

ORIGINAL CORVETTE CLUB OF ST. LOUIS

April, 2023 Newsletter

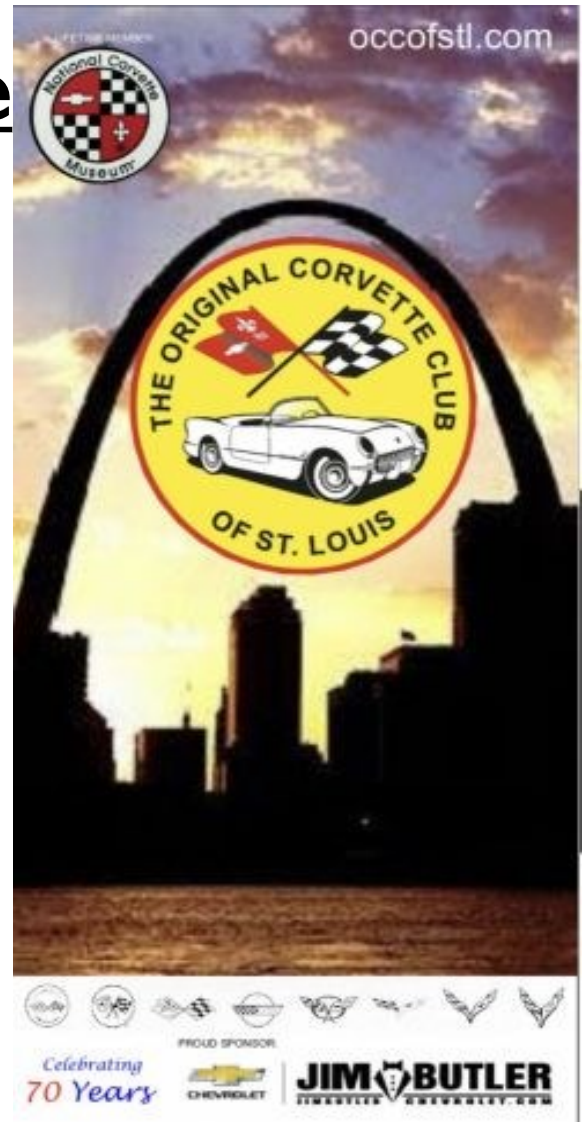
The Vette Gazette

OCC 2023 Board

President: Kenneth Schaeffler
Vice President—Gary Messenger
Treasurer— Sharon Young
Sgt. At Arms— Eric Stephens
Membership— Bill Prewitt
Administrative Coordinator— Sidney Hirsch

Volunteers:

Club Outreach: Connie Finch
Club Historian— Jason Messenger
Webmaster— Dennis Osterhorn
NCM Ambassador— Rick Poeping
Groupworks Admin— Randy Vollmer
Facebook Admin: Randy Vollmer
Wednesday Dinner Club— Judy Silvagni



For Additional Information...

groupworks™

Mailing Address:

OCC of St. Louis, P.O. Box 725, Manchester, MO 63011

OCC Meetings: Are held on the **2nd Tuesday of every Month** and are open to all members and guests.

Our Next Meeting Will Be: **May 9, 2023**

Meeting Location: Cruseo's Restaurant and Bar, 5591 Oakville Shopping Center, South St. Louis County. Telegraph and Baumgartner Ave.

The President's Report

Kenneth Schaeffler, President

Original Corvette Club of St. Louis



CORVETTE

April 11, 2023

PRESIDENTS OPENING STATEMENT

Thank you all for coming out tonight.

Welcome to Crusoe's. Thanks to those who came early for the meet and greet before the meeting. I'm hoping John has some news on the opening of Saucy's.

Before we get any further tonight, I am sure that everyone heard of Dick Mericle's passing. I would like to have a moment of silence so all can remember Dick tonight. (PAUSE)... As everyone is aware, Dick and Karen have been an integral part of OCC for over 20 years. He was a kind and generous man and always wore a smile. He will truly be missed. It was requested that any donations should go to Santa's Helpers. With that said, the Club will be send a donation in Dick's name in lieu of flowers as outlined in the Bylaws. Also, the Club portion of tonight's 50/50 will be donated to Santa's Helpers. And, if anyone would like to make a personal donation in Dick's name, please bring it up to Sharon and she will see that it goes with the others.

We have recently added new members. Bill will go over that a little later.

I did receive an email from a member with some great suggestions for club events. I will have those presented later.

I would also like to have volunteers to head up various committees and to help organize these trip and events. We need to get these positions going early, so as to not try and organize at the last minute for everything, and usually by the same members over and over. We need a Picnic Committee to help organize and decorate for the Picnic. To make decisions on a theme, the food, and maybe games like cornhole. I would also like a day trip committee to assist in getting some of the trips organized. Find interesting places to go, and enjoy what Missouri and Illinois has to offer in only a day and a nice drive. And maybe even an overnight trip if enough would attend. Why not create reasons to take a ride and get away for a day.

I want to also create a car talk segment at the meetings for members to talk about there cars, their experiences with their cars and anything else they have to share with the members.

Tonight we will also have a guest speaker to talk to us about an event, and that they are looking for participants. John Miceli was contacted and I agreed to have them speak.

If any member has an idea for a guest speaker to discuss cars, repairs, accessories, maintenance or customization, please bring it up. Some topics that come to mind would be Ceramic coating, clear or custom wraps, stereos, lighting and detailing.

I want to also create a car talk segment at the meetings for members to talk about there cars, their experiences with their cars and anything else they have to share with the members.

We are still planning on a club photo shoot on May 20th, in the morning so it doesn't interfere with the Spina Bifida rides that afternoon.

And as always, if we have the chance to support our sponsor, please do. Butler has a parts department and offer full service on all your cars.

Thank you again for your support and together we are on our way to a great 2023.

Meeting Minutes- Original Corvette Club of St. Louis

April, 2023

Sidney Hirsch, Administrative Chair



Meeting called to order by Ken at 7:30

Eric Stephens led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance

All officers present except for Gary Messenger who had knee surgery

Ken asked for a moment of silence for Dick Mericle passing.

Guest Speakers St. Louis Corvette Club with info on St Jude's run

Treasurers Report motion to accept by Dennis Osterhorn and Cheryl Osterhorn

Last months published minutes accepted by Karen Mericle and Gene Castellano.

Admin Asst I got bupkus (yiddish for nothing)

Membership up to 130 members

Outreach Dick Mericle passed away.

New Members : Frank Sesnack 1959,

Lonnie Mills 2002, Rick Gibson 2004, John Everett 2019, and finally old member who rejoined Mark McDonnell 1966

Upcoming events: Magic Dragon May 5

Club Photo Shoot May 20

Spinal Bifida May 20

Pacific Car Show June 24

Butler Car Show Sept 24

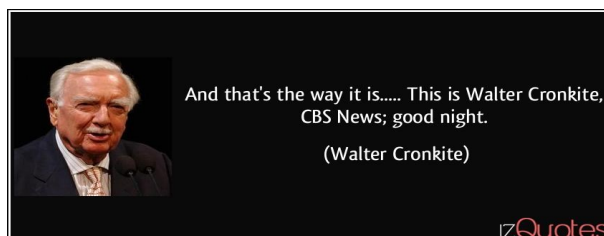
Club Picnic Oct 8

New Business don't know where meeting is for May check Groupworks for further information

Discussion: Jim Ford put out for discussion abt bricks for Don Delonjay and Dick Mericle

50/50 was won by Fuzz Steinlage. Santas helpers is getting the other half.

Jim Ford won 4 Cardinal tickets for Thursday





Check GroupWorks for upcoming Sundaes on Sunday!

Sundaes
On
Sunday!



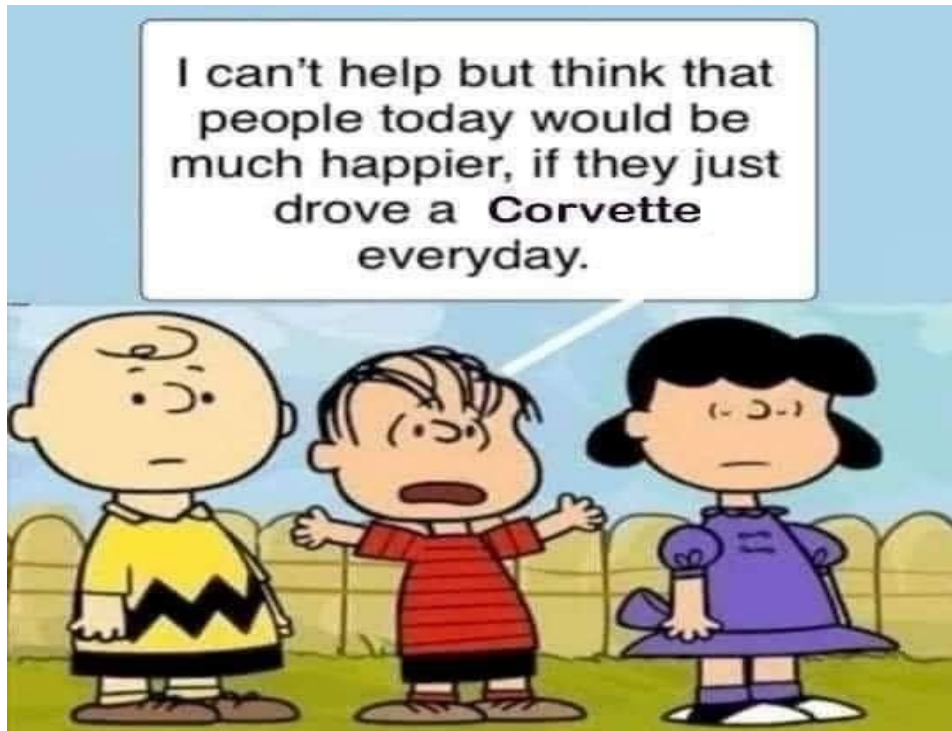
Please see Groupworks for upcoming Wednesday night dinners!
Judy Silvagni



**The Original Corvette Club
of St. Louis'**

2023

**Banner at the National
Corvette Museum in
Bowling Green, KY**





From Vice President—Gary Messenger

- 1.) May 13. Loafers Car Show. Hannible, MO— Dennis Osterhorn
- 2.) 3rd Annual Flag Day Car Cruise— Scott AFB- **Sat Jun 10 2023 at 08:00 am to 2:00 pm**—park your car next to historic and vintage aircraft! Dennis Osterhorn
- 3.) June 18, Father’s Day car show, Kimmswick. Mike Koenen is sponsoring.
- 4.) June 24, Pacific Car Show— Larry Dann
5. October 8, Annual OCC Picnic, Riverside Shelter, Cliff Cave Park. Larry Dann
- 6.) December 12, Annual OCC Christmas Party. Larry Dann

Reoccurring events that start in April-

A.) Sonic every Friday, South Lindbergh at Big Bend weather permitting.

B.) Faith Church Sunset Hills First Friday of each month



Happy Anniversary Baby, Got you on my mind!



March

Bill and Amy Mulder 3/11/99

Roger and June (Breen) Schmidt 3/18/2020

Gene and Sue Castellano 3/21/1992

April

Ian and Jama Rendell 4/3/93

Ed and Judy Lang 4/24/63

Rich and Ruth Reim 4/28/62

May

Jason and Becky Messenger 5/4/2014

Dennis and Cheryl Osterhorn 5/4/1968

David and Carol Peeples 5/6/1999

National Council of Corvette Clubs Bans the E-Ray from Competition

By [Joe Kucinski](#) - April 20, 2023 Corvette Forum

Also, if you bring an E-Ray to a track just to watch, prepare to park it at least 30 feet away from other cars and all buildings.

Imagine you just spent [big money to purchase a new E-Ray Corvette](#). You can't wait to get it out on the racetrack to see what that 655 horsepower can really do when pushed to the limit. But there is a problem. Your new six-figure E-Ray is not welcomed on the racetrack. In fact, you can't even park it near the track, or any of its buildings or any other cars. The [National Council of Corvette Clubs \(NCCC\)](#) has recently updated its 2022 – 2023 competition rulebook. And one of the updates is to ban all EVs and hybrid vehicles from all track competitions. Section 1.8.1 item 14 reads:

Electric Vehicles/Hybrids using lithium type battery packs are prohibited in competitive events. If driven to NCCC events, they should be parked 30 feet minimum from structures or other vehicles.

There is no word on how long this ban will last. But if you are a track junkie you probably want to stick to a [traditional gasoline-powered vehicle](#) for the foreseeable future.



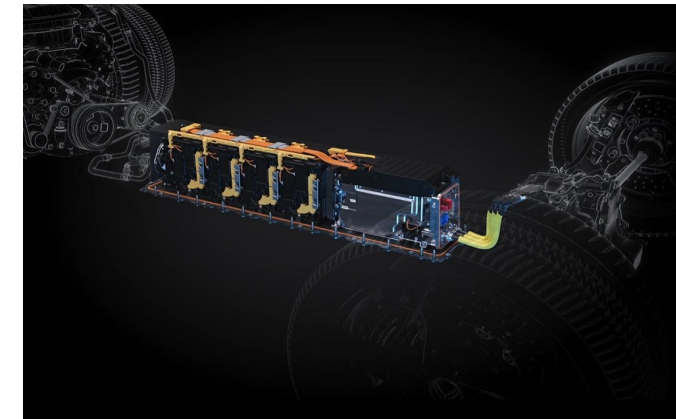
And the NCCC is not alone. Summit Point Motorsports Park is a popular racetrack in West Virginia. It is about a ten-hour drive from Bowling Green, Kentucky. As recently reported by [Grassroots Motorsports](#) Summit Point has also enacted a ban of EVs and hybrids. **Edwin Pardue**, Director of Motorsports Operations at Summit Point Motorsports Park said in part:

Summit Point Motorsports Park's decision to take a "tactical pause" in halting the use of electric and hybrid electric vehicles in all motorsports disciplines at our location is purely based on ensuring we establish an EMS response policy and procedure based on technical knowledge provided by the electric and hybrid electric vehicle industry community to better support the motorsports community.

Why the Ban?

Because these people are afraid of losing to battery-powered racecars! Just kidding. Here's the deal:

Most EVs and hybrids today use lithium-ion batteries. That includes the new Corvette E-Ray. If there is a component failure with the battery or it is damaged during a crash this can cause a fire. A fire from a high-voltage battery poses additional risks when compared to a traditional gasoline fire. The damaged cells in the battery can experience uncontrolled increases in temperature and pressure called thermal runaway. This can lead to the fire reigniting after the flames were put out and everyone thought the condition was under control. In addition, there are risks of electric shock when dealing with these types of incidents.



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) [released a statement](#) a couple years ago highlighting the risks with these vehicles. Having these running at high speed on a racetrack only increases the risk. That is why these bans are being put in place.



More To Come.....

In the short term, we expect racetrack bans on EVs and hybrids to become more widespread. These cars are being produced in greater numbers but as is the case at Summit Point, many facilities are not yet equipped to handle the fire potential that these vehicles carry.

In addition to the facilities themselves, more track organizations will also likely enact some sort of ban on these vehicles to keep their members safe. The NCCC will not be alone. I know if I was at a track day and an EV or hybrid vehicle camped next to me in the pit area I would promptly relocate. I don't want to risk my car or myself being engulfed in flames if there should be a battery fire.

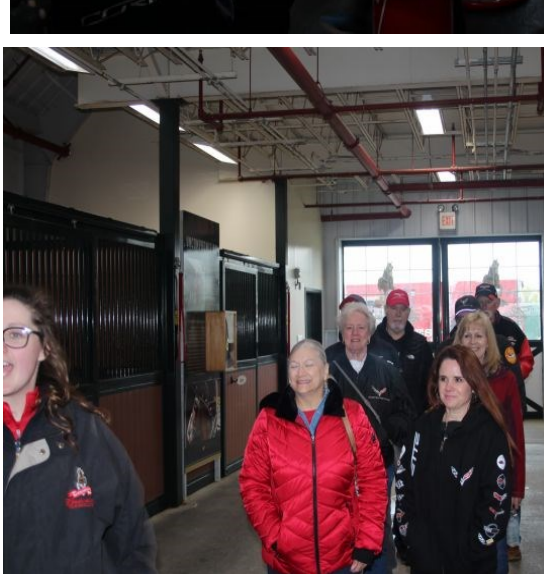


As the EV and hybrid becomes more and more common, there will be improvements to safety when dealing with these vehicles. That will likely lead to the lifting of these types of bans. However, there is no telling when that time will come. If you are considering purchasing a car for track duty we suggest you stick to old fashioned internal combustion. A 1975 Corvette with only 165 horsepower can lap faster than the new almighty Corvette E-Ray that isn't allowed within 30 feet of a track.

Images: Chevrolet

Thank you Randy Vollmer!

Warm Springs Ranch - Day Trip





OCC Ladies Lunch Wed. April 5

OCC Ladies Lunch Wednesday May 3, 2023 11:30 am

Bartolino's South 5914 South Lindbergh St Louis, MO 63123



RSVP by Monday May 1, 2023 on the EVENT REMINDER PAGE

Hope you all can join us!

Suzanne Galli Koenen

[314-799-5009](tel:314-799-5009)

[The National Corvette Museum Report](#)

[Rick Poepping, NCM Ambassador](#)

[April, 2023](#)



Latest News:

Plan Your Trip to Bowling Green

Travel season has officially begun! And there is no better way to enjoy the break than a stop at the National Corvette Museum, located directly off I-65 in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Whether you're wanting to get off the road and stretch your legs, or the Museum is your destination, we have a little something for everyone.

While in Bowling Green, explore the rest of the area. Bowling Green is home to the [Historic Railpark](#), [Beech Bend Raceway and Amusement Park](#), [Lost River Cave](#), [Aviation Heritage Park](#), [Riverview at Hobson Grove Historic House Museum](#), and the [Baker Arboretum and Downing Museum](#). Take the family to [Chaney's Dairy Barn](#) for delicious ice cream, or explore [Jackson's Orchard](#) for a beautiful day out. Baseball fan? Check out the [Bowling Green Hot Rods](#) schedule to catch a game right in the heart of downtown—and there is no more beautiful place to relax after a fun day than [Fountain Square Park](#). Retired since 2008, he remains connected to the people and the car he loves. He is a familiar face at the National Corvette Museum where he once served as Chairman of the Board, and you'll often find him in the middle of crowds at Corvette events all over the country. His friendly smile, gentle nature, and warm disposition give no hint of the difficult path he has taken on his journey to the [Corvette Hall of Fame](#).

NCM High Performance Drivers Introduction

There is a new program at NCM Motorsports Park

The High Performance Drivers Introduction is a "101" on track program introducing new drivers to the hobby of recreational performance driving. Here's what it's about:

- Introducing new drivers to the recreational performance driving.
- Introducing the concepts and nomenclature to help drivers be safe and successful on the racetrack.
- Breaking down the barriers of entry to the sport by keeping groups small, concentrated, and social.
- Creating more prepared drivers – demonstrating what to expect from a performance driving event, as well as demonstrating what is needed and expected from a driver and their vehicle.
- Makes for a great car club or group activity!

So how does it work?

The premise of the program will be small, concentrated groups cycling between a Lead/Follow on-track program paired with classroom sessions on what to expect from performance driving events, as well as teaching basic technique and terms needed for success in performance driving.

Things covered in the On-Track curriculum:

- Basic car control
- Breaking down the corner - Turn In, Apex, Track Out
- Passing procedures and point-bys
- Corner Stations, Brake Markers, Pit In/Out signs
- Having fun on track!

Things covered in the Classroom curriculum:

- Learning terms and procedures
- Vehicle tech requirements – What is needed from a vehicle?
- Personal protective equipment requirements – What equipment is required?
- Flags – Why are they there? What do they mean?
- Communicating with your instructor on and off the track
- Basic performance driving techniques
- How to get the most out of performance driving

Cost: \$400 – There will be 2 per year – The first one is Friday, July 21, 2023

[NCM High Performance Drivers Introduction info on Jul 21, 2023 \(521565\) | MotorsportReg.com](#)

NCM Motorsports Park Spring HPDE

Wed, Apr 26 - Thu, Apr 27, 2023

Owning a sports car is not complete without learning how to drive it to its potential! The NCM HPDE gives owners that opportunity while surrounded by like-minded enthusiasts, friendly and approachable driving coaches, and support from partners like Michelin, Mobil 1 and Holley Performance.

We have made some exciting changes to our program this year! To offer even more track time we are shifting to a 3-run group format! (Novice, Intermediate and advanced)

Our program intends to provide a generous amount of track time and advanced skill training in a FUN environment with a curriculum cultivated and refined over many years. Entry level drivers can expect high-

Participant pricing is \$500 for Novice, Intermediate and Advanced Drivers, and \$50 for Instructors.

This is a bring your own vehicle event. Almost any modern streetcar with OEM equipment, in good condition can be used.

We do recommend that you start by having your car inspected by a qualified mechanic and have all questionable items corrected. A typical inspection may take only an hour and is money well spent considering the potential consequences.

A SA2015 or SA2020 rated helmet (SA2010 helmets are no longer acceptable), long pants, and closed-toed shoes are also required. Please complete, print and bring this Tech form, [NCM_Tech_Inspection_Form.pdf](#) helmet form Helmet Form 2023 and convertible waive convertible waiver (if applicable) prior to arrival. Make sure you are signed up with www.Motorsportreg.com for updates to this event.

[NCM Motorsports Park Spring HPDE \(motorsportreg.com\)](#)

[**Rick Poepping**](#)

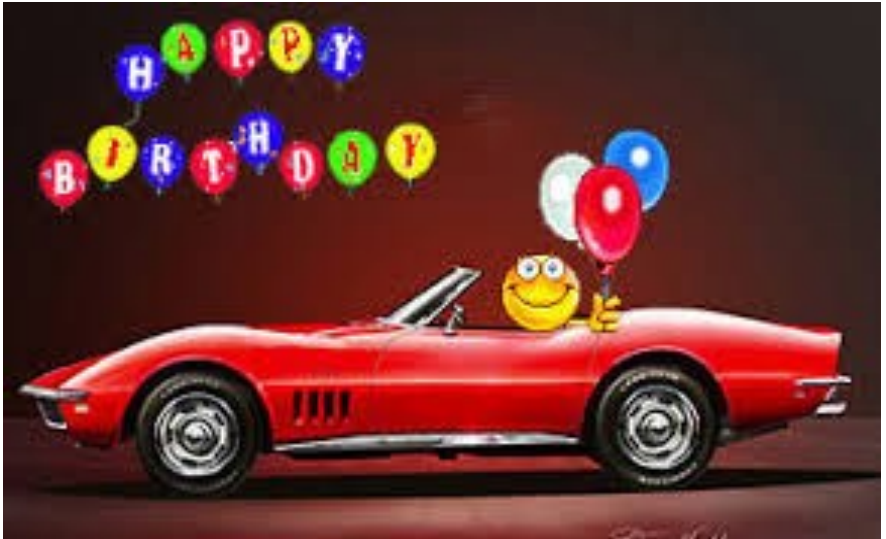
[**www.corvettemuseum.org**](http://www.corvettemuseum.org)

National Corvette Museum
350 Corvette Dr, Bowling
Green, KY 42101



April Birthdays

Larry Dann 4/2
Darlene Williams 4/2
Cheryl Osterhorn 4/10
Angie Davis 4/12
Bill Mulder 4/12
Joe Stanton 4/13
Fred Gronemeier 4/14
Jerry Wilson 4/17



May Birthdays

Brenda Navratil 5/2
Connie Finch 5/7
Kelvin McMillin 5/15
Joyce James 5/18
Chris Davis 5/19
Jane Buehler 5/21
Bob Schissler 5/21
Suzanne Koenen 5/22
Lois Yeager 5/22

Happy Birthday to Everyone!

From all of your friends in the OCC!



If you are in need of a new Corvette or vehicle of any type go and see The OCC's good friend and Club Sponsor at Jim Butler Chevrolet in Fenton in the Gravois Bluffs Complex!

Corvette Trivia!!

The United States city that has the highest number of Corvettes per capita is Sioux Falls, South Dakota!

