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### Free State Corvette Club Ocean City - Wet but Fun

Special from Alice S. Arielly

Several NVCCers braved the hurricane-like 60 mph winds and rain the weekend of October 16th to participate in FSCC's annual Ocean City weekend. After fording the river to get to the inlet parking lot, several members emerged victorious:

Don Ellenberger received an Honorable Mention in the Late C6 category with his 2006 in the Fun Show.

Jerry & Irene Lelansky won the Governor's Choice in the C4 category.

Alice Arielly & Jack Hufnagle came in SECOND in the Rallye! Paul & Laurie Benish and John Palmgren and Kara Bennis also rallied in the rain.

In addition, Rich Mars presented the Club's check to FSCC to help Spina Bifida. He also came in first in the Friday night party Corvette race! Overall, a good time was had by all!



## **The folks working hard for you ....**

### **NVCC Council Members**

#### **Officers**

**President** – Stewart Fox  
(703) 759-4853

[Stewart\\_fox@nps.gov](mailto:Stewart_fox@nps.gov)

**Treasurer** – Carol Fox  
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(703) 425-6118

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**Secretary** – Patty “ZR1” Williams  
(703) 440-8048

[pattysue60@aol.com](mailto:pattysue60@aol.com)

#### **Committee Chairpersons**

**Teen Driving School**-OPEN

**Concours** – John Palmgren &  
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**Spooktacular** – OPEN

**Chief Instructor** – Miriam Schottland  
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**NCM Ambassador** – Don Patrick  
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**Webmaster** – Laurie Kistner  
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Continuing with the theme for this spot in the newsletter of never knowing what will turn up next, this month we feature a “Jake”-o-lantern by Lori Benish to bring in the Halloween season (I can’t confirm or deny that Paul & Lorie are cleaning out their basement by passing out left over corvette parts as treats this year). Certainly should be good for scaring away them pesky German imports. Maybe next year Lori can host a Jake carving class for those of us less inspired pumpkin carvers.

## **Membership Corner**

**We currently have**  
**144 Active Members**  
**1 Honorary Member**  
**7 Prospective Members**  
**152 Total**

#### **Please welcome our prospective members:**

Michael Griffith	1999	Coupe	White
Frank Valdez	2010	Grand Sport	Cyber Gray
Theodore C. Johnson	2007	Coupe	Blue
Wilfredo Sauri	2001	Coupe	Magnetic Red
Dave Morris	2004	Coupe	Black
Tish Morris	2004	Coupe	Black
Michael Falletti	2000	Coupe	Dark Blue

#### **Please congratulate our newest members:**

Gary Martin	1959/1965	Convertible	black/silver
Chris Kerr	2001	Coupe	black
Richard Muhr	1990	ZR1	Red



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER October 2009



Fall is already here, the temperatures are falling and so are the leaves. Even so, there are still many more events to take part in over the upcoming weeks.

Last month I wrote about time spent in the rain at New Jersey Motorsports Park (NJPM). This month has brought more rain and once again, I found myself out in the midst of it. This time it was for a 2-hour team kart race on the triple skid pad at Summit Point. In case you weren't aware, they have named the skid pad the Washington circuit. Anyway, this event sounded great when I signed up, along with teammates Andrej Balanc and Cassidy Nolen. A two-hour team karting event under the lights. Teams of three drivers would race in machines provided by Summit Point Karting, around the course, with mandatory pit stops and driver changes along the way. When registration closed a week prior to the event, 17 teams had signed up. NVCC has done this type of event many times in the past at Allsport's warm and dry indoor track in Sterling, with Andrej & I having quite a bit of success. What we hadn't figured on was running in steady rain and 40 degree temperatures the whole time. To say it was challenging would be a gross understatement. To say it was the most abominable driving conditions I have ever encountered still doesn't do it justice. But we were there, the karts were running, and there were 16 other teams of crazies that wanted nothing more than to beat us to the finish line. What we experienced along the way was karts that hydroplaned along the straight, slipped and understeered in the corners, spun several times, bumped into tire walls, made and received contact with numerous other karts, transitioned from over-lit straights into under-lit corners, squinted though fogged up helmet visors, and got colder and wetter than I think I have ever been in my life. Lots of layers helped, except with the hands and feet, which turn out to be pretty essential elements needed for kart control. Fortunately we had the NVCC canopy and a large propane heater which turned out to be more popular than the karts themselves. When it was all over and we were given our time sheets, it brought a little feeling back into our fingers and toes as we were able to come in fifth overall. Not bad considering the conditions.

Of course, we weren't the only ones getting cold and wet because the same wind and clouds were dumping on the folks at the annual Corvettes at Ocean City. NVCC was represented at the event by several hearty club members once again and also made a donation to the Free State Corvettes' benefit charity Spina Bifita.

At the October Council meeting, we talked about the drop off of rally events as well as cancellation of this year's Spooktacular and what it will take to put together several well-attended events in 2010. To help guide the club in this regard, a survey will be sent out to solicit member's opinions and ideas. Please watch for the survey and provide us with your feedback. We will use this information to help with upcoming decisions and planning for next years rallies and track/driving events.

The last Wednesday of October, and the evening after this month's GBM, is the Vienna Halloween parade. This is the 65<sup>th</sup> year for this local tradition and once again, NVCC will be a proud participant. All club members are invited to participate. Check our website for details. Thank you Lori Benish for coordinating our parade participation.

If you weren't already aware, our annual Teen Driving School will be held Sunday November 8 in Fairfax. There is no better cause than to be able to bring safe driving techniques, methods, and philosophy to a new generation of drivers. We have many ways that you can help NVCC put on this event. If you have a son, daughter, niece, nephew, etc that is just beginning to drive, I strongly encourage you to have them enroll in this course. Check the club website for more details.

Don't forget that NVCC has many events listed on the calendar, from Concours being put on by other clubs, to Drag & Tune dates, Rallies, at least one more autocross, and numerous fall cruises. Be sure to check the club website for info on upcoming events. With NVCC, we're always looking for ways you can get out and enjoy your Corvette.

Check the brake fluid, change the oil, put a little air in the tires, rub on some wax, and hang on for another action packed season with your friends at NVCC. Come out and join the fun !

## NVCC Events Calendar November 2009 – Laurie Kistner, Social Director



**Sun. 11/1/09** - 3rd Annual Corvettes for Chip Show, to be held at Brandywine Picnic Park, 690 S. Creek Road West Chester, PA 19382. Rain date is 11/8/09. Visit [www.corvettesforchip.com](http://www.corvettesforchip.com) for registration information.

The Corvettes for Chip Corvette show was started in 2007 by a combined effort between the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware (CCND) and Keystone State Corvette Club (KSCC). In the show's first year we had 165 Corvettes attend and donated \$2500 to the show's beneficiary which is the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation. In the second year we had 235 Corvettes and donated over \$3,000 to the CMCF. This year County Corvette Association joined the effort. We are hoping to draw over 300 Corvettes.

Most Corvette enthusiasts knew Chip Miller as the creator of the annual Corvettes at Carlisle Corvette Show and one of the main driving forces behind the Corvette hobby. Chip Miller was taken from us in March of 2004 from a little known disease called Amyloidosis. The Chip Miller Charitable Foundation was formed to raise funds for the research, education, and awareness of amyloidosis and related diseases.

**Sun. 11/1/09** - Double autocross, hosted by the Corvette Club of America, at Lincoln Tech School, 9325 Snowden River Parkway, Columbia, MD 21046. Registration opens at 8:00am and closes at 12:00pm. Entry fee is \$20 per autocross. Visit [www.corvetteclubofamerica.org](http://www.corvetteclubofamerica.org) for more information and to register.

**Sun. 11/1/09** - NVMC Annual Show & Picnic, to be held at D&V Autobody, 23550 Overland Drive, Sterling, VA 20166, from 9am-3pm. This is open to NVCC members and the cost is free! Food and refreshments catered by Virginia BBQ, music and entertainment by JJ-DJ. Car show is a top 20 popular vote format; trophies will also be given for Best In Show, Best Paint, Best Interior, and Best Engine. Raffles, 50/50, special prizes and more. Let's celebrate a great 2009 car season! This event is free, but feel free to contribute a snack or dessert. Please PRE-Register to Ceece Coburn at [Enforcir@gmail.com](mailto:Enforcir@gmail.com) ASAP.

**Sat. 11/7/09** - Rock to Recovery Classic Car Show, sponsored by DECA. All proceeds benefit Music Corps, a rehabilitative program for wounded soldiers at Walter Reed hospital. Event registration form below:

Battlefield High School, 15000 Graduation Drive, Haymarket, VA 20169 Attn: Jen Smith

Cost: Cash or check (Payable to Battlefield High School)  
 \$10.00 Pre-Registration  
 \$15.00 Day of Show Registration  
 \$5.00 for Spectators per carload

**SCHEDULE**  
 8:00 am - Registration  
 10:00 am - Show Begins  
 2:00 pm - Awards

Food, music, and activities for all ages. Free dash plaques for the first 50 registered. Multiple awards will be presented.

**Registration Form:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle Make: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miles Driven: \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver:**

I, the above named, waive and release Battlefield High School staff, volunteers, sponsors, and anyone connected with the hosting of the Rock to Recovery Classic Car Show, for all unknown injuries, damages, losses, judgments, and/or claims connected with this event.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sun. 11/8/09** - Sir Isaac Newton's Totally Awesome Driving School, located at the Kena Shriners at 9001 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax VA 22031. The Teen Driving School is our most important event of the year! We need as many warm bodies as possible to help with this event, so please come if you can. The event is from 6:45 AM – 5:15 PM, but we'll need help setting up and breaking down. We also need people to help with registration, tech, picking up cones, etc. If you can help and/or have any questions, please contact Miriam Schottland at [miriamschottland@mac.com](mailto:miriamschottland@mac.com) ASAP.

**Sat. 11/14/09** – (tentative) Hills, Heroes, and Bridges rally/cruise, hosted by Richard Mars. Meeting point is the Urbana Park and Ride (I-270 exit #26, route 80). We will meet at 9 AM for a drivers' meeting and depart at 9:30 AM for a scenic tour of the covered bridges in the area. Bring your cameras for some great photo opportunities! Afterward we will stop at an inn for lunch. Please RSVP to [c5tech@verizon.net](mailto:c5tech@verizon.net) ASAP.

**Sun. 11/15/09** - Our Annual Sunday Brunch & Billiards Day with our friends, the Northern Virginia Mustang Club, at Fast Eddie's in Fairfax. Come on out and shoot a friendly game of pool, play a game of darts, and socialize with other car aficionados over some great food and drink. Bring your family and friends! Hang around to watch the football games on later if you want to as well.

We will start @ 11AM and let the fun and games continue till whenever. Pool and darts are free with minimum of \$8/person food purchase. I have gone ahead and made the arrangements, and reserved some pool tables for us. Please email me at [LilRedCorvette94@yahoo.com](mailto:LilRedCorvette94@yahoo.com) if you wish to attend. This is a RAIN or SHINE event. If the weather is less than Corvette-friendly, or your 'vette is put away for the winter, then please feel free to arrive in alternative transportation!

Directions: I-66 to Exit 60 (VA-123 S exit) toward Fairfax. Stay on VA-123 S for about a mile; turn left onto US Route 29 N (Lee Highway). After just over a mile and a half on Route 29 N, Fast Eddie's is on the right. Address is 9687 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22031.

**Sat. 11/21/09** - President's Holiday Dinner Cruise to the Cozy Inn in Thurmont, Maryland, just off of Route 15 at the base of the Catoctin Mountains. Known for its fine food and service, the Cozy Inn is the oldest established restaurant in the state of Maryland and is still operated by the founding family. Dining options include a choice of either buffet or ordering from the large menu.

We will meet at the west end of the Dulles Town Center parking lot near the Sears Auto Center. Drivers' meeting is at 3:15 pm with departure at 3:30 pm sharp. We will take Route 28 to Route 7, pick up Route 15, and continue past Frederick to Thurmont. Travel time is about 75 minutes. Dinner reservations are for 5 pm. If you plan to attend, please RSVP your number attending by 11/13/09 to [president@nvcorvetteclub.com](mailto:president@nvcorvetteclub.com) ASAP.

**Sun. 11/22/09** - Our 5th Annual Bonefish Grill Cruise-In. The manager at Bonefish Grill in Centreville would love to fill his parking lot with corvettes...again! He is willing to again put out free appetizers/finger foods and give us Corvette-only parking. All other food and beverage is on your own tab. Feel free to stick around for football, too. This would be a nice little social event for our club to reflect on the awesome Corvette season we had before the bad weather hits!

The fun and food begins at 12 PM and continues until whenever. For those interested, we will do a 'twisties' cruise afterward...kind of a 'last hurrah' for the Corvette season.

Please RSVP to me via email at [lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com](mailto:lilredcorvette94@yahoo.com). A sampling of menu items can be found at [www.bonefishgrill.com](http://www.bonefishgrill.com). Since Bonefish is being so kind as to put out free appetizers, I suggest that you also order some drinks and/or some other food so we can throw some \$/business their way!

Directions: From Route 66, take exit #53A to Route 28 South. Take right onto Machen Road. Take first left onto Multiplex Drive. Bonefish Grill will be on the left, next to the movie theatre. Address is 6315 Multiplex Drive, Centreville, VA 20121.

## Coming soon...

Sun. 12/20/09 - Benish Christmas Lights Rallye

The weather may be cooling off, but we still have many ways to enjoy the autumn season with your 'vettes! As always, please check out the website calendar at [www.nvcorvetteclub.com](http://www.nvcorvetteclub.com) for additions and updates to events. Also, if you would like host an event, please contact me at [social@nvcorvetteclub.com](mailto:social@nvcorvetteclub.com) at your earliest convenience. I am looking to get a start on filling the calendar for the 2010, so send me your events ASAP!

Thanks,  
Laurie Kistner  
NVCC Social Director & Webmaster

### More on Ocean City

By Sherie Essex

NVCC was again well represented on September 27, 2009 in Ocean City, New Jersey. Boardwalk Corvettes of Atlantic City sponsored the "Day at the Beach" Proceeds went to a local charity.

We went for a long weekend and were given the Penthouse at our Hotel!!! We've been staying there for years and have never been offered that, we will gladly take it again should they ask!!

The show on the Boardwalk didn't start very well, as we got up and it was pouring cats and dogs. We met at Ocean City's tiny airport and there were a lot more Vettes than I thought. The rain stopped!!! We were late getting up on the Boardwalk because of the rain, but it didn't matter.

Gary and I for years have been going up to this show, but without a Corvette. This year was a bit different because we actually had one! At 3:30 the awards were given out, and Gary's Red Vette won for the most patriotic, his very FIRST trophy. It is now displayed in the garage on a shelf that can hold a few more. That made the weekend complete! We hope to get some more members to go up with us next year!



### Vette Pet (or advanced biologic based security system)

By Laurie Kistner



This picture is of member Claire Firebaugh's "Vette Pet", Anya. Anya is a Schutzhund-trained German Shepherd who rides shotgun in Claire's Corvette to the weekly Burger King car cruise-ins. She enjoys the ice cream there, too!

(Editor's note: I bet Claire's vette doesn't get molested in the least!)



## **PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY DINNER CRUISE SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2009**

**CAROL & I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE CLUB MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ON THE 2009 PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY DINNER CRUISE TO THURMONT MARYLAND ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2009. OUR DESTINATION IS THE RENOWNED COZY INN, LOCATED JUST OFF ROUTE 15 AT THE BASE OF THE CATOCTIN MOUNTAINS.**

**THE COZY INN, LONG KNOWN FOR ITS FINE FOOD AND SERVICE, IS ALSO SAID TO BE THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED RESTAURANT IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND IS STILL OPERATED BY THE FOUNDING FAMILY.**

**DINING OPTIONS WILL INCLUDE A CHOICE OF EITHER BUFFET OR ORDERING FROM THE LARGE MENU.**

**THIS IS PLANNED AS A CARAVAN-TO-DINNER EVENT. WE WILL MEET AT THE WEST END OF DULLES TOWN CENTER PARKING LOT NEAR THE SEARS AUTO CENTER. DRIVERS MEETING WILL BE AT 3:15, WITH A 3:30 DEPARTURE TIME. WE WILL HEAD OUT ON ROUTE 28, TAKE ROUTE 7 WEST TO LEESBURG WHERE WE WILL PICK UP ROUTE 15 NORTH, THEN PROCEED PAST FREDERICK TO THURMONT. TRAVEL TIME SHOULD BE ABOUT 75 MINUTES. DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE FOR 5:00 PM.**

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND, PLEASE RSVP BY NOVEMBER 13 WITH THE NUMBER IN YOUR PARTY TO: [PRESIDENT@NVCORVETTECLUB.COM](mailto:PRESIDENT@NVCORVETTECLUB.COM)**



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## Columbus Day Parade

By Laurie Kistner



The Good Samaritan Council #6175 Knights of Columbus in Sterling, Virginia invited the Northern Virginia Corvette Club to participate in their 28th Annual Columbus Day Parade. Each year they host a hometown and patriotic parade on the Saturday before Columbus Day. The parade this year took place on Saturday, October 10, 2009.

The day began with threatening skies, but we only received a few sprinkles. Luckily that did not stop 8 committed NVCC Corvettes from being there. We met at Park View High School in Sterling and awaited our march order in what could best be described as a wind tunnel. After the parade, we had lunch at the ever-popular Cheeburger Cheeburger. (no, that's not a typo!) Thanks, Paul, for leading the charge there.

I'd like to thank the Benishes, Joe Caucci, Chris Kerr, the Leonhards, Cassidy Nolen, Bob Otten and Tom Shea for stepping up to the plate and representing the club so well. The crowd enjoyed our presence and I received a very nice email from the parade organizer. They would like us to participate again next year, so on the calendar it goes!

Laurie Kistner



National Corvette Museum (NCM)

### Ambassador Corner

By Donald Patrick

## OCTOBER 2009: CURRENT NEWS and ACTIVITIES

### From Corvetteblogger.com

Source: Inside Line

GM's VP of Global Design Ed Welburn told *Inside Line* that the design of the new C7 Corvette will go retro much like the new Camaro and a prominent design feature will be the return of the split rear window. The next generation Corvette is expected to be launched in 2012 as a 2013 model.



The original split window appeared on the 1963 Corvette Coupe, but Chief Engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov hated the feature due to its limited visibility and in 1964 it was removed. Welburn addresses the visibility issue by saying "With the back-up cameras and blind-spot detection systems that we have these days, the visibility issue is much less of a problem."



The Corvette Stingray Concept that appeared in the latest Transformers movie also has a split rear window. "That car is not the next Corvette." says Welburn, "But the split-window is something that I expect for the next Corvette."

Welburn was the driving force behind the new reborn Camaro and is a big fan of the Corvette Stingray concept design as evidenced in this previously released Stingray Concept Introduction video.

As stated earlier, Inside Line says the C7 Corvette will have the traditional front-engine, rear drive layout. We'd love to see the C7 go a bit retro as long as its performance capabilities remain high.

## **National Corvette Museum's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a Success**

Event attendance topped 24,000 over five days

Bowling Green, KY – Labor Day weekend 2009 saw one of the world's largest moving automotive events take place as Corvettes from all over the country participated in Caravan 09. As part of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Grand Reopening of the National Corvette Museum, over 4,500 Corvettes came from all over the United States, Canada, Netherlands, the UK and Australia, got together in major cities as they grew in numbers and then converged on Bowling Green Kentucky.



As the "Gateway to All Things Corvette" the National Corvette Museum held a ribbon cutting ceremony welcoming Corvette enthusiasts to the newly expanded 115,000 sq. ft. facility, and hosted a five-day event that included a special exhibit of rare Corvettes, seminars with Corvette designers, engineers and experts, GM Assembly Plant tours, road trips, drag racing, autocross and a surprise appearance by the Stingray Corvette concept car that played the role of "Sideswipe" in the Paramount film *Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen*. Attendance over the five-day event exceeded 24,000, as visitors toured the new facility including the exhibit hall, library and archives, Corvette café and interactive exhibits.

Three 2010 Corvettes and \$15,000 in cash were raffled off and several cash drawings were held for those who pre-registered for the event. The annual membership meeting was held yielding great ideas and feedback for the Museum team, a special reception recognizing Lifetime Members took place after hours at the Museum and four Corvette elite were inducted into the Corvette Hall of Fame at the annual dinner. News and developments of the planned NCM Motorsports Park were shared, and more details can be found on the new website at [www.motorsportspark.org](http://www.motorsportspark.org).

Museum Executive Director Wendell Strode commented afterward, "The tremendous success of this event says a lot about the love people have for – America's sports car, and for fellow car enthusiasts." The Museum welcomed 1,875 new members to the Corvette family during the event.

Fast Facts:

- 25 Broad Range Caravans, some made up of 2-3 smaller caravans, largest composed of over 900 Corvettes
- Over 4,500 Corvettes in attendance
- 5,290 people were registered for the event
- Overall event attendance topped 24,000
- 1,875 enthusiasts became new members of the Museum

## **2010 Corvette Grand Sport LS3 Dry Sump Lubrication System**



At the NCM Anniversary event, John Rydzewski, Assistant Chief Engineer for Small-Block Passenger Car Engines at GM takes an in-depth look at the 2010 Corvette Grand Sport's LS3 engine and dry sump lubrication system.

A little known fact is that the dry sump lubrication system only comes on the LS3 engines that go into the 2010 Grand Sport Corvette coupes equipped with a manual transmission. These engines are hand built and

signed at the Wixom plant just like the LS7 and LS9 engines.

These engines do not come on Grand Sports with Automatic transmissions, nor do they come with the Grand Sport convertibles.

## **First Callaway Corvette R8C Delivery**



NCM welcomed its first Callaway Corvette R8C Delivery on September 24. Steve and Nancy Bronner of Nebraska participated in the VIP delivery program having ordered their 2010 Grand Sport Convertible through Harchelroad Motors in Imperial, Nebraska. Callaway is the first specialty manufacturer to be able to deliver under RPO R8C and can enhance a customer's experience through their offerings of exciting vehicles. All NCM R8C Callaway Corvettes are built in Old Lyme, CT and can be built upon any LS3-based Corvette in their SC580 and SC606 platforms. They also offer a SC652 package based upon the Z06 Corvette.

## **New Corvette Plant Manager Arrives**

By Jenna Mink, AP Writer  
Manufacturing.Net - October 23, 2009



**BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (AP) --** For Bob Parcell, working for General Motors is more than a job -- it's a family tradition.

Parcell's father worked for the automaker for 30 years and his uncle for 10 years. Parcell started working for GM as a co-op student in 1979 and now has a dream job -- working with Corvettes. Parcell is the new plant manager of the General Motors Bowling Green Assembly Plant. He started the job this week, taking over for former manager Paul Graham, who was reassigned to a GM plant in Texas.

"I love cars. I enjoy waking up early and coming in to the factory," Parcell said. "I liken manufacturing to sports. It's the only occupation, other than sports, where you leave at the end of the day and know if you won or lost." Parcell landed the local job after getting a phone call about the open position. Parcell's last assignment -- president of Cami Automotive, a joint venture between GM and Suzuki in Canada -- was coming to an end and he decided to seek the Bowling Green job.

"It's the Corvette -- it's a dream vehicle for a lot of people," he said. "It lends itself to a certain buyer out there that's always going to be there." This is the eighth plant Parcell has worked at, but he's coming to Bowling Green in the midst of tough times for the auto industry. General Motors has struggled with financial problems this year, shuttering plants, laying off workers and filing for bankruptcy. The local plant has closed periodically over the past year, laid off employees and ended production of the Cadillac XLR.

And while some experts say the recession is tapering, high unemployment rates and poor consumer confidence continue to plague the economy.

"We still need to weather the storm a bit," Parcell said. "People are still a little tight with their purse strings."

Parcell said he plans to keep workers focused on what they can control: well-built, quality vehicles and plant safety.

"I'll spend a lot of time on the floor, one-on-one with the employees," he said. "Every place I've been, I put a little Bob Parcell spin (on it)." Parcell's top priority is safety at the plant. His second most important task is building quality vehicles: "That's what makes or breaks you," he said. He also plans to implement a few maintenance changes.

The Bowling Green plant is "a little long in the tooth. It's an older facility," he said. "There are some things we can do to brighten it up a bit, make it more of a morale booster." Some of those tasks include improving lighting and keeping equipment and materials in their proper places, he said.

And, if he has to announce further layoffs, he will deliver the news as soon as possible and be up front with his workers.

"The only way to deal with that kind of stuff is to be open and communicate with the people," he said.

As plant manager, Parcell's job is to help workers get the job done. He's in charge of grooming employees, finding and keeping good talent and making sure the plant produces high-quality vehicles. "How that happens on a day-to-day basis is different," Parcell said. "It's not a 9-to-5 job."

Parcell will be the sixth manager at the local plant, said Eldon Renaud, president of the local United Auto Workers union.

"I've worked with each one of them," he said. "Hopefully they can provide all the help from Detroit that we need to keep going even in tough times ... the most important thing is the working relationship with the people." A new plant manager is a big transition for some employees. Graham's departure surprised some workers, who were used to a longtime plant manager -- Graham's predecessor, Wil Cooksey, was plant manager for 14 years before retiring in 2008. "It's been a little more difficult because so many plant managers were moved this year," he said. "It wasn't one they moved ... they just moved (about) all within the system." This week, Parcell is meeting with the plant workers and getting familiar with the plant. He's also excited to meet dedicated Corvette customers, he said. At Cami, Parcell helped launch the redesigned Chevrolet Equinox and the GMC Terrain, cutting-edge SUVs that "dealers cannot keep in showrooms right now," he said.

Parcell said he hopes to interact with Corvette designers and relay customers' ideas to the design team.

"Five, 10 years from now, I think the Corvette will be the iconic vehicle it always has been," he said. "There's going to be a lot of pent up demand when things turn around."

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## Excerpt from Hagerty E-mail to NVCC

As part of our sponsorship commitment to the National Council of Corvette Clubs, last year Hagerty began offering NCCC members a 5% discount on a collector car insurance policy\*\*. Given the economic climate, I would like to make sure your club members are aware of this opportunity to save money.

I am providing you with a couple of different ways to inform your members of this benefit. Attached, you will find our 5% Discount ad which can be placed in your club newsletter. I am also including a 5% discount link (along with URL instructions) which can be placed on your website. The coupon currently resides on the National Club website, but most likely your club members spend more time on your local club website.

We are thrilled to have a relationship with such a great group of car enthusiasts! Please let me know if we can be of assistance in your upcoming events, or if you would like to have a local Hagerty representative speak during an upcoming club meeting. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Warm regards,  
Judi Maloney

Editors note: [Additional information at the NVCC website.](#)

Below is an anonymous survey for the driving program. In the interest of improving our events for our members, please take a few minutes to complete and return to the NVCC mailing address: NVCC, P.O. Box 3458, McLean, VA 22103-3458

What would you be the most interested in participating in?  
High Speed License Events: \_\_\_\_\_  
Events to obtain High Speed License: \_\_\_\_\_  
Driving Training (High & Low Speed) Events: \_\_\_\_\_  
Slow Speed/Mixed Events: \_\_\_\_\_  
Skid Pad/Heel-Toe Training: \_\_\_\_\_  
Autocross: \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekend Long Events: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

What would your price range be for participating in driving activities (per day)?  
\$0 -100 : \_\_\_\_\_ \$100-\$199: \_\_\_\_\_  
\$200-\$299: \_\_\_\_\_ \$300- ++: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

How long of an event would you be willing to attend? (check all that apply):  
½ day \_\_\_\_\_ 1 day \_\_\_\_\_ 2 day \_\_\_\_\_ No preference \_\_\_\_\_  
Is time of day an issue? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, prefer mornings or mid-day events? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not a regular participant in Driving/Racing events, can you tell us why?  
Not interested: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ Fear/Possible accident: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lack of training: \_\_\_\_\_ Knowledge of the events: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

How could we improve our driving program? (For example – better advertisement, cheaper cost, more available dates). Please let us know below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Corvette Museum and Funfest Cruise 2009**  
By Art Baer



Following a wonderful week at Atlantic Beach, North Carolina, in early September, for a much needed and appreciated break from the office, I had the opportunity to spend a week in my 2008 Jet Stream Blue Coupe cruising to Bowling Green, Kansas City, and Effingham, IL. The trip covered over 2700 miles averaging over 27 MPG with a 6-speed auto. Three tanks went over 29 MPG, so I cannot complain about mileage.

The remodeled Corvette Museum is so much better than it used to be. There is a Corvette Café that is even advertised on State roadside signs for the Museum exit. When you walk into the Museum you see a very tall open Corvette Nursery where they can display six Vettes waiting for new parents. The prep area runs along one entire back side of the building and can easily hold a dozen Vettes.



You exit the tour into the store which is expanded over its original size. It is so very easy to spend money in there!

The picture of the 1953 Corvette mosaic is remarkable because it is made up of thousands of 1 X 1 inch pictures that form the overall mosaic! The exterior design smoothly incorporates the old portions of the museum with the new and makes a striking picture. If you ever have the opportunity to stop by, do yourself a favor and spend time there.

This year's factor tour was very different from the one I took in 2008 when I picked up my Coupe. As soon as I pulled into the parking lot and saw the number of employee vehicles, I knew things were different. There are less than 600 employees left in the plant. The line produces just over 100 Corvettes a day. While I was on the tour, the line was made up of either black or silver Vettes, no other colors; the majority being the new Grand Sport models. When asked about only two colors on the line, the tour guide said that since the production numbers each day are so

low, they do batches of the same color so the paint booth process is more efficient. Several times during the tour we saw employees sitting down at their positions waiting for the next Vette to roll into place because the line was moving so slow. Sort of sad to see, but at least the line is still moving!

One point about the trip weather – it rained most of the week! In fact, driving through Nashville, I did less than 30 MPH with flashers on and an 18-wheeler sent a wave over the car that almost wrecked me! People are crazy in the rain!

Funfest was damp, but not a total wash out. I was there Friday afternoon and most of Saturday. I left at 3 PM and the thunderstorm hit with 2 inches of rain at 4 PM, but the show with Jan & Dean and the OC Beach Band and then Survivor went on that night. Mid America always puts on a great show and this year was no exception.



burnout & sound-off contests, car show, exhaust install, brake system, and interior install). Chuck is a very gracious host. Funfest #35 was a success and this should be a future trip if you ever have the opportunity. Thanks and keep cruising.

Art Baer

Funfest held a Corvette Auction for the first time with over 50 Vettes offered for sale. There were some very inexpensive cars (C3 & C4) that looked pretty good. The overall turn out appeared to be down from previous years, probably due to the economy and the weather. As you can see from the pictures, there were still some very interesting Vettes there and things to do (dyno,

[A quick production note from Ed Kasper on his soon to be new Grand Sport:](#) Talked to Rick Conti yesterday and my build date is Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. The plant went back to work Monday 19<sup>th</sup> till the 30<sup>th</sup> Oct, and then will shut down the whole month of November. He had my GS build date moved up.

### Parting shots



Columbus Day Parade by Ray Leonhard



Rita and Rich in OC  
(any doubt they're from Mars?)



If you lost your cookies on the last pic, here is Laurie's latest batch.

## Northern Virginia Corvette Club

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### Newsletter News ...

This has been a mixed month for the club and is reflected as such in the newsletter. While I'm not a race event driver, the cancellation of Spooktacular for the first time in its 16 years was most unwelcome, but an unavoidable sign of the economic times. We need to keep the driving events alive, so PLEASE complete the survey herein. The club needs your input!

The ups and downs of the club and the newsletter go hand-in-hand. Member participation and contributions are the life blood of each. Barring some special edition, next month's newsletter will be the last for 2009 (December is traditionally a non-publish month). Please submit the items for November with that in mind. After the first of the year Cheryl and I will be moving to WV, so the 2010 editions will be "out-sourced" to Ganotown, WV.



Rich Anderson

[richard.anderson157@verizon.net](mailto:richard.anderson157@verizon.net)

### Next General Business Meetings:

**Tuesday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**

**Tuesday, Nov 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**

**Koons Chevrolet  
2000 Chain Bridge Road  
Tysons Corner, VA**