# The 'Glass Gazette

#### **Fall 2014**

# PAGE CHEVROLET







# **NVCC Returns to the Track!**

Car Control Clinic 2014

On September 21, NVCC returned to Summit Point after a multi-year hiatus forced upon us by the economic downturn. The specific event was the revival of the NVCC Car Control Clinic....most often referred to as "C<sup>3</sup>" for short. This adult oriented driving school is designed to hone the skills of more experienced drivers, whether for surviving the D.C. Beltway commute or pursuing a license for participating in high-speed track events.



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The event was well received by those participating and with continued member support will hopefully mark the turning point in providing more track related events to the NVCC membership and the corvette community at large. A big thank you is owed to those that volunteered their time and expertise to bring C<sup>3</sup> to fruition.

The hope is to offer one of these events each year to continue to expand our individual driving expertise. When the next event rolls around, I encourage all members to consider participating as either a student or a volunteer worker.

# The folks working hard for you ....

#### **NVCC Council Members**

#### Officers

President - Richard Anderson Treasurer - Marsha Batchellor Officer At Large - John Palmgren Vice President - Kris McCandless Secretary - Mike Gilliland

#### Committee Chairpersons

Chief Instructor - David DuBois
Publicity - Shawn Waddell
Historian - Cassidy & Amanda Nolen
Social Media - Tim Broutin
Membership - Jeff Klain
NCCC Gov - Andrej Balanc
Concours - OPEN
Tech - Paul Benish

Newsletter - Richard Anderson Social Events - Shawn Waddell Webmaster - Paul & Lori Benish TDS Registrar - John Stark NCM Ambassador - Doug Swanson Rallye - Kris McCandless AutoCross/HPDE - Stewart Fox

Dealer Sponsor – Page Chevrolet 6500 Little River Turnpike Alexandria, VA 22312

### Membership Corner

New numbers to be provided following close of renewal period.





#### PRESIDENT'S CORNER Fall 2014

With my time as NVCC President drawing to a close....and my return to being Newsletter Editor already upon me, this is a time to start wrapping things up. Elections are to be held at the next General Business Meeting (GBM), which is the last GBM of 2014. Since the NVCC presidency is term limited to three years, it is time for new blood to take the helm. Following elections, there will be some realignments of the committee chairs to reflect changes dictated by election results. Anyone interested in serving on one of the standing committees should let the council know. Lack of prior experience is certainly not a disqualifier for serving.....we all have to start somewhere. I started on the council as Newsletter Editor, a position to which I have now returned. I cannot emphasize enough that participation on the council is the best way to get to know your fellow members and enjoy all that NVCC has to offer.

The above nautical reference (taking the helm) I believe is well placed, since much of the past three years has seen what is best described as rough waters for the club. The loss of our second sponsor in relatively quick succession, as well as the decline in membership as we once again shifted physical locations poised more than a few challenges to the council in reestablishing geographic, fiscal and social stability. I thank you all for bearing with us during the process and ask for your continued support of the new NVCC Council in 2015.

While I believe "drop the top" weather is largely behind us and realize that many put their corvettes away for a long winter's nap, I wish to remind you that corvettes do not melt in the rain and the snow. Unlike my 1960 (which is as weather tight as a screen door), the newer generations of corvettes have evolved into an all weather car quite up to the task of dashing through the snow while enveloping its passengers in climate controlled comfort. With the change of the seasons there is always new vistas to behold taking back country cruises. If any of you find your way to my corner of West Virginia during the coming holiday season, please feel free to drop in and warm yourselves by the fire and share a glass of cheer....or whatever. Cheryl and I are always glad to see fellow corvette enthusiasts.

# Now get out there and enjoy America's sports car!

Rich Anderson NVCC President, 2012/13/14





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#### **Corvette Museum on Weather Channel**

Tune in this Monday, November 10 to the Weather Channel for the latest episode of their series "Secrets of the Earth." Next week's show features sinkholes, including the now world-famous Corvette sinkhole.



Secrets of the Earth explores our planet with the same sense of awe and wonder normally reserved for alien worlds. Computer graphics, visual analogies and expert scientists combine to reveal amazing, little-known aspects of the world, from canyons of gravity that warp space and time to rain triggered by cosmic rays.

Check your local listings for air time.

#### 2009 ZR1 Blue Devil Makes Debut After Restoration



This week at the SEMA Show in Las Vegas, Chevrolet held a surprise unveiling - the restored 2009 ZR1 Blue Devil, which had fallen victim to the Museum's sinkhole in February.

The car had been on display at the Museum as-is from March 3, when it was recovered from the hole, through August when it was returned to Chevrolet for restoration. Damage included: cracked carbon-fiber ground effects and a broken passenger-side rocker panel; damaged passenger front fender as well as cracks in both doors; cracked windshield, hood window glass and passenger headlamp assembly; bent rear control arms on the driver's side door; and cracked oil lines to the supercharged LS9 engine's

dry-sump oiling system. Six weeks after work began, the restored ZR1 was started for the first time at the GM Heritage Center.

#### "Build Your Own" 2015 Stingray Corvette

Your next chance to win a Corvette is Thursday, November 13 at 2pm CT when we raffle off a "Build Your Own" 2015 Stingray Corvette. This raffle gives you the option to pick a coupe or convertible in the color of your choice with the factory installed options you want (excluding customer selectable VIN, build your own engine, Z06/Z07, Atlantic & Pacific packages and any option on constraint), or take \$55,000 cash. Tickets are \$250 and the raffle is limited to 1,000 tickets. **Only 377 have sold so far!** Learn more about our raffles, including exclusions and restrictions and purchase tickets online at <a href="https://www.corvettemuseum.org/raffle">www.corvettemuseum.org/raffle</a> or call 800-538-3883 during normal business hours.

#### **Vets 'n Vettes Brings Special Songs and Showcases**



Participants in our Vets 'n Vettes event received an extra special treat at the Wounded Warrior Recognition lunch today. Country music singer/ songwriter and four time Grammy award winning artist Steve Wariner was at the Museum for a tour, and helped show his appreciation to our visiting military by playing a few songs. Steve is the owner of a 1966 Corvette and said he was glad to have the opportunity to help out.

New for this year's event is a display of four special helicopters from the NC Vietnam Helicopters Pilot's Association. The helicopters

include an OH-6 light observation helicopter, OH-58 bate helicopter for the gunships, UH-1H Huey (Slick) used to carry troops and supplies, and a UH-1C Huey gunship. The helicopters are in front of the Museum through Saturday, with the exception of during the Veteran's Day Parade.



#### **NCM Board Member Receives CMA Award**

Museum Board Member Lon Helton was recognized during the annual Country Music Association Awards Ceremony last night as National Broadcast Personality of the Year.

In addition to being the host of Country Countdown USA since its inception in 1992, he is publisher of Country Aircheck (an industry trade magazine), also serving on boards for the Country Music Hall of Fame, St. Jude Children's Hospital, and Country Music Association. Lon was instrumental in the Museum's 2012-2013 Country Music Stars and Cars exhibit and regularly sends Country music celebrities our way!



# Mini-Caravan to NCM in Bowling Green, KY By: Kris McCandless



"Definitely a bucket-list item to check off."

"The trip exceeded all our expectations! We look forward to the next one!"

"To all the other friends I met, thanks to each of you for your warm welcome and genuine friendship."(from a new member who joined us on this Caravan)."

"It's always nice to see fellow Corvette enthusiasts come

together, sharing stories and lots of laughter, with camaraderie that only a Corvette can create. We had a wonderful time!" Those were just a few of the reactions to NVCC's 4-day adventure driving to and experiencing the National Corvette Museum ("the Museum"), the new Motorsports Park and the Bowling Green Assembly Plant between August 9 and 12.



NVCC VP and Rallye Chairman, Kris McCandless, led 10 Corvettes through some scenic and rolling highways of Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky. Many club members had expressed interest in attending NCM's big Caravan to the Museum at the end of this month (August 2014) for their 20th Anniversary Celebration and the opening of the Motorsports Park, but didn't feel like braving the crowds. So, I set up the Mini-Caravan route with hotel accommodations and a two-day itinerary with the Museum's Stephanie Morrill, head of member services and lead ambassador.

The route started on Saturday, August 9, in Gainesville with the first leg down US 29 to Charlotteville and on I-64 west to White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, where everyone got to "experience" the majesty of The Greenbrier resort and lunch at Draper's Cafe inside. We continued through the sweeping turns and hills of Beckley, Charleston and Huntington, West Virginia before entering Kentucky with dinner at a Cracker Barrel in Morehead and the first night's stay in eastern Lexington, Kentucky. Awaking to pouring down rain and breakfast on our own, we regrouped at the hotel and headed for Bowling Green. The clouds broke later and we passed several horse farms, a key signature of Kentucky, as well as seeing signs for the Bourbon Trail along the Bluegrass Parkway. We rolled into the Museum on Sunday, August 10 around noon, parked in "Corvette Only" parking spots, posed briefly for shots by our fellow caravaners, and began our adventure in Bowling Green.

"On our dance card," (literally a card attached to an NCM lanyard with our itinerary on it) was having a box lunch at the Museum cafe, posing for professional photographs in front of the Museum as a Club/group and individually with our cars, the official Museum tour, followed Monday, August 11 by a tour of the Plant, exclusive to our



Club/group (one of the perks of making this a Club Visit to the Museum), and a memorable van ride of the new, fullcourse Motorsports track (our leader drove a twenty-passenger van on the track

in a lower speed version of what we'd do in our Vettes, but still it was a thrill to experience! The Christmas tree air freshener hanging from the rearview mirror got close to being horizontal at times, reflecting the lateral g's we experienced in this van.)

For most of us, we had never been to the museum, so we were awe struck at the whole experience, especially going to see Corvettes "being born" at the Plant across the street. And of course, as the Museum has witnessed in attendance since

February 12, 2014, the sinkhole under the spire was most impressive, as were the 8 cars that were pulled from it, all on display.

Sunday and Monday had planned events but the rest of the week was open to those who wished to stay or move on to other destinations or vacation plans. Several of us headed back to Northern Virginia on Tuesday, making the journey in roughly 10.5 to 12 hours, depending on breaks and gas stops (about 700 miles).

As expressed above, this whole trip was completely enjoyed by all in attendance. And to spice things up along the way, our Sweeper (def: a single or couple who bring up the rear of a caravan or cruise), Carl Grigsby and Vonia Ashton-Grigsby tested out their new Go Pro video camera by making "video runs" along open stretches of our journey to the Museum. Even more impressive is the two-part video they created of our trip, complete with video clips and still photography. (see links below). Watch these two well-crafted videos with complimentary music selections to experience what 18 of us enjoyed earlier this month.

#### Video Part 1:

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B9ZhSGBHDEAqMWk0NElmRE50S28/edit?usp=drive\_web\_Video Part 2:

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B9ZhSGBHDEAqRmxZWExIUE5EMUk/edit?usp=drive\_web

#### Changing of the Guard (or Editor in this case)



Below is a pic of the GBM giving Anne Costolanski a big hand for a job well done in again assuming the role of Newsletter Editor for the period of Rich Anderson's presidency....despite the fact that she had served for years as such until she went back to school in 2007 to get her doctorate and that she now lives in Atlanta, Ga. Thank you Anne!

# NVCC Back To Its Winning Ways in Ocean City

By John Palmgren



What started out as a cold and wet fall day in Ocean City on Saturday, 10/4/14, turned out to be a wonderful sunny day filled with our favorite cars, Corvettes. They were on the prowl in the 4 NCCC sanctioned rallyes (Gimmick, Scrabble, Poker Low, and Poker High). Corvettes of every generation participated in the three sanctioned fun shows, including new this year 3 additional classes for Custom Corvettes. And then there was the ultimate display...between 400 and 500 Corvettes cruising down the Ocean City Boardwalk to the cheers of a supportive crowd during the legendary Boardwalk Parade.

According to Free State Corvette Club, "Nearly 650 Corvettes and 1200 participants" made this year one of the most attended events in Corvette Weekend's 28 year history with attendees from as far away as Canada and Florida. Free State Corvette Club's 501(c)(3) charitable

foundation has donated over \$650,000 to charities in Maryland thanks to the participation and generosity of Corvette enthusiasts over the years.

And to make the weekend that much better for NVCC, yours truly and my wife, Kara, took home a runner up award for the Gimmick Rallye. We even had our picture in the Free State Corvette Club's newsletter. How cool is that!!

We were going to try to meet up as a club sometime over the weekend for a group picture but unfortunately, we couldn't get the logistics to work out right. Maybe next year, we'll try to plan something in advance... perhaps a group cruise to the event, and/or a group photo near an Ocean City landmark. Next year's event is scheduled for October 15-16, so save the date and come on out for another great Corvette Weekend!



Ocean City (continued):



### **Monster Cruise**

#### By Mike Gilliland

Thirteen Corvettes and 8 passengers slipped onto 495 on a perfect autumnal day this October 18<sup>th</sup> and headed for Dover Delaware on the NVCC Delaware Monster Cruise, led by Shawn Waddell and Mike Gilliland. Carl and Vonia Grigsby took the role of cinematographer and sweeper to keep the group together and record the cruise. Our ultimate destination, Delaware International Speedway for a tour and a few laps around the high, banked turns of the Monster Mile. First, though, we needed to enjoy the scenery and see what else Delaware had to offer.

The sunny, offseason drive across the Bay Bridge brought some appreciative comments on the Club Radios. Somewhere near Dover fall colors blended with the sound of hoof-beats and the group was photo-bombed by the Amish. There is nothing quite like seeing an Amish cart framed by a C6 Grand Sport and the nose of a classic C3. Everyone stopped in Dover at the Grotto Pizzeria just outside of the Speedway. There we enjoyed lunch together and classed up the parking lot with a baker's dozen of Corvettes.





After lunch, the group cruised south past Dover AFB and landed at the Air Mobility Command Museum. On arrival, we were met by a staff member who arranged a photo opportunity for our Corvettes, under the wing of a former Air Force II (and sometimes Air Force I) Douglas VC-9C. We all decided that if it was good enough for Presidents Reagan, Bush, Clinton, Bush and Mrs. Obama it was good enough for us. So we all got in line to get our pictures taken. Nothing makes a shiny aircraft look better than a Corvette or two or three.

While the Dover Air Mobility Command Museum collection may not be as deep as some, it can be said to be wider than any other with the



only C5A in an existing collection. The lucky members of the cruise got a rare cockpit tour of the C5A as well as some quality time in the cavernous belly of the beast. Everyone was impressed, including Rita Mars and her sister Nancy who had packed up Rich's yellow C6 and headed off leaving him to work and morn his empty garage. Tough break Rich, thanks for lending the ladies the car. They claim they had a real good time.

#### **Monster Cruise continued**

All of us who hung out with our own, Dick Hammaker or amateur aircraft historian and former air museum curator, Jim, JET, Thompson (along for the ride and the chance to get into that C5A cockpit) had most of their questions answered about the aircraft on display. Thanks guys; your knowledge is much appreciated.

Next came a costal cruise down to the Dogfish Head Brewery where Shawn had arranged a tour of the facility with an entertaining brewery worker. This is the original brewery site of the husband and wife team that still runs the brewery. Needless to say the place has grown in the decades since its inception. We were all given a history lesson on how the outfit started out and then led on a tour of a brand new, state of the art facility. We have been told to leave anything out about tasting actual beer, as that would have insurance implications. Oh well...

The night was topped off with a run down to Rehoboth for a late dinner. There the group had time to eat, catch up on the College football scores and relax. Then came the cruise back to the Motel in Dover and a chance for most of us to rest before the main event in the morning (Some fool made our reservations at a Super 8; who was that fool anyway?).

And what a morning it was, we pulled into the Speedway parking lot with over 50 other Corvettes before the stragglers



showed up. All in all 70 Corvettes hit the track that day. It made a very pretty picture as well as some congestion on the track (kind of like a slinky with burnouts). Still, it was very cool. The track historian led us onto the track twice. In between track sessions he schooled us on NASCAR in the press center and the covered pit area. Everyone got a photo opportunity on Victory Lane. Even the cruise home was terrific. Thanks to all who participated, you made this a great cruise. Again, sorry Rich...

# First Place at the Vienna Halloween Parade



By Lori Benish

That's right, for 5 straight years we have won an award (all first place except for one second place) at the Vienna Halloween Parade, for our awesome showing of cars and spirit. Thank you again to everyone that came out to participate and I look forward to another great year in 2015!! Pictures have been uploaded to the clubs flickr page (see the link on our website's gallery page if you don't know how to reach our flickr directly).

Happy Halloween (and look for info about the upcoming Christmas Lights Rallye soon!)

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#### **Newsletter News...**

Well I'm back at the news desk after close to a 3-year break to be President. First and foremost, I apologize for the break in publication due to just toooo many things going on and not enough time at the computer. Hence the use of "Fall 2014" instead of the normal month. I promise to get things back on track now that cold weather is setting in and I'm nearly complete in my commitments to restore damage from the July storm that played havoc in my little corner of the world.

As I have thumped the drum since I first became Editor in August 2007, the newsletter can be no better than your input to it. Please send me pics and narratives on any of your corvette adventures/misadventures that I can share with the rest of the membership. Your input helps to spark interest in others to participate, so you are not only helping out your Editor in filling up white space, you are helping NVCC to stay a vital part of all of our memberships' lives.



Rich Anderson
304-229-0010 richard.anderson157@frontier.com

# Next General Business Meetings:

Tuesday, November 25th at 7:30 pm

**No December GBM** 

**GBM Meeting Location**:

Page Chevrolet 6500 Little River Turnpike Alexandria, VA 22312