

## *President's Message March 2018*

# WHO?

What did "The Who" say?

Meet the new boss!

Same as the old boss!

"Won't get fooled again"!

Great song by "The Who"



But no fooling going on here, EMCC is much too smart. We start the new season with a new board who want this to be a great season of cruising

I want to thank the past President and all board and chair persons for all the work they have put in during the last two years! EMCC is a strong and vibrant club in great shape both with membership and finances.

We have some new ideas that we will be bringing forward to discuss with members during the next few months, I look forward to leading EMCC along with my new team as we move forward towards an exciting year of cruises and activities

It is still cold but once the roads are free of salt, the season begins. Now active are the "Cold Weather Cruisers" who have now become the "Wednesday lunch Cruisers". If you have time on a Wednesday please join them. Email goes out to membership each week as lunch destination changes and it is posted on the club's Facebook page.

As your new president, I would ask any member who has an Idea for a cruise, activity, or just a get together, please contact myself or any member of the board. Only with your input can we make this a great season.

Thank you,

Steve Wilson, President

GDTOGO



## Executive Board & Chairpersons



### **President**

Steve Wilson  
508-384-9688  
rjw.s@comcast.net



### **Vice President**

Mal Smith  
781-706-5762  
AuntieMal@aol.com



### **Secretary**

Steve Sylvia  
508-660-2680  
tyrtsy@comcast.net



### **Treasurer**

Bill Schroeder  
781-769-2389  
wrs600@gmail.com



### **Social Chair**

Joe O'Connor, Jr.  
617-780-7448  
joeoco1@comcast.net



### **Membership Chair**

Bruce Kolovson  
508-789-7780  
ski1000@verizon.net



### **Publications Chair**

Keith E. Jacobson  
617-527-2100  
KAMERAKEITH@GMAIL.COM



### **Sunshine**

Judy Pitasi  
508-966-9026  
Rdvette72@aol.com



### **Club Store**

Jack Kirkham  
508-359-7899  
jnkirk@aol.com



### **Webmaster**

Kevin Miller  
508-328-0358  
Kevinmiller@stmarksschool.org

## A FEW WORDS FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

The transition from Secretary, for the past two years, to Vice- President will be quite the event for me. I truly enjoyed being your full-time communications person and I will attempt to get as much club information out to you as I can with the assistance of our new secretary/communicator, publications chair, and webmaster.

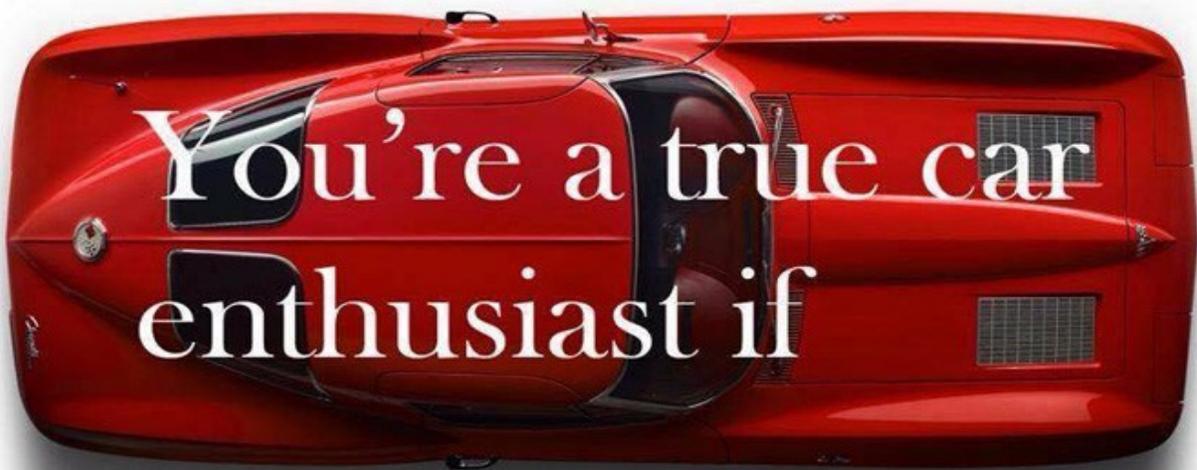


As VP, I hope to be able to reach out to everyone, listen to your ideas and share them with the Board and membership so we can make the club even better than it already is. I encourage you to email me, call me, or text me with any events you would like to organize or changes you would like to make. I will certainly work with you as best I can.

I will be looking for volunteers for our every other Thursday night cruise. If you have a cruise you know you want to sponsor, please let me know and we will work out a date and send out the information. I will be working closely with Joe O'Connor, our social chair, to keep EMCC members as busy as they want to be.

I look forward to working with everyone and welcome your input. I am counting the days to spring.

“SMOKEN” – Mal Smith



you remember people by not their name, but by the car they drive

# EMCC ANNIVERSARY PARTY ~ ROCK ON !!!

Story by "SMOKEN" Mal Smith  
Photos by Dennis Collins

There was a threat of snow, but that didn't stop the 65 or so EMCC Members from attending one of the nicest events of the year on February 17, 2018.



The Anniversary Party (33<sup>rd</sup> year) was held at Raffael's, on Rt. 1A in Walpole, from 6:00-10:00 PM on Saturday night. It was so nice to see members coming in to the banquet hall and greeting all the other members already in attendance. It is such a joy to see so many people (friends) who have been brought together by the "**Corvette**". As I looked around the room, I saw smiles on everyone. Wow!

As always, we had appetizers and a wonderful buffet meal, cash bar, lots of socialization, coffee, and dessert. Near the end of the evening, the DJ played some dancing music for all to dance. Boy, Bruce sure can entertain. We had the past President and the President elect cutting up the floor. Nice to see so many people enjoying the music and filling the dance floor!

During the evening, there were many raffles given away. We had quite a few gift certificates and some other wonderful items. A special thanks goes to Paul Worsley, who did not make the event, but did send a handmade 'Sting-Ray' and a beautiful woman's jacket top. Thanks to Bob Wodogaza and John Forbes for their contributions and to all the rest who participated in making the raffles quite special. We also had a few 50/50 prizes over the evening which everyone liked. I did notice that we did have a few winners who have not won in the past.

There were awards presented to the officers who have completed a term or two of serving EMCC. The President's Award this year was presented to Bill Schroeder from Steve Sylvania. Well deserved!! A special award was presented to Steve Sylvania from Dennis Collins, this year. It was the "hand shake". Great job Dennis and.... very appropriate.

I think everyone made it home safely before the snow storm got too bad. I am already looking forward to next year.







# BOWLING AT RYAN'S AMUSEMENTS



By "SMOKEN" Mal Smith

It was a beautiful day on February 3 and some members of EMCC showed up at Ryan's Amusements on Route 109 in Millis for some candle pin bowling. Those present were Steve and Sherry Wilson, Joel and Maureen Baker, Dennis and Carolyn Collins (with her own bowling shoes – sign of a pro), John Dwyer, Judy Pitasi, and Mal Smith. I happened to be on TEAM WILSON. I must say, I laughed the entire two games that we played. For those of you who have heard my laugh, it was not a pleasant sound.



We had a wonderful time and lots of laughs. Next time we plan a night of bowling, I want the bumpers. My game, as well as many of the others, would have been much better if those bumpers helped us with the gutter balls.

TEAM DISTRUCTION (named due to the lane that they broke), was led by Dennis who managed to get the highest scores. Of course, TEAM WILSON was dominated by Steve with the highest scores. We will not mention who got the booby-price position as to not embarrass anyone.

It was truly a GREAT time. For those of you who did not attend, you don't know what you missed. Most of the EMCC members were all decked out in their Patriot's attire. We certainly did make a statement.

Oh, I have to mention that Sherry won the award for having the most style. Mal won the award for being the most dainty.

After bowling, we all went to an Irish Pub down the street. I think someone called ahead.....we were put in a little cubby all by ourselves. See how quickly word gets out when there is a rowdy group.

Thanks to Steve for planning this wonderful event.

# 2018 Shot Show

Las Vegas, NV



I attended the 2018 Shot Show this year and came across this Corvette at one of the exhibitors. Can anyone see anything "wrong" with this car? It is a 1970/71 Corvette. It should be obvious to everyone in the club.

It was a great show but not as well attended as previous years. I was able to fly my nephew out from CO and attend the show. He found it amazing. Nice to look at it thru younger eyes.



# BEAUTIFUL CAR ~ BEAUTIFUL STORY

## Story and photos by Mecum Auctions

In the fall of 1966, 30-year-old Don McNamara of Colorado Springs, Colorado, celebrated his retirement from the United States Marine Corps with a trip to Las Vegas. It was the one and only time he would visit Sin City, and it proved fortuitous when Lady Luck intervened and a slot machine Don was playing paid out the massive sum of \$5,000. By the time he returned to his parents' home where he lived, he knew what he would do with his winnings. He asked his father, a car salesman, to take the money and buy a new Corvette.

At first glance, Don's dream car appeared to be just out of reach; the features he specified pushed the price tag more than \$500 past the \$5,000 mark, but his father's persistence paid off when he found a dealership in Lamar, Colorado, about 125 miles away, that agreed to sell a 427 coupe for under \$5,000. Built on May 10, 1967, and delivered to McNamara on May 20 by Ray Motor Co. in Lamar, the Corvette coupe was exactly as Don had ordered,



with the L36 427/390 HP engine, M20 4-speed manual transmission and 3.36 Positraction rear end; tinted glass, telescopic steering wheel, AM/FM radio, side exhaust and bolt-on aluminum wheels. Don's innate patriotism influenced his choice of colors: Ermine White paint, Red Stinger stripe and Red interior – a matchup he completed by replacing the factory Black wall rubber with a set of double White-and-Blue stripe tires.

Don drove his new Corvette only sparingly for the first several months, until it inexplicably disappeared. When asked of its whereabouts, he would always answer that he no longer owned it. And yet, rumors that it was parked in his heated single-car garage persisted for years afterward, even after Don McNamara passed away in July of 2011. Only then was the truth revealed: the Corvette had been there the entire time, a full 45 years, discovered by the neighboring couple McNamara had befriended in his later years and to whom he had willed his entire estate.

Recorded interviews with the couple uncovered the story not only of the Corvette but of its



enigmatic owner as well. Don McNamara was a unique man, one who loved his country and surrounded himself with its symbols of freedom and individuality while maintaining an intensely private life. He never married or had a family, never had a checking account or a credit card and always presented himself as barely getting by. He had decided to put the Corvette under wraps when after the first year the time came to pay license and insurance renewal fees, and began driving it only late at night, away from prying eyes and ever

faithful to the pursuit of happiness. When the Corvette's odometer approached the 3,000-mile mark in the mid-Eighties, he retired it from the road for the rest of his life.

When the Corvette was removed from the garage in 2012, the late McNamara's next-door neighbor of 22 years saw it for the very first time. It had been discovered wrapped in a car cover, over which was draped a shipping blanket decorated with large Stars and Stripes and Marine Corps flags. It was in a virtually flawless state of preservation, entirely original except for a few personal touches under the hood comprising polished Edelbrock aluminum valve covers and four Corvette emblems mounted on the air cleaner. McNamara's Team USA Olympic jacket was draped over the back of the passenger seat, another reminder of his love of country.



The Don McNamara Corvette coupe was purchased from the executors of the estate in 2012 by Dr. Mark Davis, who arranged for it to be unveiled and displayed in the entrance to the Bloomington Gold Great Hall in June of that year. At that time, as now, its odometer showed 2,996 miles. Until its unveiling there, it had been seen by only 12 people. It had only ever been driven by Don McNamara. Only two other people were ever known to have sat in the driver's seat, and no one had ever occupied the passenger seat. It had never seen the rain or been washed with water and since its discovery had never been cleaned, sat in or touched.

The car instantly caused a sensation in the Corvette community. Numerous high profile Corvette experts including John Rettick have thoroughly documented the car with over 4,000 detail photographs, which along with the car itself serve as in-depth educational resources for Corvette restorers.

The Don McNamara Corvette is not only quite likely one of the most well-preserved, lowest-mileage and exceptionally original 1967 Corvettes in existence, it is also accompanied by exquisitely unspoiled documentation. The paperwork was kept by McNamara in a bank safe deposit box and remains in crisp as-new condition. It includes the original window sticker, showroom sales brochure, Chevrolet warranty book with Protect-O-Plate, the original keys and fob and a duplicate set of keys; the original owner's manual and plastic pouch, dealer record book issued by Ray Motor Co., a cashier's check for a deposit and a receipt for the balance of the purchase price, the original State of Colorado license registration and title issued to McNamara dated May 22, 1967 and the NCRS Shipping Data Report confirming delivery at Ray Motor Company in Lamar, Colorado.



Also included are McNamara's last driver's license, a photograph of the car he always carried with him in his wallet and video and photos documenting the car's discovery, its removal from the garage and its unveiling and display at Bloomington Gold 2012. Documentation is contained in two 4-inch binders that also include CDs containing copies of all documents and photos of Don McNamara's dream Corvette.

### **Don McNamera's Corvette Facts**

- Unrestored with 2,996 original miles
- One owner until July 2011
- Original 427/390 HP V-8, M20 4-speed and 3.36 Positraction rear end
- Original paint, interior and chrome
- Documented with practically every original document including the window sticker, Protect-O-Plate, purchase receipt, title, registration, photos and owner's manual
- The original owner, Don McNamara is the only person to have driven the car
- 3 people are known to have sat in the car
- No one has sat in the passenger seat
- Factory original side exhaust
- Telescopic steering wheel
- Tinted glass, AM/FM radio
- Original Kelsey Hayes bolt-on wheels
- Double whitewall and Blue stripe tires
- Last driven regularly in October 1967 and not driven since the mid-1980s
- Stored in a dry Colorado Springs garage for over 40 years under a car cover
- Displayed in the entrance to the Bloomington Gold Great Hall in 2012
- Mr. McNamara's belongings remain in the car
- Discovery photos from McNamara's garage
- Unveiling video from 2012 Bloomington Gold
- One of the best preserved, lowest mile, original 1967 big block Corvettes in existence

**FYI this Vette sold @ a Mecum auction last year for \$725,000.00**



# NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

Restored 1962 Corvette Revealed on Fourth Anniversary of Museum Sinkhole



Restoration team members Daniel Decker (left), Dan Garrett (middle) and Derek Moore (right) unveil the restored 1962.

(right) unveil the restored 1962.

Four years ago, Corvette enthusiasts across the globe held a collective gasp (and in some cases shed tears) when news broke that a 65 foot by 45 foot sinkhole had opened inside the Skydome of the National Corvette Museum, taking eight prized cars with it. Continuing to make lemonade, today the Museum revealed the restored 1962 Tuxedo Black Corvette, placing it back on display exactly how it was prior to the collapse on February 12, 2014.

The '62 had been removed from display in the Skydome one year ago, on the third anniversary of the sinkhole, and the restoration process took place in the Museum's AutoZone Maintenance and Preservation area, where guests could observe the ongoing efforts by Maintenance and Preservation Coordinator Daniel Decker, with the help of NCM staffer Dan Garrett, and Museum Curator Derek Moore.

"We are about the story, we want to tell the story, we want to preserve the story. So, we restored the car to as close as possible to how it was the moment before the sinkhole, the way it was when Mr. Donoho donated the car," said Derek. According to Derek, it was what he would call a minimal restoration. "The frame was straightened a little at the rear, the body pieces or fiberglass components that were damaged or cracked were simply repaired. Only one very small panel on the right side had to have a replacement panel. Everything that we could leave that Mr. Donoho had actually touched, had left on this car, we wanted to essentially leave his fingerprints on the car."

While the car was worked on for almost a year, the total time to perform the restoration took about four months of solid work. "You open the hood and the engine is exactly how he left it. The interior is exactly the interior he had in it, the interior that he so lovingly cared for. We didn't want to take any of that away," said Derek. In fact, a few

weeks ago a very old empty sugar packet from Frisch's Big Boy was found under the seat. "We set it aside, finished up the car, and then slipped it right back under the seat where it was."

While David Donoho passed away in 2013 at the age of 76, his friend and attorney of 20 years, Beth Sease, was present to share his story. While David was a simple and unassuming man, according to Beth, Corvettes were one of his two favorite hobbies and he owned three pristine models – the 1962, a maroon 1987 and a 2001. The '62 had been purchased new by David when he was in high school. "He worked at Lily Industrial Paint and had saved up his money for the car," said Beth. "He earned the nickname 'The Weatherman' because his friends would tease him... if he saw a cloud in the sky he would dart out. He didn't want raindrops on his car."



Beth Sease, friend and attorney for car donor David Donoho, places the final piece on the 1962 Corvette.

According to Beth, he would only let a few people perform routine maintenance on the car, and with no wife or children, he had the tough decision on what to do with his prized Corvette. "It took him some time to decide where he wanted everything to go but the thing that troubled him the most was what to do with the '62," said Beth. "He didn't think anybody could take care of it so he labored over that decision for about two years." Beth said he considered several options. "At first, he said 'no one is going to take care of it, I can't think about it being neglected over time. I'm just going to have it destroyed.' So, I said, 'David, we can't do that.' Later he said, 'I'm going to be buried in it.' I don't know how serious he was but I said we couldn't do that either."

Beth did a little homework and reached out to Wendell Strode, Executive Director of the National Corvette Museum, to see if the Museum would be interested in the car. "Wendell came up to see David several times. We had conversations in his living room, and Wendell earned his trust."

The Corvette was donated in 2011. "After the sinkhole occurred I just shook my head – oh my word. He wanted it destroyed and he wanted it under the earth. He got both of his wishes." Beth laughs. "Good thing it was only temporary. Thanks to the Museum it was only a brief burial."

Amidst a crowd of over 70 enthusiasts and visitors, the cover on the Corvette was pulled by Derek, Daniel and Dan, with Beth placing the finishing touch on the Corvette – the C1 emblem.

Beth said that David initially felt no one could care for his 1962 the way he had, but that the Museum proved him wrong. "The legacy David left was preserved by you and his legacy lives on. He would have been proud to have been here today to see the way you have come together, diligently restoring his prize."

The 1962 joins the other seven Corvettes that fell victim to the 2014 sinkhole, being placed on display in the Skydome where they were prior to the collapse. General Motors previously restored the 1992 'One Millionth Corvette and the 2009 ZR1 'Blue Devil.' Five of the Corvettes will continue to be left in the same state they were in

from the sinkhole damage. In 2016 the Museum opened 'Corvette Cave In: The Skydome Sinkhole Experience,' an interactive exhibit chronicling the sinkhole story.

The Museum is located in Bowling Green, Kentucky at I-65 exit 28. Open daily from 8am-5pm CT, admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids age 5-12 and \$8 for seniors. Children under age 5 are free.



## Eastern Mass Corvette Club



Richardson Black Cap

**\$15.00**



Richardson White Cap

**\$15.00**



Sport-Tek Short Sleeve Dri Fit Tshirt

**\$15.00**



Charles River Polo

**\$30.00**



Charles River Crosswind Sweatshirt

**\$35.00**



Denim Shirt

**\$35.00**

## Order Online

<http://tinyurl.com/mxapf5z>

Tom Sager | (508) 533-5080 | tom@tri-valleysports.com





### March Birthdays

Larry Colvin	March 28
Richard Marcus	March 30
Peter Musto	March 7
Nicole Rutkowski	March 1
Frank Tarara	March 20



\*\*\*\*\*

**EMCC Membership**

As of January we have 81 paid members, 2 associate, and 3 honorary

**Next Board Meeting**

**Monday - February 26th at 6:30 PM**

**at Conrad's, 905 Main Street, Walpole**

**Next Business Meeting**

**Monday - March 5th at 7:00 PM**

**at Conrad's, 905 Main Street, Walpole**

**Come early at 6:00 to enjoy dinner & schmoozing**

\*\*\*\*\*

**“WHERE YOU COME FOR THE CARS ...  
BUT STAY FOR THE PEOPLE”**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Eastern Mass Corvette Club is a non-profit social club  
for Corvette owners**

**We meet at 7:00 PM on the first Monday of every  
month at  
Conrad's - 905 Main Street, Walpole, MA**

**PLEASE JOIN US !!!**

**E.M.C.C.  
P.O. Box 291  
Medfield, MA 02052**

**WEBSITE: [easternmasscorvetteclub.org](http://easternmasscorvetteclub.org)**

#####

# LAST LAUGHS



**HEY KIDS ... WATCH THIS!!!**



**KEJ**



**BLACK LINES**

**MATTER**

# PARTING SHOTS

PASTA HOP 2008

Photos from Bob Gardner's vault.

