

High Plains Shifter

Newsletter of the NCRS Rocky Mountain Chapter www.ncrsmc.org
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Chairman's Report

By Rick Reiff

Hello Rocky Mountain Chapter:

In October we had our Board meeting and one of the items we discussed was having a "reporter" put together a report from an event that may be of interest to Chapter members. I volunteered to do the first one and decided to cover the technical session led by Gary Steffens and Jim Lennartz on how to winterize your Corvette (and other cars). Be sure to check it out for ideas and things to consider when storing your car for the winter. Hopefully we can keep the "reporter" concept going and in that regard I will likely be tapping the membership pool to contribute a piece they may find of interest. This is not a replacement to technical articles which we are always in need of, just a report on Chapter events, such as a road trip, or technical session.

At the October membership meeting we also asked for members that are interested in serving on the Board for those positions whose terms expire at the end of 2010. The following is the ballot you will be asked to vote on in April 2010 with the 2-year terms starting on January 1, 2011.

At the October meeting we asked for nominations to the board for terms that start January 1, 2011. The positions and nominees that will be voted on during the next Annual Meeting (in April 2010) are:

Chairman – Rick Reiff

Secretary – Max Biggs

Membership – Bob Montgomery

Newsletter Editor – Dennis Dalton

As always, write-ins are also welcome.

The calendar for 2010 is taking shape and we hope to have it on sale by the November meeting. So keep on the lookout for that.

Hope to see you at one of the upcoming events.

Save the Wave,

Rick Reiff, Chairman

Vice Chairman's Report

By Bob Montgomery

Upcoming Changes

On January 1st, 2010 I will be passing on the Vice Chairman duties to John Marsico. My thanks to John for offering to run for this position last spring! I would encourage everyone in the chapter to volunteer to run for board positions that are open for vote in the spring of 2010. Welcome to the board John!

Top Flight Chapter Award

Many thanks to everyone that submitted a technical article to be published in our newsletter over the summer! We have met all our requirements for the award this year with the exception of our charitable contribution which we will do before the end of the year.

Thanks for your support by attending meetings, tech sessions, road tours and driving your Corvette to these events.

Bob Montgomery
milehiview@yahoo.com

Editor's Corner

By Dennis Dalton

I mentioned I would pass on newsletter addresses from other chapters. The Oklahoma chapter still sends out a hard copy and I get it like clockwork. Their latest copy ran an article on WD-40 (mainly made from fish oil) and its many handy properties including cleaning stovetops and removing lipstick stains.

Thank's to Rick Reiff for taking the time to write the article in this issue on our tech session from last month. I had mentioned at our last general meeting that anyone could and should step forward and pen any article of interest for inclusion in this newsletter for our members to enjoy. As always, if you need help or input just contact me at my email address in the front of this newsletter.

Just a remainder, I am sending our newsletter PDF link to all chapter editors. Your buy or sell add in our newsletter has the potential to reach the entire NCRS membership!

www.ncrs.org/ncc
www.ncrs.org/nmc
www.ncrsmag.org/signalseeker.htm
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Membership Report

By Bob Montgomery

Membership stands at 116 as of 10/28/09. The newest members to join the chapter are:

Ron and Pamela Vansteyn, Highlands Ranch, CO, 1968 Roadster

Stephen and Karen Benson, Aurora, CO, 1976 Coupe

Bill and Peggy Swank, Silt, CO, 1967 Coupe

Welcome to the chapter!

It is that time of year again; time to renew your RMC membership! I will be mailing out invoices in Mid November. Please respond before December 31st. I also need updated information from each member. Some of you have moved or changed phone numbers or email addresses. My goal is to get to 100% accuracy in our database going into 2010.

If you would like a copy of the chapter membership roster, just drop me an email and I can send you an Acrobat PDF file to you or we will have hard copies at future chapter events.

Thanks!

Bob Montgomery
milehiview@yahoo.com

RMC Judging Chairman Report

By Jack Humphrey

It's newsletter time again! Let's see what to say... Heck, that's easy there's always something happening at NCRS.

First, on the look ahead locally, we've got a Judging School on the docket for November. This will be a video with stop and group discussions on the topic of Operations judging. I hosted this school at our 2008 Regional meet and it was mostly attended by non-RMC master level judges who gave generally high marks on their ability to learn something new!

Plus, next year, we're 'go' for a repeat of last year's Chapter judging meet at Bozarth Chevrolet. Next year we're on for Sunday, March 21th. I'll be putting together the registration ad soon to get it in print for the newsletter as well as NCRS *Driveline*.

New Judging Recognition Reporting System

I briefly covered the new system for reporting points earned and current status in the NCRS Judging and Tabulation Recognition Systems at our last Chapter Meeting. For those not present, here's the low down.

The 'new' system went into effect mid-September of this year. Instead of filling out paper forms with who did what and sending them by mail to the National Judging Chairman, NCRS has created a direct entry system using the club's website. Each judging chairman responsible for a point qualifying event (judging meet, judging school, judging seminar, Etc.) is responsible for going on-line, logging in and posting the details of who did what.

That pushes the raw data entry task down to the even source(s), and frees the National Judging Chairman from rote data entry 'drudge' work. He still retains final review and acceptance authority to approve the data that's entered and turn it 'loose' to the overall club data base. So, the applicable meet judging chairman does NOT have final authority over what's credited to a member's account. But, the days of paperwork lost in the mail, paperwork that's unreadable, and typographical errors is essentially over!

How do you see where you stand? Easy! Just go create an account for yourself at the NCRS National web site if you don't already have one.

Specifically, fire up your web browser and navigate to the NCRS National web site (www.NCRS.org). Click on the Technical Discussion tab and that'll take you to the club's open forum for restoration and preservation chats.

Here, you'll find a tab for Account Initiation. Anyone can navigate to this site and 'see' what's being talked about, but only registered members can make posts and participate in the technical discussions. So, you need to be an NCRS member and register to actively use the site and you do this via the Account Initiation process.

Once you're duly registered, you simply log in and click on your Profile to see your current standing in the NCRS Judging and Tabulations Recognition Programs. You'll see your historic point total(s) as well as the source(s) of points added recently to your account. SIMPLE!

Regional Meets

The Texas Regional was held in Killeen, Texas on October 15-17th. RMC was well represented with at least nine members being present. I use the term 'at least' because I did not attend and I'm going by reports from those who were there.

Messrs Banks, Cadenhead, Egan, Gregory, Hilborn, Kazmierzak, Marsico, Mulick, and Pyzel are among the notables in my reported headcount. Martin Egan received honors and garnered his Black Hat. Peter Gregory entered his car for Flight Judging and received a Flight Award. So, for a regional meet over one thousand miles from Denver, we 'done good' in terms of participation!

The annual NCRS Regional meet in Florida is always popular and it's scheduled for 1/20-1/23 next year (2010 if you've been distracted lately). The Australia Chapter holds it 'See Australia' event in Perth with a cross-country train tour from Sydney to Perth 3/27-4/7/2010.

Back to the US, the NCRS National for 2010 is set for Concord, North Carolina the week of July 13-18th. And, ending the summer months, the New Mexico Chapter is set to host their Regional Meet 9/30-10/2/2010 in conjunction with Albuquerque's annual hot air balloon regatta.

Activities

By Eckhard Pobuda

The next meeting is Nov 21 at Covette City at 11:00 AM and will feature a judging school. December 12 will be a tech session at Corvette City. Same time. Details will be sent by email prior to meeting.

We are looking forward to our Holiday party to be held Jan 9, 2010, @ 5:30 PM in Erie, Colorado. It will be co hosted by the Bogans and the Randels at the Randel's home. Directions and details will be sent later. As usual the meat course will be provided by the club and pot luck dishes will be solicited from members. We are checking with Lisa to be sure she is on hand, so to speak!

If you are looking for a weekend get away, we have received invitations from the Black Jack's Saloon, Steak House and Inn in Trinidad, www.blackjackssaloon.com, and don't forget the Gateway Resort and Museum in Western Colorado. Both drives have "legendary" views. Maybe we will look into a late spring/summer road trip to one of these areas.

Keep in touch with your own suggestions

Eckhard

Tech Session Report

By Rick Reiff

Following the Membership meeting on October 17th Jim Lennartz and Gary Setffens led a discussion on how to “winterize” your Corvette and other cars that may not be used during the hard of winter that is now upon us here in the Front Range. The following are a list of some of the items discussed and can be used as a guide in preparing your car for hibernation.

Gas – with the addition of ethanol and other additives to our fuel mix the shelf life of gas is about three months. Ethanol is hydroscopic and as such absorbs water (i.e. from moisture in the air). The water collects in you tank (at the bottom because it is heavier than gas) and can cause corrosion and starting problems when spring rolls around. Fuel stabilizers (like STA-BIL) can help mitigate the effects of moisture absorption. The fuel stabilizer sets a protective layer on the top of gas to help lower the moisture absorption rate. If you don’t empty your lawn mower gas tank its good for this as well to help get your mower going on the first couple of pulls in the spring.

Oil – it was suggested to change your oil as during engine operation there is a build-up of impurities and acids that could result in deposits or chemical attack inside your engine.

Tires – fill your tires with air or nitrogen to the maximum pressure, especially nylon tires, to help keep them from getting flat spots from sitting dormant with the weight of the car on them.

Suspension – if you are going to lift your car and put it on jack stands (to avoid the tire flat spot issue) it’s a good idea to support the suspension components so they are not stressed from the weight of the free hanging wheels/tires. It was suggested to lift the car but leave the tires in contact with the ground. That way you are taking a lot of the weight off the tires and not stressing the suspension system. It will also give your Corvette that cool “monster truck” look. Be sure to explain to anyone stopping by your garage what’s going on so as not to make them think you put a lift kit on your ride.

Wiper Washer – if your car will be exposed to sub-freezing temperatures, it’s a good idea to empty the wiper wash container to prevent freezing/breaking of system components.

Battery – most “battery tenders” cycle too many times and tend to over-cycle the battery. It was suggest to rotate the battery tender on and off, for example plug it in for a day or so and then unplug it for a week or two. You could also use a timer to cycle it on and off. During this part of the session a little trick for a “dead” battery was brought up. Because a chemical reaction within the battery causes current flow, it was suggested that prior to starting a car that has been sitting for awhile, or has a weak battery, to turn on the lights for a few seconds prior to hitting the starter, to get the chemical reaction going, which can give the battery the boost needed to provide the amps the starter pulls. Something to try next time you have battery problems. However, if you left your lights on overnight, I’m thinking you don’t want to rely on this to get you going the next day.

Radiator/Cooling System – it’s a good idea to flush and renew the coolant system prior to long-term storage. Remember it is best to use distilled water when filling your system as it doesn’t have the additives tap water has which can result in corrosion problems.



Little Visitors – I’m not talking about kids/grandkids, this is the four-legged type in the form of mice. If your storage area (and therefore car) could be a nice nesting place for mice then you definitely want to keep an eye out for them as they can cause SERIOUS damage, especially to your electrical system. Apparently the dryer sheets used to freshen up your shop clothes works well to deter mice from getting into your car or garage. It was suggested to put a dryer sheet on the floor by each tire of your stored car and put them at your garage door entrance (and any other entrance). This will also make your garage smell all fresh and clean.

Engine Start – once a month you should start the car and get it up to operating temperature and if possible drive it a few miles to move the suspension components and get the fluids moving in their respective systems. If the car has been setting longer than a couple of months you may want to first

disconnect the coil wire and turn it over to build up oil pressure to lubricate the valve train prior to firing up.

Insurance – if you store your car during the winter and don't drive it and change your insurance coverage as a result, you should verify with your agent that you have coverage in case of theft, fire, or some other event that could result in loss or damage. Also, if you put your insurance on hold during the winter and there is a nice day during that time when you want to start the engine, as discussed above, and go for a quick spin, tell your insurance company and often you may be able to do this for a minimal, if any at all, cost.

These are most of the suggestions that came from the tech session and I'm sure there are some additional items you have thought of. If so, please feel free to let me or Dennis Dalton, our newsletter editor, know and we'll list them as an addendum in the next newsletter.

Merchandise

By Wayne Pendley

REGIONAL

Hats	\$16.00
Shirt	\$20.00
Polo Shirt	\$40.00
Hat Pin	\$3.00

CHAPTER

Grey T Shirt Short Sleeve	\$15.00
Grey T Shirt Long Sleeve	\$18.00
Denim Shirt Short Sleeve	\$31.00
Denim Shirt Long Sleeve	\$35.00
T Shirt with Pocket – Black	\$15.00
Polo Shirt Short Sleeve White & Blue	\$30.00
Polo Shirt Long Sleeve	\$35.00
Grey Sweat Shirt	\$20.00
Chambrey Shirt	\$30.00 XL \$32.00
Shopcoat	\$35.00
Black Apron	\$16.00
Hat Black / Stone	\$15.00
Hat Charcoal / Blue	\$15.00
Hat Blue / White	\$15.00
Hat 2-tone brushed twill	\$13.00
Challenger Jacket	\$50.00
Hat Pin Chapter	\$3.00
Knife	\$3.00
Window Sticker	\$3.00

These items make great gifts! I can send this merchandise UPS. Call Wayne at 303-981-8140 or email sunvett62@cs.com or:

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Membership Items for Sale

05/09

Wanted to buy, sell, swap: Corvette memorabilia – books, magazines; GM dealer albums, promotional models, postcards, mailers, posters, ads, etc. Need Automobile Quarterly publications including 30 Years of Great Advertising.

Weldon Montgomery #3295 303- 530-1372

07/09

For Sale: 2001 roadster. Torch red, black interior, 6 spd, HUD, new tires, all amenities, 39,500 miles. \$22,500. Call Dave Talley, 303-726-9640.

For Sale: C5 Chrome wheels. 2x17" and 2x18". Original spoke pattern for 2000-2004. Excellent condition with approximately 2,000 miles on them. \$400. Call Dave Talley, 303-726-9640.

Membership in the NCRS is open to persons interested in the restoration, preservation and history of the Corvette produced by the Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors Corporation from 1953 through 1982. NCRS is not affiliated with Chevrolet or General Motors.

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the NCRS is open to all members of the NCRS National organization. Dues are \$30.00 for the first year, and are \$20.00 per year for renewal. First year dues entitle the new member to a Chapter ball cap and membership nametag.

Advertising in the Rocky Mountain Chapter Newsletter is free to all active members, for all Corvette related

items or Corvettes for sale. Commercial advertising rates for the Newsletter are \$15.00 for a business card, \$25.00 for a ¼ page, \$40.00 for a ½ page and \$60.00 for a full page. All rates are quoted for 6 issues or one-year printing. Contact the editor

for further information. All editorial material can be sent to the editor.

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