

THE CONNECTION

APRIL 2012

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.corvettesncc.org



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THE CONNECTION

The Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club
VOLUME XLII • NUMBER 4 • April 2012

Upcoming Events

General Membership Meeting

April 4th • 7:00 p.m. • Dinner & Social Hour – 6:00 p.m.
Delhi Cafe • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

Lets Meet For Breakfast

Saturday • April 14th • 9:00 a.m.
Spud's Family Restaurant • 611 S. Waverly Rd. • Lansing

Bowling with Jackson Corvette Club

Sunday • April 15th • 1:30 p.m.
City Limits • 801 N. Cedar St. • Mason

Board Meeting

April 18th • 6:30 p.m.
Delhi Cafe • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

Lunch - Inspired by the Letter "S"

April 21st • 12:00 p.m.
Spartan Hall of Fame Cafe • 1601 W. Lake Lansing Rd • East Lansing

Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival

Saturday • April 28th • 8:30 a.m.
Meet at the Quality Dairy on W. Saginaw by Art Van leaving by 8:45 a.m.

April Birthdays

Randy Putmon (1) • Nancy Doty (2)
Shalimar Maynard (4) • Mara Boettcher (6)
Colleen Bratschi (9) • Simon Reiffer (12)
Dana Conley (26)



Newsletter Article Deadline

Send all newsletter articles to scott@keyprintgroup.com by the 23rd of the month.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Really? Consistent 70's in early March in Michigan? Here we are at waters edge in Florida, enjoying the warmth, and for the last few weeks, it has been just as warm at home. You all have your Vettes out (or could), and ours are still packed away 1400 miles out of reach. So much for going south to avoid the cold. We should be home by the time you are reading this, and with any luck, won't experience a final snowstorm of the season!

We attended a fun fish-fry the other day, and couldn't believe how one couple showed up. Not in a Vette – but in a 1913 Stanley Steamer. It was almost completely restored, much of it having been built from the original, hand drawn, plans. Now there is a true labor of love. When asked how



long he has been working on it, he said “all his life, it seems”. I can imagine. At sixty miles an hour, it turns over at about 550 rpm. How's that for torque. When the party was over, off they went without a sound, trailed by a cloud of steam. Pretty neat!

It appears most of our summer events are getting scheduled. As usual, we have many things on the calendar, and many other activities will surely pop up and fill those empty evenings or weekend mornings. One event the club hasn't had for many years is a Rally. We are really looking forward to that after the Blessing in June. Maybe that is the start of us trying a few new things each season. Put on your thinking caps, and let's see what we can come up with. How would you like to use your Vette? Since we can't just jump in and drive all year around like the folks down south, we have to make the best of it while the sun shines



Craig

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Corvette Family Members.....

West Region is looking forward to hosting you at the 53rd NCCC Convention. Yes, we are talking about the 53rd annual, and yes, 1953 was when the first Corvette was assembled and started a “Love Story” between sports car enthusiasts and the Corvette.

We in NCCC really have a “thing” for our cars, and like being with others who enjoy their Corvette and/or Corvettes. It’s for this reason that NCCC has an annual Convention – a time to get together for fun! Come to Topeka, Kansas, June 23-29 and have fun with your Corvette family.

Do you like autocross? Competition events will be held at Heartland Park Topeka. The low-speed autocross will take place on a 23-acre pad with a course designed to challenge your driving skills. If it’s high speed autocross you prefer – sign up now and look forward to a well-designed 2.3 mile course. Oh, you say you prefer drags, bring your best car because you’re going to have a great time on Heartland’s first-class drag strip. This NHRA track has seen some of American’s best drag racers blast down this strip and now it’s your turn to enjoy the thrill. If you love drag racing then Heartland Park has your Christmas tree in June!

Maybe racing isn’t your choice; don’t worry, we have a lot of things planned for our non-racing family. The Concours and People’s Choice Car shows will be held on Sunday. It will be a time to show off the best you’ve got...wax her up and show her off! Enter your tow rig into the Concours judging.

How about a parade! There will be one *huge* parade on Wednesday evening. We will travel south approximately 5 miles down Topeka Blvd to Heartland Park, drive around the track and make our way back to the State Capitol grounds for a summer picnic. Close your eyes and imagine up to 250 gorgeous Corvettes all in a row – now that’s a parade! You’ll want to be a part of this!

You want more....how about the Rallye that will introduce you to some historic information about Topeka. The fun doesn’t stop there; enjoy a Wizard of Oz themed Funkhana! Have you started working on your

Valve Cover Racer? Not only will you go for speed and distance, but your car will be entered in the Valve Cover People’s Choice Car Show!

West Region is offering four exciting guided day-trips. One will introduce you to some of what Topeka has to offer including a delicious lunch at the Top of the Tower restaurant, one of Topeka’s finest and the one with the best 16th floor view in town. How about bus trips? West Region will have two for you to pick from on Wednesday. One will take you to the Harley-Davidson Plant near Kansas City where you’ll go to the factory floor and witness all kinds of assembly excitement - frame-bending, robotic welding technology, laser-cutting.....and more. Then on to view the “Steamboat Arabia,” a boat that spent

132 years buried in the earth of Missouri. The other will give you a narrated historical tour of Independence, Mo., the site of the beginning of the Santa Fe, Oregon and California trails. Hear about the bloody Kansas Border Wars and the outlaws who rode the area. Tour the Harry Truman Presidential Library and have lunch at the world famous Country Club Plaza.

With so much to do it will hard to choose?

Want more...West Region will give you an opportunity to view first-hand the beautiful Flint Hills of Kansas. Spring will be an awesome time for you to drive the winding roads, view the rock fences and enjoy the beauty. You will make your way to Manhattan’s Colbert Hills Golf Course for lunch in their club house decorated with Kansas limestone. From there you will see the Blast of the Past Museum, a private collection of band organs, juke boxes, carousel horses, restored gas pumps and more. You’ll even have a chance to purchase wine with a Wizard of Oz label and tour a city of antique stores before returning to Topeka in time to take part in the parade.

This is just a sample of what West Region has to offer at the, NCCC’s 53rd Annual Convention....it’s all about fun with the family. Remember registration opens February 1, 2012!

See you there,

LARRY BEEBE, CONVENTION DIRECTOR
LINDA SIECGRIST, CO-DIRECTOR



Let's Meet For Breakfast

Spud's Family Restaurant

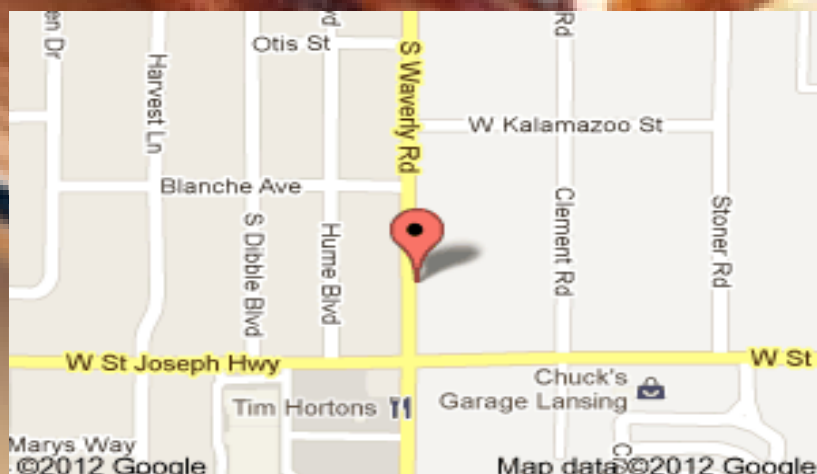
611 South Waverly Road • Lansing

April 14th 9:00 a.m.

**RSVPS: Sign Up Sheet At April 4th
Membership Meeting**

Randy Buck 517-937-8642

Vetteman40th@hotmail.com



Sebring to Celebrate Corvette's Racing Heritage in Hall of Fame Ceremony

By: Corvette Racing • Source: www.corvetteblogger.com



Chevrolet Corvette was Honored as First American Manufacturer in Sebring Hall of Fame

SEBRING, Fla., March 14, 2012 – Corvette's racing history runs deep at Sebring International Raceway. On Friday, March 16, Chevrolet Corvette will be honored as the first American manufacturer in the Sebring Hall of Fame. The timing of Corvette's induction is fitting, as Chevrolet celebrates 60 years of Corvette production in 2012 and Sebring stages the milestone 60th Annual Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring on Saturday, March 17.

The Sebring road course is the crucible where Corvette's racing reputation was forged. Once a training field for B-17 bomber pilots, the Hendricks Field airstrip circuit became a proving ground for legendary road racers. It was on Sebring's punishing concrete runways that Chevrolet's fiberglass sports car first seriously challenged the European marques. On March 24, 1956, John Fitch and Walt Hansgen raced to a Class B victory at Sebring in a Corvette wearing America's traditional blue and white racing colors – the first step onto the world stage that established Chevrolet as a contender in top-level competition.



A total of 231 Corvettes have competed in the Sebring 12-hour race, and 24 of them have scored class or category victories in this legendary test of endurance. Just as Sebring evolved from a makeshift 5.2-mile airfield circuit into a 3.7-mile permanent road course, Corvette made the transition from boulevard cruiser to world-class sports car.

Victories in Sebring played a crucial role in recasting Chevrolet's image from a producer of conservative automobiles to a company that appealed to youthful, performance-minded customers. Introduced in 1953 with a six-cylinder engine and a two-speed automatic transmission, Corvette made a great leap forward with the debut of the Chevrolet small-block V-8 in 1955. Legendary racer/engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov continually expanded Corvette's performance envelope with the development of dual four-barrel carburetors, fuel injection, Duntov-designed solid lifter camshafts, four-speed transmissions, and heavy-duty suspension packages.

Duntov was frequently at odds with the ban on corporate racing enacted by the Automobile Manufacturers Association in 1957, launching a number of unofficial programs to ensure that independent Corvette racers had the equipment they needed to compete successfully. In an era of drum brakes and three-speed gearboxes, Corvette drivers enjoyed the advantages of factory-designed performance packages.

Fresh from a record-setting session on the sands of Daytona Beach (where Duntov set the flying mile speed record

Continued on page 9



**Michigan Region
National Council of Corvette Clubs
2011 Awards Banquet
April 14th, 2012**



What: **2011 Michigan Region Awards Banquet**

Host: **Corvette Club of Battle Creek**

Date: **Saturday April 14th, 2012**

Location: **Riverside Country Club**

245 Columbia Avenue, Battle Creek, MI 49014

Cost: **\$27.50 per Person**

Time: **Social 6:30 - 7:30pm (Appetizers & Cash Bar)**

Dinner: 7:30pm

Guest Speaker: Gilmore Car Museum

Awards & Door Prizes Following Dinner

50/50 Drawings

**Note: All Region Clubs are asked to donate a door prize
in the amount of \$30**

******* MENU *******

Social Hour : Appetizers & Cash Bar

**Buffet Dinner: Two meats (beef and chicken) , hot vegetables,
salads, potatoes, rolls, coffee & tea , & dessert .**



******* Directions *******

From the East : Take I-94 West

Take exit **98B** to merge onto **I-194 N/M-66 N** toward **Downtown/Battle Creek** 1.8 mi

Take exit **2** for **M-96/Columbia Ave** 0.3 mi

Turn left onto **M-96 W/E Columbia Ave** Riverside Country Club will be on the right

From the West : Take I-94 East

Take exit **98B** to merge onto **I-194 N/M-66 N** toward **Downtown/Battle Creek** 1.8 mi

Take exit **2** for **M-96/Columbia Ave** 0.3 mi

Turn left onto **M-96 W/E Columbia Ave** Riverside Country Club will be on the right

******* Accommodations - I94 Exit 97 & Exit 98 *******

1. Holiday Inn , 12812 Harper Village Dr, Battle Creek, MI 49014 , (269) 979-0500
2. Hampton Inn, 1150 Riverside Dr, Battle Creek, MI 49015, (269) 979-5577
3. Best Western Executive Inn , 5090 Beckley Rd, Battle Creek, MI 49015, (269) 979-8506
4. Howard Johnson , 5050 Beckley Rd, Battle Creek, MI 49015, (269) 979-1100
5. Baymont Inn and Suites, 4725 Beckley Rd, Battle Creek, MI 49015, (269) 979-5400
6. Fairfield Inn , 4665 Beckley Rd, Battle Creek, MI 49015, (269) 979-8000
7. Comfort Inn, 2590 Capital Ave SW, Battle Creek, MI 49015, (269) 965-3201

Detach & Mail

Names: _____ Amount: \$_____

Club: _____ Emergency Contact: _____

Make Check payable to: Michigan Region Treasurer

Mail to: Corvette Club of Battle Creek , 117 Shadow Bend Ln. Battle Creek Mi 49014

RSVP Deadline - Saturday March 31st.



at 150.583 mph), the Corvette crew hastily prepared a trio of Corvettes for the 1956 12-hour Sebring endurance race. The untested Corvettes predictably encountered teething problems, but Fitch and Hansgen persevered to finish first in Class B and ninth overall.

That first Sebring victory became the cornerstone of the Corvette legend. Chevrolet's advertising agency trumpeted the triumph with ads that declared Corvette was "The Real McCoy" and lauded Corvette as "a tough, road-gripping torpedo-on-wheels with the stamina to last through the brutal 12 hours of Sebring." Further iterations of the first-generation Corvette scored class wins at Sebring in 1957, 1958, 1960, 1961, and 1962. Notable Corvette drivers of this era included Dr. Dick Thompson, Briggs Cunningham, Jim Jeffords, 1960 Indianapolis 500 winner Jim Rathmann., Jerry Grant, Jim Hurtubise, and Don Yenke.

The Sebring Corvettes eventually sired a trio of SR Corvettes – the acronym standing for "Sebring Racer" or alternatively "Sports Racing." Based on a Sebring Corvette chassis, the SR-2 sprouted a tail fin, racing windscreens, air scoops on the side coves, and an extended front end with driving lights that gave the machine a purposeful appearance. Corvette repeated as the GT class champion at the 1957 Sebring endurance – although it was a production model driven by Dick Thompson, "The Flying Dentist," and Gaston Andrey that took the honors.

The 1957 Corvette SS that made its competition debut in Sebring was Duntov's technical tour de force. Conceived



to compete in the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the Corvette SS was a stunning machine, both visually and mechanically. A featherweight magnesium body cloaked a tubular steel space frame that featured coil-over-shock front suspension, a de Dion rear axle and inboard-mounted aluminum drum brakes. A fuel-injected small-block V-8 resided under the long, sloping hood.


A Corvette SS mule car was tested at Sebring by five-time Formula 1 world champion Juan Manuel Fangio and British ace Stirling Moss, running quick lap times in practice for the 12-hour race. Fitch and Piero Taruffi were to drive the Corvette SS in its maiden race, but suspension problems forced its retirement after only 23 laps. There was worse news in store: the Automobile Manufacturers Association announced its opposition to factory involvement in motor-sports. The Corvette SS project was shelved – although the



SS was resurrected long enough for Duntov to lap Daytona International Speedway at 155 mph during opening-day ceremonies in 1959.

Five lightweight Grand Sport Corvettes constructed in 1962-63 bore the unmistakable mark of Zora. Built behind closed doors when racing was officially discouraged at GM, the handful of featherweight Grand Sports kept the flame of performance alive for the Corvette faithful. Plans for a limited production run of Grand Sports were dashed when the program was canceled to comply with the AMA's racing ban. Duntov subsequently distributed the Grand Sports to independent racers. Roger Penske and Jim Hall teamed up to win the GT Prototype class at Sebring in 1964 in a

Continued on page 11



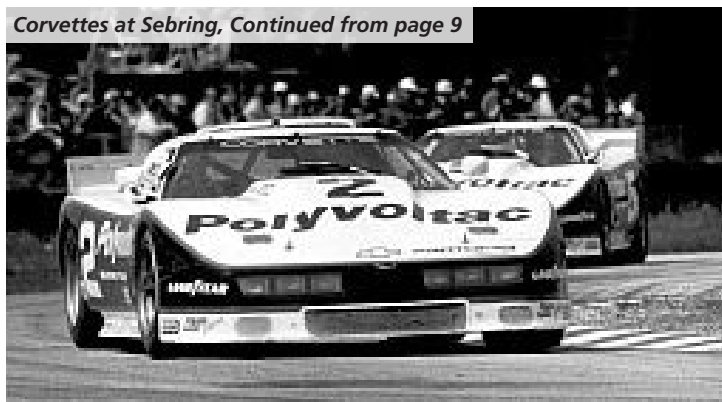
Bowling with Jackson Corvette Club

**Sunday, April 15, 2012
1:30 P.M.**

**Cost: \$15.00 per hour/per lane
(4 people per lane, shoes included)**

**Location: City Limits
801 N. Cedar St., Mason, MI**

***We will be staying after bowling
for a bite to eat!***



Grand Sport, with A.J. Foyt and John Cannon finishing second in Mecom Racing's Grand Sport. Two of the Grand Sports were eventually converted to roadsters, and today the five examples are among the most prized Corvettes on the planet.

Independent racers also recognized the potential of the Corvette's small-block powertrain. Chevrolet V-8s became the preferred power source for Lister-Corvettes, Scarabs, Cheetahs and other road racing specials. Jim Hall and Hap Sharp scored an overall victory in the 1965 Sebring 12-hour in a Chaparral equipped with a Chevy small-block V-8 and automatic transmission that traced their roots to Chevrolet R&D. It was the last Sebring overall win by an all-American entry – an American car driven by American drivers.

The arrival of the third-generation Corvette in 1968 sparked a racing revival in Sebring. Now armed with big-block Chevrolet V-8 engines, drivers like John Greenwood (teamed with entertainer Dick Smothers), Tony DeLorenzo, Jerry Thompson, David Heinz, and Bob Johnson put Corvette in the Sebring winner's circle. Corvettes won the GT class at Sebring in 1968, 1970, 1971, and 1972.

Corvette participation peaked in 1973 when 18 Corvettes started the Sebring 12-hour race. In the 1973 enduro, Ron Grable, John Greenwood, and Mike Brockman finished third overall, Corvette's highest finishing position until Oliver Gavin, Olivier Beretta, and Jan Magnussen duplicated the feat by finishing third overall in 2006 in a Corvette C6.R.



The 1980s saw the advent of the IMSA GTP era and a battle royal among manufacturers. Chevrolet's entry in the Camel GT wars was the Corvette GTP, based on a Lola chassis and powered by a turbocharged Chevy V-6 that pumped out more than 1,000 horsepower at full boost. The Corvette GTP proved to be fast but fragile at Sebring, recording a best finish of ninth in 1988 with drivers Sarel Van der Merwe and Elliott Forbes-Robinson in Hendrick Motorsports' entry.

Wally Dallenbach, Jr. and John Jones scored the only class win by a fourth-generation Corvette in the Sebring 12-hour in 1988, taking the GTO trophy in a Corvette built by Protofab. One of the principals of Protofab was Gary Pratt, who would later become the co-owner of Pratt & Miller Engineering, Chevrolet's technical partner in the Corvette Racing program.



Corvette Racing notched the first of its seven Sebring class victories in 2002 with a Corvette C5-R driven by Ron Fellows, Johnny O'Connell and Oliver Gavin. With wins the previous year in the Daytona and Le Mans 24-hour races, the Chevrolet team added the third jewel in endurance racing's Triple Crown at Sebring. O'Connell became the most prolific racer in Sebring history when he tallied his eighth career class win (and fifth with Corvette Racing) at Sebring in 2009. O'Connell also will be inducted into the Sebring Hall of Fame on Friday.

Corvette Racing wrote another page in Corvette's racing history at Sebring on Saturday, March 17 with the latest evolution of the Corvette C6.R by finishing second and third in the GT class in the 60th Annual Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring.



National Corvette Museum News & Events

Submitted by Joe Thomas, NCM Ambassador

Clicking on a blue heading will take you to the Corvette Museums website for more information on that event!

NCM Bash Around the Corner

It's less than a month until registration closes for this year's NCM Bash (formerly C5/C6 Bash) - have you signed up? New this year includes demonstrations on striping and sculpting from Corvette Design, Track Rat team members Jim Mero and Jeff Mosher on setting records at the Nurburgring and the much anticipated unveiling of the 2013 Corvette - including the new 427 Convertible! Check out the complete agenda online.



Plan Your VIP Visit Today!

If you're thinking about a vacation to Bowling Green with a visit to the GM Corvette Assembly Plant, be sure to make the trip before Friday, September 14, 2012. The plant will be closing to the public for a \$131 million upgrade. We'll keep you posted on when it's back open, but meanwhile - now's the time to book your Xperience or VIP Tour!



VIP Tours are 3-5 hours and include both the Plant and Museum. They are more in-depth and include portions not available on regular tours. VIP Tours are \$250 for up to four people, and you can add on up to three more people for \$50 each (total of 7). Learn more about our VIP Tour program online.

Corvette Raffle Winner Drawn!

Congratulations to Mark Miller of Indianapolis, IN with winning ticket #083 in a recent drawing for a Build Your Own ZR1! 2nd prize went to Darren Vanderburg of Gallatin, TN with ticket #186, and 3rd prize went to Mike Moir of Newbury Park, CA with ticket #240. We sold 361 total tickets.



On Thursday, March 29, we raffle off a 2012 Centennial Edition Grand Sport Coupe! You can't order these cars anymore, and they are definitely a collectible! The car features a 6-speed manual transmission, ebony leather interior, 3LT package with navigation, NPP dual mode performance exhaust, Magnetic Selective Ride Control and more! Tickets are \$200 each, and the raffle is limited to 1,000 tickets.

Learn more about our raffles, including exclusions and restrictions and purchase tickets online at www.corvette-museum.org/raffle or call 800-538-3883 during normal business hours.

Seeking 3rd and 6th Gen. Patriotic Corvettes

This summer and fall we welcome a special display, September 11, 2001: A Global Moment to our Exhibit Hall. To further illustrate Corvette's patriotic ties, we've reserved the four coveted spots on our Skydome pedestals from May through October for Corvettes with not only patriotic paint schemes - but especially those with September 11 tributes.



Congratulations to Joseph Sykes of Vineland, NJ and Daniel Van Lannen of Green Bay, WI for filling our C4 and C5 spots! We still have two spots left and are seeking a C3 and C6. If you have a Corvette that fits this theme, please email pictures and details to katie@corvettemuseum.org.

Volunteers Help the Museum



A huge thank you goes out to all of our wonderful volunteers! Without you, we would not be able to accomplish nearly as many projects or host the hundreds of guests during our events. In 2011, we were

blessed to have 390 volunteers who logged more than 6,637 hours!

Most recently, Nashville Corvette Club caravanned up with

20 members and spent their Saturday afternoon cataloging, preparing member and show packets and assisting with several facility needs. Thanks to all of you for your help!

Our next two volunteer groups will be joining us on March 31 – Western Kentucky Corvette Club and a dedicated group of NCM Lifers from the Atlanta, Georgia area. If your club is interested in planning a club visit weekend or work weekend, please contact [Stephanie Morrill](mailto:Stephanie.Morrill@corvettemuseum.org) by email or at 270-467-8837.

NCM Xperience

If you own a Corvette, why not welcome spring, with a good cleaning, special display of your ride inside the Museum, and tours of the plant and Museum? Our NCM Xperience is \$350, offering not only VIP tours, but also an exterior cleaning of your Corvette and display of your car on Corvette Boulevard, viewable via our webcams. Learn more, by going online to www.corvettemuseum.org.

2012 National Corvette Museum Schedule

Clicking on a blue heading will take you to the Corvette Museums website for more information on that event!

[Long Beach Benefit](#)

April 12

[VIR HPDE](#)

June 25 - 26

[R8C Reunion](#)

October 4 - 6

[NCM Bash](#)

April 26 - 28

[Performance Tour III](#)

July 20 - 21

[1-Lap of Kentucky – Artisans & Musicians](#)

October 16 – 20*

[Corvette Racing Banquet](#)

May 11, 2012

[Anniversary Celebration & Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony](#)

August 30 – September 1

[American Warrior Recognition](#)

October 31

[C4/ZR-1 Gathering](#)

May 17 - 19

[NCM Benefit at HOD Thunderhill](#)

September 5 - 6

[Vets 'n Vettes](#)

November 1 – 3

[Barn Raising II – Vette Barn](#)

May 24 – 26

[Historic Motorama Reunion](#)

September 26 – 29*

[Z06 Fest](#)

May 30

[NCM Benefit at HOD Autobahn](#)

October 1*

[ZspeedFest](#)

May 31 – June 2

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news by subscribing to
[E-NEWS](#)*



LUNCH

Inspired by the letter...



Hosted By
Angela Hyde



April 21st • 12:00 p.m.

Spartan Hall of Fame Café • 1601 W. Lake Lansing Rd, East Lansing

RSVP: vettechic@hotmail.com

Sign Up Sheets at the March 7th Meeting

Corvette Wins Strategic Vision Total Value Award

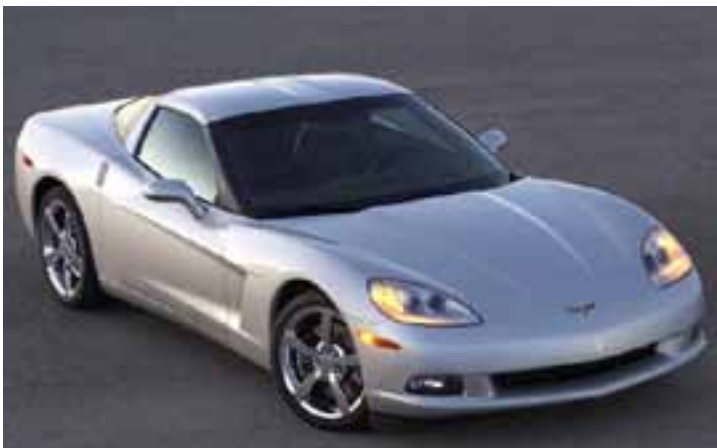
By: STEVE BURNS, www.corvetteblogger.com • Source: Strategic Vision



The Corvette team will need to make a little more room on the mantle for yet another award. Strategic Vision announced last week their list of winners for their 2011 Total Value Awards. The C6 Corvette Coupe took home top honors in the Premium Coupe segment beating out another CorvetteBlogger favorite, the Cadillac CTS Coupe.

The Strategic Value award takes into account explicit owner statements on 442 vehicle attributes. It also looks at factors such as warranty, technical innovation, standard equipment, fuel economy, and others. Each category is given a weighted value.

According to Chris Chaney, Strategic Vision's Vice President and head of Automotive Research, "Our study is the most comprehensive in the industry. In addition to vehicle perceptions, we know what political party the owner claims, their personal media habits and hobbies, as well as what ethnicity they claim—all self-reported and not using any multifarious appended algorithms or systems."



Chris Chaney adds to the Total Value results, "An important 'time marker' in this year's study is that for the first time in over ten years American manufacturers lead the number of Total Value winners with eleven segment leaders. This is an important milestone toward the 'domestic comeback.'"



The Corvette Coupe was top dog in the the Premium Coupe category. Reviewers cited Innovation and Fuel Economy as key factors with the Corvette as well as GM's other top performers the Chevy Volt, Cadillac CTS, and GMC Yukon.

When the dust settled the C6 accumulated a total of 812 points besting the CTS by 2 points. The BMW 1 Series Coupe came home 3rd with 793 points. The average score in the Premium Coupe category was 785.



Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival Grand Parade Saturday, April 28th

**Will meet at 8:30am at the Quality Dairy on W. Saginaw
(by the Art Van). Leaving by 8:45 to arrive by 9:30.**

**We will walk into town for breakfast and then
have time to see the crafts before heading back to our cars for the
parade which starts at 2:00 p.m.**

**After the parade we will travel to The Mexican Connexion
in Hastings for a bite to eat.**

**For more information or to RSVP contact
Carol Putmon (517) 331-4629 or Randy Putmon (517) 281-6421
or by email at rputmon@hotmail.com**

***Since the weather in Michigan can be so unpredictable in
early spring be prepared for anything.***



GM's V8 Production Down by a Half-Million in Past Five Years

by Bill Visnic, Senior Editor, Edmunds.com

Evidence there's at least a semi-sei: derway in the U.S. auto market: a at General Motors Co. told us the the company's engine-production data indicate GM built a half-million fewer V8 engines in 2011 than it did just five year earlier in 2006.

Last year, GM built approximately 1.15 million V8s in North America. That compares with the roughly 1.7 million V8s GM manufactured in 2006. The drop can be attributed to a number of factors, but it all adds up to one undeniable conclusion: our market is changing.

The number of fewer GM V8s is significant, but does have to be judged in the context of far total sales dropped off in the past five ye 2006, when GM made 1.7 million V8s, sligh: than 17 million new vehicles were sold. new-vehicle sales plunged to 10.6 million i "recovered" to slightly more than 13 million in 2011 – so GM's production decline of a half-million V8s came amidst an overall market decline about about 4 million units. In 2006, GM's market share was 23.9 percent, compared with 19.2 percent in 2011; you do the math on that one.

Beyond that, a portion of the dropoff in GM's V8 production can be attributed to the broad decline in fullsize pickup and SUV sales brought on by the recession that started in late 2008. But since the recession, another significant trend has been underway: engine downsizing. It's happening everywhere and isn't likely to stop unless a crude-oil volcano arises from the

Badlands to bring gasoline prices back to \$2 a gallon. Ford's major engine-downsizing initiative – mass fitment of EcoBoost engines – is kicking into high gear; the company said earlier this year it aims to triple

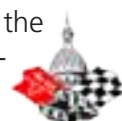


production of EcoBoost 4-cylinders and V6s, offering EcoBoost engines in 11 models in 2012 compared with seven models last year.

The German luxury-sport brands no longer are shy about hawking 4-cylinder engines in this market – BMW's new turbocharged 2-liter already is a staff favorite – and nearly every automaker is working the downsizing equation in some fashion. Heck, the world's largest purveyor of V12s, Bentley, even is bending to the times and axing cylinders with the addition of V8-powered Continental GT and GTC convertibles – even if its new 4-liter twin-turbo V8 does make 500 horsepower.

In fact, V8 installations for vehicles built in North America hit an all-time low in 2010, according to industry data source extraordinaire Wardsauto.com. Just 20.8 percent of vehicles built in North America in 2010 were fitted with V8s, Ward's said, although the ratio did rise to 22.5 percent for the '11 model year. In 2001, 26.5 percent of vehicles built in North America were fitted with V8s.

Does that mean the Corvette C7 might bow to the times and offer a turbo V6, or will its limited production mean V8 power will live on in 2014?



Marshall Memorial Day Parade



Caravan to Marshall – May 28:

We will leave from the former Coyote Creek Grille, 6951 Lansing Road, at 8:00 a.m. SHARP! Arriving in Marshall we will make a 10-15 minute stop at Burger King for snacks and a bathroom break. Parade line-up begins at 9:00 with the parade at 10:00.

Lunch at Cornwell's Turkeyville USA:

Following the parade we will meet back in the K-Mart parking lot and then cruise over to Cornwell's Turkeyville USA for lunch and a visit to the Memorial Day Flea Market and Antique Show. Visit Cornwell's Website at www.turkeyville.com for more info.

Questions???

Call Simon and Gloria at 646.2180. A signup sheet will be available at the May club meeting. Watch the club Website for any updates.



Capital City Corvette Club

March 7, 2012 Membership Meeting Minutes

Social Time & Dining around 5:30 P.M.

President: Craig Iansiti – absent. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by **Vice President Simon Reiffer**. Simon went over the mail and introduced many new visitors. There was one new membership application from a gentleman in Ohio (ed. note: This application was sent to this club in error). Mid-America sent information on sales and the upcoming Funfest and other car show information. Information sheets were on the table available for members.

Board of Director Reports:

Governor/VP: Simon Reiffer noted that the NCCC convention for 2012 will be held in Topeka, Kansas, June 23-29.

Secretary: Janet Iansiti was absent. Minutes for this meeting were taken by **Colleen Bratschi**. Colleen asked for approval of the February 2012 Membership Meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer: Mike Britz reviewed account balances and said that all bills were paid to date.

A motion was made to change the way scholarships to the Career Center would be made for the 2012 school year. Mike asked to table the motion so the board could discuss it at their next meeting.

Points Director: Kim Keith stated that points were up to date as of March 5th and asked that anyone hosting an event email the attendees list to him as soon as possible after the event.

Membership Director: Dave Pursel was absent but had sent new membership cards to be distributed to new members who had not yet received them.

Editorial Director: Scott Bauries had nothing new to report. He asked that anyone with an article or item for the newsletter please have it to him by March 20th.

Competition Director: Rich Bratschi had no new information to report on competition. All events are posted on the website.

Rich gave highlights from the regional meeting. The region reports all monies accounted for and all proposed items were passed at the governors meeting in November.

April 14th will be the regional banquet in Battle Creek. Our club needs to send a \$30 gift certificate for a door prize.

Steve Massey from the Jackson club was present at the regional meeting and asked for support in a walk/run to fight breast cancer. The event will be held in Lansing on April 29th.

The region is still looking for a club to host the 2013 banquet. It was discussed that our club might consider hosting.

Information on proper forms for membership applications and event flyers was reviewed. Each club needs to make sure their event flyers have a time zone listed on them as NCCC members are from different states with different time zones and get confused on the proper time of the event. Our club is in the Eastern Time Zone.

A rookie driving school will be held on May 19th in Marshall at the Eaton Corporation. There is a flyer on the regional website for this event.

Public Relations Director: Randy Buck had nothing to report.

Social Director: Sandy Bechtel read the upcoming events that were listed on the agenda for the months of May through September. It was noted that members should check the website for proper dates and times of events. March birthdays were celebrated.

Appointed Officer Reports:

Hearts and Flowers: Julie Lasher sent a card to the Britz's to congratulate them on the birth of their new granddaughter.

Historian: Sue Keith had nothing to report.

NCM Ambassador: Joe Thomas was not present.

Photographer: Ted Lasher reported he had one 2012 club calendar left. Milton purchased the calendar.

Quartermaster: Randy Putmon had nothing to report.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Robert Ribar had nothing to report.

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer had nothing to report.

Member Input: Dave Cripe noted this is the last year Bloomington Gold will be held in St. Charles, Illinois. The new spot for 2013 will be Champaign, Illinois.

Members were reminded that both Hospice car shows this year will be held on Sundays. Both will be at the Bud Kouts dealership.

Simon reminded everyone we are still looking for members to chair events, especially the Horsepower at the Zoo show.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Scott Bauries. Scott donated his winnings to the John Bechtel Scholarship Fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by **Janet Iansiti, Secretary**



Capital City Corvette Club



Participation Points as of March 8, 2012

0	Jim Balla*	0	Randy Gisse	0	Shalimar Maynard	2	David Sowders
10	Sandy Bechtel	0	Vidal Gonzalez	0	Diana Mosher	0	Fran Sowders
5	James Boettcher	3	Ward Harris	0	Barb Musselman	0	Loretta Spinrad
5	Mara Boettcher	2	Howard Hein	0	Steve Musselman	0	Steve Spinrad
2	Colleen Bratschi	0	Jim Hoppin**	0	Dominique Palacios	1	Alex Spitzley
7	Rich Bratschi	9	Angela Hyde	0	Jerry Palacios	1	Joan Spitzley
4	Connie Britz	8	Craig Iansiti	10	Diana Parks	0	Janet Sprague
10	Mike Britz	8	Janet Iansiti	10	Howard Parks	0	Michael Sprague
7	NancyLee Buck	0	Dick Iding**	0	Joe Platte	0	Ralph Swan
12	Randy Buck	1	Greg Kapp	3	Ed Politza	0	Susan Swan
2	Chris Burke	9	Kim Keith	3	Suzanne Politza	3	Connie Taylor
3	Terry Burke	7	Sue Keith	6	David Pursel	3	Tom Taylor
2	Dennis Burt	0	Fred Koos	0	Kathryn Pursel	3	Joseph Thomas*
2	Sandy Burt	1	Sheila Lansing	5	Carol Putmon	7	Harold Twining
0	Dana Conley	7	Julie Lasher	7	Randy Putmon	6	Katherine Twining
0	Darrell Conley	7	Ted Lasher	12	Gloria Reiffer	2	Sue VanAtta-Wight
3	Dave Cripe*	0	Ellie Lickfeldt	12	Simon Reiffer	0	Lee Webster
1	Pat Cripe	0	Patrick Lickfeldt	9	Robert Ribar	0	Robert Wheeler
0	Darwin Day	1	Carlo Litrenta	6	Milton Scales	3	Larry Wight
1	Art Doty*	1	Janet Litrenta	0	Brenda Shatkosky*	0	Gary Wyma
1	Nancy Doty*	0	Lee MacGillivray**	0	Richard Shatkosky*	1	Kathy Wyma
0	Jennifer Everhart*	1	Bob Maynard	2	Thomas Sipka		

Current 2012 Top Ten

12	Randy Buck	10	Sandy Bechtel	10	Howard Parks	9	Robert Ribar
12	Gloria Reiffer	10	Mike Britz	9	Angela Hyde		
12	Simon Reiffer	10	Diana Parks	9	Kim Keith		



* NCCC affiliation is with another Michigan Region club.

** Honorary member of CCCC.

Capital City Corvette Club

March 21, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Governor/VP: Simon Reiffer called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and wished a happy spring to all.

Club mail was addressed. An invoice for insurance due was received from the David Chapman Agency.

Board of Director Reports:

President: Craig Iansiti – absent.

Secretary: Janet Iansiti – absent. February board minutes did not need approval as no official minutes were taken due to lack of board members in attendance. Minutes for this meeting were taken by Colleen Bratschi.

Treasurer: Mike Britz noted that a copy of the current budget had been emailed to all board members before the meeting. Mike stated that all bills were paid and that the insurance bill is due May 7th.

Governor/VP: Simon Reiffer reminded everyone that the regional banquet is coming up April 14th and anyone planning to attend should notify the Battle Creek Club.

Simon said rooms are still available for the National Convention being held June 23-29 in Topeka, Kansas.

Points Director: Kim Keith reported points are up to date as of the club breakfast on March 17th.

Kim asked about the proposal he submitted for having board minutes approved in advance of the membership meeting. It was noted that the board members present at the February board meeting agreed to just make sure that the board minutes were listed as "draft" until approved at the following monthly meeting.

Membership Director: Dave Pursel reported no change in membership – 88 members and 60 FCOAs. He noted that the application we received in the mail at the membership meeting of March 7th was in error. The person thought they were joining a club in Ohio. He thanked Simon and Gloria for being on top of that situation.

Editorial Director: Scott Bauries had nothing to report.

Competition Director: Rich Bratschi was absent but Colleen Bratschi reported the deposit check and insurance papers have been sent to Spartan Speedway for our two day event to be held July 28th and 29th. The event flyer has been prepared and sent to the Jackson Club for approval. It will later be sent to the region. Due to track price increases, racers will see an increase in event fees and there will be no Saturday night dinner as in the past two years. Instead, lunch will be furnished to all racers that sign up for four or more events each race day. Lunch for all others will be available at cost (price unknown at this time). For those interested, arrangements have been made to allow racers to stay at the track overnight as in the past couple of years.

Public Relations Director: Randy Buck had nothing new to report. It was noted that we had received money for advertising from a company in Ohio. Randy said he would check to be sure this company had not made the same mistake as the Ohio person applying for membership to our club by mistake.

Social Director: Sandy Bechtel reported the next upcoming events were:

March 24 – GM Heritage Trip

March 31 – Meet for lunch at Max & Erma's with Angela Hyde

April 14 – Meet for breakfast at Spuds on Waverly Road with Randy Buck

April 15 – Bowling with the Jackson Club at City Limits in Mason

April 21 – Meet for lunch at Spartan Hall of Fame Café on Lake Lansing Road with Angela Hyde

April 28 – Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival parade

Sandy announced that the Jackson Club has 25 bowlers signed up. CCCC needs bowlers, so see Sandy for sign up.

Appointed Position Reports:

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer – absent.

Hearts and Flowers: Julie Lasher - absent.

Historian: Sue Keith noted that work on the display case at Bud Kouts is still on hold. Craig Iansiti will meet with them to check on the progress when he returns.

NCM Ambassador: Joe Thomas – absent.

Photographer: Ted Lasher – absent.

Quartermaster: Randy Putmon – absent.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Robert Ribar – absent.

Member Input: it was brought to the club's attention that Kurt Schwamberger is ill again and at U of M Hospital. Everyone should keep him in their prayers and maybe send him a card.

At the general membership meeting in March there was a request to change the way the scholarship money was sent to the Capital Area Career Center. For 2012, the board voted to leave things as before: \$500 in honor of Collin Nethaway and \$250 for the scholarship in honor of John Bechtel. There was a concern that the way these funds were paid out, the student would not know they were coming from C.C.C.C. Mike Britz and Sandy Bechtel both confirmed that the plaque given to the students has our club listed as the donor.

The board made a change to the July 4th general membership meeting. The meeting will be held on July 11th instead, due to the holiday. The board meeting for that month will remain on July 18th.

It was suggested that maybe the board meeting for November 2012 might need to be changed at as it falls the day before Thanksgiving.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by **Janet Iansiti, Secretary**

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