



# High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter June 2026

## Officers and Volunteers

**President—Nathon Marker**

**Vice Pres.— Don Ginter**

**Secretary— Dee Ginter**

**Treasurer— Mike Zumwalt**

**Sgt At Arms— Bryce Woodall**

**Activities—Mike & Judy  
McClean**

**Website—Walt Santos**

**Membership—Roiann  
Santos**

**Newsletter—John Burgess**

**Photographers—John  
Burgess  
Dee Ginter**

**Sunshine—Debbie Scherrer**

**Highway Clean up— Eric &  
Miriam Lea**

**Publicity— Rebecca Marker**

**COHD—Chair Person  
Harry Bongers**

## President's Ponderings – June 2026

As we wrap up May, I think most of us were happy to finally see some much-needed rain arrive at the end of the month. After a fairly dry spring, it was a welcome sight across Central Oregon.

A highlight of the month was our drive out to La Pine. It's always great to spend a few hours on the road together, enjoying our Corvettes and the beautiful scenery we have right in our backyard. These types of events remind us what the club is all about—driving, friendships, and making memories.

Looking ahead, I want to thank the members who have stepped up to help plan and organize future drive outs. The success of our club depends on participation and fresh ideas from all of us. Whether it's a short two-hour cruise, a lunch destination, or a full-day adventure, every drive helps keep our club active and moving forward.

June is absolutely packed with club activities. Our annual retreat to Jacksonville is just around the corner and is always one of the highlights of the year. Shortly after that, we'll be hosting Corvettes on the High Desert, our largest event and fundraiser. Between those two events and our regular club activities, there will be plenty of opportunities to get out, enjoy your Corvette, and spend time with fellow members.

Speaking of Corvettes on the High Desert, we are still looking for volunteers to help make this year's event a success. The show benefits two local charities and takes a tremendous amount of effort behind the scenes. If you haven't signed up to help yet, please consider volunteering for a shift. Every volunteer makes a difference and helps ensure a successful event for our participants, sponsors, and charitable partners.

See you down the road!

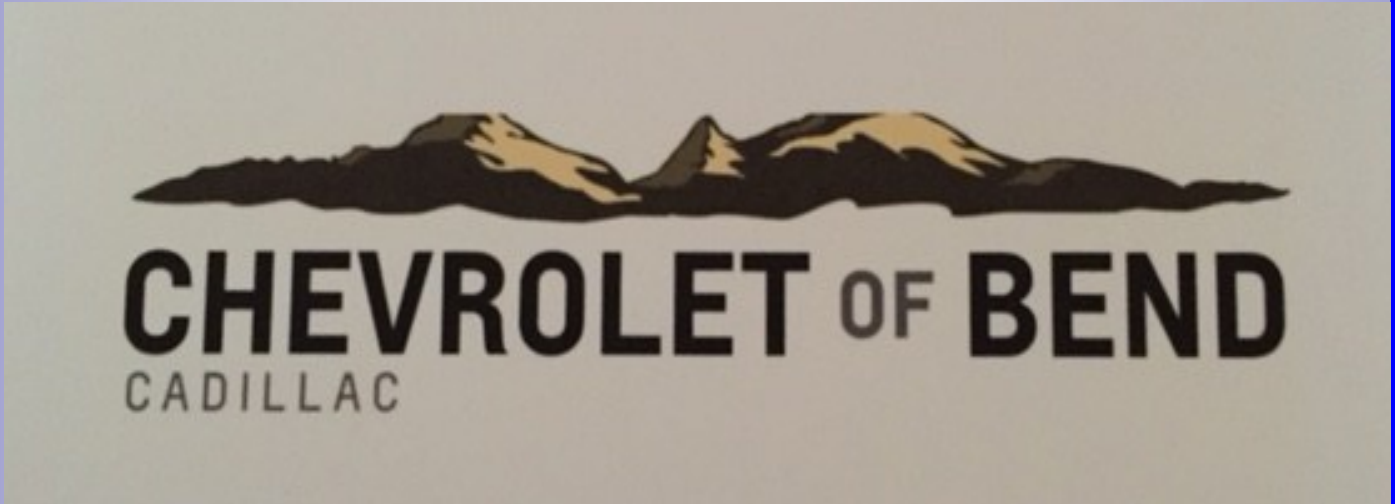
Nathon Marker

HDCC President





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OWNERS**



## June Birthdays

- 1 Candy Sheldon
- 3 Barbie Clement
- 3 Roiann Santos
- 3 Mike Zumwalt
- 5 Garu Bagwell
- 5 Pete Olsen
- 22 Sandi Cowell
- 23 Mike McClean
- 26 John Burgess

## June Anniversaries

- 7 Harry and Ingrid Bongers
- 15 Eric & Miriam Lea

## HDCC Events

- June 6 Faith, Hope & Charity Vinyard Car Show Get information online.
- June 10 HDCC Business Meeting
- June 12-14 Vette-A-Bratton Yakama WA
- June 19-21 Jacksonville Retreat
- June 26-27 COHD Bend OR
- June 30 National Corvette Day
- August 8 Corvettes on the Bay
- August 14-16 Wine Tour Eugene OR
- Sept 11-13 President's Mystery Tour
- Sept 12 Glory Daze Car Show Sisters
- Sept 10-12 Corvettes on the Columbia
- Sept 19 First Ever High Chair Poker Run

## Highway Clean-up Dates

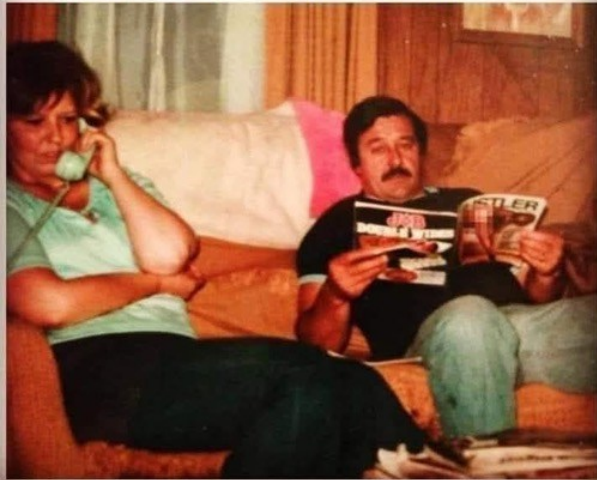
- June 6
- Sept 12



Roiann Santos won the May 50/50 jackpot. Sgt At Arms Jere Smith presented Roiann with her winnings of \$85.00

**On the lighter side.**

**Back in the day before Social Media  
we spent quality time together**



When you forget to drink  
your morning coffee



So you saw 5 people  
beat up a guy on an  
electric bike. Why  
didn't you help?

I thought 5 was  
enough.



**How come there is  
enough asphalt for speed  
bumps**

**But not enough to fill pot  
holes**



**Meet and Greet with Cascade Corvette Club**





## Social Night At Sinco DeMayo





## Route "66" TURNS 100 YEARS OLD

We have heard about or perhaps traveled on the famed highway, route 66. Most probably remember the T.V. show "Route 66". There have been planned Corvette trips for all or part of the route. Take the quiz below and see how well you do.

1. Martin Milner and George Maharis starred in the show. Do you remember the names of the characters they played?
2. Who originally sang the song "Route 66"?
3. What town is considered the birthplace of route 66?
4. What writer made route 66 famous?
5. Where did the original route begin and end?
6. How long was the highway?
7. What was the color of the Corvette used in the T.V. show?
8. What states does route 66 travel through?
9. What state has the most miles of route 66?
10. What state has the fewest miles?

Answers on page 10





## *Changing Your Cars Battery*

Most everyone somewhere along the way have had to change your cars battery. Never a problem and a very simple procedure. Last month's newsletter had a brief discussion about battery life. Harry Bongers forwarded a note to me discussing that a neighbor had changed the battery in his battery and consequently all electronics his 2016 Mazda were lost and had to be reset by the dealer at a cost of \$200.00 plus the cost of the battery and I suspect a towing charge.

I had just changed the battery in our C8 and luckily had no problems. I did connect the trickle charger before I started the process. The only problem I experience in changing the C8 battery is that you have to be a contortionist to get at the battery. It is not unusual to lose some electronic settings such as mirrors, seats positions etc., but had not heard of a total shutdown. In researching this I found where it is recommended that the car be connected to OBD2 memory savor in order to maintain settings. I also found where one person connected a battery charger to the positive and negative terminals which accomplished the same thing as the OBD2.

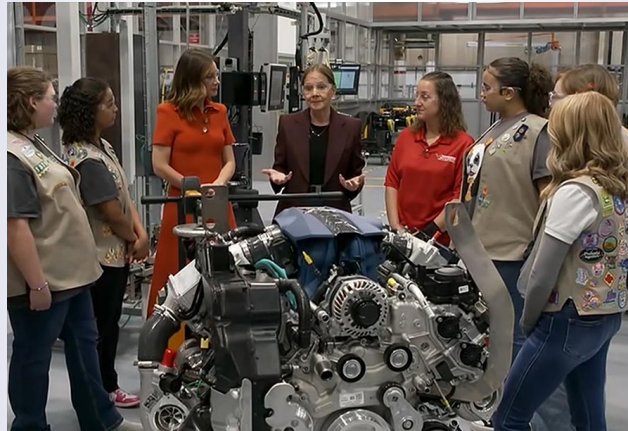
I also read where some foreign cars have what is called a complex battery management system (BMS) and is recommended that the dealer complete the battery replacement. Seems the bottom line is, check your owner's manual before changing the battery or jump starting your car. Most of us have been changing our batteries for years without problems, however with the complex electronics that most cars have today, it is best to consult the owner's manual.

### ***FATHER'S DAY***

Father's Day was inspired by Mother's Day and championed by Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, in 1910. She wanted to honor her Civil War veteran father, who raised six children as a single parent. It took decades for the holiday to gain traction and widespread commercial acceptance.



## GM's Mary Barra Featured on Good Morning America from Inside the Corvette Assembly Plant



General Motors CEO [Mary Barra](#) was interviewed Friday morning on Good Morning America from the [Corvette Assembly Plant](#) in Bowling Green. The rumor from insiders is that Mary was in town to build an LT7 engine that will go in her Corvette ZR1/ZR1X.

I wonder if she had to pay the \$100,00.00 dealer markup

### Active Fuel Management / Dynamic Fuel Management

Active Fuel Management (AFM) was a system GM engineers developed back in 2005 to help improve the fuel mileage from some of their V6 and V8 engine applications. AFM shuts off half of your engines cylinders to operate at a reduced power level to reduce fuel consumption when running in low load and cruise situations. By 2019, GM had developed Dynamic Fuel Management (DFM) which a smarter version of AFM. While AFM would shut-off the same cylinders every time the system would activate, with DFM, the engine has up to 17 different patterns it can run in depending on load and other inputs. With DFM, the engine can turn off two cylinders, four cylinders, or any of the eight it sees necessary to meet the current situation and demand.

Recently there has been concern that these systems can cause excessive oil consumption, transmission shudder, excessive wear on valves and lifters and hesitation on acceleration. Some sources say that these problems are more prevalent in the 5.3 liter engine vs the 6.2, There is a AFM/DFM disabler available that simply plugs into the OBD diagnostic port. John Elegant "Mid-Engine Update" mentioned that through his contacts in Bowling Green, they do not consider this to be an issue with Corvettes and are not planning any changes to the technology. Much of the publicity concerning this issue is on some social media outlets who of course are advertising the device to plug in to the OBD to override the AFM/DFM systems. Go figure!!



## Wheel of Fortune Winner

A North Carolina bartender is heading home with a new C8 [Corvette Stingray](#) and a chunk of change after making a very successful appearance on *Wheel of Fortune*.

As reported by *WFMY News 2*, Jason Nieradka of Kernersville, North Carolina capped off a memorable run on the iconic TV game show by winning the [mid-engine sports car](#) during a special winners round. The [C8](#) Stingray was even personally selected by Jay Leno.

(and my mom didn't want me to be a bartender, damn)

from GM Authority

## Answers to Route 66 Quiz

1. Tod Stiles and Buz Murdock
2. Nat King Cole
3. Springfield Missouri
4. John Steinbeck "Grapes of Wrath"
5. Begins in down town Chicago and ended in Santa Monica California
6. 2448 total miles although has varied some over the years with improvements
7. Light blue and later it was beige. Many think it was red but dark colors did not film well in black and white.
8. Illinois , Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, & California
9. New Mexico
10. Kansas



2026 Corvette Z06 2LZ

Arctic White Black Interior

\$137,345.00



2026 Corvette Stingray 2LT

Blade Silver Black Interior

\$92,025.00



2014 Corvette Stingray

Arctic White Red Interior

33,462 Mile

\$45,995.00