



Vette Gazette

Also on easternmasscorvetteclub.org

April, 2020

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Presidents Message



We finally made it to spring. The clocks have been pushed ahead and the days will seem longer (more cruising time). I hope by the time you are reading this, you have had your Vette out for many cruises. As most of you know, this time of year is very special for me. I finally got to drive my new 2016 Stingray Coupe. Keep your eye out for a blurr of white with red interior zipping by you. It is the new SMOKEN. Thank you to all of you who have made a special effort to congratulate me on my new ride.

With the Coronavirus spreading, I am hoping everyone is staying safe and taking all precautions to stay healthy. Most all of our events and the events of others have been cancelled or postponed. As soon as new dates are available, we will let you know.

The Celebration of Life for our dear friend, Dennis Collins, which was scheduled for April 4th, will now take place on May 9th. All arrangements are the same and will be posted as the date gets closer.

Our Tuesday night static cruises were to begin this month. When it is safe for us to start our static cruises, I am hoping with the new venue, we will have even more members participate. As in the past, the second Tuesday of the month will be pizza night. Steve S will continue to take care of having the pizzas available. Speaking of Steve S, he has worked with our banner and with the help of some poles from Paul Worsley and bungee cords, Steve has made it so that our banner will present itself for all to see. Thank you Steve. Come by Rocky's 1A Plaza and take a look once we get beyond COVID-19 orders/regulations.

We are starting off our 2020-2021 season with a very generous sponsor contribution from Corvette Mike New England. You will now see Corvette Mike New England's logo appear in our Gazette and on our website. Many of you are not aware that CMNE is a full service dealership and his mechanics are on site and ready to service your Vette when it is in need. If you know of anyone who you think would like to be a sponsor of this wonderful Club, please approach them.

With Easter (April 12) and Passover (April 8) coming right up, I would like to take this time to wish everyone a wonderful holiday.

As mentioned in the past, it would be nice if everyone would wear their name tags when we are together. There are new folks who are trying to learn the names of the old timers and the old timers are hoping to get to know our new members. Wearing the name tags will certainly help. Steve Wilson has the machine to make the name tags, so, if you do not have a name tag, please contact Steve to make arrangements to get one.

Bruce is working on putting together many new events for us to enjoy when we are able to socialize. Some of our members have already contacted Bruce and volunteered to sponsor an event. Thank you. I am hoping that there are many more members who would like to put together an event for the Club to enjoy. I love ice cream, just saying!!!!

During these cruising months, take a picture of your Vette at one of the places you went and send Gerry the picture and a little story for all of us to enjoy. We love hearing about other members.

Please keep your eye on the website. It has all of the Club information and will have the latest updated information on our events. Gerry puts a lot of effort in the web, let's take advantage of his efforts. Great job, Gerry.

Our Membership Meeting which would normally be held on April 6th is cancelled until further notice.



SMOKEN - Mal



Executive Board & Chairpersons

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

President: Mal Smith
781-706-5762, AuntieMal@aol.com



Vice President: Gerry Criscenzo
508-735-9311, gcriscenzo@gmail.com



Secretary: Steve Sylvia
508-505-8208, tyrsy@comcast.net



Treasurer: Bill Schroeder
781-769-2389, wrs600@gmail.com



Social Chair: Bruce Kolovson
508-789-7780, ski1000@verizon.net



Membership Chair: Bob Hanson
617-840-8202, rhanson3@verizon.net



Publications Chair & Webmaster:
Gerry Criscenzo



Sunshine: Judy Pitasi
508-966-9026, rdvette72@aol.com



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617-527-2100,
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Eastern Mass Corvette Club is a non-profit social club for Corvette owners.

EMCC sponsors and attends many Corvette events throughout the year, including: regional car shows, Corvette displays, cruise nights, Fall Foliage Cruises, multi-club Corvette cruises throughout N.E, and seasonal get-togethers.

Eastern Mass Corvette Club
P.O. Box 291, Medfield, MA 02052, US



Club Calendar

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Due to the Corona Virus State-Of-Emergency, all regularly scheduled public gatherings such as lunches, member and board meetings are canceled. Special events have been rescheduled. [Our website](#) is frequently updated and has the most up-to-date event information for details, postponements, cancelations, new locations and times.

Lunch: Every Wednesday at a different location from a member's suggestion. Look for email or check our website

Static Cruise: We gather at public parking lot, and just chill. Every second Tuesday, the club provides Pizza.



April 2020

Board Meeting: Last Monday of every month.

Member Meeting: First Monday of every month.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lunch	2	3	4
5	6 Member Meeting	7 Static Cruise	8 Lunch	9	10	11
12	13	14 PIZZA Static Cruise	15 Lunch	16	17	18
19	20	21 Static Cruise	22 Lunch	23	24	25
26	27 Board Meeting	28 Static Cruise	29 Lunch	30		



Special Events/Cruises

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Dates, locations and details are subject to change especially due to the Corona Virus Emergency. Again, [Our website](#) is frequently updated and has the most up-to-date event information for details, postponements, cancelations, new locations and times. Please check before planning to attend.



April 16: PJ's Smoke 'N' Grill, 112 Main St, Medway, MA 02053, USA. ([map](#))
Meet Lake Pearl 5:45. Leave by 6:15pm.

April 23: Bass Pro & Tavolinos
Frank Fontana organizing Tavolino's Restaurant
Club parks in section 14 (1407) across from Olive Garden. Please bring a can(s) of food to donate. 3:00pm-ish to dusk.

April 30: The Beef Barn, 160 Pulaski Blvd, Bellingham, MA 02019, USA ([map](#))
Meet 6:00pm at Lake Pearl Leave Lake Pearl at 6:30

May 2: Wash 'n' Shine / Pinch's Shop . 1420 Main St, Millis, MA 02054, USA ([map](#))
9am – 12pm, Coffee and Donuts, Pinch's Cell 508-335-7261

May 7: Bass Pro
Club parks in section 14 (1407) across from Olive Garden. Please bring a can(s) of food to donate.
3:00pm-ish to dusk.

May 9: Dennis Collins' Celebration of Life.
9:15am – 2:00pm. Lake Pearl, 299 Creek St, Wrentham, MA 02093, USA ([map](#))
We will gather at the Rice Complex in Wrentham at 9:15am for a Drive By of Dennis' house. It will end at the Lake Pearl Pavilion on Creek Street.

May 21: Bass Pro
Club parks in section 14 (1407) across from Olive Garden. Please bring a can(s) of food to donate. 3:00pm-ish to dusk.

May 24: GCCC Spring Fling
8am-4pm. Budweiser Brewery Experience, 221 Daniel Webster Hwy, Merrimack, NH 03054, USA ([map](#))
All Details on: <https://gcccspringfling.shutterfly.com/> and on <https://www.facebook.com/events/385480325606749/> Or Call Dean Gagne 603-472-3524. Email: eventsgccc@gatecitycorvetteclub.com





Club Member Birthdays

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Happy Birthday

Maureen Baker

Rocco Derrigo

Ed Forsberg

Jim Gable

Keith Jacobson

Jay Kublin

Danielle McAuley





Humor

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

How Are You Handling the Lockdown?

Submitted by Patty and Glenn Cosgro

"We all need a little humor at this time so Patty and I decided to make people laugh . Our "board" friends have lived in our basement for a while so we decided to host a little party for them knowing they have been quarantined for some time long before Corona and are not infected . Seems like we did give a chuckle to many which makes us happy."





Humor

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NO, I'M NOT COMING DOWN!
We've been on 20 walks today. Leave me alone.



Jeff Batten March 14 at 4:23 AM · 🌐

Meanwhile at autozone

Me: *yelling through the front door*
THANKS FOR THE DELIVERY. JUST
LEAVE THE GROCERIES ON THE
DOORSTEP.

Wife: let me in the fucking house.





Humor

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

**YOU CAN'T BUY
HAPPINESS
BUT YOU CAN BUY
A CORVETTE
AND THAT'S KIND
OF THE SAME THING**





Member Submissions

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Running Down a Dream

Story and photos by Rob Hanson

My interest in Corvettes started many years ago when I was growing up in New Jersey. My parents always had “sporty” cars but nothing like a Corvette. I saw Corvettes in magazines, on television and once in a great while in person. The seeds of my interest in Corvettes were planted.

I had an old bike and my parents who had limited financial means said I could pick out a new bike for my birthday. It was a 1957 and I saw an advertisement for a Schwinn “Corvette” bike, red with chrome. That was the bike I had to have. My parents took me to a bike store and I was shown an ugly English racer. My father said no, it had to be a Schwinn Corvette which luckily they had.

So, my parents bought me a Schwinn Corvette bike. My friends never saw a bike like this. It was a “sports car” bike. I proudly rode it and polished it like a real Corvette.



In 1960 we moved to Massachusetts and I brought my Corvette bike with me. The friends I made in Framingham were impressed by this Corvette bike that this Jersey boy brought with him. They had never seen a bike like this.

During my Junior high and high school years, I never lost my dream of someday owning a real Corvette. I bought a 1963 plastic model, a Sting Ray coupe, put it together, painted it and kept it on my desk throughout high school and college. In college, I had a poster of a Corvette in my dorm room walls.



As the years went by, I bought a couple of Mustang GTs and a Mustang Roush, nice cars but, of course, not a Corvette.

So finally, in May of 2019, after buying houses, paying to put kids through college, I made a decision (with a little help from my partner Mary Helen) to just finally do it, buy a Corvette.

I did a lot of shopping around and finally found a 1998 Torch Red coupe in excellent condition with low miles. After all the years, I bought it in 5 minutes. I never drove a Corvette before. I picked it up and pulled out on the highway.....finally real cruising. I put on the radio, “Runnin’ Down A Dream” by Tom Petty was playing. I was in the Twilight Zone.

I then proceeded to locate on the internet and join the Eastern Mass Corvette Club. One of the best decisions I ever made. At the first meeting I attended, I met Mal, Steve S., Bill S. Joe O’C, Gerry, Judy and Joel. I needed a sponsor and Joe O’C volunteered (thank you Joe).

But my Corvette experience was not quite complete. In October, 2019 I had to visit the dealer I bought the 1998 from to have the CD player replaced and made the mistake(?) of just sitting in a new 2019 Sting Ray. That was it. I had to have a new one. Impulsive buying,



not like me at all. I went home and

bought a Long Beach Red Sting Ray coupe via the internet. To my surprise, Mary Helen (she was catching my Corvette fever) supported my impulsive decision!



After owning a new Corvette bike, building a model Sting Ray, owning a 1998 coupe, I was cruising in a new Corvette. Unlike my bike and model, this one actually had an engine.

My dream from my boyhood days in Jersey was complete.....I was successful in “Runnin’ Down My Dream”.

I will now keep on Cruisin with EMCC!



Member Submissions

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

A Fantastic Driving Experience

Story and photos submitted by Treasurer, Bill Schroeder



Last November Frank Fontana and I attended the Ron Fellows performance Corvette driving school at Spring Mountain Nevada. The course is designed specifically for C7 owners at great discount, subsidized by Chevrolet .

The program wasn't offered when I purchased my 14 in the fall of 13; however since that time Andy Bleadon, Frank Fontana and Bob Wodogaza attended, all coming home raving about the course. After Frank and I purchased new 2019 Grand Sports, Frank mentioned he'd love to go back a second time and strongly persuaded me to go. SO, off we went on November 1st, flying to Las Vegas, renting a car and driving approx. 50

miles west, to Spring Mountain Motor Resort and Country Club, Pahrump Nevada.

The resort is amassing, includes three racetracks totaling 6.2 miles, club house, restaurant, retail store, pool, spa, lake, and condos with attached garages available to store race cars for club members. We were assigned very comfortable single rooms overlooking the race tracks. The first day started with a full breakfast followed by our introduction class at 8am.

Our class consisted of 20 students and 8 instructors; starting with meet and greet then reviewing the schedule, goals and expectations. Then outside to be assigned the exact car you bought, Stingray, Grand Sport or Z06, mine was an Elkhart Blue GS and Frank a Blade Silver GS. All Corvettes assigned are completely stock 3LZ's. The morning consisted of classes and performance development control exercises to include proper braking, steering, visual skill, skid control , proper cornering techniques, magnetic selective ride control etc, etc.



After lunch a full briefing of the assigned 2.1 mile track we'd be using, 2 groups of 5 at one time while the other 2 groups would have class. Each group of five follow instructor, who is driving a Camaro SS talking to us via a two way radio.

Laps started off fairly slow but as our comfort level improved speed increased, we rotated every three laps so we all got critiqued by instructor. On the way to breakfast the second a red and white C8 pulled in behind our rooms, driver stated "no pictures", however, how could we resist. We thought and hoped we'd get a lap ride but no luck, we all wondered why they tried to keep them a big secret . Day two was all classes, track but speed increased each time out and confidence greatly increases as we realized how great our cars perform.

It's extremely humbling when instructors can watch every move you make in their rearview mirror, talking to you on the radio while driving their manual Camaro's 100 plus MPH and able to leave you in the dust at any time. The last few laps of the day, instructors drove Z51 Stingray's with our laps increasing in speed.

My last few laps a few students dropped out, I was on the track with another Grand Sport and a Z06, I noticed when the Z06 was behind instructor and I was directly behind Z06 he was only slightly faster on the straighter away, but I was immediately able to catch him on almost every sharp turn. We were informed the 2 day class averages 250 track miles, I now have a great appreciation for race drivers, they are truly athletes.

We ended the class with having a class picture taken, receiving Certificates and a USB Drive. As we left, we did one more visit to the Corvette store to pick up more memorabilia. This was a great experience and highly recommend to all Corvette enthusiasts; classes have already started for new owners of the C8. Bill Schroeder





Member Submissions

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FORGET MUSTANG VS CAMARO

Here Comes New Corvette vs. Pony-Car on Steroids

Submitted by Bob Gardner

Full MOTORTREND Article [Here](#), Randy Pobst, Words; Robin

It was inevitable. The C8 is hardly out of the box and everyone wants to try it on. Now comes [MOTORTREND](#) magazine with a nose to nose comparison of our beloved Corvette and the latest Ford monstrosity, the Shelby GT500, specifically the C8 Z51 versus the Shelby GT500 Carbon Fiber Track Pack at Virginia International Raceway. Here's how it went and the drivers' comments.

The C8 comes to the track sporting the Z51 package. Both cars offer capabilities that measure well against far pricier foreigners, without the sacrifices that used to come with the label, Made in the USA. The Corvette is an American interpretation of a mid-six-figure European supercar; the Shelby has nearly the same interior as that rental Mustang convertible at the Hertz counter. But with horsepower galore and a ton of torque. This was a track test on a road course. The Corvette's new shape will sit well with the German and Italian exotica at the country club. The Shelby has risen far above the pony-cars of yore to compare with the European icons. The C8 has a lithe, striking shape that will grab attention from a block away. The Mustang is a beefed up beast with bulging biceps, based on the familiar coupe.



Kudos to the Chevy engineers for creating a machine that benefits in exactly the ways it should: more centralized mass and the resulting rearward bias. Corvette has long been the bad boy of the racetrack, the Bart Simpson of supercars: rude, loud, cheap, unpredictable, and hard to handle, but fast and fun in its own brash way. The C8 is (at long last) more sophisticated, capable, and mature. It's less work now. The Corvette slices its way into a bend in a most delightful way. Still, when you apply that American V-8 torque it puts ponies to the pavement. The C8 hooks up. The Corvette launches hard from a slow corner or a stoplight/dragstrip (0-60 = 2.8 sec). [There follows a discussion of what happens when you put the C8 in Track Mode involving words like "camber" and "caster" and other things I don't understand. Suffice to say, they loved it!!]

Whereas the C8 is precise, the Shelby hoons. (Hoons??) Toss it around. Grab it by the scruff of the neck. This pony encourages aggression. (I have no idea what that means? Is it like camber?) Anyway, honestly reporting, they liked the Ford, too. The supercharged cross-plane Coyote-based V-8 clearly makes ALL of its advertised 760 horsepower. It easily turned laps of 170 MPH over and over, noting that if the driver remains very responsible with the right pedal, the Shelby is responsive and stable. This car had the added Carbon Fiber Track Package (+/- \$12,000) which easily put the Mustang into the supercar realm. The hyper-powered Pony evaporates the straights; the Corvette carves the corners. The CFTP Shelby is magic on the racetrack, wearing R-compound Sport Cups. Fire it up and the Shelby is gone in a blaze of glory.

Here are some comparisons.

	Price/Tested	Torque @RPM	Redline rpm	0-60	1/4 Mile MPH
C8	\$88,305	470lb @ 5100	6400	2.8 sec	11.1 sec 123
Shelby	\$94,365	760lb @7300	7500	3.7 sec	11.5 sec 129

So here's the sum. Shelby: raging, proficient power. C8 Corvette: precision, potential, and style. The price, similar. The choice, yours. The pleasure, ecstatic.



Member Submissions

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N.E. CORVETTE CLUB'S EVENT PLANNING MEETING

By President Smoken—Mal



The Planning Meeting for the 2020 event calendar took place on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at Corvette Mike New England in Carver, MA.

This meeting has been in place for as long as I can remember. It was formerly held in New Hampshire and for the past few years it has been hosted by Corvette Mike here in Massachusetts. A member or two of each of the New England Corvette Clubs gather to introduce their upcoming events for the season. As you can see from the photos, there was quite the attendance and representation from the clubs.

All of the information has been gathered and is in the process of being put together for distribution to all of the clubs. We will have the information out to all of you as soon as possible. Please take the challenge to try a new event or two this year.

Met Anybody Famous?



Submitted by **Doug Burchesky**

Your question "Meet anybody famous?" for the Gazette triggered an old story that I would like to share.

Many years ago I met Herman Mark (aka the Father of Polymer Chemistry). He hung out with Albert Einstein and other famous scientists (long before Corvettes were invented). Herman Mark told me a story that I will never forget:

Herman Mark was from a Jewish family and needed to get out of Nazi controlled Austria. They would not allow him to take any of his wealth out, so he took all his money and bought up platinum metal. He melted the platinum down and extruded it into a thick wire. He cut up the wire into pieces and bent them into the shape of coat hangers. He painted them black and hung his clothes on the platinum coat hangers and escaped with his wealth!

Cooped up? Get out!

By Bruce and Sue Kolovson



Sue and I have been out cruising enjoying the nice weather.

The nice weather this past week was a good chance to get out of the house and take a couple of cruises.

On Thursday we headed to Newport visiting Fort Adams State Park, Brenton Point and Eastons Beach where surfers and paddle boarders braved the cold.



The warmer temperatures on Friday were an opportunity to do some cruising with the top down through Dover, Sherborn and Ashland ending with a walk along the water at Ashland State Park.



Trying to make the best of being out of work and social distancing.



Member Submissions

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Lunch Cruises

Cruise to Ice Cream Machine

Story and Pictures by Secretary Steve Sylvia



EMCC does an annual cruise to the Ice Cream Machine, led by member Bob Gardner. I absolutely love this cruise from Walpole, thru Wrentham, around the reservoir on Burnt Swamp Road, to Cumberland, RI. Take a right at the end and to Ice Cream Machine.

It was a little different ordering the ice cream with this Coronavirus and all. I had to

text my order at the closed window and pay by credit card when I got it. The chocolate chip still tastes the same but there were less people in the parking lot. The weather was clear and sunny, about 55 degrees. This solo cruise was still enjoyable and I can't wait to do it as a club cruise this coming season.



Burger Cruise

Story and Pictures by Treasurer Bill Schroeder



Yesterday was such a beautiful day, a few of us decided to meet up for an unplanned Cruise. I met up with Frank, John and Joel at the ACE parking lot in Walpole. We drove to McDonalds drive thru for lunch. Parking beside each other we were able to obey the six foot distance rule, and be able to talk to each other.

After lunch of burgers and fries off we went taking back roads starting in Walpole, around New Pond are

to Norwood, Westwood, Dover, Wellesley, South Natick stopping at the old Medfield State Hospital grounds field for a stretch. We continued the back roads of Norfolk ending our cruise at the Foxboro Dairy Queen drive thru. It was a great and scenic cruise with lite traffic and just fun getting out of the house and away from reality for a few hours.





Sunshine

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Beverly Thomas

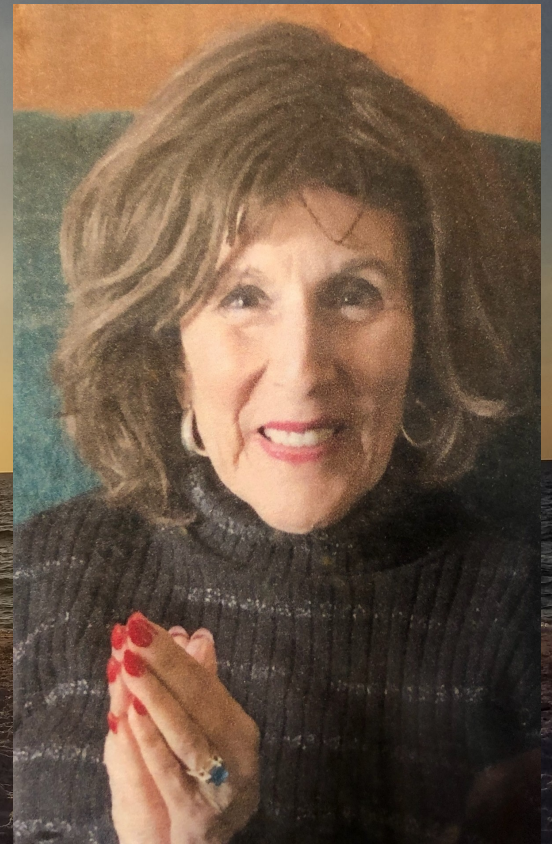
It is with great sadness that, Beverly Thomas, long time girlfriend of our member, Rick Butt, passed away.

As many of you know, Beverly was battling colorectal cancer for about two years.

In her weakened state from the cancer, she took a fall down a flight of stairs and hit her head causing her to end up in critical care and she later passed.

Rick appreciates those who attended Beverly's services, sent him cards and made calls.

Please keep him in your prayers during this difficult time.





Corvette News

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

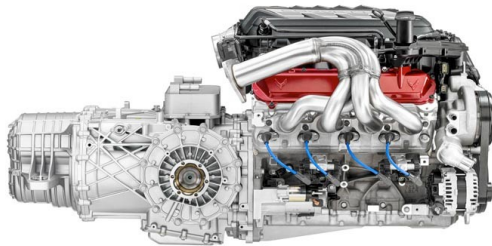
By **Alex Sommers** Mar 28, 2020 Full Article from Corvette Blogger [Here](#)

If you flip on the news, the COVID-19 virus is all that you hear about, and for good reason. First gear covers the pandemic and its far-reaching effects on the auto industry from several angles.

First, Automobile has [America's Best Roads](#) for those who want to enjoy some social distancing like a boss.

Road & Track also added an interesting look at how Ford is repurposing seat ventilation fans to build respirators. It is an interesting read that highlights the American ingenuity that will get us through this unprecedented shutdown.

Car and Driver broke the news that automakers are extending their production shutdown into April. Details can be found at [CarandDriver.com](#).



Chevrolet Corvette C8

2020 6.2L V-8 AFM VVT DI (LT2)
2020 Tremec TR0880-DCT (M11)

Our favorite overseas publication, EVO posted some footage of Hennessey's claimed 1,200 HP C8 testing. [Check it out here](#).

The winning-est L88 race car of all time is also going to be (most likely) changing hands. Hagerty (on fire with great content lately!) has [details on the '67](#) that will be crossing the auction block at Mecum Indy in May, barring any further COVID-related postponements/cancelations.



Photo Credit: Mecum



Corvette EMCC History

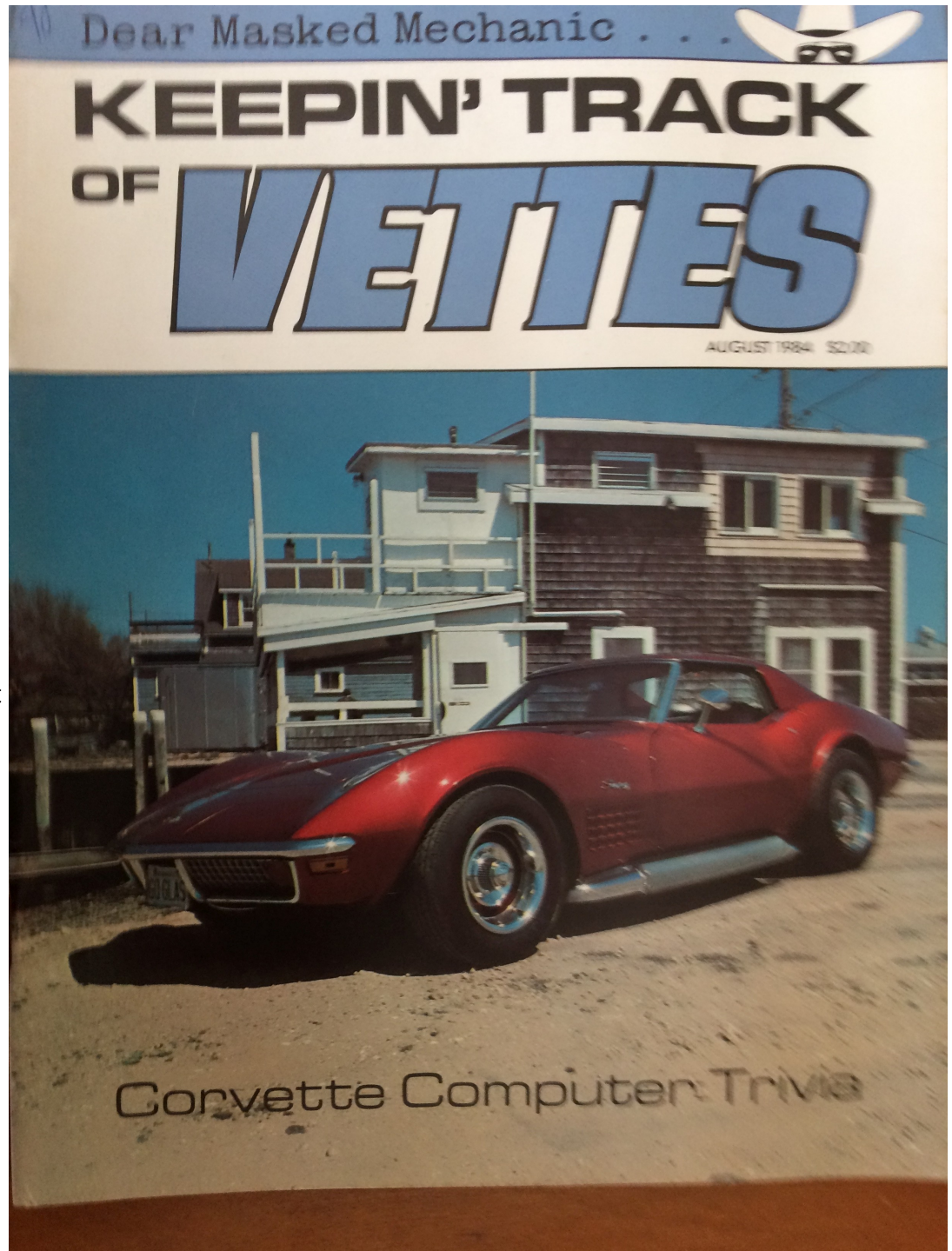
www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

Submitted by Maureen Baker

This is Joel's car. He got a cover shot on this magazine called Keepin track of VETTES in August 1984. The color is candy apple matador red over a gold base. The event was Vineyard Vette Voyage put on by North shore corvette club. It was held in the spring, it was a 3 day weekend.

Editor Comment: Maureen said to ask Mal about that weekend! I'm thinking there's story for the next Gazette!

Mal?





EMCC Merchandise

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org



Order all EMCC merchandise, hats, clothing, bags, etc, directly from Tri-Valley Sports.

You can also bring your own items for them to customize with our EMCC Club logo, your name, etc.

106 Main St. Medway, MA 02053, 508-533-5080 <http://tri-valleysports.com/>

The National Corvette Museum's offers many types of Corvette apparel.

Visit the store at corvettemuseum.org



Want to add bling to anything?

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/glendasglitzydesigns/>.

Order directly from Glenda or you can send her your favorite item(s) and she will "bling" it for you.





For Sale

www.easternmasscorvetteclub.org

In anticipation of our pending move to Florida, I am selling an Eagle Lift.

This is a 4 post 10 position lift, 110V, and includes ramps, casters, 3 drip trays and a jacking tray. This is an 8000 lb model.

Below is the web site for the lift.
Pictures below, I bought the lift new in 2014, It is in like new condition, Used for winter storage, and oil changes.

<https://www.eagleequip.com/category/4-post-car-lifts.html>

If you have any questions please give me a call at 781-910-7522.

List Price \$2590, **Asking \$1200 or best offer.**

Thanks for looking.

John Donovan
C 781-910-7522
john722010@gmail.com





Editor's Notes

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The New Normal

By VP and Editor, Gerry Criscenzo



If you feel like you're living in a Stephen King movie, and waiting for the plot to twist or the movie to end, you're not alone.

Right now, however, I'm praying that more people take this seriously, because flouting social distancing, like those ignorant kids on Spring Break and having Corona Parties (not the beer), will only prolong getting to our "new" lives our new "normal."

What's life like in our new normal? We're going back to work (some of us), to church, to school, the gym (some of us) and attending Corvette cruises and events ... almost like this never happened. But in the *new normal*, we'll be more cautious and take better care to not catch a cold, or the flu and spread it to someone. Handshaking may become a thing of the past but at some point, in the new normal, we will also be vaccinated against Covid-19 . And with the new normal, learn to embrace technology such as video conferencing to keep connected. To quote Dr. Asaf Bitton, we should change the terminology from "social distancing" to "physically distancing but socially connecting."

People have already stopped panicking about food shortages and stopped overcrowding the grocery stores. I've been to Costco and it's now less crowded than a normal Tuesday at 2pm. It's just a sign that we're already beginning to accept our new normal. Though, I still don't get why toilet paper was hoarded. If you need more than two weeks worth of toilet paper then you should have seen a doctor a long time ago.

After 9/11, our lives changed dramatically but life went back to normal ... a new normal. This too shall pass and we will have a new normal. But until then, this is serious ... "stay at home!" Unfortunately, this will test many relationships and not just with people you live with. To pass or fail is a choice. Henry Ford said "Whether you think you can or you can't, you'll be right."

Use this time to reconnect. *Find a way*. Some are reconnecting with cooking new recipes together while others are reconnecting lounging on the couch with triple-cream brie, crackers and wine. I know who you are! If your Corvette is out of storage, pack a lunch and take some long cruises to places you've been meaning to visit and talk along the way.

As serious as all this is, you have to look at the bright side; when this storm settles, and it will, more people will take personal hygiene and personal space a lot more seriously! Thank God!



Yard sign in Walpole, beside Napper Tandys.
Photo: Gerry Criscenzo