VETTECETERA

Northern California Chapter's
Newsletter for the Corvette Enthusiast

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

Joe Calcagno - RIP



April 6, 1940 – October 22, 2026

Chairman's Message – Get Out There!

By Jeff Blakeslee

More than 15 years ago, just after I finished restoring my '64 convertible, a fellow NCRS member gave me some advice. He insisted that the most important thing was to drive the car—not just around the block once a month, but on longer trips. Though I've forgotten his name, I remember his passion for driving his car. Many members of our club share that enthusiasm and encourage others to drive theirs. I sometimes forget their advice, but whenever I follow it, I'm reminded of what these cars are meant for.

Nothing compares to a road trip in a classic Corvette, and a full restoration is all the more reason to drive it. Just two months after finishing mine, I took it on an NCC road tour. It hadn't been judged yet, and people were

surprised I was already driving it. That first trip taught me so much about the car and gave me the thrill of driving a new C2 Corvette. I thought, "This must be what owning a brand-new '64 Corvette felt like. What a privilege." I was experiencing the rewards of all my hard work.

I have been on many trips in this car since, and each outing shows me something new to love about the car. It also gets me reengaged in the car's maintenance and improvement. Just a couple of weeks ago we drove 250 miles on the NCC road tour that Ken and Marci organized. During that trip I noticed the car felt light and a little unstable in a highway speed sweeping corner. I had noticed this on previous drives, but typically I would just park the car and not think about it again until the next long drive. This time however, I'm going after the handling problem. I suspect this is a combination of several needed adjustments, and I will report on my progress at upcoming meetings.

Driving your car is much more fun than saving it for the next owner. It keeps you involved in a different way than restoring it. You've done the work; you owe it to yourself to enjoy the full experience. Am I careful with the car? Of course. But I've found that, with reasonable care, driving improves the car more than wearing it down. My '64 completed every level of judging while I continued to drive it between events.

To be truthful, on this last trip we almost opted to take a newer car. That is such an easy decision to justify and has its own rewards. But I'm sure glad we didn't.

NCC Board Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2026

Chair Jeff Blakeslee called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. All Board members were present including Jeff, Vice Chair and Membership Director Sharyl Ingham, Secretary Sandy Houck, Treasurer John Tidwell, and Judging Chair Mike Ingham.

Secretary
The September minutes were approved by the Board.

Treasurer
John Tidwell reported that the Fall Meet broke even with only a $24 loss.

Newsletter
Mike Ingham said there were no tech articles for the September Vettecetera.

Chapter Top Flight (CTFA) Program
Jeff asked to review our charitable donations for the year. Previously we donated $200 to the NCRS Foundation. The Board also approved reinstating the Meals on Wheels donations. Sharyl will arrange for $200 checks to go to the programs in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Yolo Counties. The Donation of eyeglasses at the Napa Cars 'n Coffee was successful stand-alone event.

Old Business
We reviewed the San Rafael Fall Meet.

New Business
Sharyl reminded us that dates for the 2027 Spring Meet are April 30 – May 1 and the 2027 Fall Meet for October 16 - 17, both planned for San Rafael.

NCC General Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2026

Jeff Blakeslee called the Meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed 20 members. He asked us to introduce ourselves stating where we live and the Corvette(s) we own.

NCC Fall Meet, San Rafael
Three cars were scheduled to be judged, but one owner dropped out and one car did not qualify due to a reproduction trim tag, leaving only one car that was judged. The '67 BB was a nice-looking car but the judging team found that its side pipes were not original. It was an educational experience for those who attended. Thanks to Bob Grauer for a comprehensive judging school about GM purchase and production documents on early '60s cars.

NCRS President/Region 9 Director
Mike and Sharyl said plans for the 2028 NorCal Regional Meet are proceeding to use the Marin Event Center, next to Embassy Suites in San Rafael. Mike is submitting the application to the NCRS Board.

The Passing of Art McNay
Jeff thanked those that attended the Celebration of Life held in Woodland.

NCC Road Tour
Ken Albers will lead the road tour on October 18. It will be on good 2-lane roads from Napa to Lake County and through the Capay Valley.

Mick Swezey's Photo Shoot
Mick showed a picture from the 1992 Chevy Blazer advertising brochure. He was asked by Chevrolet advertising to have his '57 race car for the background of the Suburban and Blazer brochure. Mick described the process of the photo shoot that took place in Spring 1991 at Turn 3 on the Sears Point racetrack. This '57 car is infamous for its racing career. In 1964 he rolled the car at the Vacaville racetrack when the rear axle broke and he rolled completely over and landed on three wheels.

Dave Houlihan's presentation about C1 VIN tags
Dave showed pictures of door jamb tags on cars from 1953 to 1960. He described how some letter stamps (specifically Cs, Os, Es and 1s) varied indicating that they were probably reproductions.

Jeff's Garage
Jeff is installing power steering in a '63 340hp car. He installed the steering box and pump. Then had problems installed a third pulley on the front. He was able to fit it all using spacers, but the tolerance to the frame is tight.

Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.
The next Zoom meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10 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

I'm so sorry to share the news of the passing of two wonderful people so close together: Mike's brother, Sandy, who passed away on October 19th, and Joe Calcaagno, who passed away on October 22nd. Please join me in a moment of silence to honor them and extend our condolences to their families during this difficult time. May their souls find eternal peace.

Although time constraints prevented us from visiting with all of the NCC members at the Lone Star Regional, the event serves as a celebration of our collective participation. Our NCC member Dave Houlihan commenced the proceedings on Thursday afternoon with an insightful technical session titled "How to Allocate Funds for Parts if You Are Not a Millionaire." Attendees included Mike; John and Sophie Tidwell; Don Hooper; Pete Bergmann; Gary Bennett; Dana Richard; Jo Houlihan, who operated the slides for Dave, and me.

Congratulations to Garry Mion on receiving the prestigious People's Choice Award and successfully completing his PV evaluation with his exceptional 1960, which will be showcased in Las Vegas.

I'd like to share concerns I've been having about two particular items. I hope I'm not alone in feeling this way.

What is with this premature display of holiday decorations prior to Halloween. It is difficult to understand the rationale behind accelerating the seasonal transition in this manner.

I anticipate November 3rd with interest, as it marks the conclusion of political advertising. The expenditure of funds on these campaigns appears inefficient.

Regarding elections, it's a great time for NCC to consider some new faces. If you're interested in giving back to the Chapter through volunteering, that would be perfect! If you're interested, please give Jeff a call to let him know how you'd like to volunteer.

As NCC's membership Chair, I wanted to share that the Northern California Chapter is one of the oldest, and we've been doing great and thriving because of your ongoing support for our shared love of the hobby. No matter why you joined the local chapter, I'm sure you've enjoyed the camaraderie. Think of me giving you a friendly reminder that it's time to renew your membership dues if you haven't already done so.

Mike and I decided eight years ago not to print Chapter Judging / Tabulation certificates because we thought it would save the Chapter some money. Every time we printed them, they would often get left behind, which made us realize that you wouldn't miss those certificates showing what section you judged at each meet as long as you got the points. The NJC is planning to start doing this too. Now, picture this: NCC was the first Chapter to figure out how to stop waiting for money!

Important Reminders:
- Adjust the clocks backward on November 1st.
- Hang your flags out on Veterans Day, November 11th.

- Celebrate the true essence of Thanksgiving on November 26th by expressing gratitude and cherishing the time spent with loved ones.

Just a friendly reminder to celebrate several of our members' anniversaries and birthdays, starting with John and Bev LeGate's anniversary on November 3rd; Jeff Blakeslee on November 9th; Mark Pellowski on November 12th; Kingston Wulff on November 16th; Bev LeGate on November 22nd; and Robin Truffa on November 23rd.

Mike and I extend our heartfelt wishes to you and your family for a joyous Thanksgiving and express our sincere gratitude for your unwavering friendship.

See you on Zoom November 10th, until then be kind!

Burma-Shave

IF HUGGING ON HIGHWAYS
IS YOUR SPORT
TRADE IN YOUR CAR
FOR A DAVENPORT
BURMA-SHAVE 1963

Welcome New Member

Please join me in welcoming our new member: Ray Bonneau from Ross, CA.

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 using NCRS's Mass Mailing feature to distribute the link to the Vettecetera each month, as well as NCRS related e-mails from other members. 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 pay via PayPal or CC. 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

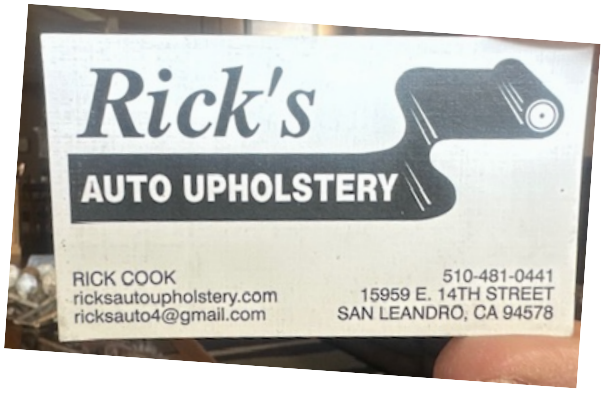
Chapter meetings occur on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are being held via Zoom, and the Zoom link is distributed to all Chapter members on the preceding Monday.

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

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.













	2026 Event Calendar	
November 10th	NCC Meeting + Elections	Via Zoom
December 8th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
	2027 Event Calendar	
January 12th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
January 14th – 16th	Florida Regional	Melbourne, FL
February 9th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
March 9th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
April 8th – 10th	Carolinas Regional	Clemson, SC
April 13th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
April 30th – May 1st	NCC Spring Judging Meet	San Rafael, CA
May 11th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
May 13th – 15th	Adirondack Regional	Albany, NY
June 3rd – 5th	North Central Regional	Rochester, MN
June 8th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
July 13th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
August 1st – 5th	NCRS National Convention	French Lick, IN
August 10th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom
September 14th	NCC Meeting	Via Zoom

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



Click this link to support the NCRS Foundation Scholarship Program.
https://www.ncrs.org/foundation/

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