



# Stress Kracks

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



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September 2018 Issue

## First Word

Dave Osgood

Hello Members,

What a summer. One would think we lived in Florida with the oppressive heat and humidity and then two weeks of rain. No matter what, we figured out how to deal with it.

Our August meeting was very well attended and when I asked for a count for dinner I was shocked at how many raised their hands. I had told the restaurant perhaps we would have 12-15 coming. We ended up with 24, maybe a record. The good news is that they served us well and we had new people just joining the club that came with us. When people get to know each other, it brings everyone together.

The following Sunday we all met at the Chelmsford rest area for a caravan to CCRI. As hot as it was, we found refuge under some shade trees and a welcome sea breeze. Al Whittier brought home a well-deserved trophy. Al is a walking encyclopedia when it comes to Corvettes and I always learn something new when I am with him.

Although there is an abundance of events in August and September, please mark down on your calendar Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> for the 15th annual Vettes to Vets. We meet up at the Marriott Hotel in Billerica and caravan down to the Veterans Hospital in Bedford. Oh, did I mention they had over 625 Corvettes last year? This is not a club sponsored event; however, when it comes to volunteering and giving under the club banner, it ranks as one of the most fulfilling things you can do. What makes it even better is that you get to do it with 625 of your closest friends who own Corvettes.

The political season is upon us and the same goes for our club. Soon we will be asking for nominees to the board of directors. At the next meeting I will be asking for volunteers to create a nominating committee. They will be required to seek out those wishing to run for office. Once we have candidates, ballots will be printed, and we hold the election in November.

For those new members or not familiar with our election process, let me review the positions. The Board of Directors is comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Officer-at-Large, and Membership Director. They shall each serve for one (1) year. No officer shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive years in the same office.

That being said, I cannot run for a third term and the same is true for the current Board except for Allie who will be completing one term. Do not assume the positions on the board are filled because people have been around longer. Any member in good standing can run for office. Feel free to reach out to me via email or phone if you have questions. My goal as President was to bring in new members and make everyone feel a part of the organization. I am still amazed at the talent of every individual that attends our meeting every month. I encourage you to perhaps do an article about who you are, your family, your love of a Corvette. We all want to hear your story.

All the best,  
David Osgood  
President

### *Vice President Report*

*Dennis Corrigan*

Since I have been a member, about 3 ½ years, we have always had a good crowd at meetings, about 30-35 people, and we would get about 12-15 people to go to dinner after. When I was a new member, I found going to dinner after the meeting was one of the best ways to get to know the members better than just going to the meeting and going home. I was pleasantly surprised when we got 22 to go to dinner after the last meeting. Let's keep it going and get more than half of the people going to the meeting to go out for dinner. (I also get the chance to convince you to vote for me for president for the coming year.)

### *Secretary Report*

*Allie DeCampo*

President Dave Osgood began the August 10, 2018 meeting by thanking MacMulkin Chevrolet for their continuing support and the use of their facility. He took suggestions for the after-meeting restaurant and the decision was made to go to 110 Grill in Nashua.

Dave spoke about Corvette Club of Rhode Island's 48th Annual "Corvettes by the Sea" held on August 5th. Several GCCC members caravanned down to enjoy a fun event with beautiful views of Narragansett Bay. The Corvettes were very beautiful too!

**Membership Director:** Dave Hill introduced potential new members Maurice and Carla with a 1981 blue coupe, and Paul and Joan with a 2018 black coupe. Welcome!

Dave informed the membership that M & N Sports provides custom embroidery with our club logo. The vendor requests that we submit one combined order per month due to the work involved in setup. They will, however, embroider a single item anytime at an increased cost.

**Secretary:** Allie DeCampo posted the secretary's report in the July newsletter. The secretary's report was accepted.

Allie mentioned CCRI members wore eye-catching, bright lime green t-shirts at their event. Also, goodie bags contained a commemorative t-shirt, dash plaque and Corvette poster.

**Newsletter Editor:** Larry Shields requested articles and photos for the newsletter. As always, he appreciates your contributions.

Larry also takes responsibility for the club's website and Facebook. The website is in need of updates. The current method of updating is cumbersome and time-consuming. Larry has been exploring a technology called WordPress that will allow us to easily change and add new content. He will present his ideas to the membership and he looks forward to our feedback. A suggestion was made to upload photos of owners with their cars.

**Treasurer:** Dean Gagne emailed the treasurer's report prior to the meeting. The treasurer's report was discussed and accepted.

Dave gave Dean a copy of the HippoPress with Dean's interview about GCCC.

**Officer at Large:** Heather Shields provided info on the following upcoming events:

- JAK Kustoms 2nd Annual Salute the Troops Car Show, Anheuser Busch Brewery, Merrimack, NH, August 18, 2018
- East Coast Camaro Club, Chelmsford Elks Lodge, Chelmsford, MA, August 19, 2018
- Corvettes at Carlisle, Carlisle, PA, August 23 – 26, 2018
- Corvettes and Coffee, Grill 28, Pease Golf Course, Portsmouth, NH, September 1, 2018
- Cruising Downtown Manchester, Elm Street, Manchester, NH September 1, 2018
- CT Military Corvette Club, Legion Post #133, Classic Car Show, South Windsor, CT, September 8, 2018 \
- Jets and Vettes, NE Air Museum, Windsor Locks, CT, September 9, 2018
- Vettes at Crystal Mall, Waterford, CT, September 16, 2018
- Vette to Vets, Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital, September 30, 2018

**The 15th Annual Vettes to Vets Event is on Sunday, September 30th at 8:00 am.** Meeting place is the Marriot Hotel, 270 Concord Rd, Billerica, MA. There is a drivers' meeting at 11:15 for caravan departure to the Veterans Hospital at 11:30. Reservations for an overnight stay at the Marriot prior to the show must be booked by August 24th to get the special rate. A banquet is held at the hotel the evening before the show. Participants are asked to bring items (see list) or monetary donations to benefit the vets. All donations go directly to the vets.

**Vice President/Activities:** Dennis Corrigan said he will try to organize a couple of cruises before the end of the season. Ruth suggested breakfast at Parker's Maple Barn in Mason, NH. Dave suggested electric go-carts in Seabrook, NH, with lunch afterwards.

Larry Shields shared information about the JANE (Jaguar Association of New England) Autocross and Bay State Corvette Club Autocross. He has participated in several of these events and encourages anyone interested to join in the fun.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bob White.  
The member raffle was won by Annette.

Dave adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

## Membership Report

*Dave Hill*

### **71 Paid, Honored, and Honorary Members**

**Welcome Maurice and Carla Lussier and Paul and Joan Guimond (prospective members).**

To Join Gate City Corvette Club, visit our website <http://www.gatecitycorvetteclub.com/>

and click on the Membership Info Link

For more information, please contact: Dave Hill (Membership Director) at 603-860-8737 or [davennh@gmail.com](mailto:davennh@gmail.com)

### **Join us in Celebrating the August Birthdays**



Dani McLaughlin 9/15

Steve Chaplin 9/26

If you do not see your birthday listed and want it to be included next year, please send it to Dave Hill.

#### **Hints and Tips:**

- Coming to a browser near you, a catalog of our official club shirts and jackets. Watch this space for more information. M and N Sports, 6 Broad St, Nashua, NH 03064, is the vendor for club items.
- If you are an Amazon shopper, use the <https://smile.amazon.com> URL to have Amazon donate a portion of your purchase price to your favorite charity, and we hope that you

will select the National Corvette Museum! Every little bit helps to preserve the Corvette treasures at the museum.

- And let's not forget to become a member of the National Corvette Museum as well!
- Save the Wave

*Roar Like a Lion*

*Anthony Centrella*



Gordon took first prize in the Corvette division on Saturday, Aug 18<sup>th</sup> at the Amherst Lions Club - Antique and Classic Car & Tractor Show.





A friend told me I should Google my own name and see the amount of information on the web that exists about me. I did so, and because my WWII veteran father has the same name, he came up too. I saw a listing from a WWII USA air museum in Great Britain and clicked on it. A group picture came up with my dad (far right), the pilot, the crew chief, and the Armorer, standing in front of their P51.



I didn't know a museum like this even existed. I also received a picture of P51 Mustangs in flight. The quality wasn't very good, so I contacted the museum, and to my surprise, they got back to me with clearer pictures.



So, I had an idea to wrap my 74 Corvette with a flag and two pictures. It's paid for, so it's happening. The last two pictures are the design. Appointment for the install should be the end of August or the beginning of September.

This all started with an innocent Google Search, and ended up finding WWII pictures of my father and 6 bronze stars, in a museum in Great Britain.

The wrap company is LifeSizeWraps in Manchester, NH. The design artist was Pete Morse. He changed the design 6 times before we agreed this was the best one. All the gentlemen at LifeSizeWraps were very professional and very customer oriented. A truly great experience.





Given my enjoyment of the JANE slalom type autocrosses, it was recommended that I really needed to try going to the Bay State Corvette Club's autocross events they hold down at Ft. Devens, MA. The courses are laid out on the old runways on the base, so you can get a bit more speed going in places, and really work the car over a much longer course layout. This sounded like a fun excuse to drive the Vette a bit faster, and even get into 2<sup>nd</sup> gear on the track! They run their registration through MotorSportsReg.com and I had previously signed up for an account with an event at the NCM Motorsports Park. As I completed my registration I got to pick a car number for the event and had to skim through what numbers were taken and which were still available. I decided to put myself in as number 63 – figuring if it was good enough for Garcia, Magnussen, and Taylor at LeMans, it's good enough for me.

I already had a good legal racing helmet I could use, but I really didn't want to have to use painter's tape on the side of my car to mark my number at the event. So I decided I'll be doing this more than once – I'd just order some removable vinyl racing numbers that I could put on and take off for various events. After doing some online shopping & reading on the Vette forums, I decided to go with iZoomGraphics.com, and get one of the basic 12" number sets, using the Nurburgring font. With a little soapy water and some time to burp the bubbles out, the numbers went on nicely & looked great! You got three numbers in the order, so I got a 6, a 3, and a 4 (figured 4 or 64 would be the other Corvette Racing number, so I could use that one at some point too – the 6 can also be flipped over to be a 9, giving me some flexibility in numbers at a given event).



The event approached, and the forecast did not look good. It looked like we were going to get rain all day. I verified with the Bay State Corvette folks that the event was still on – and they said they run rain or shine, only stopping if there's lightning. When the morning of the event arrived, we actually had some overcast but clear skies for a little while. I even managed to drive down to Ft. Devens with the top down,



enjoying the nice cool air. I will say for the record, if you've never driven your Corvette with a license plate that says "BUHBYE" and big racing numbers on the door, through various back roads and small towns... you do tend to get a few extra looks, even beyond the normal ones. I made sure to smile nicely as I drove past a few police officers who were keeping an eye on traffic and were eyeballing me as I went past.

The sun actually stayed out for a while and got us through initial set up and tech inspection, but as we got closer to race start time... the dark clouds rolled in, and the rain started. It turned into a heck of a rough day trying to race my car around that track with steady rain & notable puddles around the track. It definitely slowed down the pace of the cars, and depending on which group you ran with – there were varying track conditions as the day went on. The other group had the sun come out a bit at the end, and actually give them a couple of track laps on semi-dry pavement, and there were some definite track time improvements in those last runs for folks.

The cars that showed up to race were mostly what you'd expect at this type of event. Lots of Subaru's – both BRZ and WRX, Mustangs, Hondas, Mazda, etc. A few Porches, two Acura NSX, and a replica Daytona race car. For a Corvette club event, I had thought there would be more Vettes present, but there were only about 3 others there.



The format of the day is that you get divvied up into two run groups, green & red. Green runs first, while red goes out and mans the cones around the course. After everyone in the green group gets 5 lap times, everyone switches. After the red group gets their 5 runs, we took a break for lunch. Then back to 5 more runs each, with green starting the afternoon again, and red finishing the day. I was put in the green run group and was a “Novice” as I’ve not done three events with them yet. There was a total of 18 novice class drivers present that I’d be competing against time wise.

Before we started, we were given the chance to take two laps around the course slowly in our cars, so that we could see how the course was laid out. Cones marked curves and gates, and other cones marked places you had to slalom around the cone on the correct side. These latter cones were done by placing 2 cones, one standing (the one to go around) and one lying down next to it with the small end of the cone pointing towards the standing cone, pointing to the side of the cone you needed to go around. Sounds simple, but it’s tricky to keep looking for that next cone set and figure out how you want to approach it, constantly reading the cones right in front of you plus the ones that are coming up so that you set up for the next challenge appropriately. I can see after doing these for a while, it might get easier as you get better at memorizing the day’s layout more quickly (they change the course layout for every event – so no one has an advantage of already knowing how the cones will be laid out).

Then it was off to the races. While I really wish it had been dry, I did learn a LOT about the handling of the Vette in wet weather. It grips surprisingly well on the wet ground, far better than I thought it would, as I ripped around the slalom cones. The maximum speed I hit in the final straight into the stop box was around 63 mph. While I wasn’t watching my speedo during the harder parts of the course, I’d guess it was somewhere around 30-40 mph for much of it. You do have to watch for hydroplaning with the big wide rears going over puddles, so you had to watch for where the water pooled on the course and set up for your turns accordingly. I had a fantastic time learning and getting a bit faster over the course of the day. By the time it was all said and done, I had the 9<sup>th</sup> fastest time of the 18 novices. I had hoped to be about 1.5 seconds faster based on the goal I had set for myself earlier in the day, but with the weather conditions and my still learning... it wasn’t to be! But I’m pretty happy with my times & what I learned, and I look forward to getting faster for the next one!



Here’s a shot someone got of me during the morning runs in the rain, before the puddles had started forming on this part of the track. Driving hard with the roof up was also new for me – I found my helmet had a tendency to bounce off the convertible frame arm if I did anything that caused my head to go left quickly.

I also knew to turn my AC off for the runs, to get the best performance... but had to relearn to **CRACK THE WINDOWS** to prevent fogging on the inside of the windshield. Yes, I learned that the hard way on one of my first runs, as my glass fogged up, and I missed a cone.

I had a great time, and I look forward to doing this again with Bay State Corvette Club, as they run around 4 of these a year. Unfortunately, I will be out of town for the September event, but I’ll be going next year and hope to talk some others from the club into coming with me!





<http://www.corvetteblogger.com/2018/07/11/accident-arctic-white-c6-corvette-burns-alongside-a-highway-in-connecticut/>

When you drive along and have people call out that you have a really hot car, you're sure hoping that this isn't what they mean. This poor white C6 Vette seems to have angered the fire gods, as it was struck down with a vengeance on the side of Rt. 2 in Colchester, CT. No information was found about what caused the flames, but the firefighters were eventually able to get it put out. But this Vette's driving days are behind it...



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!

Letters, articles, notices, and ads are to be received by the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for inclusion in the upcoming 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.

Contact: Larry Shields  
Newsletter Guy  
larry.shields@comcast.net  
(603) 673-9653

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## **CLUB OFFICERS 2018**

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Membership Director .....	Dave Hill	(603) 860-8737	davennh@comcast.net
Immediate Past President .....			

## **Picture of the Month**



***Bar Harbor Car Show***

***Photo Credit: Larry Shields***

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