

## Marching into Spring !

### This Months Articles

- New SO NH CORVETTES YouTube Channel
- Travel: Boston & Castle in the Clouds
- What goes into planning a group ride
- What you're Worth
- Members Page
- Super Corvette MEET & GREET Event



We're excited to announce our own SONH CORVETTES YouTube channel. Check out all the latest video's from our past caravans to our upcoming ride previews to everything corvette related.

Just search SO NH CORVETTES and subscribe to the page!



Have you ever taken a long trip in your car and as you're returning home, it seems the last few miles take forever before pulling into your driveway? That describes March perfectly! The end of a long winters journey!

March is upon us ! Can spring not be far behind? Winter is always such a marathon for those of us living here in New England. Some years winter begins as early as October and it lasts through March, some years even April. So why do we endure this? Simple ! Those perfect 70 degree Sun lit beautiful summer days that only seem to happen here in NE ! So as we start to transition into warmer weather, the anticipation of getting back in our cars becomes a more frequent thing. And the focus of our newsletter will also transition into more about destinations and planned trips and less of the abstract. For those of you that have caravanned with us in the past, we look forward to once again gathering and us all being together again! For those of you who haven't joined us yet, your invitation is open and we look forward to seeing you at one or more of our events!



With the anticipation of spring arriving soon, its time to announce some of our planned 2022 caravans and events. We're pretty sure all of you are as excited as we are to get back into our cars and start exploring all the great destinations New England has to offer.

We're planning on kicking off our cruise season on May1st with the first of 20 or more events we have on our planned schedule. We've tried to include a diverse variety of events to hopefully appeal to as many people as possible. Here is just a early season list of some of the trips we have planned for the upcoming season....

#### May 2022

**Boston MA.** A Sunday trip starting in Nashua and journeying the back roads into downtown Boston for some shopping at Faneuil Hall, Lunch at Davio's Italian Steakhouse and pictures on Boston's famous Black Falcon Pier with us finishing at The Granite Links golf course overlooking the Boston Skyline for incredible views and pictures!

**Ogunquit ME...**We're heading to Maine out of Manchester on our second Sunday caravan for some great early season seafood and the ocean. Leaving SO NH and heading towards Rye Beach and the great RT1A we'll venture north through

Portsmouth and continue our scenic coastal route arriving in Ogunquit for some great seafood and a stroll along Marginal way.

As we ramp up our schedule in

#### June 2022

we'll be heading to **Lexington MA**, for a midweek caravan to explore the **Minuteman Trail** full of rich history!

A short trip to **The NHRA New England Nationals** at NE Dragway, Epping NH in early June. All the national stars are here for this three day loud and fast event!

**Gillette Stadium** A Sunday visit to Patriot's place for a diverse visit to the Home of the greatest NFL Dynasty An afternoon of Shopping and Dining and a visit to the Patriot's Hall of Fame!

**Newport RI** Always a great trip to the land of the early century Aristocrats and their Mansions, Lunch at Fort Adams with beautiful ocean views all make for a great days journey!

We'll top off the month with a midweek trip to **Newburyport MA** to the Spencer Pierce Farmhouse, an animal lovers paradise!

In **July** we're visiting the **Maine Car Museum** in Arundel ME, A hidden gem right in our back yard!

A mid-week trip to The **Decordova**

**Museum**, Lincoln MA. Home to some of the area's most unique art filled walking trails.

A **Lake Winnepesaukee** Sunday trip around the big lake! We'll hit all the boroughs as we navigate the gorgeous ride all the way around NH's largest lake. We'll stay close to home for a midweek Corvette only night at the **MIFORD DRIVE IN** theater!

Then we close out July with a couple of trips to the **Bank of NH Pavilion** in **Guilford NH**, for the Keith Urban and Luke Bryant Converts! We'll end our early season preview with this one!

In **August** a **CORVETTE SUPER MEET & GREET** the first ever, one day single site gathering of all 37 Corvette clubs from the Six New England States! More details next month .....

Just a glimpse of some of the early season things we're planning for the 2022 season !

*Have an event you'd like to see us add, then drop us a line and we'll look at it.*

## What goes into Cruise Planning?

Article by: Kevin Leblond

*It's Sunday morning, our local Corvette group is meeting in the designated parking lot to start a fun day of cruising.*



*It's 9:00am, the ride leader has a quick driver meeting going over where we're headed, the approx. time/miles to the first stop, lunch and the final stop before getting back to home base. Designates who will be the caboose (last car in the caravan) and communicates what radio channel we'll be using for the group to stay in constant communication.*

*It's now 5:00pm, we're all home safe & sound after running a couple hundred miles of great twisty back roads. We stopped at a wonderful restaurant for lunch, the reservation was for 12:30pm, we arrived within a few minutes of that. The tables were all arranged and the wait staff was ready for us.*

*After lunch, we continue on our excellent adventure. The roads we traveled were in good shape, no dirt roads, no construction areas, light traffic, no need for U-turns and we avoided (where possible) high congestion areas and highways. As we put our feet up for the evening our thoughts drift back to the wonderful day we had and thinking about washing our cars in the morning.*

*There's a lot of time and effort on someone's part to ensure today's ride ran smooth. We all thanked our ride leader and appreciate his/her efforts, but how many of us realize what goes into making our experience fun? Organizing a full day group cruise takes a fair amount of time & planning to pull it off with minimal headaches and maximum fun for everyone.*

### So, what goes into a well-planned day of cruising?



Here are a few things your leaders factor in as they start the planning process:

1. Finding a starting location for that days ride that is as central to the group as possible, to avoid some members either having to backtrack or travel a great distances to just arrive at the starting location (sometimes with large number of participants this cant be avoided)
2. What kind of ride is it, a destination or a loop ride (leaving and arriving back in the same approx. location);
2. If the ride involves a destination like a museum, should they be contacted ahead of time to make necessary arrangements for us, like scheduling a group tour or securing venue entry discounts;
3. How many miles or hours does the group typically like to do on a day ride;
4. Once a draft of the route is done, where along the route are bio/coffee stops for the morning and afternoon breaks;
5. Given the route and time traveling the route (adding in time for each morning stop), where will we be around lunch time? Selecting best restaurant option for our group. Contact that restaurant and schedule our visit, attempt to negotiate a private area or service and discuss menu options. Keep in mind, we typically won't have an accurate headcount until the morning of the cruise, so we need to find somewhere that can accommodate a large group and can adjust the count a couple hours prior to arrival if necessary.

Selecting the right restaurant for our social hour (or two) is one of the most important elements in the planning process and also involves the most amount of back and forth communication. In addition since 2020 a new element that is real, is the impact of COVID and the effects it has had on the

restaurants, do they have the wait/cook staff to handle our group along with their normal dally business. Your ride leaders try very hard to make the overall day and cruise experience pleasurable and the meal planning is a huge part of the day!

**Planning the route.** Some of us have route creation tools such as (Basecamp) that gives us the ability to create the route on our computers then transfer the data (route) to our handheld GPS's then mounted in our cars. Others use Google Maps or even Mapquest that allow you to print out turn-by-



turn instructions. Some of you use Waze to get you from point A to B, the nice thing about Basecamp it provides you the ability to draw your route on a map. It can also find



things like gas stations, hotels, restaurants and any other POIs you need and import them into your route. Once downloaded into the GPS it acts the same as your car navigation with maps showing your progress and voice turn by turn direction.

Once the route is drafted, it's time to complete a dry run of the route. Why a dry run you ask? Simply to ensure the roads we travel are in good shape with no major construction areas/detours, we'll stop at the morning and afternoon breaks to check out the parking lot & bathrooms, travel onto the lunch stop again checking out the parking lot, meet with the manager if possible, making the final meal arrangements confirming the menu and any additional details!

Does all this need to go into every day cruise? Certainly not, but the more your ride leader plans the more likely your day will run smooth and more likely everyone will really enjoy the day. Ride planning and leading is challenging, it can be stressful and consumes time but at the end of the day it can be rewarding when the ride went off without a hitch and there were many miles of smiles.

In closing, we just ask you arrive in the morning with a full tank of gas and an empty bladder. We'll do the heavy lifting... **ENJOY THE DAY & THE RIDE!!!**

**Kevin is a valued member of SONHCORVETTES and has literally planned hundreds if not thousands of group rides.**

*Footnote : I've had the privilege to lead this group on a few caravans now, and I can attest personally to the pride it gives me in leading the long rolling thundering procession of 10,000 horsepower trains. It's certainly a privilege that I hope others can and will experience. Yes the work that goes into a successful event is at times daunting, and it can be a lot of invested time and energy! But the rewards are returned ten fold each and every time. The smile of a young boy or girl standing on a corner as we roll by gives me goose bumps and more than makes every minute worth it!*

Rick



## What we Do

We're introducing a new section in the newsletter called What we Do!. We'll showcase member occupations, that might be beneficial to other group members! This months business profile belongs to Jed Greeke, owner of Classic Auto Appraisal LLC! Jed has been a **SONH CORVETTE** member since 2021 and owns a beautiful Blue C5 convertible. Below Jed explains what his business is all about and the potential benefits his services can provide!

## Wow! Is my car really worth that ?



Hi everyone, in a recent conversation with Rick we were discussing the benefits of an appraisal for our Corvettes, and we decided it might be nice to provide a little introduction and explanation of the importance of an appraisal, especially in the current market.

First let me introduce our company, I own Classic Auto Appraisal LLC, we are fully licensed and provide appraisals for all special interest cars, consignment services, storage and detailing and we are in the process of opening a performance shop that can handle all your maintenance and performance upgrades! My wife and I are enthusiasts and own Street Rods, Muscle cars and Vettes, I am also the President of the Olde Tyme Cruising Car Club, and the NH State Rep for the National Street Rod Association.

Our primary focus has always been the appraisals of cars so that the owners are covered to the highest possible value for insurance purposes and so that anyone who is looking to purchase or sell a car can have a true value of the vehicle!

Most often value appraisals are thought of for classics, for example, the C1-C4 categories when the reality is that the current market has created a large increase in the value of modern cars as well and many of us are underinsured. For example, I recently appraised a 2016 Z06, it was insured for \$75k through his primary insurance, after the appraisal the value was established at \$84,995.00! We were able to help him increase his policy by \$10k and we were able to help him secure a policy through Hagerty with our appraisal and a representative we work with allowing his premiums to decrease by \$400 per year, all while securing an agreed value policy, meaning that value will not depreciate like it would have with his primary insurance.

Corvettes are rising in value across all generations, I have owned many Vette's over the years and currently have a C5 that has risen 30% in value over the last 24 months. Please feel free to reach out through email, Facebook, phone or text if we can help you with an appraisal or consignment. Our shop is in Brentwood NH and we provide concierge service to your house (with applicable travel fee), all appraisal cost \$299 and include a digital and printed copy, and if you mention this club I will offer a 10% discount to all members.

See you all cruising soon!

Jed Greeke  
www.myclassicautoappraisal.com

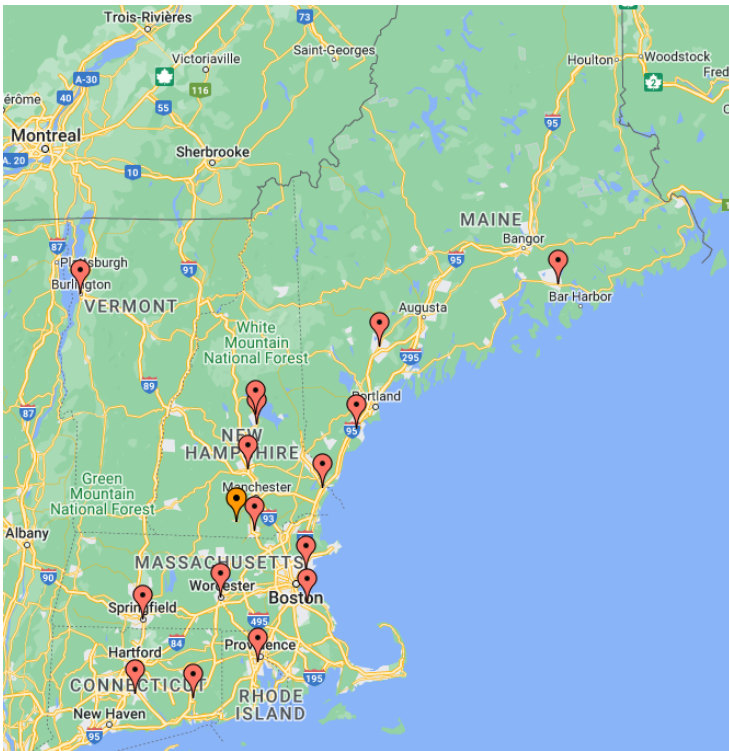
Facebook: Classic Auto Appraisal



## 2022 Super Corvette Meet & Greet

We're just weeks away from announcing all the details about our very first SUPER Corvette Meet & Greet involving members from all 37 surrounding New England Corvette clubs gathering for a one day Event!

We're anticipating a huge turnout based of the Feedback from the club directors and we're anticipating between 350-500 Corvettes all to gather in one location!  
Should be an incredible day!



### SONH CORVETTES

I hope this letter finds you well!

My name is Rick Delano and I'm part of a small Corvette club in Southern New Hampshire called SONH CORVETTES. I'm contacting you today to make you aware of an event we're organizing this coming summer that we think might interest your group.

If you've ever participated in an event showcasing hundreds of Corvettes in one location then you know the excitement and fun such an event brings! With that said, we're planning a one day "Super Corvette Meet & Greet" involving all the known Corvette Clubs throughout New England. We're in the initial phase of planning with the date and venue yet to be determined. (We do have a tentative date and location chosen that is central to the clubs who have already committed, but before finalizing our plans, we want to make sure we contact and invite all of the NE clubs and based on the responses, could possibly alter our tentative plans)

Currently we have 28 Corvette clubs of various sizes from all six New England states that have committed to participate!

You and your club members are formally invited to join us in what will surely be a great fun filled event! It's an opportunity to "Meet & Greet" many of the other New England clubs and will also be productive prelude to the 2024 NCM Corvette Caravan New England Chapter. One of our club's members is the state designated captain for NH & VT chapter of the New England portion of National 2024 NCM Caravan. So it will be great opportunity to learn more about what is planned leading up to the 2024 cruise.

If you have an interest in presenting this to your club membership for participation, I've enclosed our club's e-mail and contact information and if you reply back with your clubs contact information, such as a point of person and an e-mail address, I will add you to the information e-mail chain and update you as the event plans progress.

Thanks for taking the time to read and hope you will join us for what should be the largest one day Corvette event in New England this coming season!

Best regards  
Rick Delano  
SONHCORVETTES@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.SONHCORVETTES.ORG  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sonhcorvettes>



### Fava Bean Pasta e Fagioli

#### INGREDIENTS

3 pounds fava bean pods, shelled  
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for serving.  
2 thick slices of lean, meaty bacon, cut crosswise 1/2 inch thick.  
1 large carrot, halved lengthwise and cut crosswise into 1/4-inch-thick half-moons.  
1 medium onion, cut into 1/2-inch pieces.  
1 large garlic clove, very finely chopped.  
One 3-inch-long rosemary sprig.  
1 quart chicken stock or low-sodium broth  
1 cup tubetti or other small pasta  
Salt  
Freshly ground pepper  
Freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, for serving

#### Directions

Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil. Add the shelled fava beans and blanch until bright green, about 1 minute. Drain and peel the favas. In a large saucepan, heat the 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Add the bacon and cook over moderate heat until starting to brown, about 4 minutes. Add the carrot, onion, garlic and rosemary and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the stock, cover and simmer over low heat until the carrot is tender, about 6 minutes. Meanwhile, in a medium saucepan of boiling salted water, cook the pasta until al dente. Drain. Discard the rosemary sprig and season the soup with salt and pepper. Add the favas, pasta and mint leaves. Spoon the soup into bowls, drizzle with olive oil and serve, passing the cheese at the table.



#### INGREDIENTS

1 pound asparagus, trimmed and halved crosswise  
1 pound hen-of-the-woods or oyster mushrooms, or 8 ounces morel mushrooms  
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
1 teaspoon kosher salt  
2 tablespoons unsalted butter  
1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves  
1 cup loosely packed watercress or arugula (about 1/4 ounce)  
Flaky sea salt (preferably Maldon)  
Aged balsamic vinegar (preferably San Giacomo Essenza Balsamic), for drizzling

### Roasted Asparagus and Mushrooms

#### Directions

Preheat oven to 450°F. Line a rimmed baking sheet with heavy-duty aluminum foil. Arrange asparagus and mushrooms in an even layer on prepared baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil, sprinkle with kosher salt, and toss to coat. Roast in preheated oven, stirring occasionally, until charred and tender, about 15 minutes. Add butter and thyme leaves. Once butter is melted, toss vegetables to coat, and roast until glazed, about 5 minutes. Arrange roasted vegetables on a platter, top with watercress, and season with flaky sea salt to taste. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar.



#### INGREDIENTS

1 (750-ml) bottle semi-dry Riesling  
1/3 cup granulated sugar, or more to taste.  
1 tarragon sprig  
1/2 cup dried apricots (preferably California) (about 4 ounces)  
1 pound fresh strawberries, hulled (halved lengthwise if large)  
Unsweetened whipped cream, for serving  
Fresh tarragon leaves, for garnish

#### Directions

Fill a large bowl with ice and water; place a large heatproof bowl on top. Stir together wine, sugar, and tarragon sprig in a large saucepan; bring to a boil over medium. Add apricots, and cook 2 minutes. Add strawberries; reduce heat to medium-low, and cook until fruit just softens, about 3 minutes. Transfer fruit mixture to bowl set over ice-water bath, and let stand until cool, about 45 minutes.



We'd love to hear back from anyone who makes one of the monthly recipes. Share your thoughts on ease of making, How they turn out and obviously how they taste. E-mail your feedback to [sonhcorvettes@gmail.com](mailto:sonhcorvettes@gmail.com) and we'll share your results

## Member Profile

As a new permanent section of our monthly newsletter, Each month we'll be featuring a group member along with their car's!



This month we're featuring member's profile  
Kevin & Georgia LeBlond.



SO NH CORVETTE MEMBER SINCE: **Sept. 2020**

Location: **Wilton** State: **NH**

Occupation: **Retired (K) + Planning Manager (G)**

If Retired, Occupation prior: **R&D Project Manager**

Current Year & Model: **2017 Grand Sport Convertible** Color: **White**

How many Corvettes have you owned? **7** Owner since (year) **1975**

Years owned (list each Year) **1975, 1976, 1984, 2001, 2005, 2014 & 2017**

What do you love most about your current model? **It's Wicked Pissah!**

Your first car growing up was a: **1967 Mustang**

What is your dream year and model Corvette? **They are all beautiful! C1-C7**

Can you describe what it was that attracted you to the Corvette? Was there something earlier on in your life that made you fall in love with the car?

**Back in 1960 or '61 I started watching Route 66 with Martin Milner & George Maharis and discovered the Corvette. Then in the mid '60s a young neighbor of my grandmother's recently returning from Vietnam stopped by to show us his new (to him) Corvette. As I remember it, it was a medium blue coupe with side pipes and was loud; I was hooked from that point forward. And the rest, as we say is history.**

Where was your favorite place or location that you've taken your current or a past Corvette to?

**There isn't any one location that stands out, they were all amazing. New England Aviation Museum, The Kancamagus trip, beach runs, etc.. And the list goes on.**

Describe what it means to you, to be able to say you own a Corvette and the greatest joy it brings you !

**Just having the ability to own one, we feel pretty lucky.**



**Thanks to Kevin and Georgia for taking the time to share their Corvette obsession story! K&G are group moderators, regulars every Friday night at Target and there's a pretty good chance you'll see them on one of our caravans as they haven't missed one yet.**

**Oh yes, and then there's Tucker, the man who truly rules the roost**

