



## *THE VETTE GAZETTE*

This month we had a great event in Gunnison Colorado thanks to Rick and Jill for the heads up on the show information and for those of you who missed the drive and all the great cars at the show, Well Dennis was kind enough to take a few minutes to gather his thoughts and share them with the club. Thank you Dennis for sharing this article!!

### **Gunnison Car Show**

Trivia question 1:

What first year of Corvette to have a "dead pedal"?

Our group met at the Wal-Mart in Pueblo West on Friday morning at 9am. The group consisted of Joe and Mary, Bill and Sally, Lucky and Jannett, Burt and Sharon, Mike and Julie, Dennis and Patty, Ryan and Ryan's parents Jay and Annie. Bob and Vicki left Pueblo at 11am and met us in Gunnison.

The sun was shining and the highway was beckoning our group to head west. Our first scheduled stop was at the Country Bounty Restaurant in Salida. We arrived 10 minutes early for our reservation, thanks to Lucky and his lead car expertise. Lunch was good and the service was also great! We saw other Corvettes and Corvette's from Canyon City who was also having lunch on their way to Gunnison.

It was a short three block drive to the Mountain Spirit Winery & Gallery for some after lunch wine tasting. Well the wine tasted so good that several bottles of wine were purchased by the group.

It was an hour and fifteen minute drive over Monarch Pass to get to Gunnison. The Corvettes hugged the twisty turns like they had Velcro on their tires. Going up the hill we passed some older cars that were overheating trying to climb the mountain. They appeared to be on their way to Gunnison. Once over the summit some of the group ended up behind a semi and had to go slow



.....39  
mph  
was  
top  
speed  
going

Trivia Question 2:

What year did Corvette didn't participate as a pace car in the Indy 500?

downhill. But everyone made it to Gunnison.

The group's hotel was located on Hwy 50 a few blocks from Main Street and a few blocks from the park where the car show would be held. At 5 pm three blocks of Main Street were closed to traffic and cars that were going to be in the car show were allowed to park in the street. Our group did not park any cars on Main Street, but we did eat and drink on Main Street at the Gunnison Brewery. The first of our group to arrive at the eatery secured a table which soon grew to multiple tables in order to accommodate the 18 of us. The registration booth for the car show was very close to the Gunnison Brewery and registration went well.



Saturday morning we lined up at the hotel and drove over to the park as a group. Things were very organized and all vehicle categories were parked in their own separate roped off area. Our group of cars parked next to each other. By the time registration closed there were 22 Corvettes parked in this area, with the SCCC having 7 of the 22. There was an art show in the park across



the street which drew many of our group for some browsing and shopping. A McDonalds was also right across the street so, coffee, breakfast, lunch, etc. was easily obtained. The sun was out and it was warm...OK, it was hot! The car show was a people's choice and ballots had to be turned in by noon. Votes could be made for up to 10 cars plus best in show. However, only one vote per classification was allowed.

There were seventeen different vehicle categories with most categories having three classes i.e. original, restored, and modified. We walked around the park admiring all of the different



vehicles. At 3pm the awards ceremony started. The Gunnison Car Club awarded the Lee

Trivia Question 3:

What was the last year for a convertible? And when was it offered again?

Iacocca award to a longtime supporter of the Gunnison Car Show. Some vehicle categories only had first place awards and some had first and second place awards depending on the number of vehicles entered. Our club did win

one award in the Corvette category. Congratulations to Dennis and Patty who took second place in the modified class.

Next up was our group dinner at Garlic Mike's. This restaurant is right on the Gunnison River and makes for a very scenic setting. Our reservation was for 5:30 and it did...as this restaurant is very popular and it became very crowded. The food was excellent as was the camaraderie. We were joined at dinner by Bob and Bev, who were celebrating their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary that day. Congratulations to Bob and Bev!! They were staying in the Pitkin area and came over to see us at the car show.

After dinner everyone was on their own until Sunday morning. The Gunnison Car Club had arranged for the cars to caravan the 28 miles up to Crested Butte for a breakfast. Eight folks from our group decided to pass on the breakfast and try their luck at fishing at various places on their



way home. Ten of us drove to Crested Butte and then had breakfast at Maxwell's. This restaurant is not normally open for breakfast but they made their restaurant available for the car show people. The cars parked on Elk Avenue and local people could take advantage of seeing lots of nice cars. After breakfast we did some wondering around town until 10:30.

We left Crested Butte and headed towards the Blue Mesa reservoir. We crossed over the dam and went to a couple of look out points where we could see the Black Canyon. This was very spectacular and scenic. With the drought going on the reservoir was very low but lots of people were still enjoying the water and fishing.

Our trip to the Gunnison Car Show was organized by Jill and Rick, and we thank them for making it happen. Unfortunately, they were not able to make the trip with us. They travel to this area frequently and know lots of the local history. We truly missed them and the guidance they would have provided to us. However, it should be noted that GPS navigation was not required on this trip and therefore.....no U-turns were made....Hurrah!!



## Corvette Racing at Road America: A Celebration of Speed

*Classic Wisconsin Circuit Is Corvette's Proving Ground and Ancestral Home*

**Road America 2011: Corvette Bridge returns ELKHART LAKE, Wis.** - The long and winding road to the American Le Mans Series championship runs through Road America, a track that is revered and respected by generations of sports car racers. The classic 4-mile circuit in the



rolling Wisconsin countryside will host the Road America Road Race Showcase, the seventh round of the 2012 ALMS on Saturday, followed by the Corvette World Tribute on Sunday.

Like the famed French circuit that is the series' namesake, Road America's soaring straights and high-speed curves are a test of both horsepower and fortitude. The track has long been a proving ground for America's iconic sports car, from the early days of solid-axle Corvettes, Sting Rays, and Grand Sports to today's advanced Corvette C6.Rs.

"Road America is a fantastic circuit, a great track for teams, drivers, and race cars," said Oliver Gavin, who shares the GT championship points lead with teammate Tommy Milner. "It's got all the ingredients to make a great race. It's the highest speed track we run on apart from Le Mans, and it's the one track where we can test for the 24-hour race."

"I like race tracks that are fast, with quick corners and a layout that has a rhythm and Road America has all of those things," said Milner, Gavin's co-driver in the No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R. "When the setup is right and the car feels comfortable, it's a very rewarding lap. With the long straightaways and heavy braking zones, you can make passes happen."



# *Corvette Center*

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