



**Sponsored By  
ELCO Chevrolet**



## **President's Message**

Happy summer everyone!!!

I believe we have been truly blessed to see life gain back some normalcy. Since April, our weekends have been committed to family and fun activities and July won't be any different. Our hope is that each of you is experiencing some positive changes in your lives as well.

The club has been busy as well, with Coffee & Corvettes, the Grubbs hosting the annual luau, the Father's Day weekend event at the Gatesworth, Sandy's ALS Luncheon, the retirees luncheon and Fritz's ice cream social. It has been a great month of getting to see each other again.

Don't forget about the July 4th parade in Webster Groves and the after party at the Price's. It's not too late to participate. Check the website for specifics.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the July 6th Club meeting at Jilly's. Have a safe July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Stay Cool and Safe,  
Jim

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

Marc Portman	Jul 3
Dick Shoulders	Jul 5
Ron Hagenow	Jul 8
Kathy Mueller	Jul 11
JoAnn Rogers	Jul 15
Pat Moore	Jul 16
Dana Griggs	Jul 21
Bruce Wooldridge	Jul 22
June Wachter	Jul 23
Cherie Hopson	Jul 25
Jim Avery	Jul 27
Jan Murray	Jul 27
Pam Rethy	Jul 29
Larry Walker	Jul 31

### ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Kathy Craig	Jul 5
Dale & Valerie Zeisset	Jul 5
Jim & Bev Givens	Jul 28

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## Meeting Minutes

The St. Louis Corvette Club met at Jilly's Café & Steakhouse on June 1, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Karen Price in the absence of President Jim Givens. Karen offered a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mary Ann Hagenow was thanked for taking the meeting minutes in the absence of Secretary Bev Givens.

Introduction of Officers:

President: Jim Givens, absent	Vice President: Karen Price
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Membership: Mike Kunst	Treasurer: Marcia Sheer
Secretary: Bev Givens, absent	Sergeant at Arms: Mike Kirby
Immediate past president: Don Pickles	Sponsor: ELCO Chevrolet Mark & Kim Gerecke

Vice President Karen Price welcomed everyone and reminded members to sign the attendance sheet and various event participation sheets. Sign-up sheet for bringing decorated cake to future meetings was also available. Green tickets were distributed for attendance drawing. Mike Kirby was selling 50/50 tickets.

Guest Jim Malik introduced himself and said he is in the process of purchasing a C8 silver flair convertible.

Karen Price thanked Ruth Howard for creating the “World’s Best Christmas Party Slide Show Presentations” in the past. She presented Ruth with a thank you card, certificate and \$100 spa gift card.

Ruth spoke about the St. Jude Corvette Drive that took place May 13 and 14. This year 51 Corvettes participated in the drive to Memphis, raising \$210,000. All 51 Corvettes were allowed to drive onto the St. Jude Campus, being the first organization to have this privilege since pandemic restrictions were put in place last year. Sherri Marlo commented on the wonderful experience. It was also noted that Tom Marlo had used his drone to take pictures of the event and one of his shots will be featured on the flyer of the 2022 St. Jude Corvette Drive!

In the 10 years that this event has taken place, \$1.6 million has been raised from participants. Special thanks to club members Jim & Bev Givens, Mike & Laurie Grubb, Randy & Ruth Howard, Tom & Sherri Marlo, and Dennis & Janet Trost for participating and representing our club. Thanks also to club members who supported them with donations. Donations will still be accepted through June 30. Thanks also to Marty and Judy Dooley for their donation of Hot Wheel cars to St. Jude’s.

Vice President Karen Price covered the following information:

- A motion was requested to accept the May secretary's minutes. Rich Doerr made a motion to accept the minutes with a second by Mike Kirby. The motion passed.
- Treasurer Marcia Sheer presented the treasurer's report for the month of May. Chris Woods made a motion to accept the report. It was seconded by Jeff Craig. The motion passed.
- Membership Chairman Mike Kunst read the names of members celebrating June birthdays and anniversaries. The Membership Report was as follows:

Current membership totals:

- Regular Members: 100 (includes 12 Charter Members)
- Lifetime Members:8 (includes 2 Charter Members)
- Associate Members:12
- 
- Total Members:120 (excludes Sponsors)

There are currently four individuals on the Membership Waiting List –

- Trisha and Dan Carver
- Patti and Bob Kusky

Mike mentioned that Rick Frierdich and Rich and Theresa Luebcke were not acknowledged as Charter Members at the May meeting.

- Congratulations to Brian Walsh and June Wachter on their recent engagement and upcoming wedding.

### **Committee Reports:**

Newsletter: Kathy Mueller - Kathy was not in attendance. Karen complimented her on the great job being done on the newsletter.

Mike Kunst said that there had been a problem with some members not receiving the newsletter when it was published Thursday evening. Source of problem seemed to be with Verizon's Media Service. Mike said that if it happens again, he will re-send the newsletter as a PDF document. The newsletter is also available for viewing on the club website.

Budget: Randy Howard, Larry Akins, Ray Queen – Nothing to report.

Charity: Michelle Finn, Judy Giovanoni, Sonja Giffhorn – On target.

VA Garden: Marty Dooley, Karen Price – Marty said that volunteers are needed to help with watering for about an hour on certain days. 10 couples are already signed up to help but a few more are needed. Contact Marty if you are interested. Marty also said that he and Judy will be raffling off two club banners that have been on display at the National Corvette Museum. The money raised from the raffle tickets will go towards the purchase of the new club banner to be displayed at the NCM. Tickets are \$5 each and will give two chances to win. The banner winners will be drawn at the December club Christmas party. See Dooleys for tickets.

Parade: Michelle Paillou, Rick Frierdich – Michelle Paillou was not in attendance. Michelle Finn reported in her absence. The Webster Groves 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade will be held on Saturday, July 3. Plan to meet at the upper level of the parking lot at the intersection of Elm and Big Bend at 8:30 a.m. (Do not park in Schnucks' part of the lot.) Marty and Judy Dooley will pick up food from parade participants at 8 a.m. and take it to the Prices' house for the after-parade

gathering. Actual parade start time will be at 10 a.m. A sign-up sheet is available. Also, if signing up to attend at Prices' house, please indicate specific side dish or dessert that you will be bringing. Karen said they will have plenty of meat, beer and soda available as well as backyard games. Marty Dooley and Ron Hagenow will be the day's grillmasters. We will be celebrating not only the 4<sup>th</sup> but also Mike Price's recent retirement. It was not known if club cars would be needed for rides for parade dignitaries.

Rick Frierdich said there is no information yet on St. Louis' Veterans Day Parade in November.

National Corvette Museum Ambassador's Report: Judy Dooley – A new exhibit entitled "Corvette Powered" opened Memorial Day weekend. It will be available through the 2022 Bash. Raffle tickets are still available for the 2021 Torch Red convertible. 1500 tickets at \$200 are being sold for this car. Drawing will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 10.

NCCC Governor's Report: Jeff Craig – No recent meetings have been held. Some rallies have been held in Wisconsin. This year's convention will be held in Ohio. Several club members are ranked in autocrossing. John Midkiff is 14<sup>th</sup> in Men's Midwest region standings. Patty Craig is ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in Ladies' Midwest region standings. Angie Midkiff is currently ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in Ladies' Midwest region standings. Congratulations to all!

Jeff also mentioned that Sandy Arnold of the Midwest regions' Peoria club actually started the St. Jude Corvette Drive. The driver known to many as "Santa Claus" (*aka Brian Eichhorn of Bloomington, IL*) also participated in this year's St. Jude's Drive. NCCC is conducting a St. Jude's Tire Raffle for NCCC members only. \$25.00 tickets are available for a chance to win Michelin tire certificates. (*There are two more drawings this year. Raffle tickets must be purchased by August 22<sup>nd</sup> for the September 11<sup>th</sup> drawing and by October 21<sup>st</sup> for the November 13<sup>th</sup> drawing.*)

History: Marty Dooley, Mike Kirby, Ron Hagenow, Peggy Craig – On target.

Website: Steve Kirby – On target.

Christmas Party: Chris Woods, Judy Dooley – On target.

Nominating: Judy Dooley, Ruth Howard – Ruth said that the club will need a treasurer, membership chairman and Sergeant At Arms when elections are held in November.

Sponsor Report: Mark Gerecke – Mark said they have 65 new Chevys, 5 new Chevy trucks in current inventory. They sold 109 new Chevys last month. He reported that they have a fair amount of pre-owned vehicles but they are expensive. ELCO is currently buying customers' Corvettes. He reminded the club members that ELCO has been club sponsor for 10+ years! Karen Price thanked Mark for the recent help in finding a car for a family member.

Vice President's Report: Karen Price reviewed past events and shared dates of upcoming events. Additional information is available on the club's website.

### **Past & Future Events**

- Corvettes & Coffee held at Park Avenue Coffee on May 8<sup>th</sup>.
- NCM Gathering was May 13-15.
- St. Jude Corvette Drive was May 13-14.
- Retirees Lunch at Russell House in Hillsboro on May 19<sup>th</sup>. A good turnout with close to 26 in attendance. Thanks to Terry & Kathy Mueller for sponsoring.
- Fritz's ice cream run sponsored by Peggy Craig Bradley on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- June 6<sup>th</sup>– Corvettes & Coffee at 9:00 a.m. at Balance Coffee in Belleville.

- June 12<sup>th</sup> – Luau at the Grubbs' in Waterloo at 1:00. Bring own beverages and snacks, towels & lawn chairs. Kona Ice shaved ice will be serving at 3:00 p.m. Heated pool will be available and yard games.
- June 13<sup>th</sup> – Sale of Corvette memorabilia at the Ballinger's home – 1-3 p.m. See club roster for address.
- June 16<sup>th</sup> – Retirees Lunch at Café Telegraph at 2650 Telegraph Road. Meet at restaurant at 12:30. Sponsored by Ron & Mary Ann Hagenow.
- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Drive to The Gatesworth Retirement community in University City. Meet at home of Mike and Judy Henges at 9 a.m. for donuts and coffee, then to The Gatesworth from 10-11. Return to the Henges' home for pool time. Thanks to Barry Seelig for sharing information about the area.
- June 25<sup>th</sup> – “Cause for Paws” dinner auction in Columbia, Illinois to benefit Strays of Monroe County. Contact Laurie Grubb for more information.
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – “Team Sandy” ALS luncheon fundraiser in memory of club member Sandy Kirby. Meet at Bill Gianino's restaurant at 1 p.m. – 4571 Telegraph Road. Information in June newsletter.
- June 27<sup>th</sup> – Fritz's ice cream run.
- July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Webster Groves parade and lunch at Prices' afterwards.
- July 6<sup>th</sup> – Club meeting at Jilly's at 7 p.m.
- July 10<sup>th</sup> – Mystery Run sponsored by Sonja & Jerry Giffhorn. Meet at Waterloo Wal-Mart parking lot at 11:30. Bring old tennis shoes or flip flops. Will end around 4 p.m
- July 17<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and Corvettes in Washington, Missouri.
- July 25<sup>th</sup> – Fritz's ice cream run.

There was no new business and no new events to discuss.

Karen Price mentioned that this was Sharon Ballinger's last club meeting before she relocates to Tulsa, Oklahoma at the end of the month. “Darla”, as she is

affectionately known, is one of only three founding club members who are still active. On Sunday, June 13, from 1-3 p.m., Sharon is providing an opportunity for club members to come to her home and purchase some of the Corvette memorabilia that she and her husband Carl collected over the years. Cash only purchases will be appreciated.

Thank you to Mike and Karen Price for providing the cake tonight.

Ken Payne won \$78.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Chris Woods and Pat Ross were the attendance prize winners. Poster winners were Ron Hagenow, Rich Doerr, Mike Kunst, and Anne Pickles. Thanks to Marc Portman for donating the posters. Thanks also to Rich Luebcke who generously shared his 50/50 winnings last month with Jilly's waitresses in appreciation of their hard work.

There were 45 members in attendance, 1 guest, and 2 sponsors.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Jilly's.

Acting President Karen Price asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Craig made a motion to adjourn and Ken Payne seconded the motion. Motion was accepted and meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully,

Mary Ann Hagenow  
Acting Secretary

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## Special Announcements

# Charter Member Moving On

By Ron Hagenow



Founding member Sharon Ballinger is moving at the end of June to Tulsa to be near family. Sharon and husband Carl were very active in the club. Carl was our Vice President for several years as well as our first NCCC Governor. He also served on the History Committee. Sadly we lost Carl in September of 2017. Sharon was our first NCM Ambassador and did this for several years. Carl and Sharon, as well as the Dooleys and Craigs, are the reason we are a club today.

Carl and Sharon were also very active at the National Corvette Museum. They served many functions there and were our local caravan leader for the 15<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary celebration at the NCM. I'm sure we all have many memories of our times together. One highlight for us is when we went to the Indy 500 with them in 2008. I also remember Carl giving our son a ride in his Z06 to show him what it will do and scaring the bejesus out of him.

Some newer members may want to know why many of us refer to Sharon as "Darla". Well if you are really old you might remember the short films called "Spanky and Our Gang". The female in those pictures was a young girl called Darla. Sharon has a famous joke concerning Darla. We first heard the joke at Eureka Springs many years ago. Needless to say, the joke is somewhat off color but the way Sharon told it is the reason we call her Darla today.

We are sad to see Sharon go but know that while we are a Corvette family, her real family needs her also. We wish her well and hope that she visits with us whenever she comes back to the area.

**WE WILL MISS YOU SHARON!**





# Peggy Craig and Bob Bradley Wedding By Ron Hagenow

Our local club membership lost a couple of single members recently but increased a couple. Bob Bradley and Peggy Craig were married on May 13, 2021. I don't know if Bob really understood how Corvettes were integrated into the Racing Craig family when he met Peggy. But now he got his own silver Vette and has been bitten by the autocross bug as well. What's neat is the car in the one picture is the car Jerry and Armynta (Peggy's parents) picked up at the museum on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their first Corvette. Congratulations to Bob and Peggy and wishing them many years of happiness together!



## Retiree Finds New Work!

By Mike Kunst

Some people think that retiring will allow them plenty of free time. At long last, Mike Price was able to exit his work life. He has been trying to retire for months! Not so fast! Karen has other ideas!



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## Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports

### NCM Ambassadors Report

The 27th National Corvette Museum Anniversary celebration is going to be held at the NCM this Labor Day weekend, September 2nd-4th, and registration is now open.

Lifetime	\$20.00 each
Members	\$25.00 each
Non-members	\$35.00 each

The online registration is open until August 14th. Registered attendees can enjoy days full of activities in and around the museum that include road tours, video

presentations, raffles and more. There is an option to attend virtually where you can see seminars and presentations. The virtual registration is \$20.00.

Once again the NCM is up for the USA Today's Readers' Choice Award for the Best Attraction for Car Lovers. Last year they received the award.

The 2022 Corvette Stingray visualizer is now live on Chevrolet.com. It will show you the new Corvette colors: Hypersonic Gray, Caffeine, and Amplify Orange tint coat. It also shows a new low-profile rear spoiler and the Z51 design front splitter that will be offered on non Z51 models.

You can still get free shipping from the Corvette Store on orders of \$75 or more after any discounts, and it is not valid on previous purchases.

On August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> the NCM will be hosting a viewing party on the Le Man's race. The direct feed of the race will be commercial free and ACO will commentate. Registration is now live and is \$150.00 per person and comes with 24 hour access to the museum in the Chevrolet Theater's 28 foot screen, door prizes and more.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> a 2021 Silver Flare coupe will be raffled off. Tickets are \$100.00 and only 2000 tickets will be sold.

On September 4th at the 27th Anniversary Celebration event, a 2021 Torch Red coupe will be raffled off. Tickets are \$20.00 each with unlimited tickets to be sold.

Judy and Marty Dooley  
NCM Ambassadors

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## **Future Events**

# STLCC MYSTERY ROAD TOUR

JULY 10<sup>TH</sup>

WATERLOO WALMART PARKING  
LOT

916 N. MARKET

@ 11:30

PLAN ON LUNCH

BRING OLD TENNIS SHOES OR FLIPPLOPS  
RUN WILL END AROUND 4 PM



SPONSORED BY SONJA AND JERRY  
GIFFHORN

A signup sheet will be available at the meeting. If you won't be at the meeting and would like to attend, please email [sonjagiffhorn@hotmail.com](mailto:sonjagiffhorn@hotmail.com) or call her at 618-698-7540.

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&



When:

- Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9am

Where:

- Washington Coffee Shop
- 2 East Fifth Street
- Washington, MO

Come for the Coffee, Stay for the People!!

Sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens

314.341.3383

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**Hear ye! Hear ye!**

**Come one, come all to the July Retiree Lunch!**

The July Retiree Lunch will be at The Shack. If you are not familiar with The Shack, it is like First Watch only on steroids. They have Gluten Free items too! Check out their website at [The Shack | Shack Breakfast and Lunch \(eatatshack.com\)](http://TheShack|ShackBreakfastandLunch(eatatshack.com)) .

When: July 21, 2021, at 12:00 noon

(Our private dining space will be available by 11:30 am)

Where: The Shack, 14810 Clayton Rd, Chesterfield, MO 63017

There will be a sign-up sheet at the July 6, 2021 club business meeting. If you will not be in attendance, you can email Mike Kunst at [Mike.Kunst@outlook.com](mailto:Mike.Kunst@outlook.com) .



# Corvettes, Camaros, & Collectibles in the Vineyard



Chaumette Vineyards and Winery  
Ste. Genevieve County, MO

24345 State Route WW

Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

\$25/Vehicle Early Sign up by Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>

\$30/Vehicle after Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>

“Best of the Vineyard” awards  
presentation starts 2:45 pm

- Proceeds & Donations Support PRISMS (see reverse)
- Silent Auction 11 am-2:30 pm
- 50/50 Drawings & Door Prizes
- Food & Drink available for purchase or make reservations early @ Chaumette Winery (573-747-1000). NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK!
- ☀️ Rain or Shine, No Refunds.



\***RSVP:** [tnrluebcke@charter.net](mailto:tnrluebcke@charter.net) Or call 573-218-9051 by August 12<sup>th</sup>

Or Rich Luebcke (636-875-0052); see Reverse for details.

\*Please make checks to: PRISMS (Tax deductible), & mail to:

\*Theresa Luebcke, 1909 McCormick Dr., Farmington, MO 63640

Registered Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Sign waiver: I verify the vehicle entered in the Vineyard car show is insured against loss, damage, and liability, and I agree to assume risk of any damages or injury. I also will indemnify and hold harmless Chaumette Vineyards & Winery; PRISMS; their officers, staff, volunteers, and owners for any acts of omission, which may result in theft, damage, or destruction of my property or injury to me or others occurring during or as a consequence of this event.

Signed registration is required to participate:

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Thank You for Your Support!** 😊



- ❖ Proceeds from this event will assist parents to attend education seminars on SMS.
  - ❖ Smith-Magenis syndrome (SMS) is a complex developmental disorder that affects multiple organ systems of the body. The disorder is characterized by a pattern of abnormalities present at birth (congenital) as well as behavioral and cognitive problems.
  - ❖ Common symptoms include distinctive facial features, skeletal malformations, varying degrees of intellectual disability, speech and motor delays, sleep disturbances, and self-injurious or attention-seeking behaviors
  - ❖ The specific symptoms present in each case can vary dramatically from one individual to another.
  - ❖ Approximately 90% of cases are caused when a portion of a chromosome is missing or deleted.
  - ❖ This deleted portion within chromosome 17p11.2 includes the RAI1 gene, which is believed to play a major role in the development of the disorder.
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# Coffee and Corvettes

Hosted by Jim & Bev Givens





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## Past Events

# St. Louis Corvette Club Luau

Sponsored by Mike and Laurie Grubb









Gee, what is Barry holding? Could it have something to do with speeding on the way to the Luau?





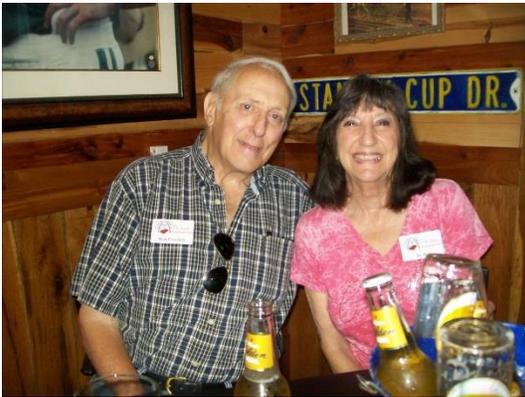
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## June Retiree Lunch

Sponsored by Ron and Mary Ann Hagenow











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# Car Show for The Gatesworth

By Mike Kunst







After the car show, back to Mike Henges' house for one of his fantastic margaritas!

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## ALS Walk for Team Sandy

Pam Queen Team Captain and Ruth Howard Lunch Organizer

The ALS Association had a virtual walk fundraiser on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Ruth said we would walk from the parking lot into the restaurant. It was a good plan!





## Ice Cream at Fritz's

Sponsored by Peggy Craig

There was a very small turnout at Fritz's this month.





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## Articles

# The St. Louis Corvette Club Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley, Mike Price and  
Peggy Craig

President Marty Dooley opened the July 2005 meeting and mentioned that there were several by-law changes to be discussed (yes even back then!) There were 37 members in the club. Our NCCC Governor Carl Ballinger announced that beginning in the fall, the NCCC Board would be meeting in St. Louis for the next three years. They must like it here because they have been meeting in St. Louis ever since. In June 2005 Ron and Mary Ann Hagenow joined the club as well as Don and Angie Bradford. The club purchased a brick at the NCM which had been discussed at the previous month's meeting. Events planned for this month are the Webster Groves Fourth of July Parade and Vettes on the Rockies, in which 14 cars are going. (As an aside, we sat with Marty and Judy Dooley at the June 2021 meeting and Judy said they had never won the raffle. Well according to the newsletter they did win the raffle in June 2005 for a total of \$49.)

In July 2011, President Marty Dooley (hey, how did that happen again?) announced that in the previous month, Peggy Craig got a 2004 Commemorative Edition convertible, Karen Price traded in a yellow 2002 for a yellow 2008 (some people just have poor choice in colors) and Marya Horstmeyer got a new 2011 Crystal Red coupe. We had 92 members in the club at this time and were meeting at Sunset Lakes Golf and Banquet Center. (And if anyone has driven by there lately it seems that it has been sold but has not been kept up. Everything looks overgrown and you can hardly tell it used to be a nice golf course.) July trips being planned were the Webster Groves Parade, Black Hill Classic in South Dakota, a trip to Sybil's for lunch and a mystery run. For August there was a trip planned to Gallagher's in Waterloo for their famous fried chicken. It was also reported that in the previous month Gary Tidwell got his 1<sup>st</sup> hole in one!

In July 2017 the club finally had a different president with Ray Queen leading us. In the previous month the club sent 25 cars to the Corvette Adventure at the Wisconsin Dells and we won the award for best club attendance. Our meetings were at Grand Slam Sports Bar and we had 96 members. Also in the previous

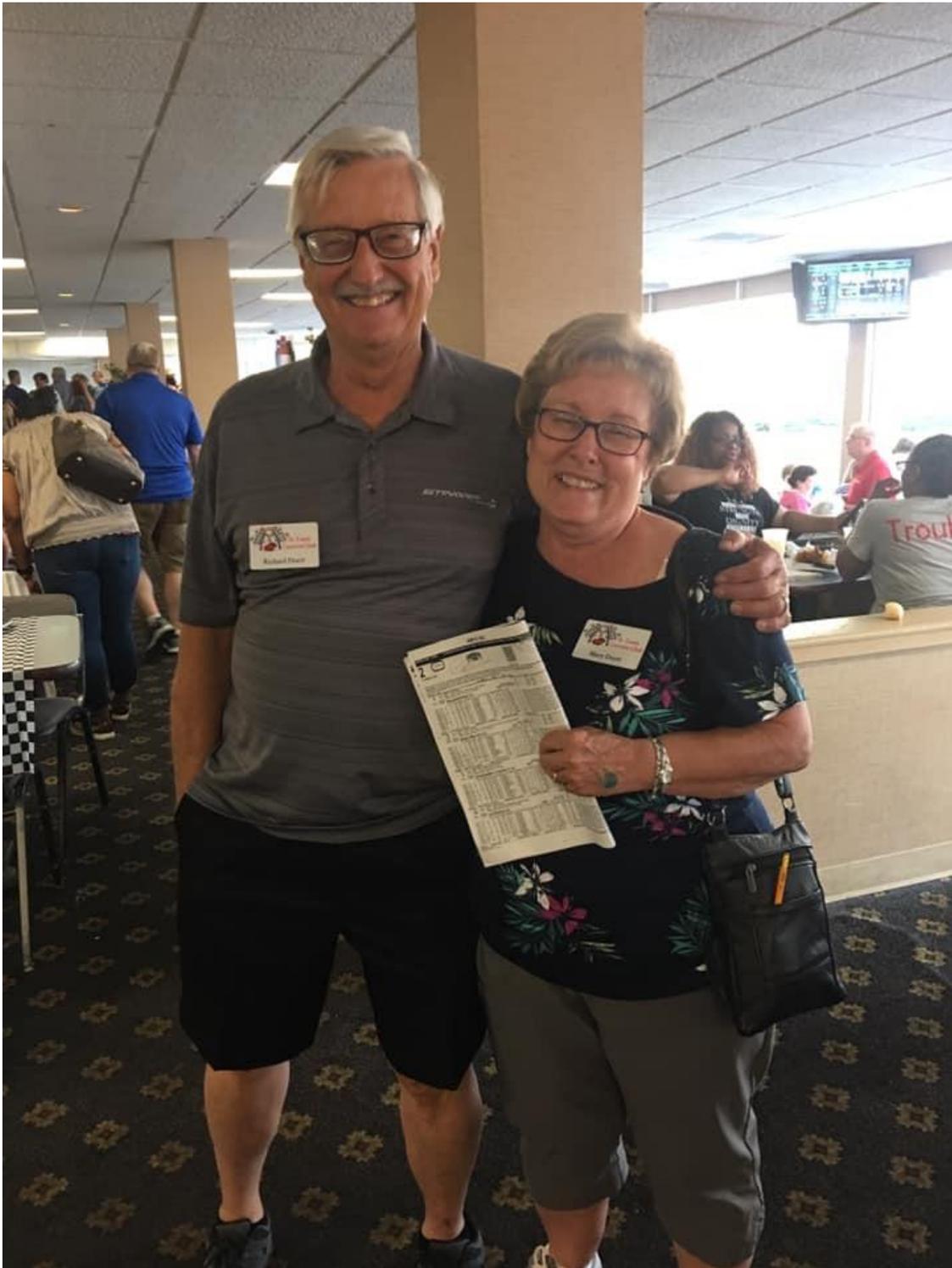
month, current members Joe and Loretta Vogt and Barry Seelig joined the club. This month Bob and Patti Kusky planned one of their world famous Route 66 overnight trips. Our monthly retiree's lunch was scheduled for Ethyl's Smokehouse and Saloon in O'Fallon. Plans were also being made for our car show at Pub 231 in August.



From a happy hour at Sunset Lakes in July 2009, here is a little "Electric Slide" action. Hey, who's that old guy in the background? Escapee from a New Jersey nursing home?



The entire Craig family from Vettes on the Rockies in July 2008.



Mary Doerr and her bookie from the Night at the Races in July 2019.



Nice mix of cars for our Fritz's Ice Cream run in July 2013.

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## The World's Only Jet Turbine Powered Corvette

Submitted By Terry Mueller



What's it like to drive the world's only jet turbine powered Corvette with 880 hp?  
Click on the link for more information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGcKvvSnIEk>

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## Corvette Facts

Reprinted from "Steve Magnante's 1001 Corvette Facts" with  
permission from CarTech

No. 543: The Corvette's high theft rate made it unpopular with insurance agents. Chevrolet knew a certain percentage of buyers were knocked out of contention by the elevated insurance premium and began efforts to make the

Corvette as theft-proof as possible. An innovative step was the 1986 Vehicle Anti-Theft System (VATS), which added a metal pellet to the ignition and door-lock key. The pellet was assigned one of 15 different electrical-resistance values, and if sensors within the lock cylinders didn't recognize the pellet, the ECM shut down for two minutes. General Motors implemented the system in other high-risk vehicles that year, as well.

No. 549: Every ZR1 Corvette came with two ignition keys, one for initial startup and a smaller valet key that limited output to 200 hp by deactivating the secondary fuel injectors, high-speed intake-manifold runners, and other systems. Although marked "normal" and "full" on 1990-1995 production cars, the switch faces inside the 84 preproduction test cars built in 1989 were marked "reduced" and "full." A quarter-century later, Dodge riffed on the ZR1 concept by equipping the 2015 Hellcat Chargers and Challengers with a black key fob (400 hp) and a red key fob (707 hp).

No. 554: Because the Muncie, Borg Warner, and Saginaw 4-speed manual transmissions used in the shark-era Corvettes lacked overdrive, a must if the C4 Corvette was going to avoid the federal Gas Guzzler Tax, General Motors reached out to Doug Nash Engineering (DNE) for a solution. Nash, a veteran Ford drag-racing hero noted for his ability to powershift the manual transmission in his 1965 B/Factory Experimental Mercury Cyclone, was the right man for the job. Working out of a shop in Franklin, Tennessee, he purchased the manufacturing rights for the T10 4-speed from Borg Warner in June 1982 and designed a bolt-on overdrive unit to Chevrolet's specifications. The resulting transmission was called the DNE 4+3 and was a no-cost alternative to the Turbo 700-R4 automatic overdrive.

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# Featured STLCC Members and Their Corvette

Brian Walsh and June Wachter



**Brian Walsh &  
June Wachter  
2004 Z06**

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Managing Editor  
Columnist  
Photo Journalist  
Senior Photo Journalist  
Aerial Photo Journalist  
Publisher

Kathy Mueller  
Ron Hagenow  
Ruth Howard  
Terry Mueller  
Tom Marlo  
Mike Kunst

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Many Thanks To Our Sponsor

**Mark Gerecke 636-227-5333**

Eric DeBruin 636-227-5333



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AND CARS ARE SECOND TO NONE ”