



Glass Reflections

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President's Message

Bloomington Gold is in the history books for another year. We were a little disappointed at the number of vendors to spend money at for this event. I guess that we have to wait for next year to see what they come up with to get more vendors and participation.

There is going to be a lot of Events to attend this year, so check your emails and of course make sure to check out the Calendar of Events. Please check out the Club Newsletter for updates on events.

Make sure to mark your calendars for the Club picnic at Lampe's in Ellsworth on July 23rd with a rain date of the July 30th. The plans are to eat at 1:00 pm. Please check out the flyer attached to this Newsletter.

If any members have knowledge of a Car Show/Display or Cruise-In for 2023 you can email me at dug.hanner@gmail.com or call (217) 369-5868. You can also get in touch with one of the Board of Directors. You can also add events to the Club's website www.ccofi.org. If you have any flyers from other shows and events bring them to the meeting or email them to Gordon (ggreen570@gmail.com). New Ideas or New Events can be talked about at any meeting or just get in touch with one of the Board of Directors.



4th of July Parade
Rantoul, IL

Next Meeting 7:00 PM
July 11, 2023
Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive

**wear your name tag
and bring a chair**

Officers 2023:

President: Doug Hanner
217 354-4542
dug.hanner@gmail.com

Vice President: Barry Wagner
217 356-9961
bkwagner@illinois.edu

Governor: Tom McKinley
217-493-0586
C3Shark@gmail.com

Treasurer: Brenda Croxton
309-830-1634
1411 Broad Creek Rd
Bloomington, IL 61704-8520
brch1182@gmail.com

Secretary: Debby Wagner
217-356-9961
dwagner306@gmail.com

Trustees:

Ken Guyette
kjguyette@aol.com

Aly Jackson
aly@jacksonqualityconstruction.com

Web Address: www.ccofi.org
Webmaster: Gordon Green
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Newsletter & Web Photos:
Jody Retter
jodyretter@yahoo.com



Minutes of June 13, 2023

President Doug Hanner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., 43 members were present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and greeting everyone.

Guest or Prospective Members or Associate Members

Joe & Linda Smith – 2019 Red Coupe

Members with a new or different car – color and year

Charlie Mornout – 2014 Red

Good and Welfare

Dan McKenzie is sleeping a lot.
Deb Lammler is doing well.

Secretary report: Debby Wagner

George Dick made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Ray Gonzalez. Motion carried.

Treasurer report: Brenda Croxton

JR Longsdorf made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Max Mitchell. Motion carried.

Governors Report: Tom McKinley

Corvette Club of Illinois has 150 members.
The Autocross in Rantoul on Memorial weekend was well attended. They had 44 Drivers on Saturday and 46 on Sunday. There have been 49 events held. In the Midwest Region standings, Gordon Green is 13th, Tom McKinley is 14th and Sandy Green is 4th.

Trustees: Ken Guyette

No Report.

**Report of club support groups and standing committees
Communications:**

Jody needs the items for the newsletter one week prior to the meeting. Please keep sending pictures and articles for the newsletter.

Website: Gordon Green

Website is up to date.

Calendars

The 2023 calendars are available for purchase. We will bring them to the next meeting, and they are now \$4.00.

We are taking reservations for your car to be featured in the 2024 calendar. May, June, July, November, and December have been taken. Please let Barry know what month you want. We will be checking on the prices for 2024.

Social Functions:

Reservations are still being taken for the Barn III dinner theater on August 5th. We have reservations for 40 and 25 have signed up. The cost is \$42.50 per person.

Arrangements for the trip to Branson, Mo September 18th thru 22nd have been made. Information is in the newsletter. The cost is \$1,000.00 per couple.

The Steve Brown Memorial Dinner Dash to Dewey's in Farmer City will be on July 27th. We will caravan from Champaign at 5:30. Route 150 may be closed around Mansfield. We will have more information at the July meeting.

Vice President: Barry Wagner

We met the Chicago Corvette Club at Papa Del's on Saturday, May 27th. We had a great time and food. We will try to plan another get together in the future somewhere between here and Chicago.

The Fisher Car Show scheduled for July 15th has been cancelled.

The Corvette Indy Car Show will be held on August 12th at Penske'. We will have more information at a later date. The Corvette Indy Club had some members split and have become Crossroads Corvette Club.

Scott's 17th Annual Charity Car Show will be held on September 24th at Baum Chevrolet in Clinton.

We are requesting Emergency Contact Information for the Club Member Spreadsheet. We will be sending out an email request.

We are seeking suggestions for recommended locations for the "Fork On the Road" article for the newsletter. Please send your recommendations for locations to Barry.

Remember to notify the Club Board of Directors of any changes in your personal information: emails, home addresses, phone numbers, etc. Make sure that you have Doug Hanner's, Barry Wagner's, and Jody Retter's email addresses in your contact/address list on your computer and cell phones. It may help you receive emails from these people if they are in your contact list.

We are always seeking new ideas for club activities (Dinner Dash, Road Trips, etc.). Help is available to aid in planning the activity.

Please send in any information on members' outside events such as fish fries, dinners and we will publish them in the newsletter and mass emails.

Items for sale

Hats \$15.00

Decals \$3.00

Pins \$2.00

Patch \$3.00

Nametag Magnets \$3.00

Parade Flags \$17.00 (Flag Caddies are available from Corvette after-market suppliers)

Current Corvette Club of Illinois merchandise is available from Wagner Signs in St. Joseph.

Minutes of June 13, 2023 continued**President:** Doug Hanner

There will be 4th of July Parades in Rantoul and Champaign. We can throw candy at Rantoul but not Champaign. We will need a total of 8 cars for the Champaign Parade, 2 for the Grand Marshall and Freedom Celebration President. Doug will coordinate for these. We will need 6 for the DAR. Contact Barry if you are able to participate.

The Mahomet Auto Fest will be held Sunday July 9th starting at 9:00 a.m.

MidAmerica Funfest will be held September 14th, 15th and 16th.

Chuck Croxton met a gentleman from Bloomington, Dave Kruger, who is a car enthusiast and has a building full of vehicles and other items. He has set up a tour on Saturday, July 15th at 10:00 a.m. We will then have lunch at Avanti's. More information at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Bloomington Gold was held May 21st – 24th. There were no vendors selling parts. The Road Tour was very slow and went about 20 mph.

Mike Sims reported that Corvette Adventures had approximately 200 vehicles. The weather was great, and they had a wonderful time.

Thank you to everyone who attended Our Town St. Joseph Friday, June 9th. We had 19 cars but were very disappointed in the lack of TV coverage. We had about 15 seconds on the air.

Sullivan-Parkhill's 100th Anniversary celebration is still in the planning stage. It will be held on Saturday, September 30th.

New Business:

The Club Picnic will be held at Dick & Janice Lampe's on July 23rd in Ellsworth. The rain date is June 30th. A sign-up sheet was passed around to get a count of how many will be attending. The Club will furnish the meats and buns, as well as the

table service. Every member is to bring a dish to share. We will have more information at the July meeting.

Vette's on the River at LeClaire, Iowa will be held Saturday, August 26th.

Ken Guyette gave information on the Special Olympics Family Fest to be held on Saturday, September 16th. We will need several volunteers for the parade (very short) and to man the game tent for the participants. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Other Business:

Carol Castellon made a motion to form a committee of 2 Board members and 2 at-large Club members to look at the dues and how they are determined. She feels that single members are paying more than they should. Mike Sims seconded. A discussion was held. The Primary member pays \$40.00 and \$10.00 for spouses (Family Rate). The dues are determined with NCCC rates and Club dues. We need everyone to belong to NCCC for the insurance. The club dues help to pay for the Christmas Party, operating expenses and other club activities. It was explained that the Board of Trustees review the Board of Directors yearly Budget and well as the monthly Treasurer's Report. When this was explained to the membership, Mike rescinded his motion. Carol then rescinded her motion.

Corvette Chat

Ken Guyette ordered Hood Struts for his vehicle from Corvette Central and Zip Corvette and neither of them fit his C6. He found one on Amazon and it did fit and it was half the price.

50/50 - \$87.00 – Gordon Green

Motion to adjourn- Made by Delora Hanner, seconded by George Dick. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Sullivan-Parkhill 100th Anniversary Celebration

Sullivan Parkhill has asked the Corvette Club of Illinois to help in the celebration of their 100th Anniversary. The date for this celebration is Saturday, September 30th.

Closer to the event we will meet with Dave Parkhill to discuss what the Club can do to help with this celebration. We think they will want us to display our Corvettes and maybe help with parking.

For now, please put this date on your calendars so we can show Sullivan Parkhill how much we appreciate their support and use of their building for our meetings.

July Birthdays

Janice Lampe	July 2
JR Longsdorf	July 4
Patsy Seeds	July 5
Peter Stump	July 6
Winston Miller	July 6
John LeConte	July 7
Brenda Croxton	July 16
John Higgins	July 21
Aly Jackson	July 23
Tracy Camp	July 24
Linda McKinley	July 28
Mike Runyon	July 29
Patricia Lampo	July 30
Derald Seeds	July 30

Wagners
Signs & Apparel

BANNER SIGNS GRAPHIC DESIGNS T-SHIRT PRINTING

JimWagnerSigns.com
209 E LINCOLN ST
ST. JOSEPH, IL
PROUD PARTNER CORVETTE CLUB OF IL
PROVIDING YOUR CLUB APPAREL
corvetteclubil.itemorder.com
VISIT THIS SITE TO SEE ALL YOUR CLUB APPAREL



Call 217-352-4275
Ask for special Club pricing

www.sullivanparkhill.com

Club Calendar

July 11
Monthly Club Meeting
7:00 pm
Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive
440 West Anthony Dr,
Champaign, IL

July 15
Tour of Dave Kruger's
10:00 am
Bloomington, IL

July 23
Club Picnic
1:00 pm
Lampe's in Ellsworth

July 27
Steve Brown Memorial Dinner Dash
5:30 pm
Dewey's Drive-In
Farmer City, IL

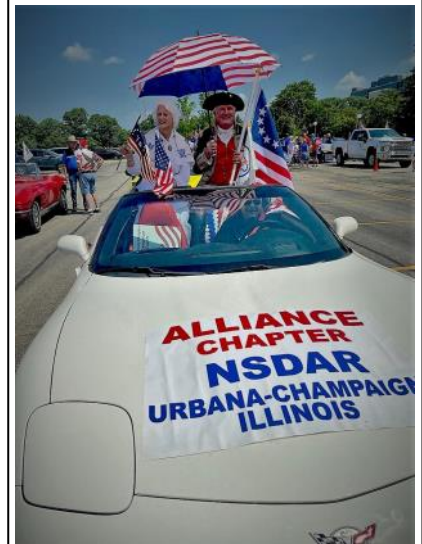
August 5
Barn III Dinner Theater
5:30 pm
Goodfield, IL

August 8
Monthly Club Meeting
7:00 pm
Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive
440 West Anthony Dr,
Champaign, IL

DOUG'S TECH TIP:



I want to clear up a little Rumor about our "13". We were on our way to Bowling Green, Kentucky to attend the NCCC Convention, we were traveling down Route 1 between Ridge Farm and Chrisman when I passed two trucks. When I crossed the centerline the Track Control came on and went into limp mode then it died on the side of the road. I took her to Vermilion Chevrolet they will not be able to look at her until the end of next week. You can bet just as soon as they get her diagnosed I will share with everyone, if there is any kind of preventive maintenance for this situation.





5th ANNUAL STEVE BROWN MEMORIAL DINNER DASH

THURSDAY JULY 27, 2023

**DEWEY'S DRIVE IN
FARMER CITY**



We will caravan from Old Planet Fitness (Church And Country Fair Drive Champaign) leaving at 5:30 p.m. or you can meet us at Dewey's.

Dewey's is located at 620 E. Richardson in Farmer City, located on Route 150.

This will be a wonderful event to remember Steve, while having some great food and fellowship at Steve's favorite dining spot.

Note: in the event of inclement weather, we will re-schedule the date. Please check your e-mail before heading out if weather looks to be an issue. A decision will be made by 3 p.m. if we need to cancel.

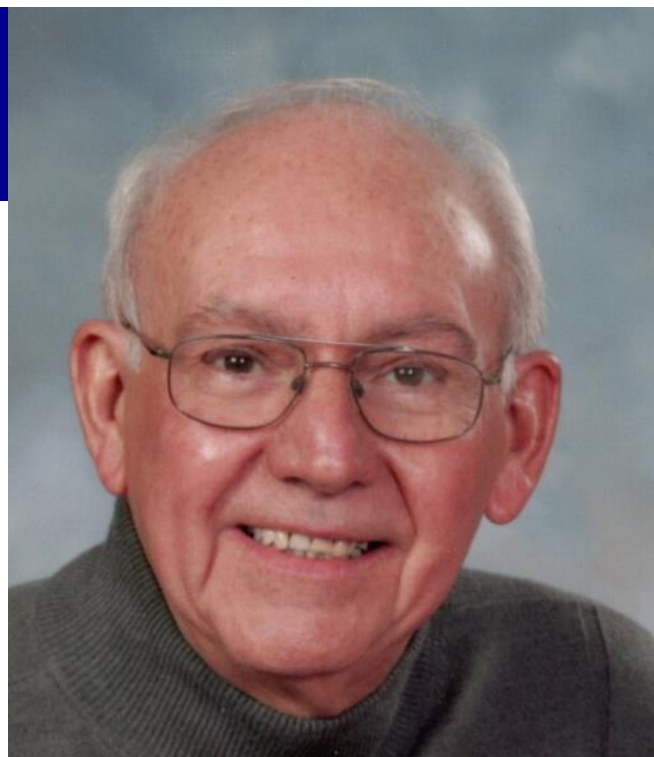


In Memoriam

Daniel “Dan” McKenzie

September 20, 1938 - June 26, 2023

Dan (“Scoop” to our club), 84, of Urbana passed away on Monday, June 26, 2023 after losing his battle with a cancerous brain tumor. Dan was born in Chicago to Gilbert and Letha McKenzie on September 20, 1938. As a teenager his family moved to Homer, Illinois. Dan married Angela Lynch in 1958 and they had three children. He then married Kathy Shaw on November 20, 1993.



Dan leaves behind his three children, Kristi (Paul) Lewis of Sidney, Kevin (Julie) McKenzie of Danville, and Lisa (Jeff) Covington of Ozark, Mo. He also leaves behind eight grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren to be born this summer. Proceeding him in death were his parents and his sister, Betty Cooper.

Dan graduated from Homer High School in 1956, where he lettered in football, track, and basketball. He set the school record in track in the 880, which stood until metric was used for distances in track. Dan also graduated from Eastern Illinois University and was a Certified Purchasing Agent. Dan worked for many years in banking and then went on to work at the University of Illinois in the Purchasing Division as a purchasing agent. He also worked as an accountant for the University Library. Dan taught accounting part-time at Parkland College for 18 years, a job he enjoyed very much. Dan was a member of the Homer Lions Club and then the Urbana Lions club. He served as president for both clubs. He was also a member of the Corvette Club of Illinois and served as a trustee and publicity chairman. He was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Urbana where he served on the Finance Council, counted the collections, and helped with funeral dinners, and the annual church garage sale. Dan was a coach for his kids' sports teams and was also a Boy Scout leader. He was also a big Illini fan and had season tickets for football and basketball for many years. Dan and Kathy attended many away football and basketball games, and several bowl games, including the Rose Bowl.



Visitation for Dan was Friday, June 30, from 5:00 to 7:00 at Renner Wikoff Funeral Home, Urbana. There was a funeral mass on Saturday, July 1, at 10:00 at St. Patrick Church, Urbana, immediately followed by a luncheon. Burial of cremains were held Wednesday, July 5 at 10:00 at Mt Olive Cemetery, Mayview, Il. In leu of flowers and plants, donations may be made in memory of Dan to St. Patrick Church, 708 West Main St, Urbana, IL 61801.

CORVETTE CLUB OF ILLINOIS

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

HOSTED BY DICK & JANICE LAMPE
205 E. SOUTH ST., ELLSWORTH, IL.

SUNDAY JULY 23, 2023

(RAIN DATE JULY 30, 2023)

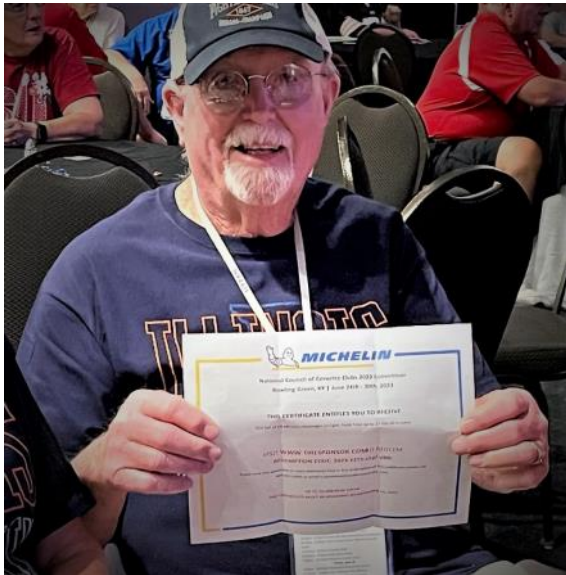
EAT AT 1:00 PM

CLUB PROVIDES:

HAMBURGERS, BRATS, HOT DOGS & BUNS
CONDIMENTS, TABLE SERVICE
LEMONADE & ICED TEA



**YOU BRING:
DISH TO PASS, CHAIRS**



NCCC National Convention
June 24-30
Bowling Green, KY



Valve
Cover
Races





NCCC National Convention
June 24-30
Bowling Green, KY



**Barn III Dinner Theater in Goodfield, IL
Saturday, August 5
5:30-9:30**

Update from the Barn III

Due to circumstances related to royalties, show content and actor availability, we had no choice but to replace “Unnecessary Farce” with the popular and hilarious Barn classic, “The Sunshine Boys” by Neil Simon.



This laugh out loud comedy will feature Dan Challacombe as *Willie* and Pat Gaik as *Al*, along with Barn favorites Nate Gaik, Miranda Axsom and Abby Reel. We are disappointed about the change in show, but I can assure you *The Sunshine Boys* will bring a smile to your face this summer! “*The Sunshine Boys*” is credited as being “one of the best on the Barn stage” and gives our seasoned Conklin Players (Pat and Dan) the opportunity to play characters that legends, Chaunce Conklin and Mike Dentino, once played. Sometimes there are blessings in disguise and *The Barn III* family feels like this change is a BIG blessing! This show also showcases the directorial debut of local talent, Anna Oxborrow-Sluder and Barn III owner and producer, Abby Reel. Anna and I are SO excited to bring you “*The Sunshine Boys*” - as it seems this summer is the perfect time to highlight classic comedy, friendship, and legendary laughs!

Show Synopsis:

Al and *Willie* as “*Lewis and Clark*” were top-billed vaudevillians for over forty years. Now they aren’t even speaking. When CBS requests them for a “*History of Comedy*” retrospective, a grudging reunion brings the two back together, along with a flood of memories, miseries, and laughs. The story follows the attempt by a young theatrical agent to reunite his elderly uncle, a former vaudevillian great, with his long-time stage partner for a TV reunion. Despite their celebrated reputation, the two old men have not spoken in twelve years. Besides remastering their sketch, the two men have numerous issues to work out before they are ready to return to the public eye.

Please contact Jody Retter at 309-824-6648 with any questions regarding this event.



National Corvette Museum

June 24-30
Bowling Green, KY





“A FORK ON THE ROAD”

SUGGESTED DINING LOCATIONS FROM CCI MEMBERS

THIS MONTH

STABLES STEAK HOUSE
939 POPLAR ST.
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA
1-812-232-6677

<https://www.stablessteakhouse.com>



RESTAURANT HOURS: (EST)

MONDAY – THURSDAY 4:30 – 9:00 PM

FRIDAY – SATURDAY 4:30 – 10:00 PM

SUNDAY 4:30 – 8:00 PM

Here is a restaurant serving some of the finest Angus beef steaks, pork, seafood and chicken In the area.

In addition, the Stables has a full service bar and large wine cellar.

The Stables is actually a refurbished and repurposed horse stable brought back to original design with rescued décor from buildings around Terre Haute. The booths are actual horse stalls.

Their menu features a large offering of appetizers in addition to salads and soups, with many side dishes. Angus beef steaks, chicken, pork and seafood are featured along with some vegetarian options. Please visit their website to view their full menu.

Good food, unique décor makes for a dining destination.

Suggested by Steve and Chris Mechling

Please make your suggestions and recommendations for submission to “A Fork on the Road”, to Barry Wagner (bkwagner@illinois.edu) 217-356-9961

Corvette Club Outing

Date & Time: Saturday, July 15, 10:00 am

Where: Dave’s Shed, 1826 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, IL

Followed by: Lunch at Avanti’s Restaurant, 3302 East Empire Street, Bloomington, IL

Signup sheet will be passed around again at July 11 meeting. No cost for the shed. At Avanti’s, you will go in front door, order food, and get your own drink. Food will be brought to your table. Dave’s Shed shows nine Corvettes, a Shelby Mustang and a couple of other models. There is a lot of old memorabilia and various collections. In the second room, there is a wonderful collection of Disney items and six model trains. It is a very fun place to visit. Parking will be across the street.

Hope you can make it. It is rarely opens for visitors.

We will let the folks from the Champaign area decide how they want to caravan.

An interview with Club members Steve and Chris Mechling

By Carol Castellon

What would you call a member who has owned a jaw-dropping 108 Corvettes? Ed Saari (Corvette Adventures) has an award for it called: "The Greedy Corvette Award." Steve won it twice! And yet, out of 108 Corvettes, which one does Steve regret selling? His first one! (note: Steve has owned 350+ cars and trucks - another record in our Club?)



In 1973, he was 17, just out of high school, and on his birthday (September 28), he bought his first 'Vette - a '71 classic white convertible 454 with saddle interior. He drove it to every event he could go to. He started going to Bloomington Gold in 1973 and hasn't missed a year, so has been going for 51 years. Steve loved that 'Vette. Linda Ogle jokingly told Steve that his car matched his underwear ... white on the outside and tan on the inside!



When Chris was pregnant, they bought a house and needed furniture. Steve sold his '71 for \$5000 to buy furniture, but said he only spent \$1000 on furniture, so commented "I should have taken out a loan for the furniture and kept the Corvette!" When Bloomington Gold was in St. Charles, Steve saw a white '71 with saddle interior, and was admiring it. The owner said he bought it from a young man in Champaign. It was Steve's first Corvette! He asked to buy it back, but the owner told Steve it was also his first Corvette and intended to keep it forever. Steve said he knows that his '71 'Vette has a good home.



Chris also regrets selling her first Corvette, a '61 jewel blue convertible. At Bloomington Gold, she saw jewel blue convertible, and realized she wished she still had hers. So, Steve bought a '61 convertible from Bob Taylor's Classics, took it Danville, had it painted jewel blue, and gave it to Chris for their 31st Anniversary!

When Ogles moved to Alton Drive in Champaign, Steve's family lived a block away, and Steve walked past Ogle's house on his way to Jr. High (he said by Jr. High, you don't ride your bike to school anymore because that's not "cool"). Steve saw old cars in the driveway frequently when Bob worked the midnight shift, got home at 7 AM, and left cars sitting out. Once, Bob's '66 yellow coupe was in the driveway and that car plus Bob "branded me," Steve said. He talked to Bob, and they became good friends, and Bob was a good mentor. In fact, Bob was Steve's best man at his wedding! Bob sold cars out of the IGA Shopper, and Steve watched him trade often, which Steve said is what led to him to go through 108 'Vettes. Steve even bought cars from Bob!

One day in 1973, Steve saw about 10 corvettes in Bob's drive and asked Bob what was going on. Bob told Steve it was a meeting of the Corvette Club. The Club met at member's houses back then. Steve thought these were the coolest cars ever!

One time when Steve stopped to talk, Bob said to Steve "I'm going to Corvette Corral and Linda doesn't want to go. Do you want to go?" Bob explained it was a gathering of guys showing their Corvettes and sharing coolers and beer. Steve went and saw about 60 corvettes gathered, and a couple of guys selling stuff out of the back of pickups. One was Mike Yager. Steve said this event "bit me hard!"

In the early 1980's, Steve took 3 'Vettes to Bloomington Gold. He sold all 3 on Friday. He bought 2 more and sold them. Then bought 2 more to bring home. The most he ever sold was 9: he took 7 'Vettes (4 were his and 3 were repo's owned by banks), sold all of them, bought 2 more, sold them, and bought 2 more to bring home. He refers to those years as "crazy times."

An interview with Club members Steve and Chris Mechling *continued*

By Carol Castellon

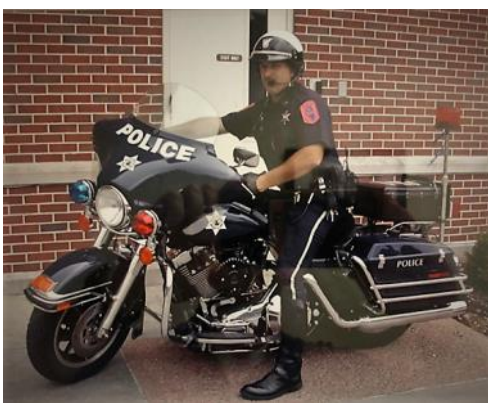
One of his Corvettes now lives in Belgium, another in Norway. Steve advertised a '56 in Hemmings Magazine, and a Dentist and his Mechanic who lived in Norway, saw the ad and were coming to a car show in Chicago. They were looking for a '56 or older to pay ½ duty to export it. They bought it and made arrangements for Steve to get it to Chicago, where it was transported overseas. A few months later, he received a Scandinavian magazine in the mail, with a picture of 2 corvettes (one was Steve's) and the article translated to "Two men went to the USA and bought 2 'Vettes, doubling the population of Corvettes in Norway." Evidently, there were 2 already there, so with these 2, that made 4.



Steve and Chris married in 1975 and bought a house 1 ½ blocks from Bob and Linda Ogle, so their friendship continued. Steve said he "never got more than 8 blocks away from where he was born, where he lived, where he was married, and where he worked!"

A few years after the Club was formed, they met at Sullivan Chevrolet downtown, and held their meetings upstairs where the parts department was - Steve said it was "really hot" up there. The night they joined, Doug joined and Ray Quinlan joined. Steve served a year as VP, and Chris served as Secretary. He said Ogles and Heckers started the Club, and back in the day, it was so much fun.

Steve was interested in points, and Chris got interested in points too. She started doing autocross, and then for Convention, did high-speed autocross. She took her '75 convertible and both Steve and Chris raced it. At Charlotte Motor Speedway, Chris stood 2nd in her class, and Steve told her to "pick it up and you can beat that woman." She lost control and hit the wall with her car, leaving a blue streak of paint on the wall. Surprisingly, the 'Vette didn't sustain too much damage, and they drove it home. A few weeks later, Doug was watching a race at Charlotte and said "her blue streak is still on the wall!" A side note, the clock in that 'Vette had never worked, but after hitting the wall, it started working. Steve told everyone that "Chris does clock-repair." In 1974, Bob Ogle won 1st place in NCCC points for the Midwest region, and Steve won 2nd.



Steve has many stories to tell. On the way home from the NCCC Convention in Colorado they were going through Oklahoma City and Steve got into construction and slowed to stop. Doug couldn't stop and hit him from behind. Both drove their 'Vettes home so not too much damage, but that's when they started singing "Oklahoma City Looks Oh So shitty" – a variation of the lyrics in the song "Get Your Kicks on Rt 66."

Steve worked at Kraft and met Dennis Heckler. Steve quit to go to work for Dennis – Dennis was a distributor and Steve was a dealer for Tom's Foods. He worked for Dennis for 12 years. In 1987, Steve was hired at U of IL, and in 1994, became a police officer at U of IL. He rode one of the few motorcycles the University owned. He retired in 2015.

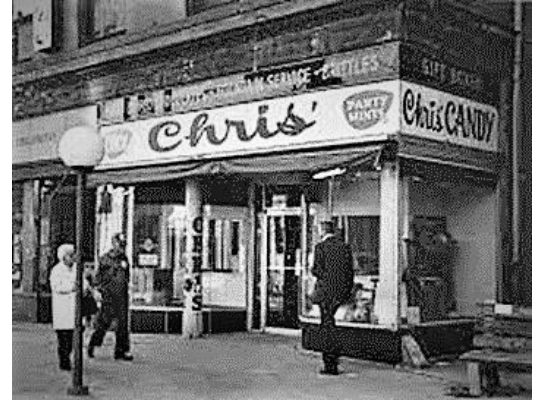
An interview with Club members Steve and Chris Mechling *continued*

By Carol Castellon

Chris and her father owned “Chris’s Candy Shop” on North Neil, but when the building was scheduled to be bull-dozed and become a parking lot, her dad gave Chris his equipment and quit. Steve and Chris bought 105 N Walnut which became the candy shop. In 7 years, the expense to run a business got so bad, she could not make money, so she got hired at U of I to run the new café at Beckman. Chris put her 20 years in and retired in 2016.



Steve graduated from Centennial in 1973, and Chris graduated from Central the same year. They met at Uncle John’s on Kirby. They were married in 1975, and have 2 daughters, Katie and Leigh Anne. Steve got the girls interested in cars at an early age by buying them Camaros to restore while they were in HS. Katie still has her ’69 Camaro and Leigh Anne still has her ’67 Camaro. Chris likes to shop, gardening and used to do tole-painting. Steve spends a lot of time maintaining houses, and rents out a couple of buildings he owns. They have a grandson, Weston, who Steve takes to car shows to get him excited about cars.



Steve and Chris currently own a ’61 Jewel Blue convertible, a ’71 Steel City Grey convertible, and a ’07 Atomic Orange convertible. These are all rare colors for Corvettes.



If you want to know something about a specific Corvette, I’m convinced that Steve is one of the most knowledgeable people you could ask. He and Chris are both very friendly, so if you don’t know them, introduce yourself at the next meeting!

Summer
time!



Corvette Club Participation in Special Olympics Family Fest

September 16, 2023
Lake Land College, Mattoon
9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

On September 16, 2023, the Central Illinois Special Olympics (Region 1) is having its Family Festival. The Corvette Club of Illinois will be an integral part of this very special event by participating in the parade, displaying our cars and volunteering to work a game tent. It is estimated that there will be about 800 athletes, 800 friends for a day escorts, and some 400 volunteers at this event. This festival event features sports activities, fun games, singing and dancing, performances by local entertainers, exhibitions and a free lunch.

I will like to get a commitment of 13 - 15 cars and at least 25 club members to sign up before I tell Special Olympics that we are good to go for this year.

The event will be held on the grounds of the Lake Land College in Mattoon. All club participants should arrive at the McDonalds at exit 184 on I-57 South at 8:30 am on Saturday, September 16th. We will then caravan the ½ mile to Lake Land College at 9:00 am.

We will leave McDonalds at 9:00 am to drive the ½ mile to Lake Land College where we will line up for the parade. The Corvettes will start lining up about 9:00 to be featured in this short parade that winds through the Lake Land parking lot. The Corvettes will be carrying 4 Special Olympics Athletes and about 10 local Princesses and Queens (we will need to have waivers signed by all riders). The parade will start at 10:00 and after the parade there will be a torch lighting. About 10:00 am, we will park the parade cars in the Corvette only parking area.

This is when all of the Special Olympians and their families will get a chance to see our cars up close. The organizers have requested that we DO NOT let anybody sit in our cars.

During the day, there will be all kinds of games, activities, music and lunch. The Corvette Club will be the volunteers for one of the activity tents. Our tent will have three games for the athletes, a soft ball toss, bucket ball, and a drag race game. Each athlete will have a "friend of the day" to help them with each game. Each athlete will be given a ribbon for participating. The ribbons will be supplied by Special Olympics. I will need about 14 club members at a time to run the games, and we will switch out during the event. I would also like to have some of the members check on the Corvettes during the day.

All volunteers will get a Special Olympics Family Fest Volunteer Shirt.

Lunch will be provided by Special Olympics from 11:00 – 1:30. I understand it is a box lunch with a Jimmy John's sandwich, other healthy snacks and bottled water.

The games in the tent will close at 1:30, and then we will be able to clean up and leave by 2:30.

If some of the Club members are wanting to go to Fun Fest in Effingham you will be able to leave around 12:00 noon.

At 2:00 pm, they will have the closing ceremony if you want to stay.

Please contact me if you want to join in on this great club charity event.

Ken Guyette

248-880-4952

kjguyette@aol.com

September 18-22, 2023



Road Trip to Branson

This trip will include a scenic drive to beautiful Eureka Springs, a day at Top of the Rock, 2 musical shows, and a dinner cruise on the Branson Belle Showboat. Free time is also on the agenda to explore Branson as you wish!

Please let us know if you'd like to join us on this adventure. We need to get our lodging and show tickets reserved as soon as possible! More details will be made available once we know how many will be in our group.

Please contact Jody Retter at 309-824-6648 or jodyretter@yahoo.com with any questions you might have.



2023 At a Glance

July 12–15	Black Hills Classic – Spearfish, SD
July 15	Tour of Dave Kruger's in Bloomington, IL' at 10:00 am, then lunch at Avanti's
July 16	Gilmore Car Museum Corvette and Camero Show – Hickory Corners, MI
July 23	Club Picnic at Lampe's – Ellsworth, IL (rain date July 30)
July 27	Steve Brown Memorial Dinner Dash to Dewey's – Farmer City, IL
July 29	Car Show – Danville, IL VA
July 29	Car Show – Sidney, IL
July 30	Mahomet Cars & Coffee—Whisk Coffee & Wine Bar, Mahomet, IL—8-10 am
Aug. 5	Barn III Dinner Theater – Goodfield, IL
Aug. 6	Cruise Night – Obies in Oakwood, IL
Aug. 10–20	Illinois State Fair – Springfield, IL (Veteran's Day Aug. 13)
Aug. 12	Corvette Indy Vets 'n Vettes – Indianapolis, IN
Aug. 12	Morris Cruise Night—Downtown Morris, IL—6-9 pm
Aug. 12	Cars & Coffee—Indy 500 Museum 8-11 am
Aug. 19	River to River All Corvette Show – Herrin, IL
Aug. 19	Car Show – Sadorus, IL
Aug. 19	Corvette Cruise—Atlanta, IL
Aug. 24–26	Corvettes at Carlisle - Carlisle, PA
Aug. 26	Car Show – Ogden, IL
Aug. 26	Car Show – Legion Park in Watseka, IL
Aug. 27	Mahomet Cars & Coffee—Whisk Coffee & Wine Bar, Mahomet, IL—8-10 am
Aug. 31–Sept. 2	NCM 28 TH Anniversary Celebration - Bowling Green, PA
Sept. 2	Car Show – National Sweetcorn Festival in Hoopston, IL
Sept. 3	Cruise Night – Obies in Oakwood, IL
Sept. 8 – 9	NCCC Governors Meeting - St. Louis. MO
Sept. 9	Morris Cruise Night—Downtown Morris, IL - 6-9 pm
Sept. 9	Cars & Coffee—Indy 500 Museum – 8-11 am
Sept. 10	Car Show – Beaverville, IL
Sept. 16	Special Olympics Family Fest – Mattoon, IL
Sept. 14-16	Mid-America Motorworks Corvette Funfest - Effingham, IL
Sept. 18-22	Road trip to Branson, MO
Sept. 22–24	Route 66 Mother Road Festival Car Show – Springfield, IL
Sept. 24	Mahomet Cars & Coffee—Whisk Coffee & Wine Bar, Mahomet, IL—8-10 am
Sept. 29–Oct. 1	Newport Antique Car Hill Climb – Newport, IN
Sept. 30	Sullivan-Parkhill 100th Year Anniversary—Champaign, IL
Oct. 7	Car Show – Caliber Collision in Champaign, IL
Oct. 7	Car Show – Museum in Watseka, IL
Oct. 14	Morris Cruise Night—Downtown Morris, IL—6-9 pm
Oct. 14	Cars & Coffee—Indy 500 Museum 8-11 am
Oct. 29	Mahomet Cars & Coffee—Whisk Coffee & Wine Bar, Mahomet, IL—8-10 am
Nov. 10 – 11	NCCC Governors Meeting - St. Louis. MO
Nov. 18–19	Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals - Rosemont, IL
Dec. 2	Club Christmas Party – Savoy, IL