



CORVETTE CLUB OF MARION COUNTY

(OR "HOW TO START A CORVETTE CLUB OF YOUR OWN THAT LASTS 30 YEARS!")

The Corvette Club of Marion County got its start back in 1976 when a Corvette caught the eye of Roxy Sims. Her husband, Glen, could see how badly that she wanted one of her own and came up with an idea to use this to his advantage. He agreed to get her one if she would stop smoking.

Seven years later in 1983, she was smoke-free and looking for a Corvette to enjoy all that fresh air in. They didn't have to go too far as they found a 1977 for sale at a neighbors house.

Glen soon followed up with a 1979 Corvette for himself and it wasn't long before they began looking for others who shared their love for America's sports car. They were thrilled to find a notice in their newspaper inviting Corvette folks to dine together at a local restaurant. Upon arriving though, they soon realized that they were the only ones who showed up!

Dismayed but determined, they stayed and had dinner anyway. During the course of their meal they decided to form their own club. "I'll be President," Glen said to Roxy, "if you'll be Vice President."

The first order of business was recruiting members. They created a flier about forming a club and put one on every Corvette they saw. They would even follow Corvettes and give the driver a flier when they stopped.

They wanted to start an active club that does car shows, cruise-ins, road trips, and anything else that would bring Corvette lovers together. By the end of 1985 the club organized their first all Corvette car show and had 91 cars attend. Thirty years later it is still going strong.

True to their mission of being active, they are always doing something, but their primary goal is to support local charities through their fund raising efforts.

In the last year alone, the CCMC was able to raise and donate a total of \$12,735 to charities. Their main charities are Camp Boggy Creek for seriously ill children and Food4Kids that provides food and some support services for needy children.

In July 2014, the CCMC celebrated their 30th anniversary with a club BBQ outing. The celebration brought together many club members for camaraderie and appreciation for the core value of owning Corvettes. Glen and Roxy presented everyone there with a celebratory bottle of wine with the club logo on it and a banner reading "30th Anniversary, 1984-2014, Ocala, Florida."



We'd like to raise a glass of our own to toast the success of the Corvette Club of Marion County and wish it many more years of helping others while they are having fun.