

# INDIAN RIVER CORVETTE GAZETTE

A Monthly Publication of  
The Indian River Corvette Club

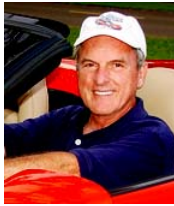
June, 2006

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## Special Elections at June Meeting! (See Page 3)

### THE PREZ SEZ:

Indian River Corvette Club members continue to purchase new Corvettes at a record pace!



Congratulations to **Harry and Linda Fallon** on their recent C-6 purchase. We welcome **Frank and Cheryl Casana** and their brand new red Z06 back into the club, also. When **Harry Butler** receives his 2007 Z06 this fall, the club will have a total of three, one in silver (**Sandlin**), one in red and one in yellow (**Porter**).

**Sue and Terry** added a third white Corvette to their stable of cars when Sue received a special birthday present in the form of a white/saddle tan 2000 convertible.

A special thanks goes out to **Karl and Bonnie Steene** who arranged our fabulous mystery dinner run to the **Greek Village Taverna**. It was a belly shaker!

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### WHAT A LUAU! - WHAT A BIRTHDAY PARTY for BETTY!

What can I say? There was a fantastic turn out, loads of great food; the weather couldn't be more perfect. **Dan & Ro's Luau** was a huge success. Thanks to their daughter **Heather** for the use of her beautiful house and yard with all the great space.

**Betty Skelton Erde's** birthday was also celebrated in grand style with a cake with a Corvette and beautiful decorations. Loads of cards and lot of memories were the talk of the evening.

The entertainment for the evening was supplied by **DJ Jerry** from the **Golden Oldies Dance Party** and **Party Dolls**, **Heather Bryant**, **Delores Mark/Chambers** and **Patty Carter** if you weren't there to enjoy them, they are Heather and two of her friends. They are all so great. Look for them to be in some of the clubs soon.

Dinner was catered from **Felix's Gourmet Cuban Restaurant** located at the corner of South 43rd and 1st Street.

**Sue Smith** came even after she had a really bad day at work and broke her leg.

Last but not least, it was great to walk outside and see all the Corvettes parked all around and see the neighbors looking at what we take for granted

*Thanks to Heather, Ro and Dan Bryant!!!*



*The Friendliest Corvette Club in Florida*

## “VETTES AT THE LIGHT” WAS ONE OF THE BEST

We have just returned from a great weekend at Ponce Inlet. It was one of the nicest I have ever attended. The area is just beautiful, the lighthouse is one of the few remaining working in the US. The inlet comes in between New Smyrna Beach and Daytona Beach. The very end of the road turns into Ponce Inlet. Loads of beautiful trees, lots of shade, and great restaurants

**Ponce Inlet CC** is a hard working Corvette Club, every single member turned out to work the car show, they were friendly, gracious, dressed in bright lemon colored shirts. Everywhere we went they ask if we were have a good time. For a first time event it was better that some we have been going to for years. We saw lot of familiar faces lots of Stuart Club members. **Harry & Barbara, Tom & I** had our vettes entered. **Dick and Lucy** came even though he has turned his vette in and is waiting his new arrive of a 2007.

If you are looking for a great Sunday ride or a fantastic weekend you should try out the Ponce Inlet and all the great food.



# Activities

## COMING IN JUNE

**2 - 3 - Fri - Sat “CORVETTES AT MYRTLE BEACH”  
Myrtle Beach, SC**

**9 - Friday - General Membership Meeting  
Special Election for  
Vice President and Officer at Large  
Dance to follow the meeting**

**10 - 11 - Sat. - Sun - SCCA - SOLO II Event  
Indian River Community College, Fort Pierce**

**16 - 18 - Fri, Sat, Sun - Bloomington Gold  
America's Corvette Show - Pheasant Run Resort, St.  
Charles, Illinois**

**27 - Tuesday -Mystery Dinner Cruise  
Our Host - Dick & Lucy Kesler**

## Blue Devil a reality?

As if 505hp isn't enough for the wildly successful new Z06 Corvette, a GM official has confirmed the Blue Devil or SS Corvette could be a reality... with 600hp! Tom Wallace told journalists that GM is working on the car, and spy photos show the proposed car on the famed Nurburgring test track in Germany with Michigan license plates.

Wallace did say that one facet engineers are focusing on is how to make the horsepower usable. It also is unclear if the new LS9 engine will be naturally aspirated or supercharged, as has been the talk on automotive Web sites.

The current Z06 has 505hp and can reach speeds of 198 mph. The Z06 has a base price of \$65,800, and yes, that is a great deal of money, but is cheap for this kind of performance.

The Blue Devil may be the first six-figure car in GM history. Another area engineers are working on is weight and, through more extensive use of carbon fiber body panels, their goal is to make the car lighter than 3,000 pounds.

The 2006 Z06 weighs 3,132 pounds and can cover the quarter mile in 11.7 seconds at 125 mph.

Stay tuned.  
- By George Mattar

## Corvette Racing to 1-2 Finish in Houston - 5/12/06

HOUSTON - Corvette Racing posted a 1-2 finish in the GT1 class in the inaugural ALMS **Lone Star Grand Prix**. Drivers Oliver Gavin and Olivier Beretta continued their hot streak, winning their seventh consecutive ALMS race. The "two Ollies" finished second overall in the No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R behind the winning LMP1 Audi R8, and took the GT1 title by 15.811 seconds over their teammates Johnny O'Connell and Ron Fellows in the No. 3 Compuware Corvette C6.R.

Both Corvettes had flawless runs in the two-hour, 45-minute contest, finishing one lap ahead of their Aston Martin Racing rivals. The victory was Corvette Racing's 11th straight win in ALMS competition

and the team's 32nd 1-2 finish since 2001.

"Corvette Racing did everything right," said Gavin after driving the final 98-minute stint. "The computer simulation work the engineers did before the race and the adjustments the crew made in the setup at the track produced a fantastic win on a circuit we had never seen before. We were carrying a 176-pound handicap, and it was hard, hard pushing all the time. Johnny was driving brilliantly in the No. 3 car, and he didn't make a mistake, not one inch. It couldn't get any closer."

Despite limited practice time on a brand-new circuit, Corvette Racing got up to speed quickly on the bumpy 1.7-mile temporary course.

## Corvette Racing's 1-2 Continues at Mid-Ohio - 5/21/06

LEXINGTON, Ohio - Corvette Racing continued its reign in the American Le Mans at Mid-Ohio. Oliver Gavin and Olivier Beretta extended Corvette Racing's winning streak at the **Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course** to five straight ALMS victories in the GT1 class. A runner-up finish by Ron Fellows and Johnny O'Connell made it five consecutive 1-2 finishes at Mid-Ohio by Chevy's factory team.

Gavin and Beretta drove their No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R to a 1.833-second victory over the No. 3 Compuware Corvette C6.R of Fellows and O'Connell. The Corvettes finished one lap ahead of the Aston Martin DBR9s of Enge/Turner and Lamy/Sarrazin.

The most important thing is that after two difficult races in a row, we

have two perfect cars to fly to the 24 Hours of Le Mans."

Corvette Racing's two race cars and tons of equipment will be airlifted to France later this week in preparation for the Le Mans test day on June 4.

"This is the note upon which we wanted to depart for France," said Corvette Racing program manager Doug Fehan. "We ran Le Mans-spec tires here and learned a great deal. Today's result shows the dedication of this team and the thoroughness of our preparation. We had great adversaries in the Aston Martin team who showed all the speed they needed. We implemented a strong pit strategy and demonstrated why Corvette Racing is the best in the world."

## Greg's Gab



Hi Folks!

Well the on again off again 600 hp stingray is back again according to Hank our owner. It looks like it will be built in 08'. I don't know the specifics yet but what a beast that will be.

Corvette sales are up right now which is nice to see even with the economy going the other direction.

Right now I have 3 new coupes on the lot, Artic White/Cashmere, Daytona Sunset Orange/Cashmere and Monterey Red/Cashmere.

If anyone is in the market for a new corvette make sure that you ask for me.

Also make sure that when you come in for service on your baby, that you let the service writer know that you are a club member so he gives you your club discount on parts and labor. See Dennis Scaflani our service manager for further information.

Till next month...Save The Wave!!!

*Greg*

**June 1, 1981:** Production of Corvettes begins at a new plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The first Corvette is a beige 1981 model.

## PRESIDENT CALLS FOR SPECIAL ELECTION

Three members of the board of Directory have resigned their position. The Vice President, one of the Activities Directors and Officer At Large.

With the office of Vice-President vacated as well as the Officer-at-large position, President Dick announced that nominations for these positions would be accepted until the next general meeting on June 9th. A special election will be held at the June 9th general membership meeting.

Anyone in the club that would like to run for any of these offices please submit your name either by phone or email to one of the following election committee members.

Lucy Kesler - 231-1742 - [k9btu@flbb.net](mailto:k9btu@flbb.net), Harry Fallon - 569-0857 - [fallonharold@bellsouth.net](mailto:fallonharold@bellsouth.net)

Sue Smith - 562-0539 - [terry562@bellsouth.net](mailto:terry562@bellsouth.net)

## Corvette Racing's reward from the ALMS for consistent excellence - More weight reductions for Aston Martin.

by Ethanol Boy

Detroit.

Desperate to juice up the competition in its GT1 class (which Corvette Racing has dominated for the last five years), the American Le Mans Series is giving the Aston Martin team an additional 25 kg weight reduction beginning with the Lone Star Grand Prix in Houston this weekend. The absurdity of this action is compounded when you realize that an Aston Martin sat on the pole and set the fastest GT1 lap of the race during the 12 Hours of Sebring this past March. This dance by the organizers to "even" competition is nothing new to racing around the world - as a matter of fact, you could safely argue that motorsport in general has been one of the most political sporting endeavors known to man. But this latest episode really stinks, when you digest the facts.

Prodrive won the 12 Hours of Sebring in 2005, which was the competitive debut for the new Aston Martin GT1 racing cars. These two teams are worthy adversaries, so the need for the ALMS to start "tweaking" the competitive formula in GT1 is dubious, at best.

What it comes down to, as is so often the case, is tires. After years of running on Michelins, Prodrive made the fateful decision to switch to Pirelli before the 2006 season, only to discover that their lap times went "off" during the later stages of a fuel run at Sebring - and they couldn't keep up with the Corvettes. Ironically, this was exactly the same reason that forced the Corvette team's switch to Michelin after their defeat at Le Mans in 2004, when they found that their lap times deteriorated during the longer stints, and they

couldn't keep up with the Prodrive Ferrari 550s.

The ALMS is weighing in with weight reductions for the Aston Martins simply because Prodrive made an uncharacteristic strategic error in their racing preparation, and now the Corvettes are suffering for it. Only now, heading to the tight and narrow confines of the temporary, 1.7-mile street circuit laid out in Reliant Park, in Houston, the Astons will have a lighter and nimbler package at their disposal, which will prove to be a huge advantage. Twenty-five kg isn't a big deal, you say? Well, the 25 kg reduction is on top of other allowances and "performance balance" adjustments given to Aston Martin since their arrival back on the racing scene, and the bottom line now is that Corvettes will be racing at Houston next week with an *80kg (176 pounds)* weight differential to the Astons! That's a huge difference, with the Corvette weighing 1180 kg and the Aston Martin weighing in at 1100 kg.

Somewhere out there, a NASCAR rule maker is smiling. After all, they wrote the book on this stuff. I just wish the powers that be at the American Le Mans Series would have resisted the temptation to go down this road, because once you do - there's no turning back.

And besides, in one fell swoop they have made the French racing authorities look positively rational by comparison, which is no mean feat.

My philosophy? Set the rules at the beginning of the season and then let 'em race.

**Ethanol Boy** Motorsports Editor

## MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### Birthdays for June

Larry Martin	June 5
Ronald Derby	June 10
Sharon Sperry	June 11
Nancy Murray	June 19
Beth Butcher	June 22
Bonnie Pfiester	June 25
Deborah Martin	June 26
Tarie Harris	June 26
Betty Skelton Erde	June 28

### Birthdays for July

Karen Pfiester	July 10
Syl LaRocca	July 11
Denver Sperry	July 17
Harry Fallon	July 26
Jim Gallagher	July 26
Greg Williams	July 30
Dr. Allan Erde	July 30
Rodney Hicks	July 30
Eva Sandlin	July 31

## WELCOME BACK

Frank & Cheryl Casano

## CONGRATULATIONS STUART - WELL DONE!!!

The Stuart Corvette Club did an excellent job with the car show at the Ft. Pierce Marina. Corvettes every where you looked, every color, even a strawberry colored vette.

The turnout from West Palm Beach was great and several other clubs showed up with groups of cars, lots of areas represented.

The weather could not have been better if someone had placed an order for the type of day. Lots of sunshine, great breeze, great turnout.

If you didn't go this year, try to go next year, this was the 8th show.

For those that don't know, Dick Kesler was the co-chairman.

