

# CORVETTES OF BAKERSFIELD

## 2024 GAMBLER'S CLASSIC EDITION



### In This Issue:

- The Presidents Message
- Gambler's Classic Chairman's Message
- Gambler's Classic
- West Kern Museum Run
- Valentines Dinner At Frugatti's
- Salty's Cruise-In
- Corvette Owners Breakfast
- Kern Autism Network Parade
- Brunch of Corvettes at Speakeasy
- COB Bar-B-Que
- And Much More...

We are well past the first quarter of the year. COB had a slow start as far as events go at the beginning of the year with hardly anything going on in January as we recuperated from the Holidays. But, by the time February ramps up, we hit the ground running with events and happenings that are non-stop culminating with our biggest event of the year...The Gambler's Classic. And what an event it was. Three days of Corvette Crazeiness!

We will review the happenings for the past four months and look forward to more events coming up starting with our club picnic being held at our member's, Henry and Kathy Gallego's, estate.

Be sure to check out all of our albums on our Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/corvettesofbakersfield/albums>

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings everyone,



Where has the time gone! This year has flown by and soon it will be election time for a new board of directors. Although there may be incumbents on the board, that doesn't mean new volunteers can't step forward and offer to serve. Keep in mind we all have other commitments and need our free time, so please do your part to help keep this club moving forward with new board members bringing forth new ideas.

Before moving too far away from the topic of board of directors, I would like to thank our current board members for doing a yeoman's job. It has been my pleasure to serve as the club president and have such a great team to work with.

As many of you already know our 24th Gambler's Classic was an astounding success. I can't give enough credit to Virgil Miller for taking the lead for this event, his efforts resulted in the largest Gambler's Classic in years with a grand slam sellout of attendees. Also, I want to commend all the committee chairmen and those volunteers who pitched in to help make this event a major success. The silent auction was extremely successful and appears to have topped our previous years raffle prize revenue. Apparently, I'm not the only one that was pleased with Gambler's Classic. We have surveyed many attendees and it was overwhelmingly reported to be one the best event in years.

Although many of our yearly events are now behind us, we have a new fiscal year starting in July. We have a lot of activities coming up that should provide entertainment for all, whether active or inactive members.

I know our numbers attending our general membership meetings are small and I understand that people work, have grandkid activities, vacations and a multitude of other things that restricts member participation. I would ask though, please attend meetings when you can as this is where we gain our support and energy to keep this club moving forward.

In closing I would like to say that I am looking forward to a fun and productive future with the club and hope to see you all at our future events.

Danny Ellison, President  
Corvettes of Bakersfield



# Gambler's Classic Chairman's Message



## A message by Gambler's Classic Chairman, Virgil Miller:

**C**rafting a successful event requires meticulous planning and strategic execution. The accolades received for this year's Gambler's Classic underscore the effectiveness of a well-thought-out approach. Allow me to offer insight into my planning methodology, starting with envisioning the event through the eyes of an attendee, then reverse-engineering that vision.

A detailed plan serves as the cornerstone of success. Deconstruct the event into individual tasks, meticulously walking through each one from the attendee's perspective, then strategize on how to accomplish them. Develop a Standard Operating Procedure manual as a reference for all volunteers, ensuring consistency and clarity. Divide the event into major tasks and empower trusted volunteers to lead each one, granting them autonomy while aligning with your vision. Encourage team leads to select their team members whenever possible, fostering ownership and commitment.

Scouting the event location beforehand is paramount. Collaborate with venue staff to ensure alignment and address any logistical concerns. Anticipate potential weather challenges and devise contingency plans accordingly, utilizing tools like Google Maps' satellite view to optimize parking and layout.



Effective communication is vital. Ensure volunteers understand their roles, schedules, and attire expectations, recognizing that each interaction shapes attendees' experiences. Transparently convey event details to attendees, enabling them to navigate the event seamlessly and focus on enjoyment.

As the event approaches, a comprehensive checklist becomes indispensable. Allocate time for custom-made essentials such as souvenir T-shirts, registration packages, and awards, minimizing the risk of oversights or last-minute expenses.

By adhering to these guidelines, the event gradually transitions into autopilot mode. Thorough planning lays the groundwork for smooth execution, albeit human imperfections may arise. Equipped to address onsite challenges promptly, you'll emerge victorious, basking in the satisfaction of orchestrating a successful event.



# Jeff & Mellissa Salters & The Challenge Coin



## Guests of honor at Gambler's Classic 2024

Allow me to introduce you to the distinguished guests of honor at Gambler's Classic 2024, Jeff and Melissa Salters. These esteemed individuals are not only successful business owners but also pillars of the vibrant Kern County community.

At the helm of Salty's BBQ & Catering, nestled in the heart of Bakersfield, CA, the Salters have cultivated a culinary empire renowned for its delectable oak-grilled tri-tip, mouthwatering chicken, and the promise of unforgettable experiences. With a legacy steeped in years of industry expertise and an unwavering commitment to mastering the art of grilling, Jeff Salters founded Salty's BBQ & Catering in 2010. Their flagship restaurant, located at 9425 Rosedale Highway, became a beloved destination, prompting the unveiling of a second location at 6801 White Lane on September 22, 2014.

The Salters' culinary prowess garnered national acclaim when Salty's BBQ & Catering was featured on the iconic television series *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives* in 2015. Since their moment in the spotlight, Jeff has witnessed a meteoric rise in business, transforming Salty's into a mecca for food enthusiasts far and wide.

Beyond their culinary endeavors, the Salters are deeply intertwined with the fabric of their community. They are ardent supporters of various veteran and law enforcement organizations, as well as numerous charitable causes. Jeff's passion for automotive culture is evident through his hosting of car events and fundraisers at their facilities, fostering a sense of camaraderie among enthusiasts. Moreover, their dedication to their church underscores their unwavering commitment to serving others.

A shining example of Jeff's boundless generosity occurred at the dawn of 2024, amidst a tragic 30-vehicle pileup on Interstate 5. In the face of adversity, Jeff emerged as a beacon of hope, providing sustenance and warmth to over a hundred stranded travelers and valiant first responders. What began as a gesture of kindness escalated into a symphony of compassion, with sandwiches, burritos, blankets, and gallons of hot chocolate flooding the scene, offering solace in the midst of chaos.



Furthermore, Jeff's benevolence extends to the Corvettes of Bakersfield, graciously offering the use of his event center for their monthly meetings and fundraising endeavors. It was through Jeff's generosity that the tradition of challenge coins found a new home at the Gambler's Classic 2024 All Corvette Car Show, delighting enthusiasts and raising additional funds for charity through a spirited live auction.

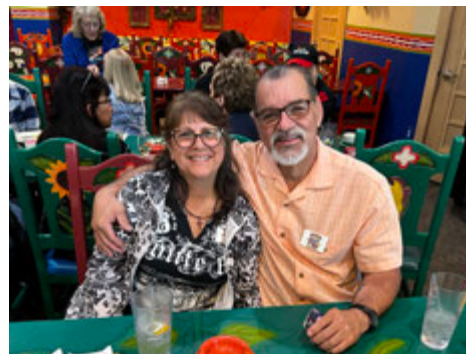
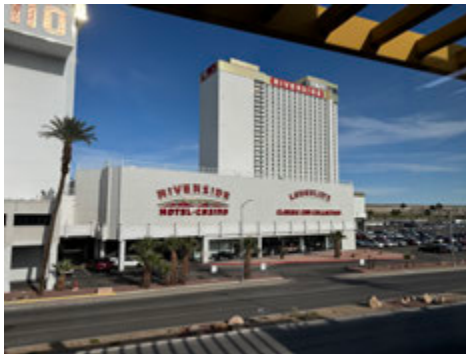
In light of their remarkable contributions to both our non-profit organization and the wider community, the Corvettes of Bakersfield extend their heartfelt gratitude to Jeff and Melissa Salters. Their tireless dedication and selfless acts of kindness serve as a shining example of the transformative power of compassion and generosity.

By Virgil Miller 4

# Gambler's Classic Preparations

Preparations for the 24th Gambler's Classic began in 2023 when Virgil Miller and his wife Kim announced that they will take over Chairing the Gambler's Classic in Laughlin, Nevada. Through their able and meticulous leadership, everything was arranged, scheduled and prepared to the NTH degree. There were many pre-runs done to Laughlin to sign contracts and make arrangements with the Riverside Resort personnel as well as to pre-plan the Fun Run to London Bridge and arrange for stops for the Poker Run. Things really came together during our March members meeting when members got together and packed all the silent auction prizes and supplies in boxes and loaded them up on the trailer that was going to make the trip to Laughlin (see page 24). Then the big day was upon us. Some of our committee leaders decided to go to Laughlin early in the week to make sure everything was set up and to mark the parking lot for the onslaught of Corvettes that are about to drive in. But first, a delicious dinner was to be had that evening by all the members present at the Casa Serrano Mexican restaurant adjacent to the Riverside resort. Many members decided to go gambling afterwards and others decided to rest for the big day on Thursday when everybody started rolling in.

By Adrian Medina



# Gambler's Classic Preparations/Meet & Greet

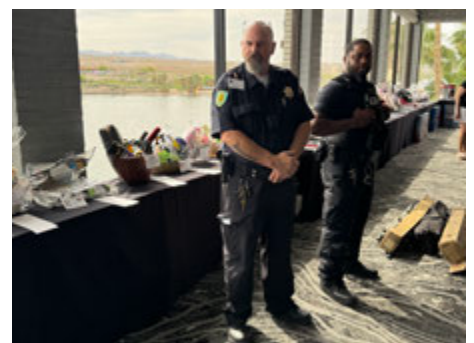
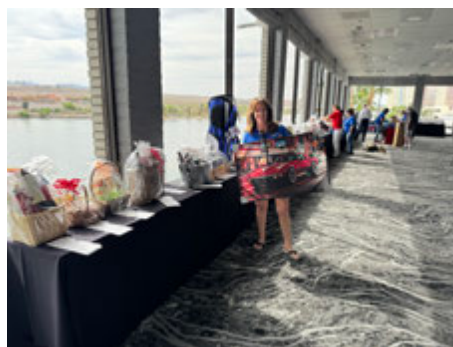
The trailer arrived on Wednesday but was unloaded on Thursday by the many able-bodied members and with the help of a valet, all prizes and supplies were taken up to the Starview Room to be set up by the decorating committee. While silent auction prizes were being set up and marked with minimum bids and the tables decorated (thanks Linda, Diane and crew), attention was diverted to the parking lot where members were instructed on where to place the different generations of Corvettes and numbering the spot of each individual car for their place for the duration of the event.

It was a very hot day on Thursday when a lot of the parking personnel were in 95+ degree weather and many spent the whole day outside registering and parking the Vettes in nice straight lines. The heat was unexpected especially because it had been in the 80s the week before and it reverted back to the 80s the week after our event. Everyone survived the ordeal and after most of the entrants arrived, the lot was locked up at 6 PM and everybody was enjoying the Meet and Greet in the Starview room.

By Adrian Medina



# Gambler's Classic Preparations/Meet & Greet



# Gambler's Classic Day 1/Meet & Greet





# Gambler's Classic Day 2 London Bridge Run/Banquet

Friday, April 19, brings us to the second day of the Gambler's Classic. Our guests get up early in the morning to beat the heat and scrub the bugs off of their beautiful Corvettes. Other late comers are rolling in and are registering for the event. Everybody is getting ready for the big run to the London Bridge in Lake Havasu. The runners are broken down into four groups to keep the caravan manageable. In spite of this, there is an unfortunate incident where one Corvette rear-ended another.

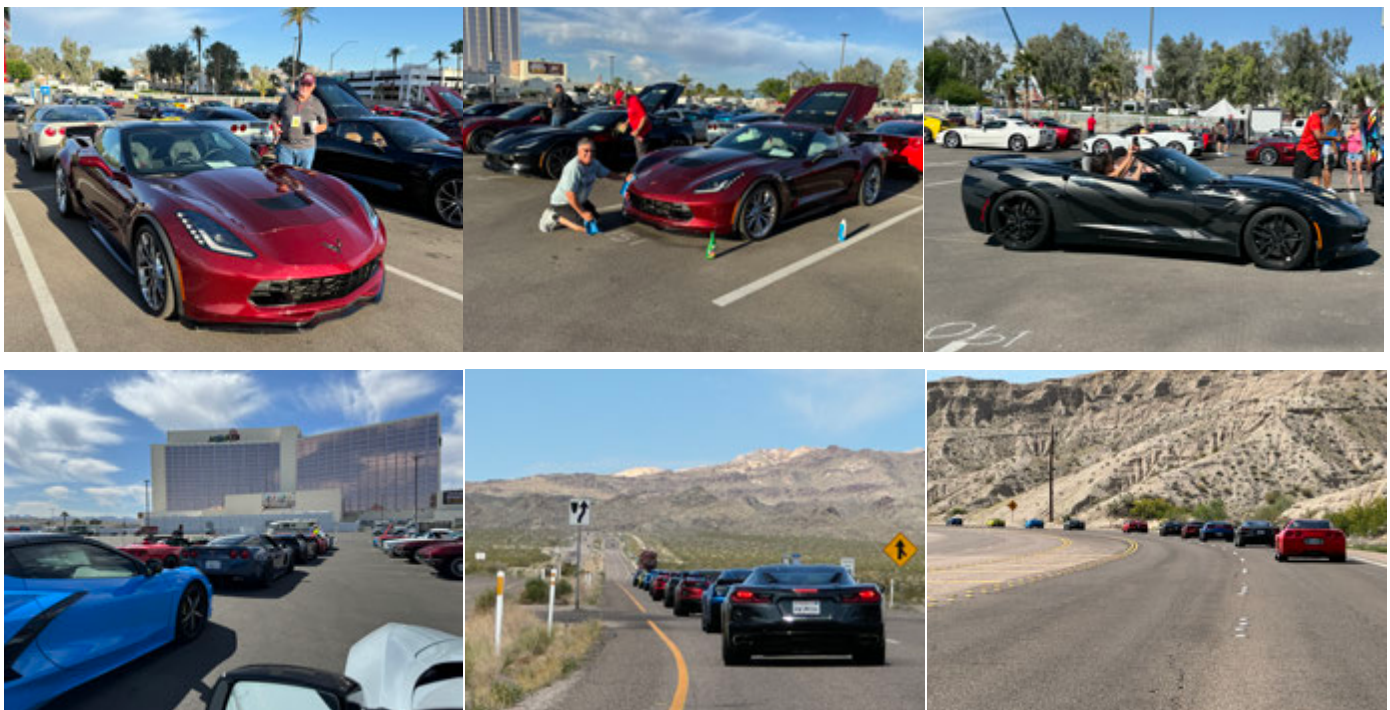
It's a great feeling to be in a caravan full of beautiful Corvettes catching everybody's eye. After an exciting hour and a half drive through some two-lane roller coaster roads with a lot of twists and turns, we arrive at the Island Mall and Barley Brothers Brewery Restaurant. We had a great meal and spirits and the Corvette Camaraderie was palpable.

London Bridge is an engineering marvel whereas the original London Bridge was built in London in the 1830s and moved to Lake Havasu. The outer stones were moved piece by piece in 1968 and completed in 1971 in a new housing development on the shore of Lake Havasu.

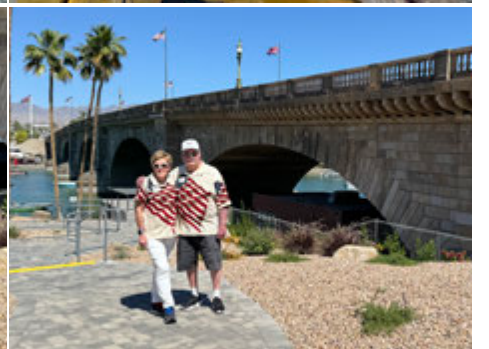
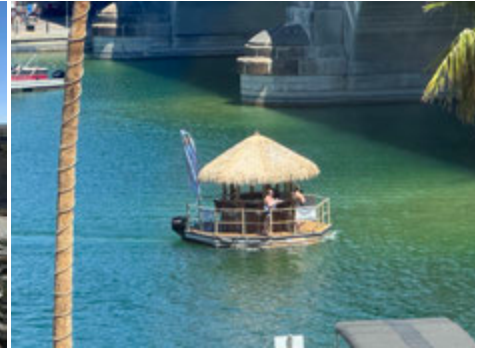
After lunch at the Lake Havasu London Bridge, we take the long drive back and get cleaned up and ready for our banquet at the Riverside Resort Hotel. Boy do we like to eat! The theme of our banquet was the American colors Red, White and Blue showing that Corvette is America's sports car. It was beautiful to see everyone dressed in their red white and blue colors.

We capped the night off by taking pictures of each individual club that participated in this year's Gambler's Classic. It was a great night!

By Adrian Medina



# Gambler's Classic Day 2 London Bridge Run/Banquet



# Gambler's Classic Banquet Day 2 (cont.)



# Gambler's Classic Day 3

## Car show /Poker Run/Award Show

Saturday, day three of the Gambler's Classic gets us all up early in the morning polishing our cars and getting ready for the Corvette Car Show. Everybody's doing a bang up job wiping down the cars and having the car wash crew polish and detail those who lined up to have it done. They did an awesome job! It is a warm day in the mid 90s (even the dogs were wearing booties) but we had a large crowd coming out of the casino to look at all the beautiful Corvettes as well as the participants who were proud to show them off.

At 9 AM, our entertainer, Randy Anderson, sang the Star-Spangled Banner to start the car show. Diane and Kim were very busy collecting payment from the winners of the silent auction. The judges from the Corvettes of Bakersfield were out and about scoring the cars of their choice for the special categories for the award ceremony later on. Many beautiful and unique Corvettes were shown and you can tell the owners had so much pride in them. Judging for the car show was done by peoples choice for the different classes including a COB members class. Scores for the car show were tallied up in the trailer and being prepared for presentation later on in the evening.

It was time for the poker run at 12:00 with a route taking the runners to Davis Dam in the north and Laughlin Ranch Golf Course in the south east of Bullhead, Arizona. Because of the hot weather, some of the older, vintage Corvettes decided to have their cards punched at the casino and I don't blame them.

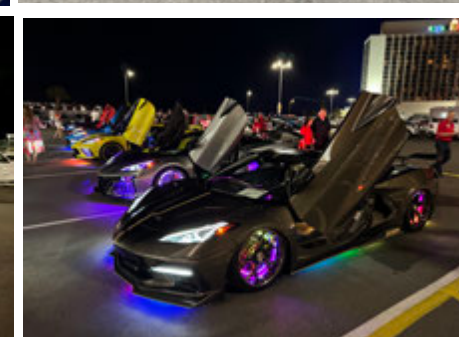
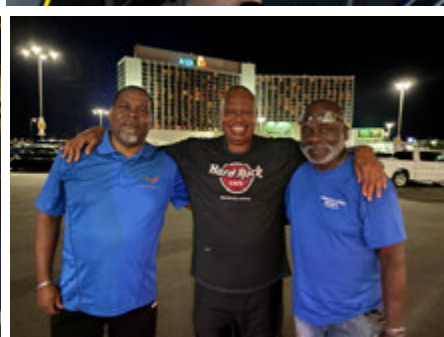
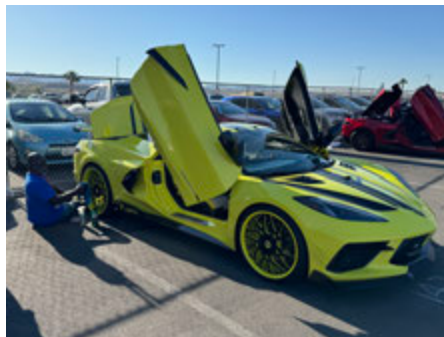
The award ceremony was boisterous and loud with all the participants excited for the winners. A check of \$1000 was presented to the Palm Springs Corvette club for a charity of their choice for being the club with the most participants.

At the end of the award ceremony, after everyone left the Starview room, the Vettes Out West (V.O.W.) Car Club from Murietta/Temecula put on an impromptu night light car show. A beautiful aurora of different colors emanated from each car and was a sight to see. People were coming out of the casino just to look at the little light show. Each of these cars is spectacular and if you want to see them in detail go to their website [vettesoutwest.com](http://vettesoutwest.com). These cars are highly customized and gorgeous. The only reason they ended the show so quickly was that the gates were going to be locked at 10 o'clock so everybody scurried back into the secure area. It was a fitting end to a wonderful event and everyone had a great time.

By Adrian Medina



# Gambler's Classic Day 3 Car show / Poker Run / Award Show



# Gambler's Classic Day 3 Award Winners



# Gambler's Classic Day 3 Award Winners



C7E EXCELLENCE



C7E EXCELLENCE



C7L TOP OF CLASS



C7L EXCELLENCE



C7L EXCELLENCE



C7L EXCELLENCE



C8E TOP OF CLASS



C8E EXCELLENCE



C8E EXCELLENCE



C8L TOP OF CLASS



C8L EXCELLENCE



C8L EXCELLENCE



COB TOP OF CLASS



COB EXCELLENCE



COB EXCELLENCE

# Don Laughlin and the Riverside Resort Hotel

**Don Laughlin (1931-2023), Nevada resort town namesake**



Don Laughlin, a developer, casino operator, and hotelier who built the Nevada resort town of Laughlin, which was named after himself and is now the third largest casino destination in the state, died October 22, 2023, at the age of 92.

Growing up in Owatonna, Minnesota, Laughlin worked as a fur trapper while in high school. He used the proceeds to buy slot machines which he installed in hunting lodges. The venture proved successful enough for him to drop out of school.

Laughlin soon moved to Las Vegas and purchased the 101 Club Casino. After selling the casino, he spotted a stretch of land while flying over the Nevada desert in which he envisioned building a resort in 1964. He purchased a ramshackle motel on the otherwise desolate property; and Laughlin, Nevada was born.

Laughlin's casino began small, offering a few games and four guest rooms, but he expanded throughout the 1970's, '80's, and '90's. The casino was also fortuitously located by a major stop along Route 66. Two new 14 story hotels added hundreds of rooms and more hotel expansions followed. He butted heads with state officials in order to construct a bridge over the Colorado River to give people easier access to the growing town. He also financed the construction of the nearby Laughlin-Bullhead International Airport.

Today the town's population is less than 9,000 but as of 2019, it draws close to 2 million visitors a year. It is the third most visited casino destination in the state and one of the nation's major RV destinations.

In his later years, Laughlin spent time on his ranch, flew his personal helicopter and walked the casino floor. He also visited his hometown in Minnesota often for the Steele County Free Fair.

As a car enthusiast, Don enjoyed driving through and looking at all the Corvettes parked in his parking lot during past Gambler's Classic events. He will be missed.

By Virgil Miller





# Gambler's Classic T-Shirt Spotted

So... Diane Wallace, COB Public Relations received an email from Jim Carr, President of the Ventura County Corvettes which states as follows:

Hi Diane,

Today I wore the Bakersfield Corvette Laughlin T-Shirt while visiting Monument Valley Utah 🇺🇸

Very nice shirt.....Thank You 👍

Jim Carr VCCC

Thank you Jim!



## Randy Anderson

**R**andy Anderson's association with our Gambler's Classic events is a time-honored tradition. First discovered entertaining a motor home club in Pismo, California, by one of our members in 2010, Randy has been a fixture at every Gambler's Classic since. Despite relocating to Northern California last year, he made the dedicated 11+ hour journey to this year's event. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Randy for his unwavering commitment to ensuring our events are filled with joy and excitement. By Virgil Miller



# Caravan Rules



**F**un runs are a great way to get to know other COB members and to enjoy your Corvette. These events don't just happen, they require a lot of planning. Here are a few things to help you get the most out of an outing.

## Start of the Run.

We usually have a meeting place and a time to show up. We use this time to socialize and have a driver's meeting. Club shirts and name tags make us look like a cohesive club. Your vehicle should be full of gas and road worthy. Have your radios charged or fresh batteries and set to the proper channel. Have some snacks and water for longer runs. Bring some cash for the raffles.

## Caravan Tips.

Following the Corvette in front of you sounds easy, but there are times when you get caught by a signal light or other traffic. Don't panic and remember safety first. You should know your route that was given at the driver's meeting. Also, the leader will slow down to let others catch up. You can always use your radio and let the leader know you are caught in traffic so the leader can slow down to let others catch up.

The most important thing you can do in congested areas that have multiple lanes... is use all lanes. Unless there is a turn coming up, use all the lanes. Once you are out of the congested area you can safely merge back into the single file caravan. After a stop and you start to merge back on the road be careful not to accelerate too quickly causing rocks to be thrown on the car behind you. If safe, the last vehicle should pull out with flasher on to block traffic allowing a buffer for the other cars to pull out.



Below are the COB touring rules which can also be found on the Club's website. <https://corvettesofbakersfield.org/events/touring-rules/>

**Start of Tour:** Please be on time and make sure your Corvette is prepared and ready for the trip. Start with a FULL tank of fuel and make sure you check your oil level and radiator coolant level. Tires need to be checked and inflated to the manufacturer's recommended tire pressure. Tires cannot be past the manufactures' recommended serviceability period (depending on manufacturer between 6 and 10 years). It is a good idea to have basic tools and spare parts. It is also recommended to have a two-way FRS radio set to channel 5 for communication.

**Obey Traffic Laws:** You must obey the Basic Speed Law. You may never drive faster than is safe for current conditions and never more than the posted speed limit. Remember, fun and safety are paramount, a ticket or accident would spoil everyone's day.

**Togetherness:** Keeping the tour together is done by the tour leader with your help. The tour leader slows after going through congested areas or making major course changes. The tour leader knows how many cars are in the tour and is always looking to the end Corvette. You can help by safely keeping up with the Corvette ahead of you. The lead Corvette and the end Corvette should always have a two-way radio and a list of Club cell phone numbers.

**Congested Areas:** When going through a toll gate or small town where there may be multiple traffic signals, and if no turns are coming up, it is helpful to occupy 2 or 3 lanes to shorten the length of the group. Get back into position after the congested area (single column). The tour leader will slow the column to allow time to regroup.

**Trouble Signals:** To be used only when you must stop. In the daytime, turn on headlights (not parking lights). At night, flash your headlights on and off. On this signal, only the car immediately behind the troubled car and/or the assigned troubleshooter car stops. All others continue with the tour leader who will pull off and stop at the next appropriate and safe turnout spot. Two-way radios tuned to channel 5 are used if possible, at the front, middle and rear. For road hazards where there is not time to announce on the two-way radio, safely swerve well around the hazard to signal the cars behind you of the hazard. The last Corvette should be assigned by the tour leader as his spotter or trouble car. Depending on the length of the run, one of the two COB emergency kits must be carried by a caravan participant in case of an emergency.

**To resume the tour after a stop:** Merge back onto the roadway following the car in front of you and only when safe to do so. If safe, the last vehicle should pull out to block traffic allowing a buffer for the other cars to pull out.

**Guests are always welcome:** If your guest is in a Corvette, have him or her stay behind you, and then they only have to keep track of you. Anyone driving a "Tin" car (cars other than a Corvette) must stay at the rear and behind the last Corvette. Waivers for guest driver and passenger will have to be signed. By Virgil Miller



# Gambler's Classic Quotes

**The following quotes were gleaned from our survey sheets which were left at each table in the Starview Room and also from our Gambler's Classic Facebook page.**

**"Thank You" to all of the participants and for your kind words.**

"I don't think it can be improved, you guys' rock!"

"My favorite things about the event were meeting and revisiting lots of great Corvette lovers, owners, and old friends."

"ANOTHER GREAT SHOW."

**"This event was very well organized this year. We had a great time! Thank you, Corvettes of Bakersfield."**

"Great event, very well organized, COB was very friendly and welcoming."

"Thanks for all the hard work, it was great!"

"We love this event!!! You do such a great job organizing and your members are so friendly! "

"Bakersfield Club did an outstanding job with the organization, details, and logistics! Show photos of the car show winners!"

"Great people, and great cars."

"Enjoyed the event, the personnel, and the great communication between members. Great event. Thanks to all that worked so hard for all of us!"

"Really liked the meet and greet so that we could interact with other clubs. Great event."

"Vette Out West appreciates your members and organizing committee for setting up this event."

"Your members have been so friendly and made it a pleasure to attend."

Congratulations...for a job well done! Kudos to every organizing member and volunteers. It was my first and it was a grand experience.

AWESOME EVENT!

It was so organized & smooth.. we had a great time! Thank you COB

Another Great "Gambler's Classic" by Corvettes of Bakersfield. Thank You!

**Congratulations! Thank you Virgil Miller! Will do again & again!!**

# Events and Happenings

## Corvettes & Coffee at The Links at Riverlakes



Every third Wednesday of the month we have Corvettes and Coffee at the Links at Riverlakes Clubhouse at 5201 Riverlakes Drive. They serve a delicious breakfast and we gather to talk about anything that comes up about anything you want; mainly Corvettes. It is a very informal gathering of Corvette owners and the public is invited to meet club members and become acquainted with our club. The weather is turning nice and we expect our crowd to grow larger. We would like to thank Erika, Dulcella and the rest of the staff for taking care of us.

By Adrian Medina

# West Kern Oil Museum/Willow Ranch/Rosemary's Run

On February 3rd, Corvettes of Bakersfield had its first local run of the year with a drive to the West Kern Oil Museum in Taft, California. Ten Corvettes and one tin SUV with 19 members made the trip from Bakersfield to Taft where we met up with the husband and wife docent team of the West Kern Oil Museum located at 1168 Wood St. The museum is maintained and operated entirely by volunteers and is full of information on the history of the city of Taft and the oil industry with plenty of artifacts on display.

After our visit to the museum, we made a quick drive a couple of blocks away to the Oil Workers Monument which includes several larger than life bronze sculptures of the hard-working oilmen and the families they support created by the famous sculptor, Benjamin Victor.

By 1 o'clock everybody was starving, so we proceeded to drive through the beautiful rolling hills of west Kern County to the Willow Ranch restaurant near Buttonwillow on the I5 freeway.

Six other COB members met us at the restaurant to join us. The food was superb, and we got more than our fill, but a few of us hardy folks decided we wanted more and drove over to Rosemary's Ice Creamery in Bakersfield to finish off our day with dessert.

We had a great time and we thank Liz Zaninovich for organizing this fun run. There is much more to come, and many other events are being planned.

By Adrian Medina

For more photos, Click on our Flickr Page: <https://www.flickr.com/.../corv.../albums/72177720314550576/>



# Centennial Corridor Freeway Dedication

Corvettes of Bakersfield was invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the Centennial Corridor Freeway on February 9 linking Bakersfield's east and west portions of Highway 58 with a 1 1/2 mile swath cutting through the center of Bakersfield.

Twelve Corvettes and several other classic cars gathered up at AAA on Truxtun Avenue and proceeded to the eastbound on-ramp section of the new freeway where a grandstand and plenty of chairs were set up for dignitaries and the public celebrating the accomplishment of 19 years in planning and completion. About 600 people attended the dedication and listened to optimistic speeches. Although the freeway is not totally complete, this portion was open to the public within a week. It is said that we were able to drive as fast as we wanted at the end of the ceremony and someone drove at least 150 miles an hour down the freeway.

By Adrian Medina



# Valentines Day Dinner At the New Frugatti's

Happy Valentine's Day!



On February 13, we celebrated Valentines day with a dinner at Frugatti's Italian Restaurant at their new location at 8109 Brimhall Rd. The new restaurant is looking beautiful and is much larger than the older one on Coffee Road.

There were at least 52 of us COB members and family squeezed into the Wine Cave Room full of raucous sounds of laughter and conversation. What a great time!

The food, of course, was delicious and served family style where we had a choice of sirloin, chicken, or salmon, with mashed potatoes, vegetables, pasta, and bread. There were leftovers aplenty.

We had the privilege of celebrating Valentine's Day a day early because the restaurant, as all restaurants, is so busy on the 14th that they wouldn't be able to accommodate this large group.

We want to thank COB member Greg Brott for scheduling this feast before the restaurant was even built.  
By Adrian Medina

For more pictures, Click on our Flickr page link:

<https://www.flickr.com/.../corve.../albums/72177720314785737>

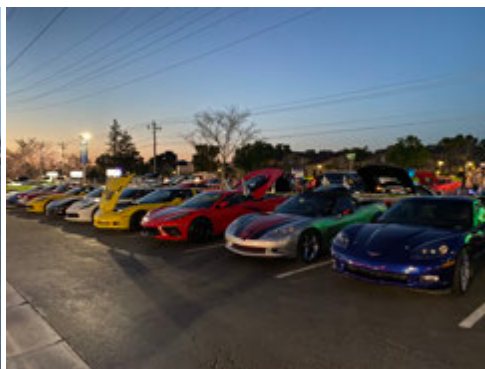




# Salty's Friday Night Cruizin'

The first Salty's Friday Night Cruizin' of the year started off with a bang. Although it is open to all cars, you would think it was a Corvette affair with over 21 Corvettes present. Originally, Salty's was a weekly event on Friday night. Jeff Salters decided to make it a once a month affair on the first Friday of every month. March 8th was the first event of the year and we were treated with the country band Vince Galindo and Country Deluxe. They sounded awesome with a great slide guitarist. The event for April was rained out and we are looking forward to the next one coming up for May.

By Adrian Medina



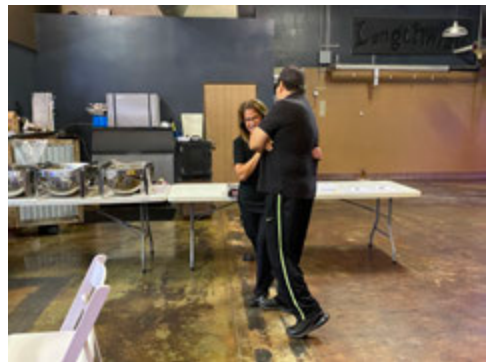
# March COB Members Meeting

On March 12 we had our COB club meeting at the Salty's Bar-B-Que banquet room where we had delicious food and a quick business meeting. We also got to meet some new (Jim and Judy Hazlett) and returning members (Roger and Lillian Buckles) to our club. Thereafter, we started packing our silent auction prizes for our 24th Gambler's Classic on April 18, 19 and 20.

The ladies did a fantastic job of wrapping gifts and making them look beautiful amongst all the mayhem and confusion. Afterwards, the prizes were inventoried, tagged and packed in boxes and loaded by the burly members into the trailer for the trip to Laughlin. We would like to thank Mitch Townsend for bringing his trailer and all the workers that worked hard to get everything packed up.

It was a fun and exciting evening and we are looking forward to the big event where we are expecting almost 200 Corvettes, 37 clubs and 337 people.

By Adrian Medina





# Kern Autism Network Parade/ Bill Lee's Bamboo Chopsticks

Corvettes of Bakersfield participated in the 4th Annual Autism Awareness Car Parade and Family Festival at Beach Park sponsored by the Kern Autism Network, Inc. The K.A.N. Is a nonprofit organization of parents, grandparents, professionals and other individuals that have an interest in supporting and empowering those diagnosed with autism. The organization is completely operated by an all volunteer board with no paid staff.

We started this cold morning on April 6 with 9 Corvettes assembling alongside Beach Park and then staging in the park to decorate our Vettes. At 10 AM we were escorted by the CHP motor officer around the park for three laps; along with other decorated supporters of K.A.N. Riding along with us were the beautiful Miss Teen Bakersfield Jynna Young and Ms Bakersfield Brandy Scott and Elsa from the Disney movie 'Frozen'. It's always a pleasure to be associated with the Bakersfield Pageant Queens and Princesses.

At the conclusion of the parade, we proceeded over to Bill Lee's Bamboo Chopsticks for some delicious Chinese food. We were greeted by part owner, Brian Lee, grandson of the original owner, Bill Lee. Brian is a lover of Corvettes and we are waiting for him to buy one so he can join us.

The day turned out beautiful, bright and sunny as a result of a serious storm the day before. This is a busy weekend for COB because the next day we had a 'Brunch of Corvettes' at the Speakeasy Bar and Grill at 1933 at 7900 Downing Ave.

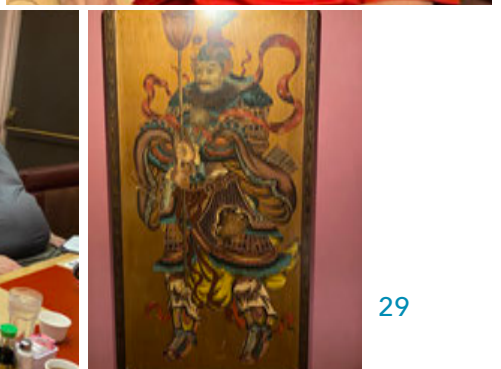
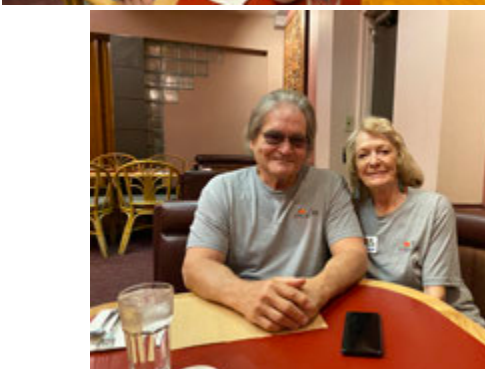
By Adrian Medina

For more pictures, click on our flicker page:

<https://www.flickr.com/.../corve.../albums/72177720316046151>



# Kern Autism Network Parade/ Bill Lee's Bamboo Chopsticks



# Brunch of Corvettes at Speakeasy Bar & Grill 1933

It's been a busy weekend for COB with Saturday's Kern Autism Awareness Parade and Bill Lee's Chinese Restaurant lunch and today's Brunch of Corvettes. Twenty-eight COB members and 13 Corvettes converged in the parking lot of the Speakeasy Bar and Grill 1933 at 7900 Downing Ave. The huge venue is an event center, sports bar, restaurant and club. We got to eat some of their delicious food and wonderful drinks that included a bottomless mimosa bar.

We also got to meet some new members that joined the club just yesterday. A big welcome to Michael and Lori Bradish.

We all had a great time as we sat in the patio and waited for food to be served by the wonderful server, Allyson, who worked so hard all by herself to keep us happy. Thank you Allyson.

We were there for a good two and 1/2 hours eating, drinking and carrying on. It was a great afternoon. Some members even got to hang around after hours and enjoyed a good time. By Adrian Medina

For more photos Click on our Flickr Page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/corvettesofbakersfield/albums/72177720316063257/>



# Corvettes of Bakersfield Bar-B-Que

On May 4th, almost 50 Corvettes of Bakersfield members gathered at the country estate of fellow members, Henry and Kathy Gallego, for a club Bar-B-Que. The day started sunny and beautiful but turned blustery with the threat of rain as the day wore on.

Tri-tip and chicken from Vons were expertly prepared by master barbecuer Mitch Townsend along with his world famous chili beans. Thanks, Mitch, for braving the intense heat and preparing an excellent meal.

What a selection of side dishes and desserts there was to choose from. We didn't know COB had such great cooks! We had a variety of charcuterie, pasta salads, potato casseroles and salads, cheesy rice, macaroni and cheese, meatballs in cheese sauce, deviled eggs and much more. For desserts we had an abundance of good stuff such as homemade cookies, cheesecake, Texas chocolate sheet cake, pies and a wonderful chocolate macaroon brownie (I must have that recipe from whoever brought it).

We got to play a variety of games and sang 'Happy Birthday' to a fellow member who was out on vacation. For those who didn't attend, you missed out on a wonderful time.

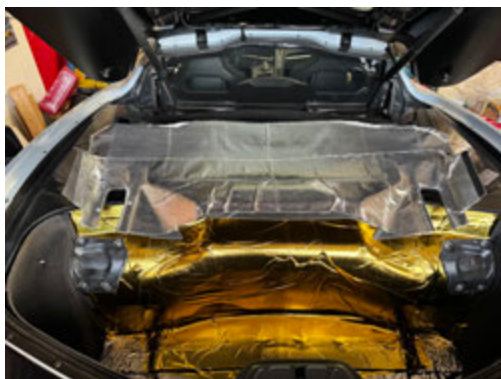
A big thank you to Mitch for preparing the meats, and to Chris and Liz for supplying the meat, as well as to everyone else who brought all the good stuff to eat. And an especially big 'thank you' to Henry and Kathy for hosting this event.  
By Adrian Medina

For more pictures of this event, click on our Flickr page link:  
<https://www.flickr.com/.../corv.../albums/72177720316719549/>



# C8 Corvette Corner

## HEATPROOFING THE C8 CORVETTE TRUNK



It will be almost 3 years since I bought the C8 Corvette and I have never regretted it. It is a wonderful car in many ways but it does have its faults. One of them is the overheating of the trunk area at temperatures in excess of 130° as a result of the exhaust running underneath it; not to mention the engine residing right in front of it. Summer temperatures in Bakersfield will raise it much higher. Groceries in the back would be a no-no on anything except a super short trip and luggage would get very hot on long trips. You may find kits for sale for about \$150.00, but you can do it for much less with materials from Amazon and it is well worth the time and effort in installing it. I wish I had done it much sooner.



It took me less than two hours with a help of my wonderful assistant, Christine. The reason for the different color materials was that I bought them on separate occasions when I decided to go two layers and, also, I found the gold material to be much cheaper. I also had two squares of aluminized dynamat which were given to me that I installed on the floor of the trunk right above the exhaust. It is thicker material and I thought it would serve its purpose a lot better in that location. The gold and silver sheeting that I used is essentially the same material; only different colors and dimensions. The

difference in temperature is phenomenal. On my recent trip to Laughlin, pulling out the luggage, the temperature was no different than having it in the trunk of an ordinary vehicle. Temperatures were reduced in excess of 30 to 40° YouTube videos are available to help you in your task. Just search "C8 Corvette trunk insulation".

2-36x48 sheets should line both the trunk liner and the floor of the trunk at \$15.00 each. Here is the link to Amazon:

[https://www.amazon.com/Aluminized-Fiberglass-Practical-Protection-Shielding/dp/B0BZGV39DL/ref=sims\\_dp\\_d\\_dex\\_ai\\_speed\\_loc\\_mtl\\_v4\\_d\\_sccl\\_3\\_7/136-2136146-2414767?pd\\_rd\\_w=lhg2n&content-id=amzn1.sym.af515e1d-64ab-47a5-8a2e-6be4d0f4cdc5&pf\\_rd\\_p=af515e1d-64ab-47a5-8a2e-6be4d0f4cdc5&pf\\_rd\\_r=XNSA5YE8K8T0KNS9BVJ6&pd\\_rd\\_wg=AtsFI&pd\\_rd\\_r=046cebea-54de-4d70-a3a1-76b565753b7a&pd\\_rd\\_i=B08GG22QHC&th=1](https://www.amazon.com/Aluminized-Fiberglass-Practical-Protection-Shielding/dp/B0BZGV39DL/ref=sims_dp_d_dex_ai_speed_loc_mtl_v4_d_sccl_3_7/136-2136146-2414767?pd_rd_w=lhg2n&content-id=amzn1.sym.af515e1d-64ab-47a5-8a2e-6be4d0f4cdc5&pf_rd_p=af515e1d-64ab-47a5-8a2e-6be4d0f4cdc5&pf_rd_r=XNSA5YE8K8T0KNS9BVJ6&pd_rd_wg=AtsFI&pd_rd_r=046cebea-54de-4d70-a3a1-76b565753b7a&pd_rd_i=B08GG22QHC&th=1)

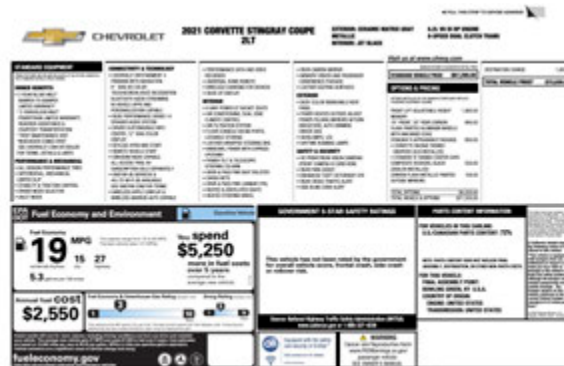
**Free C8 Window sticker website: C8 Tracker <https://www.c8tracker.com/>**

Would you like to have a Monroney sticker when you bought your new or used C8 Corvette? Here's a website that will help you get a free copy. Be sure **not** to enter your VIN number in the 'Bumper' ad search bar. Go to the 'Vehicles' tab.

This site was designed to gather information about C8 Corvettes and make it available for Corvette enthusiasts. The information on this website came from downloading and analyzing the window stickers for new Corvettes. The site checks for new window stickers every day, but just as cars are not built every day, window stickers are also not created every day. The window stickers for each car typically becomes available within a few days of the car being produced in the factory.

The window sticker data is publicly available information that is collected and presented on the website. This website is not affiliated with General Motors, Chevrolet, or any of their dealers. They do not have any dealers or GM/Chevrolet employees feeding them information. Other information such as production numbers for all the models are also provided as well as other information concerning the C8 Corvette.

By Adrian Medina



MSRP	Destination Charge	MSRP with Destination Charge
\$55,250	\$2,550	\$57,800

2021 CORVETTE STINGRAY COUPE  
MSRP \$55,250  
Destination Charge \$2,550  
MSRP with Destination Charge \$57,800

Fuel Economy and Environment  
City 19 mpg  
Highway 27 mpg  
Combined 22 mpg

MSRP with Destination Charge \$57,800



# BIRTHDAYS

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



May		June		July		August	
Jack Sparks	2	Ken Taylor	3	Lillian Buckles	4	Gloria Cruz	1
Janice Dean	4	Bo Bohannon.	4	Adrian Medina	5	Kathy Gallego	2
Sandy Tabayunda	4	Chris Espitia	6	Larry Young.	6	Irene Bentrott.	9
Don Wolfe	7	Beverly Hayden	8	Kristi Townsend	10	Gail Watkins	11
Heather Ennis	8	Eduardo Cruz	10	Carl Lange III.	15	Annette Dallons	12
Ken Stewart	9			Wendy Watson	16	Vickie Bohannon	13
Lori Bradish	12			Berry Stokes	16	Bill Dean	13
Terri Romanoff	15			Gary Hurst	19	Tony Sparano	15
Liz Zaninovich	16			Mitch Townsend	19	Jeanne Allen	15
Rod Hayden.	17			Julie Hayden	20	Pat Taylor	22
Rosa Perez	24			Diane Stokes	22	Sherry McFadden	24
				Glenn Doiph	23	Susan Pratt	29
				Esther Ketcherside	27		
				Carol Brott	31		

# Automotive Technology Scholarship



In 2021, the Corvettes of Bakersfield's Charity Board created a \$500.00 scholarship for students with the desire and aptitude to be part of Bakersfield College's vocational Automotive Technology Program. It has since grown to three \$1000.00 awards. 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). Applications for the scholarship open on October 1 and end February 1. 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.  
By Virgil Miller



**AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP**

**CORVETTES OF BAKERSFIELD**

**REQUIREMENTS**

- ✓ Enrolled in Automotive Technology AA or certificate program
- ✓ Minimum 2.0 GPA
- ✓ 2 Letters of Recommendations

**Start applying October 1st**

 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://ccid.academicworks.com/opportunities/508-1219C173146m-corvettes-of-bakersfield>

## SPONSORS



### TITANIUM SPONSOR



Corvettes of Bakersfield would like to thank and honor our very first TITANIUM sponsor, Jeff Salters of Salty's BBQ and Catering. Salty's has been featured on Guy Fieri's Diner's, Drive-ins and Dives on the Food Network and became famous *Nationally*. Guy Fieri says "This is the real deal!". Jeff has also been a proud supporter of Kern County Honor Flight and Kern County first responders. As a fellow Corvette owner, Jeff has supported Corvettes of Bakersfield in many ways including the use of his banquet room as a place to hold our meetings and special events such as our annual Christmas party and Corvette Birthday celebrations. All the while we have been enjoying his delicious food and service. Thanks Jeff!!

By Adrian Medina

# SPONSORS

Please support our event sponsors

---

Titanium Sponsors



Platinum Sponsors



Chrome Sponsors



# Parting Shots

