

George Sianis -

"I Always Wanted a Corvette"

When did your fascination with Corvettes begin?

I've always been interested in Corvettes. I was about 9 when I saw a '57 or '58 Corvette that was white with a red interior. It belonged to a friend of my Dad's, and I fell in love with the car. I've been in love with Corvettes ever since. The first one I bought is my 2005 C-6. Work and my family always took precedence, but I always wanted one. Finally, the time was right, so I bought it.



Elaine and George at a breakfast cruise, Burlington, Wisconsin, 2007

You are one of the founding members of CNCC. How did the Club start?

After I purchased the Corvette from Stasek Chevrolet, I asked Bill Stasek what he thought about starting a Corvette Club at the dealership. He was all for it.

I had met some people who were interested in car clubs, and after I bought my Corvette I went to a few shows and met other people who were interested in car clubs. From there several of us got together at men's homes. Before we knew it 10 or 15 people wanted to form this club. I would say it was about May of 2005. I was the first president of CNCC, and I've been president every since.

What are some of the difficulties that you've seen in the growth of the club?

The hardest thing is getting everyone together to jell and form a group that will satisfy everyone's needs. It is hard when only one guy wants to race and we are not a club that does racing. While it is difficult to satisfy everyone's needs, we are now at the point of simply having a great group of people. We will continue to grow, and as always, we will lose a few members; but we are finding the direction we want to go as a club. It will be a few more years until we jell as a group.

What is your goal for the club this year?

My goal is to recruit members who want to participate and be active in the club. I want the members – meaning husbands and

wives and their families – to have fun with their cars. For me, the purpose is to have fun with our Corvettes.

The members don't have to make every show, but we need to go out and get together as a club. I love the breakfast runs and the dinner runs. We are trying a few different things this year, like bocce ball, bowling, and other activities. Once more couples become involved in the club, we will be more successful too.

Have you had any disappointments along the way?

Yes. Actually, there have been a few disappointments. Sometimes people get strong headed if they can't agree on

things, which is all a part of male testosterone and ego. Differences usually work themselves out because we have the common goal of the good of the club.

What was the most unusual thing that happened to you in your car?

I was stopped for driving 42 miles per hour over the speed limit – with my wife in the car. Although I was dressed in a suit and going to a wedding, when you have a Corvette with 400 horsepower, you put the pedal to the metal. Unfortunately, a squad car was sitting there (we were driving on route 83) with radar, and the officer pulled me over.

He even laughed at me and returned my license after he issued the ticket. He instinctively knew my wife was going to take care of the balance of the discipline.

Just what did Elaine say?

If it happens again, you sell the car.

What is the most fun you've had with your Corvette?

I really enjoy going on cruises up to Wisconsin with the group for breakfast. It's a thrill to look at my rear view mirror and see 25 Corvettes behind me. Being able to open it up a little – I just enjoy that very much.

Where do you see this club in the next five years?

I'm hoping it grows to the point where more members participate and volunteer to get involved with the activities. I see it happening now, and I hope it continues to happen more.

We have the support of a great dealership behind us, so I want it to continue to happen. It takes time – maybe it will be in five to seven years. Sometimes when you take two steps forward, you take one step back. The bottom line is that there are enough people out there with enthusiasm for Corvettes.

I want the Club to grow and provide great joy to the members. ●