

President's Message

In last month's message, I began with "spring has sprung". I guess the joke is on me! Who would have thought we would soon be getting a beautiful snowfall on April 20th? You must admit, it was beautiful with the green grass background. Then the very next day, we had a record turnout (close to 40 people) for the Howards and Murrays retiree's lunch, some of which were driving convertibles. Only in the Midwest can we have 2 or 3 seasons in one week!

We had almost 60 members at our April meeting at Cliff Cave Park. It was great seeing everyone under one roof again. Don't forget, our May meeting will be back at Jilly's. Come early for dinner and/or to visit, and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Lisa, the owner of Jilly's, has confirmed her staff will wear masks for us. I have been in the restaurant business for the past 40 years and I am not sad to be out! Staffing has always been an issue for owners and in today's world; it is harder than ever to find good help. Someone can collect \$600 in unemployment every week, so where is the incentive for people to work? (Rhetorical question, no need to respond). This goes without saying, but I'll say it anyway, please be patient with the staff, and if you have been well taken care of, tip better than you normally would. We need to take care of our small businesses; the pandemic has hurt a lot of them financially.

Speaking of small businesses, I assume everyone has heard of "Angie's List", the

website where you can "instantly find Top-Rated Pros" to repair just about anything. Did you know we have our very own "Angie's List", not just for repairs, but for all types of services? For example, Jay (the Howard's son-in-law) can take care of all your painting needs, Michael (the Queen's son) can help you with all your vacuuming needs and Meagan (our daughter-in-law) is an interior designer. We have a few Real Estate Agents and Jason Grubb can even take care of any and all of your pool/beach towel needs. And let's not forget Bob's new business, Mobility Plus, helping those with mobility needs. These are just a few examples of what our "STLCC families" have to offer. I am compiling our very own "Angie's list" of businesses owned and operated by club members and families. I'm not asking for discounts or coupons; I'm just creating a list of businesses I hope you will consider supporting. If you or a family member owns (or works at) a business you would like me to add to the list, send the following information to me @ givensjwg@gmail.com: Name, name of business, website, contact info and brief description of services.

Our first Coffee & Corvette event was a success despite the rain and cooler temps. We had 17 members join us at Upshot Coffee in St Charles, and we had a great time visiting and catching up with each other. If you haven't tried them, give them a shot (see what I did there, give them a shot... Upshot... oh well). Our next event is Saturday, May 8th, at Park Avenue Coffee in Lafayette Square. If you like Gooey Butter Cake, they have 70 flavors available on their website. You will see us parked on the square, and we will walk the short distance to the coffee shop. Bring your chairs. We hope to see you there.

Please continue to pray for our members who are having health, physical and emotional issues.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting! For those of you unable to attend, you will be missed! Until then stay safe and warm, or cool, or whatever is applicable for the season we happen to be in!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Vickie DeBruin May 13

Conita Shoulders May 19

Pat Cox May 20

Anne Pickles May 25

Chris Woods May 26

Pam Queen May 30

Mark Gerecke May 31

ANNIVERSARIES

Alex & Pam Rethy May 8

Brian & Nancy Berger May 11

Jerry & Sonja Giffhorn May 25

Meeting Minutes

The St. Louis Corvette Club met outdoors on a beautiful evening at Cliff Cave Park on April 6, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Givens at 6:30 p.m. Jim offered up a prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Introduction of Officers was as follows: President – Jim Givens, Vice

President – Karen Price, Secretary – Bev Givens, Treasurer – Marcia Sheer,

Membership – Mike Kuntz, Sergeant at Arms – Mike Kirby and Immediate Past

President – Don Pickles. Club Sponsor - Mark and Kim Gerecke.

President Jim Givens welcomed everyone to the first in-person meeting since November 4, 2021. There were no guests in attendance. He reminded members that there would be a 50/50 drawing, (correct change only), and sign-up sheets for attendance and future events were available. Members were directed to the sanitizing zone stocked with touchless sanitizer, masks, gloves, and ink pens.

Immediate Past President Don Pickles awarded Past Vice President Rick Doehr and Past Secretary Ron Hagenow with gifts in appreciation for their service on the past board. Ray Queen and President Jim Givens awarded Past President Don Pickles with gifts in appreciation of service on the board and the leadership he provided while navigating the club during the COVID pandemic. Club members were given red fleece blankets with the St. Louis Corvette Club emblem as 2020 Christmas gifts. The past board gave out tins of candy to members as a thank you for sponsoring events in 2020.

Plaques were made for family members (Peggy & Jeff Craig, Larry Adkins and Jim Love) in memory of beloved club members, Jerry Craig, Elise Atkins and Sharon Love. President Jim Givens presented Peggy Craig the plaque in memory of her father, Jerry. Plaques will be delivered to those members not in attendance by other club members.

Secretary Bev Givens read thank you notes from Gary Tidwell, thanking the club for their support after his fall and during his recovery and Deanna, the mother of 14-year-old Cannon for the club's participation in Cannon's birthday parade.

Vice President Karen Price read a thank you card from Pam Dodson in appreciation of the club's support and donation to the Idiot's Club, Jesters of Goodwill organization in memory of Past President Bill Dodson. Karen shared information with the club on the services provided by Jesters of Goodwill to help youth in poverty.

President Jim Givens requested a motion to accept the November secretary's minutes. Chris Woods made a motion to accept the minutes, and it was seconded by Judy Dooley. The motion passed.

Treasurer Marcia Sheer presented the treasurer's report for the month of March. Anne Pickles made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Bob Bradley. The motion passed.

Treasurer Marcia Sheer presented the 2021 budget. Don Pickles made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Rick Doehr. The motion passed.

Membership Chairman Mike Kuntz read the names of the April birthdays and anniversaries. He asked members with birthdays and anniversaries for each month, December through March to stand and be recognized. He reported that since the November 2020 business meeting there were no new members added and we lost one member due to the passing of Gene Glandt. Membership was reported as 99 regular members (includes 9 charter members), 7 lifetime members (includes 2 charter members), 12 associate members and 4 sponsors for a grand total of 118, excluding sponsors.

NCM Ambassador Judy Dooley reported the NCM Bash will be held April 22-24. You can register to drive a C8 Corvette Stingray while you are there! Judy reminded members that raffle tickets for the chance to win a Corvette can be purchased online.

NCCC Governor Jeff Craig was not present but Peggy Craig reported that racing is happening, and additional information can be found on the NCCC website.

Newsletter Editor Kathy Mueller was thanked by several members for the excellent job she is doing with the newsletter. Kathy stated she would like to see more articles coming in.

Webmaster Steve Kirby was not present.

Sponsor Mark Gerecke reported ELCO is under construction with a new, larger Cadillac building in progress. The new modern Cadillac building will be able to hold many more cars as well as offices and be the 4th of its' kind in the country! Mark shared that it is currently hard to get cars due to the inability to get needed parts / chips. There are some great incentives going on including the capability of locking in or rolling over current incentives. Contact Mark for more information!

Committee Reports:

By-Laws Committee report: Due to the recent resignation of existing By-Laws committee members, President Jim Givens asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. The newly formed committee consists of Mike Price, John Midkiff and Valerie Zeisset.

History Committee report: Peggy Craig and Mike Price will be joining current committee members Ron Hagenow and Marty Dooley.

Christmas Committee report: Chris Woods confirmed the Christmas party is set for

Dec. 11th at the Royale Orleans. More information will be forthcoming.

Nominating Committee report: Ruth Howard reminded members that serving on the board is a great opportunity to get involved and meet other club members. She asked members to start thinking about the positions of Treasurer, Membership and Sargent at Arms which will become vacant when the existing terms end in 2021.

Charity Committee report: Michelle Finn reported an on-target status.

Parade Committee report: Rick Frierdich stated he has been unable to reach anyone regarding the Veteran's Day parade so there is currently no information. He is assuming the 4th of July and Veteran's Parades will take place this year. More information will be forthcoming.

VA Garden Committee report: Marty Dooley reported that the hospital will still not let us in. When they do open, we will need to go in through the back and work in teams of no more than 10 people at a time. There is a lot of work to be done, and they will only allow us there on Saturdays.

Budget committee report: Randy Howard reported that it was a tough year and the committee tightened things up to work toward the goal of keeping a year in reserve for the 2021 budget proposal.

Vice-President Karen Price reviewed the past events and calendar of upcoming events for this year. Calendar of events is available on the website.

Past and Future Events:

The first Fritz's ice cream run sponsored by Peggy Craig was held on March 21st. Peggy Craig stated there was a great turn-out of 14 Corvettes! Upcoming

Fritz's ice cream runs will be held on the last Sunday of each month.

The Howards and the Murrays are sponsoring a Retirees lunch on April 21st at 12:30 p.m. at the Hermann Wurst Haus. If you are interested in sponsoring a future retiree lunch, be sure to sign up at the next meeting or contact Vice President Karen Price.

Randy & Ruth Howard are sponsoring the St. Louis Corvette Drive to Memphis on May 13-14. Club members participating to date are Randy & Randy Howard, Jim & Bev Givens, Mike & Laurie Grubb, Tom & Sherri Marlo and Dennis & Janet Trost. Each car is committed to raising a minimum of \$1500.00. Club members can donate on the individual St. Jude Drive pages of the participants. If you need additional information about the drive, contact Ruth Howard, St. Jude Drive Board Member.

Jim & Bev Givens are sponsoring Corvettes & Coffee at 9:00 a.m. one Saturday each month. The first event is April 10th @ Upshot Coffee, 816 N. Kingshighway in St. Charles. Additional information regarding future dates is available on the club website.

Mike & Laurie Grubb will be hosting the annual Luau on June 12th from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. More information will be forthcoming.

Pam Queen gave an update on the ALS Walk scheduled on June 26th. Team Sandy is ready to accept your donation! You can participate by going to the website and donating to Team Sandy. Contact Pam Queen for additional information.

Barb Payne & Ken Payne are sponsoring the fall Kentucky trip October 16-24. Barb gave an update on the tentative agenda and asked if you have any interest in going, be sure to sign up right away as we are going to need to start booking hotel rooms.

Vice President Karen Price shared that Sharon Ballinger will be moving to Tulsa, OK. While the club is sad to see Sharon go, we are excited for her to be closer to her daughters and grandchildren! Sharon will be parting with lots of Corvette memorabilia and would like to give our club members first opportunity to see and purchase the items. More information will be forthcoming.

New Business:

President Jim Givens asked for a motion to accept Marion Glandt as a lifetime member due to the passing of her husband, Gene Glandt. Ron Hagenow made a motion to accept Marion as a lifetime member and it was seconded by Ruth Howard. The motion passed.

Chris Woods won \$55.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Valerie Zeisset & Jerry Giffhorn were the attendance prize winners.

Randy Howard showed his expertise on counting Corvettes by having the winning guess in the bag full of Hot Wheels contest sponsored by Marty & Judy Dooley. The bag held 684 cars and Randy's guess was 555. Marty awarded Randy with cool prizes for his winning guess!

There were 57 members and 2 sponsors in attendance at the meeting.

President Jim Givens announced the next meeting will be Tuesday, May 4th at 6:30 p.m. at Jilly's.

President Jim Givens asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Don Pickles

made a motion to adjourn, and Judy Dooley seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully,

Bev Givens

Secretary

Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports

NCM Ambassadors Report

We did attend the National Corvette Museum BASH (4/22-24). If you were not able to attend, there was the virtual way to attend. Hopefully some of you attended virtually.

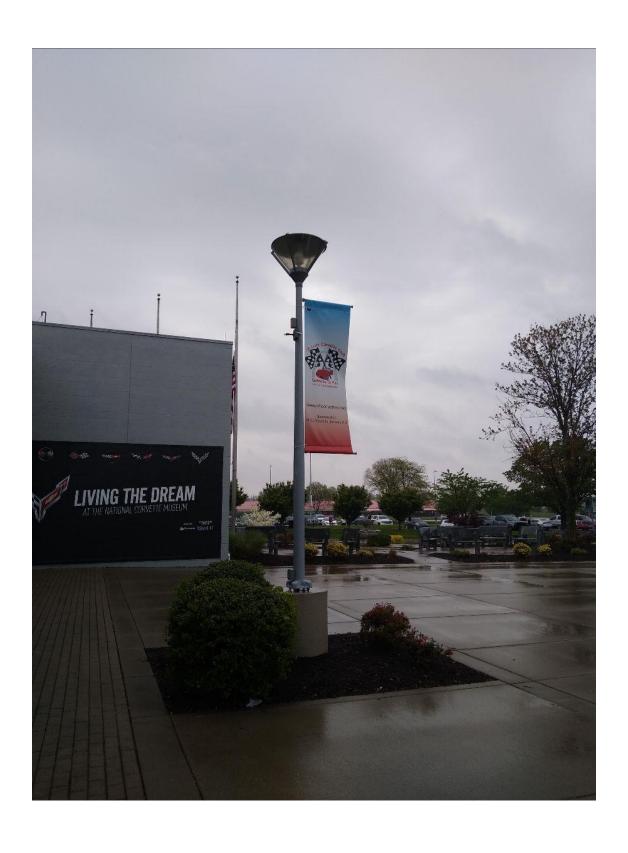
While at the BASH we attended the Ambassador meeting, which took place on Saturday. We will let you know more about it at our meeting.

The Arctic White 2021 Vette was raffled off Saturday afternoon. Sorry to those who purchased tickets.

There were about 8-9 vendor's in attendance. It was nice to see them.

Our new banner was hung at the museum near the new car delivery exit.

Judy and Marty Dooley



Future Events









When:

• Saturday, May 8th @ 9am

Where:

- Park Avenue Coffee
- 1919 Park Avenue
- St. Louis, MO

Come for the Coffee, Stay for the People!!

Sponsored by Jim & Bev Givens

314.341.3383



There is still time to support our members that are heading out on the St. Jude Corvette Drive on May 13th. We have a great group of members that have dedicated their time and dollars to support this awesome cause.

The following members still need donations to reach their goal:

Jim & Bev Givens
Mike & Laurie Grubb
Tom & Sherri Marlo
Dennis & Janet Trost

You may make a donation in numerous ways.

- Facebook they each have St. Jude Drive on their page and you can make a donation by using a credit card
- 2. Check made out to St. Jude Research Hospital
- 3. Cash

Here's a great story that will help you understand why we drive for St. Jude.

In July 2016, Calvin's family learned he had an aggressive, non-cancerous brain

tumor called a craniopharyngioma.

Calvin underwent two surgeries in California, after which his family traveled to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® for his continuing treatment. St. Jude freely shares the breakthroughs it makes, and every child saved at St. Jude means doctors and scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children. At St. Jude, Calvin's treatment included additional surgeries and six weeks of proton therapy. He's now finished with treatment and returns to St. Jude for regular checkups, something he looks forward to.

"I like everything about St. Jude," said Calvin. "I like the kids, the doctors and the nurses." It gives Calvin's family comfort to know how much he loves the hospital. Calvin is a friendly kid who likes basketball, playing video games and hanging out with his family and friends.

Families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food — because all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

It will cost approximately \$1 billion to operate St. Jude this year. Because more than 75% comes from generous donors, St. Jude has the freedom to focus on what matters most — saving kids regardless of their financial situation.

2020 was a different year for all but it did not stop the St. Jude Corvette Drive. Their mission is to help raise funds and awareness for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event could not go on as originally planned but the St. Jude Corvette Drivers and supporters found a fun safe way to use their passion for corvettes to help the kids of St. Jude. A local drive was set up in Peoria, IL with St. Jude Mission themes at each stop along the route. Drivers from

several states came together for an amazing day cruise. <u>Together they raised</u> <u>\$260,000 to further the lifesaving mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</u>.

In 2021 we will drive to Memphis! Although we will not be able to tour the hospital, we will be driving through the circle drive for the kids and families to see us.

We are so grateful for all donations that have been received. Thank you.

Ruth Howard

May Retiree Lunch



Where: The Russell House Restaurant, Inn and Brewery

10306 MO-21, Hillsboro, MO 63050

When: May 19, 2021

Time: 12:30 p.m.

We will meet at the Pink Elephant Gas Station, 2599 S Old Highway 141, Fenton, MO 63026 at 11:15 a.m. and caravan to the Russell House.



Sponsored by Terry and Kathy Mueller

Phone: 314-260-1589

Please sign up at the May meeting or send an email to kathy_mueller@sbcglobal.net by May 17th if you are interested in attending.



St. Louis Corvette Club Annual Luau

Saturday, June 12

.... 1 p.m. to ?

.... 3 p.m. - snow cone truck arrives

As we did last year, due to Covid, please bring your own snacks and beverages. The snow cone truck will arrive at 3 p.m.

Pool is open! Bring or wear your swimsuit, towel and pool toys.

Bring lawn chairs for social distancing.

Laurie & Mike Grubb 117 Quail Run Waterloo, Illinois

RSVP <u>lgrubb61@gmail.com</u>

Hope to see you on the 12th!



TEAM SANDY

Please join us on Saturday, June 26th at 1:00 for a luncheon in honor of our beloved Sandy Kirby!

Luncheon will be held at Bill Gianino's at 4571 Telegraph Rd, St. Louis,

MO 63129

The ALS Association is hosting virtual individual walks in honor and memory of loved ones inflicted with this horrible disease. Obviously due to COVID they will not host the walk at Forest Park.

We hope you will join us in celebrating the life of this beautiful lady that loved to laugh, make us laugh, loved her beer, loved her Corvette family, but most of all loved her family. She left us behind with many memories. You know when you received a kick under the table that meant she wanted another beer! The sounds of hearing her say.....HIT IT only meant she had the need for speed! If you have a memory of Sandy that you would like to share we would love to hear it at the luncheon. Let's keep this beautiful spirit alive!

If you would like to donate to Team Sandy – google

St. Louis Walk: Team Sandy - The ALS Association and the donation page will pop

up. Every contribution continues to search for a cure and your donation is greatly

appreciated.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the May meeting and also if you would like to email Ruth Howard at rhoward15@charter.net, or text 314-486-6836 for your reservation by June 21st.

ALS Mission

To discover treatments and a cure for ALS, and to serve, advocate for, and empower people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest.

All Things Kentucky Road Trip

Sponsored by Barb and Ken Payne

Please join us for the October 2021 "All Things Kentucky Road Trip." We will be leaving on Friday, October 15th, and if you choose to do the entire trip, we will return on Tuesday, October 27th. We will visit the National Corvette Museum, Motor Sports Park, Mammoth Cave, Shaker Village, Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park, Civil War Museum, Swope's Cars of Yesteryear, Bardstown Distilleries, Cumberland Falls, Breaks Interstate Park, Red River Gorge, Natural Bridge Park, Kentucky Horse Park, brunch at the Kentucky Castle, the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, Frankfort, The Ark, The Creation Museum, and other points of interest. You decide how long and how far you want to go!

Total Nights and Major Activities

- 2 Nights Bowling Green NCM, Motor Sports Park
- 3 Nights Shaker Village
- 5 Nights Bardstown Lincoln sites, Distillery tours, Swope's
- 7 Nights Pikeville Cumberland Falls, Breaks Interstate Park
- 9 Nights Red River Gorge / Lexington Horse Park, Aviation M.
- 10 Nights Ark Encounter
- 11 Nights Creation Museum

Past Events

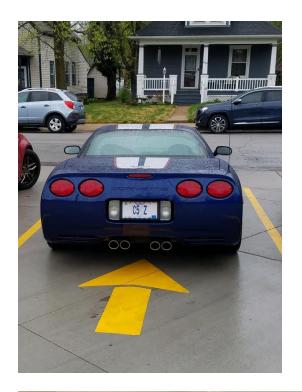
Coffee and Corvettes

Hosted by Jim & Bev Givens

























VA Clean-up Party

On Saturday, April 17th, 2021 we had our annual club clean-up at the JB-VA Hospital. The garden is behind Building 52, the spinal cord injury building. The VA administration threw some new rules at us this year. Only 10 people are allowed in at a time, workers names must be provided a week ahead, a hospital employee has to be with us, and masks and social distancing are required (try doing that!).

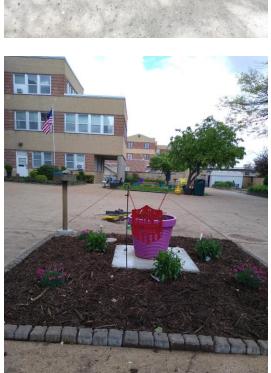
Another thing was that a VA bigshot said NO fountains are allowed at any VA facility. Any club member that has volunteered at this garden knows how much time we put into all this work and decorations. It's all about the veterans.

We are working on plans to plant new flowers and organize members to water these plants. Hopefully we will have more information at our next meeting.

And again, thanks to those volunteers for all their hard work.

Marty and Judy Dooley













April Retiree Lunch

Sponsored by the Howards and Murrays





















































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

Marty Dooley was our club president in May 2005 and this was when the club first became active in maintaining a garden at the Spinal Cord Unit at the Jefferson Barracks VA Hospital. In the previous month the garden was started and as stated in that month's newsletter, club members learned that our freedom came at a cost to some of our service members. There were 35 members in the club at this time. A club car show was being held this month. It was at the car show when Mary Ann and I first found out about the club. I met Gary Murray at the car show which was a coincidence since Gary and I had offices next to each other for a number of years. We were still doing our Thursday night dinners, going to a different restaurant each week.

In May 2009, Theresa Luebcke was club president and we had 79 members. The previous month we welcomed new members Ann Brown (Sedovic) and Kevin Bayliss, both who went on to be club presidents! Plans were being made to do our planting at the VA Hospital (and it probably rained). There was also a trip to Tunica in the works for later in the month for our resident gamblers. It was reported that this year was the 50th anniversary of the National Council of Corvette Clubs. In the previous month we had a great run to the Whitmond Hotel in spite of it snowing in the morning. Plans were being made for the 15th Anniversary Caravan to the NCM in September.

Mike Price led the club as president in May of 2015. The club had 86 members at this time. It was announced that Mike and Sandy Kirby became members of the NCM in the previous month. Our sponsors announced, much to everyone's disappointment, that all Z06s were sold out. The Doerrs sponsored the wine/dinner trip to Villa Antonio Winery at the end of the month. The club luau, horse racing at Fairmont Park, and a Tail of the Dragon trip were all announced as future trips.



Club party at Jeff and Patty Craig's house in May 2008.



Some of the garden planters from our spring cleanup at the VA hospital in May of 2009.



Some of the fairest club members at our car show in May 2014.



From our celebration of Armynta Craig's life at the Sugarcreek Winery in 2013.

Jim Love Receives Plaque in Memory of Sharon

On Tuesday, April 27th, the Dooleys met up with Associate Member Jim Love and presented him with a plaque that was in memory of his late wife Sharon. The Loves have been associate members of our club for many years and live in Lebanon, Indiana. Jim remains an Associate Member of the club. They were

pretty active for living so far away. Sharon will be dearly missed, and Jim was very thankful for the plaque. He said to thank the membership.

Judy and Marty Dooley



Jay Leno's 1999 C5 Corvette Basic

Submitted by Ken Payne



Jay Leno talks about his 1999 C5 Corvette Basic that he received for driving the Indy Pace Car in 1999. He makes some good points about the car and Corvette in general. Enjoy the clip. <u>Jay Leno's 1999 Corvette</u>

Corvette Facts

Reprinted from "Steve Magnante's 1001 Corvette Facts" with permission from CarTech

No 501: In this chapter, I'll refer to the 1984-1996 Corvette family by its accepted name, C4. Note that I started with 1984. If the shark-era Corvette ended with the 1982 model year, what happened in 1983? Nothing. There was no official 1983 Corvette, at least not at your local Chevy dealership! That said, as early as December 1982, several production-equivalent C4 Corvettes were shown to the automotive press at a long-lead preview at California's Riverside Raceway. It is not correct to assume that no tangible efforts were made for the 1983 model run. They just were not released for public sale. Incidentally, Chevrolet was fully aware that 1983 marked the Corvette's 30th anniversary. The December 1982 C4 showcase at Riverside included a Polo White 1953 (or possibly 1954) Corvette with its hood open. No doubt, General Motors added this touch of nostalgia to reinforce how very far the Corvette had come in its first three decades.

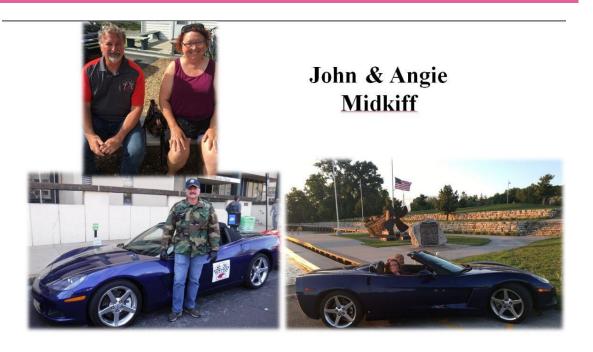
No. 504: In the years since, it has come to light that between 43 and 47 C4 Corvettes were indeed produced with 1983 VIN tags, some appearing at the 1982 Riverside press preview mentioned above. At least one of them still exists. It carries VIN sequence number 23 and lives at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Interestingly, this car was among the Corvettes under the museum's Sky Dome when the infamous February 13, 2014 sinkhole struck. Luckily, 1983 C4 Number 23 escaped serious harm and was soon returned to the museum display fleet. This car is owned by General Motors.

No. 505: History has proven that General Motors (as with most car makers) isn't particularly nostalgic about its past. Sure, it preserves major-league show and concept cars, but considering that the constant process of upgrading next year's model produced hundreds of "mule cars," it would have been impossible to save them all for posterity. Most were crushed. Rumor is that the fleet of 1983 C4s were scrapped, and their remains buried somewhere inside the former GM Proving Grounds in Mesa, Arizona. C4 Corvette Number 23 only survived thanks to a series of hasty relocations and body-color changes to throw would-be scrappers off

its scent until the threat subsided. Today, the Mesa site is privately owned and is being developed into housing units. You have to wonder what bizarre automotive treasures bulldozers have excavated during the process.

Featured STLCC Members and Their Corvette

John & Angie Midkiff



Managing Editor Kathy Mueller
Columnist Ron Hagenow
Photo Journalist Ruth Howard
Photo Journalist Terry Mueller
Aerial Photo Journalist Tom Marlo

Publisher Mike Kunst

Many Thanks To Our Sponsor

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