



2008 Officers

John Bechtel
President

Rich Bratschi
Vice President/Governor

Gary Wyma
Competition Director

Carol Putmon
Treasurer

Sandy Bechtel
Secretary

Kathy Wyma
Social Director

Bob Maynard
Public Relations Director

Colleen Bratschi
Membership Director

Carrie Hutton
Points Director

Chris Burke
Editor

THE CONNECTION

The Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club

VOLUME XXXVIII-NUMBER 3-MARCH 2008

~Quick Hits from The Editor ~

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 5, 2008

7:00 pm

Deli Café-Holt

BOARD MEETING

March 19, 2008

6:30 pm

Delhi Café-Holt

Please send any articles you would like to have published to: editor @ cccorvette.org

From the President

“For What it’s Worth”

Happy March, one month closer to the City of Lansing’s snow removal program; code named June. One less month of winter, and what a fine winter it’s been. February is the first time since Sandy and I have been in the club that I can remember a General Membership Meeting being canceled. Oh well, it’s almost over and by the end of this month I can go out to Putmon’s and retrieve our baby for another year of fun.

Hopefully, sometime during March, spring will make enough of an appearance to allow us to bring the new trailer back to Lansing from Dave’s generous storage facility. We can then begin to assess our storage needs and make whatever modifications are necessary to safely hold all our stuff. If any of you have ideas of things you would like to see on the trailer or would like to help with the modifications, please let Rich Bratschi or me know.

I’ve been sitting in on the 50th Anniversary planning meetings and without giving away any secrets I can tell you it’s going to be a great celebration of our fifty years as a club. You all are a very important part of this club’s fifty year history and I hope you can all be there to enjoy the celebration. At the suggestion of Dick Iding at Bud Kouts we have moved the party date from July 19th to July 26th so as not to conflict with the big Oldsmobile show held each year. By the way, that will also be the last day I will ever be 59 years old, so look me up and I’ll buy you a piece of cake. Anyone who is interested in helping with the fiftieth party please let Bob Maynard know.

This is the time of year when some of you have gone south for the winter and others of you are on your way. Don’t forget those laptop computers so you can keep track of your favorite car club. That’s also a great excuse to buy a laptop if you don’t have one. If you want to really have fun, take some pictures of yourselves enjoying the warm weather and email them to the club address. We’ll try to get them posted on the web site so everyone can hate you (please keep them G rated). I was going to send some back from Hawaii but with the weather you guys were having that would have been too mean even for me.

For those of you traveling, be safe and have fun. For those of you staying here, think warm thoughts and get out those catalogs, this is the perfect time to order anything you didn’t get for your car last year.

Enjoy, JB

CCCC General Membership Meeting, February 6, 2008

Meeting cancelled because of inclement weather.

CCCC Board Meeting, February 20, 2008

The president called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Absent: Angela Hyde, Gary Wyma

Reports:

Secretary: Sandy presented minutes of January 16, 2008 meeting. Rich Bratschi noted the low-speed event will take place on August 16, 2008. Colleen Bratschi noted the next committee meeting for the 50th anniversary celebration will take place on February 21, 2008. Colleen moved to accept minutes as corrected. Rich seconded. Motion passed.

Ambassador: Sandy advised that her NCM packet of materials has arrived. She will begin presenting information at the March general meeting, and selling raffle tickets after the meetings.

Treasurer: Carol provided updates on our accounts and certificate of deposit. The board discussed the fact that because guests attend our general meetings, specific financial details will no longer be verbally reported at those meetings. The information, however, will be available for all members to review.

Points: Carrie advised there were no changes in points from last month. She noted she received an inquiry about whether or not points would be awarded for people who attempted to attend the February general meeting. The board noted an email blast was sent notifying club members of the cancellation. The restaurant was also notified, and they advised callers. The board determined no points will be awarded, because no meeting took place.

Editor: Chris advised articles for the March newsletter are due February 23, 2008. She inquired about including fliers in the newsletter again, since it is now distributed electronically. After discussion, Rich moved to include a list of events in the newsletter and refer people to links. Carrie seconded. Motion passed.

Membership: Colleen advised we have 96 regular, 1 honorary, and 72 F.C.O.A. members.

Social: Kathy noted Pat and Ellie Lickfeldt plan to chair a drive 'n dine on August 2, 2008. Price will be \$33.00 a person. The venue requires a \$100.00 deposit. We will pay it out of early registration monies collected from people who plan to attend. Other possible events – miniature golf, weekend getaway, drive 'n dines, cruise ins, Mid-American swap meet, etc. The board will be available to assist anyone wishing to chair an activity.

Competition: Kathy advised Gary is in the process of determining how many people from our club are needed for the April 26, 2008 low-speed training.

Public Relations: Bob advised we currently have 35 advertisers. He noted July 19th may not be a good date for our 50th anniversary party, because a national Oldsmobile celebration is taking place in Lansing that day. He made a motion to change the anniversary party to July 26th. Carol seconded. Motion passed.

Governor: Rich advised he will prepare a list of all members who are more than 50 miles from our declared area. The competition director for the NCCC region requested this list because people get extra competition points for traveling a long distance. Rich advised one NCCC competition point will be awarded for participation in the Blessing of the Vettes. The next Governors' meeting is February 26, 2008.

President: John will ask for volunteers at the March general meeting to help outfit our new trailer and purchase equipment. He discussed the need for members to be trained to run our DJ equipment. He also noted the importance of avoiding copyright infringements as we compile our music library. Standing committees were discussed. Carrie will chair the registration committee (Colleen expressed the importance of continuity in the collection of money). Carol will chair the food committee. Gloria will chair the ballot committee. The need for specific committees will be decided on an event-by-event basis.

Old Business: Gloria needs a list of the money raised and donated in 2007. Carol will provide the information.

Because of time constraints, Sandy moved to table our discussion of the by-laws to a future date. Rich seconded. Passed.

New Business: Colleen commented that the graphics on our Horsepower at the Zoo shirts were originally unique to our club, but have changed over the years. Gloria explained the original graphics weren't clear, so BLT designed the shirts. Colleen will contact Tammy at BLT regarding our design.

Colleen moved that our hearts and flowers fund increase our contribution from \$10.00 to \$25.00 when donating to a charitable organization in memory of a member's deceased family member. Sandy seconded. Passed.

John noted we have received the application for participation in Vermontville's April 26, 2008 Maple Syrup Festival Parade. The Board was interested in participating. John will send in the application.

Member Comments: None.

Rich moved to adjourn the meeting. Carrie seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.



Capital City Corvette Club

PO Box 27295 ~ Lansing, MI 48909



Calendar As You Go

May 17-Blessing of the Vettes @ Culvers in Okemos

June 14-All Corvette Show/Fun Rallye @ Bud Kouts Chevy in Lansing

July 26-Capital City Corvette Club 50th. Anniversary Celebration and Car Show @ Bud Kouts in Lansing

August 2-Drive & Dine to Turkeyville hosted by Pat & Ellie Lickfeldt

August 16-Low Speed NCCC Sanction Event @ Spartan Speedway in Mason

September 14-Horse Power At the Zoo Charity Show @ Potter Park Zoo in Lansing

Please consult the website for the most up to date information

www.cccorvette.org



Capital City Corvette Club

PO Box 27295 ~ Lansing, MI 48909



FOURTH ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE VETTES ALL CORVETTE SHOW



MAY 17, 2008

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

**CULVER'S OF OKEMOS
5140 TIMES SQUARE DR.
OKEMOS, MI 48864**

REGISTRATION 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

AWARDS AT 2:00 PM

**PEOPLES CHOICE
CAR SHOW**

Event Chairperson:

John Bechtel

1612 N. Genesee Dr.

Lansing, MI 48915

Phone 517.482.9584

Email:

President@cccorvette.org



NCCC SANCTION
NUMBER MI - 003-067

Governor:

Rich Bratschi

4379 Zimmer Rd.

Williamston, MI 48895

Phone 517.655.8487

Email:

Governor@cccorvette.org

Come join us and have your Corvette Blessed for the 2008 season



Capital City Corvette Club

PO Box 27295 ~ Lansing, MI 48909



All Corvette Show/Blessing of the Vettes

Culvers of Okemos

(East of Meridian Mall/Off Marsh Road)

Awards presented to the TOP TEN and BEST of SHOW

\$2.00 from each pre-registration and \$5.00 from each regular registration will be donated to the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids.

For more information visit www.vfwnationalhome.org

Pre-Registration-\$12.00
(Before May 3, 2008)

Regular Registration-\$15.00
(After May 3, 2008)

NAME _____ NCCC# _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

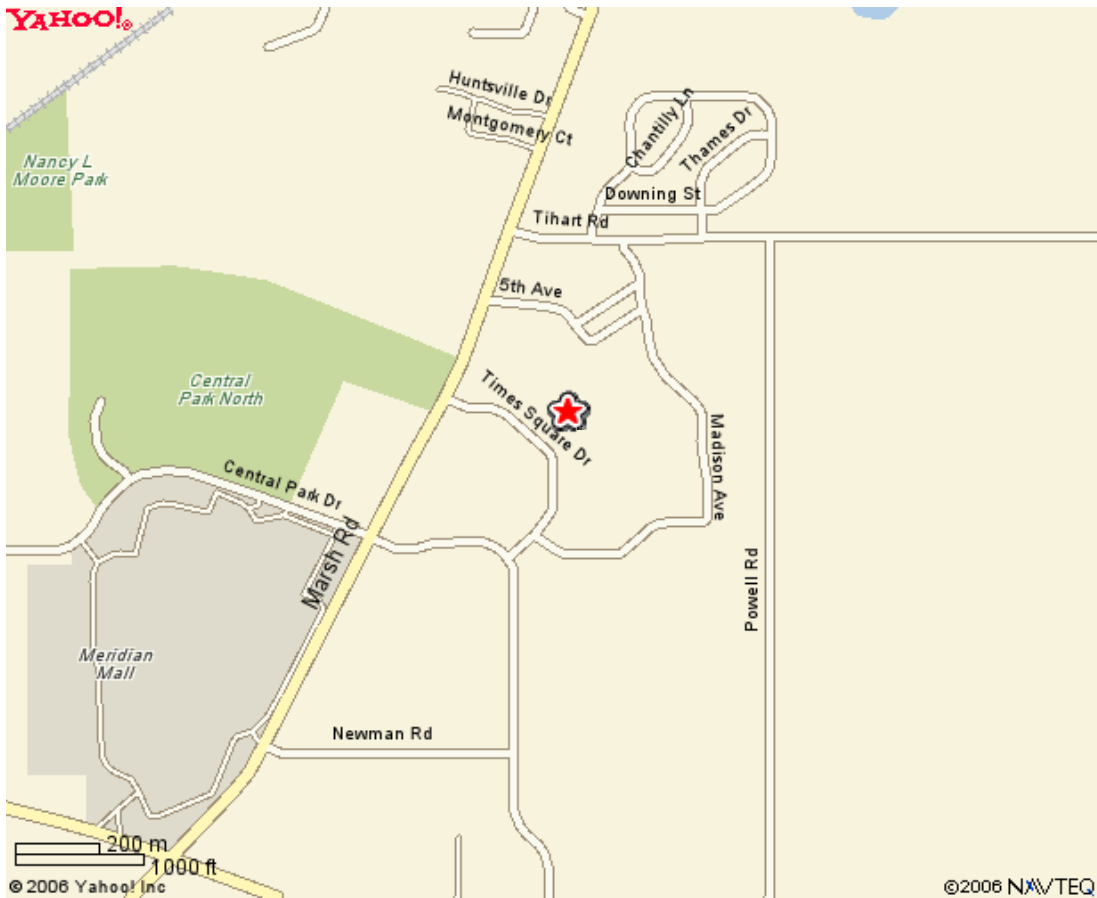
PHONE# _____ EMAIL _____

NCCC
CLUB _____

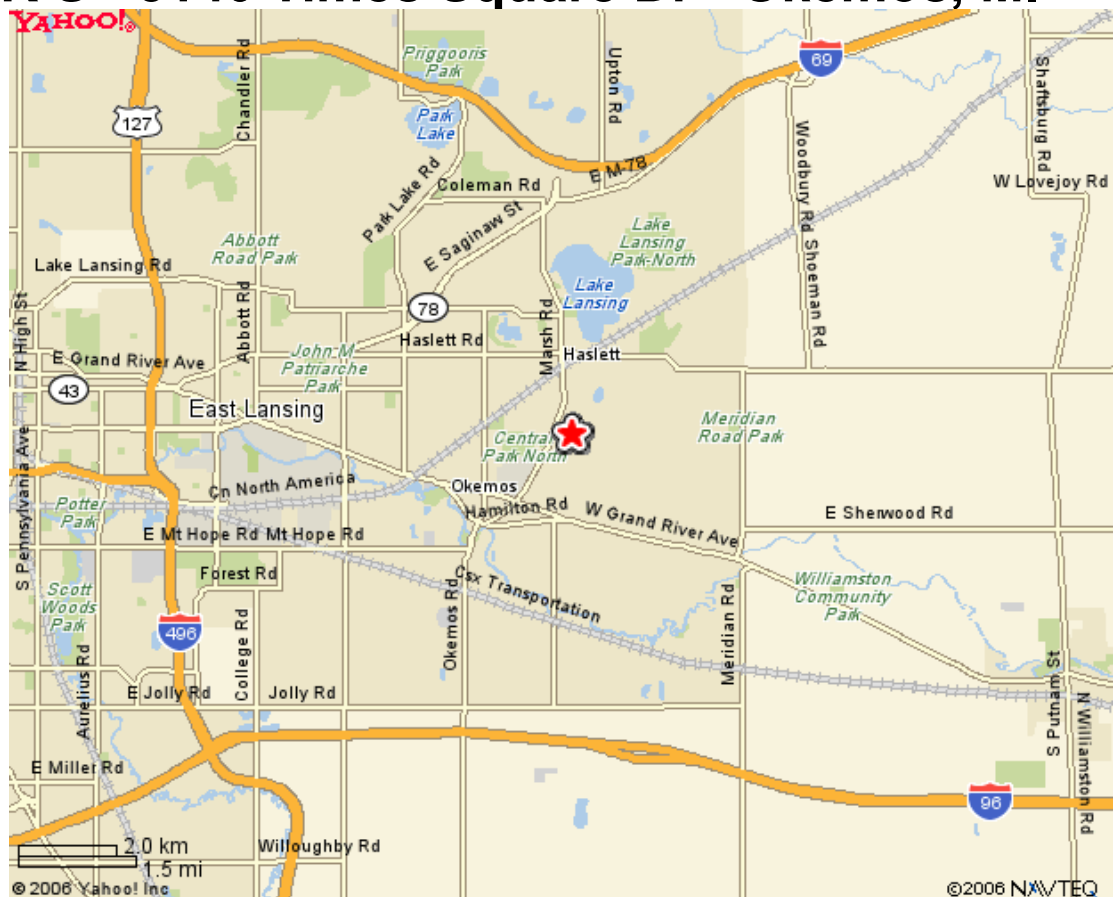
YEAR, MAKE AND MODEL _____

Please make checks payable to: Capital City Corvette Club

Mail Check and Registration to: Shalimar Maynard
Capital City Corvette Club
P.O. Box 27295
Lansing, MI 48909



CULVER'S - 5140 Times Square Dr - Okemos, MI



13.2 NCCC OFFICIAL FLYER OUTLINE

SANCTION # MI 006-023-MI 006-024
DATE: March 30, 2008
(IF DRAG RACES INCLUDE RAIN DATE)

TYPE OF EVENT: RALLYE
TSD Rallye and Chance Rallye
(IF RALLYE INCLUDE RALLYE TYPE)

REGISTRATION: OPENS: 11:00 am

CLUB: Corvette Club of Michigan

CLOSES: 11:45 am
DRIVERS MEETING TIME: 11:45 am

REGION: Michigan Region
ENTRY FEE: \$9.00 each /\$15.00 for both

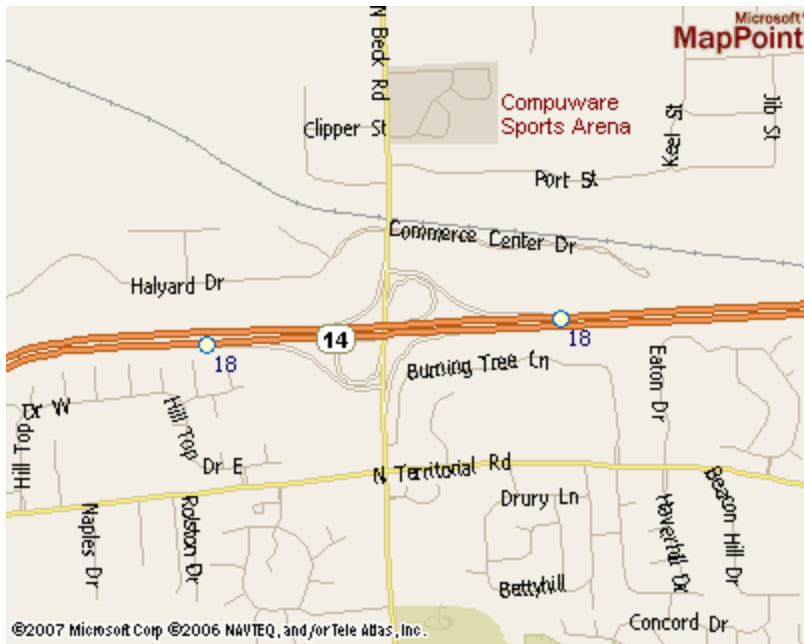
FIRST CAR OUT TIME: 12:01 pm

LOCATION: Compuware Arena Plymouth, MI

SPEED EVENTS: *HIGH SPEED _____
EXHAUST: OPEN: _____

LOW SPEED: _____
CLOSED: _____

MAP AND EVENT INFORMATION:



EVENT CHAIRPERSON:

NAME: **Gordon McCann**
ADDRESS: **13581 Westbrook
Plymouth, MI 48170**
PHONE #: **(734) 455-3060**



GOVERNOR:

NAME: **Joe Scafero**
ADDRESS: **530 Buckingham
Livonia, MI 48154**
PHONE #: **(734) 513-0187**

Corvette Club of Michigan and Flint Corvette Club Present...

2008 Autocross Test & Tune

**NCCC Sanction# NS-006-005
-Open to All Corvette Owners!
You must be driving a Corvette-**

**Sunday April 13th
Registration 9:00-10:00am
All Entrants Just \$20!**

***Instructors and workers from the school run for
FREE! Instructors are CCM or FCC Members
only.***

Online pre-registration available at
www.myautoevents.com

***Limited to 50 pre-registered entrants, a limited
number of walk-up entries will be accepted.***

All Entrants will be required to work.

Lunch will be provided at the event site.



**GM Detroit/Hamtramck Plant
I-94 at the Chene Street Exit
(Just east of I-75)**



**Questions? Call Chris Scafero @ (734)748-9948
or Dave Fulks @ ((810)636-2889**

***Flint Corvette Club and
Corvette Club of Michigan
Present...***

2008 Autocross School

***-Open to All Corvette Owners!
You must be driving a Corvette-***

Classroom Session:

NCCC Sanction# NS-006-014

Friday April 11th 7:30pm

At Danny Kellermeyer's Race Shop!

610 N. M15, Ortonville, MI

Please RSVP Danny @ 248-627-4026

Driving Session:

NCCC Sanction# NS-006-004

Saturday April 12th

Registration 9:00-10:00am

CCM and FCC Members Free!

Non-Members \$10

Online pre-registration available at

www.myautoevents.com

Limited to 30 pre-registered students.

A limited number of walk-up entries will be accepted.

Lunch will be provided at event site.

**Driving Session Location:
GM Detroit/Hamtramck Plant
I-94 at the Chene Street Exit
(Just east of I-75)**

Questions? Call Chris Scafero @ (734)748-9948
or Dave Fulks @ (810)636-2889



Capital City Chatter

Please be sure to wish a **Happy Birthday** to the following CCCC Club Members!

Joe Thomas-March 4
Rich Bratschi & Pat Cripe-March 5
Bob Maynard-March 13
Pat Bailey & Cynthia Gregor-March 15
Bob Ribar & Bruce Baulch-March 18

Janet Hardin-March 20
Brian Sebolt-March 22
Sandy Bechtel-March 24
Roy Bailey-March 27
Jim DeNike-March 28

CCCC 50th Anniversary Celebration

The 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee is hard at work on planning the ultimate celebration of this milestone for our club. The date, time and place are set, and more fun things are being planned. Be sure to keep an eye on the website and in the newsletter for updates!

Welcome!

Please extend a warm welcome to our newest member, Brian Sebolt. Brian lives in Mason, and owns a 1990 Dark Red Metallic Convertible. Welcome Brian!

Editors Note

The editor would like to thank Carrie Hutton for submitting the GM Press Release on the '08 Corvette Indy 500 Pace Cars which appeared in the February newsletter.

Calendar

The calendar featured in this months newsletter is a brief overview of some upcoming events. Please keep in mind that these events are subject to change at any time, please be sure to view the online calendar on our website for the most up to date information on our club events, and other events in the region.

Volunteer Opportunities

The club is always looking for volunteers to help out or organize events such as car shows, community events, and social events. Please be sure to contact any of your club officers if you are willing to volunteer your time, and have some fun in the process!

Newsletter Articles

The editor is always looking for interesting articles for the newsletter! Be sure to contact editor@ccc Corvette.org with your Membership Profile, or "Vette Vignette. Remember, you can earn participation points for submitting articles!

The Ultimate C-5 Break-in!

Corvettes are special to me and I've owned several. This story is about my Black C-5 convertible. I took delivery on March 12, 2001 and Holiday Chevrolet (Farmington, MI) made it real special day. My Black "1996" Coupe trade-in and the Black 2001 Convertible were the only vehicles in the show room and were parked nose to nose. Orange balloons and ribbons attached to both the Corvettes.

I had a vacation planned beginning March 15th with inspiration from a Readers Digest book, "The 104 Most Scenic Roads in America. I got a Rand McNally and high lighted in all those scenic roads. I then played connect the scenic roads and it looked like a big snake. I then decided where I could travel to visit friends and family. The only rule was to avoid the freeways if possible. I stopped at MID-AMERICA, (Effingham, IL) to purchase a black bra for the Corvette and an extra magazine for the CD changer. I met some real nice folks as it was "Drive your Corvette to Work Day" at MID-AMERICA. I saw the first production C-5 VIN # 1.

I crossed the Mississippi River at St Louis, MO (odometer turned over 500 miles) and followed the Missouri River along an area called, The Rhineland and continued on to the Lake of the Ozarks, Dodge City, KS and into Hooker, OK. In Dalhart, TX I was talked into washing the C-5 by a local banker I met having breakfast. It was covered with an inch of ice from a storm in OK and he said he couldn't tell what color it was. It was 30 degrees. I now think he just wanted to show his wife that idiot from MI freezing his butt off washing his C-5. Traveled on to Eagles Nest, NM and into the Taos area, making a stop in Santa Fe and staying over in Durango, CO with friends. They owned a Miata and both drove the C-5. Said besides the power they really liked the memory seats. He was will over 6 ft tall and her a little over 5 ft tall. I then drove up the center of CO going to visit my son, who lives in Aspen. Beautiful scenery with 10 mountain peaks over 14,000 feet as well as a side trip over to see Pike's Peak. It was very foggy so I saw only the lower 3/4's.

I stopped at my 1st hot springs. What a treat that was after a day of driving. From that first soak and massage that became one of my daily goals. A soak and a massage if possible. CO has many hot springs so I mostly succeeded. In Glenwood Springs I stopped at Bullock's Western Store and met Bill the owner. 81 years young and of course I let him take the C-5 for a spin. He came back after 45 minutes with a big grin saying he'd sure like one of those. He drove a Jeep to work most days. I stayed with my son in Aspen for several days. He owns a Honda and of course talked dad into letting him drive the C-5. He drove it all over, pretending he owned it. When he was done with it, everything was set for performance. He said night vision was very

poor and that he had taken the traffic circle at 90 mph . There was not much snow with nice scenery, many world class restaurants, shops and not many people at this time of the year.

From Aspen headed West and then South through UT heading to AZ. It sure is Off Road Heaven. I felt like I was the lowest car and only none 4 x 4 vehicle in the whole state of UT. I stopped off at the Grand Canyon and was held up for quite some time by a German couples wedding on the Rim. It was very smoggy and the views were limited but were still magnificent. I followed "Route 66" East from Flagstaff to Show-Low, AZ. I drove the Salt River Canyon and this was the first time the active handling warning light came on. It was a wake up call as the road had 1000 ft. drop offs and mostly had no guard rails.

I took a few days to rest in Tucson, AZ as well as visit with my cousins. The sun and heat felt good. My cousin is retired from GM and both he and his wife drove the C-5. She told him she wants one. It is now the first top down weather I've driven in. Drove up to Los Vegas, NV and over into southern CA. I drove up the coast from Santa Barbara to Big Sur and Carmel by the Sea. It was very rainy with a lot of construction. I have a picture of the HUD reading "0" mph in a construction zone where I sat for almost an hour. Not much fun! I drove back inland to Angel's Camp on Hwy 49 into the Gold Rush area. I stayed with friends in Placerville, CA and was held up by a major snowstorm in the Sierra Mountains. If you didn't have snow chains you could not cross. After 2 days I finally made it to Lake Tahoe and on up to Reno, NV.

From there I took the "Loneliest Road in America", Hwy 50 in northern NV. I set the cruise at 100 mph and saw no other cars for over 100 miles. At one point I took the speed up to 156 mph but as the road was not very smooth and was "Open Range" for cattle I thought that was fast enough and slowed down only to overtake a policeman a few miles later. Most speed enforcement is done from airplanes. Saw lots of wild game- mule deer and antelope. I went through northern UT over the Continental Divide back to CO and another visit in Aspen with my son. I had to play snowplow this time. Parked the Corvette in a parking structure and waited out the storm while visiting. I tried to go over Independence Pass and it was closed. In northern CO I tried to go over Estes Pass and it was also closed but I did see 100's of elk and several moose. It was well worth the side trip.

Drove on to the Denver area and a Lexus was stolen out of the parking lot that night. In that same lot I got a "Free" key job. Thank you very much. I started east through NB and into some real stormy weather in IA, hail then changing to rain and lightening. Stopped for the night at a Best Western, both college ball playoff teams and the World of Outlaws were staying there. I tried to get some sleep but woke to hear someone yelling to his friends, here's a new Corvette. I looked out the window to see him trying to open the door. I checked out and drove through the

most brilliant lightening storm into IL. I took a picture of the sunrise with the C-5 in the foreground. I showed the photo to my salesman at Holiday Chevrolet and they made it into return address labels. What a nice surprise. Finally back in MI with sunny skies and it was top down the rest of the way home. What a trip-----6 weeks-----13,000 miles-----17 states. The C-5 got road rash and I've got all the good memories.

I have a return trip to the Bash planned for 2002 as the starting point for yet another trip. This one will be based on a Readers Digest book, "Off the Beaten Path." A guide to more than 1,000 Scenic and Interesting Places still uncrowded and inviting.

**NOW OFFERING A 10% DISCOUNT ON PARTS AND LABOR
ON ALL CORVETTE REPAIRS TO CORVETTE CLUB MEMBERS!**



CORVETTE ENTHUSIASTS SINCE 1954

Bud Kouts
CHEVROLET

SALES • LEASING • SERVICE/BODY REPAIR
(ON ALL MODEL YEARS!)

DISCLAIMER: PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS A CORVETTE CLUB MEMBER.

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