



# Kaleidoscope

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CORVETTE ASSOCIATION

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VOLUME VI, NUMBER FOUR BILL KENDALL, EDITOR

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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### PRESIDENT'S LAST STAND

Happy holidays to all of you!

This year has really sped away...it's been a busy one for NCCA's active members, what with a rip-roaring Corvanna Autocross series and several socials scattered around the area.

The Club has been blessed this year with an able group of workers who kept the Corvannas up to their high reputation and the expectations of local lead feet. Sometimes it got to be a pain--out there in the blazing sun (or freezing wind), but somehow they managed to carry on and our clientele are eagerly awaiting the 1963 series.

In retrospect, I'd say the only sour note in the year was a general lack of attendance at social functions. So much the worse for those who didn't show...the rest of us who were there had a ball. After all, who couldn't? We had a dinner (98¢ steak that was good!), dancing (and costumes...what a gas...at Halloween!), sand in our salad (that beach part has to be repeated next year), a party-time trip (you mean you missed San Simeon?!), and a wine tour...to hit a few!

It's gratifying to see the list of new members who joined in '62. They will be the fire-balls we need to help out us poor tired souls!

So, in summing up, congratulations to our new leaders for 1963. Let's have a year and a half next year!

.....Ron

You may still make the New Year's Eve party if you phone Gary now.

The 1963 Installation Dinner Meeting will be held in San Francisco, Saturday, January 19...details later.

(Definition) PEDESTRIAN: A man who has two cars, a wife and an 18-year-old daughter.

Well, gang, looking at the calendar, THAT time of the year is approaching again. And what do we mean by "that" time of the year? Christmas of course!!! And naturally what follows? The New Year. And of course this is the time of the year we all start to think back about all the good (and bad) things that have come to pass in the last 12 months.

I am sure most of the older (in length of membership, I mean) members, as well as the younger (length of membership, again) members will get a kick out of re-reading some of the back issues of Kaleidoscope. Not necessarily from just this last year; but....back to the very first issue of Kaleidoscope, came this bit of useless information. I am told the first editor 'Jagbenz' was anonymous for the first eighteen months.

#### 1957 CORVETTE CONFIDENTIAL NO I

"By, Jagbenz Healluphproschetri, noted European race driver, automotive designer and engineer, and author of the best seller: 'I Drove Monza; ALL Gassed Up!

This is the first in a series that is a sure winner of the No-Ring (1st cousin to the Nobel) Prize for exemplary literature. This publication is devoted to the individuals fortunate enough to own the one and only sports car in the world that passes everything except gas stations.

Note I: - Performance--How did your Corvette run today? Did you get to work on less than three tanks of gas? Yes? Well, how damn fortunate you are!! If you did, then you must take your car to the nearest Chevrolet Agency for a factory tune-up. They will set the carbs at factory specifications: 4 gallons per-mile. I myself have received a gold star from Arkus-Duncov himself for raising my gas consumption to 8.2349 gallons per mile!!!"

#### ANOTHER ISSUE OF THAT GREAT YEAR 1957

"I have been informed by the 'Executive Board' (by one member that is) That we would appreciate it if one of the club's main party dolls (R.C.) would please have his eyes drained at the nearest blood bank before our events. We'd 'preciate it!...Preciate it!!"

"CORVETTE NEWS - 1958: The new Corvette will have, among other things an eight barrel carburetor shaped like a mouth. (Really Drinks it UP!) Also, this jug is equipped with extrasensory perception. Whenever a Jag or Mercedes gets within 45 feet, it burps!!! Watch out for the new M.B.C. (Must Beat Corvettes). It uses a TR engine for a starter, Corvette radio for ignition (static fires the plugs) and has a moulded head on the hood to gobble-up everything in stock category."

#### JANUARY 1958 ISSUE

"SPECIAL NOTE: Zora Arkus-Duntov, Daddy of the Ardun Overheads, and the...ah!...oh!...yes...Corvette.....will be at the G. M. Tech. Center on Wednesday evening, January 22, 1958. Meeting starts at 7 pm. Bring your questions and notebooks."

#### FEBRUARY 1958 ISSUE

"Congratulations to Bill Souza, Ray Altman, Ed McCarroll, John Milton, John Zeh, Nick Zeigler, Hank Vonder Mehden, Dick LaGrutta and Howard Hill on becoming proud Daddys of spanking new Corvettes.....in cooperation with B of A."

#### APRIL 1958 ISSUE:

"Does anyone know the true identity of the following "mysterious individual sometimes referred to as "Black Bart"? He drives a black (almost) car, wears black gloves, black coveralls, races black tires,

and is presently in a black frame of mind due to many technical troubles with his Corvette. If you have the name and whereabouts of this individual, contact the NCCA's law officer, "sheriff Tex Zeh" who will handle things from there!"

MAY 1958 ISSUE:

"New Corvette colors available: Black, Silver. Tsirlis and Altman both are waiting for black cars to arrive from St. Louis.

We send our best wishes to Irene Pofahl to help speed her on the road to full recovery from the ill effects of an auto accident."

AUGUST 1958 ISSUE:

"Congratulations to Bobbie and Fred Wetton on their 1st Anniversary."

JUNE 1960 ISSUE:

"Dear Winnemucca, here we are again. This year the NCCA has invaded you with 23 Corvettes, therefore your gaping is understandable, as this is 20 more than last year.

Did you know that Will Givin has two Corvettes, and wants to sell one?"

JANUARY 1961 ISSUE:

"New years eve party. This event began the year with a bang! In true Corvette style the new year was welcomed, by those who were still able, with a Champagne toast from 6 quarts of the bubbly sent by President Jack Riis who was unable to attend. Jack is still recovering from "Thunderbird vs Corvette" injuries.

"Inaugral Dinner. At times you have suspicioned that the Mafia had arrived when our new V P Bud Edwards (complete with cigar) issued forth some startling comments. Wee Willie Sherwood said more that night than at any time the whole year as V. Pres."

MARCH 1961 ISSUE:

"THE 'REDHEAD' IS PRACTICING for those LeMans starts with an electric bicycle. He'll either win or he'll be too stiff to start."

MAY 1962 ISSUE:

"Easter Seal Drive: In preparation for the subsequent mob of club members at Roeber's beautiful pool, NCCA bought a full keg of beer and two cases of chips. It was lots of fun.....but we had to call in the local police department to help us polich off the keg!"

AUGUST 1962 ISSUE:

"Ernie Grabstein and Howard Hill had themselves a real cool time a couple of months ago; Flying to the factory at St. Louis to pick up a couple of new '62's. Serialized editorial to follow in later issues of the Kaleidoscope about their trip."

AND NOW TO THE PRESENT:

One of the fondest memories at present: NCCA tour to San Simeon Castle, San Simeon, California.

Sunday, September 3rd, a covy of "Plastic Pacheyderms" (Corvettes) assembled in San Jose for an early morning trek south to San Simeon Lodge by way of various back roads led by our own President, Ron Craven and wife Betty. (In a Corvair no less). Followed by Bill Kendall, (that's me) and wife Frances, Norm and Lilas Davis, Ray Greeby and friend, and Dr. and Mrs Taylor.

And upon arrival at said destination, were greeted by early-early go-getters from NCCA already frolicking in the swimming pool at the San Simeon Lodge where all were booked for the night. Exact count slips me now, but thru my alcoholic memory from that week-end, it seems like there was somewhere in the neighborhood of 15 member cars represented.

The social events of that evening amounted to: a stagg poker game sponsored by the male gamblers in Ray Greenby's room; a singapore sling tasting group in the bar; and a howling dog locked up in the Bob McCarthy abode.

One of the highlights of the evening was when Bill Whelan had to explain to his spouse Carole, "Dear, when you saw that strange plumbing fixture in the rest room, couldn't you figure out that you must have gone into the men's room instead of the women's room?" (Carole thought it mighty strange that all those "women" in that room wearing slacks.)

But the real "education" came the next morning, when all checked out of the motel, for our "Tour-de-resistance". The tour of the Hearst Castle. For those that have never taken time to take in this wonderful repast, it could never be put down in writing. Those that have taken this time will concure with me that nothing ever put down in writing could describe the wonders that can be seen there on that hill-side.

But enough of the past. What about the future? If the following cut from a recent issue of the San Francisco "Chronicle" is indicative of what the future has in store for at least three outstanding members, well....."Chevrolet Corvette will launch an ambitious racing program in 1963, with factory teams set to be entered in many of the world's top races. Plans call for an all-out effort at the International Championship Sebring 12 hour Grand Prix of Endurance in Florida and France's 24-Hour race at Le Mans. Locally, Paul Reinhart and Bill Sherwood, both of Oakland, will be piloting a pair of hot Corvette Sting Ray Coupes in West Coast events for Cochran & Celli Chevrolet dealers in Oakland, and Red Farris will handle a third Sting Ray Coupè by Dailey Chevrolet Company in San Leandro."

NOW FOR THE RECORD (and something to copy for next year's 'Year End' issue). December 4, 1962 was election day for selecting new club officers for the coming 1963. And with "one vote per member car" method, and a nice round total of 40 member cars present, the results were as follows:

OUTGOING 1962 OFFICERS:

President: Ron Craven  
 V. Pres.: John Coyle  
 Secretary: Marie Hoy  
 Treasurer: Paul Beshgetoorian  
 Board of Directors: Ernie Grabstein,  
 Jack Riis, Bud Edwards and Mel  
 Piombo

INCOMING 1963 OFFICERS

President: Johnny Zeh  
 V. Pres.: Paul Beshgetoorian  
 Secretary: Laverne Craven  
 Treasurer: Jack Irasmith  
 Board of Directors: Ron Craven,  
 John Coyle, Dudley Combs, Elwin  
 (Woody) Wood and Gary Carlen

BUT OFF THE RECORD:

The above is a list of "Elected" officers. And even if you arn't one of these, remember, the most important officer in the Club is YOU. Even tho- the officers "run" the club, but YOU make the club. As in the past, again for this coming year, you have selected the prime people for these elected positions, and they depend on YOU to keep the club going. 1962 was a "record" year, and a swell job was done by all. And for 1963 lets all get behind our new officers and set a few new records.

So there we are gang. The "Past, Present and Future". And if the future is as good as the "Past" and "Present", we are in for a Heck of a swell year.