

Issue 21  
Volume 7

July  
2021



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## Event Calendar

July 17	Main Street America Car Show
July 22	Happy Hour
July 29	Mystery Run
August 3	August Monthly Meeting
August 14	San Clemente Car Show & Ruth Lunch
August 15	Winery Event
August 21	Padre Game
November 6	Vettes for Veterans Car Show

## 2021 NCV Board

<b>President:</b>	<i>Gary Pebley</i>	<b>Member Services:</b>	<i>Scott McClellan</i>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<i>Carm Finocchiaro</i>	<b>Activities:</b>	<i>Open</i>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Scott White</i>	<b>Newsletter:</b>	<i>Glenn Peterson</i>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<i>Dave Tracy</i>		

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## June Birthdays



Steve McPherson	July 3
Carm Finocchiaro	July 4
Jacque Rechterovich	July 4
Anita Fredenhall	July 12
Larry Gentile	July 24
Linda Schechner	July 24
Linda Harris	July 27



## Member News



By Scott White

It was August 2020 when Donna and I decided to buy a new C8 and sent in a \$1000 deposit to Kerbeck Chevrolet (Atlantic City) one of the top 2 Corvette dealers in the US. Unfortunately our local dealers were including a markup over MSRP or didn't have a large enough allocation. We waited a few months and in December we were notified by our salesman that it was time to finalize the order. Since our C6 and C7 were both blade silver my preference was to stay with the silver but wait....Blade Silver was being discontinued for a new color for the 2021 model year called Silver Flare. I looked at every picture I could get my hands on and everyone seemed a bit different but we decided to go with it anyway and take our chances. We ordered the 3LT, Z-51 convertible with red interior....our salesman suggested that we consider the Morello interior because it would give the car a much "richer" look so we went with his recommendation. We set it up for a "courtesy delivery" to Premier Chevrolet and they asked for another \$5k deposit to place the order.

In March we were notified that our order had been accepted by Chevrolet and then in April the order was accepted by Production. May 3rd the car was completed and shipped by truck on May 4th and arrival to Premier was on Friday afternoon May 7th. How exciting to be able to finally pick it up on Monday, May 10 after an 8.5 month wait.

What I love about the car is just about everything especially the interior!!! The convertible mechanism and appearance with the top down are great. I love the gps operated hydraulic nose lift to protect the front spoiler, performance and dual clutch transmission for the crisp shifts and even auto downshifting as you slow down. The C7 ride was better than the C6 and the C8 has taken it up another several notches....I would call it a more refined ride meaning it does everything you expect but smoother at less effort.

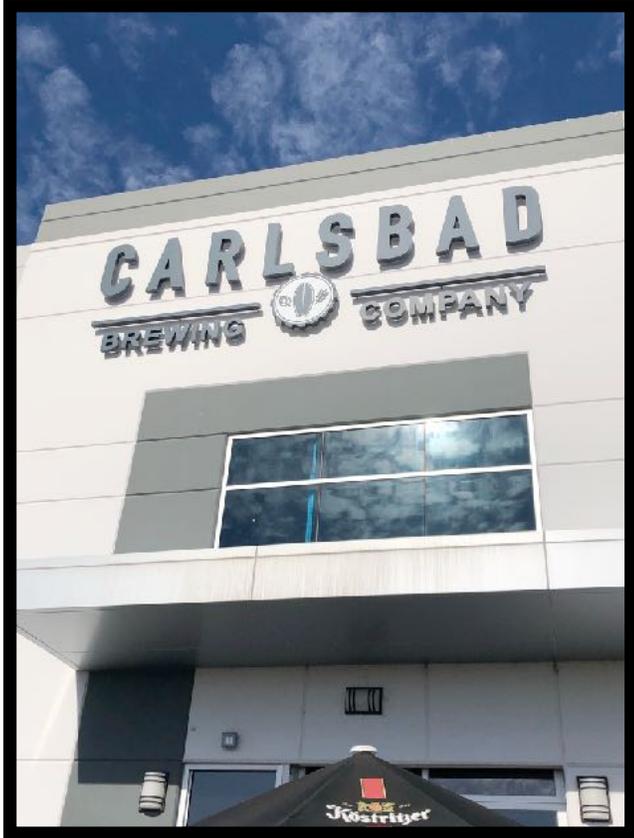
What I don't like is nothing,,,,,the climate control buttons down the center console are a unique design and really don't bother me but I expect they will do a redesign on this at some time. Also, I loved the blade silver color and the silver flare is growing on me but change is hard for all of us older folks. I have included the C7 and C8 picture together so you can see the difference between the two colors.

Bottom line is that I would do it all over again with no regrets....if you decide you would like to order out of state we can have a detailed discussion on my only issue and that was registration of the car.





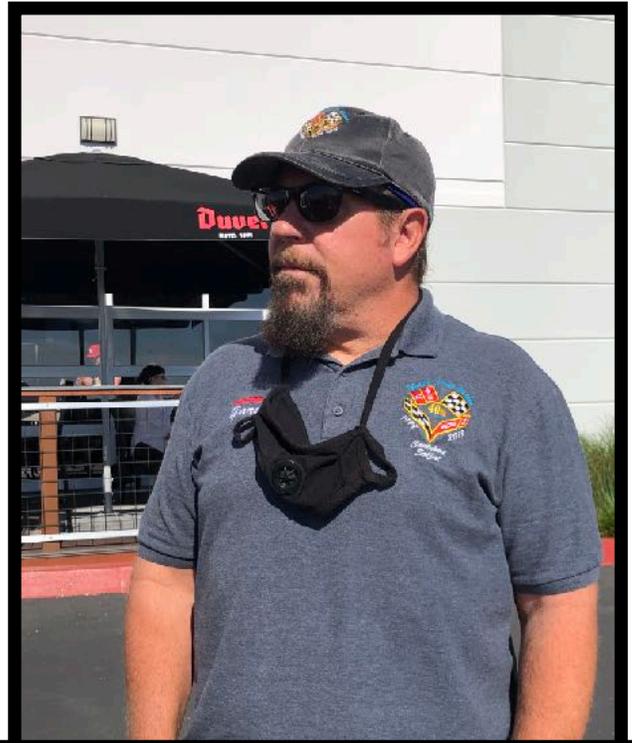
Happy Hour  
Photos by Yvonne Funicchiaro

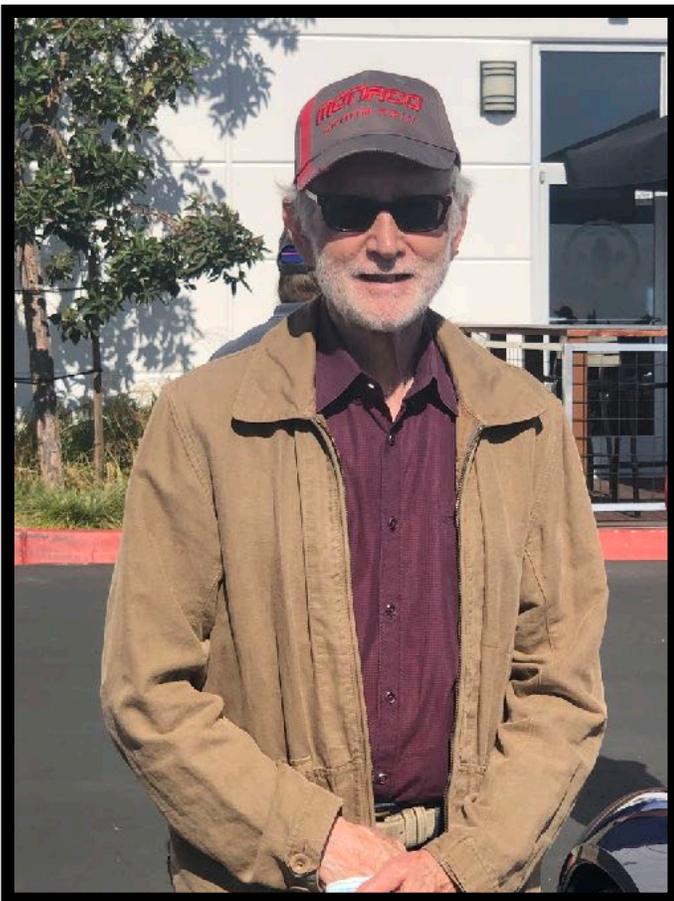




Carlsbad  
Brewing  
Company  
owner's C8









## Wednesday Wandering June 23

By Jean Perkins

Thank you Carm and Yvonne for a fun day. Yvonne, your running commentary over our CB radios about the various locations on our drive exploring old Hwy 395 heightened the experience. You brought us new information about some locations that many of us have frequented, but did not know about the interesting history and back stories. I did not know the towns of Murrieta, Wildomar and Lake Elsinore have their own old town sections with preserved quaintness similar to Old Town Temecula. The highlight of the day for me was the private tour of the Historical Society Museum Lake Elsinore. Speaking with the docent, Mary, invoked my desire to know more about the community. Afterward, navigating the winding road of the Ortega highway toward San Juan Capistrano was surely a “rubber to the road” experience.

First and foremost, I was blown away by learning that Bela Lugosi had a residence in Lake Elsinore. His film persona as Count... DRACULA was one of my childhood favorites that I still enjoy to this day. The small exhibit included pictures of him with his son, and a picture of him standing outdoors posing with a friend while clad in his bathrobe. That picture spoke volumes about why he enjoyed this small town over the glaring spotlight of Hollywood. I noticed a diagram for a park in his name and *Voila!* there was his signature on the plans. I was so impressed that I called Yvonne over to take a look. She kinda said:” uh-huh”, but I was nonetheless enthralled by it. And I did not have to go all the way to Transylvania to see it!



There were other celebrities of note such as Wyatt Earp, who frequented Lake Elsinore. It was uncanny to see how much Kurt Russell, who played Wyatt Earp in *Tombstone*, resembles him. Further research revealed that Wyatt was quite a dubious character, not exactly the boy scout who saves the day as depicted by Hollywood. The lovely exhibit of bustle dresses and button up shoes of the women of that era made evident how much smaller women were at that time. Because it was a self-guided tour, I missed the significance of many of the exhibits.

When I found the opportunity to interact with Mary, she said Hattie McDaniel, the sassy talking maid from *Gone with the Wind*, was forced to stay at a black-owned resort when she was in town as a nominee for the Academy Award. Sadly, she was unable to find suitable accommodations in the LA/Hollywood area because of her race, African American. I am familiar with some of the indignities Hattie endured, so after my conversation with Mary I looked her up to refresh my memory. Initially, it was a given that her attendance at the ceremony held at the Coconut Grove was prohibited.

However, Clark Gable, who was very fond of Hattie, asked Director David O'Selznick to intercede with the owner of The Grove to permit her attendance. Even so, she was not allowed to sit at the *Gone with the Wind* table with the other film nominees which included: O'Selznick, Clark Gable, Olivia de Havilland and Vivien Liegh. Hattie was relegated to a small table against a back wall... Such were the times in 1939. Even upon her death her wishes to be buried in a Hollywood Cemetery, noted as the final resting place of many stars - was denied.

Obviously, the museum's intent is to promote its illustrious history. There was an exhibit touting its famous dirt bike Grand Prix race that included a picture of Steve McQueen at the event. Steve McQueen was a regular participant. Later on when talking with Norm in the parking lot he said that Elsinore used to be known as a biker-gang town. Sure enough, when I looked up info about the race, I read that the popular Grand Prix was discontinued for a few years because of the bad behavior of rowdy attendees. The exhibit made no mention of that little titbit.

I came across further information about Lake Elsinore's checkered past. There was a resident serial killer between '89 and '91 who was ultimately captured and convicted of murdering 17 women (but believed to be ultimately responsible for 22 deaths). The women were mostly druggies and "ladies of the night" whereby a real estate developer at the time told *The Times* sardonically: "We have a health nut. He's just cleaning up the town a little." I doubt this callous comment was representative of the town at large. The killer's current residence is San Quentin's death row.

As Yvonne mentioned during her commentary, Lake Elsinore was the first city in the State of California to have a Black mayor. Mary walked me over to the exhibit to point out the mayor's picture and bio. It turns out that this was not a one time novel event. She pointed to a picture of their current mayor, also an African American gentleman. Near the exhibit I inquired about a picture of a synagogue mounted on the wall. Mary and another docent seemed reluctant to speak about it, but did say that it no longer exists; it had burned down due to arson and never rebuilt. What a pendulum swing of social attitudes from having a 1930s era Black resort to the burning down of a synagogue then onward to an era that encompassed two Black mayors. Thankfully, times are changing.

We now know, thanks to Carm and Yvonne, that Lake Elsinore has a rich history and is more than a fishing and water sports mecca. Mary said the sport of water skiing originated at the lake, when some boys nailed their shoes to a plywood plank and took off from the dock towed by a boat. Susan Johnson replied that her sons had similarly skied on the lake. This little town reinvented itself to

become a gem with lovely new housing developments, a revitalized old town Main Street, and a storied destination place of interest. *Who Knew?*

**Epilogue:** When I expressed my pleasure to Mary about the Lugosi exhibit, she said Bela Lugosi's son is now an affluent lawyer residing in San Marino, (an exclusive city near Pasadena with less than 14K residents. Wikipedia notes it as being the most affluent city in the entire nation).

Walter served on a jury panel in a multi-million dollar lawsuit against a thoroughbred racehorse transport company that had an unfortunate accident when the carrier overturned and prized horses had to be put down. When the jury ruled in favor of the defendants, the lawyers were so grateful they threw a lavish party at the presiding attorney's San Marino home (*an affluent lawyer residing in San Marino*). Jurors and their family members were invited. It was not a stiff formal affair but a full blown-out party where folks danced around the pool to Rock and R&B music. Might it be that I was in the home of Bela Lugosi's son? After all, San Marino IS a small community. Wishful thinking? But, just maybe... It is amazing what can come out of a Corvette run! *You never know.*

I must also note that when fact checking for this writing, I checked to see if it was true that Hattie did not live in the L.A. area at the time of the awards ceremony. It turns out her hometown was Wichita, Kansas when the movie premiered in 1938. The internet indicated that she did not own a home in L.A. until the 40's, and listed her actual address. It turns out that it was the same block where Walter and I had our first apartment in the late 60's. I learned it had been known as the Sugar Hill District when Hattie died in 1952. Who knew?

Our block was in an old stately neighborhood with large Victorian mansion-style homes in various stages of decline. The area was transitioning from those old houses to new modern-age apartment buildings. As I recall there were only approximately three or four of the old mansions left on the block. I remember feeling a sense of eerie wonder when I walked past those homes. The creepiest one was right next door to our building. It was uninhabited, shrouded in foliage and it was the only Antebellum style house reminiscent of *Gone with the Wind*. However, it turned out that one was not her house. The internet revealed that her house was actually across the street, one house down from our building. Yeah... *Who Knew?*

# NCV Wednesday Wandering – 23 June 2021

## Old California Gems: Historic US 395 and Ortega Highway Loop

Meeting Place: River Village Plaza/Daniel's Market at corner of CA-76 and South Mission Road in Bonsall.

Meeting Time: 9:30 AM—Depart 9:45 AM

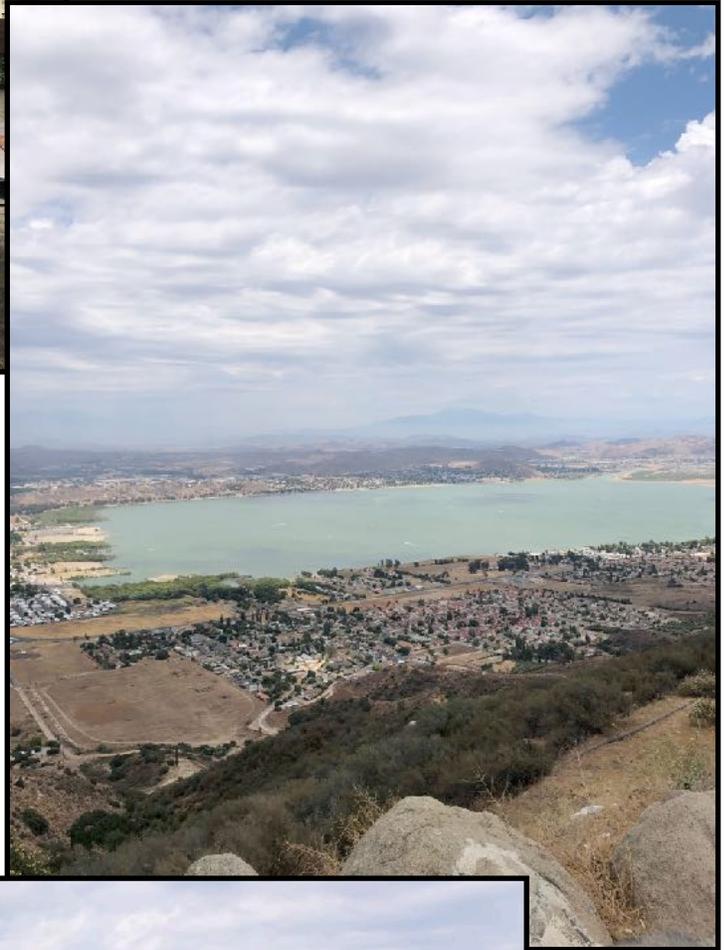
Leave parking lot and zero your trip odometer. All mileage is approximate.

- 0.0 m R onto South Mission Road (Historic US 395)
- 5.2 m Grand Tradition Way (landmark on right)
- 5.3 m R onto Main Ave—Historic US 395 (Old town Fallbrook)
- 6.2 m R onto Mission
- 11.0 m L at light over Interstate 15
- 11.3 m L onto Sterling (Historic US 395)
- 12.8 m R onto Rainbow Glen (Old Rainbow)
- 15.8 m R onto Frontage Road (Rainbow Canyon Rd)
- 18.5 m L onto Pechanga Pkwy
- 18.6 m L onto Temecula Pkwy (Stay in 2<sup>nd</sup> lane from right)
- 19.6 m R onto Old Town Front St (Old Town Temecula)
- 25.9 m L onto Ivy/Los Alamos
- 26.4 m R onto Washington St (Old Town Murrieta)
- 31.8 m Straight onto Palomar St (Old Town Wildomar)
- 33.3 m Palomar St and Wildomar Trail – **CAUTION – DIPS CROSSING WILDOMAR TRAIL—GO SLOW or SCRAPE AIR DAMS**  
Continue onto Mission Trail
- 34.9 m Straight onto Lake Elsinore (E Lakeshore Drive)
- 39.7 m Bear Right onto Main St (Old Town Lake Elsinore)









# Encinitas Cruise Night

By JD Duncan

Beautiful weather and lots of classic cars made it great to see the huge turnout of people on Thursday June 17th at the first Encinitas 3rd Thursday of the month car show.

Classics parked everywhere and people filling all the restaurants, indoors and out and just having a great time.....once again.

The Encinitas car shows will run through September.





# Escondido “Cruzin the Grand”

By JD Duncan

It took several meetings but the many involved in Escondido decided to bring back “Cruzin the Grand” on Friday nights with the opening to be held on June 18th. No Way I could miss Encinitas and the Grand even though they were back to back nights.

I got there early wondering about parking , how is this going to work with many restaurants serving outside. Well it more then worked , what a great lay out and closing the Grand to regular traffic was the key. Cars cruized safely each way all night.

Cars were parked on Grand and all side streets for blocks and blocks. Several bands plus the usual DJ with his hula hoop contest going strong.

Soooo great to see 2 towns doing there car shows in there usual CLASSIC styles and a pleasure to be able to participate.





# Corvette News



CorvetteBlogger.com

**Wed., Jun. 30** | Sixty-eight years ago today, the first Corvette rolled off a temporary assembly line in Flint, Michigan and an American Legend was born!

In the early 1950's, Harley Earl, GM's head of styling, envisioned a low-cost American sports car that could compete with Europe's Jaguar, MG, and Ferrari. Codenamed "Opel", designers shrugged off a traditional steel body in favor of using a new technology consisting of molded fiberglass for rapid prototyping and the very first example made its debut in January 1953 at the GM Motorama show at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City.

The car was a hit and Corvette production was originally slated to start in 1954 in St. Louis. However, company officials decided to fast track the Corvette into production based on the great reviews and public acclaim, and so 300 Corvettes were scheduled to be built in the second half of 1953.

The first Corvettes to come off that temporary line took several days to complete as workers bonded the various body panels together. The uniform design of the 1953 helped greatly with all cars being Polo White with the Sportsman red interior and a Black canvas top. Each new Corvette came with a 2-speed automatic transmission mounted on the floor, a Delco signal-seeking radio, a 5,000 RPM tachometer, and a counter for total engine revolutions.

The Corvette's original base price was set at \$3,498.00. However, the general public was hard-pressed to get one as most of the production was doled out to project engineers, GM executives, and other high profile customers including Hollywood movie stars like John Wayne. In fact, a dealer notice issued in July '53 from the Central Office proclaimed: "No dealer is in a position to accept firm orders for delivery of a Corvette in 1953."

Today's Corvette is completely different than the first model, yet they are connected with the same sportscar DNA that started with Harley Earl's project "Opel" and progressed with Zora's belief that the car could (and should) dominate the world. The tradition of building a world-beating yet affordable sports car continues on today through Tadge Juechter and the 8th generation Corvette, and it all started 68 years ago today.

Of Interest

Nothing this month.....

# June Meeting Minutes

By Scott White  
Secretary

## Business Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2021

1. President Gary Pebley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Ciao Restaurant in Vista.
2. Approval of Minutes for May 2021
  - a. **Doug Johnson made the motion to approve and Don Wolfe seconded....**motion passed by vote of members.
  - b. Introduction of Visitors by Scott McClellan
    - c. No visitors
  - d. Membership Report by Scott McClellan
    - e. Scott announced that there were 15 members in attendance.
    - f. Current Membership Roster has 73 members
  - g. Treasurer's Report by Dave Tracy
    - h. Not for public view
  - i. New Business Gary Pebley
    - j. 2 major car shows upcoming, first is July 4 at Bates Nut Farm and the second is in Prescott Az .. the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual All-Corvette Show on Saturday Sept 25. Gary hopes to see a group make the trip to Prescott
    - k. Congratulations to the June birthdays; Sandy Peterson, Donna White, Mark Trapolino, Lisa Lerandeau and Allert Boersma

## 50/50 Mark Trapolino wins \$13....happy birthday Mark!

- a. Vettes for Veterans Car Show Update Buddy Watson
  - b. 54 Registrations thus far which is a bit behind schedule and only 7 from our membership. Please register your car so that we have 100% participation from the club....any questions contact Buddy or John Boyd.
  - c. JD Duncan is designing the t-shirts for the car show
  - d. Royann will be sending out an email about a basket making party at her house on June 26. If you have a basket filled already get it to Royann.
- a. Club sponsored Activities
  - b. Don't forget Thursday Breakfast Club in Vista
  - c. May included happy hour at Prohibition with 14 attendees and a fun run throughout Rancho Santa Fe, La Jolla and lunch at Miguel's in Carlsbad.
  - d. June 8 will be a happy hour at Carlsbad Brewery in Bressi Ranch at 4:30 pm
  - e. June 23 will be a fun run with more info to come

f. Not discussed in the meeting but save the date for a **60's musical "Beehive"** by New Village Arts at the Flower Fields....2 pm matinee....more info to come

a. Newsletter Glenn Peterson... no report

a. Social Director Royann McClellan report by Scott McClellan

b. Prayers and well wishes for 3 of our members that are battling health issues....Sandy Peterson, Lesly Adams and Kramer Jackson....

c. Lesly has asked that we share her Caring Bridge website for those that would like to send her a message of support and keep up to date with her progress <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/leslyadams>

a. Tech Talk JD Duncan mentioned that a number of monthly car nights are back in Encinitas, Escondido and several others.

**50/50 Buddy Watson won \$13**

12. Discussion

a. Our last dinner meeting was held at Ciao on June 2 as they have asked NCV to find another location. Prohibition and El Camino Country Club were mentioned as two possibilities but Gary asked that all members help us find a new location. If you have a recommendation contact Gary

The meeting was adjourned by President Gary Pebley at 7:00 pm.

**The next Regular Business Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 6, 2021**

Respectfully submitted by Scott White, NCV Secretary