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The Connection

Newsletter of the Capital City Corvette Club

VOLUME XL • NUMBER 3 • MARCH 2010

Upcoming Events

General Membership Meeting

March 3 • 7:00 p.m. • Delhi Cafe • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

Chevy VetteFest

March 5-7 • Donald E. Stevens Convention Center 5555 N. River Road • Des Plains, IL (Chicago)

Board Meeting Meeting

March 17 • 6:30 p.m. • Delhi Cafe • 4625 Willoughby • Holt

Michigan Region Banquet

March 20 • 5:30 p.m. • Clark Lake Golf Course • 5535 Wesch Rd. • Brooklyn, MI

Bowling with the Jackson Corvette Club

Sunday, April 18 • 1:30 p.m. • City Limits • 801 N Cedar St., Mason

Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival Parade

April 24 • Watch for Details



March Birthdays

Joseph Thomas (4) • Rich Bratschi (5) • Pat Cripe (5) Bob Maynard (13) • Robert Ribar (18) • Janet Iansiti (20) Sandy Bechtel (24) • Jim DeNike (28)

Welcome New CCCC Members

Randy and NancyLee Buck, Mason • 1993 Ruby Coupe

Newsletter Article Deadline

Send all April newsletter articles to scott@keyprintgroup.com by March 23.

From the President...

arch marches in already. Where did February go? I'm not one for wishing my days away, but I don't mind how fast this winter seems to have passed, although it may be far from over. After warm and dry weather hits us, I hope things slow way down and we get to enjoy many months of "top-down/off" weather before we put 'em away again.

Our first Drive and Dine of the year turned out to be a success, with 31 attendees. We had time to hang around the mostly completed new Farmer's Market,



eat great food at DeLucas, and tour the R.E. Olds Museum. A few of us even topped off the afternoon with hot chocolate at BiggBy Coffee. Janet and I wish to thank all who were able to join us. Anyone want to get another one organized? I'm hungry again!

A bit of housecleaning – If you have changed your phone number or email address since you filled out your membership information please contact our Membership Director, Angela Hyde, so we can keep our lists updated. We want to make sure all correspondence and important event updates get to you. Also, if you know of someone in the club who is sick, in the hospital, or lost a loved one, be sure to let our Hearts & Flowers Director, Julie Lasher, know.

Keep an eye on our website calendar for upcoming activities. We are planning some fun things like bowling with the Jackson CC, a garage sale, a weeknight ice-cream cruise-in or two (or three), and maybe an evening at a Lugnuts game. I may even try to schedule a few Tech Nights, like we had a couple years ago. It would be fun if someone put together a rally or picnic. Who knows what fun trouble we can stir up this summer. Stand by for good fun with good friends.





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Sunday, April 18, 2010 1:30 p.m.

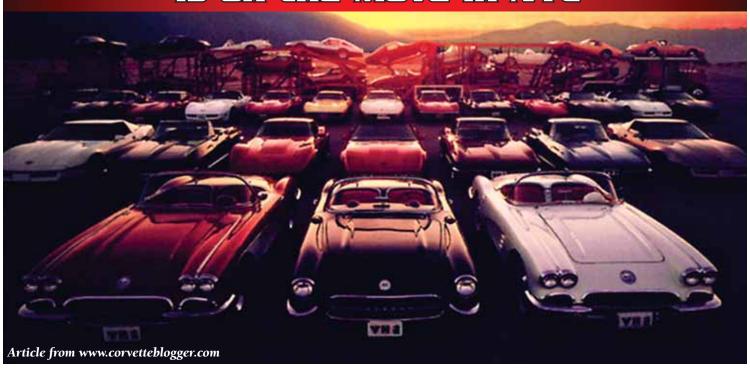
Cost:

\$3.95 per person/per game shoes to be included

Location:

City Limits • 801 N Cedar St. Mason. MI 48854

The Peter Max VH1 Corvette Collection is on the Move in NYC



n 1989 VH1 held a contest where they gave away 36 Corvettes - one for every year from 1953 through 1989 - to a single winner. Dennis Amodeo, a carpenter from Long Island won the collection, but before taking delivery he sold all 36 Corvettes to Pop artist Peter Max who planned to use the cars for an art project. The project never got off the ground and the Corvettes ended up parked in a Brooklyn building where they were essentially forgotten.

The VH1 Corvette Giveaway was the brainchild of Jim Cahill. After a pitch to the network in 1988 that included toy Corvettes as props, Cahill was given the green light and began assembling his collection. The Corvettes were purchased over a couple of months in 1988 although Cahill remembers the 1953 Corvette being one of the hardest to locate. He recounts there being a big auction down in Scottsdale where if you have the cash, you can get the car you want. The cost to assemble the collection ran \$610,000. The cost of the '53 Corvette itself was \$60,000.

The VH1 contest was a rousing success with over 1.3 million entries received. Amodeo was noti-

fied that he won and flew out to California where he was given the keys to the collection by Mike Love, a member of the Beach Boys. It was at this time that Peter Max heard about the collection and then had what he calls "the biggest dream ever. I was in the bleachers at a football game, and suddenly these Corvettes come out of the tunnels."

Peter Max bought the collection for about \$500,000 and had the cars shipped to New York City. At the time he was busy with other projects and a legal battle with the IRS, so the cars just sat. After being moved a couple of times in those early years, the 36 Corvettes eventually wound up in the parking garage in Brooklyn where they remained until earlier this year.

In 2005, *Digital Corvettes* founder Patrick Gramm heard about the collection and he and several others set off scouring Brooklyn until they located the cars in a former *Daily News* printing plant. Behind a chain link fence sat the 36 Corvettes. They were dirty as hell, many had flat tires and some of the more valuable roadsters like the '53

Continued on page 7

(E53F001291) were stored with its top down, allowing over 10 years of dust, grime and dirt to accumulate.

The buzz generated by the finding of the Peter Max collection was substantial. Gramm was very much concerned about the condition of the 1953 Corvette, #291 of 300 made, and offered to take it to the National Corvette Museum where it could be cleaned up and stored properly until Max was ready to start the project. Other offers were made to allow a team of Corvette enthusiasts to come in and take care of the cars, but all were rebuffed.

Now comes word that the Corvette collection was recently moved. Pictures from twitter users show the Corvettes lining a street as they were loaded on car haulers and taken to a new, unnamed





location. Is Peter Max getting ready to fulfill his dream of repainting the Corvettes and then displaying them at Giants or Yankees Stadium?

Peter Max has signaled that he is ready to start moving forward on the project, although he now says the painting of the Corvettes will be more subtle than originally planned. I'm going to paint them so it's respectful," he said in the *New York Times* article. In addition to the 36 Corvettes already in the collection, Max's vision calls for purchasing an additional 14 Corvettes so that there is one from every year through 2003 - 50 Corvettes in all. After painting the Corvettes, the cars would go on an exhibition tour before being auctioned as a set.

David Borroughs of Bloomington Gold was asked by the *New York Times* about the value of the collection. With photos and information provided by Patrick Gramm, and without an on-site inspection, he suggested that the 36 car collection had an estimated value of \$843,000 with the 10 oldest Corvettes alone accounting for \$445,000.

Only time will tell whether these Corvettes will finally get the proper care and respect due. And that goes for Peter Max's claim that he be "respectful" when repainting 36 examples of America's sports cars.

Source: New York Times via Digital Corvettes

Photo Credits: Tony Cenicola/The New York Times, Jim Cahill, Jenna Stern

RAMRACING DYNODAY

Saturday, June 5, 2010 Saranac, MI

This is a prepaid event; all fees must be paid by May 26th to allow Ram Racing to prepare for the day.

First 15 cars to sign up and pay are guaranteed a spot; we will take a total of 20 cars. Last 5 cars will get to run if anyone drops out or if more time becomes available.

We'll meet at the Royal Scott Golf & Bowling Center: 4722 W Grand River, Lansing, MI at 8 AM and depart to arrive at Ram Racing in Saranac at approximately 9 AM. For more details call Ed @ (517-663-4808).

Sign up sheet will be at the March, April, and May General CCCC meeting.

Make checks payable to: Capital City Corvette Club Mail to: Ed Politza, 1310 Montgomery Street, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827









B The Connection



2010 MICHIGAN REGION ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET HOSTED BY JACKSON CORVETTE CLUB March 20, 2010

Location:

Clark Lake Golf Course 5535 Wesch Road Brooklyn, Michigan

Phone: 517-592-6259

From I-94 East or West Exit #142 US-127 South - Go 11.3 miles Left on Jefferson Road - Go 2.6 miles Right on Hayes Road - Go 0.6 miles Golf Course on Left – Parking on Right

Preferred Hotels

Super 8 Motel - 155 Wamplers Lake Road Brooklyn 517-592-0888 (closest to event) Comfort Inn & Suites - 2435 Shirley Drive Jackson 517-768-0088 (NCCC SOS Hotel) Hampton Inn - 2225 Shirley Drive Jackson 517-789-5151 Fairfield Inn - 2395 Shirley Drive Jackson 517-784-7877 Appetizers and Cash bar 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Dinner Served at 6:30 p.m.

Menu

Top Round of Beef Carving Station
Parmesan Chicken Breast
Capellini with Marinara Sauce
Fettuccini Alfredo
Mixed Vegetable
Mixed Italian salad
Dinner Rolls
Includes soft drinks, coffee and tea

Dessert

Apple cobbler with ice cream

Cost \$21.00 per person

Program to follow dinner

Remember: Corvette Clubs are to Donate a door prize of \$30.00

Checks should be made payable to Michigan Region Corvette Clubs Mail to Jackson Corvette Club, PO Box 6363, Jackson, MI 49204 Contact Person: Steve Massie, Governor at 517-688-4066

RSVP by February 26, 2010

Name:								
No. of Guests	X\$21.00/per person	Amount Enclosed \$						
Phone No.								
Club Affiliation								

March 2010

Capital City Corvette Club

General Membership Meeting – February 3, 2010

President Craig Iansiti: called meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. with a moment of silence for the untimely deaths of club members, John Bechtel and Pam Platte as well as Carol Putmon's father.

January meeting's minutes were approved by Sandy Bechtel and seconded by Rich Bratschi.

Treasurer Mike Britz: assured club all bills are currently paid.

Ted Lasher/Points Director: told club all points were currently up to date. Ted went on to explain revision to points accumulations. He asked membership for input. Hopefully all revisions will be finalized at the next meeting. Ted does have DVDs for sale of the club past year's activities, although he could not show them at the meeting as expected because of equipment malfunction.

Angela Hyde, Membership/Historian: The current membership stands at 82 members, 1 honorary, and 70 future members.

Editor Scott Bauries: was not present.

Competition, Rich Bratschi: Gave explanation of "Dyno" Day at Saranac to be held in June. The fee will be \$60.00. A flyer will be made to give all pertinent information.

Public Relations/Simon Reiffer: commented on Regent Banquet to be held at Clark Lake Golf Club to be held on March 20. Several comments were made about the contacts made were good and there were lots of prizes usually worth your admission.

Social/Carol Putmon: told of Drive & Dine sign up for

the event on Saturday, February 13 by Craig & Janet Iansiti, bowling with the Jackson Club to be held in Mason, and the Vermontville Syrup Festival. She reminded everyone to mark their calendars.

Governor/Terry Burke: New Regional Competition Director, Dave Johnson. Told of new procedure for low speed events—flyer to be given to Region prior to getting a number. A discussion followed as to how that even worked. K&K Insurance wants a flyer on only sanctioned events. February 23 will be next NCCC regional meeting.

Webmaster/Gloria Reiffer: no news

NCM Ambassador Sandy Behtel: Announced raffles anywhere from \$10 to \$500 can be purchased on website. Caravan T-shirts on sale for cheap. January 9-April 13 traveling exhibit geared to children.

New Business: No new business.

Old Business: Schedule of 2010 Events listed on reverse side of meeting agenda sheet. Simon Reiffer told of Greg Capp's surgery which has been complicated due to an infection.

50/50 Drawing: \$44.50 won by Raoul Eiseman.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Connie Britz



Capital City Corvette Club

Board Meeting – February 17, 2010

President: Craig Iansiti called meeting open at 6:30 P.M.

Secretary: Connie Britz asked for approval of January minutes. Scott Bauries moved the minutes be approved and Rich Bratschi seconded it.

Treasurer: Mike Britz gave a financial update and handed out January year- to-date accounting.

Points: Ted Lasher reported on clarification of revamping of point accounting. He will put clarification on club's website and in newsletter. It will take effect January 2010 retroactively. It was approved by Simon Reiffer and seconded by Mike Britz.

Ted also said he had 15 DVD's requested or ordered.

Membership: Angela Hyde reported two new members, Randy & Nancy Lee Buck.

Editor: Scott Bauries had nothing to report.

Competition: Rich Bratschi had nothing to report.

Public Relations: Simon Reiffer discussed dates for Garage Sale to be held at Spinrad's Garage. More discussions will follow at general meeting.

Social: Carol Putmon informed members of Bowling with the Jackson Club to be on Sunday, April 18 at 1:30 P. M. Progressive Dinner in the works and Vermontville Syrup Festival Parade on Saturday, April 24.

Governor: Terry Burke was not in attendance.

NCM Ambassador: Sandy Bechtel had nothing to report.

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer was not in attendance.

Member Comments: Discussion about date of Garage Sale at Spinrads. Colleen Bratschi Thought April or May was too early and usually too cold. She suggested August.

Scholarship Fund & Distribution was discussed. It was decided the club would sponsor three (3) scholarships. The John Bechtel Scholarship would be in the amount of \$250 annually. A discussion followed as to how to earn the most money on the fund. A money market account was discussed.

Craig called to club's attention a Facebook page that Cindy Henses and Dave Kempel (former members) had started. Craig thought that there might be a copyright infringement on name of club & logo since neither are current members. Scott Bauries will look into starting a bonafide Facebook page since it was thought to be a good idea.

Culvers location in Okemos for May 8 Blessing of the Vettes has been approved by Cory, manager of Culvers.

Craig stressed the need to keeping email addresses updated in membership list.

These updates need to be given to Angela.

Hearts & Flowers notifications need to be given to Julie Lasher.

The Board decided to give shirts and jackets as Door prizes for Blessing. These are items leftover from Winterfest.

Gary Wyma had suggested a visit to the DeWitt Ice Cream /Pie for a club gathering. However, Gary was not present at meeting. It will be discussed at a later date.

Attending a LugNuts game as a club was discussed again. It is possible we go as a club and possibly not take vettes as safe parking is a concern.

Michigan Location Library (established to locate cars for possible movie appearances) was discussed again. A link with contact information will be posted on the website.

Waiver Forms will be available at General Membership meetings for D & D organizers.

Craig spoke about possible "mini" sponsors for car shows. The letter that members can take with them or mail will be emailed to members so that they can copy them and use them to obtain sponsors.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Britz (Secretary)





Capital City Corvette Club



Participation Points as of February 18, 2010

8	Scott Bauries	1	Art Doty*	9	Ted Lasher	2	Eddie Root
7	Sandy Bechtel	1	Nancy Doty*	0	Ellie Lickfeldt	0	Brenda Shatkosky*
2	James Boettcher	1	Catherine Eiseman	1	Patrick Lickfeldt	0	Richard Shatkosky*
2	Mara Boettcher	1	Raoul Eiseman	0	Carlo Litrenta	0	Victor Smith
4	Colleen Bratschi	0	Jennifer Everhart*	0	Janet Litrenta	0	Loretta Spinrad
9	Rich Bratschi	1	Randy Gisse	1	Bob Maynard	0	Steve Spinrad
8	Connie Britz	0	Vidal Gonzalez	2	Shalimar Maynard	0	Janet Sprague
7	Mike Britz	0	Betty Guyot	2	Dominique Palacio	0	Michael Sprague
0	David Brown	0	Lloyd Guyot	2	Jerry Palacio	0	Dan Stremler
2	Diana Brown-Mosher	11	Angela Hyde	0	Diana Parks	0	Nancy Stremler
0	NancyLee Buck	12	Craig lansiti	0	Howard Parks	2	Joseph Thomas*
0	Randy Buck	7	Janet lansiti	0	Joe Platte	1	Sue VanAtta
3	Chris Burke	0	Dick Iding	4	Ed Politza	0	Ann Ward
9	Terry Burke	0	Greg Kapp	4	Suzanne Politza	1	Bill Ward
0	Kathy Cooper	4	Kim Keith	0	David Pursel	0	Larry Warren*
0	Ronald Cooper	4	Sue Keith	0	Kathryn Pursel	0	Linda Warren*
3	Dave Cripe*	0	Frank Kessler	8	Carol Putmon	0	Lee Webster
3	Pat Cripe	0	Judy Kessler	1	Randy Putmon	2	Larry Wight
0	Darwin Day	1	Fred Koos	9	Gloria Reiffer	0	Gary Wyma
1	Jim DeNike	0	Judy Koos	9	Simon Reiffer	0	Kathy Wyma
2	Patti DeNike	7	Julie Lasher	4	Robert Ribar		

Current 2010 Top Ten

12 Craig lansiti 9 Terry Burke 9 Simon Reiffer 8 Carol Putmon

11 Angela Hyde 9 Ted Lasher 8 Scott Bauries

9 Rich Bratschi 9 Gloria Reiffer 8 Connie Britz



Corvette History - 1954 Model

Article from www.auto.howstuffworks.com • Written by the Auto Editors of Consumer Guide

ot surprisingly, the 1954 Corvette differed little from the 1953 model, though running refinements occurred throughout the model year. For instance, the 1953 Corvette had two short stainless-steel exhaust outlets protruding inboard of the rear fenders. When it was found that air turbulence tended to suck exhaust gases back against the car, soiling the paint, the outlets were lengthened and routed below the body. But even this alteration didn't entirely solve the problem, which would persist until the 1956 redesign, when the tips were shifted to the rear fender extremities.

In addition, gas and brake lines were better protected by being moved inboard of the right-hand main frame rail, and tops and top irons changed from black to tan. The storage bag for carrying the side curtains in the trunk was mildly reshaped and newly color-keyed to the interior.

Some initial inconveniences were also remedied on the 1954s. For example, the original two-handle exterior hood latch was replaced by a more man-

ageable single-handle mechanism after the first 300 or so units were built. The choke control was moved from the right to the left of the steering column, swapping places with the wiper switch. This eliminated having to reach across or through the steering wheel to operate the choke with the left hand while turn-

ing the ignition key with the right. Moisture in the rear license plate recess tended to cause its plastic cover to fog up, so Chevy included two little bags of a desiccant material to keep the area dry.

Under the hood, a new camshaft gave the Blue Flame six an extra five horsepower, boosting the total to 155 bhp, though the increase wasn't announced until the following year. Other alterations included a new-style rocker-arm cover (about 20 percent of which were finished in chrome -- serial



numbers 1363 through 4381), a tidier wiring harness, and more plastic-insulated wire (replacing fabric). Also, the three bullet-shaped air cleaners were replaced by a two-pot configuration after the first 1900 cars rolled off the line.

Another problem the 1954 model addressed concerned the convertible top mechanism. On early cars, the main irons had to poke through slots in the chrome moldings behind the seats and were capped with spring-loaded flippers. Beginning with serial number 3600, the irons were redesigned with a dogleg shape that allowed them to slip between the body and the seatback. Unhappily, this led to another annoyance -- the top irons

rubbed against the upholstery. Since the preferred top-folding procedure was not particularly obvious, the factory began sticking explanatory decals on the underside of the top cover.

For 1954, the Corvette finally came in a choice of colors: Pennant Blue, mated to a tan interior, accounted for

about 16 percent of production. Sportsman Red, selling at about four percent, and the original Polo White, at about 80 percent, were teamed with red interiors. A very small number of cars -- as few as six -- were painted black and also carried a red interior. Some 1954 owners claim to have original paint colors other than these four, though they're not shown in factory records. However, pain bulletins are known to have listed a Metallic Green and a Metallic Bronze.



MARKY EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

Richard W. Iding

President



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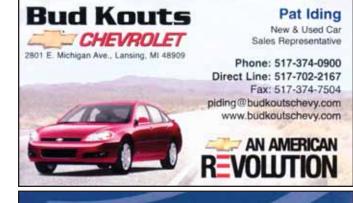
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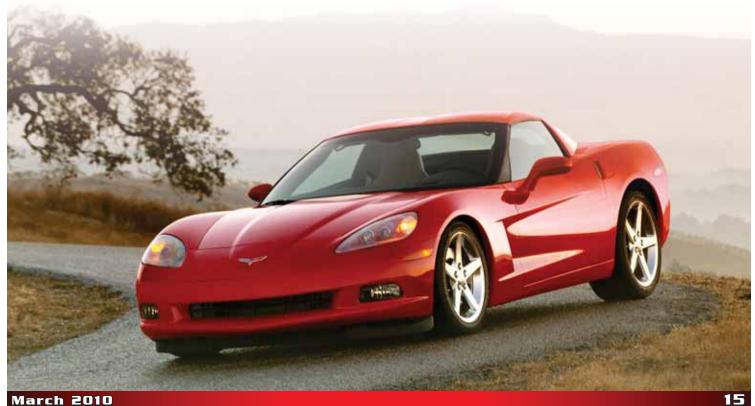




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