

The 'Glass Gazette

November 2010



Dealer Sponsor:
Koons Chevrolet
Tysons Corner, VA

Spooktacular 2010

Pics by Randy Urick

Spooktacular's return to Old Dominion Speedway was blessed with gorgeous weather and many first time participants. The low-speed events on Saturday attracted a good size field of participants. The lack of speed did not translate to lack of challenge in running the course. Personally I was pleased by two unassociated aspects. First it was my son Tom's first competitive event and second, it was great seeing a C3 run the event both days.

Club member participation behind the wheel and in running the event was much appreciated. While there were a few glitches in the timing equipment, the events ran smoothly and I think NVCC can be proud of putting on an excellent event that was also a financial success.

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More Spooktacular



Buffalo Wild Wings Cruise-in



Thank you for all those participating in the Buffalo Wild Wings cruise-in for St. Jude's Hospital. It was an unexpectedly great weather afternoon for lunch on the patio and raising funds for this worthwhile cause.

Membership

Corner

113 Active Members

2 New Members

3 Prospective Members

118 Total



PRESIDENT'S CORNER NOV 2010

Well folks, the year is quickly winding down and the holiday season is upon us. As I look back over the 2010 season, I see that NVCC was again successful in so many ways. I admit that we got off to a rocky start in February when we made the decision to bring on Cassidy as our Chief Instructor. Though controversial at the time, this move proved to be good for the club as he brought new energy, new ideas, and some neat technology to the classroom portions of our driver training events.

March offered an opportunity for NVCC to once again participate in DC's St Patrick's Day parade despite chilly, damp weather. April saw the 2010 installment of Rallye 101 and an early season test & tune (drag race) session. On April 18, we implemented our first ever Instructor Training Clinic, in preparation for Teen Driving School (TDS) and Car Control Clinic (C-Cubed). On May 1, we held a successful spring TDS at Old Dominion Speedway with valuable assistance provided by the Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Department in the way of manpower and a large tanker truck that kept the skid pad wet all day. Also on May 1, a good number of NVCC folks joined several hundred fellow Corvette drivers for the largest ever Doucheny Winery Cruise-In.

May saw early season cruises to Montpelier, Shenandoah Valley, & Ocean City. We also returned to ODS for our first Car-B-Que, where NVCC combined a cruise-in, a swap meet, and a cook-out, with Autocross 101 led by Andrej and Drag Race 101 led by Laurie K. Look for this exciting event to return again in 2011. Sunday June 6, saw NVCC hold it's first Triple-Sanctioned Concours at our sponsoring dealership: Koons. Turnout was good and we had a great show. Thankfully the big thunderstorm held off until the show ended and most of the Vettes had time to head for home. Another new event, also run in June, was the Philly Cheesesteak Run, orchestrated by Laurie K. I missed this event but heard lots of positive comments.

Despite the summer heat, July 18 found NVCC once again having its annual club picnic at the WV farmstead of our newsletter editor, Rich Anderson and his wife Cheryl. Yours truly lead the Corvette Caravan from Dulles Town Center out to the farm with 20-some Vettes in tow. What a great cruise to lead to our destination, with an awesome feast put on by Laurie and a few other early arrivers. It can't get much better than this! Early August saw NVCC at Summit Point, hosting C-Cubed, our adult version of TDS. If you are new to Corvettes, you should really consider attending this event in the near future.

As September rolled around, several Council members and I met with folks from the East Region-NCCC to discuss TDS and possible expansion of the program to other clubs within our Region. No dates were set, but several other clubs are expressing interest and would look forward to assistance from NVCC.

October saw Free State Corvette's huge Ocean City weekend with over 600 Corvettes in attendance, including NVCC Rallye Champs: Jack and Alice and John and Kara. NVCC also held a very well attended Spooktacular, returning the event to ODS for the first time in over 10 years. Competition was keen and I couldn't be happier with the way Spook' turned out.

Our last big instructor event for the year was our Fall TDS held on Nov 7. Again held at ODS, the Fall TDS ran very smoothly under sunny blue skies, was well attended, and finished on time. The shocker for NVCC when it was over was the realization that a number of parents thought so much of the event that they contributed several hundred dollars in unsolicited donations, all in the spirit of keeping this fine event going strong.

As I close my last newsletter article of 2010, I am grateful for the opportunity to lead NVCC, and wish to extend my thanks to club members and friends that came out to participate in our many events. I want to especially thank those special folks that pitched in when the need arose, to help organize and run our events and I want to recognize my fellow Council members for a job well done. I look forward to seeing all of you again next season.

**NVCC Social Calendar Dec 2010 -
Laurie Kistner, Social Director & Webmaster**



Sat. 12/4 - Redskins Cruise-In/Tour at FedEx Field. The Washington Redskins Premium Club and Corvette Club of America cordially invite you to attend a special private event and cruise-in at FedEx Field from 11 AM until 4 PM.

Enter at Gate A Suite Entrance
Parking in Lot A

Enjoy an afternoon at FedEx Field! Guests will be treated at a behind-the-scenes stadium tour, including a private tour of the Redskins locker room and field. After the tour, enjoy a private reception on the club level for car talk, appetizers, and the opportunity to win Redskins merchandise. Also, learn the benefits of becoming a Premium Club Season Ticket Holder.

RSVP with name, phone, and email to RSVP@Redskins.com
Please include "Corvette Club" in the subject line
Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 1st, 2010
Phone: 301-276-6734

Directions to FedEx Field: http://www.redskins.com/gen/articles/Parking_and_Directions_51637.jsp

Sun. 12/19 - Benish Christmas Lights Rallye. Take a tour with the Benishes and enjoy the seasonal Christmas lights in the area! This evening rallye is sure to get you in a holiday mood.

Costs:
\$10 to rallye, \$5 to cruise (no rallye questions)
\$10 optional poker rallye

Starting point is Starbucks Coffee - Registration at 5:30 PM, Driver's Meeting at 5:45 PM, First car off at 6 PM
21021 Southbank Street
Sterling, VA 20165

Afterward, we will have dinner at Coney Island Diner at around 7:30 PM
46900 Community Plaza
Sterling, VA 20164

Please RSVP to Lori Benish at loco1707@yahoo.com ASAP!



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Benish's 2010 Christmas-Lights Rally:

Start at Starbuck's in Sterling at 5:30pm Sunday Dec. 19th:

21021 Southbank St.

Sterling, VA 20165-7228

Drivers Meeting will start at 5:45pm and the first car out should be around 6pm.

The route will be through many side streets and "Christmas theme roads" to see Christmas lights and other fun holiday stops. We will be running a double rally. Should be great fun and a good night to get together before the holiday. Usually December is safe for weather, but Corvettes are not required to run the rally, in case of weather, etc.

Route will end at Coney Island Diner for Dinner at 7:30-8pm (if anyone else wants to join):

Coney Island Diner is located at:

46900 Community Plaza.

Sterling, VA 20164

ph. 703-430-4000

(Beside Chick-fil-a in the shopping center with Shoppers Food Warehouse)

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\$10.00 ea



NVCC Lanyard

\$5.00 ea



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\$5.00 ea

PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB HISTORIAN
FOR QUESTIONS OR TO ORDER DIRECT AT:
HISTORIAN@NVCORVETTECLUB.COM

Teen Driving School, Fall 2010

Pics by Randy Urick and Doug Swanson

The fall Teen Driving School was another great success. Use of Old Dominion Speedway as a “home venue” for TDS has greatly facilitated bringing this public service to Northern Virginia area teenagers. Many glowing thank you notes have been received. This is all made possible by our hard working volunteers, including other corvette club members learning the ropes so that this program can be spread to other clubs in the region. For those members who have not assisted at one of these events, I strongly encourage you to consider it. This program is making a difference one teen at a time, providing the skills needed to become a proficient driver in one of our nation’s most challenging road system.



SEMA 2010!

By Glen Hoyer

I was fortunate earlier this year when a friend of mine asked if I would like to attend the SEMA show in Las Vegas. I couldn't answer "YES!" fast enough, as the show is not open to the general public. I travel to Las Vegas on business and knowing the layout of the Las Vegas Convention Center, I decided to stay at the Hilton Hotel, which is directly next to the convention center.

For those who may not be familiar, SEMA stands for Specialty Equipment Market Association. Basically, it is an association for companies that make products for the automobile and light truck industry.



The companies who were present at the show range from automotive paint, wheels, tires, garage flooring, protective body film, body parts, accessories, restoration parts, custom parts and every engine component you can think of. Auto manufacturers like General Motors, Honda, Ford and others were present. The show is massive using all of the enormous Las Vegas Convention center.

Many of the displays had a theme and were works of art in themselves. It took a full three days of walking through it to see it all. They also had seminars on airbrushing, applying protective and decorative body film, and even ride-alongs in Ford Mustang GT's in an auto-cross type of set up and much more.



General Motors showcased their cars with a lot of space devoted to the Corvette and Camaro line. They showed two Corvette prototypes. One a ready to race Z06, with no carpet, radio or other luxury items, only a drivers seat. It also sported a roll cage and was painted in a flat, pearl white color with Z06X on the side. Additionally, it had black carbon fiber headlight buckets, tinted side markers and carbon fiber side skirts.

The second prototype was a Jake version of a Grand Sport. The GM representative said that most likely the Jake items on this car were going to be available as accessories, but it may come as a package, however, that hasn't been decided yet.



Some of the Jake appointments are the hood graphics, the center caps on the wheels, and the Grand Sport badge above the "gills" is painted black with a small Jake there. Also the interior has Jake on the console cover and nicely appointed with yellow thread throughout the seats and other areas of the cabin.



A couple of the GM engine builders were on hand and spent the day repeatedly building, then disassembling a LS9 engine and answering questions about the motor.

Many of the television auto celebrities were present as well. The longest lines were to get an autograph and photo with the legendary Chip Foose. Chip was at different booths during the show and the lines were always too long for me to wait in. Other TV celebrities were there too, like Courtney Hansen, the host of PowerBlock on the Spike channel. Stacey David of the TV show Gearz and others.



Remember I said the lines were too long to wait for a photo with Chip Foose? Well, the good Lord smiled upon me on Saturday morning as Claire and I were heading down the elevator in the Hilton Hotel when who gets on the elevator but Chip Foose. I was wearing one of his shirts I had just got and asked him if he had time for a photo. Chip was a very nice guy and took the time for Claire to get a photo of Chip and I together and we briefly talked about cars.

There is a lot more that I could talk about and share photo's of, but I think you get the idea of what SEMA is about. It's a car lovers' paradise and although not devoted to the Corvette there were plenty there.

If you ever get the chance to attend SEMA do it! Of course a trip to Vegas is worth it too.

National Corvette Museum (NCM)



Ambassador Corner

By Donald Patrick

CURRENT NOVEMBER NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Larbre Competition named official Corvette partner for ILMC for 2011

From Corvettemotorsport.com:



In 2011, the team Larbre Compétition will open a new chapter of their long story. After having clinched a large number of victories in Le Mans 24 Hours, in Le Mans Series, Intercontinental Le Mans Cup and in French GT Championship, the most wrapped French endurance team puts the course on a new project, probably one of the most ambitious of its career. At the time when BMW, Porsche, Ferrari, Aston Martin, Spyker, Panoz and Lamborghini joined the endurance GT, Team Larbre Compétition joins Corvette to become its official GT2 team in the Intercontinental Le Mans Cup.

This competition based around the Le Mans 24 Hours, will include seven races in 2011, among which two ALMS rounds (12 Hours of Sebring and Petit Le Mans), two races of Le Mans Series (1000 km of Spa and 1000 km of Silverstone) and finally two races in Asia. Larbre Compétition will enter a car on the whole season for a diver line-up highly experimented and composed with Gabriele Gardel, Julien Canal (winners of the last 24 Hours of Le Mans with Saleen) and Patrick Bornhauser (four time French GT Championship winner).

"The team Larbre Compétition chose to follow the ACO in the international great adventure of the ILMC" declares Jack Leconte, owner and managing director of Larbre Compétition. "For this prestigious new challenge, we are happy to defend the colors of Corvette, a mythical mark all over the world and may be the most popular in Le Mans. We built the honors list of the Larbre team in accumulating a great number of victories with Porsche, Dodge, Ferrari, Panoz, Aston Martin and Saleen." "I am proud that a new manufacturer trust in us, that's the most beautiful recognition of our know-how. After one decade of French GT Championship, Patrick Bornhauser joined us on the international scene, alongside with Gabriele, who is a pillar of the team since a lot of years (four titles obtained with us) and of Julien Canal, who proved all his competences this year in Le Mans as of its first time."

"Michelin, Demeco, McDonald's, Charmant Z and BSI have already joined us as partners in this ambitious project which goes concretely to start this winter when we'll go to Sebring for intensive private tests the 8th & 9th February with the American official Corvette Racing team (Pratt & Miller). All the team will return in Europe only after the 12 Hours of Sebring, mid-March, once they will know perfectly the car. The C6R GT2 Corvette in version GT2 won the last race in ALMS this year, it is from now on a succeeded car and we have big hopes on it to get new successes. Besides, we will enter probably two cars in next Le Mans 24 Hours."

The Next Generation of Corvette's Heads Up Display

The Heads Up Display that has adorned many Corvettes for years now may be cutting edge technology, but as far as GM is concerned it is becoming antiquated. That seems like a stretch, but GM is currently working on the next generation of the Heads Up Display and this time it is filled with even more high tech goodies.



Imagine traveling down a road and all of the sudden you are engulfed in thick fog. What do you do? You can't risk stopping as there is no visibility and someone may hit you from behind. You can't pull over because the shoulder is too narrow. Your only choice is to press on and hope that you can make out the curves in the road fast enough.

This nightmare scenario will be eliminated with the next generation of the Heads Up Display for the Corvette. The system will use a laser reflecting off of phosphors that are in the actual windshield of the vehicle and use the information ahead to create a line depending on which way the road should

bend. If there is a curve forthcoming you will see it well before it occurs.

The new Heads Up Display does not stop there either. Using the same technology it will continuously scan the landscaping ahead of you and give you feedback instantaneously. This comes in handy particularly at night time as the night vision like system can detect and report objects ahead such as other vehicles, animals, and even children.

Also with the new Heads Up Display comes the graphic circling of speed limit signs as they appear. This method of highlighting the speed limit in the area you are in is designed to constantly let you know how fast you should be traveling. Now there is no excuse to speed, not that you won't in your Corvette, but now there just won't be an excuse.

Along with the Corvette GM plans on putting this technology in other vehicles as well. It will obviously make its way into some of the Cadillac of the GM fleet and some lesser models that you may not expect the technology to go in may end up with it too. Don't be surprised if GM offers it for all of their models as an option in order to draw in more customers.

So when will this ultra high tech tool be available? It would be nice if GM could coordinate the release of this technology with the 2013 Corvette as that would make for a fitting 60th birthday present, but that does not seem like it is going to happen. According to sources at GM's Research and Development Department, if there are no snags along the way, the new Heads Up Display technology will be available no earlier than the 2017 model year.

Until then Corvette owners will just have to deal with what they have, not that it is all that bad really. It just goes to show how far the automotive industry has come. At this pace it won't be too much longer before Corvette owners will be flying their Vettes everywhere instead of driving them.

Chevrolet SEMA exhibit includes "build your own" Corvette engine demonstration!



Skilled engine builders from General Motors' Performance Build Center (PBC) will slowly assemble the LS9 6.2L supercharged engine that powers the Corvette ZR1 on the floor of this year's SEMA show in Las Vegas.

Booth #23743 within the Chevrolet display will be the place for SEMA attendees to watch and ask questions as the engine comes together during SAMA.

The skilled engine builders will be demonstrating the Corvette Engine Build Experience, an industry-exclusive program open to Corvette buyers. The program allows customers who order a 2011 Corvette Z06 or ZR1 to pay an additional \$5,800 to assemble their car's LS7 or LS9 engines at the PBC.

When a customer selects the PBC option for a 2011 Corvette Z06 or ZR1 and the dealer submits the order to Chevrolet, a special concierge contacts the customer to verify participation and help coordinate arrangements. While travel arrangements to and from Detroit are the customer's responsibility, the Chevrolet concierge helps schedule the engine build; coordinates the customer's activities at the Performance Build Center in Wixom, Michigan; assists with booking local lodging and meals, and arranges local transportation.

Recently, Todd Schnitt, host of a Tampa-based syndicated radio show, built the LS9 that powers the ZR1 for which he recently took delivery. He described his experience as "over the top."

Skilled builders at the PBC individually hand-build each Corvette Z06 LS7 7.0L engine, Corvette ZR1 6.2L supercharged LS9 engine and a variation of the Corvette Grand Sport's LS3 6.2L engine. The PBC incorporates the best practices of low-volume niche manufacturers and the established quality and manufacturing standards at GM to ensure the highest-quality specialized engines. Engines built as part of the Corvette Engine Build Experience program are covered by GM's five-year / 100,000 mile warranty.

The LS9 engine produces 638 SAE certified horsepower and propels the Corvette ZR1 from 0-60 mph in 3.4 seconds. It is built with titanium connecting rods, forged pistons, a dry sump oiling system and four-lobe 2.3L supercharger.

Corvette Engineers Create High-tech Auto Sunscreen



WARREN, Mich. – In an effort to produce lighter, more fuel-efficient and better handling models, Chevrolet Corvette features advanced materials such as carbon fiber. Until now, exposed-weave carbon fiber, one of the coolest looks for fast, hot cars, was unavailable to consumers because the sun degrades the material on the exterior surface.

In fact, experts thought putting exposed carbon fiber on the outside of any retail car was nearly impossible. Painting over the carbon fiber was the only option. All that has changed due to an industry-first technology breakthrough: "sunscreen" for the Chevrolet Corvette ZR1.

"Everyone said it couldn't be done, and we were crazy for trying," said Mark Voss, senior design engineer for the ZR1.

Undaunted, Voss and his team worked for three years on their own time to develop a glossy, UV-resistant clear coat that allows exposed carbon fiber to be used on the body of the car. It also shields the carbon fiber components from chips and scratches.

"Our challenge was finding a way to give our customers exposed-weave carbon fiber with the durability they have come to expect from a Corvette," Voss said. "Other automakers have opted for fake attempts at a carbon-fiber look. With the Corvette ZR1, we wanted to give customers the real deal.

Carbon fiber on the Corvette emerged from the technology transfer between the production Corvette and the Corvette C6.R that race in the American Le Mans Series. Carbon fiber reduces weight and improves stiffness compared to steel. Carbon fiber is approximately one-fifth the weight of steel and one-third the mass of traditional composite panels. That means a lighter, more fuel-efficient vehicle with a lower center of gravity for better handling on the road and on the race track.

For a consumer vehicle, exposed-weave carbon fiber, with its honeycombed appearance, offers the fuel efficiency of painted carbon fiber, but has a unique aesthetic.

The ZR1 features exposed-weave carbon fiber on the roof panel, roof bow, rocker moldings, front fascia splitter, and the underside of the hood. The ZR1 has carbon fiber floor panels as well, although not in the exposed-weave format. For the Corvette Z06, carbon fiber fenders and floor panels come standard with an optional package that includes splitters, rockers and roof panels.

Chevrolet to Compete in 2012 IndyCar Series with New V6 Engine

Indianapolis News Release, November 12, 2010



Chevrolet announces return to Open-Wheel Competition as engine manufacturer in partnership with Team Penske. Chevrolet will compete in the 2012 IZOD IndyCar Series with a new twin-turbocharged, direct-injected V-6 racing engine powered by renewable E85 ethanol fuel. The new purpose-built Chevy IndyCar engine will be developed jointly by GM and Ilmor Engineering. Team Penske is the first IndyCar team to commit to Chevrolet power in 2012. The Chevrolet IndyCar engine will be available to all entrants in accordance with the series' regulations.

"Indianapolis Motor Speedway has been a proving ground for manufacturers since Louis Chevrolet, our co-founder, first raced here in 1909," said Chris Perry, vice president of Chevrolet Marketing. "Our return to IndyCar as Chevrolet enters its centennial year is natural. At the same time this engine program will be a showcase for the efficient, and powerful, engine technologies that parallel new Chevrolet vehicles like the Camaro, all-new Cruze compact and Equinox crossover."

Chevrolet competed previously in Indy-style competition as an engine manufacturer in 1986-93 and 2002-05 with V-8 engines, winning 104 races, powering six driver champions, and scoring seven Indianapolis 500 victories. The new Chevrolet IndyCar engine program will reunite one of the most successful partnerships in motorsports as Team Penske will introduce the Chevrolet engine in 2012. Team Penske previously tallied 31 open-wheel victories with Chevrolet engines, including four Indianapolis 500 wins.

Our vision is to design, build and sell the world's best vehicles – and racing is one of the best ways to showcase what we can do," said Tom Stephens, GM vice chairman, Global Product Operations. "Re-entering IndyCar racing will help us take our advanced engine technology to the upper bounds of what's possible. And it will also provide a dynamic training ground for engineers, who'll transfer the technologies we develop for racing to the products we sell to our customers.

"GM has become a recognized leader in implementing direct-injection technology in both 4-cylinder and V-6 engines," Stephens said. "Building on this foundation, our new partnership with Ilmor will give us even more opportunities to accelerate our engine technology. It will help our effort to continue to expand and improve the DI technology for street cars."

The Chevrolet IndyCar V-6 will have a displacement of up to 2.4 liters. The power plant will have an aluminum block and cylinder heads, and will be a fully stressed chassis member supporting the gearbox and rear suspension. It will burn E85 ethanol, a renewable alternative fuel. Technical details and specifications will be released at a later date.

"We are excited to have engine manufacturer competition again in the IZOD IndyCar Series, beginning in 2012," said Randy Bernard, CEO, INDYCAR. "Chevrolet brings a strong passion for racing, technology, relevance and innovation, which is a great fit for our new car platform. We are excited about the future of IndyCar racing with the addition of Chevrolet."

GM phasing out the GOODWRENCH brand name

DETROIT, MI – As part of the initiative to better connect General Motors' brands with customers, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac will each receive its own

Certified Service brand.



Chevrolet Certified Service, Buick Certified Service, GMC Certified Service and Cadillac Certified Service are being launched as part of a larger strategy by the company to strengthen the relationship between the customer and the four brands.

“Our number one priority is providing a world-class ownership experience that creates positive long-lasting relationships with our customers,” said Steve Hill, vice president and general manager, GM Customer Care and After sales. “Certified Service supports GM’s strategy to focus on the four brands – Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac -- and is a natural extension of the customer’s vehicle purchase experience at the dealership.

"This is more than a name change -- it is a declaration of our commitment to our customers, with exclusive vehicle diagnostics and connectivity via OnStar, competitively priced services and parts, increased advisor and technician training, and working jointly with our dealers to focus on customer satisfaction."

Customers will continue to receive competitively priced service performed by trained experts who know their vehicles best at dealerships across the country. Service is an integral part of vehicle ownership, and customers who are satisfied with their service experience are much more likely to return to the dealership.

As an extension of this strategy, GM will phase out the Goodwrench brand name effective Feb. 1, 2011 in the United States.

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Newsletter News ...

Well another month has slipped by and with it comes the last newsletter of the year. As Stewart recounts in his letter, it has been a full year of events for NVCC, which I have tried to faithfully reflect in the newsletter. It has also been a full year for myself and family. Aside from shattering my leg, my wife Cheryl has finally retired and we are in the middle of migrating to our farm....which would have been a whole lot easier if I hadn't shattered my leg. Next year the NVCC newsletter will be published from Wonderful Wild West Virginia. Keep those articles and pics coming folks and enjoy the holidays....and if you get bored, you all can always take a cruise out to the hills and drop in on Cheryl and I.



Rich Anderson richard.anderson157@verizon.net

Next General Business Meetings:

Tuesday, Jan 25th at 7:30 pm

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