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WWW.VILLAGEVETTES.COM

Visit our website at www.villagevettes.com for changes and updates to the schedule

VILLAGE VETTES CORVETTE CLUB 2019

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

During the month of June, we had several fun and exciting events that could be enjoyed by all including the 20th Annual NFCA World of Golf Village Corvette Car show in St. Augustine, Cruise in at Winn-Dixie in Lake Sumter Landing, Flightless Honor Flight, Eat-n-Ride to Gator Joes, Sakura pre-meeting dinner, St. Johns River Boat Cruise out of Sanford.

Vice President Charlie Tagman is planning a big-event for our August Business meeting. While things are typically slow for our club during the summer months, Charlie wanted to liv'in things up a notch with very brief meeting plus entertainment. Try to attend our July meeting and become more informed.

If you have not done so, sign-up and join Event Coordinator Richard Weese on an eat -n-ride to Stumpknockers on Thursday, July 18th. If you have not eaten at this restaurant on the river in Dunnellon, you will look forward to a future return. Their slogan is "Sit Long...Talk Much...Laugh a Lot". This says it all.

As for our National Corvette Museum 2019 Caravan, I have seen on several websites that rooms are available at hotels in the area due to cancellations. Contact our Event Coordinator Mike White if your plans have changed and you can still attend the 25th Anniversary. The dates are August 28-31. This may be your first opportunity to see one of the new C8 Corvettes!

In October we have two big events: Past President Gene McConkey will host his Annual Fall Color Run along with the Pig Roast. If you have not attended either of these events each then you have really missed out. The Fall Color Run is limited to 36 people due to accommodations. It will be a 3-day event starting on October 22 with 2 overnight stays at an undisclosed location. Due to popular demand, registration will begin on Saturday, July 13th at 11:00 AM. Space will be first come first serve. So, have your computer booted and ready on that day and time to register.

Remember, if you host an event and you would like it mentioned in our newsletter, then write a brief article about your event and send it to me along with pictures and I will see that is gets published in our next newsletter.

Remember our Christmas Party scheduled for December 12th, so save the date and sign up early to avoid the rush. Visit our website for details and sign-up!

Don Chaney
President 2019

Meet members Robert and Helene Aisenstat



Robert (Bob) Aisenstat grew up in Brooklyn, New York and graduated from City College of New York. Helene is from Barre, Vermont. They met in Burlington, VT, where Helene was a student nurse and Bob was her patient. Bob and Helene have been married for 48 years. Their children and grandchildren are still in St. Louis. Bob and Helene are both Family Practice Physicians and had a practice together in St. Louis for almost 30 years. They were always the “Team” doctors for their kids Baseball, Soccer and especially Ice Hockey where they travelled all over the country

and Canada as their son was the Goalie for the “Jr. Blues”. They moved to The Villages in 2013, and practiced here at The Villages Health for 3 years. They both retired, and now Bob works 2 days a week doing Family Medicine and Helene also works a few days a week doing Aesthetics. She has been doing aesthetics for the last 15 years.

Prior to medical school, Bob was a Firefighter/Paramedic in Deerfield Beach, FL. He was Chief of Rescue and Helene was a Paramedic/RN for Broward County EMS. They were the first two Licensed Paramedic in the State of Florida. They pulled their pensions, sold their house, cars and boat and took their two children and went to medical school for 4 years. Upon their return, they settled in St. Louis, finished their training, and eventually opened their own practice that provided care to over 13,000 patients.

Their first Corvette was a white 1995 C5 coupe (which they later traded in for a “Family Car”). They bought their 2017 Stingray Convertible Yellow... last year and are loving it....

Bob and Helene love cruising in the convertible. They look forward to their trip to Bowling Green for the 25th Anniversary of the National Corvette Museum beginning in Daytona and a return trip down the «Tail of the Dragon» on Route 129 crossing from Tennessee into North Carolina. The “Tail of the Dragon” at Deals Gap has 318 turns in an 11-mile stretch dubbed as America’s #1 Motorcycle and Sports Car Road.

Thank You 30 Nomads and 31 Corvette/Drivers for coming out for the "Flightless" Honor Flight

'Flightless' Honor Flight takes 23 veterans to see war memorials in D.C.

Twenty-three veterans of various eras took part in a flightless Villages Honor Flight event on Saturday, June 29th.



Marine Sgt. Kevin St. Amant, of Weirsdale, and his dog, Sarge, presented Honor Flight Challenge Coins to the 23 veterans who participated in Saturday's flightless Honor Flight.

The veterans, who served in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and other periods, represented the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. They came from The Villages, Lady Lake, Oxford, Leesburg, Ocala, Eustis and Hernando.

The event kicked off at about 9 a.m. when the veterans – two of whom were 99 years old – arrived at American Legion Post 347. After a short send-off, they boarded buses and headed to Colony Cottage Recreation Center for the once-in-a-lifetime experience. They were escorted by Lady Lake Police, the American Legion Freedom Riders, Fruitland Park Police and the Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

'Flightless' Honor Flight takes 23 veterans to see war memorials in D.C.



Thanks to video editing and technology, the 23 veterans taking part in Saturday's flightless Honor Flight experienced visits to several memorials in Washington, D.C.

After unloading at the recreation center, the veterans were greeted by numerous well-wishers and the TSA Honor Guard from Orlando International Airport.

As with the flights to Washington, D.C., everyone was screened by TSA agents and then checked into their flight by Rick Freitas, of Southwest Airlines in Orlando.

Through the magic of video editing and technology, after "arriving" in Baltimore, Md., they were escorted to Arlington National Cemetery, where they witnessed the changing of the guard. The next stop was the Marine Corps War Memorial, followed by the United States Air Force Memorial and a catered lunch, which was donated by City Fire.

'Flightless' Honor Flight takes 23 veterans to see war memorials in D.C.



Each participating veteran in Saturday's flightless Honor Flight received a certificate of thanks from their attending presenter representing their branch of service.

After lunch, the veterans enjoyed some time to take photographs, then continued their day with a visit to the World War II Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Each veteran who participated in the mission received a certificate of thanks from their attending presenter representing their branch of service. And each also received a Villages Honor Flight Challenge Coin from Marine Sgt. Kevin St. Amant, of Weirsdale, who was accompanied by his dog, Sarge.

The veterans then took a simulated trip back to the Baltimore airport, where they enjoyed mail call before boarding Southwest flight 1945 to Orlando International Airport.



The Honor Flight veterans received escorts to and from the Colony Recreation Center and were honored by members of the various branches of service and the TSA Honor Guard from Orlando International Airport.

'Flightless' Honor Flight takes 23 veterans to see war memorials in D.C.

They then returned to American Legion Post 347 amid a huge fanfare, complete with an escort by Lady Lake and Fruitland Park police officers, Sumter County sheriff's deputies, more than 30 members of The Villages Nomads and 31 Corvettes from The Villages Corvette Club.

"The veterans were very excited about the day and definitely surprised," said longtime Honor Flight volunteer Debbie Diroff, who served as a bus captain on the mission. "They enjoyed a resounding homecoming with a huge attendance of well-wishers. The room was filled to capacity."

Villages Honor Flight flew its first mission on May 2012. The Flightless program was **launched in September 2014** to give veterans who are unable to participate in a trip to Washington, D.C. the opportunity to enjoy the experience.



A large crowd of well-wishers attended the welcome-home ceremony for 23 Honor Flight Veterans on Saturday afternoon at American Legion Post 347 in Lady Lake.

The Flightless program, through video technology and a little magic, recreates the entire experience of a normal mission except for the actual flight to Washington, D.C. and back. Each participating veteran had a dedicated guardian, a preflight meeting to get the mission participants together for an orientation and some socialization, a special flight shirt and a squad-oriented social event.

Villages Honor Flight serves veterans in Sumter, Lake, Marion, Citrus and Hernando counties. For more information, veteran, guardian and volunteer applications, go to **www.villageshonorflight.org**.





Welcome our new President & CEO - Dr. Sean Preston

The National Corvette Museum Board of Directors has selected Dr. Sean Preston to serve as President and CEO of the National Corvette Museum. Dr. Preston joins the NCM, effective July 1, from Portland, OR where he served as President of a non-profit independent school. He succeeds 23-year NCM CEO/Executive Director Wendell Strode, who announced his retirement May 2018.

“When Wendell announced his retirement, we knew it was a huge drivers’ seat to fill,” said NCM Board and Search Committee Chair Lon Helton. “The NCM Search Committee teamed with Chicago-based Kittleman & Associates to conduct a thorough nationwide search to find the best possible candidates – and there were many. Sean possesses the leadership skills, diverse qualities, relationships and unique skill sets necessary to collaborate with NCM Board of Directors to expand the mission and strategic objective of the NCM while being mindful of the unique legacy and spirit of the organization. His skills as an innovative leader are proven and we look forward to the NCM’s next chapter with Sean leading the way for the staff, management, volunteers and members. The icing on the cake: Sean is a car guy with a 1954 Corvette and 1972 Corvette in his collection!”

Though his move to Kentucky is more than 2,300 miles from his current home, Dr. Preston is truly a southerner, having lived in Atlanta for most of his life.

“The National Corvette Museum is a one-of-a-kind organization. There are thousands of museums across the globe, but none other dedicated to Corvette,” said Sean. “I’m head over heels in love with all things car-related, and specifically Corvette. It is an honor to have been named President and CEO.”

July 2, 2019

QUICK LINKS

Corvette Store
Become a Member
NCM Insurance
Corvette Raffles
Motorsports Park
Make a Gift
Ambassadors
Club Events

Facebook

Please be sure to add yourself to our Facebook group if you have not.

This is our primary source of communication.

Cafe Table Tops

Cafe Table Tops are still available for \$3,000 donation. Table tops stay in place for 3 years.

At the end of the display period, they are available for the club to take home. More information is available [here](#).

NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

With 12-years of experience as a non-profit president, Dr. Preston is looking forward to putting his repertoire to good use. The academic nature of the Museum, and infinite possibilities with exhibits were a major factor that attracted Sean to the position. "I'm excited to look at the Museum and the exhibits from an outsider's lens and partner with the team to create new and exciting exhibits. I also think it's important that we focus on preservation of the collection. We want to expand the membership base, welcome a new generation of Corvette enthusiasts and become one of the most attended and supported car museums in the world."

Dr. Preston is a career educator, having previously served as Founding Foreign Consulting President of the American School of Zhengzhou in Zhengzhou, Henan, China; Founding President of John Crosland School in Charlotte, NC; and Executive Director of Cypress Heights Academy in Baton Rouge, LA. He has a BS in Social Science Education from the University of Georgia, a Master of Educational Leadership from Troy University, and earned his Doctorate in Educational and Non-Profit Leadership from Liberty University.

Dr. Preston will assume full CEO duties on July 1 and Strode will remain with the Museum through January 3, 2020.

Club Competition

Earn recognition from the National Corvette Museum for your Corvette Club! Each year the Museum awards clubs in a series of categories. Online entry is easy. Clubs must be business members of the Museum to enter. For tips and score sheets, please visit the Ambassador page of our website here: <https://www.corvettemuseum.org/ambassadors/>.

Club Website

Submit your club's website online at: <https://forms.gle/aFB1V1FoGcVvaouK9>

Club Social Media

Submit your club's social media channels: <https://forms.gle/tEuk83ov6CFU4f7Y9>

Club Newsletter

Only digital copies of newsletters will be accepted. Please no printed newsletters. PDF files are preferred. To enter, simply drag and drop your newsletter file to: http://bit.ly/NCM2019_ClubNews

Have a Word, Powerpoint or Publisher file? Convert it to PDF simply by going to "Print" and on the drop down menu for the printer, select Save to PDF.

Ambassador Convention

We will host our 3rd annual convention November. 5-6.

To register, click [here](#). Registration is free to Ambassadors

More information on the convention and hotel rooms will follow soon.

Plant Tours

Plant tours are not available at this time.

Please continue to watch NCM eNews and your Ambassador emails/Facebook for updates.

Ambassador Meeting

The Ambassador Meeting for the 25th Anniversary Celebration will be held Friday morning, August 30 at 8:00am.

Breakfast will be served and the meeting will be held at the Fraternal Order of Police building south of the NCM on Corvette Drive.

Membership Manager Stephanie Morrill
270-467-8837 I 270-781-7973 x137
stephanie@corvettemuseum.org

Will Chevrolet Reveal the C8 Corvette and Convertible Models Together?



There is a lot that we know now about the forthcoming reveal of the 2020 Corvette in Tustin, CA on 07.18.19 but there is one major question that won't be answered until that evening. Will Chevrolet reveal both the C8 Corvette's coupe and convertible models on that date or will they, as history has shown, split the models into two different reveal dates. (taken from Corvette Blogger posted on 6/28/2019).

Looking back at the introduction of the C7 Corvettes, the 2014 Corvette Stingray Coupe was revealed in Detroit on January 13, 2013, followed by the 2014 Stingray Convertible in Geneva on March 5, 2013. (taken from Corvette Blogger posted on 6/28/2019).

But do you know the real significance of this photo? Look closely at the Cyber Grey coupe and 1 of 1,232 produced. Have you seen one very similar to this one spot at our events? This actual car, a fully loaded 3LT, belongs to one of our members, Bob and Diane Kerfin. This car has history! Congratulations Bob and Diane for being members of our club with such a prestigious Corvette.

Grand Re-Opening of Winn Dixie

On Saturday, June 15th, The Village Vettes were invited to participate in the Grand re-opening of the Winn-Dixie at Lake Sumter Landing. Free hot dogs and water with live entertainment in the store helped to celebrate the event. The store manager greeted us as we arrived and made several visits outside to see that we had plenty of cold water and that our parking accommodations were sufficient.



Grand Re-Opening of Winn Dixie, con't



St John's River Cruise

On Wednesday, June 26th, Event Leaders Scott and Doris Strugill led 12 couples from the Village Vettes to a wonderful cruise on the St. Johns River. We enjoyed a leisure morning drive through the heartland of Florida to Sandord where we boarded a Paddle-Wheel Cruiser and a Sumptuous Lunch. We relaxed and listened to live entertainment as the vessel cruised North on the St. Johns River. We also learned historical facts about the river and the numerous name changes of the years. Who can remember all the name changes? The entire cruise last approximately 3 hours before returning to dock. All returned safely to The Villages.



Upcoming events (cruises and car shows)

for details and signup member
must logon to our website
VILLAGEVETTES.COM

7/11 - **Thursday - pre-meeting Dinner at Sonny's
BBQ at Sumter Landing

7/18 - **Thursday - STUMPKNOCKERS on the
River from 4pm until 6PM Dunnellon, FL

7/18 - **Thursday – Drive-&-Dine – Great Chicago
Fire Brewery & Tap Room, Leesburg, FL

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

7/20 - **Saturday – Car Show -
Spanish Springs Town Center 3pm - 7pm
Registration is not Required
Open to all cars 20 years & Older

7/24 - **Wednesday – Johnny Rockets,
Sumter Landing, 7:30 am - 10pm
Tunnels2Towers.com

** - See our webpage for details
and other car related events.

Welcome New Members

List of New Members Since June 1, 2019:

John Goodyear

lives in the Village of De La Vista and
drives a 1977 C3 Blue T-Top. John
moved to The Villages from Memphis,
Tennessee but was originally from
Chicago, Illinois.

Larry and Mary Little

live in the Village of Belvedere. They are
from Little Rock, Arkansas and drive a
2019 C7 Red Coupe.

Ed and Mary McGintry

live in the Village of Hadley and drive a
2004 C5 Red Convertible. They moved
to The Villages from Bucks County,
Pennsylvania.

***Let's give a warm
welcome to our newest member!***



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Did you know?

Have you ever thought of getting a personalized License Plate for your Corvette? Did you keep putting it off because you never blocked out the time to drive down to the local tax collector's office and wait in line? Well, I found an online website where you can search to see if your Personalized License Plate is available. Before making a trip, use this service to find out if a proposed personalized plate configuration is available.

Simply go to: <https://services.flhsmv.gov/MVCheckPersonalPlate/> and put in your desired personalization. You can even submit up to 5 requests at one time.

Enter each desired personalized plate configuration. Each configurations can have a maximum of 7 characters (Example "FST_Z06" or "FASTZ06"). It is fun to just play with.

Did you know?

Did you know that on June 30, 1953, the very first Corvette rolled off of the production assembly line in Flint Michigan? An assembly line worker named Tony Kleiber was given the privilege of driving the now historic car off the line.