

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CORVETTE CLUB

JANUARY 2019

VOLUME 50—ISSUE 1

'GLASS GAZETTE

2019 — A BANNER YEAR FOR THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA CORVETTE CLUB

By: John Scott, Vice President

By any standard, 1969 was a watershed year. Broadway Joe Namath led the underdog New York Jets to the AFC's first Super Bowl victory against the favored NFC Baltimore Colts. Richard Nixon took the oath of office to become the 37th President. People around the world were transfixed by a grainy television image as Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the moon, fulfilling President Kennedy's pledge to put an American on the moon before the decade (of the 1960's) was out. The United States marked the 100th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad. The "Miracle Mets", perhaps baseball's most hapless team up to that point, came from nine games behind the Chicago Cubs (whose World Series bad luck would last until 2016) to capture the National League pennant, and go on to defeat the Baltimore Orioles in the World Series. Some 400,000 rock music fans converged on a farm in Bethel, New York for four days of music, fellowship, and celebration; Woodstock would help define the era of the 1960's and the generation that lived it. And – of course – the Northern Virginia Corvette Club was born.

Getting an organization to a 50th anniversary is no easy feat. It takes determination, dedication, vision, leadership, a little luck, and willingness to put the good of the organization above personal goals and self-interest. But most of all, it takes a solid membership community – bound by a common cause, and willing to work together to keep things going even when times are challenging – for any organization to survive for half a century. Every one of you – NVCC's membership – has met that test to bring the club to where we are today: getting ready to celebrate the past fifty years, and lay the groundwork on which the next fifty years can be built.

The Council and the 50th Anniversary Committee have spent many hours putting together a series of events over the coming year to celebrate our 50th anniversary, and the many facets of "Corvette Culture." They include:

- The Annual NVCC Banquet at Maggiano's/Tyson's II: Saturday, January 26th. The official kick off to NVCC's 50th Anniversary, this year's banquet will be a blast from the past (1969-2019)! We'll revisit our Club's history, with the help of 10+ past presidents. This annual tradition is a popular social evening with awards for Member of the Year, and Council Member of the Year – great raffle prizes, trivia to astound and amaze, and a 50/50 drawing (with a hearty jackpot)!

Proudly Sponsored By:



6500 Little River Turnpike
Alexandria, VA 22312

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2019—A BANNER YEAR	1-2
PRESIDENT'S CORNER	3
CARLISLE 2019 HOTEL PLAN	4
MEET YOUR 2019 COUNCIL	5
11/27/18 GBM MINUTES	6-7
50TH ANNIV. BANQUET FLYER	8
CORVETTES @ CARLISLE	9
ACTIVITIES CALENDAR	10
NCM EVENT FLYER	11
THREE AND COUNTING	12
TRIVIA	13
NVCC LOGO HISTORY	14
FATE HAS A LONG ARM	15-16
SUMMER OF '69 FLYER	17
YOUR NCM AMBASSADOR	18
GUNSTON HALL PHOTO OP	19
THE TRAVEL CHANNEL	20
TENTATIVE EVENTS	21
50TH ANNIV. EVENTS	22
NCM / ERNCCC FLYER	23
REPAIR FAILS/FINAL THOUGHTS	24

2019 — A BANNER YEAR

- NVCC Anniversary Aerial Photo Shoot – Gunston Hall, Lorton, VA: April 7th. Be a part of the NVCC 50th anniversary photo, for the cover of Blue Bars Magazine’s Fall 2019 issue! Much more than just a photo of Corvettes in a field, the picture will highlight the Club’s northern Virginia roots and George Mason’s role as a Founding Father of the United States. Officer at Large Jerry Lelansky is the team lead for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You don’t want to miss it.
- NVCC’s 5th Annual “Corvettes Care” Fun Car Show at Page Chevy, Alexandria, VA: June 2nd. The car show is our annual signature event. The Club’s 50th Anniversary will be the theme at this year’s event – an all-Corvette fun show with great food, beautiful cars and trophies to match! This will be a sanctioned NCCC show with seven (7) events. Join in the fun with great music, prizes, and free parking. Membership Chair George Durk is the team lead for the car show. Volunteers are welcome; come on out and support NVCC – and our favorite charity, Multiple Sclerosis (MS)!
- NVCC Cruise to the National Corvette Museum (NCM) in Bowling Green, KY: July 20th – 23rd. Come cruise with the Club to Bowling Green for a visit to the birthplace of many of our beauties! NVCC will dedicate a new and impressive 2x2’ brick to commemorate our 50th Anniversary, surrounded by smaller bricks purchased by individual Club members. The NCM will provide a VIP tour of the museum, parade laps on the track, and go-karting! If the Assembly Plant is open for tours, we’ll be able to tour the plant as well. NVCC is a founding member club of the NCM, and a lifetime member of NCM, so we need to put our best foot forward. Our NCM Ambassador Dick Hammaker has the lead for the NCM visit.
- Summer of ’69 Cruise & Party in Fredericksburg, VA: July 27th. John and Lynn Stark will host a 1969-themed party at their home in Fredericksburg, VA – preceded by a Club cruise led by John. Get your groove on, Baby!
- Corvettes at Carlisle, PA: August 22nd – 25th. The annual Carlisle event is the largest gathering of Corvettes on the East Coast, bringing thousands of Corvettes of all generations together. You’ll have an opportunity to enjoy hot cars, a wide range of activities, merchandise, parts, and vendor offerings – and a Club hospitality tent! A block of rooms has been reserved by NVCC at the Carlisle Red Roof Inn. Club President Mike Gilliland is the lead for Carlisle, and is working with Carlisle organizers to ensure a great event for NVCC.
- Corvettes Weekend (Freestate Corvette Club) – Ocean City, MD: October 4th & 5th. A major Mid-Atlantic Corvette event sponsored by Freestate Corvette Club. The beach summer may formally end after the Labor Day weekend, but Corvettes on the Boardwalk will enable you to stretch summer a little bit longer. Join in this fun-packed weekend getaway to celebrate the Club’s 50th! Along with all the event attractions and activities, NVCC will host a hospitality suite, club dinner, and special placement in the boardwalk parade! Dave Kuhn is the lead for Ocean City.

Rounding out, and interspersed with, these major 50th anniversary events will be the usual member-led events that help to make our club a leader among Corvette clubs in the area. Rallyes, wine tasting and restaurant cruises, participation in other clubs’ activities, the Wounded Warrior show, and numerous other opportunities to get together as a club will appear on the NVCC calendar during the year. In sum, we can expect that our 50th anniversary year will be a banner year for the Northern Virginia Corvette Club. Plan to be part of it!!

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER—JANUARY 2019

I want to thank everyone in the NVCC that I have had and continue to have remarkable friendships with. I don't mind saying that you all have become a second family to me. What an honor to be the club president in our 50th year as a club. I am humbled to think of what an amazing group of people this is. What a car we all have to celebrate! What a great group of friends! What a heritage!

I know we all have a Corvette story that brought us to our remarkable rides. Let me bore you for a minute or two with mine. I have a picture of my brother, Larry, racing on Powell Speedway outside of my hometown back in the 1960's (he's in his green 1954 convertible). He has no helmet and no roll bar. The rules were different back then for NCCC events.

The Blue Flame six in Larry's Vette had been swapped out of that car along with the entire drivetrain. It had a bored, balanced and blueprinted 327 producing something North of 400 horsepower bolted onto a racing clutch that cramped your leg. Behind the clutch was a tricked out three speed manual mounted beneath the floor with a meaty shift handle right where it was meant to be. To handle that power, the wheel wells had been altered to put much more than the standard 1954 tread on the ground. If you had put wings on that car it would have flown.

Larry owned Corvettes until he died back in 2001. I knew I wanted one from the day he picked up that 1954 Vette back in 1966. School, wives and family obligations kept me away from that dream until my 2010 coupe followed me home from my Chevy dealer. One thing my brother taught me was that you can't begin to appreciate these cars without a Corvette Club membership, because Corvette people are really special. The NVCC has really brought this home to me. This is your club as members and I'm more than happy to be a part of it with you.

Now for the fun stuff, welcome to our 50th year! And what a year we will have together! We have planned five showcase events along with the cruises, rallies and picnic that make us one of the most active clubs in the Washington, DC area. Mark your calendars, for the January Banquet (bigger and better), the June Car Show, the July trip to Bowling Green (VIP activities at Makers Mark and Bowling Green with a Kentucky State Police Corvette escort), the August Corvettes at Carlisle get together and the October Corvettes at Ocean City get together. Every event has helpers; don't be shy about thanking them and asking to join in, we will need you.

Get ready for a terrific year. I can't think of anything better than adding to our Corvette stories. Here's to building great friendships and memories and driving America's greatest sports car in 2019!

Mike Gilliland
NVCC President

President@nvcorvetteclub.com





**NVCC IS PROUD TO BE A FOUNDING
LIFETIME MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL
CORVETTE MUSEUM**

CORVETTES AT CARLISLE 2019

OFFICIAL NVCC 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

As you know, the Club has reserved a block of rooms for Corvettes at Carlisle in 2019. It will be one of the biggest NVCC 50th Anniversary celebrations - and rooms are going fast!

Please see booking information below (and please note that these rooms are for the convenience of NVCC members only):

NVCC ROOM BLOCK FOR CORVETTES AT CARLISLE 2019

Block Name to Request: "NVCC 50th group block"

Rate: \$129.99/night + tax

Cancellation Policy: up to **72 hrs** prior to arrival (**UPDATED** from 48 hrs)

Hotel: Red Roof Inn

Phone: (717) 706-3862

Address: 1450 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle PA 17015

of Rooms/Nights Reserved:

15 rooms – Thursday (Aug22)

25 rooms – Friday (Aug 23)

25 rooms – Saturday (Aug 24)

**BOOK ROOMS NOW!
BEST PRICE POSSIBLE**

Current Hotels.com
rate = \$199/night

NOTE: Group held until 6/22/19 or until sold out; the 50th committee will request additional rooms if they're not sold out.

AND ... NVCC needs volunteers to staff our hospitality tent on the Fun Field at Carlisle. We don't have exact placement yet; however, our position will be significantly improved if management sees 20+ show registrations by NVCC members. That will also earn our Club special notice, like advertising our tent location in the show program and recognition of our 50th Anniversary!

Be sure to choose your Corvette Club membership as you register online for the show.

Your participation in this event is important and appreciated - even an hour or a day helps your Club! Whether you stay at the Club hotel, or travel to and from the show on the same day, please let Vicki Scott know (email: merryva@outlook.com).

All NVCC members and guests are welcome at the Club's hospitality tent!

Thank you from the NVCC 50th Anniversary Committee

MEET YOUR 2019 COUNCIL



President Mike Gilliland



Vice President John Scott



Treasurer Omar Gordon



Secretary Evelyn McKay



Rallye Mike Gilliland



Officer at Large
Jerry Lelansky



NCCC Governor
Andrej Balanc



AutoX / HPDE
Stewart Fox



Chief Instructor



Newsletter Marsha Batchellor



NCM Ambassador
Dick Hammaker



Bob Devery Social Chair

Historian Jeff Klain



Store Tab Tabellario



IT—Paul Benish

Webmaster—John Palmgren



Lauri Stevens
Social Media



Membership George Durk

NVCC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 27, 2018— VICKI SCOTT, SECRETARY

Officers Present:

Kris McCandless, President
John Scott, Vice President
John Stark, Treasurer

Vicki Scott, Secretary
Jerry Lelansky, Officer at Large

The meeting began at 7:34pm and was presided over by President Kris McCandless at Page Chevrolet in Alexandria, VA. Past presidents attending were John Palmgren and Dick Hammaker. No prospective members were present, so member introductions were waived.

The October GBM minutes were approved.

Since Bob Devery (Social Chair) wasn't present, Kris announced several holiday parties/open houses that are being held by NVCC members in December: Vicki Hulick's open house(12/2); Jim McKay's open house (12/9); and John and Lynn Stark's Holiday party (12/15). He reminded everyone to be sure to RSVP to each of the hosts.

Officer Elections – Kris introduced the slate of 2019 Officer nominees, as follows:

Mike Gilliland, President; John Scott, Vice President; Treasurer, Omar Gordon; Secretary, Evelyn McKay; Officer-at-Large, Jerry Lelansky

A motion to elect the current slate was unanimously approved and the elections were closed.

Social Activities – Kris asked for a review of past events since the last GBM, as follows:

Seneca Rocks/Old WV Route 55 (Oct 27th): George Durk reported a successful outing with 5 Corvettes and there was little traffic! Unfortunately, the Seneca Rocks Nature Center was closed. It's George's favorite for great roads and scenery!

Bavarian Inn Cruise and Brunch: George led the cruise, for the 3rd year and as always, the food was delicious. The cruise was comprised of nine cars and four more joined the group at the venue – which provided reserved parking!

Skeet shooting (Oct 20th): Jim Dobish announced that an excellent time was had by all and it was a great venue.

Hayfield High School Car Show (Nov 4th): Jerry L. reported that 3 members attended this show; himself, John Scott, and Paul Fineberg. It was a good turnout of about 75 cars all proceeds benefitted Hayfield High School's auto shop (and Hayfield is also Jerry's alma mater).

Air Traffic Control (ATC) Cruise and Tour (Nov 4th): The event was led by Bob Devery, (who wasn't present, so Dick Hammaker provided a review). The personal tour by Bob's son (Chris Devery) of the ATC at Leesburg was well worth the trip! It was preceded by lunch at a local restaurant and well attended. Dick highly recommends it!

A review of upcoming events included:

Photo Shoot at Gunston Hall on 4/7/18: Jerry L. reviewed plans for this event, which will consist of forming our vehicles into a large "50" for an aerial shot (by drone, provided and operated by Russell Cestone). We need a minimum of 20 cars to get the shot and 30 vettes would also work. The entry fee for Gunston Hall is \$10 per person and includes a tour of the mansion and access to the grounds. Jerry reminded everyone that there will be no rain date, so we must make an effort to do this on April 7th. He'll plan a practice session on a Sunday in early 2019 – it won't be at Gunston Hall; however, it will conform to the same size of area. Jerry is initially considering the parking lot at Kohl's or a park 'n ride in Springfield. He has a sign-up sheet ready for the meeting break!

50th Anniversary Update – John Scott led a discussion as follows:

2019 banquet: This will be the kickoff celebration for NVCC's 50th anniversary year.

It will be held once again at Maggiano's/Tyson's II and tickets are \$50 each.

It appears that 12 past presidents will attend.

NCM Cruise & Celebration, 7/20- 7/23: Dick Hammaker reviewed plans to date.

So far, 13 cars are signed up for the cruise. Bob Devery has made arrangements for accommodations in Lexington (1st night of cruise), and Bowling Green (2nd & 3rd nights of our stay).

Jerry L. hopes to arrange a private tour for our group at Maker's Mark Distillery and Dick knows a state trooper who may lead the way!

Activities at NCM include dedication of the new NVCC brick; parade laps, go-karting, and a VIP tour of the museum.

Summer of 1969 Party: John and Lynn Stark will host this event on July 27th. More details coming to your inbox soon!

Corvettes at Carlisle: Mike Gilliland reported on the number of rooms still available at Red Roof Inn at Carlisle. He asked everyone to remember to designate NVCC as your home club. A minimum of 20 registrations is needed for NVCC's tent to receive prime placement on the fun field, along with other VIP perks.

Corvettes on the Boardwalk (October 2019): Dave Kuhn has offered to lead the event. We need a good turnout for our 50th year! NVCC will receive head of the line placement in the parade; we will also have a Club dinner while there, as well as a hospitality suite.

Annual Picnic – Rich & Cheryl Anderson are ready to welcome NVCC back to their WV farm this year! Date TBD.

Nameplates – John Stark announced that he has several unclaimed nameplates. Please stop by to see him this evening.

~ Break ~

Trivia – Led by Club historian Jeff Klain

50/50 raffle: Mike Moore won the \$38 jackpot

Meeting adjourned at 8:51PM.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Stephen and Karen Dubrey - '03 Z06 Coupe

A VOTE TO ACCEPT THESE MINUTES WILL BE TAKEN AT THE JANUARY 22, 2019 GBM

NVCC 2019 Banquet 50th Anniversary



Official kick-off of NVCC's 50th Year!
An evening of club camaraderie, excellent food and libation!

\$50 per person

Saturday, January 26, 2019
6pm – 10pm
Maggiano's Little Italy
Tysons II – 2001 International Dr
McLean, VA 22102

Register no later than Jan 11th at
[msreg.com/NVCC2019banquet](https://www.msreg.com/NVCC2019banquet)

Please direct all inquiries regarding
this event to Bob Devery, event chair at
trends04@cox.net.

Dinner will include various appetizers,
main courses, and desserts.

Along with highlights from 2018,
the evening will feature a look back
at NVCC's history, with the help of
at least 10 past presidents! It's
going to be a blast from the past!

As always, there will be opportunities
to purchase raffle and 50/50 tickets.

Cash Bar!



NVCC 50th Anniversary Gathering at Carlisle

Join the NVCC for 3 days of fun with NVCC friends and show cars at Corvettes at Carlisle. We will be promoting the NVCC at the biggest Corvette only car show in the East. Contact for details:
gilliland_michael@yahoo.com

August 23, 24 & 25 2019

Carlisle Room Reservations: (717) 706-3862 (NVCC group)
Carlisle Reserved/Fun Field (Club NVCC):
www.carlisleevents.com/carlisle-events/corvettes-at-carlisle/

NVCC 2019 Activities Calendar*Dates are subject to change.***MONTHLY EVENTS**

4th Tuesday monthly, January through November: General Business Meetings (GBMs) at Page Chevrolet in Alexandria, VA. Start time 7:30 pm; store open at 7:15 pm. Breakfast GBM twice a year.

2nd Tuesday of each month: NVCC Council Business Meetings at 7:30 pm; location

JANUARY 2019

22: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

26: Banquet, Maggiano's, Tysons Galleria, Vienna, VA

FEBRUARY 2019

3: 10:00 am -Test Photo Shoot; Gambrill Park & Ride Commuter Lot, 7321 Gambrill Rd., Springfield

26: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

MARCH 2019

26: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

31: Corvettes & Crabs Rallye — Kris and Mike

APRIL 2019

7: Club Photo—Gunston Hall

11: ERNCCC Event at NCM Motor Sports Park

23: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

MAY 2019

28: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

JUNE 2019

2: 5th Annual Corvettes Care Car Show; Page Chevy

25: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

JULY 2019

20-23: National Corvette Museum; Bowling Green, KY—Dick Hammaker

23: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

27: Summer of '69 Party—John & Lynn Stark

AUGUST 2019

22-25: Corvettes at Carlisle—Mike Gilliland

27: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

SEPTEMBER 2019

24: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

OCTOBER 2019

4-5: Corvettes on the Boardwalk, O.C. MD—Dave Kuhn

22: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

NOVEMBER 2019

26: GBM, Page Chevrolet, Alexandria, VA

DECEMBER 2019**The Social Activities Update****From Bob D Social Chair**

Last year was a fantastic one for getting members out with their Corvettes!! As a result of the hard work of a lot of volunteers who organized activities, members got to enjoy lots of diverse and some new adventures. For example:

Winery cruises with Shawn, Mike, and Dick H to local vineyards; Corvettes and Crabs Rallye; USMC Museum (special thanks to Rich Clute for his docent fill in time and personal experiences ...Semper Fi); the Corvettes Care Car Show; Rich Anderson's annual picnic generosity; ice cream socials and Rt. 55 cruises; NVCC cruise to Carlisle; our USO effort for Wounded Warriors...hand salute to Paul Fineberg and everyone who helped make this a great success for our service members and families; National Harbor food tasting; Fall Rallye ; Ocean City Boardwalk; a very cool day with Jim Dobish at the skeet shooting range; our trip to the Fairfax Police Wakefield District to say THANKS to the officers who protect our community; Lori Benish effort with the Vienna Halloween Parade tradition... always a big favorite for the club; more cruises with George Durk especially the popular dietary delight, Bavarian Inn luncheon and a stop at the air traffic control facility in Leesburg to see why we get from point A to point B safely. We even had a Cruise on the Mediterranean with members who enjoyed Venice; Greece and much more.

In part due to the efforts of many volunteers, the club reputation for being active has spread to allow for more people to track the club and decide to join. With membership in the 100 range, the new activities for 2019 especially the word on our 50th efforts, might allow us to move to the 125 mark!

So, THANK YOU to everyone who helped get us to all these events. What do YOU have planned for us in 2019? Add your ideas to the list and send a note: [so-
cial@nvccorvetteclub.com](mailto:social@nvccorvetteclub.com) or text: 703-786-2147

NO DECEMBER GBM



The Northern Virginia Corvette Club is going to the National Corvette Museum July 20-23, 2019

Highlights of the trip will be:

- Maker's Mark Distillery Tour
- Behind-the-Scenes NCM Tour
- Dedication of the NVCC's 50th Anniversary Brick
- C7R Simulator Challenge
- Parade laps at NCM's Motorsports Park
- Kart Races
- Corvette Assembly Plant Tour, if available

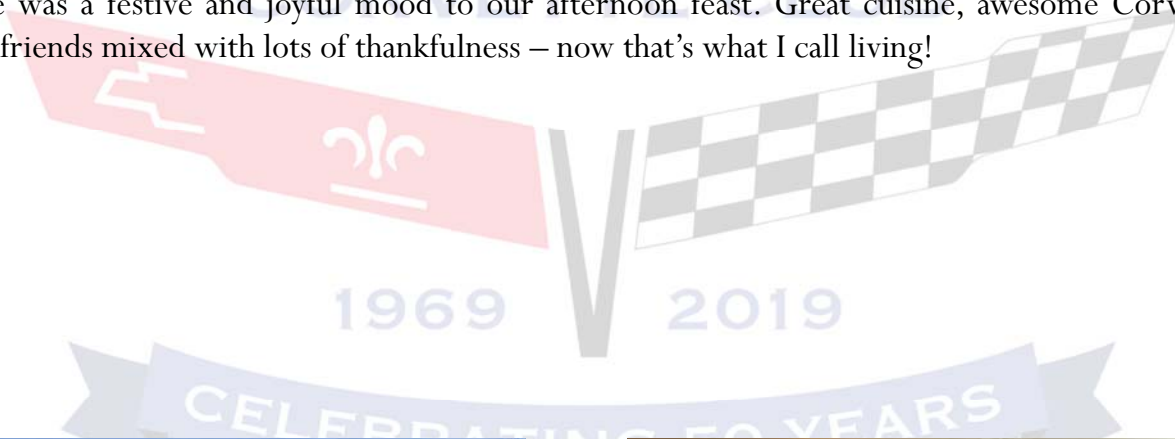
More details will be available as the agenda is finalized. All questions should be sent to the event organizer Dick Hammaker at 703-250-8644 or dick.hammaker@cox.net



THREE AND COUNTING

By George Durk

On Sunday, November 18, NVCC corvettes adorned the parking lot of the Bavarian Inn, albeit dressed in a metallic coat of mud and salt spray! The restaurant for the third year in a row welcomed NVCCers and friends for its Sunday brunch to kick-off the holiday season. Mid-week before our Sunday outing it rained with a slight coating of sleet in Northern Virginia. But, to our surprise, western Maryland must have gotten over six to ten inches of snow, with the country roads still covered with snow melt and salt. However, it didn't deter us from enjoying the drive through the Catoctin mountain hills and valleys to work-up our appetites. We had a caravan of eleven cars and met four more at the Inn, which accounted for a total of 28 hungry Corvetters. As usual, the Bavarian Inn had an assortment of delights on their European Sunday Brunch Buffet menu including an Omelet/Breakfast Station, Seafood Station, Salad Station, Carving Station, Pasta Station, European (Bavarian) Station and Dessert Station. The newly remodeled buffet area was exquisite with lots of room to accommodate the restaurant packed with guests. After three trips to the different stations, I called a truce within myself and managed to find room for a few tasty desserts. One of the highlights of the afternoon for me was meeting our veteran NVCC members Alice and Jack Hufnagle, who now reside in Texas. I was fortunate to sit next to Alice, who shared some of her experiences with the club throughout the years, and also their recent acquisition of a new C7. There was a festive and joyful mood to our afternoon feast. Great cuisine, awesome Corvettes, good friends mixed with lots of thankfulness – now that's what I call living!



TRIVIA

By Jeff Klain



Q1: New members in this popular TV show, 15-7-MARY-3 and 4 routinely stopped third generation Corvettes what were these fictional high patrolmen's names?

Answer: Francis "Ponch" Poncherello and John Baker

Q2: Current events: Why were the Buick Lacrosse, Cadillac CT6 and XTS, Chevrolet and Cruze and Volt all in the news this week?

Answer: All models to be discontinued

Q3: Hard question: What world-famous Southern California tuner installed a Pratt and Whitney ST6B gas turbine engine in a 1978 Corvette?

Answer: Andy Granatelli

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TONY WILLIAMS

In early 2017, vice president John Scott and I announced to the Page Chevrolet sales staff, at one of their Saturday morning meetings, that the Club would award a \$25 gift card from Dogfish Head Brewing Company and Restaurant to the first sales person to sell a Corvette and have that new owner join the club. Well, that happened in the fall of 2018 with Aaron Street buying his Corvette from Tony Williams. And a couple hours before the November 2018 GBM, I had the privilege of handing the gift card to Tony Williams with Page General Manager Juan present.

Tony has been selling cars for over 30 years and brings that experience to Page. Truth be told, he has sold several corvettes for out of town folks, but this was the first to meet our goal of him becoming a club member. It is Tony's plan to get himself a Corvette when he reaches 60, and word has it, it'll likely be a C6 in a dark color. Stop by and introduce yourself as a club member to Tony; he sits very close to the comfy chairs in the waiting area at the back of the showroom and is a big fan of our club.

Kris McCandless

sogneiss@comcast.net



LOCAL CARS AND COFFEE LOCATIONS

Day / Time	Event	Venue	Location
Friday (5-7 PM)	Cruise-In	Chic-Fil-A	Sterling, VA
Saturday (7-9 AM)	Cars & Coffee	Katie's Coffee	Great Falls, VA
Saturday (6-9 PM)	Cruise-In	Burger King	Manassas, VA
Sunday (7:00 AM)	Cars & Coffee	Dunkin Donuts / Dulles Landing Shopping Center parking lot	South Riding, VA
Sunday (8:30 AM)	Cars & Coffee	Market Station (203 Harrison Street SE)	Leesburg, VA



Pre-1982



1982—1998



1998—2018



2019—2020

FATE HAS A LONG ARM

June 2013

By: Jack Ludwick



Peep
and Flo

I was driving back from the gym when I suddenly heard a whap-whap-whap coming from the left front of the car. It sounded as though I'd picked up something on the tire and it was slapping against the wheel well. I turned into a side street, stopped and took a look, moved it forward a little and looked again, but everything seemed normal. So I set out again, and the thumping resumed, but soon stopped. I turned around, drove back and scrutinized the roadway where I'd been but didn't spot anything that might have been thrown off.

When I got home, I carefully felt around the tire and found that the inner part of both front tires were eroded away, down to the steel belt, as I discovered when a wire stuck me in the finger! However, with such low ground clearance, it was impossible to see any sign of such extreme wear until I turned the steering wheel all the way to the side.

(Corvettes come equipped with "Goodyear Eagle F1 EMT Ultra High Performance Summer" tires. EMT stands for Extended Mobility Technology, referring to the capability to drive for up to 50 miles at 50 mph after a loss of air pressure. This is necessary because the tires are so large there wouldn't be room for a spare in the trunk, which is otherwise quite capacious – there is room for two, wheeled carry-on suitcases – [our usual luggage complement](#) – with a surprising amount of space to spare. And even a space-saving spare wouldn't be suitable, because not only are the rear tires wider than the front, but they're also taller.

The "Summer" part means "it is not intended to be driven in near-freezing temperatures, through snow or ice!" Perhaps they assume you have another set of winter tires for the rest of the year. Or more likely, it's from their lawyers, saying don't blame us if you wreck when it gets cold!)

Seeing missing rubber along one edge, I realized that the whapping sound must have been caused by a strip that had peeled away from the tread, but was still attached at one end – until it broke loose. My first thought was that it was my fault; that it had been too long since I'd had it aligned. Then I remembered that I had it aligned [the last time I was there](#); although ten months earlier, it was only 3,500 miles ago!

So now I thought they had actually misaligned it. I called Criswell Chevrolet and made an appointment to get two new tires, but I was concerned about whether it was safe to drive there – about twenty miles away in Gaithersburg, mainly over high-speed roads.

Then I remembered OnStar, to which I had continued to subscribe after the initial trial period expired. One high-profile benefit is automatic crash notification, so they can contact you or send help if necessary, since they know where you are. Another feature is locating the car and, if necessary, disabling the engine, in case of theft. So far, the only services that I had used were remote door unlocking, when I had accidentally locked the coat containing the key fob in the trunk, and hands-free calling using their higher-power-than-hand-held-units cell-phone link.

However, they also listed road service, and when I called found that indeed they would arrange to have my car taken to the dealer aboard a flatbed truck. When we arrived there, the operator told me it otherwise would have cost about \$150.



Since I believed it was their negligence that had caused this dangerous condition, I asked them to notify me when they got to my car. When they took me back to the shop, it was even worse than I thought. This is the left tire, showing the section where I figured the whapping rubber strip had been.



It looked like the edge had been ground down even past the steel belt, although it hadn't resulted in any detectable symptoms, e.g., steering pull or tire imbalance. You can see that there are still thousands of miles of tread left on the rest of the tire. However, I carefully scrutinized the alignment test and saw that it actually was within specs.

So it wasn't an alignment problem, and it took me quite a while to determine the cause. I eventually concluded that it was a combination of three factors: aging tires, the type of alignment used on performance cars, and even the way run-flat tires are constructed.

Rubber compounds harden and lose elasticity with age, due to the effects of heat and oxygen – no doubt you've observed the effect on old rubber bands. Although the damage was along the inner edge, the mechanic pointed out other areas that had small cracks in the tread. I've since learned that although there is general agreement that ten years is too old, several automobile manufacturers recommend replacing tires after six years, regardless of tread life. Although tires include a four-letter code indicating the week and year they were made, I hadn't thought to check mine while I was there. However, I later found that the remaining, left rear, original tire [\[the right rear tire had been replaced earlier\]](#) was manufactured only a short time before the car itself – 2808, or July 7-13, 2008, which is just now approaching five years. (The 2009 model year began in August 2008, which is when the car I ordered was built.)

- The alignment part has to do with camber, which is the amount the tire tilts as seen from the front. There will be the least wear if the tire is perpendicular to the road (zero camber), while performance cars tend to have the bottom of the tire tilted out slightly compared to the top (negative camber). This provides a better footprint on the pavement while cornering, but it also increases pressure on the inside edge of the tires during straight-line, that is, most, driving.

- Finally, the very design of run-flat tires compounds the previous effects. To be able to support the weight of the car after a blowout, the sidewalls are much more rigid than on a normal tire. In addition to resulting in a harder ride, they provide much less resilience for that part of the tread in contact with the pavement.

(Incidentally, tire pressure monitoring systems, now required on all new cars, were first developed for use with run-flat tires, since underinflation wouldn't be noticeable.)

I imagine most Corvette owners rarely encounter my problem. Corvette forums reveal that many wear their tires out before the 22,000 miles mine lasted – "spirited driving" is often mentioned, and one forum is even called "smokinvette.com" – and, in any case, sooner than five years.

Fortunately, once more the good-luck fairy was looking over our shoulders. If the tread strip hadn't separated in just the way it did, I probably wouldn't have had a hint of any problem until a blowout, at best, or total sidewall separation at worst.

And, if the serendipitous discovery of [the blood clot in Betty Lou's leg](#) hadn't kept us near home, the previous week we'd have embarked on a 400-mile trip to my high school reunion in upstate New York. Even if we weren't out of cell phone range in some remote part of Pennsylvania when a tire failed, it's unlikely that we'd easily locate the necessary specialized replacement(s).

For example, Criswell Chevrolet had four of the necessary tires in stock, but they also had 76 new 2013 Corvettes on hand, while the Internet revealed that Sutliff Chevrolet in Harrisburg, probably the largest city we'd likely to be near, had all of 5 new Corvettes available.

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(original article date - June 2013)



Summer of '69 Cruise & Party Saturday, July 27, 2019

- *Cruise*
 - *Meet at Kelly Leadership Center
14715 Bristow Rd (accessible from VA 234)
Manassas, VA 20112*
 - *Drivers meeting 4:00*
 - *Depart 4:30*
- *Party at the home of
John & Lynn Stark*
 - *BBQ dinner*
 - *Arrival approx 5:30*
- *RSVP by Wed July 24 to
starkja82@gmail.com*

*Costume contest
Were the 60s good to you?*





NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

By: NCM Ambassador Dick Hammaker

NCM Executive Director for 25 years, Wendall Stobe, has never owned a Corvette and still doesn't. Executive Director's focus is on business and not letting Corvette enthusiasm influence business decisions.

General Motors doesn't own NCM.

NCM Mission: Celebration, Education, Preservation, and promote Enthusiasm for Corvette.

Employees are NCM's greatest asset.

NCM Curator, Dereck Moore, has an amazing inventory of 700+ artifacts and still growing.

NCM has 80 donated vehicles as well as a "Wish List." See NCM Website for the Wish List.

There are 37,000 NCM members. Of those, 4,000 are lifetime members.

Three Corvette Clubs have 100% NCM Members. Their bylaw requires NCM Membership to join.

There are 150 Corvette Clubs that are NCM members. Twenty-five of those are Lifetime Club Members...NVCC is one of that 16%.

#22
Dick "HAM" Hammaker
Ambassador



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA CORVETTE CLUB'S PHOTO SHOOT AT
GUNSTON HALL 10:00-12:00PM SUNDAY APRIL 7 2019**

RAIN OR SHINE

**\$10 PER PERSON, WHICH INCLUDES TOURS OF THE MANSION
AND THE GROUNDS.**



FOR THE FALL COVER OF THE BLUE BARS MAGAZINE

Our club's 50th Anniversary will be celebrated all year in 2019. The Photo Shoot for the Fall edition of *Blue Bars* and the suggested location is Gunston Hall. There are three optional layouts (included), with a maximum of 31 Corvettes.

Please sign up by sending an email to officer@nvcorvetteclub.com, or at the Jan – Mar GBMs.

We'll start lining up cars at 10:00AM. If you decide to show up at the last minute, there's no guarantee that you or your car will be in the picture.

We chose Gunston Hall.... Why, you may ask? Gunston Hall was home to George Mason IV, a founding father, senior statesman, author of the *Virginia Declaration of Rights*, and he was among the first to call for such fundamental American liberties as religious toleration and freedom of the press. Additionally, the *Declaration of Independence*, the *Constitution of the United States*, and the *Bill of Rights* were all influenced by George Mason's political perspectives.



INDEPENDENT ADVERTISING FROM BOB DEVERY—THE TRAVEL GUY

WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER BE?



DID YOU KNOW that many changes are occurring in the travel industry? Almost every cruise line has brand-new ships entering the fleet in 2019 and 2020. River cruising is exploding with new itineraries while land tour operators do all they can to add new cities and new excursions popular destinations. Airlines continue to modify rules on baggage and seating as well as changing itineraries to make a 2-1/2 hour flight one that could be as long as eight hours! Europe has many countries that are now requiring travel protection to be in place while Japan is instituting a departure tax... Yes, you will pay nine dollars to leave Japan after your travel! I have dozens of emails each day that involve new companies who specialize in certain items as well as new promotion codes and sales for cruises and land tours. At times, there are as many as a dozen promotional codes for the same ship on the same sailing date!

DID YOU ALSO KNOW that my office went from \$6.6 million in travel business worldwide last year to \$7.7 million while my EXPEDIA corporate office has sales volume in excess of \$500 million. Most of you **DO KNOW** that I will donate part of my earnings on travel to NVCC. It's my way to say thank you for allowing me to handle your travel by giving back to the club. I know that many of you know about the program but book your own travel because you consider it to be convenient or that you will have the lowest price by doing it yourself or that you figure you have to pay for my services.

DID YOU KNOW that with the sales volume of our corporate office, we get special breaks on pricing; that we have suppliers who are for travel planners only and are not accessible to you? Recently, I saved over \$500 per person on airfare as part of a package for several of our members.

I only make one promise when I arrange travel: I will treat your request as though I were booking my own travel and spending my own money with no hype and no gimmicks. I don't talk biz at meetings or on club outings. I have nothing to prove on whether the program is legit as many members have used me and many checks have been written to the club. And no... I'm not number one with my company but out of 4000+ representatives I was number 160 last year and currently rank in the top 60 so far in 2019. You're unlikely to beat me on price and whoever you are currently using is definitely not going to write a check to the club as I will. A donation from me for members who traveled on the cruise to the Mediterranean in September is being used to offset the cost of the banquet. So, do all the homework yourself and come up with your best price which I will match or beat or give me a simple idea and I'll save you all the time on the homework and get multiple suppliers from home I will pick the best price.

LAST: DID YOU KNOW Jerry/Irene; Mike G/Candace and Carol and I will roam around Ireland and Scotland in mid June?

How about Oktoberfest in mid-September starting in Munich with overnights in Prague, Vienna, Budapest and Salzburg with Dick/ Denise Hammaker; Rob/Sharon Richwine and Carol and I? You're invited to join us as the tours promise to be most excellent fun and, of course, the donation will be made to the club for each of the members who are on the tours.

Send a note for tour info or any other travel needs: bdevery@cruiseshipcenters.com or text me at 703-786-2147.

Bob Devery
The Travel Guy

TENTATIVE EVENTS

Wintergreen area wineries and BBQ — Organizer: Bob Devery

Guinness Brewery, Baltimore, MD — Organizer — Bob Devery

Weekday drive to Gordonsville VA/Exchange Hotel and Civil War Museum, followed by BBQ lunch—Organizer: TBD

*INTERESTED IN LEADING AN EVENT?
PLEASE CONTACT AN NVCC COUNCIL
MEMBER EMAIL:*

COUNCIL@NVCORVETTECLUB.COM



NVCC Logo Polo Shirt Order Form

The popular NVCC Logo Men's and Women's Short Sleeve Polo is back! Made by Devon & Jones, the polo's feature premium Peruvian Pima cotton, rib knit cuffs, and dura-pearl buttons. The cost of a shirt is \$40.00 (plus personalization and shipping if required).



Personalize your shirt by having your name embroidered on the front right side for an additional charge. (+\$5.00)

Available Colors: White, True Royal, Black & Red

Women's Sizes- Small, Medium, Large, XL, 2XL, 3XL (2XL and over +\$2.00)

Men's Sizes- Small, Medium, Large, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL (2XL and over +\$2.00)



Examples:



Order online at:

http://www.nvcorvetteclub.com/information/NVCC_STORE/NVCC_Shirts/

NVCC's 50th Anniversary Events

In addition to our regular events, NVCC will host these Official 50th Anniversary events during 2019:

NVCC Banquet at Maggiano's/Tyson's II: Saturday, January 26th

The official kick off to NVCC's 50th Anniversary! This year's banquet will be a blast from the past (1969-2019)! We'll revisit our Club's history, with the help of 10+ past presidents. This annual tradition is a popular social evening with awards for Member of the Year, and Council Member of the Year –great raffle prizes, trivia to astound and amaze, and a 50/50 drawing (with a hearty jackpot)!

Escape from Winter Caribbean Cruise: February 10th - 17th

Join Club members for a 7-day Western Caribe cruise! Email Bob Devery at trends04@cox.net.

NVCC Anniversary Aerial Photo Shoot – Gunston Hall, Lorton, VA: April 7th

Be a part of the NVCC 50th anniversary photo, for the cover of Blue Bars Magazine's Fall 2019 issue! For more info, including a rehearsal date, email Jerry Lelansky at Officer@nvcorvetteclub.com.

NVCC's 5th Annual "Corvettes Care" Fun Car Show at Page Chevy, Alexandria, VA: June 2nd

Come on out and support NVCC – and our favorite charity, Multiple Sclerosis (MS)! The Club's 50th Anniversary will be the theme at this year's event – an all-Corvette fun show with great food, beautiful cars and trophies to match! This will be a sanctioned NCCC show with seven (7) events. Join in the fun with great music, prizes, and free parking. Volunteers are welcome; simply email the event manager, George Durk at gadurk@gmail.com, for more information.

NVCC Cruise to the National Corvette Museum (NCM) in Bowling Green, KY: July 20th – 23rd

Cruise with the Club to Bowling Green for a visit to the birthplace of many of our beauties! NVCC will dedicate a new and impressive 2x2' brick to commemorate our 50th Anniversary, surrounded by those of Club members. The NCM will provide a VIP tour of the museum, parade laps, and go-karting! . NVCC is a founding member club of the NCM, and a lifetime member of NCM. Email Dick Hammaker for details at dick.hammaker@cox.net.

Summer of '69 Cruise & Party in Fredericksburg, VA: July 27th

John and Lynn Stark will host a 1969-themed party at their home in Fredericksburg, VA – preceded by a Club cruise led by John. More detail soon. *Get your groove on, Baby!*

Corvettes at Carlisle, PA: August 22nd – 25th

This massive, Corvettes-only event will provide an opportunity to enjoy hot cars, a wide range of activities, merchandise, parts, and vendor offerings – and a Club hospitality tent! A block of rooms has been reserved by NVCC – email 50thCommittee@nvcorvetteclub.com for more information.

Corvettes Weekend (Freestate Corvette Club) – Ocean City, MD: October 4th & 5th

A major Mid-Atlantic Corvette event sponsored by Freestate Corvette Club. Join in this fun-packed weekend getaway to celebrate the Club's 50th! Along with all the event attractions and activities, NVCC will host a hospitality suite, club dinner, and special placement in the boardwalk parade!

Please Note: If you'd like to help the 50th Anniversary Committee plan and/or staff any event, email Vicki Scott at merryva@outlook.com for details about our next monthly dinner meeting.

NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

MOTOR SPORTS PARK

SAVE THE DATE – BOOK YOUR ROOMS after 6/14/18

THURSDAY APRIL 11, 2019

EAST REGION NONSANCTION EVENT

TRACK DAY – 4X ½ HOUR SESSIONS ON THE FULL COURSE - \$200

PACE LAPS- 4 LAPS FOLLOWING A PACE CAR- \$50.00

SKID PAD FOCUSED ON CAR CONTROL - \$50.00

FRIDAY APRIL 12, 2019

TOUR THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

BOX LUNCH PROVIDED BY NCM

PLANT TOURS

75 rooms are blocked off under ERNCCC APRIL 10 – 13, 2019

BEST WESTERN – 270-782- 6933

1940 Mel Browning St.

Bowling Green, Ky.

Cost - \$105 per night

You can make your reservations after June 14, 2018

Question or information – contact John Cantelmo

micantelmo@embargmail.com



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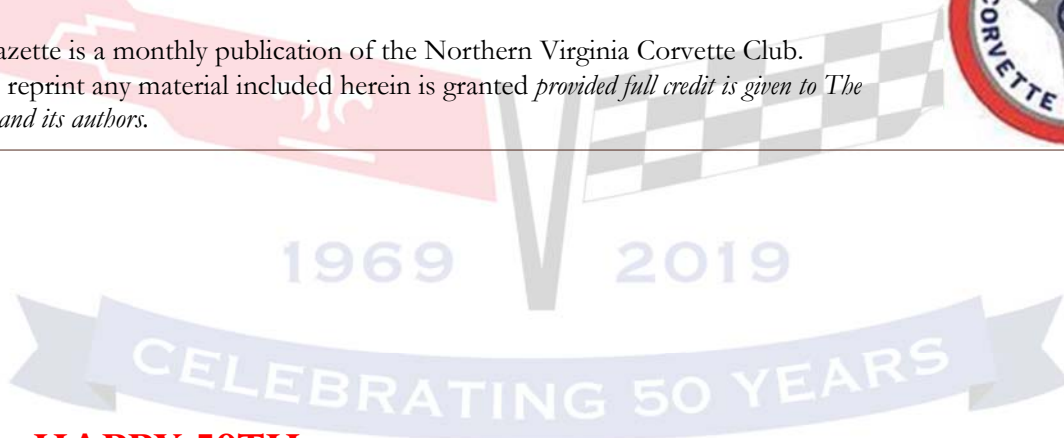
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**HAPPY 50TH
ANNIVERSARY
NORTHERN
VIRGINIA
CORVETTE
CLUB**



FINAL THOUGHT