

# COD Communications

[www.corvettesofdurham.ca](http://www.corvettesofdurham.ca)



Our National Corvette Museum Ambassadors have served the club well for 10 years! A huge COD  
“Thank You” to Jan & Dave Raven!



February 2017



# President's Report

**By Ken Gordon**

Well, looks like it's going to be an early Spring as Warton Willie and Nova Scotia's Shubenacadie Sam did not see their shadows. That's great news for us Corvette owners.

Motorama is coming up quickly, starting Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> and running till Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>. Brian has been busy organizing this event. Corvettes of Durham is planning a 6- Corvette display once again. I have arranged a special Corvette for our display that is owned by Ollie Stephan, although he is not C.O.D. member I have known him for a long time and recently he was presented a plaque from N.H.R.A. for his lifetime achievement in Drag Racing. The Corvette is a 1971 and has been strictly a dragster its entire life and runs the quarter mile in 8.8 seconds - "now that's fast".

We are looking for members to help with the booth that weekend so please let Brian or me know if you're available.

Although I could not attend the Barrett Jackson event I heard they all had a great time. Thanks Jan & Dave for arranging this event.

Our next General Meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup> will be held at the Lone Star in Pickering and our guest speaker will be Tariq Azam from Scotia Wealth Management. Tariq will be presenting us all with helpful financial advice and will do a Q & A after. Always very interesting.

Hope to see everyone there.

Ken



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**Corvettes of Durham** was established in 2000. We meet on the third Wednesday every month 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 convenor know.

## COD Executive

President	Ken Gordon	905-831-0653	<a href="mailto:kgordon@sympatico.ca">kgordon@sympatico.ca</a>
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# Members' Corner



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**February**

Carl Gomes	6
Gloria Chalmers	8
Shirley Arsenault	10
Darlene Read	15
Rocco Nunno	16
Linda Landry	19
Eddie Hayward	20
Marilyn Gordon	21
Marian Ralston	21



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Contact: Kelly or Kim

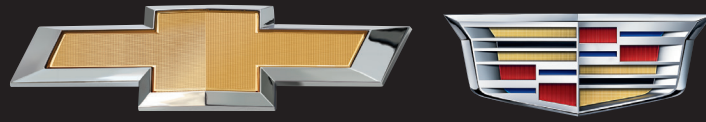
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## Annual Advertising Rates

<b>Bronze</b>	Business card - \$ 30.00
<b>Silver</b>	Half page - \$125.00 (includes link on website)
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## UPDATE FROM CATHY NUNNO SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Winter is being kind to us so far but I am sure a surprise is coming SOON!

We at Corvettes of Durham sure know how to have fun. We enjoyed 4 social events which hopefully helped us to avoid the January BLAHS! It is now February and we anxiously await some good news from the local groundhog.

**January 1 - Casino Brunch.** It was lots of fun with great conversation, great company, and even some financial investments that paid dividends at this event...\$ cha-ching!!!

**January 18 - our Monthly General Meeting** at Lone Star Pickering. We had a really good turnout. I was happy to discuss the results of the survey-Social Activity section. I appreciated the feedback and suggestions that came forward. I do try to consider all of your ideas.

**January 21- Barrett Jackson Fantasy Auction Party at Hops Bar and Grill.** Thanks Jan and Dave for organizing this “**Automobile Extravaganza**”. I cannot wait to see all the Fantasy Vehicles which were purchased.

**January 28 - Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ron and Jann Langlois.** All COD members were invited to their Wedding Reception at the Shriners Club. The turnout was great. The guest list was outstanding; the food delicious; the refreshments nourishing; and the Dance Music was INCREDIBLE. Thank you Jann and Ron for allowing us to share in your happiness. The COD members in attendance presented them with a gift to help them on their RV Route 66 trip and an RV Toilet Bowl cleaner 😊





# UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday March 4 SOCIAL/CARDS evening at the Italian Club in Oshawa.

- Cost \$15 pp with light snacks, water, coffee and tea. Cash bar.
- RSVP by Feb. 15 (Feb. General Meeting) and payment if possible.

PLEASE MARK THE DATE AND JOIN US!!!

Spring Cruise ---I am still working on a date and location. I will send out an email as soon as it is confirmed. If anyone has a suggestion, please let me know.

## GOLF

Mike Tillaart has graciously accepted the position of GOLF CO-ORDINATOR for COD.

Your RSVP is needed!

The date is Tuesday June 13 at Royal Ashburn with a Golf cart and dinner included in the pp cost of \$70.06. More details will follow. So far we have 17 members interested in the golf and dinner event and 3 members plan to attend the dinner only. You can join the golfers for dinner only if you wish. Let's get some more interest going, please.

Thank you, Mike, for taking on this new career choice.

Christmas Dinner and Dance for 2017 will be Saturday November 25 at Deer Creek Golf and Country Club. We need at least 70 people, so please plan on joining us for a night of Christmas fun!

That's all for now folks! Thank you,

Cathy and Jan



**Meet at Pete's Nite**

**"Friday Nite"**

**8:00 till late**

**May – October**

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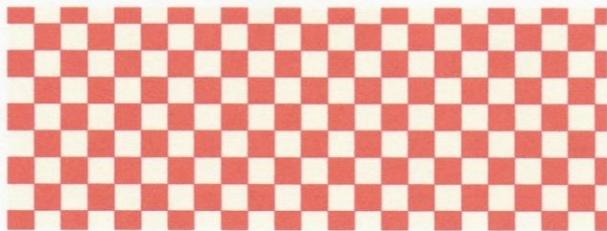
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## Rocco's Corner



### 1953 Corvette Sting Ray – “The Birth of America’s Sports Car”

#### Quick Facts

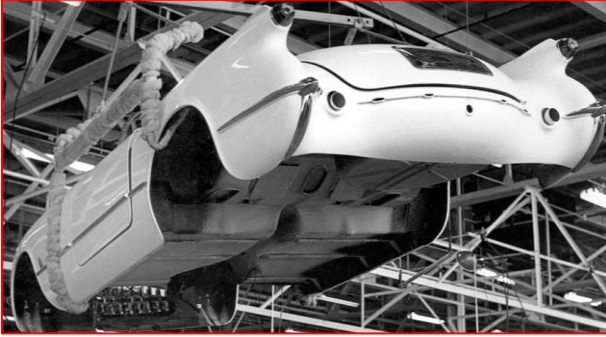
- It was the first production car ever built with a fiberglass body.
- Each Corvette was basically “hand built”.
- Chevrolet was not able to get a V-8 engine for its Corvette from Cadillac, Oldsmobile or Pontiac.
- After some modifications to the standard “Blue Flame Special” six cylinder engine, Chevrolet was able to produce a 150 HP engine instead of the regular 115 HP engine.
- Production of the 1953 Corvette began at the Flint, Michigan plant.
- The first 1953 Corvette SN E53F001001 was built on Tuesday June 30, 1953.
- The first 5 Corvettes to roll off the assembly line did not have an outside rear view mirror.
- The first 50 Corvettes were delivered to “hand-picked celebrities”, athletes and corporate executives.
- Unfortunately Chevrolet found that there weren’t 250 more buyers who wanted to pay a high price for a car that had leaks in the windshield and lacked performance.
- It is believed that **only 183** 1953 Corvettes were sold!
- On December 24, 1953 production of the 1953 Corvette was finished at the Flint, Michigan plant.
- On December 28, 1953 production of the Corvette was started at the St. Louis, Missouri plant.





## Rocco's Corner

- The last 14 1953 Corvettes were produced at the St. Louis plant.



- Production of the 1953 Corvette ended before January 1, 1954 with a total production of 314 cars.
- Because of the short production run, the 1953 Corvette is the rarest of all the Corvettes.
- All the 1953 Corvettes were painted polo white, had a red interior, black soft top, white wall tires, automatic transmission and 2 spinner hub caps.



- The 1953 Corvettes did not have outside door handles – to get in the car you had to reach inside to open the door.
- The base 1953 Corvette cost **\$3,498.00!**





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## Corvettes of Durham Barrett-Jackson Fantasy Auction Party

There were 25 high rollers at Hop's Bar and Grill in Whitby on Saturday January 21, 2017 for our first Barrett-Jackson Fantasy Auction Party. We had the upstairs room with our own bar and 5 big screen TV's.



The auction party was organized and run by Jan and Dave Raven. Great job guys! After an hour of socializing and pre-auction viewing which was used to tune-up our estimating skills, a car was selected and we put our estimates on pre-printed cards. When the car rolled up on the stage the tensions rose and caused outbursts of expressive joy or at times excruciating pain.

First up was a 1958 Corvette won by Susan Gomes for \$135,000.00, way to go Susan!



There was a prize for each correct estimate, prizes for everyone at their table, a 50/50 draw, and a dozen or so other prizes, plus each person received a buffing towel custom rolled by Jan herself.

Second up was 1957 Chev Suburban won by Ron Boulter for \$150,000.00; he is going to park it beside his Corvette.



Third up was a 1968 Shelby 500 won by Ron Langlois for \$150,000.00. Don't worry Jann, he will store your car to make room for it.



It's really great to have such wealthy members.

Thanks to Mike and the staff for putting on a great buffet, so much food no one had to worry about cooking dinner. Wings and sliders plus a dozen other things. As fast as we ate, the plates were replenished. They even provided Styrofoam containers for people to take their favorites home.





Sue and Glenn Tompkins won \$70.00 from the 50/50 draw.

Special Thanks again to Jan and Dave for putting together such a fun afternoon. The prizes were great, everyone went home with something and I loved the special touches with the chocolate kisses.



### Our hosts, "The Ravens"







## AMBASSADOR

We'd like, first, to say a huge thank you to Jan & Dave Raven for their leadership to our Club for their ten years as NCM Ambassadors to Corvettes of Durham! And we very much appreciate their nomination that we take on this role for our Club! We will endeavor to bring to your attention various events hosted by the National Corvette Museum either at the Museum or elsewhere.

The Role of the Ambassador is to be our Club's link to the National Corvette Museum. Our mission will be to receive and share with you the most current and correct information from the Museum; and to act as a Museum representative to promote and solicit COD support for the Museum through promotional activities and encourage other Corvette enthusiasts to join the Museum. Additionally, we will be the voice of Corvettes of Durham, communicating our concerns, ideas and suggestions to the NCM. Please have a look at the Ambassador page of the NCM website: [www.corvettemuseum.org](http://www.corvettemuseum.org); you'll find it under the 'Support' tab.

The Museum's website contains all sorts of information of interest to Corvette owners - check it out: [www.corvettemuseum.org](http://www.corvettemuseum.org); click on 'explore', then click 'events' to read of this year's events at the NCM. First up on the NCM calendar is the 'Bash', sponsored by Michelin, taking place April 27 to 29. Registration is now open. The Bash offers numerous seminars and self-driving day trips and tours to interesting places within reach of Bowling Green. The highlight of the Bash every year is the premiere of Corvettes for the next model year and 2018 Stingrays and Z06's will be on display with GM representatives on hand to answer your questions. Click the "**Read more**" link below to read about the Bash:

**Michelin NCM Bash @ National Corvette Museum**

**\*\*REGISTRATION OPEN\*\***

**Apr 27 - Apr 29** all-day

[Read more](#)

As you heard at the January meeting, our Club has renewed its membership at the Museum. But if you're not already an NCM member, why not join now and enjoy a 50% reduction! For the month of February, the family membership rate is only \$50.00. Members get free museum admission, Corvette store discounts, lapel pin, discount on Museum sponsored events and an annual subscription to *America's Sports Car* magazine. Join online and use VALDAY17 in the Discount Code box.

If, at any time, you have questions about Museum matters, please don't hesitate to be in touch at meetings or by email; our home phone number and both of our email addresses appear in every Club newsletter under "COD Directors".

Cheers,

Sue & Ron

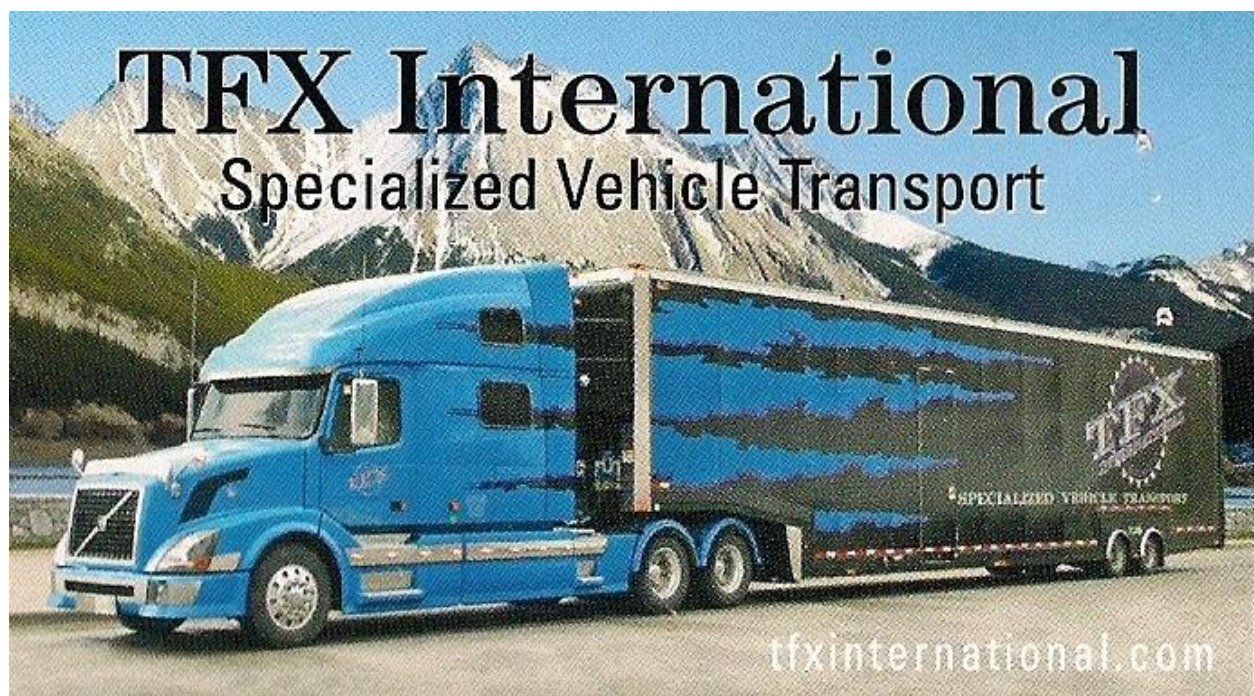
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For those of you interested in Corvette Racing, this is your link for the race schedule, results and news: <http://www.corvetteracing.com/about-2/>. The site also shows a history of Corvette Racing from 1999 to the present.

The site is updated following each race with stats and driver commentary. The results from the first race of the season, the "Rolex 24" held recently at Daytona International Speedway, are now posted. Although they raced hard, the #3 Corvette missed the podium placing 4<sup>th</sup> in class; the #4 Corvette placed a disappointing 9<sup>th</sup> in class.

The next race will be the "12 Hours of Sebring" held at Sebring, Florida March 15 to 18, inclusive. Before Canadian Tire Motorsports Park welcomes the Corvette race team July 6 to 9, inclusive, they will race at Long Beach, Texas and Watkins Glen.



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# SPECIAL NOTICE

## *2017 C.O.D Membership*

Just a quick note to say **“THANK YOU”** to the 40 club members who have already renewed their 2017 Memberships.

If you plan to renew your 2017 Membership – please send your \$85.00 cheque payable to **“Corvettes of Durham”** to

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**NOTE: you can post date your cheque.**

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*A word from your newsletter editor:*

Hi everyone!

Please don't be shy to send me your stories of Corvette-related items and automotive items that would be of interest to Club members! Photos taken at Club events are very welcome as they highlight our events! You can reach me at [suewoo@sympatico.ca](mailto:suewoo@sympatico.ca).

Thanks!

Sue Woodland



Corvettes from across North America will converge on Bowling Green over Labour Day weekend 2019 to celebrate the NCM's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

*Ontario needs a Caravan Captain for the 2019 Corvette Caravan. Will that be you???*

As mentioned at the January meeting, Ron & I cannot be Captains again for 2019 and invite interested COD members to consider taking this on! We're happy to provide guidance and suggestions if requested.

Sue W





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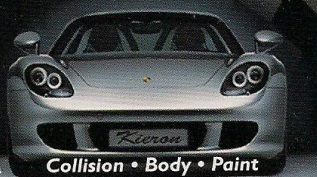
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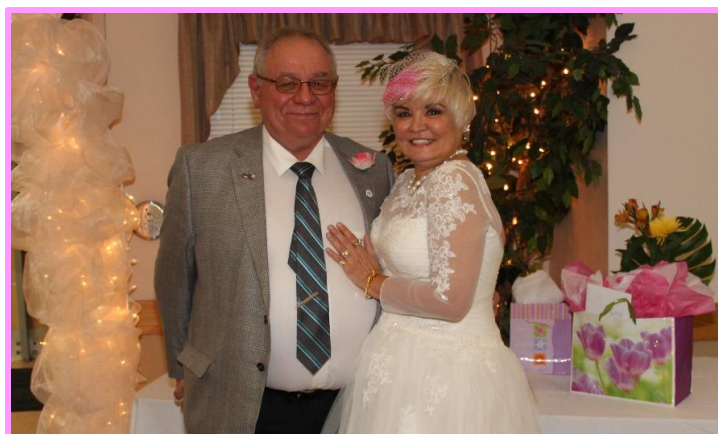
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*COD members extend our best wishes to Jann & Ron  
Langlois for a long and  
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*What a party!*











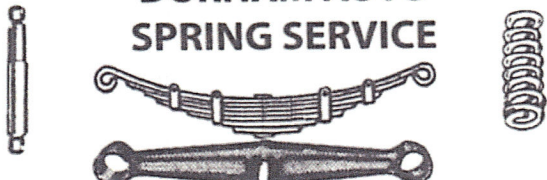
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## 2017 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION	TIME
Feb 15	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	Lone Star Grill, Pickering	7:30 pm
Mar 4	Social/Euchre/Games Night	Cathy Nunno	Italian Club, Oshawa <i>RSVP:</i> By February 15th	
Mar 10-12	Motorama	Brian Lindow	International Centre	
Mar 12	NCRS Ontario Swap Meet	Ron Langlois	Wilson Niblett GM, Richmond Hill	8:00 am - 12
Mar 15	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
Apr 19	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
May 17	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
May 19-21	Victoria Day Speedfest Weekend	Ron Tremblay	Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, Bowmanville	
June 3	Corvette Display	Ken Gordon	Boyer GM, Pickering	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
June 9	NCRS Ontario Judging	Ron Langlois	Wilson Niblett GM, Richmond Hill	8:00 am - 12
June 21	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
June 25	DreamVettes	Bruce Gagnon	Ontario Motor Sales, Oshawa	
July 1	Canada Day Parades		TBD	
July 5	Race Fest	Ron Tremblay	Dundas Square, Toronto	11:00 am – 2:00 pm
July 6-9	Mobil1 Sportscar Grand Prix	Norby Dippold	Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, Bowmanville	
July 19	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
Aug 16	General Meeting	Cathy/Bruce/Curleen	TBD	7:30 pm
Aug ?	Autofest	Linda Landry	Lakeview Park, Oshawa	
Sept 20	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
Oct 18	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
Nov 15	General Meeting	Cathy Nunno	TBD	7:30 pm
Nov 25	COD Christmas Party	Cathy Nunno	Deer Creek Golf Club, Ajax	5:30 pm

**GREEN**

**CCCC Event – check with Brian Lindow**

**BLACK**

**COD Event**

**RED**

**General Information**

**Corvettes of Durham  
Website**

<http://www.corvettesofdurham.ca/>