

## President's Message

Let's all hope that SPRING gets here sooner than later. All we can do is wish that SPRING gets here, so that we can get our Corvettes out of storage to do some fun events this year.

Art and Chona Rapp have taken possession of the condo next to Carol Castellon in Savoy. They should be able to start getting their stuff back in order a little bit. He also told me that he is working with two construction companies on the rebuild of their house. I know that everyone is hoping that they can get started on getting life back to normal very soon.

I just sent out all the information of this year's Illinois Marathon in Champaign/Urbana on Saturday, April 30th. The committee has decided not to have a full marathon (26 miles) this year. If you would like to participate here is the website <a href="http://illinoismarathon.com">http://illinoismarathon.com</a>.

Joyce Cryer has set up a day outing to go to a Fairbury dairy and of course have lunch in downtown Fairbury on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Joyce has done a lot of planning to try something different for club members to get out for some FUN. Please look at the plans for this trip.

I have set up our first Dinner Dash/Outing for Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> to Mission BBQ in Peoria. There is also a flyer in this newsletter and I will discuss all plans at the April meeting. If you might have a suggestion for a restaurant that can handle about 20 people, please email me back at <a href="mailto:dug.hanner@gmail.com">dug.hanner@gmail.com</a> or call me at 217-369-5868. I like input for new places to go for this fun event. THANKS

Let's all be looking out for car shows and cruise-ins for 2022. If any members hear of a car show/display or cruise-in you can email me at <a href="mailto:dug.hanner@gmail.com">dug.hanner@gmail.com</a> 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 <a href="www.ccofi.org">www.ccofi.org</a>. Steve Tribble does a great job of keeping the website up to date for all members to keep in the know. If you have any flyers from other shows and events bring them to the meeting or email them to Steve Tribble (<a href="mailto:s.tribble@frontier.com">s.tribble@frontier.com</a>). New ideas or new events can be talked about at any meeting or just get in touch with one of the Board of Directors. THANKS STEVE!!!

Next Meeting 7:00 PM April 12, 2022 Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive

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

Officers 2022:

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 309-661-1640 cacbkc@comcast.net

Secretary: Debby Wagner 217-356-9961 <u>dwagner306@gmail.com</u>

#### Trustees:

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Dan McKenzie dgmckenzi@gmail.com

Sharon Pearson terry.pearson@comcast.net

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> Newsletter & Web Photos: Jody Retter jodyretter@yahoo.com





#### **TECH TIP:**

I know that I have talked about some things that are good to do when you get your Corvette out of storage for the busy summer. Always check your air pressure in tires, change the oil, check all batteries in your fobs, and check your Vette battery. These are just suggestions, but they seem to work pretty well for me.



## "A FORK ON THE ROAD"

SUGGESTED DINING LOCATIONS FROM CCI MEMBERS

#### **THIS MONTH**

ROUTE 66 MOTORHEADS BAR & GRILL 600 TORONTO ROAD SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62711 217-679-7323 M - SAT 11 am - 11 pm SU 9 AM - 9 pm https://66motorheads.com



Just North of Lake Springfield and West on Toronto Road off I-55 is Motorheads Bar & Grill. Located in the old Stuckey's roadside stop building which was scheduled for demolition, Ron and Pat Metzger purchased the building in 2016 and four surrounding acres and restored and remodeled the building to what is now, an amazing bar and grill, opening in 2018. Ron being a collector with a love for car memorabilia and Springfield nostalgia, decorated the building with many of his prized car themed items. Adjacent to the main restaurant is the Texaco faced museum which houses even more of Ron's collection.

Food is the main attraction at Motorheads Bar & Grill. They offer a very extensive menu of food choices. The menu itself is a joy to read with many of their offerings having unique automotive themed names. Far too many items to list here, however you can go to their web site to see the complete listing.

You can also view a video documentary about Motorheads by going to the following site: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G26UHshUYbg

Motorheads Bar & Grill. A great destination for your next road trip.

NOTE: All information is believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Because of the effects of COVID, businesses may have to alter their normal operation dealing with staffing issues as well as any imposed restrictions. It is advised to contact the business prior to making a special trip.

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

#### Minutes of March 8, 2022

President Doug Hanner called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., 48 members were present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Guest or Prospective Members or Associate Members** None

#### Members with a new or different car - color and year

Steve & Chris Mechling - '07 Orange

Melinda Burke - '22 Ceramic Matrix Gray Metallic

#### **Good and Welfare**

Dan McKenzie is back home. He saw an oncologist concerning doing surgery on the brain tumor but they cannot get it all. Deb Lammle – Is battling cancer.

Please keep these members and their families in your prayers.

#### Secretary report: Debby Wagner

Delora Hanner made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Dick Lampe. Motion approved

#### Treasurer report: Brenda Croxton

Jackie Heck moved to accept the report, seconded by Cynda Dick. Motion approved.

#### **Governors Report:** Tom McKinley

We have 174 members. We are now the largest club in the Midwest Region. East Tennessee the largest in the country with 388 members. There are 27 active clubs in the Midwest Region with 2,365 members. Nationally, NCCC has 233 clubs with 17,113 members. We have lost 3 clubs nationally, including 1 in the Midwest Region.

At their meeting, they had a guest speaker, the Hagerty Insurance. Hagerty is one of the bigger sponsors of the NCCC.

Last November the New Rule book was rejected by the Governors and the committee is starting over.

Your permanent membership card is in the mail. Check your card for any mistakes.

The deadline for scholarships is May 1, 2022. Go to NCCC website for details.

The Museum Bash will be held April 28<sup>th</sup> thru 30<sup>th</sup>. Register on the NCM website.

The Museum in Motion resumes in March with some outstanding trips. Check the Museum's website.

The host casino for the 2022 convention in Atlantic City is considering a slot tournament, if there is enough interest.

The 2023 Convention will be held in Bowling Green, KY. This is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Corvette. It will be held June 24<sup>th</sup> thru 30<sup>th</sup>, which is the week the first Vette rolled off the assembly line in St. Louis.

The 2024 Convention will probably be held in Joplin, MO. Nothing is set in stone.

#### **Trustees:**

Nothing to report.

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

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

Carol Castellon will resume interviewing members for future newsletters.

#### Website:

Please send any upcoming events, car shows, vehicles for sale, etc. so they may be posted on the website. Steve Tribble has everything up to date.

#### **Public Information:**

Nothing to report.

#### **Calendars**

We still have 2022 calendars available at \$10.00 each. See Brenda Croxton to purchase one.

We are taking requests from members to showcase their car in the 2023 calendar.

#### **Social Functions:**

No report.

#### **Charity Committee:**

Nothing to report.

#### Vice President: Barry Wagner

If the weather should become an issue for safe travel to the meeting, the Board of Directors will make a decision no later then 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting whether or not to cancel the meeting. A "mass email" will be immediately sent out to all club members. So before heading out to the meeting, please check your email for a cancellation notice. While we encourage all members to attend the meetings, please do not put yourself at risk if travel conditions are questionable on meeting day during these winter months. We want everyone to be safe. Typically, we only have to deal with winter weather issues December thru March.

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

We will resume doing "Fork On the Road" 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.

#### Minutes of March 8, 2022 continued

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. The Bement American Legion will be holding a Fish Fry, Friday March 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

#### 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.

#### **President:** Doug Hanner

The Christie Illinois Marathon will be held April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. On Friday there will be a 5K. They are asking for volunteers for Saturday for the Half Marathon. They need us to man a water station at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and St. Mary's Road. There will be no full marathon this year. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

The Spring Corvette Adventures at Chula Vista Resort will be held on June 9-11, 2022 and the Fall one will be held September 9-11, 2022.

Bloomington Gold will be held in Bloomington, Illinois on June 10 – 11, 2022. They are planning a Road Tour on Route 66.

We are planning a Dinner & a Movie at Monicals in Urbana very soon. We will send out information as it becomes available.

Doug is planning a Dinner Dash to The Mission Bar-B-Que in Peoria. It is a military themed restaurant. Members also told us that there are Mission Bar-B-Ques in Springfield and Evansville.

#### **Old Business:**

We needed to vote on donating \$300.00 for the St. Joseph Santa Run held in December. The request came up at the last minute and three of our members agreed to cover it until we could vote on it at a meeting. Motion was made by Tom McKinley to cover the funds spent, seconded by Chuck Croxton. Motion passed.

#### **New Business:**

The changes to the By-Laws were presented to the Club at the February meeting. A discussion was held concerning the lowering of the quorum from 20% to 10%. 10% would require 17 members present to hold a vote and 20% would require 34. This is based on our current membership. Members commented that they would rather have 20% for a quorum. They felt 10% was too small. It was suggested to leave it at 20% with the possibility of a proxy. There was not a favorable response to having a proxy.

#### Other changes are as follows:

Tom McKinley made a motion that we give \$500.00 to members who suffer catastrophic events. Such as fire, auto accidents, etc. Motion seconded by Charlie Mornout. Motion passed.

Another change is that any requests for Charity donations must be received 1 to 2 months in advance. This will give the membership time to discuss the requests.

Ken Guyette made a motion that we keep the quorum at 20% and accept the other changes. Seconded by Larry Flessner. Ken then made a motion that we have a paper ballot vote, seconded by Jody Retter. Motion carried. Ballots were handed out by the Trustees and counted. The changes to the By-Laws passed.

#### **Other New Business:**

Jody Retter announced that The Barn III in Goodfield was open again. She was wondering if members were interested in going to any of the shows. The schedule is as follows: "It's The 70's", March 10<sup>th</sup> thru April 10<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>; "Everybody Loves Opal", July 7<sup>th</sup> thru August 14<sup>th</sup>; and "Run For Your Wife", September 29<sup>th</sup> thru October 30<sup>th</sup>. Please let Jody know if you are interested in getting a group together for the Dinner Theatre.

#### **Corvette Chat**

One of the members asked if you could take your Corvette convertible thru a car wash. They were advised not to take them to an automated drive thru because of the rails since the car is so low. You can take them to a do-it-yourself car wash.

Another member was having trouble with the shifter in his C-6 getting stuck. He was told that he needed to get the shifter replaced. This is called the C-6 Shuffle. It isn't a question of if the shifter will go out, but when. Several members have had their's replaced.

**50/50 -** \$86.00 – Dick Lampe

**Motion to adjourn**- Made by George Dick, seconded by Dwight Hooker. Motion carried.

#### **April Birthdays**

April 4 Cynda Dick

April 4 Tom Serd

April 13 Gloria Bolton

April 14 Dana Miyat

April 17 Karen Crull

April 23 Linda Smith

April 24 | Jill Duckett

April 26 Debbie Lammle

April 26 Brenda Simpson

April 27 Melinda Burke

April 28 Alvin Schurg



www.sullivanparkhill.com

Call 217-352-4275
Ask for special Club pricing





#### Club Calendar

## April 12 Monthly Club Meeting

7:00 pm Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive 440 West Anthony Dr, Champaign, IL

## April 19 Day Trip to Fairbury

Meet at 8:30 am 508 Harlan Wise Dr St. Joseph, IL

## April 23 Dinner Dash/Club Outing

Mission BBQ 4513 N. Sterling Avenue Peoria, IL

#### April 30 Illinois Marathon

7:30-11:00 am. Hydration Station #4 St. Mary's & 4th Champaign, IL

#### May 10 Monthly Club Meeting

7:00 pm Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive 440 West Anthony Dr Champaign, IL



# Want to join a day trip to Fairbury Tuesday, April 19, 2022?

8:30 a.m.— Meet in St. Joseph at Joyce Cryer's, 508 Harlan Wise Dr., across from the middle school, next to the electric sub station on Peter St. at the south edge of town.

8:45 a.m. — Drive to Fairbury.

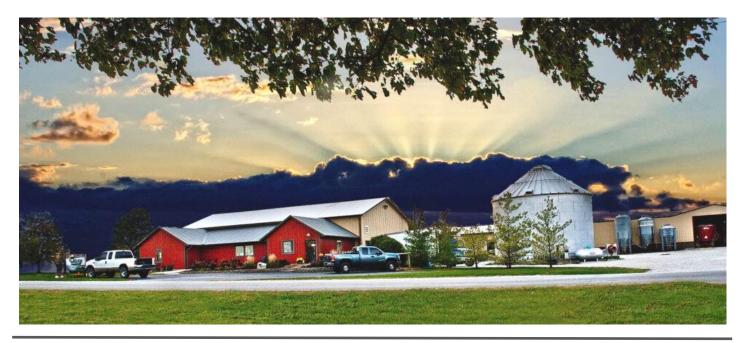
10:00 a.m. — We'll visit Kilgus Dairy for a conducted tour of the dairy parlor, dry cows, calves, pigs. Fee: \$5.00. Or sit on the dairy store porch while the rest of us walk the farm. Finish the farm experience with a visit to the farm store and a soft-serve ice cream made with Kilgus Dairy milk. Parking lot is paved. Senior alert: there is one bathroom.

11:30 a.m. — Enjoy lunch at Lost in Time located in an historic former bank building at Fourth & Locust. Food is homemade and there is a bakery. Yummy! Sally Goembel, owner, is opening just for our group. The store is usually closed tuesdays. Park on street, or Dave's Grocery Deli Manager, Jake May, invited us to park at the east end of his parking lot 3rd and Walnut and walk to Lost in Time. Dave's offers free coffee daily and free ice cream to seniors on Tuesday in the deli. Tuesday is our lucky day!

Following lunch, take time to visit the shops (see the brochure) or cruise Fairbury. The town has many beautiful old homes and a fairground famous for the Fairbury Fair and Saturday Night stock car racing, or drink coffee at Dave's grocery.

2:00 p.m. — Gather at east end of Dave's parking lot for more driving via Route 24 west to Chenoa. (Watch your speed in Chenoa.) Follow old Route 66 south through Lexington, Towanda, Bloomington to Downs. Take the scenic Route 150 to Champaign and home.

R.S.V.P. by Thursday, April 14, to Joyce Cryer, <u>cicryer@aol.com</u> or 815-988-7155. Sally needs to know how many guests she'll be serving at Lost in Time restaurant.





## A Family Farmstead

Kilgus Farmstead is a family-owned and operated farm that includes a herd of Jersey cattle, Boer goats, Berkshire pigs, and tillable row crops.

The dairy and grain farm was established in the 1950's, by Duane and Arlene Kilgus.

Today, Paul, Matt, Justin and Trent Kilgus and their families own and operate Kilgus Farmstead - still working those same fields and lush pastures of rural Livingston County just as Grandpa & Grandma Kilgus did, generations before...

Kilgus Farmstead is the only single-source, on-farm fluid milk bottling plant in Central Illinois. Kilgus Farmstead milk products are distributed around Northern and Central

Illinois on a weekly basis and can be found in their Farmstead Country Store. Visitors can watch the milkbottling process every Mon., Wed. and Fri. at 8am!



**Kilgus Farmstead Country Store** 

Besides Kilgus milk, meat, & ice cream,

their Country Store carries a variety of local specialty products including jams, jellies, honey, yeast rolls, butter, cheeses, popcorn, & eggs. They also carry a wide variety of homemade soap, salves and teas. The highlight of visiting the Store is the fresh homemade soft serve ice cream that is made from the milk from the cows that live at Kilgus Dairy.

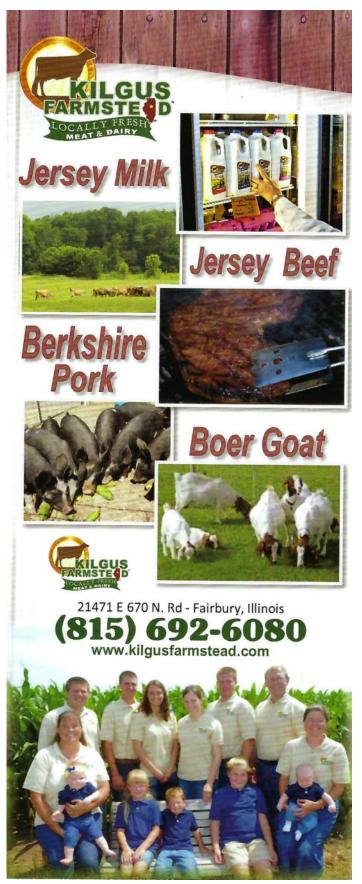
### **Visit Our Country Store**

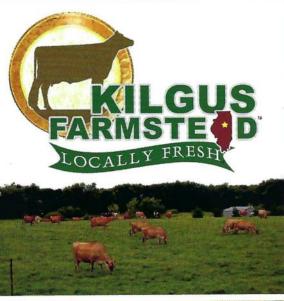
21471 E 670 N. Rd - Fairbury, Illinois Open Mon-Sat, 8am to 6pm One Mile South of Illinois Route 24 at 1st Street Stoplight in Fairbury

(815) 692-6080

Farm tours given by appointment only www.kilgusfarmstead.com

















Once

FAIRBURY, IL

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For Store Hours & Info Visit:

Locations in

Pontiac &

Fairbury!





## **Dinner Dash/Club Outing**



Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022 Mission BBQ 4513 N. Sterling Avenue Peoria, IL 61615 (309) 590-5776



This will be a great chance to do some socializing with other Club members and order from a complete BBQ menu at a good restaurant. I talked with the manager and everything is good to go for our group to have some great BBQ and catch up on gossip after this long winter.

We will leave from behind the Red Lobster in Champaign at 9:00 am SHARP, travel west on I-74 to the rest area just west of Farmer City for a short pit stop and possibly pick up some more club members. We will then caravan to Mission BBQ with plans to be there around their opening time of 11:30 am. This restaurant is honoring all military and first responders.

You can check out their website also (www.mission-bbq.com) for their menu. IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THIS DINNER DASH, PLEASE RSVP ME AT (217) 369-5868 or <a href="mailto:dug.hanner@gmail.com">dug.hanner@gmail.com</a> by APRIL 20TH, SO THAT I CAN CALL MISSION BBQ.

THANKS, Doug



## An interview with Club members Charlie and Charlene Mornout

#### By Carol Castellon

Charlie bought his first Corvette, a 1967 convertible, when he was 19, mostly because it was a 2-seater and he was tired of always driving everyone around. His first recollection of seeing a Corvette was a guy in Covington, IN that had a split window Corvette and raced around town. Charlie was captivated with that car — at the Apple Festival in Covington, he told the guy that car is the reason he bought a Corvette. Then he bought another 1967, then a 1966, then a 1975, then a 1978, then a 1986, then a 1989, then 1973, and then 2006. He still has the 1973 torch red convertible, and the 2006 Daytona sunset orange convertible.

Charlie joined the Club in 1977, when they met upstairs in Sullivan Chevrolet in downtown Champaign. Clifford Peak told him about the Club — he was a body man in Danville and a member. When Charlie married Charlene, 5 members of the Club were in their wedding. Their honeymoon was at the NCCC Convention in Charlotte, NC.



Since that first NCCC Convention, he's been to 4 more. He's also been to Carlisle for 16 years, every Bloomington Gold since 1977, every Funfest, and Vettes in the Smokies – a Corvette show in Maggie Valley, NC. Charlie has met a lot of people from other Clubs at Corvette Shows over the years, and still talks frequently with many of them.

Charlie told about an incident with a Club outing. The Club was going to a Comedy Club in Huntington Towers in Champaign, and they crammed too many in the elevator and it got stuck. They all had to crawl out to get to the show.



At a trip to NCM — the first trip that Tom McKinley's car didn't break down, but Art and Charlie's did — Charlie was dealing with a battery that went bad. Charlie didn't go on the NCM cruise, and the editor of Corvette Fever Magazine saw him working on his car, and asked to interview him. The car had an LS motor — one of the first cars to have one. The pictures the editor took that day ended up in an article in the August 2007 edition of the magazine. That magazine is on display in the NCM. A copy of the article "Aged to Perfection" is shown.



## An interview with Club members Charlie and Charlene Mornout *continued*By Carol Castellon

Charlie graduated from HS in Covington IN. He started working at Hyster Lift Trucks, then Chuckles Candy Co, then US Canning Co (Ball). He attended heating and AC school in Terra Haute ("Go Hoosiers") to subsidize the Corvette stuff he wanted to buy. He retired from Ball Canning, but still does Heating & AC work for friends and Club members.





Charlene graduated from Danville HS in 1978. While she was in high school, she worked at Burger Chef and Charlie went to ask about a girl who worked there. He met Charlene and asked her out instead. He was 21 and she was 16. They were married in July 1978, and have 2 children, Justin and Erin, and 5 grandchildren who all like Corvettes. Charlene still works for Epic Insurance. Charlene can't go very long without seeing her grandchildren!

Charlie and Charlene live north of Danville in a subdivision called Woodland Hills. Charlie is very interested in WWII history, and avidly reads about it. He thinks the officers in our Club are doing a good job. Charlie served the Club as Governor for 5 years, and President for 2 years in the early 90's when the Club met at Pizza Inn in Danville. In more recent years, he has forgotten his name badge so many times that his friends call him "no name Charlie."

# Thank You!

I never envisioned myself being a recipient of any donations but the house fire has given me a new perspective. This is an ongoing arduous, stressful and trying time for Chona and I, to say the least.

We have made a lot of friends in the Corvette world over the years but none greater than our friends of the Corvette Club of Illinois. This donation meant a lot to me personally as it represents not only a monetary amount but the friendship from the members of our Corvette club which we miss.

Chona and I want to thank everyone from the Corvette Club of Illinois for your help, the donation, the kind words of encouragement and for being our friends. It is truly hard to express our appreciation but I hope this will help.

Sincerely,
Art & Chona Rapp



Registration is Open for Funfest 2022

Friday Sept. 16, 2022 Saturday Sept. 17, 2022

8:00 AM (Doors open 7:00 AM)

Join us September 16-17, 2022 for **Corvette Funfest 2022**, as we celebrate the **Corvette** hobby with two fun-filled days featuring expert seminars, special **Corvette** displays, awards, giveaways and more! Don't miss out on an unforgettable weekend surrounded by **Corvette** enthusiasts from across the country and around the globe! Calling All Clubs!! This year we are celebrating where it all started, in the Corvette Club Community!! This year's festival is dedicated to showcasing all the great clubs and members at Funfest 2022. Clubs and members should select our "Club Registration" to be a part of all the club centric fun! Show off your club pride in our special Funfest Clubhouse area and enjoy all the special club themed activities all weekend long!!

Join us at the Barn III on Sunday, October 30th for the performance of "Run For Your Wife".

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$48 per person and include dinner, show, and tax.

Contact Jody Retter at 309-824-6648 or jodyretter@yahoo.com to reserve your seats.



#### Where will you be on the last week of June 2023?

Plans are under development for a potential 2023 NCCC Convention in Bowling Green, KY. The week of fun, tours, parties, and competition would be hosted by NCCC through volunteers from various clubs around the country. This concept is like the 2001 Bowling Green Convention.

A little background information first – at the November 2021 National Governors' Meeting, a request was made to research the possibility that a 2023 Convention could be held in Bowling Green since no formal proposal had been received by the Convention Steering Committee. Since three previous Conventions (2001, 2013, 2017) had been held at that location, it was felt that lessons learned there would aid in the development of a successful plan for 2023. With that mission in mind, the team of Dale & Carolyn Samuelson, Deb Murphy, and I hit the ground running to gather current information on hotels, venues, and entertainment. Meetings were held with the Holiday Inn Plaza and Convention Center, National Corvette Museum and Motorsport Park, and Bowling Green Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Based on the team's research, I submit the following proposal for the 2023 NCCC Convention in Bowling Green, KY for June  $24^{th}$  through June  $30^{th}$  as follows:

- The Holiday Inn Plaza and Convention Center will be the host hotel, as it has been for all three previous Bowling Green Conventions. The hotel will provide 180 sleeping rooms, their lobby atrium, hospitality, and vendor areas as well as space in the adjacent Conference Center for our evening parties. There is ample parking for registered Plaza guests between the hotel and Conference Center lots. The current negotiated rate is \$107.95 (\$122.44 with taxes factored in) which is a slight increase over the 2017 rate. Two breakfast vouchers are included in the rate.
- The National Corvette Museum will be the site for the Concours and People's Choice shows as well as the start of the Rallye. As in the past, NCCC Convention goers will be allowed access to the Museum free of charge and can participate in a museum scavenger hunt during the week.
- The NCM Motorsports Park will be the site for the Low and High Speed events the format of
  those events is still under development. We are still looking at other potential activities on-site
  there, such as Lead/Follow track runs and karting "grudge matches". It should be noted that those
  extras may be too pricey for our Convention format and may be offered directly through MSP.
- Beech Bend will be the site for the Drag events (Bracket, Matching Time & Record).
- The Funkhana will be held at the Holiday Inn Plaza.
- Tours and nightly party themes are still in the developmental stages and will be finalized when approval is reached regarding Convention.
- The Convention proceeds will be split between the NCCC General fund and Charity/St. Jude.

Your approval is needed for this tentative Convention Proposal to move forward and authorize the 2023 Convention Committee and NCCC Business Manager with finalizing hotel and venue contracts, awards, food and beverage, programs, and all the other costs of putting on a convention. It should be noted that the hotel contract will include an obligation of \$113k based on booking 1,000 room nights for the week. In the past Bowling Green Conventions, we've not had a problem filling the room night obligations.

Please vote "YES" to support this Convention and encourage your club members participation in ...

"The Place to be 2023 - Bowling Green"!

**Betty Parks** 

#### An interview with Club member Joyce Cryer

#### By Carol Castellon

After writing the last tuition check for her daughter's doctoral degree in December 2007, Joyce treated herself to a 1987 Corvette coupe. When her daughter graduated in the spring of 2008 and moved to San Antonio, Joyce was left without help to lift on/off the glass top on the coupe. A fellow member of the Northern Illinois Corvette Club (NICC) suggested that Joyce buy a convertible. As luck would have it, a silver 2000 convertible was listed for sale in the NICC newsletter. Within six months, she had gone from owning no Corvettes to owning two!



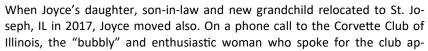


Using a 1987 mechanic's manual borrowed from Dale Samuelson (a member of NICC and current president of NCCC), Joyce and an auto shop teacher friend rewired the under-the-hood lights on the '87.

NICC sponsored two-day trips, one in the spring, one in the fall. Joyce, who contributed to the club newsletter, and the editor wanted to do more group drives. Their mini-cruises were nearly the same as our mystery cruises: meeting at the

route to be driven; stopping for refreshments. The first mini-cruise, only three cars participated; the second mini-cruise had seven cars; the third had 14 cars. Realizing the popularity of the weekly drives, the club president suggested the mini-cruise schedules be published in the newsletter.

Joyce planned a fall drive to Gravity Hill in southwest WI. Gravity Hill seems to defy the laws of physics: drive from the top of the hill to the bottom of the hill; stop; shift into neutral; wait. You will find your car backing up to the top of the hill. The driver does nothing. It happened 23 times the day the NICC made the trip! Unbelievable! Joyce expected the experience to be an optical illusion, but it was real, no illusion!





pealed to Joyce. She joined our club shortly after moving to St. Joseph. She also joined Catholic Daughters where she met Regent Debby Wagner one afternoon, then came to our club meeting that night. The first person she saw was Debby Wagner!

Joyce participated in the 2018 Vets on the River in Le Claire, IA. She struck up a conversation with the driver of a bright yellow Corvette parked on the levee next to her. He was from a small, central Illinois town, Thawville, and she was from the same area, Chatsworth. He was Bobby Lange, who was good friends with Joyce's farmer who farms her land. Seated at lunch with a friendly couple, Joyce introduced herself. The man said he recognized her; he had seen her playing in her



grandson's yard which backed up to his. It was Rich Lampo and his wife Pat. CC of IL has offered one happy experience after another and the opportunity to meet more friendly people!

After enjoying the 2000 convertible fourteen years, Joyce recently replaced it with a 2019 Laguna Beach red automatic convertible from Sullivan-Parkhill. She enjoys driving in parades and would be happy to plan mini-cruises for our club.

#### An interview with Club member Joyce Cryer continued

#### **By Carol Castellon**



Joyce grew up a farm girl from Chatsworth in the very Irish Franey family that raised American Saddle Horses and kids, lots of both. The horses were spirited, sometimes unpredictable, leggy and flashy (white stockings and white blaze). The kids, far less predictable. Joyce happens to be #3 of seven, named after her very Irish grandmother Katherine, so she is called Joyce. Don't ask. She doesn't know why.

The family rode horses to move their Herford cattle herd from one pasture to another, to count cattle daily or Sundays for fun, companionship and discipline, both the horses' and riders'. Both get rusty without use. No rust in the Franey household – or TV. Her father believed dancing with him while her mother played the piano and sang was quite enough. Her mother's family owned The Grand Ballroom in Chatsworth; they hosted the big bands of the 1930's and 1940's. Her father did not believe in babysitters so when her parents went dancing at the

Grand ballroom on Saturday nights, so did the children. Joyce could dance the two-step by age six.

Her father admired the Irish jig, so Joyce took tap dance lessons and performed to live bands at the Melvin Fair and Miller Park Pavilion in Bloomington, and minstrel shows in Chatsworth. Joyce still owns a pair of tap shoes ... and occasionally uses them.

Joyce graduated from Quincy College with a BA in English, from University of Illinois with a MS in English Education, and earned certification in Library Science at NIU. She began her career teaching English at Bradley-Bourbonnais HS. She moved to Rockford to teach English and retired after a total of 35 years teaching and 47 years living in Rockford and rural Caledonia, IL.

The sports car bug actually bit in Rockford. She bought a Triumph Spitfire to drive to work. Rockford snows are legend. One of those snows completely engulfed her car, and she couldn't rock her way out of the deep snow. Several students noticed her dilemma, picked up the Triumph with her in it, and set it in a plowed lane. Joyce learned to ski while living in Rockford. A red Sunbeam Alpine four-on-the-floor replaced the Triumph. It was fun to drive on the tight curves in Sinnissippi Park. A baby arrived in the family so the sport car, skis, and a couple of quarter horses she had acquired had to go. And so did Joyce. Rockford offered no maternity leave at that time.

After retiring with a 12-year-old-child still in school, Joyce had time to learn to drive a horse and carriage. She got a driving horse and carriage with red strips on its rubber-padded wooden wheels from the Wisconsin Amish. She told a story of driving the horse and carriage up to a rural stop sign. She wasn't sure what the horse would do, but he stopped at the sign on his own, looked both ways, waited until the intersection was clear, then continued across the main highway.

Six years later, her daughter was a freshman at the University of Iowa (Go Hawkeyes!). Joyce served on the University of Iowa Alumni Board for the four years that her daughter was a student there. Graduation triggered graduate school for her daughter, and a return to rural Caledonia for Joyce. She worked as an adjunct professor at the local community college teaching remedial English and literature-based composition for a few years, retiring again when grading research papers ceased to be entertaining.

Joyce sold the rural Caledonia property, moved to Bloomington where she discovered the Activity and Recreation Center, ARC – fondly known to her as the place she learned to love playing Texas Hold-um twice weekly. She noticed the ARC library had never been set up, so her next project was setting it up using the Dewey Decimal System with an easy check-out process for seniors. It is not surprising that in her current home, she has her own library organized according to the Dewey Decimal System.

Joyce stays connected to her profession. She is McLean County Retired Teachers Co-chair of the legislative committee and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma State Literacy Committee, a member of Champaign County XI Chapter of DKG. She is a mem-

ber of the U of IL Home Extension, and has taught catechism to kindergarten through third graders in St. Joseph.

Joyce enjoys the Corvette Club of Illinois and looks forward to more activities now that Covid restrictions are relaxed. I found out that she is also a tea lover!

(right: Joyce, figuring out how to operate convertible top. Reading directions always helps, though she said she rarely does.)

