



Dealer Sponsor:
Koons Chevrolet
Tysons Corner, VA



Father-Son Event

Cold Day....Warm Turnout by NVCC



Pic and article by Laurie Kistner

We had 10 Corvettes, a Porsche, and a Mustang Cobra show up for a mini car show appearance at Jubilee Christian Center's Father/Son Day. As you can see from the overcast sky and lack of leaves on the trees in the photo, winter still had its grip. Some of us shuttled indoors to listen to Miriam's driving presentation, which was entertaining as usual. Afterward we headed to Chili's in Fairfax for a hearty lunch. Many thanks to those who brought cars despite the cold weather!

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The folks working hard for you

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Concours – John Palmgren &
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As we all are painfully aware, the economy remains headed down and politically posturing aside in all likelihood will remain so for the foreseeable future. As such, financial assistance from our normally generous sponsors understandably remains uncertain. As a hedge against financial stress we will be relying more on our membership than ever to provide a well rounded and vibrant schedule of activities.

Your time through volunteering for club positions and supporting club events is more crucial than ever to maintaining NVCC as the premier Corvette club, with something for everyone at a modest cost to its membership. Experience isn't a barrier to chairing or participating in the committees that make the club work. Participation is also an excellent way to get to know your fellow members better and feel more a part of the NVCC community.

"Save the Wave" and volunteer for NVCC activities today!

Membership Corner

**We currently have
115 active members
1 honorary member and
11 prospective members.**

Prospective Members:

Greg Hanson – 1993 Indy pace coupe
John Provost – 1999 Coupe Pewter
Vicente J. Pedraza – 1988 Coupe Red
Michael Rathbun – 2004 Z06 Yellow
Rich Giannascoli – 2006 Coupe Blue
Rich Olivo – 2002 Coupe Blue

Matt Hanson – 2005 Coupe Yellow
Glenn Reschke – 1990 ZR1
William Malone – 2008 Conv Crystal Red
Lori Ann Collins – Z06 Black
Steven Netherly – 2006 Coupe Monterey Red

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER March 2009

March 20 2009. Did you realize that today is the first day of Spring? Yup, at 7:14 AM or so this morning. That means we have nearly 8 months till we have to worry about snow and ice again! I say that makes it time to celebrate the fact that we all own Corvettes. Check the brake fluid, change the oil, put a little air in the tires, rub on some wax, and get ready to head into another action packed season with your friends at NVCC. Looking back over the past few weeks, many of our heartiest souls have already ventured out to Father & Son Day at Jubilee Christian Church (a first-time event for us), made it out to the well-attended Membership Invitational at Bonefish in Centerville, had a terrific Annual banquet at Clydes of Tysons, and participated just last Sunday; in the DC St. Patrick's Day Parade. Not stopping there, we have the Cone Killers event coming up next Saturday and the first Rally event of the season in early April.

This year's officers and committee chairs are stepping up to the plate nicely to help keep things running smoothly and we have a sold-out Cone Killers event at Summit Point that will provide a few bucks to the treasury.

Now for the big news of the day: I spoke to the folks at Koons today and this year's Concours is a GO for Sunday June 7. John Palmgren will be co-chairing the show along with returning co-chair Patty Williams. New this year, Andrej has been able to secure NCCC sanction points for both the formal indoor show participants and for the less formal outside participants. This format is expected to generate additional interest and more participation than in year's past. Be sure to watch for more details about the show and learn how you can sign up to show your cars as well as help organize and run the event.

As I have already said: It's going to be a busy 2009 for NVCC. Come out and join the fun!

Stewart Fox, President
Northern Virginia Corvette Club



NVCC Social Calendar April 2009 – Laurie Kistner, Social Director

Sat. 4/4/09 - Test and tune/drag racing at Mason Dixon Dragway, Boonsboro, MD, from 8am-12 Noon (4hr Private Track Rental, UNLIMITED RUNS!) Open to NVCC, NCOA, NVMC, and special invites only.



Driver price: PayPal \$52.00 per driver to Enforcir@gmail.com OR mail \$50.00 per driver (check made out to Cyril Coburn) to: NVMC, PO Box 104, Amissville VA, 20106. Either of these pre-payment options must be done NLT a week ahead of the event. Pre-payment is preferable as we must have 40 pre-paid drivers or the event risks cancellation. Or you may pay \$60.00 cash per driver @ the gate the day of the event. Driver gets 1 crewmember in FREE, but spectators are \$10.00 each.

In the event of rain, call Ebby (703) 200-6803 or Ceece (703) 346-8151 if you have any questions regarding the event being on time.

Special (Driver) Requirements:

- *Mufflers mandatory
- *1/4 sleeved shirt and pants, NO SHORTS or OPEN TOED SHOES
- *Seat belts in working order
- *Proper safety equipment per your vehicles performance level i.e. (helmets for cars faster than 13.99, roll bar for cars faster than 11.49, etc.)
- *10 MPH speed limit in the pit area!!!
- *NO air conditioning on in staging lanes, ALL windows up during burnout and run
- *Sign competition waiver
- *Get a tech inspection card to fill out and bring back to the staff

NVCC members interested in caravanning up should meet at Newgate Shopping Center parking lot (corner of Routes 28 and 29 in Centreville) at 6:20 AM, leaving at 6:30 AM SHARP for a very nice scenic cruise through the mountains on the way to the drag strip.

If you are interested in riding up with me, please email me at lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com and let me know. There will be plenty of people on hand to help you if you have never drag raced before, so don't be shy. Come see what your car can do in the 1/4 mile! Learn the finer points of reading the "Christmas tree", staging, and launching. After the event, we usually grab lunch together and decompress after a fun day of racing.

Directions to the caravan start point are as follows:

From 66 Westbound, take Exit 53A to Route 28 South and then take the Route 29 South Exit, immediately turning right into the parking lot. There is a Sunoco gas station, Joann's Fabrics, Trader Joe's, and a Fast Eddie's in this plaza.

Directions to Mason Dixon Dragway are as follows:

From Washington DC/NoVa: Take Route 270 N toward Frederick, MD. Take Rt. 70 W toward Hagerstown. Follow Rt. 70 until you reach Rt. 66 (Exit 35). Once at the bottom of the ramp turn LEFT onto Rt. 66 South, go about 1/2 miles until you reach Rt. 40 (you will see a Sheetz convenience store at the intersection), turn LEFT (east) on Rt. 40 and go just another 1/2 mile, the Dragstrip entrance will be on your right.

Sun. 4/5/09 - This is the event you've all been waiting for - Rallye 101 or "What You Always Wanted to Know About Rallying But Were Afraid to Ask!!" Come learn the secrets and tricks of the trade from the masters!!

Rallye 101 will consist of discussions on what to bring, how to prepare, how much to bribe the Rallye Master, and how to read General Instruction and Route Instructions. Lecture will be followed by a short (about 45 minutes) practice Rallye and brunch debrief.

WHEN: Sunday, April 5, 2009 at 9:30 AM until about 12:30 PM.

WHERE: Fireside Grill, located at 9000 Lorton Station Boulevard, Lorton, VA 22079.

SOCIAL: Fireside Grill has a great Sunday Brunch for \$22.00 (includes brunch, drink, tax, and tip...special price just for NVCC).

Fireside Grill also offers a limited menu including salads and sandwiches for those who would prefer a lighter lunch. As before, please bring cash (small bills, please) for one bill. Come for the Rallye or just join us for the brunch at about 11:00 AM.

RSVP: If you wish to register, you must contact Dick Hammaker NLT April 2nd 2009 at dick.hammaker@cox.net or 703-250-8644.

DIRECTIONS: See <http://www.firesidegrillva.com> for directions or call the restaurant at 703-372-1923.

Sat. 4/11/09 - The Winery at LaGrange in Haymarket, Virginia is sponsoring a Corvette Car Show and Wine Tasting with the Old Dominion Corvette Club. It's on April 11, 2009 from 12:00 - 5:00PM.

Some NVCC members attended this event last year and enjoyed it. In case of bad weather, a future rain day will be posted.

Car Show is FREE, Wine Tasting is also FREE if you bring a Corvette (or \$5 without a 'vette). The winery sells bottles and snacks. Bring whatever food and snacks you want (some people brought picnic baskets, finger foods, or cooked out). Food vendor info TBA. Don't forget to bring folding chairs.

This year LaGrange is allowing us to use the patio area (available first come-first served) for those who want to set up a grill, cook, eat and share. LaGrange will also be providing a souvenir wine glass (and special logo glass to the first 100 persons in the door).

For more information, call: 703-753-9360 or email: Information@wineryatlagrange.com
Please RSVP at this link if you wish to attend: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/133058983>

Directions:

Take I-66 West. Exit at Haymarket (Exit 40). Turn left at the top of the exit onto US-15 South. Go to the second traffic light and turn right on VA- 55. Just under 1 mile, turn at first right onto Antioch Road. The winery will be about 3 miles North on Antioch Road, entrance on the Left. Address is 4950 Antioch Road, Haymarket, VA.

Sat. 4/18/09 – 1st Annual Battlefield Cruz/Rallye with the Battlefield Corvette Club. Come tour three of the Seven Battlefields in the beautiful Fredericksburg area countryside from Spotsylvania Courthouse, Wilderness and Chancellorsville followed by fellowship, food and music at Radley Chevrolet. There will be a prize raffle, battlefield trivia contest, optional 50/50 raffle and other fun and games. The dogwood and redbuds should be blooming in full force making for some spectacular scenery. Cost will be \$25.00 with proceeds to go to Fredericksburg Women's Shelter. They are setting a limit of 50 non-club member cars for this event with the cutoff date to RSVP of April 1st. You will need a navigator to help with the clues. You can RSVP via email to corvettes@radleyautogroup.com. Make checks payable to Battlefield Corvette Club and mail to PO Box 8478, Fredericksburg, VA 22404.

Sun. 4/19/09 - Tax Day Cruise to Ocean City, hosted by club member Arthur Baer. Let's get together and celebrate our tax refunds (or just forget for a little while about how much we all owe) by cruising in our 'vettes to Ocean City. We will meet at 7:45 AM (drivers' meeting, don't be late!) at Springfield Mall, Target parking lot behind the Silver Diner and depart at 8 AM for a 170-mile cruise. We will have a rest stop in Easton, Maryland on the way, and we'll park at the Inlet when we arrive. Since it's early in the season it won't be too busy and crowded yet. Once there, we'll take a group photo, and then you are free to enjoy the sun, sand, boardwalk, rides, games, Thrasher's French fries, ice cream, etc. Sunday 4/26 is the rain date. Please bring family radios if you have them. Bay Bridge toll is \$2.50 one-way, or bring your Smart tag/Speed Pass. Please RSVP to Arthur.Baer@osd.mil ASAP.

Coming soon...

Sun. 5/3/09 – Boar's Head/Monticello Cruise
Sat. 5/9/09 – Summit Point Spring Festival
Sun. 5/10/09 – Mother's Day Rod Run
Sat. 5/16/09 – Spring Skyline Drive Cruise
Sun. 5/17/09 – Gunston Hall/Mason Neck Rallye

Please contact Laurie Kistner at lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com regarding setting up club events. Thanks! ☺

Rallye Season is HERE!

Nicole and Cassidy Nolen

Well, its about that time again....for what you say? Rallye Season of course!

This year we have a wonderful start to the season with four scheduled Rallyes and (hopefully) more to come. The dates are:

April 5, 2009: Rallye 101 with Dick Hammaker Rallye Master (see details listed below)

May 17, 2009: Mason Neck Rallye with Jerry and Irene Lelansky

June 14, 2009: Rallye with Nicole and Cassidy Nolen

July 12, 2009: 5th Not-So-Annual George Washington Rallye with Alice Arielly and Jack Hufnagle Rallye Masters

Hope to see you all out. Thanks again for supporting our Rallye efforts last year and we look forward to seeing many new faces in the coming months!

RALLYE 101

This is the event you've all been waiting for - Rallye 101 or "What You Always Wanted to Know About Rallying But Were Afraid to Ask!!" Come learn the secrets and tricks of the trade from the masters!!

Rallye 101 will consist of discussions on what to bring, how to prepare, how much to bribe the Rallye Master, and how to read General Instruction and Route Instructions. Lecture will be followed by a short (about 45 minutes) practice Rallye and brunch debrief.

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WHERE: Fireside Grill, located at 9000 Lorton Station Boulevard, Lorton, VA 22079.

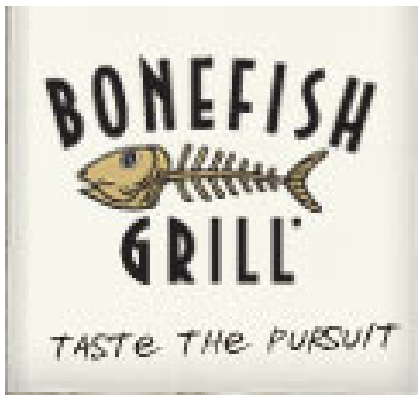
SOCIAL: Fireside Grill has a great Sunday Brunch for \$22.00 (includes brunch, drink, tax, and tip...special price just for NVCC). Fireside Grill also offers a limited menu including salads and sandwiches for those who would prefer a lighter lunch. As before, please bring cash (small bills, please) for one bill. Come for the Rallye or just join us for the brunch at about 11:00 AM.

DIRECTIONS: See <http://www.firesidegrillva.com> for directions or call the restaurant at 703-372-1923.

CONTACT: Dick Hammaker at dick.hammaker@cox.net to register no later than **April 2, 2009**

Bonefish Grill Membership Event

By Laurie Kistner



Howard Snook came up with the great idea for the club to hold a membership drive and club social at Bonefish Grill before the active Corvette season started. On Sunday, March 1st, we did just that! Bonefish Grill set us up in the main dining room and we had a nice meet and greet session. We had some new faces from the southeast region of CorvetteForum.com join us.

Already some new prospective members have sent in their applications, making the event a success. Thanks to all members who came and made newcomers feel welcome, you were excellent ambassadors of the club.

Unfortunately, March came in like a lion (read: snow) so only 3 Corvettes were in the parking lot, but we did have 30ish people in attendance.

COME ONE COME ALL TO
THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA CORVETTE CLUB'S
“THE HOTTERHELL”

DRIVERS' EVENT ON THE LEGENDARY SUMMIT POINT RACEWAY
FRIDAY, JULY 10TH @7AM (SO TAKE A DAY OFF FROM THE OFFICE)

THIS IS YOUR DREAM COME TRUE...OUR ONE AND ONLY HIGH SPEED EVENT FOR
THIS YEAR ON THE **MACHO** TRACK...SUMMIT POINT RACEWAY...FAMED
THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE FOR ITS
TEST OF DRIVING SKILL.

SO COME ONE COME ALL...BEGINNERS ARE MORE THAN WELCOME!

**WE WILL TAKE VERY GOOD CARE OF YOU AND YOU WILL LEARN A
HELL OF A LOT!**

REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 10...WE FILL UP FAST!

CLUB MEMBERSHIP IS NOT NECESSARY.

CORVETTES ARE NOT NECESSARY.

THE FEE FOR THIS ECSTASY IS \$185.00; THAT'S NECESSARY!

HELMETS MUST BE SNELL SA 2000 OR LATER. THEY CAN BE BOUGHT OR RENTED
AT OG RACING: 703-430-3303 FOR A MERE PITTANCE.

GO TO OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO - www.nvcorvetteclub.com

AT BOTTOM CLICK ON EVENTS, CLICK ON JULY CALENDAR

CARS MUST BE PRE-TECHED AT A QUALIFIED SHOP. NO IFS, ANDS, OR BUTS!

BRING PLENTY OF WATER

SPEAKING OF WATER, WE RUN RAIN OR "**HOTTERHELL**" SHINE!

CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT OUT ABOUT TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE
EVENT.

PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS? EMAIL Miriam: ms.greywolf@gmail.com

OR Mark: MNeblett@crowell.com

HOTTERNHELL

REGISTRATION FORM-- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____
CAR MAKE AND MODEL _____ YEAR _____

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR PAYMENT AND FORM ARE ENCLOSED.
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NVCC. NO VANS, TRUCKS OR SUVS.

PLEASE SEND TO:

MARK NEBLETT
9701 ST. ANDREWS DRIVE
FAIRFAX, VA 22030

----- Please detach by cutting along this line -----

We are saddened to note the recent passing of Patty Williams' mother, for which NVCC sent flowers. Her note of thank you appears below.

To: My Friends at NVCC,

*Your flowers at my
Mother's funeral were much
appreciated.*

Patty Williams

*Your kind expression of sympathy
is deeply appreciated
and gratefully acknowledged*

Delicious

Delectable

Sumptuous



Boar's Head Resort Sunday Brunch and Monticello Cruise

It's time to think about cruising again! Join us for a beautiful back road cruise to Charlottesville, on arrival to enjoy a wonderful brunch at the Boar's Head Old Mill restaurant. Savor the menu options; then remember to save room for dessert!

After brunch (and sampling the shops at Boar's Head, if the mood strikes you) it's on to Monticello for a tour of Thomas Jefferson's homestead. We will tour his home and gardens. The flower gardens will be in their full bloom splendor! Last year's inaugural cruise was warmly received by all who participated so we're making it an annual event! Cost includes taxes and gratuities for brunch and Monticello house tour admission tickets. If we get 25 people, we save \$7.00 each by getting group admission to Monticello. So I'm requesting that all those who went along on this cruise last year to talk it up about how much fun we had so that we can get at least 25 people out for this year's cruise.



WHEN: Sunday May 3rd. Meeting place in Manassas 9am TBD

COST: \$53.00 per person. Prepay by check, deadline 5/2/09

CONTACT: Tom Richards, drtom11@comcast.net

Phone: cell (703) 618-5183, home (703) 794-8586

Send checks, (include your contact e-mail address and your cell #) to:

Tom Richards, 6040 Thrave Lane, Manassas, VA 20112

National Corvette Museum (NCM)



March 2009 Ambassador's Corner

By Donald Patrick

CURRENT 2009 NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Help Us (NCM) Display Your Corvette Lifestyle:

As part of the NCM new expansion, many areas will feature graphics and imagery to tell and show visitors what living the Corvette Lifestyle is all about. We would love for you to help us tell this important story by submitting photo images for use in various areas including:

Photo mosaic mural for our "People Make the Car" display.

- "Sharing the Dream" area – how enthusiasts use their Corvettes and events to help others and raise money for charitable organizations.
- "Lifestyle/Social" area - enthusiasts participating in events such as fun runs, car shows, drag racing, autocross, etc.
- "Restoration" – Modifying and customizing Corvettes to fit the owner's desire and improve performance.
- "Corvette Wave" – pictures that salute the "wave", the silent signal from one owner to another.

"Corvette Living" – pictures showing off extreme homes, garages, car modifications, Corvette clothing, decorations, etc. Files should be at least 300 dpi or the highest resolution possible. When submitting photos you must complete a documentation sheet and follow procedures to submit images. Please refer to www.corvettemuseum.com/photos/ to read the complete details on submitting photos and the requirements. Images will only be considered by using the following the instructions available online.

Original Build Sheets for Corvette and XLR Available:

If you love collecting original pieces to document your Corvette and/or Cadillac XLR you can find the "original" documents available through the Museum's Resource Center. The NCM have obtained a limited number of original Corvette build sheets from the Corvette Assembly Plant and you can place your order now for an original build sheet on **2002-2009 Corvettes and 2004-2008 Cadillac XLRs**.

These are **not** reproduction copies. Many are marked, tattered and worn from the journey through the build process. You may contact Betty Hardison in the Resource Center at: (270) 467-8841 to find out if your build sheet is available prior to purchase.

Enjoy a Memorable Mexican Riviera Cruise:

Each time enthusiasts set sail on an NCM Cruise, you can bet that the experience is one to remember. Over 70 Corvette folks took a journey aboard the Mariner of the Seas for seven unforgettable days in the Mexican Riviera early this month. Many started out with a 3-day pre-cruise trip in Los Angeles, where they toured Hollywood, The Getty Museum, and the highlight of the trip - The Petersen Museum. They were treated with a personal, private tour of the "Vault" by the Museum's director. Cruisers saw whales in Cabo and Puerto Vallarta, cliff divers in Mazatlan and many brave souls did the zip line in Puerto Vallarta zipping through the rainforest high above the tree lines!



All of the wonderful stops and excursions, along with seeing Corvette Cruisers from the past and meeting new friends have made memories that will last forever. Your next chance to join other enthusiasts and cruise the seas is coming in 2010 when we will journey to Northern Europe. This Cruise will be a wonderful time to see cities like Amsterdam, Stockholm, St. Petersburg and Copenhagen. Stay tuned as more details will be made available in the coming months via our website and NCM eNews.

Corvette Freeway Slot Car Racetrack:

New in the Corvette Store! Get ready for 38.75 feet of high speed adventure as two Corvettes race each other to the finish line! This fun race set features a spin-out car for drivers to avoid, dangerous intersection track, gravity defying 360° loop, squeeze and skid track, and experience of over and under road racing.

Fun for adults and children! Place your order [online](#) or call NCM at: (800) 538.3883.



VIN #1 Competition Sport Z06 Raffle Opens:

How would you like to own the VIN#1 Z06 of the new Competition

Sport Corvette Series? We are raffling one off and you have a 1 in 500 chance to win! This unique Corvette is limited to a spring 09 production, and our winner takes home the first one built! This exciting package features:



- Blade silver/black exterior
- Ebony interior with titanium embroidery
- Corvette Racing 'Jake' and 'CSR' logos
- Corvette Racing pedals from GCA
- Racing style numbers with number based on build sequence
- Differential cooler along with red painted brake calipers
- Special engine cover - carbon pattern with red lettering

This is a true collector's dream to drive and show off, and you can win it through the NCM! Only **500 tickets** are being sold at \$425 each. Find out more and get your tickets [online](#) or call us at: (800) 538.3883.

Spring Wear is Here:

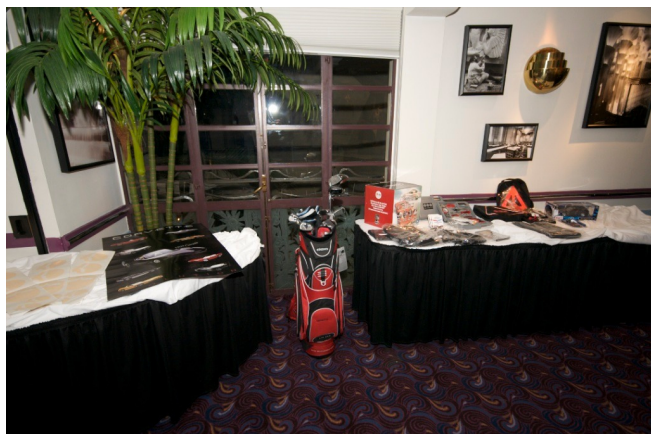
Get ready for spring weather with our Corvette "Under Armour" shorts, shirts and duffels. These apparel items offer unparalleled stretch, a generous cut and HeatGear fabric.

The Corvette Store carries items that are perfect for spring fun and working out for both men and women. [Shop online](#) now or call us at: (800) 538-3883.



NVCC Banquet 2009

Pics from Paul Benish



The Banquet was an unqualified success. Lots of goodies as prizes shown with exquisite style and grace by our own Nicole (aka Vanna) Nolan assisted by some sidekick called Cassidy. In all seriousness, it was a splendid affair that did minimal damage to the treasury. Our thanks go out to those who worked so hard to arrange the banquet, kept it in budget, obtained the very nice selection of prizes and otherwise took care of the details that are essential to having a fine evening with fellow NVCC members.

Saint Patrick's Day Parade

By John Palmgren



Well another St. Patrick's Day has come and gone and in addition to yours truly being a year older on St. Patty's Day itself, Sunday, March 15, 2009, had members of our club participating in the Washington, DC, St. Patrick's Day parade. After meeting at the Pentagon Reservation Parking Lot, signing the club's insurance forms, and having a quick driver's meeting, nine of our club's Vettes started the day with a spirited drive from the Pentagon Reservation Parking Lot to the Parade line-up area on 14th and Jefferson complete with a police escort from three motorcycle officers from the U.S. Park Police (Thanks to Stewart for making the arrangements!).

Once at the Parade line-up area, there was a good bit of time to wait enabling all of us to socialize, dodge mist and raindrops, and play a bit of hurry up and wait! Our cars received a lot of compliments by passers-by, many of whom didn't even know there was a parade happening that day. Finally at around 1:30 PM, we started rolling down the parade route behind a Pontiac Solstice / Saturn Sky club, and a group of Swordsmen...yes, you read that right...it was group of swordsmen demonstrating fencing techniques. The Solstice and Sky club ended up having twice as many cars in the parade as us...18 to our 9. So I'm really hoping that we can make a better showing next year.

Despite the weather not cooperating, our Corvettes didn't melt in the rain, and we had a pretty good time. Thanks to all who participated and I'm looking forward to doing it again next year.

Bringing The BEAST Back To Life

By Michael Leighton

Spring has arrived and it has quite possibly been six months since your Corvette has been started. Hopefully before the snow hit last year you took proper steps to secure your vehicle to get it ready for its winter slumber. But even with proper preparation, there are important steps necessary to check your vehicle over before you turn the key for that first drive of the spring.

VISUAL INSPECTION

Begin with the body, work your way around and get under the vehicle to look for leaks or any areas a critter may have nested. You can usually find nest particles that have dropped down on the floor or on top of engine. If you are lucky, no critters have nested. If they have, try to use a shop vac to suck out

the debris instead of using your bare hands. Throughout the inspection you have probably noticed all of the dust and grime that has built up and you may feel inclined to wipe a few spots while you are overlooking the car. Stop right there. Do not do this until you can wash the car properly so as not to scratch or dull the finish.

UNDER THE HOOD

Before attaching the battery, test it and/or give it a charge. (Hopefully you had it on a Battery tender) While it is charging you can check belts, hoses and wiring to make sure everything looks good. Pump the brake pedal a few times to make sure it has a good pedal and no leaks. Change your oil and filter; moisture has had time to gather and pool inside the block. The same can be said about all lubricants and fluids, but use your discretion; the longer the vehicle has been sitting the more crucial this becomes. Remove the spark plugs and check for moisture and measure the gap. While the plugs are out you may choose to add a small amount of oil to the cylinder walls to lessen damage on initial start. Disconnect the "+" coil wire and attach the battery. I would recommend turning the key to the run position and inspect the cars wiring. Look, feel and smell for shorts. Once the wiring appears to be o.k. go ahead and crank the engine over and check your fluid levels again. With the plugs out it will turn easily and hopefully clear out any junk in the combustion chamber. Check your fuel lines, carburetor if you have one, clutch and shifter for proper movement and operation.

BRAKES AND SUSPENSION

With the weight of the wheels, wiggle the tires back and forth and up and down. This will make sure that the wheel bearings and suspension links are ready to roll. Remove the tires and check the brakes for rust, leaks, frayed hoses and adjustment. A wire wheel can be used on rotors and drums to remove rust without damage. With correct air pressure in the tires, torque the lug nuts back and roll the car out a few feet. This will assure everything is free and ready to go.

INITIAL START UP

Go easy on the cranking and do not be worried if the engine does not fire up right away. Never use starting fluid to help speed this process (it can crack your heads). If you have a mechanical fuel pump, it may take a few cranks to build pressure. It may be necessary to squirt a small amount of fresh gas in the carburetor and then try starting it (never squirt while cranking or running. This will start a fire). When the car starts, hold the throttle around 2200rpm to insure proper lubrication. This should be done for about 60 seconds. Let the car idle down and shut off and take another general inspection for any surprises that may have slipped past or occurred while running. If no problems exist, restart the car following the previous procedure. Run all the controls, lights and accessories and move the car back and forth a couple of times in the driveway. Once the temp gets close to operating range you are ready for a short trip around the block.

No one knows your car better than you, so pay attention on the first drive and take it easy. After a couple of laps around the block, shut the car down and recheck everything again. Most failures will occur in these first few moments, so stay close to home. If everything is humming along great, put about 40 miles on the odometer (half city/ half highway) and you should be good to go. I perform this operation on ten different vehicles every spring, and I have yet to be disappointed by the outcome. They sometimes need some work before I leave the shop, but I have not been stranded on the side of the road after following these steps.

Trivia Questions from the past month

General Business Meeting:

-What was the gold line? Optional Gold Striped Tires from 65-66

-Who named the Sting Ray? Bill Mitchell

-What two years were there "collectors editions"? 82 and 96

-What was the King of the Hill? 1990 ZR1

Banquet :

-The corvette was named by Myron "Scottie" Scott, but what was his official job title? Chevy's Chief Photographer

-What was Chevy Engineer's unofficial codename for the 99FRC, which was initially planned to be a low content, low cost price leader? Billy Bob

-What was the nickname for the 57-65 fuel injected models? Fuelie

-Who made the 4+3 Transmission for manual transmission equipped cars from 84-88? Doug Nash

-What were the "doghouses" that were used on 57-65 models? Fuel Injected Plenum chambers

-First year Heads up display was used? 1999

-What was the "mako Shark"? Showcar for the C3 prototype

-What year was the two-tone silver anniversary paint job offered? 1978

-What years were T-Tops available in the corvette? 68-82

-What two years were teakwood steering wheels available? 65-66

Parting shots.....



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Newsletter News ...

As you can see from Laurie's list of upcoming events the schedule is heating up along with the weather. Hopefully we've seen the last snow of the year and that there really will be April showers.....or it will be a long dry summer with water rationing (as in minimal car washing) for many.

As you've probably noticed, the newsletter is growing in size and in its use of full color. Costs are rising and the club's income isn't. Hard copy distribution has grown to over \$1 a copy. If you view the newsletter on-line and also receive a hard copy by mail, please consider being deleted from the mailing list by sending me an e-mail. Conversely if you really would prefer to have a hard copy and currently don't get one, e-mail me and you can be added to the mailing list.

We want to ensure everyone has satisfactory access to the newsletter and also reduce costs where we can. Further, if you know of a non-member corvette owner, consider passing an e-copy or hard copy along to encourage additional membership. Thanks and have a great month.

Rich Anderson

richard.anderson157@verizon.net

Next General Business Meetings:

Tuesday, Mar 24th at 7:30pm

Tuesday, Apr 28th at 7:30 pm

**Koons Chevrolet
2000 Chain Bridge Road
Tysons Corner, VA**