

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

August 2005

Can you believe July has come and gone and here we are into August? Summer sure is going fast.

July found 40 plus members enjoying the annual club picnic at Emile and Suzanne Tetu's home. I want to thank Emile and Suzanne for the use of their home for the picnic. The day was hot and humid which found a number of members in the pool. This year the club decided to do the cooking, and the members that I spoke with thought it was good. The board decided to do this in hopes that it would bring more members to the picnic (thinking that the amount of money charged for a catered picnic might be keeping members away.) I did not mind the cooking, but after looking around guess what? It was the same group again; having it catered didn't change anything. We'll need to address this issue again next year.

I was able to distribute the questionnaire that I've been working on to those at the picnic. A copy of it is also in the newsletter and I would appreciate that all members copy and fill it out and get it back to me. You can bring it to the next meeting or mail to my home. It does not require a signature. I'm not looking at who filled it out, but just the honest answers to the questions.

August brings two items for the month, the first being the Corvette Conquer Cancer fundraiser on August 13th. Several members have been working VERY HARD getting things together and I would personally like to THANK them. It takes a lot of work and time from people to put on this type of event. I now know what Paula Beauregard meant when she asked me if I really wanted to get involved. But we did and I think the way things are going at this time it is going to be a big success. At last count 200 people bought tickets. The next item is Corvettes at Carlisle. I personally look forward to this event every year, and say that I'm not buying anything, but when you hang around with certain club members, and I will not mention names, all bets are off. But all in all it is a great time, especially sitting around in the evening with good people and laughing a lot. If you have never gone you don't know what you're missing. We will be setting up leaving times at the next meeting, which by the way is this Friday August 12th It will be at the airplane hanger so bring along your brooms and old clothes for there is work to be done for the next day.

Hope to see all Friday night to help out and for a very short meeting. We need to be at the hanger by 6:30 PM in order to get the work done and we will be looking for members to help out on Saturday morning and possibly Sunday. We will be serving pizza at Friday evening's meeting.

Remember to smile and wave when driving the plastic cars!

Regards
Dan Feidler
President

Aloha

Please return your questionnaire to Dan ASAP!

IMPORTANT REMINDER

GCCC Meeting
August 12th at 6:30 pm.
Airport Hanger
Nashua, NH

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
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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.

Mail to: Allie DeCampo
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CLUB OFFICERS 2004

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SAVE THE WAVE

Dan opened the July meeting of the GCCC by first thanking Dobles for the use of their facility. The secretary's report was accepted. A dinner poll was taken.

Membership Director: Lynn welcomed new members Pauline and Mark Collins. Please contact Lynn if you would like to purchase club clothing. GCCC 30th anniversary shirts and patches are now available.

Treasurer's Report: Ruth reported the current checkbook balance. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Officer-At-Large: Hank was unable to attend the meeting.

Activities: On June 25th we joined the Lakes Region Corvette Club for a cruise to the Mt. Washington Hotel for a delicious buffet lunch. There were a total of forty cars that caravanned to the grand hotel. Gate City was allowed special parking on the grassy hill in front of the main entrance. The trip was very well organized; the caravan was divided into three groups according to desired level of speed. Lucky Dan won the 50/50.

Norm reported on the Elm Street show. There was a huge turnout on a very hot day. Bill Balcolm was awarded a trophy for his outstanding convertible.

The annual club picnic will be at Sue and Emile's on July 16th at 12:00. This year we are planning to barbeque hamburgers and hotdogs. The cost of \$10.00 per person will be returned to everyone who attends the picnic. Some members said that they would prefer to bring homemade salads and desserts and consequently a sign-up sheet was passed around.

Please contact Norm if you are planning to go to the show in Carlisle, PA. He is compiling a list of names and cell phone numbers for everyone's convenience. As in the past, there most likely will be two separate caravans leaving at different times on Thursday morning. Please let Norm know what group you plan to meet up with. Some members plan to return home on Monday to avoid the congested highways on Sunday.

Dan is planning a trip to Manchester, Vermont for this fall. We will most likely stay at the same place that we did last year.

Old Business/New Business:

Norm has tickets to sell for Corvettes Conquer Cancer Fundraiser Party. The cost per ticket is \$27.50. Norm is keeping track of sales and ticket numbers. Checks should be made out to GCCC FBO Corvettes Conquer Cancer. Also, the club could use donations for the auction and silent auction. Please buy your tickets soon if you plan to attend. Paula plans to set up a display to sell tickets at Pepboy's in Nashua on July 24th and 31st. Please contact Paula if you would like to help out on those dates.

Gate City Corvette Club was awarded a plaque on June 24th from Relay For Life of Greater Nashua for contributions made to the American Cancer Society. Paula, Ben, and Dan attended to receive the award.

Norm is able to get a 10% discount and free shipping for orders over \$99.00 for anyone who is interested in buying Adam's car cleaning products.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Roger Collins. The winner of the attendance raffle was not present.

Dan adjourned the meeting. The next meeting of the GCCC will be held on August 12th.

Allie

Activities Corner

August is here and Corvettes @ Carlisle is in a couple of weeks which means summer is coming to an end. The weather might have started out wet but it was a hot and humid June and July.

Without a Corvette Sue and I have not been as active in the cruises and shows this year. Hopefully that will change by next spring. I have heard current production of the 2005 C6 will continue until September 8 to fulfill the open orders caused by several delays during the current production run. I want a 2006 C6 and I don't want it in November or December so I plan to put my order in for an April/May delivery.

Corvette Conquer Cancer "Aloha Spirit Night" fundraiser is coming fast. If you have not sold your tickets by August 6th then please return them to me. There will be **no** tickets sold at the door because we need to give a number to the caterer a week before the event. If you have any donations for the auction tables, let Dan or me know so we can plan the tables. Our next Club meeting will be at the hanger in Nashua on Friday August 12th at 6:30 PM. We are asking for everyone's help to clean the hanger and set up chairs and tables. The Club will have pizza and soda to feed the clean-up crews that night. Hope to see you there.

For those of you going to Corvettes @ Carlisle at the end of August and want to caravan please contact me. There is at least one group going down that will be meeting for a 5:00 AM start. If that is too early for you let me know and I will try to organize a later group. I would also like to know where people are staying and a cell phone number. With this information I will compile a list to distribute to the members going down in case you need to contact someone. Bring those credit cards and parts list with you to pick-up those items you need. Remember if you can't find that part you are looking for then you did not look hard enough because they have everything there. For the newer members let me tell you we all have a great time wandering up and down the many isles looking at all the old and new items. Then it's back to the motel for food, drinks and socializing for 4 days (it's a tough schedule but someone has to do it). If you have not been then you need to go and for those of you that have been, it's amazing how we keep returning year after year.

See you at the next Club meeting on Friday August 12th @ 6:30 PM at Boire Field (Nashua Airport) hanger in Nashua.

*Norm Wood,
Vice President*

CLUB CASUAL WEAR

New...30th Anniversary shirt \$35.00

New...30th Anniversary patches \$5.00

Denim shirts \$25.00

Polo shirts (white or navy) \$25.00

Sweatshirts (navy) \$32.00

Club Jacket \$55.00

Baseball hats \$12.00

**To purchase contact membership director
Lynn Nault.**

Cafeteria Dreamin'

By Dennis Granger

I have been a member of GCCC for just over a year, but I have been in love with the Corvette since I saw a poster of the 1984 model in the same year. I have aspired to own a Corvette ever since but settled on Camaros for many years as they are more practical for every day use and much more affordable.

I started looking at Corvettes seriously a few years ago and nearly purchased a 1996 Grand Sport from Phoenix, AZ in the spring of 2003. While I was negotiating with the seller I saw a 1991 Corvette ZR-1 bright red on black on eBay. I pulled a clean Car Fax and put a low bid on it thinking I would never get it. Well, two days later I won! I could not believe it considering the ZR-1 was frequently the lunchtime conversation in high school. We saw it in magazines with its outrageous price tag as way out of our league, a car to dream about like a Ferrari.

The seller shipped it from Dearborn, MI and that dream arrived at my home two weeks later. Then began the problems. The car would not start. Unfortunately some lessons are learned the hard way. I learned people could be very dishonest. Turned out the car had been sitting in a garage for two years and had fuel system and ignition problems. After numerous phone calls I found a shop I trusted to work on a ZR-1. They made the critical repairs, mounted new rims and tires and gave me an inspection.

Finally, nearly a month after delivery, I went for my first drive. It was great, but this car had been driven hard and I realized a fair amount of restoration and repair was needed. The next spring I contacted GCCC to see what they were about hoping to share my interest and obtain advise. Fortunately I have found that and much more, even a new ZF transmission, which I installed last spring along with a Corsa exhaust recommended by several members.

Although my intention was to purchase a car in excellent condition, I have learned a great deal about the C4 Corvette and enjoy most of the time spend repairing and restoring the ZR-1. I take it out as much as possible, often with my four-year-old Thomas who will tell you, "I'm going to have a blue Corvette when I grow up!" It may never be a show car but it is as much fun and as exciting as I imagined in the cafeteria at 17.

More pictures can be viewed at corvette.thegrangers.net



The Brown Paper Wrapper

by Hank Vezina

As most of you know, one of the duties of the Officer At Large is to pick up the mail from the Club's PO box in Nashua. Since I hadn't done so in a while, this past Monday (7/11) I decide to check the box. Well, it was pack full, so instead of sorting everything out there I decided to bring it all home. I found a plastic bag to stuff everything in which included a package wrapped in a plain brown paper.

When I got home I went through all the envelopes, most of which were the usual "great deals" on various types of credit cards, loans, and discounts. I trashed those along with some of the outdated newsletters from other Corvette clubs. The only envelope that was of any importance was the Club's bank statement, which I resent to Ruth's address.

The only thing left to open was the plain brown paper wrapped package.

I had to use scissors to cut an edge open so I could pull the contents out. To my surprise it was a videotape box with pictures of Mickey and Minnie Mouse on the cover, but the title was written in some Slavic language. I thought maybe someone had sent us this item for our Aloha Spirit Night auction thinking it might bring a good price from a collector of such things. I decided to open the box and check out to see if there was more info inside about the tape.

When I popped open the case, it was filled with something wrapped in tinfoil. Now being a curious type of guy, I took a knife and sliced down one side of the foil and found small bottles containing some sort of liquid. It was at this time I decided to check the plain brown paper wrapper that the case came in and on one side was the sender's name and address, from somewhere in Serbia. But when I check the other side where our club name should have been written, instead of Gate City Corvette Club it said Corvette Fan Club and the PO box number was not even ours either. It seems the Nashua Post Office folks put someone else's mail into our box.

Because the box contained some sort of drug bottles and that the package came from Serbia, I decided to call the Brookline Police. When I described what I found in the package, an officer showed up at my house within 5 minutes. After I related to him the sequence of the evening, he opened the box and cut the tin foil enough to see the bottles clearly, 12 of them. All had small labels on them but written in a Slavic language. He decided to take the case and plain brown paper wrapper back to the police station and show it to his Chief. I was just glad to get the stuff out of my possession.

The police officer came back to the house a few hours later to let me know that the bottles contained extremely strong dosages of steroids, which is illegal to ship into the USA. He said the bottles were wrapped in tinfoil so that x-rays of the package would not reveal the actual shape of its contents. The officer also thank me for contacting them and that they were turning the investigation over to the Nashua Police and that I may be contacted by them sometime soon. I did get called down to the Brookline Police Station early Tuesday morning to write a detailed report on everything that happened from the time I entered the Nashua Post Office to the point when I turned the item over to the police officer.

Well, who would have thought that the duties of being an Officer At Large for our club would be so interesting?



Rhode Island Car Show

August 7, 2005

I must be getting old or I have been to too many car shows because getting up at 5:30 AM to leave by 7:00 AM and travel over 2 hours to attend a car show does not seem to as much fun any more. Six cars from our Club attended the Corvette Club of Rhode Island's 35th Annual Show and Shine car show on Sunday August 7 at Marina Park in South Kingston. There were about 156 registered cars entered at this event overlooking the ocean. Thank goodness for the small ocean breeze and some cloud cover because it was a very hot day with no green grass anywhere. After a busy morning cleaning and detailing their cars all our club members came home with trophies. Dennis Granger received a 1st place in Street Class (Participants choice class), Dan & Gayle Zelonis received a 1st place in Street Class, Bill Balcom received a 1st place in Super Street Class, Dan Feidler received a 3rd place in Super Street (not bad for his first time in a show with some serious competition), Al & Carol Whittier received a 1st place in Show with his silver '59 and Joe & Carol Michalik received a 1st place in Show ZR-1 class. ***Congratulations to all those members!***

Also just another point of information, Carol Michalik celebrated yet another birthday on the way home as we stopped at the local Bugaboo Creek restaurant. *Thanks Carol for being such a great sport about being targeted once again.*

*Norm Wood
Activities Director*

CRUISE NIGHTS

Monday Nights, Gilford, NH, Lakes Region Corvette Club.

Tuesday Nights, Village Green Restaurant, Route one North, Danvers, MA, Clipper City Corvette Club.
Starts at 5:30 pm.

Tuesday Nights, Sylvan Street Grill, Route 114 & Sylvan St., North Shore Corvettes of Mass., "2005"
cruise night dash plague. Starts at 5:00 pm.

Wednesday Nights, Burger King, 77 Drum Hill Rd., Chelmsford, MA., Spindle City Corvette Club.
Begins June 1st, Starts at 6:00 pm.

FOR SALE

(1) 90-95 ZR-1 ZF 6 speed trans. New, in the crate \$2,200

(1) 89-96 Lt-1/Lt-4 6 speed trans. New, in the crate \$1,800

These are cheaper than a rebuild and they come complete with a new shifter!

Contact Al Whittier at old-hot-rodder@prodigy.net

Gate City Corvette Club

Questionnaire

The reason that I'm sending out this Questionnaire is to get the feelings of all club members on what they are interested in. I would like everyone to take the time and answer it honestly. They do not need to be signed. It is just a poll. My intent is to try and get more involvement in the club from its entire membership

By finding out what everyone is interested in maybe we can start to do more things as a group.

1. What is your feeling towards the Spring Fling?
2. What would help you get more involved with the Spring Fling?
3. Would you be interested in running for an office in the club?
4. If so what office would you be interested in? If not, why?
5. Do you feel that officers should hold longer terms in office then is in the by-laws now?
(Present bylaws allow a member to hold a position for only 2 consecutive years)
6. What type of functions or events would you like to see the club do? (Cruises, weekend trips, participate in other corvette club cruises)
7. What is your feeling of the club being involved in Corvette Conquer Cancer Fundraiser?
8. Are you interested in having a club cruise night?
And if so are you willing to help out and organize and work on it?
9. What suggestions do you have to bring in new members?
10. What is your opinion of the board of directors with regards to leading the club?
And is there anything they could do better or different to help this club with it goals?