

VicVettes



2010

**Publication of the Victoria Corvette Club
January, 2010**

The Victoria Corvette Club represents Corvette owners and enthusiasts in the capital city of British Columbia. Victoria, located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, is known as the Garden City and is a major international tourist destination. We hold our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the Station House Pub, 737 Goldstream Ave. We meet at 6:00 PM for dinner, and hold our meetings after we have dined. Guests and new members are always welcome.

Our members own an interesting variety of Corvettes, and we are active year 'round with Corvette-related activities: social events, show and shine, rallies, slaloms, tours, parades and more.

We are a non-profit society, and sponsor our Club charity, the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children.

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VicVettes hopes that everyone has a Happy New Year, and a smokin' good 2010!!!

President's Message

"Happy New Year" to all!!! I'm excited about our activities we are starting to plan for the upcoming season. Keep them coming, remember it is your club. Together let's all make it a great year.

Cam



Those living at higher elevations on the Island might consider the above modification.



I can't think of a suitable caption, but it is an interesting photo.

Our Club Sponsors:

Principal Sponsor:

Jenner Chevrolet Ltd.

1730 Island Highway,

Victoria, BC

(250) 474-1211

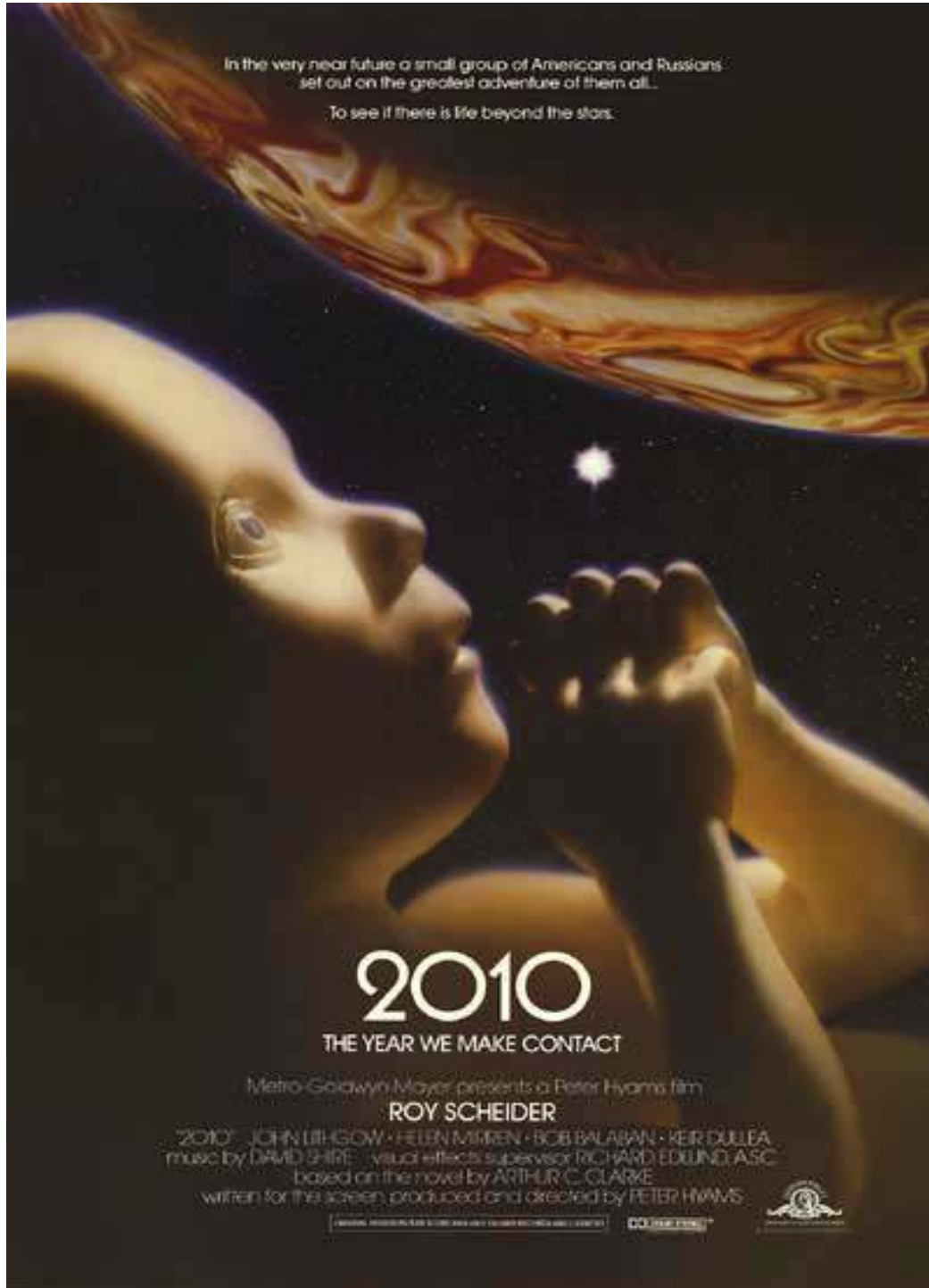
Affiliate sponsor:

Canadian Tire (Gordon Head)

3993 Cedar Hill Road

Victoria, BC

(250) 721-1125



Reely??!!!

Coming Events:

Jan 17

Club Brunch. Details to follow. Watch for an e-mail.



Here we see the Spada Codatronca. It is a creation of the Italian design house SpadaConcept and the tuning firm UK Garage. The car is based on the Corvette C6. It comes in three versions: the 512 HP TS, the 513 HP TSV, and the supercharged 700 HP TSS. The founder of SpadaConcept, Ercole Spada, was chief stylist for the Zagato design studio, and was responsible for many of the most notable designs from the 1960's, particularly some products of Ferrari, Maserati, Alfa Romeo and Aston Martin.



Front view

Big Days:

Birthdays:

Judi Davies

Jan 18

Anniversaries:

Paul Miller and Robin Duke

Jan 1

Club Notes

The club has bought the computer program necessary for our website. Wolf Schmitz announced that he has updated our "officers" list, and further updates are imminent.

The young mother whom Ruth-Anne Todoroff suggested as a suitable recipient for our Christmas hamper recently received a bursary and very graciously requested that a needier recipient be found. Ultimately a 28 year old mother and her 14 month old child were selected, and our hamper delivered to them by Cam Johnson and Cathy Garon. Cam reports that the lady was moved to tears by the gift. We have done good work! We also bought some presents for the lady originally suggested by Ruth-Anne.

Jennifer Jasechko of the Queen Alexandra Foundation was unable to attend our meeting, but Don Hamilton said she would be here in February to show us what our donation had bought.

We then moved on to our planning session. The dates for our regular fixtures were established and a number of other events suggested (see below). These include a golf tournament, a wine tour, an up-island trip perhaps to Mount Washington, a tour of the Viking Air facility at the airport and a "February Blues Beach Party."

Spring Cruise	May 16
Ted and Sharon Forbes Car Collection in Sooke	May 30
Pie Run	Jun 27
Glass on the Grass	Jul 18
Leaf Crusher Cruise	Oct 3

Two Driver Training events are planned. It is hoped to hold one at Camosun College on June 13, and a second one at Western Speedway. Actual dates will be confirmed later.



Here is a picture of part of a collection belonging to a certain Dennis Albaugh of Ankeny, Iowa. He has examples of a Chevrolet convertible from every year of manufacture from 1912 to 1975. Mr Albaugh made his money selling agricultural chemicals.

Random Pics....



Another shot of Dennis Albaugh's collection



Memo to Army: Never let a practical joker join a bomb disposal unit!

New Year's Resolutions....

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2006 | I will get my weight below 180 pounds |
| 2007 | I will follow my new diet religiously until I get below 200 pounds |
| 2008 | I will develop a realistic attitude towards my weight |
| 2009 | I will work out three days a week |
| 2010 | I will try to drive by a gym at least once a week |

More Random Pics



Rapid Transit

*

New Year's....

Some couples were celebrating New Year's Eve in the pub. As midnight approached a wife stood up and spoke:

"At the stroke of midnight I want every husband to be standing next to the one person who makes his life worth living."

The clock struck twelve, and the bartender was almost crushed to death.

A man was staggering home very late one New Year's Eve when he was stopped by a policeman.

"And where are you going at four in the morning?" asked the officer.

"To a lecture," slurred the man.

"And who gives lectures at this time of the night?"

"My wife," the man replied glumly.

I was chatting with my Member of Parliament, and I asked him about his attitude to whiskey.

"If you mean the demon drink that poisons the mind, pollutes the body, desecrates family life and inflames sinners, then I am against it. But if you mean the elixir of a New Year's toast, the shield against winter's chill, the taxable potion that puts needed funds into public coffers to comfort little crippled children, then I am for it. This is my position, and I will not compromise."

Idlings



The Roman god Janus (Gateways, doors, beginnings and endings.)

In the manner of Janus, we will look back at a few car and club items of 2009 and briefly ahead to 2010. 2009 was a much better year for the Victoria Corvette Club than it was for the automotive industry in general. Club membership increased by about a third, and club morale increased exponentially. We had a good number of interesting and enjoyable events this past year.

We took advantage of fine weather in February and enjoyed brunch and a north of the Malahat cruise. In April Dan Hall organized a trip to the shop of his friend Dennis Madsen, where we ogled a number of "Wow!" cars, and examined Dan's 1958 Corvette project. In May about 18 cars from the Rose City Corvette Club in Portland paid us a visit. We cruised up to Chemainus for Ice Cream, and enjoyed a BBQ with them in the Queen Alexandra grounds. June saw a club slalom at Camosun College, and our annual Pie Run and waist expansion session. July brought a very successful Glass on the Grass, with 61 Corvettes glittering in the summer sunshine. We had a busy autumn. In September we held our Wrap-Up BBQ at Malcolm & Lucille's in Cobble Hill, devouring good food in good company; and Rick Specht organized a very enjoyable overnighter to Mount Washington later in the month. Our Leaf Crusher Cruise in October took us up to Paul and Robin's Quamichan Inn near Duncan for lunch, followed by a drive along Shawnigan Lake on the way home. Our last big event of the year was our annual Christmas Party, which Barry organized for us at the Station House Pub. And we must not forget the meetings and brunches that we enjoyed each month.

Major "weekends" sanctioned by the Canadian Council of Corvette Clubs were put on by clubs in Vancouver, Kelowna, Edmonton, Calgary and Regina, and a number of VCC members participated in the various events offered.

In the world of competition, the works Corvette C6R moved from the GT1 category to the much more competitive GT2 class in 2009. This provided some very exciting racing, culminating in the unfortunate event at Laguna Seca. (See the November VicVettes, or You Tube.)

2009 was not exactly a banner year for the auto industry as a whole, with North American sales down about 20% from the previous year. China has recently passed the US as the world's biggest market, with 12.75 million sales in 2009, compared with 10.4 million in the US. The final figures are not yet in, but it seems that the new Volkswagen-Porsche group is now (probably temporarily) the world's largest manufacturer, Toyota is #2, GM #3, Hyundai-Kia #4 and Ford #5. Sales are generally expected to improve in 2010.

The big North American news of 2009 was the need by GM and Chrysler to seek bankruptcy protection, and the huge infusion of government money to keep them afloat. Both companies have emerged, and GM has repaid some of its government loans, though profitability is still elusive. GM's plans to dispose of some of its brands have not gone smoothly. After examining options for the sale of its European brands Opel and Vauxhall, GM announced that a controlling interest would be sold to Canadian parts maker Magna, and its Russian financial partner Sberbank. This arrangement has subsequently been cancelled, and GM will retain control and attempt to restore the brands to profitability. Swedish luxury car maker Koenigsegg has cancelled a deal to buy Saab, but Dutch company Spyker, which also makes high

performance luxury cars, has expressed interest in buying the unit. If that falls through, GM will probably simply wind up Saab. After the Penske Auto Group deal to buy Saturn also fell through, GM announced that Saturn would be terminated. GM has reached an agreement to sell its Hummer brand to China's Sichuan Tengzhong Heavy Industrial Machinery, but the deal still requires the approval of both US and Chinese regulatory agencies. This may (or may not) come in early 2010. The Pontiac division is being wound up completely this year. This just leaves GM with its core brands Chevrolet, Buick, Cadillac and GMC. If you are in the market for a new 'Vette in 2010, Chevrolet gives you the choice of a "basic" roadster or coupe, a Grand Sport, a Z06 or a 638 HP ZR1. I am sure you can find something you like!

Now to look ahead. The January meeting was our annual planning meeting, and dates were set for our core events. In addition, a number of very good ideas were floated for additional club "do's." Those members suggesting these new events will investigate them further, and hope to have established details and dates by our February meeting. With the variety of plans in the works for 2010, the Victoria Corvette Club can look forward to a fun year.

The normal series of long weekend events sanctioned by CCCC will take place. In addition, Edmonton's Northern Alberta Corvette Owners Club is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, so we can expect something special there; and a trip to the national Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Ky is being planned following the annual CCCC convention on the Labour Day weekend in Regina. South of the border events that have proved popular with our members in the past are also planned again this year in Portland, Boise, Seattle and other American cities.

Corvette racing fans can look forward to some very close racing in the GT Class. (There are no longer separate GT1 and GT2 classes.) The "rivalry" between the works Corvettes and the Flying Lizard Porsche team should prove entertaining.

As for the auto industry as a whole, 2010 promises to be better than 2009, and it will be interesting to see which companies do well, and which do not.



The 2010 ZR1

