

The Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club

> Lansing, Michigan Established in 1958

www.capitalcitycorvetteclub.org www.cccorvette.org

Charter Member of the National Council of Corvette Clubs, Inc. www.corvettesnccc.org





# 2009 Officers

John Bechtel President

Terry Burke Vice President/Governor

Ed Politza
Competition Director

Gloria Reiffer Editor

Angela Hyde Membership Director

Ted Lasher
Points Director

Simon Reiffer
Public Relations Director

Sandy Bechtel Secretary

Suzanne Politza
Social Director

Carol Putmon
Treasurer

Our Sponsor



# THE CONNECTION

Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club

#### **VOLUME XXXIX • NUMBER 3 • MARCH 2009**

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **General Membership Meeting**

March 4 @ 7:00 pm

Delhi Café • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

(come early to eat and socialize)

#### **Board Meeting**

March 18 @ 6:30 pm Delhi Café • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

#### Michigan Region Banquet

March 21 @ 6:00 pm (note new location)

Cedar Crest Banquet Center • 872 East Michigan Avenue • Marshall

#### **Bowling Challenge with Jackson Corvette Club**

April 5 @ 1:30 pm

Mason Bowling Center/City Limits Sports Grill • 801 N. Cedar • Mason

### **Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival Parade**

April 25 @ noon / parade at 2:00 pm

Parade lineup is on the north side of town • Vermontville

# Ram Racing / Dyno Run

The date for this event hasn't been set yet, but Ed is working on it. The cost will be \$55-\$65 and will take place in Saranac

# March Birthdays

Joe Thomas (4) • Rich Bratschi (5)
Pat Cripe (5) • Bob Maynard (13) • Robert Ribar (18)
Janet Hardin (20) • Sandy Bechtel (24) • Jim DeNike (28)

# Newsletter Article Deadline

Send all April newsletter articles to webmaster@cccorvette.org by March 23.

#### From the President...

Well, it's March and even though it doesn't look much like spring out there I've got to believe it's coming. For those procrastinators among us who didn't heed my advise last fall and get the parts ordered for your spring projects, now's the time to warm up your credit cards and get Corvette Central or Mid America or whomever on the line.

Believe it or not, now is a great time to make your plans regarding the NCCC National Convention in Colorado this summer.

We are beginning to make plans for our spring and summer events and will be looking for chair people. I'll be asking for volunteers at the March meeting so start thinking about it. Chairing most events is really not very difficult or time consuming. It can be a fun activity for you and your spouse or maybe go together with a friend or another couple and share the fun. If you think it sounds like something you'd like to try, check with Suzie Politza or anyone of the board members for more information.

As I've said before, we're going to try some different things this year with an eye toward making events more fun and easier to attend for everyone. I'm not going to preach to you about any obligations to the club because you don't technically have any. I am going to ask that as you plan your busy summer schedule you leave some time to attend at least a couple of club events to have fun and support your club. Obviously, as we begin to plan things we would really appreciate input from the membership. Let us know if there's something we're not doing that you'd like to do, or if there's something we're doing that you think we should do differently or not at all. Let us know what it will take to make events more fun and enjoyable for you and your family.

In an effort to help Gloria keep the Newsletter size more manageable, I'll shut up now. I hope to see you all at the meeting.

JB



## Getting to Know You...

In an effort to get to know each other, this month we will focus on Jeff McQuade and his lovely fiancé Cynthia (Cyn) Gregor.

Jeff and Cynthia met in the Charlotte Applebee's parking lot in late December, 2006. In Jeff's own words, "I saw this Good Looking Blonde getting out of a white '96 coupe. We had lunch together there, talked for over six hours and I showed her the two Vettes in my garage." They began dating and are now engaged! Their wedding will take place some time within the year.

Jeff retired from the State late in 2008. Cynthia is employed by the top law school in the country. Jeff enjoys golf, Corvettes, motorcycles and clowning. Cynthia just got started playing golf. (I'm guessing this was prerequisite to the marriage – Jeff was part owner WillowWood Country Club at one time.) A few of Cynthia's many interests outside of golf include light houses, sewing, quilting, and collecting tea kettles.

Jeff purchased his first Corvette in the fall of 1999. It was a buckskin tan 1977 coupe. Over the next few years he put a lot of time and money into making it quite the show car. It provided Jeff with many trophies that are now collecting dust. Later he added a white 1987 convertible to his garage, which meant that his daily driver had to sit outside all year. Jeff sold both Corvettes a few years ago, although you can still see the 1977 as its new owner joined the Club. He replaced them with "Big Byrd," a competition yellow 1993 convertible. Cynthia has a white 1996 coupe – the Corvette that brought them together.

Jeff joined the club in 1999 shortly after he saw an ad in the Lansing State Journal. Jeff has held the positions of Membership Director and Points Director. When asked if there was anything he would like to share, he responded, "I'd like to say that with a few other Members, I was a part of a turn around in the focus of this Club to make it into the Fun Club it has become. I've made some Very Good friends and had Loads of Fun."

In addition to Capital City Corvette Club, Jeff is a member of the VFW, Military Order of the Cooties, Marine Corps League, American Legion, Eagles, Clown Association and the Charlotte Assembly of God Church. (He's always on the go!) Cynthia is into light houses and belongs to the Light House Association. Neither have children, but both have cats and fish (good combo for the cats). Jeff's cat is named Ravi and Cynthia's cat is named Sam.





# MICHIGAN REGION CORVETTE CLUBS ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET Saturday, March 21, 2009

(Hosted by Your Region Officers)

**NEW Location:** Cedar Crest Banquet Center

872 East Michigan Avenue

Marshall, MI 49068

Exit 112 from I-94 (Partello Road) Turn right onto BR I-94 – 1 mile)

Banquet Center Phone: 269.781.2424

Schedule of Events: 6:00 Happy Hour (Cash Bar)

7:00 Buffet Dinner \$28.00 per person

(Please note price increased due to change in location.)

8:00 Speaker 8:30 Awards

Door Prizes will be given out during the course of the evening. NOTE: It would be appreciated if all clubs can donate a minimum of one door prize valued at \$30.00.

Hotels in the area: Comfort Inn 269.789.7890; Holiday Inn 269.789.9301; National House Inn B&B 269.781.7374; Arbor Inn 269.781.7772.



## **Registrations for the Banquet Due 3/14**

Mail to: Elana Siebel 8916 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street Kalamazoo, MI 49009



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| Name(s): |  |
|----------|--|
|          |  |

Number of Attendees:

# CAPITAL CITY CORVETTE CLUB General Membership Meeting - February 4, 2009

**Vice President / Governor:** Terry Burke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noting President John Bechtel was on vacation. Terry requested we all be mindful as to the length on our meetings as the restaurant closing time is 8:00 p.m. One new member and three guests were introduced and welcomed.

**Secretary:** (seems Sandy is vacationing with John...) Shalimar asked if there were any corrections to the January minutes. There being none, motion by Craig Iansiti, second by Greg Kapp to approve minutes as written.

**Points:** Ted Lasher advised points are listed on the website. If interested in purchasing a windshield cling (\$5.00) or oval cling (\$3.00) they are available tonight. See Carol after the meeting.

**Membership/Historian:** Absent, Terry reported current membership is 97 regular, 1 honorary, and 72 FCOA members.

**Social:** Suzanne Politza reported a list of upcoming events is in the newsletter. She is also in the process of making arrangements with the Jackson Corvette Club for a bowling and dinner night March 28 [now scheduled for April 5], at Mason Bowling Center - City Limits Sports Grill in Mason. More info to follow.

**Treasurer:** Carol Putmon reported that all bills have been paid under the 2009 budget. See her for specific account balances.

**Editor/Webmaster:** Gloria Reiffer asked members to please send a current picture of your Corvette(s) for the Website. In regard to the newsletter, 18 members have requested a paper version. She has redesigned to help keep postage at a minimum.

**Competition:** Ed Politza discussed the upcoming 'Rookie School' / Auto Cross School. It is scheduled on May 16 at a cost of \$30.00 and will take place in the State Farm Parking Lot in Marshall, Michigan. He would like to get an idea of how many members are interested in attending. They are also in need of workers. Our low speed event is scheduled for July 18 at Spartan Speedway. A flyer will be out soon.

**Public Relations:** Simon Reiffer announced receiving a club invitation to participate in the City of Lansing's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday parade May 16 at 11:00 am. Due to some of the restrictions / requirements involved, it is questionable as to our participation at this time. Open to further discussion.

**Governor/ VP:** Terry Burke read several thank you cards recently received on behalf of the club (donations for 2008 are outlined in the back of the February newsletter).

March 21 is the Michigan Region Award Banquet, at which one of our members, Mike Sprague, will be receiving an award. All members are invited to attend. The Governors meeting is February 28 in St. Louis, Missouri. Terry is planning to attend.

President: John Bechtel (absent).

Old Business: None.

**New Business:** Joe Thomas has static clings and flags available to purchase for the Labor Day Caravan. He noted the addition to the museum is going very well. There is also an upcoming April Birthday Bash, everyone is welcome to join.

Simon Reiffer reminded everyone that the National Convention August 8-14 in Colorado Springs. It is a great time. You should strongly consider going.

Dave Cripe has a new cleaning product / green friendly, see him for more info.

Julie Lasher is now handling the Hearts and Flowers Program. Please let her know if you hear of a member's illness, loss or need.

**50/50 Drawing:** Winner, Diana Kuempel. Congratulations!

**Adjournment:** Carrie Hutton moved to adjourn, Carol Putmon seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



# CAPITAL CITY CORVETTE CLUB Board Meeting -- February 18, 2009

President John Bechtel called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. Thanks to everyone for taking over duties while Sandy and I were gone. Absent: Terry Burke, Ed Politza, and Suzanne Politza.

#### **Reports:**

**Secretary:** Sandy Bechtel presented Carol Putmon's minutes of the January 21, 2009 board meeting. Ted Lasher moved to approved them as written. Simon Reiffer seconded. Motion passed.

Ambassador: No report.

**Points:** Ted Lasher advised current points are posted on our website. He indicated he would like to reword a portion of our points information for clarity purposes. He will present the change at the March board meeting.

**Membership:** Angie Hyde reported we currently have 97 regular, 1 honorary, and 72 FCOA members. We received our regional operating assessment (\$83.00). Carol Putmon will issue payment. After board discussion, it was decided John Bechtel will contact a person who continues to attend club meetings even though a 2009 renewal was not received.

Social: No report.

**Treasurer:** Carol Putmon noted all bills have been paid under the current budget. She provided balances for all accounts.

**Editor/Webmaster:** Gloria Reiffer stated 18 members want paper copies of our monthly newsletters. In addition, Dick Iding from Bud Kouts Chevrolet has requested 4-5 copies. Gloria noted most member copies are being picked up at our general meetings. Simon Reiffer will deliver the copies to Dick. Gloria projects that postage will be less than \$5.00 a month. She noted we have a two-year supply of paper. Toner will be our only major cost. Based on these conditions, the board agreed it does not appear necessary at this time to make any adjustment to our budget. In addition, Carol Putmon will reimburse the members who paid for 2009 newsletter printing, postage, and handling costs.

**Competition:** No report. John Bechtel noted that although approved, it does not appear our club's share of the 2008 low-speed training costs were paid. We will immediately take care of this. Simon Reiffer stated that according to Blue Bars, NCCC is allowing someone who chairs a low-speed event to also race in the event.

**Public Relations:** Simon Reiffer encouraged everyone to attend the regional banquet that will be held in Marshall on March 21, 2009. Every club is required to bring a \$30.00 door prize. Simon will pick one up. John Bechtel will contact Mike Sprague from our club about attending, as he is receiving an award. Simon also stated he was contacted about the possibility of taking part in Lansing's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary parade. Because of parade rules and restrictions, he did not think our club would want to participate. He will discuss this at the March general membership meeting. Anyone expressing an interest can get information from Simon.

**Governor:** No report.

**President:** John Bechtel noted Julie Lasher has been appointed to the Hearts and Flowers position. He also talked about the possibility of having a combined show with the Capital Area Muscle Car Club. The board agreed to pursue this.

Old Business: None

**New Business:** Sandy Bechtel inquired about whether or not anyone as agreed to host our club's participation in the Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival parade. No answer available. We will follow up at the March general membership meeting. Our annual Blessing of the Vettes was also discussed. Based on previous years, the event will take place on Saturday, May 16. No known chair yet. John Bechtel will follow-up with venue. Gloria Reiffer asked if she should continue to post out-of-state events from other clubs on our website. After discussion, it was agreed to post only Michigan club events. John Bechtel will request a supply of waivers at the February 24 regional meeting. He will also request clarification of the use of waivers at a jointly-sponsored event.

**Member Comment:** None

**Adjournment:** Carol Putmon moved to adjourn the meeting. Simon Reiffer seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



# We're going BOWLING and you are invited!!



Who: Capital City Corvette Club vs. Jackson Corvette Club

Where: Mason Bowling Center - 801 N. Cedar - Mason

Price: \$9.00 for 3 games; includes shoes

When: Sunday, April 5 at 1:30 pm

After bowling we'll step into the newly remodeled City Limits Sports Grill to eat. You can see their HUGE menu at www.citylimitssportsgrill.com.

Please sign up at the club meeting or contact your social director to let us know if you would like to join in on the fun.



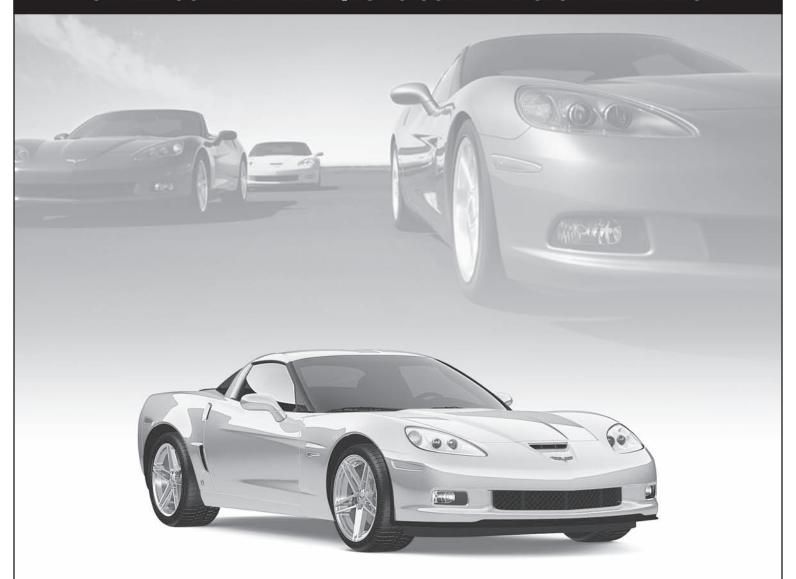


# You don't have to be a bowler to have a good time!





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#### NCCC Convention

This year the convention takes place August 8-14 in Colorado Springs, CO. It looks to be an extra special convention as it is also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NCCC.

There are a lot of things to do at convention and you don't have to be a competitor to enjoy it. Since CCCC hosted the NCCC convention in Bellaire, MI (2000) we have attended conventions in Bowling Green, KY



(2001), Indianapolis, IN (2002), St. Cloud, MN (2005), and Nashville, TN (2007). The Michigan Region hosted one in Lansing in 1994. We joined too late to attend but the public was invited to a parade and car show and we won the dance contest!

A hospitality room with all of the pop and beer you care to drink is available every day. Light snacks are usually provided as well. The hospitality room allows you to kick back and visit with other NCCC members from around the country. In addition, a Corvette Mall is set up with many vendors offering you their wares. Both rooms are open during the day, sometimes right up until the evening party. When space allows, the hospitality room and Corvette Mall are located in the same room.

There are many competition events during convention. To participate in any of them you need to sign up on your registration form. There are high speed, low speed, and drag racing events. We have always attended as spectators and enjoy watching the top NCCC racers from around the US compete. You'll see many of the racers that come to Spartan Speedway out on the tracks at Convention.

Both people's choice and judged concours events are on the schedule. You will also have the chance to participate in a rallye and a funkhana. The rallye usually provide the opportunity to spend a few hours driving around trying not to get lost, but getting to see some beautiful countryside. It's anybody's guess what kind of fun you might have in the funkhana! We've seen a blindfolded driver in a golf cart being directed by their partner around an obstacle course. We've seen Corvettes driven on a golf path to game stations. We've seen funkhana's done on foot and even on a tricycle. They almost always involve some type of game or skill and we have never seen two alike. Watching can actually be more fun than participating.

Almost every night is party night at convention, always with a theme. You'll find everything from live entertainment to Karaoke. Some <u>really great</u> door prizes are given out during the parties – including several full sets of tires.

If you decide to go, be sure to sign up for the full package – not the day passes. Parties usually aren't included in day passes. I hope that many of you will be able to attend the NCCC Convention this year. We plan to go!!! It sounds like a blast! Ask us if you have any questions.

I'm sure someone will find fault with this method, but it works like a champ, per Mr. Flintstone.

# Procedure for Detailing Under the Hood

- 1. Start the car and let it idle for 5 minutes to warm it up and then shut it off.
- 2. Using a vinegar-based glass cleaner like Windex, amply spritz the beauty covers, radiator shroud, hoses, etc. The more the better.
- 3. Close the hood and go drink a beer.
- 4. Take your garden hose and wash off the glass cleaner. \*\*See note below.\*\*
- 5. Spray Armor All or equivalent over those same surfaces. Avoid the belts and as many wires, etc. as you can. Use a lot on the fender covers.
- 6. Close the hood and wash the rest of the car. Keep the hood closed for at least 10 minutes.

When you open up the hood it will look brand new, trust me. I got this tip from a well-known detailer who has won enough shows to make a believer out of me.

I don't know if this will work on really dirty engines. You have to keep up on the car for this to work. There also was a concern with a Service Bulletin concerning washing the engine. I use very little water when I do it.

\*\*NOTE\*\* When I say spray down the engine compartment with the hose, I'm talking about very gentle, barely more than a spritz. The idea is to get the visible surfaces wet, not flood the electronics.

This article was submitted by David Kuempel in 2008.

# Relocation of CCCC Advertiser

Holt Auto Sales recently moved to a new, larger location at 3121 S. Pennsylvania Avenue in Lansing. You can reach Chuck Allen at 517.694.3669 (business) or 517.819.8292 (cell), or stop in and see him.



Holt Auto Sales is located between Cavanaugh and Mount Hope in the buildings formerly occupied by Plywood Sales. They hope to showcase all of the Corvettes and muscle cars inside their multiple showrooms.





## Machine Shop Services Available

#### **CARQUEST THE PARTS PLACE**

Charlotte: 543-7200 East Lansing: 482-4008 Eaton Rapids: 663-8172 Holt: 694-2159 Mason: 676-2464 Stockbridge: 851-7030 West Lansing: 267-1645 Williamston: 655-4323

#### You are most likely a Corvette owner if...

- If you know that "Corvette" is a small French ship known for its maneuverability.
- If you have 100% cotton towels for your car and you use old, worn-out ones in your bathroom.
- If you have a PO Box that your wife does not know about so you can get your mods in the mail.
- If you refer to your Vette as if it were your child.
- If, instead of your spouse, you carry a picture of your car in your wallet.

Source: RRCC Website





# Capital City Corvette Club



# Participation Points as of February 21, 2009

|   | <b>_</b>           | ai u | cipation Foilits   | as UI | rebluary 21, 2003 | 7 |                    |
|---|--------------------|------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|---|--------------------|
| 0 | Jim Balla*         | 0    | Jennifer Everhart* | 3     | Bob Maynard       | 2 | Gordon Terwilliger |
| 1 | Scott Bauries      | 0    | Randy Gisse        | 3     | Shalimar Maynard  | 2 | Joseph Thomas*     |
| 7 | John Bechtel       | 0    | Bill Griffith      | 0     | Jeff McQuade      | 1 | Sue VanAtta        |
| 9 | Sandy Bechtel      | 4    | Janet Hardin       | 0     | George Nelson     | 0 | Larry Warren       |
| 4 | James Boettcher    | 3    | Carrie Hutton      | 2     | Diana Parks       | 0 | Linda Warren       |
| 4 | Mara Boettcher     | 7    | Angela Hyde        | 2     | Howard Parks      | 0 | Lee Webster        |
| 0 | Angela Boldrey     | 4    | Craig lansiti      | 1     | Joe Platte        | 3 | Larry Wight        |
| 0 | Lance Boldrey      | 1    | Dick Iding         | 1     | Pam Platte        | 2 | Gerry Wyma         |
| 2 | Colleen Bratschi   | 0    | Arthur Ickes       | 7     | Ed Politza        | 2 | Kathy Wyma         |
| 2 | Rich Bratschi      | 0    | Marilyn Ickes      | 7     | Suzanne Politza   |   |                    |
| 2 | Connie Britz       | 1    | Don Johnston       | 0     | David Pursel      |   |                    |
| 2 | Mike Britz         | 1    | Greg Kapp          | 0     | Kathryn Pursel    |   |                    |
| 0 | David Brown        | 3    | Kim Keith          | 7     | Carol Putmon      |   |                    |
| 1 | Diana Brown-Mosher | 3    | Sue Keith          | 2     | Randy Putmon      |   |                    |
| 4 | Chris Burke        | 0    | Frank Kessler      | 13    | Gloria Reiffer    |   |                    |
| 8 | Terry Burke        | 0    | Judy Kessler       | 9     | Simon Reiffer     |   |                    |
| 0 | David Carr         | 0    | Fred Koos          | 4     | Robert Ribar      |   |                    |
| 0 | Cindy Carr         | 0    | Judy Koos          | 1     | Eddie Root        |   |                    |
| 2 | Kathy Cooper       | 0    | Bob Kroupa         | 0     | Norman Saari      |   |                    |
| 2 | Ronald Cooper      | 0    | Kathy Kroupa       | 0     | Brenda Shatkosky  |   |                    |
| 4 | Dave Cripe*        | 3    | Dave Kuempel*      | 0     | Richard Shatkosky |   |                    |
| 4 | Pat Cripe          | 3    | Diana Kuempel*     | 1     | Janyce Shepler    |   |                    |
| 0 | Joel Crutcher      | 0    | Lewis Kuempel      | 1     | John Shepler      |   |                    |
| 1 | Darwin Day         | 5    | Julie Lasher       | 3     | Victor Smith      |   |                    |
| 3 | Jim DeNike         | 7    | Ted Lasher         | 0     | Loretta Spinrad   |   |                    |
| 3 | Patti DeNike       | 0    | Carlo Litrenta     | 0     | Steve Spinrad     |   |                    |
| 1 | Art Doty*          | 0    | Mark Lewis         | 0     | Michael Sprague   |   |                    |
| 1 | Nancy Doty*        | 0    | Patty Lewis        | 0     | Janet Sprague     |   |                    |
| 1 | Catherine Eiseman  | 2    | Ellie Lickfeldt    | 0     | Dan Stremler      |   |                    |
| 1 | Raoul Eiseman      | 2    | Pat Lickfeldt      | 0     | Nancy Stremler    |   |                    |
|   |                    |      |                    |       |                   |   |                    |

## **Current 2009 Top Ten**

13Gloria Reiffer8Terry Burke7Ed Politza7John Bechtel9Sandy Bechtel7Angela Hyde7Suzanne Politza9Simon Reiffer7Ted Lasher7Carol Putmon





FIRST CLASS MAIL



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