

APRIL 2005



Races...April...See Flyer...

Corvette Club Of America - Established 1956

Celebrating Our Love of America's Sports Car

April's Fool



So they tell me spring is here. Why then is it still 40 degrees and raining? I'd like to get my hands on that rodent from Punxsutawney right about now. April is such a bummer! Not only do I now have to reconcile that my birthday last month was not a fluke but I gotta give Uncle Sam this year's lifetime installment payment. With the weather, the taxes and the lack of any good sports on the tube it makes more sense to me to go back into hibernation until June. I can use the sleep. ...Man, can I whine any louder?

The fact is that we got us a CCA spring drag coming this month. We got us a June Car Show to plan for. We got us some real spring weather coming for cruising' in our Vettes. So I say look on the sunny side of life!!! (kinda sickening isn't it?) I am looking forward to the April drag event though. This thing could become a new annual get-together and could give the fall drags a real boost. We need to get the word out, so tell your friends and neighbors about it. And also give a try at volunteering for the June Car Show at Criswell. It is a lotta' fun and a good way to meet other CCA members! Let Jean Wade know that you can spare a few hours to help our club. With the coming of the great weather ahead take some time to think about an event you could lead. As I have said in the past there is plenty to see and do within two hours of Washington D.C.

I am also hoping we can get some more interest in autocross in CCA. We could put on a timed solo event somewhere if we could find some large open blacktop to race on. Contact our Competition Chairman Charlie Geis with any ideas you might have.

On a more serious note, many of you may know that our Corvette Museum Ambassador Terry Popkin has had hip surgery and is moving kinda' slow these days. Please join me in wishing Terry a speedy healing and full recovery from his operation. We miss him at our club events. And let's hope Phil and Kathy Canal get back soon from their extended trip to Florida, although, who can blame them for staying for a couple more months? We miss them also.

The Prez Says

Unfortunately due to my work schedule, I was unable to attend the CCA dinner in Gus Bertoli's honor. I hope everyone had a great time and Gus was heaped with sufficient praise! He deserves it. Thanks Gus.

So that's about it for this month. The rain and cold just makes me want to cry....that, and, of course, seeing the taxman coming across the lawn and stepping all over my flowers!

Arrive alive in 2005. Cheers! Mark

April 2005

The Corvette Courier

A Very Sincere Thank You To CCA

I would like to say I have enjoyed my 32 years in CCA. I believe we are the 1st Corvette Club and I am proud to have had a small part in its continuation. I also put in 32 years in the Federal Government, but, I enjoyed my CCA experience a lot more.

I became CCA NCCC Governor in 1981 and remained in that position until 2004. I stayed up late many nights working out the NCCC points and every year I renewed all the CCA members. We are a 100% NCCC club and since we started NCCC in 1959, we should continue to support its programs.

I would like to thank Charlie Geis for organizing the 12th March testimonial dinner at the Golden Bull. It was beautiful. I would also like to thank Dick Chiapparolli for his touching and careful explanation of his adventures in CCA with me. Also, I'd like to thank Drew Callimahos, who joined the CCA at the same time as I did. His remarks about our 32 years with CCA reminded me of many great times we have had along the way. I would also like to thank Jean Wade for all the help she gave me along the way in keeping the CCA and NCCC information together so that I could do my job as Governor more accurately.

And, thanks for the beautiful matte and framing job on Mike Venor's wonderful art



work of me and my '67 roadster.



And, thanks to Mike for continuing to do such a great job on our newsletter.

Thanks to Tom Armstrong and Joe Kennedy who went to the Sebring races and brought me back a poster signed by Dr. Dick Thompson, a Corvette racing legend, and one of this club's original members. That was a great unexpected surprise.

And, lastly, thanks to all the wonderful CCA folks that attended my dinner. It meant a lot to me and my wife.

Always Your Friend,
Gus Bartoli
CCA NCCC Governor
1981 - 2004

April 2005

The Corvette Courier

Spring Skyline Drive Cruise

Corvette Forum's Jim Strathearn has been sponsoring a Spring Skyline Drive Cruise regularly for several years, and has scheduled this year's cruise for Saturday, April 30th, 2005.

For those who have attended past Skyline Cruises, they are a lot of fun! Last year's Spring Skyline attendance was over 100 Vettes, and the last Fall Skyline saw over 150 Vettes. It is anticipated that this spring will have over 200 Vette's in attendance.

This cruise is typically an informal cruise. In the past, we have taken up voluntary collections for specific charities such as the Chip Miller Charitable Foundation. Spring Skyline 2005 will benefit Blue Ridge Hospice, who took care of the final journey for a Corvette Forum member who died on Christmas Eve of liver cancer. Registration will be a \$10.00 donation to Blue Ridge Hospice, payable at the cruise start point in Front Royal, VA.

There's also now a pre-registration option with the donation at that time being \$7.00. Here's the forum post for more info on both the charity and the cruise:

<http://forums.corvetteforum.com/showthread.php?t=1014925>

Additionally, the entry fee to get into the park (good for 7 consecutive days) is \$10.00. You may elect to purchase an annual pass, which is now \$30.00.

We will meet at Gaithersburg Park and Ride behind Criswell Chevrolet at 7:45 AM for a drivers' meeting, and will be leaving at 8 AM SHARP! We should arrive at the Front Royal Chevy dealership at around 9:30 AM, where those organizing the cruise will begin distributing goodie bags and door prizes. We will then leave for the cruise at 10:30 AM with a police escort through town. Please bring your family radios!

Next, we will cruise directly to Brookside in Luray via US-340, where we will have lunch. During lunch we will try for a group picture. Lunch will be the same format as in the Fall Skyline Cruise; you may go inside and do the buffet or stay outside and do the BBQ. Once we finish lunch, we will head up US-211 into the park and regroup at Stony Man. If we have 200 cars or more, there will be contingencies in place for additional regrouping locations. After regrouping, we will head down to Big Meadows to use the facilities, exchange stories, take pictures, yada yada yada.

Corvette Enthusiast Magazine was on the scene at the Fall Skyline cruise, and may be there again to take pictures and write another article on our infamous event! To view the article written on the Fall cruise, check out the following site:

<http://home.att.net/~jstrathearn/H0305CE.pdf>

You can contact me, Ken Craig, by phone at 301-515-9171 or via e-mail at kenneth_m_craig@yahoo.com (be sure to show CCA Skyline Cruise in the subject line) to let me know whether you will be joining us for the caravan to this year's Spring Skyline.



SKYLINE



DRIVE



CRUISE

