



A Quarterly Publication of the Illinois Chapter NCRS

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Thoughts from the Chairman

Beware of the Ides of March!

It's a new time... a new year... New people and new ideas coming your way!

Our 2012 Corvette season is well underway with our annual Kick Off Pizza Party being a great success. Santo did a terrific job with the menu that was chosen, and everyone had plenty to eat. The service provided by Moretti's was excellent and the room was laid out perfectly to provide for easy socializing. What a wonderful start to our calendar!

I want to be sure everyone is made aware of how SPECIAL this year's Technical Session and Judging School are going to be. These events that the Board of Directors have scheduled will be a "must participate" for any serious "originality" buff in our organization.

On April 20th, Gary Bosselman will be giving a tech session on paint finishes. Anyone who isn't familiar with Gary and his paint expertise will be very surprised by his knowledge and experience. Gary is becoming known in the Corvette hobby as one of the premiere paint guru's in the country when it comes to original paint finish and color match. If you have any concern at all about paint issues, you will not want to miss this event!

Then, on May 20th, Santo and Pat will be holding our annual Judging School at Corvette Mike's in Burr Ridge, IL. What makes this year so special compared to other years, is that we will have on display, (4) 4-star (yes count them) Bowtie Corvettes for you to view. Four untouched, unrestored Corvettes where you can see how the door jambs should look, the corn rows in the carpet weave, the degree of gloss on the engine paint, the orange peel, and the texture in the paint finish.... "Originality" at its best!

Several other events are planned for the year and are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. I just wanted to give an awareness to the two listed above.

The surveys that I included in the last newsletter have stopped coming back, so I will compile the information and have a report in the next "Off Road".

Until then...Happy Corvetting,

Jay

Chapter Officers & Contacts

Chairman

Jay Stahl

5229 High Street, Roscoe, IL 61073

815-623-7562

Website Coordinator

Fritz Goetz

908 Long Meadow Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60193

847-895-9331

fngoetz@aol.com

Vice Chairman & Secretary

Mike Neben

16 Spring Creek Dr., South Barrington, IL 60010

847-551-1458

Treasurer

Bob Kleckauskas

36W 556 Michael Ct, St. Charles, IL 60175

847-595-9122 – fax

Membership Chairman

Ed Wodniakowski

456 South Princeton, Itasca, IL 60143

630-773-1458

Judging Chairman

Santo Scafide

118 Chandler, Elmhurst, IL 60126

630-530-0027

Judging Co-Chairman

Patrick Santaniello

406 High Ridge, Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-0882

Technical Chairman

Bob Lojewski

106 N. Barrington Road, Streamwood, IL 60107

630-837-3100

Technical Chairman

Scott Lindee

18416 S. Buckberry Lane, Mokena, IL 60448

815-717-8187

Historian

Randy Merzdorf

19W675 97th Street, Lemont, IL 60439-9681

630-739-9612

Activities Chairman

Kim Santaniello

406 High Ridge, Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-0882

Newsletter Editor

Kim Scafide

118 S. Chandler Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

630-530-0027

ilncrsnewsletter@yahoo.com

Chapter email – ILNCRS.org

The ILNCRS newsletter is going digital!

That's right, fellow members. Beginning with the 2nd quarter, we will be emailing this newsletter to those members we have email addresses for. The remaining few will still go out by U.S. Mail.

We recently emailed a Tech Session reminder to all our members who have provided their addresses to us. If you didn't receive this email, please contact me at the email address below and I will add your address to my contact list.

Email address: ilncrsnewsletter@yahoo.com

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2012 ILNCRS Kickoff Party and Membership Meeting

On February 19, 2012, The Illinois Chapter had their annual kickoff party and general membership meeting to start off the New Year. This year we had the meeting at Moretti's Restaurant in Bartlett IL. We had approximately forty (40) members in attendance. There was plenty of great food to be had, which included three (3) kinds of pizza, assorted appetizers, salad, & pasta.

Jay Stahl, our new Chairman, welcomed us all and opened the floor to questions from the members. He introduced the board members in attendance, along with the newest board members, Pat Santaniello as Judging Co-Chairman and Kim Santaniello as the new Activities Chairman. Bill Braun stepped down as Chapter Chairman at the end of last year so he could devote more attention to the role of Regional Director to which he was elected in 2011. Bill also has the responsibility of Flight Program Administrator.

We also went over some of the upcoming events for 2012 — the Tech Session on April 22, the Judging School on May 20th, and the Chapter meet in Galena on August 3,4,&5.

It was great getting together with everyone — seeing old friends and meeting new ones.





ILNCRS TECHNICAL CORNER

Technical Article #1 in Series

Submitted by Bob Lojewski, Technical Chairman

Steering Into Trouble

Aside from brake failure, nothing is more terrifying than finding a vehicle's steering has either been compromised or has failed altogether. In the case of sudden steering failure, it is most likely that the steering pump is to blame. The only indication that a driver might have of impending steering pump failure is a bussing or whining sound emanating from under the hood. Then, either due to fluid loss or the failure of the unit itself, cessation of steering pump function will greatly increase the effort needed to turn the steering wheel. Before this serious problem occurs, repair or replacement must be made. If the problem is steering that is becoming progressively more difficult, the steering rack may be the culprit.

HINT: Check the power steering fluid level at every oil change for indication of fluid loss and potential consequent problems.

Technical Article #2 in Series

Submitted by Bob Lojewski, Technical Chairman

Blow-By

Worn piston rings allow the passage of hot engine gases into the crankcase. If a ring job is indicated, the cost of performing this work should be compared against the cost of rebuilding the engine. This latter fix offers the advantages of providing a clean engine block to prevent cooling problems and re-boring the cylinders to restore perfect roundness, thereby ensuring maximum compression, power, and control of oil consumption. The crankshaft is also machined to restore a perfect fit. On the other hand, if the crankshaft has not work excessively, if the camshaft bearings are in good shape, and the other important components are okay, then simply honing the cylinders and replacing the rings may be all that is necessary.

If your piston rings are failing, you could be damaging your car with every single second of use.

HINT: Wear of piston rings — which are the circular components fitted into grooves in the pistons — can be confirmed by a compression test.

Technical Article #3 in Series

*Submitted by Bob Lojewski, Technical Chairman**Feeling A Bit Wobbly?*

If your front-wheel drive vehicle feels a bit wobbly on the road, it may involve the driveline (which is composed of the components that transfer power to the wheels). For instance, an axle joint failure can lead the spinning shaft to dip slightly and run out of center. This condition will be felt as a side-to-side wobble at lower speeds and a vibration at highway speeds. If a driveline wobble occurs on a rear-wheel drive vehicle, the most likely culprit is a bent axle (which may be damaged in an accident or a hard run-in with a curb). More likely, however, a wobble in rear-wheel drive and four-wheel drive vehicles will develop in the drive shaft, usually as a result of universal joint problems.

Any vibration, wobbling, or steering issues should be addressed quickly, and brought to the attention of an automotive specialist.

HINT: Wobbles in both front-wheel and rear-wheel drive vehicles may be caused by out-of-balance wheels and tires.

2011 Calendar of Events

February 19	2012 Kick-Off Party, Moretti's on Lake Street, Bartlett, IL
April 22	2012 Tech Session, Gary Bosselman's, Roscoe, IL
May 20	2012 Judging School, Corvette Mike's, Burr Ridge, IL
August 3, 4, & 5	2012 Chapter Meet, Chestnut Mountain Resort, Galena, IL
October 14	2012 Fall Charity Drive out
December 2	2012 ILNCRS Holiday Brunch

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Robert "Bob" Lojewski, Agent

106 N. Barrington Road

(Between Schaumburg & Bode Roads)

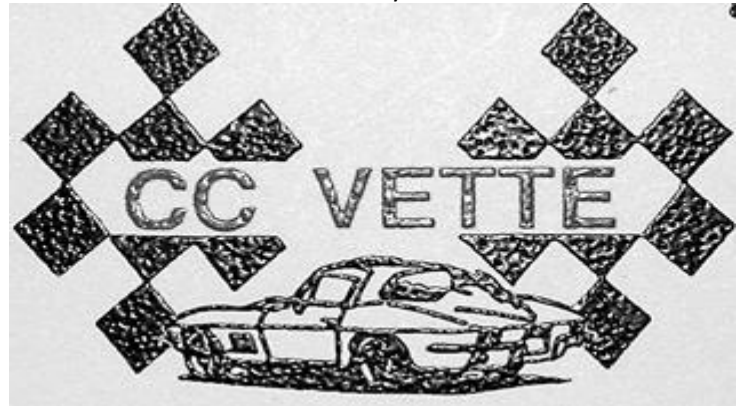
Streamwood, IL 60107-1966

630-837-3100

Email: Robert.lojewski.by8t@statefarm.com

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