



HAPPY VALENTINES



Cruzin'

River City Corvette Club Newsletter

Cruzin' the Mother Road



Come Join the Fun

rivercitycorvetteclub.com

February 2009



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February 2009
Volume 15 Issue 2

Club Officers

President

Buddy Johnson
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Vice President

Ron Kellogg
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Board Members

Mike Nabors
Eddie Price
Ron Hasting
Michael Pittman

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Sponsor:

Mountain View Chevrolet

<http://www.yourchattanooga Chevy.com>

***2009 membership fee for 2009
are now due. Membership fees
are \$25.***



***You may give your dues to Jerry Ray
or one of the officers or mail to:***



***RCCC
P.O. Box 1061
Hixson, TN 37343***



From the Prez'

2009 is upon all of us, with the unknowns of the future financial situation in our country, it sure is a comfort to meet with my club friends. The conversations don't always have truth in them, but what's a tale if a little yarn isn't spun. If you are feeling the blues because of this or other things, come out to the DQ on Tuesdays, or attend our monthly meeting and get recharged. Good corvette owners have a way of making the blues disappear, at least for awhile.

February is starting to be a great month. We have a valentine dinner planned, hope you got in on it. Discussions are underway on how and when car shows will be held, Christmas party plans for this year are underway, etc. If you missed the monthly meeting, a lot of things were discussed concerning your club.

Come out and be a part of it.

See you soon,

Buddy Johnson, President RCCC

Weekly/Monthly Gatherings

Tuesdays, members gather at the Dairy Queen on 153, for casual conversation @ 6 pm

RCCC monthly meeting 3rd Thursday of each month at O'Charleys on Hixson Pike, meeting starts at 7 pm

Fridays, Happy Days, Highway 58 @ 6:30

Upcoming Events

February 14th RCCC Valentine Dinner.

March 27th and 28th Corvette Expo, Sevierville, TN

May 23rd and 24th, Vettes in the Valley, Maggie Valley North Carolina.

June 9, Vettes on the Beach, Myrtle Beach, SC www.myrtlebeachcorvetteclub.com

August 14-16 Vettes in the Mid West (Kick it on Route 66)
4-statevettes.org/index2.html

August 28th – 30th Corvettes at Carlisle, Carlisle, PA.

September 3-5, 2009 Corvette Museum's 15th Anniversary Celebration and Caravan.

Sept 25-27 Mid America FunFest Effingham, IL



January Meeting Summary

The first RCCC meeting was held Jan 15, 2009 at O'Charley's on Hixson Pike, with 39 members attending.

The meeting was called to order by club President Buddy Johnson. The board meeting minutes were read by Secretary Nancy Price and approved by those present. The treasury report was read by Larry Johnston, Treasurer and approved. The membership report was given by Jerry Ray, there are currently 121 members, and 80 Corvettes.

Club dues of \$25.00 need to be paid immediately. A new updated member list will be provided soon.

Old Business:

Buddy expressed appreciation to those that worked the 2008 Christmas party. It was greatly enjoyed, both the location and of course the food.

New Business:

Saturday, Feb 14, 2009 twill be the annual Valentine cruise. Plans will be forth coming. Watch your email for further information. For those without email, contact a fellow member or call one of the officers.

The annual Lions Club car show event for this year, has been *cancelled*.

The club would like for information and pictures to be provided by new members for the newsletter. The newsletter will be a great tool to help us know them better. Also, email any ideas, suggestions, stories of interest, news, etc. for the newsletter to Larry Harless at c5biscuit@comast.net.

If anyone is interested in maintaining the Web-Site please let an officer know and Buddy will be glad to pass it on and help you get started.

Board members, Ron Hastings and Michael Pittman reviewed the by laws and there were no suggestions for changes. This passed by club vote.

Ernie Pierce requested that a thank you letter be sent to Michael Ellis at Mountain View Chevrolet for their support to the club.

Larry Johnston made a motion to use the same format for disbursement of funds to charitable organizations as we did in 2008 to the Food Bank and Forgotten Child Fund. This passed by club vote.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by, *Nancy Price, Secretary*
RCCC

A note from the secretary: If any of you should know of member that is in the hospital or has a death in the immediate family: wife, husband, mother, father, children. Please let me know. The club does send flowers for these situations.

My E-Mail address is: jepnat_1@bellsouth.net.



The Story of a Dream Car by Ron Hasting



In 1975, I ordered a new Chevy Camaro from Ed Wright Chevrolet. Its' color was Medium Orange, but looked like Burnt orange. I always loved the color, but sold the car in 1979 after buying my 1973 Corvette from a friend and a new truck from Newton. I still have both of these.



Fast forward to May 6th of 2006; while in the process of moving some furniture to Nashville, I

stopped for fuel at a Truck Stop and found a car hauler full of shiny, new corvettes from Bowling Green. On the back of the hauler, was this beautiful, orange car that reminded me of my old Camaro.

In June, I sold a house that I had built and went down to Newton to find my dream car. Unfortunately, the cut-off date to order the car had passed and I would have to order a 2007. That would have been fine, but the color changed from Daytona Sunset Orange Metallic to Atomic Orange. I had to find me a Daytona Sunset car!!!

I found two cars loaded out: A six-speed in Memphis and a Paddle shift in Atlanta. On July 14th, I went down to Maxi Price in Atlanta; test drove the car, and brought my baby home.

I've got 7,800 miles on her now and have a personalized tag: **06 DSOM** (Daytona Sunset Orange Metallic).



I added a few modifications under the hood, replaced the hood, rear spoiler, and exhaust system.

I'm looking forward to sunny weather and hangin' out with my Corvette buddies.

There are new members that jump right in and start participating in every event. Ron Hasting is one of those members. Though we can't call him a new member now, we are privileged to call him part of our Corvette family. It has been a pleasure to get to know Ron over the past year or so. He always has a smile on his face and never refuses to volunteer to help the club.

Ron was elected to the board of directors for 2009 and 2010 and is Christmas Party chairman for 2209. I know he will give it his best for the advancement of the club.

Ron has done very well in the car shows he has entered and not to bad at the drag strip, a few tips from the ole Colonel and he will bring home the bacon there also. I also heard it has put in seven laps at Talladega, but didn't hear why he didn't finish the race. If you have been around Ron just a couple of times you will find out he loves music and just enjoying life. He is the type person that just flat makes ya grin.





Tech Tips

by Ron Kellogg

Parking Brake Adjustment

This tip was given in a newsletter several years ago but is important enough to be repeated.

Many years ago when the majority of cars had drum brakes they had an auto adjust feature that was activated when you applied the brakes while rolling backwards such as backing out of a parking place or your garage. People who's driving habits didn't require as much backing up would occasionally need to have their brakes manually adjusted. When disc brakes became the norm the manual adjustment became unnecessary.

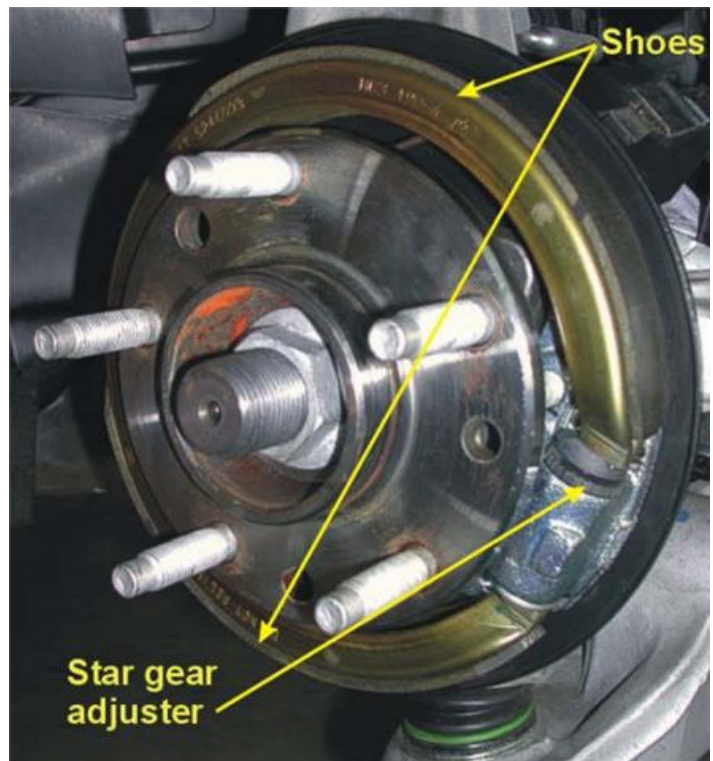
However the parking brake, sometimes referred to as the emergency brake, adjustment is another issue. Corvettes, including most C3's, still have drum parking brakes incorporated into their rear disc brake rotors. The parking brake also has an auto adjust feature. To use this autoadjust feature roll the car backwards on a hill, or in reverse @ 5 mph. and pull up on the brake lever. This will bring your car to an abrupt stop. The engagement of the shoes to the drum while the car is moving backwards will cause the shoe assembly to flex. It is the flex that causes the blade to click the adjusting star one click... Do this three or four

times and it will expand your shoes. You can not over tighten the shoes using this method..

This procedure will only work if your lever is pulled up to between 45 degrees and 55 degrees. If your parking brake lever is out further than 55 degrees it will not auto adjust You may have to do this procedure several times because most C5's came from the factory with an incorrect adjustment. C6's seem to be adjusted better from the factory. Remember pulling the lever to more than 55 degree angle will skip the adjustment.

Disclaimer: As you know many things such as stretched brake cables and broken or damaged brake components can also cause the parking brake to be ineffective.

C5 brake assembly shown.



Detailing Tips

The first step in any detailing program is the evaluation of your car's paint. Take a quick walk around your car. Do you see bug stains, water spots and tar spots, or is it completely free of contamination? How does the paint feel to your hand? Is it rough (small bumps), or is it smooth like glass?

If your paint is smooth and free of contaminants, the only cleaning maintenance it needs is regular washing. *If the paint is stained and rough, it needs a good cleaning.* Clean paint feels like silk (use the Ed test to find out if yours is clean). Cleaning your paint can take 30 minutes or 3 hours, depending on the level of perfection you want to achieve. A paint-cleaning clay can be used to remove surface paint contamination. It's like exfoliating your skin to deep-clean the pores.

Once your car's paint is clean, you can more closely inspect the paint for scratches, swirl marks and water spots. All of these minor imperfections can be fixed with a good polish and some elbow grease, and should be taken care of prior to waxing.

If your paint has deep surface scratches (not scratched through to the primer or metal), you may need to use a scratch remover polish.

Most scuffs and scratches can be polished so they will no longer be seen or noticed.

When your paint is contamination-free and polished to a high gloss, it's ready to be waxed. Most cars will require deep-cleaning and polishing twice a year, whereas wax should be applied at least four times a year. With proper care, the paint finish will remain in good condition for many years.

A big part of the car detailing process includes applying vinyl dressing and other protectants to those surfaces that can't be waxed or otherwise protected. Your dash and other vinyl and leather surfaces need vinyl protectants and other regular protection. Leather, vinyl and rubber dressings protect and beautify. Many people go overboard with applying protectants and dressings. They think that if a little dressing is good, a lot is even better. Not so. For best results, dressings should be used sparingly and frequently. Excess only leaves an oily film that attracts dust and dirt.

This should get you started. More tips next month.



What's Up With the Critters? Part 1 – *The Bird*

For the last couple of months we have had a Mockingbird pecking on the windows of our house. He (we refer to the bird as "he" because, well just because) started at one end of the house and has worked himself all the way around.

At first it was kind of interesting but now he has crossed the line. We seldom leave our cars out. Even if we're going right back out again. But, to drive em you gotta get em out. Would you believe that bird has the gall to get on top of the cars in that short of time and start PECKING! One time he landed on top of the Lexus as soon as I got in. I was at my wits end so I said "hang on sucker because you're going for the ride of your life." I guess he's seen the way I drive because he got off.

Naturally we have gotten some free advice on how to handle this situation. Such as, "put aluminum foil over the windows so he can't see his reflection" and "there's nest a nearby so get rid of it". Then there's my favorite, the Owl. Supposedly birds are afraid of owls. So a friend loaned us a plastic one and we hung it outside of one of the windows. Later that day I looked out the window and HE was sitting on top of it!!! Remember, it was free advice.

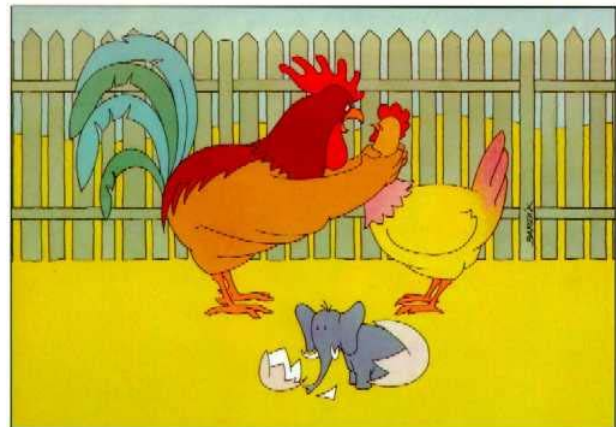
There is a final solution to this but thank goodness Mocking Birds are Tennessee's State Bird. I would hate to find him with buckshot between his little beady eyes. As of this writing, he's still a peckn!!!!

clft



Mockingbird, waiting for its' next victim.

Critter Cartoon





Kawalski Rides Again!!

By Col. J. Larry Harless

Mike Nabors recently sent me an article written by Roy Exum, and published in the Jan. 15th edition of the Chattanooga.com titled "What's a Tachometer?" The context of Roy's article was his love of fast cars, especially the Corvette and his diabolical ride, known as the ride to salvation. It is a very entertaining article and brought back memories of my glory days and foolish ways in the ole 1965 red Mustang convertible complete with eight track tape player, cherry bomb glass packs and a stick in the floor.

Growing up as car lovers, most of us have done, shall we say, some things that may be considered a bit irresponsible. Fortunately as we mature, usually by the time we reach our mid fifties, these acts are things of the past. In the summer of 1973, I was not as mature as the Colonel is today, interstate 77 in WV was under construction. Back then if you found a flat stretch of road over a quarter mile without a hair pin turn in southern WV, it became a drag strip in the wee hours of the morning on Saturday nights. I mean cars would be trailered in to show their stuff.

The movie *Vanishing Point* was playing at the drive inn theatre and readily became one of my all time favorite movies. For those of you that may have forgotten the movie, it was about a young man named Kawalski driving a Dodge Challenger cross country evading the law in several states with a DJ providing him information on road blocks via his AM radio. This movie was popular the summer before I entered my senior year of college. My best friend and I were attending summer school that year and one night decided to go see the movie again for the 3rd time with 24 of our best buddies, known as a case of Rolling Rock.

It was a warm balmy summer night and the drive inn movie was packed, unusual for a weeknight showing. The top was down on the Mustang and the Rolling Rock was flowing like a cold babbling brook through the WV Mountains.

After the show a group of us decided to go to the construction site of interstate 77, I mean it was just dirt, freshly graded and it had rained a ton the day before which left the dirt road slightly slippery, such as that of a minnow's side. Someone yelled lets play Kawalski and the fun began. The trick was to run the course and dodge the construction equipment in the fastest time. Sorta like a quarter mile autocross with bulldozers and large Yuk dump trucks as the cones. Heck ... seemed like a good idea at the time. We are in ...

The first pass was more or less just to get use to the course, learning when to down shift, when to accelerate and also calculate the coefficient of friction on the moist packed clay soil, so when you did the drift thing it would be semi under control.

As we lined up for our 3rd attempt we were in second place by 2 seconds as calculated by a Timex, it takes a licking and keeps on ticking, watch. Time for our best effort I said, as we both turned our official yellow CAT caps in the rally position and slipped the car into first gear. Half way through the run ... so far so good, as we approached the finish ... speed shift and let er rip ... bad move on my part, as the car went sideways and under the YUK at the end. Thrill was not the word to use ... the pucker factor broke the scale as we slid to a stop. After prying white knuckles from the dash and a little clean up of the 100% snow white vinyl seats we were declared the winners. The timer had tossed the watch as he dove to safety, or as I say had a view from below, and by default gave the victory... more or less!!



The Adventures Of The RCCC Gnome

While surfing the web, searching for adventures for the coming warm months with their balmy breezes, I discovered this perfectly divine Corvette Club website. I printed their newsletter and began to wile away the dreary winter hours absorbing the adventures of this marvelous club. Its' members appear to be such friendly creatures. Seeking adventure far and near. This Colonel chap, seems to be the most adventurous of them all. I can relate to him, after all, even the color of his car sorta kinda matches my garments.

As I ponder the possibilities ... cruising the back roads of Tennessee, the white beaches of the Atlantic, and fine cuisine. This is pure Gaa Nome heaven. Til next month, adventure on ...

Corvette News

TVA's Paradise Fossil Plant To Burn Paint from GM Bowling Green Assembly Plant

TVA, General Motors and Waste Management are partnering on a project to burn recovered paint chips from the GM Bowling Green Assembly Plant in Bowling Green, Ky., at TVA's Paradise Fossil plant near Drakesboro, Ky.

The project, called "*From Vettes to Watts*," is the first of its kind for TVA. About 360 tons of the non-hazardous paint overspray will be transported by Waste Management to TVA's Paradise Fossil Plant each year, where employees will add the paint pieces to the plant's coal mix. "*The 'Vettes to Watts'*" initiative will allow GM to maintain its commitment to reducing the amount of land-filled waste produced by the Bowling Green plant." And you will get much faster power!!



About the Cover Page

This is a photograph taken on one of our four day cruises ... in Missouri ... running Route 66, the *mother road*. If you like to feel the wind in your hair while running with a pack of Vettes ... come join us. Yep we cruise local too. Like Granny says, "*It don't get no better than this and we get to eat good food too!!!*"

The Corvette Ten Commandments:

- 1- *Thou shalt not fail to wave to a fellow Corvette owner.*
- 2- *Thou shalt not pass a fellow Corvette owner in distress without offering aid.*
- 3- *Thou shalt not feed thy Corvette budget-grade fuel.*
- 4- *Thou shalt treat thy Vette with respect; great power, great responsibility.*
- 5- *Thou shalt keep thy Corvette clean and waxed at all times, yet thou shalt not bring thy Corvette to an automatic car wash.*
- 6- *Thou shalt park thy Corvette in such a manner as to protect her tender fenders.*
- 7- *Thou shalt blow out carbon with a high-speed run as required.*
- 8- *Thou shalt not cruise on an unpaved road.*
- 9- *Neither friend, nor foe, nor even thy spouse may drive thy Corvette without first showing proper reverence.*
- 10- *Each Vette is an individual work of art; judge not lest ye might be judged.*

Birthdays

Lezlie Burgess 2/2
 Anthony Burke 2/4
 Ed Simons 2/8
 Sandy Jenkins 2/18
 Steve Hanschen 2/21
 Randy Haynes 2/22
 Suzanne Hall 2/24
 Dale Sielski 2/25
 Sherry Johnson 2/25
 Joan Lemons 2/27
 Howard Roddy 2/28



Make Someone Smile

