



Founded in 1958
www.cccorvette.org

October 2025

THE CONNECTION

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Capital City Corvette Club
Volume LV • Number 10



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MICHIGAN REGION



October 2025

92 Members
2 Honorary Members
23 FCOA



Our Sponsor
www.Shaheenlansing.com

Shaheen Car Show

September 14, 2025





ACTIVITIES FOR OCTOBER & BEYOND

- General Membership Meeting Oct 1
 - 7:00 PM @ Delhi Cafe
- Fall Color Tour Oct 11
- Board Meeting Oct 15
- Upcoming Events
 - Bingo at Delta River Senior Village Nov 8
 - Toys for Tots Dec 6
 - Holiday Luncheon Dec 13

Check out the Events Page on the CCCC Website for more information on upcoming NCCC, Local, Regional, and National Events. [Event Flyers \(cccorvette.org\)](http://cccorvette.org)

Check out the Pictures Page on the CCCC Website for more pictures of all the cars at the Shaheen Car show & past club events. [Capital City Corvette Club's albums | Flickr](#)

FALL COLOR TOUR

Saturday, October 11, 2025

11AM MEET @ Family Farm and Home

1658 Lansing Rd

Charlotte, MI 48813

11:30AM DEPARTURE TIME

RSVP To: Casey Mulvany

517.652.3398

mulvanycasey@gmail.com



Saturday, November 8, 2025

2:00 – 4:00 pm (setup at 1:00 pm)



Delta River Senior Village

a Volunteers of America Community

6090 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing MI 48917

Keep gathering your fabulous Bingo prizes.

Handmade items are always a plus, but if you're not 'crafty', basic household products or other fun things are always welcome.

Please bring your favorite snack and/or dessert to share!

We will enjoy dinner afterwards at One North

5001 W Saginaw Hwy., Lansing MI 48917

Hosted by Sandy Bechtel. Contact Sandy with any questions:

517 • 243 • 7207 or sjbechtel@hotmail.com

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Michael Lewis
October 1



Casey Mulvany
October 17



Melissa Felts
October 3



George Duncan
October 28



Katherine Twining
October 5



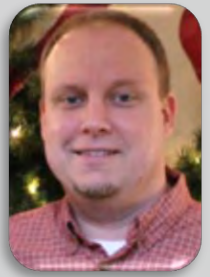
Dana Beaman
October 31



Timothy Wells
October 8



President's Page



Hello Members,

October brings us into the home stretch of the year, and with it, our club elections. Nominations are open for another month, so if you've ever thought about stepping up, now is your chance. Some positions already have strong candidates—Tom has accepted a nomination for President, and I've agreed to run for Governor—but nothing is finalized until nominations close, and elections are held. Even if candidates are unopposed today, there's still room for others to join the ballot. Volunteering is what keeps this club vibrant, and I encourage you to consider where your skills and energy might fit.

When the time comes, there will be a peaceful transition of power. No protests, no recounts, no barricades at Shaheen. I promise not to give any farewell speeches from the hood of my Corvette, and no Secret Service detail will be needed to escort me out of the President's seat. Whoever takes the wheel next will do a fine job, and I'll still be around as Governor to help steer things from a different lane.

Looking ahead, October and even November are packed with events. It's always funny how clubs coast through the early part of the year, then suddenly realize there are sanctions left and fill the fall calendar to bursting. That means you've got plenty of opportunities left to get out and enjoy your car before storage season.

Highlights include the October 18th–19th "Bucket List" Rallye, also known as the Regional Fall Color Tour, which this year takes us to the beautiful Michigan U.P. Add in Rallyes, Funkhanas, and Autocrosses across the Region, and you can still rack up points in both speed and non-speed categories. Closer to home, our own Fall Color Tour is set for October 11th—a great chance to see the leaves and enjoy some local roads.

At this month's membership meeting, Simon will also deliver a significant report. National dues are increasing, and the 2026 NCCC Rulebook is coming up for a vote, with a number of proposals aimed at modernizing the program and making it more welcoming to members of all ages. It's worth hearing what's on the horizon.

So, get out there while the weather holds, take in some colors, and make the most of these last few weeks of driving season.

Don't forget to wave!

Kyle Felts
President
Capital City Corvette Club



Capital City Corvette Club



Participation Points as of September 20, 2025

0 Beverly Adado	19 Elizabeth Hedlund	0 Sondi Plummer	13 Mary Wells
17 Robert Adado	10 Skip Herold, Jr.	29 Suzanne Politza	46 Timothy Wells
29 Pat Bailey	15 Skip Herold, III	75 Carl Polomski *	26 Christine Wieczorek
34 Roy Bailey	46 Sue Hoover *	71 Carolyn Polomski *	24 Thomas Wieczorek
10 Daniel Baxendale	159 Angela Hyde	19 Gary Pratt	32 Stella Wood
0 Dana Beaman	8 Craig Iansiti	54 Carol Putmon	
0 Kim Beaman	9 Daniel Kane	59 Randy Putmon	
33 Sandy Bechtel	82 Kim Keith	74 Gloria Reiffer	
0 Colleen Bratschi	84 Sue Keith	75 Simon Reiffer	
0 Rich Bratschi	91 Michael Lewis	36 Robert Ribar	
0 Connie Britz	16 Janet Litrenta	18 Heather Saxton	
0 Mike Britz	10 Jean Luttig	19 Mike Saxton	
47 Geoffrey Cradit	69 Bob Maynard	23 Kyle Schittenhelm	
37 Joyce Cradit	48 Shalimar Maynard	20 Shelby Schittenhelm	
1 Art Doty *	12 Brian McKeveit	8 Kim Schramm	
1 Nancy Doty *	55 Kevin Mead	0 James Spalding	
5 George Duncan *	9 Patricia Mead	13 Robert Spehar	
8 Kathy Duncan *	0 Linda Michael	0 Ron Spittler	
59 Michelle Faupel	31 Chuck Miller	84 James Sutherland	
69 Tom Faupel	29 Jeffrey Mitzel	0 Ralph Swan	
156 Kyle Felts	16 Casey Mulvany	0 Susan Swan	
32 Melissa Felts	14 Kim Mulvany	6 Ed Thomas	
16 Cindy Gozalka	0 Diane Munshaw	1 Stephen Toth	
26 Norman Gozalka	0 Tom Munshaw	18 Harold Twining	
2 Jeanne Harris	0 Steve Musselman	15 Katherine Twining	
6 Ward Harris	0 Barb Musselman	6 Luis Valle	* NCCC affiliation with another Region club
19 Bill Hass	7 George Nelson	32 Ann Voss	
25 Melissa Hass	7 Laurie Nelson	33 David Voss	
19 Bob Hedlund	16 Erick Pardo	10 Robert Watson	

2025 Top Ten

159 Angela Hyde	84 Sue Keith	75 Carl Polomski *	71 Carolyn Polomski *
156 Kyle Felts	84 James Sutherland	75 Simon Reiffer	
91 Michael Lewis	82 Kim Keith	74 Gloria Reiffer	



2025 CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Kyle
Felts



GOVERNOR/VP

Simon
Reiffer



SECRETARY

Melissa
Hass



TREASURER

James
Sutherland



SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Roy
Bailey



COMPETITION DIRECTOR

Kevin
Mead



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Angela
Hyde



POINTS DIRECTOR

Kim
Keith



NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Tom
Faupel



PR DIRECTOR

Shelby
Schittenhelm



2025 APPOINTED OFFICERS

CHAPLAIN

Ward
Harris



HEARTS & FLOWERS

Ann
Voss



HISTORIAN

Sue
Keith



NCM AMBASSADOR

Casey
Mulvany



PHOTOGRAPHER

Stella
Wood



QUARTERMASTER

Randy
Putmon



SERGEANT AT ARMS

Geofrey
Cradit



WEBMASTER

Gloria
Reiffer



PAST PRESIDENT

Bob
Maynard



FACEBOOK MODERATOR

Dave
Voss



Membership Meeting Minutes

CAPITAL CITY CORVETTE CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING September 3, 2025 - Delhi Café & Zoom

7:00 Call to Order: Kyle Felts, President

- Thanks to Kevin for having everything ready for Birch Run, Simon & Gloria for the Willows, Angela for the Hawaiian Drive and Dine and Dave & Ann for Crossroads.
- Thanks to all who attended Crossroads, we took 1st Place for club participation.
- We received a Thank You from the VFW National Home for our \$1,500 donation. We are now a Gold Star Donor.

Secretary: Melissa Hass

- Approval for August minutes: motion by Tom Faupel; seconded by Mike Lewis and approved by the majority of the members in attendance.

Treasurer: James Sutherland

- Books are balanced and all bills are paid.
- We had a higher income from Birch Run than we expected.

V/P Governor: Simon Reiffer

- We had a good time at the National Convention in the Wisconsin Dells and a good time at Crossroads. I even won an Award.
- Next week will be the Region meeting.
- Gloria and I will be attending the Governor's meeting in St. Louis this month, it is the same weekend as the Shaheen show. Dues will be going up, \$15 for primary member and \$5 for secondary member according to Deb Murphy's newsletter.

Points Director: Kim Keith

- Points are up to date as of 8/28. Points will be updated next week and after the Shaheen Show.

Competition Director: Kevin Mead

- Thanks to everyone who helped with the Birch Run Event.

Editor: Tom Faupel

- I hope everyone received their Newsletter.
- I am always looking for articles.

Membership Director: Angela Hyde

- We currently have 92 members, 9 lifetime members, 2 honorary members and 23 FCOA.
- Lifetime dues are going up, if you are thinking about it, now is the time to purchase.
- I will not start collecting dues for 2026 until after September 13

Social Director: Roy Bailey

- Birthday treats were handed out.

Public Relations Director: Shelby Schittenhelm

- Absent, no report.

Membership Meeting Minutes

Appointed Officer Report:

Past President: Bob Maynard

- Nothing new to report.

Photographer: Stella Wood

- Absent, no report.

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer

- An “Awards” page has been added to the menu of the club website. This page includes links to past recipients of the President’s Award (2006-2024); Turkey Award (2005-2024); and Top Ten Participant Awards (1984-2024).
- Sue Keith, our Club Historian, researched old newsletters and other records to compile the list of Top Ten Participant Awards going back to 1984. The Turkey Award page includes a brief story about why the award was presented each year. Some of the stories are quite humorous, including Randy Putman taking his C3 slightly airborne at Spartan Speedway in 2005. Sandy Bechtel and Janet Iansiti helped me develop this page with Kyle Felts submitting the article for 2024.
- The 7th Annual Shaheen Chevrolet Car Show page has had a complete overhaul. My thanks to Kyle Felts for overhauling this page. Be sure to follow the link from our home page.

Facebook Moderator: Dave Voss

- Absent, no report.

Zoom Facilitator: Kyle Felts

- The camera has been sent back however, I have not had time to research a new one.

Quartermaster: Randy Putmon

- Nothing new to report.

Sergeant at Arms: Geoffrey Cradit

- Absent, no report.

NCM Ambassador: Casey Mulvany

- Absent. Report mailed: The Plant is giving tours again. You can look this up on line to see what is available.

Historian: Sue Keith

- Nothing new to report.
- The Plant will be giving tours for two more weeks.

Hearts and Flowers: Ann Voss

- Absent, no report.

Chaplain: Ward Harris

- Ward is back. It was great seeing him at the meeting.

Membership Meeting Minutes

New Business:

- 2026 Nominations were opened by a motion by Kevin Mead, seconded by Tom Faupel and approved by the majority of the members in attendance. They will appear at the end of the minutes on a separate page.
- The Shaheen Car Show will be bigger this year. We have 300 dash plaques to give away, and a lot more trophies. We will be doing a competitor's choice award this year. We will also have some other "fun" awards to be given out. CCCC members will show up and make a charitable donation to the show, but our Corvettes will not be judged for trophies. However, we will be able to vote on our favorite cars and be eligible for the door prizes. Please come out and volunteer for this event.
- Door prizes can be brought to the show.
- A change to our Bylaws to be updated for the Youth Membership needs a written proposal and then brought to the general membership for a vote. This change is to align our Bylaws with the National Bylaws. Melissa Felts volunteered to write this proposal.
- We will also need a Bylaws change when the dues are increased and Melissa Felts also volunteered to write this proposal.

Other Business:

- The E-Z Up canopy/trailer awning issue is still not resolved. Many of us want our club to be recognized at events, we need to have our logo front and center. Kevin will double check on the pricing, but he thought the 10x20 canopy he priced out from E-Z Up was around \$1,600. Bob Adado has offered to pay half of the cost toward the canopy. CCCC logo should be the prominent logo on the canopy. We will table this until next month.
- The Turkey Award will get engraved sometime. LOL
- Sandy had money left over from the purchase of the meat for the cookout at Crossroads. A motion was made by Tom Faupel and seconded by Bob Adado to deposit the left over \$57.00 into our general fund.
- Bob Adado encouraged everyone who goes on to our website to leave a favorable Google review. There are currently only 2 reviews on our website.
- It was asked if our membership has always been around 92. Kyle stated that it fluctuates; it has been higher in past years. Our club needs a recharge. We have a lot of history, and we need to attract more, younger members. We were a founding member of NCCC. We need some new, fresh energy in the club.

Adjournment at 8:15. Motion to adjourn by Simon Reiffer; seconded by Kevin Mead and approved by the majority of members present.

2026 Nominations:

President:

Tom Faupel
Sandy Bechtel

Secretary:

Melissa Hass
/Tim Wells
Melissa Felts

Treasurer:

James Sutherland
Mike Lewis

VP/Governor:

Simon Reiffer
Kevin Mead
Kyle Felts

Points Director:

Kim Keith
Brian McKeveett

Competition Director:

Kevin Mead
Kyle Felts

Editor:

Tom Faupel
Dave Voss

Membership Director:

Angela Hyde

Public Relations Director:

Shelby Schittenhelm

Social Director:

Mike Lewis
Roy Bailey
Michelle Faupel

Capital City Corvette Club

Potential Nominees for the Office of President

For nominations held in 2025 for the 2026 Board

**According to the Capital City Corvette Club By-Laws (2008), Article IV, Section B, 1a,
the President must have held a prior elected office in the Club.**

The following current members have held an elected office in the Club:

**Roy Bailey
Sandy Bechtel
Rich Bratschi
Colleen Bratschi
Mike Britz
Connie Britz
Michelle Faupel
Tom Faupel
Kyle Felts
Melissa Felts
Melissa Hass
Angela Hyde
Craig Iansiti
Kim Keith
Janet Litrenta**

**Shalimar Maynard
Bob Maynard
Kevin Mead
Chuck Miller
Suzanne Politza
Carol Putmon
Simon Reiffer
Gloria Reiffer
Shelby Schittenhelm
James Sutherland
Katherine Twining
Dave Voss
Mary Wells
Tim Wells
Chris Wieczorek
Tom Wieczorek**



Board Meeting Minutes

Capital City Corvette Club

Board Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025: Delhi Cafe & Zoom

6:30 Call to Order: Kyle Felts

- No mail was received.
- Kyle provided a summary of the Shaheen show, stating that it went very well this year with 261 cars attending.

6:35 Board Reports:

Secretary: Tim Wells (filling in for Melissa Hass)

- August Board minutes previously approved by email.

Treasurer: James Sutherland

- James reported that all bills are paid, and the books are balanced.

V/P Governor: Simon Reiffer

- Simon attended the Governor's Meeting last weekend and provided a summary:
 - Membership at 2024 EOY was 17,182. Rebounded to 17,262 in 2025.
 - No new insurance claims; one outstanding claim.
 - National Corvette Museum membership is down but plant tours have been reinstated.
 - The NCM is putting together a new display recognizing the National Council of Corvette Clubs. "The Power of Grass Roots. A national network becomes a movement." They now realize that NCCC was a driving force behind getting the NCM off the ground.
 - NCCC has had a 650-member increase since the May meeting. They are asking that club information be updated on the far left of the screen to include the club address so that they can direct new Members at Large to a local club. It was requested that info get updated prior to October 1. I believe they said the membership database will be shut down on October 3 to change over to 2026 membership.
 - A budget report was provided to the Governors.
 - The Business Manager is working on the next 3-year hotel contract. There were 2 claims filed against directors and officers.
 - The NCCC conventions are being planned to take place in Syracuse NY in 2026; Bowling Green KY in 2028; and Colorado in 2029. No convention bid for 2027 at this time.
 - Reminded that we must keep signed waivers on file for 5 years; parental consent forms must be kept until the child is legally an adult in the state they reside in.
 - By-Law and Standing Rules changes are in the works.
 - A You-Tube video about NCCC is in the works.
 - Those running for office for 2026 include:
 - VP of Competition – Rene Cardenas
 - Secretary – Rita Robinson (?)
 - Business Manager – Jeanne Cassel & Mark Hanlin
 - Sargent at Arms – Tom West II
 - Elaine Herreta has requested articles for Blue Bars. Basically, if you've had a problem with your Corvette, and figured out how to fix it, submit a tech article to Blue Bars.
 - 2026 scholarship applications open on January 1 and close on May 15. There were 36 applicants in 2024 with 27 of them complete. Eight scholarships were given out.

Board Meeting Minutes

- Walt Jenkins has requested that he be informed of all new Lifetime members so that he connect the points in the database since they would have LM added to their membership number after upgrading.
- FCOA has 1,006 members; 44 new since January; 106 aged out.
- National awards were presented as follows:
 - Roger Clancy Humanitarian Award – Dave and Joan Heinemann
 - President's Award – Craig Kamradt
- Roll call for dues increase passed by 192 yes and 39 no (I think). Primary increased by \$15; Spouse Companion by \$5; Youth Dependent by \$5; Lifetime by \$200.
- 2025 convention reports were given. 395 attendees for the full week; 26 day passes; 1 youth; and worker passes were reinstated. Excess money will be split between the hosts and NCCC.
- The Regional Competition Directors met approximately 270 hours on Zoom and have put forth 11 rule changes and 7 new proposals to be voted on in November.
- Cost cutting items being discussed include dropping one meeting per year in St. Louis and dropping the annual membership cards, going to electronic cards only.

Points Director: Kim Keith

- Kim reported via Zoom that points are up to date.

Competition Director: Kevin Mead

- Present/No Report.

Editor: Tom Faupel

- Tom needs any materials for the newsletter by Sep 26th.

Social Director: Roy Bailey

- Plans are ongoing for the Christmas Party, which will be in Charlotte this year.
- Sandy Bechtel is organizing our November Bingo event.
- No one has yet volunteered to organize a color tour.

Membership Director: Angela Hyde

- Angela reported that the club currently has 92 members, two honorary members, 14 lifetime members, and 23 FCOA.
- The National database will be closed the first couple of days in October. Once it comes back on line, electronic membership cards will be available after Angela updates our membership in the database.

Public Relations Director: Shelby Schittenhelm

- Not Present/No Report.

7:00 **Appointed Officer Report:**

Past President: Bob Maynard

- Bob reported that he has secured City Limits in Mason for next year's Blessing's car show.

Photographer: Stella Wood

- Not Present/No Report.

Board Meeting Minutes

Webmaster: Gloria Reiffer

- Gloria stated that she is updating both the points and membership pages. On the membership page, the NCCC form currently doesn't work well and she is contacting NCCC to get it fixed.

Facebook Moderator: Dave Voss

- Not Present/No Report.

Zoom Facilitator: Kyle Felts

- We need to order a new camera.

Quartermaster: Randy Putmon

- Not Present/No Report.

Sergeant at Arms: Geoffrey Cradit

- Not Present/No Report.

NCM Ambassador: Casey Mulvany

- Not Present/No Report.

Historian: Sue Keith

- Present via Zoom, and commended Sandy's work on our display case at Shaheen's. Kyle stated that she and others that counted the ballots at the show did an excellent job.

Hearts & Flowers: Ann Voss

- Not Present/No Report.

Chaplain: Ward Harris

- Not Present/No Report.

7:10 New Business:

- By-Law Review/Updates-Melissa Felts and Committee. Melissa is updating our by-laws to match those of NCCC. She is also making a distinction between by-laws and standing rules. She will make two documents, one with by-laws and one with standing rules. Kyle appointed Gloria, Angela, Kevin, and Sandy as reviewers. There was a motion made by Kevin Mead to update the cost of the dues in the by-laws that was seconded by Simon Reiffer and approved by the Board members in attendance. The changes regarding youth participation and dues increase will be presented to the General Membership at the October meeting for a vote.
- FCOA and CCCC websites. Kyle stated that he wants our website to focus on three things. 1) Provide good service to the members, 2) attract new members, especially those aged 45-60 years, and 3) be community facing. Additionally, Melissa has been working to improve the FCOA website.
- FCOA finances. Melissa stated that last fall, money generated by participation in FCOA went to the NCCC general fund, and she is hoping to change this. In addition, she wants to start a committee to recognize FCOA participation, suggesting that those who attend 21 events throughout the year, be eligible to compete in an FCOA event at the National Convention.
- Review Nominations and openings.

Board Meeting Minutes

<p>President:</p> <p>Tom Faupel: Yes</p> <p>Sandy Bechtel: No</p>	<p>Secretary:</p> <p>Melissa Hass/Tim Wells: No</p> <p>Melissa Felts: Yes</p> <p>Sandy Bechtel: No</p> <p>Mary Wells: No</p> <p>Joyce Cradit: No</p>
<p>Social Director:</p> <p>Roy Bailey: Yes</p> <p>Mike Lewis: Yes</p> <p>Michele Faupel: No</p> <p>Sandy Bechtel: No</p> <p>Joyce Cradit: No</p>	<p>Treasurer:</p> <p>James Sutherland: Yes</p> <p>Mike Lewis: No</p>
<p>VP/Governor:</p> <p>Simon Reiffer: No</p> <p>Kyle Felts: Yes</p>	<p>Competition Director:</p> <p>Kevin Mead: Yes</p> <p>Kyle Felts: No</p>
<p>Points Director:</p> <p>Kim Keith: No</p> <p>Brian McKeveett: Yes</p>	<p>Editor:</p> <p>Tom Faupel: No</p> <p>Dave Voss: No</p>
<p>Public Relations Director:</p> <p>Shelby Schittenhelm: No</p> <p>Bob Hedlund: No</p>	<p>Membership Director:</p> <p>Angela Hyde: Yes</p>

6:50 Other Business:

- Electronic Payment Information and how to use. Tom Faupel will discuss this at the Membership meeting.
- Shaheen Show Updates: Next year, we may do pre-registrations if we can do it using e-payments. Also, we need to communicate to the payee that they pay the e-payment fees.
- Canopy. Kevin is still researching this.

7:30 Adjournment at 7:47. Motion by Simon Reiffer, and seconded by Kim Keith.

NCCC DUES FOR FY 2026

It's finally here! NCCC dues for FY 2026 have been voted on and have been approved for the cost of annual renewals to be updated as follows.....

NEW MEMBER DUES	ANNUAL RENEWAL DUES	SOCIAL MEMBER DUES
<u> </u> \$80 Primary Member*	<u> </u> \$70 Primary Member; or	<u> </u> \$30 Primary Member**
<u> </u> \$25 Spouse/Companion	<u> </u> \$30 NCCC Lifetime Member	<u> </u> \$10 Spouse/Companion
<u> </u> \$25 Youth/Dependent	<u> </u> \$25 Spouse/Companion	<u> </u> \$10 Youth/Dependent
	<u> </u> \$25 Youth/Dependent	
<u> </u> Total Enclosed	<u> </u> Total Enclosed	<u> </u> Total Enclosed

Here are the different member scenarios we have for member's dues: Every member should fall into one of these:

\$70.00 NCCC and club dues, Primary member

\$95.00 NCCC and club dues, Primary member, spouse/companion

\$30.00 NCCC Lifetime member, Club dues only

\$55.00 NCCC Lifetime Primary member, spouse/companion

\$60.00 Club dues only. Both Members, Primary and Spouse signed up as NCCC Lifetime

\$40.00 NCCC members with another NCCC club, social members of club only, primary and spouse/companion

\$25.00 added for any Youth/Dependent wanting to join.

This should be all the scenarios we have. Let me know if you find this breakdown confusing and I can explain it in further detail.

I will be collecting dues now until the Membership meeting November 5th. Anything after November 5th, will have \$10.00 late fee attached, per NCCC rules.

Cash or check made out to Capital City Corvette Club. Send to Attn: Membership Director, PO Box 27295, Lansing, MI 48909. Or I will except cash or check in person.

** Remember you must have your dues paid and up to date if you are looking to be nominated/voted into a board position for the new year.

Angela



Tech Corner: Replacing the A/C Belt on a 2001 C5 Corvette

Field-Tested & Written by Kyle Felts, Capital City Corvette Club President

When a faint squeak under the hood caught my attention, I did the usual test — a quick mist of water on the serpentine belt while the engine was running. The noise changed, confirming the culprit: worn-out accessory belts. What followed was a quick but satisfying garage session replacing both the **6-rib main belt** and the **4-rib A/C belt** — all **without removing the airbox**.

Tools & Parts Used:

Tool	Purpose
QuickJack 6000TL	Car lift – increased access and comfort
15mm wrench	For A/C belt tensioner (below)
15mm socket + ratchet	For serpentine tensioner (above)
Flathead screwdriver	Belt guiding (if needed)
Murray K040420	A/C belt (4-rib) – from O’Reilly Auto Parts
Continental 4060798 / 6PK2025	Serpentine belt (6-rib) – source unknown

Belt System Overview:

- **Outer belt (6-rib):** Alternator, power steering, water pump
 - **Inner belt (4-rib):** A/C compressor
Each has its own spring-loaded tensioner
-

Photo Log:

Old 4-rib Belt:

The root of the squeak — starting to chunk and crack:



Tight Clearance View:

This view shows the tight space between the crank pulley, frame rail, and steering rack—key for threading the Alternator belt, a little twist to flatten the belt to get between the rack and the pulley:



Step-by-Step Process

1. Diagnosis

- Squeak noticed under load
- Sprayed light water on belt — pitch changed → belt slipping or dry

2. Lift the Car

- Raised the C5 on my **QuickJack 6000TL**
- Full underbody access and a better working angle up top

3. Remove the 6-Rib Belt

- Used **15mm socket and ratchet from above**
- Rotated tensioner **clockwise** (as viewed from front)
- Carefully twisted the belt to sneak it between the frame rail and crank pulley

4. Remove the 4-Rib A/C Belt

- Accessed the tensioner **from below** with a **15mm wrench**
- Also rotated clockwise to release tension
- Routing the new belt required working **by feel** — visibility is limited
- A **helper is nice** to hold tension, but solo is manageable with patience
- Be careful not to drop the belt behind the crank pulley — it's a tight area to recover from

5. Reinstall Both Belts

- A/C belt first
- Alternator belt second
- Took a few adjustments to make sure both were fully seated in their grooves

6. Final Test

- Started the car and checked belt tracking
- Ran A/C and verified smooth operation — no noise, no drama

Final Tips:

- **You don't need to remove the airbox** — it's tight, but doable from above and below with basic tools
- The spray water trick is great for identifying belt squeal
- Consider replacing both belts together — they age out at the same pace
- A helper's hand is useful during routing, but not required
- Watch for the belt falling behind the crank pulley — it's annoying to retrieve in tight quarters

Wrap-Up:

This kind of hands-on maintenance keeps your C5 reliable, and connects you to the car in a way no shop receipt ever could. Whether it's the belts, brakes, or bushings, these projects are a great way to gain confidence and save money.

2025 CCCC SUPPORTERS

**A BIG Thanks to
our Supporters!**



Ralph Shaheen
President

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