

# THE Corvette Waves

PACIFIC COAST CORVETTES NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025 EDITION



**Scholarship  
News** See page 6



## Backyard Mechanic

See page 8

Remember to check the PCC Calendar for future events.



# THE Corvette Waves

## 2024 PCC OFFICERS

**President:** Charles J. Walsh [chasjwalsh@aol.com](mailto:chasjwalsh@aol.com)

**Vice President:** Bernie DeMarkey [bjdemarkey@gmail.com](mailto:bjdemarkey@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Neil Morrison [neil.morrison@cox.net](mailto:neil.morrison@cox.net)

**Secretary:** Stephanie DeMarkey [sjunkin23@gmail.com](mailto:sjunkin23@gmail.com)

**Sgt-at-Arms:** Scott Sturdivant [scottmsturdivant@gmail.com](mailto:scottmsturdivant@gmail.com)

**Historian:** Donna Friess [donnalewisfriess@gmail.com](mailto:donnalewisfriess@gmail.com)

**Hospitality:** Rick Vente [ventebarbara74@gmail.com](mailto:ventebarbara74@gmail.com)

**Editor:** Dan Miller [millerdanadv@gmail.com](mailto:millerdanadv@gmail.com)

## PCC GOVERNOR

Mike Corlett [laxops28@aol.com](mailto:laxops28@aol.com)

## MEETINGS

Pacific Coast Corvettes meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Campus JAX, 3950 Campus Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660. (949) 261-6270. **Meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Come early (around 5 pm) to eat and socialize.**

## BUSINESS LOCATION

Pacific Coast Corvettes  
P.O. Box 644  
Lake Forest, CA 92609  
(949) 334-7384

## CLUB STORE

Stephanie DeMarkey [sjunkin23@gmail.com](mailto:sjunkin23@gmail.com)  
Kathy Zechmeister [ptcruiser85@gmail.com](mailto:ptcruiser85@gmail.com)

## Corvette Waves

Corvette Waves is published on the 15th of each month. Contributions should be emailed no later than the 10th of the month to Dan Miller (email address...[millerdanadv@gmail.com](mailto:millerdanadv@gmail.com)). Most formats will work jpeg, pdf, doc or docx.

Sponsorship programs are available which include promotional ad space in the monthly newsletter and on the PCC website. These programs start at just \$250 per year helping PCC to help others.

Articles presented in Corvette Waves reflect the opinion of the authors, not necessarily the views of the editor or Pacific Coast Corvettes. Pacific Coast Corvettes and its editor seek to publish accurate information but do not assume any liability or responsibility in the event of a claim of loss or damages resulting from publication.



## CONTENTS

President's Corner.....	3
Vice President's Message.....	5
Scholarship News.....	6
An ad from the past.....	7
Backyard Mechanic.....	8
Latest Corvette Information.....	10
Ray Buys a New Car.....	11
MarketPlace.....	17
Best Part.....	18
Sponsors.....	23
Editor's Note.....	26



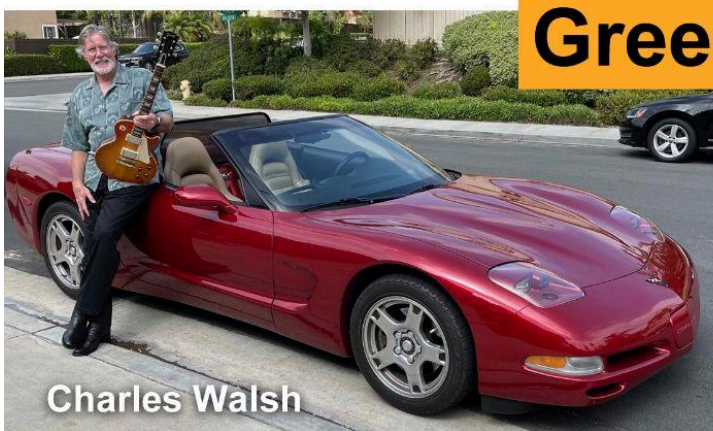
Stay Informed  
Remember to visit the  
PCC website at

[pccvettes.org](http://pccvettes.org)





## Greetings PCC'ers



Charles Walsh

As Spring slowly heads towards Summer, our Club is starting to **Ramp up activities and fun!**

Again, thanks to Scott Sturdivant, we had a wonderful Surf to Springs run to Palm Springs 05 April to join the Palm Springs Corvette Club for lunch. Twenty six 'Vettes with forty eight PCC'ers then merged with what seemed like hundreds(!) of the Palm Springs Club for a perfect lunch and socializing. Scott's organizing skills were very evident and much appreciated. Everyone had a fabulous time!



*Continued on page 4*

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

---

Our Club Scholarship program is finalizing the best high school candidate from 55 very competent applications thanks to Dave Atkinson and his team. This is not an easy task as all of the applicants are very deserving and choosing one from this august group is not an enviable task. Thanks to Dave's efforts, several of our advertisers have agreed to increase their annual contributions to further enhance our Club's efforts. This is the most valuable aspect of our Club - and the one I am most proud of being a part of - helping to further the dreams and aspirations of our local youth. Thank you to our Scholarship Committee!

As always, I encourage each of you to participate in as many of the myriad activities we have on our Club's Calendar. And even more importantly, if there is an event that you'd like to see added to our Calendar, don't hesitate to suggest it and we will help you to organize it and make it happen. Be part of the ten percent of our Club that makes a difference

***Well, the Red Rocket is calling my name...  
Stay Safe and Stay Fast!***

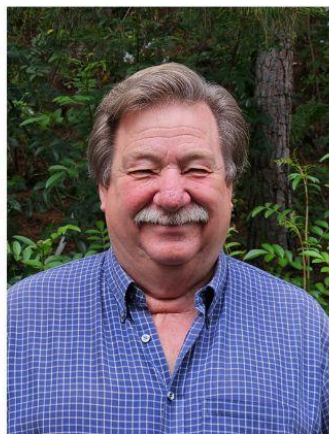
**Saving the Wave for 35 Years!**

**Charles**





## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Bernie DeMarkey**

Things are going along way too easy! I know now it will all fall apart soon. The Palm Spring Joint Club Brunch was a great success, I hope someone will do a quick write up for the newsletter and the website.

Our Scholarship committee has been burning the midnight oil going through a whole bunch of applicants and Rumor has they selected a winner. I am not going to spill the beans so if you are really curious come to the May meeting and meet the winner and their Family. I want to thank all the members of the Committee for all the hard work you have put in.

### **Upcoming events:**

**May 3rd** The USS Midway in San Diego, Mike Corlett will be our guide to see this marvelous Aircraft Carrier. He has suggested that you buy you tickets in advance, instead at the Midway it will speed up getting on Board

**May 7th** PCC Club Meeting, Scholarship Award.

**May 9th-11th** The Weather tech ISMA Races at Laguna Seca Raceway,

**June 10th-12th** Paso Robles Fun Run. For Details check the Calendar on the website.

**June 29th** National Corvette Day at the Marconi, Save the date Details to follow

There are still a whole lot of possible events that we just need someone to host. I know you can do it and we will help you host an event. Take a leap of Faith and just say YES!

On a real happy note I spoke with Barb Vente, Rick is Doing GREAT!! He went to Cars and Coffee on Saturday, April 12th and had a Great Time. Rick is up to have visitors just call before you come down. BTW ladies, Barb is up for having lunch with a few of you so call her up and have lunch together.

See you soon  
Bernie.



# PCC Scholarship News

From the Desk of David Atkinson

**The PCC Scholarship Committee has chosen a student** with outstanding ambitions, abilities and experience in the automotive field for the 2025 awardee of the \$3000 Scholarship. It will be awarded at the May 7th PCC meeting. Sam's parents along with our scholarship sponsors will be attending the May 7th meeting.

Samuel Poppen will graduate from San Juan Hills High School this June and continue his education this fall at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He will major in mechanical engineering with a focus on high-performance vehicles. Sam hopes to create vehicles like the Corvette, honoring its iconic legacy while integrating groundbreaking concepts in design and performance. He plans to ultimately pursue a PhD in automotive engineering to conduct research that will drive the future of the industry. Sam has worked as a design assistant at Ciro Design Racing, has designed C-3 corvette racing parts using advanced CAD software, prototyped an Ariel Atom front wing kit with dual-element aluminum, plus researched single-element carbon fiber wing systems.

He had a leadership role in FIRST ROBOTICS, a nationally ranked program, representing CUSD as well as Lead STEM Ambassador for the school district. He and his team won many competitions. Sam has been active in the community in various ways, earning the rank of Eagle Scout and as an Youth Ambassador for the Alzheimer's Association. He created Project Care For the Givers which provides care packages to the caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's.

Personally, Sam is committed to live his life with intention and purpose, to give back to his community and create something meaningful. Sam will undoubtedly become an icon in the field of automotive advancements and we are so proud to award him our Scholarship and help him make his dreams come true.





An ad from the past.



## CORVETTE IS A VERY \_\_\_\_\_ CAR.

Lord knows we tried. We tried and we tried, but just couldn't agree on one word that would do justice to this one-of-a-kind car.

We tried exciting, special, honored, dramatic, legendary and inspired. Also coveted, remarkable, low, lean, tough, quick, handsome and revered.

All true, but some-

how inadequate. After all, we're talking about an automobile that's been inspiring dreams and quickening pulses like no other American car since 1953, when Corvette first came out.

Corvette has always been a \_\_\_\_\_ car. And this year we've managed to make it even more so

with the addition of the Chevrolet Efficiency System which is designed to help improve Corvette's engine performance and lower its cost of operation, all at the same time.

Specific benefits include an extension of recommended service intervals, simplified tune-ups, and quicker starts

on cold or wet mornings.

For the 8th time in 12 years, the readers of *Car and Driver* magazine have voted Corvette "Best All-Around Car."

Visit a Vette, at your Chevrolet dealer's.

And if you happen to think of a worthy word, be sure to let us know.

Maybe we'll use it in our next ad.







# BACKYARD MECHANIC

By Charles Walsh

## Issue 8

Greetings PCC'ers! In this episode, I'll talk to you about an unfortunate event that The Red Rocket and I suffered on our way home from the Surf to Springs Run 05Apr. While driving in heavy traffic in Riverside, I was struck in the left rear quarter panel by a hit-and-run driver. Thankfully, neither my passenger nor I were injured and the air bags did not deploy.

I signaled that I was pulling over to the curb as required by California Motor Vehicle law and as soon as I was stopped, the other driver sped away. My passenger was able to snap a photograph of the errant vehicle license plate as it sped away. Bummer. So while I awaited the arrival of CHP, I took stock of the damage.

It was far less than I had expected: I fully anticipated major damage due to the force of the impact and was pleasantly surprised at how little there was. So other than a severely bruised ego, this is fixable.

The point of impact was the left rear wheel. There is a significant scrape along one edge of the rim and the tire shows evidence of the impact as the tire dressing at that location is gone. I intend to have the drivetrain inspected as the impact clearly was focused on the rear wheel.



*Continued on page 9*





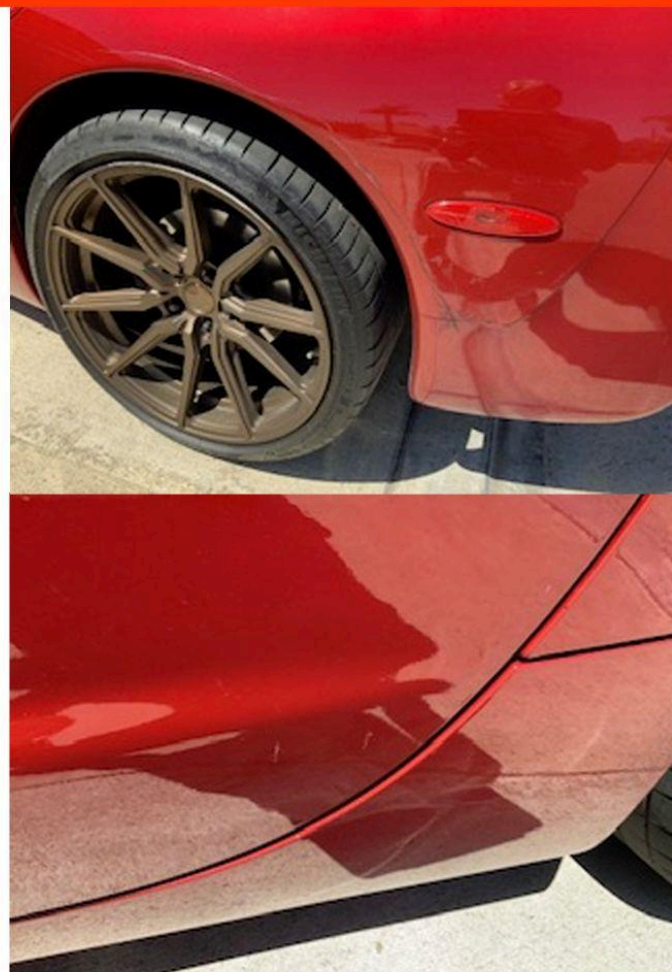
# BACKYARD MECHANIC

By Charles Walsh

There are a series of scrapes and rubs that run from the left rear all the way to the lower middle of my driver's door.

I've taken my 'Vette to two reputable body shops and will also consider a third to do the repairs. I intend to offer you updates as the repairs progress in future editions of The Backyard Mechanic.

This most certainly is not a fun moment for me but the point of me sharing this event with you is to stress the importance of keeping your 'Vette well maintained and serviced at all times. Insure that your legal documents: registration, license, insurance, etc. are updated and aboard.



Never try to follow a hit-and-run driver regardless of your emotional state at that moment. In today's rough world, you never know what the other driver intends or is capable of. Don't risk injury or worse trying to prove the correctness of your actions.

So in closing, The Red Rocket will get a much needed face-lift and I have once again learned that cars - no matter how special they are to us - are just things. We are not defined by what we own - we are defined by what we do.

'Till next time: Stay Safe and Stay Fast!

Charles



# LATEST CORVETTE INFORMATION FROM GENERAL MOTORS

## **Just announced at the Corvette Museum.**

GM will build the new 1953T Corvette. Since Kindig Design has had unbelievable success with their Retro Version of the Original 1953 Corvette, General Motors realizes there is a desire from our Corvette Owning Family to own something special. So we contacted the folks who brought you the C5, C6 and C7, to have them develop the Retro 1953 T Corvette. Yes, the original design teams.

The details are still a little sketchy but here is what we know. It will be a limited production unit built in Bowling Green but not in the Corvette Plant (it may be built In St. Louis). Supposedly, from 5 feet away, you cannot tell the difference from the Original Polo White Version. The interior will have all the modern features of the C9 and More!! The Suspension and Brake system come from the C8 ZO6. The real exciting feature is the Power Plant and Transmission. For years General Motors has been working a better Turbine design. This secret project was only known to a few folks at GM. Today they have perfected it. All the problems Chrysler had, have been worked out with the help of AI. Although the Horsepower Ratings are being kept secret, it is expected that this will be the fastest Corvette ever built. This special Corvette will not be available from your local Chevrolet dealer.

A Special Website has  
been set up to order  
one starting April 1, 2025  
[www.generelmotors.com/53TCorvette](http://www.generelmotors.com/53TCorvette).



# Ray Buys a New Car

By Ray Marshall

Being a member of a Corvette club for the last **20 years** I have tried to keep up with the new trends in the field. I got my first Corvette as a commuter car. I have always liked sports cars. My first one was an Austin Healy 100-6, an orange piece of crap but really cool. After Nancy and I got married we bought a '72 Datsun 240Z. This was a great car. Three years later with a mortgage and a new kid it was time to get out of a car with two seats and a monthly payment. Fast forward 25 years and after moving across the country, it was time for a new commuting car. I was heading toward an SS Camaro. I did some research and found out that Corvettes had become good commuting cars. As I was thinking about it I realized that **what I really wanted was a Corvette**. I couldn't afford a new Corvette and considering how I was going to use it .....a used one seemed to be the right choice. All this considered and the timing of my son moving out of the house it was time to start looking for a Corvette. There were a couple of restrictions, it had to be a six speed and Nancy said it couldn't be red or black. A few weeks later I found a car. It was a '95 competition yellow coupe with about 40k miles on it. It had about 140k miles when I sold it (as did the '03Z).

I have had several Corvettes over the years. The '95, a 2003Z, a '08Z, a '18Z, and all yellow. In the middle there was a '06 Monterey Red Coupe, Nancy's car. The first new Corvette we

*Continued on page 12*



# Ray Buys a New Car

There were no yellow Corvettes.

bought was the '18z, we took museum delivery of a great car (**took it 193 mph at the Mojave airport**). All of the cars, except for Nancy's, spent significant time on the high speed road course at Willow Springs.

When the C8 Corvette came around it was time for me to keep up with the new models. It would be nice to get a new one, but having two perfectly good Corvettes made it somewhat impractical. The new yellow was quite bright. It was about the same color as my 240Z. There were not many yellows built. As the availability of cars started to expand during 2024 I found out something pretty interesting, there were very few yellows available. The dealership where I bought my '18, MacMulkin in New Hampshire, lists all the cars they have available. In later 2024 they listed over 350 cars immediately available. There were no yellow Corvettes. There is also a website, [SOCALChevy.com](http://SOCALChevy.com) that lists cars in the local area. No yellows there.

Around the beginning of December Nancy said "if you want one you can buy one. I took a deep breath and the next day I looked again. It was amazing; there were 14 yellow Corvettes available in Southern California. I started going through them to see what they were. I did not want a convertible, a Z06, or one that was heavily optioned. The car must also have the

*Continued on page 13*



# Ray Buys a New Car

The best fit was  
Harbor Chevrolet  
in Long Beach...



front lift suspension and the Z51 package. **That got the number down to 3.**

The best fit was at Harbor Chevrolet in Long Beach, reasonable price and just a few options. They had a chat line on the website I asked if the car was still available, and they asked my name. I gave them my name and asked again if the car was still available. They asked for my phone number, I gave them that and asked again if the car was still available. At that point the chat stopped. I don't know whose side it broke down on but I still did not know if the car was available.

I started looking deeper into the other cars that were advertised. After a while I decided "screw it, I'm going to Long Beach." The dealership was near where I used to work so I figured that the trip would not be a complete waste, I could see what the old place looked like. I got in my '08Z and drove to Long Beach. After about an hour drive I arrived at the dealership. I was immediately approached and greeted by a herd of salesmen. One stepped up and asked me if there was anything they could show me. I said they would show me the bathroom and the Stingray. He pointed down the hall to the bathroom and away I went. When I got back the man was with another man, Kind of young. He said Daniel would show me the car. Daniel

*Continued on page 14*



# Ray Buys a New Car

He showed me the sticker and said that there was also a dealer markup of \$5,000 on it.



Daniel led me to the car which was outside on the other side of the show room. As we walked I asked if the car was available and he said yes. Check the first box. He showed me the car and talked for a while and I mentioned that I was the president of a Corvette club and he said "you probably know more about this car than me." We talked some more and I asked the big question, how much. He showed me the sticker and said that there was also a dealer markup of \$5,000 on it. **I said I wasn't paying that** and he said "I'll go talk to the boss. "He came back and said OK. Check another box. I had the car I wanted at the price I was willing to pay. His next question was "how can we get you to drive it away?" I said I had no money on me and I had to sell my other car. He said, "What do you want for it?" I said \$30k which I figured was fair for a 16 year old car with 80k miles. He asked me for the keys and went to get the boss and they went to look at the car. He came back and said OK. Check another box. We talked a bit more and I told him I still had no money on me and I didn't have the title for the car on me. I then had to wait. I had a very nice seat next to a 2025 yellow Z06, I had to control myself. He said that that was not a problem and we proceed to fill out a mountain

*Continued on page 15*



# Ray Buys a New Car

Daniel said that he would follow me home to get Nancy's signatures.



of paper. When it came to ownership I said that I wanted both my name and Nancy's on the title and they said whoops because she was not there to sign the paperwork. A little more discussion and Daniel said that he would follow me home to get Nancy's signatures.

OK, it looked like I was going home with a new car. I called Nancy and had her dig out the title for the '08Z which she was able to do right away. They prepped the new car and drove it around by my old car. I transferred all the crap from my old car to my new car. My golf clubs fit in the back just fine. I packed all my other crap into the car and I was ready to go. Now the learning started. It was dark and foggy. I had to find the lights (they were automatic), the defroster, the windshield wipers, seat adjustment, and mirror adjustment. I did not bother with the radio. I was off, in my new car, heading down the 405 trying to work around the blind spots. I made it home in one piece. **Daniel showed up about 15 minutes later with the paper work.** Nancy signed, we traded papers and I wrote him a check that was worth the paper it was written on and he was off. I then

*Continued on page 16*

# Ray Buys a New Car

After they made me park by the dumpsters at Carl's we drove down to San Clemente....



then had to put the new car into the garage, not a big problem, but I did notice that you sit far up to the front of the car. When I parked it and got out I noticed that back of the car was still outside of the garage. Had to adjust myself and pull the car in further.

I have driven the car for a month and got past the 500 mile break in period. I got the car on Thursday night, the first time I got to see the car in the daylight was on Saturday at Cars and Coffee. After they made me park by the dumpsters at Carl's we drove down to San Clemente and parked with its new brothers and sisters.

Life was a bit hectic getting ready for the awards banquet so the car did not go far. After the banquet the car and I got to bond a bit and about 2 weeks later I was off to the emergency room for a three week stay while they did a triple bypass on me. After the bypass they told me it would be 8 weeks until I could drive. I am now five weeks into the eight weeks and hoping the car will start when I get the chance to drive it again.

**Overall the car buying experience at Harbor Chevy was very good. I highly recommend them.**



# MarketPlace

All **MarketPlace** ads need to be submitted between the 1st and the 10th day of the month to appear in that months issue. All ads will appear in **MarketPlace** for 3 months and can be republished by notifying the editor. Simply contact the newsletter editor if an ad needs to be removed prior to the 3 month period. Contact the editor by email at [millerdanadv@gmail.com](mailto:millerdanadv@gmail.com) for placing an ad, removing an ad or extending an ad. All text and photos need to be supplied by the member placing the ad.

## For Sale



Original 1999 C5 Wheels

17" Fronts/18" Rears

Used, but in good condition - No Cracks.

Will need new Tire Pressure Monitoring (TPMS) System components.

I'll even bring them to you!!!

Contact Charles Walsh (949) 521-3083 [chasjwalsh@aol.com](mailto:chasjwalsh@aol.com)

**FREE to a  
Good Home!!**

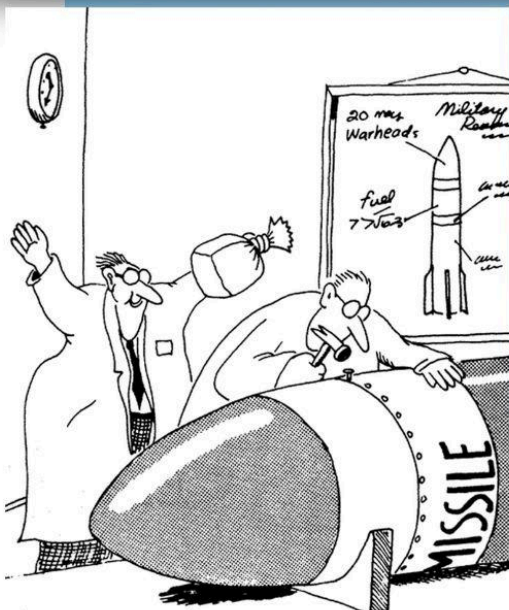
# The Best Part

L A U G H S   A N D   G I G G L E S

## Vet Bill. Oil on canvas.



Operator: 911...what's your emergency?  
Man: A guy just got hit by a car...I need an ambulance.  
Operator: What's your location?  
Man: I'm on Eucalyptus Street.  
Operator: Can you spell that for me?  
Man: long awkward pause.....  
Operator: Sir? Sir? Are you there?  
Man: I'm dragging him over to Pine Street.



My Mom did not raise a dummy...  
and if she did it was my brother.

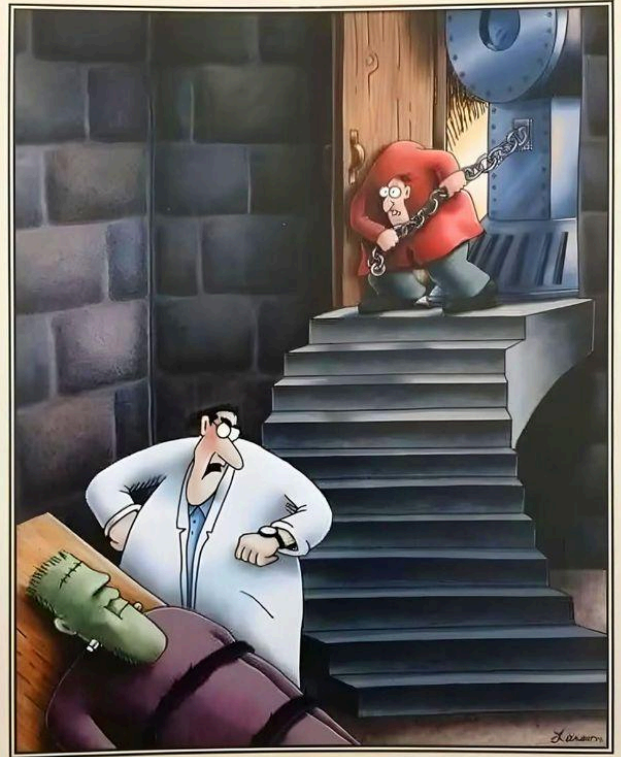


# The Best Part

LAUGHS AND GIGGLES



*People that are late are often times happier than those who have to wait for them.*



**Curses! ... How long does it take Igor to go out and bring back a simple little brain, anyway?**



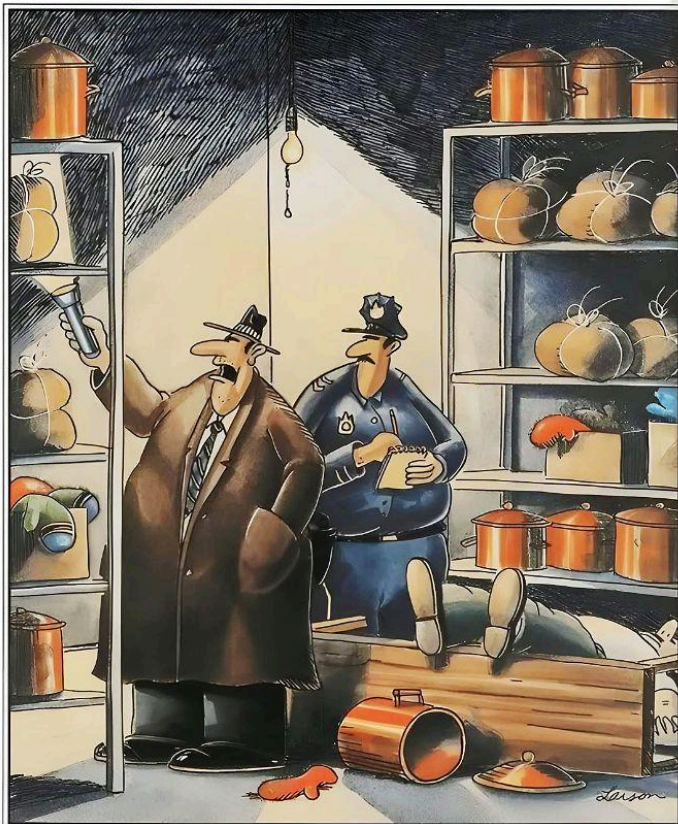
**A man and his dog....plus cool threads, a camper and a Corvette.**

**Stylin.**



# The Best Part

LAUGHS AND GIGGLES



Look here, McGinnis--hundreds of bright copper kettles, warm woolen mittens, brown paper packages tied up with string.....Someone was after a few of this guy's favorite things.

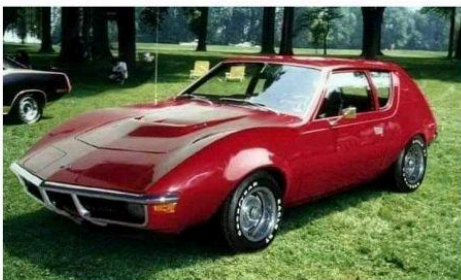
Proof of a flat Earth



Q: Where do pirates get their hooks?  
A: At second hand stores.

How many  
Hot Rods  
do you need?

Why, did you see  
one for sale?



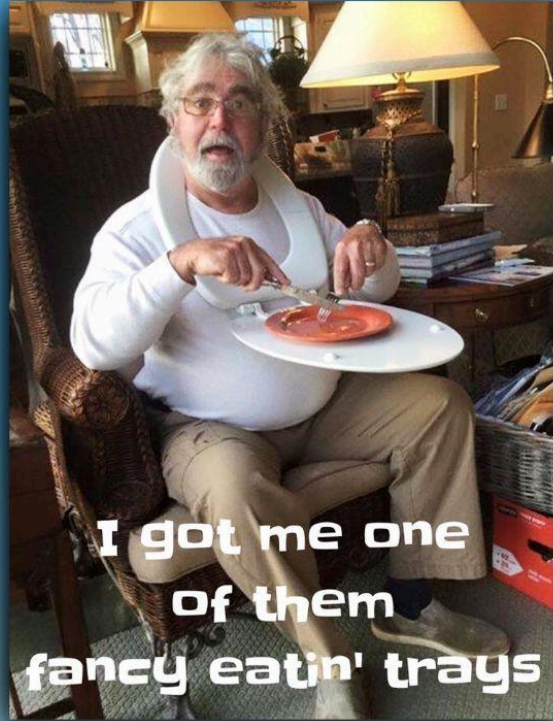


# The Best Part

LAUGHS AND GIGGLES



Early experiments in transportation.



I got me one  
of them  
fancy eatin' trays

Q: What do you call a nose  
with no body?

A: No body nose.

**What's the best  
thing about  
Switzerland?**

**I don't know, but the  
flag is a big plus.**

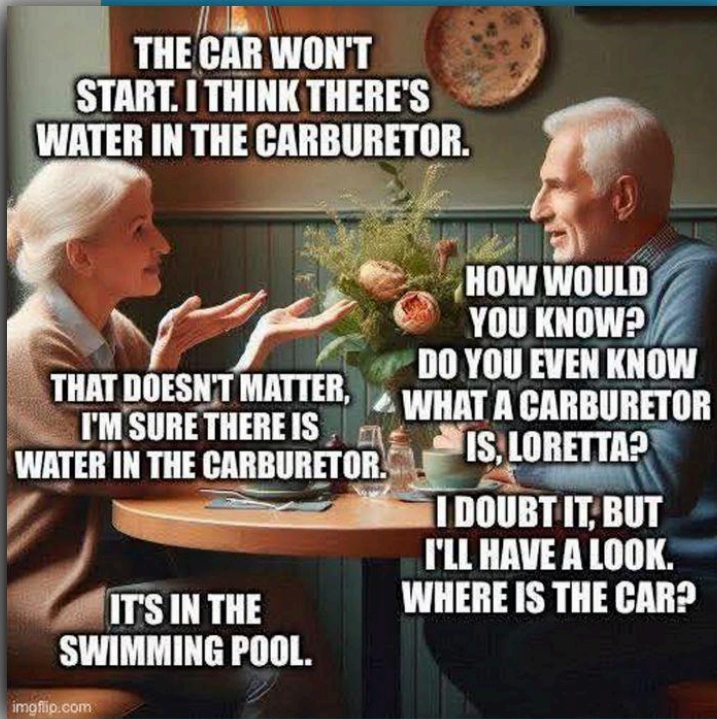
**I don't want to brag,  
but I've got a purebread cat.**





# The Best Part

LAUGHS AND GIGGLES



Finished this 500 piece puzzle in just 6 minutes.



"You guys are both witnesses...He laughed when my marshmallow caught on fire."





# Sponsors

*Pacific Coast Corvettes and it's members are pleased and grateful for the ongoing involvement and support of the following sponsors.*



**Simpson Chevrolet** appreciates the affiliation it has with Pacific Coast Corvettes and is proud to be a club sponsor and participant with PCC and a major contributor to PCC's Scholarship Program. We are pleased to continue our sponsorship for an additional year, through 2025 and committed to contributing \$1,000 to the club's scholarship fund plus an additional \$500 scholarship contribution for continued excellent college academic performance for previous scholarship awardees.



"It is our honor to participate in Pacific Coast Corvettes Scholarship Programs."

David Simpson, President

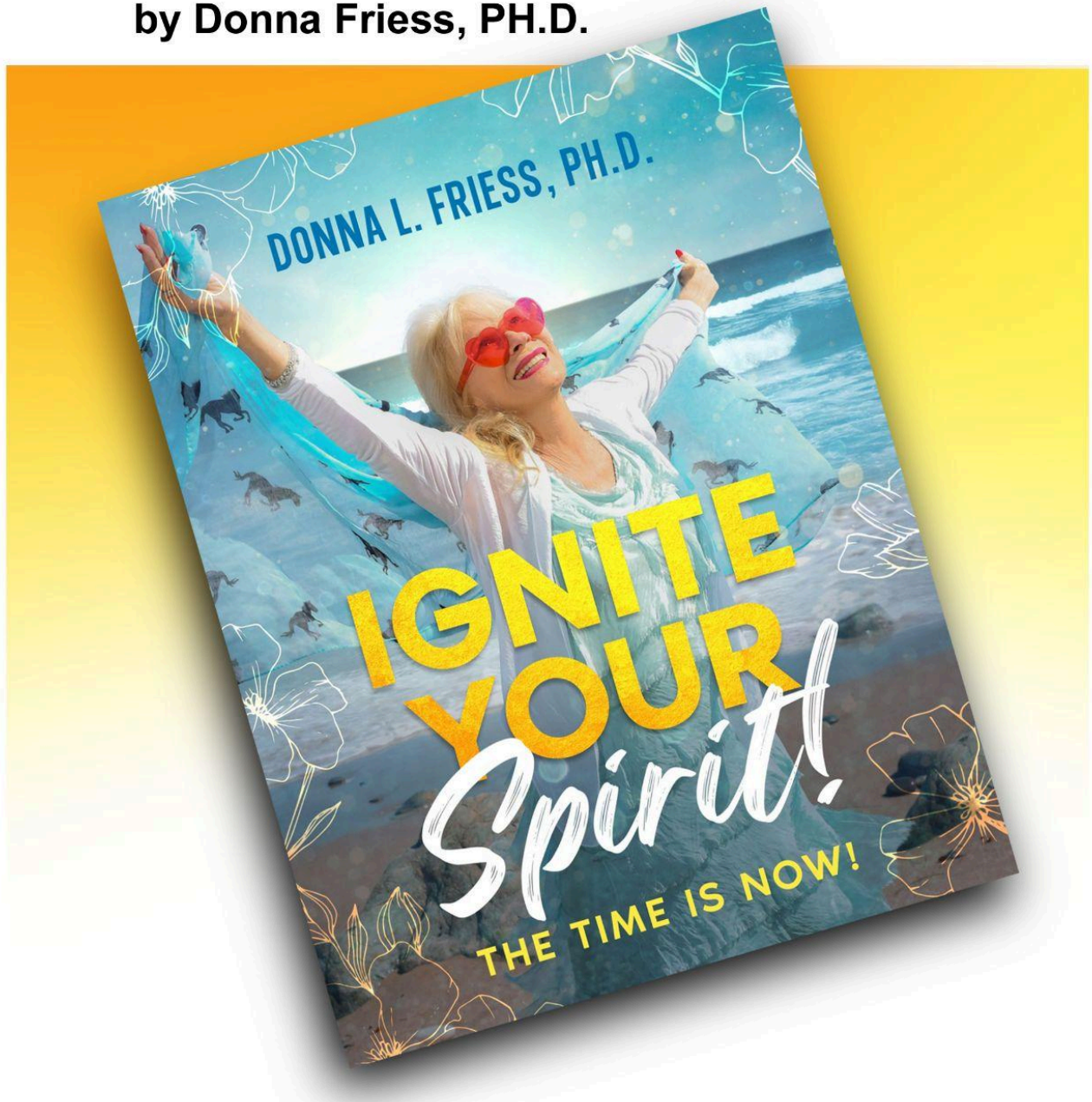
**Family owned and operated since 1951**

**Simpson Chevrolet**  
21 Auto Center Drive,  
Irvine, CA 92618  
949 457 2000  
**SimpsonGM.com**

## Sponsors

**HHH Publishing**, a proud sponsor of PCC's annual outstanding student scholarship, is pleased to announce a new book...

**by Donna Friess, PH.D.**



*Donna confesses "it's a piece of my heart."*

Available at **Amazon.com** and others.



## Sponsors



### PCC PROGRAM

- Discounted **Wheel & Tire packages**
- Precision **alignments**
- Premium tire selection with a **price-match guarantee**
- **Custom wheel** solutions
- **Aftermarket accessory** installations
- Expert **automotive services**, **oil change**, **brakes**, etc.

# 20%

Enjoy 20% off all services tailored JUST for **PCC members**



**51 AUTO CENTER DRIVE, IRVINE 92618**

P: (949) 540-1406  
W: [WTCPERFORMANCE.COM](http://WTCPERFORMANCE.COM)

## EDITOR'S NOTE



Remember to check the  
Calendar section at  
[pccvettes.org](http://pccvettes.org)  
for all the information on  
upcoming events.

Also...My email address for  
the newsletter is  
[millerdanadv@gmail.com](mailto:millerdanadv@gmail.com).

**Are you striving to be a new PCC  
member?** Write a newsletter article  
and earn 2 points toward your  
membership quota.

**PCC is Celebrating 35 years.**  
Let's make this a fantastic year!!



**Calling on all members:**  
Feel free to write and submit articles.

Your Newsletter Editor:  
Dan Miller

