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ELCO Chevrolet**



## **President's Message**

As we cruise into March, I hope this message finds you all in great spirits and revved up for another exciting season of Corvette camaraderie. As your president, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for your continued support and enthusiasm.

We had some great events in February including the Valentine's Day Luncheon hosted by Ruth and Valerie, The Casino Luncheon hosted by the Howards, Valentine's Bunco hosted by the Kirby's, and the Retirees' Luncheon hosted by John Jordan & Joyce Newbauer.

With the daylight savings time starting in March "YEAH", there are several monthly events revving back up i.e.: Sangria Sunset and Fitz's Ice Cream. Make sure you check the club web site calendar at [www.stlcorvettes.net](http://www.stlcorvettes.net) for more information. I encourage all members to participate in our scheduled events. Your involvement not only enriches our experiences but also strengthens the bonds within the club. Please feel free to reach out to our Board with any questions or ideas you may have for future activities.

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Mouse Races will be held to support St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. It is a very worthwhile organization, and your support is very much appreciated. Any questions contact Ruth & Randy Howard or Jim & Bev Givens.

Just as a reminder, if you are interested in attending the NCM Bash April 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> in Bowling Green, you need to make your reservations for activities you wish to attend, <https://www.corvettemuseum.org/>. There may also still be some slots available to take a tour of the assembly plant the few days leading up to the Bash. If you have

questions, you can contact Marty Dooley or Mike Kunst.

Thank you once again for your dedication and enthusiasm. Let's continue to make the STL Corvette Club a dynamic and welcoming club for all Corvette enthusiasts.

Enjoy the ride,

C.W. Riehlman  
President

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### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Diana Griggs

Pat Ross

Karen Gregory

Robert Hoogveld

Jeff Gregory

Judy Giovanoni

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Eric & Vickie DeBruin

### **STLCC Anniversary Milestones**

There were no milestone club anniversaries in March.

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## Meeting Minutes

The St. Louis Corvette Club met at ELCO Chevrolet in Ballwin, Mo on February 3, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President CW Riehlman. CW led us with an opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Club Officers were introduced:

President, CW Riehlman

Vice President, Randy Howard

Membership Officer, Judy McElhone

Treasurer, Mike McElhone

Secretary, Chris Woods

Sergeant-at-Arms, John Midkiff

Immediate Past President, John Jordan

Sponsor: ELCO Chevrolet, Mark Gereke and Eric DeBruin

CW went over the following information:

1. He thanked everyone for attending tonight.
2. He reminded everyone of the 50/50 tickets, various event sign-up sheets, and see John Midkiff for the NCM Banner raffle tickets.
3. He thanked everyone who has been donating toiletry supplies for our veterans which are being collected by John Midkiff. Also, if you have any torn or frayed US Flags, please give them to John Midkiff to destroy properly.
4. He thanked Kathy Mueller for the great newsletter and Steve Kirby for the outstanding website.

Planning Committee Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Rick Doerr to accept the 2026 Planning Committee Meeting Minutes held on January 11, 2026, seconded by Judy Dooley, motion carried.

Treasurer, Mike McElhone presented the January Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to accept the January Treasurer's Report by Ron Hagenow, seconded by Mike Kunst, motion carried.

Membership Officer, Judy McElhone gave the membership report. She read the names of members celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in February.

Current Membership totals are as follows:

Regular Members	=	100
Lifetime Members	=	7
Associate Members	=	11
Emeritus Members	=	2
Sponsors	=	2
Members on waiting List	=	17
Total Members (excluding sponsors)	=	120

Ken Payne made a motion to accept the membership report, seconded by Terry Mueller, motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Budget Report (Mike Kunst, Don Pickles, Rick Doerr). Mike Kunst presented the 2026 Budget. Mike Kunst reviewed the definitions of surplus and reserve. Barry Seelig made a motion to accept the 2026 Budget, seconded by Don Pickles, motion carried. CW also thanked Don Pickles and Rick Doerr, who are the other two members of the Budget Committee. They do a great job in supporting the whole effort and thank you very much.

By-laws Report (Mike Kunst, Mike Price, Valerie Zeisset). No report.

Charity Report (Michelle Finn and Judy McElhone). No report.

VA Garden Report (Karen Price). Marty Dooley reported that Dollar Tree will soon have Red White and Blue themed garden windmills and flags. Marty asked the membership to see if they could purchase these windmills and flags prior to Memorial Weekend for the garden. The VA Wheelchair races will be at Jefferson Barracks VA on May 15, 2026, and all are welcomed.

Parade Report (Michelle Paillou and Mike Price). No report.

National Corvette Museum Ambassador's Report (Judy & Marty Dooley). Marty Dooley reported that the Corvette Museum has a racetrack and you can go and try it. He also is keeping the history of the corvette going.

History Report (Marty Dooley, Mike Price and Ron Hagenow). CW Riehlman signed the official club banner along with all the other Presidents' signatures.

Website Report (Steve Kirby). Steve Kirby asked that all flyers should be sent to him in Word. If you want to put an event on the calendar, you need to send a word copy to Randy Howard, Kathy Mueller and Steve Kirby.

Newsletter (Kathy Mueller). Just a reminder that any reports for the newsletter need to be in word.

Sponsor Report (Mark Gereke and Eric DeBruin). Mark reported that last year, the dealership had a good year, and it is wonderful that you all come to our Service Department, buy cars and bring people here. Eric reported that ELCO is growing and there are plans to expand the body shop and add more service bays. ELCO is heavy into electric vehicles. Currently there are no used Corvettes at this time. Both Mark & Eric would like to put on a car show at ELCO (as a fundraiser for the Club) sometime soon and are thinking about possibly a Sunday in the fall. They will research this and get back to us.

Vice President Report: Randy Howard reviewed past events and future events as follows:

Past Events:

1. January 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12 Days of Christmas (sponsored by Mike & Karen Price)
2. January 11<sup>th</sup> - Planning Meeting at Saucy's
3. January 19<sup>th</sup> - Take Lunch to Pat Cox (sponsored by Karen Price) – 10-12 attended.
4. January 21<sup>st</sup> - Retiree Lunch at Three Margaritas Mexican Restaurant, Fenton (sponsored by Mike & Karen Price) – It was good food and a great turnout.

5. January 23<sup>rd</sup> - Bunco (sponsored by Mike & Judy McElhone) – It was a fun evening, good food and everyone had a great time.
6. February 1<sup>st</sup> – Valentine’s Day Party (sponsored by Ruth Howard and Val Zeisset). There were 52 in attendance, and everyone had a good time. Special prizes were handed out to the winners of the games, which were enjoyed by all.

**Future Events:**

1. February 9<sup>th</sup> – Casino Day at River City (sponsored by Ruth & Randy Howard)
2. February 14<sup>th</sup> – Bunco (sponsored by Steve & Dawn Kirby)
3. February 25<sup>th</sup> – Retiree Lunch, Bob Evans (sponsored by John Jordan)

**Upcoming Events:**

1. March 13–23 – Twisted Sister Texas Road Trip (sponsored by Barb & Ken Payne)  
– We have 13-14 people going.
2. March 20<sup>th</sup> – St. Judes Mouse Races, Andre’s in Fenton (sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens) – Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and races start at 7:30 p.m.
3. March 29<sup>th</sup> – Fritz’s Ice Cream (sponsored by Ken & Barbie Payne).
4. April 18 – Coffee & Corvettes and Mystery Run (sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens)  
– The first one is scheduled at 8:30 a.m. at Orange Couch Coffee House, 98 Legends Parkway, Eureka, MO followed by a Mystery Run.

**REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ALL EVENTS**

**New Business:**

Randy Howard distributed the first “St. Louis Corvette Club Trivia Questions Form” to several members. The questions were as follows:

1. How many Corvettes did General Motors build in the year 1953 the first year for the Corvettes? Answer: 300.
2. What were the only two years General Motors Corvette produced under 1,000 cars per year? Answer: 1953 & 1954

3. What was the first year General Motors Corvette had a V8 and what was the cubic inch? Answer: 1955 & 265ci
4. What Chevrolet motor was made famous by a musical group? Answer: "409" & The Beach Boys.

Mike Kunst was the Trivia winner and was presented with a certificate.

St. Charles County is looking for two convertible Corvettes to drive the Mayor and one Councilman in the Mardi Gras Parade on March 15th. Contact CW if interested.

Marty Dooley is selling St. Louis Corvette Club Hot Wheels at \$15 each.

Thanks to ELCO for providing our meeting place as well as pizza.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Chris Woods in the amount of \$78.00.

There were 49 regular members, 1 lifetime member and 4 sponsors in attendance.

President CW Riehlman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ruth Howard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mary Doerr, motion carried.

The next meeting will be on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHAIRS TO THE MEETING**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Woods, Secretary

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In Memoriam  
Karen Merickle  
By Marty Dooley

Karen Merickle has passed away this past month. Along with her husband Dick, they were founding members of our Corvette club back in 2004. They were very active with starting our club and also active with many of our early events. After Dick died a couple of years ago, Karen moved out west to be with her family.

I'm sure many of our long-time members will remember both Dick and Karen.



Karen and her husband from our first Christmas party in 2004.



Karen receiving an award at our Christmas party from then President Ron Huch.

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## **Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports**

### **NCM Ambassadors Report**

There is some important info I would like to pass on to our club members this month. Take some time to check out all the info the National Corvette Museum has to offer for Corvette fans. Go to <https://www.corvettemuseum.org>. On this website you will see many things a lot of you already know about the Corvette lifestyle, but I'm sure you will also find things you may not know about our cars and the history of them.

You may want to check the events coming up this year as well as everything they have to offer.

Anyway, take your time and check this website. There is something for every car guy and gal at the NCM.

Judy and Marty Dooley  
NCM Ambassadors

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## **Future Events**



**Friday, March 20, 2026**  
**Doors open at 6:30pm, first race at 7:30pm**

**Andre's West – Fenton, MO**

**211 South Old Hwy 141**

**Fenton, MO 63026**

**Mouse Races, Mouse Roulette, Plinko, 50/50, Raffle Baskets &  
much more....**



**All proceeds benefit St Jude Children's Research Hospital**

**\$35/person**

**Before 2/21/2026: Table of 10 - \$300**

**2/21/2026 onward: Table for 10 - \$325**

**Includes Open Bar**

Contact Jim @ [givensjwg@gmail.com](mailto:givensjwg@gmail.com) or Ruth @ [Rhoward15@charter.net](mailto:Rhoward15@charter.net)

**No outside drinks/alcohol. Bring your own food & snacks.**

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## March Retirees' Lunch

Hosted by Barry Seelig and Kathy Kilburn

Date: March 18, 2026

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Where: Ethyl's Smokehouse & Saloon, 8505 Veterans Memorial Pkwy, O'Fallon, MO 63366

There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting. Or you can let Barry know at [vetdude67@gmail.com](mailto:vetdude67@gmail.com) or 314-974-4644.

Click below for the menu.

<https://ethylssmokehouse.com/>

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# March Bunco

March 28, 2026

Eat at 6:00 Play at 7:00

Co-Hosts:

Rhonda Simorka

[simorka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:simorka@sbcglobal.net) 636-579-9768

Patrick and Jenni Belding

[jbelding6@gmail.com](mailto:jbelding6@gmail.com) 636-230-0852

@ 150 Strecker Road,

Wildwood MO

63011

Pulled Pork Sliders, Beer,  
Soda, and Water will be provided.

Bring \$5 per person and a dish to share.

Sign up at club meeting and indicate what you will bring or  
reach out to Rhonda or Jenni by March 24th

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## **St. Louis Corvette Club Monthly Ice Cream Run March 29, 2026**

**When:** Sunday  
March 29<sup>th</sup>  
April 26<sup>th</sup>  
May 24<sup>th</sup>  
June 28<sup>th</sup>  
July 26<sup>th</sup>  
August 30<sup>th</sup>  
September 27<sup>th</sup>  
October 25<sup>th</sup>  
November (optional)

**Where:** Fritz's Frozen Custard  
815 Meramec Station Road, Valley Park, MO 63088

**Time:** 5:00 PM Until We All Leave

**What:** Come For The Custard  
Stay For The People

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# Corvette & Car Show at the Festival



**May 3rd (Sunday) 12:30PM - 4:00PM**

Church service 10:30 AM (optional)

Registration starts @12:00PM

**Awards**

**Presentation 3:30 PM**

People's Choice.....vote with your \$\$\$

## **LOCATION:**

St. Martin's Church Parking Lot  
15764 Clayton Rd.  
Ellisville, MO 63011

**Bar-B-Que and refreshments available**

Sponsors: Dana & Diana Griggs

[Djg5@charter.net](mailto:Djg5@charter.net) or 314 757 0742

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**Past Events**

St. Louis Corvette Valentine's Day Luncheon  
Sponsored by the Howards and Zeissets  
Photos by Terry Mueller











Contestants in the Shake it Off game were Michelle Paillou and Don Pickles and Angie Midkiff and Mike Kunst. Winners were Michelle Paillou and Angie Midkiff.



Contestants in the Newly Wed game were Ray and Pam Queen, Michelle Finn and Randy Rickerman, Bob and JoAnn Rogers, and Ron and Mary Ann Hagenow. Winners were Ron and Mary Ann Hagenow.



Contestants in the Trivia game were Pat Ross, Barry Seelig and Ron Hagenow. The winners were Ron Hagenow and Barry Seelig.



Participants in the Just Eat It game were Mary and Rick Doerr, Kathy Kilburn and Barry Seelig, Pam and Jerry Schmidt, and Maggie and Steve Hedgorth. The winners were Kathy Kilburn and Barry Seelig.



The winner of the M&M game was Don Pickles. There were 531 and he guessed 530!





Attendance Prize winners: John Midkiff, Robert Hoogveld, Mike Price, Randy Rickerman, Kathy Mueller and Mike Kunst.

Casino Day  
Sponsored by the Howards  
Photos by Ruth Howard





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February Retirees' Lunch  
John Jordan and Joyce Newbauer  
Photos by Terry Mueller





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Articles

The St. Louis Corvette Club

Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

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

The month of March usually sees our Vettes slowly awakening from their winter slumber. I know for me the first sunny 50-degree day and the top goes down on the car! Besides our regular meeting and retirees' lunch, Coffee and Corvettes plus Fritz's Frozen Custard usually start up this month. A mouse race in support of St. Jude's is scheduled for March 20. If you are like me, I'm tired of the snow and cold we had in January and February. Here's hoping for early spring so we can all get busy with our yearly events. Don't forget to "spring forward" on March 8 and don't drink too much green beer on March 17.

Here are a few events we had in previous Marches.



Here's a picture of one of our first mouse races from March 2010. This was held at Sunset Lakes and Banquet Center to help with the rebuilding of the house for the banquet manager at Sunset Lakes, which was damaged in a tornado. Marty and Judy sponsored this particular race, among the many races held that night.



Karen Price and Jeff Craig at the VA garden spring cleanup from March 2012. If you haven't been there recently you would be amazed at the work we have done there throughout the years.



From our Crazy Bowl in March 2018, obviously Rick Doerr is up to no good while Sonja Giffhorn and Sherri Marlo are just being nice. Obviously Rick scared the heck out of Jim Givens in the background.



Mellow Mushroom hosted us in March 2025 for our retirees' lunch. I think everyone had enough to eat.

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### Club Presidents and Vice Presidents

If you were at the February meeting, you saw our current president C. W. sign our special club banner that is maintained by History Committee Member Marty Dooley. Every club president has signed this banner. So, this is the start of a new series of articles about our history. Below is a list of all our club presidents and vice presidents. If you look at 2008, club president Bill Dotson moved out of the area which is the reason I moved up to president and Jeff Craig moved into the vice president position.

Year	President	Vice President
2026	C. W. Riehlman	Randy Howard
2025	John Jordan	Don Pickles
2024	Karen Price	Gary Duke
2023	Karen Price	Brandon Hoosier
2022	Jim Givens	Karen Price
2021	Jim Givens	Karen Price
2020	Don Pickles	Rick Doerr
2019	Don Pickles	Rick Doerr
2018	Ray Queen	Mike Grubb
2017	Ray Queen	Mike Grubb
2016	Mike Price	Carl Ballinger
2015	Mike Price	Carl Ballinger
2014	Ann Brown Sedevic	Mike Price
2013	Ruth Howard	Larry Akins
2012	Kevin Bayliss	Mike Zlatic
2011	Marty Dooley	Charlie Miget
2010	Randy Howard	Jeff Craig
2009	Theresa Luebcke	Jeff Craig
2008	Bill Dotson/Ron Hagenow	Ron Hagenow/Jeff Craig
2007	Bill Dotson	Ron Hagenow
2006	Rick Frierdich	Bill Dotson
2005	Marty Dooley	Rick Frierdich
2004	Ron Huch	Marty Dooley

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Managing Editor	Kathy Mueller
Columnist	Ron Hagenow
Senior Photo Journalist	Terry Mueller
Photo Journalist	Ruth Howard

Aerial Photo Journalist	Tom Marlo
Archive Specialist	Steve Kirby
Publisher	Mike Kunst

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Many Thanks To Our Sponsor

**Mark Gerecke 636-227-5333**

**Eric DeBruin 636-227-5333**



“ WHERE CUSTOMERS ARE FIRST  
AND CARS ARE SECOND TO NONE ”



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