



Acadia Region Corvette Club

A Club for Corvette Enthusiasts Since 2008

President's Letter for May 2022



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ARCC Members & Friends—

Here we are into May and many of us have our cars out of winter hibernation and on the road again. Early on, it didn't look good for Carol and me—Up until the end of April, the roads in our part of Gouldsboro were still deep with salt-laden sand. But despite the rains at the end of the month, our roads were swept clean—more or less—by the 30th. We quickly realized that they were probably as good as they were going to get so we took *Sunshine*, our new-to-us 2007 Velocity Yellow convertible, out for the first time on Monday, the 2nd. (We didn't consider getting it inspected on April 13th counted as "on the road.") Our first outing together was just a short local excursion, a circumnavigation of the Schoodic Peninsula. Why so short? I remembered that the car locked me in on delivery day (dead battery) when I didn't know where the manual door release was. (Good thing the top was down so I could climb over the door.) As we started to leave on Monday's test run, we knew staying local was a wise decision when, even though I have read the manual over and over, I had to consult it yet again to figure out how to put the top down. Once on the road our first outing was, thankfully, problem-free. Then later in the week, we took a longer ride: DownEast to *Monica's Chocolates* in Lubec. It is open for the season and their supply of tempting sweets is as good as ever! We are looking forward to a great cruisin' season!

At April's Meeting

Have You Paid Your Dues? At April's meeting, Treasurer Dan Bossert commented that there are a number of people who have said they plan to rejoin for the coming year but have not yet paid their dues. Are you one of these folks? If so, we hope you will send Dan your renewal fee soon. As you all know, our fiscal year—and thus our membership year—runs from March 1st to the end of February.

Website Update. Our updated website is fully functional and, I hope, meets all your expectations. I continue to refine the site, both in layout and content, and am always seeking comments and suggestions for improving it. If you see something that doesn't seem to work as you'd like or content you think should be added, let me know.

In a Corvette every trip is an adventure!

Upcoming Activities

Photo Scavenger Hunt. Judging from the questions I've received from several club members, some folks have already started identifying and finding targets. It seems, however, that despite my best intentions, I neglected to attach the game package to a previous President's letter. So if you are interested in participating, I'm sending the game package along with this month's letter.

Corvette Autumn Planning. Bernie Woody, Sally Howard, and a too-small group of members have started the process of planning our Club's major event, the September *Corvette Autumn* car show. There's lots to be done between now and then to ensure a successful show and Bernie & Sally sure could use a few more members to help out. Both with helping to prepare for the show as well as helping out on the day of the show. Among the jobs that we need volunteers for are helping with the sign-in desk, directing parking, placing signs, and running the games. If you think you'll be participating in the show, please think about volunteering to help. Call or email me and I'll get you pointed in the right direction. ***This is your club and your show*** and we need lots more help to make it the success it's been throughout the years.

People & Places — Member Celebrations

May Birthdays

Gary Cabit
Marshall Dodge
Eric Judson

June Birthdays

Gloria Coomer Kit Dodge
John Shea Debbie Shepard
Kay Woody Diane Bossert

May Anniversaries

(none that we know)

June Anniversaries

Dan & Diane Bossert
Alan & Marty Hamblen
Ken & Pat Minier
John & Judith Somes
Bernie & Kay Woody

Corvette News

E-Ray Corvette. The original draft of this letter had a short bit about General Motors President Mark Reuss' recent announcement of the "fully-electric version of the Corvette based on the Ultium platform, which currently underpins the GMC Hummer EV." But by today (May 8th) this is such old news that I decided to swap the story out for something I found this morning: a story about the once-considered four-seat Corvette from 1962. (See the next paragraph.) But if you want to know more about the E-Ray, you can find one article at <https://carbuzz.com/news/official-the-chevrolet-corvette-will-go-electric>, and a site with a video of Reuss's announcement was <https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/companies/gm-says-it-will-produce-electric-chevrolet-corvettes/ar-AAWzoIC>.



C2 Corvette GT Concept. Back when Ford was making its Thunderbird bigger, GM considered doing the same thing. Created in 1962, the goal, apparently, was to expand functionality and sales rather than worry about aesthetic appeal. The short article commented, “When looking back at classic GM designs, including the many concept cars produced by the auto giant, we’re constantly reminded of how much better the automaker was at creating cool cars back in the day.” But then the story closed with the suggestion that one reason the concept never came to be was because it “could’ve cannibalized sales for other models, like the Camaro.” Nonetheless, GM wisdom notwithstanding, I would love to have seen one. I found the article on <https://www.motorious.com/articles/news/c2-corvette-gt-concept-2/>. (BTW, I and three classmates once drove partway across the country in a four-seater T-bird. What I remember most about that trip was that it was a very cramped ride.)



Rock ‘n Roll ‘Vette. Kiss frontman Paul Stanley owns a C8 Corvette that is, as he says, a “collector’s dream.” It isn’t just any old celebrity-owned car, though—It was the first C8 to roll off the line during the last model year. Stanley’s 2022 C8 convertible is VIN 001. The rocker is teaming up with Barrett-Jackson to sell his 2022 Stingray convertible at the auction house’s upcoming Las Vegas sale, June 30–July 2. The sale also comes with an autographed Ibanez PS120, Stanley’s signature guitar. (I found this tidbit on <https://www.yahoo.com/news/kiss-paul-stanley-snagged-first-220000661.html>, and the photo is from Barrett-Jackson.)



The Kaiser Darrin. For those of you who think that the '53 Corvette was an innovative design with its Fiberglas body, guess again. I recently ran across an article that talked about the Kaiser Darrin that, according to an article on *silodrome.com*, "is an unusual American car that is considerably less famous than it deserves to be. The Darrin was the first mass-



produced fiberglass-bodied sports car in the world, meaning of course that it was also the first composite-bodied production car. Designed completely in secret, including from Kaiser executives, it was "unveiled at the 1952 Los Angeles Motorama, two months before the first Corvette was released with its fiberglass body." Production problems prevented deliveries until into 1954 and, sadly, only 435 of the cars were ever built. The full article is a good read; find it at <https://silodrome.com/kaiser-darrin-car/>.



Corvette Cruisin'

DownEast Acadia Magazine "Foodie" Cruising—In our never-ending search of fun places to cruise, Carol came across some excellent ideas in the 2022 Visitor Guide from *DownEast Acadia* magazine (<http://discoverdowneastacadia.com/>). Its 28 pages are full of suggestions for touring our part of Maine; following are four that struck our fancy.

Maine Beer Trail. Tour and taste at eight breweries with ten locations, plus dynamite pairings of our best food and beer. bit.ly/DEBeerTrail

- Airline Brewing Company Amherst & Ellsworth
- Atlantic Brewing Company Bar Harbor
- Deep Water Brewing Co. Blue Hill
- Fogtown Brewing, Ellsworth & Bar Harbor
- Friars' Brewhouse, Bucksport
- Lubec Brewing Company, Lubec
- Horn Run Brewing Company Eastport
- Strong Brewing Co., Sedgwick

Maine Wine Trail. Hit the trail and raise a glass to savor our tastiest wines and spirits, including dozens of classic and avant-garde flavor combinations. MaineWineryGuild.com

- Bar Harbor Cellars, Bar Harbor
- Bartlett Maine Estate Winery & Spirits of Maine Distillery Gouldsboro
- Catherine Hill Winery, Cherryfield
- Shalom Organic Orchard Farm & Winery, Franklin
- Sow's Ear Winery, Brooksville

Maine Cheese Trail. Cheeses, yogurts, and other locally crafted treats that come from local farms, a handful of which are listed on the Maine Cheese Trail. bit.ly/MECheeseTrail.

- Josh Pond Farm, Whiting
- Garden Side Dairy, Jonesboro
- Seal Cove Farm, Lamoine
- Sunset Acres Farm, Brooksville
- Tide Mill Creamery, Edmunds
- Yellow Birch Farm, Deer Isle

Midcoast to DownEast Farm Market Trail. With nearly two dozen farmers' markets you can always grab the finest and freshest locally grown and made produce, bread, cheeses, and other delightful treats. bit.ly/MEFarmMarkets

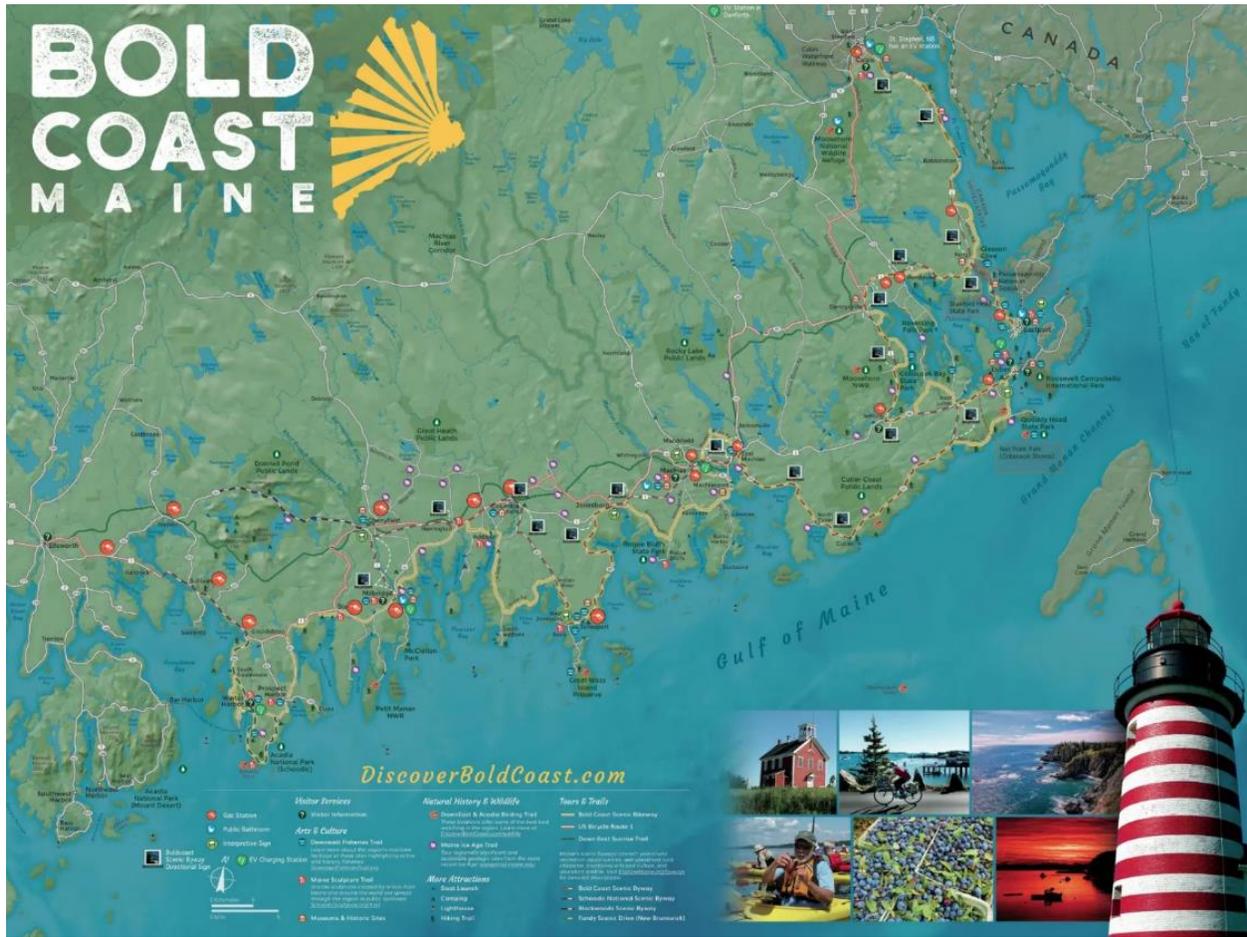
Weeknight Cruise-Ins in Maine—In addition to the ideas above, there are also many “Cruise-Ins” hosted by businesses around the state. One lengthy list of them can be found at

<https://portlandmotorclub.com/car-shows-cruises-clubs-museums/cruise-ins/>

Schoodic Sculpture Trail. Between 2007 and 2014 the Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium held five international sculpture symposia in DownEast Maine. These multi-week sessions featured sculptors from all over the globe who created amazing works of art. Today there are 34 sculptures on a “trail” that goes from Bucksport to Eastport along the coast and as far off the “direct route” between these points as Bangor, Calais, and Orono. Carol and I have a few of the maps that identify all 34 sculptures and their locations. If you'd like one and really plan to drive the trail, contact us and we can send you one. But when they run out, they are gone. The maps are no longer published.

Bold Coast Maine—If you are just looking for drives with lots of DownEast scenery, try hitting the Bold Coast scenic byway. I'd seen the signs along the highways and byways for years but never realized there was an organization behind them... until I saw their map on our Town Hall bulletin board. Their website <https://discoverboldcoast.com/> has lots of good information about things to see

and do and places to stay if you are out for more than a day. And if you are working through the scavenger hunt, you'll find some of the targets as you drive some of these roads. (The road from Cutler to Lubec is particularly fun in a 'Vette!)



Final Thoughts

Summer's on the way! Let's all take advantage of what we hope will be many great days to tour our beautiful state and share our love of Corvettes with other enthusiasts. Wave if you see us on the road. (And please stop to help if you see us on the side of the road, anxiously reading our owner's manual. 😊)

Happy Mother's Day!

Roger Dean
President, ARCC