



President's Message

When I had my own business, my practice consisted of two employees plus myself. In the winter months when the snow was bad, I had to make what could have been life or death decisions that affected three families. That decision was whether or not I should have everybody try to get into work. Those were tough decisions, and when I retired about 13 years ago I felt relief from that burden. As it turned out, we never had any problems.

Now, here we are, again, but this time our decisions affect the lives of about 50 families. As of this writing, your Board has not yet decided about the August 4th meeting. COVID-19 is spiking at levels never seen before (at least not since 1918), and everyone has to be concerned about this. We are not going to make a rash decision about the August meeting, or any other meeting for that matter. That being said, the Club does have three upcoming events; one is in August and two are in September. At this moment, they are still on. These events are the trip to Sandy Creek Covered Bridge then Villa Antonio Winery, the Club picnic, which may turn out to be an outdoor meeting, and a road trip to Litchfield, IL to the Ramsey's place on a lake. These are GREAT outdoor activities and we hope some others may arise. Stay tuned.

In any event, please stay safe and save the wave.

Don Pickles, President

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Brian Berger	Aug 1
Erin Duke	Aug 4
Bill Mattler	Aug 4
Rich Luebecke	Aug 5
Micah Miller	Aug 6
Mike Kunst	Aug 15
Jeff Craig	Aug 16
Debbie Tidwell	Aug 20
Jared Ramsey	Aug 24
Sande Mawhinney	Aug 25
Nancy Ellis	Aug 25
Gary Tidwell	Aug 25
Don Pickles	Aug 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Alan & Sande Mawhinney	Aug 11
Jim & Sharon Love	Aug 15
Mike & Karen Price	Aug 17
Frank & Nancy Ellis	Aug 22
Butch & Cheri Riebeling	Aug 24

Special Section

Officer Nominating Process

Presented by The Nominating Committee, Ruth Howard and Judy Dooley

I know you probably think this information is coming out a little early, but we want to get a jump on this topic.

Due to term limits, we will need to nominate a President and Vice President. We are grateful for the wonderful job both Don and Rick did for our club! Although so far in 2020 they have gotten off pretty easy! LOL! We do thank them and the Price's for their hard work in finding the new meeting place – Jilly's. Ron Hagenow has also decided to step down from his Secretary duties. As always Ron does an awesome job and we thank him.

The following board members have decided to run for a second term:

Marcia Sheer – Treasurer

Mike Kunst – Membership

Mike Kirby – Sargent-at-Arms

Nominations are open for every office. Please feel free to call or email Judy Dooley and Ruth Howard with your nomination.

Remember this is **YOUR CLUB!** If you haven't held a board position before, please consider running. Even though the pay puts you in a higher tax bracket – it's well worth the fun!

Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports

NCM Ambassadors Report

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are all well.

The National Corvette Museum was voted the Best Attraction for Car Lovers in USA Today's 10 Best list for 2020. Thanks to all who voted.

A week or two ago Marty and I drove down to the museum. The displays have been redone, and when we walked through, we hardly recognized the place. It was time for a change, and they did a great job. We did miss the three GM Heritage Center Cars that were coming in the next day for a new display. Some of you may have seen a few of these cars at the Heritage Center. There's a GM exhibit of the development of the mid-engine Corvette. It explains how the C8 came into production.

We found the Cartoon Creatures exhibit very interesting. "Big Daddy" Ed Roth's cars and some comic books and T-shirts are on display. Pictures of these cars are below. These things will be on display until the end of 2020.

There is free economy UPS shipping now through the end of August on all orders of \$50.00 or more after discounts, and it does not include tax. They do have a red and a blue C8 Corvette 1:24 scale diecast model in the gift shop. It's \$20, and it looks great.

Check out the eBay auction items. The NCM is offering the "Living the Dream" banner that was outside as you were leaving Victory Lane in the museum. The Grand Opening banner "The Beach Boys are Coming" is also up for auction. If you were at Grand Opening and attended the concert, you know how amazing it was.

Registration is now open for the 26th Anniversary event along with the Hall of Fame induction held over Labor Day weekend (September 3-5). This year the Winners Circle dinner will be added to the itinerary along with the 10, 15, 20, and 25 year recognition of members, seminars and out trips. The event registration is \$20 per person for lifetime members, \$25 per person for members, and \$35 for

non-members. Virtual registration is \$20 per household for seminars and presentations on Thursday and Friday (September 3 & 4).

While we were there, we checked out our Club banner and found it outside of the Corvette Café. We had a great day at the museum. We were able to see a lot and see some of our friends.

Don't forget to check out the raffle cars.

Marty and Judy Dooley
NCM Ambassadors





Special Announcement

St. Louis Corvette Club Shifts to Using eVite

By Mike Kunst, Chief Membership Officer, Member Services

Yes, that was a play on words. Anything for a little levity in these difficult times.

Your Corvette Club is attempting to sanction official events for all members to enjoy. One problem is the lack of business meetings. It just has not been possible to have a meeting. Our culture is to utilize “sign up” sheets that event sponsors place along side the attendance sheet on a table. While this has been very effective for the most part, it is not possible without a meeting. What to do?

We are going to try out a new for us process utilizing eVite. This is free software that allows you to create an invitation and send it to a designated group, in this case the St. Louis Corvette Club. Even if you have not used this software to create an invitation, chances are good that you have received one from someone in the recent past, either using eVite or one of the competitor’s software.

We have 3 events that we are trying to plan over the next two months. This

newsletter has two of them in the Future Events section. Later this afternoon, you will receive the first eVite for the Picnic and Winery event being sponsored and organized by Barb and Ken Payne. The other event listed, First Annual Ramsey Lake House Corvette Cruise, will have an eVite in the near future.

Please give this process a chance and respond to your eVite!

Future Events

Picnic and Winery

Join us for a fun picnic lunch and winery day on Saturday, August 15! Please meet at the Pink Elephant gas station (2599 MO-141, Fenton MO) at 10:15 am and we will leave for the park by 10:30 am. We will need to sign a waiver, because it is an official club sponsored event. We will leave together at 10:30 to drive to the Sandy Creek Covered Bridge State Historical Site (2545, 9001 Old Lemay Ferry Rd, Hillsboro MO) off of Highway 21 near Hillsboro where we will enjoy a picnic lunch in the morning. Everyone bring their own lunch and bag chair to sit under the trees in the shade! The bridge is very cool, bathrooms are available, and if you're adventurous you can even walk in the creek. Remember to bring your water shoes if you want to do this. Kathy and Terry Mueller and I scouted it out and walked down the creek to the covered bridge, and there were many families playing along the way. It was very fun. There is a faucet to rinse off in after.

Afterwards, for those that would like to join us, we will head over to Villa Antonio Winery (3660 Linhorst Rd., Hillsboro, MO), only a few miles away, for an afternoon of wine and music! Jason Michel Cole will be playing from 1-4 pm. You can choose to do both or one or the other of the activities! Rain date would be the next Saturday, August 22. There will be an email sent to you explaining the way to RSVP for this activity. Please respond on this eVite! Hope you can join us!

Barb & Ken Payne



ST. LOUIS CORVETTE CLUB
1ST ANNUAL
RAMSEY LAKE HOUSE
CORVETTE CRUISE!

HOSTED BY: JARED AND TRACI RAMSEY
** LOOK  FOR AN EVITE SIGN UP TO
RSVP**

September 26, 2020, 11 a.m.

**226 ARROWHEAD LN.
LITCHFIELD, IL 62056**

- *ONLY AN HOUR AND 15 MIN FROM ST. LOUIS**
- *BRING LAWN CHAIR AND SWIMSUIT (JUST IN CASE)**
- *BRING OWN FOOD AND DRINK (DUE TO COVID)**

CARAVAN INFO TO COME!!



Past Events

Surprise Visit to Mike Kirby

Sponsored by Marty and Judy Dooley





St. Louis Corvette Club Luau

Sponsored by Mike and Laurie Grubb













Ice Cream at Fritz's

Sponsored by Peggy Craig







Articles

The St. Louis Corvette Club Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley and Mike Kirby

In August 2006 Rick Frierdich was our president and the club was sponsored by Route 66 Chevrolet in Pacific. We had 59 members. It was reported that we had 43 cars for the Webster Groves Fourth of July parade, led by four yellow Corvettes. We won the award in the Classic Car entry. For some club publicity, Rich and Theresa Luebcke appeared on a TV documentary called "Corvette – Rebuilding an Icon". Further, Carl and Sharon Ballinger were in the Corvette Enthusiast Magazine. We were still doing our Thursday night dinners each week.

In August 2010 Randy Howard was club president and we had 96 members and 14 associate members. Plans were being made for a car show at Buffalo Wild Wings. We were also planning on a Castelli's Moonlight Restaurant Chicken Run as well as autocross at the GM plant. There were plans for a car show in September at a Scott AFB open house. In October we were having a car show at Smart Field in St. Charles. For those who were in the club then, Steve Lyle flew his plane over and gave many of us rides.

In August 2014 Ann Sedovic was our president and we had 84 members. There were reports from the Webster Groves Fourth of July Parade as well as Bloomington Gold. We also received a letter from the folks at JB thanking us for maintaining our garden for the patients' use. There was also a small contingent of members who went out west (Pikes Peak) in July. Plans were being finalized for the 20th Anniversary Caravan to the National Corvette Museum to be held later in the month. ELCO reported that Mike and Laurie Grubb recently bought a new Cadillac SRX (*time to trade*). There were also several lengthy by-law changes (*those things are always changing!*). We also had a road trip to the Lincoln Library in Springfield. Naturally we had to eat so a stop on the way back to Ariston's Café in Litchfield was made.



These ladies attended the Josephine's Tea Room run in August 2010.



Some of the club members who went on the Castelli's Moonlight Restaurant run in 2009. They are holding a sign remembering Jerry and June Fain.



Our visit to Bob's Gasoline Alley in August 2019.

In Memoriam

The following story is from Julie Nimmons, Elise Akins' older sister.

"My favorite story about Elise's love of fast cars and her determination to win, was the time she and Dad decided to have a race home. Dad was driving a Mercury Marquis, and Elise was driving Larry's 78 Camaro. It wasn't a long race -- two stretches of country road about a quarter mile each and one turn. Elise made the turn but Dad did not. Once she got to the driveway, so she could claim victory, she

went back and found Dad and the car in the field, and a nice patch of the crop was destroyed. Not only did Dad have a tow bill to pay, he also had to compensate the farmer for a couple rows of lost crops. But... she had won the race, and a great memory was made."

[Click or tap here to watch Elise's funeral procession departing from Peace Lutheran Church.](#)





From Dream to... Reality (Finally)

By Mike Grubb

Well the long wait is finally over! After ordering our Black 3LT Z51 C8 in October, it is finally in our garage. The lead up to this day was fraught with obstacles. First a September strike by GM employees delayed the end of the C7 generation, which in turn delayed the start of C8 production which was supposed to begin in November. Then there was the holiday shutdown for GM employees at the Bowling Green Assembly Plant. After the shutdown, there were still C7 orders to fill. Finally on February 3rd, the first C8 mid-engine Corvette rolled off the assembly line. It looked like our C8 would arrive in April. In fact in mid-March we got word that our car had begun the initial stages of production and then Covid became the topic of the day. There were rumors that the plant could shut down. We just needed one more week to get our car off the line and into the shipping lot, and then on March 20th the decision was made to cease production until further notice. With the rapidly changing pandemic, no one knew how long it would be until production resumed. I bided my time watching multiple YouTube video reviews of the C8, reading technical publications, and engaging in chats with C8 enthusiasts and owners on multiple Facebook and forum sites.

Finally, on May 26th production resumed in Bowling Green at a very slow pace while they learned new protocols for dealing with Covid-19. Soon the pace

quickened and our beautiful new C8 rolled off the line on June 8th. Then the wait for shipping began. I learned how to check daily the loads for Jack Cooper Transport, which hauls the Corvettes, to see if our car was among the cargo for that day. Day after day went by and I saw cars being transported all over the country and to Canada, some with VIN numbers produced well after ours. It was frustrating but I know logistics were involved and there needed to be a full truck headed to this area for ours to be included in the shipment. Finally, on July 1st our VIN showed up on a truck load and the truck departed late that evening with several stops before ELCO. Its first stop was in Evansville, Indiana where it would get in late and spend the night before leaving the next morning. By tracking delivery receipts for the load as it progressed, the next day I could tell the direction the truck was taking and could calculate to some degree when the truck would be arriving at ELCO. On July 2nd I made an educated guess, and Laurie and I drove to ELCO mid-morning and met Marlos and Queens. After some time talking to Mark, I saw that the truck was still an hour out and we decided to kill time by having a quick lunch next door at McDonalds. Shortly after arriving back at ELCO, the transport truck pulled in and we had the pleasure of seeing our C8 unloaded and its protective wrap removed. (Click or tap [here](#) to see the car being unloaded at ELCO.) It was beautiful but it was only a shell of itself as there were several factory option parts that needed to be installed on the car over the next couple of days.

We reluctantly said goodbye to our new Corvette and went home to wait some more. Over the next two days, Corvette Bill installed several carbon fiber parts, a high wing, new wheels, and a few other small additions, and then it went to Clear Auto Bra for four days where it received a complete wrap of paint protection film and then a covering of ceramic coating.

Finally, on Friday July 10th we got the call that the car was ready for delivery. Mike Kirby picked us up and took us to ELCO where many members of the St. Louis Corvette Club showed up to share in our delivery. It was our first look at the car with all of its components installed and sporting a beautiful shine courtesy of Clear Auto Bra. A few bottles of champagne were consumed as well as we all enjoyed some fellowship surrounding a new generation of the Great

American Sports Car.

So in conclusion, the car is everything they said it would be. The ride is superb, the interior is top notch, the styling is fabulous, and we can't wait to enjoy many miles of smiles and camaraderie in this new generation Corvette.





Getting to Know Our Associate Members

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley and Mike Kirby

For the month of August we have several associate members we wish to recognize.

First, on August 4 it is Erin Duke's birthday. She and Gary were very active members in the club before moving to Florida. We do see them occasionally as they attend club events when they come back to the area. One funny thing is that after knowing them for several years we found out that Erin lived near Ron and Mary Ann Hagenow in Florissant and even went to the same church.

On August 15 Jim and Sharon Love will celebrate their anniversary. Jim and Sharon are long-time associate members who live in Lebanon, IN. They usually attend our Christmas party as well as Eureka Springs Corvette Weekend.

August 22 is Frank and Nancy Ellis's anniversary. Frank was a long time Chevrolet executive and was instrumental in running the Corvette Challenge in the late 80s. Here is a short article from the National Corvette Museum C4 Gathering

in 2012 where Frank gave a presentation: *Frank Ellis – then a young Chevy marketing manager, now a retired GM executive, is an unsung Corvette Challenge Hero. He held together the patchwork of engineers, dealers, sponsors and racers that kept the series going in '88 and '89. But there wouldn't have been a Corvette Challenge had not Doug Robinson orchestrated the rout of the SCCA's Escort Endurance series in '85, '86 and '87 that got the Corvettes kicked out.* Frank and Jerry Craig are longtime friends.

In keeping with the Ellis theme, August 25 is Nancy Ellis's birthday.

Finally, we remember our good friend Sandy Kirby. She led a valiant effort to fight ALS but succumbed on August 3, 2018 at the age of 67. Sandy was very active in the club and there was a very dedicated team of ladies from the club who visited and helped her until she passed. Even when in a wheelchair and without the ability to speak, nothing could stop her. We continue to do the annual ALS Walk in her memory.

Featured STLCC Members and Their Corvettes

Ron and Mary Ann Hagenow



**Ron & Mary Ann
Hagenow**



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Editor Emeritus, Columnist
Columnist
Photo Journalist
Photo Journalist
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CHEVROLET

“ WHERE CUSTOMERS ARE FIRST
AND CARS ARE SECOND TO NONE ”

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