSE - PRESIDENT

(908) 752-8788

ra_rose@hotmail.com

Art DONNELLY - VICE PRESIDENT

(631) 792-2203

apd.vette@gmail.com

Stan COHEN - SECRETARY

(860) 830-6067

marshstan@sbcglobal.net

Alan LUTHI - TREASURER

(651) 253-3182

arluthi@sbcglobal.net

Wayne JOHNSON - ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

(586) 612-6991

wayneoc5@gmail.com

Mike GRINDER - NCM AMBASSADOR

(703) 282-3083

socratesjac@aol.com

George BORKE - WEBMASTER

(407) 758-5298

(352) 205-7167

borkg2006@gmail.com

NCM MEMBERSHIP	
NCM FAMILIES	73
INDIVIDUAL	26
LIFETIME	10
SENIOR INDIV	1
TOTAL = 110	
WHEN ARE WE HERE?	
FULL-TIME	415
PART TIME	120
Don't Know	4

Body	Qty	% Tot
RagTop	136	38%
Targa	140	39%
T-Top	18	5%
Coupe	9	3%
HTC	42	12%
FRC	5	1%
DON'T KNOW	10	3%
TOTAL		360

AS OF 04/07/23

TOP 10 VILLAGES	
VILLAGE	#
PINE HILLS	32
COLLIER	29
GILCHRIST	29
PENNECAMP	26
PINE RIDGE	21
MCCLURE	17
CHARLOTTE	16
FEENEY	16
FERNANDINA	15
LABELLE	15
TOP 10 =	0
ALL OTHERS	346