

A Toast to the Host!

Does the idea of a clear road ahead and a line of Corvettes in your rear view mirror turn your crank? If so, why not host a run and lead the CCNS pack on a tour of roads that you like to drive!

In past years, the Club has typically held a number of runs during the active driving season but, more recently, the Events Calendar has become more populated with car shows. While folks join the CCNS for many reasons, all of which are good I might add, the Club strives to provide a good mix of events to ensure that there's a number of interesting activities planned for everyone. As such, we'd like to increase the number of hosted runs to better balance that mix. But to accomplish that this year and beyond, we need a few of you to lead the pack!

So what's involved you ask? Really not very much, just a little preparation and some negotiation with the weekend weather god. A Saturday or Sunday run is just that, a trip from A to B which could include nothing more than the natural scenery along the route. With a few stops, and given Nova Scotia's incredible vistas, it doesn't take much effort to fill an enjoyable afternoon and create a most memorable run.

To add some spice, or other palate interest, a stop at a local eatery or ice cream stand is always a winner, as is a bathroom stop or two or... And yes, don't forget to think about seating capacity and parking for the pack when considering venues. Want to include a BBQ or pot luck at a location along the route or at destination? The Club sets aside some funding each year for hosts wishing to do just that; you just have to ask. Typically runs attract about 20 Club Vettes; however that number can vary for many reasons. Our Events Coord will ask members to indicate participation in advance so you'll have some estimate of numbers before the run. If any reservations are required, participating members can be asked to make their own as well.

As to the route, you are limited only by time, geography and your

imagination. Oh yes, and road conditions! As part of your route selection it's important to remember that the Club's Vettes have very low clearances and very high values to their owners (but of course as a Vette owner you already know this); so gravel roads and paved roads in poor condition or actively under repair are to be avoided. To prevent surprises, the host would be remiss if they didn't drive the intended route just before the run to ensure that there have been no changes in the route road conditions caused by road work, etc.

So pick your route, select some interesting stopping places either along the way or at destination, or both, and work out the timings from start to finish. Then book a date with our Events Coordinator so that your run can be included in our events calendar. Now would also be a good time to start working on your relationship with the weather god!

With sunshine on the day of the event, the pack gathers and after a driver's brief about the planned route and any last minute changes, it's just a matter of taking the lead and using a walkie-talkie to inform those behind you of turns, stops or other important points as you proceed.

Remember, a run is neither a race nor road rally. A smooth and steady pace as set by the leader is key to enjoyment for all - not to mention safety. Given the "slinky effect", those Vettes furthest behind you will be forced to adjust their driving the most. So leading the pack at, or better still, just below the posted speed limit allows everyone to easily keep up and enjoy the view out the tempered glass!

Willing to host a run but really don't want to lead it - all you have to do is ask and no doubt one of the Club's more experienced drivers will ably assist. Not sure about some other aspect, again you just have to ask - we're all here together as members of the CCNS to maximize the enjoyment of driving a Vette during the short summer season.

Worst case, should the weather god have to deliver rain to the farmers on your selected date, your preparation will not be lost as the planned route

will still be there for another day when clear skies prevail. So, there you go, there's not a lot to hosting a run other than the willingness to do it! And with the best weather yet to come, this year's events calendar still has weekends available for several more member hosted runs.

If you have been inspired to take the lead on a run just contact Greg Bowie your Event Coordinator, to work out any questions you may have and to select a date. That's it, except....of course, a CCNS toast to you as host!

Greg Bowie
January 2021