



# SOUTHERN OREGON CORVETTE ASSOCIATION, LLC

Sponsored by



P.O. Box 865  
Medford, Oregon 97501

www.sovette.com

501(c) (7) Non-profit Organization  
Federal Tax I.D. #91-1819589

## Newsletter January 2016

### 2016 Directors

**President:** Ron Howard  
**Vice-President:** Tony Herrera  
**Secretary:** David Allen  
**Treasurer:** Juanita Gillaspey  
**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Patrick Smith  
**Past President (2015):** Sandee Anderson

### Appointed Positions

**Historian:** Group Effort  
**Photographer:** Jody Gerber  
**Sunshine:** Dora Surbrook  
**Activities:** Group Effort  
**Event Reminder:** Sheron Leigh  
**Membership:** Florin Baldrige  
**Webmaster:** Len Atlas  
**Parade Coordinator:** Dora Surbrook  
**NCM Ambassador:** Len Atlas  
**CORVETTE Weekend:** Ron Howard  
(Refer to Membership Roster for contact information)

### February Birthdays

Mike Duggan 2/8	Fran VanWye 2/18
Kerry Razza 2/9	Sheron Leigh 2/23
Renate Cherry 2/13	Bruce Cochran 2/23
Juanita Gillaspey 2/15	Ken Axling 2/27
Joyce Landis 2/15	Karen Calvert 2/27
Phillip Sherman 2/16	Riley Siddon 2/28
Tony Herrera 2/18	

### February Anniversaries

David & Julie Allen  
Tony & Nena Herrera



Contact Dave Wills to order **SOCA** apparel.

### Next Club Social

Tour Rogue Creamery, Winery & Chocolate Factory  
January 23, 5:00 P.M.  
311 Front St. Central Point  
Chili Feed 6:00 P.M.  
Community Center, Greenbrier Mobile Estates,  
301 Freeman Rd. Central Point.

**Please RSVP to Sheron Leigh, 541-955-9224,  
[1gypsyleigh@gmail.com](mailto:1gypsyleigh@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.**

### 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.

- SOCA Constitution -

### Upcoming Meetings

**General Membership:** Wednesday, February 3,  
7:00 PM, Rogue River Community Center.

**Visitors are always welcome!**



**Santa Sandee passing out gifts at the Christmas Party.  
Thanks for 2 years of dedicated service to SOCA !!**



## Events & Activities

**January 23** – SOCA Social, 5:00 P.M. Tour the Rogue Creamery, Lille Belle Farms Artisan Chocolates and Ledger David Winery. 311 Front St Central Point.  
6:00 P.M. Chili Feed and Fun Night. Community Center, Greenbrier Mobile Estates, 301 Freeman Rd, Central Point. Last name A-L bring Salad or Appetizer; M-Z bring Dessert.

**February 3** – SOCA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 P.M., Rogue River Community Center, Rogue River.

**February 13-14** – 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Rod & custom Show at the Jackson County Fairgrounds – Central Point  
SOCA is not participating.

**February 20** – SOCA Social. Details to be determined.

**March 2** – SOCA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 P.M., Rogue River Community Center, Rogue River

**March 19** – SOCA Social. Details to be determined.

For additional events, information and links, go to the S.O.C.A. website Events Page

<http://www.sovette.com/default.asp?pg=activities>



## Techin & Toolin

### Are All-Season Tires Created Equal? - The Tire Rack

Cold, wet, slush, snow and ice. While these are conditions northern drivers face every winter, how frequently or to what degree you encounter them can guide your tire selection.

Tire Rack recommends winter/snow tires for drivers that are typically confronted by sub-freezing temperatures, heavy and frequent snowfall, or live in more rural areas with minimal snow plowing.

On the other hand, all-season tires are the standard solution for drivers that expect to only encounter cold temperatures, light or limited snowfall, or live in municipalities that do a good job of snow plowing.

All-season tires are designed to blend dry, wet and wintertime traction, however they are not required to meet a minimum level of snow traction to earn their M+S designation. Some all-season tires incorporate the latest tread pattern and compound technologies to deliver balanced year-round traction and handling, while others focus on three-season performance (spring, summer and fall) at the expense of wintertime traction.

Tire Rack's survey results and wintertime testing have confirmed all-season tires are not all created equally when it comes to delivering snow traction. So if you're going to depend on all-season tires for wintertime traction, you'll want to pick the ones that fulfill their all-season promise.

NOTE: All tires require sufficient tread depth to provide traction in deep, powder snow. As all-season tires wear down, they will eventually be reduced to nibbling at snow rather than taking a bite out of it.

### Size Selection of Winter/Snow Tires - The Tire Rack

#### Priorities for Sizing Winter Tires Are Different

Original Equipment tire and wheel sizing has evolved over the years to where yesterday's typical 13", 14" and 15" sizes have been replaced with today's 16", 17", 18" and larger sizes. For that matter, many current cars, vans and light trucks now feature wide, low profile tires mounted on large diameter wheels as standard equipment or factory options.

Unfortunately wide, low profile tires have to "plow" a wide path through deep snow, where narrower tires have an easier time. So if you're likely to drive through deep snow this year, you'll want winter / snow tires and wheels in sizes that help put the laws of physics on your side.

#### Save Money While Enhancing Your Vehicle's Deep Snow Traction

Tire Rack's Preferred Winter Packages\* often feature alternate sizes that combine smaller diameter wheels (that fit over the vehicle's Original Equipment brakes and within its wheelwell) with narrower, higher profile tires (that have equivalent load capacities and overall diameters). This not only promotes better deep snow traction, but also results in less expensive Winter / Snow Tire & Wheel Packages. An additional advantage higher profile tire sizes offer is they feature taller sidewalls and smaller diameter wheels that more easily resist damage associated with winter road hazards and early spring potholes. [Winter tire and wheel packages](#) are available for many vehicles.

#### Winter tire sizes should be based on one of the following:

##### Your Vehicle's Original Equipment Tire and Wheel Size

While not offering a dimensional advantage, choosing winter tires and wheels in the Original Equipment size to seasonally replace the vehicle's Summer or All-Season tires will offer more traction in cold temperatures, slush, snow and ice thanks to the winter tire's tread design and compound that remains pliable in below-freezing and sub-zero temperatures.

##### The Tire and Wheel Size From Your Vehicle's Base Model

This is often an easy way to select an appropriate narrow tire for your car, van or truck. For example, a 2012 Honda Accord EX Sedan would store its original 225/50R17-sized tires in favor of the 2012 Honda Accord SE Sedan's 215/60R16-sized winter tires on 16" wheels. While only a small dimensional difference, this combination will reduce your cost while increasing your vehicle's wintertime traction.



### A Minus Size Tire and Wheel

Minus Sizing uses traditional Plus Sizing techniques in reverse. It combines taller profile tires with smaller diameter wheels. For example, the owner of a 2012 Volkswagen Jetta SEL would store the original 225/45HR17-sized tires in favor of a Minus One 205/55R16-size on 16" wheels (where the wheel diameter is 1" smaller and the tire's sidewalls are ½" taller) or Minus Two 195/65R15-size on 15" wheels (where the wheel diameter is 2" smaller and the tire's sidewalls are 1" taller).

### ***Minus Sizing Example for Winter Tires***

**O.E. Size:** 17" x 7.5" Wheel 225/45HR17

**Minus One:** 16" x 7.5" Wheel 205/55R16

**Minus Two:** 15" x 6.5" Wheel 195/65R15

When choosing base model sizing or minus sizing, not only would deep snow traction be enhanced, but the cost of a base model or minus sized Winter / Snow Tire & Wheel Package is usually lower than a package maintaining your vehicle's original size tires and wheels.

Preferred Packages available for most vehicles. Most feature minus sizing for cost-effective winter traction and the winter roads you drive on.

## **Higher Tire Pressures for Winter Driving** - The Tire Rack

Several vehicle manufacturer's owner's manuals recommend operating winter tires several psi (typically 3-5) higher than their recommended pressures for summer and all-season tires. While none of them actually provide the reason why, there are several scenarios that would support the practice.

First and foremost is that winter tires feature more aggressive tread designs, softer tread compounds and are often molded with deeper beginning tread depths than summer or all-season tires. While the combination of these design elements allows winter tires to remain more pliable in sub-freezing temperatures to provide more traction in snow and on ice, it often results in tires that have somewhat reduced responsiveness to driver input. The 3-5 psi higher recommended inflation pressures increase tire stability and help offset the reduction in responsiveness.

Additionally ambient air temperatures in winter typically range 40- to 50-degrees Fahrenheit colder than typical summer temperatures for the same location. The lower ambient temperatures allow tires to be more efficient at radiating heat and the tires will run cooler, building up less hot tire pressure. In this case, the 3-5 psi higher recommended inflation pressure increase helps offset the reduced hot tire pressures resulting from less heat buildup.

And finally, all tire pressures are intended to be measured cold, which means when the tires are at the same temperature as the air outside. Unfortunately, unless you park your vehicle outside or in an unheated, detached garage, and measure its tire pressures first thing on dark, cold mornings, the influence of attached garages or higher ambient air temperatures later in the day often means that drivers are actually measuring tires that are not completely cold. In this case the 3-5 psi higher recommended inflation pressure increase helps offset the reduced tire pressures associated with the conditions in which the tire pressures are typically measured.



**Disclaimer** - Discretion is advised. The preceding information may not apply to specific vehicles or all circumstances. Always refer to the manufacturer's specifications, service manuals, technical data and product information.

