R.P.M.



The Official Newsletter of the PITTSBURGH TRI - STATE CHAPTER

National Corvette Restorers Society





Restoration...Preservation & Motoring Fun!

Editor: Jimmy Patitucci

NCRS Top Flight Chapter

https://ncrspitt.com

Spring 2024

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Chairman's Message: Jimmy Patitucci

Winter is now in our rear-view mirrors and Spring is here so it's time to start enjoying our Corvettes. On Sunday March 10th we held our first chapter event of 2024. It was our annual seminar and one point judging school. Once again this year we met in Latrobe at John Kuhn's garage *Specialty*



Cars Limited. We had NCRS member Mike Treece present the seminar on C1-C3 dashboards, knobs, gauges, radios and interiors. Many of you know that he does the NCRS Virtual Judging Schools. The work he puts into a presentation is unbelievable. After lunch I did a power point presentation on judging the C6 Corvettes, (Courtesy of Pete Bergman) for the one-point school. We had a really nice turnout of about 35 members. This is always one of the best events of the year and this year was no different.

I was hoping to start off 2024 on a happier note compared to the end of last year. But unfortunately, it hasn't. Sadly, we lost another charter chapter member a few weeks ago with the passing of George Whipkey. Last year, we lost John DeGregory and Ron Horak. I certainly hope this isn't going to turn into a trend moving forward. However, we must move on and continue to grow and prosper as a chapter. Certainly, what those guys would want us to do.

Our board has worked hard to put together another great year of events, all of which can be found on page 18 in this newsletter.

At our March board meeting member Bob Cirilli reported to the board the he found no issues and all chapter financial reports properly represent the status of the club, when he performed the audit of the PTSC records for 2023. That was nice to hear!

Also, at that meeting our long time Treasurer, Norm Neffield announced that he will be stepping down as treasurer at the end of this year. That means we will now have two elected board positions to fill for next year. The other position is the Vice-Chairman, when Brooke Madeira takes over as Chairman on January 1, 2025. That being said it's time for others to step up to the plate, get involved and volunteer for these open positions. Those interested should start attending our board meetings so that we get to know you. All the responsibilities required of the positions can be found in our bi-laws in the back of your Membership Booklets. Like I always mention at our events, our monthly board meetings are open to any member and we would be happy to have you and answer any questions you may have. It takes everyone to make our chapter a success.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter! Enjoy the time with your families, and enjoy your Corvettes safely!

Hope to see you at our next event in Bedford at All Collector Autos on April 28th.

TΡ



2024 Officers & Chairpersons

Chairman – Jimmy Patitucci 724-737-6396 jjppat@breezeline.net

Vice Chairman – Brooke Madeira 724-875-4903 befoor@gmail.com

Treasurer - Norm Neffield

 $724\text{-}832\text{-}1935 \; nneffield@comcast.net$

Secretary - Jim Wainwright

 $814\text{-}381\text{-}5512\ james_wainwright@hsb.com$

Judging Chairman - Bill Bryan

814-931-9101 crosskeystv@yahoo.com

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724-757-6221 gearyjt@comcast.net

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600-7727 robert.stokes@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor – Jimmy Patitucci

724-737-6396 jjppat@breezeline.net

Historian - Barry Holmes

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 $\underline{mbucheit@wpa.net}$

Webmaster-Don Geary 724-875-7749

dlgeary@comcast.net



Judging Chairman's Message: Bill Bryan

Well, here we are moving on into another year. We just had another great chapter event at John Kuhn's garage. What a wonderful host! We invited Mike Treece to present at our seminar. He certainly enriched us with his vast knowledge on C1,C2 & C3 dashes, gauges, radios and interiors.



After a catered lunch, which was delicious as always. Jimmy Patitucci enlightened us all on the aspects of judging C6 Corvettes for the one- point judging school. This is the newest generation of cars we are going to start judging which include years 2005-2007. We should start seeing more of them at our judging meets in the future.

Our next judging event will be on April 28th at Dylan Stahl's All Collector Auto, in Bedford, Pa. We have two cars registered for the event and possibly a third. All three are C2's. We will be focusing on training judges and that has always been my goal at this event each year. The cars are just the byproduct! Yes, we'll be issuing judging awards to the owners but the focus will be the in-depth training to the those attending. We also ask that experienced judges please register for this event to help with teaching those less experienced. So, if you want to increase your judging knowledge, you should definitely sign up for this event.

On another note, I would like everyone to be aware of the constant effort the board members put forth, to continue to make our chapter the best it can be. So please thank them when you see them. If anyone has suggestions, concerns or would like to assist in anyway, please don't hesitate to ask. We are all just an email or phone call away!

Finally, I keep getting closer to finishing up my '67. Its' been a work in progress, but you all know other things often get in the way. It is painted, partially buffed and the chassis is assembled. My goal is to bring it to Hubbard in October for judging. That'll be here before you know it! Wish me luck!



RPM Feature Artícle: "A Vísít with Our PTSC Historian, Barry Holmes" By: Jimmy Patítucci

Most chapters have a *Historian* as a board position. But, have you ever wondered exactly what they do? Referencing our PTSC Bi-Laws "the Historian shall maintain accurate records of all chapter activities from the inception of the chapter to the present. He shall have in his possession the initial Articles of Incorporation, all supporting documents from the Commonwealth of Pa. Dept. or State, Bureau of Corporations, all minutes from all board meetings from 1990 to present, scrapbooks containing photos and prints of all PTSC and NCRS Inc., copies of all quarterly newsletters and any other materials that adequately reflect the history of the organization".

After spending a couple hours before our last two board meetings with Barry in the basement of his home I got the answer to the question on what the *Historian* does... and then some!

Ever since I joined the chapter in 2014 and especially after I became the newsletter editor Barry has welcomed me with open arms and has always been willing to share all the early chapter documents with me any time I've asked about something from the past for my personal knowledge or to add information to an article in the newsletter.



Once I arrived at Barrys' he invited me into the basement of his house. As soon as I walked in, he took me over to a shelving rack (top photo) that was full of postal boxes containing every NCRS Driveline and every NCRS Restorer magazine organized chronologically from the time the NCRS stopped selling those "three ring binders" to store them from back in the day. The earlier NCRS magazines in the "binders" were housed in a 3-door filing cabinet. (see below)





Next, we move over to the top of the washer and dryer where he has three large blue binders opened up for me to see. They were dated and titled as: 1st PTSC Annual Meet 1991, 7-27-91...PTSC 2nd Annual Meet 7/25/92... and the PTSC 3rd Annual Meet 1993. He went through each one page by page pointing out a few chapter members both current and not, that he recognized. All much younger looking for sure. He also pointed out many of the beautiful Corvettes and who owned them back then. Keep in mind, Barry would also tell me where the cars came from, who owned them and where/when many of them were sold. WOW! What a memory!



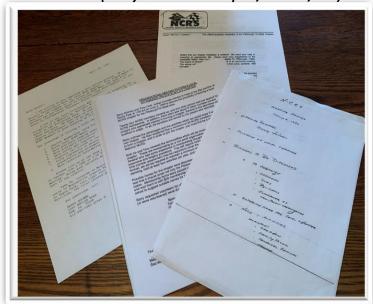


After we looked through a plethora of photos documenting all the early chapter events, he picked up a box from the floor and pulled out a few of the early PTSC Vintage T-Shirts from many of those events, as well as a couple examples from other early area car cruises. If you come to many of our chapter events Barry usually brings a vintage T-shirt to display for all to see or he might actually be modeling one himself. (photo below)



After he clears the photo albums from the washer and dryer he turns and says to me "this is all the good stuff you want to see!" He lays out a series of thick folders that contain all the early paperwork and correspondence dealing with how the chapter was established back in 1990. Items like initial letters to the NCRS requesting a chapter charter; letters to potential chapter members asking them to get involved and the need to actually start a Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter NCRS and early rosters . He's often told me that he had a lot of help during this initial start-up stage from the MAC Chapter, most notably Mike McCaugh. I'm not going to get into mentioning others who were instrumental in helping to get our chapter started in 1990. That's not the purpose of this article. If you recall I did an article on Mike when he was inducted into the NCM Hall of Fame in a past newsletter. That article contained the names of our influential chapter members who helped get things started.

Barry provided me with all the information to write that article as well! (early document samples/awards/etc.)



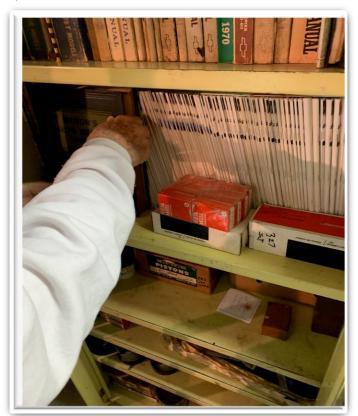
Top Flight Certificates before the banner stickers.



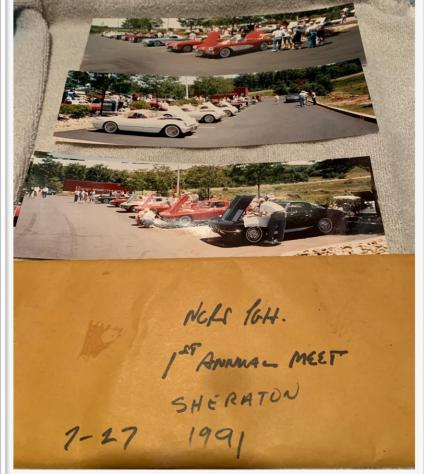
Another thick folder contained all the PTSC board meeting minutes for his initial meeting as chapter chairman back in 1990. Those are pictured above. Not only did he have files of PTSC documents he also had a folder with many items like new car brochures, member booklets, and bi-laws examples from other chapters and local car clubs that he used as models back then. Just an example of how much work, preparation and research he and the others put into doing what was necessary to meet the requirements of the NCRS to form a new chapter. Tons of letter writing correspondence, meetings, phone calls and traveling to meetings went into all this initially. Remember, this was back before cell phones and when internet

accessibility was still all in the infant stages.

"Wait, were not finished yet"!" he says "come over here!" We walk over to another shelving unit that houses all of the chapter newsletters from day one to present in thin file boxes.







Just look at the number of beautiful Corvettes of all generations that showed up for this first meet. Note: Barry would point to many of them and tell who the owners were.

Various vintage dash placques from back in the day. NCRS MEET VINTAGE GRAND PRINTAGE GRAND PRINTAGE GRAND PRINTAGE GRAND PRINTAGE GRAND PRINTAGE GRAND PRINTAGE Wings & Wheels Arnold Palmer Regional Airport August 15, 2010 Agreet 15, 2010 According to the day.

More photos

Something to keep in mind, all while he's pointing these things out to me, he frequently went into a side story about a Corvette, a meet, a road tour, his first Corvette, a Black '67 and how loud the side pipes were, racing Corvettes, going out on parts searches, playing pranks on friends and the different jobs he had over the years. Most of all, about all the fun they used to have at all the events back then.



I've tried to include some of the many photos from my visit but hearing all the back stories related to the photos were priceless. Here's an example:



He shows me this photo above of his much younger self. (*Not exactly sure of the date, and neither was Barry*). He goes on to tell me he and his friend Larry Fellers were out looking for parts at this gentleman's house. The guy takes them in his basement and this Corvette is sitting there. According to Barry, it was a *1956 SR1* and was one of only two that GM built back then to race. One red and one blue. After GM stopped this program because of so many complaints the car was sold for very little money to a well-known local Chevy dealer. This guy bought if from the dealer for another ridiculously low amount of money. He asked Barry & Larry if they wanted to buy it for \$14,000.00. After some discussion they decide not to buy it. Get this, according to Barry, he said that this car about two years ago sold for around \$8.5 million.!!!! Now that's a side-story!

(Various VHS videos & DVD's) One DVD was of an event the Chapter held



at the Keystone Raceway. You can't imagine how many
Corvettes showed up for that once in a lifetime event and they actually drag raced the cars. Insurance companies would love to see that! Also, this DVD contained video

from the National awards banquet in Seven Springs back then. With none other than Zora Duntov himself as the guest speaker! Another DVD documented Dave McConnel's '65 body off restoration from start to finish!

Conclusion:

It's certainly very clear after my two visits with Barry that as our PTSC Historian he certainly checks all the boxes and then some when it comes to meeting our Bi-Laws requirements for the Historian.

I hope this article enlightens the reader on the duties of a great chapter Historian. In Barry Holmes we have one of the best if not "The Best".

"Thank you, Barry, first, for having the initial insight to realize the need for an NCRS Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter back in 1990 and the initiative to take the reins to make it happen and second for sharing everything with me and for being so dedicated to preserving the history of our chapter." **JP**

Barry & Pat 1994, Ohiopyle, Pa.



Note: Barry served as the first PTSC Chairman in 1990,1991. He also served as the Vice Chairman in 1992 thru 1998.

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In Memory of George Whipkey; (Aug. 30, 1940 - Mar. 8, 2024)

On Friday March 8,2024 our PTSC lost George Whipkey. He was a long-time member of the NCRS and a Charter Member of our Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter. He served on the board as the Events' Coordinator from 1992-1997. He was a proud Marine and served during the Vietnam War era. He was also a Sergeant in the SW Greensburg Police Department for 30 years. He was our annual holiday banquet Toys for Tots Drive coordinator and was the logistics coordinator for the Westmorland Co. Marine Corps Toys for Tots. George was known by many in our chapter as "Road Tour George",



because of all those early road tours he organized and led throughout the tri-state area. He was an avid car collector and restorer of many antique cars and specialized in Corvettes. The Toys for Tots program was near and dear to his heart, serving thousands of families each year making Christmas a little brighter for the less fortunate children in our area. He and Pat were also regular volunteers at Action for Animals Humane Society. (Note: Our chapter donated \$100.00 to the Action for Animals Humane Society in memory of George.)

"On behalf of the Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter NCRS, I would like to offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to Pat and family. Seeing both of them at our annual picnics and Christmas banquets was always special. Our chapter will certainly miss you. George was a huge part of our Corvette community, not only as a Charter member but as a friend to all and just an all- around "nice person". George may be gone but he will never be forgotten!

The legend of "Road Tour George" will live on in our PTSC forever!"

Jimmy Patitucci, Chairman

PTSC Membership News: Judy Geary

As of our March board meeting, we have 122 members.

<u>Please welcome our</u> <u>newest member:</u>

Ronald Starry #67432 206 Fennel St. New Alexandría, Pa. 15670 (412)-554-7679 Email: ronaldstarry454@msn.com

Toys: 1981 Yenko Turbo Corvette & 2000 Convertible

Please welcome back as a member:

Peter Licastro #10968 911 Sewickley Heights Dr. Sewickley, Pa. 15143-8924 (412)-720-2822 Email: <u>pete@point-bridge.com</u>

Note: Pete is a charter member of our chapter and was the initial newsletter editor from 1990 thru 1996 and the chairman in 1997-1998.

Toys: 1975 Conv. & 2008 Coupe

New & rejoining members continued:

(New member) John Putzier #71707 202 Blackthorn Dr. Butler, Pa. 16002 (724) 991-0361 <u>Jputzier1025@gmail.com</u>

1963 SW Coupe 2020 Coupe

Toys:

(Rejoined member)
William Neely # 69045
31 Christler Street
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15223
(412) 505-3433
bneely1968@gmail.com
Toys:
1978 Coupe



Chapter dues are \$20.00 and renewed each June 1st. Make checks payable to: Pittsburgh Tri State Chapter, NCRS. Mail to: Judy Geary 117 Caldwell Drive, Jeanette, Pa. 154644. Dues can also be paid using PayPal. Keep in mind: You must be an active paid -up member of the NCRS, Inc. to qualify for chapter membership. Please include your NCRS number when joining or renewing your chapter membership. Also make sure you update your email address with us and the National NCRS so you can continue to receive important emails and the Newsletter!

Inspecting, Cleaning and Restoring a '67 Steering Box By: Bill Bryan #291

Introduction:

The intent of this article is for everyone to keep in mind during a full restoration everything on the car needs to have a thorough inspection. Never just clean up a part and reuse it unless you are 100% sure of it being not only correct for your particular car but, that it can perform as it was originally intended when it was new.

That being said, while restoring my 1967 Corvette and going over all its' component parts I noticed that the steering box was looking very ugly and dirty and in dire need of a good cleaning. (Fig.1) Even though this car has very low mileage, and sat in a garage since the 70's I felt the need to completely disassemble the steering box to make sure it was safe to leave on the car.

Disassembly and Restoration Process:

In figures 2 and 3 you can see all the parts after disassembly. This is where I cleaned, repainted the housing and inspected all the parts. Making sure to keep everything organized and grouped for easy reassembly.





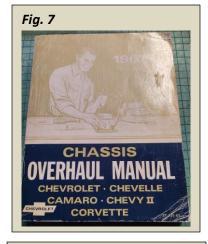


All this was relatively easy and straight forward. The bearings worried me but the GM manual stated that there should be

54. Luckily I was able to account for all of them. (Figure 4)

Fig. 4 -All 54 bearings accounted for! And ready to be packed in the worm gear.





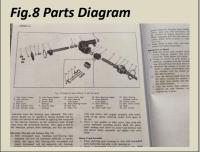


Fig. 5 Worm assembly all packed and ready for install.



Conclusion:

To my surprise after a complete disassembly and thorough inspection it showed no wear. All the components were able to be reused and no replacements needed. This short article is meant to show that some things are simple to do once you dig into them.

My reference was the invaluable GM Service Manual. It also states the proper adjustments using an inch/pound torque wrench. (*Figures 7 & 8*) A lot of parts suppliers sell replacement kits and some do the work for you, but I like the challenge of doing the work myself.

Fig. 6 Complete with a new gasket and installed on the frame and ready for relay rod and tie rod ends.



"I hope the reader finds this article to be helpful. I see lots of "restored" cars that are not safe to drive down the road, all because little projects like this one tend to be overlooked." **Bill**

PTSC Members Attend 45th Florida Winter Regional in Melbourne

Photos: Vinnie Peters

This year the event was held at the American Muscle Car Museum in Melbourne, Florida on January 17-20. Two of our Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter members were in attendance and were judges at the event. Those members were: Brian McIntyre and John Kuhns. John was also awarded his 100 pt. Master Judges' Hat.

John & Brian in the Museum (Photo courtesy of Brian)



John receiving his 100 pt. hat from Dave Brigham







John on the judging field...see yellow arrows! Yep!, that's him in the lower left photo too!!!



Congratulations John on obtaining your 100pt. Master Judges' Award!



Westmoreland County Blind Association

December 18, 2023

Pittsburgh Tri-State National Corvette Restoreers Society 404 Hunt Club Drive Greensburg, PA 15601

Dear Pittsburgh Tri-State,

I would like to express a heartfelt thank you from the Westmoreland County Blind Association. Contributions are such a critical factor in maintaining the WCBA's low-vision program, our specialized services area and our prevention of blindness programs. Your generous contribution of \$300 is greatly appreciated and will provide aid right here in Westmoreland County.

Thank you again for playing such an important role in helping our organization and providing your support. This kindness and generosity allows us to improve and expand our efforts to enhance the quality of life for the blind community. Your contribution plays a part in helping the blind to achieve independence.

Their future is brighter because of you.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Miller

Tump P. MM

Executive Director

TPM/amp



911 South Main Street Greensburg, PA 15601-4140 Phone 724-837-1250 Fax 724-837-3135

WWW.WCBAINPA.ORG



724.468.8660 Phone
724.468.5894 Fax
800.462.2080 Toll Free in PA
westmorelandfoodbank.org
100 Devonshire Drive
Delmont, PA 15626-1607

National Corvette Restorers Society Don Geary 117 Caldwell Dr Jeannette, PA 15644-4033

Dear National Corvette Restorers Society:

On behalf of the Westmoreland Food Bank, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$300.00 on October 24, 2023. No goods or services were received in exchange for this contribution. Westmoreland Food Bank is a 501(c)3 organization, contributions to which are tax deductible as permitted by law. Your financial support helps us continue our mission to enable all Westmoreland County residents who are hungry or at risk of hunger to have ready access to food.

We owe our gratitude to the community of donors such as yourself who continue to support our organization over the tumultuous recent years. As the pandemic wanes and inflationary pressures are our current challenge, the support of our community is apparent. Because of you, we were able to distribute over 5.5 million pounds of food in 2022 and touch the lives of thousands of families, children, senior citizens and veterans all over Westmoreland County—providing nourishment and hope for better days ahead.

I am proud to be a part of a community in which people like you are dedicated to making an impact. Your generosity and compassion are truly inspiring to all of us.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Miller

Chief Executive Officer



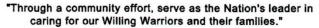
A member of FEEDING AMERICA

Please consider donating today or including us in your will or estate plans for tomorrow.

A copy of the official resistration and financial information of Westmoreland County Food Bank. Inc. may be obtained from the

A copy of the official registration and financial information of Westmoreland County Food Bank, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.







March 22, 2023

Pittsburgh Tri-State NCRS Norm Neffield, Treasurer 404 Hunt Club Dr Greensburg, PA 15601

Dear Mr. Neffield:

Thank you for your \$100.00 contribution dated March 10, 2023. Your donation was applied to our annual Vettes for Vets event on July 15, 2023. I hope you are able to attend our event in July!

Your generosity helps us further our mission of providing cost-free retreat stays and other programs that positively impact the lives of wounded, ill, and injured military service members and disabled Veterans. We are grateful for your support of the Warrior Retreat at Bull Run mission and for providing encouragement and support to our nation's Warriors and their families during their recovery process.

A recent Warrior wife (also a Veteran) has been holding down the fort, taking care of her husband and their three daughters (ages 7, 5, and 3) throughout the Warrior's treatment. She wrote:

"Where do I even begin? Despite the bitter cold outside, we felt nothing but warmth and love from each person we encountered this past week." ... "We felt the spirit strongly and the love and grace and miracle evident that God helped to orchestrate." ... "I could go on forever with how much we have been richly blessed by so many this week. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you all!!"

Thank you
The Lt Thomas Chmelik Family

We at WW work hard to make your contribution to benefit our guests in an impactful way, and we appreciate your generosity in supporting our cause. To keep up-to-date on our organization and mission, please visit our website at www.willingwarriors.org Because we are a registered 501(c)3 organization, your donation is completely tax deductible. Again, we thank you for your support in helping to make the world a better place.

Thorneyou with yestes for warring with yestes for

Sincerely

Sarah Ford

Executive Director

Willing Warriors

No goods or services were provided in return for this donation.

www.willingwarriors.org 571-248-0008

Tax ID 46-0683036 CFC #90228 16013 Waterfall Road Haymarket, VA 20169-2126

Our Chapter Newsletter RPM Gets Another Mention in "Old Cars Weekly Magazine" By: Jimmy Patitucci, Editor

I'm proud to say that our PTSC newsletter was mentioned once again by one of the editors Gerald Perschbacher in his regular column titled "Club Clips". He spotlighted our judging event from last year at John Kuzmishin's Garage in the March 1, 2024 edition of the magazine (photo below). Something worth noting, this was the fourth time our **RPM** newsletter was recognized in his Club Clips section. The first time was in Vol. 48 No. 25 of August 15, 2019 about "A Vette Buyer Shows Ins and Outs of Finding his '65, by Bob Cirilli. The second was in Vol. 49 No. 32 Nov. 5, 2020 again an article by Bob Cirilli on the C8. The third was in Vol.1 No. 51 in Jan. 1, 2022 focused on my article on the failures of the C3 Fuel Separator Check Valves. It's certainly nice to know that the judges take the time to carefully read over all the many club newsletters submitted to them for consideration for the prestigious Golden Quill Award.

Club Clips

BY GERALD PERSCHBACHER



Talkin' Tim Allen, GTOs and Corvettes ...

expressed by entertainer, film star and car guy Tim Allen in Randy Pribyl's recent articles (with photos by club president Vic Schreck) appearing in the first 2024 edition of The Legend (Tom Szymczyk, editor; GTO Association of America, PO

> BOX 213, Timnath, CO 80547; www.gtoaa.org).

Allen was 10 when he became enthralled with the GTO mystique, thanks to a 1964 article in Car and Driver. The powerful GTO could run rings around Allen's first car, a 1961 VW, which he assembled from pieces. Once the GTO mystique entered his life, he was hooked.

Allen races "all the time" with Jay Leno (even using Model T Fords), says his mother thinks he has too many cars, and he is still on the search for more. "Aiming for the perfect car is more important than achieving it," he says. A bold step beyond his first notion of G-T-O, which he recalls used

to stand for "Gas, Tires and Oil." Fun reading!

Shifting gears to another brand, R.P.M. (official newsletter of the Pittsburgh Tri-state Chapter, National Corvette Restorers Society, editor Jimmy Patitucci, jjppat@breezeline.net) came in the mail about the same time and highlights a hobby practice that

is the gold standard for serious collectors: JUDGING.

The club arranged for judges' training by seasoned Corvette owners who were naturally willing to share their



insights as experts, and who further sharpened the experience. A member offered his facility for the setting to investigate the fine points of judging by using a 1965 roadster and a 1972 LT1 coupe as examples.

Knowledge and experience can't be beat when it comes to solid judging.



Annual Cost for Newsletter Business Ads

\$20.00 for a Business Card

\$40.00 for 1/4 page ad

\$60.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ page ad

\$100.00 for full page ad

Charges are due each quarter.

Ads should be emailed to the editor Jimmy Patitucci at

jjppat@breezeline.net

Checks should be mailed to the following address: Box 92 McClellandtown, Pa. 15458





Established 1974

NCRS has been the leader in setting the Judging Standard for Corvettes and many other marques. We have a lot to be proud of and looking forward to many more years.

NCRS 50th Anniversary Don't miss the party!

2024 NCRS Hampton Roads, VA Convention Sunday August 4th through Thursday August 8th.

As part of the 50th Anniversary celebration the NCRS will be honoring numerous NCRS American Heritage Award winners that will be on display .

Adding to the celebration will be a unique display of special interest Corvettes

We will be honoring the founding members from 1974 and the early history of the NCRS along with a display of the year of 1974 Corvettes

A very special opening reception is being planned and it will be a 1970's theme party in a great location.

Get out your bell bottoms, flowered shirts and 70's clothes. There will be three prizes for the best 1970's attire.

Registration is now open on the website so don't miss out on this milestone anniversary and celebration.

You must visit our Convention pages for all the information about the upcoming event.

Register Here Now!

From the NCRS... Keep your contact information current

It is a constant effort to keep members contact information up to date. Email addresses in particular are more likely to change than home addresses. Drop your landline and depend on your cell. Do we have your cell number?

You can always update your own contact information. We have a lot of members who winter in the south and live in the north. They change addresses every six months or so. Log into the website and go to the SERVICES menu. Scroll down to find Change Address, Phone or Email. Make the necessary changes and save the page.

To check on or edit your contact information - click on this link https://www.ncrs.org/forums/register/change-address.php
Save this information for when you might need it.

2024 The Year of the 1974 Corvette "No more chrome bumpers from here on out!"

Imagine that!
By: Jimmy Patitucci







74 Facts

The 1974 Chevrolet Corvette is the first with rear "Rubber Bumpers". *Actually, they were urethane!* The new shape removes the spoiler at the back of the car and replaces it with a smooth down-sloping deck. The bumper could not be manufactured reliably in one piece this year. The solution was to manufacture it in two pieces and put them together, this resulted in a seam down the middle of all the '74 models. The new bumper added 30 more pounds to the car. Due to the weight changes, minor suspension changes were made to the front and rear springs. This was the last year for the "Big Block" and the last year that catalytic converters were not used. Cast aluminum wheels were on the order sheet but due to manufacturing problems none were actually delivered. A new "Gymkhana" option was introduced that beefed up the spring rates and suspension. The alarm keyway was moved to the driver side front fender under the Stingray Script. No "Crossed Flags or any other emblem for that matter on the gas door." Resonators were added to the exhaust system. Shoulder belts were integrated with the lap belts for the first time on Coupes only.

Production Options and Build Statistics Total 1974 Corvettes Built - 37,502

> Total 1974 Coupes - 32,028 Total 1974 Convertibles - 5,474



Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter NCRS 2024 Event Schedule

March 10 (Sunday) Technical/Judging Seminar at John Kuhn's Garage, Latrobe, Pa.

*Coordinators: John Kuhns/Bill Bryan

April 28 (Sunday) **Judging School/ Mini Meet** at All Collector Autos, Bedford, Pa.

*Coordinators: Bill Bryan/Dylan Stahl

Road Trip to Chuck LaSalle Engine Shop, Breezewood, Pa. May 19 (Sunday)

*Coordinator: Mike Bucheit

2 Day Chapter Judged Event at B&D Activity Center, Latrobe, Pa. June 7&8 (Fri/Sat.)

*Coordinators: Bill Bryan/Jim Patitucci/Don Geary

Annual Picnic / Membership Meeting at Indian Lake Park, North Huntingdon, Pa. August 11 (Sunday)

*Coordinators: Frank Gavron/Paul DiSanto

Sept. 14&15 (Sat./Sun) Fall Road Tour to Zippo Lighters and Case Knife Factory and Museum, Bradford, Pa.

*Coordinator: Mike Bucheit (*Note: Date change from the previous Calendar!*)

Oct. 19&20 (Sat./Sun) PTSC Judged Event at Greenwood's Hubbard Chevrolet, Hubbard, Ohio

*Coordinators: Bill Bryan/Ken Jelley

December 8 (Sun.) Annual Holiday Banquet/Membership Meeting at Rizzo's Malabar Inn, Crabtree, Pa.

Coordinator: Don Geary (*Note: this is a date change from the previous Calendar!*)

Note: Dates/Events are subject to change at the discretion of the BOD.



RPM: Technically Speaking II

Cleaning/ Revitalizing a set of PO2's

By: Doug Craner #18086



My covers were fairly clean, but not good enough. This process will show an improvement in mine, but it is best to help really revitalize with ones that are really bad. The real issue with these is that the center cast fins are hard to clean and you just can't get to the wheel cover center hub under those fins to clean / polish the inner wheel cover.

Fig. 1 Cover after cleaning/Not too bad to start with!



First Step: Disassembly

Flip over and remove 8 bolts on cast fins, then 4 bolts holding center Crossed Flags cap. That releases cast fins from cover. Then lay out the three components. Important to keep in mind, I noted the order so they reassemble in same weights location. See Figures 2 & 3.





Fig. 3



Fig. 4. Close up-Center Cap GM Part No.



Fig.5 Close up – Fin GM Part numbers



Step 2: The Cleaning Process

Now that wheel cover is apart here is best cleaning process.

*Soak everything in Murphys Oil Soap overnight. Yes, this is a natural vegetable oil base. It will dissolve dirt, oil and grease. Will not harm anything. Been using this since the 1960's. on Corvette paint, chrome, plastic interior knobs, etc.

* The cast fins are hard to clean, fins are rough casting and a rag with soap will catch and drag.

See pics, (Fig. 6,7, 8) on right. Lather up with Murphys full strength with soft paint brush.

- * Put fins in container with more Murphys and enough water to cover completely.
- *Lather up center cap and put in plastic bag.
- *Lather up wheel cover and wrap in plastic wrap.
- *Cover and let sit overnight.

This will soak into the metal, especially the pores of the cast fins.

Editors' Note: Doug is a long time NCRS member and restorer of many Corvettes. He is also a '73 owner friend of mine and offers up these little Tech Articles to me from time to time with his permission to include in our RPM Newsletter if I so desire.

Fig. 6

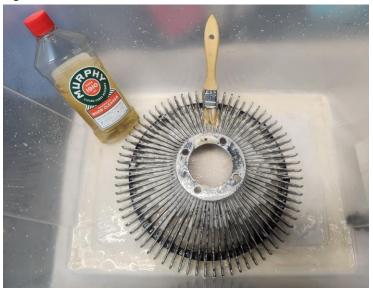


Fig. 7



Fig.8



Figure 9. Shows the cleaned cast fins. Then with water based Ceramic Wax that sprays on and rinses off with water. No other way to wax this porous cast fins surface.

Fig. 9



Step 3: The Polishing Process

The wheel covers were then polished with a two- step metal polish, auto paint polish on painted black area, and final wipe with Detail Spray. The products used for this set are pictured here in Fig.10. Fig.11. Shows the center cap after polishing crossed flags emblem with two stages of polish with buffing machine.

Fig.10



Fig.11



Fig. 12 Finished Center Cap Close-up



Summary:

The results I hope stand out even though mine were not really bad.

Important to note that the one short fin aligns with the valve stem opening of the wheel cover. Then the center cap is bolted on so the Crossed Flags emblem is standing up centered to the valve stem opening. Overall, my wheel covers were in good shape. So, the process of soaking everything in Murphys Oil Soap overnight is really intended for wheel covers in poor shape. The heavy cast fins need something like this to really get clean. Murphys will not harm paint, plastic, etc. It is a vegetable oil base cleaner that is not caustic. I've used this for many years to safely clean many things. **Doug**



PTSC Annual Spring Technical/Judging Seminar 2024

Write up: Jimmy Patitucci
Photos: Bob Stokes & Jimmy Patitucci

We all know that the month of March here in SW Pa. is very unpredictable. This year is certainly no different. On Sunday, March 10th we held our first event of 2024 at Specialty Cars Limited in Latrobe, Pa. It is owned and operated by PTSC member John Kuhns and his son John Ross. The weather was cold, windy and snowy on and off all day. Therefore, keeping all the Corvettes in hibernation for a little while longer. The week before the temperature was in the 60's & 70's with plenty of sunshine and all the attendees were talking that they were planning to drive their Corvettes to this event. Despite the weather we had a very nice turn out of around 33 members. Our judging chairman, Bill Bryan invited NCRS member and Indiana Chapter Chairman, Mike Treece to come and present a seminar on C1,C2 & C3 dashboards and gauges, etc. As many of you know Mike is well known for his many informative Virtual Judging Schools over the last few years. Mike's power point presentation covered the many similarities and variations of the three generation dashboards, knobs, gauges, shifters, switches and optional equipment. His vast knowledge level was over the top. It's unimaginable as to how much work, research and preparation he put into these presentations. The side- by -side photo catalog was just amazing. Everyone certainly left the seminar knowing a lot more about these cars than before they came.

A captive audience looks on!







Article continued on next page.

After a delicious catered lunch of "everyone's favorite meatloaf buffet" and Brooke Madeira's "now famous" macaroni salad I gave a power point on judging the C6 Corvettes, for the one - point judging school. This is the newest generation permitted to be judged. I used Pete Bergman's power-point slides that he and Mark Tulley presented at French Lick last year. (Of course, I asked for his permission before hand, to which he granted it.) I kept to his script per his wishes. Why re-invent the wheel, right?

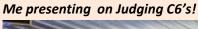
It certainly opened the eyes of our long- time judges as to what these cars are going to be like to judge as we move forward. "What a huge contrast it was after listening to Mike's C1-C3 generation presentation in the morning session"

More photos on the following page! Enjoy!



Bill Presenting Mike with a PTSC appreciation/thank you embroidered cooler. gift.





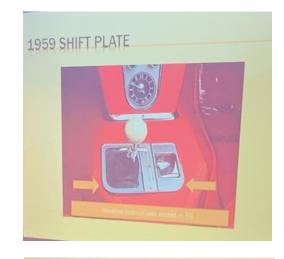






Catching up with old friends after a long winter break!







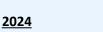




Thanks to Mike Treece for making the 5 1/2-hour drive to present. Thanks to John & John Ross for their hospitality and allowing us to hold our first event at their place every year. Also, thanks to our judging chairman, Bill Bryan for putting together another informative event, its' not easy to try to come up with something different each time that our members will benefit from.

Finally, a special thanks to all those members who attended. Its' always nice to see everyone after a long winter season. *JP*

NCRS Regional & National Events Calendar





Southern California Regional April 11-13 Las Vegas Nevada

Heartland Regional May 2-4 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

New England Regional May 31- June 1 Marlborough, Mass.

NCRS National Convention Aug. 4-8 Hampton Roads, Va.

Texas Regional Oct. 24-26 Frisco, Texas

2025

Florida Regional Jan. 15-16 Melbourne, Fla.

Arizona Regional May 1-3 Glendale, Ariz.

Kansas City./St. Louis Regional July 16-19 Springfield, Missouri

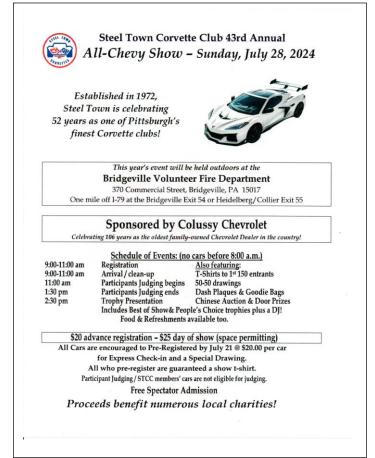
NCRS National Convention Sept. 7-11 Las Vegas, Nevada

Texas Regional TBA Frisco, Texas









RPM Classifieds:

Note: All ads in the RPM classifieds are free to all PTSC members.

For Sale:

N.O.S. AC Fuel Pump 40083 \$250.00, 1964/66 Steering Wheel with hub, excellent condition \$450.00, 12 oz. cans of R-12 \$20.00 each. Contact: Howard Baker (330)638-2264 or https://doi.org///html.ncm//html.ncm/

For Sale:

1959 * (WILL ALSO FIT OTHER C1 MODEL YEARS) Corvette Custom Fit "All Weather Car Cover" Gold Shield 5L (Five layers) Fleece Lined with mirror pockets. New in Box \$100.00 Contact: Frank Gavron (724) 863-7916 or Fg69vette@yahoo.com

For Sale:

C7 Stingray only! Indoor car cover \$50.00. List price was around \$140.00. The cover is very soft inside. Contact Contact: Paul DiSanto (412) 527-2783

For Sale:

Side exhaust pipes for a small block 1963-1967 (mid-year) Corvette. Fair Condition! \$100.00. Also 2 mid-year radiators \$30.00 each/a mid-year gas tank in fair/ good condition-\$40. Contact: Roger Clark 427rac@gmail.com For Sale:

1965-66 Coupe Red Vinyl Reproduction Door Panels from Top Flight Automotive \$50.00 for the pair. Contact: Dave Kitch (724)468-4094 dmkitch@comcast.net





<u>For Sale</u>: 2023 Corvette Coupe. Black w/ Adrenaline red interior. 3LT-Z51 Package, Front Lift Adjustable Memory, Red painted calipers, Chrome Exterior Badge package. Brand New!! Only 70 miles. Asking \$110,000.00

Contact: John Kuhns (412)255-43321) No texts!









Please support our businesses!

4728 Route 982, Latrobe, Pa. 15650/ (724)771-5170

PTSC Embroidered Apparel Contact:

Bob Stokes: robert.stokes@verizon.net



Annual Cost for Newsletter Business Ads

\$20.00 for a Business Card
\$40.00 for ½ page ad
\$60.00 for ½ page ad
\$100.00 for full page ad
Charges are due each quarter.
Ads should be emailed to the editor
Jimmy Patitucci at
jjppat@breezeline.net

Checks should be mailed to the following address:

Box 92 McClellandtown, Pa. 15458

Payment must be received by the middle of the month the Newsletter is published in order to have your ad inserted.





PITTSBURGH TRI-STATE CHAPTER JUDGING SCHOOL

WWW.NCRSPITT.COM

Sunday April 28, 2024 - Two Car Limit

All Collector Autos LLC (formally Valley Auto) 5624 Business 220, Bedford Pa 15522

NCRS Membership N	Number: (Registra	: (Registration Will Not Be Accepted Without Your NCRS Number)				
Name:	Spouse/Guest:	Chapter A	Chapter Affiliation:			
Address:	City	<i>y</i> :	State:ZIP:			
Home Phone:	Cell F	Phone:	-			
E-Mail:						
	M EVENT SCHEDULE	- SUNDAY APR 28, 2024	ж			
8:30	Registration, coffee, tour of faci	lity 12:00 Lunch				
9:00	Presentation	1:00 Judging Schoo	l (Bryan)			
9:30	Flight Judging	2:30 Awards				
****	BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR	**All NCRS COVID-19 RU	LES APPLY*****			
EVENT REGISTRATION (Please Check and Complete Requested Items and Amounts)						
☐ Registration fe	e per person = Judge/Owner/Spect	ator (Includes Lunch)	\$10\$			
	Car Entry					
			\$			
	M JUDGING	PARTICIPATION 164	*			
ALL PART	TICIPANTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN JUDG		HE CARS IN THE EVENT.			
Year: Co	CAR ENTRY PARTIC	CIPATION WILL BE LIMITED P: VIN:	H			
	aint Code Int. Color					
Insurance Co:	Policy #:		Exp. Date://			
Flight Judging	Entries: Please send copies of y	our owner and insurance ca	rds with this registration form.			
I agree to insure my vehicle(s) and property against loss, damage and liability and to provide proof of such insurance to NCRS at the time of registration. I agree to assume the risk of any and all damages or injury and to indemnify and hold harmless NCRS, its officers, directors, agents, employees, and chapters for any acts or omissions that may result in the theft, damage or destruction of my property or injury to me or others during or as a consequence of this event, wherever located. I agree to the terms and conditions of the NCRS Drugs and Alcohol Policy, and the NCRS COVID-19 Policy.						
☐ I agree with the	e current version of the Hold Harmless doc	cument found at http://www.ncrs.org	/home/hold-harmless.php.			
Signature:		Date:	//			
Make checks payable to: Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter NCRS - Registration must be postmarked by April 22, 2024						
Send to: Bill Bryan 410 Mile Hill Rd, Duncansville, PA 16635						
e-mail: crosskeystv@yahoo.com Note: "NCRS" in subject line when e-mailing						
Phone: 814-931-9101 Note: please leave a message						
Meet Chairman: Jim Patitucci Phone: 412-582-0951 email: jjppat@breezeline.net Note: "NCRS" in subject line Judging Chairman: Bill Bryan Phone: 814-931-9101 e-mail: crosskeystv@yahoo.com Note: "NCRS" in subject line						
NOTE: This is a mini-meet and Judges training session for increasing the judging knowledge of our members. Full judging points and flight awards will be earned by participants at the meet.						

PITTSBURGH TRI-STATE CHAPTER NCRS **SPRING ROAD TOUR**



SUNDAY May 19, 2024 9:00pm-3:30pm



Location: LaSalle Engine, 200 South Broczowood Read, Broczowood, PA 15533 Phone: 814-735-3837

From Greensburg, PA, we will be traveling east on Route 30, to Breezewood, PA, Turn right on South Breezewood Rd and right into LaSalle's Parking lot.

AGENDA:

9:00	Leave Kings Restaurant on Rt 30, Greensburg. Arrive earlier if you want to eat breakfast.
10:30	Arrive at LaSalle's, tour facilities
12:00	Lunch will be at LaSalle's
12:45	Leave LaSalle's heading west on RT 30
1:30	Stop at Flight 93 Memorial
2:30	Leave Flight 93 and head for home

We will meet with the owner, Chuck LaSalle and he has a treat in store for us to see the shop and his Dyno equipment.

Please register for this event as soon as possible, but no later than 5/17/24 so we can have a count for the caterer. Cost \$ 10 per person.

Name		NCRS #	No attending
Send to:	Mike Bucheit	Or notify Mike via:	email mbucheit@wpa.net
	2800 RT 982	•	Phone: 724-771-4275
	Mt Pleasant, PA 15666		

PITTSBURGH

PITTSBURGH TRI-STATE CHAPTER MEET

WWW.NCRSPITT.COM

Fri., June 7 & Sat., June 8, 2024 – ALL CORVETTES INDOORS B & D Creekside Activity Center, 501 Avenue B, Latrobe, PA 15650

NCRS Membership	Number: 5 judging points given for both days participation								
Name:		Spo	Spouse/Guest:				Chapter Affiliation:		
			City:						
			Cell Phone:						
							E 7, 2024		
5:00 PM - 7:00 P	m Regi	STRATION	AND C	PS JUI	DGING -	- 7:00 P	M JUDGIN	IG SCHOOL	
M SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024 M									
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM Registration & Ops judging - 9:00 AM Owners and Judges Meeting - 12:00 PM Lunch									
9:15 AM - 3:00 PM Flight Judging - 3:30 PM Awards - Note: Cars Must Be OPS Judged Before Entry									
M EVE	ENT RE	GISTRATIO	ON (Plea	ase Chec	k and Co	omplete F	Requested It	ems and Amounts) 🛏	
□ Registration fee: per person; e.g., Owner/Judge/Tabulator/Spectator (Includes Lunch) \$10 □ Flight Judging Car Entry Trailer Parking free \$65 if ONLINE □ Concours Judging Car Entry Trailer Parking free \$50 □ Late Fee for Judged Car Entries (if Postmarked after 06/01/2024) \$30 \$ □ Sportsman Display Without Ribbon \$10 - OR - With Ribbon \$20 \$ □ Bowtie/Duntov/McLellan/Hill or Special Interest Display \$0 \$ N/C □ Join or Renew Pittsburgh Chapter Membership \$20 \$ TOTAL \$									
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2 nd Preference								I would like to be an Observer Judge	
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	Year Coupe Conv. Engine HP VIN Body # (63-67								
	Ext Color Paint Code Int. Color Trim Code Int. Fabric Build Date Insurance Co Policy # Exp. Date / /								
Include copies of your owner and insurance cards with this registration form.									
I agree to insure my vehicle(s) and property against loss, damage and liability and to provide proof of such insurance to NCRS at the time of registration. I agree to assume the risk of any and all damages or injury and to indemnify and hold harmless NCRS, its officers, directors, agents, employees, and chapters for any acts or omissions that may result in the theft, damage or destruction of my property or injury to me or others during or as a consequence of this event, wherever located. I agree to the terms and conditions of the NCRS Drugs and Alcohol Policy, and the NCRS COVID-19 Policy.									
□ I agree with the current version of the Hold Harmless document found at http://www.ncrs.org/home/hold-harmless.php .									
Signature: Date://									
Make checks payable to: Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter NCRS. Must be postmarked by June 1, 2024 to avoid a late fee.									
Meet Chairman: Don Geary Phone: 724-875-7749 or dlgeary@comcast.net									
Judging Chairman: Bill Bryan Phone: 814-931-9101 or crosskeystv@yahoo.com REGISTER ONLINE FOR A DISCOUNTED PRICE www.ncrs.org OR SEND YOUR REGISTRATION FORM TO:									
Bill Bryan, 410 Mile Hill Rd, Duncansville, Pa 16635.									
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Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter Membership Application Please Print



		A STATE OF THE STA			
Name:		Spouse's Name:			
Street Address:					
City:		State: Zip:			
Email Address:					
NCRS Membership #:		Home Phone:			
NCRS Member Since:		Cell Phone:			
Jr member #1's Name:		Jr member #2's Name:			
Corvettes (additional on back	.)	1.			
2.		3.			
List additional on back					
How did you hear about the F	Pittsburgh	Tri-State Chapter?			
Would you be willing to assist	in any of	these events? Please check box:			
Judging Newsletter	Events	Membership Other			
Please describe any talents or abilities that you may contribute to the success of our chapter.					
membership and please inc	lude NCF	e NCRS, Inc. to qualify for chapter RS number on this application. plication and renewed each June 1.			
Make checks payable to: Pittsburgh Tri-State Chapter, NCRS Mail to: Judy Geary 117 Caldwell Dr Jeannette, PA 15644					
Signature: Date:					
Direct any questions to Judy of gearyjt@comcast.net	Geary at 7	724-834-5586 or email at			

Jimmy Patitucci, Editor Box 92 McClellandtown, Pa. 15458

