



**Sponsored By
ELCO Chevrolet**



President's Message

To state the obvious, we are going through a very rough time in our lives. COVID-19 is a very serious problem, but we will prevail. To date, I have heard of only one Club member testing positive for the virus, and we wish her a speedy and complete recovery. Our prayers are with her. However, with our daily lives having changed so much in the last month or two, our members seem to be coping well, as witnessed by the postings on Facebook. Creativity and humor will help us all, and keeping a positive attitude will help as well. Keep up the good work.

Also obvious is the fact that the Club hasn't been doing much in the way of activities since our last meeting in March. As you know, all March and April activities have been cancelled, including the VA flower planting, and I am not sure what May will bring. The Board will have to take a look at what is and is not allowed by the state and local governing bodies, and then make a decision. In any event, since the number of Club events will probably be greatly reduced, the membership attendance requirements for the current year will not be traced or enforced.

Please stay safe and I hope to see you all soon!

Don Pickles, President

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Sue Dahman	Apr 3
Janet Trost	Apr 10
Traci Ramsey	Apr 10
Gary Duke	Apr 17
Bob Bradley	Apr 19
Peggy Craig	Apr 20
Tony Jokerst	Apr 23

ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis & Janet Trost	Apr 17
Gary & Jan Murray	Apr 19
Bill & Gail Mattler	Apr 29
Gary & Erin Duke	Apr 30

Meeting Minutes

The St. Louis Corvette Club met at our new meeting place, Jilly's, and on our new meeting date of the first Tuesday of the month, March 3, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by President Don Pickles at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Introduction of Officers was as follows: President- Don Pickles, Vice

President- Rick Doerr, Secretary- Ron Hagenow, Treasurer- Marcia Sheer, Sergeant at Arms- Mike Kirby, Membership- Mike Kunst and Immediate Past President Ray Queen. One of our sponsors, Mark Gerecke, and his family were also present.

Don reminded everyone about the sign in/attendance sheet, 50/50 tickets, event signups and attendance prizes. Don explained the situation about Grand Slam and why we no longer were going to meet there. Don asked what everyone thought of our new meeting place and everyone seemed to enjoy it. It is large enough to hold most of the club.

We had one new couple as guests, Gene and Marian Glandt. They own a 1999 pewter convertible and have had several Corvettes previously, going back to a new 1958. They look forward to joining the club.

President Don Pickles requested a motion to accept the secretary's minutes. Randy Howard made a motion to accept the minutes and they were seconded by Chris Woods. The motion passed.

Treasurer Marcia Sheer presented the treasurer's report. Ken Payne made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Anne Pickles. The motion passed.

Membership Chairman Mike Kunst read the names of the March birthdays and anniversaries. He reported that we had 96 regular members, 6 lifetime members, 15 associate members and 4 sponsors for a grand total of 121. He also congratulated Jim Givens for his recent retirement.

NCM Ambassador Judy Dooley reported that the new exhibit at the NCM is Cartoon Creatures, featuring drawing and creations from Ed "Big Daddy" Roth which

were curated by Tom Peters. Big Daddy was famous for creating the creature called Rat Fink back in the 60s. Also congratulations to Kirt and Marcia Sheer for becoming new members of the Museum. A reminder that the Anniversary Bash is in April so you are urged to register soon.

NCCC Governor Jeff Craig reported that he will be attending the Midwest banquet on March 7. Autocrosses will be starting up in April with the first one in Pekin on April 25-26. He also reminded everyone of the Route 66/St. Louis Corvette Club autocross on June 26-27. However we lost our venue at Family Arena and they are pursuing other sites. There are also several autocrosses upcoming at Rantoul and Pekin. Jeff urged people to attend the national convention which is July 5-10 in Indianapolis. They are making it more family friendly with many events other than racing. He also mentioned that the Midwest region is the largest in NCCC and sponsors the most events.

Newsletter Editor Kathy Mueller requested that you send newsletter articles directly to her rather than using the club newsletter email. Mike Kunst reported a number of members still do not open their newsletter email. He also reminded everyone they need flyers for events.

Webmaster Steve Kirby reported everything was on target.

Mark Gerecke gave our sponsor's report and noted there are only 4 C7s left. They are planning on getting in 65 C8s this year, with 3 already built. All their allocations have been taken but he anticipates some may be turned back. Mark also noted they have a good selection of used Vettes if anyone is interested. Mark also complimented Jilly's as our new meeting location. He mentioned former member Bob Kusky recently purchased a new Blazer.

By-laws chairman Ron Hagenow reported by-law ballots on proposed changes are

available tonight.

The Christmas committee reported they were on target.

The History committee reported they were on target.

The Nominating committee reported they were on target.

The Charity Committee reported that the proposed trivia night has been postponed until the fall.

The Parade Committee Rick Frierdich reported that Veterans Day Parade signups are available tonight.

Marty Dooley reported that the VA hospital cleanup and planting is now April 26 beginning at 1:00 pm. Meet at Building 52 and we will go for food afterwards.

Vice President Rick Doerr reviewed the following events:

Previous:

February 19 was the Retiree's Lunch at Corner Pub by Kirt and Marcia Sheer. We had a good turnout.

Future:

March 3 is the club meeting tonight.

March 14 is the Crazy Bowl at DuBowl sponsored by the Dooleys and Howards. Food afterwards at the Pickles' house. Flyer has been sent out. \$4 per

person for bowling and \$4 per person afterwards to cover food at the Pickles' house. Bring an appetizer/dessert to share plus your beverage.

March 18 is the Retiree's Lunch at Fortel's Pizza beginning at 11:30 am. Sponsored by Kirt and Marcia Sheer.

March 29 is the first Fritz's night. Meet around 6:00 pm.

John Midkiff spoke briefly about a Collectors Car Trivia night on April 4 in St. Charles. It runs from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. He has flyers available.

Rick Frierdich is sponsoring the April 15 Retiree's Lunch at Rosalita's in Des Peres. Signups are available.

Rich Luebcke spoke about the Corvettes, Camaro and Collector Car car show at Chaumette Winery scheduled for May 16. This is in support of PRISM. The show is from 11:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Randy Howard mentioned there is a meeting at Gianino's on March 12 at 7:00 pm for those going on the St. Jude's run in May or anyone else that is interested.

Barb Payne discussed the upcoming Boonville trip and reported there are 37 people signed up so far. This is July 17-19. She mentioned that there was a service charge she was unaware of when ordering the tickets so those going need to pay \$1.50 more.

Under New Business Sherri Marlo mentioned that the Paws for the Cause benefit in Columbia, IL is coming up soon and she has 2 tickets if anyone wants to join their table. They are \$75 each. Ray Queen mentioned that Pam will be placing an order soon for shirts, etc. so if you are wanting any club wear, please email her

soon.

President Don Pickles made several announcements. Bob and Chris Woods donated money toward the VA hospital planting tonight. Also Bob from Bob's Gasoline Alley, who we visited recently, died suddenly this week. Club member Dale Zeisset had a heart attack recently while in Florida. He is doing well and he and Valerie are on their way home. Also Carl Cox mentioned he will be going on an Honor Flight in the next few weeks. Congratulations and thank you for your service, Carl!

There were also announcements from two members with new cars. Bruce and Kathy Wooldridge recently purchased a Shark Grey 2016 coupe in Texas and Kevin Yovich recently purchased a 2017 Black Rose Z06.

Thank you to Rick and Mary Doerr for bringing the dessert tonight. Next month the cake will be brought by John and Angie Midkiff.

The 50/50 winner was Kathy Wooldridge for \$110.00.

There were 57 members in attendance.

Attendance prizes were won by Randy Howard and Theresa Luebcke.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Bob Woods made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, and it was seconded by Jeff Craig. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Thank you for attending. Drive Safely, Save the Wave and always have fun!

Respectfully Submitted by Ron Hagenow - Secretary

Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports

NCM Ambassadors Report

Well if you haven't heard, the National Corvette Museum BASH (4/22-25) has been postponed to May 28-30. If you have registered for this event and still plan to attend on the new weekend, your BASH registration will be transferred to those days, so you don't have to do anything. If you can't make it for the new dates then you will need to cancel your reservation for the BASH. Cancellations made now through May 7 will get a full refund. You can cancel by logging into your account on the website and cancelling on line. If you need help call or email the NCM and let them know you need to cancel. If you have registered for a road tour or banquet it will be transferred. If the NCM needs to change their schedule, you will be notified. If you could not make it for the April BASH but now can make the new May BASH you can go to the website and register for it online.

They are trying to keep all of the events and banquets on the same days as before. For instance, if an activity was on Thursday 4/23 it will now be on Thursday 5/28. As of now G.M. will be in attendance.

You will need to cancel or reschedule your hotel reservations for the new dates. Right now the National Corvette Museum is still open along with the Motorsports Park. They are taking precautions due to the Coronavirus.

Judy & Marty Dooley
NCM Ambassadors

Future Events

NCCC Events

NCCC events are on hold till May. The cancellations could continue further into the summer.

Jeff Craig



Driver's Challenge Autocross

14 Low Speeds in Rantoul, IL



Dates: Saturday May 9, 2020 (7 Events) and Sunday May 10, 2020 (7 Events)

Location: Rantoul Aviation Center – Hangar #2 801 Pacesetter Dr. Rantoul, IL 61866

Event Fee: For 5/09 or 5/10 (1 Day Only) NCCC Members - \$ 60 Non-NCCC - \$ 70
Full Weekend Value Package NCCC Members - \$ 110 Non-NCCC - \$ 130
Preregister and PAY by May 1st for the full weekend and save. NCCC Members - \$ 100

[CNTL+Click here for ONLINE Registration](#)

Mail in payment after registering Online.

Send payment to Windy City Corvettes, PO Box 353, Orland Park, IL 60462-0353

Attention: Duane Buchko

Lodging: Block reserved at Heritage Inn 217 892-9292
Knights Inn 217-893-0700
Super Eight 217 893-8888
Holiday Inn Express 800-230-4134

Registration/Tech: Sat: 8:00 AM to 9:15 CDT Sun: 8:00 AM to 9:00 CDT

Drivers Meeting: Sat: 9:30 AM CDT Sun: 9:00 AM CDT

First car on course after drivers meeting with events running consecutively.

Events 1 through 7 on Saturday and Events 8 through 14 on Sunday.

Event Information:

Event results on NCCC Competition Database

Drivers must show valid driver's license & NCCC Card

Chairpersons will be announced at the drivers meeting

All pets must be kept on leash

Lunch provided both days in lieu of awards.

Entrants may be asked to work

No alcoholic beverages or firearms on property

No passengers or open exhausts allowed

Non-corvettes will compete in Guest Class

NOTE: Numbers will be assigned by Registration per assigned number list and available numbers. MWR members requesting numbers other than those assigned by registration will be charged per MWR Rules.

Overall Chairperson: Duane Buchko (630) 816-6423 (Cell) bluevette192@gmail.com

Host Clubs:

MW-351 Windy City Corvettes; MW-109 Corvette Club of Illinois; MW-378 Corvette Cruisers of Illinois; MW-575 Chicago Crossroads Corvette Club

Dave Heinemann	MW-351 Governor	708 638-0199 (Cell)	351@mwregion.com
Tom McKinle	MW-109 Governor	309 826-9794	109@mwregion.com
Don Huskisson	MW-378 Governor	217 202-3955	378@mwregion.com
James Weddington	MW-575 Governor	773 718-1507	575@mwregion.com

Sanctions:

Sat: MW-351-010; MW-575-010; MW-109-001—005

Sun: MW-378-009-010; MW-109-006—010

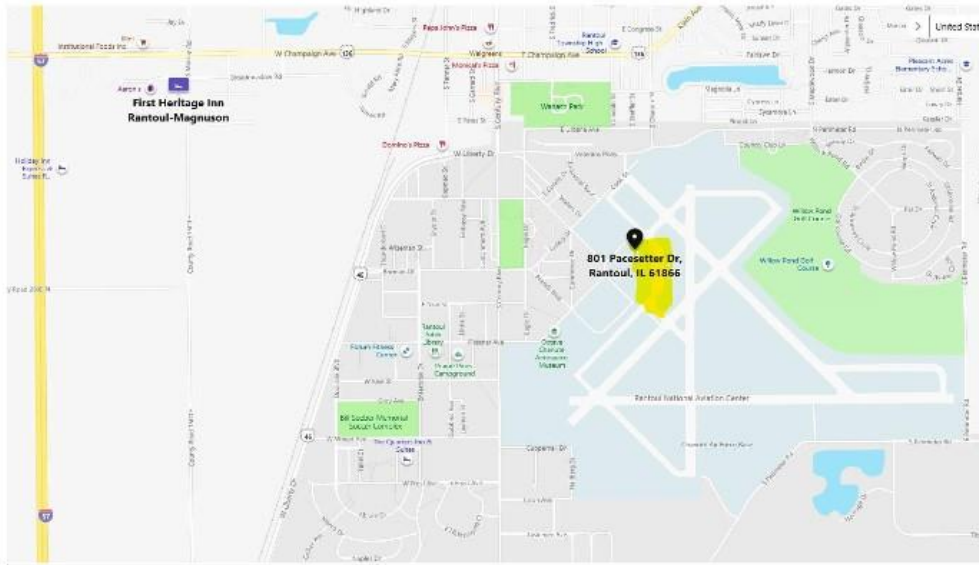


Driver's Challenge Autocross

14 Low Speeds in Rantoul, IL



Area Map:



We are back on the usual Hangar 2 Ramp for May.

Use the North gate, from the parking lot at Jenny St, or Galaxy Dr.

Corvettes, Camaros and Collectibles in the Vineyard



Chaumette Vineyards and Winery
Ste. Genevieve County, MO

Saturday May 16, 11:00am to 3:00pm

\$20 per vehicle / \$25 day of show

“Best of the Vineyard” presentation!

❖ Proceeds and donations Supporting PRISMS (see reverse)

❖ People’s Choice Awards

❖ Sponsored by the St. Louis Corvette Club

❖ Rich Luebcke, Event Chairperson: 636-875-0052

❖ Jeff Craig, Governor: 314-941-0974



*****RSVP** to tnrluebcke@charter.net OR 573-218-9051 by May 1!

****NO outside food or drink, please: Food/Drink available for purchase;**

or make a lunch reservation by calling: 573-747-1000

Registration: \$20 – MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Theresa Luebcke

Mail to: Theresa Luebcke 1909 McCormick Dr., Farmington, MO 63640

Name: _____	Address: _____	Year: _____
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____
Color: _____		
Email: _____	Club Affiliation: _____	
<small>Disclaimer: I verify the vehicle entered into the Vettes in the Vineyard Car Show is insured against loss, damage and liability and I agree to assume risk of any damages or injury. I also will indemnify and hold harmless St. Louis Corvette Club, PRISMS and Chaumette Vineyards and Winery, their officers and chapters for any acts of omission which may result in theft, damage or destruction of my property or injury to me or others occurring during or as consequence of this event.</small>		
Signature: _____		Date: _____

Signed registration is required in order to participate in show

WHAT is PRISMS??

PRISMS is the acronym for Parents and Researchers interested in Smith-Magenis Syndrome (SMS)

Summary:

Smith-Magenis syndrome (SMS) is a complex developmental disorder affecting multiple organ systems of the body. The disorder is characterized by a pattern of abnormalities present at birth (congenital) as well as behavioral and cognitive problems.

Common symptoms include distinctive facial features, skeletal malformations, varying degrees of intellectual disability, speech and motor delays, sleep disturbances, and self-injurious or attention-seeking behaviors. The specific symptoms present in each case can vary dramatically from one individual to another.

Approximately 90% of cases are caused when a portion of a chromosome is missing or deleted (monosomic). This deleted portion within chromosome 17p11.2 includes the RAI1 gene, which is believed to play a major role in the development of the disorder. Other genes within the deleted segment may also play a role in variable features in the syndrome, but it is not fully understood how significant a role they play in the development of SMS. In the remaining cases, there is no deleted material on chromosome 17; these cases are caused by mutations in the RAI1 gene.



St. Louis Corvette Club Retiree Lunch

Hawthorne Inn
123 Labadie Bottom Road
Labadie, MO 63055
May 20, 2020

Join us for all the fun, a great drive, and some great food.
Following lunch we can visit the antique shops, ice cream store or a distillery. By then we may all need whatever they distill!!!!!!!!!!

Most importantly, come and have fun!!!!!!!!!!

Meet at the Bank of America parking lot in Wildwood Center right on Route 100 at 11:15 am. We will caravan to Labadie, a beautiful 20 minute drive.

If we have a May meeting, we will have a signup sheet. If not, please RSVP to Ray Queen at rquette01@yahoo.com.

All arrangements are, of course, subject to any health constraints.



Take Flight at Rantoul Midwest Region Fundraiser 21 Low Speed Events



Saturday, May 23, 2020 7 Low Speeds MW-315-001-003 MW-380-002-004 MW-077-001
 Sunday, May 24, 2020 7 Low Speeds MW-120-001-007
 Monday, May 25, 2020 7 Low Speeds MW-120-008-010 MW-378-007-008 MW-084-001-002

Location: Rantoul Aviation Center, Hanger #2, 6 Aviation Center Drive Rantoul, IL 61866

Entry Fees: Pre-Registered: \$55/day, \$150 for all 3 days.

[Click here for ONLINE REGISTRATION](#) Payment must be received by May 16 to obtain discount

Day of Event: \$15/event, \$60/day; or \$180 for all 3 days.

Passengers: permitted with valid driver's license; plus helmet, clothing and passenger vehicle equipment per NCCC rules.

Exhaust: Closed. 103db Limit.

Awards: Monday lunch provided in lieu of awards. Food truck on site Saturday and Sunday.

Chairperson: Ray Bair, Midwest Region RCD, 17710 Marti Rd, Mokena, IL 60448-8783
RCD@mwregion.com Cell: 630-400-7493

Schedule (All Times Central Daylight Time):

	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Registration:	7:30 AM to 8:30 AM	7:30 AM to 8:15 AM	7:30 AM to 8:15 AM
Tech:	7:45 AM to 8:45 AM	7:45 AM to 8:15 AM	7:45 AM to 8:15 AM
Drivers Meeting:	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM
First Car Out:	After drivers meeting	After drivers meeting	After drivers meeting

Event Info:

Drivers *must* show NCCC Card and valid Driver's License.

Car numbers assigned by Registration. Drivers requesting numbers other than those assigned will be charged per MWR Rules.

No Alcohol on Premises.

Pets must be on leash.

Overnight RV & trailer parking permitted.

Midwest Region Members will be asked to work.



Lodging:

Room block reserved at the First Heritage Inn: 217-892-9292

<https://www.magnusonhotels.com/hotel/first-heritage-inn-rantoul>

Alternate hotel: Super 8: 274 243-0200

2020 MICHELIN NCM BASH



MAY 28 – 30, 2020

Are you interested in the new 2020 Corvette? Want to see several in one place? Yes, you can touch them and even sit in them. How about questions. You do have questions, don't you? How about asking a Corvette Design Team member?

Want to know what is going on at the Assembly Plant? Think about remodeling your kitchen. Start by completely gutting it. Then expand it outside the current footprint of your house by 50%. Now rearrange everything. Nothing goes back in the same place. That is what they did to the Assembly Plant!

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?

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

Contact Judy and Marty Dooley for more information.

jmdooley6493@aol.com

Please Join Elise's Angels Team

2020 Head for the Cure- St. Louis 5K Run/Walk
Sunday, June 28, 2020

Race begins at 8:00 a.m. At the Upper Munny Lot



As most of you know, Elise Akins was diagnosed with a Glioblastoma brain tumor in August 2018. After removal of the tumor, radiation therapy and 13 months of chemotherapy, the tumor has not grown back, and she's holding her own. She continues to have MRI's every other month at Duke University where her treating physicians are.

Her daughter, Amanda Greubel, is the Team Captain for Elise's Angels Team. If you would like to join us for the Race in June, please Google:

2020 St Louis Head for the Cure to Register and Join our Team or to make a donation to the Team.

Articles

The St. Louis Corvette Club Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley and Mike Kirby

What Happened This Month of April in Previous Years

In April 2005, Marty Dooley was our president. According to the newsletter, members were urged to bring their ideas about establishing by-laws (some things never change!). There were 30 members in the club and plans were underway to start maintaining a garden at Building 52 at the JB Veterans Hospital. Plans were also underway for some members to attend the Bash at the National Corvette Museum where they were going to unveil the new C5 Z06. There was also a planned car show in May, which incidentally was when Ron Hagenow first met members of the club and saw Gary Murray. Gary and Ron worked near each other for several years before the Hagenows moved to Alabama.

In April 2014, Ann Brown was our president and on the front page of the newsletter was a picture of the 1 Millionth Corvette looking real nice and then a picture of it flattened due to the sinkhole at the NCM. Member Steve Lyle had recently suffered a heart attack which continues to be a running theme in the club (stay healthy guys!). In addition to our annual VA garden cleanup, we had a mystery run, which is always fun. We hope to have one this year. The winners from the Crazy Bowl held in March were Larry Akins and Ann Brown. Our newsletter editor was Don Giovanoni and he posted a recipe each month. No one submitted a recipe for April so Don printed his most favorite and elaborate recipe, peanut butter

toast! Miss you, Don!

In April 2017, Ray Queen was our president and we had 96 members in the club. Retirees' lunch, VA garden cleanup and the NCM Bash were on our calendar. Several members participated in the Little Egypt Corvette Club Rally as well as an outing at Shooter's in Columbia, IL. There were several pictures of Jeff Craig wrenching on an engine, which happens frequently. If you've ever seen him at an autocross, then you know why.



In 2008 there was a group of Corvettes going through the area that belonged to an internet Corvette club called 63-67 Corvettes.com. They were travelling old Route 66 from Chicago to California. We found out about them and had dinner with them at Ruby Tuesday's in Fenton. One guy had just restored a 64 and

was pulling a trailer. He was from New York and drove from his home to Chicago and then the entire route. When finished he went up the coast into Canada and drove across Canada back to New York. I believe he put over 5000 miles on his car in this one trip.



In April 2006 we went to the Fin Inn in Grafton. We also got on the Grafton Ferry. We got a lot of looks with the ferry full of Corvettes.



In April 2011 we went on a Geo Caching expedition organized by Eric DeBruin. Most of us didn't have a clue and I seem to remember Steve Gerecke finding most of the treasures. The most fun was travelling to the various cache sites and naturally having lunch.

From Dream to... Almost Reality

By Mike Grubb

Last year many of us began to see the videos of the long awaited mid engine C8 Corvette test mules show up online. They were heavily camouflaged in wrap and were usually running in the dark, or hidden amongst the trees at some out of the way testing track, and shot with a long range lens. I have to say, I was not impressed. Nor was my wife. The bulky back fenders and short, stubby nose were alien to me, not at all Corvette like. I decided that our C7 was the last in a line of beautiful Corvette lineage. However, I kept watching, and reading and I couldn't turn away. I had to know more. I read everything I could find, and the mid engine concept began to intrigue me. People talked about the great handling abilities of a mid engine car due to the change in center of gravity and the ability to lay traction to the road because of the weight over the drive wheels. Still, I could not overlook the body style change.

And then something happened. On July 18th, 2019 in Orange County California the mid engine Corvette was revealed in all its glory in an online presentation. The car was naked, free of its gaudy camouflage wrap, and it was stunning! Without the mind bending, swirling, black and white coverings the body lines were sharp and futuristic. Now comparable to European supercars in styling, the Corvette had finally achieved the stardom that it deserved. How much would it cost? Hold on to your hat, just \$59,995 for a base model.

Still we were not sold. Nice but not for us. And then something else happened. On a trip to Road America in Wisconsin in August we saw two C8 Corvettes live for the first time. I could not take my eyes off of them. I kept going back for another look. Then ELCO brought one in for a reveal at the dealership, and we attended. We saw the car up close, listened to the GM rep talk about the features and options, looked in the engine compartment, and scoped out the interior. This car was growing on us.

Finally one day in October, out for a drive, we pulled into ELCO on a whim to visit

Mark, and I asked him to build one on the computer to see what it looked like and how much it would cost. When it was all said and done, Laurie and I looked at each other and said “why not?” Mark, always eager to help, wrote up the order and submitted it.

It was accepted a few weeks later and we began the wait. GM had been on strike since September 16th and with production stopped, the Bowling Green Assembly plant was not able to finish up the C7 orders. The strike was finally settled on October 25th. Many early C8 buyers were expecting their cars to be built during the first week of December, and the strike destroyed all hope of that. The plant spent the rest of 2019 finishing C7 orders, then went on a two week holiday break, came back, pumped out a few more C7s and then shut down again to get the plant ready to build C8s. Finally, C8 production started the first week of February at a brutally slow pace while they checked to make sure all things were functioning properly.

In the meantime, some of the first few cars were sent out to be reviewed. Car and Driver voted the C8 one of the “Ten Best Cars of 2020” beating out the Porsche 718 Boxter/Cayman, the Porsche Macan, and the Toyota Supra. MotorTrend gave it their “Car of the Year Award” and called it the most premium feeling Corvette that Chevrolet has ever built. MotorWeek named it “Best Performance Car of 2020” and “Best of the Year Overall”. Edmunds named it “Best Sports Car of the Year”. The C8 was also named “North American Car of the Year”.

We finally received our TPW or “target production week” of 3/16/20. The first cars built of any new model year are held for quality control to make sure test fleet cars on the road aren’t having problems that need to be addressed before cars are shipped. The plant had begun building cars at a good pace, even adding a second shift. At some point in late February, the shipping lot became full at Bowling Green because cars were held longer than anticipated, and they had to lay off one shift to

slow production. Finally, cars started to ship and all of us future C8 owners were excited to think the second shift would go back to work and production would ramp up, and then the Coronavirus hit! As our 3/16 TPW approached, more and more businesses were shutting down to combat the spread of the virus. Production slowed a bit at the plant, and it was obvious that our TPW would be about a week behind but we were still hopeful. And then the UAW started pressing the big 3 automakers to shut the plants down for two weeks to protect their members from the Coronavirus. At first, on 3/18, the automakers and the UAW agreed that the plants would remain in operation but would make adjustments such as staggering workers starting times and breaks, social distancing, health checks, and frequent shut downs to disinfect the plant. It became obvious that our car would not be built the week of 3/16 but it looked like it could happen the following week of 3/23. Later in the day the announcement came that they had decided to totally shut down all American plants until March 30th.

After talking to some sources, it appeared that for whatever reason Bowling Green Assembly plant would stay open for operation, but with the supply chain compromised for most businesses, they were anticipating a future stoppage due to a shortage of parts or would eventually succumb to the scourge of coronavirus. On 3/18 our build date was possibly one week away. And then the next day on 3/19 the hammer fell. The Bowling Green Assembly Plant decided to shut down as well after the shift on Friday 3/20. They will finish up somewhere around VIN #2800. Our car is VIN #3216. It is reported that they will shut down at least until 3/30 at which time they will reevaluate the circumstances.

So the wait continues. We don't anticipate the plant returning to operation on 3/30, but they will eventually get back to building cars at some point. Just like this country will eventually get back to its routine, and we can all get our lives back. Although we can't wait to see our car, there are more worrisome things to

think about right now.

Featured STLCC Members and Their Corvette

Anne and Don Pickles



**Don & Ann
Pickles**



Managing Editor
Editor Emeritus, Columnist
Columnist
Photo Journalist
Photo Journalist
Aerial Photo Journalist
Publisher

Kathy Mueller
Jerry Craig
Ron Hagenow
Ruth Howard
Terry Mueller
Tom Marlo
Mike Kunst

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 ”