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<http://www.ILNCRS.org>

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December 2012

Thoughts from the Chairman

Ah Yes! The Holidays...

Perfect time to ponder – Need to be doing something - Sure can't be out driving your Corvette!

I hope you all had a great time on this year's "Fall Colors" drive out to Lake Lawn Lodge. What a neat winding road course that Scott & Carol Lindee laid out for us to follow! The weather wasn't perfect, but co-operated for the most part. Our stop at the Apple Orchard in Woodstock proved to be interesting – how 'bout the price of those pumpkins, Robbie! Once we arrived at Lake Lawn, the service was great. A "Special Thanks" goes out to Tom & Sue Walther for leading our Road Tour in Scott & Carol's absence. All in all it was quite a nice day with good friends, good food and lots of camaraderie.

Our Holiday get together is about to happen – if fact, by the time you read this it may even be over! Kim has worked extra hard to make the brunch a more social event with fun & games for added interest. I'm excited to see just what she has in store for us!

Now...

Just what should we ponder. I've been thinking about the ongoing discussion about the "Aging of the Hobby". Truth is, even those of us lucky enough to have sons and daughters interested in our Corvettes, these children may not have the same passion or be interested in the cars for the same reason we do.

My son loves to come and judge Corvettes with me, or go along to take my car to a show or display. But it's not just about the Corvettes; it's about quality father and son time. Michael also enjoys getting into his Corvette and driving it a couple of times a year, but it isn't his greatest passion.

Thoughts from the Chairman (continued)

I think if truth be known, the same would be true of many of our memberships sons and daughters. The point is that most all of these young people enjoy the cars and the excitement. They all understand the fun. But the real reason they are involved isn't because they need to be around Corvettes, they are involved because they want to be a part of their fathers passion and share the enjoyment that each of their fathers found in their pursuit of Corvettes!

As to knowing if an intake manifold bolt is more "correct" if plated zinc or cadmium, that's my passion. My son has little interest. But I know that being there by my side – when my car is being judged or if we are going to judge together at a show – for my son that is a BIG DEAL! And the part of the Corvette hobby that means something to him.

This month for our feature Corvette we have a neat story from Michael Murphy, about how he found his 1965 Corvette on Craig's list! Please be sure to read how Mike chased down his beautiful yellow roadster and was able to purchase the car.

Remember – if you have an interesting story to tell, put it down on paper and send it to me. If you want help putting it into words, call and tell me your story, or send me a rough draft of your information and I will be glad to help you with the format. Rest assured that if it's of interest to you, it will be of interest to other chapter members as well. You can email me @ JAY65L84NO3@AOL.COM .

From all of us on the Illinois Chapter Board of Directors to each and every one of you – have a Wonderful Holiday and the Happiest of New Years!

Jay

Classified Ads

FOR SALE; 1972 LT-1 Corvette Coupe. 1Z37L2S523760 White/Black Leather. Numbers match, original paint. M21 with 3.70 Axle. Power Steering, Brakes, U79 Stereo Radio, Deluxe Leather Interior, Rally wheels. 70,500 miles, unrestored. Tank sticker, NCRS Dealer Delivery Documentation. Possible survivor or benchmark candidate. \$30,000. Scott. E-mail inquiries to: sal70lt1@yahoo.com

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
fhgoetz@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
edwilncrs@aol.com

Judging Chairman

Santo Scafide
118 Chandler, Elmhurst, IL 60126
santo1963@comcast.net

Judging Co-Chairman

Patrick Santaniello
redredL84.ilncrs@yahoo.com

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
sal70lt1@yahoo.com

Historian

Randy Merzdorf
19W675 97th Street, Lemont, IL 60439-9681
630-739-9612

Activities Chairman

Kim Santaniello
activities.ilncrs@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Kim Scafide
118 S. Chandler Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126
630-530-0027
ILNCRSnewsletter@comcast.net

Chapter Website – ILNCRS.org

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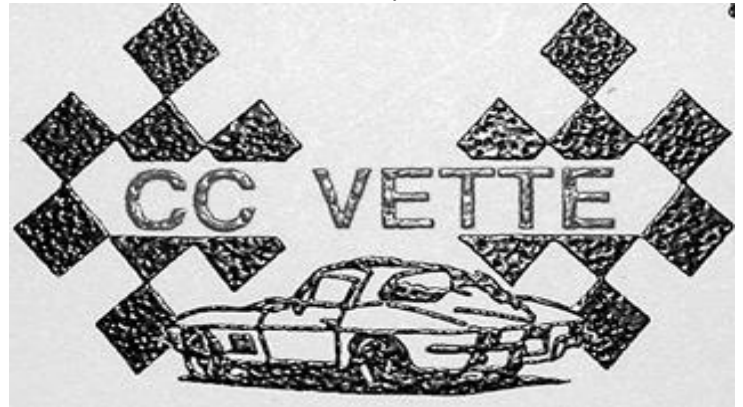
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NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS**Welcome to our ILNCRS Chapter!**

Richard Lang	Plainfield, IL	Currently owns a 2007
Don Bartalone	Geneva, IL	Currently owns a 1992 and a 2001

2013 Calendar of Events

February 17	2013 Kickoff Party & Annual Meeting
April 14	Tech Session
May 19	Judging School
August 2-4	Shutdown Judging Meet, Chestnut Mt. Resort, Galena, IL
October 6	Fall Color Drive-out & Charity Run
December 8	Holiday Party

IL-NCRS Fall Color Drive and Charity Event Held Sunday, 10/14/12

Submitted by Tom & Sue Walther

The day started at the Starbucks on the corner of North Avenue and Schmale Rd. in Carol Stream with nearly flawless turn by turn directions designed by Scott and Carol Lindee. The weather outside was initially damp and drizzly. But as the group gathered and the conversation commenced, the weather was no longer an issue.

After a brief drivers meeting we all pulled out of Starbucks parking lot and onto Schmale Rd. at 8:45 AM heading north on what proved to be a very fun day with many great roads. With an eighteen car contingent we navigated the first leg of the road tour taking us thru Bartlett, Streamwood, Hoffman Estates and East Dundee. Once we conquered these roads, we arrived at the All Seasons Apple Orchard in Woodstock, IL.

We spent an hour at the apple orchard where members patronized the orchard. Our group enjoyed some great conversations, some apple cider donuts and fall scenery. A few more cars joined us during our visit at the orchard and followed us to brunch.



IL-NCRS Fall Color Drive and Charity Event (continued)

We once again drove great roads with a lot of good curves. At the town of Harvard, we picked up Hwy 14 and headed north toward Wisconsin. After we crossed the state line, we passed the new site of Mecum Auctions who recently moved to Walworth, WI. We weren't quite finished with fun roads yet, so we cruised thru Fontana and around the south side of Delavan Lake. As we made some of our last turns we returned to civilization heading west on the Hwy 50 toward Lake Lawn Resort, where we had an excellent brunch.



During brunch, the sun came out and there were rainbows, giving us a beautiful ending to a well-organized run. This is probably just how Scott and Carol planned it. Thank you for the hard work and time planning this fall color run. It was our pleasure to head the group and I know everyone had a great time.

Christmas Party

The Holiday Brunch was Merry and More

The 2012 IL-NCRS holiday gathering took place on Sunday, December 2 at Villa Olivia. With most cars safely stored away for the coming of another long mid-western winter, nearly 50 IL-NCRS members, friends and family gathered for brunch in the newly renovated banquet hall. While the fireplace crackled in the Sapphire Room, attendees enjoyed the cash bar and exchanged holiday decorating and shopping (or heck no, I haven't even started shopping!) stories. Diners then stepped up to take advantage of what seemed like an endless buffet of offerings including a carving station, made-to-order omelets, a variety of breakfast fare, salads, hot and cold lunch entrees, fruit, cheese, desserts and even a sundae bar.



Christmas Party (continued)



Afterward, President Jay Stahl made a few announcements, and the board presented a special plaque honoring Bob Tokarsky (and his wife Carole) for years of service, hard work and generosity as the IL-NCRS Events Chair - many thanks again Bob and Carole!!



Six raffle tickets were then pulled and the lucky number holders went home with a \$50 American Express gift card. The four children in attendance went home with bags of candy from Santa. The weather was still mild when everyone said farewell, with hugs and wishes for happy holidays; knowing all too soon it will be 2013 and time to start another corvette-centered year full of activities.

Quest to Find My Mid-Year

submitted by Mike Murphy

I had been occasionally searching the web for what I thought would be my perfect Hobby/Retirement project and to renew my love of Corvettes. Spending my evening hours at home looking through Craigslist, Ebay and various forums etc. quickly became my norm.

Leaving multiple voice messages and emails seeking additional information to ads, I awaited the answers. One that stood out was from an old ad I'd seen on Craigslist in New Jersey.

Approximately 10 days after my leaving the voicemail about the 1965 convertible, I received a phone call during lunch. My 60 minute lunch break was totally consumed by Steve, current owner of the car and author of the Craig listing. His recall as to how he purchased the car 28 years ago from a neighbor and his decision to immediately start a total restoration was truly a very descriptive 'Labor of Love'. His passion for the car was immediately apparent and became infectious!

During the restoration, he was described by his best friend as 'Anal' in wanting to keep the original day/night mirror although the screws were stripped out and the frame needed some machining, not replacement in Steve's mind! Needless to say, I was hooked! As he continued to detail the project, he had total recall of the parts, numbers and GM dealerships he dealt with to obtain the original parts. His project turned into his 'quest'.

This 3 year project was completed with help from his brother-in-law the 'painter' in exchange for some home electrical work and from his best friend, who shared the same love of cars.

Time passed; fast-forward 28 years and Steve was working on two more car projects and wanted to start a third. As many persuasive wives can suggest, one of Steve's older projects had to go! No way, not the '65! So became the listing on Craigslist! (Wives do have their ways in changing our minds!)

Steve stated he had multiple phone calls however no one was interested in his asking price. (I still wonder today if that was his way to keep the car!)

A few no shows to see the car when Steve received a phone call from a woman who wanted to buy the car as a birthday present for her husband. She inspected the car and left a deposit. It was during this time period that I left my voicemail. The woman, who left the deposit, re-contacted Steve to say she changed her mind on buying the car. (My good fortune)

So, Steve made the call to me. Some negotiations occurred, some prompting by my wife Risa, and I was purchasing an airline ticket for Memorial Weekend. (Remember my previous wife comment!)

Quest to Find My Mid-Year

submitted by Mike Murphy

After I landed, I was picked up and driven to Steve's house to inspect the car. The drive to the house was another detailed review of the restoration.

When I entered the 4 car barn-type building, I found a 'man-cave'. Heated, air-conditioned, refrigerator and tools to make Tim- the-Tool man envious!

Inspecting and driving the car to his friend's shop to place the car on a lift was next. The conversation between these two old friends was reminiscent of the Odd-Couple and hilarious.

The car was everything described by Steve. Now was the question as to how to get it home. He stated he would drive the Vette to California and back but not on those tires. Twenty-five year old radials with only 2800 miles was suspect. My decision was to have the car shipped.

As fortunate as can be, I received the car two days later!

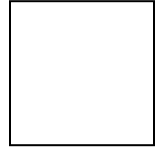
So, moving to 2012 I had the car entered in Bloomington Gold, St. Charles and the IL-NCRS in Galena. It was at Galena that I listened to Jay describe my car to two 'want-to-be judges'. As I listened for over 20 minutes, I heard and felt the same passion in Jay's voice as I heard in Steve's.

It is this type of 'love of the sport' or in this case 'love of the Corvette' that continues to propel us to improve and recall upon the past.

My only concern is that as the current generation of Corvette owner's age, the Old Girl's of the past will be lost in today's Tech-kids!

Keep up the passion and 'Remember the Wave'.

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