



# *Tach Times*

*On Line*

*Serving the most dynamic  
Corvette Club in the Southwest*



January 2004



The C-6 is now officially on display



*Proudly sponsored by*



# About NMCA

The New Mexico Corvette Association, established in 1962, is the largest Corvette Club in the state of New Mexico. Membership is around 100, representing all generations of America's only true sports car, the Corvette. Members range from their 20's to their 70's, male and female. Some have show Corvettes, some have daily drivers while others have fully race prepared Corvette's.

Throughout the year the club offers a wide range of events, including social gatherings, static displays, caravans, road racing plus annually NMCA hosts Southwest Invitational, a NCCC sanctioned event.

**NMCA is proudly sponsored by CASA Chevrolet, 7201 Lomas NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico**  
[www.group1dealer.com/casa](http://www.group1dealer.com/casa)



## Contact NMCA

**Mailing address:**

PO Box 91355  
Albuquerque, NM 87199-1355

**E-mail:**

[info@nmcorvette.org](mailto:info@nmcorvette.org)

**Fax:**

505-343-0330



505-343-0400 ext 4

(please do not leave messages – hear recorded messages only)

**Web site:**

[www.nmcorvette.org](http://www.nmcorvette.org)



## General Information

The NMCA web site offers information for the public, plus additional information through member log-in. FOR SALE & WANTED items can be viewed, accessed and posted to by the public in the "forum" area. Please, Corvette related items only and no dealers or commercial entries. All posts subject to edit and/or deletion if content is deemed unsuitable.

NMCA meets the third Friday of each month (except December) at CASA Chevrolet, 7pm in the upstairs conference area. Meetings typically last 1 hour and are followed by a quick bite to eat. Prospective members and guests are always welcome. Door prize tickets are for paid members only.





# NMCA Officers



## Elected:

### **President:**

Phil Ellison  
NMCA member 1980-1982 & since 2001  
1969 T-Top & 2001 Coupe

### **Vice President:**

Wallace Bow  
NMCA member since 2001  
1990 Convertible

### **Governor:**

Ron Scott  
NMCA member since 1976  
1970 Coupe & 1985 Coupe

### **Treasurer:**

Lori Jordan  
NMCA member since 2002  
2001 Convertible & 2003 Convertible

### **Secretary:**

Suzanne Monroy  
NMCA member since 2003  
2002 Z06

### **Activities:**

Dick Youngdale  
NMCA member since 2002  
1972 Convertible & 2002 Z06

## Appointed:

### **Membership:**

Janet Ellison  
NMCA member since 2001  
1969 T-Top & 2001 Coupe

### **CIA:**

David Judd  
NMCA member since 1979  
2002 Coupe

### **Tech:**

Rich Mleczo  
NMCA member since 1983  
1975 Convertible

### **Newsletter:**

Phil Ellison  
NMCA member 1980-1982 & since 2001  
1969 T-Top & 2001 Coupe

### **NMCCC Rep:**

Bill Jackson  
NMCA member since 1998  
1961 Convertible, 1963 Coupe, 1963 Coupe #2, 1965 Coupe, 1969 Convertible, 1992 Coupe

NMCA conducts nominations for Governor in September and votes for this office in November.  
All other elected Officer positions are nominated in October and voted for in November.  
Elected positions (other than Governor) are announced in December and effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.  
NMCA President is charged with filling the appointed Officer positions.  
No member may hold more than one elected position during the year unless to fill due to an absence.



# *The Driver's Seat*

## NMCA President, Phil Ellison



**Happy New Year to all . . .**

As a new year begins, some fresh faces represent the Officer ranks, exciting ideas are put on the table, enthusiasm is renewed and a great year of events and fun is unfolding.

NMCA will be an entrant in the 2004 Super National Custom Auto Show, invited back after last year's great display. The theme for this year will be "Remember When" and will feature 5 vintage Corvettes from the '60's and early '70's. Set-up and tear down requires a little labor, and should you be inclined to want to help out, I'm sure your assistance would be appreciated. Details of how you can help will be made available at the January 16<sup>th</sup> general meeting, and will be posted on the web site. (Look for details under the February 6<sup>th</sup> events listing). Even if you're unable to assist, I hope you find a chance to attend the show and see all the cool cars. Looking into the future, and anticipating an invitation for the 2005 show, perhaps some thought should be given to a truly creative display as opposed to just a few Corvettes parked for the public to view. A theme and display input would need to be started in mid summer to realistically be ready for next year's show. Please step forward if you have ideas along these lines.

Our December Awards Banquet was well attended with 42 participants enjoying great company, food and fun. Gag gifts were held to a minimum (thank you) however some members definitely violated the \$10 price range for their gift!

Members in the news include two former members and one current member. Al Colman will soon undergo major surgery in Cleveland, Ohio. He is expected to have his operation on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and remain in Ohio through April. I ask that you keep Al & Ella in your prayers so that they can rejoin the club and our events by mid summer. Jan Gossett is a former member who joined NMCA at the December Awards Banquet. Finding that NMCA is the most exciting, dynamic Corvette club in the country, she just couldn't stay away, and now has plans to move back to Albuquerque and once again be involved with the club. And former member Jack Richards has contacted me to say that he is doing well, has successfully dealt with the personal issues that pulled him away from town, and hopes to return to Albuquerque in the not-too-distant future. The quicker he locates employment, the quicker he'll be back with us.

And finally, thank you to everyone who felt my efforts and involvement with the club warranted a second stint as President. Your positive feedback and participation in events is my true reward, and I'm truly honored to represent you through 2004 along with a great group of elected and appointed Officers.

Here's to a wonderful and memorable year! May we all reap the benefits and Corvette excitement that NMCA has to offer.

*Phil*

## *The Navigator*

### NMCA VP, Wallace Bow



It's probably strange to see someone who is not Phil or Shane writing one of these columns. Actually, it feels a little strange to be the one who is writing it, too. Let's give it a shot, shall we? First of all, I'd like to say that I intend to make good on all my campaign promises. I'd like to say that, but I didn't make any. That kind of eases the pressure of being an officer.

Phil and Shane have both been great in getting me up to speed as the newbie around here. I don't plan on shaking things up at all; we've got a great car club here! You must agree, or you wouldn't be reading the very last page of our January newsletter.

What should you expect in 2004? You'll get more of what you like already about the club, for example, club meetings followed by a mini-caravan for dinner somewhere in town. If driving long distances is not for you, this is a fun and low-cost way to multiply your Corvette enjoyment. Watching passers-by sprain their necks craning to get an eyeful of 10 Corvettes parked at a Sonic Drive-in is a fun way to spend an hour or two.

If the open road and a string of Corvettes headed down it is what trips your trigger, you'll get a fair share of that in 2004 as well. The activities committee has acquired a few books on out-of-the-way places in New Mexico that you might not have heard of and is already hard at work doing research on how we can get a couple of dozen Corvettes there to enjoy them. As an added bonus in 2004, there is one mega-roadtrip available for the hardy Corvette driver: VEGAS, BABY!!! I'm packing already.

Then again, there are some of you that believe a Corvette was made for more than simply trudging through city traffic and the occasional day trip out of town for a burger. Corvettes were made to turn corners! The partnership that we're establishing with Santa Ana Star Hotel/Casino gives us a safe and affordable place to autocross. Those of you who like the thrill of cracking the throttle wide open will enjoy our expanded list of drag racing dates on this year's calendar as well. Those of you who like the combination of high speed and cornering will continue to enjoy the Southwest Invitational, and if that's not enough for you then please ask me about a little race I like to call the Wallace Bow Invitational.

Finally, expect a little more variety on any individual weekend as we pack more than one activity into some of the events. Caravans might lead to a mini-autocross that will be followed by dinner, bowling and a car show. Regular meetings might just adjourn a few minutes early so we can settle that last debate on the drag strip! How about a caravan out to a car show that's not even in Albuquerque? How about a two-day caravan that includes dinner and a new club picture for the web site?

Check out that web site (<http://www.nmcorvette.org>) for dates of all the upcoming events and enjoy 2004. Just like your Corvette: It's going to be one heck of a ride...

*Wallace*

# *NCCC Update*

## NMCA Governor, Ron Scott



As you know, NCCC renewal deadline was October 31<sup>st</sup>, and our funds needed to be received at NCCC by November 15<sup>th</sup>. I'm very happy to announce that NMCA had 55 renewing NCCC members for the 2004 year. This is outstanding. I think you'll find that the benefits of belonging to NCCC are well worth the minimal investment.

NCCC events are all around us, and a complete list can be located at [www.corvettesnccc.org](http://www.corvettesnccc.org). The Roadrunner Region puts on a fair number of NCCC events each year, and while most are in Phoenix or Tucson, the drive is quick and the fun is certainly worth the effort. As I've said many times before, you can't expect these other clubs to visit Albuquerque if we don't visit them from time to time. What we really need is to have a bunch of NMCA members to go these events and start bringing home all their trophies. I am certain that we'd start seeing these folks at SWI in an attempt to reclaim some of that hardware!

Please go to your 2004 calendar now and block June 5-12. Don't allow anything to interfere with your opportunity to experience the National Corvette Convention held in sunny Las Vegas, Nevada. So often this event is held 1,000+ miles from here, which makes it tougher to get to. 2004 brings the activity to our own backyard practically. 9 hours and you're in Las Vegas (maybe less for some of our members – you know who you are!) Great room rates, events galore and how can you not have a good time taking in the sights of Las Vegas! Convention registration begins **Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004**. You can **reserve your room now** by visiting [www.corvettesnccc.org](http://www.corvettesnccc.org), click on **2004 NCCC Convention . . .** & **Make Your Stardust Reservation Now** and follow the instructions.

Here is a list of some up-coming NCCC events in our region. Contact me if you have questions about any of these events, or if you're planning to attend for the first time and want more location and hotel type information. ([rscottlt1@aol.com](mailto:rscottlt1@aol.com))

*Ron*

2-14-04	Concours	Scottsdale, AZ (DCA)
3-13-04	Peoples Choice Car Show	Tucson, AZ (TCC)
3-20-04	People's Choice Car Show	Scottsdale, AZ (CCA)
4-4-04	Rallye III (2)	Cottonwood, AZ (VVV)
4-17-04	Low Speed Auto-X (2)	Sierra Vista, AZ (TVS)
4-18-04	High Speed Auto-X (2)	Sierra Vista, AZ (TVS)





# Awards Banquet Recap

## December 20, 2003

Like Jerry Lewis says . . . "Miss a little and you miss a lot!"

Food, fun and celebration filled this special evening for the 42 participants attending this year's NMCA Awards Banquet. A special thank you goes out to Jim and Barbara Thomte for their efforts in arranging this great venue, great menu selections and making the evening easy for the rest of us. From 6 until 7 we mingled, shared stories and made our contributions to the food, toy and gift exchange piles. At 7 the dinner service began and at 7:50 Shane LeMon began the evening's "business" by presenting Phil Ellison with the traditional Presidential gavel for the past year's service. Steve Haydu then announced the results of member voting for NMCA "Person Of The Year". This honor went to Phil Ellison for a second consecutive year. CIA David Judd made awards presentations to the NMCA Competition Points winners for 2003. The top honors went to:

**1<sup>st</sup> place man: Ron Scott**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place man: Steve Haydu**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place man: Jack Stevens**

**1<sup>st</sup> place woman: Becky Scott**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place woman: Janet Ellison**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place woman: Mary Mleczko**

NMCA Governor Ron Scott then announced the election results for the 2004 elected Officer positions. The results were:

**President: Phil Ellison**  
**VP: Wallace Bow**  
**Treasurer: Lori Jordan**  
**Secretary: Suzanne Monroy**  
**Activities: Dick Youngdale**

2004 President Phil Ellison announced the Appointed Officers for 2004, to include:

**Membership: Janet Ellison**  
**Tech: Rich Mleczko**  
**CIA: David Judd**  
**NMCCC Rep: Bill Jackson**

For the immediate future, Phil will remain the newsletter editor, however anyone with an interest is encouraged to contact Phil!

The evening concluded with a member gift exchange. Gifts ranged from beauty and bath items to jumper cables and flashlights....all very useful given the right circumstances. The tremendous volume of toy and food donations were delivered on Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup> to Joy Junction by Shane LeMon. Trust that your contributions made a definite and positive difference to others less fortunate.

Due to the position of the moon, the rising barometric pressure, or the fact that we're all getting older, the evening wrapped up shortly after 10 pm!



# **Council Meeting Minutes**

## **January 6, 2004**

- Meeting was called to order by VP Wallace Bow at 6:35. Officers in attendance were Phil, Wallace, David, Ron, Suzanne, Dick, Janet and Lori.
- Phil brought Wallace up to date on the current membership.
- Wallace suggested we set goals for the club for the coming year. Sponsoring charities was considered and will be presented at the next General Meeting. Members will be asked for input which charities to sponsor and how we wish to conduct fund raising. Final voting may be online.
- Budget: Phil told the council that CASA still had not finalized the 2004 funding. He then asked the council to approve funds for business cards for elected club officers; this was approved. He also asked council members to consider doing away with the monetary incentive given to members who host events at their homes. This will be considered again once we know what funds we will have for the year from CASA. Lori reported that due to the CASA refund from the Awards Dinner held at the Petroleum Club, member checks will be distributed at the next General Meeting.
- Upcoming events were discussed. The January 18<sup>th</sup> caravan will be to the Chavez Farm Museum in Belen. We'll meet at Lowe's on Paseo & I-25 at 11:45 and heading out at noon. Other events discussed included the February 1<sup>st</sup> Super Bowl party, which will be held at Derek Larsen's; the Super National Custom Auto Show February 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, which NMCA will enter (a committee selected 5 vintage Corvettes to represent the club). NMCA will pay entry fee for these 5 entered Corvettes. The theme for our display will be "Remember When". Additional ideas for club events were also discussed. Several ideas were brought up for events to be held throughout the coming year. The Council plans to set up a 90-day rolling calendar of events.
- Phil discussed the new autocross agreement with Santa Ana Star Casino. The first autocross is scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup>. NMCA plans have at least 4 more autocrosses during the year. Santa Ana Star Casino hopes to have at least one indoor car show in return for use of their parking lot.
- David suggested that Janet include a copy of the By-Laws and Standing Rules along with the membership cards to all new members.
- Phil adjourned the meeting at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

*Suzanne*

Suzanne Monroy, Secretary







## What Happened



**Members: This is your newsletter.** Please feel free to submit a recap of Corvette shows, events, etc that you participate in and want to share with others. For example, many members have never been to events in Tucson, Sierra Vista, Cottonwood, etc. Those who participate are encouraged to submit a short report so that information can be had and interest generated. Perhaps the next time that event comes around, your article will have been the deciding factor.



You may or may not know that on January 1<sup>st</sup>, a fatal computer crash endangered virtually all of the NMCA files and data on my (Phil's) computer. During 2001 and most of 2002 there were minimal files on this computer, but with the addition of a web site in mid 2002, and an increasingly bigger and more complex Tach Times, the files began to swell. Still, in 2002 the information sat pretty much unprotected or backed up. In 2003 the data grew at a rapid pace, and weekly it seems more forms were added, more details and graphics. On January 1<sup>st</sup> while backing all this data up on CD, my computer went up in smoke. This would be the equivalent of revving your engine, dropping the clutch and then throwing a rod **and** having the transmission fall off the car at the same time. Pretty serious stuff that even duct tape won't fix. Luckily we have a member, Stuart Gorelick, who owns Sandia Computers. I called Stu and he provided absolute red carpet service, allowing me to be placed on a priority status, plus more importantly, took every step possible to retrieve whatever lost data he could prior to completely reformatting my computer. Thanks to Stu and the gang at Sandia Computers, 98% of the data believed to be lost was in fact recovered. This is yet another example of members helping members for a positive outcome. I personally thank Stuart, and encourage anyone who has a need for computer service, computer purchases or general questions to utilize the assets within our ranks, and visit Stu at Sandia Computers. Honestly, without his professional assistance, you definitely would not be reading this now, and the February edition would have been in jeopardy as well!



## Event Planner



**Jan 16**      **NMCA General Meeting**  
CASA Chevrolet, 7 pm

**Jan 18**      **Caravan to Belen**  
*Join NMCA for the first caravan of 2004. We meet at Lowes Hardware, Paseo del Norte & I-25 at 11:45, with departure time of high noon. Expected route will be south on I-25 to Belen where we'll grab lunch at a Sonic or like establishment, then at about 1:30 NMCA will tour the Chavez Farm Museum. Cost is normally \$5/person, however Dick Youngdale is working on a group discount for us. The tour should take no more than an hour, at which time we will return home via the scenic backroads, perhaps stopping for a quick ice cream snack along the way. This is a weather permitting event. If there are any changes to the above plan, information will be on the NMCA Event Line, 343-0400.*

**Feb 1**      **Super Bowl Party**  
*Come help cheer your favorite team to victory. An annual tradition where members gather at a host home to enjoy food and football. Armchair quarterbacks allowed. Event will be generously hosted by Derek Larson. Map and directions are available on the web site and on page 13 of this publication. Kick-off is scheduled for 5:25 pm local, and our host has requested you show up **no earlier than 5 pm**. NMCA will provide a sub, pizza or some other snack. Members are to bring any additional snacks plus their own beverages. NMCA will provide paper plates and ice. Hike!*

**Feb 5-8**      **Super Nationals Custom Auto Show Set-up**  
*NMCA will have 5 vintage Corvettes displayed at the 2004 Super Nationals Custom Auto Show on the NM State Fairgrounds. Set-up for this event takes a couple of hours, and anyone who can spare a little time and effort is invited to help out. The fairgrounds officially open at 3 pm on Thursday February 5<sup>th</sup> allowing cars to enter. Exact time and place where NMCA will gather has not been determined. Please watch the club web site for additional details (look under Events, Feb 6). NMCA has the display created, and simply needs help transporting the display (same as last year) to the location and setting it up. During the show, February 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, members are encouraged to come out and help staff the display. Make sure no young paws get on the Corvettes, and answer questions that may arise. We will have club applications and information available as well. On Sunday the show concludes about 7 pm with an awards presentation. Immediately afterwards our display needs to be taken down and cars removed. If you're available, an extra hand would be appreciated. Unless you are one of the entrants, you will be responsible for any parking or entry fees charged.*

**Feb 10**      **NMCA Council Meeting**  
3825 Hawkins NE, 6:30. Expect a 2 hour meeting.

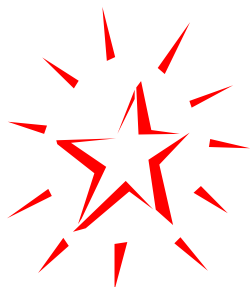
**Feb 20**      **NMCA General Meeting**  
CASA Chevrolet, 7 pm

**Feb 22**      **Autocross – see page 12 for details**

The above is a list of NMCA and related events scheduled. Be sure to check the calendar at [www.nmcorvette.org](http://www.nmcorvette.org) for an expanded list of activities involving other car clubs within the area. Contact information for each is supplied with the event description, if known. As with any event, prior to attending you should take steps to verify the event details, times & locations are still accurate.



## Member News



## Recent Additions To The Family

***Jim Allen***

**1998 Silver Coupe**



(Photo not available)

Jim was looking for a Corvette, and a club to be associated with. In his search he visited CASA Chevrolet and saw the NMCA display case. CASA also had a sharp '98 available, and Jim accepted. After checking out another Corvette club, Jim attended our meeting and has been an active member ever since. Jim joined NMCA in August 2003 and participated in the State fair parade and September 6<sup>th</sup> Corvette show. He has also shown his skills at Sandia MotorSports . . . so keep an eye on Jim to shake things up at this year's Southwest Invitational! Welcome aboard Jim! Finally, Jim works at the Rio Rancho Firestone located on Southern Blvd, and since tires are his business, well, let's just say you may find exceptional deals on any type of tire desired.



## Happy Birthday

### January

Darla Straka – 7<sup>th</sup>

Bob Becker – 24<sup>th</sup>

### February

Lori Jordan – 7<sup>th</sup>

Scott Frankel – 11<sup>th</sup>

Jim Straka – 11<sup>th</sup>

Hubert Monroy – 20<sup>th</sup>

Tom Sailley – 20<sup>th</sup>

Frances Frankel – 22<sup>nd</sup>



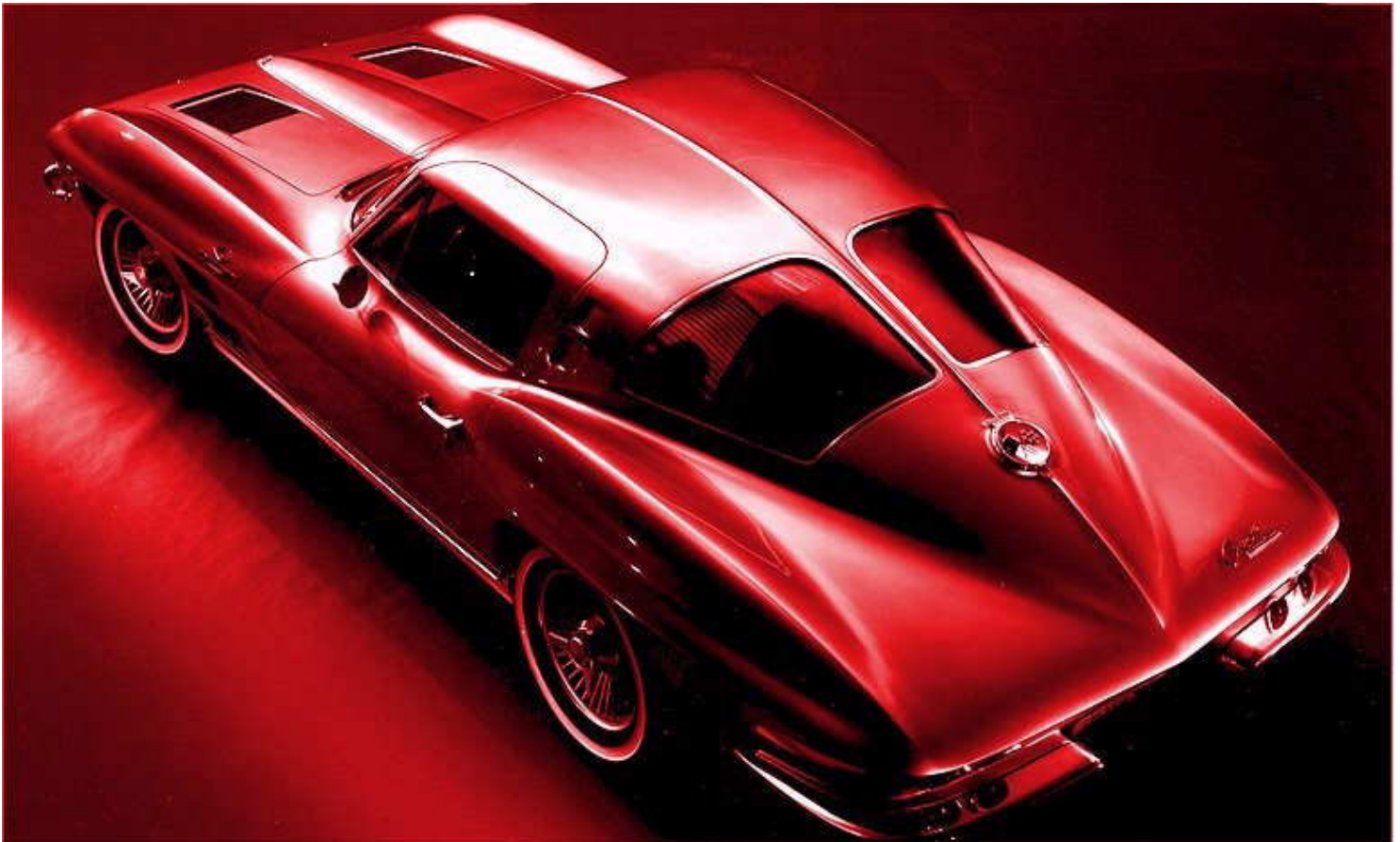
## Happy Anniversary

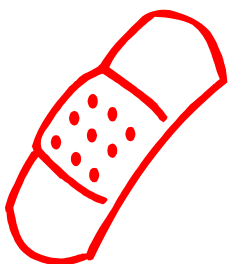
### January

Ted & Patty Gonzales – 1/6/62  
Tom & Honey Sailley – 1/20/64

### February

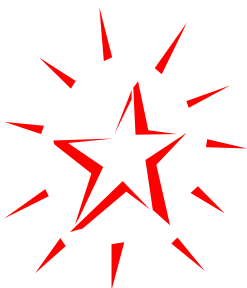
Mike & Kathi Mansur – 2/14/99  
Martin & Judy Vinyard – 2/15/97  
John & Jackie VonLoh – 2/19/67





## Get Well Soon

Al Colman is currently in Cleveland, Ohio to undergo major surgery at a highly specialized cancer clinic. Actual operation is scheduled for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a 6-9 week recovery period anticipated before returning to New Mexico. With luck, we will see Al and Ella back involved with the club by mid summer. Our thoughts and well wishes go out to Al and Ella for a speedy and complete recovery.



## Still More News

**Feb 22**

### **Autocross Action**

*Get yer motor running! A new year, a new location and the same old clock to beat! Venue will be the far NW parking lot of Santa Ana Star Casino in Bernalillo. Plan to meet at 9 am at the location to help set-up course. First car on track expected at 10 am. Price is TBD. Additional details on the web under February 22<sup>nd</sup> Events listing. This course has been laid out so that novice drivers will have fun without pressure. Experienced drivers will find this course a slight challenge. All members are encouraged to participate for the fun and experience, regardless of experience level.*

Flyers and reservation forms for NMCA events can be viewed and printed from the "downloads" section of [www.nmcorvette.org](http://www.nmcorvette.org). Applicable forms will be available at NMCA general meetings as well.



## Looking Ahead . . .

There are a few items that will receive attention within the coming month. Please be alert for the following: NMCA will attempt to solidify a charity or charities to partner with in 2004. Your input is appreciated, and while we will do everything possible so as to not always be asking for a dollar here and there, we would appreciate your support by participation, etc.

NMCA will be conducting a Corvette Show at Santa Ana Star casino in 2004. Your participation is truly needed, so that we can place 40 or more Corvettes on display. This will probably be a 2 or 3 day show. Secure, indoors, guarded and with many benefits for NMCA. Santa Ana Star will most likely be a host facility for the 2004 Southwest Invitational. Please be prepared to help us by displaying your Corvette(s).

Finally, another Corvette Show is being worked on for Sandia Casino. This casino falls within the CASA advertising territory, and this Corvette Show will replace the annual event held at CASA Chevrolet each September. CASA will receive greater benefit from the show being at Sandia Casino, and CASA will have their own new Corvettes on display as well. This event also truly requires your participation.





# NMCA Super Bowl 2004

NMCA will provide: 6 foot sub or pizza, paper plates/cups, ice & venue.  
Member supplies sodas/beverages, any special snack foods, etc.  
Festivities begin at 5 pm (no sooner please). Kick-off is 5:25.

**Directions to 8423 Rancho Ventoso, NW Lost? Call Derek Larson at 239-6099**

## COMING FROM SOUTH

Coors North from Montañito to light Eagle Ranch Road  
Left at light onto Eagle Ranch Road - road curves to right  
Left on first road to left, Rancho Milagro  
Right on first street to right, Rancho Vistoso  
Left at stop sign (barely 50 feet) on Rancho Gusto  
Right on first, Rancho Ventoso  
Cul de sac at end of Rancho Ventoso -  
one story house on left.

## COMING FROM EAST

Paseo del Norte West from I-25 (away from Mountains)  
Cross over Rio Grande River and Coors (stay in left lane)  
Left at light on Eagle Ranch Road-in front of Quanz auto  
Right on Rancho Milagro  
Right on first street to right, Rancho Vistoso  
Left at stop sign (barely 50 feet) on Rancho Gusto  
Right on first street, Rancho Ventoso -  
one story house on left.

