

CCA's 50th Anniversary - Keeping the Dream Alive

This year, the Corvette Club of America celebrates its 50th anniversary. The 50th Anniversary Committee has begun planning for this wonderful event. The committee has approved a logo, *Keeping the Dream Alive*, for the 50th anniversary.

Currently, the plans include a Cruise-In to be held the weekend of May 20th. Final details are being made regarding the exact date and location. Other plans include the creation of a yearbook containing information on both the club and the Corvette during the respective years, and various memorabilia to commemorate this time in the Club's history. The cloisonné badges are a perfect collector's item. Orders are being taken for these badges, and more details on ordering them can be found within this newsletter.

One of the most daunting tasks facing the Committee is the development of the 50th Anniversary Yearbook. We are looking for information on the various activities held throughout these 50 years - copies of newsletters, photos, promotional flyers or any other information anyone might possess that would provide us with valuable insight into the Club's history. We promise to return all items loaned to us for this activity.

Even though the Committee has been meeting for several months, it is not too late to join in and help plan this historic year's events. Remember, the more you put into the Club, the more you will get out of the Club. The 50th Anniversary Committee meets each month at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Club's regular business meeting.

If you have any information to share on the Club's history or have ideas for the 50th Anniversary Cruise-In, please contact Tom or Nita Armstrong at (301) 977-4216 or via e-mail at nita_s_armstrong@yahoo.com.



At the annual Holiday bash in December, Flo Casertano-Bird was presented with a special "award" commemorating her performance at the recent CCA-G' Burg Vettes Funkhana.

Letter sent out by John Ralph.....

50 Years Ago These Letters Got The Ball Rolling....

July 8th

Dear Member:

The first Corvette Club meeting will be held July 17th, at Rosenthal Chevrolet - 3400 Columbia Pike - in Arlington, Va., at Eight P. M.

Besides laying the groundwork for this club, two sports car movies will be shown. Refreshments will be served.

Arrangements will be made for all. Please notify me if you will be able to attend.

Sincerely,
John Ralph
412 Prices' Lane
Alexandria, Virginia
SOUTH 8-7539

In addition, Rosenthal & Barnes Chevrolets (and probably other dealerships) sent out the following letter....

Dear Corvette owner:

Congratulations on your ownership of America's true sports car ! We in the Washington, Maryland and Virginia areas who possess this fabulous machine are ever increasing in number, month by month.

With this growing interest in Corvette, it is believed there should be a closer relationship between owners and those interested in the sheer joy of motoring in the "little Bomb from Detroit".

The builders of Corvette are interested in you and your car. For this reason a Corvette Club is being formed which will offer much to owners such as:

- New friendship
- New recreation with your Corvette
- The latest technical information on your car and others
- Factory assistance on service and maintenance
- General Motors literature on Corvette
- Exclusive Corvette badges, pins, identification cards, etc.

The idea of this club is unique since it will be the first of its kind in the country.

We are interested in your suggestions in forming the club and we are interested in you as an owner. Please consider this an open invitation.

Enclosed you will find a self-addressed postal card. Fill out the boxes you desire and drop in the mail box. A moment of your time now can lead to many hours of enjoyment later on.

Sincerely yours,

Interested <input type="checkbox"/>	Not interested <input type="checkbox"/>
Events I would enjoy:	
Rallies <input type="checkbox"/>	Time Trials <input type="checkbox"/>
Tours <input type="checkbox"/>	Gymkhanas <input type="checkbox"/>
Club meetings including:	
Movies <input type="checkbox"/>	Lectures <input type="checkbox"/>
Group discussions <input type="checkbox"/>	
Dues: \$6.00 yr. <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1.85 quarterly <input type="checkbox"/>
\$.60 month <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name _____	
Address _____	
Phone _____	

As can be seen from the language of the letters and the facsimile of the postcard included in the dealership letters, GM, and, Chevrolet in particular, were very interested in the formation of this club as it could lead to more sales and service for them during a period when the Corvette was still coming into its own, and sales were pitted against the very strong selling Ford T-bird.

Mike V.

CCA 50th Anniversary Car Badges



Artist's rendering (and not a very good artist at that...maybe more an Artiste rendering) !!

The 50th Anniversary Committee has contracted with Arnie Brown to produce a car badge reminiscent of those seen on autos for decades. The badge will be done in colorful cloisonné on chrome and will be approximately 3.5 x 2.75 inches. They can easily be attached to your car, glove box, console, a plaque, etc., and will be a great way to mark the 50th Anniversary of the club. Cost per badge is \$20, payable to the club thru our 50th Committee co-chair and new Treasurer Nita Armstrong.

Orders must be made and paid for ahead of time. If interested, contact Nita at: home (301)977-4216, cell (443)852-1922, or, email her at

nita_s_armstrong@yahoo.com

Car Badges

“Motoring had started in earnest in the early days of the 20th. Century. It was natural for car owners to form themselves into clubs, and there were good reasons. The condition of the roads was abysmal at best, and only by some form of united pressure could motorists hope for improvement.

The main reason behind the formation of these early organizations was to make a stand against the antagonism shown to motorists by the public at large, the legislators, and by the Police, whose attitude was nothing short of outright hostility.

This was particularly true in Great Britain, because in 1895, the “Locomotives on Highways Act” restricted mechanically propelled vehicles to a maximum speed of six kph(about 5 mph) on country roads and three kph(about 4 mph) in built-up areas.

Car badges were introduced by the Automobile Association in March of 1906 to identify members and warn them of police speed traps up ahead. If the road was clear of police, the AA man would salute the driver if his vehicle displayed an AA badge. The practice was continued until the late 1960s.”courtesy of Arnie Brown

Take a look at Arnie's superb badge offerings at www.arniebrown.com

Charitable Donations

The executive committee has reviewed and authorized CCA's annual donations to local charitable organizations. They agreed to donate \$1000 each to Hospice Caring, Inc., and Wells Robertson House; and \$500 to the American Red Cross for Hurricane Relief. The donations were presented to the charities last month.

The Humor Dept.

The Anniversary Present

A husband was in big trouble when he forgot his wedding anniversary.



His wife told him "Tomorrow there better be something in the driveway for me that goes from zero to 200 in 2 seconds flat".



The next morning the wife found a small package in the driveway. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

Funeral arrangements for the husband have been set for Saturday.

