

Gate City Corvette Club
P.O. Box 623
Nashua, NH 03061



Stress Kracks

The Official Voice of Gate City Corvette Club
of Southern New Hampshire



First Word

April 2004

Well, here we are, spring has arrived and the snow is still on the ground. Guess that Pennsylvania ground hog was wrong again. Hopefully, it has not discouraged any of you from starting to prepare your cars for the driving season.

By now all members have received information on getting sponsors for Spring Fling. Remember this is the only function that is a fundraiser for the club, so please everyone try and get at least one sponsor. Remember, this is your club and you make it what it is.

Well, the annual candlestick bowling night was held March 20th and the turn out was good. 20 members joined in on the fun. For someone who only knew of 10 pin it was a great time. Hopefully, we can get more people to come next year so Lynn will have a chance to give up the crying towel. By the way, Lynn Nault was able through hard work keep the towel again this year. Congratulations, Lynn. Afterwards we had dinner at the Giant Siam in Nashua. Good choice, Gayle.

Once again, if there is something that the members would like to do or organize, special cruise, or just get a group together for dinner somewhere on a Friday or Saturday, please speak up or send out e-mail or even contact me by telephone. Remember, I'm sure we all joined the club for one reason, to share time with others that have the same common interest - our Corvettes.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting April 9th, at 8:00 PM at Dobles.

Dan Feidler
President

Spring Fling at Anheuser Busch

Caravan to
Parker's Maple Barn
Mason, NH
April 4th
Meet at Macy's
Bedford, NH
9:00 am



(Photo courtesy of Allie DeCampo)

Gate City Corvette Club, Inc. is one of approximately 600 Corvette Clubs throughout the United States and Canada. The purpose of Gate City Corvette Club is to make being a Corvette owner more fun. Gate City Corvette Club meets at 8:00 p.m. the second Friday of the month at Dobles Chevrolet, 1250 South Willow Street, Manchester, NH.

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DOBLES CHEVROLET
 Manchester, NH
 Sponsor of
GATE CITY CORVETTE
CLUB

www.gatecitycorvetteclub.com

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Welcome to Gate City's online newsletter created exclusively for Gate City Corvette Club members! Please help by sharing news about trips you've taken, shows you've attended, and suggestions for club activities, as well as technical advice, cleaning tips, or anything else that you feel would be of interest to our members. The club needs your input!

Please note: letters, articles, notices, and ads are to be received by the newsletter editor by the 25th of each month for inclusion in the newsletter. Classified ads are to be submitted on a monthly basis, and will not be carried over to the following month. Please contact the editor if you know of a business interested in purchasing advertising space in the newsletter. Thank you.

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SAVE THE WAVE

The meeting began at 8:05 with Dan thanking Dobles Chevrolet for the use of their facility and their continued support.

The club members accepted the minutes from the previous February meeting after Hank and Ray put in a motion to do so.

We had no new prospective members present at this meeting.

Ruth submitted her treasure's report and this can be viewed in the Members Area of the clubs web site. The club accepted the treasurer's report.

Officer-at-large Lynn presented several newsletters for the membership to browse thru for upcoming events. Lynn mentioned that the clubs 30th anniversary is coming up and we should think of some way to commemorate this. Please put on your thinking caps and present to the club some ideas.

Norm as activities director discussed the upcoming activities and the club nailed down the dates and times on these. You'll find a list of activities in his column in this newsletter. Mike Dupont didn't forget he was to come up with an activity for the club; he said he is working on something but was being secretive until he can firm up the details.

A thank you note from Dan and Gail Zelonis was read.

Dean updated us on our yearly Spring Fling event. His committee is working on all aspects of the day. Hank put together a mailing, which you will receive shortly so all of us can get started on getting sponsors. Hank was thrilled to tell us that Lee and Paulette Scarlett presented the club with 5 sponsors at the meeting.

Wayne Russell is on the planning committee for the "2004 Cruising Downtown" car show held in Manchester on Elm Street on June 26th and he said he would keep the club posted with information.

Mike Dupont and Jill are attending a weekend in May called Mazda Rev It Up where they will be driving Mazdas on a track. It's a weekend of displays and exhibits. He wondered if any other club members might like to go. I went to the web site and if I am at the correct web site the Show is May 22nd at the South Weymouth Naval Air Station. Feel free to contact Mike for more information.

Soren Larssen was not present for the attendance raffle so the money goes back into the pot. Cindy Collins won the 50/50 raffle and she received \$42. Sounds like more money than she won in Las Vegas on vacation.

Dan reminded us the next meeting is April 9th and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Wood

CLUB CASUAL WEAR

Denim Shirts \$25.00

Polo Shirts (white or navy) \$25.00

Sweatshirts (navy) \$32.00

Club Jacket \$55.00

To purchase contact membership director

Dean Gagne

Bowling Night at Leda Lanes

Bowling night was held at Leda Lanes in Nashua NH and 20 people showed up to bowl. It was Lynn Nault's quest to give up the crying towel that she has held onto for the last couple of years. For those of you that don't know what this is about, you will have to attend bowling night next year to find out...

Well, I guess I won't have you wait that long, the crying towel is awarded to the person with the lowest score. This was just in bowling, but I heard rumors that the towel could be awarded at other GCCC functions to the member that loses the best, or would that be worst??? Anyway, I know if I ever entered my car in a contest, I would be the continual recipient of the crying towel. I had no competition until Carol Whittier got the `89.

As far as bowling goes:

(MALE)

high average:	Dan Fielder	---	87.3
low average:	Ly Kelley	---	62.3
high single:	Dan Fielder	---	94
low single:	Ly Kelley	---	54
Most improved 1st-3rd string:	Joe Michalik	---	+17
	Dan Fielder	---	+17

(FEMALE)

high average:	Sue Vezina	---	84
low average:	Lynn Nault	---	36.3
high single:	Sue Vezina	---	92
low single:	Lynn Nault	---	31
Most improved 1st-3rd string:	Sandy Sadowski	---	+28



(Photo courtesy of Dan Feidler)

Well, I'm sorry to say that Lynn will have to keep the towel one more year. But maybe we should have 2 towels, one for female and one for male. This would take some of the pressure off of Lynn.

For those of you that missed this function, there were also talks of trying duckpin bowling. It has miniature 10-pins, with candlepin balls. Sounds like another challenge.

After bowling, 15 of us went to the Giant of Siam in Nashua NH to have a nice dinner. Even Joe Michalik went. He wasn't surprised that they didn't have steak and potatoes, but he did threaten us that he was going to go down the street to get some McDonalds ?food? and bring it back.

All in all we had a great time. If you missed this one, you should try to make the next event that the club does. It's always more fun when there are more people.

Dean

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: I have acquired a bunch of little Freon -12 oil / Freon additive. These are cans that have 2.1 oz. of Freon and 1.4 oz. of for a total of 3.5 oz net contents. I have a lot of these and want \$1.00 each can or \$10.00 for a case of 12. This would be good for the Corvette collector down the road.

Thanks. Al Whittier, old-hot-rodder@prodigy.net.

I have a C5 and I am looking for advice with accessories: protective floor covers, car cover (for garage use) and sound screen (for convertible). The cost range for all these can be vast. I appreciate any input.

Thank you. Wayne Russell, rusauto@attbi.com.

Several Members Have BDD

A surprising number of Gate City Corvette Club members are afflicted with an annoying condition called “bowling deficit disorder” or BDD. While there is no known cure for BDD, symptoms seem to be greatly relieved by eating large quantities of Thai food. It is not fully understood why so many members in one club suffer with the same disorder. One theory is that the muscles used for power shifts have become over developed, leaving the muscles required for bowling under developed. This weakness results in bowling balls bouncing uncontrollably from gutter to gutter, and in rare instances into adjacent alleys. Clearly, more research needs to be done so that Gate City members afflicted with this disorder can receive the help they desperately need.

Changes To Spring Fling Judging Form

Al Whittier is well known for his unique ability to transform a crate full of Corvette parts and pieces into a breath taking, show-stopping masterpiece. He knows Corvettes inside and out, and he has been showing and judging Corvettes for most of his adult life. With that in mind, it is not surprising that Al is top guru when it comes to classifying and judging Corvettes for Gate City Corvette Club’s point judged show, *Spring Fling*.

Recently, along with Joe Michalik and Norm Wood, Al has been meeting with representatives from other New England Corvette Clubs as they attempt to create universal judging guidelines. In theory, the purpose of the new guidelines is to promote consistent judging, thus making point judged shows more enjoyable for everyone involved.

When asked how the development of the new judging guidelines was progressing, Al replied that, in the spirit of cooperation, Gate City would implement the new guidelines, but he doubts that the guidelines will produce the desired positive effect. He said that a similar idea was introduced and latter abandoned several years ago. He feels that Gate City’s current judging form has been tried and tested. “Gate City’s judging has been tough in the past, and to win a trophy at *Spring Fling* was special.”

While a degree of consistency is warranted, Al feels that it is each club’s distinct means of judging that lends interest and excitement to a show. Given Al’s reservations, it is ironic that Gate City will have the initial opportunity to test drive the new judging guidelines at *Spring Fling*, the first area point judged show of the season. Normally, Gate City gets “high praise for it’s judging”, but Al anticipates that there will be an increased number of complaints from participants this year as a result of the implementation of the new form. He hopes, however, that everyone will enjoy a wonderful day at this year’s *Spring Fling*, and that Corvette owners will continue to attend point judged shows for many years to come.

*Gate City
Corvette Club
Judging Clinic
Claudia & Dan Feidler’s
May 23rd
10:00 am
“Be There!”*



50th Anniversary Corvette Caravan Part IV

By Linda Davis

First, I must apologize for taking so long in getting this last part out to those who have been waiting. Brad and I have been a little sidetracked these days making many arrangements for our daughter Michelle's upcoming wedding on July 4th.

On to the Tennessee Titans Coliseum - For those of you who have been in a large football stadium you may not have been impressed by the size but I was quite surprised This was where all the activities went on during the day and during one evening for a private concert for all Corvette owners who attended the caravan (other activities were still going on at the Corvette Museum as well.) Vendors were everywhere at the upper and lower levels of the coliseum. There were many seminars going on at the same time so you could attend the ones that you were interested in seeing. We were able to catch two of them and found them to be very interesting (even I could understand most of what was being shown or said.) We learned more about the history of the Corvette and a great deal about racing them. Other activities that were going on were bands playing in different sections of the coliseum and food being sold at football stadium prices.

We had great weather (you may not remember, but back in NH you were experiencing unseasonable hot, 80's and 90 's) while we were in the 70's and low 80's with a slight breeze. The coliseum is across the river from downtown Nashville. One evening they had a concert on the river, it was located right near the Wild Horse Saloon. (Anyone for some country/western line dancing? YEE HAW! I don't think we impressed them with our New England /Southern Accent.

As the night went on we decided to head back to the hotel for a little parking lot party. It was really a tailgate party with beer and snacks (without the tailgates, of course) God forgive anyone who would dare sit on the back of any of those cars in the parking lot. Well, except for maybe one or two SUV'S we saw. It's really odd to drive through a hotel parking lot and see Corvette after Corvette parked (facing out) and it's not even a car show. Although, those few days in Bowling Green and Nashville was like a car show everyday. Hundreds and thousands of Corvettes everywhere. Brad heard that 16,000 people showed up at the coliseum. Not sure if that was an inflated number but there sure were a lot of us.

Heard more stories from other club members but I don't think I could tell them as well as some of the other members. Carol has a few to tell, she assured me that she would keep them retained for those who would like to hear them. Mike has a great story to tell that had me in stitches but I don't think Al thought it was too funny-at least until he could change his clothes. Just ask Mike about the gas station incident. Actually, you could ask almost any of the members that were there, at the time of the incident, and I believe they each have their own version of what happened to Mike and his hose and how Al's pants made a big splash at the local gas station. Sorry Al, but it was funny. Is Mike still your friend? All of us, for the most part, had a great day.

The next day we a great weather, again. Woke up to 67o and told it would climb to 85o. Talked to Carol at breakfast and she filled me in on more Al stories. Talk to him about his fast run at Bristol. Is 47 mph fast, Al? Also ask about the security system on his car. Why can't people be aware of how those things work? Right Al?

We decided to see some of Nashville so new club members, Diane and Rosaire said they had been before and would show us around. After walking downtown for a while they took us to Joe Crabs Restaurant. This place had the wildest decor I have ever seen. There was not an inch of space that wasn't covered by something, including a fake giant shark hanging from the ceiling; at least I think it was fake. We decided to check out the Wild Horse Saloon, since Brad and I really do country /western dancing, we had to see the real thing. While we were there looking around, to our surprise there was Carol and Joe enjoying dinner. What were the chances of seeing them? Thousands of people doing all sorts of things in Nashville and we run into our very own club members. I believe they flew in on Wednesday and were staying in Nashville.

Continued next page.

That evening was the concert at the coliseum featuring ZZ top. They did a great job, although it was not everyone's favorite music. Those who liked the band in the past really enjoyed themselves reliving all their favorite tunes.

The next day, Sunday, was another 60o morning. Sunny and will climb to 80o. The humidity has not been so bad that we could not enjoy the outdoor activities. But this day turned out to be the hottest and most humid of all. We decided to go to a local town attraction, the Lost River Caves. Mike came along with us. It was quite interesting. Natural caves that American Indians used until the Civil War broke out and then confederate soldiers used them until a drowning mishap made them leave. The river seems to force men down and out along with wagons, horses and supplies. The men thought it cursed and decided best to leave. Union soldiers showed up and used it for a while and then others purchased it in the 1930's as a dance hall. Many famous singers entertained there. Then after those days past it was used as a Crist Mill. When abandoned it was used as a dumping ground .The townspeople decided to clean it up and realized it's importance to local history. While cleaning up the river section near the underground caves they found stoves, refrigerators, televisions and even a Volkswagen Beetle. Thank goodness they didn't say they found any Corvettes or I would have had two men crying on my shoulders and I would have had to do a lot of explaining to the rest of the people on the tour with us. It was quite an interesting tale because part of the story included Jesse James and his gang also hid in the caves after robbing a bank in a nearby town. Also, during the dance hall times, if you drank too much you were not allowed to leave the premises. They determined this by you not being able to climb the steep stairs out of the caves. You would have to sleep in the cottages that were up near the road. (Boy! Our group would have had a great time during those days in a little old town in Kentucky.)

After this adventure we then went on to the block party being held at the Museum Music, awards and money given to the Museum Fund by different clubs and of course, food. It was now really hot out, even at 5:00 pm so Brad and I decided to head back to the hotel and continue partying there with our club members, as well as, other clubs from other states. One of the clubs invited us to have beer from their keg. Well, Carol and I couldn't pass up that offer. The only problem we had was our cups were too small and we had to keep going back more often. Finally, we just stayed with the keg.

It's the last day. I hope this detailed journal has not bored you too much. Well, at least reading on the computer enables you to just delete me easier. It was difficult to leave because we were enjoying ourselves so much but it's true, all good things do come to an end. Brad did attend the Corvette Birthday Party at 9:00 am in honor of the first Corvette to roll off the assembly line on the actual day, June 30, 1953.

Corvette Fans -The End.

P.S. Brad and I continued our journey, as others had to travel home. We visited Elvis' Graceland and Dolly Parton's Dollywood and back to Nashville to see the Grand Ole' Oprey. If anyone would like information on the big tourist attractions just give us a "holler". One last thing- Brad was in his glory on the Blue Ridge Parkway and through the Smokey Mountains - That 2000 Corvette he bought (without my knowledge) sure could take those winding curves on those mountains at 50 mph. Don't tell him, but I thought it was great fun, too. All 450 miles in the mountains, not to even mention the over 4,000 miles total. One of our best vacations yet.

Thanks for reading! Oh, by the way, for those of you who were wondering! Brad "did not" buy another Corvette while I was away this past February school break, like he did last year. Smart Man. See you all at the next Corvette Club Meeting!

Linda D.

Thank you to Linda Davis for her series on the 50th Anniversary Corvette Caravan.

Spring is in the air, *daylight* hours are longerrrr... and the temperatures are *rising*. Most of us will be taking the Vettes out of storage sometime in April and thinking about cleaning them up for the first cruise. I am looking forward to that day. Let's hope we have nice weekends this spring for a change.

We had 19 members participate in the Annual Bowling Night at Leda Lanes in Nashua. I believe Lynn Nault now qualifies, after receiving the "crying towel" for 3 years in a row, to have her name embroidered on it. (Lynn thanks for being a great sport about all the ribbing you get).

Several members attended the Hillcrest Chevrolet 2nd Annual Corvette Expo. The weather started out nice and warm with the sun shinning in New Hampshire, but turned cloudy and very cool in the Massachusetts area as we approached the event. It was not a "T" shirt, shorts and sandals day, as our illustrious President Dan can attribute to. There were about 20 new 2004 Corvettes on display and several used ones, also. Hamburgers, hot dogs, steak tips and chicken tenders were available with donations accepted. They also raffled off steamed lobsters throughout the afternoon. Northshore Corvette Club assisted with this event with all donations forwarded to the Northshore Children's Hospital. It was nice to see the "early out" Corvettes on display from various clubs that participated in this event.

In April the Club will start the month off with a caravan trip to *Parker's Maple Sugar Barn* on Sunday April 4th for a delightful breakfast. Plans are to meet at Macy's in Bedford at 9:00 AM to travel together. Sometime in the 3rd or 4th week in April Jim Bouthiette will hold a Car Detailing Clinic dealing with the interior of the car. Jim is looking for a nice day for that clinic, so we will look at the extended forecast and as soon as a day is selected I will send out an email or feel free to call me to get updates.

Spring Fling Car Show is approaching fast so I hope everyone is working on getting trophy sponsors. Our Spring Fling Judging Clinic will be held at President Dan Feidler's home in Londonderry, N.H. on Sunday, May 23rd at 10:00 AM. Everyone needs to attend, as we will be discussing the use of the new New England Corvette Council Judging Guidelines. Mark that day on your calendars now! Also, if you are planning on attending the NHIS Classic Vehicle Show on May 22nd, get those registrations forms in by April 30th. I expect about 10-15 members will be attending this show with their Corvettes. I will have extra forms available at the next meeting if you need one.

My goal this year as your Vice President/Activities Director will be to try and have at least 2 club events/cruises/clinics a month. I would like to get the membership more active in the club events and social activities. Members have had great times at the past events, but I would like to see more members attend these functions. If you have ideas about cruising somewhere or attending a show, let me know. I will work with you and see if other club members would be interested in going as a Club.

Norm Wood, Vice President
woodnorman@comcast.net (603) 668-2305



Mike Dupont and the out-of-control gas hose.

(Photo courtesy of Ly Kelley)

Diane & Rosaire Fauteax

Rosaire purchased his toy, a 2002 Torch Red Roadster, in April of 2002 at Dobles Chevrolet. He had been dreaming of owning a `Vette for quite a few years.

Shortly after, we decided to make the trip to Bowling Green, Kentucky for the Corvette 50th Anniversary Celebration. We joined Gate City Corvette Club in May of 2003 in hopes of meeting other Corvette enthusiasts who were also traveling to Bowling Green. On the first morning of our journey we gathered with members at Dobles to begin our two-week vacation caravanning all the way to Bowling Green. Rosaire especially enjoyed the time spent at Bristol Motor Speedway on both the oval track and the drag strip; however, I can't say the same for myself. We were grateful to Peggy and Larry Miller for taking us under their wing. We also spent time with Linda and Brad Davis in Nashville. Thanks to Ly Kelley we were able to tour the Corvette factory.

Just as Rosaire and I had hoped, sharing the 50th Anniversary Celebration with other club members was an exciting experience. We look forward to many more trips with Gate City Corvette Club.



EVENT CALENDAR

Lynn Nault

Summer Cruise Nights:

"North Shore Corvette Club"	Tuesdays beginning May 4 - Sylvan St. Grill, Peabody, MA
"Spindle City Corvette Club"	Wednesdays beginning May 19 - Burger King, Chelmsford, MA
"Corvettes United"	Thursdays beginning May 13 - Hebert's Candy Mansion, Shrewsbury, MA

Dates to Save:

Sunday, May 2 - South Shore Corvette Club "Shakedown Cruise" Brunch at the Cliff House, Ogunquit, ME
Call: Rich & Pat Rerrante 78-1331-0511 or rbyred1993@comcast.net

** Sunday, May 30 - Gate City Corvette Club "Spring Fling" 2004, Anheuser-Busch Plant, Merrimack, NH
Call: Carol Whittier 603-437-3803 or events@gatecitycorvetteclub.com

Sunday, June 6 - Corvettes United Show & Shine, Hebert Candy Mansion, Shrewsbury, MA
Call: Bob: 508-366-4288

Friday, Saturday, Sunday June 11-13 - Corvette Weekend "Back to the Beach" Cascades Restaurant & Cabins, Saco, ME
Call: Ralph: 603-893-2797 or sandieb98@yahoo.com

**Saturday, August 7 - Gate City Corvette Club "Corvettes Conquer Cancer Hawaiian Style" Nashua Airport, Nashua, NH
Call: 603-497-6021 or eventregistration@comcast.net
