

September 2023



Brazos River Corvette Club Newsletter

**Chevrolet Seeing Twice As Many Gen X Buyers
(41-56 year olds) Buying The C8 Corvette (pg 9)**



Brazos River Corvette Club

PO Box 2251

Granbury, TX 76048

www.brazosrivercc.com



2023 BRCC Officers

President	Becky Skaggs
Vice President	Vinceen Parks
Secretary	Tiffany Sprong
Treasurer	Theresa Halford
Cruise Coordinator	Becky Skaggs
BRCC Charity	Alan Palmer
Car Show Directors	Theresa Halford, Lead Bob Halford, Support
Charity Raffle	Bob Williams
Historian / Newsletter	Jim Hill
Member Care	Jan Walker
Merchandise	Pat Cooper
National Corvette Museum Ambassador	Bob Mischel
NCCC Governor	Robert Williams
Email Group Manager	Pat Cooper
Web Master	Sandy Varner

Membership Meetings

General membership meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month, exceptions are posted on the web site and members notified via group email.

Meetings are held at Spring Creek BBQ, Granbury TX, begin at 6:00 PM for socializing and ordering dinner, club business starts at 7:00 PM and usually over before 9:00 PM.

Happy Birthday

Arlene De Young	Sept 10
Robert Williams	Sept 10
Peggy Rogers	Sept 21
Emma Gourley	Sept 23
Carol Harris	Sept 29

Anniversaries

Bill & Peggy Rogers	Sept 19
Nin & Jan Hulett	Sept 18
Fravel & Libby McHaney	Sept 23
Gary & Kim Sheppard	Sept 24

SEPTEMBER						2023
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 <small>Labour Day</small>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



**WORDS
FROM
THE
PRESIDENT**



We are heading to fall with hopefully cooler temperatures and rain. In August, we had both a lunch cruise and a Saturday cruise.

We have a lunch cruise planned on September 12th to Oaxaca Mexican Restaurant in Weatherford that will be led by Jim and Cindy Morris. I hope those that aren't working can join.

In addition, there are some key dates to put on your calendar. More information will be shared as we get closer to these events. Let's have a great turn out at these three events.

- October 14 – BRCC Car Show on the square
This needs everyone possible to assist as this takes a team effort to make the event successful for our charity.
- October 28 – BRCC Member Picnic
Bob and Theresa Halford set this date for our potluck picnic.
- December 7 – BRCC Christmas Party
Nin has gotten us the date reserved at the Harbor Lakes Country Club.

We have received a membership application from two potential members for our September meeting. If these members are voted in, then we will reach 101 memberships for 2023. Wow, can you believe it? We will have made the 100-member goal. Regardless of how that vote goes it looks like we have a good chance of making our goal this year. A huge thanks to all of you for making this a successful club in many ways.

We have our next monthly meeting on Thursday, September 7th, at the Spring Creek BBQ restaurant on 377. The meeting starts at 7pm, however get there early for dinner and to socialize. Bring your beautiful corvettes to the meeting as we will enjoy seeing all of them and talking in the parking lot after the meeting.

All the best,

Becky Stangs





**BRCC Meeting Minutes
for August 3, 2023
7pm at Spring Creek BBQ**

Meeting called to order by President Becky Skaggs.

39 members and 6 guests were present.

Evening Prayer led by Rick Walker

Pledge of Allegiance led by Tiffany Sprong

Guest: Chief Deputy Steve Smith (Hood County Sheriff Office) shared story about Sgt. Lance McClane losing his life in the line of duty and the resulting memorial and fundraising efforts. The proceeds go to scholarships for kids who are interested in entering field of law enforcement in Hood and Hamilton counties. Currently, they are selling raff tickets for an AR15 rifle. Tickets are \$10ea or 3 for \$25 and are available at tonight's meeting.

Member update:

- Total members to date – 99

- Guests
 - Bill and Ann Mozingo; 2023 C8 Red Mist Coupe

 - David Gladney; 1968 C3 Grey Convertible

 - Robert Van Cleave; 1995 C4 LT1 Black Convertible

Minutes: Accept July 6, 2023 minutes. Tiffany took the minutes and sent via email. The minutes were posted in the August newsletter. No updates/changes submitted.

Motion – Steve Hamilton
Seconded – Cindy Morris
All in favor/None opposed



Treasurers Report: Theresa Halford

Cash balance at beginning of period: \$ 1,153.07

Income

50/50	\$ 70.00
Membership	\$175.00
<u>Car Show Entries</u>	<u>\$340.00</u>

Total \$585.00

Expenses

<u>NCCC</u>	<u>\$ 45.00</u>
Total	\$ 45.00

Cash balance at end of period: \$1,693.07

Motion to accept – WJ Gourley
 Seconded – Vinceen Parks
 All in favor/None opposed

Car show update (October 14, 2023): Theresa Halford with Bob Halford

- Envelope-stuffing event was successful. Theresa thanked those that attended.
- Confirmed trophies will be donated by I Wire Solutions (Kirt Hill, Jim and Sharon's son)
- Confirmed sound system and music be provided by Michael Alexander for fee of \$800 or Ruidoso home for week.
- Confirmed John Boyd will provide wine labels.
- Bob and Theresa will pick up wine from HEB over Labor Day since will be on sale at that time. Will ask volunteers to help relabel.
- Liability insurance has been forwarded to the city.
- A second email will be sent out third week of August.
- Jim Morris spoke about judging and the need for volunteers. Passed around sign-up sheet. He needs 24 volunteers. Will have optional practice judging event for those who want to attend on September 30th in an air-conditioned shop.
- Sandy Varner sent out an email about silent auction changes.
- Pat Cooper shared information (verbal and handout) regarding 50/50.
 - Will have multiple drawings throughout the day instead of all at the end.
 - Gave several suggestions for donations that would be ideal for the 50/50.



- Asked for volunteers.
- We also discussed shirts and possibly changing them up. Pat will send an email with options for feedback.
- Tom McElroy shared information about the live auction.
 - Auctioneer is scheduled.
 - Need bigger, better, nicer things for auction.
 - Carey Marine and others are online to help.
 - Barking Rocks Winery is putting something together.
 - Meeting with general manager at Jerry's (Jerry Durant Dealership) getting them back on board.

Committee Reports:

Member Care: Jan Walker – no cards sent.

Webmaster: Sandy Varner – no update.

Email Distribution list update: Pat Cooper – all good.

Club Merchandise: Pat Cooper

- Still have shirts from prior car shows for sale for \$10ea
- Window decals still available
- Shared new dress shirt options
- Will have badges for new members at next meeting.

National Corvette Museum: Bob Mischel – no update

NCCC: Robert Williams

- E-Ray is now allowed to participate in events. Up to Regions to decide for their events.
- C8 no longer show engine compartment in shows due to the difficulty of cleaning of compartment on convertibles.
- Governors' names and addresses on flyers will be removed.
- Only 3% of NCCC members actually participate in competitive events. 97% are just like us – fellowship and cruises.
- NCCC will not do time trials. SCCA is better equipped.

Events Coordinator: Becky Skaggs

- Completed July.
 - July 4th parade.
 - We had 10 corvettes included in our BRCC participation in the Granbury parade.



- An enjoyable parade with lots of people attending the parade as usual.
- There were 106 groups that were signed up for the parade.
- July 12, Wednesday lunch cruise to Thurber
 - Led by Bob and Susie Williams
 - Ate at Smokestack. Very good food and service was fast for a group our size.
- Planned for July and August so far:
 - August 8th - Tuesday, lunch cruise
 - Led by John Kleber and Annette Worthington
 - Drive to Stephenville with lunch at Hard 8 BBQ
 - August 16th, Saturday cruise to Mingus, Texas area
 - Led by Becky and Earl Skaggs
 - Lunch at New York Hill Restaurant. We have their room reserved for us.
 - W.K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas Museum after lunch.
- Reminder: Need other cruises (Saturday or weekday lunch) on the calendar for August on. Any volunteers for a month? Details can be worked out later.
 - September – November cruises needed

New Business

- No new business presented

50/50 Raffle – Robert Williams

Collected \$80

Winner of \$40 is WJ Gourley. WJ donated \$35 back to club.

Motion to adjourn:

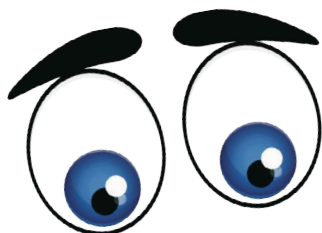
Motion – Jim Morris

Seconded – Vinceen Parks

All in favor/None opposed



BRCC 2023 Calendar



Always looking for volunteers to host a cruise. It can be a nice drive in the country then stop for lunch or a lunch with another interesting place to visit while on the way. Don't be shy, let Becky know you're interested in setting something up. She can help with suggestions.

PAST & UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 19	Mingus Lunch Cruise	DeYoungs
Feb 25	Cruise Whitney & Lunch	Skaggs
Mar 9	Lunch Horny Toad Cransfill Gap	Skaggs
Mar 25	Hico Koffee Kup & Wiseman Chocolates	C Curtis
April 8	Cruise to Gatesville & Feed Mill	Terry & Sandy Varner
May 19-20	Lonestar Corvette Car Show @ Marriott - Dallas/Fort Worth Hotel & Golf Club at Champions Circle	
May 20	Lunch Cruise to Possum Kingdom	Parks
May 26	Friday Social Assisted Living The Cove	Becky Skaggs
May 27	Field of Flags	
June 27	Cleburne Lunch Cruise	Becky Skaggs
July 4	4th of July Granbury Parade	
July 12	Thurber Lunch Cruise	Bob & Susie Williams
Aug 8	Hard 8 BBQ in Stephenville	John Kleber & Annette Worthington
Aug 26	Thurber Cruise & NY Hill Restaurant Lunch	Skaggs
Sept 12	Lunch Cruise Oaxaca Mexican Restaurant in Weatherford	Jim and Cindy Morris
Oct 14	17 TH BRCC Car Show	Halfords 432-413-3099
Oct 21	Cowtown Annual Car Show	
Oct 28	Annual BRCC Picnic	Halfords 432-413-3099
Nov 12	Veterans Parade by Visit Granbury.	
Dec 7	Christmas Party	





Chevrolet Seeing Twice As Many Gen X Buyers With The New C8 Corvette

By Mitch Talley -Feb 1, 2021



We've told you about old-timers like the Corvette enthusiast who recently celebrated his 90th birthday with the purchase of a brand new 2021 C8.

That's a heartwarming story, but the customers who are really pulling on General Motors' heartstrings – and purse strings – are members of a much younger demographic.

For years, Chevy has been lamenting the upward creep in the age of its Corvette customer base, leading some folks to worry that the legendary car might be on its last legs. We all hoped the much-improved C7 would bring younger customers into the fold, and that happened to a degree.

But despite the impressive performance of the seventh generation Stingray, the average Corvette customer's age in 2019 had still climbed to 61 years old.

Now, though, the switch to the mid-engine format with the hotter-than-a-firecracker 2020 Corvette is already paying dividends for GM and ensuring a much brighter future for America's Sports Car.

According to General Motors' Steve Hill, the number of C8 Corvettes sold to Generation X customers has doubled over the C7.

That's great news for GM since GenX customers were born between 1965 and 1980, meaning they range in age from 41 to 56.

Corvettes have always been outstanding automotive values, but now they seem to have shed their "old man" Baby Boomer image and appeal to enthusiasts of all ages, ranging from young kids to non-agenarians.

Even better news for GM is that the new C8 is luring wealthier customers into the fold, with the median annual household income of a 2020 buyer said to be \$76,000 higher than for C7 customers. That means there will likely be a strong market for higher performance (i.e., more costly and more profitable) models like the Z06, E-Ray, and Zora expected to arrive in the years ahead.

While some pessimists were predicting the demise of the Corvette with the switch to the mid-engine design, so far, it appears that General Motors has struck a gold mine with its new eighth-generation Stingray. While sadly many of their longtime customers may never live to see a ninth generation, they can at least go to their graves knowing that their favorite car is likely going to be around for quite a few more years.



FUN Facts

FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS, THE CORVETTE HAD NO TRUNK

From 1963 until 1982, -- Chevrolet Corvette had no trunk or rear hatch. The car featured a cargo area behind the seats—which was small on the convertible models—accessed from inside the vehicle only. The 1982 Corvette Collector's Edition featured a hinged glass rear window that made it easier to toss luggage into the cargo area, and this design feature remained in place for more than 15 years. In 1998, the Corvette convertible featured a separate trunk with outside access—the first trunk on a 'Vette since the 1962 models.



A SUB-3-SECOND COR- VETTE IS NOTHING NEW

Chevrolet claims the 2015 Corvette Z06 can hit 60 mph in 2.95 seconds, and the recently announced 2023 Corvette Z06 has an advertised zero-to-60-mph time of 2.6 seconds. But GM knew how to build a sub-3-second Corvette way back in 1969. That's when engineers showed off a prototype with a 7.4-liter, LT-2 V8 that was estimated to produce 625 horsepower. According to MotorTrend testing, that car cleared 60 mph in just 2.8 seconds.





Odd Cars You Don't See Everyday

1968 C3 Corvette Station Wagon

An oldie, but a goodie. This Corvette station wagon is something else. It was a short-lived phenomenon but we loved it while it lasted. An odd muscle car to say the least. This is the perfect car for anyone that has ever wanted to go camping, but didn't think they could because of having a two door muscle car.



1980 4-Door Corvette Sedan

This is not a photoshop, and it's not a fake either. This is a car that actually existed for a time in the 1980s that you or I could really purchase.

However, there were only six four-door Corvettes ever made. One of which

was a prototype and the other five were tailor-made. Each car was built by cutting two cars in half, extending the wheelbase of the vehicle by 30 inches when joined together.



1979 Corvette 4 X 4

Goodyear Wrangler tires with the massive tread, jacked up Chevy Corvette 4x4...my goodness! What it would be like inside of one of these bad boys cruising the sand dunes of the western deserts. Wow. Don't worry about speed bumps.





August 8, 2023, Stephenville Lunch Cruise

Reporter: Becky Skaggs

John Kleber and Annette Worthington led an eight-corrvette caravan to Stephenville. Interesting when we pulled up to Racetrack on 144, we had 3 red mist C8's followed by 3 white corvettes (1 is very light gray almost white), then followed by two gray corvettes. Just interesting the way our cars lined up. Of course, an extremely hot day, but hey we all have air conditioning so let's enjoy our corvettes!

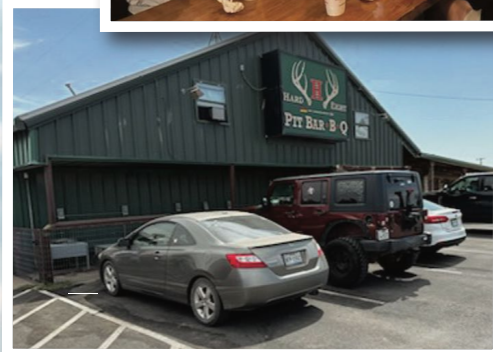
We left 144 taking a route to get to 377 and followed it until just shortly after the railroad tracks in Bluffdale where we took a left on 2481. This was a nice drive to 67 that took us right to Hard 8 BBQ for lunch.

We had a very enjoyable and leisurely lunch. As we stood in line to order our meat it was very clear to me that I wouldn't want that job as it was extremely warm out where the meat was being served. I hope they are paid more per hour. Believe it or not, if you bought a sandwich for \$10.50, then you could have a drink with refills for \$1. What a deal this is today!

A fun fact, which I didn't know maybe you don't either. The Hard 8 BBQ in Stephenville which opened in 2003 is the original Hard 8 BBQ restaurant. There are five locations family owned and operated.

When we headed home, we took 67 to Glenrose then 144 back to Granbury.

Thanks to John Kleber and Annette Worthington for leading. We appreciate the two 60th anniversary cars that took turns being the tail car.





August 26, 2023, Thurber Cruise

Reporter: Becky Skaggs

The end of summer cruise was held on August 26 which was led by Becky and Earl Skaggs. We started at the DT gas station on the corner of 567 loop and FM 51 intersection with 13 corvettes. Another hot day, but hey we can still enjoy our lovely corvettes and fellowship together.

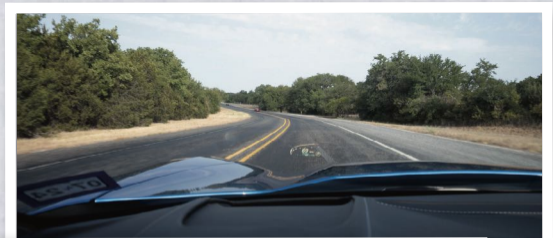
The route to the destination is one we have taken various parts of on past cruises; however, they are nice roads to drive our corvettes on. We start off following FM 4 through Lipan to Hwy 281, then left on 2201 to Santos. In Santos, we got back on FM4 and followed this road all the way to Palo Pinto. At the stop sign in town, we turned left on 180, then we took a left on 919. 919 takes us to Gordon. In Gordon, we headed west on 193 and then took 108 south in Mingus. The restaurant is just on the other side of I-20 up the hill in Thurber.

At New York Hill Restaurant, we had the reservation room for our club to enjoy lunch in. After lunch, we went next door to the W.K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas museum.

Some of the corvettes left for home as they had been to the museum. The museum provided a great history of Thurber, which at the height of the town's size was 10,000 and I heard today they have a population of 5. The area started with coal for the railroad and later in parallel made bricks. Most of the bricks were paving bricks that were used in Fort Worth, Austin, Houston, etc. You can still see them in Fort Worth on some of the Camp Bowie Blvd. This was a very company owned and controlled town with a huge union presence at one point. An oil boom occurred in Ranger, which basically shut down the coal mine and later the brick business. They basically leveled the town at one point.

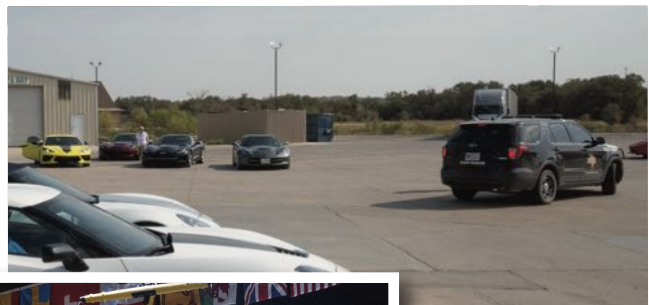
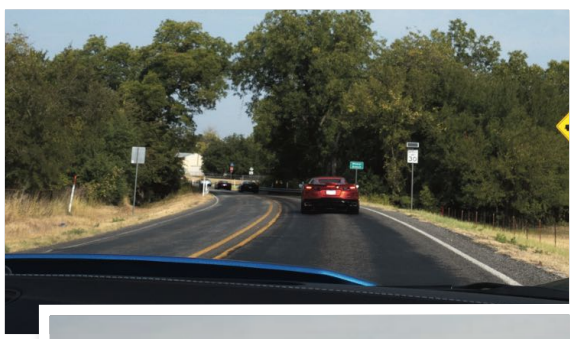
When we headed home, we took the expedient route with I-20 to FM 4 all the way to Granbury.

Earl and I were happy to lead the group today. Special thanks to Varner's for being the tail on the trip and Hokanson's for being the tail on the return trip.





More Thurber Cruise Pictures





CORVETTE PARTS & ACCESSORIES

A new section for **Members to recommend parts and accessories** they bought and installed on their corvette.



I'll start out with 3 new parts I bought, installed and used in my new to me 2015 Z51 convertible.

Active Fuel Management (AFM) is a trademarked General Motors technology that improves gas mileage by shutting down half of the cylinders under light-load conditions to reduce fuel consumption. It is also known as Displacement on Demand (DoD) or cylinder deactivation.

The common issues with 5.3L AFM engines were excessive oil consumption and AFM lifter failures. AFM lifter is an important mechanical component that should smoothly work in AFM engines. However, due to excessive oil consumption or bad oil quality, the AFM lifter experiences a lot of wear and tear to lifters and valves that in some cases caused catastrophic engine failure.

My Fix, and simple to install, is the **RANGE** Technology. Simply plug in Range into your onboard OBD-II port and it instantly begins working(<https://www.rangetechnology.com/>) Won't effect the factory warranty.



Front Rotors When applying brakes hard I got a pulsating effect that you could feel throughout the car. I thought it could be brakes, transmission or the torque tube. All things mentioned on the Corvette forum. I decided to try the brake rotors first because first of all I didn't like how they were starting to rust and discolor. After a lot of research I decided on the C7 CORVETTE DBA FRONT BRAKE ROTOR - T3 4000 from <https://www.corvettepartsandaccessories.com/> These are coated black on centers and edges. Now driven 300 miles with no recurring problem. Did the job at leisurely pace one afternoon.



Brake Pads While at it I bought new brake pads that have stated would reduce the brake dust, *on that the jury is still out*. Will let you know after more miles. I could have purchased these from Corvette Parts and Accessories but found them on Amazon about \$25 less. Simple to install on C7. Make sure you **Bed the Brakes and Rotors**.



Perform 5 moderate to aggressive stops from 40 mph down to 10 mph in rapid succession without letting the brakes cool and do not come to a complete stop. If you're forced to stop, either shift into neutral or give room in front so you can allow the vehicle to roll slightly while waiting for the light. The rotors will be very hot and holding down the brake pedal will allow the pad to create an imprint on the rotor. This is where the judder can originate from.

Then do 5 moderate stops from 35 mph to 5 mph in rapid succession without letting the brakes cool. You should expect to smell some resin as the brakes get hot.

After this is complete, drive around for as long as possible without excessively heating the brakes and without coming to a complete stop (Try for about 5 minutes at moderate speed). This is the cooling stage. It allows the heated resin in the brake pads to cool and cure.

After the brakes have cooled to standard operating temperature, you may use the brakes normally.



BRCC Logo Merchandise



Pat Cooper
 Merchandise
 817-781-1224
patcooper04@att.net

Pat Cooper has lots of great merchandise for sale with the BRCC logo on them. Here is a sampling of most of our items. We are open to additional items upon request.

All prices are subject to change.

Nike Polo Shirts 363-807\$ 60.00
 Color options subject to availability.



Sport Wick Stretch 1/2 Zip Pullover\$35.00
 Mens & Ladies styles XS-4XL
 Color options subject to availability.



Sweatshirt 1/4 Zip 9-Oz Pullover.....\$35.00
 Mens & Ladies styles XS-4XL & Tall
 Color options subject to availability.

Long Sleeve Dress Cotton/Poly S608 \$25.00
 Mens Button Down Ladies Open Collar
 Color options subject to availability.



Long Sleeve Denim Mens & Ladies\$35.00
 Mens Button Down Ladies Open Collar
 XS-6XL and Long
 Color options subject to availability.

ADD \$6.00 FOR EMBROIDERED NAMES

Name Tags\$12.95



Caps \$16.00 - \$20.00
 Color options subject to availability.





Next Club Meeting Sept 7th Spring Creek BBQ



*That's All
Folks*

