



# High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter March 2024

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**Vice Pres.— Jere Smith**

**Secretary—Casey Gibbs**

**Treasurer— Leslie Cheney**

**Sgt At Arms—Laurilea  
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**Website—Walt Santos**

**Membership—Roiann  
Santos**

**Newsletter—John Burgess**

**Photographers—John  
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Dee Ginter**

**Sunshine—Debbie Scherrer**

**Highway Clean up— Mike  
McClean**

**Publicity— Jere Smith**

**COHD—Chair Person  
Harry Bongers**

## President's Ponderings

Greetings Club Members:

Lori and I just returned from the Miami boat show. Visiting the boat show with my brother and his wife has become somewhat of a tradition over the last three years. My brother is an avid fisherman/boater, and they are always on the lookout for boats. After roaming the docks and convention center for three days, I was reminded of how much I enjoy my Corvette. Don't get me wrong, I do love boats and own one, but I am out of touch on how much boat prices have gone up. For example, we were checking out a center console fishing boat with four V-12 600hp outboards. The price for each outboard engine was \$80k. The price of just one outboard is nearing the price of what we paid for our 2019 GS Convertible. After three days of intense shopping, I think I will keep my feet dry and stick to the pavement. Besides, a fully loaded Z06 will be cheaper and a whole lot faster, in addition to being a fun way to spend time with friends.

Don't forget, there is still time to sign up for the year-end banquet at Juniper Golf Course, before the March 6<sup>th</sup> deadline. Come join the party and say thanks to the many volunteers that have worked hard this past year for all the club members' benefit. Without these volunteers, we would not have a club. For party details, see the invitation emailed on February 19, or send me an email if you have questions. Please RSVP to Sande Burgess.

I would also encourage you to sign up for the COHD car show coming up in June. If you are having the same thoughts as I did, which was to worry about taking a spot from an outside entry. Don't worry, if we get close to the 125-car limit, we can then choose to give up our entry spots to visitors. The committee has been working very hard to make this fundraising event a success, so please visit the registration page on our website and get signed up.

Last month I started a countdown as to when the cover can come off and the engine fired up on my Corvette. Depending on the spring weather, it might be only 76 days to go. I am looking forward to the many trips lined up with fellow club members this year and I hope you are as well.

Don't forget our business meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup> at Laurie's Grill. See you there.

Sincerely,

Dave Schneider  
HDCC President





## . Featured members Nate and Rebecca Marker

Nate was born in Seattle and was raised in the Bay area of California. Rebecca was raised in the Bay and was where they met. They lived in the Portland area for thirteen years prior to moving to Central Oregon. They have been in CO for 4 years. They both attended schools in the bay area.

They have two children. Their son Chris is 22 years old and is a nuclear electrician for the Navy. Their daughter Makala is 22 years old and is in an electronic apprenticeship.

Nate is a welder by trade but is currently a business development manager in the steel industry. Rebecca is V.P. of business operations concerning software, in the trucking industry.

With regards to previous sports cars, Nate has owned three Corvettes. A 1985 C4, 1995 LT1 and a black rose 2018 C7. He purchased all three from his father but has since sold the 1985 C4.

Welcome to HDCC, we hope you enjoy your time with the club.





## Featured Members Darin and Patricia Lucas

Darin was raised in Dayton, OR. Attended local schools and college at Oregon State University where he became an avid Beaver fan. Patricia was born and raised in Columbiaville, Michigan and attended the University of Michigan.

Darin was a consultant for 10 years and went on to work for General Motors for 20 years. He was director of IT systems and in that role worked with all or the various divisions in the company. One of the perks of the job was that he got a new GM product to drive every 6 months which included Corvettes and Camaro's.

They have a son and daughter. The son attended University of Michigan and their daughter attended Michigan State University. Talk about a rivalry between siblings!!

Patricia worked as a consultant in economic development and still works in that capacity on a part-time basis. When they moved to Bend, they started a business, Interim Health Care, which they are both involved with as well as their son. Their daughter works for EDCO and is the director for economic development for Crook County

When asked about previous sports cars, Darin mentioned that as a result of having driven many Camaros and Corvettes during his time at GM, he was determined to get a C8 after their current business reached a certain threshold. Consequently, because of being an OSU Beaver fan and the success of their business he has an Amplify Orange and Black C8 Z51 HTC.

Welcome to High Desert Corvettes. We hope you enjoy your time with the club.







## Cake and Pizza

A group of HDCC members presented the dealership pizza and cake as a thank you for their years of sponsorship for HDCC. Also in recognition of Jorge Reyes 29 year at the dealership.

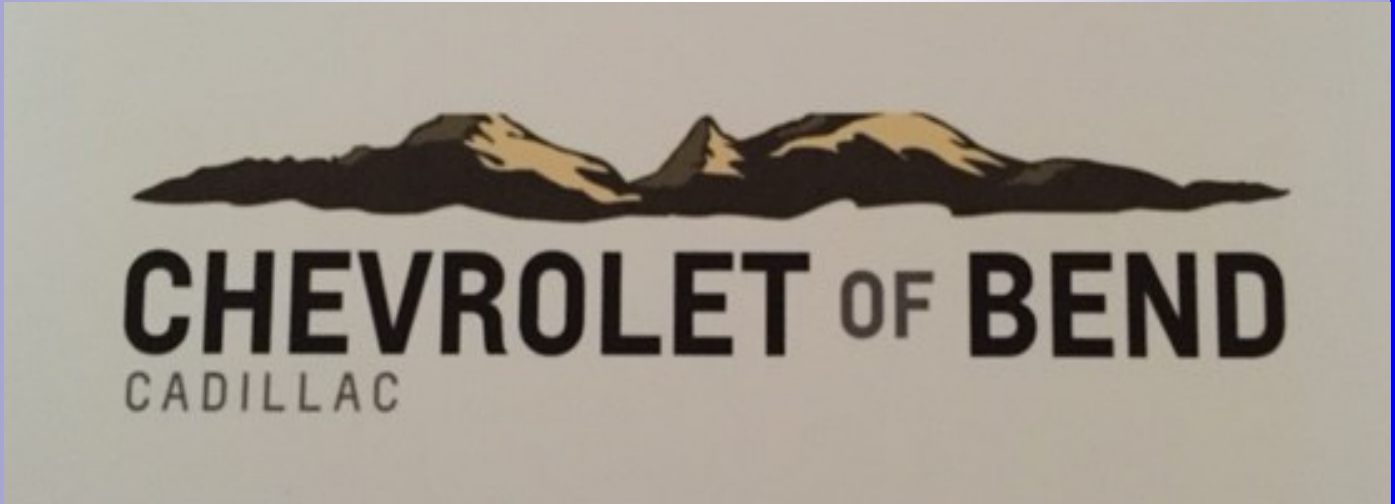


Phil Valpert—General Manager  
Jorge Reyes Shop Foreman





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## March Birthdays

- 3/1 Annie Kaster
- 3/1 Debbie Byers
- 3/5 Harry Bongers
- 3/7 Fred Crowther
- 3/9 Charlies Thomson
- 3/20 Sue Gibson
- 3/28 Lori Schneider
- 3/29 Doug Kunzman
- 3/31 Todd Layport

## March Anniversaries

- 3/8 Mike & Mary Zumwalt
- 3/17 Dick and Sue Dodson
- 3/20 Rich & Tess Morton

## HDCC Events

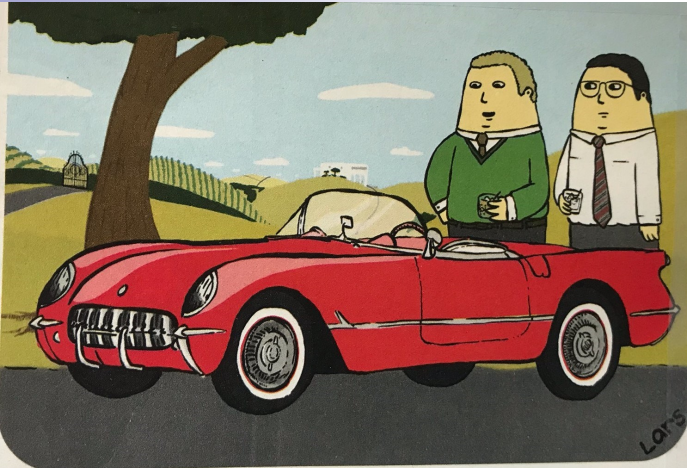
- 3/13 HDCC Business meeting Laurie's Grill
- 3/27 HDCC Year end banquet
- 5/22-23 Lincoln City Club Trip
- 6/1 Possible Car Show with COCC Culinary Institute (more details to follow)
- 6/21-22 HDCC Retreat Wine Country Inn  
Jacksonville OR
- 6/28-29 Corvettes on the High Desert
- 7/20 Cascade Corvette/Kendall Chev Car Show
- 8/9-4 Wine Tour Leavenworth WA.
- 9/12-14 Corvettes on the Columbia
- 9 /6 or 14 President's Mystery Tour
- 9/26 Prescott AZ Car Show

## Will This Be The Corvette C9?





On the lighter side.



"Only took two marriages to restore this baby."

Troubled Parent Posted...

THIS MORNING MY KID SAID THEIR EAR HURT AND I SAID ON THE INSIDE OR OUTSIDE, SO THEY WALKED OUT THE FRONT DOOR, CAME BACK IN & SAID BOTH. MOMENTS LIKE THIS GOT ME WONDERING IF I'M SAVING TOO MUCH FOR COLLEGE..

You are the reason I wake up in the morning...

Just kidding I have livestock to feed....



So I pulled up my big girl britches

and carried on.





## HDCC Year-End Banquet Party

Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
6:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

### LOCATION

The View Tap and Grill  
Juniper Golf Course  
1938 SW Elkhorn Ave  
Redmond, OR

### HAPPY HOUR (no host bar)

6:00 - 6:30

### DINNER

6:30 - 8:30  
See Attached Menu

### COST

\$56.50 PER PERSON

### RSVP by March 6th

Sande Burgess  
sandbur@me.com

### PAYMENT

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO HDCC  
MAIL TO:

High Desert Corvettes,  
P.O. BOX 6442, Bend, OR 97708  
(No additional signups)

# Menu

## GARDEN SALAD

Topped with Carrots, Onion, Tomatoes, and Cucumbers served with choice of Ranch or Balsamic Vinaigrette

## FOCACCIA AND ROASTED GARLIC BUTTER

**MAIN** TEQUILA MARINATED TRIP TIP with Roasted Pepper Chimichurri

**MARINATED CHICKEN BREAST** with Marsala Sauce

**CAYENNE HONEYGLAZED BABY CARROTS**  
**ROASTED GARLIC MASHED POTATOES**

## DESSERT

**APPLE COBBLER** with Cinnamon whipped Cream





## Arizona man just released from prison steals truck hauling Corvettes



A man who stole a semi-truck hauling over \$1 million worth of new Corvettes from [an Arizona truck stop](#) told deputies he only took the truck because he needed a ride home after being released from prison, authorities said Thursday. Isaiah Walker, 23, of Lawton, Oklahoma, assaulted and robbed a truck driver at the Loves Truck Stop in Willcox near Interstate 10, the [Cochise County Sheriff's Office](#) said. Walker was talking to the victim about his truckload and "lulled him into a sense of security" before grabbing the victim and throwing him from the cab, according to the sheriff's office.

Walker allegedly drove away in the semi, which was transporting 10 Chevrolet C8 Corvettes with an estimated value of over \$1.25 million. A deputy spotted the [stolen truck](#) and attempted to pull the vehicle over, but officials said the driver refused to stop. The driver sped away recklessly, forcing other vehicles to leave the roadway. The stolen truck eventually stopped and Walker was taken into custody.

Walker admitted to stealing the vehicle and advised that [the Corvettes](#) were not the reason and that he needed a truck to get home as he had just been released from prison," the sheriff's office said.

Meanwhile, the semi-truck was recovered without any damage and released to the original driver so he could continue with his delivery, Willcox Police Chief Dale Hadfield said.

**"Come on Man" why not just unload a Corvette, fill it up with gas, get a 6 pack, and enjoy your trip back to prison.**

From Fox News



## Dear Abby makes Corvette News

**Dear Abby:** My husband retired four years ago. At first he seemed to enjoy not having to go to work. Then he got bored and needed something to do. For some reason, he bought an old Corvette to restore. I was supportive, until I found out it's an expensive hobby.

Finding and buying all the replacement parts costs money. He has been working on that car for 3 1/2 years now. As soon as he gets it ready to drive, something else breaks.

Meanwhile, he has bought four more old Corvettes "to work on." Our backyard looks like a junkyard. We haven't had a vacation since he retired, not even a weekend to the mountains.

He says we can't afford it, but he spends thousands on those cars. It has become an obsession for him, and it's "driving" ME crazy. Any suggestions?

### Corvette Widow in the South

**Dear Widow:** Healthy couples discuss large purchases before making them. What your husband is doing is destructive to your relationship. **It almost seems as though he is using his hobby as a way of avoiding spending time with you.** My suggestion is that you and your husband find the money to consult a marriage counselor because what's going on is unfair to you. And if you need a vacation, consider taking one by yourself or **buy your hubby a new C8 !!**



Snow Days ————— Stay Home!!!



## It's Not A Corvette but.....

This is a 1981 Caballero, GMC version of the Chevrolet El Camino. Same Vehicle with different label. I have owned this vehicle for 41 years, nearly half of my life. Current mileage is 130 thousand. It was a daily driver for many years until we moved to Sisters full time in 2000. Now it is used for trips to recycling and transfer station. (they use to be called “the dump”) I do haul lumber from time to time.

It originally came with a 305cu engine but was changed to a 350cu as the original motor finally gave out. It has had two transmission rebuilds and new paint. I have replaced the air shocks twice but finally gave up as they just don't last. It has dual exhaust. (if you were a teenager in the 50s & 60s you had to have dual pipes and the louder the better) I have changed a few things, so it is no longer stock. Surprisingly I get more comments and questions about it than I do about the C8. Mostly senior citizens (old geezers) who owned one or their father or cousin had one at one time or the other and of course you have to hear the story. Nothing really special about the car, it's just an old friend. JB





## Oregon Facts

**Oregon's state flag is the only state flag** in the United States to have different designs on each side – the escutcheon from the state seal on the obverse and a gold figure of a beaver on the reverse side.

**Portland, Oregon has** more breweries than any other city in the world. Within its city limits, Portland has more than 60 breweries

**Portland is also home** to the most strip clubs per capita than any other city in the country.

**In 1994, Oregon became** the first U.S. state to legalize physician-assisted suicide, resulting in Oregon's suicide rates being some of the highest in the nation.

**Crater Lake is the deepest** in the U.S. and was actually pooled in the remains of a volcano. The deepest lake in the United States, Crater Lake, was formed more than 6,500 years ago within the remains of an ancient volcano. The crystal-blue waters of Crater Lake are known worldwide.

**Mill Ends Park** (sometimes mistakenly called Mill's End Park) is a tiny urban park located in the median strip of SW Naito Parkway, approaching esplanade along the Willamette River near SW Taylor Street in downtown Portland. The park is a small circle 2 ft across, with a total area of 452 sq in (0.292 m).

**In 1971 Oregon became** the first state to ban the use of non-returnable bottles and cans. *The law is credited with reducing litter and increasing container recycling. As a result, items which used to make up around 40% of roadside litter now represent about 6%.*



## Oregon Facts cont.

**Eugene was the first city** to have one-way streets, and is quoted by “Bicycling Magazine” as one of the top ten cycling communities in the United States.

**Oregon residents own** one-fourth of the country’s total llama population

**We are home to the most ghost towns in the nation**

**The Tillamook Cheese Factory is the largest** cheese factory in the world, and a popular tourist attraction for all ages. Visitors can see cheese being made and learn about the cheese-making process by taking a self-guided tour.

**The D River is a river in Lincoln City,** Oregon, United States. The once-nameless river, known as the “shortest river in the world” was listed in the Guinness World Records as the world’s shortest river at 440 feet. This title was lost in 1989 when Guinness named the *Roe River* in Montana as the world’s shortest.

**At 8,000 feet deep Oregon’s Hells Canyon** is the deepest river gorge in North America.

**Oregon is the only state that has an official state nut.** The official state nut of Oregon is the hazelnut. The hazelnut is also known as the filbert. Oregon grows 99 percent of the entire U.S. commercial crop.

**In Stanfield** no more than 2 people are allowed to share a drink

**It is against** the law in Myrtle Creek to box with a kangaroo

**.Clint Eastwood** lived here and worked at Weyerhaeuser for \$1.80 per hour.

**The name ‘Oregon’** is believed to have come from French word ‘ouragan’ (meaning “windstorm” or “hurricane”), referring to the powerful chinook winds of the Columbia River.



### Ten Years Ago, a Sinkhole Swallowed Eight Corvettes at the National Corvette Museum

Where were you when you heard about the [sinkhole that swallowed eight rare Corvettes](#) in the middle of the night at the National Corvette Museum? While it may not rate up there with 9/11 or the assassination of JFK, the disaster was nevertheless upsetting and memorable for Corvette enthusiasts. This writer found out about the sinkhole from my mom, who – knowing how much I loved Corvettes – called me that morning after hearing about it on the early news shows. Believe it or not, as a prime example of just how quickly time passes, it'll be 10 years on Feb. 12 since the automotive world was shocked by the unexpected sinkhole.

Fortunately, thanks to great leadership by the NCM team and Corvette enthusiasts from all over, the disaster quickly turned into a textbook case of how to make lemonade out of lemons. Museum attendance actually [increased in the following months and years](#) as tourists clamored to see what might be described as one of the world's most famous car wrecks.

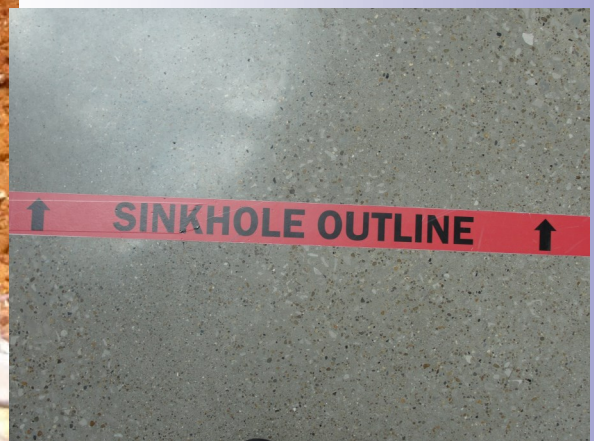
Museum officials commissioned a study into what caused the collapse and how best to repair it, and while the hole has now been fixed, a window on the floor still offers visitors a look into the remaining cave below. A "Corvette Cave-In" exhibit also digs deeper into the sinkhole (pun intended) and the massive effort to rescue the vehicles, some of which were able to be restored, some of which weren't.

Now, as the Museum itself prepares to celebrate its 30th anniversary, a special "Ground to Sky: The Sinkhole Reimagined" exhibit will open in June to mark the 10th anniversary of the sinkhole. Recovered Corvettes will be displayed, and media coverage that documents the past, present, and future of the Museum will be included, along with recognition of everyone and everything that helped get the facility running again

- The NCM team is making sure the 30th anniversary is special, with other special exhibits planned all year, too. In March, the traveling exhibit "LUSTER: Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile and Motorcycle Painting" will debut, the vintage Corvette shop is opening at [corvettestore.com](http://corvettestore.com) in April, and the museum's "American Love Affair" exhibit will be refreshed in October. And of course, enthusiasts from around the nation will travel to Bowling Green in groups in late August for the Corvette Caravan that celebrates America's Sports Car and the museum's anniversary.
- For more information about the sinkhole or to learn more about everything the National Corvette Museum will offer this year, head to [CorvetteMuseum.org](http://CorvetteMuseum.org).

From Corvette Blogger





Pictures from Corvette Blogger & personal visit to the museum