

# CAPITAL CITY CORVETTES

P.O. Box 13927 • Salem, Oregon 97309

VOLUME 22 NO. 1

January 13 2011 is the **GENERAL MEETING**

## MEETINGS & MEMBERSHIP

General membership meetings are held at 6:00pm, the 2nd Thursday of each month, at Capital Auto Group, 2711 Mission St. SE, Salem, OR 97302.

We have a social meeting on the 4th week of every month, location and event will be announced in the activities calendar.

Web site: [www.CapitalCityCorvettes.com](http://www.CapitalCityCorvettes.com)

**Membership annual dues are \$50.00**

Check out the Capital City Corvettes web site: [www.CapitalCityCorvettes.com](http://www.CapitalCityCorvettes.com) Flyers & Registration forms, information on coming events, photos of recent and past events. Calendar of events. Cars and items for sale. Past copies of newsletter (past 12 months)

## CHANGE OF INFORMATION

Address, phone#, cell phone #, e-mail changes

Please Contact : Glen Campbell-batf169@msn.com

## BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSARIES

### January Anniversaries

None

### January Birthdays

Jim Casey Jan 19  
Chuck Dutoit Jan 8  
John Elegant Jan 3  
Chuck Smith Jan 6  
Mary Stanley Jan 12  
Ron Willeford Jan 4

## 2010/2011 CLUB OFFICERS

President: John Elegant- [john.elegant@gmail.com](mailto:john.elegant@gmail.com)  
V. President: Joe Watson  
Secretary: Brenda Fleming  
Treasurer: Mary Stanley

## Directors at Large

Steve Stanley-Past President  
Frank Salerno-Member at Large  
Car Activities Chair-Roman Baszniak  
Charlotte Burton-Social Coordinator

## CLUB COMMITEES

Hospitality Chairperson-Jane Risko  
Historian- Jim Casey  
Editor and Glen Campbell 503-970-5990  
Webmaster: [batf169@msn.com](mailto:batf169@msn.com)

## COMING EVENTS

January 22-John's Mystery Event  
February 26<sup>th</sup>-Bowling  
March 19<sup>th</sup>-Corvette Top Chef Challenge

**CLUB CONTACT:** Glen Campbell, 503-970-9550  
[batf169@msn.com](mailto:batf169@msn.com)

## Capital Corvette Club Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Capital Auto Group by President John Elegant. There were no guests present. President Elegant indicated that we had a very full meeting agenda and needed to press on to get through everything.

**Minutes:** The membership approved the minutes from November. **Treasurer's Report:** The balance is \$1636.71. Mary reported that she needs to collect all hold harmless agreements in order to prepare a club roster. She then presented the projected 2011 budget. This compared the actual expenses of 2010 and the possible expenses of 2011. The joint picnic appears to be our biggest expense, this occurs every other year.

**Hospitality:** Jane reported that Frank Salerno's father had recently passed away. She also reported that Ceritha Willeford would be having some surgery. Cards of support will be sent from the club members.

**Past Events:** Joe reported on last month's events. The annual banquet at Jonathans was a success thanks largely to Judy, Steve and Carol. Discussion ensued as to whether to have it there again, some liked the food, others were not impressed. Joe also indicated that the Santa Cruise was well attended (242 cars) and lots of fun, but very cold.

**Old Business:** John will collect checks for the charitable giving of individual members and deliver them to the appropriate charities.

**New Business:** Jim made a presentation about the club photos. As club historian, he will prepare a new album using the 440 digital photos that he currently has. Steve suggested that we prepare a CD with each year's accumulated photos to share at yearly events (summer club picnic, annual banquet, etc).

**Upcoming Events:** Charlotte presented the club activity calendar for 2011. This calendar was presented at the board meeting on 12/6 and further refined for presentation at the general meeting on 12/9. She presented each activity that is currently in the works, discussion ensued. Some of the dates are tentative. It was unanimously agreed that Charlotte did an excellent job. She presented the activities in a good format that was easy to read and provided room for additional information.

**Tech talk:** John reported that his Z06 had trouble with the heating system in inclement weather. Joe offered to drive it for a couple of months to troubleshoot the problem. I believe that the consensus was that he should speak with Luke at Capital Chev for recommendations and/or service.

**John's corner:** John will forgo his C7 presentation until next month as we ran out of time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. when the lights went out. Folks met at the Flight Deck for dinner and conversation.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Fleming



Another day at glen's office

**You're never too old to learn something stupid.**



## **PRESIDENT'S CAR CORNER**

Thank you Jerry and Deanna, for an EXCELLENT Christmas party! The food was wonderful! The decorations were outstanding! Your house was/is beautiful! And you were the great hosts you always are! We all had such a fantastic time!

After a couple of necessary delays, I will be making a major presentation on the C7 Corvette during our next January 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. There is lots of new C7 news, including a surprise I will share with you at that time.

### **CAR NEWS:**

All cars continue to get safer and safer. Even factoring in the lesser miles traveled last year compared to a normal year, car accident deaths went down significantly. No longer just air bags and the like, but automotive manufacturers are expanding safety measures into the actual design process (as opposed to previously when they were traditionally add-ons). Last year the National Highway Traffic Safety Commission (NHTSA) adopted much more stringent standards into car safety design. As we have previously talked, three, new key requirements were adopted; specifically, for the first time: 1) cars needed to meet the specific physical characteristics of women; 2) cars have to be designed to not only withstand “force distributed” impacts (such as when a car collides while paralleling into a highway “Jersey barrier,”

but now have to resist “force-concentrated” impacts—such as with telephone poles and the like; and, 3) now need to meet enhanced “roof impact” standards (to protect against rollover crushing of vehicle inhabitants). Consequently, new models were updated by manufacturers, Specifically while 27 of the 2010 models met not only the three new standards but also all previous NHTSA standards, getting a “5-star rating” on all safety requirements, the 2011’s have gone so much further, with 66 models now getting 5-star ratings on all NHTSA safety measures. Even the standard add-on measure of 2 or 4 or sometimes even having 6 air bags has been greatly improved upon. Specifically, the 2011 Ford Focus has eight air bags and the new Chevy Cruze comes, even on the base \$16,995 model, with ten air bags.

**GM News:** The Chevy Volt continues to earn magazine after magazine, 2010 Car of the Year (COTY) honors. Just this past month, Motor Trend and Automobile Magazines named the Volt its COTY! More COTY honors are expected for the Volt. The head of GM has ordered Chevy to figure out a way to triple Volt production after thousands of customers contacted GM to say that they want to buy one NOW. While the Volt is not a big money-maker, increasing production will have significant other benefits for GM. Volt has been trouncing the new 2011 Toyota Prius plug-in hybrid in every magazine/analyst test. The Toyota’s 13 mile

electric range, smaller size, poorer handling, less comfort and its ugly looks – my editorial comment, are just some of the reasons why the Volt is crushingly winning this head-to-head comparison. The 2010 Camaro significantly outsold the 2010 Mustang – the first time this has happened in over a decade. However, with two tremendous new Mustang engines for 2011 (both the 305 HP V6 and the 412 HP V8), industry experts expect Ford to do much better in 2011. One key advantage for the Mustang is that it averages 225 pounds less than its comparable Camaro. The new 2011 introduction of the Camaro convertible may however slow down Ford Mustang's "catch-up" (or not ???).

Motor Trend has chosen the Chevy Silverado HD pick up at its truck of the year!

Corvette Racing has announced that Johnny O'Connell will no longer be driving for the Corvette GT ALMS team. He was the most successful ALMS Corvette racer for the past twelve years, and the only racer for any brand to win one or more races every year during this period. However, he will now be driving for the brand new SCCA Cadillac CTS-V racing team. Corvette has not yet announced who will be replacing Johnny.

Other Ford News: Starting with the 2012 models, Ford will put "Auto Start-Stop" into many of its vehicles, including in all the Fiesta, Transit and Focus models. This system automatically turns off the motor when you are stopped for more than a few seconds (such as a stop light). This system will add to vehicle fuel economy. However, what happens on a 95 degree day, i.e., does your air conditioning stop? And you start to sweat?

Toyota News: Toyota is pissed that the terms of its law suit over one specific example of a runaway acceleration law suit, specifically with a Lexus, was

settled for \$10,000,000.00. Toyota was also fined by our government \$32,400,000.00 for again failing to timely-report and fix known safety violations. Toyota was also the only one of the top eight car manufacturers to see a vehicle sales slowdown last month. However, experts continue to caution all "to not count Toyota out."

Overall/Corvette Car Sales: Calendar year 2010 surprised all, with overall, purchased-within-the-US-car industry sales far exceeding the original 10,000,000 annual model year estimate. While final sales figures are not yet tallied (as of my writing this), 2010 final vehicles sold will be about 11,500,000 units. 2011 calendar sales are projected to be even stronger, about 12.5 M units. As both GM and Ford have downsized to the point that they make money at the 10.5 M unit mark, profits for these two companies should be even greater this year.

And, as we've discussed, one sad sales note is that Corvette sales continue to be in the toilet, still about one third of the 2003-2007 monthly average of 3,000 per month. As far as GM is concerned, the C7 can't come soon enough. However, even then, the real measure of C7 is a sales success will not be the first year of C7 sales (model year 2013), but what happens to years 2, 3, etc. thereafter.

Happy Motoring. Save the Wave. I hope you can make it to our January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting!  
Happy New Year!

## Ford, GM, Chrysler Sales Rise as Industry Rebounds

**Ford** says its U.S. sales for December of 2010 were up 6.7 percent from the same month in 2009, better than experts had predicted. Ford sold 190,976 units in December of last year versus 179,017 in December of 2009.



Getty Images

The automaker [F 17.38 ▲ 0.13 (+0.75%) 📉] also reported a yearly sales increase for 2010 of 19.4 percent from the previous year, selling

1,935,462 units last year versus 1,620,888 in 2009.

The Ford F-150 pickup was the best-selling vehicle in the U.S. last year. The company also saw strong sales of its Fusion midsize sedan and Edge, which has the roominess of an SUV but handles like a car. Sales of Ford's luxury Lincoln brand rose only 4 percent for the year.

Without the Volvo brand, which Ford sold last fall, Ford's sales climbed 19 percent for the year

And **General Motors** says its U.S. sales for December of 2010 were up 16 percent for its core brands, over the same time in 2009. This was much better than analysts had expected.

The automaker [GM 37.90 ▲ 0.84 (+2.27%) 📉] reported 223,932 total sales in December for the company's

four core brands—Cadillac, Buick, Chevrolet and GMC. GM's four brands sold 118,435 more vehicles this year than the company did with eight brands in 2009.

GM said it sold 2,202,927 of its core brand vehicles in all of 2010 versus 1,815,806 in 2009. That's an increase of 21%.

GM posted an overall increase of 7.5 percent in U.S. auto sales in December, capping a year of gradual recovery for the industry overall that is expected to continue in the new year.

The company's December sales rose because of big sellers like the Chevrolet Equinox, a smaller SUV that seats five people. And the automaker is predicting total sales of 13 million to 13.5 million units for 2011.

A year after its 2009 bankruptcy, and less than two months after its largest-ever IPO, GM remains the top-selling automaker in the United States.

Meanwhile, **Chrysler** says its sales for December of 2010 were up 16.4 percent from the same time in 2009. The carmaker sold 100,702 vehicles in December versus 86,523 in the same month of 2009. Chrysler also reported a sales increase of 17 percent for all of 2010. The automaker sold 1,085,211 vehicles in 2010 versus 931,402 in 2009.

Much of the sales increase for Chrysler early in the year came from low-profit sales to rental companies. The year's final months were marked by strong sales of the Jeep Grand Cherokee.

As expected, **Toyota** [TM 79.86 ▲ 0.43 (+0.54%) 📉] U.S. sales were down in December. The Japanese automaker posted a decline of 5.5 percent from the same time in 2009. Its sales have been hurt by safety recalls.

- [December/2010 Sales Show Toyota's Resilience](#)

But another Japanese automaker **Nissan** [NSANY 19.76 ▲ 0.61 (+3.19%) 📈], says its sales rose 28 percent in December from a year ago.

**Hyundai** sales gained 33 percent in December from the same time in 2009. Its affiliate **Kia Motors** posted a 45 percent gain, continuing a trend that has seen the Korean brands take share from rivals in a recovering U.S. market.

### **Automakers Snap Sales Losing Streak**

The auto industry snapped a four-year streak of declining annual sales in 2010 and growth in 2011 beyond expectations could force automakers to deal with capacity constraints, a luxury of a problem given recent years.

GM already has been adding capacity for strong-selling SUVs including the Chevy Equinox and GMC Terrain.

Growth is expected to stay strong in developing auto markets over the next several years including China and India. Car sales in India were reported strong in December with Fitch expecting sales growth of up to 15 percent in 2011 driven mainly by

a growing middle class and more financing opportunities.

The December U.S. auto sales results, and outlooks for 2011 come as manufacturers reported Tuesday that [new orders unexpectedly rose in November](#) and the Institute for Supply Management said its national factory activity index rose to a seven-month high in December.

Fifteen economists surveyed by Reuters forecast December auto sales of about 12.3 million on the annualized and seasonally adjusted basis tracked by the industry.

Car and truck buying finally is starting to pick up after two tough years. Sales in 2008 totaled 13.2 million, down from 16.1 million in 2007, the final year before the recession took hold. In 2009, sales notched their worst performance since 1982 at 10.4 million. "The consumer is coming back to the showrooms, particularly in the more affluent and higher quality credit segments," Barclays Capital analyst Brian Johnson said, referring to the final three months of last year. Sales, when measured at an annual rate and adjusted for seasonal changes, sputtered all year before hitting an annual rate of 12.3 million in October and November. Toprak expects an annual rate above 12 million for December as well.

Car companies loosened up on incentives such as rebates, low-interest loans and lease deals. Truecar said incentives rose to an average of \$2,721 in December, up 7 percent from the same month of 2009. *Reuters and AP contributed to this story.*

**Christmas dinner and games at  
The Jackson's December 19<sup>th</sup>.  
Thanks also to Charlotte Burton  
for the gift exchange fun.**





Photography by Jim Casey



Our thanks to Jim for the visual depiction of our social events through his excellent photography. Truly, one picture is worth a thousand words.

## Note from your editor:

We are getting together a **Corvette Top Chef Challenge** for those who *think* they can cook and those who *really can*. The rules will be simple; there are no rules, no limits. Hopefully, we will see some planning, thought and effort go into the dishes. No one will be "chopped" and everyone rewarded for their participation. Naturally, those not competing will "judge" the presentations. So, even being present will be a wonderful experience. We are planning for March 19<sup>th</sup>. Set up your recipe and menu.



**Mesquite smoked turkeys**

**\*\*\*WHATEVER YOU BRING\*\*\***

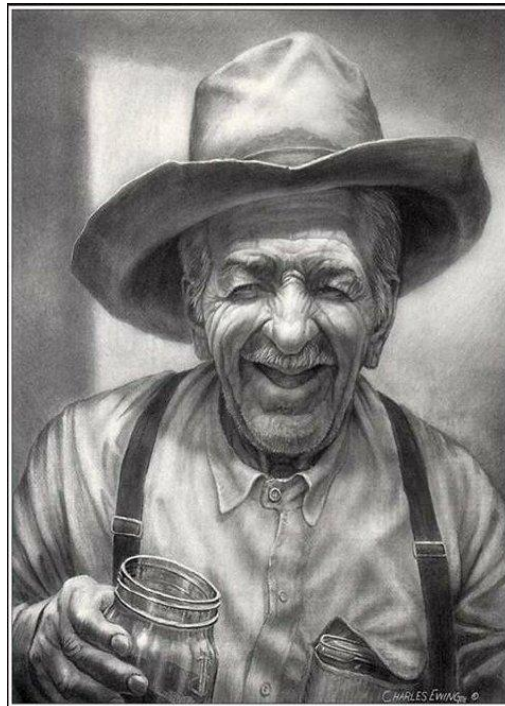


**\*\*\*HOWEVER YOU COOK IT\*\*\***



**Flank Steak**

**=EVERYONE WILL ENJOY A GREAT EVENING OF CHOW=**



# **CAPITAL CITY CORVETTES 2011 SOCIAL CALENDAR**

Submitted by Charlotte Burton, Social Coordinator

**January 22<sup>ND</sup>- Johns Mystery Tour**

**February 26<sup>th</sup>-Bowling**

**March 19<sup>th</sup>- Corvette Top Chef Challenge**

**April \* - Blossom Drive**

**May 21<sup>st</sup>- Roman's Mystery Tour**

**June 25<sup>th</sup>- Flemings Costal Surprise**

**July 15<sup>th</sup>,16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>- Corvettes on The Bay at Coos Bay**

**August 20<sup>th</sup>- President's Mystery Tour**

**September \*- Oktoberfest**

**October 29<sup>th</sup>- Halloween Party at the Stanley's**

**November 26<sup>th</sup>- Annual Banquet**

**December \* - Christmas Party**

**\* date not yet determined.**