

VETTECETERA



Northern California Chapter's Newsletter for the Corvette Enthusiast

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NCC/NCRS Website <http://www.ncrs.org/ncc/>



Chairman's Message – Club Activities & Participation in CTFA

By Jeff Blakeslee

Having been the CTFA Chair for NCC for the previous 11 years, I have a pretty good idea of what activities the members will attend. Now as the NCC NCRS Chairman, I have the opportunity to listen to each of you and understand what you want from the club. One thing I have learned is that there is a difference in the activities members say they are interested in, and those they will actually attend. We all have good intentions and want the club to succeed, but life has other obligations and those often take precedence. So as a club, we need to make each shot count.

The Chapter Top Flight Awards program has three levels of achievement. The program is optional, and we have participated for many years. During this time, we have always earned the Top Flight standing with NCRS

National. However, to do so a list of nine required activities must be completed, as well as six of nine optional activities. So, with fifteen total activities to complete, there is not much time or energy left over for trying new things. What's worse is that we find ourselves trying to complete these activities as part of a dogmatic routine, often with just a few members showing up so we can check a particular box. For clubs that participate, the CTFA program essentially directs the activities of the club. That's the way it has been for many years here at NCC NCRS.

While this does provide a roadmap for the club's annual activities, I no longer believe that following these guidelines is in the best interest of our members or the future of our club. During the time that Bob Grauer was Chairman, and I was his Vice Chairman, we chose not to participate – a decision by Bob which I now see as quite prescient. It is my opinion that following the same list of activities for years causes stagnation, quells new ideas, and can use up our limited energy in the wrong way. Running the program also takes a lot of paperwork, and a volunteer for the CTFA chair is increasingly hard to come by. For these reasons, I have decided to suspend our participation in the CTFA program.

By listening to our members and observing the participation in various events, I believe I have a pretty good understanding of what the majority of our members want. In order of importance, here is how I see it:

1. Access to the NCRS knowledge base, both in written format and tribal knowledge.
2. Judging of their cars to improve their car's quality and value as well as personal recognition of achievement.
3. Technical and judging seminars.
4. Access to one-on-one assistance when needed.
5. Our newsletter.
6. Fellowship with other like-minded individuals.
7. An occasional social event, and/or road tour.

As you can see, I have listed seven items, not the fifteen required by CTFA. And to be honest, it's hard enough to provide a quality opportunity for these core elements. I did not list everything we might do, but the point is

that NCRS members don't join so they can hold a charity event or count how many members drive their cars to an event, they join because they own a Corvette and intend to restore at least some elements of it. Let's stick to the activities that make that possible. A club, like a bureaucracy, has the tendency to add burdensome requirements until the weight of those requirements becomes heavy enough to contribute to its own decline. We are in a decline, and I think the best thing we can do to correct that is to remember why we are here. I intend to focus our activities to that end. Your comments are always welcome.

NCC Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2025

Jeff Blakeslee called the Board Meeting to order at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Board members present were Chair Jeff Blakeslee, Vice Chair and Membership Chair Sharyl Ingham, Secretary Sandy Houck, and Judging Chair Mike Ingham.

Secretary Report:

The Board approved the May meeting minutes as submitted by Sandy that were printed in the June Vettecetera.

Treasurer's Report:

Chris Moore was absent.

Membership Report:

Sharyl reported we have 105 members. She has completed an update of the NCC brochure. Jeff said it would have been nice to hand out to Corvette owners at the Santa Rosa Father's Day car show.

Vettecetera Editor:

Mike thanked Dave Houlihan for the comprehensive tech article last month about ignition systems and ballast resistors. Also, Jeff had a good discussion about ignition timing in his column.

NCRS President/Region IX Director:

Mike will report on the National Convention during the General Meeting.

Old Business:

We discussed the '57-only Meet scheduled for October 4 in San Leandro. One judging team will be able to judge up to four cars. Jeff will file the Chapter Top Flight Award (CTFA) report for the first quarter.

New Business:

Jeff reviewed the 2025 Calendar and activities needed for CTFA. We discussed ideas for a stand-alone Charitable Event and a Road Tour. Sharyl reported that the Los Gatos Lodge has closed down. She will contact the Suisun City Holiday Inn to see if it is available for the Spring 2026 Meet.

The Board Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

NCC Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2025

Chairman Jeff Blakeslee called the Meeting to order at 7:03 pm and welcomed 23 members. He asked for introductions stating where we live and the Corvette(s) we own. Congratulations to those who have newly acquired cars, including Bob Grauer with a 2025 ERay, Jeff Blakeslee with a '69 coupe that was previously owned by the Inghams, and Sharyl Ingham with a 2004 Z06.

Jeff called for a moment of silence in honor of Tom Barr who passed away on June 9. Tom had been a long time NCC member, was the NCRS C4 Team Leader, and had been the Southern Arizona Chapter Chairman.

Las Vegas National Convention:

Mike sent out an eblast to encourage registrations to the Las Vegas Convention. Mike and John Tidwell said there are currently about 230 signed up and 88 cars to be judged in all categories. There's still more room for people and cars.

NCRS Marketing and Advertising Committee:

Tony Stein, Region VII Director and National Vice President, encouraged attendance at the Show-Me Regional Meet in Springfield, MO. Tony and Rick Barrack are the co-chairs of the newly formed Marketing and Advertising Steering Committee. The National Board has charged the committee to increase membership and to decrease the average age of members. They are developing posters, signage, advertising in car magazines, and podcasts. The new website JoinNCRS.com will launch soon. They are looking to reimagine the Concours Program so that it can be an opportunity for any Corvette owner. He reviewed the results of the completed Concours survey and noted that for the first time there will be a Team Leader for the program.

Novato Nostalgia Days:

The car show will be October 11. Jeff said we can join up with North Bay Corvette Association in their parking area, as space permits. We plan to do a charitable event at the same time, probably a donation of books and magazines.

NCC Fall Meet:

The meet is planned to be the judging of three '57 cars due to time and judges available.

Bob Kennard explained the problem of not being able to take his '78 Pace Car to the National Convention because he has not been able to get his car judged at a chapter or regional meet. A Chapter judging is a prerequisite for National judging.

Technical Discussion Board:

Gary Beaupre said the current interesting topics include the Concours survey, Bloomington Gold changes, a '67 restamped engine pad and VIN tag, and Wayne Yurtin's Bonneville land speed record. See the awesome article in the July Corvette magazine.

Tuesday Tidbits (aka Show & Tell):

Jeff encouraged us to use local machine shops that have water jet cutting machines if you need replacement parts. As an example, he showed pictures of a small part from a '63 shifter, including the original part, his CAD diagram, and the new machined part.

NCC Road Tour:

Jeff will discuss with Ken Albers ideas for a road tour.

Open Discussion:

Sandy Houck talked about removing Xpel film from her C5.

Gary Miranda said that he will be helping Rick Gower reinstall the steering column on the '65 Rick purchased from Don Mullenhoff. Once again there was a wildfire in Vacaville that came within two feet of the newly rebuilt Albers house. Luckily the house was saved this time.

Dave Domenichini offered help to the club and discussed bringing two cars to the Convention. Steve Banich told a story from years ago when Art McNay was invited into an airline cockpit.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

The next Zoom meeting will be Tuesday, July 8 at 6:30 pm for the Board Meeting and 7:00 pm for the General Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Houck, NCC Secretary

Food For Thought

By Sharyl Ingham

What has happened to common courtesy? Would you agree that this is the basic level of politeness and respectful behavior that is expected in social interactions where we should be considerate of other people's feelings? This is all about treating others as you want to be treated, right? Why have we dismissed the Golden Rule from our daily lives?

I know you all have experienced a situation(s) where this wasn't practiced. I am going to cite an example that you all may relate to. When somebody writes you an e-mail and it has a question, do you respond to the question right away? Here is where I think common courtesy requires that one should respond right away because you are showing respect and being polite to that person writing you that is waiting for your response. Remember to practice the Golden Rule.

Everything we do every day involves having common courtesy.

Let me just say that the NCC is thriving and the Zoom meetings are quite educational with Jeff, our Chairman, putting a lot of effort in sharing his knowledge and contacts. He leaves no stone unturned. I personally believe Jeff brings the best out of the members when he assists them by sharing his various restoration projects. Thank you, Jeff!

It is strange not to have the NCRS Convention during July. But having said that, there are still three weeks left to register by July 21st, and we hope you will join us in Las Vegas in September.

July notable dates are Independence Day, July 4th; and National Ice Cream Day, July 20th. NCC's Birthday and Anniversary best wishes and congratulations go to the following, starting with Marilyn Muhler, July 1st; Louer's anniversary, July 3rd; Troyer's anniversary, July 6th; Don Troyer, July 7th; Pierce's anniversary, July 10th; Lisa Johnson, July 15th; Don Mullenhoff, July 20th; Carol Troyer, July 22nd; Janet Palmer, July 23rd; Rick Gower, July

26th; and Mick Swezey and Bill Cash sharing July 29th.

It is summertime and it is all of our responsibility to be mindful of fires; protect yourself and your neighbors by making sure your weeds are cut down.

Show common courtesy and be kind always.

See you on Zoom on July 8th!

Art Senn

By Steve Banich

NCC/NCRS member Art Senn, like many of our members, had worked for United Airlines. Art started with the company very early in its existence. His seniority numbers were surprisingly low to employees checking him in for flights.

As a retired mechanic, Art and his wife, Lorene, could fly free if there were open seats. On one flight they were seated, the stewardess came and said they needed a seat, would Art mind riding in the cockpit? In his 70+ years he'd never flown in the cockpit. A treat!

Art always traveled wearing a suit, this day it was light blue. After they landed, Art came out the pilot's door and stood there waiting for Lorene. As they departed many passengers complemented Art for the smooth flight and excellent landing. Art chuckled, this was the day he got his wings.

Art had a '61 and a '63. He restored both. An experienced NCRS judge, he was our first NCRS Regional Representative from the west coast. He and Lorene went to many NCRS events all over the country. We miss them.

Burma-Shave

THIRTY DAYS
HATH SEPTEMBER
APRIL, JUNE AND
THE SPEED OFFENDER

BURMA-SHAVE 1960

NCC Magnetic Name Badges

We no longer get free shipping when ordering NCC name badges, so the price is now \$20.00 if you need a replacement.

Mass Mailing Clarification

We are utilizing NCRS's Mass Mailing feature to distribute the link to the Vettecetera each

month, as well as other NCRS related e-mails from other people. Please do NOT respond to the e-mail, respond to the person who authors the e-mail.

Technical Articles Wanted

If you have been thinking about writing up some restoration project you have completed, please do so and submit it for publication. We can all benefit from one another's learning's. Submit your article as a Word document, and any accompanying pictures as .jpg files.

Copyrights

Articles appearing in the Vettecetera are the sole property of their author(s) and may not be reproduced without the express written permission of the author.

Pertinent Information

Send newsletter articles to Mike Ingham by email: michael.ingham248@gmail.com It needs to be received **by the 25th** of the previous month to make publication.

NCC Dues

NCC dues are \$30 per year. Please start paying via PayPal. If needed, a membership form may be found on the last page of the Vettecetera. When you have changes (e.g., e-mail address, Corvettes owned) please send those changes to me via e-mail at: sharylingham@gmail.com Thanks.

Chapter Meetings

Chapter meetings occur on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are being held via Zoom, and the Zoom link is distributed to all Chapter members on the preceding Monday.

Parts For Sale

C3 Parts

Side-exhaust pipes for a big block 1969 Corvette. Exhaust pipes have about 90,000 miles on them. They are completely intact with surface rust on the front pipes and minor oxidation on the chambered sections. \$500
Early '69 jack, dated 8M, plus lug wrench, \$200

Contact Mike Ingham at 510-420-0968 or michael.ingham248@gmail.com

C2 Parts

NOS front bumpers for '63-'67. These are GM 3797337 & 3797338; still in their original (although ratty) GM boxes. Even when brand new, C2 bumpers were never perfect show chrome, but these are the

real deal. \$1,000 for the pair. I will hand deliver anywhere within the San Francisco, Pleasanton, Morgan Hill triangle. Gary Beaupre 408-250-0370

NOS rear valance panel for '66 and '67 with underbody exhaust. GM 3874799. Embossed "DT 40 1868 70 on" inside surface. Minor shelf wear, but no cracks or damage. Very nice NOS GM part. Local pickup only, within 45-miles of San Jose, CA. \$500 firm. Gary Beaupre 408-250-0370

C1 Parts

1956-only 924 windshield wiper motor, restored, runs perfectly, \$400

Two spare tire trunk boards: one original 5-ply, 3/8" thick, with posi and jack instruction labels that are largely illegible; and one repro that is in perfect condition.

1956-1960 soft-top frame w/vinyl top. Frame is in like new condition, vinyl is excellent but has one small tear (~1/4") in passenger rear side, rear window is excellent but does not have "VINYLITE" stamping. \$2900

Contact Mike Ingham at 510-420-0968 or michael.ingham248@gmail.com

Tools For Sale

Auto Rotisserie - Cost \$1,400 plus freight. Used once, sell for \$1,000 with much extra tubing. Gantry Crane - cost \$1,200 plus freight, sell for \$800 with free electric hoist. Contact John Tidwell at 916-201-6061 or sampanjohn@earthlink.net

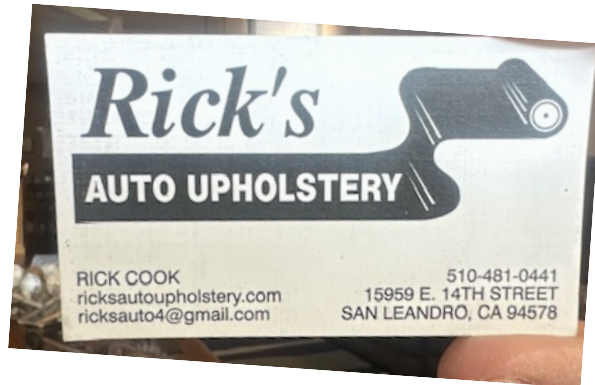
Manuals Available

Over the years we (NCC) have accumulated a small collection of Corvette factory service manuals and other technical literature in our library, where they continue to collect dust. We have decided to offer these documents to NCC members on a first come-first served basis in the hope that you can put them to better use. If any of the following documents match a Corvette that you own and you would like to have it and are willing to pay the shipping, please contact Mike Ingham. A small donation to the Chapter is welcome.

Year	Title
1962	AIM x2
1953-78	Chassis & Body Parts Catalog x2
1970-72	TIM&JG 6 th Edition
1970-72	TIM&JG 6 th Edition in Sections
1984	Shop & Electrical Manuals
1984-90	Corvette Parts & Illustration Cat.
1984-92	Corvette Parts & Illustration Cat.

Business Card Ads

Business card ads are free for NCC members. Please send your business card to Mike Ingham, 6047 Lawton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618-1802.



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	2025 Event Calendar 	
July 8 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
July 17 th – 19 th	Kansas City/St. Louis Regional	Springfield, MO
August 12 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
September 7 th – 11 th	NCRS Convention	Las Vegas, NV
October 4 th	NCC Fall Judging Meet – `57s Only	San Leandro, CA
October 11 th	Novato Nostalgia Days	Novato, CA
October 14 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
October 23 rd – 25 th	Texas Regional	Frisco, TX
November 7 th – 8 th	SCC Fall Judging Meet	Cerritos, CA
November 11 th	NCC Meeting & Veterans Day	Via Zoom
December 9 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom



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SHARYL INGHAM at 6047 Lawton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618

ANNUAL DUES: January 1st through December 31st, **\$30; now payable via PayPal through the NCRS website at: <https://www.ncc.ncrs.org/>**

scroll to the bottom black box

click on membership

click on renew chapter

next choose chapter

follow the prompts

NCRS Membership Number: _____ **Expiration Date:** _____

(From *Driveline* or *Restorer Address Label*)

You must be an NCRS Member to be a Chapter member.

Check as Applicable:

_____ New Member

_____ Renewal

_____ Change of Address

Please Print or Type

Name _____ Birthdate: Month _____ Day _____

Spouse _____ Birthdate: Month _____ Day _____

Street _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Please list the Year(s) and Model(s) of your Corvette(s)

—

This information will be published in the Chapter's roster.

_____ Name

_____ Birthdate

_____ Street Address

_____ City

_____ Phone

_____ NCRS#

_____ E-mail