

Teen Driving School

Pictures by Randy Urick, Chuck Pellerin, and Arthur Baer



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Dealer Sponsor:
Koons Chevrolet
Tysons Corner, VA



The folks working hard for you

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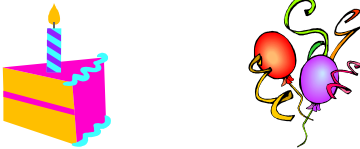
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Happy birthday!!!



George Laing	May 2 nd
James Gaby	May 7 th
Cheryl Anderson	May 15 th
Helen Mihelarakis	May 15 th
Howard Snook	May 18 th
William Molloy	May 19 th
John Craig	June 5 th
Michael Higgins	June 8 th
Mark Grigg	June 26 th
Jim Robinson	June 28 th



**Membership
Corner**

**We currently have
123 active members and
12 prospective members.**

Prospective Members:

Francis Brooks 2001 Yellow Z06
Gary Moller 2006 Z51 Victory Red Coupe
John Hillenbrand 2006 Red Convertible
Josie McMahon 1994 Blue Coupe
Lynn Balanc 1994 Red Coupe
Dick Clark 2006 Red Coupe

Jim Nokes 2007 Blue & 2004 Red Coupes
Jeffrey Tyley 2007 Silver Coupe
Ahsan & Cindy Sheikh 2000 Yellow Convertible
Mike Bernardi 2007 Black Coupe
Henry Freund 2007 Silver Z06 Coupe

You remain a "prospective" member until you pay your membership dues and return your NCCC form.

Dear NVCC members, this article was written for this publication as well as others not directly associated with NVCC. There may be some information that is common knowledge among the club so please forgive me if it seems like I'm preaching to the choir. Thanks for your understanding.

“If only one life was saved....”

By Ahsan Sheikh – aka “Sheikh”

You're going around a corner at a high rate of speed and suddenly there is a stalled car in the middle of your lane. What do you do? What do you mean there isn't enough information? Is it light or dark? Is it raining? How fast are you going? What kind of car are you in? In a real world situation, you may have milliseconds to make a decision and execute. Most people can't process all of that information that quickly. How are you going to find out all of that info, think about your personal experiences driving thus far and execute a maneuver safely? Now imagine that you are a teen driver who has barely any experience at all.



During my short time as a police officer I was lucky enough to never have to knock on any doors in the middle of the night to tell a family that their loved one had passed in a car accident. I did however work with plenty of fellow officers who did. From hearing their experiences and stories, that is an event that I wish no family would ever again have to experience. Although I never knocked on any doors, I did attend quite a few funerals of teen drivers, and that is one of the reasons I am so passionate about educating teen drivers today.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) states that young drivers between 15 and 20 years old make up 7% of US licensed drivers, yet are responsible for over 20% of the nation's annual traffic crash fatalities. Of those crashes, driver error was the highest cause of accidents. Driver error because they simply didn't know what to do or how the car would react when they did it.



If your rear end begins to slide out in a wet corner, what would you do? Would you be able to recognize the signs that it is about to break loose? Once it goes, would you be able to safely bring the car back into your control? What about accident avoidance? If a car cut in front of you and slammed on their brakes, would you be able to stop in time? How do you handle the car if it goes into a skid? Teen drivers who have never been in these situations simply will not be able to make those decisions in milliseconds. They may very easily lose control and be the victim of yet another teen driver related accident.

While I was growing up, my father tried to impart as much wisdom to me as he could, but much of what he said sounded like Charlie Brown's teacher "Whob whob whob whob whob...". However, there were a few words of wisdom that actually stuck with me. He used to tell me to learn from my mistakes but more importantly, learn from the mistakes of others. This way I benefited from the lesson without having to pay the consequences. Helping these teens learn what to do in an emergency situation and sharing with them the stories of the other teen accidents in the US is critical to making them safe.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for American teenagers. According to the NHTSA, in the last decade close to 70,000 teenagers have died in car crashes. Over 2 million more were seriously injured. The members of the Northern Virginia Corvette Club (NVCC), a club based in the suburbs of Washington D.C., grew concerned that so many teen drivers lose their lives due to a lack of adequate driver training. The driver education taught in most high schools is geared to helping a student pass a DMV driving test & earn their drivers license. After that, these drivers are pretty much on their own. Although correct usage of turn signals and mirrors are a must, they usually will not help in life or death situations, but knowing what to do in an emergency may. Although the local gym teacher may be perfectly qualified to teach students how to parallel park, real world accident avoidance in emergency situations may not be his or her forte.

The NVCC recognized that teen drivers simply don't have the experience to handle these situations. This inexperience combined with typical teen risk-taking behavior is a recipe for disaster. How do we save these teens from becoming another statistic? Put them in a safe and controlled environment where they are forced to lose control. Have them actually be behind the wheel when their car skids out of control, when they lock up their brakes, or are put into a situation where they would otherwise panic. What better way to keep teens from being involved in accidents than to teach them how to avoid them in the first place? Guns are only dangerous when you pull the trigger. Everyday we put our children in 3,000 lb bullets and send them on their way. It's time we taught them how to not pull that trigger.

George Kerns, the president of the NVCC, along with 6 proud sponsors, 20 qualified instructors and 35 additional volunteers put together the Sir Isaac Newton's Totally Awesome Driving School to accomplish this task. On April 28, 2007 at Stonewall Jackson High School in Manassas, Virginia, 60 parents and 60 students arrived beginning at 7am to really learn how to drive. The coffee was hot and the eyes were barely open. All of the students began by having their cars go through a "tech" inspection. Paul Benish, of the NVCC, headed the tech team. Skilled volunteers went through every inch of the vehicles to make sure that they were safe for the day of driving to come. From adjusting tire pressure, to checking the oil levels, to just making sure that there were no significant safety issues with the vehicles, Paul and his team had their work cut out for them. Numerous safety groups constantly remind us that under-inflated tires are the most common reason for blowouts. From my time helping with the tech session, I found that close to 1/2 of the cars I inspected had low tire pressure.



After tech, all of the students and their parents joined the head instructor, Miriam Schottland, in the school gymnasium for the initial classroom instruction. Before any of the students could participate in the driving exercises they had to first understand the physics of a car and the forces that play upon it. Why a car does certain things and how we as drivers can better avoid causing those things to happen. I'm sure many of the students were anxious to get behind the wheel, but you must first learn to walk before you can fly, young grasshopper. (Sorry, had to do it....)



After the morning classes the students, with their parents, were divided into 5 different groups and each was sent to different exercise areas. Each exercise station had a lead instructor who explained to them the exercise and what they would learn by going through it. Parents were allowed to ride in the back seats while different instructors rode in the front, beside the driver, coaching them and monitoring their performance during the exercises. Here's the best part. No parents were allowed to say anything while the cars were in motion. I saw many parents' faces turn a lovely shade of white that day.

The exercises were broken down into Slalom led by Zoel Robinson, Threshold Braking with Andrej Balanc, EGG led by Reggie Forster, Skid Pad with Mike Woods (Woodsy) and further Classroom with Miriam. Although the length of this article won't allow me to get into too much detail on each individual item, I will say that all of the behind the wheel exercises were designed to teach the students in real world scenarios. The main focus was to show them how easy it was to lose control of their vehicles, how to recognize those signs and to give them the tools to correct the car's behavior if they did get out of line. Next year's Slalom may include one pass with both hands on the wheel and focused on the course and then another pass with the student having a conversation on a cell phone, the goal being to show them the difference in their reaction times.



The additional classroom session, taught by Miriam, focused more on car control techniques and other useful driving knowledge. In today's "The Fast & The Furious" society of car fanatics, many teens actually believe that some of the stunts they see in the movies are reflective of what a normal car can actually do. After a quick lesson in physics, Miriam was able to "correct" their misconceptions. Again, the behind the wheel experience is very valuable, but if the



students didn't understand why things happened, how could they ever understand how to avoid them? Miriam has been the head instructor for the NVCC for a couple of years now and nowhere have I ever seen such a wealth of knowledge on both real life driving and performance driving combined in one person. She is truly an amazing person to know.

As many of us know, you can tell a teen something over and over again but more often than not, unless they experience it themselves, it doesn't mean much. That was why the behind the wheel exercises were so important. They actually got to experience losing control and what it felt like to be in an emergency situation. They got to panic in a controlled environment and learn how to manage through it. More importantly, they learned to expect the unexpected.



Throughout the day, the students would rotate exercises so they got to experience each one. I was at the Securitas Security tent handing out coffee, donuts, water and child identification packets. Knowing that I would be writing this article I wandered out to each exercise area to help out and speak with the instructors, parents and students. One student in particular really stood out in my mind. I hope he doesn't mind me mentioning him in this article. He came to the school with his daily driver, a huge Caprice Classic with close to 300 lbs of stereo gear in the trunk. In the skid pad exercise he was positive that he would be able to swing the rear of his car around, especially since the course had been flooded with water and soap. He quickly learned the difference between over-steer and under-steer. With balding front tires and the wet pavement, instead of losing the rear end, which is usually easier to control, he went almost immediately into under-steer, where his front tires began to lose all traction and actually roll over on their rims.

In talking to him throughout the exercise, he learned a few good lessons on the skid pad. Bald tires equal no traction, which equals no turning. He also learned what having low tire pressure will do for your turning when the tire rolls over on the rim. After sharing these items with him, he filled the tires back up with air and actually took my advice on his second run on the skid pad. WHAT?? I told a teenager something, and he listened and actually learned from it? Did I miss something at the last national "Old Person" meeting????

My best friend, Cassidy Nolen, is a teacher for Arlington County Schools. He was also one of the instructors at the Skid Pad. He once told me that when a student really pays attention and listens to you intently, it is because they really care about what you're saying. This event hit that on the head, because the students were actually listening to the instructors. Watching their progression throughout the day was nothing short of amazing. I remember one female student who got so frustrated after hitting more than a dozen cones (and almost me) on the EGG exercise that she stopped the car, got out and threw her hands up exclaiming "This is too hard" & "I can't do this.". Her instructor calmly had her sit in the passenger seat as he drove her car through the course and showed her the correct technique. They switched seats and the change was amazing, not only did she not hit a single cone, she was moving through the exercise at one of the faster paces I had seen with some of the better control demonstrated in her group.



While talking to another student at the EGG exercise, he shared with me a revelation that I didn't previously think a 16-year-old testosterone filled mind could have. The speed at the EGG was relatively slow. This student had actually lost control of his vehicle, hit a few cones and almost swung out 180 degrees. He told me that he had no idea that he could lose control so quickly at such a slow speed. He was amazed at how easily he could be put into such a dangerous situation. He actually told me that he would always remember the split second he lost control and how he thought that it would really remind him to always pay attention to what he was doing.

While at the Braking exercise, I had the pleasure of speaking to one of the most articulate and insightful teenagers that I have ever met. A 15-year female driver who just had her learners permit was sharing with me her experience while trying the obstacle avoidance part of the day. She said that as she was trying to avoid hitting the cone in the middle of the course while braking, her ABS turned on. The brake pedal began to pulse and she panicked. Having never felt that before, she let off of the brakes and mowed down the cone. She looked at me with one of the most serious faces that I had ever seen. She told me "I am so glad that I experienced that here than on a street where that cone could have been a 3 year old on a tricycle. What if it had been a little boy or girl? What if...." Almost coming to tears, she was so overwhelmed by the experience that she had to go sit in her car again until her next turn.



While back at the skid pad, I noticed one of the teen drivers who seemed very cocky about his driving abilities. I heard his father talking to him earlier in the day and dad just got "that look" from this teen driver. I watched this driver on the skid pad and saw him lose control numerous times. After he ran the course a few times I thought I would see if his attitude had changed. Although I don't think he realized it, he shared with me something that meant the world to me. He told me that he never thought it would be so easy to lose control of the car. He also shared with me that occasionally "his friends" would have a few beers and then



drive home. Although he knew this was a bad idea and illegal, he hadn't seen how it could hurt anybody to just have a couple of beers. He then said it was hard enough to keep it under control sober, and that he knew that he would have been in a world of trouble had he been drinking himself and in similar situations that he faced earlier in the day.



More than anything else that day, the one thing that affected me the most was watching the kids actually "get it." Actually understand what a car really was. Actually understanding the responsibility that was entrusted to them. Actually understanding what could very easily happen to them and that it wasn't just stuff that they saw in the movies, that it was reality. While speaking to some of the parents at the end of the day, I asked them if they felt more confident about their children's driving and if they would still be worried while they were out on the road. I was quickly corrected and told that they were two separate questions. While they would always worry about their children, they all agreed that they were way more confident in their children's ability to react in an emergency situation.



While speaking to a few of the parents after the event, one told me that even if one life was saved by this experience, then it was all worthwhile. Many of the parents approached me during the day and told me that they wished there had been a similar program for them when they learned to drive. Many said that they were learning just as much as their child while sitting in the back seats and asked if we would consider doing a similar event for adults. Every parent and every student filled out a survey after the event. At the local watering hole that evening, many of the instructors and volunteers looked over the evaluations. Out of over 100 evaluations, there wasn't a single one that said they wouldn't recommend it to others or didn't see great value in it. On top of the raving evaluations, the NVCC also received numerous letters thanking them for the event. I'd like to share a few thoughts from these letters.

"The Instructors were always positive and reinforced the desired behaviors. All the instructors and course workers treated the students as adults"

"(My son) learned valuable skills that day, and I firmly believe that he will be a much better and safer driver as a result (however, I do believe that if I crawled under my car, I'd find an orange cone rattling around there somewhere!)"

"My daughters and I enjoyed ourselves tremendously. We all learned a lot about physics, driving smartly and even ourselves. We are still experiencing the benefits of sharing that special moment"

"Your concern for the safety of our children provoked you to actually arm them with skills they can use that can save not only their lives, but possibly the lives of others."

"This teaching technique should become mandatory in the schools ... what more do you need other than teachers who are truly passionate and knowledgeable about what they're teaching !!!"

"My son thoroughly enjoyed himself and felt very comfortable in each course/class. On the way home, I was riding with a different, more confident driver."

Something great was accomplished that day. Whether directly or indirectly, I have no doubt that lives were saved by the efforts of this great group of people. That 15-year old girl, close to tears, said it better than 20 pages of my writing could ever have. "What if that cone had been a 3-year old? What if ..." Now, hopefully, she won't have to find out.

The following sponsors contributed greatly with cash donations and other helpful hands at the event: Howard Snook of Long & Foster, Koons Chevrolet, Tire Van, Roadblock Protective Systems Inc., Curry's Auto services, Ernie Porter (annual banquet 50/50 contribution) and yours truly representing Securitas Security Services USA. With the generous donations from these sponsors and the volunteers, not a single student or parent had to pay a dollar for the experience. For more information on preparing your teen driver for the hazards of the road, contact George Kerns at whiskeytahoe@aol.com.



More moments from the Teen Driving School ...



That'll be 25¢ per cone, please ...



Lined up to go



Inside Edition



We have to do what?!!!



Skid Pad!!!



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY: GEORGE KERNS

Hey all! WOW! What a month! As you all know by now, the “Sir Isaac Newton’s Totally Awesome Driving School” for teens was a smashing success! These are the type of events that makes me proud to say that I’m part of the Northern Virginia Corvette Club. Here are a few numbers for you: 60 students, 60 parents, 21 instructors, 34 volunteers, and 6 sponsors that physically participated in the school. Before I forget, there are some people that I want to thank: First of all I want to thank Miriam. We work together on these types of events, and people really don’t understand how many hours we put into these events to make them as successful as they are. Second, I want to thank all the instructors, workers and volunteers that helped out. I don’t think that there was a parent or student at the school that didn’t come up to me and say that they were totally blown away by the professionalism, courtesy, and friendliness of everyone that helped out. That’s saying it all right there! Finally, I want to thank all of the supporting sponsors for the event. Without their generous donations and support, we couldn’t have pulled this event off the way we did. So Howard Snook of Long & Foster, Koons Chevrolet, Tire Van, Roadblock Protective Systems Inc., Curry’s Automotive Services, Securitas Security services, Joe and Cel Holzer with Exxon/Mobile, and a donation from Ernie Porter – thank you from everyone at NVCC.

As many of you know already, we got some great publicity for the school – the Journal Messenger Newspaper covered the school and wrote a half-page article that appeared on the third page of their newspaper on May 8. There was also a crew that came in from New York with the TV show Inside Edition that filmed all day at the school. We are waiting on an air date from them.

There are many other exciting events coming in the near future also! Don’t forget that June 3rd is our Concours car show at Koons Chevrolet, and this one promises to be the best one yet! I was really impressed at how many people volunteered to help out with this event so quickly. The Concours show is growing each year, and other clubs are starting to take notice. We really need to get as many of our club members out there as possible to show their cars off and to help out. Not only does it show support for the club, but it is also supporting our Dealer sponsor Koons Chevrolet in drawing people into their business. Over the last couple of years, Koons has really bent over backwards to help the club, and Carl Leckner has been a huge part of that. We are also going to have several of our supporting sponsors out there putting on some demonstrations for everyone: Roadblock Systems Inc. will be installing a clear bra on a vehicle so that everyone can see how they are actually put on your car. Tire Van is bringing one of their service trucks out to demonstrate their services for everyone. Plus there will be great food and a lot of prizes to be handed out! So everyone come on out for a great day of fun in the sun and support your club!

I would like to talk about an idea that I brought up at the last meeting: going to a local brewery where we would have a dinner feast and then spend the evening brewing our own brand of beer! You don’t need to worry about messing up your brew because each group will have their own Master Brewer with them to help out. Then 3-5 weeks later, we can go back to sample the beer, bottle it, and put our own custom labels on it. I’ve had several conversations with the facility, and they would really like to have us out there for an evening. There would be room for about 30 people to go, so if you are interested please let me know by email or phone. If I can get enough people interested, I’ll make the reservations. Family and friends are welcome to join in. When all is said and done, we will make about 120 gallons of beer (about 1 & 1/2 cases per person) and you will leave with a full belly (of food and beer)! The cost per person will be around \$75-\$80 per person and you have to be 21 years of age to attend.

Finally I wanted to remind everyone about our July 27th high speed event up on the Summit Point Main track! The Summit Main is always an absolute blast to drive on, and we will really be pushing this event in the next couple of months. The cost for the high speed event is \$175 for a full day, and you will need a helmet and fire extinguisher. We have room for 75 people at this event, and the slots are starting to fill. So if you want to get on the track, you should get your registration in soon! Other clubs are starting to take notice of our driving events, and word is starting to spread about how we run quality events.

Well boys and girls, that’s all I have for this month so remember, if it’s too fast, you’re too old!

Take care,
George



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Mother's Day Rod Run Car Show

Pictures courtesy of Rich Mars



MINUTES FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING ...

Northern Virginia Corvette Club General Business Meeting April 24, 2007

Meeting brought to order around 7:35 pm at Koons Chevrolet, Tysons Corner.

George Kerns, President welcomed everyone to the GBM. Introductions were made by all.

Laurie Kistner, Social/Concours –

- Discussed the upcoming events (Skyline cruise, Mother's Day rod run).
- Concours – needs more judges. Sign up sheet for different volunteer opportunities is circulating, please sign up!

Andrej Balanc, NCCC Gov –

- The East Region Spectacular event is coming up on May 18-20. There will be lots of activities. A group is meeting to drive up on Friday – contact him for info.

Arthur Baer – hosted Tax Day cruise to Ocean City. They had 8 cars, and everyone had a great time. He'll try to make it an annual event.

Rich Mars, VP –

- He and Jerry Lelansky went to the LaGrange winery (hosted by Old Dominion Corvette club) – nice time, nice people.
- He is working on AAA discount for club; will have pricing/info next meeting.

Anne Costolanski, Newsletter –

- If you are willing to receive the newsletter via email/internet, please let her know.
- She will be leaving the area in August. If anyone is interested in taking over the newsletter, please contact her. She volunteered to continue doing the newsletter from North Carolina if someone will take over distribution (printing/ mailing).

Pat Somersall, Membership –

- We have 135 total active and prospective members.
- He is all caught up with membership paperwork; he and Laurie are now working on updates to the website.

Andrej Balanc, Spooktacular – Brian Gallagher was FTD in 2006. Andrej is ordering shirts for 2006 which will be \$17/each – contact him if interested in purchasing one.

Cassidy Nolen, Historian –

- After all the effort that's gone into trying to get VA to issue special corvette plates, they only have 11 people signed up! Get those applications in!

- His questions were tough this month (or we all had our dummy caps on), but Tom Shea, Rich Mars, and George Kerns won prizes for answering the closest to the correct answers.

Marsha Batchellor, Treasurer –

- We are in sound financial shape.
- Tonight is the deadline for club shirts – if you want one, sign up and pay now!

Chuck Pellerin, Officer At Large – The Rallye season is cancelled for this year, since no one stepped up to volunteer to chair it. However, if you are interested in hosting an individual rallye, please do – contact Chuck and Laurie for info/scheduling.

George Kerns, President –

- He had an idea for a new social event: make your own beer night! He'll put info on the forum; if interested please contact him.
- Registration is open for the July 27 HPDE.

Miriam Schottland, Honorary Member (Extraordinaire) – described the event, what it entails, what vehicles need to be track ready (helmet, fire extinguisher, roll bar for convertibles)

George Kerns, President –

- Talked with Dave Walter from Cumberland Valley Corvette Club. On July 8, they are sharing the Shenandoah track with the Morgan Club. No instruction, just driving – must have a high speed license, and track experience. Only 45 slots. Price is \$80 pp, and a BBQ lunch is available for \$20 pp.
- Teen Driving School – Want to see as many folks from NVCC there as possible! All kids are receiving goodie bags due to Shiekh (Securitas) and Koons donations. Donations paid for first aid kits, 60 more cones, and lunch for the kids. Howard Snook from Long & Foster paid for the use of the facility – thank you Howard! And Curry's Automotive, Tire Van, Roadblock Protective Services, and Joe & Cel Holzer from Exxon/Mobil also have donated items and will be out at the event to help out. Carl Leckner (Koons) and George are trying to get GM involved since Ford has a similar program. VA ABC is coming out to help out, and will help us apply for grant funding.

Raffle & 50/50 – The winners were:

- Oil Changes – Ed Davis & Paul Benish
- Feather Duster – George Conlon
- Caribou Coffee Gift Certificates – Jeannie Wine, Fred Wendling, Pat Somersall, Zoel Robinson
- Soap set – Ed Davis
- Tool kit – Patty Williams
- 50/50 – Barbara Foor

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm with 35 active & prospective members present.



NVCC Event Calendar

May 18 to 20 – NCCC East Region Spectacular

The East Region is putting on a (first in a very long time) Regional Spectacular, May 19 & 20, 2007 in Aberdeen, MD!! The events are being put on by various clubs in the region: from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Each club will be handling the events it is responsible for, and we are hoping to make this a yearly event for the region.

The events will be centered at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen, MD. The event opens Friday the 18th at 1pm, and includes Autocross, Concours, Rallye, Funkhana, and Economy Run events, plus a barbeque, party, and cruise scheduled throughout the weekend. NVCC will be hosting an Economy Run on Sunday, May 20th.

Contact Andrej Balanc at urtoslo@yahoo.com for questions or further info, or visit the NCCC East Region's website at <http://www.ernccc.org/spectacular/>. Come join us, and see how much more fun you can have with your Corvette!!

June 1 – Car Show

Heritage High School Auto Club is hosting a Car Show on Friday, June 1st from 5pm to 8pm. Open to all cars, trucks, etc. This is a fun show, with several different car classes being judged, and prizes to be awarded. And it's free, so get your car ready for Concours by attending the Heritage HS Car Show!

Heritage High School is located at 520 Evergreen Mill Road in Leesburg. To get there, take the Dulles Toll Road till it ends (via the Greenway). Take the Route 7 West/Route 15 Bypass (Exit 1A) toward Leesburg. After approx. 1 mile, take Route 15 / King Street South. Evergreen Mill Road is the first left; follow the road just under 1 mile to the school.

June 3 – NVCC Concours 2007

Northern Virginia Corvette Club presents Concours and Fun Show '07, an NCCC sanctioned event, to benefit the Special Olympics. This is a show for all Corvettes, with spectacular prizes, raffles, food, music and fun ... Trophies and awards to be won by both NVCC judged and fun show Corvettes!

This year Koons has again extended their hospitality to us in hosting the show at their facility. We have both judged and non-judged categories ... you do not need a "Concours" car to enter! The entrance classes are:

JUDGED CLASSES –

- **Concours Prepared:** Showroom condition, stock equipment, no deviation. Classification sheet, exterior, interior, and engine judged.
- **Modified:** 3-4 modifications allowed. Classification sheet, exterior, interior, and engine judged.
- **Custom:** More modifications than the modified category. Custom (non-factory) paint jobs would be included in this grouping. Classification sheet, exterior, interior, and engine judged.
- **Race-prepared:** NO classification sheet, exterior, interior, and engine judged. Must meet RP requirements for speed events.
- **Street Show:** NO classification sheet, exterior, interior, and engine judged.
- **Wash and show:** NO classification sheet, exterior and interior judged only. NO engine judging.

NON-JUDGED CLASS – Exhibition: No judging, just for fun and to help our charity.

You can enter your car even if you are working the event – it'll be twice the experience! And if you're judging, the only restriction is that you cannot judge your own class. It would be nice to have as many club members as possible put their cars in the show, judged or not. You'll learn a lot about your car as well as help a great cause.

To get a discount on registration, mail the registration form (on page 14) to Laurie Kistner NO LATER THAN JUNE 1. You can also register the day of the event. For further information or to sign up to help out with the event, please contact Laurie at lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com.

Although this is mostly an indoor show, the weather is usually beautiful, and there are burgers/dogs on the grill, music, and wonderful cars and people to hang out with. So bring your vette, put it in the show, and enjoy the day!

June 24 – Hopsfrog Brunch Cruise

Back by popular demand...Hopsfrog Brunch Cruise...the first one of the 2007 season! This is one of our most popular cruises covering some very twisty roads in the Clifton/Fairfax Station area.

Meeting point is the Giant Food/Sunoco parking lot on Route 123 (Shops at Lorton Valley/Palmer Drive) at 9:45am. After a quick drivers meeting at 10am, we will depart at 10:10am for Hopsfrog Tavern for brunch at 11am.

Hopsfrog Tavern's Sunday Brunch is \$12.95 + drink + tax + tip. Expect to see French toast, pancakes, waffle station, omelet station, bacon, sausage, home fries, carved beef and turkey, chicken and beef specialties, soup, vegetables, salads, fruit, desserts, and much more! Please bring CASH - \$18.00 per person - exact change only!

NEW THIS YEAR - After brunch, there is a Part Two to the cruise, with a different route. Stick around after brunch to cruise even more fabulous area roads. One event, twice the fun!

This is a RAIN or SHINE event. If it rains and you don't want to bring out the vette, feel free to bring alternate transportation (sedan, truck, minivan, whatever!) Please RSVP by Friday 6/22 to Laurie Kistner at lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com.

June 29 – Drive Your 'Vette to Work Day

Friday, June 29th, is the date of the 7th Annual Drive Your Corvette To Work Day, sponsored by Mid America Motorworks. In honor of Drive Your Corvette To Work Day, enthusiasts across the United States make "America's Sports Car" their commuter car for the day. Every year, the Friday closest to June 30, Corvette's official birthday, is chosen to observe Drive Your Corvette To Work Day.

Mid America Motorworks promotes Drive Your Corvette To Work Day among Corvette owners and clubs. The goal is to have as many Corvette owners as possible drive their car to work that day. Launched in 2001, Mid America Motorworks' Drive Your Corvette To Work Day is an annual event celebrated by thousands of Corvette owners.

Corvette owners who observe "Drive Your Corvette To Work Day" are encouraged to send high resolution digital pictures of their car at work to clubs@mamotorworks.com. Mid America Motorworks will post as many pictures as possible on their website at www.madvet.com.

July 1 – Annual Club Picnic / BBQ

Our annual picnic/BBQ will be held this year at Algonkian Regional Park on Sunday, July 1st 2007. Come out and enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, snacks, soft drinks, and desserts as you partake of the park's nature trail, family playground, and golf, along with some live music. We have reserved Pavilion #1 for the entire day; please RSVP to lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com and indicate how many in your party will be attending. The food will be served around noon and the fun continues until sundown. For more park information visit: <http://www.nvrpa.org/algonkian.html>.

Anyone who wants to bring games, volleyball, etc, please feel free to bring those items for use in the park. No alcohol is allowed. The park is very family friendly and is also open to pets (leashed). This event is open to NVCC members, their families, and those who have applied for NVCC membership. See the flyer on page 16 for more details.

To reach Algonkian Regional Park from the Beltway (I-495), take Route 7 west 11 miles to Cascades Parkway north, and drive 3 miles to the park entrance. The address is 47001 Fairway Drive, Sterling VA, 20165.

July 27 – HPDE on the Main Track at Summit Point

NVCC is hosting a high speed driving school on July 27th on the Main Circuit at Summit Point. Registration will be open to 25 per group (novice, intermediate, and advanced), for a total of 75 slots. Since this is a high speed event, rules require a MOUNTED fire extinguisher and roll bars in convertibles, long pants and long sleeved shirt, a Snell SA 2000 (or newer) helmet and closed toe shoes. Cars must pass a tech inspection. The cost is \$175 until July 13th, and \$200 July 14 or later. See the registration form and tech sheet (pages 17 and 18) for more details.

Northern Virginia Corvette Club presents

Concours & Fun Show '07

to benefit the Special Olympics

Sunday, June 3rd, 2007



Sponsored by & held at Koons Chevrolet * 2000 Chain Bridge Rd. Vienna, VA 22182

A show for all Corvettes, with spectacular prizes, raffles, food, music and fun...
Trophies and awards to be won by both NCCC judged and fun show Corvettes!

7 - 10:30 AM - REGISTRATION
9 AM - GATES OPEN TO PUBLIC
11 AM - RAGS DOWN/DRIVERS MTG
11 AM - 3 PM - JUDGING
3:30 PM - AWARD PRESENTATIONS
4:30 PM - SHOW CLOSES

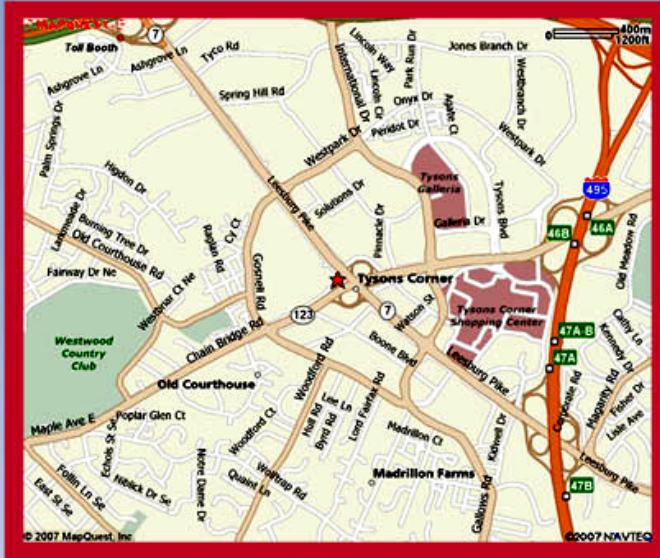
NCCC Sanction Event Number E-040, Club Number 357
Andrej Balanc, NCCC East Region Governor
604 S. Dogwood Street, Sterling VA 20164, 703-220-8228

Judged Classes: **\$30** pre-registry, **\$35** day of
Fun Show Cars: **\$20** pre-registry, **\$25** day of



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.nvcorvetteclub.com

NVCC Concours & Fun Show 2007 Registration Form & Map



Directions

From D.C./Virginia -
Take Rt. 495 or Rt. 66 to
the Rt. 7 West exit. Go
past the Tysons Corner
Shopping Center. Koons
Chevrolet will be .5 mile
past the Shopping Center
on the left at the inter-
section of Rts. 7 & 123.

Mail-in Registration Form

Name _____ NCCC# _____ Club _____
Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone (H) _____ (W) _____ Email _____
Year of Corvette _____ Type (check one) _____ Coupe _____ Convertible _____ Hard Top _____

Classification (check one only): See NCCC rule booklet for full explanations.

- Concours - Showroom condition, stock equipment. Int/ext/engine judged.
 Modified - Some modifications allowed. Int/ext/engine judged.
 Custom - Many mods, including custom paint. Int/ext/engine judged.
 Race-Prepared - Meets RP requirements for speed events. Int/ext/engine.
 Street Show - Street driven. Int/ext/engine judged.
 Wash & Show - Street driven. Interior and exterior judged only.
 Fun Show - No judging, exhibition only.

Describe your Corvette (include details such as color, engine, trans, mods, etc) _____

Judged class pre-registry is \$30, Fun Show pre-registry is \$20. Amt. encl.\$ _____
Checks must be payable to NVCC and mailed to: Laurie Kistner, Concours '07
Director, 13800 Rock Terrace, Centreville, Virginia 20120 no later than 6/1/07.
Judged class Corvettes parked indoors MUST contain 1/4 tank or less of gas.

First Annual Tax Day Cruise to Ocean City, MD

The original cruise, which was scheduled for April 15, had to be postponed until April 22 due to terrible weather. However, Sunday, April 22nd dawned sunny, calm, and with temperatures eventually in the low 80s – a perfect NVCC cruise day. Eight Corvettes assembled in the Target parking lot at Springfield Mall to go the cruise.

The participants were:

Patty Williams, 2007 Monterey Red Coupe
Don Ellenberger, 2006 Yellow ZO6
Dave & Susie Milburn, 1996 Red LT4
Rebecca Maksel & Garry Shields, 1986 Red & Black
Fred & Chris Wendling, 2005 Victory Red Coupe
Laurie Kistner & Anthony Lucido, 1994 Red Coupe
Marsha Batchellor & Phil Berne, 2005 Red Coupe
Arthur Baer, 2004 CE Convertible



A drivers meeting was held at 0745 and the group departed at approx. 0800. A special thank you goes to Dave and Susie Milburn for driving all the way from WV, to then drive all the way to Ocean City! They drove for 2 & 1/2 hours (at 80-85 mph with no traffic) to be part of the cruise. The trip to OC was uneventful (i.e., no State Troopers pulled us over). We stopped in Easton, MD at the Burger King for a pit stop. Several customers enjoyed looking at the Vettes in the parking lot. We continued to OC and pulled into the Inlet parking lot at approx. 1140. We parked in a line in the middle of the lot to ensure that there would not be any other vehicles around us. Everyone went to the Boardwalk to enjoy



the food, rides, and sight seeing opportunities. Another special note goes to Fred and his son Chris for their Segway race on the Boardwalk – Fred said that he lost due to a weight issue (see the Forum). And the next time you see Gary or Rebecca, ask them about the “ride” on the pier that provides a super view of OC for about one second before you fall back to the pier and then go back up a few times. This is especially fun right after you eat a big bucket of Thrashers French fries – NOT!

Following our time on the Boardwalk, everyone eventually cruised back to VA, except for Dave and Susie who stayed over night. Some people took a scenic cruise through Delaware or other parts of the Eastern Shore. I had the opportunity to spend time with my sister-in-law and family on the Boardwalk and then stop in the Outlet stores in Queenstown to buy new dishes for my wife. The cruise back was wonderful. I’m looking forward to the Second Annual Tax Day Cruise next year. I hope the weather is as good!

Art Baer
Tax Cruise Coordinator





Celebrate summer at our

Annual Club Picnic & BBQ

to be held on Sunday, July 1st 2007 at

Algonkian Regional Park

Pavilion #1

47001 Fairway Drive, Sterling VA, 20165

MENU

Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
Old Fashioned Potato Salad
Coleslaw
Penne with Tomato & Mozzarella
Vegetable Crudite
Rye Bread Bowl Dip
Watermelon Boat & Fruit Salad
Assorted Cookies
Cheesecake
Cream Puffs & Eclairs
Soft Drinks (Soda, Iced Tea, Bottled Water)

Come out and enjoy a BBQ as you partake of the park's nature trail, family playground, and golf, along with some cool tunes. Feel free to bring games, volleyball, etc, into the park. No alcohol is allowed. The park is very family friendly and is also open to pets (leashed). This event is open to NVCC members, their families, and those who have applied for NVCC membership.

RSVP to LilRedCorvette94@yahoo.com with number attending

***HPDE on the Summit Point Main Track
Hosted by Northern Virginia Corvette Club
Friday July 27th, 2007
Rain or Shine***

Participant Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Car Make _____ Model _____ Year _____

NCCC Number (If Applicable) _____

Track experience: Please circle one (novice, intermediate, advanced, instructor). Please describe your experience in detail and list organizations you have participated with (for example FATT, BSR, PCA, NASA, etc.) Also include # of HPDE's attended.

If registering as an instructor, list instructor experience & specify which organizations you instruct for:

Cost: \$175. Registrations after July 13th, \$200. Instructors are free, but must register. The NVCC will determine instructor qualifications. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis and will close on July 27th. There will be 25 slots in each run group. **No refunds after July 20th. Please make checks payable to NVCC.** Please mail registration forms and checks to:

**George Kerns
13544 Wynecrosse Ct.
Bristow, VA 20136
(571) 921-0620**

NVCC website: www.nvcorvetteclub.com

Fire extinguishers, Helmet SNELL SA 2000 or newer, and roll bar for convertibles are required. Cars must pass tech inspection. No timing equipment allowed. See administrative sheet for additional details.

Directions to Summit Point: Take Route 7 West past Leesburg toward Winchester, VA. Continue on Route 7 West past the Berryville exits and turn Right onto Route 632 (Crums Church Road). Follow 632 until you reach the "T" intersection. Turn right onto Route 761 (Old Charles Town Road). Continue on 761 until you reach the next "T" intersection. Make a right turn and follow 300 yards. The entrance will be on your right.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CORVETTE CLUB HPDE
SCHOOL TECHNICAL INSPECTION FORM

Event Date _____ Track _____ Pre-tech _____ Track Tech _____

Driver _____

Car Make _____ Model _____ Year _____

INSTRUCTIONS (Read carefully):

Prior to bringing your car to the track or to the tech station, inspect each item on the car as noted on the Tech Sheet. Consult a tech inspector if there are any questions. Have the top of the form filled out **prior** to going to the tech inspector. Making sure your car is track ready is **your** responsibility.

WHEELS & TIRES

_____ condition of tires
_____ all lug nuts present & tight
_____ no hub caps or beauty rings

STEERING & SUSPENSION

_____ wheel bearings-front
_____ wheel bearings-rear
_____ steering play

ENGINE

_____ fluid leaks (oil, fuel, water)
_____ radiator overflow
_____ radiator hoses (condition)
_____ battery secured (no bungees)
_____ terminals covered

BRAKES

_____ pedal pressure
_____ fluid level
_____ brake lights
_____ lines (condition)

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

_____ roll bars in open cars
_____ seat belts or harness
_____ helmet (Snell SA 2000 or newer)
_____ fire extinguisher
_____ battery secured

MISCELLANEOUS

_____ gas cap secured
_____ no wires exposed
_____ seat belts bolted tight

HAVE READY AT THE TRACK:

- Numbers will be assigned at the track.
- No loose objects in car or trunk. Remove spare tire, jack, floor mats, paper, etc.
- A tech/group sticker placed on top center of windshield.
- All exposed lights covered with tape, except brake lights.

I have inspected the above vehicle and take full responsibility for its condition on the track.

OWNER SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

I have inspected this vehicle for items above.

INSPECTOR SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

Inspector's comments (list any violations) _____

Inspector: Please do not sign until all violations have been corrected.

“My first car” stories ...

I started taking auto shop as a sophomore in high school, and I was hooked. My first car was purchased before I could drive it (impressionable 15 year old, sitting in my driveway just to start it and listen to the radio) – a 1980 Mustang, bought from a diplomat at the British Embassy. In 1989 the car had less than 80,000 miles on it and was in immaculate garaged shape. Got it for 900 bucks, 8-track and all ☺

In high school, I built a Meyers Manx VW dune buggy, Blakey Bearcat kit car (based on a Pinto) and a 1978 Trans-Am 6.6 liter that I rebuilt from pieces to drive to prom my senior year, mullet and all! After high school, I decided I wanted to teach Auto Tech and there begins my educational journey.

I paid for college by "curbing" cars; buying, fixing and selling. Highlights included a 66 F-250, 73 Chrysler New Yorker, 1983 AM General Postal Jeep (steering wheel on the wrong side) and a few motorcycles.

Corvettes were the cars of dreams growing up. I had every World of Wheels showbook C3 cut out and hanging on my wall. Vette ownership started for me in 1999 when I was working at Sheehy Ford as a mechanic (had to get my certifications before I could teach Auto Tech) and someone traded in a 1985 on a new Expedition. I paid \$2500 for it and proceeded to spend MUCH more making it a reliable performer. In 2004 I bought my Commemorative Coupe and listed my 85 on ebay. For a few days I owned 2 Corvettes! It didn't last and a kid from Wisconsin flew out and drove my 85 home, loaded to the gills with extra parts ... he could hardly see out the back window!

To this day I still have never taught Auto Tech. I have passed 7 ASE certifications and my Auto endorsement to teach in Virginia but got sidetracked teaching engineering!

Cassidy Nolen

My first car was a 1957 two-tone green Chevy station wagon that my brothers had dropped a 427 engine into. I lived in Detroit and everyone drag raced at the traffic lights (and they still do). Other drivers would give me the "do you want to race?" head motion and when I would nod "yes" they would fall all over themselves laughing – until I left them at the light. One time 4 guys in a Mustang were beside themselves laughing at me with my mother in the car when I indicated I would race. The front of the Mustang never got past my driver's side door. Good memories!

Judy Patrick (current Corvette: 1999 Torch Red Corvette Coupe "Red Rider")

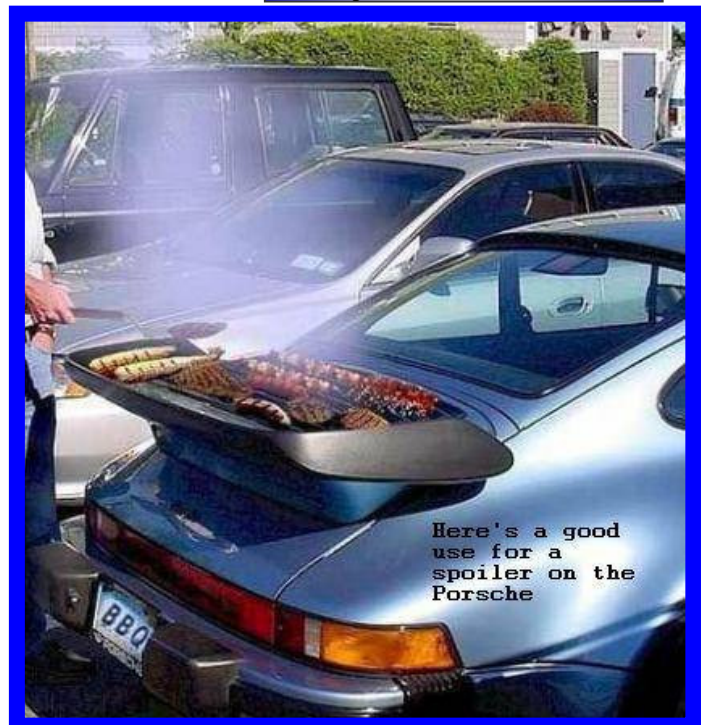
My first car may also have been my first love, and part of the reason why I'm into cars. It wasn't much – a 1974 Chevy Malibu Classic that I purchased in 1987 with about 60k on the odometer. Yes, it was pale green. However, it was in perfect condition (except for the vinyl top that I replaced). Best of all it had a Chevy Small Block V8, which started a long string of Chevy Small Blocks, including 2 in the current stable of cars - my 95 Camaro, and my 2001 Corvette convertible.

Attached is a picture of the first love about 4 years after I bought it.

Jeff Eckhaus



**Fun pic of the month ...
Sorry Miriam!!!**



Northern Virginia Corvette Club

Return Postage Guaranteed

P.O. Box 3458

McLean, VA 22103-3458



Next General Business Meeting:

Tuesday, May 22nd

Koons Chevrolet

2000 Chain Bridge Road

Tysons Corner, VA

Newsletter News

Current and past newsletters are accessible via our website at www.nvcorvetteclub.com. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please let me know – you'll get it faster and save the club some \$\$!!

We also have advertising space available in the newsletter! Contact me for rates and more information.

Anne Costolanski
Newsletter Editor
anne.steffie@gmail.com

