



# Corvette Club of America

## the Corvette Courier

### The Worlds Oldest Corvette Club

The President's Corner - Don Haller

February 2011

#### The Prez Says

Is it Spring yet? Not quite, but the groundhog did miss his shadow and accordingly we should have a short winter. (so they say) So let's keep our fingers crossed and hope everything thaws out sooner this spring! We need the early thaw because CCA has so many things planned for you this season that we need an early start. Next Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> kicks off the year with our first event. Dan Girardi has planned the annual Valentine's cruise to the Blue Dolphin Seafood Restaurant in Gambrills, MD. I hear this is a great restaurant with some outstanding seafood! So we hope to see you and your sweetheart there. No sweetheart? Just bring yourself and we will be sweet to you!

Right after that Pat Roney has organized a day of fun, driving some very special Go-Karts on February 26<sup>th</sup>. I have read that this kind of carting can really help out your "full size" driving skills as well. So be sure to check out the details on the pages inside this Courier.

I also wanted to take a couple lines here to report on what a great time everyone had at the Winter Awards Dinner at Alfio's Restaurant last month and express how much I really want to thank the entire CCA Membership for their role in contributing to the success of this club. The whole night was a great success, from the great food, to the laughs and entertainment, all the way until the last person headed off for home; we just had a great time. Many thanks go to Jean Wade again for planning this evening.

It is always a great pleasure for me to recognize members for what they bring to the club. Lately I have been giving some thought to some new awards I'd like to present next year. Maybe, some new awards will provide some more incentive to participate and help out with club events and happenings. I haven't ironed out all the details yet, but I'm going to design some new jacket patches based around the CCA logo that will honor people who attend the most events, volunteer the most to help out, and things along those lines. Members of the Board, or members that are currently chairing committees will not be eligible. These awards are for the general membership and those that come forward during the year to help out with the most club functions, or someone that goes above and beyond to contribute to the Corvette Club of America. Stay tuned for more information on this topic, as you might be sewing some of these patches onto your Corvette jacket one day soon!

I'd also like to take a minute to report that CCA was able to provide monetary assistance to a few of our charities this year and it is with great pleasure to be able to do that. This year we donated \$1,000 to Hospice Caring, \$1,000 to Wells Robertson House, and another combined \$1,286 throughout the 2010 Calen-

dar year to the University of Maryland Scholarship Fund, National Corvette Museum, Sheppard's Table and the Bikes for Tikes Christmas Program at Sport Chevrolet. I think that CCA has been very busy this year and it shows through our donations to our benefactors.

Well.... It's not all hard work and no fun either! CCA has been working hard at trying to learn about Autocross Event Management over the past couple years. We have hosted a few events so far, had some cancelled and now we are back on track with a New Year and four autocross events schedule for the new season. With that, CCA finally took the plunge and has purchased some basic autocross timing equipment, hardware and associated software that will streamline the entire event management process from registration all the way to giving away awards at the events. The software and associated services will allow us to easily conduct online registrations and participant management that easily folds into the race day event and individual car/driver staging information. The software is also tailored specifically for NCCC scoring and reporting, so it should ease that pain as well. On top of all that, we can use the online registration services for any of our non-autocross events that require online event registration.

I have spent a good deal of time researching and looking for the best hardware/software combination for our use and came up with a great company that stands behind their software and hardware. I will provide a much more detailed description of the capabilities of the equipment in a later article for the Courier as we learn all of the great features of this equipment.



Membership Director—Jean Wade

**CCA Membership Update****MEMBER NEWS AND INFORMATION****Welcome New Members for 2011****Sponsor**

<b>Craig &amp; Deborah Guido</b>	Fredericksburg, Va.	07 yellow Z06	Web
<b>Gary &amp; Dennise Saks</b>	Columbia, Md.	11 Cryst. Red G.S.	Sport

We are looking forward to meet our new members. Don't be shy, please join us.  
We have something going on every month and want to see you there.

**Membership cards – If you have not received your new 2011 CCA membership card you must contact me. Contact information at the end of the page.**

**NCCC 2011 renewals cards and information have been mailed. If you did not receive yours you must contact Ron now.**

NCCC Questions direct to our Gov. **Ron Hamrah** 202-882-8157 [rhamrah@gmail.com](mailto:rhamrah@gmail.com)

**CCA License Plates** contact Jim Snyder for information 301-948-5766 or [jsnyder0623@hotmail.com](mailto:jsnyder0623@hotmail.com)

**Coming up Events...**

<b>Feb.8<sup>th</sup> 7:30</b>	<b>Membership &amp; Board meeting J.J. Muldoon's</b>
<b>*Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1pm</b>	<b>Valentines Luncheon Blue Dolphin, sponsor Dan Girardi</b>
<b>Feb. 22 6:30-9pm</b>	<b>Shop Night at Sport</b>
<b>Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Noon</b>	<b>Karting Event, sponsor, Pat Roney</b>
<b>Mar 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>CCA National Corvette Museum Trip</b>

**\* The Blue Dolphin 1166 Rt. 3 South, Gambrills, Md. Please RSVP ASAP to Dan 301-855-6945 or [threeaces1@verizon.net](mailto:threeaces1@verizon.net)** All details will be on web site and newsletter.

Terry Popkin is working with the coordinators at NCM for a CCA trip to Bowling Green.... including motel stay on route down (it is 11 hours of driving, which may be too much for some), a visit to a fantastic nature museum in WV near our motel, the drive to the museum the next morning, tours of the museum and overview of the new motorplex planned, Factory tour, visits to Bourbon makers, winery, country tours with lunch at a wonderful ole train-stop in KY. Full weekend. We can come home on our own or come as a pack.....Maybe a stop at the outlets near Hagerstown...or Hendershots gun shop in Hancock....we will discuss all. Terry [tjpopkin@mac.com](mailto:tjpopkin@mac.com) 301-949-2464

*Keep that smile on your face, your foot down on the pedal, and give me a curve  
Blast the radio. Wow, what a life. So much fun driving a Corvette  
Jean Wade - 2000 Red coupe Membership, director 301-253-6074 [vettehon@aol.com](mailto:vettehon@aol.com)*

The Editor's Corner- Jon Thorn

**CORVETTE** RAMBLINGS

I would like to start off this month's *Ramblings* with a reminder that there is an on-going writing contest open to any non-board member of the CCA. I really want to encourage our members to contribute articles to the Corvette Courier. There is almost no limit to the topics that you can select. I am sure that our members would like to read about CCA events and history, Corvette cruise-in, restoration and maintenance projects, NCM visits, or vette related vacations. In short, any event or activity that you find interesting will probably be interesting to the majority of our club members.

I ran this contest for the first time in 2010. Picking a winner was not easy. But I decided to present the award to **Larry Steinberg** for his *My Route 66 Tour* article which ran in the November 2010 issue. I planned to give the award to Larry at our Winter Dinner last month however Larry showed good sense and was in Florida at the time - enjoying much better weather than we were. So I am making the announcement of the 2010 winner here. Below is a picture of the award that Larry will receive the next time that I see him.



Wouldn't you like to have a similar award and of course all the prestige and honor that goes along with it? I am running the contest again in 2011 and, while the prize may not be identical, I can promise that it will be similar and worth having. I want to give special thanks to Larry Spilman for his help in creating the award for me.

So, start thinking about writing an article for the Corvette Courier. If you have any questions, want any guidance, or would like a free critique of an article that you are working on, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Changing topics, you have seen the emails, and there is a flyer in this issue, but I want to remind you one more time that our Valentines Luncheon is coming up fast! If you can attend, please immediately contact Jean Wade at 301-855-6945 or Dan Girardi at [threeaces1@verizon.net](mailto:threeaces1@verizon.net). They need to provide the restaurant with a reasonably accurate count. Even though it is the middle of winter try to bring your Corvette. The restaurant says there is plenty of good parking and they would like to see a lot full of vettes.

At the end of the month we have our Karting event. You'll find a flyer later in this issue and Rich talks about it in his Competition article. On one hand, these karts are not the amusement park toys that you may be familiar with. On the other hand you can be a waxer and still have tons of fun. You do not need to be a racer to enjoy this event. They'll show you everything you need to know. I have to miss this event myself because it falls on the same day as one of my rare Impala club events. But I would be there for sure otherwise. If you can attend please contact Pat Roney to let him know.

Tickets are now on sale for the Baltimore Grand Prix in September. There has been a lot of talk about this event already but if you have not heard for some reason then all you need to know is that road racing has come to the streets of Baltimore. There will be both IRL racing (180 mph open wheel) and ALMS racing (with our beloved Corvette Racing Team). Now is the time to get tickets if you want to attend. There is more info later in this issue if you have missed the emails.

If you ever considered getting more active with the CCA there is no time like the present. We have a tremendous number of events on the calendar this year and we can certainly use your help. A great start would be to show up at a business meeting or at shop night. With enough people involved it will be fun for everyone. Without enough volunteers it can start to look like work for a few.

In closing, please contact me if you are going to attend the ALMS race at Mosport. I signed up to go as part of the NCM tour. In addition I'm looking into attending the 24-hours of Le Mans with the NCM. Evelyn and I would like to have some company!

*Save the Wave,*

Jon Thorn

Corvette Courier Editor

Competition Chair— Rich Taylor

**CORVETTE** COMPETITION**Competition Report****Upcoming Events**

Don't miss out on our first racing event of the year. This is an opportunity for you to shake off the winter blues and sharpen your racing skills. We have planned a Go-Kart event that will be held at All Sports Grand Prix track near the Dulles Airport on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Here's the link; <http://www.allsportsgp.com/>. The "Arrive and Drive" costs are \$24.50 for the first 8 minute event, and then \$18.50 for each subsequent 8 minute event. We are planning to organize a competitive group event called the Micro Grand Prix where for \$50.00 per person you get a 10 lap qualifying run to determine your position on the starting grid and then a 25 lap race to determine the race winners. If we have enough participants then we will do both type of events. If you are interested in participating in this event please contact Pat Roney at [proney42@verizon.net](mailto:proney42@verizon.net).

Here is the event flyer:

**THE CORVETTE CLUB OF AMERICA INVITES YOU TO THE WINTER KARTING EVENT TO GET READY FOR RACING SEASON 2/26/2011 at Allsport Grand Prix.**



The Corvette Club of America would like to invite all race enthusiasts to a Karting event at Allsport Grand Prix in Dulles Virginia on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. This is an event we started last year and is being brought back this year by popular demand. We are planning on having an Arrive and Drive session for all interested. Spouses and children are welcome to participate in this event. There are a limited amount of spots available so please sign up as soon as possible.

If we get enough interest we will also have a Micro or Mini Grand Prix. Depending on the demand we could have one set up for those that participate in either HPDE's or actual racing, and one for all others.

Please respond to [proney42@verizon.net](mailto:proney42@verizon.net) to let me know if you are interested and which event you are interested in from the following list:

ARRIVE AND DRIVE – 8 minute session on the track. \$24.50 for 1<sup>st</sup> session and \$10 for any additional races.

MINI GRAND PRIX – 10 lap qualifier and either 25, 35 or 40 lap race. \$50 for 25 lap, \$60 for 35 laps, and \$90 for 40 laps. The 40 lap race would have trophies for the winners.

Thanks for your interest,  
Pat Roney



For all of you who are interested in driving your Corvettes on a road course and learning how to better handle your vehicle at the limits, the National Corvette Museum HPDE at Virginia International Raceway (VIR) will be held on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Registration for this event opens on Tuesday morning February 15<sup>th</sup>. This event fills up fast, so you will need to be online, registered and ready to sign up as soon as registration opens to guarantee a spot. Go to the NCM web site for more details:

<http://www.corvettemuseum.com/registration/HPDE/virinfo.shtml>

There are several of our members who will be participating in some or all of the following non-CCA or NCCC sponsored events throughout the year. These events are High Performance Drivers Education (HPDE) events on various road courses. You are put into groups depending on your level of experience and driving skill and instructors are provided to ride along with you. This is a great way to learn how to get the most out of your car in a safe and controlled environment. These events combine classroom time with track time to teach both the theory and physical control aspects of high speed driving. We will also be participating in a few Friday at The Track (FATT) events at Summit Point Raceway throughout the year. For those who aren't familiar, Summit Point is near Charles Town, WV and is very convenient to those who live in the Baltimore/Washington area.

## **2011 HPDE Planned Events**

Mar 25-27 NASA VIR Full Course

Apr 9-10 NASA Summit Point Main

May 9-10 Chin Watkins Glen Int'l The springtime visit to another one of America's most historic tracks

Jun 4-5 Trackdaze VIR

Jul 4-5 Chin VIRginia Int'l Raceway Summer holiday at VIR Monday/Tuesday, TracQuest format

Jul 22-24 NASA VIR Full Course

Aug 25-26 Trackdaze Summit Point

Sep 5-6 Chin Watkins Glen Int'l Labor Day at the Glen. This is a SU-WEET track date!

Oct 7-9 NASA Octoberfest VIR Full

Oct 30-31 Chin VIRginia Int'l Raceway This popular annual event follows the 13-Hour race at VIR

Here is the current complete listing of CCA sponsored competition events for the year:

## **2011 CCA Sponsored Racing Events**

### **April**

April 16th, Autocross Primer School at Lincoln Tech in Columbia, MD

April 17th, Double NCCC Sanctioned Autocross, Lincoln Tech, Columbia, MD

### **May**

May 01, 2011 Muscle Car Mania at Capitol Raceway, Crofton MD - Rain Date 5/15

May 21st Autocross Primer School at Lincoln Tech in Columbia, MD

May 22nd Double NCCC Sanctioned Autocross, Lincoln Tech, Columbia, MD

### **June**

June 25-29, NCM HPDE at Virginia International Raceway, Track Day School  
Contact Jon Thorn well in advance of date for registration information

## August

August 6, Autocross Primer School at Lincoln Tech in Columbia, MD

August 7, Double NCCC Sanctioned Autocross, Lincoln Tech, Columbia, MD

## September

September 2-3, ALMS Baltimore Grand Prix - Corvette Corral - More information coming

September 11, Muscle Car Mania Returns to Capitol Raceway -- CCA/Tony's

## November

November 5, Autocross Primer School at Lincoln Tech in Columbia, MD

November 6, Double NCCC Sanctioned Autocross, Lincoln Tech, Columbia, MD

I'd like to close out this month's report with a final tribute to our deceased friend Steve Row by sharing a video with you of his final run in his stock 2009 Z06 at MIR where he set a personal best time of 10.89 seconds through the quarter mile. This is also the fourth fastest time ever recorded in a stock Z06. The video was produced by Steve's close friend and CCA member John Armstrong (Ranger). Here's the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcPmvmjZAac>

That's all for now, but if you have an interest in driving your car in a competitive event, please feel free to contact me to discuss your interest and find out what events will satisfy your desires.

## Living Life in the Fast Lane

Rich Taylor

CCA Competition Chairman

[richard.jl.taylor@lmco.com](mailto:richard.jl.taylor@lmco.com)

240-460-9797 or 301-519-5370

NCCC Governor — Ron Hamrah

## NCCC Report

### Points of Contact Listing

NCCC Questions direct to our Governor **Ron Hamrah** 202-607-3399, [rhamrah@gmail.com](mailto:rhamrah@gmail.com)

### NCCC Governor's Report



**Some places we just don't take the Vette... (10,384 ft at Steamboat Springs, CO Jan 20, 2011)**

By Ron Hamrah, NCCC Governor for CCA

### NCCC News

At our last East Region meeting on Dec 4, the leadership announced the changes which were made to the NCCC By-Laws and Competition Rules. You can see them at <http://www.corvettesnccc.org/NCCCHandbook.html> The changes are in timeline submission requirements for club events, changes to refine Group and Sub-Group classifications and others changes to modify terminology.

We have plenty of events (Drags, AutoX Training, AutoX, Car Show, etc.) registered with NCCC for next year. The NCCC East Region calendar is packed with regional club events almost every weekend

from April 10 through November 12, 2011. As usual, I will be providing detail on those events in my monthly column.

**Also, be sure to check out the following informative websites:**

East Region NCCC website at <http://www.ernccc.org>

Corvette Forum at <http://forums.corvetteforum.com/index.php>

### **EAST REGION NCCC Vette-work**

All NCCC members are invited to join the East Region Vette-work, the heart and soul of Corvette enthusiasm. <http://ernccc.ning.com/?xgi=0o5HhRuMrv1zbl>

There is a new App that will handle classified ads better than the Forum did. You will find a new section called "Listings" where you can list items For Sale or Wanted.

### **CCA Members GET READY !!!**

If you missed the 2009 National Caravan to Bowling Green, KY, you missed seeing 8,000 Corvettes from across the US and Canada as well as Corvette enthusiasts (without their Corvettes) from Holland, Germany and (23 of them from) Australia !!! Don't miss the next caravan. Check it out at <http://www.corvettecaravan.com/> Contact me or ask any of our CCA members who participated.

### **VERIZON CELL PHONE SERVICE DISCOUNT**

If you are a military veteran and use Verizon for your cell phone service, you can get a 15% discount on your service. All you need to do is take a copy of your DD-214 to a Verizon store and tell them you would like to have the Vets Discount. Tell them the discount code is 117818. You should get a 15% discount off your monthly bill. You can even fax them your 214 for the discount.

### **East Region Club Sponsored Events**

This section will resume in the March newsletter.

NCM Ambassador — Terry Popkin

## National Corvette Museum Report

### NCM Board of Directors Openings

Are you interested in serving on the National Corvette Museum's Board of Directors? Any current Museum members wishing to serve are invited to submit a resume and cover letter explaining strengths, interests, qualifications and club affiliation to Connie Russell at [connie@corvettemuseum.org](mailto:connie@corvettemuseum.org). Deadline to apply is March 1, 2011.

### Museum in Motion: Mosport / Canada

The Mosport Tour runs from July 19 through the 24th. The tour begins in Nigara-on-the-Lake, Ontario and spends the next five days enjoying the back roads, resorts, quaint villages, a casino, and ending with two days attending the ALMS race at the Mosport International Raceway. Enjoy a VIP tour of the St. Catharines engine plant, where Corvette motors are made, and the Oshawa Assembly Plant where Camaros are assembled. The event is limited to 35 cars / 70 participants. Cost for members is \$1700 for the driver and \$390 for their guest. Non-member fees are an additional \$40 each and include NCM membership. The Museum in Motion tours are very popular and with limited space it is imperative that you sign up quickly if you want to attend. In any event, registration will close on May 16th. Full information is available on the NCM site at <http://www.corvettemuseum.com/registration/mosport/info.shtml>. **This event is listed on the CCA events page.** Note: Jon Thorn has already registered and will be attending. Please contact him if you plan on joining the NCM tour. Register soon if you want to go!

### Cross the Pond with the Corvette Museum!

Mark your calendar for June 7 to June 13 and stay tuned for details because the NCM will be going to France for the Le Mans race. Planning is still underway and registration has not opened yet. The trip will include lodging for at least five nights, tickets to the Le Mans race, tickets to the Corral, Paddock passes, two days of sightseeing from Paris to Le Mans and transportation to and from the track to lodging and to Le Mans city for the Parade of Pilots.

If you have an interest in this event, email Roc at the NCM (<mailto:roc@corvettemuseum.org>) and ask him to keep you up to date as the planning proceeds. There will be an announcement on the NCM site and in NCM eNews when registration goes live but if you contact Roc you will be in line for early registration.

Note: Jon Thorn may attend this event so if you are considering going please contact him.

### Corvette Forum Cruise-In

Registration is now open for the 2011 cruise-in. Check the Events area of the NCM web site for details. The event will be May 26-28 and will include seminars, and local as well as long distance tours.

Terry Popkin  
NCM Ambassador  
[tjpopkin@mac.com](mailto:tjpopkin@mac.com)

## News From Sport Chevrolet

Since its introduction as a 2009 model, Chevrolet has offered customers who purchase a new Corvette ZR1 a two day, tuition paid, ZR1 Driving Class through either Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving (near Phoenix, AZ) or Ron Fellows Performance Driving School at Spring Mountain (outside of Las Vegas, NV) - the official Driving Schools of Chevrolet.

The two day ZR1 Driving Class offers customers a unique combination of in classroom and on track instruction that focuses on the intricacies of the Corvette, in general, and the ZR1, specifically. ZR1 customers who have participated in one of these sessions are not only impressed by the Corvette's ability, but leave with a better understanding of their own driving skills.

For customers who take delivery of any new 2010 or 2011 Corvette model (coupe, convertible, Grand Sport or Z06) from January 4, 2011 through February 28, 2011, Chevrolet will offer these customers an opportunity to attend the two day ZR1 Driving Class at one of the two official Chevrolet Driving Schools of their choice. Eligible customers who elect to take advantage of this opportunity within one year of their delivery date will have their tuition paid for by Chevrolet to attend the ZR1 Driving School class. However, similar to the current arrangements for ZR1 customers, these eligible customers will be responsible for their accommodations (lodging, meals, etc.) and travel to and from either Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving (near Phoenix, AZ) or Ron Fellows Performance Driving School at Spring Mountain (outside of Las Vegas, NV).

Customers who purchase a new 2010 or 2011 Corvette ZR1 model during the program period will not only receive the two day paid tuition, but will receive an additional third consecutive day of tuition paid ZR1 driving experience.

This special limited time offer is in addition to other current Corvette incentive programs. This offer cannot be exchanged for a cash value or additional vehicle discount.

## **Join the CCA on Facebook !**

Your club is experimenting with an additional way to facilitate the flow of information about CCA activities. A closed group on Facebook has been set up that will only be accessible by CCA members. Because of the way Facebook sends out alerts to members, we hope this group will make the flow of information, images, and event changes much easier and faster.

Participation in this closed group will be strictly voluntary. You are being encouraged to join but our traditional methods of communication are still going to be in place. However, if you want to have quick notice of schedule changes, such as a meeting cancellation due to weather, or just a reminder of something new going on the events calendar then you will certainly want to give the new Facebook group a try. We hope this will be easier to use and more convenient than the forum on the club website.

To apply for membership in the CCA Facebook Group you need to follow this link:  
[http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group\\_187926317895421](http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_187926317895421) Once you apply, your CCA membership will be confirmed and then you will have access to the group.



**Additional BGP ticket information from the NCCC:**

Your car corral package includes:

One reserved parking space in the BGP designated Car Corral area (Lot C) on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (Lot C is located next to the track and adjacent to the ALMS Paddock, which will be on Lot B.

One general admission ticket for Friday and one reserved grandstand seat in an exclusive grandstand reserved only for Corvette Corral participants at Turn 10.

One Pit and Paddock Pass

As long as we have 20 cars there, we are eligible for parade laps.

Ticket prices will be:

CCP1: Friday/Saturday/Sunday with three days of corral parking--\$250

CCP1a: Friday/Saturday/Sunday without parking--\$200

CCP2: Friday/Saturday with two days of corral parking--\$150

CCP2a: Friday/Saturday without parking--\$110

So, if you have two passengers and one corvette, you buy one ticket with parking and one without for the number of days you want to attend.

Each ticket purchaser will get one laminated ticket. If you purchased parking, your laminate will say VEHICLE on it to get you into parking. That same ticket gets you into the reserved grandstands, the pits, everything. The ticket mgr and I had a good laugh--he said that this really cool laminated ticket will fit into your lanyard. I started laughing and told him I think we all had one--or a hundred of them, lol!

