

## ***We did “Get to know” our Club!!***

Well; everyone wanted something different. This run was different. Everyone met at Wells Fargo on Friant at about 1:00. Well, everyone but the Hosts! The DeVoe's arrived socialably late. They rushed around signing everyone up and getting everyone to pay for dinner. Then the fun started. Jon started explaining the Rules of the Run. “The Group” said “We already know each other, let's eat!” Another concern was “Where are we going to eat for \$10? AM/PM?” That'll be explained later. After a few minutes of calming the masses, we finally had the drivers draw tickets. Then the passengers drew tickets. (See where this is heading?) Then we matched up the tickets. A couple of couples drew the same set up they came with. After a little discussion, we all had different passengers.

After that was settled, I then handed out clipboards to all the guests of each car. On the clipboards were questions about the drivers. Nothing too personal. Just some fun questions like “Where were you born?”, “What's your favorite food?” & “What was your first job?”. On the second page were some “polling” questions. Things like “Gold or silver” & “Beach, country or city?” I then instructed everyone to have the questioner filled out, at or before the first stop.

We finally headed out of the parking lot and out some back-country roads at a nice calm pace. *NO REALLY!!* After we turned north onto Auberry Road, we had all 14 Vettes almost in sight of each other.

The first stop was in Prather, in a tight little parking lot. Everyone jumped from the cars laughing, & giggling with high school girl enthusiasm. Some even forgetting to finish the questions! Then I had all the passengers draw new tickets. Again, anyone with a familiar driver would change. Not hard to convince them with the anticipation of a new driver looming.

From there we stumbled out of the parking lot towards Auberry & Smalley Cove @ Powerhouse Lake. While driving, I asked my newest guest if she had noticed that there wasn't a lot of radio chatter today. She said it was a little more quite than normal. I asked the same inquiry over the radio and barely received an answer of “We're busy answering questions!” .

It's hard being a kidder/joker when you have to be serious all of a sudden. Just before the stop at Smalley Cove, we came around a curve and **BOOM!** A cow on the shoulder. I radioed back “Watch out for the bovine on the left”. I followed that with a ”Really! There is a cow!” That got the chatter going. “Yeah right” , “What ever” , & “Sure DeVoe, a cow” . Well, then the “Oh WOW! That's a big cow!” started coming in. I am serious when I have to be. ☺ At this stop, everyone pottied after some needed “air

refreshing”. By now the passengers were attacking me trying to get the new driver numbers. After everyone paired up once again in their respective vehicles, we all headed out towards North Fork. Sorry, no organized parade today. But, 14 Vettes cruising thru North Fork on a Sunday afternoon, is a sight to see.

Our next stop was at Bass Lake in the upper parking lot where we once again changed drivers/passengers. And by now everyone was really getting into this changing thing. Right before we pulled out, Liz contacted her parents and had me announce that we were making an unscheduled stop. We some how found a way to park 14 beautiful, pristine works of automotive engineering @ a cabin in Bass Lake. Her Mom & Dad’s cabin! They have just finished another section of exquisite rock work there. They have been working on different aspects of their house for more than 5 years. With the addition of the new garage and concrete/brick/rock driveway, Liz just had to show it off. Complete with raccoons, bear cubs climbing trees and a mother mountain lion jumping across a gully to her two kids playing on some rocks below her. It was nice to have everyone make themselves at home there, but, we had to pry some of our members out of the comfy chairs, swings and benches lakeside to get everyone to dinner.

After a short dive around the north side of the lake we ended up at Todd’s BBQ in Oakhurst. Some were still questioning the \$10 menu. Till we all lined up to the buffet spread Todd and his staff had sprawled out for us. Ribs, chicken, tri-tip slices, cowboy beans, tator salad and sodas. A few purchased “adult beverages”. Man, that room got quite fast! As we were finishing up all the good grub Todd’s staff brung out some dessert (ice cream) and some to-go boxes. So much for the questionable \$10 menu, huh!

We then all headed over to the DeVoe’s Ranchette to see Liz’s newest home improvement projects. A huge new bar! Some left after the tour of the property. Others stayed and we practiced some dances and learned a couple of new ones. Overall, it sounded like everyone had a great time getting to know each other a little more.

To publicize some of the answers to the question .....

- 1) We have a lot of members born in Fresno. With members from Hawaii, Texas (I’m sorry), Idaho, Arkansas and even England! Did you know we have some one born in Beijing China? We did have to question that one. Something to do with Jon saying “Drivers, have fun with your answers!”
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> jobs; everything from gas attendants to butchers and bakers to pimps, strippers a “box doctor” and even a dictator of Nicaragua.

- 3) Favorite foods were everything from American to Thai. From lamb chops to doughnuts! We eat anything not moving! And some things that do!
- 4) Some of the favorite/exciting mods to do to our cars. Things from “nothing” to lambo doors! “Trade it in on a new Z-06” to “make it look like the DeVoe’s. (Thanks for the complement) *SOMEONE* wanted to “Add a man!” and someone wanted to “Change passengers”. And we all wondered who wanted to get “Glitzy windshield wipers” and a “Rhinestone rearview mirror”!
- 5) A large majority likes gold over silver. ***REALLY!?!?***
- 6) Most preferred buttered and salted over plain popcorn.
- 7) A whole lot of members liked the beach. With the exceptions of a few country folks.
- 8) And with the alcohol; it was beer over wine. But not by much. With a couple of “tequila’s” and a few generic answers of “YES” and “SURE”!!!

All and all, an awesome day to drive, eat and .....

***GET TO KNOW THE CLUB!!!!***

Thanks to everyone that participated. We’re glad everyone had such a great time.