# The 'Glass Gazette

## March 2011







## **2011 NVCC Banquet**

Pics by Paul Benish and Doug Swanson Text by Rich Anderson

The response and enthusiasm for this year's banquet was most gratifying and hopefully a harbinger for the good times to come this season. Personally I think it would be great if we had to have last minute expansions of other venues like we did to accommodate all comers at the banquet. (Thank you Lori).

It was great seeing everyone that makes ours such an eclectic group with the one shared common interest of America's sports car. Particularly it was nice to see our former editor, Anne Costolanski whom I hope to talk into taking the newsletter back in a year when she returns from academia.

The banquet is a time for reflection on the year(s) past and the year's coming events and challenges. It was also great to see some of those that work so hard for NVCC throughout the years gain recognition, such as the Patricks and our member and council member of the year. Of course there are many that work hard day in and day out to support our club. Looking at the council list over the past decade gives you an idea of just how many have worked to keep the club rolling forward for the past 42 years.

Thank you all for the start of what should be a wonderful year with our new primary sponsor, Jim McKay Chevrolet – Fairfax.

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## The folks working hard for you .... **NVCC Council Members**

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Concours - Open Spooktacular - OPEN HPDE - Open

I again make a plea for members to consider assuming a more active role in managing the club and its many varied events. We can remain only as sound as the effort put forth by our volunteers.

Laurie Kistner has crafted updated membership brochures and business cards providing a fresh look and promoting our new sponsor. Copies will be available at most GBMs and NVCC events. Pick up a few and pass them around to fellow enthusiasts.

We need a wide variety of interests to carry NVCC forward. So whether someone is a waxer, a racer, a Sunday driver (or corvette hoarder like me), there is something here for everyone.

Rich

## **Shifting Gears With the Times**

By Rich Anderson, Editor

The past few years have seen dramatic changes in the automotive industry and not all of them for the worst. The same economic forces have been at work on enthusiasts as well as manufacturers and dealers. Despite the relative affluence of Northern Virginia, the region and NVCC were not immune to these forces as all were swept along by forces largely beyond our control.

It appears the industry and NVCC have retrenched and together have great hopes that all are now on the upswing with a firmer base than ever. For the club there are 3 basic changes that will influence us as we go into the future.

First, our membership is down and it is time to rebuild our base with enthusiasts that love the corvette as the iconic symbol it is and don't consider it just another form of basic transportation (after all, that's what Porsches and Kias are for). While all members can help, I think one of our biggest assets here is basic change #2, Jim McKay Chevrolet.

We had many great years with Koons for which we all should be grateful. The fact that a changing business focus left NVCC largely adrift is just another business decision that we must accept without malice. The fact that Jim McKay has stepped forward to support us with true enthusiasm, spearheaded by a former NVCC President, is a golden opportunity for the club and its members. You will read more about their sponsorship elsewhere in the newsletter and in issues to come. THANK YOU Jim McKay Chevrolet!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> change is really a return to our roots. While economics forced NVCC to consider the return to Old Dominion Speedway as a lower cost venue for events, their truly outstanding welcome and support underscores the basic fact that enthusiasm and not economics is the underpinning of our hobby. The support at ODS as our primary venue has made them a true partner in taking NVCC into the future.





## PRESIDENT'S CORNER March 2011

This month's article represents a bit of a departure from my past articles in that I am not at a loss for what to write. Rather, I am at a loss as to how I'm going to get all the things I want to write about, into a one page article.

Let's begin with an email invite from our friends at Corvette Club of America, who headed to AllSport GP in Sterling on Saturday Feb 26 for a little karting action, and happened to extend an invitation to NVCC members. As you might expect, Andrej and I were there. The event was split into two mini GP's of 40 laps each. I ran first race and Andrej ran the second. As you might also expect, we each took first place, thus heading home with some mighty fine hardware for the trophy shelf. Hope our friend Pat Roney with CCA will let us know the next time they're in town.

Saturday March 12, I joined Andrej at the quarterly Governor's meeting of NCCC, just a few miles outside of Hershey, PA. I did so because I had submitted a proposal to NCCC requesting \$1,000 funding to support the TDS Instructor Clinic on March 19. With the Clinic shaping up to be attended by members from multiple East Region club's, it seemed reasonable. While the \$1,000 request didn't pass, I am pleased to report that after some debate, we were granted \$500 in support. This mark's the first time that TDS has received financial support from NCCC!

Rushing back from PA, I returned just in time to attend our annual Banquet that evening. Thanks to great planning by Lori & Paul Benish, we had an outstanding evening marked by great attendance, fine food, and lots of prizes for those who joined us. It also gave me an opportunity to make our HUGE announcement that NVCC has officially moved to its new sponsoring dealer: **Jim McKay Chevrolet of Fairfax**, **VA**. While this announcement may have come as a shock to those in attendance, I can tell you that your Council and I considered this move beginning in early January and worked diligently behind the scenes with the fine folks at Jim McKay for weeks in order to make this changeover a reality by March 12. Benefits to club members will be substantial, including a closer working relationship between the dealership staff and NVCC members, discounts on parts and service, as well as special pricing on the purchase of new Corvettes. Please be sure to join me and the rest of the NVCC Council for our inaugural GBM at Jim McKay on Tuesday March 22. All are welcome. Please check your email or the club website for directions and parking information.

I also want to mention what a tremendous success our second annual TDS Instructor Clinic was on Saturday March 19. NVCC hosted this event for the purpose of further developing a core group of TDS Instructors from within the Corvette community. To say we succeeded would be an understatement as we had 13 NVCC members, 10 Lead Instructors, plus 32 candidates in attendance from seven separate East Region - NCCC clubs. Beginning at 8 AM, each Instructor Candidate was put through the full battery of TDS classroom and behind-the-wheel exercises. They were then challenged to ride, as instructors, with each of the Lead Instructors who drove in a very simulated-teenager fashion. They all admitted at the debriefing what an eye opening experience THAT was, but they all admitted it forced them to consider the what if's. We thank all those in attendance for the help and enthusiasm.

Don't forget the Baltimore Grand Prix will be held over Labor Day weekend in September. Racing will include Mazda Series, Indy Lights, and ALMS; including the Corvette Racing GT-2 entry. Rick Poage is spearheading the effort to coordinate registration of NVCC members who plan to purchase ticket packages in order to qualify for paddock access. Additional information is listed on the NVCC website. If you would like to contact Rick directly, drop him an email at: <a href="mailto:stompandgo@earthlink.net">stompandgo@earthlink.net</a>. Space is limited. Early registration is required to obtain paddock parking.

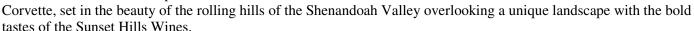
Thanks for being a part of NVCC. I look forward to seeing all of you this season.

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 Social Calendar April 2011 -Laurie Kistner, Social Director & Webmaster

## Sat. 4/9/11 - Corvette Appreciation Day @ Sunset Hills

**Winery**. Free State Corvette Club and Mr. Mike Canney cordially invite you to join the festivities at the Sunset Hills Vineyard near Purcellville, VA. This is a special event to celebrate the Chevrolet



This special event is by invitation only and limited to the first 100 Corvettes to register. Go to the Eventbrite website, http://freestatecorvetteclub.eventbrite.com and the follow the online instructions to receive your complimentary tickets.

The event is from 12pm until 5 pm at the vineyard. See their website, http://www.sunsethillsvineyard.com for specific directions from your location.

Parking will be on the grounds surrounding the Barn Tasting Room and Pavilion. Car parking will be staged according to Corvette generation in order to showcase their various design changes over the years and to celebrate the fact that Chevrolet still builds rockets today.

Wine tastings will be available for a \$1 fee, throughout the event and Tender Jacks of Leesburg will be onsite to provide food and drink at the covered Pavilion. If you wish, bring a picnic basket to compliment the Sunset Hills wines and do not forget your chairs.

Corvettes will be judged and special prizes awarded by the owner and staff of the winery.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, EMAILS WILL BE SENT...and a new date scheduled. Tell your friends, shine your ride and come enjoy the day.

**Sat. 4/9/11 - The Third Annual Country Roads Rallye**, open to all cars, trucks & motorcycles, will benefit the Wounded Warrior Project. It will begin at Burger King on Route 28 in Manassas, by the airport. This is the same Burger King that has a cruise every Saturday hosted by Bull Run Street Rods. We will begin at 10:30AM with the last car out from that stop at 12:30PM.

The rallye will end at Buffalo Wild Wings in Culpeper at 6PM sharp. The Culpeper Cruisers monthly cruise-in will be in progress. The cost is \$10 per rallye card. You can purchase as many rallye cards as you want at \$10 each. Half of the money collected will be given to the winner, the other half will be donated to Wounded Warrior Project.

The stops and other directions will be given out when you purchase your rallye card(s) at Burger King. The total distance of the rallye is 117 miles. Each stop will have something of interest to explore....you may stay at each of the stops for 30-45 minutes as long as you are at the finish by 6PM, no exceptions. At each stop you will draw a playing card to be recorded on your rally card. This will be a rain or shine event, if weather is good bring your 'special' ride, if it is bad bring your daily driver. If you do the math you will discover that you have 7 hours to go 117 miles....this points out that speed is not your friend in this rallye! Obey all traffic laws, explore the stops, and enjoy the ride.

For more info contact:

Chuck 540-878-8261 wherewereyouin62@comcast.net Dan 540-752-1576 whoop75@aol.com

## Sun. 4/10/11 - BACC People's Choice Show

Beginning at: 8:00 AM Category: Concours Location: Bel Air, MD

Event Title: Concours (3) BACC

Event Description: Bel Air Corvette Club - TRIPLE People's Choice Concours

Sanction # Jones Junction Toyota More info:

ER-263-001 1510 Bel Air Road <a href="http://ernccc.org/flyers/2">http://ernccc.org/flyers/2</a>
ERX-263-154 Bel Air, MD 21014 011/ER-263-001.pdf

ERX-263-163

Email: bacc@ernccc.org

Sun. 4/10/11 - Annual Captain Billy's Seafood Cruise, sponsored by Aquia Creek Corvette Club. Come out for an exciting drive to Captain Billy's Crab House in Popes Creek, MD along the Potomac River. We will meet at the Route 630 commuter lot in Stafford County. This lot is just off Exit 140 along I–95, go west on Route 630 and the commuter lot is on the left hand side.

We will meet at the commuter lot at 11:30AM and depart the lot at 12:00PM. The caravan will pick up others at the Wal-Mart on Route 3 in Spotsylvania about 12:15PM, then head to the Dahlgren Technology Center on Route 301 in King George County. We should arrive at the DTC by 12:45PM. For more information contact: <a href="mailto:accclub@aol.com">accclub@aol.com</a>

Wed. 4/13/11 - Colonial Challenge Cup Inc is a charity dedicated towards raising funds for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County and certain other schools and organizations that support the education and development of children and young adults.

The CCC has raised over \$171,000 in direct contributions to various programs offered by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County including the Annapolis Boys and Girls Scholarship Trust, the Keystone Club, the Photography Club and the Gordonstoun International Summer School in Scotland. Over the last eleven years over thirty seven students have been provided with financial assistance to attend Universities and colleges of further education.

Financial support has also been provided to Phillips Programs which is a non-profit, private organization serving the needs of individuals with emotional and behavioral problems and their families through education, family support services, community education and advocacy.

#### A TRACK DAY IS...

Enjoying your vehicle on the track without the restrictions of everyday traffic and the standard road obstacles like the police, Sunday drivers and Mini Vans.

It provides an opportunity to drive your own vehicle on a track and learn new driving skills, revitalize the ones you have forgotten and apply the ones you will learn "correctly" in a controlled environment with a professional instructor at your side.

SUMMIT POINT TRACK, the "Big Track", is over two miles in length with 10 demanding corners including a series of S-turns through the carousel, which will be both challenging and very rewarding for those of you that adhere to your instructor's advice. Additionally, you will be briefed by instructors in a classroom environment about the rules and regulations prior to embarking onto the track with your instructor. "Safety First Always". After each session you will be debriefed on your performance and ways to improve your driving skills. You may also qualify to drive solo if approved by your instructor. Note: this track day is tax-deductible! See

<u>http://www.colonialchallengecup.com/</u> for complete details. Track Dates for 2011 are April 13<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup> (both dates are on Wednesdays - take a day off from work!)

Sun. 4/17/11 - 2nd Annual Easter-Egg Hunt Poker Rallye (the Sunday before Easter). See flyer for details!

Sat. 4/30/11 - Teen Driving School. See flyer for details!

Sat. 4/30/11 - Vettes @ the Track (Formerly Vettes @ Waterside)

Beginning at 9:00 AM Category: Non Sanctioned Location: Virginia Beach, VA Event Title: Concours (1) BCC

Event Description: Beachcombers Corvette Club - Concours PC

Non-Sanction # 2736 North Mall Drive More info:

N-016 Virginia Beach, VA 23452 http://ernccc.org/flyers/201

1/N-016.pdf

American Indoor Karting Email: bcc@ernccc.org

Sat. 4/30/11 - Test and tune/drag racing session - NVCC, CCA, NCOA, NVMC, and special invites

Where: Mason Dixon Dragway, Boonsboro, MD

Time: 8 AM-12 Noon (4hr Private Track Rental, UNLIMITED RUNS!)

Driver price: PayPal \$52.00 per driver to <a href="Enforcir@gmail.com">Enforcir@gmail.com</a> OR mail \$50.00 per driver (check made out to Cyril Coburn) to: NVMC, PO Box 104, Amissville, VA 20106. Either of these pre-payment options must be done NLT a week ahead of the event. Pre-payment is preferable as we must have 30 pre-paid drivers 2 weeks ahead of the event or the event risks cancellation. Or you may pay \$60.00 cash per driver @ the gate the day of the event. Spectator price: \$10.00 (Driver gets 1 crew member in FREE)

Special (Driver) Requirements:

At the gate you will:

In the event of rain, call Ebby (703) 200-6803 or Ceece (703) 346-8151 if you have any questions regarding the event being on time.

Directions to Mason Dixon Dragway are as follows:

From Washington DC/NoVa: Take Route 270 N toward Frederick, MD. Take Rt. 70 W toward Hagerstown. Follow Rt. 70 until you reach Rt. 66 (Exit 35). Once at the bottom of the ramp turn LEFT onto Rt. 66 South, go

<sup>\*</sup>Mufflers mandatory

<sup>\*1/4</sup> sleeved shirt and pants, NO SHORTS or OPEN TOED SHOES

<sup>\*</sup>Seat belts in working order

<sup>\*</sup>Proper safety equipment per your vehicles performance level i.e. (helmets for cars faster than 13.99, roll bar for cars faster than 11.49, etc.)

<sup>\*10</sup> MPH speed limit in the pit area!!!

<sup>\*</sup>NO air conditioning on in staging lanes, ALL windows up during burnout and run

<sup>\*</sup>Pay your fee (if you did not pre-register)

<sup>\*</sup>Get a wrist band (goes on left wrist)

<sup>\*</sup>Sign competition waiver

<sup>\*</sup>Get a tech inspection card to fill out and bring back to the staff

about 1/2 miles until you reach Rt. 40 (you will see a Sheetz convenience store at the intersection), turn LEFT (east) on Rt. 40 and go just another 1/2 mile, the Dragstrip entrance will be on your right.

#### Coming soon...

Sun. 5/1/11 – Vette Barn Cookout

Sun. 5/1/11 – YCCC People's Choice Show

Fri. 5/6/11 – Corvette Movie Premier

Sat. 5/7/11 – SVCC 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Matt Miller Memorial Corvette Show Sun. 5/29/11 – CCNEPA People's Choice Show Mon. 5/30/11 – CCNEPA HPDE

If you would like to host or lead an event, please contact me at <a href="mailto:social@nvcorvetteclub.com">social@nvcorvetteclub.com</a> at your earliest convenience. Events are being added continually...please visit our website at <a href="www.nvcorvetteclub.com">www.nvcorvetteclub.com</a> for complete details. Any web questions can be sent to <a href="www.nvcorvetteclub.com">webmaster@nvcorvetteclub.com</a> also. Thanks,

Laurie Kistner

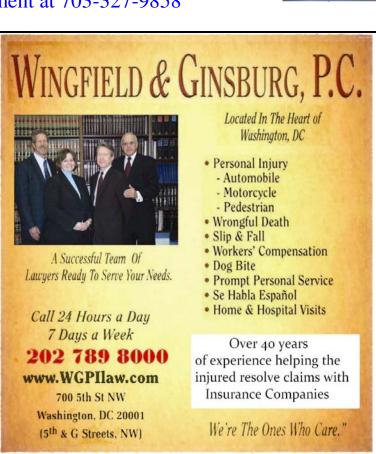
**NVCC Social Director & Webmaster** 



IMA Motorsport Inc. 25354 Pleasant Valley Road, Ste 155 Chantilly, VA 20152

We fix what others can't, so why not come here first?

Call for an appointment at 703-327-9858





Store Proceeds Go Towards Northern Virginia Corvette Clubs Many Great Events - Support the Club and buy your NVCC Items here!!

ITEMS ARE SOLD AT: GENERAL BUSINESS MEETINGS AND CLUB EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB HISTORIAN FOR QUESTIONS OR TO ORDER DIRECT AT: HISTORIAN@NVCORVETTECLUB.COM



PRESENTS:



## "NEVER TOO COOL FOR TEEN DRIVING SCHOOL"

A Free Teen Driving and Safety Program

# SATURDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH,</sup> 2011 FROM 7:45AM TO 4:00 PM OLD DOMINION SPEEDWAY - MANASSAS, VIRGINIA

Parents, this is for you too! Do you have teenage drivers in the house, and are worried about how they will handle "the unexpected" while driving in busy Northern Virginia traffic? Well, we have the solution! Send your teen driver out for a day of real driver training with the Northern Virginia Corvette Club. Your teen driver will learn how to properly control a car, why cars do what they do, how you should react, and how to take care of their cars! Everything anyone should know before getting behind the wheel and on the highways!

You and your teen will spend the day with knowledgeable and highly skilled driving instructors of the Northern Virginia Corvette Club. Under carefully controlled conditions in their normal vehicles (or their parents), we will put your young drivers through a series of exercises designed to extend driving skills and awareness of the road, as well as learn about safety and car maintenance! Attendance includes a fabulous pizza lunch from a local pizza place, for both parent and teen.

At least one parent or guardian must accompany each teen driver throughout the day! They will attend classroom sessions and ride with their teens, as they drive through exercises designed to help the new driver understand why they might lose control and how to prevent it. In the process, many parents say that they learn a lot. too!

All this is done at very slow speeds in a carefully designed, safe environment. It is far better for them to know what to do beforehand, in controlled conditions, than to experience a problem out on the highway or public roads and not know what to do!

This driving school is free, but the class size is limited to 40. These events fill up fast –and we do keep an ongoing waiting list throughout the year!! So register ASAP! CORVETTE CLUB MEMBERSHIP IS NOT REQUIRED. Registration Closes Friday, April 22nd, 2010.

Certain limitations apply: We CANNOT accept drive-ins, car sharing, SUVs or vans (for safety reasons)!!! The teen driver must have a learner's permit or valid driver's license to participate.

More information will be available to parents and teens that register early. Confirmations will be emailed to all participants, which will have additional information about the event, so please give a valid email address when registering!

Please fill out the registration form below and mail to: Lori Benish, 21731 Ladbroke Grove Ct., Sterling, VA 20166 or email this information to historian@nvcorvetteclub.com



DRIVER		AGE
DATE RECEIVED LEARNERS F	ERMIT OR DRIVERS	S LICENSE
PARENT		50 30 30 00 00 <del>00</del>
ADDRESS		a
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	EMAIL	
MAKE AND MODEL OF CAR		YEAR

QUESTIONS? Contact Cassidy Nolen at chiefinstructor@nycorvetteclub.com or Lori Benish at historian@nycorvetteclub.com



## 2nd Annual Easter-Egg Hunt Poker Rallye

## April 17th, 2011 (The Sunday before Easter)

## Starting 11am at the Mug & Muffin in Fairfax!

This is a scenic rallye through the Fairfax, Manassas, and Gainesville area.

This is a slightly different rallye, because it is an Easter-egg Hunt mixed with a Poker-Rallye. It will be done poker style, but instead of drawing cards, you will draw filled plastic Easter-eggs with "points" inside. There will be no questions to answer, just follow the clues for directions and gather your eggs. The eggs will be turned in at the end, and the points will be tallied. The highest and lowest # of points collected from the draw wins! The highest points winners will receive FREE LUNCH/DINNER, for both team members. High point and low point winning teams with split the cash prize, which will vary depending upon participation. Drivers meeting will start at 11:15am, and first car should be out by 11:30am

The rallye will end at Eggspectation in Centerville, VA for a great brunch at around 1:30pm!

Starting at:

The Mug & Muffin (previous the Daily Grind) 42020 Village Center Plz # 130 Stone Ridge, VA 20105-3030

**Ending at:** 

Eggspectations 8058 Cresent Park Drive Gainesville, VA 20155 Phone # (571) 248-0990

It will be \$10 to rallye, or free to just cruise.

Please email Lori Benish to signup at rallye@nvcorvetteclub.com!

Also, if you do not want to rallye, but would like to join us for lunch, just contact me to let me know so we can get an accurate head count. Thanks!



Contact: Angela Morsa President, Chip Miller Charitable Foundation 215-885-3351 angela@chipmiller.org

Lights, Camera, Action - Carlisle Theatre to Host World Premiere of "The Quest"

Documentary Film to Showcase International Automotive Flavor, Celebrate the Life of Chip Miller

**CARLISLE, PA – (March 2011)** – With all the makings of a Hollywood drama, love story and action film, "The Quest" documents the incredible story of the first Corvette to win its class at the famous track in Le Mans France in 1960. Of course the car couldn't have done it alone – "The Quest" tells the untold tale of the driver and the man who dreamed to take the car back to France for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the win but who lost his life early to a rare disease called Amyloidosis.

For one night only, the <u>Chip Miller Charitable Foundation</u> (CMCF) is premiering the heartwarming documentary created by award-winning filmmaker <u>Michael Brown</u>. The movie will show on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the <u>Carlisle Theatre</u>, 44 West High Street in downtown Carlisle, Pennsylvania. All proceeds from the tickets will benefit the Foundation. Visit <u>www.QuestDocumentary.com</u> for tickets.

This story highlights the full account of the first Corvette to win its class at the famous 24 heures du Mans (Le Mans 24–Hours) race in 1960 and re-traces what happened to not only the car, but its famous driver, John Fitch. "The Quest" also showcases renowned Corvette enthusiast Chip Miller and his dream of finding, acquiring, restoring and ultimately returning the car to France with its original driver to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its historic victory.

Elliot "Chip" Miller was all things automotive to millions of enthusiasts who passed through the gates of the <u>Carlisle PA Fairgrounds</u> between 1974 and his untimely death in 2004. With Chip's passing, his dream of returning the #3 Cunningham Corvette to France lived on through his son Lance and the Miller family.

Through never before seen footage, photographs and interviews, filmmaker Brown weaves together an account of a special father/son bond and how that relationship overcame obstacles to fulfill a dream born in youth, nurtured into adulthood and set back by heartbreak.

With one of its original drivers, the now 93-year old John Fitch and the winning #3 Cunningham Corvette on hand for the premiere, filmmaker Michael Brown and the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation hope to raise awareness for Amyloidosis, a rare and incurable plasma cell disorder which attacks the body's main organs and claimed the life of Chip Miller.

"I'm very pleased to have "The Quest" Premiere in Carlisle as a benefit to the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation," noted filmmaker Michael Brown. "Its origins go back to a final wish Chip had of establishing a means of raising awareness and channeling research funds in an effort to fight Amyloidosis. Even if only one person is eventually helped in some way, the evening will be successful in my mind."

"People come to a racetrack to see the drivers in action," noted John Fitch from his Connecticul home. "But when I took the wheel of the #3 Corvette with Lance at my side, it was I who became the spectator. At parade lap speed, I could observe not only the thousands of fans who cheered us on, but the emotions of my young passenger. His efforts to fulfill the dream of his father and best friend had paid off," added Fitch. "I was there to bear witness at close range. It was a very special and satisfying experience. I am pleased to have played my role and delighted that Michael Brown has memorialized it to share with others."

"This will be a once in a lifetime, must attend event," said Lance Miller, co-owner of Carlisle Events and son of the late Chip Miller. "It's certainly not just about cars; it's about the way of life."

For more information on "The Quest," the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation and Amyloidosis, visit www.questdocumentary.com.

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About the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation: Information about the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation and to make a donation, visit www.ChipMiller.org.

Journalist note: For high-resolution photography and more information on the Chip Miler Charitable Foundation, please contact Angela Morsa, Foundation President, (215) 885-3351, angela@chipmiller.org

## Protecting Your Front Skid Bars

By: Bob Montgomery

Every driver of a C5 or C6 Corvette has experienced the scraping of their front skid bars when entering /exiting a driveway or parking lot, trying to negotiate a speed bump, or getting too close to a parking curb. Over time this can damage the skid bars to the point of necessitating a costly repair. There are several products on the market that offer protection for the front skid bars of a C5 and C6 Corvette. One of the best products that I found, in terms of quality and ease of installation, are Sac City Corvette's "Fangs."

Fangs are available in two colors; original white (hence the name), and black. Fangs are made of a high impact superior performance plastic. This material is six times more



abrasion resistant than steel (very slippery) over a wide range of temperatures. Fangs protect the *entire* skid bar not just part of it. Another benefit of Fangs is that they only reduce ground clearance by 1/8 of an inch.

The installation of Fangs on a C5 is very easy. Just remove the four center air dam retaining bolts, slip on the Fangs, and then reinstall the air dam. The Fangs attach themselves to the skid bars and are held in place by the left and right air dam bolts. The C6 installation is a little more involved requiring two small holes to be drilled into each skid bar. The Fangs on a C6 are held in place by two small stainless steel screws each.

For more information on Fangs, including a couple of cool videos demonstrating the product, please visit **SacCityCorvette.com.** For just \$49 (free shipping) I think that you will find this to be a *fang*-tastic purchase for your Vette!





## From the National Corvette Museum

Rich Mars, Ambassador

http://www.corvettemuseum.com/about\_us/index.shtml

## **New "PIN" Option Available**



#### **NOW OFFICIAL!**

Introducing Corvette Exclusive Customer's Selectable VIN Ending Option - RPO: PIN =\$5000! GM announcement to us: "As many of you already know, Corvette customers are unique automobile aficionados who seek to differentiate and personalize their specific Corvette model. Chevrolet feels it is important to offer a wide variety of accessories and personalization options for customers to accomplish this goal. Examples of this include the option to take delivery through the National Corvette Museum, or the opportunity to produce their Corvette Z06 or ZR1 engine through the Corvette Engine Build Experience.

These options have proven to be very popular, but some customers have expressed a desire to have a unique ending number assigned to their Corvette's Vehicle Identification Number. For example, a customer may have a classic 1963 Corvette with a VIN ending in 1400, and seeks a new Corvette with the same matching VIN ending number. Up to this point, the VIN assignment for a customer's new Corvette would have been a random process; but under a new program called Customer's Selectable VIN Ending Option, customer can request a specific VIN ending number for their new production vehicle as long as the request falls within Corvette's natural production sequence.

Similar to the Corvette Engine Build Experience (RPO: PBC), dealers who submit a customer sold order with RPO: PIN will be contacted by the Corvette Concierge. The concierge will collect the customer information and the requested VIN ending number. The concierge will then pass the information over to Chevrolet to determine whether the request can be honored within the appropriate production timing. If it is determined the request can be honored, the concierge will

confirm the information with the dealer, and the order will proceed through production. When the vehicle is produced, the invoice will include a *Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price (MSRP)* of \$5000 for the Customer's Selectable VIN Ending Option

If the request CANNOT be honored, the RPO: PIN will be removed from the order, and the dealer and customer will have the option to cancel the order or proceed with the order's production with a naturally-selected sequenced VIN ending assignment.

It is important to note that selecting the RPO: PIN will not cause an order to be expedited or produced out of the normal production sequencing process. If the customer and dealer agree to the specific VIN ending, the vehicle will incur the \$5000 MSRP charge regardless of whether the transaction between the customer and dealer is completed

## 2011 C5/C6 Bash -- April 28-30, 2011

The 2011 C5/C6 Bash offers plenty of road tours to get you cruisin' our country roads, candid seminars on what to expect from Corvette for 2012, special unveilings, rides in the Museum's 1963 vintage racer Z06, lunch with the Corvette race team members Doug Fehan, new Corvette Driver Tommy Milner and Danny Binks and many other activities you'll only find at National Corvette Museum events! The Ladies' Oasis continues along with the special Garage Party with women of the GM Corvette Team. The ladies will cover all aspects of Corvettes including maintenance, engineering and even high performance driving. New road tours, the return of Paul Koerner, C4/C5 Specialist and new activities add to the event excitement.

The 2011 event is so jam-packed you'll need a vacation from this vacation! Don't miss all the special sessions that only the NCM can bring you!

On-line registration closes at 5:00pm central time on Friday, April 15th. All activities are open to Event Registrants only. On-line registrants will receive a hardcard credential, lanyard, event pin and dash plaque. Lifetime registration is \$10pp, member registration is \$15pp and non-member registration is \$25pp.

The BG Assembly Plant operates on a Monday through Thursday schedule and is closed on Fridays. Plant Tours are \$7.00 per person and are booked at the plant or on-line



## **NCM VIR HPDE**

June 27-28, 2011

Our VIR HPDE school registration will open in late February or early March 2011. To ensure you have the latest update, make sure you are signed up for

NCM eNews where we announce registration information. Now in our 5th year this event continues to expand in scope and activities. In addition to the annual 2-day HPDE with track time, rides and classroom for students, we continue with *PrimeDrive* which is a reduced 1-day version of an HPDE as well as the chance to ride with Andy Pilgrim and Shields Bergstrom and see how the pros do it. There are a number of new additions to the event including the *skidpad*, rides in a vintage race car and a special corral for a spectator celebrity choice car show. GM engineers, quality control, designers will be in attendance as in the past. We also will see the return of past vendors Zip Products, KNS Brakes, Michelin Tires and a larger Corvette Store. As always, spectator admission remains free.

Anyone interested in skidpad, students and instructors need to advance register for this to make sure you get a slot.

Once you register, download both the <u>VIR Drivers Classification Form</u> and the <u>VIR Participant's Package</u>. This year we require that all students fill out and return the classification form within 2 weeks of registering. If your chosen run group is filled when you try to register, call to go on wait list or check for openings. If you select an incorrect run group your registration will be canceled so don't waste a space by selecting higher or lower than your experience dictates. If

you neglect to promptly return the form you may find yourself closed out of the event. If you have a question, call in first.

The <u>VIR Participant's Package</u> has a number of changes and updates from previous years including vehicle requirements, hotel information, new helmet standards and a Paddock map. Read the package carefully so that you are fully prepared to take part and have a good time at VIR. Pay particular attention to the Paddock map as incorrectly placed vehicles **will have to be moved**.

In addition to our regular run groups based on experience; beginner, novice, intermediate, and advanced plus instructors, we will continue our unique special class known as *PrimeDrive*. This one-day school limited to 10 registrants features a classroom session, one on-track session with an instructor in car and one session ride-along with an instructor. The *PrimeDrive* is an excellent opportunity to sample our driving program before taking part in a full school. The 2-day HPDE is \$465 for an NCM member, PrimeDrive is \$100.

Advanced black and blue groups are filled. To get on waitlist, contact Karen Renfrow at 270-467-8804. Registration is open for instructor, intermediate/yellow and beginner/green groups only.

To register: click here

# St Patrick's Day Parade '11 By John Palmgren....Pics by Paul Benish



our trek down the parade route. Unfortunately, one of our Vettes wouldn't start due to a dead battery (Sorry, A.J.).

It was great seeing so many spectators out along the parade route which was a big difference compared to the last couple of years when it rained. Everyone had a great time during the parade and then some of us headed over to Ray's Hell Burger in Arlington afterwards. Stewart and Paul drove back over to the parade staging area to help out A.J., and then joined us for lunch in Arlington. All in all it was a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon with the top down, and a good start to Corvette season. I just hope the weather holds up again next year.

For the first time in three years, we all woke up on Sunday, March 13th to what looked to be a great day for a parade. The weather was simply gorgeous for early spring as the club's contingent met on Army-Navy Drive in the Pentagon City parking lot around 10:30 AM. Stewart was able to coordinate with the U.S. Park Police for an escort over to the parade route, so at 10:45 we all jumped back in our Vettes (18 in all), and headed over to the parade staging area. Once we got to the parade route, there was a bit of confusion as the parade organizers didn't provide us ample parking near our designated spot, so we ended up having to go back around the block to park again near the end of the staging area and wait for the marshals to call us. At around 12:30, the parade officials called us up to the front to begin



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## Minutes of NVCC General Business Meeting of 25 Jan 2011

NVCC General Business Meeting Meeting Date: Feb. 22, 2011 Meeting brought to order at 7:30 PM at Koons Chevrolet Tysons Corner.

## Council Attendees:

Stewart Fox – President Carol Fox – Treasure Lori Ann Benish – Historian/Rallye Chair Paul Benish – Historian Michael Rathbun – Membership Dana Root – Officer at Large Richard Anderson - Editor Cassidy Nolen – Chief Instructor John Palmgren – Publicity

Meeting started with introductions.

## Chief Instructor - Cassidy Nolan

- Cassidy is still taking classes for The State Certified Drivers Instructor.
- Working on the upcoming Teen Driving School (TDS).
- Plans are being made for the driving instructor training class to be held on March 19 at ODS.
   Admission is free and lunch will be provided. Classes are open to all experienced instructors and anyone wishing to learn to be an instructor. 20 to 30 volunteers are needed.
- Stewart will ask NCCC East Reagan to help with expenses.

#### Concourse

- We are not able to get the sanction dates we want. Stewart is recommending we have an unsanctioned low keyed fun show instead.
- Still need a volunteer to chair the show.

#### Membership

- We are taking attendance at each GBM to determine a prize winner at the end of the year.
- Michael reported we have 82 members.
- Membership cards are coming soon.

#### Auto-X

• Car-B-Q is the only event scheduled at this time.

#### Newsletter

• Richard requested more input from members and to try to get articles to him sooner.

## **Publicity**

- John Palmgren is again organizing the clubs participation in the Washington D.C. St. Patrick's Day Parade March 13, 2011.
- Members participating are to meet in the Pentagon Reservation Parking Lot at 10:30 AM.
- See NVCC web site for details and directions.
- This event is always a good time with club members getting together for lunch after the parade.

#### Paul Benish

• Paul Benish is coordinating with Do It Yourself Mechanics for a Garage day 101.

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- Paul will instruct general maintenance and repair.
- If more people are interested more garage days can be scheduled.
- Dates and times to be determined.
- Paul needs volunteers for tech and registration for Teen Driving School.

#### **Baltimore Grand Prix**

- Rick Poage is coordinating NVCC's attendance for this event.
- The date is Labor Day Weekend.
- All interested members must register with Rick by March 15, 2011.
- See NVCC website and forum for details

#### Lori Benish

- Banquet is scheduled for March 12, 2011. See website for details.
- Four spaces remain for banquet.
- Lori has 2011 NVCC T shirts for sale. Small to XL \$15.00, XXL \$18.00.

#### Rallye

- Lori Benish announced that rallye winners will not only win a prize for winning the rallye but will also win the meal following the rallye.
- Two rallyes are scheduled so far this year.
- Anyone wishing to host a rallye should contact Lori.

#### Vice President

• Stewart announced that Doug Swanson had surgery this week and is doing well. We do not know why Doug had the surgery. Doug should be back next month.

## Guest Speaker Mike Dingell

Mike Dingell is a representative of SEMA Action Network (SAN). Mr. Dingell presented a brief talk about how SAN serves the auto enthusiast.

SAN is an origination that monitors auto related legislation in all 50 states and Canada. They promote hobby friendly legislation and when needed oppose unfair and restrictive legislative initiatives.

Some of the issues monitored by SAN are: Vehicle Titling and Registration, Suspension and Height Regulations, Lighting Equipment, After Market Exhaust System and sound regulations.

Members of SAN receive updates on the issues through e-mail alerts and the monthly newsletter.

Mr. Dingell urged all auto hobbyists join SAN. Admission is free, registration forms were handed out at the meeting and most of us filled them out and returned them to Mike.

Stewart Fox will request our Webmaster Laurie Kistner add a link on the NVCC website to SAN. The address is www.semasan.com.

#### Trivia- Lori Benish

All questions this month were music related.

- 1. Who sung the country music song "The One I Loved Back Then" also known as the Corvette Song? Answer: George Jones Winner: No one got it.
- Sir Mix A Lot, an old school hip-hop artist sang a popular song with a line "Got it goin' like a turbo vette..." Answer: Baby's got back Winner: Cassidy Nolen.
- 3. The song from Don Felder has the line "you can hedge your bet on a clean Corvette..."

  Answer: Takin' a Ride Winner Rick Poage.
- 4. From what movie soundtrack was the song in question 3?

Answer: Heavy Metal Winner: Marsha Batchellor.

#### Raffle

- 1. Jim Basdavanos Goody bag
- 2. Dana Root Goody bag
- 3. Ed Kasper Goody bag
- 4. 50/50 Carol Fox \$32.00

Submitted by Dana Root OAL

Treasure Carol Fox

Checking account: \$6225.00

Petty cash: \$240.16

Meeting adjourned at 9:00

## **2011 TDS Instructor Clinic**

By Rich Anderson....Pics by Doug Swanson





NVCC continues to make major strides in developing a top notch Teen Driving School program, not only for Northern Virginia, but building the knowledge base in the region with the expectation that other clubs will start to offer similar programs. This year's session Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> was technically the second, but was really the first that had the planning and participation of the whole club, as well as the much appreciated manpower and financial backing of the region.

The NVCC goal is to provide a wide base of instructors to assist at TDS, providing an effective and consistent training experience. Our Chief instructor, Cassidy Nolen, as a professional educator did an outstanding job in providing a fun, quality training experience for us newbies. Of course no one can do this alone and our thanks go out to the usual cast providing support ensuring a smooth operation.

Our special thanks go out to the Lack Jackson Volunteer Fire Department, which again provided the water for the skid pad. Every corvette owner really should get out on a skid pad at some point to get a feel for their vette when it starts to lose it....and gain a appreciating for the technological leap forward traction control is from the

cars of our youth (just turn it off and you'll feel the difference immediately). Without the LJVFD we'd have a hard time offering this experience to our instructors, much less the teens we teach.





## **More of the 2011 NVCC Banquet**



















## **Closing Shot Fm Rich Mars**



One of our former valiant leaders and perennial class clown submitted the following of his stoic wife Rita trying out the new "down sized" prototype vette at the St. Pat's parade. Looks like a C3 that shrank in the rain.

## **Northern Virginia Corvette Club**

P.O. Box 3458
McLean, VA 22103-3458



## **Newsletter News...**

Spring appears to now be more here than not and vettes are actually starting to show up at NVCC events. NVCC has a lot of events in the near future and hopefully you will send me your thoughts and pics as the schedule progresses.

Also please remember to keep me in mind as you travel with your vette throughout the region or the USA. A pic or two of your travels is always appreciated.

Thanks and enjoy a great start to the new season.



Rich Anderson richard.anderson157@frontier.com

# Next General Business Meetings:

Tuesday, Feb 22nd at 7:30 pm

Tuesday, April 26th at 7:30 pm

Jim McKay Chevrolet 3509 University Drive Fairfax, VA. 22030