

2026 PTSC Tech Seminar and Judging School
John Kuhns' Garage, Latrobe, Pa.
Write up & Photos: Jimmy Patitucci

On Sunday March 8th our Pittsburgh Tri State Chapter held its first event for 2026. It was held once again this year at John Kuhns' Garage in Latrobe. We had 24 members in attendance. This is our first Technical Seminar and Judging School of the year. We don't judge any Corvettes at this annual event. As he does every year, John welcomes us in to his beautiful garage in Latrobe. Our Judging Chairman, Bill Bryan organized the event and provided us with a full agenda of interesting topics. Everyone met a 9:00 am for coffee and donuts and took some time to get reacquainted with each other after what seemed like a long cold and snowy winter in SW Pa. this year.

Treasurer, Mark Madeira started things off in the morning with a very comprehensive and informative power-point presentation on the C5 Generation Corvette. The C5 generation spanned the years 1997-2004. Bill felt this would be very beneficial for our members to become more familiar with this generation since we are starting to see more and more of the C5's register for flight judging at our meets.

After Mark's presentation Bill led a brief discussion on Judging Points earned at Chapter meets. Back on February 2nd National Judging Chair Joe Scafidi posted a message on the NCRS Technical Discussion Board clarifying the rules for holding (2-day, 5 point) Chapter meets and enforcing the rules as they are outlined (although not as clear as they should be) on page 84 in the JRM (Judging Reference Manual). Not to be redundant here, Bill went over the rules and ensured us that he will make sure our Chapter adheres to them as we move forward.

Next, Bill touched on the term "NCRS ADDS VALUE" and what that means in relation to having your car judged.

Finally, after lunch he discussed the new "OPEN CLASS JUDGING". He talked about what constitutes a Stock or Custom Corvette for Open Class judging purposes. During his power-point he explained that this class is open to Corvettes built from 1953 to 2026. The car must have been born a Corvette, have an origin VIN Tag or state issued replacement, and have a title or vehicle registration that proves the car is a Corvette. He went over how each car will be judged and what the awards would be. Open class cars earning a score of 94.0 points or above achieve and Emerald Award. Those achieving between 85.0 and 93.9 achieve the Ruby Award. The awards are all glass plaques and will designate Chapter, Regional and National Levels. We had plenty of time for open discussion at the end of his presentation and everyone had ample opportunity to voice their opinions and share information.

Our PTSC would like to thank Bill for all his hard work on presenting and organizing the event. Also, thanks to Mark for once again giving an outstanding presentation on the C5 generation.

Finally, thank you John Kuhns for providing the coffee/donuts and awesome catered lunch with everyone's favorite "meatloaf" dinner, and for hosting the event at your garage. **JP**