

CORVETTES OF BAKERSFIELD

2025 Fall Edition



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...and much more!

The holidays have come and gone and all we have left to look forward to is it another exciting year of runs, dinners, gatherings and driving the heck out of our beautiful Corvettes.

This past Fall had been exciting with a lot of events and happenings going our way. In the coming year, we have lots of things planned, including, and most importantly, the Gambler's Classic. We also have to look forward to the very important Board of Directors elections coming up in May. Please be prepared to participate in our elections and run for office. We are losing many officers in this election and we need to replenish with new ideas and new blood. Remember, as always, "Save the Wave".

By Adrian Medina

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The holidays are over, and I hope everyone is healthy and safe! We had such a fulfilling 2025, but you know what? This next year, 2026, looks to be even more exciting and more promising! We had a great year, and I would like to thank all of you who participated in our various events and activities.

We need to focus on elections for the board of directors. We have all been on the board for two plus years. Most of the board wants to step down for a break. We need to change things up. Need some fresh ideas. Please step up to the plate and bring in some new ideas. Elections will take place at the June meeting. Contact Vice-President Bill Dean to volunteer or express your interest in taking this club into the future.

In the meantime, Liz, your Events Director, has several activities planned to get us through the end of the fiscal year. Gambler's Classic will assist in tiding over the charity account for the club. The membership BBQ is always a fun way to wrap up the fiscal year, and I hope to see everyone participate.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of Corvettes of Bakersfield. I wish you health and happiness. Take care and save the wave!

Kim Miller, President
Corvettes of Bakersfield



SAVE THE WAVE

COB Board of Directors Elections

Message from the Vice President:

Happy New Year!! Let's make it a fantastic 2026! We have great things planned for this coming year, and we have a great membership group to enjoy our time with.

As you all know, to maintain our club's status, we need to have an acting board of officers. As Vice-President, it is my job to put together a ballot for the upcoming 2026/2027 year. I, as well as my wife Janice, have been members of the board, in one way or another, for most of the time we have been members and have really enjoyed it. Being a board member is an opportunity to get to know all the members, and to build lasting relationships, as we have.

As per the Club Bylaws, the offices that need to be filled are:

- ♦ **President:** Duty to preside over the board meetings and the general meeting
- ♦ **Vice President:** Fill in for President when needed and preside over the Nominating committee
- ♦ **Secretary:** Keep minutes at the meetings
- ♦ **Treasurer:** Keep the club books, deposit funds, pay club bills and the filling of any government forms that are required of the club.
- ♦ **Sergeant at Arms:** Keep order at all functions, lead flag salute at meetings and collect ballots at election time.
- ♦ **Membership:** Keep a current membership roster, send out membership renewal notices and collection membership fees, deliver membership packages to new members, and serve as the club's insurance representative.
- ♦ **Events:** Oversee club events and provide information for posting events on the website.
- ♦ **Public Relations:** Promote the image of the club to the general public.
- ♦ **Webmaster:** Maintain and keep the club website updated with club news and events.
- ♦ **Newsletter Editor:** Compile club news and distribute the newsletter to the membership

Some of the officers may run for the current position or for another position on the board if they so choose, The positions are open to all members. Regardless, all the current board members will be readily available to assist any new member in all ways possible. We will all be there to help you get started and to continue to support you whenever the need arises.

Please take a serious look and consider doing your part to keep our club active and fun, also feel free to contact me or any other board member with any questions or concerns.

Thanks for you time, and
Save the Wave

Bill Dean, Vice President
Corvettes of Bakersfield



Kim Miller
President



Bill Dean
Vice-President



Janice Dean
Treasurer



Mark Pucilowski
Secretary



Diane Wallace
Public Relations/Charity Liaison



Linda Stacey
Membership



Liz Zaninovich
Events



Adrian Medina
Newsletter



Virgil Miller
Webmaster



Curtis McFadden
Sergeant at arms

2025-2026 Board of Directors

2026 Gambler's Classic Update



Gambler's Classic 2026 Report

This will be the Corvettes of Bakersfield's 25th Gambler's Classic. Everything is right on schedule for us to have another successful event. We opened registration on the first of October 2025 and sold out before Christmas. After we sold out, we had so many people still wanting to attend that we added more seating. We now have 340 guests attending and 40 COB

members volunteering. Currently, we have 20+ people on the waiting list, hoping for someone else to cancel. We are already stretching the capacity of the banquet room and parking lot.

To our Corvettes of Bakersfield members... even if you're not going to the event, we can use your help. At our **February 10th, 2026 General Meeting**, we will be working on our "Silent Auction Baskets." If you would like to help with that, please contact Diane Wallace. We need items to complete specific themed baskets and as well as putting them together.



At our **March 10th, 2026 General Meeting**, we need as many people as possible to help assemble check-in packets, box up silent auction baskets, and load the trailer.

Your help is very much appreciated. As you know, a successful event means funds for our charity to help our local community.

Thank you for your help,
Virgil Miller
Gambler's Classic 2026 Co-Leader



REGISTRATION IS CLOSED

Get Ready for Gambler's Classic April 16-18, 2026 – It's Going to Be a Blast!

We've packed this year's Gambler's Classic with new twists, exciting traditions, and plenty of Corvette fun. Here's what you can look forward to:



Thursday Night – Ice Cream Social!

Who doesn't love ice cream? This year, our traditional Meet & Greet gets a sweet upgrade! After dinner at your favorite spot, join us for a fun-filled ice cream social. Pick your favorite flavors, pile on the toppings, and yes—we've even got sugar-free options.



Corvette Glow Show Parade

But that's just the beginning... For the first time ever, we're lighting up the night with a Corvette Glow Show! Imagine Corvettes glowing with dazzling colors, like a rolling parade straight out of Disneyland. Whether you join in with your glowing ride or just sit back and enjoy the show, it's an experience you won't forget. And who knows—there may even be an award for the crowd's favorite!



Friday Morning – Route 66 Fun Run to Kingman, AZ

We're hitting the road to celebrate the **100th Anniversary of Route 66** with a special fun run. In partnership with the Kingman Office of Tourism, this adventure will let you soak in history and highway nostalgia. Stay tuned for more details!



Friday Night – 25th Celebration

This year marks our **25th Gambler's Classic**, and we're celebrating in style. Enjoy a delicious dinner, bid fast and often at our **Silent Auction** (leave some space in your Corvette for the treasures you'll win!), and then dance the night away. We'll wrap it all up with club group photos to capture the memories.



Saturday – Car Show & More!

Rise and shine—it's showtime! Get your Corvette polished to perfection (our professional car wash detailer will be back this year). We've updated the judging categories based on your feedback, including a brand-new **Modified/Custom Corvette** category.



Saturday Afternoon – Poker Run

After the show, the fun continues with our Poker Run.



Participation Award

Don't forget—the club with the most entries takes home bragging rights AND a donation to their favorite 501(c)(3) charity.

As you can see, we have a lot going on at the event, but we also have **fun** putting it on. COB Members, please come to our meetings to learn more about helping. I know it's less than 4 months away, but it will be here before you know it, and we have a lot to do.

Mark209 at Salty's

Well, Jeff Salters does it again! What a night we had! He brought over some great entertainment by Mark209... a four piece vocal group plus an outstanding keyboardist. Mark209 is an American country vocal group from Nashville, Tennessee with a sound that seamlessly blends country, classic rock and gospel with a dash of humor and patriotism.

After listening to some great vocal music as we ate some super barbecue, we decided to work off our meal by walking around and viewing some beautiful automobiles. Everything from classic low riders to highly customized classic cars... and, of course, lots of Corvettes!

Thank you, Jeff for bringing Mark209 over to entertain us. We had a great time!

By Adrian Medina



Streets of Bakersfield Chalking Crew

Kudos to the chalking crew for the Streets Of Bakersfield, Cruizin' for Charity car show. The street numbering crew was led by Terri Romanoff and included Beth, Liz, Chris, Jan, Terri, Mark, George, Martin and Adrian.



We had a great turnout of helpers and with our large crew, we were able to finish the job in record time. Our evening crew included Terri, Mitch, Curtis, Adrian, Mark, Tina and Martin. Note: No walls were harmed as shown in the following picture!

After the morning crew finished chalking the streets, we enjoyed an wonderful breakfast at Tina Marie's Restaurant. Thank you all for helping make this a very successful and fun event. Our thighs and backs were still feeling it as of Sunday but it was worth it.

By Adrian Medina



Streets of Bakersfield Cruizin' for Charity Car Show

What a great day we had at the Streets Of Bakersfield Cruizin' for Charity Car Show benefiting local charities. For the year 2025, the Bakersfield Police Department Citizen Volunteer Unit were the lucky recipients of the funds raised at the show.

We started off on a cool morning and had a beautiful overcast day just perfect for looking at gorgeous cars. And what a variety of beautiful machinery. Everything from Rat Rods to custom hot rods, muscle cars and elegant Lowriders. There were lots of custom fabricated and downright different (weird) cars to look at.

Entertainment was supplied by the great vocal group Mark209 who started off the car show with a beautiful rendition in four part harmony of the Star-Spangled Banner. The best I've ever heard. Later on the Rayford Brothers entertained the crowd with some foot stomping rockabilly music. There was lots of food and many of the stores in the downtown area were open for business.

Three Corvettes of Bakersfield members won awards. Mitch Townsend won for the Best Sports Car, Adrian Medina won for the Best Modern American Car and Angelo Mazzei won for his gorgeous 1932 Ford. We can hardly wait for next year.

By Adrian Medina



Streets of Bakersfield Cruizin' for Charity Car Show



Getty Art Museum Run

What a wonderful day we had at the Getty museum on October 25th. Six Corvettes of Bakersfield Corvettes made the trek up the grapevine to the heart of LA on the 405 freeway. We were able to stay together for most of the trip; but then we lost one at the last exit...and they happened to beat us to the museum anyway. How does that happen? The museum is a fantastic place to visit for art lovers. The most beautiful paintings by the masters of the Renaissance were in full display. These pictures I posted don't do it justice. You have to see it in person to appreciate the color, texture and detail. Stonework, carvings and sculptures with detail that you cannot believe. Furniture with gold leaf and inlay of unbelievable beauty. True craftsmanship in the old days that is very rare nowadays. There's so much to see that you can't possibly see it all in one day. Many displays and buildings just weren't examined in such a short time.

Thank you, Liz for organizing this great trip and keeping us all in line and for the extra photos. We had a great time.

By Adrian Medina



Getty Art Museum Run



Fletcher Elementary Trunk or Treat

Corvettes of Bakersfield was invited to the Fletcher Elementary School in the Mesa Marin area for a Halloween trunk or treat extravaganza. Three COB spooky Corvettes and one Datsun were amongst other Ghoulish vehicles elaborately decorated for the Halloween season. It was fun to see all the cute kids and the imaginative Halloween costumes. Each of us went through at least four or five bags of Halloween candy for all the tons of kids that came down. School personnel were very happy to see us there and we had such a great time.

By Adrian Medina



Fletcher Elementary Trunk or Treat



Minter Field Wings & Wheels

There were tons of beautiful cars at the Minter Field Air Museum Wings and Wheels Car Show. The Minter Field car show raises funds for improvements to the museum which contains many artifacts from previous wars.

Minter Field played a hugely important role in World War II as a flight training center for over 7000 soldiers beginning in 1941. It was also the location of the first human powered aircraft named the 'Gossamer Condor' designed by Paul McCready which flew a specified figure 8 course with two markers half a mile apart for a prize of £50,000 in August, 1977.

Four Corvettes and two other collector cars from COB made the drive to Shafter on this beautiful mid 70s day. Many other Corvettes had attended the show and public relations member, Diane Wallace, did a great job in getting them interested in our club.

All in all we had a great day talking to people, seeing other creative machines, and showing off our beautiful cars.

By Adrian Medina



Brunch of Corvettes at Longhorn Steakhouse

At today's Brunch of Corvettes, 17 COB member's had a fantastic lunch at the Longhorn Steakhouse located at 8850 Rosedale Highway. The rain kept away many of the 25 who registered to attend and only one Corvette was seen in the parking lot. Nonetheless, We had a great time visiting, exchanging stories and, also, a wonderful meal. Thank you, Liz, for putting this together. We had a great time.

By Adrian Medina



Bakersfield Veterans Day Parade

Happy Veterans Day! What a beautiful formation of Corvettes coming down the road for the Bakersfield Veterans Day Parade on November 11th. The first row were three abreast...red, white, and blue, with all the rest, 14 cars in all, following majestically. Some were carrying veterans such as Perry Finzel, Chester Maulolo, Richard Castro and many more, including several veterans who are members of Corvettes of Bakersfield. I'm so proud to see so many Bakersfield people come out to view the parade and honor the soldiers; both old and young.

After the parade, we hightailed it over to Woolgrowers where we were joined by other members of the club. We had a great time eating some of the best basque food in Bakersfield.

Thank you veterans for your service to our country.

By Adrian Medina



Bakersfield Veterans Day Parade



Streets of Bakersfield Charity Distribution

Board of Director member for the Streets Of Bakersfield, Terri Romanoff and I (Adrian) were invited to participate in the award ceremony for the Streets Of Bakersfield Cruizin' for Charity giveaway benefiting the Bakersfield Police Department Volunteer Unit.

\$30,000.00 was awarded to the Citizen Volunteer Unit whose duties are to assist the Bakersfield City police at special events, patrolling and working in an 'observe and report' capacity, doing clerical support, data entry, and greeting the public on behalf of the police department. This helps to free up police officers to do more serious police work. They are currently recruiting for dedicated individuals who are interested in working with law-enforcement.

We all got to enjoy a delicious dinner from Salty's Barbecue and Catering which included tri-tip, chicken, beans and spicy macaroni and cheese. Jeff Salters has been a proud sponsor of the Streets Of Bakersfield Car Show and was honored as well as other contributors, workers and benefactors to the event. Many thanks to Tony Castiglione for heading and bringing to Bakersfield a great event such as the Streets Of Bakersfield Cruizin' for Charity Car Show. Over the years since 2016, Streets Of Bakersfield has donated around \$199,000 to local charities. Bakersfield is truly a giving community.

By Adrian Medina



Streets of Bakersfield Charity Distribution



Outlawz Toy Run

Oh my God! Was it cold during the Outlawz Toy Run with nary a sunbeam to warm us up! It started off at 42° and became a still chilly 52° for the duration of the day.

Corvettes of Bakersfield attended the Outlawz Toy Run and Car Show being held at California Truck of Bakersfield benefiting Kern Medical Pediatrics. There were plenty of food trucks and vendors available and lots of people all around admiring the gorgeous cars and trucks on display for everyone to see.

Even Santa was there with his sleigh to see and hear what all the young... and old... boys and girls want for Christmas. It was a great show and there were a lot of toys collected for some lucky boys and girls, but, boy, it was cold out there. By Adrian Medina



COB Christmas Party

What a fun filled and busy day we had! We started off the day with a car show and toy run put on by the Outlawz Car Club and later in the evening we enjoyed the company of our fellow members at the Corvettes of Bakersfield Christmas party being held at Salty's Barbecue and Catering banquet room.

We got to enjoy a delicious dinner of steak and chicken with rice and salad plus desserts. Then came the *thievin', ornery, anything goes* gift exchange where the person drawing a gift runs the risk of losing that gift by the next person should they desire that same gift. Even yours truly succumbed to the desires of a valued gift. After all the gifts were opened, we had a photo session and then our delicious cookie exchange where everybody brings their favorite cookies and swaps them out for their choice of everyone else's cookies.

Everyone went home, happy and full of good cheer. We would like to thank Linda Stacey and all the organizers for the beautiful decorations setting a festive atmosphere for our party. Thank you, also, to Salty's Bar-b-que for the great food. Merry Christmas to all from Corvettes of Bakersfield!

By Adrian Medina



COB Christmas Party



COB Christmas Party



Haggin Oaks Christmas Lights Run

On December 9th, we had our Corvettes of Bakersfield Christmas Lights Run through Haggin Oaks along with Cruising Oldies Car Club, the Golden Empire Mustang Car Club and the Bakersfield Model A Ford Club.

We started at Lengthwise Brewery at the Marketplace for a delicious dinner as we gathered all the clubs together in the parking lot. Many of the participants decorated their cars with lights and other decorations. Then we took the short drive to the beautiful Haggin Oaks neighborhood, well known for their elaborate and prolific lighting.

We drove around, cruising for nearly an hour, wishing everybody we saw a Merry Christmas and having a great time looking at all the beautiful displays. We did a takeover in one cul-de-sac where we filled it up with all our vehicles and took pictures of everybody standing next to the lights.

After our cruise, we headed down to Marie Callender's where we had some great desserts while others had their late time meals.

We had a great time with all the car clubs, and it has become an annual event. We look forward to our next one.

By Adrian Medina



Haggin Oaks Christmas Lights Run



Houchin Blood Bank Blood Drive & Toy Run

Members of Corvettes of Bakersfield drove 12 Corvettes over to the Houchin Blood Bank on 11515 Bolthouse Dr on a bitter cold morning on December 13th to support Houchins blood drive at their newest facility. Everyone had warm smiles, and we all did our best to keep warm and have a good time.

We had a great unveiling of our brand new Corvettes of Bakersfield canopy which will come in handy once the sun comes out in the summertime.

Many toys were collected for the Kern Medical Foundation's Pediatrics and blood was donated by Liz Zaninovich, member of COB, among other donors.

California Pizza Kitchen restaurant was there providing treats and coupons and Houchin provided free tickets to the Calm Museum light show for those who donated blood.

Of course, Santa was there with his sleigh providing a beautiful backdrop for photos with kids and adults alike. The 'Wiley' Santa enjoyed taking photos in fast cars to consider other prospects to replace aging reindeer.

By Adrian Medina



Houchin Blood Bank Blood Drive & Toy Run



In Memorium: Annie Bailey

We are sad to announce the passing of Annie Bailey. Annie had been suffering from liver disease for a time. Complications spread to her kidneys. According to her friend DeeAnna, a coworker from her bus driving days, who was with her at the time, she went into the hospital after falling and had passed away on Thanksgiving day in intensive care.

Annie was a longtime member of Corvettes of Bakersfield since May of 1991. She was famous for having a pink 1978 C3 Corvette and had a love for anything concerning owls. She was very outgoing and loved to wear the color pink. After a serious accident which totaled her Vette, she purchased a Black Rose colored C4 Corvette. The only reason she left the club was to move to Nampa, Idaho in 2021 to follow her kids and live among them. She would always follow our club happenings and would wish she was with us. She will be missed.

Her remains will be brought over to Arvin Cemetery for services to be held, possibly, after the holidays. More information will be forthcoming. I'm thinking a Corvette salute would be proper for her.

By Adrian Medina



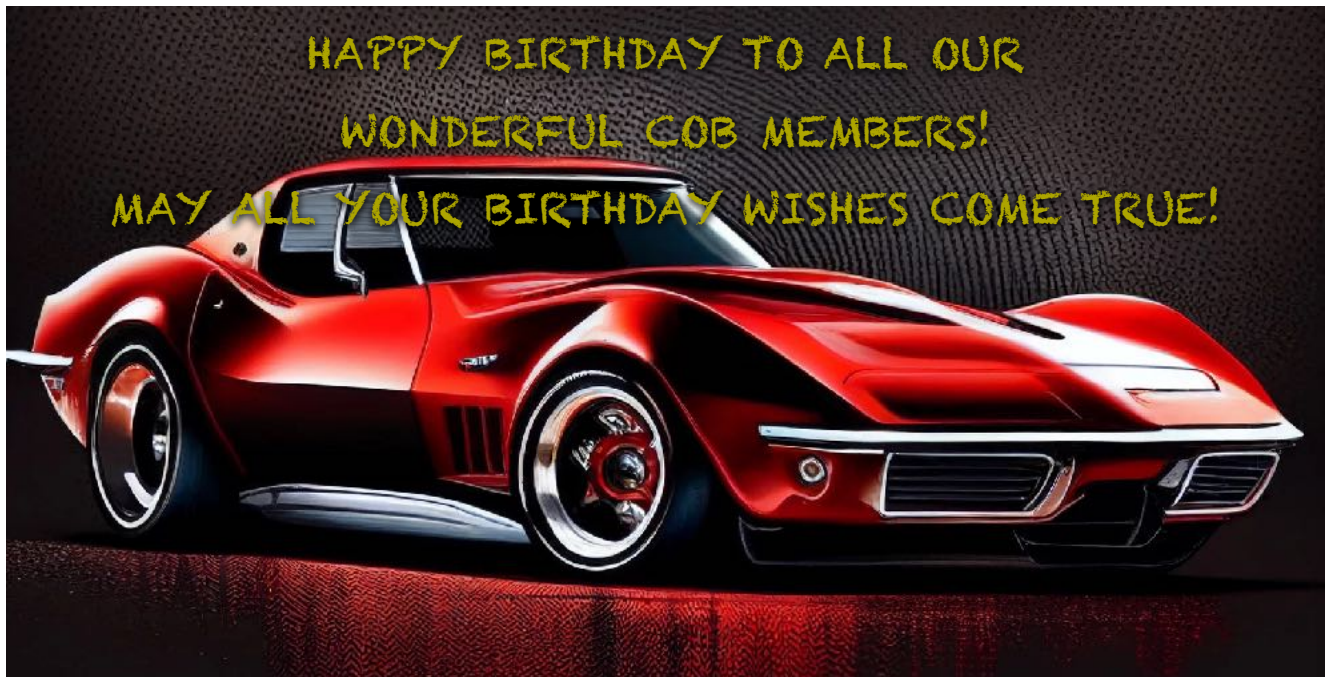
In Memorium: Arther "Art" White

Arthur "Art" White passed away in hospice on December 30, 2025 at his residence with his loving family by his side. Art was a long time residence of Kern county and was a train engineer operator for many years.

Art was with Corvettes of Bakersfield for only about a year and will be greatly missed.

A celebration of life will be on February 10, 2026 starting at 12:00 pm at Salty's Banquet Hall 6720 Schirra Ct. Bakersfield, CA 93313






January	February	March	April
Bruce Jay 2	Gabriel Vega 2	Denise Hollister 3	Virginia Norquay 8
Shirley Sparks 4	Diane Wallace 3	James Norquay 15	Dick Compton 9
Danny Ellison 16	Mary Mazzei 4	Ron Griffin 16	Kelly Buonauro 11
Ed Combs 24	Bill Grafeman 12	Holly Lazzarini 16	Marc Chambers 14
Cathy Frye 26	Audrea Estrada 13	Mark Buonauro 21	Kimberly Cobbs 16
Pam Taylor 30	Angelo Mazzei 15	Don Allen 23	Jonathan Cobbs 17
Marvin Wendt 31	Jess Perez 15		Brad Hayden 17
	Martin Buchanan 16		David Pratt 19
	Karen Wolfe 22		Steve Dallons 23
	Virgil Miller 23		Mark Pucilowski 29
	Ray Thurm 25		

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 \$1,000.00 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
Deadline ends February 1st, 2026

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://kccd.academicworks.com/opportunities/1018-302289C893&item=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



CLUB MERCHANDISE

Contact Virgil Miller

Polo Shirts - \$24 - \$27

Available on our website <https://cobcharity.square.site/product/club-polo-shirt/10>



T-Shirts - \$20 each Available at our monthly meetings



Parade Flags - \$10 each Available at our monthly meetings



Ball Caps - \$20 Available at our monthly meetings



Parting Shots



2025 COB Christmas Party



Houchin Bank Blood Drive and Toy Run