

My 1962 Almond Beige Corvette (The first 32 years)

Many of you remember when I did a frame-on restoration of my '62 back in 1999. She was red when I bought her in San Antonio in 1973 and when she revealed her original color of almond beige in 1999 that was the beginning of a lot of car shows. Only 820 of the 14,531 corvettes produced in 1962 were almond beige exterior and fawn beige interior. She received an NCRS "Top Flight" award that year and many, many other awards along the way. She was sold after 32 years, at the 2005 Fort Worth Rod & Custom Car Show. Crazy you say? Perhaps. Even though I didn't fit comfortably in the cockpit (I'm normal size at 6' 4" – the cockpit is small) I had perfected a technique during those 32 years where it just seemed the easiest for me to get in, drive, and then get out. But all C-1 ragtops leaked, did not have a/c, p/s, p/b, p/w, stereo, etc., etc., (and it rode like my Father's 1953 Chevy pickup)!



Before I sold her in 2005 I had seen an article in the Corvette Enthusiast magazine, March 2005, Vol 8, Issue 3, p 38, "*Bringing Back The Feeling*" that piqued my interest. After the sale I went out and bought a 2003 Anniversary Red convertible (they have a "Shale" interior – very close to the "Fawn Beige" of the 62s). That article had influenced my selection. During the 2005 season I participated in a few low-speed autocrosses and believe that I have that out of my system now. We called her "ANN" to distinguish her from our other 2003, a Medium Spiral Gray Metallic convertible that we had taken 'Museum' delivery of in 2003. Since both were 2003s we had zero trouble adjusting to which vette we were in! During early 2005 I had place my name on a "list".

"ANN" gets a new dress - our 1962 Almond Beige Corvette (for the Next 32 years)?

That list that I had my name on was for a specialized 1962 body manufactured by "Classic Reflection Coachworks" (CRC), to be mounted on our 2003 Anniversary model ("ANN") with shale interior. One can select any color exterior so I choose almond beige and the shale interior was almost a perfect match to the original fawn beige -- so we ended up with a duplicate 62 almond beige exterior and the insides of the 2003 ANN (color, modern technology, safety, & creature comforts) -- the best of both worlds! See the CRC site at: <http://www.crcoachworks.com/>

I dropped ANN off in Lakewood, WA on 30 Dec 2005 for the transformation. A few days later, she had been stripped of her C5 skin and being prepped for the '62 skin. On May 2nd, 2006 I picked her up



with her new skin where she will enjoy life as a '62 Almond Beige Roadster. ANN is production unit # 6. It was amazing all the new "friends" I gained as I

drove her back home to TX!

ANN showed off her new dress to Cowtown Vettes on 13 May at the Bruce Lowrie Sponsor Display. So now we are back into the car show circuit – occasionally – with our "CRC 62 Almond Beige ANN"! Hence, our license plates: "A6T2C5". Yep, a decent driver for long distances too.



Cheers. Doc & Debbi Lambert