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ELCO Chevrolet**



President's Message

I hope this message finds you all ready for a great month as we finally begin to have decent weather for cruising. Club events begin to ramp up and I hope you are as excited as I am.

We had some great events in March including Retirees' Luncheon hosted by Barry Seelig & Kathy Kilburn, The Mouse Races hosted by Jim & Bev Givens and Ruth & Randy Howard, Bunco hosted by Patrick & Jenni Belding and Rhonda Simorka, and our first Fitz's Ice Cream hosted by Ken & Barb Payne.

The [*29th Annual Michelin National Corvette Museum Bash*](#) in Bowling Green, KY. is scheduled for April 23-25 and it's a great way to meet fellow Corvette enthusiast while also learning about the latest with America's Favorite Sports Car. Simply visit the museum website corvettemuseum.org. for more information. If you can attend, please let Mike Kunst know since he sets up a dinner for our club while there.

Always check the club web site <https://www.stlcorvettes.net> for the latest information on upcoming events. It does have event flyers and an event calendar for the year so you can stay informed.

Please remember our members who are unwell and hope for their swift recovery.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and engagement. Your participation in events and meetings is essential to sustaining the club's success. 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

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Janet Trost

Maggie Hedgcorth

Gary Duke

Arlene Thomas

Dee Riehlman

Kathy Kilburn

ANNIVERSARIES

Ed Flaspohler & Lisa Schuenke

Steve & Maggie Hedgcorth

Dennis & Janet Trost

Ed & Joanmarie Hartzke

Gary & Jan Murray

Bill & Gail Mattler

Gary & Erin Duke

STLCC Anniversary Milestones

5 Year

Linda and Mike Pilla

There were no 20-year, 15-year, or 10-year club anniversaries in December.

Meeting Minutes

The St. Louis Corvette Club met at ELCO Chevrolet in Ballwin, MO on March 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, Mike Kunst in for 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 thanked Kathy Mueller for a great newsletter.
3. He reminded everyone of the 50/50 tickets and the various event sign-up sheets, and the NCM Banner raffle tickets.
4. He thanked everyone who has been donating toiletry supplies for our veterans, which are being collected by John Midkiff.
5. At the end of the meeting, Randy Howard is going to auction off corvette items with the proceeds going to St. Jude.

February Membership Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by John Jordan to accept the February Membership Meeting Minutes held on February 3, 2026, seconded by Terry Mueller, motion carried.

Treasurer, Mike McElhone presented the February Treasurer's Report as distributed. A motion was made to accept the February Treasurer's Report by Ken Payne, seconded by John Jordan, motion carried.

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

Current Membership totals are as follows:

- Regular Members = 100
- Lifetime Members = 7
- Emeritus Members = 2
- Associate Members = 11
- Sponsors = 3
- Members on Waiting List = 22
- Total Members (excluding sponsors) = 120

Judy advised the membership that a new membership roster will be sent out on April 1, 2026, and she will be sending out rosters at the beginning of every month from now

on. If you have any changes, please send an email to stlmembership@outlook.com .

Also, anyone who hasn't already done so, please give your emergency contacts in writing to Judy McElhone, Membership Officer. For example: If something would happen in a meeting or outing, it would be easier if we knew who to call. This is not a requirement, but it would be very helpful.

Ken Payne made a motion to accept the Membership Report, seconded by Barry Seelig, motion carried.

Secretary, Chris Woods read a thank you card from Mike & Judy Henges thanking the club for all the thoughts, prayers, gift & cards. Mike is on the road to recovery.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VA Garden Report (Karen Price). There will be a VA garden planting and Spring clean-up on Saturday, May 2nd at 9:00 am.

Website Report (Steve Kirby). Steve reported that he has stopped putting members' numbers on the events, so if you see your event and there's no phone number, there is a reason for that. Everyone should have a roster and that has everyone's phone number on it.

Sponsor Report (Mark Gerecke and Eric DeBruin). Mark reported that sports cars are moving. You can still order a 2026 before we start seeing the 2027 model. We are planning a car show at ELCO on a Sunday, sometime in the future.

Eric reported that ELCO is growing fast and doing construction.

Vickie DeBruin advised that she and Kim Gereke are hosting a sit and sew event on Saturday, April 25th at the Daniel Boone Library. If anyone is interested in joining the group, please see one of us. We are going to make a pinwheel table runner.

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

Past Events:

1. February 1 –Valentines Day Party (sponsored by Ruth Howard & Valerie Ziesset)
2. February 3 –Monthly Membership Meeting at ELCO
3. February 9 –Casino Day (sponsored by Ruth & Randy Howard)
4. February 25 –Retiree Lunch at Bob Evans (sponsored by John Jordan &Joyce Neubauer)
5. February 28 – Bunco (sponsored by Dawn & Steve Kirby)

Future Events:

1. March 3 – Monthly Membership Meeting at ELCO
2. March 13-23 – Texas Trip (sponsored by Ken & Barbie Payne)
3. March 18 – Retiree Lunch at Ethyl's (sponsored by Barry Seelig)
4. March 20 – St. Jude's Mouse Races (sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens and Ruth & Randy Howard)
5. March 28 – Bunco (sponsored by Rhonda Simorka, Patrick & Jenni Belding)
6. March 29 – Fritz's Ice Cream (sponsored by Ken & Barbie Payne)
7. April 7 – Monthly Membership Meeting at ELCO
8. April 11 – Bunco (sponsored by Mike & Karen Price)
9. April 18 – Coffee & Corvettes and Mystery Run (sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens)

REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ALL EVENTS

New Business:

CW asked the club to keep the following members in our thoughts and prayers:

Gary Murray – having heart surgery

Michelle Finn – getting a bone transplant

Kathy Kilburn – getting a knee replacement

Sonja Giffhorn – just had surgery

Jim Givens also reminded everyone about the St. Jude's Mouse Races on March 20th at Andre's in Fenton. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the first race starts at 7:30 p.m. There will be 7 races.

Valerie's daughter Kimberley, made a St. Jude Corvette Quilt out of corvette shirts to be raffled off and Vickie DeBruin made a cute bear as the second prize.
Raffle tickets: 1 for \$10 or 2 for \$15.

Mike Kunst reported that the list for the NCM Bash in Bowling Green is pretty long. There is no sign-up sheet, so if you want to attend, please contact him.

John Jordan talked about the 10th annual Indy Car Show in June. If you're interested, please contact him.

Ron Hagenow is sponsoring the June Retiree lunch at Café Telegraph and possibly a tour of the Civil War Museum

The 50/50 drawing was won by Dennis Trost in the amount of \$95.

Randy Howard presented a certificate to Steve Marre' as the winner of the Corvette Trivia.

President CW Riehlman, went over the following information:

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

Thanks to Dee Riehlman for the cupcakes tonight.

There were 55 members, 2 sponsors, 2 life members and 2 guests (Heather and Pat Riley – who are on the waiting list) in attendance.

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

The next meeting will be on April 7, 2026 at ELCO Chevrolet.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHAIRS TO THE MEETING

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Woods, Secretary



Future Events

Spring will have sprung!

So, let's have some fun rolling the
dice at Bunco at the Price's!

Saturday April 11th, 2026 6pm

2400 Oakmont Ct.

High Ridge, MO 63049

Bring \$5/person and a dish to
share!

Please RSVP to Karen to let her know what you
bring and we can plan for seating for everyone!





Hawthorne Inn Retiree Lunch Labadie, MO



HOSTED BY MIKE AND JUDY McELHONE

Wednesday, April 15, 11:30am

Meet at 10:30 at 2412 Taylor Rd (former Bank of America) Grover MO 63040 for a scenic twisty drive, or meet at the restaurant.

RSVP By 4/11/26 Text JUDY 636-236-7294 or Mike 262-287-3175 or email

judithgiovannoni@gmail.com or themcelhone@sbcglobal.net



&



When:

- Saturday, April 18th @ 8:30am

Where:

- On the Grind Coffee
- 1277 N Truman Blvd
- Crystal City, MO

Come for the Coffee, Stay for the Mystery Run!!

Sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens 314.341.3383

2026 MICHELIN NCM BASH



APRIL 23 – 25, 2026

Are you interested in the latest Corvette models? We saw a glimpse of the rumored Corvette Grand Sport in the wild at Sebring recently. What about the Corvette ZR1X? Will there be a cutaway ZR1X at the Bash? Do you want to see the latest in person? Yes, you can touch them and even sit in them (except for the cutaway). How about questions. You do have questions, don't you? Why not ask a Corvette Design Team member?

Don't miss the Corvette Team presentation! It will bring you up to date on all things related to Corvette. There will be Corvette Team leaders from Detroit to present. They spend a lot of time mingling with enthusiasts (that's us!). New colors for the 2027 MY?

Do you want to know what is going on at the Assembly Plant? Hear the latest from the Bowling Green Assembly leadership team.

What about an opportunity to drive your car on a real racetrack? You wouldn't be racing, but you would be going fast! Have you even seen the NCM's Motor Sports Park? We have some members participating in an HPDE at the track.

Some members are participating in a nice scenic drive led by the NCM. There are several road trips to choose from.

So much to do and see! Why not come with us to Bowling Green?

Contact Mike Kunst for more information.

Mike.Kunst@Outlook.com



Sangria Sunsets - 2026

(4th Thursday of each month, April – September)

(April 23th, May 28nd, June 25th, July 23th, August 27th, Sept 24th)

Sunset Overlook

11604 Bluff Road

Columbia, IL 62236

5:30pm - ??????

Come when you can. Rain, shine, snow or sleet.

Sit & Sew



If anyone's interested in joining us on April 25 (Daniel Boone library) to create fun pinwheel table runners or banners, feel free to contact Vickie for details.



St. Louis Corvette Club Monthly Ice Cream Run April 26, 2026

- When:** Sunday
April 26th
May 24th
June 28th
July 26th
August 30th
September 27th
October 25th
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
-

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



V.A. Garden Spring Clean-up

Our Corvette Club has helped maintain a garden area behind building 52 at the J.B. Veterans Hospital for the past 20 years. The idea for this came from a friend in our club as a way of giving back. That idea evolved into making a garden area behind the spinal cord injury rehab (bldg. 52). Every year we have club members show their support of our Veterans by cleaning up the garden area and planting new flowers and plants. Doing this work gives the patients and staff a chance to get out of the hospital for a while and relax.

For those club members with a couple of hours that want to help our Veterans, we plan to meet at the front of building 52, V. A. Hospital on Koch Road at 9 a.m. on May 9th and like any of our club events, we will be going to eat after our volunteer work. Please bring work gloves and any hand tools.

Any questions please call Karen or Mike Price





On May 14th & 15th, we'll be hitting the road for the 15th Annual St. Jude Corvette Drive. We're especially excited this year to welcome two new couples to the group—Robert & Vickie Hoogeveld and CW & Dee Rielhman. We're glad to have you join us and look forward to a fantastic drive together! Our other STLCC drivers are Jim & Bev Givens, Randy & Ruth Howard, and Mike & Judy McElhone. If you are interested in donating to their St. Jude Drive page, please contact them individually for that information.

The St. Louis Satellite team is made up of 13 members this year, with additional participants joining us from across Illinois and as far as Springfield, MO. We're excited to have such a strong and growing group coming together for this incredible cause.

Registration officially closed on March 20th, and we're excited to share that we have a record-breaking 141 cars registered in this year's drive! For comparison, last year we had 112 cars and raised an incredible \$548,000—so we're feeling very optimistic about surpassing that total this year.

Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20% to more than 80%.

St. Jude has helped push the childhood cancer survival rate from less than 20% when we opened to 80% today. We won't stop until no child dies from cancer. Our founder believed that "no child should die in the dawn of life," and we've spent more than half a century focusing on our mission: Finding cures. Saving children.

We hope and pray that you never have to walk through those doors with a child or grandchild. But if you ever do, know that you are in the very best place possible for care, hope, and a cure.

Thank you, STLCC members, for your incredible support of this amazing event. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we head out on the road to Memphis.

We'll be sure to keep everyone updated and share the final figures at the June meeting.



ALS Luncheon in Memory of Sandy Kirby

Please join us on Tuesday, June 23, 2026

for our annual ALS Luncheon.



741 West Washington, Millstadt, IL 62260

We will meet at Home Depot

7481 S. Lindbergh, St. Louis, MO 63125

Meet at 11:00 for departure to Millstadt at 11:20.

Reservation is at noon.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the April & May meeting. If you can't make the meeting, please contact Valerie Zeisset or send an email to val56@aol.com. Reservation needed by June 17th

Past Events

February Bunco

Sponsored by Steve and Dawn Kirby

Photos by Terry Mueller









Interestingly, all the Bunco winners were women.

March Retirees' Lunch
Barry Seelig and Kathy Kilburn
Photos by Terry Mueller









Mouse Races

Sponsored by Bev and Jim Givens and Ruth and Randy Howard

Article by Ruth Howard

Photos by Ruth Howard

What a great evening!

First, we'd like to thank everyone who helped make our St. Jude fundraiser a huge success. From members who purchased tables and individual tickets to those who bought raffle, 50/50, and quilt raffle tickets, your support made all the difference. We also had an incredible 44 baskets donated, which would not have been possible without the generosity of our club members.

The new venue, Andres West, was a huge hit, with plenty of space, and let's be honest, who doesn't enjoy an open bar?

This event simply wouldn't be possible without our amazing volunteers. A special thank you to Robert & Vicki Hoogveld, Mike & Judy McElhone, Mike & Karen Price, CW & Dee Riehlman, and Jeff, Tracy & Olivia Stieren. And talk about dedication, Jeff and Mike Price were on a mission, selling an impressive \$2,100 in 50/50 tickets, with the lucky winner taking home \$1,050! Thank you Randy for your race calling skills and your auction skills. Congratulations to Bill Perez for owning the championship mouse winner. 😊

Congratulations to Randy Rickerman, Tom Marlo, and Ray Queen for winning the three bourbon raffles. Seriously, what were the odds with all those tickets sold? Cheers, gentlemen!

This year, we were excited to introduce a special addition to our event, a live auction generously donated by Marty & Judy Dooley's nephew, Chef Jimmy. He offered to prepare a private dinner for four couples in the winner's home, with a fully customizable menu. It turned into a fun and spirited bidding experience, ultimately going for an incredible \$1,600! Winning bid went to Matt & Marcy Howard (Randy's nephew). Sounds like a fun evening! Thank you to the Dooley family for this generous gift.

Thank you to Dale, Valerie & Kimberlie for the generous donation of the St. Jude quilt. So far, we have sold \$320 in raffle chances. Vickie DeBruin was very creative with the darling puppy she made. All these items were made from previous St. Jude drive tee shirts.

Finally, let's give a big round of applause to Jim and Bev Givens, the true brains behind this incredible event. We are so grateful for your hard work and leadership in making this night such a success.

Oh, did we mention we raised \$9,100? THANK YOU!

Next year the mouse races will be held on March 19, 2027 at Andre's West in Fenton.







Meet Megan from St. Jude in Peoria. She surprised us by coming to the mouse races with her husband and they loved it.



Julie won the 50-50 from Plinko.



Winner of the Chef coming to your house to cook.



Our Championship mouse race contender.



Sandy won the 50-50 -- \$1,050



Bill Perez poses with last year's winner Laura.



St. Jude quilt made by Valerie's daughter Kimberley and bear made by Vickie to be raffled off.



Raffle baskets.



The fabulous new venue -- Andre's West.

March Bunco

Co-Hosted by Rhonda Simorka and Patrick and Jenni Belding

Photos by Terry Mueller and C.W. Riehlman











Bunco Winners!

Ice Cream at Fritz's

Sponsored by Ken and Barb Payne, John and Angie Midkiff, and
John Jordan and Joyce Newbauer

Photos by Barb Payne















Articles

The St. Louis Corvette Club

Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

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

OK, who has yet to drive their Corvette this year? Hopefully all the crazy, rainy weather we had in March will let those of us with convertibles drop the top for a little vitamin D sunshine. Some of our past April activities include the regularly scheduled meeting and retirees' lunches plus Sunset and Sangria night in Columbia, IL, Coffee and Corvettes, Fritz's Custard, and the NCM Bash. Rounding out the activities is our annual cleanup and planting at the VA garden and in previous years we've managed to work in a trip to a winery or two. Back in April 2012, sponsor Eric DeBruin led us in an interesting geo-cache event which was a first for many of us. In April 2009 we visited the Wittmond Hotel in Brussels, IL and in April 2008, we had a cruise to Diamond Mineral Springs Restaurant near Highland, IL.



Everyone is enjoying Fritz's Frozen Custard in April 2011.



Everyone had plenty to eat at Diamond Mineral Springs Restaurant in April 2008.



Some of our members enjoyed themselves at our sponsor's show at ELCO in April 2007.



Some of our sharp shooters who slung a little lead at Shooter's in Columbia, IL in April 2019.

And to carry over from last month's column, here is a list of all the past secretaries and treasurers.

Year	Secretary	Treasurer
2026	Chris Woods	Mike McElhone
2025	June Walsh	Anne Pickles
2024	Ron Hagenow	Anne Pickles
2023	Leslie Hoosier	Patti Kusky
2022	Angie Midkiff	Patti Kusky
2021	Bev Givens	Marcia Sheer
2020	Ron Hagenow	Marcia Sheer
2019	Sherri Marlo	Anne Pickles
2018	Sherri Marlo	Anne Pickles
2017	Ron Hagenow	Don Pickles
2016	Erin Duke/Ron Hagenow	Don Pickles
2015	Erin Duke	Bob Kusky
2014	Karen Price	Bob Kusky
2013	Karen Price	Rich Doerr
2012	Mary Ann Hagenow	Rich Doerr
2011	Mary Ann Hagenow	Ann Brown
2010	Judy Barron	Ann Brown
2009	Jane Ehrhard	Sara Gibson
2008	Mary Ann Hagenow	Sara Gibson
2007	Mary Ann Hagenow	Jerry Fain
2006	Karen Price	Jerry Fain
2005	June Huch	Fran Wienstroer
2004	June Huch	Fran Wienstroer

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

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 ”



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