

VETTECETERA



Northern California Chapter's Newsletter for the Corvette Enthusiast

Vol. 47, Issue No. 12

December 2025

2025 NCC Officers

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



Chairman's Message – Plan B

By Jeff Blakeslee

Ten years ago, I would have jumped right into the restoration on my new '69 coupe. I have had the car about eight months now and I have done some mechanical repairs, but I have been making excuses about why I have not pulled the body off and really gotten to it. For a bit, I tried to convince myself the car was so good that maybe mechanical repairs are all that was needed. But I knew I was just kidding myself. There are things you can only do with the body off if you want the car to be reliable and have longevity. As good as the car is, I bought it with the plan of doing a body-off restoration. So, what's holding me back?

I'll admit I have less energy than ten years ago, but (I'm hoping) there are other reasons also. I'm telling myself that along with the loss of energy I have gained wisdom, and I believe this time I was more aware that waiting a year to really get to know the car was a smart first

step in the restoration. Over the last eight months, I really did get to know the car. I drove it weekly and learned what worked and what didn't, and I explored what it would take to get the car where I wanted it. I cataloged and organized the spare parts that came with it and researched the availability of other parts I need. This is my first C3 project, first big block project, and first AC car, so there was a learning curve that was going to take some time.

This has also given me time to plan my attack. The Tuxedo Black paint on the car is in very good shape; I give it an 8 out of 10. The previous owners of the car were Mike and Sharyl Ingham, and a lot of work was completed under their ownership. This included rebuilding the instrument cluster and console instruments, replacing the dash wiring harness and replacing the carpet, so the interior is looking good. The original leather seats are in impressive condition, and I can't bring myself to swap them for reproduction covers.

Since I've owned the car, I have rebuilt the window motors and tracks and installed new felt along with some other interior repairs. So, while the body and interior are not concours perfect, they are quite nice and feel very real. This is where Plan B comes in; I have decided not to paint the car or fully disassemble the interior. Instead, I will take the body off and set it aside so I can rebuild the chassis and engine. I will of course take the opportunity to rebuild the other mechanicals attached to the body, including the vacuum systems, the fore and aft wiring harness, heater and AC box and fan, head lights and actuators, wiper motor etc. But this time around I'm going to choose originality over perfection whenever I have a serviceable part.

My goal is to end up with a car that can make it to the Duntov award while retaining a true feeling of originality. More importantly, I want to drive this car, not carry it around in a trailer. This car has reminded me of the fun I used to have with my cars before I made them into museum pieces. Given my personality type, it's going to be hard to accept cosmetic imperfections, but I'm going to keep telling myself that "it's only original once". I have a few more weeks to complete a truck project my son and I are working on, then I'm going to get started on the '69 in January.

NCC Board Meeting Minutes – November 11, 2025

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

Secretary Report:

The October minutes were approved by the Board and published in the November Vettectera.

Treasurer's Report:

Chris Moore reviewed our accounts and said we have approximately \$34,000.

Membership Report:

Sharyl will start receiving membership renewals.

Board Nominations:

Jeff will request nominations for Board positions. The current Board members are willing to serve another year. Sharyl currently holds two positions, Vice Chair and Membership Director.

NCRS President/Region IX Director:

Mike discussed the latest election results and the new Board assignments. The Las Vegas South Point Casino was a good venue for the 2025 convention, so the Board decided to return for the 2028 convention.

New Business:

2026 Spring Meet: Jeff signed a contract with Embassy Suites in San Rafael for the meet on April 24-25. We have also arranged for the Fall Meet at this venue.

2027 Regional Meet and 2028 National Convention: Beverly LeGate along with Sharyl and Jeff will visit the San Rafael Embassy Suites site to consider it as a potential venue for a Regional.

The Board Meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

NCC Meeting Minutes – November 11, 2025

Chairman Jeff Blakeslee called the Meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed 22 members. He asked for introductions stating where we live and the Corvette(s) we own and asked: "Are you traveling anywhere for Thanksgiving?" Apart from Disneyland, we're

mostly staying nearby. No need to take the Vettes out for a drive.

Board Nominations:

Jeff asked members to think about joining the Board. The election of officers will be in December.

2026 Spring Meet:

Mark your calendar for April 24-25 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in San Rafael.

NCRS President/Region IX Director:

Mike Ingham reviewed the NCRS Board meeting held during the Texas Regional Meet. Three Regional Directors were elected, two of which will be new to the Board. Bill Braun of Region V will be the new administrator for the Chapter Top Flight Award (CTFA) program. Brad Hillhouse will be the new Advanced Judging Schools director. Mike and Dave Houlihan discussed the new Open Class. It was previously known as Concours but will now be open to all cars from 1953 to the present. The Operations section is a significant part. Other sections include Fit and Finish. Roy Sinor will be the Open Class team leader.

Jeff Taylor's Clutch:

If you saw Jeff's '66 at the Spring Meet he might have told you he had a problem with clutch chatter. Although the manufacturer said it should resolve itself, the chatter just got worse. Along with Jeff Blakeslee's help, they took it all apart, assessed various culprits, and installed a new clutch plate, flywheel and throw-out bearing. Then the guys had to admit that it still did not work. The clutch disc was simply the wrong size, 11" instead of 10½". McLeod supplied the correct disc, and they reinstalled it all again. There must be a lesson here.

Jeff's Garage:

Jeff showed some historical pictures of stamping machines at the St. Louis plant. Bob Grauer explained the details.

Jeff and Mike Ingham visited a garage in Santa Carlos called The Great Highway. Jeff showed us a few cool pictures.

Jeff attended the Southern California Chapter Meet at the Kent Browning collection in Norwalk. Again, we saw some cool car pictures.

Finally, Jeff showed pictures of the intake manifold on his '69 and described using 7/16" freeze plugs to block the heat passage.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

The next Zoom meeting will be Tuesday, December 9 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

On Thanksgiving my 6th grade granddaughter, (11 years old) interviewed me as part of a school assignment. Now that doesn't sound too difficult right? Well, it would have been an easy peasy interview EXCEPT she took me back to the time I was in the 6th grade or 12 years old. Oh boy, are you thinking about that yourself? How much can you recollect?

Many of us are at an age when we can't remember what we had for breakfast, right?

What I found very interesting was to watch her when she was interviewing me, how she asked the question to get an answer when I would say "that it is too long ago so I don't have an answer". The bottom line here is that I was impressed with how her teacher's lesson was teaching her to be creative by using examples to get an answer. The power of persevering.

We all have this trait when we are tackling a project. The determination to achieve a particular aim despite difficulties or the length of time it takes to achieve. Does this description of perseverance sound like my example of taking a Corvette through the NCRS judging system?

I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving with your family and friends. Ours was quieter than usual with our younger son and granddaughter and an elderly neighbor. It is always enjoyable where we can welcome and share our home with others.

December is here with a bang! Best wishes to those celebrating their birthdays in December, starting with Cathy Miranda, December 1st; Willow, December 7th; Maxine Kirkpatrick, December 8th; Casey Noel, December 12th; George Barby, December 22nd; Nancy Springer and Joe Pennachio sharing December 23rd; and Mike Ingham and Stefani Brown sharing December 26th; (don't they have the worst day for a birthday?)

Notable dates to honor/remember: National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, December 7th; Hannukah begins at sunset December 14th; First Day of Solstice, December 21st; Christmas, December 25th; Kwanzaa, December 26th; and New Year's Eve, December 31st.

Stay well and spread your kindness.

Mike and I wish you a very Happy Holiday Season!

See you on Zoom on December 9th!

NCC Spring Judging Meet

By Mike Ingham

Our spring judging meet is scheduled for April 24th and 25th at the beautiful Embassy Suites Hotel in San Rafael. A registration form may be found later in this issue of the Vettecetera, but please save yourself \$10 by registering online beginning January 1st, 2026. This will be a 5-point meet with Operations judging and a judging school on Friday afternoon and the completion of flight judging on Saturday. We look forward to seeing you and your Corvettes there.

Burma-Shave

WHEN FRISKY
WITH WHISKEY
DON'T DRIVE
'CAUSE IT'S RISKY

BURMA-SHAVE 1949

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.

Cars Wanted

Hello fellow NCC Members. I am in search of a C2 roadster, and I thought posting here might be a good way to find one. I'm looking for any year C2 and I would consider any colors other than Yellow or Silver or White, unless they had a red interior. Must be a 4-speed. I am good with any small block (except a fuelie) and/or maybe the 390HP big block if '66 or '67.

I am also looking for a low mile, all original C6 Z06. Could include a Ron Fellows or "427 Convertible". I would consider any color. Looking for something with maximum 20K miles. (Prefer 5K-10K miles.) Contact Dave Domenichini at 408-691-3283 or dave@drdcon.com

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 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.

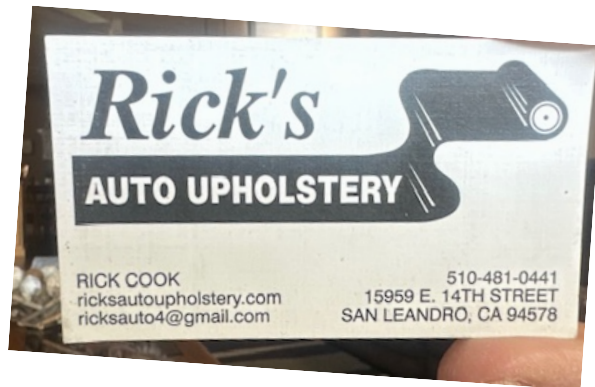
1970-72	TIM&JG 6 th Edition in Sections
1979	Chevrolet Unit Repair Manual
1984	Shop & Electrical Manuals
1984-90	Corvette Parts & Illustration Cat.
1984-92	Corvette Parts & Illustration Cat.
1990-91	TIM&JG 1 st Edition
1990-96	Ops Manual & PV Test Guide

***Items in red are new.**

Year	Title
1962	AIM x2
1953-78	Chassis & Body Parts Catalog x2
1958-60	TIM&JG 5 th Edition
1958-60	TIM&JG 5 th Edition in Sections
1961-62	TIM&JG 6 th Edition
1961-62	TIM&JG 6 th Edition in Sections
1969	Chevrolet Chassis Service Manual
1969	Chevrolet Chassis Overhaul Manual
1970-72	TIM&JG 6 th Edition

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 	
December 9 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
	2026 Event Calendar 	
January 13 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
January 15 th – 17 th	Florida Regional	Melbourne, FL
February 10 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
March 10 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
April 14 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
April 16 th – 18 th	“Show Me” Regional	Springfield, MO
April 24 th – 25 th	NCC Spring Judging Meet*	San Rafael, CA
May 12 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
June 4 th – 6 th	Pittsburgh Tri-State Regional	Altoona, PA
June 9 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
July 26 th – 30 th	NCRS National Convention	Charleston, SC
August 11 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
September 8 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
September 17 th – 19 th	Inter Mountain Regional	Spokane, WA
October 13 th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom

***Registration form included in this Vettecetera.**

NCRS Northern California Chapter Spring Judging Meet Registration Friday/Saturday, April 24/25, 2026

NCRS members and their guests are invited to attend NCC's Spring Judging Meet to be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 101 McInnis Parkway, San Rafael, CA 94903 1-(800) 362-2779 Rooms are available at \$179, plus tax. The group code is NCC.

General Meet Information

Jeff Blakeslee 707-396-3843 JeffB@BlakesleeElectric.com

Judging Information

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

Event Schedule - Friday, 4/24

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm - Registration
2:00 pm – All cars must be in place on show field.
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm – Flight Judging - Operations
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Judging School

Event Schedule – Saturday, 4/25

7:30 am – Registration
8:00 am – Coffee & Donuts
8:15 am – Judges/Owners Meetings
8:30 am – finish - Flight Judging

NCRS Membership Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name: _____ Spouse/Companion: _____

Non-NCRS Guest _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Note: Register online at www.NCRS.org starting January 1 and save \$10 on your family registration fee.

Event Registration

____ Family Registration Fee (required for all registrants)

\$50

____ Guest Fee (non-NCRS member)

@\$20 Each \$ _____

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE QUALITY JUDGING, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF CARS JUDGED. PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO CARS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN JUDGED BEFORE, AND IN ORDER OF DATE REGISTRATION WAS RECEIVED

Cut-off date: April 10, 2026

CORVETTE REGISTRATION (One Registration form per car) (Circle ONE) Driven / Trailered

Year _____ CID/HP _____ Coupe _____ Convertible _____ Complete VIN _____

Ext. Color _____ Int. Color _____ Material (Circle ONE) Cloth / Vinyl / Leather

For C2 & Newer Body Build Date _____ Body # _____ Paint Code _____ Trim Code _____

Note: Corvette registrations must include a copy of title or current DMV registration, plus a copy of current insurance certificate.

____ Flight Judging Entry @\$150 \$ _____

____ Open Class Judging Entry 1953 – 2026) _____ Stock _____ Modified @\$75 \$ _____

____ Sportsman Entry @\$40 \$ _____

____ Special Display Bowtie – Duntov – McLellan – Hill – Wallace - Crossed Flags (circle one) FREE

Note: All registrants must pay family registration fee. TOTAL \$ _____

Make check payable to: NCC/NCRS and send completed application to:

Sharyl Ingham, 6047 Lawton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618-1802 510-420-0968 sharylingham@gmail.com

No refunds after April 10, 2026

JUDGING/TABULATION PARTICIPATION (Check if needed: ☐ Please see reverse side for second judge/tab participant information.)

Name _____ Judging/Tabbing Level _____

I would like to judge: 53-62 _____ 63-67 _____ 68-82 _____ 84-96 _____ 97-04 _____ 05-07 _____ OC 53-26 _____ I would like to tabulate: _____

Chassis _____ Exterior _____ Interior _____ Mechanical _____ Operations _____

Anyone attending this event, whether you bring a Corvette or not, must register and sign the following **Hold Harmless Agreement**.

I AGREE to insure my vehicle and property against loss, damage and liability and to provide proof of such insurance to NCRS at time of registration.

I AGREE to assume the risk of any and all damages or injury and to indemnify and hold harmless NCRS, its officers, directors, agents, employees, Chapters and event workers for any acts or omissions that may result in the theft, damage or destruction of my property or injury to me or others occurring during, or as a consequence of this event, wherever located.

I AGREE to abide by the NCRS Policy on Drugs and Alcohol. The use of illegal drugs is prohibited by anyone attending an NCRS event. The use of alcohol is prohibited by anyone participating in an NCRS event (includes while on the judging field, participating in driving tests and/or road tours), except during social events.

Click here to read the complete NCRS Hold Harmless Rules & Regulations for Events (<https://www.ncrs.org/home/hold-harmless.php>)

Signature: _____ Date: _____



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All contributions are fully tax deductible

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<https://www.ncrs.org/foundation/>



Click this link to support the NCRS Foundation Scholarship Program.

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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