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JUNE 2025

CORVETTES ON THE CIRCLE – ST ARMANDS 2025!

As many of you know, our club has made the trek down to Sarasota and St Armands for many years. The trip has become one of our major events during the spring with more and more cars attending each year. This year we had a record 17 cars make the journey, and the trip turned out to be our best.

The trip down began with an early morning organizational meeting at Chris Keena's office and then a run down to the Suwannee Belle Landing for lunch. This has become an annual stop on the way down. The food is good and the view from the second floor over the river is quite relaxing. After lunch, we headed down past Tampa with some going via 275 and others staying on 75. The traffic was hectic and stop and go in some places. Unfortunately, Pat and Jan McElveen had a semi-truck move over in their lane without permission and their C7 took some damage to the driver rear quarter panel and wheel. The good news is they were not injured and made it the rest of the way to the hotel. The Carlisle Inn has been our host hotel for the last few years. Prices on hotels near the St Armands Circle have gone out of sight and the change to the Carlisle has proved a winning move. The rooms are large by normal standards, exceptionally clean and the staff is very pleasant and helpful. Also, the restaurant and bakery, just 20 yards from the front door, is relaxed with a great buffet and other desserts. Just a winning combination all around. Not long after arrival, the travel group had a very nice buffet and a private dining room. A great way to end the day.





For those who have not been, our practice has been to arrive early for check in at the registration line so the Skyway Club can get us parked together in the circle. Saturday morning, we left the hotel about 6:10Am and drive over to the registration area. As always, check-in was very efficient and we were all parked within the Circle by about 7:20. After some car cleanup and prep, everyone went in search of coffee, breakfast and/or a restroom. This year, club members who had been before could tell the Circle had been ravaged by hurricane weather. Some of the shops were still recovering and the Circle itself had fewer shade trees and landscaping. All in all, it is still a great venue and everything was looking good. And the restaurants and stores were ready and doing a big business. Our usual lunch at the Columbia was excellent and a nice break from the heat of the day. There was one short good-natured interaction with the local police after SOMEONE might have been caught providing some interesting signage to Chris Keena's car. Fortunately, Delana was not required to wear a monitoring anklet. The afternoon was largely a matter of checking out the cars, looking over the silent auction items, checking for winning numbers in the raffle drawing and waiting for the final awards presentations.



In the last few years our club has done well in the award-winning category. This show is very competitive and there are typically over 175 Corvettes in the competition. I am happy to report that the Cruisin Corvettes of Tallahassee did very well this year. The following awards were claimed by members of our club.

- 2nd place in C2 – Andre Pozzuoli
- 1st place C3 - Terry Thomas
- 3rd place C4 - Russ Sobczak
- 2nd place C5 – Delana Williams
- 2nd place C6 - Rick and Donna Raffensperger
- 1st place C8 - Mike Napoli



Club members placed in all but two categories and as an additional bonus we were able to win the award for Club Participation with 17 cars attending. A great result for our club and a wonderful weekend. After the show, members gathered for drinks and some lighthearted competition at Pop Golf and the annual Kentucky Derby viewing followed by dinner.

ANOTHER NEW CEO FOR THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM!

In a surprising move, the NCM Board recently announced that the previously named new CEO of the NCM had resigned and a new one appointed. Some concerns were raised after it was discovered that David Hill was involved in a controversial business serving the Corvette

community. After his resignation, the Board acted immediately to name Bryce Burklow as the new CEO. Bryce has a 15-year history with the NCM overseeing events and other aspects including serving as interim CEO. Those who know him well have endorsed his selection and there seems to be a consensus that his selection will be very good for the future of the museum. Congratulations Bryce!



Bryce Burklow

National Corvette Museum President & CEO

We are pleased to announce that Bryce Burklow has been appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Corvette Museum. A 15-year veteran of the Museum, Bryce has held leadership positions in Events and Facilities and most recently served as Interim Chief Operating Officer. We look forward to his leadership as we continue to grow and fulfill our mission of celebrating America's Sports Car.

A VISIT TO HOBSON CHEVROLET!

On Saturday, April 19th, the Cruisin Corvettes took a morning cruise up to Cairo to visit Hobson Chevrolet. The owner and our host Bob Hobson welcomed the group of about 20 cars and provided a tour of the dealership. Following some exploration and conversation, members were provided with a Corvette maintenance demonstration with live Q and A. Chip Perkins sacrificed/volunteered the use of his C8 Corvette for the oil change and transmission filter service demonstration provided by Aiden Biard. Service Manager Mike Tyler and Service Advisor Steve Juneau were on hand to answer questions and provide any assistance the members needed. Members got a chance to observe the process, get up close and personal with the underside of a C8 and learn more about this critical service. Once completed, we headed over to Mr. Chick for lunch a tour of an amazing car collection. Our hosts and the owners of Mr. Chick, Wayne and Marcia Hadden, graciously opened their warehouses and told us about the stories behind many of the cars and other things in the collection. The cruise was both fun and educational. Thank you to our hosts Bob Hobson and Wayne and Marcia Hadden! We look forward to our next chance to visit both places.





THE 2025 NCM/MICHELIN BASH!

Each year in April, Michelin sponsors the BASH at the National Corvette Museum. This event is not as large as the annual anniversary celebration, but it is similar with Corvette vendors, educational sessions, the NCM on full display and lots of things to do and see. What traditionally has made this event different is the presentations provided by GM and the Corvette Team. This is the time we will normally hear about changes/updates to the Corvette for the upcoming model year. Changes were anticipated to the color line up, options choices and maybe the interior. In addition, there was some curiosity as to how the event might go given that Tadge, Harlan and Kirk were no longer THE Team. As expected, we got 2 new colors. A very bright Roswell green metallic and the return of blade silver metallic. Riptide blue and sea wolf grey were to be retired and replaced by the new colors. There were a lot of questions about possible changes to the interior but no firm announcements at that point. Subsequently within a week after the BASH, the Corvette community received official confirmation of an interior refresh with expansion of the display screens, the addition of a third display, changes to the wall of buttons in favor of a new, more conventional layout under the infotainment screen, a new toggle mode switch rather than the selection dial, new PDR and screen graphics enhancements as well as a new lighted cup holder layout and phone charger relocation. Not sure why these substantial announcements were delayed until after the BASH. There were many ZR1 prototypes available to see with a modified interior. Some thought these changes might only be for the ZR1, but it turns out they will be made for the entire Corvette lineup. In any case, I will have to see the new changes in person. While I like some of the screen graphics and PDR improvements, I am not sure I like the new layout except for the phone charger relocation. We will see. Also, there will

be options to electronically control the level of tint in the removal top if you select that option. Sounds cool but for me living in the Florida heat, I think a coupe or HTC is the only way to go. I have had a tinted top, and it is very warm in the summer. Ordering or shopping for a new Corvette just got a little more complicated.



A VISIT TO SOUTH GEORGIA CORVETTE!

On Saturday, April 12th, a large group of club members left Tallahassee for a cruise up to Thomasville and the home of Aaron Scott. Aaron is the owner of South Georgia Corvette, and he was kind enough to host us at his home and shop for cookout with hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixings. We had a beautiful but warm day. The food was great, and the brownies were dangerously good. A visit is always fun to see what Aaron might be working on in the shop. Often there are repairs, tune ups and even full-blown frame off restorations going on so there can be a lot to see and discuss. Normally there are Corvettes, Vipers and maybe a few others interesting cars around. Aaron is always happy to answer questions, be a resource for club members and conduct needed repairs or work as needed through his shop. However, next to his shop is a building called the Viper Pit with something you will very rarely see anymore. The Viper Pit is home to several full scale, multi lane slot car tracks. And in the back of the building is one that is a model Daytona track that is amazing to see. When I was small, I could take my slot car and pay a fee to run it on the large local track. Sometimes there were races, and the slot car track building was fun place to hang out a learn about slot cars. I thought those days were long gone with drive-in movies and record shops so to visit a place where you can see and run a car on 4 different large tracks is both amazing and nostalgic. I will say that the cars today are so much faster than anything I ever had but the competitive nature has not changed. The Viper Pit is an amazing place and hats off to Aaron for preserving and opening such an opportunity. We all had a great time and thanks again to Aaron for being such a generous host.



CONGRATULATIONS TO A HOMETOWN HERO!!

Many of you may know club member Mauricio “Moe” Endara. Moe has been a member of the Tallahassee Police Department for many years. He also has a bad car addiction. A condition shared by many of us. Recently, he was inducted into the Hall of Fame for Public Safety during the annual Heroes in Public Safety Awards Banquet. Many of us believe that Moe deserves an award for the number of cars he seems to be able to accommodate in his garage and driveway. And perhaps an award for his wife Amy for her understanding. In any case, if you know Moe, you know just how deserving he is of the recognition for his fine work as a TPD officer, his support of the community and his fellow officers and friends. We are all proud to have him in our club and thank him for his, so far, 31 years of service.



Mauricio “Moe” Endara is a 31-year veteran of the Tallahassee Police Department, dedicated to helping others and going the extra mile for anyone in need. Fluent in both English and Spanish, Moe is often called the “people whisperer” for his ability to communicate clearly and effectively.

Currently serving as the department’s Downtown Officer, Moe has held various roles throughout his career, including Patrol, Investigations, and Community Oriented Policing. His willingness to assist any unit in the department showcases his passion for helping others.

Moe’s philosophy is simple: treat others as you would like to be treated. This approach has helped him navigate many challenging and high-stress situations, including protests, with calmness and respect. His ability to adapt quickly to different circumstances has earned him respect and recognition, including being named Officer of the Year in 2007 for his role in a significant human trafficking case.

An excellent team player and leader, Moe has also been instrumental in recruiting and training new officers. He regularly participates in career fairs, gives tours, and conducts presentations, sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience with others.



APPRECIATING THE FINER THINGS



"Sorry, Chad, but by sacrificing you to the Corvette gods, I'll get a new cover for my Corvette."



NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM UPDATE!

NCM Member Appreciation Day – June 27th - Celebrate with the NCM on June 27 for Member Appreciation Day—a special event honoring the Corvette community ahead of National Corvette Day on June 30. Whether you join us in Bowling Green or take part virtually, this celebration is all about you—the Members who power the mission of the National Corvette Museum to preserve and share the story of America's Sports Car. A range of special activities have been planned both in-person and virtually. Check out the schedule!

Hall of Fame Nominees Announced! – The Corvette Hall of Fame has proudly announced its 2025 class of members-elect, who will be formally inducted during a ceremony on Friday, August 29, 2025, as a part of the National Corvette Museum's 31st Anniversary Celebration. The 2025 Corvette Hall of Fame class includes: Kim Baker, SCCA Corvette Racer, Chuck Jordan, General Motors VP of Design, and Charley & Jim Robertson, Corvette Racing Ambassadors. Many of our club members know Charley and Jim who are members of the Dothan club. They work very hard in support of the Museum, Corvette Racing and the annual Circle City Corvette Club Beach Run. They always manage to bring some interesting things to the auction each year from Corvette Racing and other unique areas. This is an honor that is richly deserved.

Another New NCM Board Member- The National Corvette Museum proudly announces the appointment of Andy Pilgrim to its Board of Directors. A **2012 inductee into the Corvette Hall of Fame**, Pilgrim's resume includes decades of racing excellence, a deep connection to the Corvette community, and a tireless commitment to highway safety education. Andy's contributions to Corvette Racing are legendary. He was instrumental in delivering Corvette Racing's first-ever win in 2000 alongside teammate Ron Fellows. His time behind the wheel of the C5-R, and later racing alongside greats like Dale Earnhardt and Dale Jr., cemented his place in Corvette history and the hearts of fans around the world. "To be welcomed

onto the National Corvette Museum Board is an incredible honor,” explained Pilgrim. “The Museum represents the heart and soul of the Corvette community, and I look forward to supporting its mission, engaging with fellow enthusiasts, and giving back to the people who’ve given me so much over the years.” “Andy Pilgrim brings a rare combination of professional racing experience, Corvette passion, and a strong commitment to public service,” added Bryce Burklow, National Corvette Museum President and CEO. “His legacy is deeply woven into the fabric of Corvette Racing, and we’re excited about the insight and energy he will bring to the Board as we look to the future.”



31st Anniversary Celebration
August 28-30, 2025

[Save The Date](#)



**Museum in Motion:
National Parks**
September 21-27, 2025

[Join the Wait List](#)



Corvette Racing Weekend
October 2-4, 2025

[Join the Wait List](#)

View a complete list of events with more information and links to register on the [website here](#).

Corvette Raffles! - Currently raffle tickets are only available through the mail, by filling out an order form, or through purchase at the museum or in the State of Kentucky. There are a range of vehicles and raffle types underway, so I encourage you to take-a-look at the website for a complete listing. I have not won yet, but I remain hopeful. You can't win if you don't play as they say. You can find the latest raffles here - <https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org>

Check the Events Calendar on the **UPDATED website for more upcoming activities**

Join us for our next meeting on June 5th at Casa Grande!

If you have any questions or suggestions about the newsletter, please contact:
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in Real Estate in Tallahassee*