

CORVETTES OF BAKERSFIELD

Gambler's Classic Edition



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Three days of Corvette fun and camaraderie

Meet the Millers

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Corvettes of Bakersfield just had a very successful Gambler's Classic all Corvette Car Show held at the beginning of March in Laughlin, Nevada. The show included three days of fun and frivolity and lots of Corvette camaraderie to top it off. We had Corvettes come in from all over California, Nevada, and Arizona with the the most long distance entry coming from Sonoma County.

A lot of hard work and planning goes into creating this event but we find it very rewarding and well worth it when we hear it all the great comments from our attendees. Thank you all so much for participating and, of course, thanks to all of our hard workers who help put this event together. You are very much appreciated.

Also, in this issue, we look at other past events that were overlooked for the past few months and other happenings to come.

By Adrian Medina

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Corvettes of Bakersfield is a long established CORVETTE Club with 125+ members! We are a diverse group of car loving individuals ranging in age from young 20's, 30's, 40's, 50's, and older 😊

Our cars keep us forever young at heart and our relationships keep our hearts healthy! As President this year, I want to thank each member for participating in our COB activities as their health and schedules have allowed!

Overall, COB has had the majority of its members come out to at least one activity this year...with many of us being regulars!

Gambler's Classic, a long established and well recognized COB event, is an undertaking of great magnitude. The 2022-23 club members showed commitment, organization, talent, & creativity celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Corvette in Laughlin, NV with over 100 Corvettes on display and almost 300 happy people participating in our three days of planned activities! Your time, energy, and contributions resulted in about \$18,100 profit benefiting out local charity choices. I thank you all!

With the successful 23rd COB Gambler's Classic behind us, we can breathe a little easier and enjoy our upcoming Brunch of Corvettes at Hodels and run to see some wildflowers, a little parade around Beach Park supporting the Kern Autism Network, and our run to the Nethercutt Museum.

On Sunday, May 7th from 2-6, Staci and Cole are providing their residence to revive the annual COB BBQ! Let's make it a great COB turn out! RSVPs are needed to prepare the meat and set tables.

Please read your emails, check Facebook for Adrian's activity posts and know that Virgil also keeps our website current with all activities! www.corvettesofbakersfield.org

*RSVPs are important for restaurants and meals so we can prepare appropriately!

As we finish out this membership year, please consider putting your name in for a 2023-24 board position. This year's board will finish the year with an updated handbook, making it easy for a new board to function and we also have created a contact list for all ongoing COB activities making the monthly calendars easy to update!

With the weather getting nicer soon, let's pull out our chairs and just do some hanging out! Jeff Salter's, our generous host for our monthly meetings, is starting up the Friday Night Cruizin' 3/31 at Salty's on White Lane.

Diane Wallace, President
Corvettes of Bakersfield



MEET THE MILLERS

If you are a member of the Corvettes of Bakersfield, or have attended Corvettes of Bakersfield activities, undoubtedly, you have seen Kim and Virgil Miller in action. Often their actions are more behind the scenes than out in the limelight. Virgil is the webmaster for our club and is responsible for keeping our webpage up-to-date. In addition to our website being up-to-date it is also well organized and visually fun!

Kim currently serves on the board in membership and treasurer positions. Kim also serves as our representative to the NCCC, which requires traveling south to quarterly meetings. Both Kim and Virgil give endless hours making sure that COB meetings, activities, and, most recently, the 23rd Gambler's Classic are successful.



Their attention to detail did not go unnoticed by the hundreds of people in attendance at Gambler's as the club received many accolades from the attendees of this great event.

Both Kim and Virgil are very humble, and there are other facets to their personalities you may not know. Virgil is also a creative wizard using his new engraving and printing tools to make all sorts of things from plaques to corn hole boards to fancy charcuterie boards, and cute and sassy Christmas decorations.



Kim is a quilter extraordinaire with one room in her house devoted to her quilting projects and housing the most elaborate quilting machine I've ever seen. She has created many crafts and gifts which have been prizes in our cherished raffles.

Kim and Virgil have two Corvettes; an original 1954 Corvette and a special purple C5 Vette; since purple is Kim's favorite color! The 1954 C1 Corvette was purchased new in Pennsylvania by an undertaker and was sold in 1956 to Kim's grandfather. It has been passed down to Kim and will eventually be passed on to her

daughters. But that is another story for another newsletter.

Kim and Virgil are also loving parents and grandparents; and great friends! COB appreciates you both!

By Diane Wallace

HISTORY OF THE GAMBLER'S CLASSIC

Although it has been around for more than 23 years, this is the 23rd Gambler's Classic for Corvettes of Bakersfield. The history of the COB Gamblers Classic is long and colorful and gratifying. This is a story by COB Member and early participant/organizer, Beverly Hayden:

Our first Gambler's Classic was at Lake Havasu in 1992. We set up the event on the golf course; a very small event and not all of our members were there. We had the club house at the golf course make sack lunches for our participants. Our raffle was quite small. A young family with two children came to see the cars and we asked them if they would like to join in for the event. We shared our sack lunches with them. It was a feel good day. Our first event T-shirt was of a C4 Blue Convertible on the back.

We were headquartered in Laughlin about fifty miles from Lake Havasu on what, at that time, was a single lane hiway each way.

We held the Gambler's Classic for two more years in Lake Havasu and those years the event was under the London Bridge. A great venue and much larger. However it became clear that traveling back to Laughlin from Lake Havasu after dark was not a safe idea especially when considering there were adult beverages served during the day.

Rod and I had a 1981 silver C3 Corvette. As we traveled to Lake Havasu for the first event something flew off of our car. Everyone pulled over as we looked for the part. Anyway, the car got us into Lake Havasu where we were surprised to find a crackerjack mechanic who put the car on the rack, located the problem and fixed it. He also found a wrench lodged up under the chassis. He told Rod "you don't believe in preventive maintenance, do you?"

For two years the Gambler's Classic was held at State Line in a huge building large enough to hold their annual Rodeo. We had dinner there and a wonderful floor show. I don't remember who was responsible for getting the talent but it was fabulous. We had an Elvis impersonator where the ladies screamed like in the early days, a Jerry Lee Lewis impersonator and the play 'Mama Mia'.



Buffalo Bill's Stateline, NV 2006



River Palms Casino Laughlin, NV 2007

HISTORY OF THE GAMBLER'S CLASSIC cont.

Gamblers Classic 2007 Commemorative Edition

Corvette Quarterly Connection

Quarterly Newsletter Publication: Corvettes of Bakersfield Summer 2007

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Gamblers Classic: Success!



Photo: Courtesy of Don Sheppard

Gamblers Classic 2007 was, indeed, a success. Thanks to lots of hard work and months of careful planning, dedicated Corvettes of Bakersfield members were able to pull off one of the biggest car shows on the west coast.

With the able coordination of Jim Love and Marilyn Gralich, our club hosted over 1400 participants and 525+ competing Corvettes, in Laughlin, NV at the River Palms Casino. The theme, "Back to the River" was a hit and the weather could not have been more conducive to the festive atmosphere brought on by folks who were ready to resume the tradition of a car show by the Colorado River.

Groups of COB club members left Bakersfield for Laughlin on Wednesday and Thursday. The monumental tasks of unloading trucks, setting up for registration, preparing for raffle sales and marking the parking lot were completed by 12:00PM Friday. At 12:01 registration and the fun were already underway.

Three-Way Chevrolet proudly supports Corvettes of Bakersfield

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6500 White Rd. - 834-9400
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Corvettes of Bakersfield

Corvette Quarterly Connection: Editor: Patti Coffman * (661) 393-6189 * pcoffman@bak-tr.com

E-Board Central

President's Message—Lyle Joslin

A Special "Thank You" to Our Sponsors...

"We could not have done it with out you!"

Corvettes of Bakersfield is fortunate to have had great sponsors that helped make Gamblers Classic a Success.

- Three-Way Chevrolet
- Performance Truck & Diesel
- A-1 Credit Solutions
- Downs Equipment
- Hayden Construction
- Our vendors
- Corvette Museum
- Gambler's Classic participants

Hats off to you!!!

What goes up must come down! Saturday evening, after the event, workers begin the task of taking down signs, packing up boxes and loading the trucks. In the photo JR Cordova takes down the American flag.

President Lyle Joslin checks in with two weary event workers, Marvin Casey and Don Sheppard.

Your 2006-2007 E-Board

Lyle Joslin.....	Interim President
Vice President.....	Vacant
Marilyn Gralich.....	Secretary
Jim Love.....	Treasurer
Bev Hayden.....	Events
Teresa Joslin.....	Membership
Alan Gockel.....	Sgt. at Arms
Web Master.....	Vacant
"Pending".....	Club Liaison
Marilyn Gralich.....	Public Relations
Sponsor.....	Three Way Chevrolet

To all COB members

Marilyn and I would like to take this time again to say "Thank You" for all your hard work on Gambler's 2007. Because of you, this years event was a huge success and all of you should be proud of yourselves. How do we know it was a success? Just look what you all have accomplished and what we bring back for our charities. But also, we have received phone calls, e-mail, letters and newsletters and to date we have not received one negative comment. I would like to share just a few of the comments that we have received:

*From Corvettes of Lodi's Newsletter: "The 15th annual Gambler's Classic Run was a fun event to attend this year. The drive to Laughlin was great fun and once we were there the fun just kept coming. The food was good and the cars were beautiful. All in all we had a great time."

*A letter from Central Valley Corvettes of Fresno: "As members of CYCOF, we want to express our appreciation for your hard work in hosting the Gambler's Classic. We recognize the effort and coordination necessary to put on such a large event, not to mention being held out of town. Corvettes of Bakersfield should be very proud of the contribution you will make to such worthy causes. Again, thank you."

*Phone call from Sun Country, AZ: "Wow, just Wow you guys were great, can't wait until next year. Thank *E-mail from Reno Corvettes: "We are still recovering. We want to thank you for a GREAT trip Back To The River" and a phone call from "Sun Country, AZ: "Wow, I had hard work it entails to organize this type of venue. E-mail from a Pacific Coast Corvettes member: "This years Gambler's Classic was AWESOME!!!! I am so happy that you guys decided to go Back to the River."

We all should be very proud of ourselves.

Jim Love and Marilyn Gralich

Over the years we have had many brave people head up this event. Lloyd Gentry headed the event one year. Lyle Joslin co-chaired with Jim Love in 2007; possibly the biggest event ever with 525 cars registered and many, many more in the parking structures. Ken and Steve Taylor did at least two years, Ivan and Patti Coffman took charge one year and Bob Vella headed another two years. Most recently, Linda McNitt took the helm and then Virgil Miller and Diane Wallace were the leaders.

There were many years, possibly three gaps, that we didn't do Gambler's Classic. One time was because we had lost money for whatever reason and another gap because it seemed Gambler's Classic had become all too consuming and we lost sight of having fun. We formed a COB Events Committee that would plan fun events. COB members wanted to have fun, fun, fun and so we started a campaign "COB is a Fun Club". We started planning fun, easy and enjoyable events and then, eventually, our members were ready to get back into Gambler's Classic.

By Beverly Hayden

GAMBLER'S CLASSIC BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL ENTRIES—151

CLUBS REPRESENTED—31

HAPPY CAMPERS —281

CORVETTES PRESENT—110

WEATHER RELATED NO SHOWS—12

FOOD —\$14,200

NET PROFIT—\$18,100

**AMOUNT GIVEN TO CHARITIES OF MOST ATTENDED
CLUB—\$1000.00**

NUMBER OF COB MEMBERS ATTENDING—35

Pre-planning Gambler's Classic

Gambler's Classic is a monumental endeavor put on by the Corvettes of Bakersfield. Pre-planning includes setting a date a year ahead of time, countless meetings and extreme dedication by all the leads in every category such as parking, raffles, decorating, registration, entertainment, as well as promoting, sponsorship, advertising and putting it all out on social media, emails and on our website.

35 members of Corvettes in Bakersfield made the trip to Laughlin, however only nine members left early enough to set up before the snows came to block every highway to Laughlin from Bakersfield and other points. What a magnificent effort they put out to get everything ready so that by the time the rest of the members showed up, everything was already mostly done. Kudos to Virgil & Kim Miller, Don & Jeanne Allen, Steve & Annette Dallons, Ken & Myna Stewart and Linda Stacey and also a little help from a couple from Idaho that helped out in the parking lot.

Heavy rains came down on Wednesday, the day of the heavy snows, in Laughlin before any of the participants showed up. The next three days were perfect with clean sunshine and cool weather.

Plans are already being made for next year's Gambler's Classic on April 18, 19 and 20, 2024.

By Adrian Medina



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023 DAY ONE

We start the first day of the Gambler's Classic with a horrible realization that we cannot cross over the Tehachapi mountains due to ongoing snow storms closing all the roads leading to Laughlin. A few of the smart ones left for Laughlin on Tuesday to avoid the storms which hit by Wednesday. We thank the 9 intrepid travelers who hauled all the raffle prizes and supplies and set everything up for the Meet and Greet on Thursday. They did a great but tiring job.

By mid morning on Thursday, the roads were finally open and the rest of the Corvettes of Bakersfield crew and other participants made the long trek to the Riverside Resort and Casino. Unfortunately, many chose to bring their "tin cars" instead of the Corvettes because of the threatening weather; but that's OK and we hope they will enjoy our three day event, regardless.

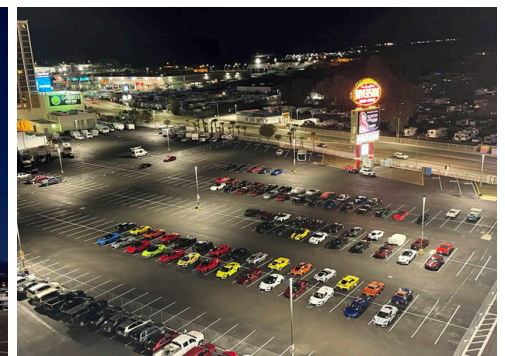
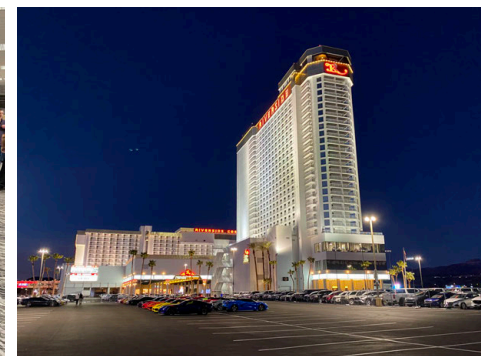
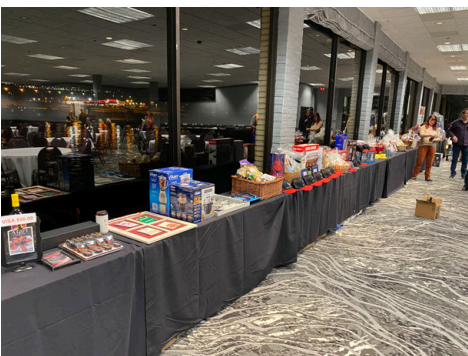
Our Meet and Greet went off without a hitch with our 70's hippie themed dress and everyone enjoying the delicious fruit, vegetables, and sandwiches that were available with lots of liquor to wash it down. Then it was off to the casino to win money, money, money!

On day two, Friday, we have a full day of activities, including a fun run to either Oatman or Kingman, another social hour, and dinner in the Star View room with entertainment and disco dancing, and the silent auction later in the evening.

For more photos and videos of this day's events, click on our Flickr page at this link: <https://www.flickr.com/.../corve.../albums/72177720306518858>



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023 DAY ONE



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023 DAY TWO

Day two of the Corvettes of Bakersfield's Gambler's Classic finds us waking up to a cool 42° and temperatures rising up to an even nicer 64° with not a cloud in the sky. The weather was perfect.

A quick breakfast in the morning finds us, afterwards, heading down to the parking lot to greet new, late registrants who come to pick up their package and get ready for the festivities. Later on, around 10 o'clock, the participants of the Fun Run split into two groups with one going to Oatman, and the other going to Kingman, AZ.

Meanwhile, the decorating committee is dressing up the Starview room with fresh flowers and other table top decorations as well as setting up the raffle and silent auction displays.

As the participants come in from the runs to Kingman and Oatman, they keep the car wash man very, very busy washing off the dirt and grime from the Corvette run. Many of them go to their rooms and get ready for our delicious dinner, dance, and silent auction... if they're not gambling.

There are many items on the dinner menu, including beef, chicken, primavera pasta, mash potatoes, and a wide assortment of fruits and vegetables. There was quite a variety of desserts available after dinner and no doubt there was something for everyone.

They were plenty of good deals available in the silent auction with custom luggage made to fit a C8 Corvette and many other handmade items such as charcuterie boards, and, also, tickets to the Indy 500 and various baseball games.

Randy Anderson was very entertaining and sang his heart out getting people up to dance as well as making a very long conga line.

Many thanks to all the hard-working COB members that helped organize and set everything up; as well as the parking crew who had to endure this beautiful weather. Special thanks goes to Don & Jeanne Allen for their exceptional hard work on loading up and bringing their trailer to Laughlin.

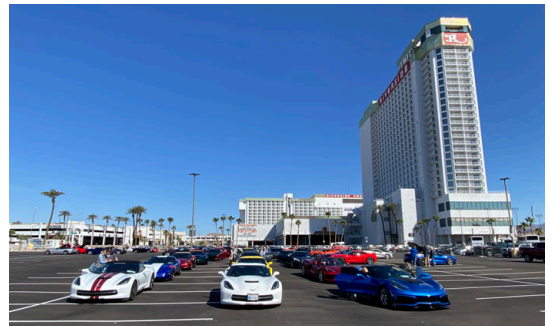
Tomorrow's final day of the Gambler's Classic will bring cleaning and prepping the cars for the car show, opening ceremonies, poker run and car show judging and the awards ceremony. Finally, we will have the 50-50 and raffle drawings in the Starview room.

For more photos and videos of this day's events, click on our Flickr page link: <https://www.flickr.com/.../corve.../albums/72177720306518853>



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023

DAY TWO (cont.)



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023

DAY TWO (cont.)



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023 DAY THREE

We had an awesome final day for our Gamblers Classic in Laughlin, Nevada. Day #3 was well represented by 33 Corvette clubs from California, Nevada and Arizona. Unfortunately, some were represented in absentia as they were unable to make the event due to storms or snow on the mountain ranges. Palm Springs Corvette club won the participation award for having 20 members attending and were granted a \$1000 contribution from COB for their favorite charity. Their Charities of choice were The ALS Association Golden West Chapter and The Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City. Each charity received \$500.00.

Day 3 started off bright and sunny with everybody coming out early in the morning to polish out the cars and get them ready for the car show. We had an opening ceremony where we gathered everyone up and said the Pledge of Allegiance and then had the Star-Spangled Banner sung by Randy Anderson.

With this beautiful weather that we had, we had so many spectators, looking at our beautiful Corvettes, asking questions and taking pictures. The judges were strolling around and taking notes and everybody was talking to everybody about what they had and how they did it and where did you get it.

The poker run went very well with having enough manpower and everyone receiving the proper instructions. A special congratulations to the girl who accidentally bought 25 poker hands and won the poker run. Everybody got in by 3:30 to get ready for the award ceremony and raffles which started at 4 o'clock. We had a lot to give away, and it all went like clockwork. Well, everything went well with a few hiccups and a couple of "OH S**T!" moments as per the Las Vegas Corvette Club. It was all handled well, and everyone had a laugh about it. We raffled off and distributed over 140 items in one hour. A new record. Thank you to all our runners were kept hopping.

It is said that we are more than a bunch of clubs and we are definitely more like a large family. Be sure to wave at your fellow Corvette owner, and we hope everyone had a safe drive home.

A final word from the COB President Diane Wallace: "I just want to say 'thank you' to all the clubs and individuals that participated and a big shout out to the COB members that help pull off the big event!"

For more photos and videos of this day's events, Click on our Flickr page link: <https://www.flickr.com/.../corve.../albums/72177720306518848>



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023

DAY THREE (cont.)



GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023

DAY THREE (cont.)



TROPHY AND AWARD WINNERS

Entry #	Driver	Corvette	City	Votes	Awards	Place	Alias
153	Carpentier, Dale	1958	East Valley Corvettes	62	C1	1	C1: 1953-1962
3	Butler, Jeff	1969	Pomona Valley Corvette Association	57	C3	1	C3: 1968-1982
90	Weissman, Tony	2008	Ventura County Corvette Club	43	C4	1	C4: 1984-1996
140	Fopiano, Frank	1995	Vegas Valley Vettes	17	C4	2	C4: 1984-1996
144	Shajanian, Harma	2004	Corvettes Limited	24	C5	1	C5: 1997-2004
136	Kolkhorst, David	1999	Vegas Valley Vettes	20	C5	2	C5: 1997-2004
97	Trent, Andy	2000	Las Vegas Corvette Assn	9	C5		C5: 1997-2004
13	Majer II, Gerald	2008	Corvettes of Southern California	18	C6	1	C6: 2005-2013
92	Klaizner, Benita	2013	Las Vegas Corvette Assn	14	C6	2	C6: 2005-2013
14	Gates, Stuart	2013	Bakersfield (No Club Affiliation)	10	C6	3	C6: 2005-2013
36	White, Phil	2016	AZ Vette Runners	16	C7-E	1	C7-Early: 2014-2016
48	Clark, Craig	2015	Inland Empire Corvette	13	C7-E	2	C7-Early: 2014-2016
11	Robertson, Tani	2016	Corvettes of Southern California	8	C7-E	3	C7-Early: 2014-2016
21	Garlock, Bruce	2019	Central Valley Corvettes	13	C7-L	1	C7-Late: 2017-2019
46	Pellouchoud, Michael	2017	Inland Empire Corvette	12	C7-L	2	C7-Late: 2017-2019
142	Broner, Steven	2017	East Valley Corvettes	9	C7-L	3	C7-Late: 2017-2019
67	Carr, Jim	2021	Ventura County Corvette Club	12	C8	1	C8: 2020 - Present
31	Jacobson, Melvin	2020	Las Vegas Corvette Assn	10	C8	2	C8: 2020 - Present
143	Becker, Sara	2020	East Valley Corvettes	9	C8	3	C8: 2020 - Present
76	Taylor, Steve	1964	Corvettes of Bakersfield	27	COB	1	COB: HOST CLUB
150	White, James	1955	Corvettes of Bakersfield	23	COB	2	COB: HOST CLUB
62	Espitia, Chris	2016	Corvettes of Bakersfield	13	COB	2	COB: HOST CLUB
119	Burdick, Warren	2019	High Desert Vettes SoCal	Judged	Best in Show		
			Palm Springs Corvette Club	\$1,000.00	Participation	20	Entries
1	Berg, Allan	1997	Inland Empire Corvette		1st Entry		
66	Cardosa, Leonard	2016	Ventura County Corvette Club		66th Entry		
70	Austin, John	2021	Palm Springs Corvette Club		70th Entry		
127	Perkins, Walter	40+MULE	North Coast Corvettes		Licence Plate		
138	Johnston, Cliff	2019	Corvettes of Sonoma County		Distance	610	Miles

LETTERS FACEBOOK



Bill Herold
Awesome event and so well organized

2w Like Reply



Benita Klaizner
Thank you COB for putting it on! 🍀

3w Like Reply



Dale Carpentier
You all did an Awesome job!!!

3w Like Reply



Benita Klaizner
Mar 5 • 🌐

On behalf of myself and the Las Vegas Corvettes Association attendees we want to thank you all for another wonderful Gambler's Classic Event. We truly enjoyed ourselves making memories and meeting with so many Corvette people. We were happy to share our Club Salute with you all because we totally understand 😊
We look forward to joining you again! Hopefully it won't be on a NASCAR in Vegas weekend again 😊

15 1 comment Seen by 54



Deb Leatham
Thank you. My favorite of the weekend was your organization. Loved having the banquet and special announcement on Friday then on Saturday the awards and the raffles.. the raffle were so organized and fast. Thank you again. PS weather cannot be predicted. Don't take crap from anyone about that.

3w Like Reply



Alexander Best
🍀
We were very impressed with the Bakersfield Corvette Club, next level professionalism in every way...thanks for putting on a Great Event!

3w Like Reply



Dale Carpentier
Had a great time will be back again for sure!! Thanks!!

3w Like Reply



Esther Ketcherside
🍀
THANK YOU TO THE AMAZING 9 members and their leaders Kim and Virgil who Made it Happen 🍀

3w Like Reply



Danny Ellison
🍀
It was an outstanding event, well organized and everyone that 'worked it' made it the best Gambler's Classic we've attend.

3w Like Reply



Danny Ellison
🍀
Loved the opening ceremonies with the Pledge of Allegiance, singing the National Anthem and recognizing veterans.

3w Like Reply

LETTERS EMAILS

Diane -

Rhonda and I were very impressed at how organized the Gamblers Classic was last weekend. We had such a fun time meeting new people and talking to other Corvette owners in the parking lot and at the different events. Your team of COB members were extremely nice to Rhonda and I and we felt very welcomed sitting at your table on Saturday.

These types of events take a lot of time and energy to organize and you should be proud of the all of the COB members that participated. We are looking forward to next years event. Once the dates are set we will put it on our calendar.

Great job!

Craig Bricker
President
SLO Vettes

Dear Diane,

WHAT a WONDERFUL event you and your Club put on for us all this past long weekend! Our Club had a GREAT time - even the weather cooperated!!! Not too hot, not too cold - just perfect!

Your Club members were all so friendly, helpful and answered all questions with smiles and great attitudes - it must truly be because of your wonderful example and leadership.

To us, it seemed like **everything** went perfect - from the efficient check-in in the parking lot until the time we bid you farewell in the Starview Room Saturday night.

ALL THE DETAILS!!!! The attention to SO many details!!! The Thursday and Friday night themes, the cute table decorations, the "photo booths", the DJ and selection of music (our Club had SO MUCH FUN dancing), the food choices, the snacks on the tables on Saturday all were perfect, along with your booklet full of info and even the little coupon books you provided to everyone.

The Poker run - all the details involved in that. It went smooth and perfect! Our run to Kingman went perfect also with visits to two of the museums. The team who arranged all of that - again - DETAILS! People worked hard - it didn't all "just happen"!!!!!! Saturday morning's Flag Ceremony was wonderful and honoring the Veterans was extremely touching.

The speed in which your Club conducted the Raffle prizes was unbelievable! Over one hundred prizes in less than an hour! We had plenty of time to make our 7:00 dinner reservation! Thank you!

Your Award Ceremony was very nice - so many fun categories (66th entry, 70th entry, etc). What you said about Jim, leading up to presenting him with his C8 award, was very touching. Thank you.

Diane - Your 23rd Gambler's Classic was so very professional. I'm sure you are VERY PROUD of your COB members! You did all this with your healing broken bones - we wish you continued healing and we hope to see you and some of your gang on July 15th in our neck of the woods.

Again - many thanks from our Club to yours ~ Jim & Kathy

*Jim Carr, President
Ventura County Corvette Club*

LETTERS

Corvettes of Bakersfield would like to congratulate the Palm Springs Corvette Club for bringing the most members, at 20 entries, to the Gamblers Classic at the Riverside Resort Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. As a result of their high attendance, they will choose a favorite charity to receive a check for \$1000 in their name. The Palm Springs Corvette club elected to have the Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City receive \$500 and the ALS Association receive the other \$500. Congratulations!!!



8 March 2023

Scott Robinson
Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City
38207 Charlesworth Drive
Cathedral City, CA 92234

Dear Mr. Robinson,

The Corvettes of Bakersfield, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity, recently sponsored a car show in Laughlin, NV. There were car clubs from all over the western United States in attendance. While there, the Palm Springs Corvette Club won a contest for having the most participating members at the show. Their prize was a donation to a charity of their choosing. The Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City was selected by the Palms Springs Corvette Club to receive a donation on their behalf.

Please find enclosed a check for \$500 to go toward providing a positive impact on young lives by building self-esteem and encouraging the development of values and skills during critical periods of childhood growth. Your efforts and dedication to this cause are commendable.

Sincerely,

Kim R. Miller/Treasurer
Corvettes of Bakersfield

CC: Palm Springs Corvette Club

Corvettes of Bakersfield P.O. Box 22065 Bakersfield, CA. 93390-2065 corvettesofbakersfield.org



8 March 2023

Fred Fisher
ALS Association
P.O. Box 565
Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0565

Dear Mr. Fisher,

The Corvettes of Bakersfield, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity, recently sponsored a car show in Laughlin, NV. There were car clubs from all over the western United States in attendance. While there, the Palm Springs Corvette Club won a contest for having the most participating members at the show. Their prize was a donation to a charity of their choosing. The ALS Association Golden West Chapter was selected by the Palms Springs Corvette Club to receive a donation on their behalf.

Please find enclosed a check for \$500 to go toward discovering treatments and cures for ALS and serving and empowering people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest. Your efforts and dedication to this cause are commendable.

Sincerely,

Kim R. Miller/Treasurer
Corvettes of Bakersfield

CC: Palm Springs Corvette Club

Corvettes of Bakersfield P.O. Box 22065 Bakersfield, CA. 93390-2065 corvettesofbakersfield.org

GAMBLER'S CLASSIC 2023 SPONSORS

Please support those that support us. Tell them you saw their logo on our website and thank you for supporting our charity efforts.

Corvettes of Bakersfield Charity

Our non-profit 501(c)(3) organization is dedicated to charitable purposes within the communities of Kern County. We accept donations, raise money, and acquire grants to help our local community and other non-profit organizations.

Current charitable causes our club chose for 2021-2022

Corvettes of Bakersfield selected several families in need with the help of a local church. COB members donated to each family a holiday meal and gifts for the children.

COB Christmas Giving – December 2021 – \$972.35

In 2021, the Corvettes of Bakersfield's Charity Board created a scholarship for students with the desire and aptitude to be part of Bakersfield College's vocational Automotive Technology Program. This new scholarship aligns with who we are; we are a club of individuals that love our cars and value the skills required to keep all vehicles performing safely and correctly. We also value our community and see this scholarship as an opportunity to support our youth and returning students desiring a valued vocation, but with some need for financial support. Interested students are encouraged to apply for this scholarship if they are interested in this certification program (and the additional classes to earn their Associates Degree, if desired). Special thank you to our long-time Corvettes of Bakersfield member and charter donor, Ray Thurm, for his generous donation. Ray is a retired auto shop educator.

Bakersfield College Automotive Technology Scholarship – 2021-2022 – \$1500.00

The Corvettes of Bakersfield donated many man hours marking all the parking spaces and manning roadblocks for the Cruzin4Charity/Streets of Bakersfield Car Show for our chosen charity, Wounded Heroes Fund Kern County.

Wounded Heroes Fund Kern County – October 2021 – \$3,500.00 (Streets of Bakersfield)

Kern County 999 Foundation which assists families of Kern County Peace Officers who have died in the line of duty since 2007.

Local VFW to support veteran's needs.

Ronald McDonald House – COB collects and donates travel toiletries and pull tabs to help the Ronald McDonald House Bakersfield.

Keep up the good work and thank you for your volunteer hours and donations. COB is helping make our community a better place.

By Virgil Miller-COB Webmaster

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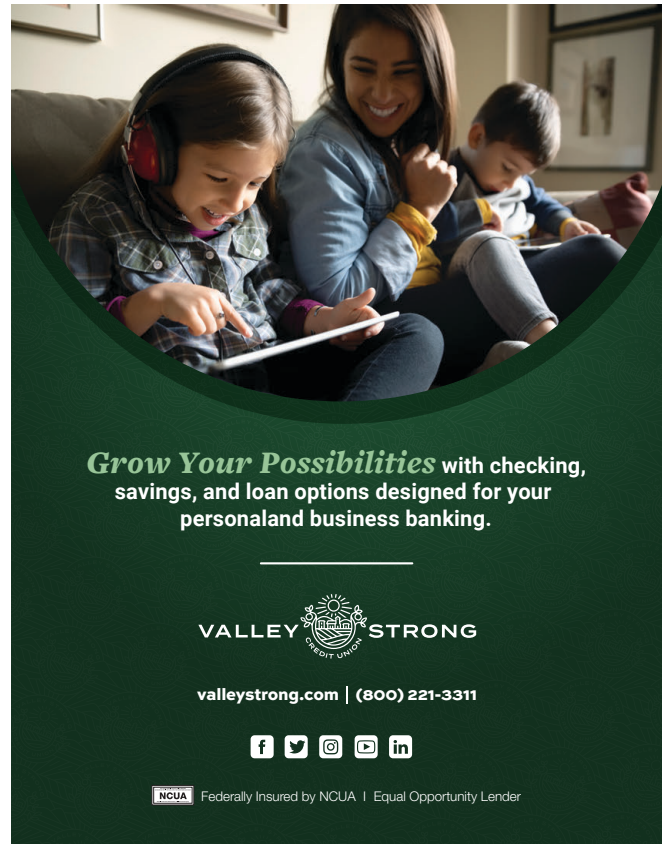
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BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OUR
WONDERFUL COB MEMBERS!
MAY ALL YOUR BIRTHDAY WISHES COME TRUE!



COB BIRTHDAY LIST 2022-2023

JANUARY

Burrow, Arlene	3
Brott, Greg	4
Sparks, Shirley	4
Benson, Terry	4
Cox, Ronald	11
DeVries, Mark	18
Combs, Ed	24
Robledo, Michael	25
Frye, Cathy	26
Chesson, Joe	29
Taylor, Pam	30

FEBRUARY

Kielty, David	2
Wallace, Diana	3
Mazzei, Mary	4
Ramirez, Lorena	11
Mazzei, Angelo	15
Perez, Jess	15
Wolfe, Karen	22
Miller, Virgil	23
Thurm, Raymond	25

MARCH

Klugow, Stephanie	2
Hollister, Denise	3
Allen, Don	23

APRIL

Compton, Dick	9
Cobbs, Kimberly	16
Kelsey, Heath	16
Cobbs, Jonathan	17
Dallons, Steve	23
Pucilowski, Mark	29

MAY

Crosby, Sandra	2
Sparks, Jack	2
Dean, Janice	4
Wolfe, Don	7
Ennis, Heather	8
Stewart, Ken	9
Stack, Steven	13
Romanoff, Terri	15
Zaninovich, Liz	16
Brown, Chris	17
Hayden, Rod	17
Kielty, Candace	18
Perez, Rosa	24

JUNE

Taylor, Ken	3
Bohannon, Bo	4
Patti Coffman-Chesson	4
Espita, Chris	6
Hayden, Beverly	8
Sarver, Cole	18
Dallons, Stephanie	25

JULY

Sneed, Audy	4
Medina, Adrian	5
Young, Larry	6
Burrow, James	8
Townsend, Kristi	10
Burrow, Ron	12
Ray, Louise	15
Lange III, Carl	15
Watson, Wendy	16
Stokes, Berry	16
Hurst, Gary	19
Townsend, Mitch	19
Stokes, Diane	22
Ketcherside, Esther	27
Brott, Carol	31

AUGUST

Sneed, Jeanna	1
Gallego, Kathy	2
Klugow, Scott	8
Watkins, Gail	11
Bebout, Danny	12
Haggard, Annette	12
Bohannon, Vickie	13
Dean, Bill	13
Powelson, Bruce	13
Sparano, Tony	15
Allen, Jeanne	15
McFadden, Sherry	24
Downs, Staci	26
Casey, Mayevern	28
Thurm, Linda	31

CHARITIES WE SUPPORT



The Bakersfield College Automotive Technology program develops student's knowledge and skills in the areas of automotive systems operation, troubleshooting, maintenance and repair. The program is transferable to California State University campuses that offer Automotive Technology or related programs.



This scholarship aligns with who we are; we are a club of individuals that love our cars and value the skills required to keep all vehicles performing safely and correctly.

<https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/automotive-technology>

Corvettes of Bakersfield,
I want to thank you for
Creating a scholarship opportunity
for our students. You are
truly making a difference!

I am thankful for our
collaboration. I look forward

to many more years of
working with you.

Please do not hesitate to
reach out to me.

Warmest regards,
Alyssa Cross



Honoring Fallen Kern County's Peace Officers
who gave their lives "In The Line Of Duty."

4208 Rosedale Hwy, Ste 302-101

Bakersfield, CA 93308

kerncounty999foundation.org

(661)-303-6389

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Foundation

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Brad Miller

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Bryon Sandrini

Past President at Large



Monday, January 16, 2023

Corvettes of Bakersfield Charity
P.O. Box 22065
Bakersfield, CA 93390
United States of America

The Kern County 999 Foundation would like to thank you for the very generous cash donation of \$1,000.00.

The Kern County 999 Foundation's number one mission is to recognize and honor Kern County's fallen peace officers who gave their lives 'In The Line of Duty' serving the citizens of this county and providing support to the family members left behind.

The Kern County 999 Foundation is recognized as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization through the Internal Revenue Service (Tax ID/EIN: 26-0152206), and your generous donation is 100% tax-deductible. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Sincerely,

M Marler
Michael Marler
Secretary

Thank you for your support.

Kern County 999 Foundation
4208 Rosedale Highway, Suite 302-101
Bakersfield, CA 93308-6173
www.kerncounty999foundation.org
501 (c) (3) non-profit
EIN: 26-0152206
Est. 2007

CHARITIES WE SUPPORT



To create a permanent tribute honoring all Kern County WWII Veterans and those who supported them.

To serve our community with a beautiful memorial honoring Kern County WWII Veterans that will be a place of reverence, remembrance, and education for all who visit.

<https://www.kerncountywwiimemorial.com/>



My wife and I were honored and very proud to attend the dedication of the Kern County World War II Memorial at Jastro Park December 10, 2022. I was so proud to see a large crowd of over a thousand Bakersfield and Kern County citizens come out to be a part of this dedication. After a beautiful rendition of the



Star-Spangled Banner sung in 7 part harmony by high school students, we were all touched by the very emotional speeches made by the presenters and also a couple of the World War II veterans that got up to speak. Among the dignitaries that were speaking were Senator Kevin McCarthy, Senator Shannon Grove and Bakersfield Mayor Karen Goh and others including Ed Gaede, president of the WWII Memorial and Vice President Wendy Ward. Also speaking were World War II veteran and board member Walter Grainger and World War II veteran Ray Mish.

Then came the big unveiling. Who would not have a lump in your throat after viewing the statue depicting a mother holding her child and viewing a telegram that states that her soldier husband or son was killed in the line of duty. The sculptor, Benjamin Victor, did an awesome job depicting the heart wrenching emotions the mother had as she read the news. Many a tear was shed during this unveiling. The reason a mother was chosen is because she represents all the suffering and heartache resulting from the war as opposed to having a soldier representing just one branch of the military.

There are over 40 living WWII veterans in Kern County. All in their 90's and 100's. Many were present at the dedication and some even went up to speak of their experiences. It is said that we've already had a Police Memorial, a Korean War Memorial, a Vietnam War Memorial but no World War II memorial in Bakersfield; the reason being, supposedly, was that World War II veterans were humble and didn't want to talk about their experiences and didn't want to relive it.

It was definitely time to remember those veterans with the few that we have left and show the world that they were truly the Greatest Generation. This is truly a beautiful memorial with a lot of history engraved in the black granite slabs and should be considered a sacred place honoring those who helped save the world.

Corvettes of Bakersfield had a small part in bringing the WWII Memorial to fruition by donating its time and energy during the Cruzin' 4 Charity Streets of Bakersfield Car Show which brought \$30,000 in proceeds that were donated to the WWII Memorial Fund.

By Adrian Medina

PAST EVENTS:

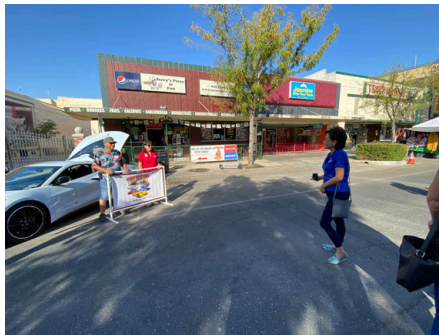
Streets of Bakersfield Car Show

We had a great time at the Streets of Bakersfield Cruizin' 4 Charity car show in downtown Bakersfield on Saturday October 8, 2022. The proceeds of the show was to benefit the building of the World War II Veterans Memorial in Jastro Park. A check of \$30,000 was later donated to the Kern County World War II Veterans Memorial fund.

Corvettes and Bakersfield volunteered to draw the lines for the car show registrants on the previous morning. On Saturday the line drawing crew finished up the job by quickly drawing the lines along Chester Avenue after it was closed to the public. Then it was kick back, relax and enjoy the show time. Mayor Karen Goh was on hand to support the event and enjoyed taking pictures of the Corvettes.

There were lots of beautiful cars to see and we will be looking forward to the next show on October 5-7, 2023.

By Adrian Medina



PAST EVENTS:

Trunk or Treat at Salty's

Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin man, the Cowardly lion, a flying monkey, the Wizard himself and even a tornado as well as a good witch and, of course, the wicked witch. Corvettes of Bakersfield members decided to dress up in a theme at this years Trunk or Treat being held at Salty's BBQ on 6801 White Lane. It was a fun event and we received a lot of compliments for our costumes.

Many beautiful classic and custom cars were on display and spookily decorated to celebrate the Halloween holiday. It's always fun to see all the little kids dressing up and having a good time collecting candy. Thank you to everybody who participated and dressed up for this event and to Jeff Salters for putting this on.

By Adrian Medina



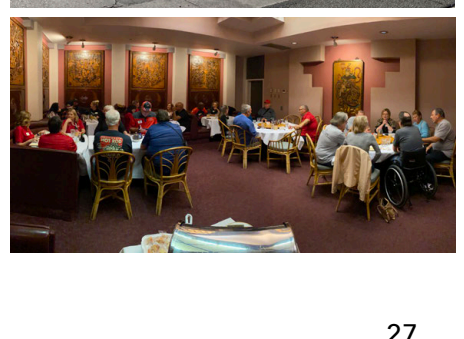
PAST EVENTS:

CALM Museum and Bill Lees Run

Today's Corvettes of Bakersfield's Brunch of Corvettes run started off at the CALM Museum out on the outskirts of Bakersfield on Alfred Harrell Highway. The CALifornia Living Museum is home to many animals who are injured and cannot survive out in the wild. Many exotic animals such as cougars, bears, condors and a large variety of reptiles, birds and other wildlife live in captivity at CALM.

After spending a beautiful morning enjoying the exhibits at CALM, half of the event participants drove over to Bill Lee's Bamboo Chopsticks restaurant to join the other half of club members to have a delicious lunch of Chinese food. Brian Lee, co-owner of Bill Lee's is a Corvette enthusiast and he enjoyed a drive in member Eduardo Cruz' C8. A big thanks to Brian for having his parking lot coned off for all the Corvettes and for the delicious lunch. Also a big thanks to Kim Miller for organizing this event.

By Adrian Medina



PAST EVENTS: *Veterans Day Parade*

At this years Veterans Day Parade, 18 Corvettes from Corvettes of Bakersfield had a great time participating and honoring our veterans and escorting the beautiful Miss and Mrs. Bakersfield on the parade route. Several of us had a breakfast at the American Legion Hall while others went to Lorene's Downtown Restaurant on this cold brisk morning at 7 AM. At 9 AM, we caravan over to our staging area to decorate and prepare for the beginning of the parade which started at 10:00.

Once we started rolling, the excitement mounts as we move into the crowd of spectators who give their love and attention to the veterans we carried as passengers and also to the beauty of our Corvettes. Many comments such as "thank you for your service" and "I love your car" and more can be heard as we were driving along.

It is a short parade but the streets were crowded with very enthusiastic spectators and a large variety of entries such as military vehicles, school bands and a variety of displays and floats.

After the parade, quite a number of us headed off to Casa Muñoz restaurant on 18th and Union and had a delicious Mexican dinner to finish off the event. To all veterans, "Thank you for your service".

By Adrian Medina



PAST EVENTS:

Christmas Lights Run

For the first time, members of the Corvettes of Bakersfield, the Model A Club, and the Golden Empire Mustangs spent the evening enjoying car lovers camaraderie beginning with happy hour at Tahoe Joe's. Many thanks to Manny, the manager of Tahoe Joe's, for setting up the patio for us!

The Marketplace parking lot was a sight to see with the Model A's decked out with Christmas lights alongside the Corvettes and the Mustangs all ready to cruise through the beautifully lit Haggin Oaks neighborhoods; decorated in celebration of Christmas.

The local Grinch Mobile was also a sight to see... cruising down the road full of excited passengers along the route of neighborhood lights! Our group made a stop at one of the most elaborately decorated homes for a few photos!

The finale of our first joint "Christmas Light Run and Fun" was a social gathering at Marie Callender's for more yummy treats to eat!

Thank you to Paula, president of the Model A's and Pam Gleim from the Golden Empire Mustangs for helping coordinate our joint outing! This is sure to be an annual event.

By Diane Wallace



PAST EVENTS:

Bakersfield Christmas Parade

COB participated in the 40th Annual Bakersfield Christmas Parade. We drove Mayor, Karen Goh, Grand Marshall, Lavonne Hall, and escorted Miss Bakersfield. In all, seven COB cars paraded! Thanks to Barry and Karah Stokes for joyfully carrying the COB banner. Bakersfield's oldest and largest Corvette club is in the spirit of the season.

By Diane Wallace



PAST EVENTS: *COB Christmas Party*

Thursday Night, December 8th, 2022, we held our annual Corvettes of Bakersfield Christmas party at the Salty's Barbecue & Catering banquet room. On the menu were both ribeye steaks and chicken for everyone including salad, baby potatoes and roll. It was truly delicious. Jeff Salters and his crew did an outstanding job taking care of us and serving us quickly and efficiently. The drinks were also great and were flowing freely before and after the dinner was served. Thanks to the friendly bartender whose name escapes me.

There was a lot of talk and excitement as the night wore on with our Christmas gift exchange. Many gifts were picked and stolen amongst our members with liquor; particularly Crown Royal, being the most sought after. Afterwords we had drawings for door prizes which included beautiful wreaths made by Janice Dean and CNC carved plaques made by Virgil Miller. Many beautiful centerpieces were won by occupants of chairs with hidden tickets underneath them; and finally, our 50-50 cash prize of \$252 won by Janice Dean.

We also had a cookie exchange where members baked homemade cookies and were allowed to exchange cookies with other members and fill a box of up to two dozen tasty treats. What a variety!

Members contributed two boxes full of toys to the Marines Toys for Tots program. All in all, it was a wonderful evening and we all had a great time. Merry Christmas to all!

By Adrian Medina

For hundreds of more pictures of this event, click on this link to our Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/.../corve.../albums/72177720304348513>



PAST EVENTS: *Valentines Day Dinner*

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! What a great Valentine's Day dinner we had with some great friends at the Corvettes of Bakersfield Valentine's Day dinner at the Hungry Hunter Steakhouse. We enjoyed some delicious food with our wonderful wives and husbands and enjoyed lots of raucous conversation with friends we haven't seen in too long of a time. Many thanks to our wonderful servers, Jennifer and Ali who quickly and efficiently, served us and brought out our food. They also did a great job putting up with us with a great sense of humor.

By Adrian Medina



Plan to attend the Steve Downs Melanoma Foundation Car Show on Saturday May 13, 2023. Funds raised will be used to raise awareness for melanoma and to help local animal rescues as Steve always loved doing.



3RD ANNUAL



CAR SHOW

Date: Saturday May 13, 2023

Location: North Bakersfield Toyota

Time: 11:00AM, judging at Noon

All cars are welcome!!!!

Car Registration: \$30 (Includes 1 Meal ticket)



Join us in remembering

Steve Downs

Music by Kuzz, Tacos, and Raffle Items. Funds raised will be used to help local animal rescues as Steve always loved doing, and to raise awareness for Melanoma.

Please contact: Staci Downs to register: (661)345-1124

staci@smdprop.com



Stevedownsmelanomafoundation@outlook.com



THE FINAL WORD!

The Corvettes of Bakersfield members really pulled together to make the 23rd Gambler's Classic successful! This Gambler's Classic was pretty special in many ways: changing the event days to March, put us on an accelerated timeline with just three months to pull it together, last minute weather interfered with COB members and attendees driving to Laughlin, and what I'm calling "the magnificent nine" who were in Laughlin before Thursday, worked together to prepare for the meet and greet, unloading the trailer, decorating the room, prepping the parking lot, checking in cars, and registering attendees - as the rest of us arrived just a couple of hours before the meet and greet began! The 70's night was a hit with hippies galore - great music, plenty of munchies, and all round happy people!

As the meet and greet ended, COB members pitched in setting up the raffle items - 104 items!

Then the remainder of GC went smoothly!

150 Corvettes registered with a few drivers opting to drive their tin cars due to weather. Virgil created a Gambler's Facebook page, which has lots of pics posted showing many of the 33 clubs attending, their cars, and all of the GC activities! Be sure to join this Facebook page to share the fun! Adrian and Virgil will also have pics added in our COB website's Flickr albums.

www.corvettesofbakersfield.org

At the end of Saturday's car show, Poker Run, awards, and raffle... Attendees were happy and COB members were pooped, but also happy!

I personally wish to thank Kim and Virgil Miller for their hours of preparation and attention to detail and Don and Jeanne Allen for lending their trailer, plus loading and prepping everything both before and after, as well as the many COB members who led committees, attended the committee meetings, worked on their assignments at home, donated raffle and silent auction items, (shout out to Chris and Liz for their many raffle items and drinks + Mark P & Kathy G for the Indy 500 tickets going for \$700 at silent auction) helping contact our sponsors (Kathy & Carl), and worked at GC in the parking lot, raffle and 50/50 sales, judging (Dave K and LeRoy), leading fun runs (Michael R) and manning poker stops.

Steve and Annette Dallons made several pre-runs assuring the Fun Run to Kingman and the Poker run were ready! *I think Henry is our new lead for all SALES! And thanks to the Taylor brothers for sharing their wealth of knowledge prior to the event and overseeing Randy, our entertainer, during the event. The room and tables were beautiful throughout the event thanks to Linda Stacey and her wonderful team!

Thanks to Jim Chambers for setting us up with Ronnie, the Carwash guy, and Jim's son, Mark who was fabulous in many ways! And thanks to Adrian & Chris Medina, Kathy Gallego, Brad & Julie Hayden, Bruce & Esther Ketcherside, Ken & Myna Stewart, Jack & Shirley Sparks, Candice Kielty, Pam & Pat Taylor, Jim White, and Jan Wright, Dick Compton the rest of our Laughlin - boots on the ground team - Every COB MEMBER involved in any way deserves a big pat on the back!! We will share the evaluation results at our general meeting.

THE FINAL WORD! (cont.)

Saturday, May 6 we will have the revival of the traditional COB barbecue – location and details forthcoming

Remember the June 13th meeting is when annual elections are held. Please make plans to attend.

Friday, June 30 is the 70th Corvette birthday. Anyone wishing to work on birthday party plans, please let the board know!

Hopefully, COB will participate in the Westchester Fourth of July parade. This board will pass the contact information on to the new representatives.

Now that we are rested...(lol)... let's mark our calendars for upcoming events:

COB general meeting Tuesday 3/14 5pm social and 6 PM meeting at Salty's White Lane

- Carl Lange, VP, will begin our 2023–24 election nomination process * looking for interested candidates!
- We are looking for a volunteer to lead a spring wildflower run

April meeting:

- Updated bylaws go for a vote at the April general meeting

Saturday, April 1 in the morning, the Kern autism network has asked us to participate in their circle drive around Beach Park transporting three of Bakersfield pageant princesses. We will need 2 to 3 convertibles and the rest of our cars can be in the parade. The colors for decorating cars are yellow red and blue. Details forthcoming.

Sunday, April 2 is the COB quarterly brunch at HODELS.
Time and price will be confirmed at Tuesday's meeting.

Saturday, April 22 Adrian has planned the Nethercutt Museum trip. We has spots for 40 and the \$10 upfront cost per person for entry fee is required to confirm your reservation. Please confirm with Adrian and give \$10 to Kim Miller. Lunch location will be announced later.

Saturday, May 6 we will have the revival of the traditional COB barbecue – location and details forthcoming

Remember the June 13th meeting is when annual elections are held. Please make plans to attend.

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Hopefully, COB will participate in the Westchester Fourth of July parade. This board will pass the contact information on to the new representatives.

Saturday and Sunday, July 15 and 16th, COB is invited to participate in the Ventura Corvette club's 70th birthday party to be held at the Four Points by Sheraton Ventura Harbor resort on Saturday and then they have 2 run options on Sunday. Details and cost forthcoming.

- *If interested I (Diane) has a hotel credit card offer that gets you a free hotel night annually with Marriott. Just let me know if you're interested. I have it and I love it!

Also - you should have received your NCCC Blue Bars Winter Magazine. COB has an article in it!

By Diane Wallace

