

COD Communications

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Fall Cruisin' to Fern





President's Report

November 2016

By Ken Gordon

Hope all members and their families had a wonderful Thanksgiving. As usual we had way too much food and also blended the day with our Granddaughters 10th Birthday making for a very busy and noisy day, but all was good.

Later this month we have our annual Christmas Dance. I encourage all members to attend as it is a fabulous night with lots of food, prizes and great music. Cathy Nunno will be selling tickets at the next general meeting (last chance) so please bring your cheque books that night and plan to attend. The venue is the Deer Creek Golf & Country Club on Saturday November 26th. Hope to see you there.

Once again we are teaming up with Tom Brown from CTV to support Toy Mountain. Corvettes of Durham will be presenting a cheque in the amount of \$1,000.00 plus a truck load of donated toys. It would be appreciated if members could bring a new unwrapped toy for donation to the next General Meeting. Please let me know if you can make it to Pickering Town Centre Friday December 9th to join in the fun (289-923-8333) or kgordon@sympatico.ca.

I want to welcome Dave Collins as our new Membership Director. He has big shoes to fill after Angelika steps down and he will receive assistance from Rocco Nunno. I mentioned last month Ken Skiba has volunteered to relieve Anne from the Newsletter task. Thanks to both ladies for their commitment the past two years. Great Job !

Corvettes of Durham has a great team of Executives, Directors and their Committees that ensure we all enjoy our Vettes and our time together. Thank you all for your commitment as well.

Our last General Meeting for 2016 will be at the Station Street Diner on Wednesday November 16th at 7:30 and PLEASE purchase your Christmas Dance Tickets from Cathy and try to bring a new unwrapped toy for Toy Mountain.

Thanks and see you soon !

Ken



Bruce Gagnon
President, Certified HLG, HNG

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Corvettes of Durham was established in 2000. We meet once a month on the third Wednesday at the Station Street Diner (40 Station Street) in Ajax at 7:30 pm. During the summer months we arrange 'offsite meetings' and cruise to different locations. If you have a favourite restaurant, suitable for a meeting, please let the social committee know.

COD Executive

President	Ken Gordon	905-831-0653	kgordon@sympatico.ca
Vice President	Brian Lindow	416-439-8209	brian.lindow@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Myran Coburn	905-579-5176	myrancoburn@coburnstransport.com
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Governor	John Robinson	905-430-9601	johnrobinsonHR@hotmail.ca
Past President	Ron Boulter	905-429-2355	ron.boulter@sympatico.ca

COD Directors

Advertising	Marilyn Gordon	905-831-0653	kgordon@sympatico.ca
Club Clothing	Your Moving Depot	905-438-1906	kelly@yourmovingdepot.ca
Club Historian	Rocco Nunno	905-985-7896	rocon50@gmail.com
DreamVettes	Bruce Gagnon	905-723-9375	dorothygagnon@hotmail.com
Membership	Dave Collins	905-432-9272	conniecollins0@gmail.com
	Rocco Nunno	905-985-7896	rocon50@gmail.com
NCRS Rep	Ron Langlois	905-579-6439	langlois@rogers.com
NCM Ambassadors	Jan and Dave Raven	905-852-1233	furryface@powergate.ca
Newsletter	Ken Skiba	905-579-8323	kskiba@long-mcquade.com
Social	Cathy Nunno	905-985-7896	stingraysocial@gmail.com
Website	John Fletcher	905-683-0696	vetmyster@hotmail.com



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Members' Corner



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November

Julian Ralph	2
Sharon Boulter	5
Bruce Smith	6
Connie Young	8
Curleen Frederick	10
Cathy Nunno	12
Gus Tzirivilas	13
Paul Arsenault	20
Angela Tzirivilas	26
Margaret Kowal	27

December

Mike Tillaart	4
Angelika Ambra	5
Ken Gordon	12
Ken Crichton	13
Ron Tremblay	21

COD Club Clothing

COD Club Clothing can be ordered online directly from Your Moving Depot.

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password - durham

Contact: Kelly or Kim

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Update from Cathy Nunno

COD Social Director

It certainly seems like the days, weeks, and months "JET" by us.

COD had a busy month....club elections...last 2016 Car Shows....our General Meeting....and Card/ Social Night .

Saturday October 15, 29 COD members enjoyed an evening of Euchre, Poker, Rummoli, and just chatting and watching baseball at the Italian Recreation Club in Oshawa. It was lots of fun. Thank you Donna J. for organizing us, Terry N. for "shooting" us (with a camera, of course), and Doreen, Judy and Linda for complementing our snack tables.

A big poker IOU debt was incurred by Doreen while playing poker with Jim.

Prize Winners for the night:

Lone Hands.....Dave Collins after a card draw off
High Hand for a Woman....Jan Raven
High Hand for a Man.....Clayton
Low Hand for a Man....Joe D after a card draw off
Low Hand for a Woman....Cecile
SocialJohn R.
50/50 winner of \$46.John R.
2nd prize ...Tim's \$20. Gift Card.....Ron Langlois

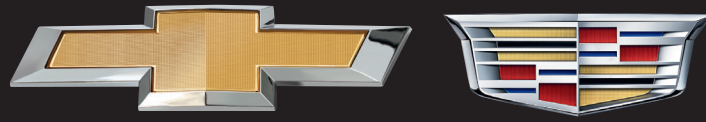
Thank you to all who attended.

Please remember our **COD Christmas Dinner and Dance** is Saturday November 26 at Deer Creek G and C Club. \$55 pp for members and \$65 for non-members. **Please let Cathy know if you can donate a prize for the dance, and bring it to the November meeting if possible.** The deadline to purchase tickets was November 1st but I have to give an accurate number to Deer Creek on November 15 so please think about joining us. and let me know. **You can mail a cheque to me at 12 Robin Trail Port Perry L9L 2C7.**

November 16 is our last General Meeting for 2016. We resume our monthly meetings in January 2017 at Station Street Diner.

Hopefully everyone was able to complete a survey of our interests as it is difficult, frustrating, and disappointing to plan events for a club our size ...and only a few attend. Your feedback should help us.

Cathy Nunno



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Rocco's Corner



2016 Corvette Final Production Statistics

Total Production - 40,689

Stingray Coupe	- 21,387
Stingray Convertible	- 5,027
Z06 Coupe	- 11,543
Z06 Convertible	- 2,732

Colours

Admiral Blue	- 336
Night Race Blue	- 835
Daytona Summer Orange	- 965
Blade Silver	- 2,555
Corvette Racing Yellow	- 2,715
Long Beach Red	- 3,224
Laguna Blue	- 3,585
Shark Gray	- 5,044
Torch Red	- 6,122
Black	- 6,950
Arctic White	- 8,368

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Mexico	- 207
Japan	- 191
Mideast	- 254
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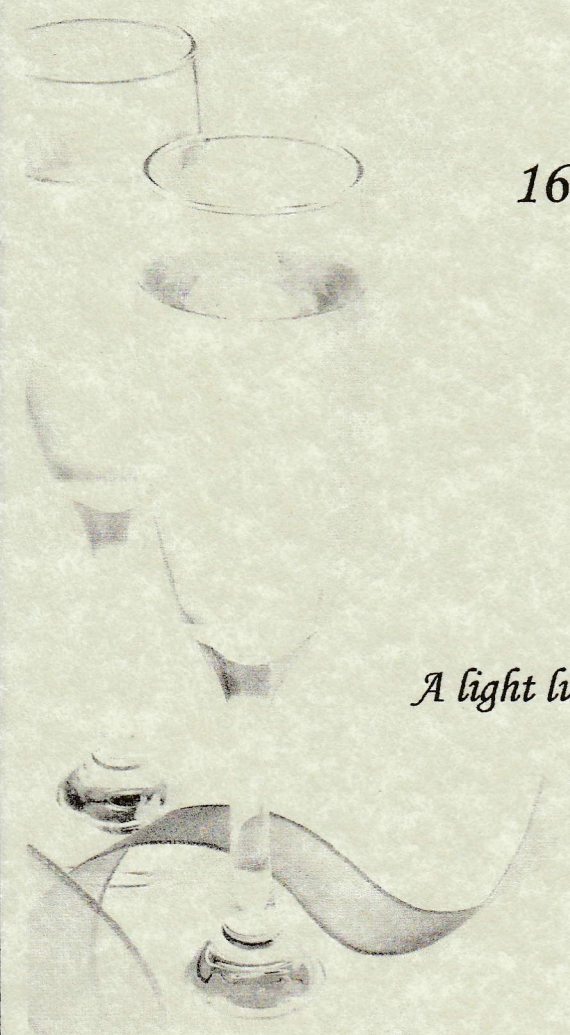
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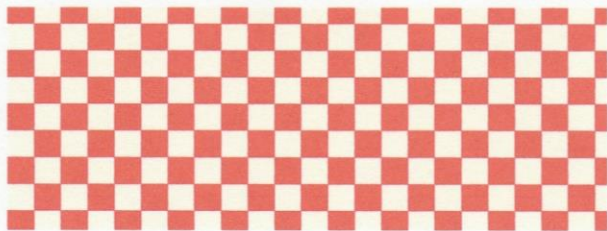
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Corvettes of Durham
2017 Membership Renewal
Important Notice

Under New Management

As of November 1, 2016, Angelika Ambra, who has been the Corvettes of Durham Membership Director for the last 2 years will be resigning from her present position as Membership Director. We all want to express our "thanks" to Angelika for all her great work during the last 2 years.

In an effort to fill the position of Membership Director, 2 guys, yes 2 men have cautiously agreed to step forward to bravely try to replicate the great job that has been done by a very talented woman over the last 2 years.

The 2 new Membership Guys are Rocco Nunno and Dave Collins. (I put my name first because I am writing this notice.)

So, the time for all members to renew their 2017 Club Memberships will officially begin on November 1, 2016. By the way about 5 members have already given their renewal payments. Thank you to these members.

Reasons to Renew Your Membership Early

Ladies : why worry about having to spend hours looking for a Christmas gift for your husband? - just write an \$85.00 cheque and you can spend the rest of the time looking for gifts for yourself. More money for your gifts.

Men : who needs more tools, socks or underwear ? Just tell your wife that the only thing that you want for Christmas is a Corvettes of Durham Membership. That way the weekends are yours to enjoy with the other Corvette Guys all summer long!

Snowbirds : you lucky Guys and Gals! Why worry about having to rush home in the new year because you forgot to renew your 2017 Membership? Stay in the warm weather, worry free until April or May. Just write your \$ 85.00 cheque (post dated to January 1 , 2017) if you want .

BONUS : remember that cost is \$85.00 in CANADIAN FUNDS !!

So what are you waiting for ??? Get your cheque books out and write an \$85.00 cheque for your 2017 Membership. Remember that there are no extra charges if you choose to post date your cheque. Who else provides you with that kind of convenience? So if you want to keep your funds in your "No Interest chequing or savings account" until January 1, 2017, then simply date your cheque as of January 1, 2017. (Be sure that you put 2017 NOT 2016).

How To Renew Your 2017 Membership

1) Rocco and Dave will gladly accept your cheques at any club events (beginning with the November General Meeting).
Remember: there is no General Meeting in December but there may be some parties.

2) By Mail: simply mail your cheque to :

Rocco Nunno
12 Robin Trail,
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Thank You Corvettes of Durham Members

Just a short note to say "thank you " to all of you for the great " Get Well Card " and your kind " Get Well Wishes ". Just to mention, that some of the comments made me laugh and as a result, I experienced more pain. Thanks so much. Hope to see you all in the near future.

Rocco

A sad note

The mother of Jann Finch, **Roxann Waddington** passed away in Bowmanville on October 31st. A celebration of life will be held at a later date at **St. George's Memorial Anglican Church** in Oshawa. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to St. George's Memorial Anglican Church Oshawa would be appreciated.

Our sympathies to Jann, Ron and family.



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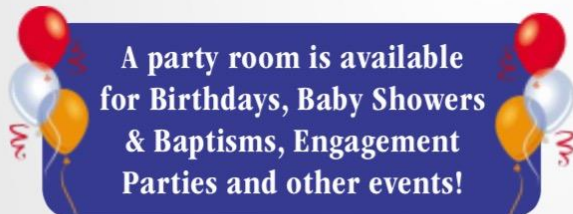
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Tail of the Dragon, Corvette Assembly and Corvette Museum Trip

Hello COD members! I know we're strangers to most of you because we never make it to any events but we are COD members going on 4 years now. Wednesday is just a bad day of the week for us and shows are not so much our thing. We like to drive though.

In July Lisa and I set out on a road trip in our 2002 Electron Blue Convertible. Our primary destination was Walden Lodge in Tennessee for a weekend party with friends who were gathering from all around the US and even one who flew in from Manchester, England. But that is not what I am here to tell you about.

I'm here to tell you about the drive experience. We headed out across the 407, picked up the QEW and crossed the Rainbow Bridge into Buffalo. From there we headed west on I-90 to Erie, PA and then south on I-79. Most of this so far is pretty boring driving. Mostly straight though there is lots of rural scenery and elevation changes on 79. We took that down to Pittsburgh where we stopped and met a friend of mine and his wife for lunch before heading out again.

Now I-79 does start to get more interesting as you near Pittsburgh and even more so as you go south of Pittsburgh. Once south of Pittsburgh the drive becomes much more interesting. There are some terrific views of the Mountains and for driving, the speed limit is 70 MPH and 80 does not seem to draw any attention from the Troopers. The road becomes very windy through mountains and passes and is a very satisfying ride in a convertible Corvette.

Someways south of Pittsburgh we picked up WV-119. This road was a ton of fun to drive! Amazing scenery! At times low in the valley looking up at the Mountains around you and at other times atop a mountain pass where you could suddenly see for miles to your left or right. This is also a very twisty road and the speed limit is frequently 70 and that just makes it a really fun drive! Continuing south (my memory is a bit weak here) we picked up WV-20 and made our way to Princeton, WV. We drove over 1,000km that first day. What is in Princeton you ask? Not much! But there was a Hampton Inn that I had reserved a room in. The reason we ended here was that it was the closest hotel to our day 2 objective, The Back of the Dragon!

The Back of the Dragon is formally known as VA-16 and connects North Tazewell to Marion, VA. It is a 32 mile stretch of narrow 2 lane road that crosses a 3 mountain range. The road is twisty and curvy and the scenery is absolutely beautiful! If I recall correctly there are 418 turns. The road climbs up and down the mountains with a series of switchback hairpin turns, many of which are often completely blind! Unfortunately for us a light rain was falling this day and we could not "push the limits" of the car much. But it was still a fun drive. Lisa was amazed at the massive Rhododendrons that lined the

road in the mountains. We had a nice lunch of Virginia Barbecue in Marion and then headed out to the next stop on our trip.

It was a long drive from "The Back of the Dragon" to our next stop which was Tapoco Lodge in North Carolina. A lot of it on I-81 which is about as interesting as the 401 from Oshawa to Cornwall. It took most of the day and we got caught in some terrible traffic when we left the highway passing through Sevierville and Pigeon Forge. Pigeon Forge is a huge tourist "trap". There is tons of shopping and tons of attractions. Finally got out of that traffic and got onto the Foothills parkway. A lower speed limit here but some really tremendous views and lots of places to pull over for a scenic outlook. Here is the good part. At Tallassee you arrive at US-129, The Tail of the Dragon! One of the most popular destinations for motorcycle and sports car enthusiasts. 11 miles and 318 turns! The rain had stopped by now and the roads were drier but still a bit damp. But at 6 PM we had that road almost to ourselves. Not being too sure of what we were in for I took it a bit easy on the south bound trip. As I mentioned our hotel for the night was at Historic Tapoco Lodge just over the border from TN to NC and also the south end of "the Tail."

A few words about Tapoco Lodge. First, the history. It was built by and for the executives of Alcoa as a place to stay while they were building the Cheoah Dam on the Little Tennessee River. This dam in particular is famous because it is the dam which Harrison Ford is standing atop of in a scene from the movie "The Fugitive." The Lodge is a beautiful place to stay. The main lodge houses a gift shop, check-in desk and a library. Around the back and in the walkout basement there is a restaurant looking over the river. There is also a patio out there with lots of chairs and fire pits where you can enjoy a beautiful evening. The accommodations are a series of multi-unit cabins that although rustic looking are very comfortable and clean. It was the nicest place we stayed on this trip and as you might expect it was a bit expensive. Well you do only live once! One final word about the lodge. Cell service is non-existent (One of the US carriers apparently work in that area) as this is pretty remote and the lodge does not offer WiFi. They do have a public computer in the library if you need to check email or look something up.

Now it was not horrendously expensive, just pretty pricey. But the accommodations were very nice so we didn't feel too bad about splurging a bit.

You may recall that there had been a lot of reports of flooding and roads washed out in the area in June/July. Fortunately, we did not encounter any issues like that though the night at Tapoco yet another large Thunderstorm did roll through.

Day 3 was one of the days I was really looking forward to. It was now bright, hot and sunny again. We left Tapoco Lodge heading up the twisty section of US-129 beside the dam site to Deals Gap. Just a short hop. From there we followed a route to the south first that took us along NC-28 which follows the river to the east before crossing it south. Again this is wonderful mountain area so the roads are twisty, curvy and elevations change all the time and often quickly! 28 loops back and picks up the lower part of US-129 (not part of the tail) and swings back up by Tapoco again.

We pulled into Deals Gap where there are the obligatory souvenir shops and we picked up the obligatory souvenirs to prove we'd been there. On the West side there is the "official" Tail Of The Dragon shop. To the east side is the Deals Gap Motorcycle resort. We got in the car and got ready to make our "hot run" northbound on the Tail. At the end of the driveway a pedestrian crossed the road so I had to wait a moment. Unfortunately, that cleared the way for 7 sportbikes to pull out across the road ahead of me. I thought about waiting for clearer road but also thought sportbikes would be quite fast and would not hold me up....I was wrong!

On the Tail of the Dragon there are many places one can "pull over" to allow a faster vehicle to pass. This is the only way to safely overtake on the Tail. The road is otherwise too tight and almost no sections are straight enough to give you visibility. One by one I caught up to those sport bikes and one by one they allowed me to pass. I cleared all of them by the end of the run. We took a dashcam video of the run and it is available on YouTube if you are interested. The link is <https://youtu.be/5enx2p0SEUo>.

All along "The Tail" there are photographers set up who take pictures of your car as you drive the road. They have their website displayed and by the end of the day you can see the photos they took and if desired purchase them. We found a few we liked and did purchase the electronic version of the photos. I had one blown up to 24 x 36 and it hangs framed in my office now. Here are a few of the pictures we got from the roadside photographers. The ride was a lot of fun and we had a terrific time. I highly recommend planning a trip to drive this road and experience the kind of driving the Chevrolet engineers built these beasts for!

Following our run on "The Tail" we headed to Walden Lodge for our weekend party and had a great time. Sunday after checkout we started heading west and made our way to Nashville, TN. We had lunch downtown before heading north to our hotel. This was very out of the way and there was really nothing to do on Sunday night! But it was very close to our next planned stop on the Monday morning.

Monday we made a short drive north to Bowling Green, KY! We had repurchased tickets for the Bowling Green Assembly plant tour! I was very excited about this day! When we got there I couldn't resist parking my Vette beside a blue C7 that was in the parking lot. The factory tour was quite interesting and I stayed close to our tour guide who was very knowledgeable so I could ask questions. You don't get as close to the actually assembly line as I'd hoped but of course this is a safety consideration. I would have liked a view of the frames being welded but that was in a caged area in the distance which we never got close to. Still a worthwhile place to visit if you are a Corvette enthusiast. Once the tour ended we grabbed lunch and headed home...no of course we didn't! Jan and David wouldn't speak to us again if we didn't go to the Corvette Museum which we did!



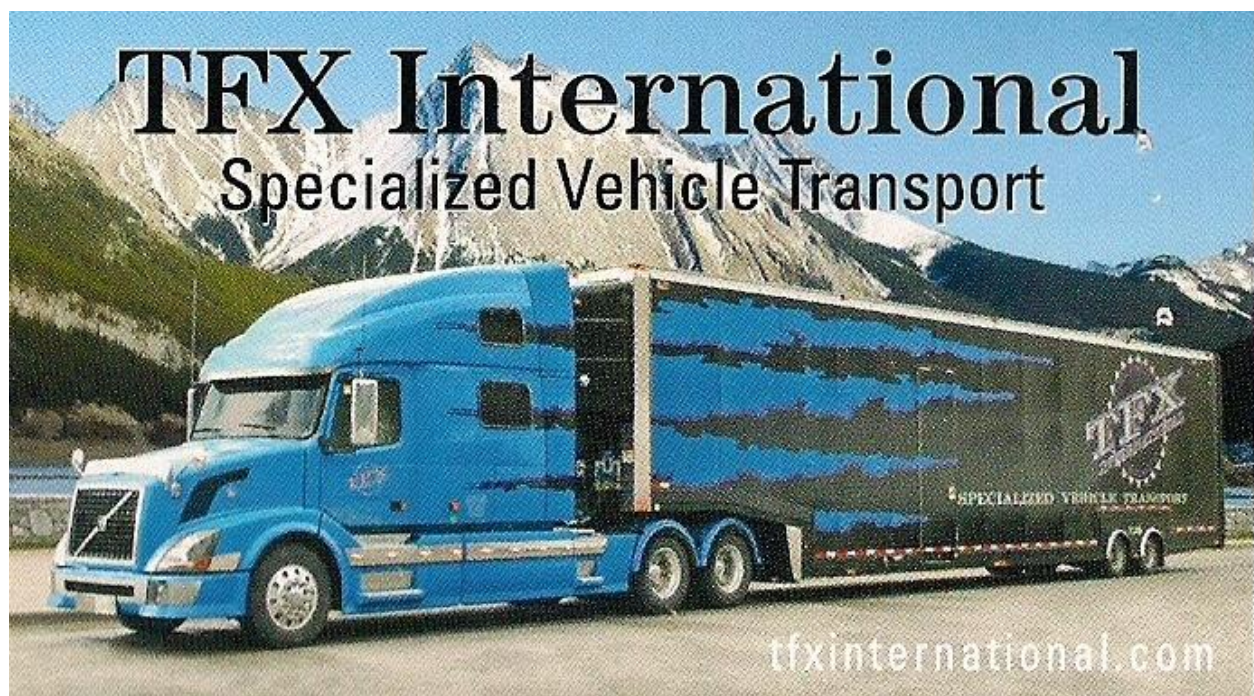
On arrival the lobby was full of C7's waiting for purchasers who chose "Museum Delivery" option. At the front of the two rows was a convertible in blue which I almost ruined by drooling! Going to have to make that happen some day for me!

We made our way around the museum. Lots and lots of interesting displays which I understand some of are ever-changing. The day we were there one of the most interesting sections was a display of prototype Vettes through the years. One was clearly close to if not the final inspiration for the C5 after a few refinements. There is a display which I suspect will be permanent now dedicated to the sinkhole incident. It was quite interesting though some of the "technical" bits of it like certain videos on demand did not seem to be working. The dome was one of my favorite parts with Vettes all through the ages on display together. It was somewhat heartbreaking to see some of the Vettes from the sinkhole which will never be repaired because they were too badly damaged.

By the end of the day we were pretty tired and still had a lot of miles to put on. We had to get to Dayton where our next hotel stay was planned. But this was virtually the end of the trip. After this night (and dinner at P.F. Chang's) our only order of business the next morning was to drive home. We headed north on I-75 towards Detroit. Not very interesting but we were fortunate that all the construction seemed to be on the southbound side. We sailed along north bound feeling very grateful we were not in the miles and miles of bumper-to-bumper traffic going the other way.

Made the crossing into Windsor and picked up the 401. Sadly, this time we found ourselves in some pretty lengthy construction delays heading towards London. Once it opened up for good it was clear sailing We got home around dinner time and after 6 days and 3,453.7km driven we were glad to be home. It was a great week to drive a Corvette!

By Martin LeMoine



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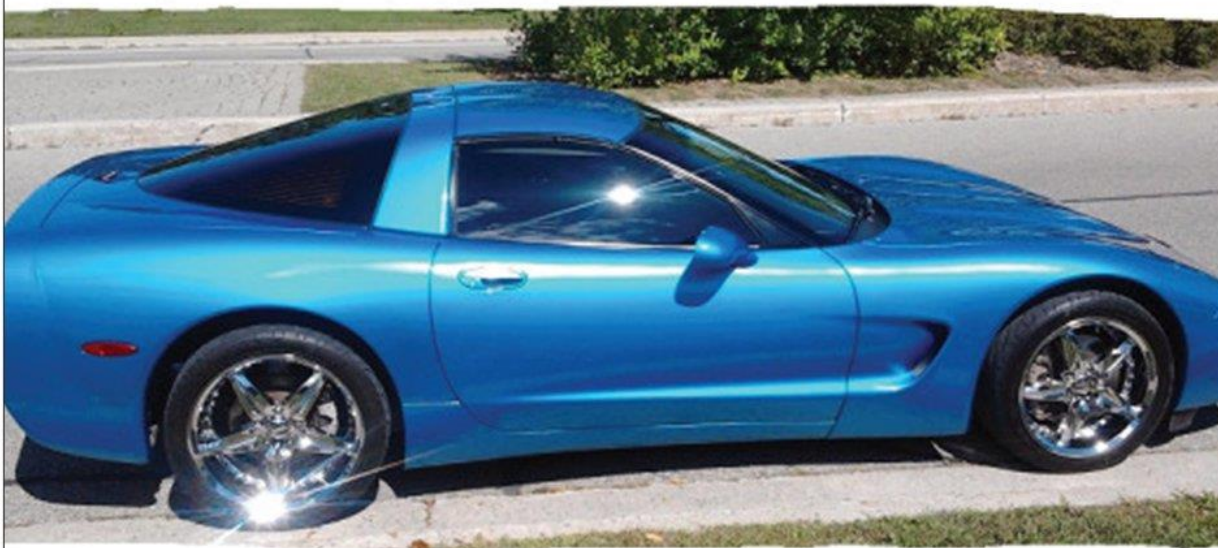
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From your National Corvette Museum Ambassadors.....



The National Corvette Museum is constantly changing its exhibits. A special display of fourteen cars in the Museum's Exhibit Hall highlight some of the models that are now history. The display will feature the following, which is a shortened version of the article in the Oct/Nov/Dec America's Sportscar:

1940 Cavern Green Cadillac LaSalle. The LaSalle was manufactured from 1927 through 1940. The LaSalle was second only to the Cadillac.

1955 Chevrolet 3300 Pick-up Truck. From 1947 until 1955, Chevrolet Trucks were No. 1 in sales in the U.S.A. the styling for these truck was the inspiration for both the SSR and HHR.

1954 Cadillac Eldorado (my favourite). The Eldorado was manufactured from 1952 until 2002 - fifty years - and then there were none. (sniff)

1956 Chevrolet Bel Air Nomad. The Nomad, a station wagon, had a unique trim package. It was introduced at Motorama 1954 as a "Dream Car".

1964 Pontiac GTO. One of the original muscle cars the GTO was manufactured from 1964 until 1974. It was selected as Motor Trend's Car of the Year 1968.

1967 Chevelle. The Chevelle was produced from 1964 through 1978 as a coupe, sedan, convertible, station wagon and an El Camino. Its successors are the Malibu and Camaro.

1969 Pontiac Firebird. It was built from 1967 to 2002, and on the same platform as the Camaro. It was originally intended to be a two seat sports car based on the original Banshee but GM thought it would directly compete with the Corvette and turned it into a "Pony Car".

1970 Cutlass Rallye 350. It was intended to be competition for the "junior Muscle Cars". Only 3,547 and all yellow, they were only offered one year.
1987 Monte Carlo. The Monte Carlo was a six generation two-door "personal luxury car" built from 1970 through to 2007 (we have two - and still drive both). Production was halted from 1989 to 1994. The Monte Carlo was a casualty of changing times.

1987 Buick Grand National. Named for the NASCAR Winston Cup Grand National Series, it was built between 1981 and 1987. Due to its all black appearance and released during the popularity of the Star Wars movies it earned the title "Darth Vader's Car".

2005 Cadillac XLR. Built in Bowling Green with the Corvette the XLR was produced from 2004 -2009. It was the second Cadillac Roadster, (the other was the Allante). Only 15,460 were sold during its nine year run.



The National Corvette Museum constantly has changing exhibits. Every Corvette owner should try and get their once but if you can't, check out the National Corvette Museum website and wander the halls of the NCM on your personal computer. There are lots of things of interest.

Dave and Jan



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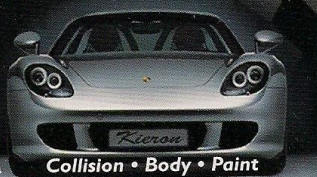
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2016 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT TITLE	CONTACT	LOCATION	TIME
Nov 16	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	Station Street Diner	7:30 pm
Nov 26	COD Christmas Party	Cathy Nunno	Deer Creek Golf Club	5:30 pm

GREEN

CCCC Event – check with Brian Lindow

BLACK

COD Event

RED

General Information

