

From The Prez

It is November and the weather is getting cold and damp, the furnaces have been turned on and the Corvettes are being put to bed, if not done so already. The Corvette driving season is certainly over, but the social activities of the club will continue through these colder months. Sooner than we anticipate, the sun will be bright and the covers will be coming off our toys for another season of cruising and showing, but in the meantime we are preparing for the Christmas season and then welcoming the New Year.

As mentioned last month, the club will be celebrating our 35th anniversary in 2008 and we should certainly do something special to celebrate this occasion. In order to accomplish this, a committee has been struck to discuss and present some ideas to accomplish this. The committee consists of Wendy Bas, Stan Goosen, Helen Lecours and Glennie Wilkinson. If any member has ideas on how to commemorate and/or celebrate this anniversary, please forward your ideas to these members.

As this year comes to an end, it is time to renew our club membership for 2008. Renewal forms will be attached to this issue, so please fill out the renewal and forward to the executive. Also, with the new year, we will be welcoming Wendy Lindberg as the new membership director and Ian Bell has volunteered to take on the task of editing and producing our monthly newsletter. Welcome to your new positions and if any of our members have any ideas to help these folks or would like to assist them in their duties, don't be shy but contact them directly. Also, at this time we would like to extend our thanks to Helen Lecours and Diane Metcalf for doing a tremendous job on behalf of our members over the past year or more. Thank you.

We would also like to remind all our members at this time, especially the newer members, that the membership director tracks the members' participation at all the club's events and at the end of the year, participation awards are presented to the top 3 most active members in the club. It is hoped that this award would provide some additional incentive to our members to actively participate in the social events of the club.

The annual Christmas Dinner is planned for Saturday, December 1, at Fresca's in St. Catharines. We are hoping for a great turnout of our members and it would be nice to see members attend, even if you have not been able to participate in many of the club's events throughout the year. Also, as in previous years, we ask that all members attending this function bring some non-perishable food items that are to be donated to the Food Bank to help out those folks who are less fortunate than we are. If you have not signed up for this dinner yet, please contact John Gibbon at 905-382-5666.

There is no club business meeting in December, but as in past years, we will be getting together for a very informal supper at the Far East Restaurant in Niagara Falls on Tuesday, December 11. All members are welcome.

As 2007 concludes, we will be completing our first year as a corporate identity. According to provincial legislation, as well as the club's by-laws, we will be holding our first formal annual meeting as part of the regular February meeting. I would ask that as many members as possible plan to attend this meeting to formally close off 2007 and properly plan for 2008.

We will all be getting involved in the enjoyable family activities surrounding Christmas and the New Year, so on behalf of the executive, I would like to extend Seasons' Greetings to all our members and their families. Have a very **Merry Christmas** and a safe, enjoyable and **Happy New Year**. Give some thought to the activities you would like to see the club hold next year and we look forward to seeing you all at the January 8 2008 meeting.

Happy Corvetting and remember to Save the Wave!

George

REMINDER

It is time to consider membership renewal to the **Niagara Corvette Club** for **2008**. Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will find a new membership renewal form. The dues are the same as in past years and the club will be celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2008 so we are looking forward to an exciting and full year.

We will once again have a draw for a free membership at the January meeting. All membership renewals received at or before the January meeting will be eligible for a free one-year membership so renew early.



NIAGARA CORVETTE CLUB - MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2007

Attendance: 34

- George welcomed Joseph Toth and suggested members could meet with him after the meeting to see his new line of Niagara Corvette Club clothing.
- Next year is the club's 35th anniversary. A committee consisting of Wendy Bas, Helen Lecours, Stan Goosen and Glennie Wilkinson are looking at ideas to celebrate this event. Members are asked to help with ideas. We are looking at next summer. A trip to Bowling Green was suggested.
- We received a thank you from Laura who was at the Oct. Meeting selling raffle tickets on a Chevrolet El Camino in support of the new Niagara Hospice palliative care home.
- Chuck Sauer from Enbridge suggested that we contact Enbridge to apply for support from them for our 2008 Car Show. We did apply and our application was denied.
- The GM Engine Plant web site is www.gmpowertrain.ca. They have a link to our site. They have a registration form for next year's engine plant open house and show on this website.
- The Hamilton Association of Corvettes hold an annual joint weekend event with the Hamilton Ohio Corvette Club. In 2008 they are planning to meet in Leamington and drive to Port Pelee spending the weekend in this area with fun activities, sight seeing and some cruising. Anyone wishing to join them the weekend of June 20-22 should contact Dave & Gloria. This is the same weekend as the Sudbury Car Show.
- Glennie thanked Marilyn for doing the Minutes again last month..
- Gloria was absent so no treasurer's report.
- Remember to report any e-mail changes to the executive
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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Social Committee: [Wendy B]

- December 1 – The NCC Christmas Party at Fresca's .The \$32 dinner is to be subsidized by \$10 per member. Contact John Gibbons if you intend to go. Bring a non-perishable item for the food drive.
- December 11 - a Social Evening at the Far Eastern Restaurant on Thoroldstone Rd. in Niagara Falls. Contact Margaret and Larry if you plan to attend.
- Wendy was selling chances on a Z06-49 draw. Tickets were \$10 each and members had to submit 6 numbers between 0 and 49. Numbers drawn on the Saturday Night 649 will be eliminated and the person with the last numbers will win the pot which is currently at \$210.

50/50 Stan Goosen won \$45.50. Jake, Henk, Stan G. and Denny all won posters donated by John Mytroen.

George announced that he hoped to see everyone at the Christmas Dinner on December 1 as well as the supper on December 11 at the Far East Restaurant in NF. If not, he wished them a very merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year and said he'd see them next year.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2008 AT FRADO'S;



Life of Riley

Mooresville, North Carolina – Corvette Racing's unopposed blitz through American GT1 racing has caused speculation on a switch to a different – hopefully more challenging – racing group. One suggested destination has been ALMS GT2, the less pricey, more rough-and-tumble, more closely production-based "gentleman's" group slotted below GT1. The works-backed Pratt and Miller operated Corvette Racing team has repeatedly said it's not budging, however. And with that, veteran constructor Riley Technologies – a descendant of famed chassis builder Riley and Scott – has stepped into the void. The North Carolina builder will bake its own GT2-spec. Corvettes for 2008, and at least one US team has already committed to running them. In addition to conforming to ALMS GT2 rules, the new Riley Corvettes will be adaptable to FIA GT2, the 24 Hours of LeMans, and the European LeMans Series. Several European series already have GT2 versions of the current Z06; American LeMans does not. In the ALMS, GT2 is now led by high-end production cars such as the Porsche 911 GT3 RSR and Ferrari F430 GT.

North Carolina-based CRD Engines, supplier to Riley's Pontiac-engined Rolex series prototypes, will build the V-8s in the Riley Corvettes.

From the January 2008 issue of Corvette Magazine

HAPPY BIRTHDAY'S FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Jacqueline Bell
Dave Drake
John Ippel
Wendy Lindberg
Nick MacDonald
Edward Pentesco
Margaret Moroz
Margaret Keighan
Anna Kokotka
Eva Kessel
Tom Spence
Allen Stringer
Doug Speirs
Raymond Maude
Glennie Wilkinson

Social Update

Coming Events:

- **Saturday November 17th** -Games Night at Henk and Hetty - CANCELLED -to be rescheduled (possibly January)
- **Saturday December 1st** -Christmas Dinner (see details further in newsletter)
Fresco's (same location as last year)
- **Tuesday December 11th** -Dinner in Lieu of Meeting (but 2nd Tuesday, not 1st Tuesday)
Far East In Niagara Falls, 6:30 p.m. Call Marg or Larry K. for details 905 - 834 - 4320
- **February** -Superbowl Party at Bas' (sign up in January)

JUST FOR LAUGHS

A man decided that he was going to ride a 10-speed bike from Phoenix to Flagstaff. He got as far as Black Canyon City before the mountains just became to much and he could go no farther. He stuck his thumb out, but after 3 hours hadn't gotten a single person to stop.

Finally, a guy in a Corvette pulled over and offered him a ride. Of course, the bike wouldn't fit in the car. The owner of the Corvette found a piece of rope lying by the highway, and tied it to his bumper. He then tied the other end to the bike and told the rider that he would drive slow.

Everything went fine for the first 30 miles. Suddenly, another Corvette blew past them. Not to be outdone, the Corvette pulling the bike took off after the other.

A short distance down the road, the Corvettes, both going well over 120 mph, blew through a speed trap.

The police officer noted the speeds from his radar gun and radioed ahead to the another officer that he had two Corvettes headed his way at over 120 mph.

*He then relayed,
"...and you're not going to believe this, but there's a guy on a 10 speed bike yelling to pass."*



Corvette Racing Receives Post Season Accolades

The checkered flag at the conclusion of the Monterey Sports Car Championships at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca on Oct. 21 marked the end of the 2007 American Le Mans Series season, but Chevrolet's factory road racing team kept on winning.

Two members of Corvette Racing received special recognition awards in post-season ceremonies: Corvette Racing driver Ron Fellows was voted the Most Popular Driver for the fourth consecutive year, and Ray Gongla, crew chief for the No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R, was honored as the GT1 Crew Chief of the Year. The ALMS Most Popular Driver award is determined by the fans in online voting. The GT1 Crew Chief of the Year award is selected by the pit lane and technical staffs from IMSA, the sanctioning body for ALMS events.



Corvette Web Sites

<http://store.corvettemuseum.com/>

www.ontariovettes.com

<http://www.corvettesofhamilton.org/>

<http://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com/>

Pratt & Miller Engineering Introduces Corvette C6RS Supercar for the Street

Pratt & Miller Engineering has designed and developed a new limited edition Corvette C6RS that provides an exceptional level of performance and refinement for enthusiasts.

Inspired by the Le Mans-winning Corvette C6.R race cars, the new Pratt & Miller Corvette C6RS supercar combines advanced racing technology with everyday drivability. The first production Corvette C6RS will be available in April 2008. "Every body modification has a purpose," Gary explained. "The features were modeled on the C6.R race cars, and there are no nonfunctional styling elements." For more information, visit the Pratt & Miller website at: <http://www.prattmiller.com>



From the Editors

It looks like another season is over and the Corvettes are put to bed for the winter months but we are still having some nice weather cruising days.

I hope that all the members have enjoyed and grown with Bruce and myself with the newsletter and we have enjoyed being part of the club.

We have made many friends and still hope to stay in touch with many.

I am sure that the newsletter will carry on and it is all about input from the members.

We wish you all the best for the a *Safe and Happy*

Season.

Diane & Bruce



Ten Commends for Car Collectors

1. Thou shalt not read thy Hemmings on company time, lest thy employer make it impossible to continue thy car payments.
2. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's car nor his garage, nor his battery charger.
3. Thou shalt not store thy car out-of-doors except for the wife's Toyota.
4. Thou shalt not deceive thy wife into thinking that thee is taking her for a romantic Sunday drive when indeed thou art going out to look at another car.
5. Thou shalt not love thy cars more than thy wife and children.
6. Thou shalt not despise thy neighbor's Edsel, nor his DeSoto, nor even his '47 Plymouth.
7. Thou shalt not tell thy spouse the entire cost of thy latest restoration, at least not all at the same time.
8. Thou shalt not promise thy wife a new addition for the house and then use it to store cars.
9. Thou shalt not allow thy sons and daughters to get married during the car show season.
10. Thou shalt not buy thy wife a floor jack for Christmas.

Tech Tip

FAQs

Does the 2005 Chevrolet Corvette really accelerate to 60 mph in four seconds?

According to Chevrolet, yes. But, as always, your results will vary depending on your skill, the pavement surface, the air temperature, your geographic location, head or tail winds, tire wear, and other factors. By the seat of our pants, the new Corvette is freakin' fast.

Your test car stickered for \$63,200. Isn't that too much for a Corvette?

Considering that the 2005 Chevrolet Corvette's performance envelope matches or exceeds that of the more expensive Dodge Viper and a wide variety of overpriced European cars, we'd say no. And remember, we had a fully optioned convertible model – stick to a base coupe without any options, and the Corvette's bang-for-the-buck ratio increases exponentially.

This is a favorable review of a General Motors product. Did GM send you guys a check? Or are you just blinded by speed?

Neither. General Motors has more talent than just about any car company in the world. The problem is that the bean counters and the shareholders demand maximum profitability, often resulting in substandard products with too many cut corners. Witness, as evidence, the silver plastic trim on the Corvette's dashboard when real aluminum is more appropriate. Plus, consumer studies with focus groups comprised of current owners and possible conquest customers often lead GM astray. Witness, as evidence, the current Chevrolet Malibu. Lower volume, high-profile vehicles like the Corvette get done right because they are driven by passion. Let's hope some of that passion gets into mainstream General Motors products.

