



High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter July 2024

Officers and Volunteers

President—Dave Schneider

Vice Pres.— Jere Smith

Secretary—Casey Gibbs

Treasurer— Leslie Cheney

**Sgt At Arms—Laurilea
Gibbs**

Activities—Sande Burgess

Website—Walt Santos

**Membership—Roiann
Santos**

Newsletter—John Burgess

**Photographers—John
Burgess
Dee Ginter**

Sunshine—Debbie Scherrer

**Highway Clean up— Mike
McClean**

Publicity— Jere Smith

**COHD—Chair Person
Harry Bongers**

President's Ponderings

Greetings Club Members,

It is hard to believe that it is over. After six years of waiting and sixteen months of planning, the Corvettes on the High Desert happened, and it was a fantastic event. But, only because of all the hard work of the Committee Chairs and club members who volunteered their free time. It took a small army to pull it off. It is too soon to have an exact amount that will be donated to Brightside Animal Center, but as soon as Leslie comes out of a much-needed week-long nap, I am sure we will get a report at the next business meeting.

A huge thanks to Pat Cashman, General Manager at Rivers Edge Golf Course. Without Pat's generosity and hard work from his team, the event would not have happened. It was a beautiful site to see seventy-three Corvettes lined up on the first fairway. A large tent provided a gathering place to socialize, play games, enjoy coffee and donuts (and a shot of Baileys for the adventurous), listen to music, and keep a keen eye on all the wonderful auction items being bid on. The clubhouse deck offered great views while we enjoyed a hamburger dinner on Friday and a prime rib lunch on Saturday.

I would like to thank the Corvette owners who came from all over the Pacific Northwest for sharing the event with us. It was fun to meet folks who love their Corvettes as much as we do. Will there be a COHD in 2026? Well, stay involved with the club to find out.

Also, thanks to Sande and John for organizing a great drive to Jacksonville. It was a fun weekend with many opportunities for wine tasting and enjoying meals with good friends.

Our next business meeting is on July 10th at 6:00 pm at Laurie's Grill. I would hate for you to miss the fun, so see you there.

Sincerely,

Dave Schneider

HDCC President

Dave Schneider

HDCC President





Gary Laursen HDCC Member Profile

I was born in Long Beach California on 31 July 1943 where my father worked in the shipyards repairing damaged ships during the war. After the war my parents moved back to Bend and my father was a home builder. He started teaching me the trade at 8 years of age and paid me 5 cents an hour. I built my first home completely at age 13. My father never paid me the 5 cents per hour and I kept track of what he owed me so when I reached 16 years old he owed me \$350. That's 7,000 hours so I was framing a home for about \$10.00. At that point he gave me a 1951 Plymouth coupe (my second car) for what he owed and I turned it into a low budget street rod adorned with a louvred hood, flipper hub caps and Mickey Mouse white walls.

At 17 (1961) I was drafted into the Army and Served in Pirmasens Germany and earned the Blazing Sun Award. My Battalion was shipped off to Vietnam the same day I was done with my tour and discharged. So, my contribution to Vietnam was to marry a Vietnamese girl, in 2006 we were married and continue to enjoy our relationship today.

I attended the school of hard knocks and still awaiting the graduation day. I was a career alcoholic for ten years and with help from Jesus I managed to take my last drink on 28 November 1985. This inspired me to write a book titled **Halfway to Hell and Back** which has been sold around the world (available on Amazon) and helped many with their addiction problems.

I started my own construction company in 1965 and have since designed and built over 400 homes and commercial buildings in the Central Oregon area. Never designed or built two the same and loved every client and always enjoyed doing my part in "Building America". I was the recipient of numerous awards for the homes and commercial buildings. I built the first home and commercial building in Northwest Crossing along with contributing new homes to many beautiful areas in Central Oregon.

I have always been an automobile enthusiast and during my lifetime have owned 74 different cars (and counting). My first car was a 1942 Ford coupe when I was 15 years old. It was painted army green with a mop. I paid \$15 for it and kept it for three months and ended up selling it for \$17. It was the only car I ever made any money on. In 1967 I bought my first new car – a 1967 Pontiac Firebird 400. Paid \$3,200 which included an eight track player! In 1976 I bought a 1975 Corvette, complete with smog control devices and a dysfunctional suspension system which was totaled out the first month. In 1969 I was honored to have taken first place in the World Championship Jeep race. That career ended quickly due to a near accident in the race even though Ford Motor Company invited me to drive a Bronco in the Baja 500.

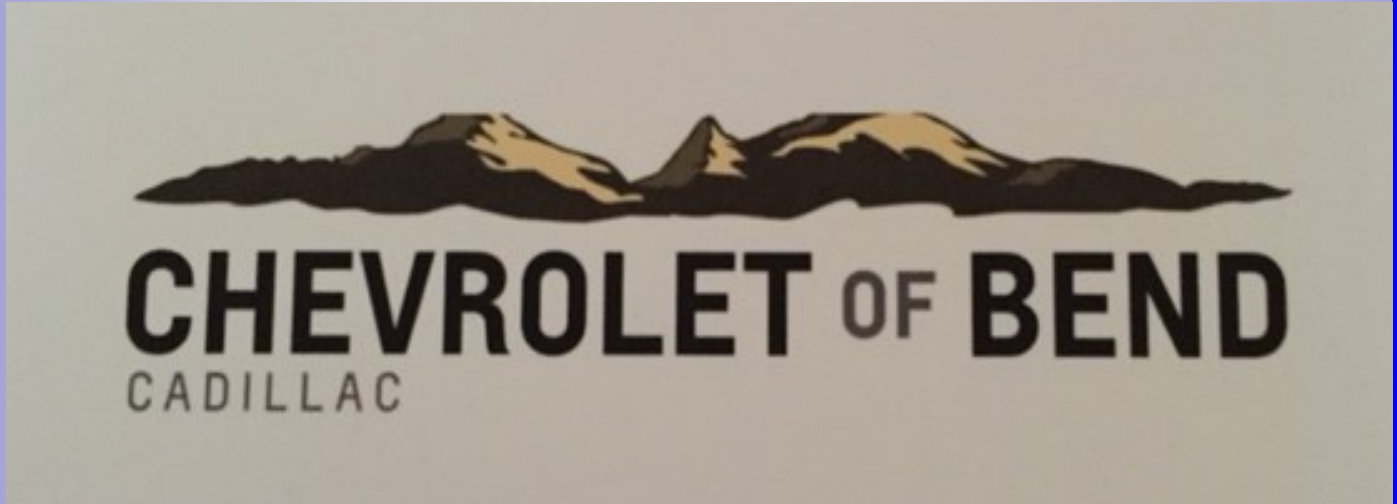
On my 80th Birthday I officially retired and got my new C8 which I picked up at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green Kentucky and did the tour of the very impressive Corvette assembly plant. What an engineering marvel!

I'm pleased to be a member of the High Desert Corvette Club and impressed with how it is so cleverly organized.





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July Birthdays

7/1 Bill Sheaffer
7/10 Casey Gibbs
7/20 Don Ginter
7/21 Lori Nelson
7/3 Gary Laursen
7/31 Kolby Meyers

July Anniversaries

7/4 Mark & Beverly Thorsell
7/9 David & Marna Parman
7/21 Mike & Kemi Broadley
7/22 Frank & Barbara Adnessio
7/28 Earl & Debbie Byers
7/28 Sam & Carolyn Davis
7/30 Walt & Roiann Santos

HDCC Events

July 4 Redmond 4th of July Parade
July 20 Cascade Corvette Club, Kendall
Motors car show
July 20 Elks Lodge Car, Truck & Motorcycle
Show.
Aug 9-11 Wine Tour Leavenworth WA
Aug 20 Corvettes on the Bay
Sept 6-8 HDCC President's Mystery Tour
Sept 12-14 Corvettes on the Columbia
Sept 26-30 Prescott Car Show Prescott AZ

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible

George Burns

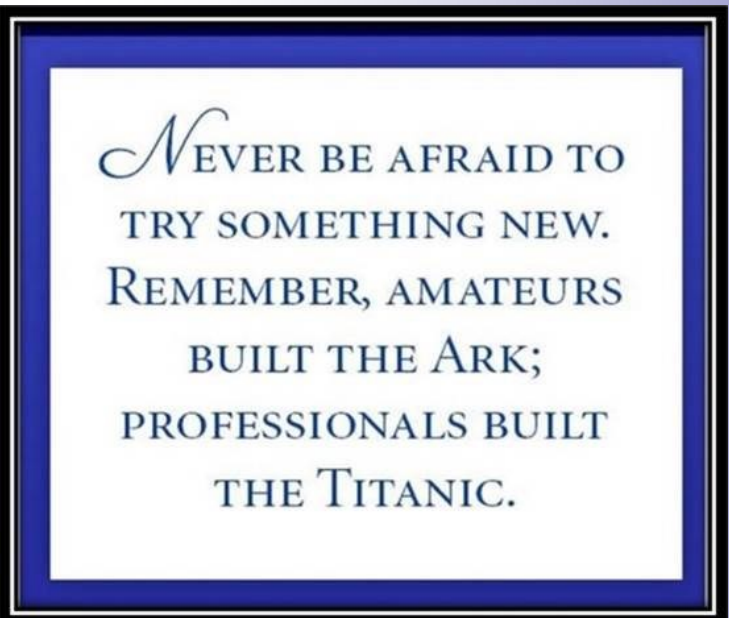
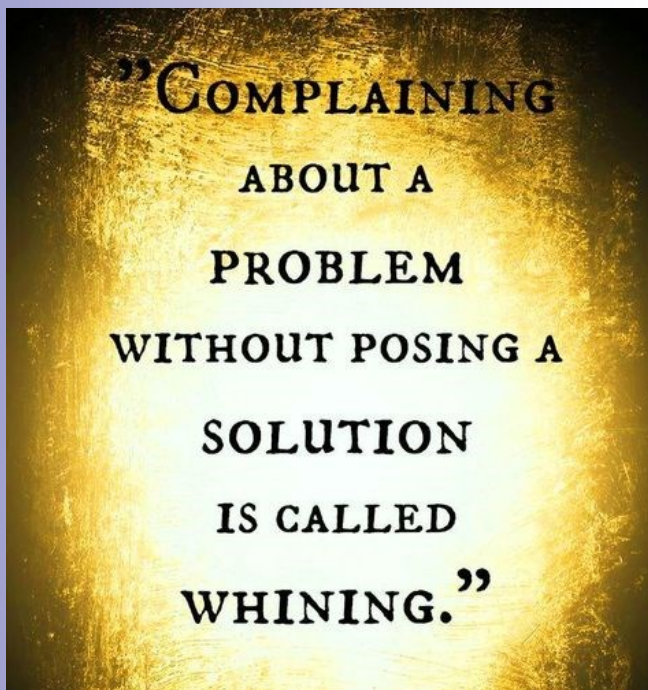


Leslie Cheney
Won the June
50/50 drawing
in the amount
of \$100.00



Patti Bagwell
won the July
50/50 drawing
in the amount
of \$150.00

On the lighter side.





Chevy Corvette Most Satisfying Car Again, Says Consumer Reports Members

As the first mass-produced mid-engined Vette ever, the [C8 Corvette](#) has been lauded by many folks for some time now. In fact, *Consumer Reports* itself appears to [admire](#) the performance machine greatly, while the Vette was [repeatedly listed](#) as the [most satisfying](#) vehicle to own by the publication's members. Now, the [Chevy Corvette](#) once again ranks first among the cars people love the most.

According to a [report](#) from *Consumer Reports*, the C8 Corvette boasted a score of 93/100, which beats out the likes of the Rivian R1T, Mazda MX-5 Miata, and Lexus NX Plug-In Hybrid with scores of 88/100, 88/100, and 87/100, respectively. Meanwhile, some of the most unsatisfying models to own include the Kia Sorento Hybrid, Nissan Sentra, and Volkswagen Taos, which received scores of 42/100, 39/100 and 38/100, respectively.

To obtain the necessary data for this survey, *CR* drew on the results of the 2023 Annual Auto Surveys, which included data from owners of more than 330,000 vehicles ranging from model years 2021 to 2023, along with a few 2024 models. The owner satisfaction score is based on the percentage of participants that responded whether or not they would repurchase their vehicle in its current specification.

As a reminder, the Corvette C8 is now offered in a number of distinct flavors, including the [C8 Stingray](#), [C8 Z06](#), and [C8 E-Ray](#). More specifically, the Corvette Stingray is powered by the naturally aspirated [6.2L V8 LT2](#) gasoline engine, rated at 490 horsepower and 465 pound-feet of torque, while the Corvette Z06 features the naturally aspirated [5.5L V8 LT6](#) gasoline engine, rated at 670 horsepower and 460 pound-feet of torque. Finally, the [Corvette E-Ray](#) combines the aforementioned LT2 engine with an electric motor on the front axle to bring total output up to 655 horsepower.



From GM Authority



Have You Ever Wondered What GM Does With Corvettes Damaged At The Plant?

Over 100 Corvettes were damaged during the tornado that hit Bowling Green in 2021. A variety of rumors have been circulated around regarding what happens to the damaged Vettes.. Since they suffered physical damage during the storm as well as water damage the usable parts were stripped from the cars. Supposedly because of water damage most of the electronics were discarded..

From a liability standpoint GM decided to cut the cars in half as they need to be guaranteed that the Corvette is not resold as a whole. The halves are resold should someone need a front end or rear end.

The vin numbers are written out of the system so they cannot be used again. There are a verity of versions to this story so not sure this is the whole story. Stay tuned!!





Yakima Vette-A-Bration

We (Walt, Roiann, John S, & Gary L) attended this event Friday and the Car Show on Saturday. As it turned out we all ended up with a trophy. We missed the other activities Saturday (Vine & Hops Tour, Historic Trolley Museum/rides, and late evening downtown cruise) and Sunday (Road Rally, Poker Run and BBQ lunch). Friday evening after our smoked prime rib and turkey dinner several attendees cruised to the Renegade drag strip where we first performed a high speed parade down the drag strip. Then some of us ran down the drag strip for times and money. I got quickest ET = 11.9s, highest trap speed = 116mph, and lowest reaction time = 0.108s which I won \$50 each. I guess I should mention that I was the only C8 against two C7s. John S and I ran against each other and even though I gave him an unintentional 0.5 second head start I was still able to pass him by the end of the quarter mile.

Walt and Roiann won 1st place for C8 Convertible

John Shaw won 2nd Place C7 Coupe

Gary Laursen won 2nd Place for C8 Coupe





Lunch at Tiger Town in Mitchell



Car Show

Car, Truck, Motorcycle Show

Bend Elks Club

July 20, 2024

9:00—1:30PM

Registration Opens at 8:30 AM

\$25.00 Entry Fee, Includes one BBQ Lunch

Awards at 1:30 PM



HDCC Retreat to Jacksonville, Oregon

Twenty-two cars left the Safeway parking lot in south Bend early the morning of June 21. After a quick comfort stop in Chemault we continue on to Mac's Diner in Shady Cove for lunch. A good lunch although a bit noisy but that generally means everyone was having a good time. On to the Wine Country Inn in Jacksonville. Most of the rooms were ready but a few had to wait a few minutes. That evening the Back Porch BBQ delivered an excellent dinner consisting of BBQ chicken, beef and ribs plus mac and cheese, baked beans and salad. Saturday started with lunch at Dancin Winery and then on to various options such as Rogue Creamery, Lillie Belle Chocolates, Hummingbird Winery and Coquette Bakery. Saturday evening was dinner on your own with several very good options. A great time, good conversation and perfect Corvette weather.





Slide show coming soon!!



Albany Historic Carousel and Museum

Six HDCC cars travel to Albany to visit the Historic Carousel Museum. With a lunch stop at The Point Restaurant in Sweet Home we arrived at the museum around 1:00 PM. After careful planning they WERE NOT expecting us. Seems that the manager had quit the week before and no one knew how to get into his computer to see what was scheduled. Anyway, everything worked out as one of volunteers was very gracious and led us on a tour. The museum has been fifteen years in the making and is staffed by volunteers. It is an outstanding building funded by donations and all staff as well as those making animals for the Carousel are all volunteers. It can take from two to ten years to build one of the animals at add to the menagerie. The animals are carved from bass wood produced on the east coast. Each one costs about ten thousand dollars. Very impressive and would recommend a visit especially fun for children.

