



Vettester

The official newsletter of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware - March 2009



The ZR1 From the Philadelphia International Auto Show

In this Month:

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Making Memories at the Philadelphia
International Auto Show

20 Questions with Bob Avery &

Barry Kimmelman

And More.....

CCND Officers

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Andy Rumford

Vice President

Steve Blanchies

Treasurer

Harvey Smith

Secretary

Christine Carlantonio

Member at Large

Elouise Wolos

Webmaster

Barry Kimmelman

Social Chairperson

Marion Crank

Show Co-Chairman

Michael Crank

Show Co-Chairman

Bob Gerber

Newsletter Editor

Jim Ebner

On the Road

By Andy Rumford



The Month of March and we can so feel the “Season” approaching. I am so very excited about this year.

In March we move to our New Meeting location, the Newark Country Club. I am looking forward to this venue. Our Meeting date also has changed to the 2nd Tuesday of the month with March 10th being the next meeting. Hope to see you their.

March also finds many activities and events being planned. The Atlantic City car show is February 28th and March 1st inside the Atlantic City Convention Center. March 28th finds us at Neil and Cheryl Blanchettes home for a tour of his model collection and the very next day, on Sunday, March 29th, CCND kicks off the season with our annual “Brunch Run” with Keystone State Corvette Club. This year the event is taking place at the American Bar and Grill in Chadds Ford, Pa. There is a signup sheet for this event on the CCND website.

Speaking of the CCND website, have you noticed the “Revised Club Store”? Please take a few minutes and click on the “Club store” link on the homepage. Many thanks to Barry for bringing this enhanced feature to our Club. You can locate many items on the store at this point, so order away! Barry will also be providing an in-depth demo of the site at our March meeting.

March 15th, circle the date. CCND Members will once again be visiting an indoor facility in New Castle to do some Kart Racing. A sign up sheet will be available at the March 10th meeting, so be sure to get your name on the list.

Did you have a chance to attend the wonderful Seafood Buffet at the Riverview Inn on February 25th? What a great turnout by CCND members it was, with upwards of 25-30 of us enjoying the dinner and each others company. Thanks to Char and Bob for planning this event.

The CCND food drive continues in March, so please remember to bring a non-perishable item for our donation to the Delaware Food Bank. Your help is so very much appreciated.

Did you know that the Atlantic City Car Show is this coming weekend? The show opens Friday, 2.27.08 and runs to March 1st. Hope to see you their.

The road is beckoning us all these days with thoughts of Spring time and Summer fast approaching. I, for one am ready for the warm weather and the wonderful opportunities which will exist for so many of us this 2009 Season. I’m so looking forward, to once again, being back

On the Road

Corvette Club of Northern Delaware Agenda 3.10.09

Call to Order:

Welcome:

New Members:

2009 Officers Reports:

Vice President:	Steve Blanchies
Treasurer:	Harvey Smith
Webmaster:	Barry Kimmelman
Member @ Large:	Elouise Wolos
Newsletter Editor:	Jim Ebner
Social Chairperson:	Marion Crank
Co-Show Chairman:	Michael Crank
Co-Show Chairman	Bob Gerber
CCND Governor:	Vacant
Christine Carlantonio	Secretary
** Club Ambassador:	Bob Gerber

Old Business:

March 28th ...Model Exhibit...Neil and Cheryl Blanchette's..sign up sheet.
2009 Corvette Caravan...(Steve / Michael)..Updates?
Coat Drive in April
Strictly Corvette Update....Andy / discount tickets
CCND Season "Kick off Brunch".....March 29th
CCND Officers Meetings every 2-3 months...

New Business:

2008 Year in Review...Barry..
2008 Recognition Awards
KSCC....Poker Run...April 25th
CFC Update...Table at Strictly Corvettes
Ronald McDonald Corvette Show...cancelled for 2009

Adjournment:

50/50:

Next Meeting date is April 14, 2009

** Not an Officer Position

CCND FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the last CCND meeting



Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by **Andy Rumford** on February 3, 2009. Andy brought a cake for all members celebrating a February birthday.

Andy presented **Mary Lou Gilbert, Jim Ebner, Bob Gerber, Marian & Michael Crank,** and board members with a special plaque for service and dedication to the club in 2008. **Steve Blanchies** presented **Andy** with a card and \$450 cash from the club.

Vice President: **Steve Blanchies** reported 58 paid memberships.

Treasurer: **Harvey Smith** presented the financial report.

Webmaster: **Barry Kimmelman** is working on a new club store. When the club meets at the Newark Country Club for the March meeting, he may be able to give a presentation on the club store through the AV system.

Member at Large: **Elouise Wolos** had nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor: **Jim Ebner** needs Member of the Month articles. He received many responses from "20 Questions", but only got 3 pictures for the new club calendar.

Social Chairperson: **Marian Crank** has club activities for every month except November and December. Anyone interested in volunteering to come up with an activity, let Marian know. Marian asked club members if they would like to have holiday party in December or January. Club members voted for January because of availability.

Co-Show Chairman: **Michael Crank and Bob Gerber** recommended that because they have not yet found a venue for this year's show, that the club concentrate on Corvettes for Chip show for this year.

CCND Governor: Vacant

*** Club Ambassador:** **Bob Gerber** reported no new business

Old Business
New Meeting Location – Newark Country Club, 3/10/09
2009 Corvette Caravan – Steve Blanchies got an email from the museum with events including a plant tour
Atlantic City Car Show – 2/26/09 – 3/1/09
Monthly Food Drive / Quarterly Coat Drive

New Business:
2009 CCND Show Charities – none were submitted for review
CCND Kick off Brunch – American Bar & Grille, 3/29
Concord Mall – 2 shows approved 6/21 & 10/25

50/50: \$30 to Larry Gilbert

* Not an Officer Position

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Christine Carlantonio, Secretary

NEXT MEETING DATE IS TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009

Philadelphia Auto Show

Story and Photos by Andy Rumford

On February 4th, my son Alex and I attended the Philadelphia Auto Show. Snow covered the parking lots in Philly, but we managed to park only 2 blocks away. Going mid-week like we did was surely the way to go. The previous year we had went up on a Saturday and it was a struggle all day fighting the crowds. 2009 was different indeed. A nice assortment of cars were on the show floor. Custom sound systems, motorcycles and just about anything u wanted was their. On our way out Alex and I ran into Chris and Christine. They as well had the same idea, to beat the "Crowds". After the show, we headed over to the Reading Terminal Market across the street for a bit of lunch and wandering around. A nice day at the event, especially on this date, February 4th, 2009 as that day my son Alex turned 21.







The "Owners Garage"



The March 10th CCND Meeting will be at the **Newark Country Club** - <http://www.newarkcc.com/>
300 West Main Street
Newark, Delaware 19711-3218

For directions to NCC please try - <http://www.newarkcc.com/directions.htm>

Upcoming Events

CCND Dinner - Wed, February 25, 6:30pm – 9:00pm – Riverview Inn, Pennsville, NJ

Atlantic City Classic Car Show - Feb 26 – Mar 1, 2009 - Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ

Go Cart Racing March 15th 11am Mid-Atlantic Grand Prix <http://www.midatlanticgrandprix.com/site/>

Blanchette Party - Sat, March 28, 10:30am – 3:00pm - Neil & Cheryl Blanchette's home
Spring party & get-together at the Blanchette home. Come for a good time and also to see Neil's very extensive model collection Address & directions will be provided at the March monthly meeting. Sign-up sheet on the website Activities page

CCND Brunch & Cruise - Sun, March 29, 10:30am – 2:00pm -American Bar & Grill, Glen Mills, Pa
Cost: \$15.95 per person. Restaurant was voted "Best Brunch" in Chester County for the last three years.
Meeting at Lantana Square shopping center at 10:45am leaving Lantana Square PROMPTLY at 11:00 am and cruising to Longwood Gardens to pick up members of KSCC and cruising the back roads over to the restaurant for brunch. Ample parking available so bring your 'Vette! Sign-up sheet on the website Activities page and also at the March meeting

New Jersey Motorsports Park - April 4 - Drive on the track, Tour of the campus, Lunch, Race go-carts until you drop – More info to come – www.njmp.com

Strictly Corvette Show - Apr 18 – 19 2009 - Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ

CCND has a New On-Line Store

The new CCND online store is on the CCND website <http://www.vetteclub.org/clubstore/clubstore.html>
One store is from CafePress and offers PRINTED items (like silk-screening) on a large variety of items.
The second store is our "Specialty items" store, which features embroidered apparel and accessories from Mary Lou Gilbert and Photo throw-blankets & pillows from LB Keepsakes (Linda and Barry Kimmelman).

March Birthdays

Jennifer Powell Groer	March 1	Dorothy Gustafson	March 1
Vernon Bailey	March 8	Denise Bailey	March 8
Elouise Wolos	March 8	Bob Gerber	March 10
Craig Schwartz	March 26	Barry Kimmelman	March 27
Theresa Ventresca	March 29		



20 Questions:

Name: **Barry Kimmelman**

What is your age? **43**

What is your occupation? **sales**

Where do you live? **Newark, De**

What is your marital status? **Married**

Do you have children? **no**

Do you have pets? **1 border collie and 2 calico cats**

What is your Favorite Food? **italian**

What is your Favorite Music? **Classic rock and R&B**

What made you want to join CCND? **Socialize with others with a similar interest and hobby**

How long have you been a CCND Club member? **5 years, since 2004**

How long have you been interested in Corvettes? **Since I was about 7**

Are you a Driver or Passenger? **driver**

When did you get your first Corvette? **2004**

What year was your first Corvette? **1965**

What is your favorite over-all Corvette? **So many to chose from... I really like them all**

What is your current model year Corvette? **1965 and 1978**

Do you prefer coupes or convertibles? **Both, preference depends on the body style**

Do you prefer Automatic or Manual Transmissions? **I own and enjoy both**

Do you do your own service work on your Corvette or do you take it to a mechanic? **I do my own work**

Besides CCND and Corvette related activities, what non-Corvette interests do you have?
Cooking, reading, computers, relaxing, sleeping, napping, and resting

20 Questions:

Name: **Bob Avery**

What is your age? **60**

What is your occupation? **Retired**

Where do you live? **Newark**

What is your marital status? **Married**

Do you have children? **1**

Do you have pets? **yes (dog)**

What is your Favorite Food? **Pasta**

What is your Favorite Music? **Jazz / oldies**

What made you want to join CCND? **Enjoy the company of like minded people.**

How long have you been a CCND Club member? **1993**

How long have you been interested in Corvettes? **1985**

Are you a Driver or Passenger? **Driver**

When did you get your first Corvette? **1985**

What year was your first Corvette? **1978 Silver anniversary**

What is your favorite over-all Corvette? **All mid year Corvettes**

What is your current model year Corvette? **1966 / 427**

Do you prefer coupes or convertibles? **Convertible**

Do you prefer Automatic or Manual Transmissions? **4spd**

Do you do your own service work on your Corvette or do you take it to a mechanic?
Yes, I do all my own service work.

Besides CCND and Corvette related activities, what non-Corvette interests do you have?
I have a general interest in cars that is not brand specific. Additionally I enjoy golf and exercising.



1985 CORVETTE

Corvette specs by the year

The C4 arrived at about the time the U.S. economy began recovering from its early-Eighties doldrums. What had been an oil shortage was unexpectedly replaced by an oil glut that caused gas prices to plunge, and buyers soon shopped for big and powerful Detroit cars once again. The Reagan Administration had also been helping out, convincing Japanese automakers to voluntarily limit their car exports to the U.S. via the Voluntary Restraint Agreement (VRA). In this new, more hospitable climate, American performance was flourishing anew by mid-decade, and Chevy wasted no time in turning up the Corvette's volume.

Thus, the 1985 Corvette received a new "Tuned Port Injection" system, which was basically the German Bosch fuel-injection system with a revised intake manifold. Although the time-honored Corvette small-block still measured 350 cubes, the substitution of the new multi-port fuel-injection with tuned intake runners, along with a half-point compression increase to 9.5:1, lifted output by 25 horses, to reach 230 bhp at 4,000 rpm; torque improved by 40 lbs/ft, going from 290 at 2,800 rpm to a meaty 330 lbs/ft at 3,200. So extensive were the changes that Chevy was moved to use a new engine designation: L98.

Responding to all the complaints about the corvette's harsh ride, Chevy softened up both spring and shock rates on both the standard and performance Z51 suspensions for '85. The latter now came with larger-diameter fore and aft stabilizer bars to maintain total roll stiffness with the softer calibrations, plus 9.5-inch-wide wheels at the front as well as the rear. Also included were Delco-Bilstein gas-pressurized shocks -- available as a separate option with the base suspension -- and a revised heavy-duty cooling system.

Of course, engineers were still interested in handling. The Z51 package was fine-tuned by Corvette development engineer John Heinrich to be a "showroom stock GT car," according to Corvette chief engineer David R. McLellan, referring to a hotly contested class in SCCA racing. Intriguingly, the suspension changes lowered ride height on the 1985 Corvette by an imperceptible 3/4 inch, which was just enough to drop the drag coefficient to 0.33 and, with the 3.07:1 axle, raise top speed to a genuine 150 mph. This year's standard axle was an even taller 2.73:1, which proved to be too tall for the car to reach 150 mph.

For better straight-line stability at top speeds, the steering caster angle was increased one degree (to four). For better stopping ability from high speeds, the brake system was fortified with a larger master cylinder and booster, as well as different pads imparting more braking power and improved feel.

Transmission-wise, the 4+3 Overdrive manual received a heavy-duty 8.5-inch differential ring gear (up from 7.9 inches) for extra longevity, as well as an override button that was more conveniently placed atop the shift knob. What's more, the unit's computer was reprogrammed to make the overdrive function less intrusive. Toward the same end, the electronics governing the lockup torque converter clutch in the automatic transmission were also revised.



Cosmetic and convenience improvements on the 1985 Corvette included revised instrument graphics for improved legibility and newly optional leather upholstery for the extra-cost Lear-Siegler seats. Finally, Chevy began eliminating the sources of the rattles and squeaks that had so plagued the car in its first year via an extensive series of minor structural changes.

The 1985 Corvette arrived with this dazzling array of digital and graphic instruments. Switches allowed the driver to change some of the displays, which included readouts for instant or average mpg and oil pressure and temperature. Some critics thought the ensemble rather too busy, though.

Car and Driver was among the media celebrating the new model's added refinement. The magazine sampled two cars -- an automatic with the base suspension and a Z51 manual -- and found both to be "tight and solid." The former ran 0-60 mph in 5.7 seconds and the standing quarter-mile in 14.1 seconds at 97 mph. The manual version raced to 60 mph in six seconds flat and hit the quarter-mile in 14.4 seconds at 95 mph, reaching a top speed of 150 mph.

Road-holding and braking characteristics for the 1985 Corvette were also praised in the media, though testers still grouched about an unnecessarily harsh ride with steering that was judged as being too quick for around-town use. The digital dashboard continued to be dismissed as being excessively gimmicky.

Sales for the C4's sophomore year took a steep plunge, dropping to 39,729, the lowest annual total since 1975. This downturn was at least partly due to 1985's whopping price increase -- the car's base price was now \$24,403.

Quality continued taking big strides for the 1985 Corvettes, which were produced in the recently opened Corvette-only plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Extensive automation allowed workers to lavish more time and care on each car. Here are the specifications for the 1985 Corvette:



Vehicle Production and Base Prices

Car Type	Production	Price
2-door coupe	39,729	\$24,403.00

Options and Production

Option	Production	Price
Power Driver Seat	37,856	\$215.00
Sport Seats, leather	NA	1,025.00
Base Seats, leather	NA	400.00
Sport Seats, cloth	5,661	625.00
Power Door Locks	38,294	170.00
Removable Transparent Glass Roof Panels	28,143	595.00
Two-Tone Paint	6,033	428.00
Delco-Bilstein Shock Absorbers	9,333	189.00
Performance Axle Ratio	5,447	22.00
Cruise Control	38,369	185.00
4-Speed Manual Transmission	9,576	0.00
California Emission Requirements	6,583	99.00
Radio Delete	172	-256.00
AM/FM Radio Stereo, Cassette	2,958	122.00
AM/FM Radio, Stereo, CB	16	215.00
Stereo System, Delco-Bose	35,998	895.00
Heavy Duty Cooling	17,539	225.00
Performance Handling Package	14,802	470.00
Rear Window + Side Mirror Defoggers	37,720	160.00

Color Choices and Production

Color Choice	Production
Silver Metallic	1,752
Light Blue Metallic	1,021
White	4,455
Gold Metallic	1,411
Dark Bronze Metallic	1,030
Silver/Gray	2,170
Light Bronze/Dark Bronze	2,393
Medium Gray Metallic	2,519
Medium Blue Metallic	2,041
Black	7,603
Light Bronze Metallic	1,440
Bright Red	10,424
Light Blue/Medium Blue	1,470

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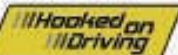
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club of northern delaware
CORVETTE



*The Corvette Club of Northern Delaware was
Established in 1973 and is a member of
The National Council of Corvette Clubs*



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