



San Diego County Fair

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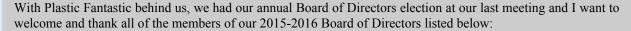
# **President's Corner**

July 2015

#### Hello NCoCC Members,

I would like to start out by thanking everyone who helped make this year's Plastic Fantastic All Corvette Car Show one of the best and most successful we have ever put on. We had ~375 cars registered and ~350 on the grass at the Embarcadero Marina Park. If you haven't had a chance to

check out the video that Gary Sadnick arranged for, go to our website and check it out. It is amazing.



President – Rick Toomey
Vice President – Mark Harwell
Treasurer – Gary Sadnick
Secretary – Ruth Harwell
Sergeant-at-Arms – Jack Grindstaff
Historian – Laura Brandon
Activities Coordinator – Norma Miyamoto
Newsletter Editor – Renne Toomey
Past President – Sam Rindskopf
2 Members-at-Large – TBD

Wow, the year went by fast and I am a little sad to be leaving the position of President. This is a position I have held for 5 out of the past 6 years. In fact I have been a Board Member all but my first year in the Club. I am confident our new President, Rick Toomey, will do a great job and be a great leader for our Club

As always, I wish everyone safe travels in your Corvette and remind you to support: 1) our club charity the USO of San Diego (http://usosandiego.org), 2) all of our military men, women, and veterans, and 3) our fantastic National Corvette Museum (http://www.corvettemuseum.org).





## **Officers**

#### **President:**

Sam Rindskopf

#### **Vice President:**

Mark Harwell

#### Secretary:

Ruth Harwell

#### **Treasurer:**

Gary Sadnick

#### **Activities Coordinator:**

Terry Thompson

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Kathleen Regenhardt

#### **Club Historian:**

Sandy Mayer

#### Sergeant-at-Arms

Dave Regenhardt

#### **Past President**

# **Appointees**

#### **Members-at-Large**

Tim Murray Doug O'Brien Jack Grindstaff

#### Raffle

Bob Haller Carol Haller

#### Webmaster

Ed Daher

#### **NCM Representative**

**Bob Hurst** 

#### **Charity Representative**

Bob Belzman

#### Car Club Council(s)

Jan Houshar (San Diego) Terry Thompson (Southern)



Susan Gilroy	5
Chuck Rubacky	6
Tom Valenzia	7
Wesley Dymek	10
Lynn Grindstaff	17
Dawn Frank	18
Mark Harwell	21
Renee Toomey	23
Gayle Rubacky	31

# Membership Anniversaries

Sandy & Lynn Mayer 15 years

Joe & Dolores Steinmetz 40 years



#### **Club Events Calendar**

#### **July 2015**

- 12 March Field Air Museum
- 14 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm
- 19 Main Street America
- 23 NCoCC Board Meeting. Mainstream Bar & Grill. 7:00pm
- 26 Recognition Dinner. StoneRidge Country Club. 4:00pm



#### August

- 11 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm
- 16 Past President's Picnic
- 27 NCoCC Board Meeting. Mainstream Bar & Grill. 7:00pm

#### September

- 8 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm
- 9 Greatest Show on Turf
- 19/20 Fleet Week Coronado Speed Festival
- 24 NCoCC Board Meeting. Mainstream Bar & Grill. 7:00pm
- 25-27 Historic Prescott Corvette Car Show

#### October

- 13 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm
- 22 NCoCC Board Meeting. Mainstream Bar & Grill. 7:00pm
- 24 Borrego Days Desert Festival

#### **November**

- 7 Corvettes on the Midway, Phoenix AZ
- 10 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm

#### **December**

8 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm

#### January 2016

12 NCoCC Business Meeting. The Well Church. 7:00pm

## Main Street America

A People's Choice Charity Car Show Presented by the Corvette Owners Club of San Diego

Sunday, July 19, 2015 10 am- 3 pm Embarcadero park North (Seaport Village)

A fundraiser for the San Diego Center for the Blind \$30.00 Pre-registration is required. Entry must be postmarked by July 6, 2015.

# Annual Recognition Dinner StoneRidge Country Club

Sunday, July 26, 2015

No Host Bar 4:00 pm Dinner 5:00 pm

## \$25 per couple

Checks made out to NCoCC. Mail checks to Gary Sadnick or bring to the July Business Meeting.

Menu: Mixed Green Salad, Chicken Piccata, Grilled Salmon and Seasonal Mixed Vegetables

Monthly Club Event



















People's Choice Award Congratulations Jack & Lynn Grindstaff!

Congratulations Marilyn Osborne! Another win at the Fair for her painting.





Photography by: Mark Harwell









## **Meet our New Member!**



#### Welcome Rosemary Dymek!

Rosemary is joining our club with her husband, Wesley. Together they own Paragon Services Engineering, and have three grown children; Jennifer, Candice and Eric.

Rosemary owns a 2013 Coupe Grand Sport. It is a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 6S. Besides her car, her other interests are her Siberian Huskey and she has a special passion for the F14 Tomcat.

Rosemary found out about our club by meeting some of our members at another car show. She is already an enthusiastic and generous supporter of our club and we thank her.

#### **Restoration of the Millionth Corvette**

By Rick Tavel Corvetted ~~ June 10, 2015

The media was invited to the GM Design Center for a special viewing of the Millionth Corvette as it undergoes restoration. The fourth generation 1992 Corvette was one of eight Corvettes swallowed by the sinkhole in February 2014 at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Ed Welburn, General Motors' Vice President of Global Design, shares his thought on the importance of the continuing restoration in a short video from the National Corvette Museum.

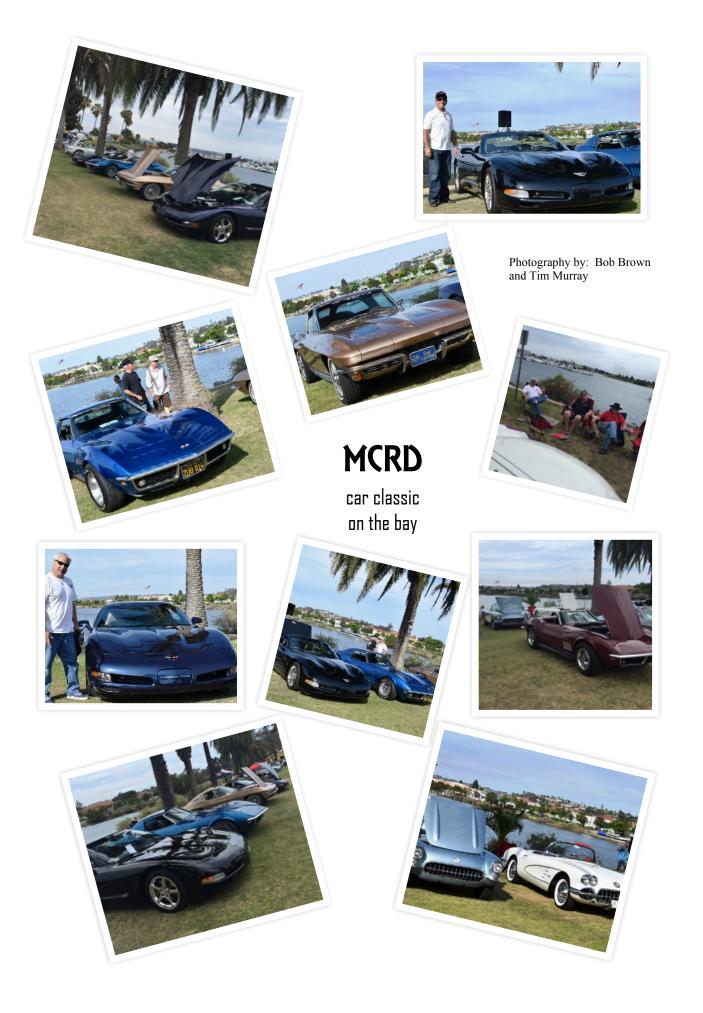
One of the challenges of restoring the "milestone Corvette" according to Welburn is saving the many important signatures of the workers in Bowling Green who built the car. The repair and restoration of the car is no problem but to restore the car and save the signatures becomes a challenge. Welburn assures us however that though they aren't sure yet how they will do it the signatures will be saved. And the cost of the restoration? Whatever it takes to do it right.





Following the sinkhole disaster.

The Millionth Corvette and the hundreds of workers who assembled and signed it.



# Barn Find 1959 Factory Fuelie Corvette Comes Out of Hiding After 44 Years

http://www.msn.com/en-us/autos/chevrotlet/corvette/years





Michael Prince could hardly contain his excitement. He'd heard stories of his father's '59 fuel-injected Corvette all his life, and now he was the winning bidder for the car, walled up inside a barn for 44 years. As Prince stated, "I had to chain saw trees that were 16 inches in diameter." Then, once inside the barn, Prince had to tear down wooden walls the owner had placed around the '59 Vette to keep lookie-loos away from his treasure.

## **Latest Corvette slideshow and pricing**

But, the story gets even stranger. For most of his life Michael Prince actually knew the owner, Carroll Johnson. "There was a period of time of about three years, from 2004 to 2007, when I saw him almost every work day." The two worked for Prince's uncle. Many times, Prince would ask if he could take a look at it or if he'd be willing to sell it. Johnson wouldn't say no. Instead, he would "just walk away." Growing up, Michael heard stories from his father about the Snowcrest White, fuel-injected/four-speed Vette. Right after buying the Vette, his father "promptly removed the hubcaps and chromed the wheels and added chrome center caps to complement the wide whites."



"He told me about running the car on Mulholland Dr. I've got pictures of the car with drag racing trophies sitting on the hood and the decklid." The '59 was a winner at the drag strip, but wasn't as dominant when the '60 Corvette fuelies came out. So, Michael said his father explained how he and his brother simply went to the Chevy dealer and bought the improved '60 model fuel-injection unit. Suddenly, he was competitive again and back on top.

#### Barn Find continued.....

#### **Eight 1958 Corvette Fuelies hit the auction block**

The '59 was a piece of family history from long ago and far away that intrigued Michael, who was born in 1967. His father had "a barrage of cars: a '57 Chevy, a '58 Chevy, a '65 GTO. Dad was from a little town called Campobello, which is just north of Spartanburg, S.C. He moved back there, from California, in the early 1960s and took the Vette with him." Soon, the '59 Vette was well known around the area. Harold kept the car pretty much stock. In 1963, Pontiac introduced the Grand Prix and Harold "had to have one." He traded in his '59 Vette. One of Harold's childhood friends, Carroll Johnson, hustled down to the dealership to purchase the '59 Vette. Johnson replaced the fuel-injection unit with a four-barrel carburetor and painted the Vette blue. He traded the chromed wheels for a set of aluminum mags.



Johnson drove the car for 5-6 years in the area and took it with him on a move to Atlanta. There, the car suffered front-end damage. When Johnson returned to Campobello in 1969, many potential buyers kept stopping by trying to buy the Vette. So, Johnson pulled the car into a barn on his parent's farm and eventually virtually entombed the classic Vette to keep prospective buyers away. Michael Prince told us, "Everybody knew this fellow had bought it from the dealership after my dad had traded it in, and boarded it up inside a Barn. It was not unknown, but it was certainly unseen." When his parents died, Carroll Johnson and his brother moved into the old home place on the Farm. His brother died earlier and Carroll died in 2013, leaving 21 cars and

all his possessions, including the Vette. He had no family and no will. His cousin liquidated the estate.

#### Deuce roadster found untouched since 1962

The cars and estate attracted a lot of attention. Michael Prince wanted the Vette and teamed up with his brother David and uncle to bid on a lot of 12 vehicles that included the '59 Vette. Corvette enthusiasts in the area did not know the '59 was a fuelie. Bidders could "take a peek" at the old Vette through a door in the barn, but they could not actually get into the space to touch the car and really check it out. Michael's dad died three years earlier. He had "wished to get it back," and had asked Carroll about buying it. However, Carroll was a buyer and never a seller and Michael said Johnson "wouldn't talk to him [his Dad] either, about the car." It was with high anticipation that Harold's son, Michael, cut down the trees to clear a path and then tore down the walls to reveal the Vette he'd dreamed of all his life. "Neighbors and people who had heard about the car for all their lives came out to see. I think that they were almost as excited as I was to see that the car actually did exist." Michael was surprised by how much the Vette had degraded, from "the years sitting in a dirt floor barn as the home to squirrels, 'coons, and field Mice." I wondered about the fuel-injection unit. Yes, Michael found the fuel-injection unit in an adjacent room in the same barn, where he also found the tach-drive distributor.



Another surprise was the original engine was not in the car. Michael and his uncle Jerry hunted through multiple barns on the 60 acres for the 283. He could not find the engine until later when his uncle talked to "this old fellow named Cooter," who was close friends with Carroll. Cooter led them to the matching-numbers engine in another barn on the property. The '59 has both tops, a Wonderbar radio, and came from the factory in St. Louis with the 290-horse fuel-injected 283. "I'm pretty sure it has Positraction, too," Michael said. He plans a complete restoration, but just got the car. One more mystery remains. As of this writing the next thing he plans to do is get the

trunk open. Legend has it that Johnson rounded up N.O.S. parts to fix the front end and those components are supposedly in the trunk.









## NCoCC Cruise News

Editor: Kathleen Regenhardt

Contributors:
Bob Brown
Candi Daher
Mark Harwell
Tim Murray
Sam Rindskopf
Terry Thompson

Email submission for the newsletter no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> of every month! Kregen@san.rr.com

#### **Our Club**

Club members enjoy planned trips, car shows, fun runs, auto rallies, and a host of social and Corvette-related events, including a Holiday Party, an Annual Recognition Dinner, and the NCoCC Plastic Fantastic all Corvette Show at Seaport Village. We support local communities in the San Diego County area by participating in special event parades and high school homecoming events. Our members also devote a time, energy, and resources in supporting our club charity, the USO (United Services Organization).

## **Meetings**

Business Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in The Well Church Meeting Room located at 13604 Midland Road, Poway, CA. We always welcome and encourage guests to attend our meetings and to participate in our club sponsored events.

For a map of our meeting location, please go to our web site at www.ncocc.com.

## Membership

Membership is open to anyone at least 18 years of age who owns a Corvette. Applicants must attend two business meetings and participate in one club event before becoming a member.

Membership in NCoCC entitles you to:

A membership card for you and your significant other. Discounts on parts and service at participating dealers (Bob Stall and others).

A club T-shirt.

A name tag.

A newsletter via Email and/or the web site.

Members are expected to attend Business Meetings, maintain current dues, and support the club by serving on committees and participating in club events. Initiation fee is \$25. Dues are paid in advance: \$75 for one year.

We hope this short introduction is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact us via email: info@ncocc.com.