



# Keepin' Track - SLO Vettes

*The Official Newsletter of the Corvette Club of San Luis Obispo County  
February Issue*

*Published on the first ay of each month, except January*

Cover Page

Monthly Newsletter

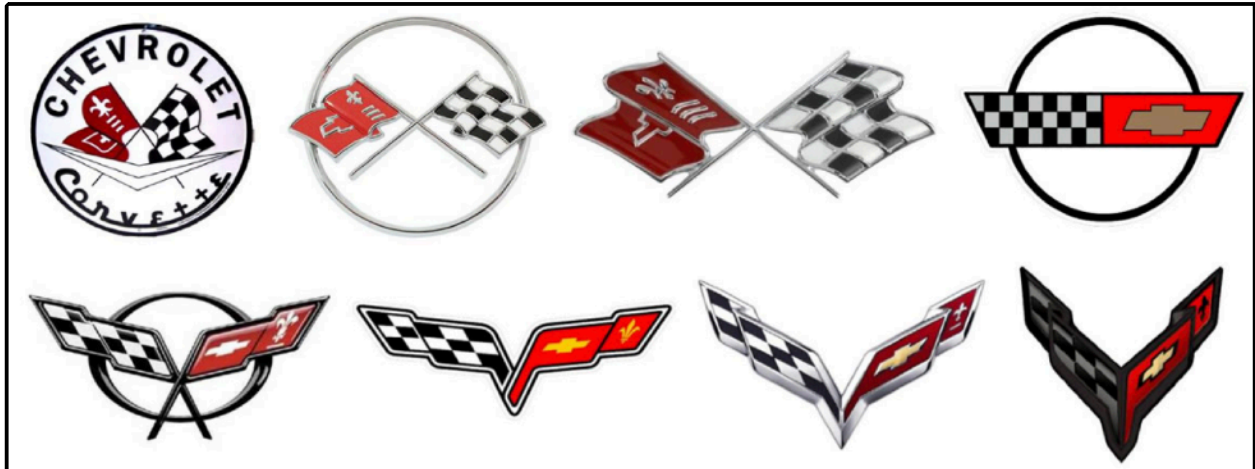
February 2024



## Christmas Party at the Inn at Morro Bay

The turnout for this year's Christmas Party was impressive, and everyone seemed to have a great time. As is the tradition, Jon Dallons supplied the music (from the 50's, 60's, 70's and beyond) and the catered dinner was outstanding. We also give full marks to Jan Dallons who organized the evening after learning at the last minute that Madonna Inn had mis-scheduled us for a week later than we thought we had booked. It was a hectic couple of weeks but Jan did an outstanding job of finding a more than adequate substitute. The crowd looked very spiffy, especially José Alvarez who wore a white dinner jacket yours truly lusted after. Gotta get one.

**February SLO Vettes Meeting: Friday, February 9,  
Chevy of San Luis Obispo, 1423 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, CA  
Meet & Greet, 6:00 PM - Meeting begins at 6:30 PM**



CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - CRAIG BRICKER

VICE-PRESIDENT - BOB FURSTER

SECRETARY - LISA KLOCKENTEGER

TREASURER - JAN DALLONS

EVENTS - VACANT, PRESIDENT  
CRAIG FILLING IN

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NCM AMBASSADOR - DON ALLEN

SUNSHINE/HISTORIAN -  
JEANNE ALLEN

MERCHANDIZE - JAN DALLONS

WEBMASTER - JON DALLONS

NEWSLETTER - RUSS SURBER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>President's Message</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Vice President's Message</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Minutes of Events Meeting</b>	<b>Page 4-5</b>
<b>Events Chairs's Message</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>NCM Ambassador's Report</b>	<b>Page 5-9</b>
<b>Sunshine Report</b>	<b>Page 9</b>
<b>Tech Talk - Battery Issues</b>	<b>Page 9-13</b>
<b>Recipe: Chicken Potato Soup</b>	<b>Page 13-14</b>
<b>The Final Word</b>	<b>Page 14-15</b>
<b>Reagan Library Overnighter Flyer</b>	<b>Page 16-17</b>
<b>Parkfield Café Flyer</b>	<b>Page 18</b>
<b>Events &amp; Meetings Schedule 2024</b>	<b>Page 19</b>
<b>SLO Vettes Xmas Party Photos</b>	<b>Page 20</b>



Happy New Year to everyone!

Well, here we are in 2024 and it seems like just a few weeks ago that I wrote this message for the February 2023 Newsletter. Where did the year go!

A couple of weeks ago on the 21st of January, we held our annual Events Planning meeting at the home of Jon and Jan Dallons. A big "shout out" to both Jon and Jan for having 35 plus SLO Vette members invade their home on an over-cast drizzly Sunday afternoon. After we approved each of the monthly events for the year, everyone enjoyed the salad, burgers, and fries along with some good conversation. Thanks again to Jon and Jan for hosting this yearly event at their "home on the hill".

Over the last couple of years, I have heard that SLO Vettes does the same events year after year. Well, I don't think anyone can say that about our events that are scheduled for this year. Several members stepped up this year and suggested some new and fun ideas. Of the 18 monthly events that are currently on the schedule for this year, 10 of the events are new from last year. Thanks to all who suggested these fun events.

For those of you that attended the Christmas party, you may remember the framed watercolor painting that Tracy and Stacy Weed brought to the party as a gift exchange. This watercolor painting of several Corvettes on the road up to Ragged Point from last year's event was beautifully painted by Stacy Weed. This gift item at the Christmas party was well received by

everyone and Becky Cyester was the lucky person who was able to take it home.

At the Events Planning meeting, Tracy and Stacy brought a framed "print" of this painting with them so it could be auctioned off and the proceeds would be used toward this year's Christmas party budget. With several members bidding on this item, Harold and Ardith Davis were the eventual winners. Thank you,



Stacy, for donating a print of your beautiful painting and thank you Harold and Ardith for being the winners of the auction. I'm sure you will enjoy the picture. (See picture as it hangs on the wall in the Davis's home.)

As we begin this new year, I am disappointed that no one has stepped up to take on the role of Events Chairperson. This position can be a shared position and it is a great opportunity to meet and interact with all the members. A healthy club needs members to step up and volunteer some of their time. Please contact me if you have any interest in this position.

I hope to see everyone at the monthly meeting on Friday, February 9th.

Craig Bricker  
President  
805-471-2945



Vice-President

*Bob Furster*



Secretary

*Lisa Klockenteger*



Since the last newsletter our membership changed slightly when Miss Bowlay elected not to renew her membership. We have 47 memberships with 83 total members. The total number of Corvettes within the Club is 53 and the bulk of our Corvettes are C6's and C7's.

Well here we are in a new year and based on the Events meeting at the Dallons' house, 2024 looks to be a fun year for the club with many events in the planning. As I have mentioned in the past, 2024 is also the year of the National Corvette Caravan. This event only happens once every 5 years and I know a few of the club members are going. Lori and I had originally planned on participating but due to personal issues I just don't think it's in the cards this time around. If you are even remotely interested you should start planning now. Don Allen is a great resource if you want some more information.

I was looking at our roster and noticed most of the Corvettes in the club are coupes. Seems like not many like a convertible. I find this a bit interesting as if you wanted a Corvette from 1953 to 1961 you really did not have a choice on a coupe or convertible (also known as a roadster). All that was available was a convertible. The coupe was not introduced until 1962 with the C2 split window; a stunning Corvette even today through my eyes. Whether you like one or the other or both I hope you are out enjoying them as often as you can.

Be safe out there, enjoy life... drive a Corvette.

Bob Furster  
VP/Membership  
ososbob@charter.net

### **SLO Vettes January 2024 Planning Meeting**

Date: January 21, 2024

Location: Home of the Dallons

**Call to Order: 1:15pm**

Club Attendees: 35+ A very good turnout for the Annual Meeting

All Board Members Present

#### **President, Craig Bricker**

Craig thanked everyone for coming out on a foggy cold day. He reminded us that there are openings for our Events Chair and Secretary. Lisa will be staying on until a replacement comes forward. He thanked the outgoing Co-Chairs for their tireless effort in maintaining a fun filled list of activities for club members to enjoy. Thank you Bonnie and Beth

Craig had the club vote on the Newly updated By-Laws. They passed and will be put on record as our 2024 Updated Bylaws.

#### **Membership VP, Bob Furster**

No report this meeting

#### **Treasurer, Jan Dallons**

Deferred the Proposed Budget for 2024 to be reviewed and voted on at February 2024 Monthly Meeting.

Deferred the End of Year 2023 Budget to be reviewed and voted on at the March 2024 Monthly Meeting

#### **New Business**

Jan Dallons spoke about the Club Christmas Party in 2023 which was held at the Inn at Morro Bay. There were some good and bad experiences, however it was less expensive overall. She then spoke about the Madonna Inn and asked for a head count of everyone's preferred place. A majority favored the Madonna Inn. Jan will work on securing the Madonna Inn. The key issue is that the

group that took our place has first right of refusal for the First Saturday date. Denise Williamson said if the Madonna Inn doesn't work out, we could work with the Inn at Morro Bay to improve the areas we felt needed improvement. Denise Surber said we should investigate securing the First Saturday date at the Inn at Morro Bay while Madonna Inn decides if it will give us our old First Saturday date. Jan will report on her progress at the next meeting.

The rest of the meeting was the Event Planning discussion. See Events Report in upcoming Newsletter (see below).

**50/50 Raffle ---- \$170 was donated**

The Winner was Don Allen for \$85 bucks!!! Go Don!!

**Next Monthly Meeting: February 9, 2024**

Location: Chevy SLO

Meet & Greet: 6:00pm

**Meeting Time:** 6:30 pm Sharp!

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:30pm**

Let the Bar B Q Party begin!

Submitted by your Secretary

Lisa Klockenteger

[lisaklockenteger@gmail.com](mailto:lisaklockenteger@gmail.com)

**Events**

*Craig Bricker, Bob Furster, Harold Davis,  
& Don Allen - The Committee*

Hello everyone! This portion of the monthly *Keepin' Track* newsletter is normally written by our Events Chairperson or Chairpersons but as of February 1st SLO Vettes does not have an Events Chairperson. If you want to get involved in your car club, please consider the Events Chairperson position. This position can be shared with someone. This is a great opportunity to get to know everyone in the club.

1) Our first event of the year will be a run out to Parkfield on Saturday, February 24th. A flyer for this event has already been sent out to all members. Please remember to RSVP

to Russ Surber (805-610-0931) if you plan on attending or even if you are not going to attend.

2) Information on the Morro Bay car show/day cruise scheduled for May 3rd & 4th was sent out.

3) The July 25th event in Solvang to attend the PCPA play has one opening remaining for one couple. This is as of February 1st. If you would like to attend this event, please contact Craig Bricker at 805-471-2945.

March, which is not too far off, has two events scheduled:

1) March 9th - a run to Santa Ynez which includes lunch at the Maverick Saloon

2) March 15th & 16th - an overnight trip to the Reagan Museum

More information on these two March events will be sent out soon.

On pages 16 and 17 of this Newsletter is the list of all of events that are scheduled for this year. Looking forward to a fun-filled year of events.

See page 19 for Events & Meeting Schedule.

Craig Bricker, President & Acting Events Chair (*Editor's Note*, But he hopes not for long!)

**National Corvette Museum  
Ambassador**

*Don Allen*



## *National Corvette Museum Update*

Holy Cow! Can you believe that it is 2024 and SLO Vettes is off to a great start already? The Event Planning Meeting was a great success with lots of new ideas for fun



runs and get-togethers. While it was a bit rainy, every visit to Casa Mirador is always a treat. Jon and Jan are great hosts and this year's meeting continued the tradition.

Now you are probably wondering about the lead photo of the Eisenhower Tunnel Denver and Vale, Colorado.

This location will be the high (in elevation) point of the 2024 National Corvette Museum Southwest Caravan route. Trust me, for those of us without a supercharger, the 11,000 ft. plus elevation certainly takes some of the breath away, including horsepower, from our Corvettes. You don't necessarily notice the drop in power while on cruise control but any attempt at spirited driving is met with much less enthusiasm. The one saving grace is that everything will be downhill into Denver from there.

You can still jump on board. Please see me or click on this link to learn more about the Southwest Caravan.

[Southwest - 2024 Caravan - National Corvette Museum](#)

## Museum News

### Plant Tours Suspended

NCM staff have been conducting tours of the Corvette Assembly Plant now for some time but those tours will cease as of February 5, 2024. GM management is reporting that the plant will undergo some technical upgrades and manufacturing improvements. Those are

more easily completed without the additional foot traffic and maybe prying eyes. Last year, 30,000 visitors took advantage of GM's open-door policy and got up front and personal with the assembly process.

Speculation is that GM will use the private time to build a test fleet of the upcoming ZR1 models and maybe some retooling of the Corvette's interior to remove the wall of buttons that separates the driver and passenger. Whatever the reasons for the closure, they must be more serious than just these two suggestions. NCM tour staff were told that they would have to reapply for their positions when the tours are resumed. That makes me think the plant will be closed for more than just a few weeks.

The sad part is that if the closure hangs on, it could impact the big annual April event at the Museum known as the Michelin Bash. That event is often used by GM to unveil new Corvette models to the thousands of Corvette aficionados that attend the Bash. People might not be so excited to attend the Bash if a side-trip tour of the Assembly Plant is off the table. If the closure extends through the summer it could impact the Annual Celebration attendance around the Labor Day Weekend that caps off the National Corvette Caravan.

Hopefully, the closure will be short and sweet so tourists will be able to enjoy their visits of both the National Corvette Museum as well as the Corvette Assembly Plant.

## Raffles

Below are all the currently active raffles. For additional information and rules regarding National Corvette Museum raffles including how to order tickets and to view the number of tickets remaining available in real time, go to <https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org>. I wish you the best of luck and hope to see photos of you picking up your prize at the Museum.





**2024 Red Mist Corvette Coupe 2/8/2024**  
Price: \$150.00 Tickets: 1500



**2024 Arctic White Corvette Convertible 3/7/2024**  
Price: \$200.00 Tickets: 1500



**2024 Red Mist Corvette Convertible 4/27/2024**  
Price: \$20.00 Tickets: Unlimited

**Assembly Plant Update**

**The Drive Names Corvette E-Ray 2024's Best Performance Car**

As a part of their second-annual Golden Slash Awards, the staff of The Drive has concluded that the all-new Corvette E-Ray is the Best Performance Car on sale today and their favorite way to go fast. The E-Ray

earned this honor by “introducing hybrid electricity to America’s sports car for the first time,” thus bringing “technology and pace once reserved for seven-figure hypercars down to the relative masses.”

“The E-Ray is easily the cheapest hybrid supercar out there, and it’s quicker than many of them too. For God’s sake, it’s as quick to 60 mph as the McLaren P1 but for less than one-tenth of the price,” and this; “Keep in mind that for the \$106,595 the E-Ray starts at, you can’t even get a base Porsche 911.” [All it Does is Win: Corvette E-Ray Named 2024's Best Performance Car by The Drive - Corvette: Sales, News & Lifestyle \(corvetteblogger.com\)](#)

**Consumer Reports Names 2024 Corvette the Most Satisfying New Car**

Each year, Consumer Reports surveys owners about their car purchases, and they provide “great insights” with the answer to one simple question: “If you had it to do all over again, would you definitely buy or lease the same model?” This year a whopping 93 percent of surveyed 2024 Corvette owners would select the car again, according to a just-released ranking of the 10 most satisfying cars. To see the whole list, go to: [10 Most Satisfying Cars and SUVs - Consumer Reports](#)

The Chevrolet Corvette Z06 wins first and foremost with a truly special engine that acts like it came from an exotic Italian automaker. The Z06’s dynamics and price seal the deal. It’s a screaming deal even at more than \$100,000 thanks to its performance, design, and powertrain layout. The power is notable, but it’s the exhaust sound and the way the engine revs that give the Z06 its distinctive war cry. A unique crank helps the engine breathe and rev better, and unlocks a wild scream as it winds up to its 8,600-rpm redline. Senior Editor Kirk Bell said it heaps sound and fury on an exotic design.

The Z06 isn’t perfect, but it’s not terribly far off. It doesn’t have the cachet of a Porsche or a Ferrari, and its interior can’t match their

quality. Getting in and out can be a chore for the New Balance crowd because this thing sits low and has steeply raked A-pillars. There isn't a lot of cargo space, there's no manual transmission, and while the base price of \$113,190 is a supercar steal, it's far more than the \$106,395 starting price a year ago. Our loaded test car cost \$160,595, which felt expensive and yet completely acceptable for the performance.

Beyond all that is what the C8 Z06 stands for. It's a moment in time and history that will never happen again. Ferrari has already moved on past naturally-aspirated flat-plane crank V-8s and into its twin-turbo, V-6, and hybrid era. There will be faster and more powerful Corvettes, but it's improbable any will be as special. [Chevrolet Corvette Z06: Motor Authority Best Car To Buy 2024](#)

### **2023 Final Sales Stats**

Final production statistics for the 2023 Corvette are now available for viewing. Of the 53,785 cars produced, 52% were coupes, while convertibles came in just under the halfway split at 48%. Torch Red was once again the most popular color choice for 2023. To see all the stats for yourself, go to: [2023 Model Corvette Year-End Stats Now Available - National Corvette Museum](#)

I always enjoy seeing what color combinations buyers come up with when ordering their dream Corvette. We certainly have some unique tastes and now that GM allows a color override option that allows customers to avoid the company's suggested color combos for something that makes your Corvette special.

I would have probably not selected an Adrenaline Red interior for my Caffeine (brown) Z06 coupe but one person did. I might have avoided putting an Adrenaline Red interior in either an Amplify Orange or Accelerate Yellow Corvette Z06 but ten buyers did. To see a list of combinations, go to: [Here Are The Rarest 2023 Corvette Z06 Color Combinations \(gmauthority.com\)](#)

The same goes for color combinations for Stingrays. I would have not selected the Tension Blue interior color for my Torch Red coupe but one person did. Someone else has the same taste and ordered a convertible with the same color Torch Red/Tension Blue combination. That's what makes America great. We get choices. [The](#)

[Rarest 2023 Corvette Stingray Color Combinations \(gmauthority.com\)](#)

### **Rumors and Tidbits**

#### **An Update on the Corvettes Sent to Michigan for Repairs**

It seems that those 200 or so Corvettes that were shipped to Michigan instead of being delivered to waiting buyers were sent there for a reason. All 2024 Stingrays were fitted with an "updated" transmission that eliminated the need for the owner to add two quarts of fluid if the car was being "tracked" at high speeds. Evidently something went a-foul as the owners of some of these banished Stingrays were told the cars were sent to the Michigan plant for transmission repairs. No mention if the repair was a replacement or not. The reasoning for the relocation was that there were simply too many cars needing correction for it to be done at the Assembly Plant. Finally, these owners are receiving their cars nearly three months after the initial promised delivery date.

#### **Is Chevrolet Officially Out of the Attainable Performance Car Game?**

Back in 2017 you could find a base model Stingray coupe with a sticker starting at \$55,450. Z06s and Grand Sports started under \$80K. Then came the C8 as a 2020 model and GM touted it starting at \$59,995 but of course you really couldn't buy one even close to sticker. Now we are in the fourth year of the C8 and the base price has jumped nearly \$10,000 more putting a baseline C8 some 26% more expensive than the 2017 coupe.



For 2024, we can purchase an E-Ray, supposedly the substitute for the Grand Sport line. While it may be slotted in between the Stingray and the Z06, the \$106,495 base MSRP suggests it might not be for the mid-line buyer. This price is \$41,045 higher than the Grand Sport base in 2017, up some 62.7%. Ready to step up to a Z06? The Z06 sticker begins at \$111,695 without any options and who would want a Z06 without options? That's an increase of 40.59% from 2017 and we haven't even seen what is expected to be the top dog or dogs in the C8 line. Wait until the ZR1 and Zora models are released. Will those cross the \$200,000 mark?

Considering many Corvette buyers only drive their prize car on the weekends, that's a lot of greenbacks to spend on a toy. Do you think the Corvette has outlived its title of being an affordable sports car? Corvette Blogger suggests that in their article.




Personally, I think the Corvette still offers way more bang for the buck when compared to other sports cars that have equal performance. Just check out the prices of Ferrari, McClaren, Porsche, and Lambo and you will see what I mean.

To learn more about the Museum, it's mission and purpose, upcoming events, exhibits, membership, and to plan your next visit, please contact me directly or visit the NCM website at [www.corvettemuseum.org](http://www.corvettemuseum.org). I look forward to chatting with you at our next meeting.


Don Allen,  
National Corvette Museum Ambassador  
SLO Vettes

**Sunshine Report**  
*Jeanne Allen*



	<b>January and February Sunshine Report By Jeanne Allen</b>																												
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**Tech Talk**  
*Art MacCarley  
& Don Allen*



**Corvette Tech Talk** Art MacCarley and Don Allen

**Season 2 Episode 1:  
Battery Issues. Where did my voltage go?**

Hopefully you will recall last month's article where we informed you that after the C4, our cars came equipped with much more sophisticated Powertrain Control Modules (PCMs) and Body Control Modules (BCMs). And, along with all that computing power came an increased passive power drain might kill the battery when parked for any length of time.



That was pretty vague. How long do I really have before my battery runs down? Two days? One week? Two weeks? The best answer to that question is, "It depends."

If you are wondering if something is stealing your battery's juice, the answer is, "Yes." Corvettes already come engineered with technology to draw down your battery. In some cases, the draw may be manageable and in other situations, the draw could be excessive. Your car could have an excessive battery draw caused by some electronic parasite that can be isolated and corrected or at least mitigated.

In a future article, Art will explain to you what is manageable by design and what may have been mismanaged as a result of the design. Hopefully, we will help you keep your voltage up.



While batteries can be run down while parked, hopefully you can recharge them and be on down the road. Obviously, you must load test the battery after you charge it to make sure it is still in good condition. If not, it is time for a replacement.

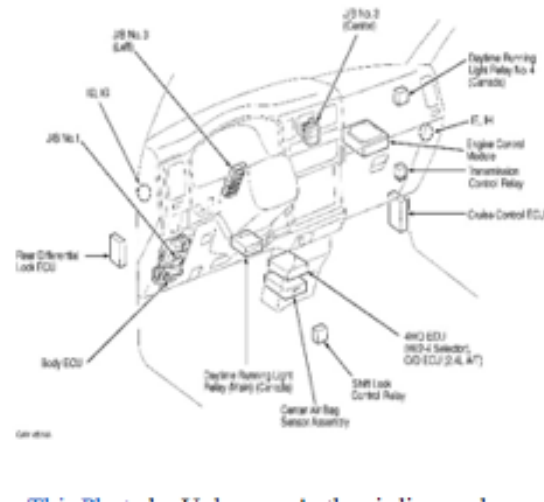
Then you have the situation where the battery is dead even though the car is used fairly regularly and you always store it with battery tender attached to keep the battery charged. Generally, nowadays when the battery dies, it will be sudden and without notice. It will provide great service up to nearly the end. You won't get hints like slow starting or dim headlights to give you a heads up like you did in the "old days."

If you like to plan ahead to avoid being stranded, when should you replace the battery? How old is your battery? What is the climate where you store the car? How clean are the battery terminals? How good are the wiring connections, including the ground

wires, in your car? These are all maintenance issues and the list goes on and on.

Please do not rely on your car's voltage meter to check to see if you have enough juice in the battery. That instrument only measures system voltage with no load and the readout fluctuates depending what the alternator is being told to do by the computer. It does not measure battery capacity or battery voltage nor does it indicate when you need to replace your battery. You should probably be searching for a new battery around 2-4 years depending on your climate. Very hot and very cold climates result in limited battery life.

Can your Corvette give you any hint that the battery is near its end of life? Probably not intentionally but it could easily act up a bit and some functions might not work quite right. Don't brush off those issues as they could be a signal that the battery needs some



attention. Face it, your Corvette is fitted with lots of computers and sensors that monitor your every move and then carry out your wishes. Many, if not all of those buttons and switches you have in your car don't do anything themselves except send a message to central processor that first checks with all of the designated sensors to see if each agrees to go forward with the request and if

they do, then tells all the involved components that it is OK to now perform its designed operation. All this happens in a split second.

Regardless of what the Corvette's electronics are tasked to do, the system needs the battery's full juice to operate correctly. Here are a few examples of what happens when you have low battery voltage or a poor connection. I am more familiar with C5-C7 Corvettes but some of the same issues could well pop up on C4s and C8s.

For all models, low voltage can cause the computer to set a fault in your car's Driver Information Center (DIC) (the readout in the small window on your dashboard). The fault may or may not trigger a "Check Engine" light. If nothing is displayed, the fault may still be in car's memory and can be accessed with an inexpensive code reader that you can buy from any auto parts store or on line.



The trouble code will probably not be for low voltage but instead for whatever component in your car that is

now not working properly as a result of insufficient voltage. It is up to you or your mechanic to decide if the component is the problem or if there simply wasn't enough juice to work correctly. The first place to look should always be the battery.

What issues could be interpreted as a hint that your battery needs replacement? Here are a few troubles you may encounter if your voltage is low.

#### **For the C5 folks:**

- Your headlights may not pop up.
- The "Service Active Handling" fault warning could show up in your DIC.
- Your tire pressure monitor system may fail.

- Your Steering Column Lock may fail.
- The system could go into "limp mode" and limit your speed substantially.
- To complicate matters, if the voltage goes from low to none (dead battery) and your radio's anti-theft feature was "On", there is a procedure you can go thru step-by-step to re-activate your radio. If that feature was not set to "On", you will have to have your dealer re-activate your radio to the tune of about \$150.
- If you do own a C5, besides paying attention to your battery, there is one important step you can take to minimize your electrical issues. Your windshield cowl has two drain tubes located on each side of cowl to allow water to drain from around the windshield and exit out the bottom of your car. Periodically, remove the car's battery from the right side and make sure the drain tube is not plugged, crimped, or otherwise compromised so water doesn't puddle by the battery. It won't hurt the battery but it could corrode or ruin the Body Control Module (BCM) computer located just below the battery in the passenger side footwell, damage the wiring connector to the computer or damage the fuse block. Do the same on the other side of the car to prevent damage to the wiper motor.

#### **For you C6 folks, here are some issues you could face if you drop voltage or have a dead battery:**

- Whenever there is a break in the power supply, you will lose the radio's presets and in some C6 models, the digital clock in the navigation system will disappear. Not to worry. Simply Google "how to reinstall the clock in a C6 Corvette" and you will be fine.

- Your door windows may lose their capacity to “index.” If you notice, your windows drop down about an inch to allow to open the doors. When you close the door, the window goes back up to seal out wind and noise. The door handle tells the BCM you want to open the door, which in turn tells the power window motor to drop the window to clear the roof’s seal so you can open the door. To close the door, the door’s latch tells the BCM the door is closed and now to tell the window motor to raise back to the closed position. When this timing gets out of whack, there are steps listed in your owner’s manual to take to reset the system to operate properly.
- If you are unable to take your C6 automatic transmission out of park, the root cause could be low voltage or corroded pins in the BCM wiring connection. While a number of issues could cause this dilemma, always check for low voltage first before buying a replacement shift mechanism. The computer won’t let you move the shifter out of Park until several conditions are met and at least two rely on full battery voltage. The brake light sensor must know the brakes are on and tell the computer it is now safe to shift from Park. There is a solenoid in the shifter mechanism itself that must be told by the computer that it is now ok to release the shifter lever. Without normal voltage the solenoid won’t work and any marginal loss in voltage will prevent release if the solenoid is old or got any corrosion.
- If your A/C suddenly starts blowing hot air on one side and cold on the other, low voltage may have triggered a computer issue. To reset the system, you can follow a step- by- step sequence of removing and replacing a few fuses. The procedure can be found on the Corvette Forum or an Internet search.

**For you C7 folks, here are some issues you could face if you drop voltage or have a dead battery:**

- Reserve battery power is everything to these cars due to the amount of electronic system pings that are generated at start up. A weak battery will cause faults, errors, codes and all kinds of whacky things.
- If you have a manual trans and either can’t get the shifter into first gear following a start up or have to shift to second gear and then first gear, you might need a new battery.
- If the DIC shows a fault saying, “Saying Rear Axle” and the computer goes into a limited power mode, you may need a new battery.
- If you go for a ride to charge battery and when you park you notice the radio turns itself on automatically after a few seconds. If you shut down the car, get out, lock the doors but ten seconds later the radio turns on, check the battery first.
- If your screen and mirror LEDs turn on a few seconds after the car is completely shut down and stays like that, pull the fuse to turn the items off and think about a new battery.

While computers just started being used in this fashion during the end of the C4 era, they certainly started carrying their weight in the C5 period. By the time Corvette



produced the C6, GM was addicted to computers. And it just got worse as the years progressed although it seems that the

C7 and C8s seem less prone to computer glitches than earlier models. That doesn’t mean that C7 and C8 computers are less utilized. We are just suggesting that every

part of the circuitry may be better constructed.

The moral of this article is that the nearly universal cause for any electrical/electronic issue in a C4 and newer Corvette is low battery voltage and/or poor wiring connections. Proper battery maintenance is the key to keep your Corvette operating properly.

The Boys at the Back of the Garage

## Recipes

Last week Denise surprised me with a glorious soup for dinner. I'm of the opinion that cold winter nights demand a thick and tasty soup, preferably served with a thick, crusty peasant's bread and a nice white wine. So, for these cold and often wet winter evenings, may I present:

### Chicken Potato Soup



Serves 6 to 8, Makes about 2 1/2 quarts

#### Ingredients

1 medium yellow onion 2 medium carrots  
2 medium stalks celery 3 cloves garlic  
1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs (3 medium or 2 large breasts, or 5 to 6 thighs)  
2 teaspoons kosher salt, divided, plus more as needed  
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus more as needed  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
3/4 teaspoon dried thyme  
1 bay leaf  
1 1/2 pounds Yukon Gold potatoes (3 medium or 6 small)  
1/3 cup all-purpose flour  
1 (32-ounce) box low-sodium chicken broth (about 4 cups)  
2 cups whole or 2 percent milk

#### Directions

Prepare the following vegetables, adding them each to the same medium bowl as you complete it: Dice 1 medium yellow onion (about 1 1/2 cups). Peel and halve 2 medium carrots lengthwise, then cut crosswise into 1/2-inch pieces (about 1 cup). Cut 2 medium celery stalks crosswise into 1/4-inch pieces (about 1 cup). Finely chop 3 garlic cloves.

Season 1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs all over with 1 teaspoon of kosher salt and 1/4 teaspoon of black pepper.

Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a Dutch oven over medium heat until shimmering. Add the onion mixture, 3/4 teaspoon dried thyme, 1 bay leaf, and the remaining 1 teaspoon kosher salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is softened and translucent, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, cut 1 1/2 pounds Yukon Gold potatoes into 1-inch cubes (about 3 1/2 cups, no need to peel).

Add the potatoes to the pot and stir to combine. Sprinkle with 1/3 cup all-purpose flour and cook, stirring constantly, for 1 minute to cook the floury taste out. While stirring constantly, pour in 1 (32-ounce) box low-sodium chicken broth and 2 cups whole or 2 percent milk. Add the chicken in a single layer. Increase the heat to medium-high and bring to a lively simmer, stirring occasionally.

Reduce the heat as needed to maintain a gentle simmer. Cook, stirring and scraping the bottom of the pot occasionally, until the potatoes are tender, the chicken is cooked through, and an instant-read thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the chicken registers at least 165 degrees F, about 10 minutes for thighs or 12 to 18 minutes for breasts.

Remove the pot from the heat. Using tongs, transfer the chicken to a clean cutting board and shred into bite-size pieces.

Remove and discard the bay leaf. Return the chicken to the soup. Taste and season with more kosher salt and black pepper as needed.

Recipe note: An equal amount of store-bought precooked rotisserie chicken can be used in place of the boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs.

Kelli Foster is a senior contributing food editor for TheKitchn.com, a nationally known blog for people who love food and home cooking. Submit any comments or questions to [editorial@thekitchn.com](mailto:editorial@thekitchn.com).

Note: I made 1/2 recipe on 1/29/2023. Delicious. Used precooked chicken. Also used red potatoes, rather than Yukon Golds because I had them on hand.]

Recipe BY **KELLI FOSTER**,  
**THEKITCHN.COM** From Epoch Times  
**OCTOBER 18, 2022**



### The Final Word

*Russ Surber*

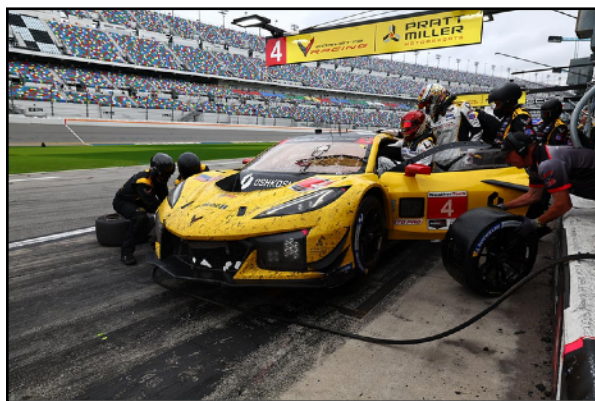


Wow! We've made it through 2023 and into a new year with a full Events Calendar assembled under the watchful eye of President Craig at this year's Annual Events Meeting. As you know, President Craig has stepped in to act as Events Chair until someone in the Club steps forward to assume that role. If that reads like a mild rebuke and a less than subtle suggestion that we need some one or two to volunteer to take on the job, you'd be right on target. With the calendar already fixed the job devolves into working with the organizers of individual events to ensure that flyers are prepared and that all of the bases that need to be covered are. It's a great job. It lets you get to know a wide variety of individual members who you work with, and fulfills an important role for the Club. While we appreciate that most of us feel we're over committed already, let me paraphrase something someone once said; "The best way to get something done is to be almost too busy to do it". Supporting the Club is more than paying dues and attending meetings and events, it's also playing an active role in the Club's organization. Uncle Sam always needs you, and so does President Craig. Call him and say you're ready to help.

Moving on, I've been engaged in a deadly battle with our sump pump for the past week and, at the moment, it's sump pump 31, home team 0. It's a float-activated pump which means that as water enters the sump a float that is part of the pump begins to rise until it switches the pump on. As the water recedes the pump turns off. I've taken the thing apart nine times, cleaned everything, check tolerances, done dry runs to make sure the float was, indeed, pushing the switch up into the on position, not to mention some very passionate prayers. Then, I'd put it in place, fill the sump with water and the durned pump just sits there, staring at me as if to say, "Ha, not as skilled

a mechanic as you thought.” Longer story short, this morning after the tenth dismantling, cleaning, checking, and dry run, it failed again and yours truly surrendered and ordered a new pump. I can’t really complain, my little pump that could until it couldn’t was manufactured in Ireland on February 7, 1990, which is to say that it passed away just days before turning 34. It was a brave little pump that pumped well and deserves better than being tossed in the trash. Denise, however, said I couldn’t bring it in to my office and make a little shrine, so off it will go to where all good pumps go. Oh, we have a sump pump because our 104 year old house has a cellar.

Corvettes made their first appearance at the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Daytona 24-Hours this year and the Oshkosh/Mobil Oil No. 3 took 5th in class after leading 118 laps of the 773 completed. Mechanical problems raised their ugly head in the last quarter of the race which put an end to Corvette hopes for a podium finish, but given the opposition, they have nothing to be ashamed of. Despite missing out on a fifth class victory for the Corvette Racing brand since 2001, the competition groups learned a considerable amount while running all four cars in the season-opening race. Throughout its history, Corvette Racing has prided itself in taking lessons away from the racetrack and making its race cars better for the next race. And, the next race for the Corvette Z06 GT3.R is the Qatar 1812 Kilometers which opens the FIA World



Endurance Championship on Saturday, March 2. TF Sport will field two of the

Corvette GT3 race cars for the full season. Corvette Racing by Pratt Miller Motorsports and AWA will compete at the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring on Saturday, March 16.

A small plug if I may for the Parkfield Café Run set for Saturday, February 24. If you haven’t called, texted, or emailed me about your plans, please do in the next week or so. The run has always been fun and the meals at the Parkfield Cafe are always delicious. It’s a lovely drive out through the hills of southern Monterey County, with a variety of choices for how to return home. We hope to see you at Mission San Miguel on the 24th.

Finally, a personal word. I have been editor of *Keepin’ Track* for four years and I’m



beginning my fifth with this issue. I have always been a champion of the idea that turnover is healthy for businesses, governments, and creative endeavors. I would like to invite one of you who think creating *Keepin’ Track* once a month (with January mercifully a dark month) might be fun and exciting to talk to me. I would be happy to work with you, show you the secrets I’ve learned over the past four years for making the deadlines you impose on yourself and your contributors, and bring to the publication a new, fresh perspective. If you have any interest at all please contact me by phone, text, or email and we can talk about the joys and sorrows of editing a newsletter. Mostly joys!

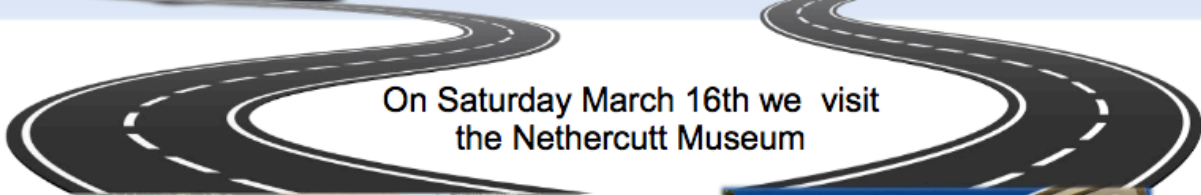
Russ Surber, Editor

# SLO Vettes

## Presidential Library & Nethercutt Museum



Friday March 15th SLO Vettes will caravan to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library



On Saturday March 16th we visit the Nethercutt Museum



### Details:

Friday March 15th: Meet at the Pismo Beach Outlets. We will depart at 8:45 AM and caravan directly to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library arriving around noon. It is suggested you bring a family radio for the drive. The address of the library is 40 Presidential Drive, Simi Valley.

There is a café at the library where we can have lunch. General admission to the library is \$25.00. Senior admission to the library is \$22.00. As a bonus a Star Wars exhibit begins this day.

SLO Vettes has rooms with complimentary breakfast buffet including made-to-order omelets on hold at the Best Western Posada Royale Hotel and Suites just a couple of miles from the library. The cost of a room with a queen is \$154.50 and the cost for a king is \$164.50. Tax and local assessment will be added. Please contact the hotel directly to reserve your room. The number is 805-584-6300. The address of the hotel is 1775 Madera Road, Simi Valley. The final cut-off date to hold this price is February 22nd. After this date, discounts may not apply.

Dinner is being arranged at a local restaurant for all attendees. More details to follow on restaurant.

**Please RSVP Doug Williamson at 805-709-8253 before Friday, March 8th if you plan to attend.**



# SLO Vettes

## Presidential Library & Nethercutt Museum

continued



**On Saturday morning, we will caravan 27 miles over to the Nethercutt Museum in Sylmar.**

**Reservation name: Don Allen; Corvettes of SLO**

**Tour Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024**

**Tour Time: 10:00am—Check-in Time: Before 9:45am**

**Number of Tickets: 22 Ticket Price \$10.00 per person**

**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- ◆ Children must be 10-years or older to attend the tour.
- ◆ Tour length is approximately 2 hours
- ◆ Tickets must be purchased at the Nethercutt Museum Counter before you check-in for your tour. We have gone "Cashless". Credit/Debit Cards only.
- ◆ Check-in for the tour will be across the street from the museum at the Nethercutt Collection.  
The doors will open 15 minutes before the start of your tour. It is important to arrive at check-in time, otherwise you will miss out on the first floor of the tour.)
- ◆ The Nethercutt Museum & Collection are both Handicapped Accessible.
- ◆ Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. The tour will walk you through 4 floors. We do have an elevator and seating throughout the tour if needed.
- ◆ Please notify us ASAP to any changes or cancellations to your Tour Reservation.
- ◆ No food or beverages—Water is OK
- ◆ No Tripods—Monopods—Selfie-Sticks
- ◆ Parking is at the Nethercutt Museum Building and is Free. The entrance is on Bradley St.
- ◆ Plan extra time before or after your tour to visit:  
**The Nethercutt Museum: Open 9:00-4:30—Admission is Free**  
**Locomotive & Rail Car: Tours will be at 12:30 & 3:45 (Open for 15-20 minutes)**

**The Nethercutt Museum & Parking Lot: 15151 Bledsoe St. Sylmar**

**The Nethercutt Collection/Tour: 15158 Bledsoe St. Sylmar**

**818-364-6464 [www.nethercuttcollection.org](http://www.nethercuttcollection.org)**

# PARKFIELD CAFÉ RUN

Saturday, February 24, 2024



SLO Vettes visits the Parkfield Café in February 2023.

The run will consist of a drive from Mission San Miguel through the green hills of southern Monterey County's Vineyard Canyon to the Parkfield Café for lunch. Order off the menu with individual checks. Please be at the Mission no later than 10:40 AM, parking on the side of the road across from the Mission. We will roll out at about 11:00. If you are coming from the South, take Exit 329A onto Mission St. If you are coming from the North, take Exit 241A and then right on Mission St. Park on the shoulder of road across from the

**Mission.**

**What:** The Parkfield Café Run

**When:** Saturday, February 24, 2023 at 10:00 AM, Depart at 10:20 AM

**Where:** Mission San Miguel, 775 Mission St., San Miguel

**What To Do:** Please tell Russ Surber at [rdsurber@charter.net](mailto:rdsurber@charter.net) or by text at 805-610-0931 whether you plan to attend or not by Sunday, February 18.

### SLO Vettes Events and Club Meeting Dates for 2024

SLO Vettes -- Events -- 2024			
Month	Date	Day of Week	Event
January	21st	Sunday	Events Planning Meeting
February	24th	Saturday	Parkfield Run - Parkfield
March	9th	Saturday	Maverick Saloon - Santa Ynez
March	15th	Friday	Ronald Reagan Presidential Library - Simi Valley
April	13th	Saturday	Vintage Cowboy - Pozo
April	27th	Saturday	Pistachio Run - New Cuyama
May	3rd & 4th	Friday/Saturday	Morro Bay Car Show - Day Cruise on Friday
May	18th	Saturday	Doug & Jackie Lyon Run - ??
June	1st	Saturday	BBQ at Tracy & Stacy Weed's Home - Atascadero
June	22nd	Saturday	Mission San Antonio - Jolon
July	4th	Thursday	BBQ at Dallons Home - Templeton
July	25th	Thursday	Solvang - PCPA
August	3rd	Saturday	BBQ at Bill & Grace Nagel's Home - Nipomo
August	16th	Friday	Hot El Camino Nights - Atascadero
September	14th	Saturday	Melodrama - Matinee - Dinner After Show - Oceano
September	27th - 29th	Friday, Saturday, Sunday	Mystery Tour - ????
October	12th	Saturday	Pioneer Day Parade - Paso Robles - Lunch After
November	2nd/9th	Saturday	Toy Drive - CHP - San Luis Obispo
November	16th	Saturday	Ragged Point Run
December	12/7/24	Saturday	Christmas Party

SLO Vettes -- Monthly Business Meetings -- 2024			
Month	Date	Day of Week/Time	Location
February	9th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
March	8th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
April	12th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
May	10th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
June	14th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
July	12th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
August	9th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
September	13th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
October	11th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
November	8th	Friday - 6:30 PM	Chevrolet Dealership - San Luis Obispo
December	--	--	No Meeting

*SLO Vettes Christmas 2023 - - Inn at Morro Bay*

