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The original NCM Annex in Bowling Green.

HAPPY 25th to the NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM!



Above, the front entry prior to the 2008 expansion. Below, and now...



September 2019



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Ken Gordon

*Where the **** did summer go?*

Marilyn and I had an extremely busy August. We had the extreme pleasure of walking our daughter Colleen down the aisle. 135 guests were invited to her home in Buckhorn where Colleen & Kyle treated everyone to plenty of food, music etc. "Great Time"!

We unfortunately could not attend the BBQ at Roxanne & John's lovely property, but I understand the weather co-operated and those that attended had a wonderful time.

We also were unable to attend Auto Fest (due to another wedding) but my understanding is the weather was perfect and that 12 Corvettes of Durham members were there Saturday and 9 were there on the Sunday. Thanks to all who represented the Club.

Our next General Meetings from September to November will be at Amici. See you all there!

Once again, check the Calendar of Events for all upcoming shows and events.

I also encourage all members to plan to attend the "Fall Cruise" and of course the "Annual Christmas Party".

Ken



Corvettes of Durham was established in 2000. We meet on the third Wednesday every month at 7:30 pm (except December). 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 Director know.

COD Executive:

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COD Members' Corner



CORVETTES OF DURHAM proudly sponsors the Oshawa Hospital Foundation R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre and the Salvation Army/CTV Toronto "Toy Mountain".



September Birthdays

Gilles Landry, 1st
Avril DeBattista, 2nd
Denise Ciaralli, 8th
Ron Boulter, 11th
Susanne Ralph, 11th
Jerry Kowal, 16th
Chuck Bunn, 17th
Tony Smith, 23rd
Terry Nodwell, 27th
David Raven, 30th



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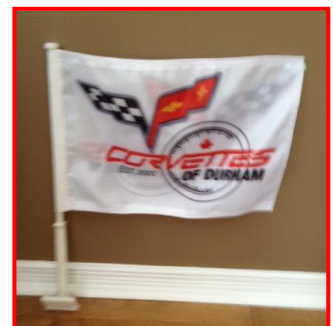
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Eastern Ontario Corvette Club Thank You Dinner

Many of our Corvettes of Durham members attended the *Corvette Invasion* in Kingston last year. As a 'thank you' to those clubs that participated in the 1st Annual Kinston Corvette Invasion. EOCC invited the Presidents of each Supporting club to a Thank You dinner held at the Royal Military College (RMC), Kingston on July 25th. COD was well represented by Chuck and Linda, Ed and Gail, Roy and Rosanne and Patty and me to celebrate the successful 2018 event.



Royal Military College, Kingston

The 90 specially-invited guests arrived by police escort to the RMC parade square, where cars were parked for a drone photo and greeted by Commandant General Bouchard who gave us a special tour of Curry Hall and the history of this great college. Did you know that five Canadian astronauts were all graduates of RMC?

Dinner was served by the water at the RMC Senior Staff mess, where many of the Ontario Corvette Presidents were presented special thank you plaques. The night ended with GM Canada President Travis Hester, delivering a very exciting presentation on the new C-8 Corvette, followed by questions and answers. It was a magical night that no one wanted to end.

After the event the eight of us returned to our hotel where, as you say, "What happens in Kingston stays in Kingston".

Due to this year's Corvette Caravan happening in August, the next Corvette Invasion in Kingston will be held June 19 and 20, 2020. Put that date on your calendars now. Tickets will be in short supply.

Norby Dippold



COD guests Ed & Gail, Roy & Rosanne, Patty & Norby, Linda & Chuck.



Scott Bell, VP-Sales, Service, Marketing, GM Canada; Travis Hester, President, GM Canada; Norby with COD award; John Price, EOCC President.

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CLUB MEMBERS ATTENDING (MISSING THE PHOTOGRAPHERS...TERRY NODWELL & JERRY KOWAL)

SATURDAY MORNING STARTED OFF A LITTLE DAMP. HOWEVER THE RADAR SHOWED CLEAR SKIES AFTER 11:00 AM. AN UPDATE WAS SENT OUT TO EVERYONE REMINDING THEM TO BRING THEIR CHAMOIS AND LETTING THEM ALL KNOW PLANS WERE IN PLACE IF IT CHANGES. NOTHING KEPT OUR MEMBERS FROM ATTENDING (SAVE FAMILY ISSUES) AND EVERYONE HAD A GREAT TIME. THE LAST GUEST DEPARTED AT 11PM.

WE SETUP DOWN WHERE THE BAR AND BOCCIE COURTS ARE LOCATED. AWNINGS WERE SET UP; TABLES AND CHAIRS. AFTER SOME INSTRUCTION, TEAMS WERE CREATED AND A BOCCI COMPETITION WAS UNDERWAY! EVERYONE SIDED THE TEAMS AND A ROWDY GAME OR TWO WAS PLAYED!



FIRST GROUP OF INDUCTEES....

DAVE & CONNIE COLLINS & ROXANNE CHIUSOLO SURPRISED US BY PERFORMING A SCREECH CEREMONY AND 12 EAGER INDIVIDUALS WERE MADE HONORARY NEWFOUNDLANDERS. (MORE THAN 1 OF US KNEW THE SONG TOO!).

SURPRISE!!!

APPETIZERS SOON MATERIALIZED AND WE ALL ENJOYED THE WONDERFUL VARIETY! HOUSE AND SHOP TOURS COMMENCED AND SOME HARDY SOULS TOOK TO THE POOL FOR A DIP.

TICKETS WERE HANDED OUT FOR A RAFFLE THAT WAS HELD LATER IN THE DAY. JOHN & ROXANNE DONATED ALL RAFFLE PRIZES.

STORY BOARDS AND POLLS WERE SETUP ON A TABLE FOR THE SOCIAL EVENTS. AN OVERVIEW WAS PROVIDED FOR THE UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS INCLUDING THE FALL CRUISE TO PICTON. THE VENUE AND AGENDA ITEMS WERE REVIEWED. MANY RESPONDED TO THE POLLS AND PROVIDED GREAT FEEDBACK IN OTHER AREAS.

IT WAS TIME FOR THE MAIN MEAL TO BE PREPARED AND FIRE UP THE BBQ'S. RUMOUR HAS IT TERRY NODWELL WAS PROMOTED TO SAUSAGE & BURGER MAN LOL.



THE COOKS AND THE SUPERVISORS

A WONDERFUL TABLE WAS SET AND EVERYONE MIXED, MINGLED AND ATE. RAFFLE DRAWS COMMENCED AND EVERYONE TOOK HOME SOMETHING. THE DESSERT CREW WAS ON DUTY AND BEGAN BRINGING OUT THE SWEETS.

A BIRTHDAY CAKE (PROVIDED BY MARGARET & JERRY KOWAL) FOR GAIL SCHROER WAS PRESENTED ALONG WITH A CARD THAT WAS SIGNED BY ALL.



OUR BIRTHDAY GAL!

THE FIRE WAS LIT AND THE BIG CLEAN UP WAS UNDERWAY. SOME PEOPLE STARTED PACKING UP TO HEAD OUT EARLY. OTHERS REMAINED AND ENJOYED THE FIRE. JOHN AND ROXANNE TURNED ON ALL THE LIGHTS, TRANSFORMING THEIR LOVELY PROPERTY AND MAKING IT EVER MORE BEAUTIFUL. A FEW MORE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SWIM AND EVENTUALLY, THE PARTY WINDED DOWN.



THE HARD CORE MEMBERS HANGING ON TO THE END....

WE CAN NOT THANK OUR HOSTS ENOUGH FOR SHARING THEIR HOME AND ALLOWING US TO ENJOY IT. MUCH WORK WENT INTO THE DAY. THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS, WITHOUT YOU NOTHING IS POSSIBLE.

DENISE CIARALLI
SOCIAL DIRECTOR

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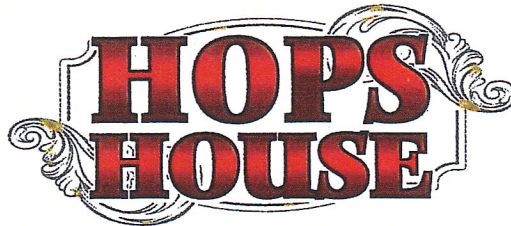
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UPCOMING EVENTS



CLUB HOSTED EVENTS:

SEPT 15 – SUMMER CRUISE TO MONTROSE INN, BELLEVILLE

<< CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST.

OCT 18-20 - FALL CRUISE TO PICTON, ON

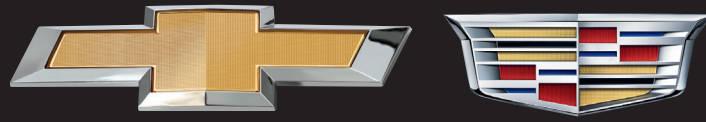
DETAILS PROVIDED AT THE OFFSITE GM AUG 17TH; SENT OUT TO THE CLUB AUG 27TH.

NOVEMBER - EUCHRE SOCIAL??? TBD

DECEMBER 14 - CHRISTMAS DINNER/DANCE

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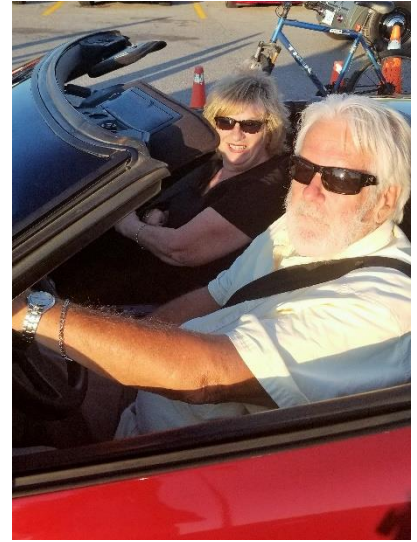
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AJAX CRUISE NIGHT @ CANADIAN TIRE, August 10th:



It was a sunny, warm evening when roughly 15 COD member cars got together to enjoy each other's company, some 'oldie goldie' tunes and draw prizes. COD members helped fill the Ajax Food Bank with donations of non-perishable food items. The Cruise Night organizers were very appreciative!



Thanks to Terry Nodwell for the photos!

More photos on the Club website www.corvettesofdurham.ca





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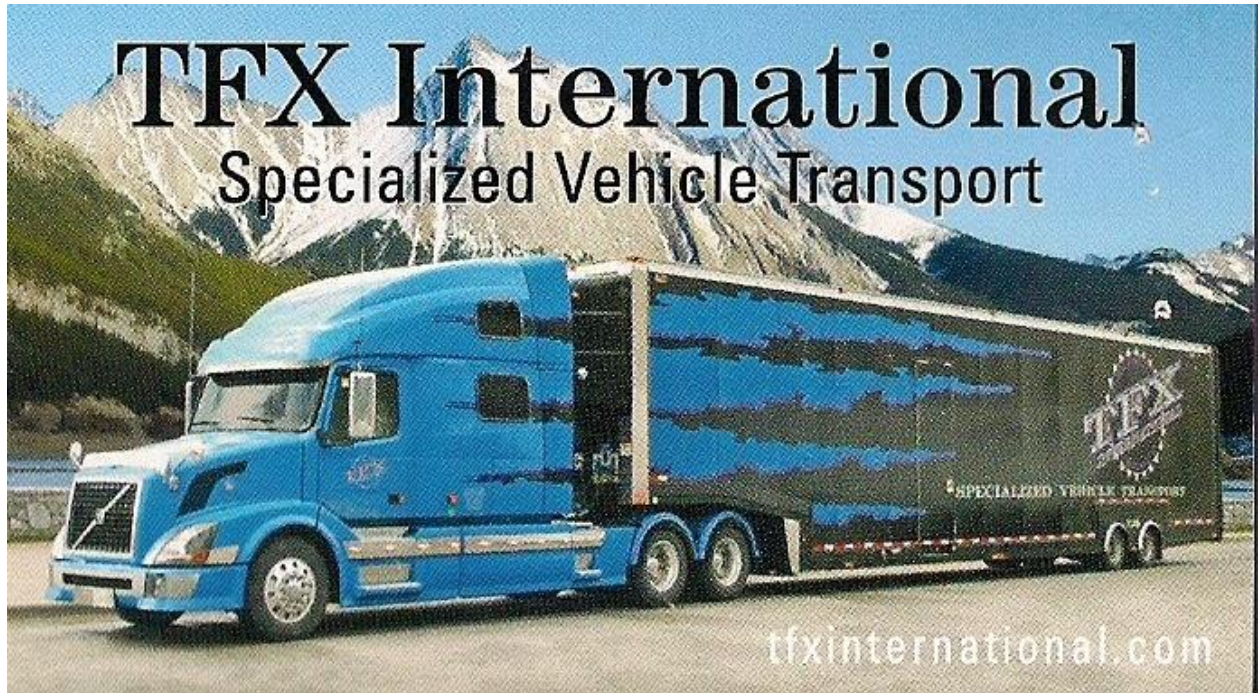
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AMBASSADOR



September, 2019: 25th Anniversary Report

As you know from the August newsletter we attended the 25th Anniversary celebration of the Museum which occurred August 28th to 31st. We arrived early and stayed for a week and enjoyed it all! Roughly 8,000 others from across Canada, the US (including Hawaii) and a handful from Europe attended too. They drove laps on the MSP track, purchased all sorts of merchandise, attended a rock concert with fireworks, street parties or the Hall of Fame Induction Banquet and caught up with friends or made new ones! Caravans arrived on Wednesday and Thursday making for a very busy Museum! It must have been those two plus years of planning that allowed things to run as smoothly as they did! Hundreds of red-shirted volunteers were everywhere – helping out by doing all sorts of tasks.

When we arrived at the NCM on Monday, our first stop was to view our COD club bricks and they look great! Kudos again to Jan Raven for spearheading the fundraising last year for additional bricks to honour COD members and friends who have passed on. Placed alongside, are bricks purchased by some of our members recently in support of the Museum. There are a few photos on the next page and more on the COD website.

We attended Friday's seminar given by the Assembly Plant Manager, Kai Spande. When asked about the restart of **Plant Tours**, Kai said "**the best time would be for the 2020 Bash**". That news was met with loud hoorays and applause but has yet to be confirmed. We can expect the dates to be announced by the NCM at some point in a weekly e-news update, so stay tuned! Kai talked about other interesting things (for example, the last 2019 Stingray Coupe and last ZR1 off the line are going to the Museum; the C8 steering wheel shape is perfectly integrated into the dash; the Plant produces 11.6 cars/hour) but most of Kai's comments soon appeared online and can be read on CorvetteBlogger.com, along with photos since the author was there in the audience too.

Also on Friday, we were honoured with a certificate and lapel pin marking our 15 years' if NCM membership. In the same group were Bob & Cathy Harder, members of CCO.

At the Ambassadors' breakfast meeting, we were introduced to and heard remarks from the Museum's newly appointed President & CEO, Dr. Sean Preston. He spoke of the NCM's mandate to preserve and maintain those vehicles and artifacts donated to the Museum. Most artifacts will soon be housed in a nearby building, recently acquired from the FOP (Fraternal Order of Police). Sean also spoke of further expansion of the Museum and the MSP (track) with 'town hall' meetings with neighbouring residents to be planned soon. We learned that the current Executive Director, Wendell Strode, will officially retire January 3 next year after 22 years' invaluable service to the National Corvette Museum.

GM provided several C8s for not only viewing, but for 'trying out' the seats, checking the front and rear storage compartments and of course, photo ops! Soft-side C8 luggage, built to fit this car, was on hand and guess what...it really does fit! Those C8s were in addition to the C8s driven from Detroit by GM personnel who attended and spoke at seminars – Harlan Charles, Tadge Juechter, Kirk Bennion and others. It was almost a nightly car show in their hotel parking lot enjoyed by the California and Ontario Caravans also residing in the same hotel! GM also

provided an engine cutaway; paint, seatbelt, wheel, tire and seat samples located in a temporary building erected overnight before most participants arrived. (Those who attended Carlisle the week prior saw this also.)

Numerous vendor booths were set up outside (ACS, Corsa, Adams, NCRS, Michelin, Ron Fellows Performance Driving School, a variety of food & beverage) and inside also (Adams again, C-Magic, Dana Forester-Corvette paintings, jewelry, windscreens and C8 luggage). Daily long line-ups for the Corvette Café were normal! A children’s play area was set up outside for the little ones; and rides were available in the 1968 Astrovette!

To round out the week, we drove laps on the Motorsports Park track (*Ron says he wore out the tires!!*), attended a Michelin Tire seminar, a C8 Overview, the HOF Induction Banquet, Jefferson Starship concert in the Museum’s outdoor Amphitheatre with friends, toured the Museum displays including the 1994 retrospective, enjoyed dinner out with other friends, visited/chatted with many others – including fellow COD members Margaret & Richard Chute and others we know from Corvette Racing/CTMP. In addition, between us, we volunteered 46 hours in the Museum store and warehouse. The weather was, overall, warm and sunny with cool mornings and hot afternoons. It rained as we approached Bowling Green and overnight the first night there, and again on our return home.

Bottom line – we had a great time and were pleased to be a part of the Museum’s history, as others had before us!

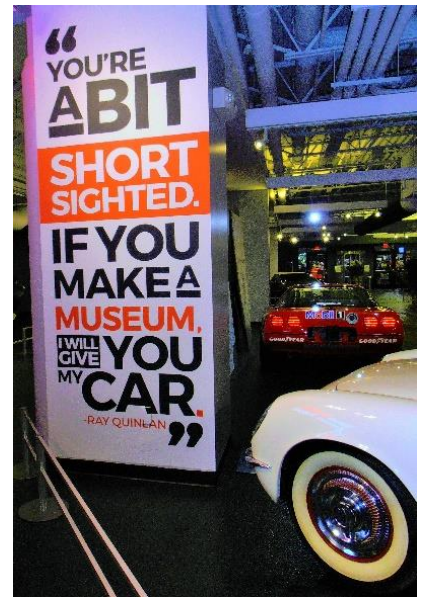
Sue & Ron
COD/NCM Ambassadors



This temp structure was put up overnight & showcased C8 wheel, colour & seat samples.



Sue & Ron with NCM Exec. Director Wendell Strode



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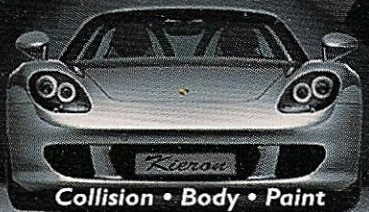
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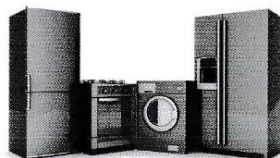
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SEPTEMBER, 2019

This month's Corvette Racing report comes from COD member Norby Dippold, who attended the August 2-4 race at the Road America track in Wisconsin.

What we saw at Road America – Besides the IMSA Race

Many of you know that Patty and I attend the IMSA race at Road America each year. Road America (Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin) is my favourite track as it is one of the few tracks where all the internal roads are paved, they have real washrooms with showers almost everywhere and the grass is as green and as well-kept as your own and has REAL food not just burgers, sausages and fries. It is the longest track on the IMSA circuit at 4.4 miles (7.08KMS), which allows the cars to really stretch their legs. The Corvette parade lap is usually two laps or almost 9 miles and you can get up to a decent speed. The main reason Patty and I attended, of course, is to see our beloved Corvette C7R go up against the best of Porsche, Ford and BMW.

This year is the last year for the C7R which will be replaced by the new C8R (not official yet). I think that 2020 is going to be a great year for Corvette Racing.

So, what did we see at Road America? Well, Chevrolet brought to the track a Zeus Bronze Metallic C8 with Natural Dipped interior and a Rapid Blue C8 with Jet Black interior with orange seat belts.

The Bronze one was at the GM display and because Patty and I were there very early (10:00 am) on Thursday, the car was uncovered and sitting with very little protection around it. The majority of the crowds don't show up on Thursday as it is really set-up day. By about 11 AM you couldn't get close to the car with people

packed around it about 10 deep; and on Saturday and Sunday you would think that the Corvette was the only thing GM produced!

The Rapid Blue Vette turned up on Sunday morning behind the Corral so as to be seen only by the Corvette owners and guests in the Corral. There was a rumor that there was another one circulating the area of Elkhart Lake but no one could track it down. We found out later it was hiding in a plain white car trailer about 50 feet from the Corral! I tell you the car did not sneak in the Corral as the sound alone brought many people out of the tent to see what all the noise was about. YES, it sounds like a Corvette!!! Ed Piatek, Chief Corvette Engineer and Phil Minch, Corvette Program Engineering Manager gave us a 30-minute circle presentation on the car. It was more technical than the Reveal program.

The foot wells are deep; even a 6'6" person could easily relax in the cockpit. The frunk (front) can hold what they say is a normal size carry-on bag and the trunk (rear) can hold two normal (small) golf bags. Storage may be a little tight for those of us that do multi-day road tours.

The pictures we saw from the Reveal or in various press magazines do not do this car justice. Somehow the pictures distort the size and dimensions. Seeing it live almost makes you want to sell the one you have now and order one. I have really been taken aback after seeing it. It looks a lot like a number of mid-engine cars (Ferrari 458, Acura NSX etc.) but it is still a Corvette.

Prices start at under \$60K US and under \$70 CDN (base car); as of this writing there are no pricing for options.

Oh, I forgot, our team did not do well at Road America. With a late pit stop (3 laps to go) we finished 4th and 6th. Ask me about other places we stopped at when you see Patty or me at the next COD event.

Norby Dippold

Editor's postscript: Corvette Racing fared better at VIR (Virginia) at the August 23-24 race. The #3 car finished third; the #4 ended in fourth. Their driver points standing are now 259 (#3) and 223 for Oliver Gavin, 175 for Tommy Milner. Their next endeavor will be at Laguna Seca (CA) on September 13-15.



The "frunk"



Under the hood....



C8 in Zeus Bronze Metallic



Interior colour is "Natural Dipped"



C8 in Rapid Blue

C8 photos by Norby

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2019 Events Calendar


DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION	TIME
Saturday Sept. 7	Motorfest Car Show	Ron Tremblay	Teva Grounds 5691 Main St., Stouffville	7:00 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday Sept. 7	CCCC-ER Recognition Awards & Memorial Cruise	Brian Striemer	Sennick Family Farm 8th Line, Essa ON	11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sunday Sept. 8	Markham Auto Classic	John Fletcher	Main Street, Markham - Online pre-registration available	8:00 am – 3:00 pm
Sept. 18	General Meeting	Ken Gordon	Amici's Trattoria, 1305 Pickering Pkwy, Pickering	5:30 pm supper 7:30 pm mtg
Saturday Sept. 28	PRCC Summer's End Wings & Wheels Show	Brian Striemer	Oshawa Executive Airport 1200 Airport Blvd, Oshawa	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Oct. 16	General Meeting	Ken Gordon	Amici's Trattoria, 1305 Pickering Pkwy, Pickering	5:30 pm supper 7:30 pm mtg
Oct. 18 - 20	Weekend Fall Cruise	Denise Ciaralli	Picton....details sent out August 27th	
Nov. 20	General Meeting	Ken Gordon	Amici's Trattoria, 1305 Pickering Pkwy, Pickering	5:30 pm supper 7:30 pm mtg
Saturday Dec 14	COD Annual Christmas Dinner- Dance	Denise Ciaralli	Trillium Trails Banquet Hall, Oshawa	5:00 pm – 12:00 am
Sunday Dec 22	Silly Sweater Party	Jan Raven	Venue to be Announced	Afternoon
June 19- 20, 2020	Kingston Corvette Invasion	Ken Gordon	Save the Date. Details to be announced in 2020.	----

GREEN – CCCC Event

BLACK – COD Event

RED – General Information

****COD members wishing to stay in touch with
Cecile Bourgeois, please note Cecile's new
phone number in Penetanguishene:
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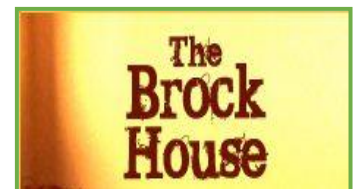
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