

THE CORVETTER

CORVETTE CLUB OF TEXAS

Volume 60 Issue 12 - December 2008



Corvette Club of Texas

PO Box 36022 - Dallas TX, 75235-1022

www.corvettecluboftexas.org

Sponsored by **Friendly Chevrolet**
2754 N. Stemmons Fry - Dallas TX, 75207

Meeting Information

Corvette Club of Texas (CCT)

Monthly Membership Meeting

Held every third Friday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. at Friendly Chevrolet, 2754 North Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. All members, visitors and Corvette owners are Welcome.

Following each CCT monthly membership meeting, a CCT after club social event is hosted by a CCT Member, starting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting

Held on the Monday before the third Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Friendly Chevrolet. All members are invited to attend.

On the cover: A model 1957 from an unusual source: www.HisNibs.com a seller of fountain pens. This model is a part of a set including a pen.

THE CORVETTER

Volume 60 Issue 12

The Corvetter, the official newsletter of the Corvette Club of Texas (CCT), is published monthly by The Corvette Club of Texas P.O. Box 36022, Dallas, Texas 75235-1022 for the exclusive use of its members and invited guests. Initial distribution is done electronically by e-mail. A small number of paper copies are delivered via First Class mail or by hand when necessary. The newsletter is also available on the CCT web site: www.corvettecluboftexas.org Subscriptions to The Corvetter are free to CCT members.

© 2008 Corvette Club of Texas. All rights reserved. Reprints of original material are available on a per article basis only with written permission of a CCT officer, the author or the Editor. Previously copyrighted material if any retains the original author's copyright.

Please send all submissions via e-mail to the editor at joe@y2k7.com. All submissions become intellectual property of The Corvetter.

From the Editor

Paulette and I certainly enjoyed the Progressive dinner and poker run last month, the latest of Patti's events. Even though we wound up with a terrible poker hand... We will miss the thoughtful and enjoyable events she has organized over the last couple years. Her "retiring" will leave a gaping hole in the social aspects of the club.

Charles did it again! Another fine write up with pictures, this time of the Poker Run, is in this issue.

I've been in the North Main BBQ many times, but never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Green, the owner. He is a very nice, down to earth, "Good 'ol Boy" who spent several minutes with us for pictures.

I've been threatening to do a revision to the Newsletter for a while now. One change I will make in this issue is the elimination of long multi-column stories. Since most readers read it online in a PDF format, eliminating multi-columns will make for less up and down movement when reading. It will look less "professional" in a printed format, but that is a small price to pay.

Joe Wagner

Our Friendly Rep!

Friendly Chevrolet's representative to the Corvette Club of Texas is **Keith Devoe**. When you need to replace your Corvette with a new C6 be sure and give him a call at **(214) 459-6717**.

Also don't forget to contact Keith when you are upgrading the family car for a new one!

In addition to his regular work schedule, Keith is always at the dealership during our monthly Friday night membership meeting. Also, you can e-mail him at: keith.devoe@gmail.com

2008 OFFICERS, BOARD AND STAFF

President	Mitch Factor	817-329-0693	mfactor@hmaconsulting.com
Vice President	Mel Roggenbuck	817-571-0284	rogge69@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Carol Factor	817-329-0693	m.factor@gte.net
Secretary	Jeanette Bradley	214-348-0775	k.bradley@sbcglobal.net
NCCC Governor	Paul Wolter	817-478-6096	pwol1962@sbcglobal.net

BOARD MEMBERS

Dennis Bertwell	Term ends 01-2009	817-788-0477	drbertwell@sbcglobal.net
Ronnie Walker	Term ends 06-2009	817-201-6818	rdub31346@yahoo.com
Keith Amendson	Term ends 08-2009	972-771-7314	None
Charles Whitaker	Term ends 03-2010	972-239-0485	whitaker@flash.net
Ken Bradley	Term ends 06-2010	214-348-0775	k.bradley@sbcglobal.net

STAFF CHAIRPERSONS

Activities	Patti Bertwell	817-788-0477	pbertwell@sbcglobal.net
Charities Coordinator	Mary Wolter	817-478-6096	mwol1990@sbcglobal.net
Club Merchandise	Mary Wolter	817-478-6096	mwol1990@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Mary Wolter	817-478-6096	mwol1990@sbcglobal.net
Property	Mary Wolter	817-478-6096	mwol1990@sbcglobal.net
Historian	Ken Bradley	214-348-0775	k.bradley@sbcglobal.net
Newsletter	Joe Wagner	817-282-1355	joe@y2k7.com
Photographer	Charles Whitaker	972-239-0485	whitaker@flash.net
Raffle	Paulette Wagner	817-282-1355	paulette@themoralefairy.com
Webmaster	Joe Wagner	817-282-1355	joe@y2k7.com
NCM Ambassador	tba		

President's Prerogative Dec. 2008



Another year has gone by! I want to thank everyone who has contributed to activities and events. We could not do it without everyone's participation.

I hope you have contacted JoAnn Powdrill and made your reservation for the CCT Christmas Party on December 20th. Our party will be catered by Bartley's BBQ. Please bring your gifts (minimum cost of \$25.00 each gift) to be able to participate in the Chinese gift exchange.

Patti Bertwell has done a terrific job as activities chairperson. She has decided to let someone else have the fun for 2009, so if you want to help YOUR CLUB and volunteer to be the activities chairperson for 2009, please let me know. I am sure that Patti will be happy to pass along some ideas to get you started on the right track.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and an even better Christmas.

Mitchell Factor

President, CCT

...and remember to



Upcoming CCT Events:

December

Saturday, December 6th Christmas light tour - See flyer

Saturday, December 20th CCT Christmas Party - See flyer

Please contact Patti Bertwell with any questions or suggestions for CCT events. (PBertwell@sbcglobal.net)

Membership

Just to let everyone know that THE CORVETTE CLUB OF TEXAS has just received 4 new members. Please make them all feel welcome to the club.

Jason and Melanie Collier - The Colony, TX

1994 black coupe

email address is jason.collier@live.com

Dave and Patty Holt - Dallas, TX

1969 blue coupe

email address is dave_holt@sbcglobal.net

Don't forget to add them to your email list.

Please don't forget if you have adopted a child from Gill Children to get a gift receipt for that item and place it in the box or bag. A big thanks to all that have adopted a child.

Mary Wolter - Corvette Club of Texas

2008 AFTER CLUB MEETING DRIVE & EAT - SIGN UP

Month	Host
January	Barry and Annette Marsh
February	Mitchell and Carol Factor
March	Dennis and Patti Bertwell
April	Mel Roggenbuck
May	Ken and Janette Bradley
June	Charles and Jean Whitaker
July	TBA
August	TBA
September	Paula and Bob Mischel
October	Barry and Annette Marsh
November	TBA
December	See you at the CCT Christmas Party!

TROPHY CASE @ FRIENDLY CHEVROLET MAINTENANCE - SIGN UP

Quarter	Maintainer
January—March	Barry and Annette Marsh
April - June	Mel Roggenbuck
July - September	TBA
October -December	TBA

CORVETTE CLUB OF TEXAS, INC.**NOVEMBER 21, 2008, MEMBERSHIP MEETING****FRIENDLY CHEVROLET, STEMMONS FREEWAY, DALLAS**

President, Mitch Factor, called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM, November 21, 2008. Carol gave the treasurer's report. October minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter. The November board minutes were approved as read.

Paul Wolter gave the NCCC governor's report. He said the NCCC 50th Anniversary lapel pins had been ordered. Talked to James Hollinsworth, of NTV, and they might team up with Longhorn Corvette Club to put on an autocross on Labor Day in 2009 in Austin. Also, that is the same weekend for the National Corvette Museum 15th anniversary caravan to the museum. Paul asked for a show of hands for people wanting to participate in the caravan and several couples showed an interest.

Paulette made a suggestion that we could have a fund-raiser and race radio controlled cars at TMS. We could rent the facility and hold races there at the track. This might be a way to make money without tearing up a set of Corvette tires. Paul said that if we could get a concrete racetrack for our races it would be better than racing on asphalt. He will look elsewhere for another place for racing.

Mary reported several new members were present tonight: Jason and Melanie Collier, and Dave and Kathy Cooper. Visitors: Bob Pertesky, who was in the CCT in the '70's, and also John and Cindy, who have a white '08 coupe. Bob Key suggested that we put a notice in the Dallas Morning News in the car club directory. Mary said the Gil children's list was being passed around and only three children had not been selected. Call or e-mail her if you would like to adopt one of the children. An e-mail was sent to all members with the list attached.

Patti gave the Activities Report. The progressive dinner and poker run is scheduled for tomorrow, November 22nd, and let her know tonight if you would like to attend. A Christmas light tour has not been finalized yet. Please let her know if you have some suggestions for touring.

Mary said the Christmas Party is scheduled for December 20th at TMS clubhouse. You should RSVP and send your check for \$20 per person to JoAnn Powdrill before December 12. If you do not RSVP and you pay at the door the cost is \$25 per person. The Chinese gift exchange minimum for this year is \$25 per gift per person. Also, bring your Gill children's gifts to the Christmas party in a jumbo gift bag and label each gift and the gift bag with the child's name and family number. Mitch said we need some help in stacking up the table and chairs after the Christmas party. If a lot of people help, it will only take a few minutes to clear away everything.

Officer nominations were opened for next year. The nominations will stay open until voting takes place at the Christmas Party. Mary nominated Mitch for president and it was seconded. Ken Bradley nominated Mel Roggenbuck for treasurer and it was seconded. Gene Whitaker nominated Jeanette Bradley for secretary and it was seconded. No nomination was made for vice president so if anyone would like to have the position, please let it be known and someone will nominate you. Mary nominated James Powdrill for NCM Ambassador but James said the NCM Ambassador would receive a membership from NCM and he already has a lifetime membership. This would be a good position for someone to take and get a free membership to NCM.

Paul Deen asked if we still get a list of new Corvette owners who bought their cars from Friendly. Ken said he got one about two years ago and he would check into getting another list we can use to contact prospective members.

Paulette held the raffle and everyone was invited to meet for dinner at Texas Land and Cattle on Northwest Highway. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Submitted by: Jeanette Bradley, Secretary

THE CORVETTE CLUB OF TEXAS

WILL BE HAVING A "DRIVE & EAT" EVENT SATURDAY DECEMBER 6th 2008

HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US.

WE WILL MEET AT THE BAVARIAN GRILL AT 5:00pm FOR DINNER
(DIRECTIONS ARE BELOW)

AFTER DINNER WE WILL BE DRIVING THROUGH A PLANO NEIGHBORHOOD TO VIEW CHRISTMAS LIGHTS. THIS AREA IS PROMISING A GREAT DISPLAY OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.

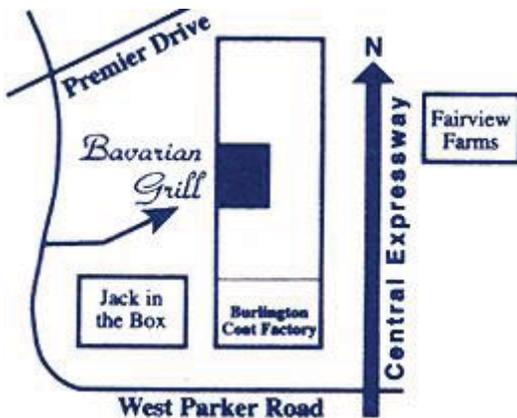
PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY DECEMBER 5th IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON ATTENDING TO:

JOANN POWDRILL jpowdrill@hughes.net 214 725 0092



Ruisseau Village Shopping Center
221 West Parker Road, Plano, TX 75075
(972) 881-0705

**On the Northwest corner of US 75, Central Expressway, and West Parker Road
in the Ruisseau Village Shopping Center**





2008 Corvette Club of Texas Christmas Party

**Saturday December 20
7:00 pm**

**Texas Motor Speedway
Condo Club House
Hwy 114 & I-35 W**

Dinner will be catered by
Bartley's.

Cost is \$20 per person

Please RSVP by December 12

Send your payment to:

Joann Powdrill - PO Box 13 - Weston Tx 75097.

(\$25 if you pay at the door)

Great music & Karaoke will be provided by Ronnie Walker

Chinese gift exchange (\$25 minimum cost per person) will follow
dinner.

If you have adopted a Gill's Children Child, please bring all their
gifts to the party.

Poker Run & Progressive Dinner

By Charles Whitaker

Our club members met at Patti & Dennis Bertwell's lovely home on Saturday before Thanksgiving to start the Poker Run & Progressive Dinner organized by Patti & Dennis, Kathy & Chuck Kraut and Mitch & Carol Factor. I seem to remember counting noses and getting to around 18, but it is hard to get Corvette people to stand still so I may be off a few. By a stroke of luck I forgot and left my camera in my car or I wouldn't have gotten a picture of the Corvettes in front of the house because it was dark by the time we finished with "Wine and Cheese" at the Bertwell's.



Corvettes at the Bertwell's House



Dennis & Patti Bertwell

There wasn't an agenda for what we did except to go from house to house and to the North Main BBQ for dinner, but there was a lot of eating, talking and milling around. We were given tours of the houses by the owners and Dennis had each couple draw cards from a deck at each house to give us hands for the poker run part of the event. Then at the end of the evening Dennis checked our cards and awarded prizes.

Our second stop in the progressive dinner was at Katy & Chuck Kraut's home where we had "Appetizers" and more drinks. They had just finished a remodeling project to add an enclosed back porch to their house and again we enjoyed eating, talking and milling around. As the evening progressed the stories got better and better so it was hard to top each other's experiences.



Mary, Paul & Chuck at the Bertwell's



Kathy & Chuck Kraut



Gene, Joann & Billie at the Kraut's



James, Paul & Chuck on the New Porch

Our next stop was at the Main Street BBQ (a.k.a. Green Trucking company) where Mr. Hubert Green and his "Cooking Team" make the best BBQ that I have ever tasted and possibility the best in the world at a fair price of \$12 for all that you can eat. I have been going there for more that 15 years and I am never disappointed and never hungry when I leave. I have only named the people in the group photographs eating BBQ that are easy to see so please don't take offense if I left your name out.



Joe Wagner Ahead of Me In Line



Dennis, Patti, Ken & Jeanette



Ben, Billie, Joann, Mitch & Carol



Joe, Gene, Paul, Mary & Paulette



Paulette, Mr. Green & Joe



And the Corvette Club

After a big dinner at the North Main BBQ, we had to drive very slowly to Carol & Mitch Factor's home to settle our food so that we could have dessert. Fortunately for Ben Loflin and I, no one took a photograph of us having our second piece of cake or pie and ice cream. We were sure enough full when we finished.



Mr. Hubert Green



And He Caters

I asked Mitch to show me his hunting trophies so he led me to his office where two skeletons with antlers hung on the wall. At this point my camera battery was so low on charge that the lens wouldn't open and I had to borrow Patti's camera for the last two photographs so I want to thank her for the use of her camera. In the confusing of changing cameras and arranging for Patti to e-mail them to me, I forgot to ask Mitch why the trophies were skeletons and I don't know if that is just unique to his liking or if that is the new in-thing.



Mitch & Carol



Mitch and His Hunting Trophies

Anyway, everyone had a great time and if anyone went hungry it was their own fault. For the club, I want to thank the Bertwells, Krauts and the Factors for a wonderful evening and I hope that we do it again.

NCM News

Shop and Save on the Shipping Fee on Orders of \$100 or More!

Now through Sunday, December 7, orders of \$100 or more in the Corvette Store will be shipped with no freight/shipping charges! Shop with us for unique gifts to please everyone on this year's shopping list by viewing our new online catalog or you can browse thru our complete online store here.

New items include this "Jake" Corvette Racing mascot T-shirt that comes in two colors featuring embroidered emblem for an eye-catching effect. Approximately two weeks are available to shop and save on the shipping fees so enjoy the savings in the Corvette Store while this promotion lasts. Our special shipping offer applies to orders in the U.S. and some restrictions apply on special order merchandise.



Museum Expansion Taking Shape



We are excited to report that our Museum expansion is progressing very nicely. Painting over head on Corvette Boulevard started this week, and the finishing touches are going up on the metal siding on the exterior. Drywall finishes and electrical details continue in several areas, while some areas are just waiting for carpet.

"Everyone is getting really excited the closer we get to completion," Facilities/Display Manager, Bob Hellmann shares. "There is still a lot of work to be done, and we are working hard to stay on schedule." Event participants who make it to this year's Bash event April 23-25 can catch a sneak preview of many of the new addition areas that will be complete prior to the final project completion scheduled for the 15th Anniversary/4th National Corvette Caravan - Labor Day weekend 2009. You can monitor everything taking shape via our webcams here and view online images that are updated regularly. We invite you to be a part of building your Museum by making a tax deductible gift online or by calling us at: (800) 53-VETTE. The new Museum addition will be something we can all be proud of.

2008 EVENT CALENDAR

Before attending any event listed in this calendar please double check with the organizers for any last minute changes. CCT is not responsible for the accuracy of any listing except of **CCT organized events**. For **NCCC events** check <http://www.corvettesnccc.org/>

December

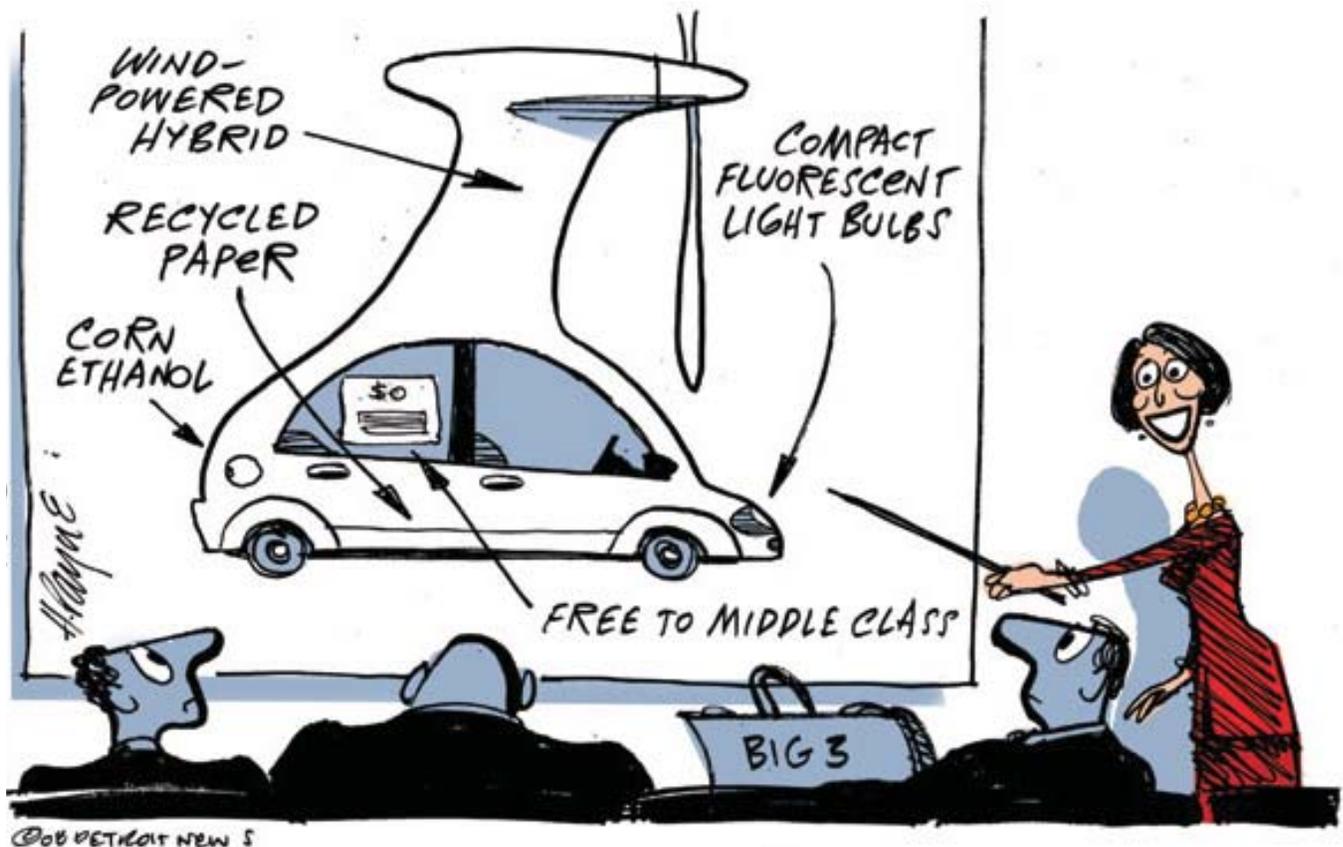
6	Tour	Christmas Lights Tour	See flyer above
20	Party	CCT Christmas Party	TMS Clubhouse - See flyer above
25	Deadline	Last day to submit articles and pictures to next month's Newsletter	Send to joe@y2k7.com

2009 EVENT CALENDAR

Before attending any event listed in this calendar please double check with the organizers for any last minute changes. CCT is not responsible for the accuracy of any listing except of **CCT organized events**. For **NCCC events** check <http://www.corvettesnccc.org/>

September

3-5	Caravan	National Corvette Museum 15th Anniversary Caravan	Plan Ahead! http://www.corvettecaravan.com/
-----	---------	---	---



“In return for our bailout money, we have a few demands. . . .”

Tech Tips 101



How to Check C5 Oil Level in 2001s and on

Corvetteforum.com

Starting in 2001, the C5 dipstick and tube were redesigned. Although the official oil capacity of the engine is still 6.5 qts, most owners report that it takes about 7 qts to get up to the "Full" hole on the new dipstick. Personally, mine takes 6.9 qts. Also, the new combination makes it very difficult to get an accurate dipstick reading. Here are the techniques developed by Forum members to make the readings easier:

1. Take out your dipstick, wipe it off, and sand all 4 sides with 180 grit sandpaper, starting at the tip and going up as far as the "Z" bends in the stick. The scratches must go across the stick so they will reduce the tendency of the oil to slide down the stick. Carefully clean off the stick so you are not putting the abrasive grit back into your engine!
2. Always park in the same level spot to check your oil, because any tilt (fore/aft or left/right) can effect the readings. If you want to be really anal about it, carry a small round bubble level in your console so you can duplicate your favorite spot when away from home.
3. Oil expands and contracts with temperature, so try to check it at about the same oil temp each time, preferably after your engine is fully warmed up.
4. When you shut down your engine to check the oil, note the time on your watch. If you have a chronograph, use the stopwatch feature. The convoluted oil pan on the C5 means that it takes a long time for the oil to drain back into the pan, to the extent that my Owner's Manual says that checking the oil in the morning, even though it is cold, will produce an falsely "high" reading. I wait exactly 15 minutes, waiting 10 minutes will give a slightly lower reading, waiting 20 will give a slightly higher reading. 15 minutes seems right to me, but the important thing is to use the same time every time.
5. Immediately remove the dipstick, wipe it off, and put it in a clean place. Personally, I wipe off the hood latch that is now level with my face, and hang the stick in there. Just remember not to close the hood! Taking out the stick allows the "smearly" oil in the dipstick tube to drain away.
6. Put the rag over the open dipstick tube while waiting for the 15 minutes to go by.
7. At exactly 15 minutes, wipe off the stick again (to remove any airborne dust) and check the oil level. You should be able to get at least 2 checks before the oil smears up into the tube and starts giving inconsistent readings.

This all sounds very complicated, but after a couple of times it becomes second nature. Enjoy!



Keith and Mitch show off the list of presidents that was displayed at the 50th party.



Some folks had more fun at the 50th party than others. Check out the can pyramid...



CCT checking out the view at the Fort Worth Nature Center.



The view...



Gene eyeing her dinner at the Edelweiss, probably wondering what she got herself into.



This was our guide at the Nature Center. I don't think it was possible to get a picture where he wasn't talking... But that's OK because he was very knowledgeable and interesting.