

# March 2005

## *Luck of the Irish*

Two events occur every March that always make my life fun and entertaining. One is I get to have another birthday (did I say fun?) and the other is St. Patrick's Day! I don't believe I am Irish, (hard to know exactly since my Dad was a mystery to me), but I should have been. The music, the dancing, the food and drink! Man, the Irish know how to party. I have been to so many St Patty's Day celebrations that I am at least entitled to be an honorary Irishman.

*The Prez Says*

I know we are all looking forward to springtime and pulling the Vettes out of Hibernia - uh, I mean hibernation (still thinking about St. Patty's Day) for some real exercise. Charlie and the competition committee are moving forward on a plan for a CCA spring drag event, co-hosting with the Maryland Camaro Club. It should be a great event given our past efforts and competitors from last fall. Plans also are to have a Fun Show associated with it so even the non-racers can take part. Check the flyer in this Corvette Courier for details and volunteer if you can spare the time.



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The Pros also are revving them up this month, including the ALMS 12 hours of Sebring that will introduce the new C6R. Our point men, Joe and Tom, are planning to head up the CCA delegation for the race and are sure to enjoy the Corvette Corral and the race results. This past month also had the C6 out in front as the pace car at Daytona. With the restrictor plates in place isn't it odd to have the pace car have more horsepower than the competitors cars ?

Make sure you come on out to the CCA Historical Dinner this month at the Golden Bull in Gaithersburg in honor of Gus Bartoli. Give Gus a slap on the back for all the years he has quite literally paid his dues in the CCA !!! This event is on Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup>.

By the way, if you are looking for a great St. Patrick's Day event try the Ocean City St. Patty's Day Parade the next day on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Only takes a couple of hours to get out there...it is really a fine parade! They also have food and beer and the Irish bars on the boardwalk really get going. Anyway, however you chose to enjoy March make it safe and have some fun.

So here's an Irish toast to you and yours for an early spring and a happy March 2005.

**"May you get to heaven 5 minutes before the Devil even knows you've passed on!!"**

Cheers! Mark

**Spring CCA Competition Report** *from Charlie Geis*

In case you didn't know, I have volunteered to be the CCA Competition Chairperson for 2005. Steve Row wanted to focus on some other things this year and was concerned that he might not have been able to devote as much of his time and effort as he did in the past. Consequently, Steve decided not to continue on as the CCA's Competition Chairperson for this year. I am not sure that I can do as fine a job as Steve did in the past few years, but I will try my best to fill-in the giant void that was created from him stepping down.

The Mustang Club of Northern Virginia has invited us to their drag race events for the past three or more years, and we haven't invited them to any of our planned activities. I plan to change that, and try to reciprocate by inviting them to a drag race that we sponsor.

Our fall drag race event has Corvettes (and a few Vipers). way it is, and I really don't want have co-sponsored the fall drag Shop, and we hope that will not scheduled our usual fall drag race 2005. Please mark your calendars there with us.



always been limited to This event has been fun the to make any changes to it. We race with Tony's Corvette change either. We have on Sunday, September 11, now so that you will plan to be

Anyway, I figured that the best way to invite the Mustang folks would be to add a new drag race event to our schedule, so that's what I did. I have reserved Capitol Raceway for a drag race on Sunday, April 24, 2005. I also asked the Maryland Camaro Club to co-sponsor the race with us, and they agreed. This will be a brand new race event. I am not aware of any "Corvette related" race scheduled for the spring, so we will be blazing a new trail with this event. This also opens up the opportunity to try a few different things.

First of all, the spring drag race will be open to some more car types besides Corvettes and Vipers. Specifically, we will invite Corvettes, Vipers, Camaros, Firebirds, and Mustangs to participate in this event. We invite all others to come and watch us race.

Since the People's Choice Car Show works well for our fall drag race event, we decided to also have the same type of car show at our spring event. The difference being that we will have separate classes for the different types of cars. It will be fun to have some nice-looking show-quality Camaros, Firebirds, and Mustangs to look at between the races.

We are also going to split the drag race classes between those cars that have automatics from those that have manual transmissions. We will have three classes for each transmission type, calling them "Fast", "Faster", and "Fastest". We will run eliminations in the six classes and award trophies and cash prizes to the six winners. We will also run an elimination of the six winners and award a \$500 cash prize to the top winner. This will be the first time, that I am aware, that race classifications will be made like this. It should make it a little easier for all racers, since there will be more chances (six) of winning compared to the older venue of only having three classes.

All eliminations will be done using standard NHRA bracket racing rules. We will, however, offer some slack to the rule requiring convertibles to have roll bars if their ETs are below 14.0.

The gates will open at 11:00 AM, with practice runs starting at 12 Noon, eliminations starting at 3:00 PM, and finishing by about 4:00 PM. We will charge \$40 to race, \$20 to enter the car show, and \$10 for spectators.

Children under 12 will be admitted for free.

We are going to need some volunteers to help with the spring drag race/car show event. Please let me know if you can help us.

Please tell all of your friends who own Corvettes, Vipers, Camaros, Firebirds, and/or Mustangs about our spring drag race event. Help us spread the word so that we get a nice turn-out.

Another announcement is that the NCRS Mason Dixon Corvette Club has announced that their annual drag race event will be held on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendar for this one too, since this all-Corvette event has always been a lot of fun.

I will be re-establishing the racing email file to keep our racers informed of where our CCA members plan to go for racing, test and tunes, dyno days, and other competition related events. It might be a good time to start the list over again, so that we know that we only have those people on the email list who want to receive these types of communications. Please let me know if you want to be included on the new email address list. If you do, please send me an email at [geisc@us.ibm.com](mailto:geisc@us.ibm.com)

Let's have some fun, enjoy ourselves, drive safely, and keep the racing where it belongs – on the track!! I'll see you there!!

**Charlie Geis**  
2005 CCA Competition Chair



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