

The Accelerator

Volume 8, #3; Fall 2014



▲ After a night in St. Ignace, the Lake Michigan tour group gathered to see the Mackinac Bridge.

► Stunning Vette!
CNCC's 9th
Annual Car Show





President's Message

More Events For Fall Corvetting

It's hard to believe that September is here, and our driving season is slowly creeping to the end. But the good part is the amazing summer we have enjoyed together. While not everyone is able to join in on all of CNCC's events, the greatest thing we have as a club is many choices, and to that I say kudos to Paul Kosiek for a full calendar. While I could add a list of people who play a huge part in making all this happen, I will just say a big thank you to each and every one of you.

Monthly Events and More

We have had, of course, our regular monthly events: Saturday breakfasts at Omega and general meetings at the Village Bar & Grill (starting in October we will meet at the Continental Restaurant in Buffalo Grove for three months). We have also had great monthly turn outs at Super Dawg on Tuesday nights. And some BIG events have had some nice turn outs, like Bloomington Gold and our yearly photo shoot, which this year took place at Michael's On The Lake in Kanasville, Wisconsin.

Then it ramped up to the 9th Annual All-Corvette Car Show that was a success because of everyone's hard work. Because of all the successes, we are happy to donate to two charities this year. The Cradle Foundation and the Hines V.A. Fisher House will each receive \$1,000 from CNCC. These mark the largest charitable contributions the club has made to help such great and deserving causes.

Lake Michigan Tour

The fun kept moving (no pun intended) with a six day, 1,400 mile trip



Mark loads up a 6'x 10' trailer that was part of the Lake Michigan trip. (Those Corvettes were too small for all our gear.)

around Lake Michigan. We saw beautiful sights and made some new memories along the way. While the sights were main purpose of the trip, we also had a few mishaps that just added to the journey. None were life threatening, and they did add to the fun.

Looking Ahead

In the future, we have to schedule a weekend trip to the Gilmore Museum,

which is located on the north side of Kalamazoo. It's a fascinating place for anyone who loves vintage cars. The last big trip to Chula Vista included a big showing of club members who enjoyed a free villa that a member won at last year's event. (I understand CNCC didn't win it for 2015.)

Now, as we turn the page to the end of the year, there are a more events to fill out the fall. The biggest is the All-Chevy Car Show & Corvette Track Day at Blackhawk Farms Raceway in South Beloit, IL on Saturday, October 11th. We have motel rooms reserved for Friday and Saturday nights to accommodate the volunteers we need to pull this event off. It would be great to have at least 30 CNCC members come and help out. This event has the potential to be a very nice revenue maker for the club.

November Elections

We also have end-of-the-year elections with four positions to fill: President, Treasurer, and two Members-At-Large. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact Eric Norlin or Paul Kosiek and let them know. This is your club, so the board always encourages more of you to step up and help run events or participate in activities. The club only gets stronger by volunteers working together.

Thanks again for the privilege you give to me as President of CNCC. I couldn't do it without you or my wonderful team.

— Mark

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CNCC's 2014 Car Show Winners

CNCC President Mark Hall,
right, with Jim and
Peggy Kritek
who won awards for
First Place, Class A,
and Best of Show for their
1960 Corvette Roadster.



Class A: C1, Stock, '53-'62

1st — Peggy and Jim Kritek, '60 Roadster

2nd — Tom Traficanti, '60 Convertible

Class B: C1, Modified, '53-'62, none registered

Class C: C2, Stock, '63-'67

1st — Ernest Mogenson, '65 Convertible

2nd — Joyce and Carl Colletti, '64 Coupe

3rd — Barry Antonson, '65 Convertible

Class D: C2, Modified, '63-'67, none registered

Class E: C3, Stock, '68-'82

1st — Wayne Wallin, '80 Coupe

2nd — Clive Fishman, '72 Coupe

3rd — Dan Diblick, '82 Coupe

Class F: C3, Modified, '68-'82

1st — Paul Plotnick, '78 Coupe

2nd — Steve Luoma, '69 Coupe

3rd — Mike Decker, '69 Stingray

Class G: C4, Stock, '84-'96

1st — Larry Lashin, '95 Convertible

2nd — Rich Harder, '94 Coupe

3rd — Tom Van Zeyl, '88 35th Anniversary Edition

Class H: C4, Modified, '84-'96

1st — Tom Arvidson, '89 Convertible

2nd — Neal Raffeld, '87 Convertible

Class I: C5, Stock, '97-'04

1st — Jim Holderfield, '01 Convertible

2nd — Bob Belmonte, '02 Convertible

3rd — Jack Schippman, '04 Convertible

Class J: C5, Modified, '97-'04

1st — Adam Drag, '03 Coupe

2nd — Larry Nelson, '98 Coupe

3rd — Walter Janke, '04 Coupe

3rd — Rick Weinmann

Class K: C6, Stock, '05-'13

1st — Rocky Moran, '08 Coupe

2nd — Ron Schluter, '09 Z06

3rd — Michael Kent, '13 Grand Sport

Class L: C6, Modified, '05-'13

1st — Cliff Steif, '03 Convertible

2nd — Bill Blaze, '09 Convertible

3rd — J. Allmanberger, '06 Coupe

Class M: C7, Stock, '14

1st — Joe Gaffin, '14 Convertible

2nd — Dee and Eric Norlin, '14 Convertible

3rd — Joel Bauer, '14 Convertible

Class O: Special Interest

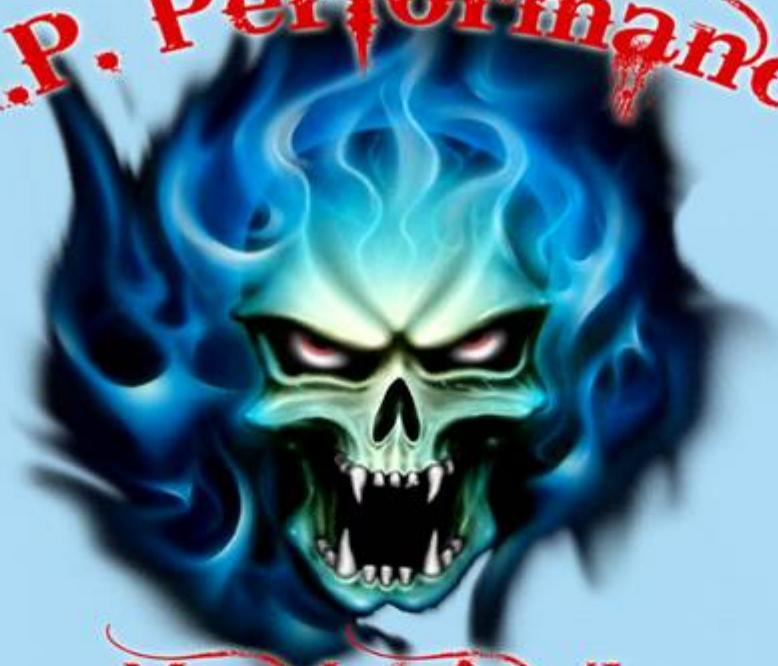
1st — Bill McNease, '11 Coupe

2nd — Linda and Randy Sarlo, '13 Convertible

3rd — Charlie Harrell, '09 Convertible



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Personalities That Work

Talking Corvettes (And Dogs) With Nahrin And Jeff Radogna

By Judy Nelson



Each member of CNCC has his own personal story about becoming a member of the club. For Nahrin and Jeff Radogna, their story includes someone right in the middle of the Corvette world. “First, I joined the Chicago Corvette Club of Aurora,” says Jeff, “but I never went to meetings because they were too far away from the house, and they were held on a night when I had to take off from work. I didn’t want to do that every month; it didn’t make sense.”

“Then two years ago I went to a motorcycle show and just happened to wear my C5 hoodie sweatshirt. A man at the show noticed it and asked, ‘Hey, are you a C5 owner?’”

“When I said yes, he asked how I was doing and we started talking about our cars. He said he belonged to a Corvette club in the northern suburbs of Chicago and suggested I might enjoy coming to one of the meetings. He gave me one of his cards and I went to a meeting; I think it was February 2012. It turned out the person I talked to that day was Mark Hall, who was then CNCC’s webmaster; and that’s the story behind how I became a member of this club.”

Dad’s Red Coupe

Growing up, Jeff’s first association with Corvettes came by way of his father. Jeff says, “My parents divorced when I was quite young; I lived with my mother and visited my father in California twice a year. My dad was never a real car fanatic, but he did have a 1985 red Corvette convertible. I was 10 years old when he bought it, so I remember getting in it a couple of times and him putting the pedal to the metal. I recall thinking, some day I want to get a car like this.”

“One day my dad happened to park his Vette next to a fire hydrant. Someone hit the hydrant and because the car’s top was open, water got inside, flooded it, and ruined everything. On one of my trips dad told me, ‘The Corvette’s no longer here.’” When I asked what happened, he admitted, “I parked it next to a fire hydrant, and it got soaked.”

Nahrin’s early experience with cars was completely the opposite of Jeff’s. Was her dad interested in sports cars? “Not really,” she says, “I enjoy being the passenger. I was driving when I was 16. I had a Chevy Chevette for a couple of years, followed by a Nissan and then a

Toyota. These days I enjoy sitting in the background watching Jeff enjoy the speed of our Corvette. Now I drive an Accura TL; it has very little in the way of speed, I should say.”

A Pretty First Corvette

Jeff and Nahrin bought their first Corvette, a 2003 convertible, two years ago. It was a C5, purchased in Corvette’s 50th anniversary year for \$25,900. “It had only 7,000 miles,” Jeff remembers, “so I thought I was getting a great deal. It was Spiral Gray Metallic, and a pretty car. We had it for two years, then about two weeks ago we traded it in for a 2011.”

Actually it was Jeff’s idea to buy the 2011, Nahrin says. “He just came home with it. He bought it without my help.” Was there some kind of trial run so Nahrin would have a chance to give her approval? No.

Nahrin continues, “He bought it, but we’ve always had a relationship like that. Once, when an old car that I drove was falling apart, I said to Jeff, ‘Would you please go and buy me a car so I have something better to drive when I get home?’ So he went and bought me a car. I



▲ Jeff with Barry Petrie at the August car show

◀ Nahrin relaxes at CNCC's fall picnic

completely trust this style; cars are not a big deal to me.”

Vette Number Two

Jeff tells the story behind the family’s second Vette this way: “Two weeks ago ago I was driving by a dealership and saw this Corvette; I said I wanted it so I bought it. There was no thought process. I wanted it, and I got it.”

“That pretty much says it about Jeff’s personality,” Nahrin adds.

Jeff continues, “The new Corvette is a C6, Grand Sport, in Cyber Gray; and there is a night-and-day difference between it and the C5. The C6 has more horsepower. It’s a little sportier, and it handles really well. Braking is superb. It had 14,600 miles when I bought it.

“In terms of color, I stay in the gray family. I like the grays, even though my step father, who was a sports car fanatic, never liked the color gray. He thought a gray car was an accident-prone car because it’s the same color as asphalt and people don’t see it.”

The Radognas use their Corvette for short local trips. “When it comes to driving, it’s pretty much: same area code, same zip code.” In mid-September they went on their first Chula Vista road tour with other Vette owners in Wisconsin.

“We Never Slow Dance”

The Radognas dated for 7 years, and they’ve been married for 12 years. “We don’t have children,” says Nahrin, “but

we have one precious dog, Max, who is the joy of our lives.

“We met at a bar. I was out with my girl friends, and Jeff was out with his friends. We hung out that night, and he called a few times afterward. We went bicycle riding on our first date, which ended up being 12 hours long. He picked me up at 10 in the morning, and we didn’t come home until 10 at night.

“I was just trying to be nice when I suggested we go bike riding rather than do something expensive. I had no idea Jeff didn’t have a bicycle, so he ended up spending several hundred dollars to buy one. We had the best time. We had some

lunch, some soda, some ice cream. It was a great, great first date; and we’ve been together ever since.

What about the obvious difference in your heights? People must ask you about it all the time. “Yes,” Nahrin says. “Today I’m in flats, but I’m always in heels. I’m 5 feet tall, so heels add 3.5 inches to my height; Jeff is 6 feet, 3 inches.

“Over the years we’ve found out that there are some things we just do not do. We don’t slow dance, for example, and we don’t hold hands when we walk together. But we have two personalities that work, and in this fast-paced world of Corvettes, that’s what matters the most.” ●



Nahrin and friends work the membership table at CNCC's 9th Annual Car Show.

Top CNCC Chefs Create A Trio Of Tasty Dishes



Congratulations to award-winning chefs Virginia Huber, Fran Indrago, and Sylvia Walker, who won top prizes at the fall picnic.

Virginia Huber's Broccoli / Cauliflower Salad

Ingredients

1 large broccoli cut into florets
 ½ head of cauliflower cut into bite-size pieces
 1 small red onion, diced
 1 cup of sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
 1 jar of bacon bits or cook 6-8 strips of bacon until crisped and then crumble
 Optional: ½ cup of raisins and sunflower seeds

Dressing

1½ cups mayonnaise
 ½ cup sour cream
 ¼ cup sugar

Combine the ingredients and cool. This is a very flexible recipe. You can adjust the quantity of any ingredient to your own preference. Enjoy!

Fran Indrago's The Truffle (Sex In The Bowl) Dessert

Ingredients

1 box of chocolate cake mix
 1 box of chocolate pudding mix
 1 bag of truffle bites
 1 container of cool whip
 Make the cake. Make the pudding and refrigerate it. Once the pudding is set and the cake is cool, cut up the cake in small cubes. In a large, transparent bowl, start layering the dessert in the following order:

Cake
 Pudding
 Cool Whip
 Truffle Bites

Keep repeating the layers until you reach the top of the bowl. I usually add amaretto to the cake mix to give the taste a kick, but that's optional.

Sylvia Walker's Corn, Bacon, and Potato Side Dish

Ingredients

5 ears corn, shucked (or use frozen corn)
 3 slices bacon, chopped (I used more)
 1 red bell pepper, cut into small cubes
 1 small red onion, thinly sliced
 ½ tsp. red pepper flakes, or more to taste
 2 tspns. olive oil
 ½ pound Yukon Gold potatoes, cut into ½ inch cubes
 Salt and pepper to taste
 1 tablespoon cider vinegar

Directions

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add the corn and cook until slightly soft but still crisp, about 5 minutes. Cut corn kernels from the cobs (eliminate this step if using frozen corn).
2. Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Cook and stir bacon in hot oil until brown and crisp, 5 to 10 minutes. Drain bacon on a paper towel-lined plate; reserve drippings in the skillet.
3. Cook potatoes in the same skillet over medium heat until golden brown, 5-10 minutes; stir occasionally. Add red pepper and salt; cook and stir until peppers are tender, about 5 minutes more.
4. Stir corn kernels into potato mixture and cook until corn is heated through, about 5 minutes.
5. Pour corn-potato mixture into a large bowl. Add bacon, red onion, cider vinegar, and red peppers flakes, then toss to combine.
6. Adjust seasoning to taste.

Mary Thrasher and
 Linda Kleinschmidt
 "step up to the plate."
 Dee Norlin and Kathy
 Gargano, thanks
 for a great picnic!



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A Milestone Celebration Year For Corvette

By Barry Petrie



Aerial view of the National Museum
→ Motorsports Park road course

Photos courtesy, The National Corvette Museum

2014 will go down as one of the most significant celebration years for Corvette. Most notably it was the birth of the marque's seventh generation, the 2014 Corvette Stingray. A totally new car inside and out, the C7 is quickly becoming the benchmark for all sports cars. Since its introduction this spring, it has continued to accumulate critical acclaim and awards from all over the world. All these accolades and praise have made the Stingray a huge sales success.

Fifth Corvette Caravan

The 20th-anniversary celebration of the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky is another milestone this year for Corvette. And the museum knows how to throw itself a party. The celebration culminated with the Fifth National Corvette Caravan arriving in Bowling Green this Labor Day weekend. This National Caravan takes place only once every five years. Nearly 5,000 Corvettes traveled from as far as Alaska, New Jer-

sey, Florida, California, all the states in between, and Canada. They wove their way across the country, finally merging in Bowling Green. Corvettes of all years, models, and colors completely blanketed the city for the three-day festival.

2015 Z06 / Motorsports Park

The museum took this momentous opportunity to unveil two significant achievements: the first public viewing of the all-new 2015 Corvette Z06 coupe and

convertible (these 650hp masterpieces of design and technology knocked everyone off their feet!); and the grand opening of the National Museum Motorsports Park. This crowning accomplishment is a world-class road course designed by Crawford and Associates with input from Pratt & Miller Engineering and Corvette Racing.

The initial phase consists of a twin circuit arrangement of a two mile / 13 turn West course and a one mile / 10 turn East course, which can be combined into multiple configurations. Both circuits feature technical turns, straights, and elevation changes. These two courses can be used independently for multiple events or connected together into a unique large course.

I am thrilled and proud to have been able to take part in this historic weekend. Driving in the seemingly endless caravan, joining in the museum celebration, and experiencing the Motorsports Park Road Course first hand — if only briefly! ●



The Corvette Owner's 10 Commandments

1. Always stop and lend assistance to a fellow Corvette owner.
2. Never take your Corvette out if there is a chance of inclement weather for the next 24 hours.
3. Always clean and polish your Vette before any Sunday ride no matter how short it is.
4. Never let anyone eat or drink in your Corvette.
5. Always make sure all occupants clean their shoes and lift them up and over the door sill moldings when entering your Corvette.
6. Never let any gas station attendant clean your windows, check your oil, or put gas in your Vette.
7. Always park your Corvette away from other cars in a lot or take up at least two parking spaces.
8. Never let anyone else drive your Vette. Period.



Gary Thrasher and Michael Walker

9. Always take your Vette to a reputable shop to have any work done or do it yourself if you can.

10. Never let another Vette pass without a wave of acknowledgement for you both know that you are driving the most unique automobile ever built anywhere!

— Submitted by Gary Thrasher



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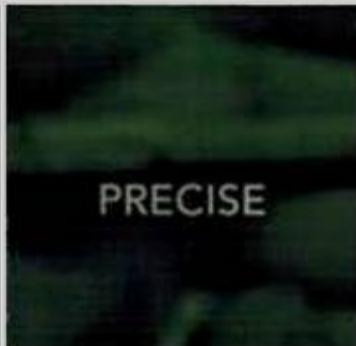
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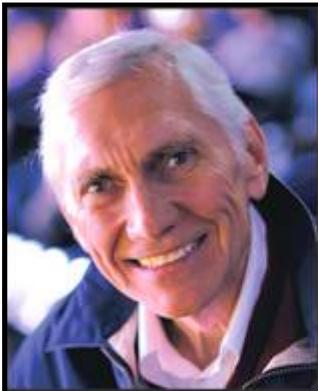
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- **EAT ICE CREAM**
- **TAKE A NAP**



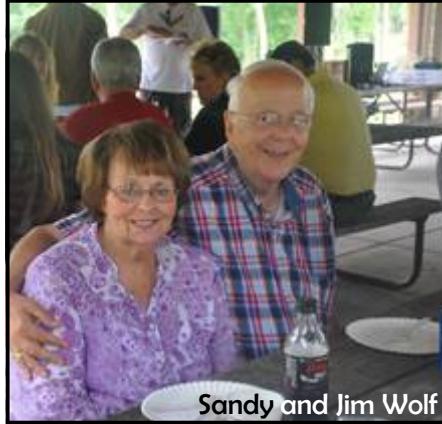
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Personal Messages



Sandy and Jim Wolf

Thank you to my wonderful, beautiful wife for letting me buy my first Corvette! Love you Tweetie Pie! — *Brendan Appel*

This September I'll attend my Navy reunion in Trinidad. I was stationed there in VP. 34 Patrol Bomber Squadron, 1952-54. I have many memories, both good and bad, having lost 11 friends in an aircraft crash. This visit is for them. — *Ed Bojan*

We are grateful to have won Best of Show in our first entry to CNCC's Annual All-Corvette Car Show. We love the club! — *Peg and Jim Kritek*

This was a fun summer for me. I know that it is winding down, but I am still looking forward to a few more car shows and Vette activities. — *Marshall Loeb*

We recently celebrated 52 years of marriage, and about a third of that time we've owned Corvettes. — *Clare and Don Vertone*

Happy Birthday to our adorable grandchildren, Luca, age 1, and Libby, age 3.

— *Sandy and Jim Wolf*

Congratulations to our grandson Keith, who just made the "A" Freshman Football Team at Naperville North High School.

— *Carol and Bob Wiesman*

We recently spent a long weekend at the Homestead Resort in Glen Arbor, Michigan, visiting with long-time friends and viewing the Sleeping Bear Dunes. In late September we will be on a Classic Car Club of America tour that includes stops at the Studebaker and Hudson Car Museums in northern Indiana.

— *Joan and Charles Falk*

September 14 brought with it Happy Birthday wishes to my wonderful husband, Michael. Also, we recently welcomed our future daughter-in-law, Julie, who arrived from Spain in August.

— *Sylvia Walker*

Congratulations to our daughters Bridget, who just began her junior year at Creighton University (a future dentist or nutritionist?), and Courtney, who graduates from New Trier High School in June 2015. Congratulations, too, to Scott, who has started his 40th year at Bill Stasek Chevrolet. — *Susan Wiscomb*

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