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President's Message

As I paused to “celebrate” Memorial Day, I couldn’t help but notice how things have changed this year. At the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the colors were presented, taps was played, the Blue Angels did a flyover, but there was no race and the speedway was completely empty. At Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, there were thousands of shining white headstones, but no flags. I guess that as long as we don’t forget the true meaning of Memorial Day, the rest will take care of itself, eventually.

Speaking of taking care of yourself, I hope that everyone is doing well. I know that a few members of our Club’s family have been having some hard times with hospital stays and other medical issues, but you know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, as always.

As you know, your Board had to cancel all of June’s activities. This is getting old, and I am not sure if the end is near. With so many Federal, State, County, Local, and CDC guidelines, it is hard to get together as a group. But, hopefully, things will get back to normal soon, whatever the new normal is. Looking ahead to July, I understand that the Webster Groves 4th of July parade has been canceled, and the horses are not currently running at Fairmont Park, but the modified trip to Boonville may still be on. We will have to wait for the final word on that from Ken and Barb, but we still have some time.

In the meantime, please stay well, save the wave, and I hope to see all of you
SOON!

Don Pickles, President

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Angie Midkiff	Jun 5
Butch Riebeling	Jun 13
Judy Dooley	Jun 14
Barry Seelig	Jun 14
Sonja Giffhorn	Jun 15
Sherry Marlo	Jun 15
David Markland	Jun 18
Alex Rethy	Jun 21
John Corrona	Jun 22
Diana Walker	Jun 23
John Midkiff	Jun 25
Mike Topolski	Jun 25
Jim Givens	Jun 26
Rick Doerr	Jun 29
Terry Mueller	Jun 29

ANNIVERSARIES

Carl & Pat Cox	Jun 5
Mark & Kimberlie Gerecke	Jun 11
Gary & Debbie Tidwell	Jun 11
Dana & Diana Griggs	Jun 17
Bob & JoAnn Rogers	Jun 25
Ron & Mary Ann Hagenow	Jun 30

Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports

NCM Ambassadors Report

Well the BASH has gone completely virtual, and once again we will not get to see people. The National Corvette Museum did come up with a way for us to all stay sane while cooped up in our homes. It was the "On-line Car Show". I know some of our members participated, and those who did should have received a dash plaque for entering.

The Corvette store in-store shopping will reopen on May 20th with 50% capacity, but you can still order online. Don't forget dad for Father's Day. Father's Day is June 21st.

The Corvette Plant will resume production on May 26th, but there still isn't any information on when the tours will start up again.

The next time you go to the NCM, you might want to go to hated C or D on Corvette Drive. A new pull through area is there for a photo op of your car and the Skydome in the background.

There are still raffle cars to check out online – a 2020 silver convertible on June 18th and a 2020 red coupe on September 5th for now. Either raffle ticket would make a nice Father's Day gift.

Stay healthy and safe.

Judy and Marty Dooley

NCM Ambassadors



Future Events

All events scheduled for the month of June are either cancelled or postponed due to the coronavirus.



Although the St. Louis Walk to defeat ALS has been canceled, the ALS Association is still working hard to defeat ALS. Donations to Team Sandy are still very much appreciated. If you would like to join Team Sandy and donate, please visit the Team Sandy page on the ALS Association's website [here](#).

Pam Queen

Team Sandy Captain

From the VA Garden committee:

We talked to people at the hospital about our volunteer work in the garden. The director told us it may be another four or six weeks before it will be safe for us and the patients, and the doctors let us into the garden area. In the meantime, stay safe and get your own gardens looking good again.

Marty and Judy Dooley



The Head for the Cure walk has been postponed until August 8. More details will be available later.

Articles

The St. Louis Corvette Club Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley and Mike Kirby

In June 2009, Theresa Luebcke was our president and some of the club members had just come back from a trip to Tunica. Guests at the May meeting were Don and Judy Giovanoni, who joined shortly thereafter. A large group of club members were getting ready to participate in the 15th Anniversary Caravan to the NCM and our own Carl and Sharon Ballinger were captains for one of the Midwest region caravans. We did not have a club sponsor at this time. Those that went to the NCM Bash reported that the Museum looked great with its new addition.

In June 2010, Randy Howard was club president and we had 96 members. ELCO was our sponsor now and Eric and Mark were in attendance at our meeting. Apparently there was another trip to Tunica this year but “what happens in Tunica, stays in Tunica”. A couple of members were participating in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk and we were having a car show at ELCO at the end of the month. We also had a lunch trip to Sal’s in Wartburg, IL. Those who have helped at the VA Hospital Garden should know that this is the year we replaced all the old borders with stone and had new fountains installed.

In June 2016, Mike Price was our president and we had 91 members. That month we had a night at the races planned as well as a car show and a luau at the

Grubbs' house. Judy Giovanoni picked up her new 2016 red coupe and daughter Carrie inherited Judy and Don's 2006 coupe. John and Angie Midkiff, who visited with us in May, have joined the club. And Jerry Craig had just WON his shark grey coupe (it pays to buy those NCM raffle tickets). Talk about lucky. And check out his license plate, "1THIS1", which was suggested by Randy Howard. Several club members went to the Museum to participate in his delivery. Judy Dooley was selling \$10 NCM raffle tickets for a black 2016 convertible (somehow that car sounds familiar). Both Jerry and Judy showed up at Fritz's just to show off their new cars. Some members participated in a Cars and Coffee event at Busch Stadium this month.



Here is a shot of everyone who participated in the ELCO car show in June of 2011.



In June of 2007 some of us had a wonderful dinner and wine at the Montelle Winery sponsored by the Prices.



Here is a picture of our club meeting at Lynch Hummer from June 2008.

The Really Hard Route to Get Your Corvette

By Ken Payne

Someone in the club asked me to write a summary of my heart experiences. Below, is a list of what I have done since 2006 concerning my heart.

- July 12, 2006 – Our company requested any employees with special training, such as speaking a foreign language, a CPA, a Notary, CPR training, etc. should update their employee files. Janet said CPR was the only thing on the list she could check, but it had been so long, she wasn't sure she would remember what to do. However at that time, she thought about what she would have to do if she needed it.
- July 15, 2006 – I am working overtime on Saturday. Janet walks in on her day off and finds me dead on the floor. She performs CPR. My chance of surviving goes down 10% every minute. EMS takes 28 minutes to respond. The Deputy-Chief of Police comes in and shocks me back within the first 10 minutes. I receive an ICD implant.
- October 2011 – I am starting my water aerobics class and my heart stops. My ICD fires and gives me a good sinus rhythm. I am kept in the hospital for 5 days then released.
- February 8, 2012 – I see a new Cardiologist. He calls me at home at 7:30 pm and tells me he already has a room reserved for me at Mercy and for me to check in the next day. I was about 10 days from dying. I had congestive heart failure. I lost 36 pounds (4.5 gal.) of water in 6 days. I lost a total of 50 pounds in 3 weeks. I am unable to return to work.
- July 2014 – My Cardiologist sends me to BJC to be evaluated for a pump. I am tested in October and it is determined my heart is too good to get a pump.
- March 2015 – My ICD fires 6 times in 9 minutes trying to get a good sinus rhythm. I am rushed to Mercy. I stay there one week working to get stabilized to be moved to BJC. I am transported after 1 week. I am at BJC for 3 weeks trying to get me strong enough for surgery. After 3 weeks, the doctors determine I am too weak for surgery and may die on the table. They also determine that if I do not get the pump, I will not survive. During the 3 weeks, they needed to take my blood pressure from

inside my heart. They installed a “Swan” device to take measurements .It is basically a dipstick inserted into my neck and fished into my heart through a vein. I am not allowed to sit up or move my head for 3 days. It is extremely uncomfortable. I was told the good news is they do it only once. They finally removed the Swan and reviewed the results. Not liking the results, the doctors installed a Swan 2 more times before they are satisfied with the readings. After 4 weeks, a pump is installed on my heart.

- March 2015 - July 2016 – I have the pump on my heart. I have an electrical wire coming out of an open wound in my abdomen. I must always be under power. Two batteries during the day and plugged into the wall at night. I must be able to reach the bathroom from my bed. I cannot walk more than 10 feet away from the controller. If there is a fire, I may not get out in time. I cannot swim or be submerged. I have to wrap my abdomen with Glad Wrap to take a shower.
- June 15, 2016 – I am told I am listed for a transplant. It should take at least 27 months. I have 3 or 4 months left to live.
- July 12, 2016 – I am called and told I went from the bottom of the list to the top of the list with a near perfect match to the donor heart.
- July 13, 2016 – I received my new heart 9 years and 363 days after dropping dead at work.

Final thoughts – I woke up after the pump surgery and after the heart transplant, and both times I knew I needed to buy a Red Corvette. During the 10 years, my heart stopped over 4 dozen times. I was able to get it to start (without a shock) by coughing. Covid-19 has us on lock down. We can eat and drink, watch TV, talk on the phone, and go to the store as needed. Many can work from home. Unfortunately, many cannot work from home. While I have restrictions due to Covid-19, it is still better than being tethered to a controller or having a Swan in

my neck. I am blessed to be alive by God's grace.

Please consider signing up to be an organ donor.

<https://health.mo.gov/living/organdonor/>

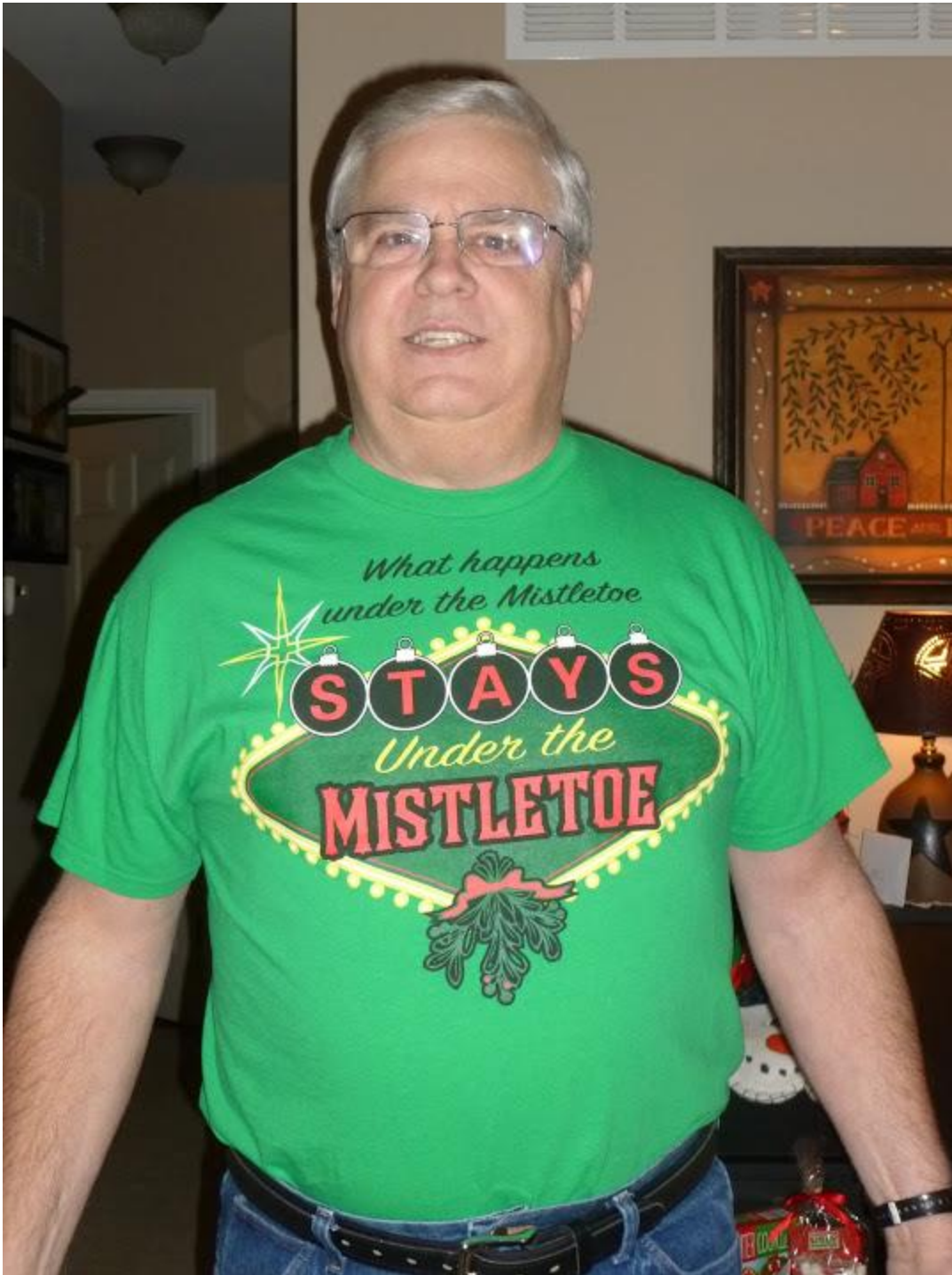


In Memoriam

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley and Mike Kirby

This month we pause to remember our good friend and club member Don Giovanoni who passed away on June 6, 2015 at the age of 66. Don, along with Judy, was a great supporter of the club and was our newsletter editor for a number of years. He was famous for his recipe of the month in the newsletters. He had a quick and dry sense of humor and I can still hear his laugh. He and his family raced in SCCA events throughout the country. I believe a lot of vacation time was spent in a camper going to races and his kids were his pit crew. If I recall correctly, he had owned over 50 cars. In addition to Corvettes he was partial to VWs and Miatas. Judy still has his authentic Bruce Meyers Manx dune buggy. His daily driver was a 2006 red coupe when he worked at Ralston Purina. On Don and Judy's first trip to Eureka Springs as "Eureka Springs virgins", Mary Ann and I were having breakfast with them and it started hailing! Don just said "fiberglass doesn't dent" and kept on eating. My fondest memory is shortly before he passed, I picked him up and we visited Jeff Craig when he worked at Moto Exotica. We spent several hours checking out all the cars and reminiscing about all the cars we used to own. He was especially drawn to a VW bug there. After our visit we had an excellent gourmet lunch at White Castle! At his funeral we must have had over 35 club cars lead the procession from church to the cemetery. We all had to rev our engines when we drove by his burial plot. He is still missed by us as well as his family.



All decked out for Price's 12th Day of Christmas Party.



Don and Judy at a Fritz's Ice Cream Run.



Three old people waiting for the bus to go to Chelsie's in Eureka Springs.



Don was sweet-talking club president Ann Brown trying to get out of being the newsletter editor.



Don being a funny guy showing off his Vette.

Getting to Know Our Associate Members

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley and Mike Kirby

This month we feature Associate Member John Corona who has a birthday on June 22. John lives in Vincennes, Indiana and is the brother-in-law of Jerry Craig and an uncle to Jeff, Patty and Peggy Craig. John's wife Pam and Armynta Craig

were sisters. John did three tours in Viet Nam as a Marine door gunner. Thank you for your service, John! After a career as a police officer, John now owns a private investigative service. John and Pam have owned several Corvettes. Their current one is a 1999 red convertible which they bought from club member Carl Cox.

Featured STLCC Members and Their Corvette Jerry Craig



Jerry Craig



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Kathy Mueller

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Columnist
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