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Newsletter Editor

**Sally Wardell**  
Points Director

**Dave Averill**  
Public Relations Director

**Colleen Bratschi**  
Secretary

**Chris Wiczorek**  
Social Director

**Mike Britz**  
Treasurer

# The Connection

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club*

**Activities For September**

**General Membership Meeting**

September 2<sup>nd</sup> • Social/Dinner - 5:45 pm • Meeting - 7:00 pm • Delhi Café  
• 4625 Willoughby Road • Holt

**Drive & Dine**

September 12<sup>th</sup> • Owosso Country Club • 2:30 PM leaving from Clark Corners (1161 E. Clark Road DeWitt) and driving to Owosso Country for dinner at 4:00 PM  
• see flyer for details

**Board Meeting**

September 16<sup>th</sup> • Dinner - 5:30 pm • Meeting - 6:30 pm • Delhi Café  
• 4625 Willoughby Road • Holt

**September Birthdays**

Taylor	Thomas	September 1	Hein	Sheila	September 18
Cripe	Dave	September 8	Day	Dar	September 21
Keith	Kim	September 9	Wiczorek	Christine	September 22
Wardell	Jerry	September 11	Gunthorpe	Janet	September 26
Simmons	Jim	September 13	Hyde	Angela	September 26
Palacio	Jerry	September 16	Litrenta	Carlo	September 27
Averill	Ursula	September 18	Iding	Dick	September 30

Contact Chris Wiczorek if you would like to organize a social event

*Drive Safely*



Please submit newsletter articles to 4c . editor@ cccorvette.org by the 24th of each month.

**Volume XLV • Number 9 • September 2015**

*Chevrolet Trademark(s) used with the written permission of General Motors.*

# *Drive & Dine*

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***Saturday, September 12, 2015  
2:30 PM (dinner at 4:00)***

*Join us for Drive & Dine to the Owosso Country Club.  
Hosted by Howard & Sheila Hein*

Leaving Clark Corners (1161 E. Clark Road at the DeWitt US-27/I-69 interchange) at 2:30 for a pleasant drive to the Owosso Country Club for dinner at 4:00.

The menu prices range from \$6.50 for a sandwich to \$19.00 for a steak and shrimp combo dinner. View the full menu at [www.owossocountryclub.com/menus.html](http://www.owossocountryclub.com/menus.html). (Try the fried Oreos ala mode for dessert!)



*Sign up at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, RSVP to Howard at (817)991-8673,  
or contact Howard and Sheila via email at [hrrhinhome @ aol . com](mailto:hrrhinhome@aol.com).*

## From Our President

---

Travel – I love it! But, you already know that.

Usually, I sneak away for about two weeks in February to someplace warm that includes a cruise ship, palm trees, beaches, and sunshine. Sailboats – yes. Snowmobiles – that’s a big fat no.

This year, I went a little nuts. I was gone eight weeks during the first six months. For five of those weeks, I pretty much crisscrossed the Caribbean: Puerto Rico (one of my favorites-twice), St. Thomas (three times), Bahamas (twice), Grand Cayman, Honduras, Cozumel (have to get that sailing in), and many other islands. They were all beautiful and fun to visit. It doesn’t really matter much to me which country or island I travel to. I just want the warm weather, palm trees, beaches, and sunshine.

The last three weeks of vacation I went to the British Isles and Europe. It wasn’t quite as warm, but we had sunshine and beaches. And, yes, palm trees – in Ireland. I’m not kidding! We saw a lot of them as we toured the Ring of Kerry and other regions. They weren’t royal palms like we’re used to seeing in Florida, California, and the Caribbean. They were the shorter, less fancy ones. Mostly, they were planted in residential areas. It was quite a surprise. We also saw dolphins, seals, and a whale or two. It’s all possible because the jet stream keeps the British Isles warm, despite their global location. The tour guide said Ireland rarely gets snow. They have a 12-month growing season. I guess that explains why it’s called the Emerald Isle.

In mid-August, many of us in the club traveled to Mackinaw City for Corvette Crossroads. The drive up is always enjoyable. I believe Michigan stacks up quite nicely against the other places in the world I’ve been to. Its beauty always takes my breath away. We don’t have oceans – we have four of the Great Lakes. Better – no salt, no sharks. Beaches – ours are beautiful. Plus – no salt, no sharks. Sunshine. Yes, we have it. More than the British Isles; but, the Caribbean trumps all of us on that and palm trees. That’s okay. Michigan’s forests are glorious. Our fall colors are dazzling. Corvettes – we win! Plus, we drive them on the right side of the road. When I need to see a palm tree or kiss the Blarney Stone, I’ll hop on a jet and take off for a couple weeks. Until then, I’ll enjoy “Michigan, my Michigan”.

Hope your summer has been fun and safe. Let’s all remember to save the wave.

*Sandy Bechtel*

## News for Members

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### *Editor’s Notes:*

Corvettes at Carlisle 2015, what an event. Over 5000 corvettes and if you needed new or used parts for an older vette there were vendors here!

Check out online an aerial photo of a US flag formed from corvettes on the Carlisle fairgrounds. And at the end of the day Saturday was a parade from the fairgrounds to downtown Carlisle. Local folks all along the way waving and hollering to “rev your engine”. It was a blast!

An event well worth attending.

Drive safely. *Editor*

### *Our CCCC Sponsor:*

Bud Kouts Chevrolet is the official sponsor of Capital City Corvette Club and is one of the area's finest Chevrolet dealers.



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## Back to the Bricks 2015

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The street really is paved with bricks! Flint, MI was named Vehicle City because in the past the largest number of road carts and carriages in the nation were manufactured there. As modes of transportation progressed, the city became known for automobile production and the annual Back to the Bricks event is a salute to this heritage.



This year's event was held August 11-15. The first few days of the schedule included an open house at the GM Flint Assembly Plant, a free drive-in movie, a concert and three evenings of a rolling cruise through downtown.

The classic car show and Corvette Reunion were held on Saturday along Saginaw Street and the surrounding cross streets. Incredibly, the staging area for show cars opens at 2:00AM and the entrance opens at 6:00AM! (There was ample parking, so the benefit of an early arrival escapes me.)

The opening ceremony began at 10:00AM with a color guard, the national anthem and a thrilling flyover by four vintage airplanes. This was followed by the unveiling of the seventh Auto Pioneer statue which honored Albert Champion. He contributed to automotive history with Champion brand spark plugs and his initials are used in the AC Delco brand as well. Other pioneers that have been commemorated with bronze statues in prior years are Otto P. Graff, Charles W. Nash, Walter P. Chrysler, Billy Durant, David Buick and Louis Chevrolet.

The first Corvettes were assembled in Flint in 1953 and the Corvettes that gathered there 62 years later were an amazing tribute to the numerous generations of these cars. Some old, some new, some with nearly every after-market trinket imaginable accompanied by a booming stereo system and LED lights. The Flint River separates the Corvette Reunion area of Saginaw Street from the classic and custom car show which goes on for blocks. Back to the Bricks and the Corvette Reunion are two car shows that pay tribute to Flint's automotive roots and the participant's dedication and admiration of their automobiles.



*Submitted by Sue Keith*

## Planning Ahead...

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### *Election of Officers:*

It's that time of year where we begin planning for the fall election of our 2015 club officers. The Capital City Corvette Club By-Laws (2012) state, Article IV, Section A1, Officers - Must be Members in good standing and hold their NCCC number with CCCC. Article IV, Section B, 2a, requires that the President must have held a prior elected office in the Club and Article VIII, Section A requires that club officers have their CCCC membership dues renewed for the coming year.

Those eligible to hold the position of president in 2015 include:

Dave Averill	Howard Hein	Bob Maynard	Loretta Spinrad
Scott Bauries	Angela Hyde	Howard Parks	Mike Sprague
Sandy Bechtel	Craig Iansiti	Joe Platte	Katherine
Rich Bratschi	Janet Iansiti	Ed Politza	Twining
Colleen Bratschi	Kim Keith	Suzanne Politza	Jerry Wardell
Mike Britz	David Kuempel	Dave Pursel	Sally Wardell
Connie Britz	Diana Kuempel	Carol Putmon	Chris Wieczorek
Randy Buck	Janet Litrenta	Simon Reiffer	
Terry Burke	Shalimar	Gloria Reiffer	
Pat Cripe	Maynard	Steve Spinrad	

### *Membership Renewals:*

NCCC/CCCC dues are renewed each fall for the upcoming year. Renew your membership prior to the end of the November general membership meeting to avoid a \$10 late fee, imposed by NCCC.

Spouse/Companion membership is restricted to husband, wife, or significant other of the Primary member. Dependent membership is defined as the child of any Primary or Spouse member who is between the ages of 16 and 21, or between the ages of 16 and 25 and also a full time student. See the NCCC Website for additional clarification on dependent members.

## **Corvettes at Carlisle 2015**

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**September 2015**

# Corvette Crossroads!!!

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An article by Angela Hyde "Vettechic"

If you have never made it a point to make it to Corvette Crossroads in Mackinaw, it's a must do at least once. Whether you make it a three day or a four day weekend or a week long adventure it's a lot of fun!! It's not just a car show! It's a mini vacation with long time friends every year. Each one of us has it all planned out how we think/plan/want the weekend to go and every minute of every day spent there can/will change at a moments notice, especially when you end up going with such a large group as we do every year. Some things are planned ahead of time and some things are spare the moment. Some of us meet other long time friends there. Some of us meet family there every year and some run into people we haven't seen in years. So in the moment while we are all there making new memories with each other, you never know who you may run into and end up reminiscing with about old memories. Not to mention, there's always the chance of running into previous members of our club. Plans one makes for the weekend are bound to change with a moments notice. So one has to learn to relax and go with the flow of the weekend. Speaking of plans, there is so much to see and do for the weekend while in Mackinaw, it's impossible to fit everything in you plan to do. You can't forget about all the eating that is done while there, including the ice cream!!

My personal favorite of the whole weekend next to all the shopping some of us do together during the day there is the bonding time we spend together at the bonfire at the hotel every night out by the lake water with a wonderful view of the Mackinaw Bridge lit up at night. You never know the conversations your gonna have at the bonfire and with who. This year some of us had the opportunity one night at the bonfire to meet and chat with a young newlywed couple on their honeymoon passing thru town. They were staying at our hotel and sitting out on the beach enjoying the weather and each other when we decided it was time to start the bonfire and next thing you know the newlyweds are joining us for the bonfire and we all had such a great time together. It just goes to show in Mackinaw or anywhere else, you never know who you may run into and make such an impression on that you just may have planted a seed for future club members some day!! I believe in first impressions when it comes to conducting ourselves as a club in public because you never know who's watching, interested or impressed by any one of us!!

Mackinaw is always a great time with great friends and great memories are made by each one of us every year!



# Activities coming up in 2015

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## MIS Track Tours

Tour the MIS track and facilities for \$10. April 23<sup>rd</sup>, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Sept 17<sup>th</sup> and Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 1:30 PM 1.5 hours. Call MIS at 517-592-6666 or 800-354-1010 for more information.

## Corvette Museum

Always open.

More information at <http://corvettemuseum.org/>

## Fun Fest

The 4 day event sponsored by Mid America Motor works and located at there Effingham, IL facility is scheduled for September 17th – 20th.

More information at <http://www.corvettefunfest.com/>

## Paragon Fall Open House

The 1 day activity is sponsored by Paragon Corvette Reproductions located at there facility 8040 South Jennings Rd. in Swartz Creek. It is scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup>. Food and music provided.

## Past Events Pictures 2015

### *Corvettes At Carlisle Parade*



*Back to the Bricks Corvette Reunion*

### *Corvettes America Car Show*



*Bloomington Gold Cruise*



## CAPITAL CITY CORVETTE CLUB

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 5,2015

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Social time & Dining 5:30-7:pm

PRESIDENT: Sandy Bechtel called meeting to order @ 7:01pm .

Sandy welcomed new members: Bob & Deanna Pyle, and Fred & Marlene Darin.

SECRETARY: Colleen Bratschi requested approval of Club Minutes from the July 2015 membership meeting. Craig Iansiti made motion and Dave Pursel seconded.

V/P GOVERNOR: Simon Reiffer reported that the Summer Regional meeting was held and 16 clubs were represented. Simon reported that the first round of nominations for Regional officers was held, and anyone in our club interested in being part of the Regional Board should see him for further information.

2015 Spring Regional Banquet will be hosted by the Flint car club sometime in March 2016. Simon made everyone aware that 2017 should be CCCC's turn to host, so we should begin to plan.

And finally Simon delivered to Mike Sprague a racing patch for the "200 Club" for the 2015 season. Congratulations Mike!!!!

TREASURER: Mike Britz reported that the Clubs bank accounts and budget was in order for the month of August. Mike also requested that CCCC send the clubs yearly donation to the Greater Lansing Food Bank now instead of at the end of the year. Motion was made and approved, so \$1000.00 will be sent.

POINTS: Sally Wardell reported that she still had not received information from the Spartan event, but that all other points were up to date. Sally would like to remind all members that we now have to sign waivers at all events including membership meetings. Sally will have a waiver on the table as we enter the meeting so please make sure you take time to sign in each time.

MEMBERSHIP: ANGELA HYDE reported the club has 97 members, 2 honorary members, and 46 FCOA members.

EDITOR: Jerry Wardell had no report. Jerry reminded anyone with information for the newsletter to send to him by the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month.

COMPETITION: Mike Sprague reported that information on the Spartan event had not been completed. Mike did feel that we had made a profit.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Dave Averill was absent

SOCIAL DIRECTOR: Chris Wieczorek reported on Crossroads, and Bingo will be held on November 14, 2015 @ the Delta River Senior Village, so start picking up prizes they can be used to award their members.

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APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS:

HEARTS & FLOWERS: Angela Hyde reported all cards up to date. And she would like to say Thank you! for the club sending out a card to her for her injury.

HISTORIAN: Sue Keith will be preparing a list of members who may be nominated for CCCC's President position. It is in our By-Laws you must have served on the Board in order to hold that position. Nominations will begin at the September membership meeting.

NCM AMBASSADOR : Kim Keith encouraged all members to take a trip to NCCC museum when you can.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Bob Ribar had no report

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Bob Ribar had no report

QUARTERMASTER: Craig Iansiti reported that he has gone through the trailer and that the club could use a new spare tire, and that we should think about purchasing a couple new canopies as those that we have are very worn.

CHAPLAIN: Ward Harris had no report

WEBMASTER: Gloria Reiffer had no report

PAST PRESIDENT: Terry Burke was absent

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OLD BUSINESS: Reminders about Crossroads, and the September 12<sup>th</sup> drive and dine.

NEW BUSINESS: 2015 end of year donations list is being worked on, Bingo (November 14), 2015 Board Nominations – Colleen Bratschi will take nominations again this year.

MEMBER COMMENT: None

50/50: Winner was Scott Bauries

Adjournment: Motion was made by Simon Reiffer and seconded by Sue Keith to adjourn meeting @ 7:52. Motion was carried.

Prepared by your Secretary;

Colleen Bratschi☺

CAPITAL CITY CORVETTE CLUB

BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2015

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PRESIDENT: Sandy Bechtel called meeting to order @ 6:30pm

BOARD REPORTS:

SECRETARY: Colleen Bratschi reported that Board minutes from the July meeting had been approved by e-mail .

V/P GOVERNOR: Simon Reiffer reported that he will be attending the next governors meeting, and that the National Rule book is being looked at for revisions by 2017.

TREASURER: Mike Britz was absent

POINTS: Sally Wardell reported all points are up to date.

MEMBERSHIP: Angela Hyde reported the club has 97 members, 2 honorary, and 46 FCOA members.

EDITOR: Jerry Wardell had no report. Reminds all the 24<sup>th</sup> for newsletter items.

COMPETITION: Mike Sprague will be finishing up paperwork with Jackson so that a report can be made of the final profit of the Spartan event.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Dave Averill played a recorded radio ad for the Board members. After discussion the Board tabled this item until the September meeting.

SOCIAL DIRECTOR: Chris Wiczorek was absent

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APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS:

HEARTS & FLOWERS: Angela Hyde had no report

HISTORIAN: Sue Keith was absent

NCM AMBASSADOR: Kim Keith was absent

PHOTOGRAPHER: Bob Ribar was absent

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Bob Ribar was absent

QUARTERMASTER: Craig Iansiti was absent. Craig reported to Sandy Bechtel that there was old timing equipment in the trailer. It was moved by Simon Reiffer and seconded by Colleen Bratschi to sell this equipment. Motion carried.

CHAPLAIN: Ward Harris was absent

WEBMASTER: Gloria Reiffer was absent

PAST PRESIDENT: Terry Burke was absent

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OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: 2016 Board nominations will be taken by Colleen Bratschi at the September and October membership meetings. Sue Keith is preparing the list of members who may be voted on for the President position. These names will appear in the next newsletter for members.

Spartan Barricade donates the orange cones we use at the Spartan event each year. It was noted that some of these cones were damaged this year. When asked how much to pay the club was told nothing. So it was decided to purchase a fruit basket to express the clubs thanks. Sandy Bechtel will take care of that.

Rich Bratschi made the club aware that the cones we now have in the trailer are in bad condition. It was discussed that maybe we should purchase new and do this from Spartan Barricade. No decision was made.

Sandy Bechtel reported that due to their job commitments the Putmons will not be able to hold the annual Bonfire this year. Anyone interested in taking over this great event should contact Chris Wieczorek.

There is also a need for someone to host a Fall color tour. It was noted that there is a route already set up if someone wants to just run it.

Sponsorship was brought up and Sandy Bechtel will contact Tom Wieczorek so that he can attend the next Board meeting for further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: Simon Reiffer called for adjournment @ 7:45 it was seconded by Dave Averill. Motion carried

## Tech Tips and Mods

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### Ride height

Is the ride height of your C3 through C6 not meeting your expectations. Is it too low or too high and you'd like to change it? Well it can be done (in most cases) with the minimum of cost and effort.

History: The 1981 corvette saw the introduction of the fiberglass reinforced mono leaf transverse suspension spring. The change from the multi-leaf steel spring resulted in a weight savings of 48 lbs per spring. All corvettes from then on have the fiberglass spring design.

Here are the stock specs for ride height;

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Rear</u>	
C3 (81 & 82)	11.42"	16.52"	(measurements at front & rear impact bar points.)
C4	6.9"	6.9"	(measurement at front and rear of the rocker panels)
C5	5.98"	6.18"	(measurement at front and rear of the rocker panels +/- .25)
C6	Could not locate factory value.	Most likely the same as the C5.	

Note: There are several measurement points on the C5 & C6 for ride height, The above are the easiest to make a quick check. The general heights from the top of the wheel opening can be anywhere from 26" to 28". Keep in mind if you make changes, you will need a 4 wheel alignment.

Adjustment is fairly straight forward. (1) raise the car, (2) remove wheel and take the wheel assembly weight off the spring, i.e. use a jack stand (carefully) under the spring side to be adjusted and (3) with the appropriate ratchet and socket or open end wrench (10 mm front – 18mm rear on a C5) turn the adjustment bolt clockwise to raise height (4 Turns is about a 3/4" change). WD40 or similar will most likely be needed. It takes about a day for the adjustment to settle in. Front shown in picture. →



### Crate Motors

Looking for a crate motor? According to the September issue of Car & Driver the selection is extensive and can range from about \$2,500 to \$25,000 or the most expensive is \$39,000 for a Mopar V10 800hp 512ci competition motor. The best bang for the buck? A Chevy 350ci 290hp at the low end of the price range. Shipping is extra.

### GPS Radio

Want a GPS with Bluetooth stereo for your C5 or older Vette? Since the General introduced the 1.5 DIN\* radio back in the early 80's you'd think there would be a great array of choices. Well, sorta. A couple choices today are (1) a single DIN radio and bezel adapter with a motorized screen or (2) re-due your C5 radio bezel to accommodate a double DIN stereo (check online for a bezel modifier). There are some 1.5 DIN suppliers still out there, but GPS with Bluetooth does not appear available in this size.

Note: The stock radio is about 5.2" in depth. Keep in mind when selecting a head unit.

The mechanical part is not too difficult for DIYers, (1) remove the center bezel, (2) remove radio mounting screws and pull out the stereo, (3) disconnect harnesses and antenna. Reverse with new stereo. Oops, I didn't mention the wiring part for the new stereo. There are plug-in adapters for the factory harness, but the new stereo - get out your wiring diagram, wire strippers and soldering iron. Better yet - order the whole setup (stereo and all) from Crutchfield (or a similar supplier).

\* DIN stands for "Deutsches Institut für Normung", meaning "German institute for standardization" an industry adopted standard. Single DIN is 50mm x180mm and double is 100mm x 180mm face plate.

*Reprinted from September 2014 newsletter*



# Capital City Corvette Club

## Participation Points for Year 2015



As Of: Monday, August 31, 2015

Member 102

24 David Averill	Ursula Averill	1 Roy Bailey	Jim Balla
Dana Beaman	Kim Beaman	51 Sandy Bechtel	14 Mary Blackwood
17 Tim Blackwood	10 James Boettcher	7 Mara Boettcher	42 Colleen Bratschi
41 Rich Bratschi	15 Connie Britz	31 Mike Britz	NancyLee Buck
Randy Buck	10 Terry Burke	13 Dana Conley	12 Darrell Conley
11 Dave Cripe	8 Pat Cripe	2 Fred Darin	1 Darwin Day
1 Sheila Day	16 Art Doty	16 Nancy Doty	Janet Gunthorpe
Larry Gunthorpe	24 Jeanne Harris	34 Ward Harris	14 Howard Hein
8 Sheila Hein	Jim Hoppin	59 Angela Hyde	58 Craig Iansiti
41 Janet Iansiti	Dick Iding	6 Laura Kazmer	6 Wayne Kazmer
70 Kim Keith	73 Sue Keith	4 Fred Koos	12 David Kuempel
10 Diane Kuempel	4 Marty Latchaw	2 Sue Latchaw	6 Ellie Lickfeldt
6 Patrick Lickfeldt	13 Carlo Litrenta	22 Janet Litrenta	Lee MacGillvray
27 Bob Maynard	7 Shalimar Maynard	46 Chuck Miller	9 Diana Mosher
4 Barb Musselman	4 Steve Musselman	1 George Nelson	1 Lori Nelson
21 Dominique Palacio	21 Jerry Palacio	Diana Parks	3 Howard Parks
2 Joe Platte	Ed Politza	Suzanne Politza	25 David Pursel
14 Kathryn Pursel	1 Carol Putmon	Randy Putmon	8 Deanna Pyle
8 Robert Pyle	102 Gloria Reiffer	92 Simon Reiffer	52 Robert Ribar
16 Milton Scales	1 Mike Seagun	6 Brenda Shatkosky	6 Richard Shatkosky
12 Jim Simmons	Vicky Simmons	6 Barbara Ann Sipka	6 Thomas Sipka
1 Loretta Spinrad	1 Steve Spinrad	Janet Sprague	38 Michael Sprague
9 Ralph Swan	9 Susan Swan	17 Connie Taylor	17 Thomas Taylor
41 Harold Twining	41 Katherine Twining	11 Sue VanAtta-Wight	95 Jerry Wardell
92 Sally Wardell	77 Christine Wieczorek	52 Thomas Wieczorek	20 Larry Wight
4 Sam Zabawsky			

### Current Points Leaders

102 Gloria Reiffer	95 Jerry Wardell	92 Simon Reiffer	92 Sally Wardell
77 Christine Wieczorek	73 Sue Keith	70 Kim Keith	59 Angela Hyde
58 Craig Iansiti	52 Robert Ribar	52 Thomas Wieczorek	51 Sandy Bechtel



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