

FAST TRACK



Corvettes West Club Newsletter Featuring America's Favorite Sports Car

VOLUME 19 • ISSUE 7

JULY 2026

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CORVETTE
2027
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HAPPY
4th of
July

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dan Flanigan

2024 ZO6



“JULY 2026”

Well, here I am again waiting until the last minute to get this article done! I really tried to get this article done early for a change but we got very involved with helping our oldest Daughter buy a house in Arizona. I spent many hours on the phone for several days filling out many documents so today I finally had time to think about my article.

So, the one thing for June that we attended was the great lunch outing to J. Riley's Restaurant in Redlands. It was so nice to only have to drive a few miles since it was in our home town. It was a very nice turn out and the food was very good.

A funny story. I met George at the restaurant a couple of weeks early to schedule this outing and review the seating arrangements. We had a nice lunch there and left excited about the up-coming outing and the nice lunch menu. Well, the outing was scheduled for the 18th but for some dumb reason I listed it on my phone for the 11th!

So, guess what, we were there on the 11th and wondered where all our Club members were as many always get places early! The waiter came over and he let us know that our outing was scheduled for the following week!

Feeling a little stupid we stayed and had lunch. While having lunch the owner, Jason, came by to say hi as he was a good friend of our son, Danny, and who had been to our house many times years ago and asked us if we would like to see the Distillery next door and of course we said yes. It was a very interesting visit as he showed us how all his special spirits were made which are all sold at the Restaurant. He said he would have some for us when

I came back as I had to take Elaine home since she had some things to do.

When I came back later that afternoon, he had several bottles of his special spirits for me to try and we spent several hours just reminiscing about the past while sipping on one of his special spirits. He shared how he got started in the restaurant business and how he learned about making his awesome spirits. It turned out to be a great day considering I was a week early for our outing!

And regarding the Eagles, we are still watching the two off springs of Jackie and Shadow, which are Sandy and Luna as they are now full grown and ready to leave the nest, which could happen any day now. We have been watching the nest for many weeks now and to see these beautiful birds leave the nest will be exciting and also sad as once they can feed themselves, they are on their own! They will be leaving the nest here soon and then the process will start all over again!

In closing, we have been watching a lot of the World Cup matches hoping the US can go a lot farther! And I also hope everyone has an enjoyable 4th of July with Family and Friends and hopefully seeing some fireworks.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our July meeting on the 7th.

Thanks,

Dan Flanigan, President



EVENTLY SPEAKING

Wade Hilliard

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Hello Corvettes West members,

Glad we are all here to see another day. The June run, lunch at J. Riley went well. We had a great turn out with over 25 members, including guests, in attendance. I can't say this enough, good food and great company. Truly a fun event.

For July we have an event scheduled for Saturday July 11th cruising to the Kent Browning Automotive Group, 16625 Norwalk Blvd. Cerritos, CA 90703.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July Event: Kent Browning's Private Museum

The Browning Car Museum has an excellent collection of 1950's to 1990's American classic cars and Corvettes on display.

We will meet:

**At the Target right off the 91-FWY on Tyler Ave. in Riverside
(3520 Tyler Ave.) @ 9:00am Saturday July 11th.**

We will leave from there at 9:30am with plans to arrive at the Browning Museum approx. 10:45am.

It is important that we arrive together as Browning is providing secure gated and locked parking for our Corvettes.

**If you plan to attend this Corvettes West run of the month
contact Wade Hilliard via:**

Text: 951-312-9946 OR email: Whill59210@gmail.com

August Event:

CW Summer Party @ the Flanigan's

Saturday, August 15th, 2026 ~ Starts at 3pm



Corvettes West
General meetings
are held the
first **TUESDAY**
of the month at 6pm
at Riverside Elks
Lodge #643
6166 Brockton Ave.
Riverside, 92506
Dinner 6:00 PM
Meeting 7:00 PM

Our Business meetings
are held on Monday
before the general
meeting via ZOOM.

Fast Track articles
are due by the 18th
of each month.

They may be hand
delivered to George Swift
or emailed to
corvettenews@gmail.com
Email is preferred

JULY

Name	Member Bday	Since
CINDY MESSICK	.....02	.....2020
JENNI CLARK	.....04	.....2017
RAELENE LAWRENCE	...05	.....2022
CURTIS RICHMOND	....13	.....N/A
SANDRA RICHARDS	....14	.....2017
DONNA HELLER	.....22	.....2025
DEBBY BLANKENSHIP	..30	.....2023
DIANE SWIFT	.....31	.....1989

RANDY REDDEN VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

2020



Independence Day CARAVAN

It was the ultimate Independence Day caravan: eight friends, four roaring American V8's, and the open ribbon of Route 66. As the July 4th sun rose in 2026, the legendary Mother Road vibrated with the rumble of polished Stingrays.

The morning kicked off with Kristi and her husband Ron in the lead Corvette, setting a blistering pace under a crystal-blue sky. Hot on their tail were Bill and Debbie, along with Joe and his wife Dottie. All were swapping stories over the CB radios as the desert landscape blurred by. Just behind them, Ray and Carol kept the classic Vette roaring, navigating the famous switchbacks leading out toward the Arizona border.

Just as the group hit a long flat stretch of the historic highway, a flash of bright red swept past them—it was Phil and his wife Sandy, roaring down the lane in their own custom Corvette to catch up to the pack. Not to be out done, Eric and Sharon flew by in a flash as if on Wings of an American Bald Eagle (not to be confused with George) Eric was able to pull off that zinger as he was driving a new Corvette ZR1X, which he recently had purchased due to his crafty winnings at the local casino. With a chorus of revving engines and a few friendly honks, the whole crew seemingly flew on Wings as they finally united.

They cruised past neon-lit diners and vintage gas stations, celebrating both America's Birthday and the [Route 66] centennial.

By the time evening fell, the twelve of them arrived at their destination in Malibu, the end of the line for the Mother Road. As they searched for a spot to park their chariots, they were surprised to see two familiar faces sitting in their Chariot, a limited-production of Chevys Stars & Steel Corvette Collection.

Now who were the young couple sitting inside the adrenaline-red leather cockpit which crackled with life when the ignition was engaged? Why it was Monty and Jenni. Monty being a Marine, needed a Chariot that had a combined system output of 1,250 horsepower from its twin-turbo V8 and electric front drive unit. The ZR1X was an American hyper car. It launched from zero to sixty mph in an earth-shattering 1.89 seconds. But it was more than that, as it was finished in deep gloss black, which was a limited-edition model that boasted an American flag-inspired, full-length set of stripes that shimmered in the evening moon light.

As everyone parked and began to enjoy the Holiday fireworks paint the night sky, Phil, being ever the curious one asked Monty how he and Jenni arrived at the site so quickly without being seen by the rest of the group. Monty, tooting his own horn, just smiled and said, I'm a Marine, and I strategized. Eyes rolled.

Happy Fourth of July



Happy Fourth of July!



10 Trivia Questions

10 Trivia Questions

Cor-More (Corvette & More)

1 Who designed the first Corvette?

- Zora Duntov
- Harley Earl
- Ed Cole
- Louis Chevrolet

2 Who at Chevrolet created the first V8?

- Zora Duntov
- Ed Cole
- Bill Mitchell
- Keith Black

3 How long did it take to build the first V8?

- One year
- Two Years
- 6 months
- 18 months

4 What was the cubic inch of new V8?

- 250
- 256
- 260
- 265

5 What year did the 283 engine come out?

- 1955
- 1956
- 1957
- 1958

6 Route 66 first year Corvette was used?

- 1958
- 1959
- 1960
- 1961

7 What year did Prince release the song "Little Red Corvette"?

- 1980
- 1981
- 1982
- 1983

8 What year did the 350 engine was released?

- 1965
- 1966
- 1968
- 1969

9 What year did Corvette reintroduce the "STINGRAY"

- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015

10 What was the first year Corvette offered the LS1 engine

- 1996
- 1997
- 1998
- 1999

Bonus Trivia Facts

It debuted in 1953 at a car show, not a dealership.


Only 300 were built in the first year.

Every 1953 Corvette was identical.

I just want to publicly acknowledge that Glen MacGregor was right, the 350 was originally first introduced in the 1967 Camaro. But the answer still stands as 1969 for the Corvette.

CW 2026 CALENDAR

JULY	
Tues. 7th	CW General Meeting @ Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside, CA Meeting @ 7pm Come early to eat
Every Sat	Cars N Coffee @ Target on Arlington-parking lot Riverside 6:30am to 10:00am
Fri. 10th	Tuxies Cruise night 6030 Magnolia Riverside 5:00pm to 8:00pm
Sat. 11th	Kent Browning's Private Museum in Cerritos, CA Please see all information for this run in this month's newsletter EVENTS ARTICLE. RSVP to Wade by text @ 951-312-
AUGUST	
Tues. 4th	CW General Meeting @ Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside, CA Meeting @ 7pm Come early to eat
Sat. 15th	Corvettes West Annual Summer Party @ the Flanigan's. See Flyer.
Every Sat	Cars N Coffee @ Target on Arlington-parking lot Riverside 6:30am to 10:00am
Fri. 14th	Tuxies Cruise night 6030 Magnolia Riverside 5:00pm to 8:00pm
SEPTEMBER	
Tues. 1st	CW General Meeting @ Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside, CA Meeting @ 7pm Come early to eat
Every Sat	Cars N Coffee @ Target on Arlington-parking lot Riverside 6:30am to 10:00am
Fri. 11th	Tuxies Cruise night 6030 Magnolia Riverside 5:00pm to 8:00pm
OCTOBER	
Tues. 6th	CW General Meeting @ Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside, CA Meeting @ 7pm Come early to eat
Every Sat	Cars N Coffee @ Target on Arlington-parking lot Riverside 6:30am to 10:00am
Fri. 9th	Tuxies Cruise night 6030 Magnolia Riverside 5:00pm to 8:00pm
NOVEMBER	
Tues. 3rd	CW General Meeting @ Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside, CA Meeting @ 7pm Come early to eat
Every Sat	Cars N Coffee @ Target on Arlington-parking lot Riverside 6:30am to 10:00am
Fri. 9th	Tuxies Cruise night 6030 Magnolia Riverside 5:00pm to 8:00pm
DECEMBER	
Tues. 1st	CW General Meeting @ Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside, CA Meeting @ 7pm Come early to eat
Every Sat	Cars N Coffee @ Target on Arlington-parking lot Riverside 6:30am to 10:00am
Fri. 9th	Tuxies Cruise night 6030 Magnolia Riverside 5:00pm to 8:00pm
Sat. 12th	Corvettes West Annual Christmas Party. More information to come.





Sunshine Lady

If you know any Former Club Member or Current Member who is/or has been recently sick or ill, contact me.

Gail Flores

626-221-1229





BLOOD BANK CENTERS ARE LOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

Please make donating a priority in your life. Save a Life - The life you save may be a loved one.

<p>San BernardinoPhone: 909-885-6503 420 E. Hospitality Lane Suite A7 & A8 New HoursOpen Sunday-Saturday 7am-2pm Except Tuesday 6am-1pm and Thursday 10:30-5:30pm</p>	<p>VictorvillePhone: 760-843-9700 12520 Business Center Drive New Hours.....Open Sunday - Saturday 7am-2pm; Except Thursday 10:30-6:30pm</p>
<p>Ontario.....Phone: 909-987-3158 1959 East Fourth Street New Hours.....Open Sunday, Tuesday-Friday 7am-2pm Except Mondays 10:30-5:30pm</p>	<p>MurrietaPhone: 951-973-7777 40365 Murrieta Hot Springs Road, Suite 1</p>
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<p>RiversidePhone: 951-687-2530 4006 Van Buren Blvd. New Hours.....Open Sunday - Saturday 7am-2pm; Except Thursdays 10:30-5:30pm</p>	<p>Hemet.....909-386-6803 EXT. 181 3377 W. Florida Ave. New HoursOpen Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday 7am-2pm; Except Monday Thursday 10:30-5:30pm; Closed Friday & Saturday</p>

Lifestream, our Blood Bank has put out a request for O+ and O- blood as currently there is a shortage for O+ and O- blood.

Now would be a good idea to donate blood especially if you have either type of the blood in need. Let's go folks. Now is the time to help the community by donating.

By donating now, you will really be saving a life in the community.

Corvettes West is a part of Lifestream's community and we the club, need to get out and support the Blood Bank.

If you know you have either O Positive or O Negative, choose a Center convenient to where you live and get out and make Corvettes West proud.

Remember that by donating, the life you save might be a loved one.

Make donating a priority!

**Please donate!
 Bill Dodge**

Reminder to Corvettes West members

Our monthly **Business Meeting** is held via **ZOOM** the **Monday evening** the day before our monthly **General Meeting**. Any CW member can attend this. You will have to let Dan Flanigan know if you would like to attend, so that he can add you to the **"Zoom meeting invite list"** which sends you an email. And you will need to have **Zoom** on your computer or phone.

Just thought we would remind you.



Summer Fun...All Day Long!



Corvettes West Summer Party

Saturday

August 15 @ 3 P.M.

30838 La Solana Court, Redlands
Bring your pool wear and sunscreen.
Games and frivolity will ensue.
Supper at 5 p.m.

We APPRECIATE Elaine and Dan Flanigan
for offering their lovely Home for this event.

As usual the club will provide the meat and drinks and members will bring side dishes, salads and desserts.

If you are not at the August club meeting to sign up,
please contact Dan Flanigan at 951-712-6953.

Corvettes West

DRIVE AND DINE

Monthly Events



June Event:

J. RILEY

DISTILLERY
REDLANDS CA

420 ORIENTAL AVE.,
REDLANDS, CA



★ JULY EVENT: ★

KENT BROWNING'S *Private Museum*



This museum is in
CERRITOS, CA.

—★ WE'LL HAVE A ★—
RUN THERE ON

Sat. July 11th

More information
to come soon.



EVENT RSVP INFORMATION

If you wish to attend either of these events please contact me,



Wade Hilliard
via text
(951) 312-9946



via email
whill59210@gmail.com

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Tom Bell



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FOURTH OF JULY!



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