

from the desk of
Frank Baudo...



Now that September is here and the "Fall Season" begins, the club begins to shift into high gear with more members returning to fill the ranks. That being said, we are pleased to see that one of the first unofficial organized activities has turned out to be a big success. Comedy Night, held at the Riverside Theaters' new comedy club was a fun filled evening for all who attended. This is a relatively new entertainment for Riverside that resulted in two sell out back to back shows on that Saturday night in late August. Our dynamic Activity Group gets "coo dos" for helping to set this up and make it one of many of a kind in the future! Surely a return trip would be in order. We hope to continue in this venue by providing you with change of pace events that brings us together as friends and members enjoying our lives together via the IRCC.

Once again, you good folks make it all happen, so please, get involved, participate, take on an event and make a contribution. Our General Meeting is turning out to be most successful with a good turn out of members and great food! As ever, I thank all those members on the board and our activities people along with our membership for their support and friendship. I'm looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting and welcome our returning "snow birds" as they make their way back.

Semper Fi...

Frank

From Dyer Chevrolet

August was a beautiful time to take delivery of a brand new 2009 Corvette Coup....



From Will's

Perspective: I am now the proud owner of a 2009 Corvette coup! It's victory red, cashmere interior, 3LT package, with forged wheels, automatic transmission, 2.73 performance rear axle, dual mode exhaust, and a navigation system. To break it in, we drove to Tampa. Throughout the entire trip, we averaged 25 mpg including a stint where we set the cruise at 100 mph and averaged 19 mpg. Quite impressive! If our corvettes pass on the road, be sure to wave.

From Tatiana's Perspective: I know I don't have to tell you, but what a great ride that Corvette is! Despite all the rain and lightening on our road trip to Tampa, the Vette handled just perfectly. It's surprisingly very comfortable for a 3hr drive, and I just love how sporty and powerful it is. While we already were members of the Indian River Corvette Club, we now have joined you all in the more traditional fashion and appreciate the vehicle in all its glory.

September's recipient of the Dyer Difference Award went to the Sebastian Clambake Foundation, Inc which is a nonprofit organization that has given away more than \$200,000.00 to date. The 1st two Clambakes designated the Boys and Girls Club Building Fund as the primary beneficiary. In 2005, they supported the Senior Resource Association and By the River Affordable Senior Housing Facility. In 2006, the Sebastian Soccer Association and Sebastian's Riverview Park received the beneficiary monies. This year, H.A.L.O Animal Rescue Shelter, the City of Sebastian's flagpole project, and the Sebastian Soccer Association have been selected as the beneficiary recipients. The Clambake will take place November 7-9, 2008. Congratulations to the Sebastian Clambake Foundation!

Save The Wave,
Will and Tatiana Dyer

Let The Sunshine In...

**Finally
Sunshine!!!**



The rains have finally let up and the sun is out. The beach is full of great treasures, and most of our turtle nests have survived.

A big congratulations goes out to Dave & Melinda. They are now Mr. and Mrs. Myers. I caught up with them as they were boarding a cruise to Alaska for their honeymoon. We can't wait to see all your pictures. Hurry back!

It is not to early to start thinking Xmas Party. The venue is Panther Woods and the date is Saturday December 13. We will have more details in the near future, but for now have your calendar marked.

Since today was voting day I have a quote from William Gladstone you might like. "What is morally wrong cannot be politically right." I think I will vote William for office.

Keep thinking sun!!!!
ZoRo



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Do Not Forget
Save December 13th
For our annual
Christmas Party




Activities

COMING IN September

- 2 - Tuesday - Board of Directors Meeting
- 12 - Friday - General Membership Meeting
- 20 - Saturday - Comedy Night at Riverside Theater
7:30 pm - \$15.00 per person
- 23 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Our Host Tom & Hollyann Quina
- 26 - Friday - National Drive Your Corvette To Work Day

COMING IN October

- 4 - Saturday - Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta
Corvettes last endurance race of the year
- 10 - Friday - General Membership Meeting
- 28 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Our Host Frank & Connie Baudo

Check the WEB Calendar for details

September Dinner Cruise

Crystal Hofford was the captain of our cruise to the Driftwood Inn for dinner at Waldo's. It was a great choice for the evening. The atmosphere is always bright and cheerful.

Although the turn out was smaller than usual it was a fun group. I bet some of you stayed home because it looked like rain. Your car won't melt in the rain!

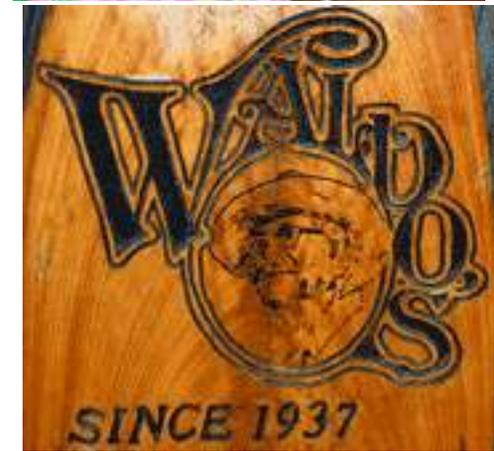
The food was really good, lots of Caribbean flair and flavor. The salads were really special and huge. All the food was well prepared.

Sue Smith brought a cake for Crystal and we all celebrated her birthday. The evening was full of great conversation

Sorry if you missed the fun.

Save the Wave!!!!

Hollyann



Getting To Know You ---- Tom La Rocca

Hi, everyone,

This month we are getting to know our vice president, Tom La Rocca. Tom's high energy level and ambition have led him to a very active and interesting career and life style.



He was born in Queens, N.Y. and grew up in Long Island, (a man after my own heart). After attending Fordham University in the Bronx, Tom joined the air force during the Viet Nam era. Fortunately, he didn't have to serve over there. In Texas, he was a squadron commander, flight training officer and a navigator from 1963 to 1969. I am sure that the highlight for him during that time was when he met his lovely wife, Syl. He said it was "love at first sight" and they were married in 1964. Their union produced there son, T.J. on New Year's Eve of 1965. T.J. resides in Tampa, still single and is in the mortgage brokerage business. Syl and Tom do have a grand dog named Cosmo.

After Tom left the air force, he joined the Xerox Corporation as a sales representative and national acct. Manager. He and his family moved to Ft. Lauderdale in 1971, with Tom being the training instructor at the National Sales Center. In Miami, Tom became the Industry Sales Manager for major accounts.

When Tom left Xerox in 1976, he started exploring his entrepreneurial talents. Moving to Houston, Texas, Tom started a Head Hunter business. After a year and a half, he sold the personnel part of the firm and moved back to Ft. Lauderdale to continue the business.

In 1980, Tom was looking for another business, and found a classified ad in the Yellow Pages. This led to him starting a rep business for mobile filing and storage systems. He has expanded that business to include international sales from Italy and Canada. In 1992 came another expansion to include installations for other companies.

As if that was not enough to keep him busy, Tom joined the sales force for the real estate company of Michael Thorpe, in 2005.

You would think that there wouldn't be any time for hobbies or fun. Well, think again. At the age of 12, Tom fired up his interest in boating and fishing after going fishing with his great grandfather who was a German Sea Captain on the waters of Long Island. Tom has owned many boats since then, a Chris-Craft, Sea Ray, Egg Harbor and 2 Makos.

His love of flying "took flight" after the air force. He has owned 3 Pipers, a Mooney and a Cessna Aircraft and he is a licensed pilot.

But his big love now is golf. So why not start another business ??? Tom helped invent a movable golf bag storage system which he has sold to several golf clubs. He is active in that now as well.

I asked Tom if he was ever going to retire. I guess you can figure out what his answer was-----NO! With that energy level, I don't blame him a bit!

Thanks, Tom



Curious Connie

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays for September

David Brower	September 1
Jim Pagano	September 2
Bob Dunne	September 2
Renae Brock	September 11
Lee Harris	September 12
Dale Warrington	September 20
Jan White	September 22
Cathie Callery	September 25
Shelagh Ancil	September 26
Alan Korsman	September 26
Rob Callery	September 28
Densie Mulligan	September 30

Birthdays for October

Steve Overly	October 1
Otis Humanes	October 1
Judi Overly	October 4
Jan Pagano	October 9
Dan McCusker	October 12
Richard Cathcart	October 14
Sandy Ericsson	October 15
Amy Harp	October 16
Carolyn Cathcart	October 16
Melinda Thompson	October 19
Jerry Brock	October 20
Tom Quina	October 26

Happy Birthday to everyone!

Best Deal In Town!

The Comedy Zone on the Waxlax Stage at the Riverside Theatre is a great evening out without breaking the bank. On Saturday, August 16th, a dozen plus of us caught the early show featuring two great comedians. The evening started off with James Sibley, with his observations of a very funny look at family life.



James Sibley

Danny Johnson followed James with his down home stories with a southern twist.



Danny Johnson

It was such a great evening that it is the club event for this month also, the early show on Sept 20th. Get you tickets early, all shows, are sellouts. See the club calendar on the web site for details. If you have the time, this is one club events you should not miss.

Record-setting Pilot, Driver To Be Inducted Into 10th HALL OF FAME

By THERESA CAMPBELL, DAILY SUN

THE VILLAGES Betty (Skelton) Erde will be among a class of seven racing greats when she is inducted into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in Detroit next month with Michael Andretti, Buddy Baker, John Force, Richie Ginther, Wayne Rainey and Paul Goldsmith.

"I feel like I'm probably one of the most fortunate people in the world," said the 82-year-old Village of Amelia resident, hailed as a female pioneer in aviation and automotive sports. "I have loved every minute of it."

She was encouraged by the late Bill France Sr., founder of NASCAR, to get into auto racing after he saw her win championships as an aerobatic pilot in a biplane in 1948-50. He felt that since she loved going fast and could do amazing feats in the air, that she would enjoy the same behind the wheel of a race car.

"Betty is one of the most dynamic women I have ever known," France said in a 1975 tribute. "I have watched Betty fly airplanes as only a champion could. I have seen her drive racing machines to new records time after time with the coolness of the best automotive racing champions. I personally officiated when she became the first woman in the world to drive racing cars to new records through the NASCAR measured mile on the sands of Daytona Beach."



He added, "She made automotive history when she drove a jet car on the Bonneville Salt Flats of Utah to become the first woman in the world to officially drive a vehicle over 300 miles an hour."

The Villager's world land speed record for women on the Bonneville Salt Flats was set in 1965, when she drove 315.2 mph in a jet-powered open-cockpit dragster named "Cyclops," a car owned by Art Arfons.

"It was a wonderful experience, and



Erde holds a photograph of herself that was made when she set a world land speed record for women on the Bonneville Salt Flats in 1965, when she drove 315.2 mph. Peter Travers / Daily Sun

Bonneville was a very exciting place," Erde said, showing a black-and-white photograph from the day. "I was the first woman to run there, and the other two times were with male drivers in record runs for speed."

Her love for racing began at an early age, when she and her father attended local races and traveled to the Indianapolis 500.

France personally invited Erde to participate in his 1954 Speedweek events on the sands of Daytona. With no previous experience driving in competitive events, she put the pedal to the metal, driving a Dodge sedan, and established a new class record.

First woman test driver

Her beach record led her to join the Dodge Division of Chrysler Corp., where she became the first woman test driver in the auto industry.

She went on to become the first woman to establish transcontinental auto records across the South American Andes mountain ranges,

and from New York to California. She also broke records driving a Corvette on Daytona Beach, and to this day, Erde still loves driving her red Corvette.

The Villager also is noted for being among the first women to take astronaut testing in 1959.

"I just like to go fast," Erde said, smiling. "I enjoy it, I really do."

If she could, she would get behind the wheel of a race car again and speed.

There are moments when Erde wishes she could live her life all over again, and there are times when she feels she was born too soon.

"Like about 100 years," she said.

Erde enjoys watching today's race car drivers and is thrilled to see more women behind the wheel.

"I watch racing quite a lot, and I'm following Danica Patrick," Erde said. "I think she is terrific. She's done quite well, and she has won one race in the

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Corvette Racing confirms switch to GT2 in '09

AutoWeek : 09/09/08

As reported previously, Corvette Racing will aim for a sixth win in the GT1 class in the 2009 24 Hours of Le Mans--before it switches to GT2 in the second half of the American Le Mans Series season, in preparation for a full-time GT2 assault in 2010.

The team confirmed that it will race its GT1 C6.Rs at Sebring, Long Beach and Le Mans, and will contest five or six more events thereafter next season. General Motors road-racing boss Steve Wesoloski said that those races are yet to be determined.

The move comes as a result of new international sports-car rules that will move the GT classes toward machinery that is more in line with what participating manufacturers sell, rather than extreme, purpose-built race cars. The new rules also call for manufacturers to offer their race cars for sale to independent teams, meaning there should be more than just the two factory-backed Corvettes on the grid--and racing in various international series--in 2010.



"The international regulations are converging around a single, global GT class, and we intend to continue Corvette's racing heritage by competing against manufacturers and teams that represent the best of the best in sports-car racing," Wesoloski said. "The GT1 class has been a platform for GM Racing and our partners to develop the most technically sophisticated race cars in our history. We intend to apply the tremendous success we have had in the GT1 category to make the next-generation Corvette C6.R a strong contender in the new GT class."

A 6.0-liter version of today's 7.0-liter

LS7.R small-block V8 will power the GT2 Corvette in 2009. A new naturally aspirated 5.5-liter version of GM's production small-block V8 will meet the new GT regulations in 2010. The new engines will continue to run on E85 cellulosic ethanol, as does today's LS7.R.

"Competing in GT2 will be a true test of our team's determination, talent and technology," said Doug Fehan, Corvette Racing program manager. "The level of competition in the category is already fierce, and that promises to become more intense with more manufacturers and top-tier teams. We've explored alternative paths, and we believe that competing in GT2 is the right road for Corvette Racing to take in the future."

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IndyCar Series that she drives in. She has done quite well and I hope she'll start winning some more races."

Her advice to Danica is simple.

"Do it your own way. Don't let other people tell you what to do," Erde said. "Probably if I let other people tell me what to do and not do, I would not have participated in any of these things. Unfortunately, they are somewhat dangerous, and people look at it that way."

Erde remembers that, in her early years, some people frowned upon the sight of a woman racing.

She didn't let it bother her.

"It's a matter of the fact that you simply have to do what you like to do and desire to do," Erde said. "Not many people get to do what they dearly love."

A love for flying

Born in Pensacola, Erde was the only child of David and Myrtle Skelton. As a little girl, she played with model planes instead of dolls. She loved watching Navy cadets from the nearby Naval Air Station fly maneuvers in biplanes.

She told her parents she wanted to learn to fly. She began taking lessons at 10, and was joined by her parents doing the same.

"I soloed at 12," Erde said, recalling that she soloed legally on her 16th

birthday.

She went on to become a champion professional aerobatic aviatrix, headlining major air shows in the 1940s and '50s, including the famous Cleveland Air Races and Miami Maneuvers. Among thrilling moments was when her small aircraft went with her onboard the original Queen Mary in 1949 to represent the United States at the International Air Pageant in London and the RAF Air Show in Belfast, Ireland.

During this era of aviation history, women pilots were not accepted by airlines or the military service. Erde also was too young for the WASPS, the civilian women who ferried pilots during the war.

Once France inspired her to race cars, she found her new love.

"She's amazing," Allan Erde, a retired Navy surgeon, said about his wife, whom he married in 2005. "She has done things that normal people wouldn't do."

Ron Watson, president of Motorsport Hall of Fame of America, praised the seven race car drivers who will be inducted at the Fillmore Detroit, joining 167 other racers already enshrined.

"On land and in the sky, the Class of 2008 represents race wins and championships in every series in America and beyond," Watson said.

Erde's latest award marks the 10th time the Villager will be inducted into a Hall of Fame. She was inducted into the national Aviation Hall of Fame in 2005; International Air Show Hall of Fame in 2003; National Corvette Hall of Fame in 2001; Florida Sports Hall of Fame in 1997; International Women in Aviation Pioneer Hall of Fame in 1997; Florida Women's Hall of Fame in 1994; Tampa Sports Hall of Fame in 1994; Tampa Bay Walk of Fame in 1991; and International Aerobatic Hall of Fame in 1988.

"I was really quite surprised when they contacted me," Erde said of the Motor Sports Hall of Fame of America. "This is exciting, naturally."

As she reflected on her life, she smiled once more.

"It has been great fun," she said, "and, of course, a great ride."

FIVE MINUTES WITH

By Tania Ortega-Cowan
Luminaries 8/25/08



Georgia Irish

Banker leads by example

Georgia Irish is not afraid to fail. "I was raised to be strong and independent," she says. "Yet, I love being around people. I don't have to be a leader to be happy. It is fine with me to be a helper and a team player."

When she's leading, she chooses to lead by example, setting expectations, not always dictating what needs to be done.

She likes to let her hair down, too, and laughing says, "I can work on the house and in the garden, but also clean up, dress up and attend an elegant social function."

It's her sense of humor and her lack of fear that has gotten her through some tough times. She's easy-going, kind and genuine. Her non-judgmental attitude has made her many friends from all walks of life.

Georgia was born in Erie, Penn., and lived there her whole life, until moving to Sebastian in 2003 with her husband Bob of 30 years.

Her simple, steadfast upbringing gave her a no-nonsense approach to life. "I have gotten where I am today because of my own initiatives," says Georgia.

When her boys were young, she would volunteer consistently at church and school. "It's a wonder they did not have me on the payroll, I volunteered so much," she laughs "Seriously though, I do things because I want to help out where help is needed. It is fulfilling, and good things happen."

Give back plenty, she sure does. When Georgia first came to town, she started volunteering with the Oceanside Business Association, and now serves as treasurer and she helps plan its events.

"What's really been fun is working the Beach Concert Series, and the new Farmer's Market and Green Street," she says.

Georgia is a Rotarian with the Treasure Coast Rotary Club, sits on the board for Hibiscus Children's Center and will help in the planning of its upcoming James Bond event, is working on "Dancing with the Vero Stars" for Healthy Start Coalition, and "Rockin' on the Island" for the Children's Home Society. She's also been a member of the Exchange Club of the Treasure Coast and enjoyed working with students at the Wabasso School.

"They are all wonderful organizations to help children in our community who are in so much need of our help and support," says Georgia. "Of course my employer Marine Bank & Trust enables me to do all these things. They support our community, friends and neighbors and they support me with my involvement with the community."

Life's biggest lesson learned the hard way - "True forgiveness"

Something people don't know about me: "I love to sing, and in my earlier years I skated competitive dance in roller skating, which is much like pairs ice-skating you would see today."

People who inspired me: "My mother and son. I had to grow older to realize it."

My favorite food - "Homemade upside down pineapple cake like my mom would make."

Museum Expansion Info

The National Corvette Museum is focused on expanding our mission which consists of a major building addition. With the additional 47,000 square feet, the National Corvette Museum will enhance our existing services and offerings to better serve enthusiasts. Expansions include the Library and Archives, Corvette Store, the PDI/Delivery Prep area and offices, Admissions, the Hall of Fame, Conference Center and Café, as well as providing additional exhibition space, restrooms and storage.

The Museum addition will feature Corvette Boulevard with capacity for 12 new Corvettes parking on the street awaiting their new owners to take Museum Delivery. Corvette Boulevard will be an old fashioned main street scene with "store fronts" including a library and archives, a store (Corvette Store), a diner (Corvette Café), and a marquee (Conference Center). The Corvette Club Room will provide space for our clubs/chapters wishing to meet at the Museum, as well as other activities. The Conference Center will serve as a versatile space - seating 400 for dinners, accommodating approximately 30 cars for display, and conducting Corvette auctions or special second season exhibits. The Corvette Café will provide light snacks and drinks as well as seat approximately 80 people with additional capacity both outside and inside the Café during events.

Thanks to Steve Overly for these pictures that were sent to him by his friend in Bowling Green Corvette Club

