



Chairman's Message

Mike McFarland, NCRS Nebraska Chapter Chairman



Another Benefit of NCRS Membership!

I had been looking for another Corvette for several months. It took a while but I had trimmed my want list down to a 1970 - 1972 LT-1. I preferred a "Survivor" and one with air conditioning if at all possible. There were less than 250 LT-1's that had been equipped with A/C and therefore, perhaps not all boxes on the want list would be able to be checked. I had a price target in mind but was prepared to spend more money for a truly legitimate car.

I scoured all the usual online advertising, auction and dealer's websites. The trouble I encountered was separating the "wheat from the chaff" especially from a distance while looking at photos and talking with sellers with whom I had no experience. The process was extra hard if the car had not been NCRS judged. I want to campaign the car through the judging process so matching numbers were critical.

I found what appeared to be an interesting example in southern Missouri being offered by a private seller. I talked Brad Hillhouse and Craig Stephan into taking an inspection /possible purchase road trip. The owner reported this car had never been through the NCRS judging process but "would likely do very well". The car was also reportedly virtually all original with the exception of some minor paint touchup on the passenger door.

After arriving at the seller's location, it was obvious after a quick walk-around, the car had received far more paint work than previously reported. And, the paint work wasn't done particularly well. The deeper into the inspection we went, it was obvious the car was clearly not what I had hoped it to be. We thanked the seller for his time and started the return trip to Lincoln with an empty trailer and a heavy heart.

Even though I was pretty disappointed, a road trip with good friends is never a "bust" in my book. We had 14 fun hours on the road and had great discussions and lots of laughs. We even had the chance to stop at a Waffle House for some wonderful cuisine. Well, we got fed anyway.

One of the topics we discussed was it seemed like many of the better cars change hands without ever making it to the open market. Many of the cars get passed between friends. The challenge is to know about these cars when offered for sale. Brad had agreed to send a "looking-to-purchase" email to a bunch of his friends in the Midwest he had met through the NCRS. A day or two later, a good friend of his responded and reported he was thinking of selling his 1972 with A/C that had achieved a Four-Star Bowtie award. Bingo! Finally, a legitimate car!

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Brad, Craig and Gary Neimanis had judged the car at a Chapter event. All had good comments about the owner and the car. It was obvious looking at photos of the car and speaking with the owner, the car would likely check many of the boxes on my want list. The fact the current owner was a solid, stand-up guy was icing on the cake. Brad and I made a quick trip to Illinois and the car was everything I had hoped. After a fairly quick inspection, money changed hands and the car was loaded on the trailer.

In all likelihood, had it not been for the contacts made through the NCRS, I would not have had the chance to purchase this particular car. The prior owner had several others genuinely interested in purchasing the car with one solid offer contingent on a person selling another car. This car likely would have sold without ever appearing in an ad or in an auction.

The contacts one can make through the NCRS are fantastic. Quite often, the contacts turn into great friendships. Had it not been for the NCRS, I doubt I would now be friends with the prior owner nor would I be the proud owner of this particular '72 LT-1. Thanks Brad and thanks NCRS!

I don't know of any other organization with the power of the NCRS especially when it comes to Corvettes.

Mike McFarland, Chairman
Nebraska NCRS Chapter

Nebraska Chapter Members Road Trip to Midway USA Chapter, Wichita, KS

September 25, 2021



Being a member of other NCRS Chapters allows you to meet more great people, see more cars and enjoy more goodness all the way around. You get the chance to expand your circle of friends and enjoy greater comradery!

In late September, five of us made the trek south to Wichita, Kansas to join the Midway USA Chapter in their monthly business meeting which also included a judging school and a judging event. Those Nebraska members who are also Midway USA Chapter members who made the trip were Melinda and Lowell Keedy, Craig Stephan, Brad Hillhouse and yours truly. Brad Hillhouse's super nice 1979 L82 4-speed car was judged at this event.

We arrived in Wichita Friday evening and were treated with a tour through Kerri and Dallas Keller's super garage. What a GREAT setup they have for restoring and storing Corvettes. Kerri and Dallas are very knowledgeable and super friendly. Thanks for sharing your time with us!

Saturday's festivities were held at Mike and Marcia Rowley's car condo. This is a purpose-built facility just for car guys and gals and the storage of their pride and joys. Mike serves as the Midway USA Chapter's Event Coordinator and does a fantastic job in that capacity. Coffee, soft drinks and rolls were provided prior to the start of the event.

Craig Stephan judged exterior, Melinda Keedy served as Observer Judge (O.J.) with Kerri Keller while Lowell Keedy judged chassis with Mike Rowley and Casey Coats. I was fortunate to be able to judge the mechanical portion with Midway USA Chapter Chairman and all-around good guy Rick Smiley.

If you are interested in joining additional Chapters to increase your NCRS enjoyment, each Chapter's contact info is listed on the NCRS website. <https://www.ncrs.org/services/chapters.php>

Two Chapters located in the adjoining states to Nebraska are both highly recommend. The Midway USA Chapter and the Heartland (Iowa) Chapter are worth solid consideration. Our very own Gary Neimanis just took over the Heartland Chapter Chairman's duties. Congratulations to Gary!

Midway USA members who are mentioned above and who are also Nebraska Chapter Members include: Kerri and Dallas Keller, Rick (and his wife Bev) Smiley, Mike and Marcia Rowley, Dave (and his wife Jo) Houlihan.

Mike McFarland, Chairman
Nebraska NCRS Chapter

Third Annual Last Blast (2021) Appreciation!

For those of you who don't know, I was involved in a mishap while riding my mountain bike through some trails. I fractured several bones and required surgery to put parts of me back together. The mishap occurred less than a week prior to our *Third Annual Last Blast* event.



I had plans to be a big part of the *Last Blast* event including having two cars judged. My physical condition completely prevented my participation. I would like to thank many members for your kindness bestowed upon me during this time.

An event of the size of the *Last Blast* doesn't occur without a great leader and a super supporting cast. Therefore, a big thank you to Brad Hillhouse for the outstanding job he performed organizing and presenting this fantastic event. This is the third year for the *Last Blast* event and I feel it continues to get better and better each year due largely to Brad's efforts.

Brad's wife Alice also receives our thanks as she also played a significant roll during the event. A huge thank you to Todd Duncan and his family for the use of the hanger – what a cool venue for this event. Hopefully we can have other future events at the hanger.

Also, thanks to the other Officers for stepping up in my absence. And lastly, thanks to each and every one of you who participated in the judging schools, having your car judged and for performing the actual judging. I have heard many, many positive comments about the event.

Mike McFarland, Chairman
Nebraska NCRS Chapter



Great Job Brad!



Thanks Alice Hillhouse for this awesome spread of food



Todd Duncan's 1960 Corvette



Todd Duncan's Piper Cub—Sweet!



A few of the cars at the Last Blast 2021

Highlights from the Third Annual Last Blast (2021)



Master Judge Dave Houlihan giving a superb judging school



Craig Stephan receiving Second Flight Award and having fun as always!



Judges Meeting



Judging has started



Todd Duncan receiving Thank You Plaque



Speedway Museum of American Speed



Ashley Hillhouse's 1993 Purple Rose—Beautiful



Going over Judging Sheets



Thursday evening Welcome Reception Supper



Pre-Event Setup



Judging School presented by Chris Sherman



Kim and Alice working hard and having fun



The Guys paying super close attention



Pre-Event Setup—Nice Cars!!



Those Socks—everyone wants a pair



Huh???

****For more fun posts from participants and pictures from the Last Blast 2021 go to our [Facebook page](#)**

Highlights from NCRS Texas Regional in Frisco, TX



Having some fun before the Group Pic!



NCRS Nebraska Chapter Members that traveled to Frisco, TX



NCRS Nebraska Judging School

December 4, 2021—10am



On Saturday December 4th at 10am we will be doing a Judging school on C1 front suspension presented by Brad Hillhouse & Lowell Keedy.

Using a 1959 Corvette as our subject, we will show the details of the complete front crossmember, control arms and springs as a suspension assembly prior to installation into the car.

The school will cover typical factory finishes and part configurations as well as some technical installation procedures.

After we have studied the front suspension assembly on the bench, we will install it into the car.

Registration is required either thru the [NCRS National Services/Coming Events/Event Registration](#) portal or by emailing BradHillhouse@yahoo.com.

The school will go about 2 hours from 10am to noon. Coffee and rolls will be provided by the chapter. PLEASE RSVP so we know a headcount for the event.

Brad Hillhouse's shop
3211 S. 6th Street
Lincoln, NE 68502

Social Media News

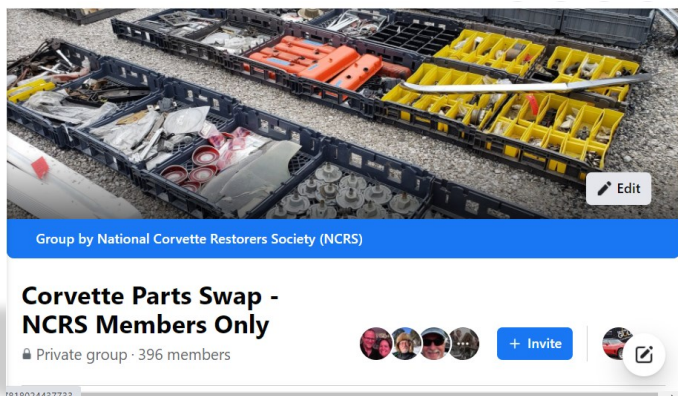
Brad Hillhouse, NCRS Nebraska Chapter Social Media Coordinator



Don't forget about the [Corvette Parts Swap—NCRS Members Only](#) and the [NCRS Nebraska Chapter](#) Facebook pages.

Great way to keep informed of Chapter events and Corvette Parts, check them out!!

Any questions or issues contact [Brad Hillhouse](#).



NCRS Nebraska Chapter Contact Info

**NCRS Nebraska Chapter
Current 2021 Chapter Officers**



Chairman Mike McFarland mjmcfarland@hotmail.com (402) 440-0144	Vice-Chairman Gene Walker ewalkerjr6@yahoo.com (402) 933-0017	Judging Chairman Brad Hillhouse bradhillhouse@yahoo.com (402) 730-6898	Asst. Judging Chairman Keith Mander cjmander@aol.com (402) 250-1846
Chapter Top Flight Administrator & Secretary cstephana@gmail.com Craig Stephan (402) 276-0910	Treasurer & Membership Coordinator Gary Neimanis garyneimanis@gmail.com (515) 988-8303	Newsletter Editor Melinda Keedy linders_99@yahoo.com (402) 440-0880	

Ramblings

Melinda Keedy, NCRS Nebraska Chapter Newsletter Editor



I want to personally thank Alice Hillhouse for supporting the NCRS Nebraska Chapter! Alice and Brad pulled off one the best Last Blast's ever!

Alice does not shy away from a given task, or hard work and makes that task so colorful and fun and one to remember.

Thanks again Alice and you are a gem!

I Look forward to helping you with many, many more NCRS Nebraska Chapter events.



Ashley & Alice Hillhouse

For information on our charity click the otter!



Sale.....Wanted.....Parts



Unloved Corvette Wanted

I know that the C3 body style, particularly the plastic bumpers ones are the ugliest and most unloved Corvettes of all time. Underpowered, uninspired styling, boring, I've heard it all.

Regardless, I love the C3 body style and want to learn more about them by purchasing, repairing, preserving and then working thru the NCRS judging system. Many of you know I have had a 1981 for 20 years, and this summer I purchased a 1979 that had been sitting untouched for years. It has been so fun learning the differences between my 1981 and this 1979 and the nuances of each car.

If you know of a 1974-1982 Corvette that has been sitting unloved in the garage, let me bring it back to its former glory. The prior owner of my 1979 has been thrilled to see her baby back on the road again and earning awards as I have kept her updated with the progress from unloved to Top Flight.

Thank you for any leads!

Brad Hillhouse
402-730-6898
BradHillhouse@yahoo.com



National Corvette Restorers Society

Nebraska Chapter

Membership Application & Renewal Form

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (h) _____ (c) _____

Email _____ NCRS # _____

Are you on Facebook? _____ Twitter _____ Instagram _____

Nebraska Chapter Dues: \$25 per year. January 1 - December 31

NCRS requires you to be a member of NCRS National before joining our chapter.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

1. Renew on our website: <https://ncrsneb.com/join-ncrs>

2. Pay direct via  NCRSNebraska@gmail.com

3. Checks Payable to:

NCRS Nebraska Chapter
c/o Gary Neimanis
9275 Diamondhead Drive
Dexter, IA 50070
515-988-8383

To help us plan chapter meetings and technical schools, please share what year Corvette(s) you own and what condition they are in. Restored, Original, Project, etc.

Year _____ Model _____ Color _____ Special Options _____

Year _____ Model _____ Color _____ Special Options _____

Year _____ Model _____ Color _____ Special Options _____

