



**April 2007**

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**PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS:**

- Ron & Robin Eschinger – 2007 Atomic Orange Corvette
- Bryan & Jocelyn Glas – 2004 White Corvette
- Stephen & Cindy Hopkins – 1996 Black Corvette
- Michael & Annette Sanchez – 1964 Platinum Corvette
- Chris Hollendonner – 1980 Red Corvette

**NMCA EVENTS CALENDAR:**

What: International Dinner  
When: Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>  
Chairperson: Jackie Haydu  
Location: 2420 Midtown NE Suite A (American Property business location)  
Start time: 5 pm  
Cost: Free, but all members need to bring a dish of ethnic/cultural origin

What: Caravan & Parade & Car Show  
When: Saturday May 5th  
Chairperson: unknown  
Destination: Truth or Consequences  
Times: unknown  
Cost: unknown – probable car show entry fee

What: Corvette Show  
When: Saturday May 5th  
Chairperson: Mike Ragsdale  
Location: Los Alamos  
Times: 8:30 am – 5 pm  
Cost: \$25 entry fee  
Details: see NMCA web site & write-up within in this newsletter

What: Rallye  
When: Sunday May 20th  
Chairpersons: Steve Schulteis & Shane LeMon  
Meeting time: approx 9 am  
Meeting location: unknown  
Duration: approx 3 hours

Events you should block your calendar for: (details announced when chairperson(s) provide details)

- ☼ Multiple autocross dates and drag race events\*
- ☼ June 15<sup>th</sup> – general meeting combined with BBQ at Shane LeMon's place of business\*
- ☼ June 17<sup>th</sup> – caravan\*
- ☼ July 15<sup>th</sup> – caravan, Corvette gathering & BBQ – Hyde Park (Santa Fe) ([www.nmcorvette.org/events](http://www.nmcorvette.org/events))
- ☼ August 18<sup>th</sup> – BBQ at the Buntings\*
- ☼ September 28-29-30 – NMCA Southwest Invitational (registration begins in April)\*
- ☼ December – awards banquet\*

\* insufficient details available at publication time

Check out all NMCA events, plus other non-NMCA car events at <http://nmcorvette.org/events>

## MEETING CALENDAR:

April 20 – General Meeting – 7 pm - CASA Chevrolet – 7201 Lomas NE

May 9 – Council Meeting – 6:30 pm – 2420 Midtown NE, Suite A (Special Day)

May 18 – General Meeting – 7 pm - CASA Chevrolet – 7201 Lomas NE

June 5 – Council Meeting – 6:30 pm – 2420 Midtown NE, Suite A

June 15 – General Meeting & BBQ – 7 pm - 2420 Midtown NE, Suite A (SPECIAL LOCATION)

## Birthday candles burning April & May:

### ☼ April ☼

Dale Mildbrandt – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Jack Stephens – 4<sup>th</sup>

Kathy Miller – 6<sup>th</sup>

Mitch Taylor – 8<sup>th</sup>

Larry Osborne – 10<sup>th</sup>

Donnie Marchi – 15<sup>th</sup>

Marty Hall – 17<sup>th</sup>

Debbie LeMon – 19<sup>th</sup>

Jim Robbins – 22<sup>nd</sup>

### ☼ May ☼

Mary Mleczko – 1<sup>st</sup>

Helga Judd – 1<sup>st</sup>

Barbara Jackson – 1<sup>st</sup>

Janet Ellison – 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tommy Garcia – 5<sup>th</sup>

John DePaoli – 10<sup>th</sup>

Mike Robb – 16<sup>th</sup>

Omar Sanchez – 19<sup>th</sup>

Cheri Williams – 19<sup>th</sup>

Bill Lawrence – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Cindy Hopkins – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Michael Sanchez – 30<sup>th</sup>

Wedding anniversary bells ringing in April & May:

### ☼ April ☼

Jim & Catalina Allen – 4/4/97

Phil & Janet Ellison – 4/10/85

Marty & Bonnie Hall – 4/25/86

## ☀ May ☀

Jim & Barbara Thomte – 5/1/82  
Michael & Judy Luna – 5/4/??  
Stuart & Karen Gorelick – 5/15/76  
Mike & Mary Robb – 5/25/??  
Donnie & Dusti Marchi – 5/31/02  
Shane & Debbie LeMon – 5/31/80

## NMCA NEWS

NMCA member and caravan chairman Rich Sherman organized the initial caravan for 2007 for NMCA members. 16 Corvettes got dusted off and gathered early Saturday March 17th for an enjoyable cruise along old Route 66 to Moriarty, NM. Our destination was the Commemorative Air Force hanger at the Moriarty airport. Members were treated to a splendid overview of the restoration work being performed, the accomplishments to date and a glance at projects in the works. Not only was it a beautiful day for a drive, but several members found it necessary to slip the bounds of earth and take flight in one of the restored vintage aircraft. 0-60 the Corvette would have won hands down, but not one Corvette could physically leave the ground and soar with the eagles. The staff at Moriarty airport were very informative and managed to crank out a huge amount of excellent BBQ burgers for a hungry NMCA mob. Our thanks to Rich for his hard work and for a well planned event. NMCA thanks our hosts at the Commemorative Air Force, and we wish them all the best as they continue to piece old vintage airplanes back together like new. Photos of this caravan can be viewed in the photo album on the club web site. (Photos – March 2007 album or - <http://nmcorvette.org/photos/2007/3-17caravan>)

(the following provided by Atomic City Corvettes)

Atomic City Corvettes is proud to announce their first ever all Corvette show. All clubs and Corvettes owners are cordially invited to participate. This event will be held in conjunction with the Los Alamos County Cinco de Mayo celebration, a family oriented weekend event with craft shows, kiddie rides, and much more. We will have trophies for all six classes of Corvettes. Come join us on Saturday, the 5th of May 2007 for our first big gala! Registration starts at 8:30, awards at 3 pm. The show will be held near Ashley Pond in downtown Los Alamos. Follow Trinity Drive as you enter town and watch for the signs to direct you to the show site. We will have T-shirts, entry packets, plenty of food selections, and a ton of things for the family to enjoy while you have your car(s) in the show.

(the following is from NMCA Governor Jack Richards)

I have had several conversations and phone calls with members concerning the proposed by-law change that we are going to vote on and I would like to post the following with the boards approval.

Members: As the NCCC Governor for New Mexico Corvette Association I have received phone calls and had conversations with several of our members over the past few months. We have a dilemma with respect to our insurance coverage and membership. We, as a Club have liability coverage through the national organization of NCCC. NCCC members participating in organized events and activities also are covered. Members who are not NCCC fall into a gray area where the Club would be covered due to their actions but they, as individuals, may not be.

The current requirement for NMCA to remain an NCCC club is that a minimum of 51% of members of all types have to be NCCC members. At present we are at about 53%.

The dilemma is that I, and I'm certain other board members, have received complaints as to why " They" are paying for NCCC and a large portion of the Club (47%) are not. I have also heard the opposite complaint as to why do "We" have to pay NCCC if we don't want to. Some members have been in the club for nearly forever without being NCCC and don't want to be forced into it. I've heard that we're doubling the dues (\$70 per year for a couple Which is less than \$6 per month for a couple). There is also a misconception that the insurance is because of the "Racers". The truth is that nationally, the highest claims have been incurred at car shows with rallyes and parades following that. Autocrosses have the lowest incident of claims.

I have had members threaten to quit if we make them join NCCC and I have had members threaten not to pay NCCC unless everyone does. The fact is that if we drop below 51% this October when renewals are turned in we will be dropped as an NCCC club and we would have to try and obtain insurance coverage as a stand alone entity.

I would appreciate it if everyone brings their thoughts and comments to the next general meeting so that an equitable and responsible decision can be made regarding this issue. It's your Club and it is important.

\*\*\* Member note: A motion is before the general membership concerning mandatory NCCC membership, to be voted on at the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. This vote could easily decide the future of NMCA.

## **PROCEDURES & REGULATIONS**

First and foremost, as a member of NMCA you are obligated to act in a manner becoming of NMCA whenever participating in a club event (social or competitive), or when representing NMCA in any official capacity. This includes, but is not limited to, obeying all traffic laws, acting in a courteous manner, and respecting all property, private or public. If there are rulebook challenges or disputes, these issues need to be brought to the attention of the NMCA Governor and event chairperson in a civil, professional manner. When participating in a club organized event, you the member, represent NMCA to other members and to the general public which may be observing or somehow associated with our event. Treat the club, its' members and associates with respect and you can expect no less in return.

As we enter a new season of Corvette fun and activities, the time is right to once again review some of the rules and guidelines we must all be aware of. This edition of Tach Times deals with car shows. Subsequent issues will discuss autocrosses, drags, funkhanas and rallyes. NMCA is an NCCC car club and is obligated to follow the official rulebook as closely as practicable for each event. The rulebook is established to afford a safety factor for all participants while still affording maximum enjoyment. Since NCCC provides an umbrella of insurance protection, we must make all reasonable attempts to conform to the common sense rules set forth.

### **Autocrosses:**

The autocross event should not be prejudged as an event strictly for the serious racer. Autocrosses are courses set up with safety as the primary concern. Cones are used to mark a path. Every precaution is taken to insure that even if your car got out of control, the area would accommodate the slid or slide. Extreme care is taken to make the start and finish areas, plus any areas where spectators may gather extra safe. There is no requirement for each driver to push their Corvette to the absolute edge. You drive at a safe, comfortable speed for you. A well constructed autocross course will afford you the opportunity to encounter turns and situations that don't typically present themselves in daily driving. Learning how your car responds in abnormal situations can provide you with the proper knowledge if and when the public roadways throw a curve your way. Jack Stephens credits NMCA and his autocross involvement with the ability to make a horrible situation on the road one day a few years ago turn out to be only a minor problem. Knowing how your car reacts is key. Doing this in an uncontrolled setting is stupid at best, and may very well result in a citation. Use the autocross set-up to experiment and push your comfort zone and learn your Corvette. You may thank NMCA as a result. Yes, cars are racing against the clock, and the competitive spirit makes many brag about their abilities. You are only racing against yourself, with no time to beat. You will not race wheel-to-wheel, and can complete the course as quickly or as slowly as you feel comfortable.

There are some added issues to know about when becoming involved with an autocross event. Your car will be inspected. NCCC makes a list available of what should be checked, NMCA attempts to take all reasonable steps to insure that each and every car allowed onto the course is in sound mechanical condition. You will be required to wear a helmet. If you happen to have a passenger, they will be required to wear a helmet. You must take extra precaution while in the pit area and traveling to/from the staging area. If you are not used to wearing a helmet, you will find that your field of vision may be

reduced, or at a minimum the general sensation will be different than normal. Depending on the course layout, there will be one, two or a half dozen corner workers. These people are in a safe place, able to reset cones if they are upset. Corner workers will have red flags. Should you encounter a red flag, you are required to halt your run. A flag means an unsafe condition now exists on the track. You must obey the corner workers and their instructions. You will have a starter, who will insure that your helmet is fastened, your seat belt is on, and that all foreign or loose objects in your car are either removed or secured. The starter will be your final safety checkpoint, and you may not enter the course or begin your timed run without his/her approval. When you complete your run, you must exit the course in a safe, orderly manner without any hotrod action. Once you have exited the course, you must be mindful of other cars and people around, plus act in an appropriate manner. Should your car experience any technical difficulty (a broken part, etc), and you are able to take corrective actions, your car will be subject to a re-inspection prior to being allowed back on the track.

Tips for the autocross participant: Drink plenty of water. The concentration and demand for your full attention is a physical drain. Come with enough gas. You will not be operating in economy mode during an autocross. Many members have found that their day was cut short because they began to run low on gas. Remove any loose objects from your car before you leave home. The less you have to take out and keep track of at the event, the better. Give yourself and your car enough time to cool down and recoup between runs. This is not a marathon, and your day should not be gauged on the number of runs, rather the quality of runs and lessons learned. If you are uncertain about how to best approach the autocross track, please know that within NMCA there are many very experienced drivers. They will be happy to ride along as an instructor to provide tips. Often times the instructor will take you out first, driving the course and explaining what they are doing and why. This may assist you in learning how to make the most of your own experiences as a driver.

## **FOR SALE**

The NMCA web site accepts For Sale and Wanted listings related to Corvettes, at no charge by private parties. This list is constantly changing, with many Corvettes sold within a short period of being listed. Corvettes added to or postings updated on the For Sale list within the past 30 days include:

- ☼ 2005 Coupe – 6 speed – Silver – reduced to \$41,900
- ☼ 2004 Z06 – 6 speed – Black – reduced to \$38,500
- ☼ 1990 Coupe – Automatic – Red - \$10,000
- ☼ Several C-3 parts including wheels and tire have been recently listed

Review all For Sale & Wanted listings at <http://nmcorvette.org/forsale>

## **NMCA MEETING MINUTES**

Council meeting minutes and General meeting minutes are available for review anytime at: <http://nmcorvette.org/newsletters>



## Test your Corvette IQ:

☼ Passenger side key cylinder lock was eliminated in which production year?

1998 - 1999 - 2000 - 2001

☼ An option in 1996 was called “spare tire delete”. How much would you save by deleting the spare tire?

\$89 - \$100 - \$109 - \$117

☼ The 1978 Corvette had an option of AM-FM radio, stereo with CB. 7,138 Corvettes were produced this way. What was the sticker price for this option?

\$347 - \$389 - \$405 - \$419

☼ What was the least most popular (produced) exterior color for the 1968 Corvette?

Tuxedo Black - Polar White - Cordovan Maroon - International Blue

(answers at the end of this newsletter)

Member input is always welcome. If you have photos and/or comments about a Corvette event or NMCA event, and wish to share those thoughts, please submit to [info@nmcorvette.org](mailto:info@nmcorvette.org).

You should anticipate a monthly message similar to this arriving approximately 3-4 days prior to the NMCA general meeting date. Minutes of the Council meeting and General meeting will continue to be posted on the club web site in the newsletter section.

## About NMCA:

Mailing address: NMCA, PO Box 91355, Albuquerque, NM 87199-1355

Web address: [www.nmcorvette.org](http://www.nmcorvette.org) Email address: [info@nmcorvette.org](mailto:info@nmcorvette.org)

Info line: 505-343-0400 ext 4 (please do not leave a message)

Sponsor dealer: CASA Chevrolet, 7201 Lomas NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 505-262-8600

### Elected Officers:

President - Shane LeMon  
Vice-President - Hubert Monroy  
Treasurer - Lori Jordan  
Secretary - Suzanne Monroy  
Governor - Jack Richards  
Activities - Jackcuelyn Haydu

### Appointed Officers:

Membership - Jan & Dan Bond  
CIA - David Judd  
Tech Chair - TBA  
NMCCC Rep - Bill Jackson  
Newsletter - Phil Ellison  
Webmaster - Phil Ellison

## Corvette Trivia Answers:

☼ The passenger key cylinder was eliminated on the 2000 model (and all future models) due to keyless entry options.

☼ The “spare tire delete” saved the buyer \$100.

☼ The AM-FM, stereo with CB option would cost you an additional \$419 on the 1978 Corvette.

☼ Tuxedo Black was the least produced exterior color in 1968, with only 708 leaving the factory painted this way.

