The Connection

The Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club





2011 OFFICERS

Craig lansiti

Simon Reiffer
Vice President/Governor

Rich Bratschi
Competition Director

Randy Buck Editor

Dave Pursel
Membership Director

Kim Keith Points Director

Sandy Bechtel
Public Relations

Connie Britz

Carol Putmon
Social Director

Mike Britz





The Connection

The Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club

VOLUME XLI • NUMBER 2 • FEBRUARY 2011

Upcoming Events

General Membership Meeting

February 2 • 7:00 p.m. • Delhi Cafe • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

Let's Meet for Breakfast

Saturday •February 12th • 9am **Big Boy Restaurant** • 660 N Cedar St • Mason

NCCC Michigan Region Awards Banquet

7:30 pm • One Under Bar and Banquet Center 35780 Five Mile, Livonia

February Birthdays

Diana Parks (7) • David Brown (11) Ed Politza (22) • Diana Brown-Mosher (24)

Board Meeting

February 16 • 6:30 p.m. • Delhi Cafe • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

Newsletter Article Deadline

Send all March newsletter articles to Rnbuck1220 @ hotmail.com by February 23.



From the President....

ou probably don't recognize me without my beard. My mother dug this old photo of me out of the family archives. The old Towar Grocery Store building my folks owned and operated is still standing, but has gone through many changes during the past 63 years. So have I. As you can see, I was into really cool vehicles way back then. And I drove it in the winter. It was a convertible, too. Just another one I wish I had today.

I just realized that I am quite a bit older than this club. Come to think of it – most of us are. Just think! Most of us were born before the first Corvette was even a thought. I guess the old Vettes aren't really THAT old! And then there are our younger members. Oh well. They will just have to wait before they can claim having all the experience of their elders.

What a great time we had at the Winterfest party. It was so nice to have so many members there eating and visiting and eating. Ted Lasher presented some beautiful awards to the top participants of 2010. We managed another Turkey award (Chris & Terry Burke), and



probably could have come up with a couple more winners for that prestigious trophy. I was proud to present the President's Award to a very deserving member, Colleen Bratschi. So many people did so very much with and for our club last year. I guess the overall prize for that is being able to join together as friends for yet another wonderful year.

I guess our next big event is not until May – The Blessing of the Vettes and I sure hope the sun gods shine on us this year. Maybe we can squeeze in some bowling with the Jackson club before then. I think someone is working on that. Maybe someone will come up with an early Spring Drive & Dine. Until then, the Board is just working on keeping things in order, putting together a budget, updating the By-Laws, and getting things ready for some other events this summer. Come on summer!

Craig



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Start planning ahead!

The 2011 NCCC Convention will take place in Tinley Park, IL during the week of June 18-24.

On-line registration opens on February 1. You will want to get your reservations in early to get into the convention hotel. Check out the NCCC Website for detailed information. www.corvettesnccc.org/Convention2011.html

The convention is being planned so that members can continue on to the Bloomington Gold Corvette Show in St. Charles, IL.

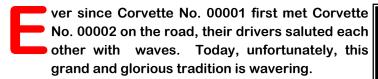
Bloomington Gold runs from June 23-26. www.bloomingtongold.com/



Editors Corner

Article from www.corvetteactioncenter.com

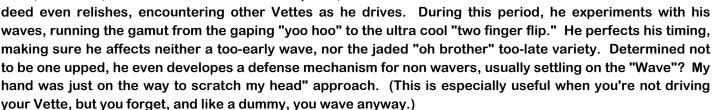
Corvette Wave

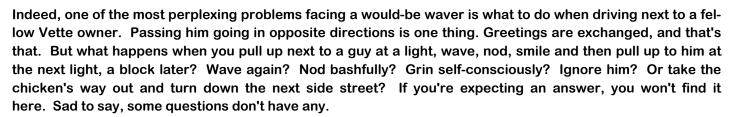


There's one item of standard equipment that comes as a pleasant surprise to every new Corvette owner. It's an instant wave of recognition he or she recieves when he meets one of their ilks on the road. The first time it happens, they will be taken by surprise. He immediately thinks:

- 1. He has been mistaken for Stirling Moss.
- 2. His lights are on.
- 3. He has just been given the bird.

Soon, however, the new Vette owner anticipates, in-





Girl-type Corvette drivers also have a unique problem: to wave or not to wave. This miss or misses who borrows her man's Corvette for the first time is immediately faced with this quandary. Should she wave first and look overly friendly, or ignore the wave and look like a snob? Most ladies who drive their own Vettes prefer to suffer the latter rather than take a chance of being misread. For this reason, all girls are excused for occassionally failing to return a well-meaning wave. So are new owners who are still learning the ropes.

There is no excuse, however, for a guy who refuses to return the wave, not out of ignorance, but of arrogance



or apathy. While this type of behavior is the exception to the rule, it seems a few owners of newer models refuse to recognize anything older than theirs, while some others simply won't wave, period. Boo on them. These ding-a-lings don't seem to realize that they are helping to squash a tradition that had its beginnings back when most of us were still driving tootsietoys.

SAVE THE WAVE

Capital City Corvette Club

General Membership Meeting January 5 2011

President: Craig lansiti called meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and welcomed guests, Connie & Tom Tyler. He then read 'thank you' notes from Sherri Graham of the Potter Park Zoological Society.

Secretary: Connie Britz asked that the November meeting minutes be approved as appeared in the club's newsletter.

Treasurer: Mike Britz will seek new bank as our current bank, First National, is closing. Mike will need to present new budget at the next meeting.

Points: Kim Keith was not in attendance but will present updated points system at the next meeting.

Membership: Dave Pursel was ill and was not present. He left Craig an email with the current membership listed as 82 members, 67 FCOA's, and 1 honorary member.

Editor: Randy Buck had nothing new to report. He did thank Gloria Reiffer for her help. Randy did receive compliments for his first newsletter effort.

Competition: Rich Bratschi had nothing new to report. He did mention the annual region meeting will be held April 9. It is listed on website. He is currently working on club's low-speed event.

Public Relations: Sandy Bechtel spoke about **Winterfest**, Saturday, January 8 at the City Limits in Mason. She advised members that sponsor Dick Iding and his wife will be attending and encouraged members to make them feel welcome. Sandy also mentioned 12 new advertisers and encouraged members to frequent those places of business.

Social: Carol Putmon acknowledged December and January birthdays with the traditional candy. She also collected reservations for Winterfest. She reported that 36 people will be attending. She also informed members that 'Drive & Dine' sign-up sheets were on the table at the entrance to the meeting room. She mentioned that the bowling event with the Jackson Corvette Club was coming up as well as the Vermontville Syrup Festival which will be held the last full weekend in April. The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Carlo Litrenta who took home \$50.00.

Governor/VP: Simon Reiffer gave a summary of the last region meeting minutes. Simon informed group that the NCCC Convention will be held in Tinley Park, Illinois (Greater Chicago area). He encouraged members if they wanted to attend and stay at the Convention Hotel to make reservations now. Bloomington Gold will be held June 18-23, 24, 25, and 26. He encouraged members to check on national website for advertisers and discounts.

All appointed positions which include **Hearts & Flowers**, **Historian**, **NCM Ambassador**, **Quartermaster**, **Webmaster**, and the new position of **Sgt.** at **Arms** will need to be approved by the Board at the next board meeting to be held Wednesday, February 16.

Hearts & Flowers: Julie Lasher reported that Steve Spinrad had a knee replacement.

Historian: Sue Keith was not present.

NCM Ambassador: Joe Thomas had nothing new to report.

Photographer: Ted Lasher told members that pictures were up to date on Flickr.

Quartermaster: Randy Putmon had nothing new to report.

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer said that links need to be changed.

Sgt. of Arms: Pat Lickfeldt had no report.

Newsletter Distribution will all be done electronically. Let **Randy Buck** know if you cannot access newsletter.

Member Comments:

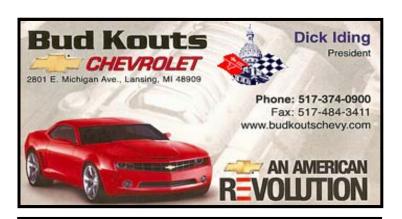
Members discussed a little bit about a New England trip possibly in the works. More on that subject will be forthcoming. The "Turkey" award was returned by Joe Thomas. It will be presented to a new 'turkey' at a future date.

It was suggested members look on Culver's website for restaurant information.

Copies of membership list should only go to members and members should be contacted individually unless it is to the entire board.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Britz, (Secretary)





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Public Relations Capital City Corvette Club PO Box 27295 Lansing, MI 48909



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Capital City Corvette Club

Board Meeting January 19 2011

The social hour stated around 5:30 P.M. with the actual meeting stating at 6:30 P.M.

President: Craig lansiti opened the meeting with a couple of topics. He talked about trying to confirm date for the FOE car show and party to be held in Mason on Saturday, May 21. He is also trying to reach Corey at Culver's in Haslett to confirm date for the Blessing of the Vettes for Saturday, May 14.

Secretary: Connie Britz asked the Board members present to give input on meeting minutes before submitting them for the next general membership meeting. She passed around hard copies of tentative minutes for additions and corrections.

Treasurer: Mike Britz told board members that he had opened a new bank account at MSU Credit Union because the bank the club has been using is closing March 15. It is believed that MSU is a good fit since it has various locations around town convenient to most members. It was decided he would check into money market accounts, etc to make the most of any monies held by the club. Mike is operating on a budget which was sent to the Board. A motion was made and seconded to be presented to general membership at the next general meeting.

Mike also told board members MSU Credit Union would not require two signatures as had been required by First Financial. It was decided that bylaws would have to be changed to accommodate new procedure. It will have to be voted upon at next general meeting.

It was suggested that the board will have to give an explanation of charitable donations at the next general meeting. There has to be a clarification as to what we gave as charitable donation in comparison to what had been budgeted and what will happen in the future.

Governor/VP: Simon Reiffer also told board about the NCCC is giving more attention to individual club's charitable donation and will be tracking them in the future.

Points: Kim Keith was not in attendance.

Membership: Dave Pursel asked for help in clarifying membership information on some people who he found he had no accounting. There are some discrepancies concerning membership. The list of members to be distributed twice a year to members will include email, address, and telephone numbers and will have to be printed by individuals. The lists will only be given to members who are paid in full and in good standing.

Editor: Randy Buck purchased Adobe Acrobat Version 10 for the use of putting the newsletter together. He said he thought it should be good for several years. The newsletter will be distributed electronically for all but just about 5 members. It was determined that Bud Kouts Dealership should receive a few printed copies to display in their waiting room for advertising purposes.

Competition: Rich Bratschi spoke with Jim Leisure of Spartan Speedway about a confirmed date for the low-speed event to be sponsored by the club and held the weekend of July 30/31.

Public Relations: Sandy Bechtel was not in attendance.

Social: Carol Putmon will contact Jackson Corvette Club about another bowling party. She will also check on Vermontville Syrup Festival and how the club will be involved.

Quartermaster: Randy Putmon posed the question as to whether the club's trailer should be covered to protect from elements all four seasons. Craig volunteered a tarp for this purpose.

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer reported that the website was doing well and is getting lots of feedback on which pages get hit and how often.

The Board Members approved all appointees which include Hearts & Flowers, Historian, NCM Ambassador, Photographer, Quartermaster, Sergeant at Arms, and Webmaster.

Member Input: There was a discussion on the club's business cards as to whether all members ought to have access to business cards. Is there some way to design one card which could be used by all? **Randy Buck** volunteered to design a new card. There was also a discussion about couple's membership and how to treat when both are not members although each behaves as such.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Britz (Secretary)





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Capital City Corvette Club



Participation Points as of January 8, 2011

7	Sandy Bechtel	0	Randy Gisse	2	Bob Maynard	0	Bill Simons
1	James Boettcher	0	Vidal Gonzalez	2	Shalimar Maynard	0	Victor Smith
1	Mara Boettcher	1	Howard Hein	0	Linda McMillan	0	Loretta Spinrad
2	Colleen Bratschi	1	Angela Hyde	0	Barb Musselman	0	Steve Spinrad
7	Rich Bratschi	7	Craig lansiti	0	Steve Musselman	0	Janet Sprague
7	Connie Britz	2	Janet lansiti	2	Dominique Palacio	0	Michael Sprague
7	Mike Britz	1	Dick Iding	2	Jerry Palacio	0	Ralph Swan
0	David Brown	1	Greg Kapp	0	Diana Parks	0	Susan Swan
1	Diana Brown-Mosher	6	Kim Keith	1	Howard Parks	4	Joseph Thomas*
2	NancyLee Buck	4	Sue Keith	0	Joe Platte	0	Harold Twining
7	Randy Buck	0	Frank Kessler	2	Ed Politza	0	Katherine Twining
3	Chris Burke	0	Judy Kessler	2	Suzanne Politza	0	Sue VanAtta
3	Terry Burke	0	Fred Koos	6	David Pursel	0	Larry Warren*
1	Dave Cripe*	0	Judy Koos	1	Kathryn Pursel	0	Linda Warren*
1	Pat Cripe	2	Sheila Lansing	7	Carol Putmon	0	Lee Webster
1	Darwin Day	5	Julie Lasher	5	Randy Putmon	1	Larry Wight
1	Art Doty*	5	Ted Lasher	7	Gloria Reiffer	0	Gary Wyma
1	Nancy Doty*	0	Ellie Lickfeldt	7	Simon Reiffer	0	Kathy Wyma
0	Catherine Eiseman	4	Patrick Lickfeldt	2	Robert Ribar		
0	Raoul Eiseman	1	Carlo Litrenta	0	Brenda Shatkosky*		
0	Jennifer Everhart*	1	Janet Litrenta	0	Richard Shatkosky*		

Current 2011 Top Ten

7	Sandy Bechtel	7	Mike Britz	7	Carol Putmon	6	Kim Keith
7	Rich Bratschi	7	Randy Buck	7	Gloria Reiffer		
7	Connie Britz	7	Craig lansiti	7	Simon Reiffer		



The Turkey Award

he Turkey Award was created by our 2005 competition director, Kurt Schwamberger, after a rather hilarious incident happened to one of our members at the Spartan Speedway low-speed event. Kurt just felt the moment shouldn't go unrecognized, and thus the Turkey Award was born.

The award is presented by the club president at the WinterFest party in January, in recognition of the member who had the funniest or most out of the ordinary accomplishment during the previous year.

2005 The award for 2005 was presented to Randy Putmon. Randy had driven his 1981 C3 at our Spartan Speedway low-speed event in July of that year. During one of his runs he went off the track, went airborne and landed in the infield. He



scooped up so much turf he was still cleaning it out the following spring. Our ever diligent Webmaster, Gloria Reiffer, snapped a shot that captured the whole moment for posterity. Randy accepted the award with his usual good humor.

2006 Kurt Schwamberger (better known as Schwamy) was the winner of the award for 2006. The incident that earned him the award happened at the Spartan Speedway low-speed event. Kurt had taken charge of laying out the course for the event, so he should have been the most familiar with it. However, when Kurt's turn came to drive the course, he immediately took a wrong turn. Oops! Hard to live that one down!

2007 The award for 2007 was not presented because Kurt forgot to bring the trophy back to the president in time for the awards banquet. Due to his lapse in memory, we all just figured Kurt was the Turkey Award winner again for the second year in a row

2008 The winner for 2008 was Bob Maynard. July of 2008 was our club's 50th anniversary with NCCC and Bob had been chairperson for our big 50th Anniversary Party. After all his planning and encouraging of members to participate and not miss the big event, Bob himself missed most of the party. Even though Bob's excuse was illness, we just couldn't give him a break, and so he won the Turkey Award.

2009 Joe Thomas was the leader of the Michigan contingent of the National Corvette Caravan to Bowling Green, Kentucky in September of 2009. Half way to Bowling Green Joe's 1992 Corvette broke down and had to be left at a dealership for repair. This meant Joe had to finish leading the caravan driving a rented steel-body car. How could we pass up giving Joe the Turkey

Award for that one?



2010 The winner for 2010 had to be Terry and Chris Burke for showing up to a June breakfast at the wrong Cracker Barrel restaurant. Terry and Chris ended up having breakfast alone and wondering what happened to everyone else. Needless to say, the rest of us were all at the right Cracker Barrel enjoying our breakfast on the other side of town. The award was presented to both Terry and Chris because as our president said, "even with two heads between them, they still couldn't figure it out".

Submitted by Janet Iansiti

2011 NCM EVENTS

Hawaiian Cruise

February 26 - March 5

C5/C6 Bash

April 28 - 30

C4/ZR-1 Gathering

May 12 - 14

Corvette Forum Cruise-in

May 26 – 28

NCM Le Mans Tour

June 6 - 13

VIR HPDE

June 27 - 28

Mosport ALMS Road Tour

July 19 - 24

Anniversary Celebration & Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

September 1 - 3

NCM Benefit at HOD Thunderhill

September 7-8

Z06 Fest

September 15 - 17

R8C Reunion

September 26 - 30

NCM Benefit at HOD Autobahn Country

October 3

Historic Motorama Reunion Tour

October 11 - 15 (tentative)

Vets 'n Vettes

November 3 - 5

Family Membership for the Price of Individual

How would your family like to become members of the National Corvette Museum, for the price of an individual membership? Normally \$100, you can get this special deal for only \$50 through Tuesday, January 18.

Family memberships include free admission to the Museum for one year for member and immediate family, discounts on NCM-sponsored events, 10% discount on Corvette Store merchandise, a subscription to America's Sports Car Magazine and two membership cards and lapel pins.

This promotion is only good for NEW memberships. When buying online through the Corvette Store, in

the special instructions box put the code: NEWYEARPROMO.



2011 NCM EVENTS

Continued fron page 13

Free Corvette Driving School with New Corvette Purchases

Since its introduction as a 2009 model, Chevrolet has offered customers who purchase a new Corvette ZR1 a two day, tuition paid, ZR1 Driving Class through either Bob Bondurant's School of High Performance Driving (near Phoenix, AZ) or Ron Fellows Performance Driving School at Spring Mountain (outside of Las Vegas, NV) – the official Driving Schools of Chevrolet.



For customers who take delivery of any new 2010 or

2011 Corvette model (coupe, convertible, Grand Sport or Z06) from January 4, 2011 through February 28, 2011, Chevrolet will offer these customers an opportunity to attend the two day ZR1 Driving Class at one of the two official Chevrolet Driving Schools of their choice. Eligible customers who elect to take advantage of this opportunity within one year of their delivery date will have their tuition paid for by Chevrolet to attend the ZR1 Driving School class. These eligible customers will be responsible for their accommodations (lodging, meals, etc.) and travel to and from the school.

This special limited time offer is in addition to other current Corvette incentive programs. This offer cannot be exchanged for a cash value or additional vehicle discount.

Michelin Tires Seminar Added to Bash

Friday, April 29 we've added a special treat to our C5/C6 Bash agenda. Lee Willard with Michelin Racing Technology will be here to talk about the new technology of Michelin Tires.

If you haven't yet registered - our Events Department has a lot of super cool things on the agenda! If you'd love to take a ride in a 1963 Vintage Racer or a 1962 Solid Axle Corvette - Bash is your chance! We are offering laps around the NCM cam-



pus and Corvette Drive, and you get a photo in the car. Corvette Racing will be here for a special lunch, and our pal Paul Koerner, C4/C5/C6 Specialist, will be here for seminars and drop in assistance.

Join us, April 28 - 30, 2011! Check out the full agenda, and register online!

2011 NCM EVENTS

Continued fron page 14

Cross the Pond with the Corvette Museum!

Save the date because NCM will be hitting the road with our "Museum in Motion" events, and the first stop is France! Planning is still underway, but tentatively mark your calendar for June 7-13, 2011.

The trip will include lodging for at least five nights, tickets to the **Le Mans** race, tickets to the Corral, Paddock passes, transportation from Paris to Le Mans and back, two days of sight-seeing from Paris to Le Mans and transportation to and from the track to lodging and to Le Mans city for the Parade of Pilots.



If you have an interest in this event, email <u>Roc</u> in our Events Department to stay up to date as plans are made. We will also announce in eNews when registration goes live. Spots will be very limited.

Museum in Motion: Mosport / Canada

The 2011 *MiM* season continues with the Mosport Tour, **July 19-24**, to **Ontario, Canada**. Meeting in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, the 5-day tour takes participants through Ontario enjoying back roads, resorts, quaint villages, a casino and ending with two days attending the ALMS race at the Mosport International Raceway. Enjoy a VIP tour of the St. Catharines engine plant, where Corvette



motors are made, and the Oshawa Assembly Plant where Camaros are assembled. This event is limited to only 35 cars/70 participants and the fee covers hotels for 6 nights, the welcoming banquet; dinner Wednesday, a boat ride and BBQ with Corvettes of Durham and corral access at **Mosport**. At the track attendees will enjoy corral parking, access to the paddock, parade lap, celebrity car show and a BBQ lunch. For members the tour fee is \$1700 for the driver and \$390 for their guest. Nonmember fees are an additional \$40 each and include a Museum membership. The **Museum in Motion** tours are very popular and with limited space it's important to sign up here promptly while there is still space.

Special Event Notes: You will need a passport to enter Canada and return to the U.S.

National Corvette Museum Ambassador Joe Thomas



Michigan Region of Corvette Clubs Awards Banquet April 9, 2011



Cost: \$25.00 per person

Place: One Under Bar and Banquet Center

Located at 35780 Five Mile, Livonia, MI 48154

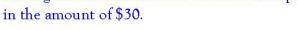
Time: Social 6:30-7:30 Dinner: 7:30

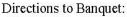
Cash bar

Awards and Door Prizes immediately following dinner. Dancing and Entertainment until 1:30am in lower level.

No reserved seating-seating will be on a first come basis.

All Region clubs are asked to donate a door prize





From North-Northwest—go east on I-96 to south I-275 to Six Mile exit (exit 170), exit (east) onto Six Mile to Newburg Rd, go south on Newburg Rd to Five Mile Rd., turn east onto Five Mile and continue on approximately 3/4 mile. The One Under will be on your left (north side of Five Mile Rd).

From West—go east on M-14, continue onto east I-96, merge to right, exit Newburg rd (exit 173), go past Newburg rd to turn around loop, and go north on Newburg to Five Mile Rd, turn east onto Five Mile Rd approx 3/4 mile. The One Under will be on your left (north side of Five Mile Rd).

From West-Southwest—go east on I-94 to north I-275, exit east I-96 (exit 29), merge to right, exit Newburg rd (exit 173), go past Newburg rd to turn around loop, and go north on Newburg to Five Mile Rd, turn east onto Five Mile Rd approx 3/4 mile. The One Under will be on your left (north side of Five Mile Rd).

Courtvard (4 stars), 17200 N Laurel Park Dr. (734)-462-2000 Accommodations at I-96 exit 170:

Marriot (4 1/2 stars), 17100 N Laurel Park Dr, (734)-462-3100 Best Western (5 stars), 16999 S Laurel Park Dr, (734)-464-0050

Accommodations at I-275 exit 28: Red Roof Inn (4 stars), 39700 Ann Arbor Rd, (734)-459-3300

Quality Inn (4 stars), 40455 Ann Arbor Rd, (734)-455-8100

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Enter the banquet parking and facility at the top of the hill

Appetizers during social h	oui
----------------------------	-----

Buffet dinner menu:

Roasted N.Y. Strip Oriental blend vegetable Mostaccioli marinara Chicken Picatta Oven roasted red skins Garden Greek salad

Homemade breads and rolls

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More info call Joe @ 313-515-0734

Nuts & Bolts

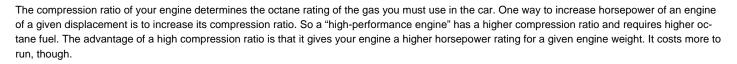
verything you may or may not want to know about Gasoline and Octane Rating

When teaching about hydrocarbons in chemistry classes, I sometimes get questions about Octane. I also hear of people using higher octane in their car than recommended by the manufacturer. That is not always good, and can cause other problems in the long run. Some of the following information may help you understand the octane levels in the gasoline used in our Corvettes and other vehicles. Text was compiled from various sources, including class notes and from my personal experience in the lab.

Almost all of our vehicles use four stroke engines. One of those "strokes" of the piston is called a compression stroke, where the engine compresses a cylinder full of air and gasoline into a much smaller volume before igniting it with a spark. The amount of compression is called the "compression ratio" of the engine, and is typically around 8-to-1 (more in a high performance engine).

The Octane Rating of gasoline (a hydrocarbon) tells you how much the fuel can be compressed before it spontaneously ignites. When gasoline ignites by compression rather than because of spark from the spark plug, it causes knocking in the engine. Knocking can damage the engine since it puts undue stress on the piston as it is still going up into the cylinder.

Lower octane gasoline like 87-octane, can handle the least amount of compression before igniting. Diesel engines use only compression to ignite a different formulation of hydrocarbon fuel. That's a different story.



A bit of history: The name "octane" comes from the following fact: When you take crude oil and "crack" it in a refinery, you end up getting hydrocarbon chains of different lengths. These different chain lengths can then be separated from each other and blended to form different fuels. For example, you may have heard of methane, propane and butane. All three of them are hydrocarbons. Methane has just a single carbon atom. Propane has three carbon atoms chained together. Butane has four. Pentane has five, hexane has six, heptane has seven, and Octane has eight carbons chained together.

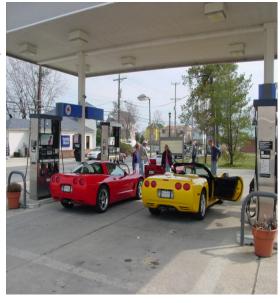
It turns out that heptane handles compression very poorly. Compress it just a little and it ignites spontaneously. Octane handles compression very well - - you can compress it a lot and nothing happens. Eighty-Seven-Octane gasoline is gasoline that contains 87 percent octane and 13 percent heptane (or some other combination of fuels that has the same performance of the 87/13 combination octane/heptane). It spontaneously ignites at a given compression level, and can only be used in engines that do not exceed that compression ratio.

During World War One, it was discovered that you can add a chemical called tetraethyl lead (TEL) to gasoline and significantly improve its octane rating above the octane/heptane combination. Cheaper grades of gasoline could be made usable by adding TEL. This led to the widespread use of "ethyl" or "leaded" gasoline. Unfortunately, the side effects of adding lead to gasoline are: Lead clogs a catalytic converter and renders it inoperable within minutes; and worse, the Earth became covered in a thin layer of toxic lead.

When lead was banned, gasoline became more expensive because refineries could not boost the octane ratings of cheaper grades any more. Only airplanes are still allowed to use leaded gasoline, known as AvGas, and octane ratings of 100 or more are commonly used in super-high-performance piston airplane engines. In the case of AvGas, 100 is the gasoline's performance rating, not the percentage of actual octane in the gas. The addition of TEL boosts the compression level of the gasoline - - it doesn't add more octane. Engineers are currently working on the development of airplane piston engines that can use unleaded gasoline.

Use of higher octane gasoline in lower compression engines does not improve performance, and can actually cause carbon buildup and other problems over the long run. The term "Premium" has long been used to describe higher octane gasoline, thereby causing some people to think it is better for their car, no matter what the compression ration or manufacturer recommendations. This is really a waste of money. Some manufacturers note octane levels that are "recommended" or "required". If your manual says "required", it's best to use the octane specified. If it says "recommended", you can try a lower octane rating in cooler, easier driving conditions and monitor performance and mileage. The computers in modern cars can adjust the spark and valve settings a bit to compensate for variations in octane. If you notice performance degradation or spark "knock" when trying lower octane gasoline, move back to the next higher octane rating.





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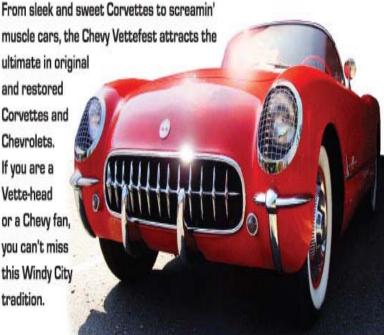
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February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		I	2 7pm: General Membership Meeting	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	II	9 am: Let's Meet for breakfast Big Boy in Mason
13	14	15	16 6:30pm: Board Meeting	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	NCCC National Meetings	NCCC National Meetings
27	28					



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