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106 NW F St. # 222, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
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Newsletter - March 2022

Next Club Social

The next club Social is on March 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at Apple Peddler Restaurant in White City. For more information, see the "Events" section (page 2) for details.

Upcoming Meetings

General Membership Meeting, Wednesday, April 6, 2022, 6:30 p.m. at the Rogue River Community Center, 132 Broadway Street, Rogue River.

Visitors are always welcome!

Why Join SOCA?

- Promote *esprit de corps* among Corvette enthusiasts.
- Create interest in the Corvette as a true dual-purpose sports car.
- Provide a means of technical information and service to members.
- Encourage dealer and manufacturer cooperation.
- Organize and promote events of a social nature and provide social gatherings for enthusiasts with common interest.
- Sponsor or participate in activities to benefit the community through recognized charities as selected by the members of the Association.

Elected Officers

President: Cathy Cardoza
Vice-President: Ron Howard
Secretary: Paul Mitchell
Treasurer: Carol Misner
Sergeant-at-Arms: Wayne Shelford
Membership: Robin Miranda
Past President (2021): Cathy Cardoza

Appointed Positions

Sunshine: Sandee Anderson
Activities: Ron Howard
Event Reminder: Dina Vierra
Internet Site: Sharon Hook-Martino, Elaine Ellis
Parade Coordinator: Kerry Razza
Natl Corvette Museum: Len Atlas
Historian: Group Effort
Photographer: Group Effort

SOCA Logo Apparel

Competitive Athletics, 105 NE 7th St., Grants Pass
(541) 479-1001

April Birthdays

Scott Bayless	Brian Farber	Rob Hill	Patty Howard
Bill Martino	Rich Moore	Julie Rogers	

April Anniversaries

Len & Marga Atlas	Joe & Mariann Chavez	James & Keri Johnson	Frank & Robin Miranda
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Remember to take photos at SOCA events, send them to Sharon Hook, and selected photos will appear here on the sovette.com website!

PHOTO GALLERY



Member Club

Southern Oregon's Corvette Club since 1974
Page 1 of 4



2022 Southern Oregon Corvette Association (SOCA) Events

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Club meeting (Wed.)	6	4	1	6	3	7	5	2	7

*All dates below are Saturdays, except as noted.
The dates shown are tentative and subject to change or cancellation.*

MARCH*

Cruise	19	Pre-Social drive, details TBD
Social	19	Apple Peddler Restaurant, 7405 Crater Lake Highway, White City, at 6:00 p.m.

APRIL

Parade	9	Pear Blossom Parade, Medford ... lunch to follow
Cruise	16	<i>Vettes for Coffee</i> , Cave Junction
Social	16	Grants Pass area

MAY

Parade	7	Magical Merlin Parade, Merlin
Cruise	14	<i>Vettes for Coffee</i> , Medford
Social	21	Medford area
Parade	28	Boatnik Parade, Grants Pass
<i>Car Show*</i>	29	The 28th Curry County Cruisers Benefit Car Show , Brookings

JUNE

Show & Shine	18	Father's Day Show & Shine, at Wildlife Images
Social	18	Grants Pass area
Parade		Gold Dust Parade?, Gold Hill

JULY

Corvette Weekend	15-17	SOCA Corvette Weekend 2022, Grants Pass
Social	16	Social will be at Corvette Weekend , Grants Pass
<i>Car Show*</i>	19-24	Back to the 50's car show, cruise and more, Grants Pass
Cruise/Parade		Eagle Point Parade? ... Rocky Point Parade?, near Klamath Falls

AUGUST

<i>Cars & Coffee @PDX*</i>	20	Portland Cars & Coffee "Corvette Theme Day," Sherwood, OR
Social	20	Medford area
Cruise/Parade		TBD

SEPTEMBER

<i>Corvettes on the Columbia*</i>		Tri-Cities, Washington, Sep. 9-10 ... www.3riverscorvetteclub.net
Social	17	Grants Pass area
Cruise/Parade		TBD

* Daylight Savings Time begins March 13 and ends November 6.

* Not a SOCA-sponsored event

For additional events, information, and links ... see the SOCA website "Events Page:" <https://www.sovette.com/events>





SOCA CRUISE – CARAVAN GUIDELINES

The Cruise Leader: (The leader of the cruise)

1. Maps out the cruise including points of interest, rest stops and eating places. If the cruise is overnight, the leader may book the overnight accommodations.
2. Reviews the itinerary at club meetings and conducts a driver meeting before departure.
3. Provides an itinerary, a map of the route and/or driving directions and a list of cruise members and their cell phone numbers and specifies the radio frequency.
4. Determines who the cruise Tail Gunner will be before departure.
5. Leads the cruise. The Cruise Leader will be the lead car in the caravan and ensures that all cars stay together during the trip.
6. Will adjust his speed according to various conditions throughout the cruise, e.g., congestion or construction, traffic lights, weather, etc. The Leader should never drag-race out of a parking lot or a traffic light leaving others behind. If the caravan is separated, the Leader should allow all cars to catch up before returning to cruising speed. The Leader may use cruise control, if equipped, to maintain a steady speed and help reduce “rubber banding”.
7. Will be patient and flexible. Not everything goes as planned so be prepared for changes.
8. Communicates and acknowledges regularly with cruise members via 2-way radio or cell phone.

The Cruise Members: (The participants of the caravan)

1. Will make sure that their car has a FULL gas tank, tires checked and ready to go.
2. Will be at the departure location and ready to go before the set departure time. This is the time the caravan is leaving the departure location – not the staging time. Please be at the departure point about 30 minutes (staging time) before the departure time for the driver’s briefing,
3. Listen carefully to the Leader’s briefing before departure. This is a review of the trip and to inform you of any changes, last minute details, etc. Please do not have side conversations when instructions are being given so that everyone can hear.
4. Follow the Cruise Leader and do not pass the lead car.
5. Drive at an appropriate speed and keep a safe distance behind the car in front of you and also keep an eye on the car(s) behind you.
6. Stay together as much as possible. At traffic lights the leading cars should move out quickly enough for the most cars to get through the traffic lights. Do not proceed if the lights are about to change to red. Stop, don’t race through them. If you are stopped at a light, contact the Leader. The Leader will take appropriate action so all cars can regroup with the caravan.
7. Do not purposely slow down and speed up (rubber banding) so you can drive faster. This is not considerate of the people behind you and increases the possibility of losing members of the cruise. This also allows outside cars to “join” the caravan.
8. Communicate with the Leader and other cruise members when needed. Such as: if you need a rest stop; if the caravan loses members; if you are stopped at a traffic light; if you need to relay another member’s message; etc. This keeps the Leader informed of the current condition of the caravan.
9. If a caravan car is having mechanical, medical or other problems, it should signal by flashing headlights and communicating the problem via radio or cell phone. If necessary, the car having trouble should pull over at a safe location. The Tail Gunner will stop to assist and inform the Leader.



10. If a cruise member has stopped for a problem (or by the police), the Leader and the rest of the caravan should exit at the next off ramp or pull over at a safe location and wait for the member to catch up, or for information about the troubled car.
11. Be patient, considerate and flexible to any changes that may be needed during the cruise. Considerable time and effort have been spent planning the cruise. Don't give the Cruise Leader a hard time. If you don't like the way it is done, please expect to be asked to plan the next cruise.

Note: If you want to break off on your own, please contact the cruise Leader and the cars around you so they are aware of your intentions and that you are leaving the caravan.

The Cruise Tail Gunner: (The Tail Gunner is probably the second most important car in the caravan after the Cruise Leader and is the last car in line.)

1. Assists the Cruise Leader to ensure that all cars stay together during the trip.
2. Communicates via radio or cell phone to keep the Leader informed of the status of the cars in the line, e.g., someone has pulled over, some cars were caught at traffic lights, all cars made it out of the parking lot and on the road.
3. Stops and assists cruise members with any difficulties that may arise.
4. Informs the Leader if it is necessary for another person to assume this role during the cruise.

Terms and Recommendations:

Radios - It is recommended everyone have a 2-way (GMRS) Radio so all drivers can communicate between cars and with the Leader. Please do not chatter unnecessarily on the radios. Cell phones are more reliable and may be used unless prohibited. Portable radios may not reach their advertised range in cars traveling in mountainous terrain or large cities. We may sometimes have to pass information up and down the line.

Communication – It is important that we communicate what is going on, especially if the caravan is separated or if a cruise member is having a problem. No one is to be left behind. The caravan can get stretched out on the road at times and it may be necessary to relay messages up & down the line.

If you need to stop while on a cruise, don't be afraid to speak up. There may be others that would like to stop as well but they are hesitant to say so.

Appropriate Speed - Drive at speeds appropriate for the road and traffic conditions. Be aware of the rubber band effect. Always be prepared to stop!

Traffic Lights - To facilitate getting a long caravan through traffic lights, it is helpful to get in 2 lanes (if possible) so twice as many cars can get through each light. After all cars are through town we can reform in a single file. We are all friends here. Please be courteous and let the other cars back in line. If we get separated by traffic lights, the lead group will pull over as soon as practical and safe and wait for the others to catch up.

“Rubber Banding” - When there are several cars in a line you end up with rubber banding, e.g., the line of cars may stretch out and contract as we go. While the Leader should try to maintain a consistent speed (usually near the legal limit on major highways), cars toward the back MAY have to drive somewhat faster from time to time to close up.

If you are hesitant to drive faster in this situation, you might want to work your way up closer to the front of the line or join the leading cars at the next stop. Communicate! Do not risk a ticket, by unnecessarily speeding to catch up.

All drivers should drive safely & be courteous to other cars. Leave a good impression of SOCA. And above all, have fun and enjoy the drive!

“Thank you” to Florin Baldrige for providing “Techin & Toolin” articles for the SOCA newsletter each month.

