

# Discovette

May  
2013

Newsletter of the Discovery Bay Corvette Club



## Special Points of Interest

Pictures from Lake

Tulloch Run

New Flier for Grand  
Island Mansion Run -

Note New Date!!!



Save the Date!  
August 10th -  
Pre-Car Show BBQ



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# Discovery Bay Corvette Club Executive Board 2013

## Officers

President	Nelson Friesen	925-516-1577	<a href="mailto:buginarug@msn.com">buginarug@msn.com</a>
Vice President	Rich Allen	925-240-1055	<a href="mailto:richard.allen@sbcglobal.net">richard.allen@sbcglobal.net</a>
Treasurer	Brian Enbom	925-516-7712	<a href="mailto:benbom@coasttool.com">benbom@coasttool.com</a>
Secretary	Marilyn Allen	925-240-1055	<a href="mailto:marilyn.allen@sbcgobal.net">marilyn.allen@sbcgobal.net</a>
Events	Denise Zupan	510-326-2992	<a href="mailto:denisezupan@att.net">denisezupan@att.net</a>
Publications	Susan Jones	707-374-5051	<a href="mailto:corvettesue322@yahoo.com">corvettesue322@yahoo.com</a>
W/SCC Rep.	Dick Realph	925-634-0729	<a href="mailto:vetbrat1@comcast.net">vetbrat1@comcast.net</a>
Public Relations	Elaine Stark	925-634-0503	<a href="mailto:yelatoy@sbcglobal.net">yelatoy@sbcglobal.net</a>
Quartermaster	Lowell Onstad	925-516-8468	<a href="mailto:ljonstad@comcast.net">ljonstad@comcast.net</a>
Member-at-Large	Calvin Jones	925-301-7088	<a href="mailto:vetime322@yahoo.com">vetime322@yahoo.com</a>

## Appointed Positions

Webmaster	Ralph Cerner	925-240-5971	<a href="mailto:ralphc@tcg-rep.com">ralphc@tcg-rep.com</a>
Sunshine Persons	Betty Silva & Sandy Ramos	925-634-5787 925-634-6282	<a href="mailto:donsanramos@comcast.net">donsanramos@comcast.net</a>
NCM Ambassador	David Harris	925-634-5691	<a href="mailto:dhdisbay@yahoo.com">dhdisbay@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter Ads	Susan Jones	707-374-5051	<a href="mailto:corvettesue322@yahoo.com">corvettesue322@yahoo.com</a>

Meeting Schedule: First Thursday of each month,  
except when otherwise noted.

Location: Discovery Bay Yacht Club  
Board Meeting 6:30 PM  
General Meeting 7:30 PM

**Next Meeting:  
June 6, 2013**

All members are urged to attend the meetings and guests are always welcome!

Mailing address: PO Box 1158, Discovery Bay, CA 94505-1158

[www.discoverybaycorvettelub.com](http://www.discoverybaycorvettelub.com)

## **President Nelson Friesen**

President's article for May, 2013

The warm and sunny days are finally here. It's time to get our Corvettes out of the garage and enjoy them. A good way to do that would be going to car shows. If you would like another club to participate in our car show, it's a good idea for us to support their show.

Rich Allen has done the ground work in getting DBCC Summerfest 2013 underway. Great job, Rich! Now the rest of us need to sign onto the committees where needed.

An important part of the car show is the raffle and its important to have prizes that people will want to win. We all need to supply raffle prizes (at least one per member). Of course, more would really be appreciated. DBCC has always had a great raffle. Let's keep it that way. At June's meeting, Joyce will be passing around a sign up sheet for potluck dishes for the raffle barbecue. The BBQ is scheduled for Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calenders and bring your raffle prizes.

Now I would like to thank Gary Moreland for the years he spent as WSCC Rep and NCM Ambassador. His presentations were the highlight of many meetings. "Big Dog" also organized and led some interesting runs; such as, "Big Dog "Sucker Punch" Run, The "Toga Party" Run, and the "Carnivorous Lovers" Run. It was my misfortune to have missed them. My loss! But I'm sure those that went had a fun driving adventure and a great time.

STW



## **Wilson Painting**

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## Vice President

**Rich Allen**

May 2013

Hello everyone. Look around, it feels like summer. It's time for tops down on the Corvettes and fun in the sun. Our DBCC calendar is pretty much full between a complement of runs, car shows and other activities. Looks like it's going to be a great summer. Since the last meeting we completed two runs. The first was the lake Turlock brunch run and the second was an overnight to Cal Expo that included dinner and harness racing with our sister club "Reno Corvettes". Thanks go to Mark and Denise Zupan for leading the Lake Turlock run. The weather was warm and we had a great turnout. The food at Copperopolis was good and some of our members even stayed for Ice Cream before their trip back (I heard one of our members had the three scoop banana split. – was it good Lee?). Thanks also go to Bob and Sue Anderson for setting up the run to Cal Expo with Reno Corvettes. What a great time. All the corvettes were parked just outside the track and made for a great picture with the harness racing in the background. A few of our club members even took the ride in the pace car and as they said "we were inches away from the horses".

WSSC car shows are all scheduled and the season has officially begun. The first was on May 4<sup>th</sup> and attended by Bernie/Dick Realph and Dave Harris. Let's support our sister clubs and try to make a good showing at as many of these as we can. I know the club likes to do the runs more than the car shows but we owe it to both WSSC and our other clubs to show our support. Remember the more we support other clubs the more they will show their support to our car show in September. With that here is a quick update on our upcoming car show:

We had our first meeting last month and all team leaders attended. Thank you for your support. We have a contract with Streets of Brentwood, we have the Mayor of Brentwood making an appearance (and judging for "The Mayor's Trophy"), we have the flyer completed (thanks Steve), and we have lots of work still to do. We're looking to have over 100 cars in attendance and some great raffle prizes. The pre-show BBQ will be hosted by Nelsen and Joyce on Saturday Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.

At the last meeting it was suggested that we look into updating the existing By-Laws. These are in need of a review and update. At the meeting a team was selected and will meet to discuss possible changes and updates. Unfortunately, I will miss the next meeting but will have another team member present an update.

Also let's not forget the "All GM" car show on May 18<sup>th</sup> put on by "Abel Chevrolet". You can pre-register for this on line. We need to have a good showing at this show as it is hosted by our club sponsor. At the last meeting we decided that Dick and Bernie would lead a caravan to the show.

As always, I would like to hear from club members as to how you think we are doing as a new board and what needs to be addressed (issues, activities, etc.). Only with your inputs can we make the club better. I will ensure that any and all inputs are taken to the board for discussion and personally get back to you with an answer. Please email me any of your inputs, issues, questions, or concerns.

[Richard.allen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Richard.allen@sbcglobal.net)

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## Events

**Denise Zupan**

# Calendar of Events

Sun. June 30 Zupan's Shorts, Sandals & Shades Run, See flier

Send your check by: Sat. June 15

Sun. Aug. 4 Gatt's run to Grand Island Mansion Champagne Brunch, See flier

Sat. August 10 Our Car Show's Pot Luck BBQ – Hosted at Joyce and Nelson's home.

This event is not only to eat and have fun but it is also to collect a donated raffle prize. Minimum of \$ 25.00 from each club member. These prizes will be raffled off at our Car Show on 9/8/2013

Sun. September 8 Our Car/ Park Show Summerfest 2013, Rich Allen Chairman

October 5 *Steve Gilpen's Run to Murphy (option of an overnight stay), Details TBD*

November 8 - 10 Inaugural Party, Calvin Jones to keep us updated

Sun. December 1 Christmas Luncheon, Bernie and Dick, Details TBD

*For All Car Shows & Events, refer to the WSCC Calendar of Events  
2013*

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**Secretary**  
**Marilyn Allen**

**Minutes from the May 2, 2013 Meeting**

President, Nelson Friesen, The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm. Nelson thanked the Zupan's for putting on such a great run to Lake Tulloch.

Vice President, Rich Allen, also thanked Mark and Denise for a great run. He talked about our upcoming car show in September. A couple of things still need to be worked out with the Streets of Brentwood. In the contract they indicate that the cars be parked straight in but we usually back them in because of judging and overall appearance with the hoods up. Steve corrected the front of the flyer to include the 100% awards for the car show. There was a discussion about the registration fees/ and it was decided by the group that an early registration fee would be a good idea. Cost would be a \$35.00 fee with a \$5.00 reduction if registered early. It would be the same for park and show. A registration fee of \$40.00 would be charged for non WSCC. We still need to have a cut off date for early registration. This will be decided by the Car Show Committee. Rich went on to introduce our guest—Samantha Ybarra. She lives in Brentwood and her husband works for GMC. They have a new 2013 white coupe.

Treasurer, Brian Enbom, gave a report on the balance in the checkbook and the expenses for the month of April. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report for the month of April. Motion Passed.

Secretary, Marilyn Allen, stated that was an error made in the April minutes. The event reported on July 21<sup>st</sup> to the Grand Island Mansion is taking place July 14<sup>th</sup> and put on by Dave and Debbie Gatt. Information was reported incorrectly in last month's minutes. She asked for approval of the amended minutes from the April meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the April minutes as amended. Motion passed.

Events, Denise Zupan, played a game and passed out cards of information. Everyone who received a card had to read it. Each card had information about our future runs. She reported that the run to Lake Tulloch was well attended and everyone had a great time. Bob reported on the May 4<sup>th</sup> Harness Racing run and event in Sacramento put on by the Reno Corvette Club. We are to meet at the Steak House at 12:30 pm. The rooms will be ready by 2:30 pm and the hospitality room starts at 3:30pm in the bar at the Marriott Courtyard. We will leave at 4:30 pm to the Cal Expo. May 18<sup>th</sup> is the All GM car show at Abel Chevrolet in Rio Vista. All members are encouraged to attend. We will leave from Chase Parking Lot at 7:30 am led by Dick and Bernie Realph. You are encouraged to pre-register on their web site. Denise and Mark are putting on a run to Santa Cruz on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Cost for lunch is \$26.00. July 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a run put on by Dave and Debbie Gatt to Grand Island Mansion. August 10<sup>th</sup> will be our annual pre-car show Bar B Q put on by Nelson and Joyce Friesen. Raffle prizes must be at least worth \$25.00 or more. September 8<sup>th</sup> is our car show at the Streets of Brentwood. All members are encouraged to attend. We would like to get 120 cars there. On October 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a run to Murphy's put on by Steve Gilpin. It will be an overnight stay at the Union Hotel Wine tasting will be \$15 a glass and will include about 10-15 wineries. We will order off the menu so there is no money paid in advance. Please let Steve know if you are interested. The Inaugural is November 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> Calvin was not present but asked Denise to report that everything was on track. The Christmas Brunch run is December 1<sup>st</sup> put on by Dick and Bernie Realph. The location has not yet been decided.

All WSCC information about car shows and events and flyers on all our runs are on our Web site.

Publications, Susan Jones, was not present but asked that everyone please submit their articles to her for the newsletter by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. She also asked us to send pictures taken at the events.

Member at Large, Calvin Jones, was not present.

WSCC Events Representative, Dick reported that there were several things we as a club needed to vote for regarding WSCC codes. He asked the members to vote yes or no on 12 codes regarding WSCC. He read them and the members voted. He will take those results back to WSCC at the next meeting. He also stated that next year they will be taking 1 point deduction off instead of ¼ point for anything wrong with cars at car shows. He also stated that there would be 4 judges per car. One for the interior, one for the exterior, one for the motor and one for the wheels/tires. This hopefully will help keep the judging more uniform.

NCM Representative, David Harris, was not present for the meeting.

Public Relations, Elaine Stark, stated that there was a new member (Samantha Ybarra who contacted her). Other than that she had no report.

Quatermaster, Lowell Onstad, reported nothing new. He has hats and new shirts for summer.

Webmaster, Ralph Cenera, reported nothing new except that he really wanted members especially the board members to submit their profile to him for the Web site.

Sunshine, Betty Silva & Sandy Ramos, Betty stated that Jim Heck had died. All other members seemed to be ok this month. Thank goodness. She thanked Kathy Pimentel for bringing treats this month. She encouraged those who have not signed up for treats to do so. There will be no meeting in July.

Old Business, Gary Moreland, reported that there was no mention of his run on April 7<sup>th</sup>. It was a fun run and a great day in Calistoga. Denise thanked Gary for putting on the run. There was no other old business.

New Business, Katy Doty stated that the Lions Club were having their annual fundraiser—Cowgirls and Indians on June 8<sup>th</sup>. It is \$30 a ticket. Please see Kathy for more information. May is eyeglass collection month for the Lion's Club. If you have any unused glasses lying around and would like to donate them to a worthy cause, Kathy would be happy to pick them up. Rich stated that the by-laws need to be updated. A committee was formed to review and revise the by-laws. The committee members for by-laws revision are Rich, Bernie, Ralph, Brian and Bob Anderson. Rich will take the lead on this. John Bento reported having an issue with his tires. He warned everyone to look carefully at their tires. His looked great on the outside but the inside of the tires were worn. Good to have alignment checked often as well.

The 50/50 raffles winner was Rich Brunetto who won \$45.00

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Allen



Sunday, June 30

Zupan's

Shorts, Sandals & Shades Run



Lunch at the Crow's Nest, Located on the water at the  
Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor

**Cost:** \$ 26.00 pp (includes tax and tip) No Host Bar

**Leave from:** Safeway Parking Lot, next to Chase Bank at: 8:30 am

**Lunch:** Includes a house salad with Bay Shrimp, one non-alcoholic beverage and one of the following entrée's to be selected once we arrive.

Charbroiled Chicken Breast (A fresh boneless breast marinated in soy, cilantro and garlic, and topped with pickled ginger and sesame seeds)

Sirloin Angus Steak (Aged Midwestern corn-fed beef, marinated in sweet, smoky bbq sauce, charbroiled to order and thinly sliced.

Seafood Special (The Chef's daily selection, served with sauces)

Butternut Squash Ravioli (Sautéed with brandy cream, spinach and tomato)

**Parking:** Will be in the Santa Cruz Harbor Lot (located next to restaurant), cost per car: First 20 min. Free, + \$ 1.00 ea hour after that. Pay as you leave. They will have one row of spaces reserved for us.

**Deadline:** Sat., June 15

Checks payable to DBCC,

sent to Denise Zupan 2085 Largo Ct. Discovery Bay



**WSCC Rep  
Dick Realph**

The first car show was on May 4th in San Ramon. Bernie and I attended along with Dave and Danica Harris. We both took first place in our classes. I am still finding leaves in the car as there were a lot of trees around.

WSCC has planned an event in July. See page 17 in the newsletter for information that we got from Don Herzer.

The ballots for changes in WSCC have been sent in. That's about all for now!

Dick



**Public Relations  
Elaine Stark**

Elaine did not have a lot to report for this month. She did mention that we had some potential new members attend the last meeting. She is hoping that we have a tremendous showing at the Abel All GM Car show!

**Quartermaster  
Lowell Onstad**

Spring is quickly becoming summer! Now is the time to update your Corvette wardrobe so you will have club clothing to wear on our upcoming runs and other events. I still have those great Corvette jackets that will be comfortable throughout the spring. They are beautiful with our club logo embroidered on the back.

The shirts made of the wonderful, comfortable, washable fabric are perfect for spring into summer. They come in great colors for both men and women and can be ordered with or without our club logo. I have hats too! Catalogs and samples are available at the meetings. Come see me!

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## Western States Corvette Council Calendar of Events-2013

May 4, 2013

Date	Event Name/Location/Site	Type	Sponsor	Contact	Phone
<b>May</b>					
4	Car/Park Show Legends 33-Danville Livery	IS	NCCA	Rob Andersen	650-534-6951
10-12	ALMS Corvette Racing-Laguna Seca	V	WSCC	Buzz Marston	408-358-6211
10	ALMS Banquet-Embassy Suites-Seaside, Ca	V	WSCC	Buzz Marston	408-358-6211
25	Run to the Lake-Lakeport, Ca	V	COLC	Steve Cleveland	707-533-0641
26	Car/Park Show-Lakeport, Ca	IS	COLC	Steve Cleveland	707-533-0641
<b>June</b>					
2	Autocross Bartlett High School, Ak	V	TZR-1 Ak	Ron Ashcraft	907-333-8833
8	Car Show Vette Magic 38-Rancho Cordova	IS	NCCA	Rob Andersen	650-534-6951
9	Vette Magic Drags 38-Sacramento, Ca	V	NCCA	Bob Ashbaker	510-406-1274
15	Car Show Vette-O-Rama 43-Concord, Ca	IS	DVC	Dave Spellman	925-678-4588
22	Autocross Onion Peel 26 Soloano College	IS	VVV	Rich Willhoff	530-318-0696
23	Autocross Nord Fjord 67 Soloano College	IS	NBCA	Larry Joseph	415-457-3979
<b>July</b>					
7	Autocross Bartlett High School, Ak	V	TZR-1 Ak	Ron Ashcraft	907-333-8833
12-13	WSCC Summer Gathering	V	WSCC	TBD	
20	Autocross Onion Peel 27 Soloano College	IS	VVV	Rich Willhoff	530-318-0696
21	Autocross Nord Fjord 68 Soloano College	IS	NBCA	Larry Joseph	415-457-3979
<b>Aug</b>					
3	SCC Autocross #2-Marina Airport, Marina, Ca	IIS	SCC	Stuart Calhoon	650-465-5523
11	SCC Autocross #3-Marina Airport, Marina, Ca	IIS	SCC	Stuart Calhoon	650-465-5524
16-18	Motorsports Reunion-Laguna Seca	V	WSCC	Buzz Marston	408-358-6211
17	Corvette 60th Annv. Banquet-Embassy Suites-Seaside, Ca	V	WSCC	Buzz Marston	408-358-6211
18	Autocross Alaska Raceway Park, Ak	V	TZR-1 Ak	Ron Ashcraft	907-333-8833
24	Car Show Glass Fantastic-Tracy, Ca	IS	GPC	Jim Neylan	925-676-1422
24	Autocross Onion Peel 28 Soloano College	IS	VVV	Rich Willhoff	530-318-0696
25	Autocross Nord Fjord 69 Soloano College	IS	NBCA	Larry Joseph	415-457-3979
<b>Sept</b>					
5-8	Lake Tahoe Tour 45-Fresno to Reno	V	COF	Jim Agar	559-297-2200
7-8	Grand Am Racing-Laguna Seca	V	WSCC	Buzz Marston	408-358-6211
8	Car Show Summerfest 2013 Discovery Bay	IS	DBCC	Dick Realph	925-634-0729
14	Car Show Salute 5-Fairfield Chevrolet	IS	CCC	Jeff Hills	760-960-7527
15	Autocross-Alaska Raceway Park, Ak	V	TZR-1 Ak	Ron Ashcraft	907-333-8833
22	Corvette Spectacular 2013-Los Altos, Ca	IS	SCC	Lee Kibbler	650-212-0098
<b>Oct</b>					
12	Autocross Onion Peel 29-Soloano College	IS	VVV	Rich Willhoff	530-318-0696
13	Autocross Nord Fjord 70-Soloano College	IS	NBCA	Larry Joseph	415-457-3979
19	SCC Autocross #4-Marina Airport, Marina, Ca	IIS	SCC	Stuart Calhoon	650-465-5523
20	SCC Autocross #5-Marina Airport, Marina, Ca	IIS	SCC	Stuart Calhoon	650-465-5523

## Sunshine

### Betty Silva & Sandy Ramos

We send our thanks to Marilyn Allen, Denise Zupan, Susan Jones and Kathy Pimentel for bringing snacks to the past meetings this year. Those that have volunteered to supply treats in the future are:

- June 5<sup>th</sup>: Elaine Stark
- July 4<sup>th</sup>: Holiday – None
- Aug. 1: Joyce Friesen
- Sept. 5: Sandy Ramos
- Oct. 3: Diana Cerner
- Nov. 7: Joanne Onstad

Kathy Doty is an alternate, so if anyone is unable to bring treats on the agreed date, please let Kathy know well in advance of the meeting so that she has time to prepare. Thanks to all who have volunteered.

Betty Silva and Sandy Ramos

## NCM Rep

### David Harris



#### FUNCTION

Each participating Corvette club/organization will nominate/select an "Ambassador" to act as the liaison of that club/organization to the National Corvette Museum. The person selected to be an "Ambassador" will have a distinct interest in the success and future of the Museum and be at least an active Individual member of the NCM.

The Ambassador's mission will be that of receiving and disseminating the most current and correct information from the Museum, and to convey that information to their local Corvette club/organization. The Ambassador will act as a Museum representative to promote and solicit support for the Museum through promotional activities and encourage other Corvette enthusiasts to join the Museum. Additionally, the Ambassador will be the voice of the Corvette club/organization, communicating concerns, ideas and suggestions to the NCM.

dh

# May & June Birthdays

- 5/14 Diane Enbom
- 6/01 Paul deLeon
- 6/01 Joanne Onstad
- 6/02 Linda Humbert
- 6/04 Lee DeSalles
- 6/06 Dale Franklin
- 6/07 Kathy Zickenberg
- 6/17 Sandy Ramos
- 6/19 Denise Zupan
- 6/24 Steve Walde



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# GRAND ISLAND MANSION Sunday Brunch Run

Walnut Grove, CA  
August 4, 2013



**Cost: \$36** per person (tax & gratuity included)

Make check payable to: DBCC

Send to: Debbie Gatt; 1871 Newport Dr.; Discovery Bay, CA 94505

**DEADLINE: July 21, 2013**

## Buffet Champagne Sunday Brunch Menu

Freshly baked Focaccia bread, Rolls, and Scones

Fresh brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Tea, and Milk

Orange Juice with Champagne served throughout the meal

Mixed Green Salad with Pears, Mandarin Oranges, Pecans, and Goat Cheese

Greek Pasta Salad, Potatoes Au Gratin, Herb Seasoned Vegetables

Eggs Benedict, Italian Toast, Fresh Shrimp Crepes, Quiche Du Jour

Freshly Sliced Fruits and Berries with Chocolate Ganache and Chantilly Dip

Oven Roasted Herb Seasoned Prime Rib & Scrumptious Gourmet Dessert Buffet

*Attire is dressy casual.*

Meet at the Chase Bank parking lot near Safeway at 9:15 AM, leave by 9:30 AM. Hosted by Dave & Debbie Gatt.  
Contact #: (925) 997-2378, or (925) 513-1605.



# Lake Tulloch Run





**Thanks to Laura for the great pictures!**

**The following letter is from Don Herzer from WSCC about the upcoming July Event.**

**Check the WSCC website for more information!**

Hi Everyone,

If you haven't heard, there will be no WSCC Convention in 2013. The WSCC E-Board sends it apologies (although I'm taking the liberty of speaking for them here). There were various circumstances that led to not having convention - the most notable was that no club stepped forward with a proposal to host Convention.

In lieu of Convention, we are working on a gathering in the gold country on July 13th (Sat.), which will include a BBQ and a steam train ride, and a stay at the Black Oak Casino in Tuolumne.

Details are developing even as I write this. Please hold that day open if possible, as we will have a blast. A flyer will be in the mail before long, and you can keep an eye on the WSCC website.

Stay tuned!!!! (& thanks)

### Biography – Zora Arkus-Duntov

Born "Zachary Arkuss" on December 25, 1909 to Russian parents near Brussels, Belgium. During his teens, Zora's parents divorced and his mother later remarried, hence the name "Arkus-Duntov".

During his early years in Berlin, Germany, Zora worked at a motorcycle shop and soon after, started racing motorcycles. Due to the danger of motorcycle racing and his parents' request, he stopped motorcycle racing and turned his attention towards cars.

In December of 1934, Zora graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Institute of Charlottenburg in Berlin where he specialized in engine development and supercharging. Due to a paper he wrote on supercharging and his many affiliations with auto racing teams, he won a consulting contract with the Mercedes Grand Prix racing team.

In 1938, Zora wrote another paper, this time of the benefits of four-wheel drive and steering for high performance vehicles. This particular paper was published by the German Auto Club magazine.

In 1939, Zora married Elfi Wolff, a 17-year-old German native and dancer in the Folles-Bergere in Paris. It was also at this time that Zora joined the French Air Force and served in the military through 1940.

Zora eventually moved to the United States with his brother Yuri and started a successful manufacturing company called Ardun Power Products where they manufactured aluminum overhead valve heads for the flathead Ford engine. These special aluminum heads enabled the engine to produce 300+ horsepower. Several cars equipped with these head went on to set records and helped to establish Zora's engineering capabilities in the U.S.

In early 1950, Zora moved to England and helped Sydney Allard with his racing operation and drove the Allard 12 in LeMans in 1952 and 1953. It was also at this time that he worked for Daimler-Benz and Porsche as a consultant. In 1952, Zora came back to the United States and joined Fairchild Aviation. Shortly after his arrival at F.A., he spotted the Corvette at the GM Motorama Show which was held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York.

After seeing the 1953 Corvette for the first time, Zora wrote a letter to Chevrolet Chief Engineer, Ed Cole outlining his ideas for improving the Corvette. Ed Cole and another engineer, Maurice Olley, were so impressed with Zora's letter that they invited him to meet with them in Detroit. He was hired on May 1, 1953 as an assistant staff engineer. On December 16, 1953, he outlined a letter entitled: "Thoughts Pertaining to Youth, Hot Rodders and Chevrolet." In this letter, Duntov outlined the importance of the V\* engine and the importance of promoting the Chevrolet nameplate to the youth of America.

Even though the Corvette's styling was popular, the engineering that went into the car was lacking. The Blue Flame 6 cylinder engine and automatic transmission did not provide the performance that owners and sports-car enthusiasts expected. As a result, sales gradually fell off and the fate of the Corvette was far from promising. There were however, several people within Chevrolet that wanted to see the Corvette succeed and Zora led the way as seen in his now famous memo written to Ed Cole and Maurice Olley on October 15, 1954. Zora's memo outlined what he saw wrong with Corvette and Chevrolet's marketing and the changes he felt necessary to turn the Corvette around and shape it into the world-class sports car it was meant to be. As a result, Chevrolet management agreed, Zora worked his magic, and Corvette sales escalated.

The 1956 Corvette received at 210-hp, 265 ci V8, a 225-hp. Dual 4-barrel 265 ci engine and a special 265 ci engine sporting the infamous "Duntov Cam, resulting in 240 hp. The 1957 Corvette received the 283 ci V8 and fuel injection. This marked the first year that fuel injection was available on a Corvette. The idea of fuel injection was Zora's and Zora was responsible for encouraging Chevrolet management to undertake this costly joint venture with Rochester Products, however the system was ultimately designed and built by John Dolza, another engineer. The 283 ci engine combined with fuel injection now had an output of 283 hp. The Corvette won the honors of being the first production-based passenger vehicle in the world to sport one horsepower per cubic inch.

Zora started to build the Corvette SS (Project XP-64) around the end of 1957. After the SS came the Chevrolet Engineering Research Vehicles (CERV) I and II, the Legendary Grand Sport Corvettes which gave Carroll Shelby's Cobras a run for their money, the XP-880, XP-882, and many others. Along with all of these special one-off creations, Zora continued to push the Corvette's envelope of performance by releasing various racing packages as Regular Production Options (RPOs) for the Corvette.

The legendary 1963 Z06 Corvette was born. This special performance equipment package consisted of a 327 ci, 360 hp fuel injected V8 with 4 speed manual transmission, positraction rear-end, 36-gallon fuel tank, heavy duty shocks, springs, power brakes with finned drums and much more. Zora incessantly worked at convincing Chevrolet that in order to keep the Corvette competitive in racing, greater performance was necessary. This opened the door to bigger brakes and more powerful engines. The 1967-1969 L88 Corvettes, the ZL-1, 1970 - 1972 ZR-1 and ZR-2 were his eventual offspring.

As the early 1970's drew near so too did big government and insurance companies. Leaded gas became a thing of the past as well as increased government safety restrictions. Along came the insurance companies which drastically increased premiums on high performance automobiles such as the Corvette. In an attempt to keep the Corvette at the forefront of performance, Zora continued to increase the size of the Corvette's top engine option to 454 ci, but this too became a thing of the past and the days of the roaring legendary 427 big block were long gone. It was during this time that Zora kept working on what he considered to be the ultimate Corvette; a special four wheel drive mid-engined Corvette known as the XP-882 which later became the four-rotor XP-895. However these plans were not well received by Chevrolet corporate management and were quickly squashed. Zora retired from Chevrolet in 1975.

Although Zora retired from his position in 1975, he remained a consultant to Chevrolet as well as many other companies such as American Custom Industries and Holley. It was his work with ACI which ultimately led to the limited edition, "Duntov Turbo" Corvette. This customized convertible came equipped with a turbocharged 350 ci V8 and upgraded suspension. Unfortunately, like the early 1970's Corvettes, Zora became disappointed in the poor performance and sales figures of the car.

Gradually, Zora began to reduce his consulting jobs and enjoy his many his many hobbies, one of which was flying. He owned a small plane and enjoyed taking short trips from time to time. He also began making more and more appearances at major Corvette events around the country along with his wife, Elfi Duntov. It was not uncommon to see Zora and Elfi spending hours signing autographs and chatting with the long lines of admiring Corvette owners and enthusiasts who would patiently wait to see and talk to the man who was responsible for fostering their love affair with the Corvette.

On Sunday, April 21, 1996, Zora Arkus-Duntov quietly passed away at St. John's Hospital in Grosse Pointe, MI at the age of 86.





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