



Stress Kracks

Gate City Corvette Club

MACMULKIN CHEVROLET
3 Marmon Drive
New England Auto Village
Nashua, NH 03060

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<https://www.facebook.com/GateCityCorvetteClub>

March 2020

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First Word

Springtime is in the air! Sorry I was unable to attend the February meeting. Thank you to our Veep Larry Shields for doing a great job in my absence!

Plans for the 40th Annual Spring Fling Corvette Show are in progress. There have been a lot of great ideas proposed by our members to make this year's show extra special. The Spring Fling flyer has a new look. (Please see in this issue.) We are all looking forward to hosting a large turn-out of Corvette friends. Other types of cars are welcome to attend and will have a separately designated parking area.

Plans are also in the works for some great weekend road trips this summer. I'm seeing a light at the end of the tunnel for getting our cars out on the road soon.

Until then, Save the Wave and see you at our next meeting on March 13th!

Dennis Corrigan



The beautiful grounds of Anheuser-Busch, Merrimack, NH

GATE CITY CORVETTE CLUB PRESENTS

40TH ANNIVERSARY SPRING FLING 2020

SUNDAY MAY 24, 2020

[RAIN DATE MAY 31ST]

LOCATED AT THE ANHEUSER-BUSCH PLANT IN MERRIMACK, NH



- First New England Point Judged Show for 2020
- Pre-Registration Fee: \$25 by May 1
\$30 after May 1
- Checks should be made payable to:
Gate City Corvette Club/GCCC
- Send Check to:
Georgia LeBlond
63 Endmoor Rd
Westford, MA 01886
- Coupes and Roadsters judged separately
- 47 Classes - 150+ trophies for Show, Super Street, Street, and "Best of" Awards
- Goodie bags for first 200 cars!
- Silent auction table including 2 General Admission 4-Day Passes to Barrett Jackson

REGISTRATION

8:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Music, food, Anheuser-Busch brewery tours & gift shop, and much more!



**DESIGNATED CORRAL PARKING AVAILABLE TO NON-PARTICIPATING CORVETTES AND
OTHER CLASSIC VEHICLES (\$10 DONATION)**

For More Information: events@gccc@gatecitycorvetteclub.com
<https://gccc.springfling.shutterfly.com/>
or call Dean Gagne 1-603-472-3524

DIRECTIONS

Anheuser-Busch is located at 221 Daniel Webster Highway in Merrimack, New Hampshire
Take Route 3 (Everett Turnpike) to Exit 10 (Industrial Drive)
Go East to Daniel Webster Highway, and go left (North) to Anheuser-Busch on right.

Message from the Veep...

The February and March period are some of the tougher Corvette months to get through. The Vette has been hibernating in the garage all winter which seems like it's been going on for a while now... and we look forward to a possible early spring. Perfect time to continue planning for the coming car season as event dates start to trickle out and land on the calendar.

I'm really encouraged by the amount of enthusiasm going on within the club right now as it comes to our Spring Fling planning for this year. This will be the 40th Annual Spring Fling, and everyone is really excited to make it the best event possible. There have been some new changes this year's show such as the introduction of a pre-registration. Also, there have been discussions about goody-bag give away items to celebrate the event, as well as how to make an amazing silent auction & basket raffle table. I'm really looking forward to seeing it all come together! (Especially if we ever see any of the new C8s delivered to the area.)

Expect to see a very busy cruising year for the club as well – we've got several members looking to plan regular drives to get people's butts in their car seats and going to fun places (and tasty food). If you have ideas, please bring them forward!

Look forward to seeing everyone again at the next club meeting!

-Larry S "The Veep"



That Poor Vette...

Larry Shields



Time to remind everyone that it's not just newer Vettes that need some consoling thoughts in these articles. We see here a bright orange C3 captured on a rear facing 'dash' camera, in its last few moments before an insurance claim. Looks like the owner may have just rolled into the throttle a bit too quickly, causing the car to drift across the centerline and run into the oncoming Nissan. Serious fender & hood damage were a result – hopefully everyone was okay, as C3s don't exactly have the same safety options as the later models...

On February 14, 2020, Larry Shields VP opened our first official meeting of the year at MacMulkin Chevrolet exactly at 7:00 PM. Joining Larry were board members Tony Centrella and David Osgood.

Despite the frigid temperatures and it also being Valentine's Day, we had a standing room only crowd. The focus for the evening was all about Spring Fling 2020, and the participation from our group was extremely valuable. Our Spring Fling committee presented plans that had been initiated at our first committee meeting a week ago. Kevin and Georgia have offered to handle pre-registration. They also shared marketing ideas. Norm is currently working with Crown Trophy and he talked about ideas for potential changes to the trophies. He also brought along a sample of an insulated cup which would be inscribed with Spring Fling 40th Anniversary. Claudia is asking for perhaps a more valuable collection of items for our tables. In addition to the regular raffle table, we are planning a silent auction table. Stay tuned as this is starting to get really exciting!

Our choices for dinner were limited due to the holiday; however we were able to secure a reservation at Portofino's in Merrimack NH. Eighteen + enjoyed a great meal and excellent service.

The 50/50 drawing went to Norm Wood (\$48.00) and the membership drawing carries over to March as we did not have a winner present.

Secretary of De Vettes

Calling all Baskets!

Hello Members,

Claudia and I have volunteered to head up our new and improved event raffle tables. In the spirit of our 40th Annual Spring Fling, we are asking our generous members to consider contributing quality gift baskets. If you prefer to donate money, we will be happy to put one together for you. Below are a few suggestions for creating eye-catching baskets:

- Coffee gift card with related items
- Wine basket
- Game night snacks and games
- Picnic basket with paper products
- Quilted items (e.g. table runner, place mats)
- Christmas theme
- Cancer basket
- Bath and beauty items
- Corvette related e.g. die cast cars
- Pasta night
- America theme – red, white, and blue



It would be helpful if you could let us know in advance if you plan to provide a basket. If you have an item that you feel is of greater value, we are also going to have a silent auction table. We would appreciate receiving items for the silent auction prior to the show. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions. Thank you!

Claudia & Sue

Anheuser-Busch, Merrimack Brewery

Celebrating its 50th Anniversary Brewing Beer

in New Hampshire in 2020

<https://www.anheuser-busch.com/about/breweries-and-tours/merrimack-nh.html>



“Embedded in the scenic New England countryside, the New Hampshire brewery is one of our most stunning Tour Center locations.

Regardless of the experience you choose, from The Biergarten to our Beermaster Tours, our ambassadors will educate visitors from “Seed to Sip.” From the finest ingredients to the finished product, visitors of all ages will immerse themselves in our history and observe how we brew and package Budweiser.

Opened in 1970, the Merrimack Brewery is vital to the distribution of fresh beers to locations in the Northeast including Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island and more.

Over the course of the past 50 years, the Merrimack brewery has won more Global Budweiser cups and Brewmaster Cups than any of its sister breweries. If that wasn’t impressive enough, as part of our commitment to driving sustainability from seed-to-sip, the team at Merrimack has reduced water usage at the brewery by 66% since 2000!

Founded more than 165 years ago, Anheuser-Busch is one of America’s most iconic companies and the undisputed leader of the U.S. beer industry. We are proud of our history and heritage in this country and we remain committed to brewing the great-tasting, high-quality beers that have satisfied beer drinkers for generations.

Today, our portfolio of amazing brands continues to lead the industry by delivering what you, our customers, want. From flavored extensions like Bud light Lime and Orange, to Michelob ULTRA Pure Gold, the first major beer to be USDA organic certified, we work tirelessly to deliver the strongest portfolio of beer brands in the industry.

Now it brews 20 different brands, including Bass and Redbridge, a gluten-free beer, which are brewed exclusively by the team in Merrimack.”



You may visit their Merrimack location while attending GCCC Spring Fling!

GCCC Membership Report

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: Tony Centrella (Membership Director) at

603-321-7546 or allertnec@gmail.com

75 Members – 4 Honored – 4 Honorary

Join us in celebrating the March birthdays



Mike DeCampo	3/13	Sandra Vanderpool	3/21
Gordon Vanderpool	3/14	Noy Bright	3/22
Moe Lussier	3/19		

If you do not see your birthday listed and want it to be included next year, please send it to Tony Centrella.
Hints and Tips:

- 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

Embroidered club clothing: Maverick's Stitch and Screen, 522 Amherst Street, Unit 28, Nashua, NH
Contact Norma or Nathan 603-521-8358 Mavericksstitchandscreen.com

Save the Dates

✚ Spring Fling Judging Clinic	May 17 th	?
✚ Spring Fling	May 24 th	7:00 AM
Rain date:	May 31 st	7:00 AM
✚ Tilton Veteran's Home	June ?	2:30
✚ Club Picnic	July ?	?
✚ CCRI – Corvettes By The Sea	August 2 nd	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
✚ Corvettes at Carlisle	August 27 th to 30 th	
✚ National Corvette Caravan Reunion	September 3 rd to 5 th	
✚ Great Bay -- Driven to Make a Difference	September ?	?
✚ Vettes to Vets	September 27 th	?
✚ Castle in the Clouds Picnic	October ?	?
✚ Tilton Veteran's Home	December ?	2:30
✚ Holiday Party	January ?, 2021	6:00 PM

Please keep these in mind when making your summer plans as we enjoy seeing each of you regularly. Remember to always have fun with your Corvette(s).

Coming soon I will have monthly calendars that have car shows, cruise-ins, and other events of interest.

Stay Tuned for more information.



After strike delays, Chevrolet Corvette C8 roars to life

By Paul A. Eisenstein Feb. 23, 2020

With a touch of the Start button, the big V-8 fires up with a deep and menacing rumble. The new Chevrolet “C8” has finally come to life. Originally unveiled last July in Southern California, the actual launch of the 2020 Chevrolet Corvette was delayed by months due to the lengthy strike that shut down most of General Motors’ North American operations. Production is just ramping up at the factory in Bowling Green, Kentucky, none too soon not only for GM but a long list of anxious buyers. Even before the strike, Chevy had already sold out the first year’s production and some buyers will likely now have to wait until 2021 to take delivery.



The automaker pulled a handful of early models off the line this past week to give a select group of journalists a chance to see what the eighth-generation Corvette – the C8, as it’s widely known – can do, and why it is betting the two-seat sports car will finally deliver a real challenge to far more expensive “exotics” from the likes of Porsche, Aston Martin and even the vaunted Ferrari.

As has always been the case, the 2020 Chevrolet Corvette boasts plenty of power – as much as 495 horsepower and 470 pound-feet of tire-spinning torque. The new ‘Vette can hit 60 in as little as 2.9 seconds. That’s barely an eye blink slower than what the ZR1, the special track-ready version of the outgoing seventh-generation sports car could manage, even though it boasted fully 260 more horsepower.

There have been all manner of improvements made to the C8’s 6.2-liter V-8, as well as its suspension system. But the most dramatic – and controversial – change sees the Corvette’s engine moved from up front, ahead of the driver to midship, immediately behind the cabin. That dramatically changes the weight balance and other factors that translate not only into a much faster launch but significantly improved handling – as the journalists were soon to learn during two days of driving on both public roads and at the Spring Mountain track in Pahrump, Nevada.

Even before the drive, the 2020 Corvette was winning raves – and honors as both the Motor Trend Car of the Year and North American Car of the Year, among other kudos. That said, it has also generated a fair amount of controversy. Online enthusiast boards lit up with protest over the new design which, by the nature of the new engine layout, is radically different from the Corvettes of yore. Equally provocative was Chevy’s decision to forego offering a manual gearbox on the C8, opting instead for the sort of double-clutch automatic transmission, or DCT, found on more and more performance products worldwide.

“I don’t think these controversies will last long because the car is so good,” said Stephanie Brinley, principal auto analyst with IHS Markit, after driving the new Corvette this week. And the reality, she added, is that almost no one was buying the last-generation sports car with a stick shift, anyway. The C8 transmission actually can be shifted manually, using steering wheel-mounted paddle shifters, but the new system is so intuitive a human driver can’t come close to matching its performance in automatic mode.

The improvements built into the C8 not only make the car faster but also transform it into much more of a daily driver. While the optional Z51 performance package can be as tough on one’s kidneys on rough roads, buyers can upgrade to what is technically known as a “magnetorheological suspension” or “MR,” where a fluid controlled by a magnet creates a shock absorption effect. The computer-controlled system can switch each of the four individual shock absorbers from soft to firm, or anywhere in-between, in the time it takes the Corvette to travel just 1 inch at 60 miles per hour. On track, it improves cornering. On the street it makes potholes all but vanish.

The new Corvette is available with all-season tires and, for those in the Snowbelt who plan to use it all year, there are even snow tires on the option list. The new sports car also has a feature that lifts the nose up by more than an inch, making it easier to manage steep driveways as well as speed bumps.

All told, critics have hailed the 2020 model as not only the most capable Corvette ever produced but, perhaps more significantly, the first to pose a serious challenge to the likes of the best exotic sports cars from Europe. And, at a base price of \$59,995 – including the \$1,095 delivery fee – it rings in at a fraction of what competitors like Porsche, never mind Ferrari, command, pointed out analyst Brinley.

“It’s important for [Corvette] to be seen as a car you wouldn’t have expected from Chevrolet,” said Steve Majoros, the bowtie brand’s director of marketing.

Chevy is hoping the C8 will be able to gain traction in U.S. markets, such as Southern California and South Florida, where affluent buyers have traditionally opted for high-line imports. It also is looking to gain some real traction overseas. In fact, even though GM has largely abandoned markets like Europe, India and South Africa, the Corvette will be sold through new specialty marketing operations. The C8, in fact, marks the first time Chevy will build a right-hand-drive version of the sports car for countries such as Britain and Australia.

“We’re intent on sending the message that we’ve arrived,” said Majoros during an interview after the Corvette media drive.

As good as the new C8 might be, Chevy insiders privately hint they’re just beginning. As with Corvettes past, the plan is to roll out the initial version, dubbed Stingray. Even more powerful models will follow over the next three to four years. Whether they will follow the same model strategy as before, with names like Z06 and ZR1, isn’t clear. But, much like Porsche does with its classic 911, each new Corvette variant will become faster and even more adept on track, never mind the street.

And, despite those early controversies, Chevy is so confident about the success of the C8 it already is planning to add a second shift at the Bowling Green factory to meet the anticipated demand.

Paul A. Eisenstein is an NBC News contributor who covers the auto industry.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/business/autos/after-strike-delays-chevrolet-corvette-c8-roars-life-n1141411>

ZR1 Inspired Boat for Sale

If you've always wanted to combine your passion for Corvettes and speed boats, here's to hoping you have \$1.7 (€1.26) million to spare.

Built by Marine Technology Incorporated, this ZR1-inspired boat is constructed from carbon fiber and features lighting units from the legendary sports car. Elsewhere, there are gull wing doors, an electric sliding rear window and two turbocharged Mercury Racing engines that develop 1350 hp (1007 kW / 1369 PS).



Inside, the cabin has a full Corvette interior with an original steering wheel, instrument cluster and gear knob. Other highlights include leather seats, LED accent lighting and an 8000 watt audio system.

Since the boat is too big for most roads, it includes a custom trailer to haul it around. However, it looks like you'll have to find your own big rig to tow it.



Corvette ZR1-inspired boat is yours for \$1.7 million.

From MOTOR 1 editor
M. Gauthier



Article contributed by Alan Factor

PUBLISHING & ADVERTISING

PUBLISHING INFORMATION – The next article/ad submission date is **March 20, 2020**

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.

Reports, articles, notices, letters, photos and ads are to be received by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter. Thank you for helping to make our newsletter interesting and informative!

Contact: Allie DeCampo
Newsletter Editor
adecampo@myfairpoint.net
(603) 494-8047

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Please contact the editor if you are a business or know of a business interested in purchasing advertising space in the newsletter. Yearly rates are available and are as follows:

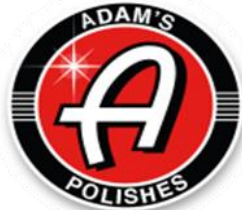
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CLUB OFFICERS 2020

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Membership Director	Tony Centrella	(603) 321-7546	allertnec@gmail.com

SAVE THE WAVE



Welcome to the 11th Annual Spring Get-Together and Detail Clinic

Hosted By

Corvette Mike New England

Presented By

Norm's Detailing

When:

Saturday April 18th, 2020

Time:

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Location:

**74 North Main Street
Carver, MA.**



THE CORVETTE SPECIALISTS

Come join us for a hands-on detailing clinic where we'll be addressing everything from basic car care to fine machine polishing, helping you give your car, truck or motorcycle a true show-car shine. **See the huge inventory of new & used cars on display at this new location.** All cars are welcome – you certainly don't need to drive a Corvette!

Bring Friends Attendance is FREE!

"Adam's Premium Car Care Products"

will be available at discounted rates.

Cash or Checks only, please – we will not be set up for credit cards.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact us at woodnorman@comcast.net or sales@corvettemikenewengland.com, or call 508-747-8388

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Contact us for prices and to place your order or to set up a Detail Clinic for your club



Corvette Club
of Rhode Island

50th Annual Corvettes by the Sea

Sunday, August 2, 2020-9am to 2pm
Rain Date: Aug 9, 2020

Trophies
Dash Plaques
Music, Food
Raffles
Vendors

Scalabrini Villa, 860 N. Quiddnessett Rd.
N. Kingstown, RI 02852
Entrance Fee: \$20 Per Car
RI Food Bank Donations Welcomed

Paul Masse
— EST. 1981 —



Thank you MacMulkin Chevrolet!



Gate City Corvette Club is one of the hundreds of Corvette clubs throughout the United States and Canada. The purpose of GCCC is to make being a Corvette owner more fun. GCCC meets at 7:00 pm the second Friday of the month at MacMulkin Chevrolet, 3 Marmon Drive, Nashua, New Hampshire.