

# CEDAR RAPIDS CORVETTE CLUB HISTORY

1963 – 2009

The Cedar Rapids Corvette Club was organized by a group of interested corvette owners who worked together at Collins Radio Company in the fall of 1962. The meetings were called to order in Joe Bernolfo's garage. Joe started the Club along with Don Uhl, Ron Denny, Bill Fahey, and Floyd Dirks. In 1963, the first order of business was to design a club emblem and write the Charter. The club emblem was featured in Corvette News in 1964. (In 1996, the idea of changing the club emblem was voted down as it was felt that everyone identified with the existing emblem since its introduction). The club motto was voted as: **PROGRESS, COURTESY, AND SAFETY.**

The club started with 15 Charter Members when they incorporated in 1963 and current membership is about 150. The Charter members were: Joe Bernolfo, Floyd Dirks, Ron Denny, Bill Fahey, Lowell Phelps, Harold Kennedy, Don Uhl, Frenchie Massure, Ken Anderson, Bob Herring, Harry Rude, Lee Nelson, Bud Kirkpatrick, Harley Haber, Terry Kocher, and Honorary - Jessie Bernolfo. (Women were not yet allowed to join.)  
By summer of '63, membership had grown to 30.

One of their first activities was to install radio setups for the flag stations at Greenwood Roadway in Indianola, Iowa. This was the first road-racing course in the U.S. & Club members helped install the communication system and also learned to flag at the events.

As a group, the members attended the Indianapolis 500 and went to Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin for races. Then the first Club event was a gymkhana held in July 1963, on a Collins Radio parking lot. This was a chance to show what they had learned and it was a very successful event with 90 entries. The Club also provided racecars for the Cedar Valley Stock Car Racing Association on Saturday nights at Hawkeye Downs

Early meetings included guest speakers, movies and sometimes hands on experience with the cars. A fun meeting in summer was at the park for a picnic and members could usually be found waxing their cars at Ellis Park on Sunday afternoons.

Rapids Chevrolet of Cedar Rapids was the club Sponsor from 1963 to 1990. An award was given to Rapids in 1988 for being our Sponsor for 25 years. In 1990 Rapids Chevrolet was sold to Pat McGrath who took over the sponsorship of the Club.

In 1965, the Club decided to join the National Council of Corvette Clubs and has since been active in national competition and social events. The NCCC provides camaraderie between corvette owners and clubs on a national basis, insurance for our events, and is a charitable sponsor for Spina Bifida, a crippling children's disease.

A very successful car show called the **"15 Years of Progress"** in 1968 brought the Club recognition once again in Corvette News. Car shows continue to be periodically held. In 2002 the Club had its largest car show ever held in cooperation with Lindale Mall raising over \$11,000.

Civic events played a big part in the Club's activities. Members helped with the Soap Box Derby, Easter Egg Hunts, Eastern Iowa Band Festival and Jane Boyd Community Center. The Club has raised money for several other worthy charities, some of which are: The Vinton School for the Blind, Tanager Place, Spina Bifida, Camp Courageous, and St. Luke's Child Protection Center. The Club also raises money for needy families and injured or ill children.

The CRCC newsletter started publication in 1966 as the Corvette Club Crier. In 1971, the publication name changed to Cedar Rapids Gavette. The publication name was changed once again in 1975 to the Vetting Press. In 1999, a new cover design was done and the name was changed at the same time to Beyond The Glass. Club Officers and members write the newsletter's articles.

In the early years, members traveled to Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, and to the Indy 500 where when in Indy they were allowed to take a lap around the track. Many members attend the NCCC Conventions held annually in various states and the Black Hills Classic in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Members or family members have won the National Kidney Foundation's annual raffle of a new corvette three times. It was won two years in a row: in 1997 by Dave Wittke who received a red coupe and in 1998 by Dwaine Struve, who received a red convertible. It was won by Tom and Bobbi Bowen in 2001. They received a silver Z06.

## 1967

The President was Ken Anderson. Ken tried to start a ladies auxiliary and ladies were allowed to join in the socials and drive as a guest. The first woman member was Julie Heusman as she had a Corvette. MVM (Most Valuable Member) for 1967 was Terry Kocher who received a General Motors silver bowl trophy award and Jim Clark driving gloves.

*Corvette History: The 1953's are the most rare of all Corvette years. About 200 of the 300 originally built are still in existence. The first two of the line have never really been accounted for. Officials have stated that as they were test models they were destroyed, however, no witnesses or documentation has ever surfaced. If anyone finds one of these, they will have found one of the most valuable cars in existence! All '53's were polo white with sportsman red interiors and black convertible tops and sold for \$3,513 fully equipped. They were hand built in Flint, Michigan in the back of the customer delivery garage in an old building. Production would move to St. Louis, Missouri. The 1955 Corvette is the second rarest year. Chevrolet halted production midyear, stopping after assembling only 700 due to declining sales in 1954 and 1955.*

## 1968

The President was Vern Nielsen. This was a historic year because it was decided to make NCCC membership mandatory to all members. Because of becoming new NCCC members, the Club was invited to the Indy 500 in May by the Kalamazoo Club and the Indy 500 Safety Director. While in Indianapolis, members were allowed one parade lap around the track on the first day of Time Trials. Club jackets were made available. Five of the current club members race in SCCA and some of them drove Formula cars. (Ken Anderson, Jack Gilmour, Vern Nielsen, Frenchie Massure and John Koskela.)

In the January Icekhana we had 61 entries. Our "15 years of Progress" Car Show was held at Rapids Chevrolet and was a huge success. It was the first year we sponsored a car in the Soap Box Derby. We held joint events with the Mustang Club and the Davenport Corvette Club. A Hawaiian Luau was held at Joe Kwapil's with real flower leis shipped to us from Hawaii by former member Don Janda. In April it was suggested that wives could join the Club at a reduced rate. It was also decided that if there were five lady drivers in an event they could have their own class. Vern Nielsen checked into tax-exempt status and it was decided that we did not need to do anything at this time. The Christmas Banquet was held at the Ox Yoke Inn at Amana. MVM was Fred Clark.

*Corvette History: The 1961 Corvette was the last available with a contrasting color in the side cove area. The 1962 Corvette was the first year for thin whitewall tires and it was the last year for exposed headlights. In 1963 it had a beautiful new body, available as either a closed coupe or open convertible for the very first time and brought the option of air conditioning for the first time. The 1963 coupe is now one of the greatest collector Corvettes of all. The 1967 Corvette shouldn't have existed. Chevrolet had planned to put a new body on the chassis in '67 but the new shape was delayed by a year and finally arrived in the 1968 model. The 1968 was restyled with a new body shape, which was good enough to last fifteen years. The Stingray name was not used on the '68 but returned in 1969.*

## 1969

The President was Jerry Caldwell. Jerry started the year then moved to Texas. Vice President, Fred Clark, then conducted the meetings. The Homecomings brought in \$215.00. Five members took a trip to the Grattan Raceway in Michigan. Finally, ladies could join the group! Spouse members were Cindi Kocher, Barb Hladek, Diane Bowen and Marty Gilmour. The membership list of 1969 shows 58 members. Events held were a Time/Speed/Distance Rally and a joint weekend of Concourse, Rally and Gymkhana held with the Mustang Club at Lindale Mall. MVM was Ron Gaston.

## 1970

Homecomings became a big event in 1970, as well as an excellent source of income. The first Homecoming parades were in the fall of 1963 at Coe College and Jefferson High School. That year the Club also traveled to St. Louis, Mo. to tour the Corvette plant. Members, Jack Gilmour & Don Boyce, built the first timer for events and pylons were purchased. Prior to that, the Club had rented or borrowed pylons from the city, and used hand held stopwatches. The Field Spectacular Event was held for the 7th year. Over 120 cars competed in the autocross type event held in a pasture on a dirt course. MVM was Bob Bowen.

## 1971

The Club had been a sponsor to the Soap Box Derby for 3 years and helped out with construction of cars and gave a \$25 Savings Bond. Roger Kuhn was the President and Most Valuable Member. Meetings were held on the third Tuesday of the month at the Rapids Chevrolet Truck Center.

*Corvette History: The 1970 Corvettes are desirable because it was the last year of high-compression engines. Due to an extra long 1969 model run there were 38,762 Corvettes built, compared to 17,316 built for the 1970 model year.*

## 1972

The President was Gary Bryant (alias Maroon Marauder). Members built a club trailer to haul and store pylons and equipment. Get acquainted cards were produced to put on Corvettes to invite people to join the club. More pylons and photocells for timers were purchased for competition events. Don Johnson was MVM of the year.

*Corvette History: A lot ended with the 1972 model. It was the last to have a removable rear window, the last with conventional chrome bumpers at both ends, the last with the hidden windshield wiper feature and the last with a metal egg-crate grille. It was the last year for the LT-1 engine and the only year the popular engine could be combined with air conditioning.*

## 1973

The President was Don Johnson. In our 10th year members earning National Council points made our Club 10th in the nation! By this time the variety of events included: Icekhana, Concourse, Rally, Hawkeye Downs

dirt track speed event, Economy Runs and Time Trials. Event chairmen were given organized packets on how to setup & plan their events. The 10 year anniversary was celebrated at the Carousel Inn in Iowa City with a Luau and Pool Party after a Concourse and Rally. The following day was a Speed Event at Hawkeye Downs and award presentation. The MVM was John Short.

#### 1974

The President was Steve Menzner. Our big event this year was Time Trials held around the Marengo Town Square. We had 69 entrants. The club was recognized by the Cedar Rapids Jaycees with a \$500 grant to buy equipment for the Club. We did 15 Homecomings this year and a new event was Doug Hladek's Golf Day. MVM was Gary Bryant. The Awards banquet was held at People's Bank East and catered by Braynard's.

#### 1975

The President was Bill Neuman. By this time our membership was up to 60 members and we purchased a timer with the money from the Jaycees. Our three event weekends were a big success and drew a lot of interest in the Club. NCCC had over 206 clubs nationwide and Iowa City and Dubuque were trying to start clubs of their own. Our Icekhana at the Amana lily pond drew 40 cars and we voted in a record 10 new members at the October meeting.

Members Roger & Shari Kuhn were the first to own 4 Corvettes at the same time: A '60 white hardtop, '63 tan coupe, '66 red coupe, and a '71 yellow coupe. Our Socials included: Box Lunch Auctions, Halloween costume parties, midnight hayrack rides, and pig roasts. The MVM was the first woman recipient: Loydene Short.

#### 1976

The President was Chris Contard. Members helped out this year by timing the races at Hawkeye Downs with club equipment. A big concourse was held once again at Rapids Chevrolet. This was a good opportunity to have the public see the cars and learn about the club and its functions. New activities included wine tasting parties, weekend campouts and canoe trips. We also had a 50's Party and Sock Hop.

Member Doug Hladek's son, Doug Jr. was sponsored by the Club in the Soap Box Derby. The NCCC Convention was held in Orlando, Fla. A Porsche - Corvette Challenge was discussed for spring of 1977. Our Christmas Party was held at People's Bank East again catered by Braynard's. MVM was Don Johnson.

#### 1977

The President was John Myers. The newsletter began to take paid advertisements to help with the printing and mailing costs. The Officers now included a Vice President for Competition and a Membership Director. Homecomings brought income of \$6.00 per car to our Treasury. The red club jackets were made available to the members for the first time at a cost of \$13.95 each. NCCC jacket patches and window stickers were also available.

The club took a bus trip to St. Louis and toured the Corvette Plant. Our Top Men's Driver was Lee Butters and Top Ladies Driver was Sandy Johnson. The 1977 Convention package for Dallas, Texas was \$34.00 and total NCCC membership was now 10,203 people. Our September road cruise took us to Backbone Park in Strawberry Point. The MVM was Don Johnson. Concourse was again held in February at Rapids Chevrolet.

#### 1978

Sandy Johnson became the first woman President of the Cedar Rapids Corvette Club. This is the "Year of the Pregnant Polish Princess President". Spina Bifida was named as the NCCC charity for the year. The Eastern Iowa Band Festival kept us busy. Ed Slager drove in the parade in the morning and got married in the

afternoon. That is dedication to the club! Members Roger & Shari Kuhn were living in Tehran, Iran and the rent for an apartment there is \$1,000 per month, a case of beer is \$25.00 and a 1973 Corvette is \$13,000. On April 23rd we held our first and only speed event on the streets of Marion. It was on 8th Avenue between 44th & 46th Streets. It has become increasingly more difficult to obtain parking lots for events. This is why events were changed to more economy runs and rallies. Christmas Awards Banquet was held at Mimm's. MVM is Kurt Crispin.

*Corvette History: With the possible exception of the 1975 convertible, the year the convertible was phased out, and the 1974 with a 454-cubic inch motor, Corvettes built in the 1973-77 period can never be seriously considered as collector cars. 1978 was the year of the most changed Corvette since 1968 during the Corvette's silver anniversary. Chevrolet accepted an invitation from Indianapolis Motor Speedway to provide a pace vehicle for that year's race. Chevrolet chose the Corvette and 6,502 pace cars were built. The color chosen was silver and black to set it off from the silver anniversary paint option of two-tone silver.*

### 1979

The President was Marc Kinneman. The club road cruise this year was to House on the Rock at Spring Green, Wisconsin. Marc Kinneman was first to hold meetings at the Marion Farm Bureau Building. Articles appeared in July of this year in regard to the possible gas shortage and how this would affect pleasure driving and our competition events. Lloyd's of London now offers Insurance on the Corvette. Connie Crispin and Mary Borne made new cloth flags for flagging at our events. Traveling trophies were presented to John Altepeter for Concourse, Perry Wendel for Autocross, and Louis and Mary Born for Rally. MVM was Kurt Crispin.

### 1980

The President was Don Johnson. Spot TV ads were used to draw attention to the Club. Members began using CB's for road cruises and rallies. Some of their CB handles were: "Orange Crate", "Blue Max", "Atomic Farmer", "Small Block", "Orange Peel", "Maroon Marauder" and "Corvette Kid". Do you know any of them? Three event weekends continued to be a popular money making event. MVM was Don Johnson.

*The Corvette Owners Ten Commandments: 1) Always stop and lend assistance to a fellow Corvette owner; 2) Never take your Corvette out if there is a chance of inclement weather for the next 24 hours; 3) Always clean and polish your Corvette before any Sunday ride, no matter how short it is; 4) Never let anyone eat, drink, or smoke in your Corvette; 5) Always make sure all occupants clean their shoes and lift them over the door sill moldings when entering your Corvette; 6) Never let any gas station attendant clean your windows, check your oil, or put gas in your Corvette; 7) Always park your Corvette away from any other cars in a lot or take up at least two parking spaces; 8) Never let anyone else drive your Corvette, even to just move it a few feet; 9) Always take your Corvette to a reputable shop to have any work done or do it yourself if you can; and 10) Never let another Corvette pass without a wave of acknowledgment, for you both know that you are driving the most unique automobile ever built anywhere!*

### 1981

The President was Dave Reid. The first Sunday Concourse was held at Rapids Chevrolet this year. Locally we had speed events at Life Investors Insurance Company's new parking lot. Previous car shows had been on Saturdays. NCCC Convention was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Our club photo was taken at Century Engineering near General Mills so we could get the cars in the picture too. Bob Bowen held an unsanctioned car show at the Marion Square Park in June and the Christmas Party was at Sirloin & Brew. MVM was Don Johnson.

### 1982

The President was Kurt Crispin. Frank Kintzle arranged for free radio and TV advertisements for our events this year. Our club combined with the Des Moines Club to have events at Oskaloosa airport. This helped with manpower and enabled people to enter more than one event for competition on the same day. In September, we held the Porsche-Corvette Challenge at the Life Investors parking lot. Two Porsches challenged eight CRCC drivers and Terry Kocher showed them how it was done. NCCC Lifetime memberships were available for \$150.00 per person and the Convention was held in Houston, Texas. Several members attended Houston and also the now popular Omaha Labor Day weekend events. As hoped, our club brought home the gold! MVM was Frank Kintzle.

*Corvette History: The 1982 Corvette marked the end of an era. The '82 body began in '68, and its chassis first appeared with the '63 Sting Ray. Corvette enthusiasts expected an all-new car in '83; so sales of this '82 model year were barely half of those in '81 – 25,407 compared to 40,606.*

### 1983

The President was Frank Kintzle. Over 175 people celebrated Twenty years of the Cedar Rapids Corvette Club at Bever Park on June 18th. Don Johnson tried to start a Junior Corvette Club with member's kids building models for a junior car show. Since the Iowa City club disbanded, we bought their timer and pylons for \$350.00. Traveling trophies were presented to: John Watertor for Autocross, John and Cindy Yates for Concourse, and Pam and Garen Lorenzen for Rallies. The NCCC Convention was held in Indianapolis with a speed event on the track at Raceway Park. We also got to do a parade lap around the Indy 500 track. MVM was Don Johnson.

*Corvette History: The rumors that began around 1979 were based on fact. A new Corvette was on the way for 1983. The 1979-82 models built were the end of a series. They were thought of as those built after the anniversary/Pace car year and before the new generation. They will never be collector cars because of the number built, their sameness and lack of genuine performance packages.*

*In 1981 production ended in St. Louis, Missouri and would begin in Bowling Green, Kentucky. St. Louis built its last Corvette on July 31, 1981. Bowling Green built its first on June 1, 1981.*

*Amid rumors of what the 1983 new Corvette would look like, however, there was no 1983 model. Its introduction scheduled for September 1982 was delayed until March 1983. Chevrolet realized its 1983 model would meet 1984 federal regulations and would achieve substantial savings by just calling it a 1984 and forgetting about a model changeover six months later.*

### 1984

The President was Kurt Crispin. The club discussed a group trip to Louisville, Kentucky to the new Corvette plant. A road cruise was taken to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Our May concourse had 42 cars and 12 models. The price for cars in Homecoming parades was raised to \$7.00 per car. The idea of taking over as organizer of the Vinton Blind Rally from the Dubuque Club was discussed. Steve Stone was MVM. Our Christmas Awards Banquet was held at Antonio Garcia Brown's.

*Corvette History: The 1984 catapulted the sports car into the ranks of the world's best contemporary performance automobiles. Its cornering capability was nearly beyond belief! But the cornering capability turned into a liability when the public perceived the car's suspension as bone crushing and resale values fell. After the hoopla surrounding this car's introduction died down, owners started complaining about its harsh ride and it was notorious for squeaks and rattles!*

### 1985

The President was Don Sedlacek. This is the year of the new club trailer built by members volunteering their time and skills to completely build the unit. This is our second trailer and very well organized to hold our pylons, timer, PA system, all equipment and supplies for running an event plus the ability to fix and sell food. Don Sedlacek who owns Travel Trailer Sales was instrumental in getting this project started.

The Vetting Press sold advertising this year and our newsletter covers looked very nice with so many sponsored ads. We took over the Vinton Blind Rally since the Dubuque Club disbanded and members from Valparaiso wanted the rally closer to the school. MVM was Don Sedlacek.

### 1986

We held summer drags at Cedar Falls Raceway and this was the first year of the "World's Biggest Beach Party" at NoWaWa Beach in Williamsburg. The club trailer was used at the annual concourse and we made a nice profit from selling food. A canoe trip was launched from the Wapsie Pinicon River and members enjoyed a trip to Adventureland and an outing at Chapman's Fun World during the summer months. Our fall road cruise went to Spook Cave near McGregor. Harnischfeger let us use their lot for our speed event. The Christmas Banquet was at the Longbranch and members received a special brass belt buckle that Kurt Crispin had obtained especially for our club. MVM was Steve Stone.

*Corvette History: Chevrolet specialists took the criticisms of the '84 seriously and many improvements were made throughout 1984 and 1985 with the motoring press reacting favorably. They admitted that the improvements left little to fault in the Corvette. 1986 saw the return of the convertible top because Chevrolet was again selected for the Indy pace car. The convertible top was \$5,005 more than the coupe. The Indy pace car was yellow, a new Corvette color for 1986.*

### 1987

The President was Steve Stone who led the group on a trip to Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin to Road America. We took our first trip to Montour to Rube's Steakhouse and held a benefit for an injured child named Garrett Frey. MVM was again Don Johnson.

Traveling trophies were awarded to: Rick Rstom for Drags, Mark Christofferson for Rallies, and Ann Murray for Autocross. The concourse award was not given this year. The June meeting was held at Bever Park and older members reminisced about the days of waxing and polishing the cars at Ellis Park on Sunday afternoons. Insurance ideas were presented for the new trailer.

### 1988

25 Year Anniversary of this club was held at Ellis Park and over 200 people attended. Several of the charter members were present and after the dinner, prizes were given. Everyone took something home as well as a lot of memories and renewed friendships. Over the years, the Club has tried a lot of new events and a lot of socials as well as trying to participate in the civic functions such as The Eastern Iowa Band Festival, The Blind Rally, and Homecomings to name a few. Growth is important to any club and we have maintained an average of about 45 to 60 members. Competition events and showing the cars continue to keep the members active in a variety of planned events. The social aspect is to keep the members interested and active and we try to have plenty for them to choose from as we progress toward the future. Our Homecomings netted the club \$600.00 this year, and spouse memberships were debated to increase membership and keep our 51% for NCCC. The Christmas Party was at the Barn Restaurant in the Amanas. MVM was Jerry Rezab.

### 1989

The President was Jerry Rezab. Spouses of CRCC members were allowed to join without joining NCCC and this brought back some renewed interest by the women in the club.

President Jerry Rezab started having more dinner meetings at various restaurants in town to try to get more members to attend the meetings. Most of the club business was handled at monthly board meetings and then brought up before the members at the dinner meetings for a vote or discussion. In July a dinner cruise was held on Robert's River Boat Rides on the Mississippi. The winter event liked by all is the

sledding party at Pinicon Ridge Park, snow or not. We are having annual events like the concourse, drags, speed event, fun rally and road cruise. In February it was decided to keep the checking account at the Collins Credit Union and not file for a tax-exempt status.

The Blind Rally was officially changed to Cedar Rapids and the name is now called "The Joe Beringer Memorial Rally" in honor of the Recreation Director of The Vinton Braille and Sight Saving School, who started the Rally and who passed away recently. MVM was Terry Kocher.

## 1990

A bus trip to Chicago for the big Car Show was held in February. On April 29th we held our first concourse at Westdale Mall indoors. Our club picture (without the cars) was taken here. Insurance on the club trailer costs \$120 for \$2,000 of coverage. The timing equipment has been updated and Hawkeye Downs Race Track has a new surface and we are allowed to race on it. The charge for renting the track is \$300.

We have lost a good friend and member, Kent Mumaw, in a car accident. Donations added up to \$200.00, which was given to the Boy Scouts of America in his memory. Fees for having Corvettes in Homecoming parades were increased to \$8.00 per car for high schools and \$10.00 per car for colleges.

Lasagna dinner was held for 57 people thanks to Larry Nelson who outdoes any restaurant! Teleconnect parking lot was used for several events such as practice autocross, speed event and blind khana. We raised money for Spina Bifida by raffling off a small battery powered kid's size corvette. \$306.78 was given to Spina Bifida. Sandy Johnson was our Most Valuable Member.

*Corvette History: The 1984 put the Corvette in the big leagues but the 1990 ZR-1 gave it superstar status. Nothing on the street could out perform the ZR-1. 1990 Corvettes brought the new interior that most enthusiasts favor.*

## 1991

The President was Dave Naylor. Pat McGrath Chevyland is our new sponsor after they bought out Rapids Chevrolet and opened a new showroom on 50th Street N.E. He had the name painted on the club trailer and has provided shirts for the main events. Helmets must be updated to the new Snell approval. We also bought 4 headset radios for use at the autocrosses. New events include a camping and boating weekend at Delhi. MVM is Dave Naylor.

## 1992

Trophies in the shape of the Chevy bow-tie clock will be continued for another year. Members receive one for entering their first event and then get plaques to hang down from the clock for entering events.

Our April Concourse was held at Pat McGrath's Chevyland Showroom for the first time. Our Autocross Series consisted of three two-event weekends during the summer months. Two events are at Hawkeye Downs and one at Kirkwood or some other parking lot. All six events are NCCC sanctioned and each has its own chairman. Hawkeye Downs has been asphalted and is much nicer to run on. The club donated \$500 to the Tanager Balloon Festival at Amana for the Tanager Place. The Corvette Museum is under way in Bowling Green, Kentucky. We voted to spend \$100 for the placement of a brick in the Museum, which will have our club name engraved on it. Later we purchased a 12 X 12 brick for \$300 instead of the smaller one as originally planned.

Static cling car signs were obtained to use for the parades and homecomings. Camp Courageous of Iowa hosted a car show and the club won a \$200 prize for having the most cars in attendance. Our incentive point system was dropped for the year. We gained more new members. The Christmas Party was



held at Five Seasons Hotel. MVM was Jim Bemis.

*Corvette History: Chevrolet built its one millionth Corvette during 1992! Chevrolet discovered a flaw in the distributor and had to halt production and recall every 1992 built. The fix was done but proved quite costly.*

## 1993

The President was Jim Bemis. The thirty year anniversary of the Cedar Rapids Corvette Club was held in August at Noelridge Park. All current and prior members were invited and originator, Joe Bernolfo and his wife, Jessie, drove their Corvette back from Arizona. Special ruby red T-shirts and a catered meal and rally were featured along with mugs and patches to mark the 30 year reunion.

Some of the current members attended the Black Hills Classic in Spearfish, South Dakota, and several members attended the NCCC Convention in Topeka, Kansas and helped with both of the events. We went to Montour to Rube's Steakhouse and the Indian Casino at Tama for gambling. Members enjoyed a practice khana to learn how to setup and run events. This should help us have more people available to put on the events.

Growth in the membership and the elimination of the points system has brought the group back around to doing things for the fun of it again. We are getting older and free of children, several members have purchased newer convertibles and coupes and socials are busier with more members present. Since the cost of the cars has increased, lots of members are hesitant to race their car so the variety of events appeals to a greater number of people. We continue to be active in the community with the Beringer Memorial Rally, the Eastern Iowa Band Festival, Homecomings and Camp Courageous.

Hopefully the club will continue to grow for the enjoyment of all and the love of America's Sports Car, the CORVETTE. Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Corvette! Happy 30 years to Cedar Rapids Corvette Club! The MVM was Judy Bell.

*Corvette History: Because Chevrolet skipped the 1983 model, which should have been Corvette's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they were determined not to let the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary slip by quietly. A 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary option, the RPO Z25, was available that included Ruby Red metallic exterior, Ruby Red leather sport seats, power driver seat, special wheel trim and emblems. The option was considered a bargain at the cost of an additional \$1,455.00. There were 6,749 sold. Base price for the convertibles were \$41,195 and coupes were \$34,595. 1993 was the end of the cloth seats, as leather became standard in 1994.*

## 1994

The President was Kurt Suchomel and Judy Bell was Editor of the Newsletter. Meetings were held at the Farm Bureau Building in Marion on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. We had a large group from the club attend the Labor Day Grand Opening of the Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. We were the first club inside and our brick was close to the main entrance as you leave the building. After attending 3 days of the Grand Opening, some members went on to Nashville, and Gatlinburg, Tennessee and Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee and St. Louis, Missouri before coming home.

Club events included a Concourse at Westdale Mall, Sledding Party, and Box Lunch Dinner. Dave Rasdal from the Gazette drove in the Vinton Blind Rally. Bob and Diane Bowen's Corvette was attacked by an elk and a llama at a wild animal park near Springfield, Missouri. Seems those critters liked the new red Corvette too! Black Hills trip to Spearfish, South Dakota was attended by several members. We took a canoe trip from Monticello down-river. Our Fun khana at Kirkwood was a Farm theme and included toting bales of hay on a wagon, collecting eggs and calling the pigs. The true test of farming was milking the cow and then having a photo with the pitchfork. See the club albums for your favorite farmers! A meeting was held in

summer at the Waterloo Boat Club so we could see the 'Cop Corvette' (confiscated from drug dealers and now used in police work). Our fall leaf cruise took us to Guttenberg, Iowa.

We started requiring the wearing of name buttons or putting your name on a club shirt that is to be worn to the meetings. If your name is not displayed, a 25 cent fine will be paid, which will be collected for charity. This is Don Neal's project, the first button is free, after that \$1.00. They will be made by Cindi Kocher. Clocks and hang downs were also discontinued per the Trophy Committee.

Homecomings grossed \$1,025.00. Club sweatshirts and a yearly T-shirt design were agreed on.

A lasagna dinner was held at Brunssen's and cooked by Larry Nelson that was attended by 42 members. Maybe this is a dinner club now!

The Christmas party was at the Sheraton Inn. This was the year of the Flamingo Feud between Judy Bell and Kurt Suchomel and they passed it on. MVM was Cindi Kocher.

### 1995

The President was Cindi Kocher, the Editor was Kathy Brunssen and Social Chairman was Sherri Jeffrey. Our meeting place changed to the Norwest Bank on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids and the meeting night changed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday instead of Tuesday. We lost a long time member, Dave Reid, to cancer. Kurt Suchomel and Michelle were the first couple married in the new Czech and Slovak Museum. True love was in bloom when Virgil High carved a totem pole for Carol's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday. It stands in their front yard in Manchester. We still have Pat McGrath as our sponsor and bought a new timer for events for \$1,999.00. Our trailer was relettered and new stopwatches purchased. A club photo was taken at Pat McGrath's Chevrolet on May 20th when we had a car show there.

Several members attended the July Vinton Popcorn cruise and enjoyed a pork chop supper with the firemen. Finishing off the evening with a relay trying on fireman uniforms was a lot of laughs and it's all on video for future movie nights. The club participated in Rube's Run to Montour for grilling your own steaks and in the Cedar Falls Raceway for Drags. We helped the Tanager Place Balloonfest at the Amana's raise money for the kids by holding a car show. We took the kids from the Blind School at Vinton to four fire departments in neighboring towns for the Rally and to learn about fire safety and the Jaws of Life. This year we donated \$1,200.00 to Camp Courageous for 10 Spina Bifida camperships since this is our national charity. Other events included: a club picnic at Ellis park, and another canoe trip from Monticello. We took a Chicago bus trip in February to the new car show. Our fall leaf run took us to Gays Mills, WI for apples. We also cruised First Avenue to Arby's several Saturday nights. Our Fun khana at Kirkwood was a vacation theme with fishing, golfing and darts. The club voted to buy awnings for shade at our car shows or competitions and two were purchased to keep in the club trailer. Homecomings earned \$1,000.00. It was brought to our attention that if we cancel a sanctioned event, we cannot reschedule them due to so many clubs in the region and limited days to hold them. The Christmas party was at the Longbranch. The MVM was shared by Diana Neal and Cindi Kocher.

*Corvette History: Instead of a C5 for 1995, the C5 was pushed back to 1997.*

### 1996

The President was Cindi Kocher, the Editor was Kathy Brunssen, and the Social Directors were Bob and Jan Coleman. The idea of changing the Club Logo Design was voted down, as everyone identified with the existing Logo from 1963. The Governor's meetings will now be paid for per Club vote. Discussion was held concerning holding car shows or concourse in Westdale Mall because of floor problems with silicone or sprays used in cleaning the tires or cars. It was voted to have CRCC members only attend this year's show and they MUST follow the rules set up.

NCCC Convention was in Orlando, Florida. NCCC now sponsors the National Kidney Foundation instead of Spina Bifida. A Race for Life and a lap around the track at Hawkeye Downs was held to raise money for this new charity.

We sent club patches to the museum in Bowling Green for the bragging wall and voted to buy 20 new pylons. The Homecoming money was given to Camp Courageous for Spina Bifida kids again at \$1,000.00. Fleck's donated beer signs to raise money for Camp Courageous so we auctioned them off on November 13<sup>th</sup> raising an additional \$328.00 for the Camp. Arby's nights continue, as does Rube's run to Montour. The St. Patrick's Day weekend at Holiday Inn, Williamsburg was a big success, as was the trip to Cape Girardeau, Missouri where members were robbed on a train by horse thieves. Seven couples enjoyed a Murder Mystery weekend in early November at the Montrest in Bellevue. Surprisingly, the building burned down on Christmas Eve so it was a good thing we got it all on video. NOBODY SMOKED EITHER. Fall cruises were to Gays Mills, Wisconsin and the covered bridges of Madison County.

Drags and Autocrosses are still very popular events, especially at Hawkeye Downs Track. Homecomings netted \$1,314.00. The Club voted to adopt two needy families and provided food for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We raised \$56.00 for the Christmas food drive. The Christmas Party was held at the Ranch Supper Club for the first time with a \$550.00 budget. MVM was Jan Coleman.

*Corvette History: 1996 would end the Corvette's fourth-generation. Between 1991 and 1996, Chevrolet sold 128,316 Corvettes. Two Corvette museums opened during the 1991-1996 period. In 1992, Dr. Allen Schery opened the private Corvette Hall of Fame and Americana Museum in Cooperstown, New York and in 1994 the National Corvette Museum opened near the Corvette assembly plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky.*

## 1997

The President was Bob Coleman, the Editor was Pat Mullen and the Social Director was Jan Coleman. What a LUCKY year! Dave Wittke won the National Kidney Foundation raffle car, which was a '97 red coupe! We started the Adopt a Highway program cleaning Highway 13 north of Marion. Meetings are now held at the Unity Church on Blairs Ferry Road on the third Thursdays. This is the twentieth year for having the Joe Beringer Memorial Rally with the Vinton Blind School kids. This year they were taken to the Cedar Rapids Airport for a tour, thanks to John Mullen who works at United Airlines. Money was raised in many ways including picking up old tires (\$300.00).

We held a four event weekend called Corvette Commotion, which used four of our NCCC sanctions and put most of the work into one weekend. A car show was held at Sam's Club, a rally and then two autocrosses on Sunday. WalMart matched the funds raised for our charity and we helped them with the concession stand. \$760.28 was given to the Jane Boyd Boxing program, \$150.00 from tires was given to the St. Luke's Duck Races for kids, and \$150.00 to the Vinton Blind School. Homecomings raised \$1,314.00. Of this amount, \$750.00 went to Camp Courageous. The Street Rod Club put on drag races at Cordova and several members had to test their skills and buy new tires! Our NCCC Convention this year was at Cleveland, Ohio. The MVM's were Bob and Jan Coleman.

This year the fall leaf cruise went all the way to Bar Harbor, Maine by way of Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. Ten cars from our club made the trip and Bob Coleman bagged a turkey coming up out of the ditch, with the headlight of his Corvette. Stops along the way included: Port Huron, Michigan and Niagara Falls, Canada; and Lake George & Lake Placid, New York; and three days in the Bar Harbor area, Hershey, Pennsylvania and the chocolate factory. We also attended Carlisle Swap meet in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and went to Montpelier, Ohio for the Grand National Toy Truck pulls. An excellent way to SEE the USA in your CHEVROLET!!!

*Corvette History: The C5 would be introduced first as a Targa-roof coupe. A full convertible would appear for 1998 and an entry-level hardtop available in 1999. While magazine reviews loved the car, buyers were hesitant. Chevrolet produced just 9,752 of the coupes in 1997 at a base price of*

\$37,495.

## 1998

The President was Bob Coleman, the Editor was Pat Mullen and the Social Director was Jan Coleman. CAN IT BE TRUE?? Dwaine Struve, former CRCC member and brother of Ramona Purcell, living in Texas won the 1998 National Council Corvette Club raffle car!!! A '98 red convertible (All corvettes are red aren't they?) This is the second year in a row our members have won the national raffle car. Hurry and buy your tickets now for next year!! The 1998 NCCC Convention is again in St. Louis, Missouri. This is probably as close as it gets.

Meetings were held at the Unity Church until July at which time we moved to the Lighthouse Restaurant owned by new members: Theron & Josie Manson. Meetings will be held in the back room, which is quite large. We can also close it off for an early dinner before the meeting if we choose.

This was our 35<sup>th</sup> year for the club. A photo was taken at Ellis Park and a picnic was held for current club members only. At this time we have about 82 NCCC members. In May, we went to Eddyville for drags. June was the second Corvette Commotion weekend with four events again held at Sam's Club and Kirkwood.

We gave \$700.00 from Homecomings and 2<sup>nd</sup> place, for club participation, prize money to Camp Courageous. We gave \$250.00 to Classic Chevy Club to be given to Tanager Place and \$1,500 to the Vinton School for the Blind. The Christmas Party was at the Longbranch. The MVM was Jan Coleman.

## 1999

The President was Paul Hildebrand, the Editor was Pat Mullen and the Social Director was Al Willenborg. A new design for the newsletter cover was done. "Beyond the Glass" was chosen as the new publication name. Bob Bowen set up our own website. We held a photo shoot in July at the Alburnett Sports Field. Nineteen new members were voted into the club during the year.

The Hawkeye Downs Car Show and lap around the track was done for the second year. We continued with the Adopt-A-Highway program started in 1997, cleaning the highway twice in the year. We participated in the Route 66 Car Show and Rally in Joliet, Illinois; the Indoor ASA Car Show at HD Exhibition Hall on September 1<sup>st</sup>, and the Old Capital Mall Car Show in Iowa City on September 25<sup>th</sup>. We participated in drags at Cordova Dragway Park, Illinois.

Trips were taken by some of the members to "Vettes on the Rockies" and to the Corvette Crossroads in Mackinaw City, Michigan. Pat McGrath continues to be our sponsor and gave \$1,000.00 to the Club. We held our third Corvette Commotion Car Show in the Sam's parking lot. We made a profit of \$1,109.06 from this show. Seventeen homecomings were done from which \$1,425.00 was raised.

Josh Liebe received the West Region Scholarship. A food basket, free carpet cleaning by Chris Boespflug, and cash were given to the Lantz's. Money was donated to Sheri Jeffrey for running to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation. \$1,000 was given to Camp Courageous; (\$850.00 raised by the previous year's homecomings and \$150 our club received for taking first place in participation at the Camp Courageous Car Show). \$20.00 prize the club received from the Belle Plaine Car show was donated also. \$1,100.00 was given to the Vinton School for the Blind. \$75.00 was given for Tanager Place to the Hawkeye Classic Chevy Club. We also donated the use of our cars for the University of Iowa Poster and participation in the University of Iowa's Homecoming parade held in Iowa City.

Jan Coleman was given \$675.00 to plan the Christmas Party held at the Longbranch. The MVM was Di Neal.

## 2000

The President was Al Willenborg; the Editor was Kathy Willenborg and the Social Director was Joe Denny. The club voted to purchase two-way radios. Our club had the largest number of members in the West Region and the second largest number of FCOA members. Photographs of new members were placed in the club's newsletter. Forty-three new members were voted into the club during the year.

Trips were taken by some of the members to Hermann, Missouri and to Mackinaw City, Michigan. Fourteen cars participated in the trip to Mackinaw where 340 corvettes paraded across the bridge and back. Our club received the award for traveling the farthest; Don and Di Neal took first place with their 1989 blue convertible; and Theron and Josie Manson took third place with their 1964 black convertible.

The fourth Corvette Commotion Car Show was held again in Sam's parking lot raising approximately \$2,500.00. The club also raised money with events held at Hawkeye Downs and Eddyville. Several club members participated in the Toys for Tots Parade along with over 400 motorcycles! \$1,800 was raised from Homecomings with \$900.00 going to Camp Courageous next year. \$2,000 was donated to the Vinton School for the Blind. The Christmas party was held for the first year at Indian Creek Country Club. The MVM was Di Neal.

*Corvette History: In the fall of 2000, the Z06 was resurrected available only in the hardtop body. The original Z06 was a racer's package available in 1963.*

## 2001

The President was Al Willenborg; the Editor was Kathy Willenborg and the Social Director was Gary Cummings. Bob Bowen was elected Membership Director for the West Region of NCCC. Our club continued to have the second largest number of FCOA members. Our club is 25<sup>th</sup> in the membership out of 287 clubs in NCCC and continues to have the largest membership in the West Region. The NCCC convention was held in Bowling Green, Kentucky from June 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. A family member of the club once again WON the Raffle car! Tom and Bobbi Bowen received a silver Z06. The club voted Tom and Bobbie in as new members! Twenty-six new members were voted into the club ending the year with 119 NCCC members and 135 club members. A club picture was taken with the cars again this year.

We were awarded the Iowa Volunteer Award on September 28<sup>th</sup> at Coe College by Governor Vilsack. The nomination for this prestigious award was made by Mike Hulley from the Vinton School for the Blind. The car show was held at Best Buy on June 9<sup>th</sup> and raised over \$6,801.89. Homecomings raised \$2,010, with \$1,050 to be given to Camp Courageous next year.

\$1,500 was set-aside for the new trailer. The money was raised from Hawkeye Downs Autocrosses. \$900.00 was given to Camp Courageous from 2000 Homecomings. \$2,000.00 was donated to the Vinton School for the Blind, \$2,000 to 4 Oaks and \$2,000 to St. Luke's Child Protection Center. \$500.00 from the Club was donated to the New York Police and Firemen's Fund and the members took up a collection and donated \$175 to the American Red Cross after the horrific events of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Our members also donated \$400.00 to ARC of East Central Iowa. \$100.00 earned at the Chevy Classic Car Club for participation in their show was given back to them for their charity. \$500.00 was raised at the Christmas party and donated to John and Evie Lantz. Also, \$100.00 gift certificate was given to Davenport Printing for their work on the club's newsletter.

The Christmas party was held at the Indian Creek Country Club. The MVM was Al Willenborg.

## 2002

The President was Chris Damewood, the Editor was Karla McMurrin and the Social Director was Vicki Rickels. Twenty-seven new members were voted in bringing the membership to nearly 150 persons and bringing the NCCC membership to 123. A 50/50 drawing was started. Members attending the meeting can buy a ticket for a dollar or six for five dollars. At the end of the meeting half of the money is given to the lucky winner of the drawing and the other half has been saved towards the new trailer. Questions regarding our Corporation status were handled by Terry Kocher and our club was reinstated. Governor, Bob Bowen, provided waivers that must now be signed by all participants of any club event to insure our events are covered by the insurance coverage carried for us by NCCC. Our monthly meetings continued to be held every third Thursday at the Lighthouse. A tip jar was established by our members to show their appreciation to the staff that waited on us.

Chris Damewood and Dan McMurrin customized the little red wagon into a motorized truck pulling a wagon that was auctioned for the benefit of Camp Courageous. Chris' Company was the top bidder.

Dan Knight was able to work at the Winter Olympics held in Salt Lake City and brought the club pictures and tales of his experiences there.

A trip was taken to the NCCC convention held in Indianapolis where members who attended were allowed a lap around the racetrack. Several members challenged members of the Midwest Corvette Club in racing go-karts at Formula I Go-Karting in Bettendorf. Our Club was victorious and looks forward to a rematch next year. A trip to Galena, Illinois to attend Dream Weavers, a weekend event and car show that benefit persons who need items such as van chair-lifts, or wheel-chair ramps for home use, was attend by several members. We cruised to the Grand Opening of Johnny B Goods, a 50's style diner, in Dyersville. Several members went to the Renaissance Festival held in Shakopee, Minnesota over Labor Day weekend. The Halloween party was held once again at Road Apple Trails. The annual leaf run was to Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin and to the apple orchards at Gays Mills, Wisconsin.

The car show was moved to the parking ramp at Lindale Mall and was also co-sponsored by Lindale Mall who supported the show by donating \$5,000.00. 172 cars participated in our show. Videos were taken of the show and were sold to club members. \$12,766.56 was raised at this year's car show! Money was again raised from the drags held at Eddyville and the weekend racing held at Hawkeye Downs. Twenty-four homecomings were done raising \$2,125.00 of which half of this amount, \$1,062.50 will be presented to Camp Courageous next year.

The annual Joe Beringer Memorial Rally at the Vinton School for the Blind was held during their Prom weekend. From money raised at the 2001 car show, \$5,200 was given to the Vinton School for the Blind and \$5,200 was given to the St. Luke's Child Protection Center. Camp Courageous was given \$1,050 collected from the 2001 Homecomings. Our members raised approximately \$400.00 for Association of Retarded Citizens and gave several ARC children a ride around the Hawkeye Downs racetrack. At Christmas, \$525.00 was raised by members and given to John and Evie Lantz and a \$100.00 gift certificate was given to Davenport Printing for printing the club's newsletter. Twenty-four CRCC members volunteered 37½ hours to the Salvation Army Bell-ringing campaign before Christmas, raising \$1,184.85 and were the number 1 club this year.

The Christmas party was held at the Indian Creek Country Club. The MVM was Bob Bowen.

*Corvette History: The C6 was conceived to be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary car but it was slipped back, though those few privileged to see it have concluded that if it's built it will blow everybody else off the road! The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary car is delivered with an Anniversary Metallic Red paint job and a shale/khaki interior rather than the traditional interiors. It was debuted at the 2002 Indy 500 as the official pace car.*

## 2003

The 2003 officers were: President, Al Willenborg; Secretary, Madeline Watertor; Treasurer, Theron Manson; Editor, Karla McMurrin; Social Director, Kathy Willenborg; Governor, Bob Bowen. Theron Manson resigned at the July meeting and Marsha Abney stepped in to finish out his term as treasurer.

Meetings were held at The Lighthouse on the third Thursday of the month. 29 new members were voted in bringing the membership to nearly 150 persons and bringing the NCCC membership to 160 as of the September meeting. Among the new members were one Charter Member, Lowell Phelps, and former member John Forslund. The 50/50 drawing was continued.

The Corvette 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was held in Nashville & Bowling Green June 27-30. The Cedar Rapids Corvette Club 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and reunion was held at the Lighthouse and Dostal Catering Touch of Class July 13, 2003. Eleven charter members attended the event.

Club members participated in several fundraisers to benefit Kevin McMurrin, Dan & Karla McMurrin's son.

The annual Cruisin' the Ave car show was held at Lindale Mall on June 7, with a silent Auction, Poker Walk and model kit car contest. Car show chairman was Dennis Purcell.

25 Homecomings were completed with 211 cars participating (59 drivers). Larry Beebe served as Homecoming director.

Money raised from the car show and homecomings were presented the following charities: Iowa Braille & Sight-saving School, Tanager Place, and Camp Courageous.

Other charity events included Iowa Braille School Rallye, April 27; Camp Courageous Breakfast February 23 and car show May 18; Chariton Weekend – CRCC People's Choice Car show May 24-26; Salvation Army Bell Ringers Club Kettle Day December 6; and Salvation Army delivery of 1200 Easter Baskets to 16 area nursing homes. CRCC members cleaned the road ditch along Highway 13 east of Marion twice, once in May and again in October.

Fun events included monthly dinners & dinner cruises and Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad Dinner & Train Ride Aug 16. The annual leaf run was held October 12 with brunch at The Barn in Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin. 16 CRCC members attended the Black Hills Classic in Spearfish, SD in mid July.

The Autocross weekend at Hawkeye Downs was held June 22 and Hawkeye Downs Low-speed event weekend was held Sept 20-21.

Bryan Abney, son of Doug and Marsha Abney, won a \$750 NCCC Scholarship.

CRCC won 5<sup>th</sup> place in the NCCC Newsletter contest.

The West Region Awards Banquet was held March 22 in Des Moines.

The Halloween Party was held October 18 at Road Apple Trails.

The Christmas party was held at the Indian Creek Country Club December 13. The MVM was Larry Beebe.

CRCC Family Deaths: John Forslund had just rejoined CRCC in August. He died on November 19, 2003 at the age of 59, from complications following surgery. His grandson was FCOA member #2300.

## 2004

The 2004 officers were: President, Doug Schoon; Secretary, Madeline Watertor; Treasurer, Marsha Abney; Editor, Karla McMurrin; Social Director, Mel Baker; and Governor & West Region Membership Director, Bob Bowen.

Meetings were held at The Lighthouse on the third Thursday of the month through September, when it was

decided to move the meeting location due to growing club membership and space constraints at The Lighthouse. Beginning October the CRCC monthly meetings were moved to St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Hiawatha. The 50/50 drawing was continued. Members voted to use the 50/50 money to help pay to rent for the monthly meetings at the church. 28 new members were voted in bringing the membership to nearly 181 persons as of the October meeting. Club dues were raised from \$12 to \$15 for primary member and from \$6 to \$10 for spouse, for new members and renewals for 2005.

The annual NCCC Convention was held in Las Vegas, Nevada June 5-12.

Charity events included Iowa Braille School Rally, May 8, organized by Gary Cooney & Dennis Purcell; Cruisin' for Camp Courageous Car Show May 16; and Chariton People's Choice Car show Memorial Day weekend. We also participated in 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades in Central City & Ely, as well as the Shellsburg parade and a barbecue at Cummings' on July 17. CRCC members cleaned the road ditch along Highway 13 east of Marion twice, May 15 and September 16. Cathy Willenborg collects soaps and toiletries from members throughout the year and delivers them to the Katherine McCauley Center. The Autocross weekend at Hawkeye Downs was held Aug 28 & 29 with 35 cars on Saturday and 50 on Sunday.

The annual Cruisin' the Ave car show was held at Lindale Mall parking ramp on June 19, with 31 classes and 140 entries in the car show, raising \$7500. Vicki & Darrell Rickels served as car show chairmen with Dick Butschi serving as co-chair. Pat McGrath Chevrolet was the Major Sponsor. 23 Homecomings were completed raising \$2115, of which \$1100 will be donated to Camp Courageous in May, 2005. Larry Beebe served as Homecoming director.

Money raised from the car show and homecomings was presented the following charities: Iowa Braille & Sight-saving School, Make-a-Wish, Miracles in Motion, Camp Courageous, NCCC West Region Scholarship fund and FCOA.

Fun events included monthly dinner cruises as well as both planned and ad-hoc cruises. Monthly dinner cruises were changed to the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, beginning in February. Previously they were held the Tuesday following the monthly meeting. We ate steak in Quasqueton and watched a movie in Maquoketa. The annual leaf run was held October 10, organized by John Dolphin. We traveled through Galena, Dubuque, and Bellevue, with dinner in Savannah, Illinois and of course a final stop at the DQ in Manchester. Several members participated in a Go-cart event in Ames on Nov 21.

Four CRCC members placed in the top 20 in West Region points: Chris Beebe, 10<sup>th</sup>; Diane Bowen, 17<sup>th</sup>; Larry Beebe, 9<sup>th</sup>; Bob Bowen, 15<sup>th</sup>. CRCC placed 5<sup>th</sup> out of 24 clubs in the West Region with 1709 points.

The new club trailer was ordered and delivered and first displayed July 25<sup>th</sup>.

CRCC won \$150 award for the largest club participation in the Cruise for Camp Courageous. The award money was donated back to Camp Courageous. CRCC donated \$1500 from 2003 Homecoming Parades and "Club Challenge" dollars to Camp Courageous. CRCC also was awarded the "Trail Blazer" award in appreciation of the club's dedication to Camp Courageous. CRCC decorated and donated a Radial Flyer Tricycle for the charity auction.

The West Region Awards Banquet was held March 27 in Omaha, hosted by Cornhusker Corvette Club.

Cindy Kocker organized the Halloween Party, held October 23 at Road Apple Trails, Toddville. The Christmas party was held at the Indian Creek Country Club December 13. The MVM was Doug Schoon.

CRCC Family Deaths: Don Neal died on December 15, 2004 while hunting. Don and Di had celebrated his retirement and Di's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in April 2003. CRCC sends our condolences to Di and all of Don's family.



## 2005

2005 officers were: President, Doug Schoon; Secretary, Madeline Watertor; Treasurer, Marsha Abney; Editor, Karla McMurrin; and Social Director, Mel Baker.

Meetings were held at St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Hiawatha on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. About 48 new members were voted in to CRCC in 2005. CRCC, with 160 members, has the most members in Iowa in the West Region as of March 2005. West Region membership as of March was 1700. The February dinner was held at The Lighthouse Restaurant, former home of CRCC monthly meetings. Owners and CRCC members Theron & Josie Mansion were presented with a caricature created by Dick Butschi as a thank you for their support and use of the Lighthouse for CRCC meetings. At the November meeting, members voted to change the meeting time to 7:00, beginning with the January 2006 meeting.

The NCCC convention was held in St Cloud, MN. Twelve CRCC members attended the convention. Larry & Chris Beebe took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the time/distance rallye throughout central Minnesota. John & Audrey Dolphin took 6<sup>th</sup> place.

The annual car show was held at the Lindale Mall Parking Ramp again this year on June 18., with 178 cars participating in the car show. Dick Butschi and John Dolphin co-chaired the event, which raised over \$10,000 for our charities. Dick and John did an interview with Cary J Hahn, local personality, which aired on June 17, the day before the car show. Larry Beebe was homecoming director, lining up 129 corvettes to participate in 21 homecoming parades.

The CRCC rally at the Iowa Braille and Sight-saving School was held on May 14. We received a letter from the school that the donation to the school from the 2004 car show was used to purchase two benches to be designated as memorials to Don Neal. The Cruisin' for Camp Courageous car show was May 15. CRCC members filled a microwave donated by Sears with \$250 to donate for the Camp Courageous auction. CRCC won the award for most club members in attendance and again, donated the award back to Camp Courageous. The All Iowa Corvette Weekend at Chariton was held May 28 and 29.

Money raised from the car show and homecomings and other charity events was presented the following charities: Iowa Braille & Sight-saving School, Make-a-Wish, Miracles in Motion, East Central Iowa Chapter of the Brain Injury Association, Camp Courageous, and NCCC West Region Scholarship fund. Members continue to donate soaps and toiletries for the Catherine McCauley Center.

Monthly dinner "cruises" were to north Country Steak House, 3<sup>rd</sup> on First, Grand Central (Mt Vernon), Irish Democrat, Pei's, Pizza Village & Brewery, and Hale Supper Club (Hale). Additional cruises were made to Quasqueton Steak Fry, St Olaf, Sportsters in Urbana, and Stones Restaurant in Marshalltown. A special night-time cruise was made to the Maquoketa Drive-in on October 7.

CRCC Members participated in a Box Lunch Social on February 12, Go-Cart event on March 6, Drag-n-Cross – Drags at Earlville and Auto-cross at Hawkeye Downs July 16 & 17, Low Speed auto-cross events at Hawkeye Downs August 27 & 28.

The West Region Awards Banquet was held on April 2 and Indian Creek Country Club in Marion, hosted by CRCC.

35 cars participated in the Fall Leaf Run on October 9, planned by Paul Hildebrand and Gary Cummings.

Chris Beebe placed 7<sup>th</sup> in points in the West Region Women's Division. Diane Bowen placed 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Sheila Pickrell placed 43<sup>rd</sup>. Larry Beebe placed 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Men's Division. Bob Bowen placed 29<sup>th</sup> and John Pickrell placed 30<sup>th</sup>. CRCC placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of 18 clubs in the West Region.

Bob Bowen was named NCCC-VP of Membership and Diane Bowen was named NCCC West Region Membership Director. Doug & Pat Blake's daughter, Dana, won the \$350 West Region Scholarship for 2005.

Member, Art Christoffersen was inducted into the Iowa Business Hall of Fame. Congratulations to all.

CRCC members continued the road ditch clean-up, performing this community service project May 21 and October 2.

The Halloween party was held on October 22 at Road Apple Trails, Toddville.

The Christmas Party was held at the Indian Creek Country Club, in lieu of a December meeting. Dick Butschi was named the year's MVM.

Marsha Abney and Dave Marsden underwent major surgery during the year for life-threatening conditions. CRCC offers our condolences to Lowell Phelps on the death of his brother and Dave Ster on the death of his mother.

CRCC Family Deaths: Art Christoffersen died from cancer on December 21, 2005. He was president of Raining Rose in Cedar Rapids and had ordered a new 2006 Corvette before his death. He was 59. CRCC sends our condolences to his wife, Terri Christoffersen and the rest of Art's family.

## 2006

2006 officers were: President, John Dolphin; Secretary, Madeline Watertor; Treasurer, Marsha Abney; Editor, Sarah Schoon; Social Director, Jim McLaughlin, and Governor, Larry Beebe. Larry Westergren took over as Treasurer after Marsha Abney's death in June.

Meetings were held at St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Hiawatha on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Meeting time was changed from 7:30 to 7:00 p.m. beginning with the January meeting. Nine new members were voted into the club during the year. The 50/50 drawing continues with half going to the winner and half to the club.

The NCCC convention was held in Orlando, FL August 5-12.

In competition, Jay Cooney was nominated for Rookie of the year for the West Region. Auto-cross events were held at Hawkeye Downs July 9<sup>th</sup> and August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

The annual car show was held at the Lindale Mall Parking Ramp on June 17. Dick Butschi and Wayne Martin co-chaired the event, which raised over \$9,200 for our charities. The car show ended and cars began pulling out just before a rain storm moved in. The major show sponsor was Dr. Vinyl. Dick Butschi was homecoming director, lining up 195 corvettes with 60 different drivers to participate in 23 homecoming parades, plus 2 special events. Half of the \$2,250 raised will be donated to Camp Courageous in the spring of 2007.

CRCC donated a crock, set off with a bouquet of \$\$ roses, and customized for the Cruisin' for Camp Courageous car show auction on May 26. CRCC received the award for best club participation with 41 cars again this year. The CRCC sponsored Peoples Choice car show at Chariton was held on Memorial Day Weekend. The Iowa Braille School Poker Run held on May 6, was organized by Dennis Purcell and Wallace Hall. Twenty cars participated. 239 children received clothes due to the donation from CRCC for Cloth A Child. CRCC members also helped the children shop for clothes at Sears.

Several members participated in the AmVetts parade on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Central City, then headed to Ely for their pancake breakfast. After a cruise around the area, including the Coralville Reservoir & Dam, Lake McBride, Tiffin, Kent Park and Amana (for Ice Cream) we returned to Ely for their 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

Money raised from the car show and was presented the following charities: Iowa Braille & Sight-saving School 12½%, Make-a-Wish 25%, Miracles in Motion 25%, East Central Iowa Chapter of the Brain Injury Association 25%, Cloth A Child 12½%. Members continue to donate soaps and toiletries for the Catherine McCauley Center.

CRCC members continued the road ditch clean-up twice per year, performing this community service project May 24 and September 26. There was discussion about whether the club would continue this project. Jan Airy acted as chair-person. Members voted to continue as long as members were willing to participate.

Members participated in a variety of cruises. The cruise to Gunder for Gunderburgers took us to Kevin Moore's shop in Elgin to admire the classic late 60's Plymouths and Roadrunners (Mopars). The April meeting was a road trip to the Vine Restaurant in Coralville. August took a group of Corvettes to "The Rock" west of Des Moines and dinner at Chips in Ankeny. Possibly the biggest fun event was a cruise to Newton for the opening of the new Iowa Speedway. Wayne Martin organized the event for the club. Forty CRCC Corvettes made a parade lap around the track, each with one of the drivers from the inaugural race.

40 cars participated in the Fall Leaf Run on October 8, organized by John & Audrey Dolphin. The cruise traveled to Guttenberg before coming back toward Cedar Rapids for dinner in Dyersville, and a stop for dessert at the Marion DQ.

Larry Beebe was elected NCCC Public Relations Director and Bob Bowen was reelected West Region Membership Director. Dana Blake won a West Region Scholarship. Tom & Sandy Oakley's 2002 Electron Blue Metallic corvette is on the 2007 Corvette Calendar. Historian Pat Blake made big updates to the CRCC Website.

A committee worked on memorial ideas for deceased club members. A recommendation was made for a Memorial Plaque with a photo and date for each deceased member. The Plaque will be displayed at Camp Courageous.

The Halloween party was held on October 21 at Road Apple Trails, Toddville. Cindi Kocher chaired the event with prizes for costumes.

The Christmas party was held December 9, 2006 at the Indian Creek Country Club, with a dinner, awards and gift exchange. Wayne Martin was voted the Outstanding Member for 2006.

CRCC Family Deaths: Marsha Abney died from Cancer June 17, 2006, at age 56. Marsha had been club treasurer since Theron Manson's resignation in 2003. CRCC sends our condolences to Marsha's husband Doug Abney and all of her family.

## 2007

2007 officers were: President, John Dolphin; VP, Wayne Martin, Secretary, Madeline Watertor; Treasurer, Larry Westergren; Editor, Judy Westergren; Social Director, Jim McLaughlin; Governor, Larry Beebe; Homecoming Director, Dick Butschi; Competition Director, Terry Kocher; Trustees, Al Willenborg, Larry Armbrrecht, John Watertor, and Historians, Lyle & Dianna Knutson. Webmaster was Dan Ockenfels.

Larry Beebe was NCCC Director of Public Relations and Bob Bowen was NCCC VP of Membership. Diane Bowen was the NCCC West Region Membership Director.

Meetings were held at the St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church basement in Hiawatha, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Four previous members were reinstated to active membership, and fourteen new members were voted into the club during the year. Total Club membership was reported to be 171 at the November meeting. This makes CRCC the 20<sup>th</sup> largest Corvette Club in NCCC, & the largest Corvette club in Iowa. The 50/50 drawing continued, with half going to the winner and half to the Club.

CRCC received three special awards during 2007:

- 1) The Eagle One Award, with a trophy and \$750, for CRCC's charitable efforts. The \$750 was donated in equal amounts to Clothe-a-Child and Iowa Braille School. These two charities were most helpful in providing the documentation needed to help win this award. The trophy is on display at Pat McGraph's Chevyland. Thanks to VP, Wayne Martin, for his efforts in going after this award for CRCC,
- 2) A special POW-MIA flag was received from the American Legion, for CRCC participation in the American Legion Parade, and
- 3) Contributor of the year award, from the Eastern Iowa Brain Injury Association.

The West Region banquet was held in Sioux City, with a theme of "Denim and Diamonds", March 23 -24. Both Chris and Larry Beebe received awards for their points standings for 2006. A number of CRCC members attended, and reported that it was a fun event.

A special memorial cruise was done on April 29, to present the CRCC Memorial Plaque to Camp Courageous, for permanent display. Thanks to Al Willenborg and the other Memorial Committee, for their work to honor CRCC members that have passed on.

The Iowa Braille School Poker Run was held on Saturday, May 5. It was organized by Dennis Purcell and Wallace Hall. Eighteen cars participated, so that eighteen kids had a special Corvette ride on their prom weekend.

CRCC donated a wagon filled with car care & oil products, for the Cruisin' for Camp Courageous Car Show auction on Sunday, May 20. This raised over \$150 for Camp Courageous. CRCC received the award for best club participation again this year, with 50 cars representing CRCC this year. Homecoming Director, Dick Butschi, presented Camp Courageous with a check for \$1,225, raised by our homecoming parades during 2006.

CRCC sponsored the "People's Choice Car Show" at Chariton during the Memorial Day Weekend. The event included autocross events as well as the car show. The annual "Cruisin-the-Ave" Car Show was held at the Lindale Mall Parking Ramp on Saturday, June 9. Dick Butschi and Wayne Martin co-chaired the event, which raised over \$10,500 for our five charities: 1) Clothe a Child, 2) Miracles in Motion, 3) Make a Wish Foundation, 4) Eastern Iowa Brain Injury Association, and 5) Iowa Braille & Sightsaving School. The major show sponsor was Palo Savings Bank. \$2,100 was presented to each charity at the October meeting.

The Road Ditch Clean-up effort was continued. Jerry & Kathy Adams organized the effort for Wednesday, April 18, and Mike Williams organized the effort for Thursday, November 1. The biggest find this year was a bicycle.

The NCCC convention was held in Nashville, TN, June 16- 23, with hotel accommodations at the Marriott. A number of Club members participated in autocross, drags, Funkhanas, and rally events.

Several members participated in the AmVetts parade on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Central City, then headed to Ely for their pancake breakfast and parade. Club members participated in parades far and wide, including the annual Shellsburg Parade and the Lowden Parade.

CRCC hosted the autocross weekend at Hawkeye Downs on August 25 & 26. Terry Kocher, Larry Beebe, and others organized an "Autocross 101" drivers training event, held at Hawkeye Downs on Saturday, August 11. A great event, enjoyed by all. Top points standings for 2007: Women - Linda Bonar, Chris Beebe and Diane Bowen; Men - Jay Cooney, Bob Bonar, and Larry Beebe.

Members participated in a variety of cruises. Larry Armbricht organized the cruise to Gunder for Gunderburgers, with a stop on the way at Lamont Feed & Antique Store, where we saw CRCC in the local newspaper. Several of the Tuesday dinners involved cruises to Delhi, Coralville, Marengo and Hale. A highlight event was a cruise to Newton on September 22, to the Iowa Speedway, where 38 Corvettes made a parade lap around the track with a race car driver. VP Wayne Martin organized the event for the club. A rough estimate is that CRCC cars traveled 250,000 miles this year to various cruises, events, and trips through out the USA.

Dick Butschi was homecoming director, who lined up 221 Corvettes with 63 different drivers to participate in 23 homecoming parades. Half of the approx. \$2,500 raised will be donated to Camp Courageous in the spring of 2008, during the Camp Courageous Car Show.

15 cars participated in the Fall Leaf Run on Sunday, October 7. The cruise was organized by Lyle & Dianna Knutson and Wallace & Helen Hall. The cruise traveled through the Iowa River Valley, and the Cedar River Valley, with a dinner stop at the Jackpot Buffet at Tama. The Halloween party was held on Saturday October 20, at Maple Ridge Farm. Larry Armbricht organized the event that included a bonfire and hayrack ride. A good time was had by all.

Approx. 20 children received clothes due to the donation from CRCC for Cloth A Child. CRCC members also helped the children shop for the clothes they needed, at Sears. Members continued to donate soaps and toiletries to the Catherine McCauley Center.

The Christmas party was held December 8, at the Indian Creek Country Club, with a dinner, awards and gift exchange. Di Neal was voted the Outstanding Member for 2007.

CRCC Family Deaths: None directly from CRCC, although we lost friends of the Club.

...and we had several special family celebrations:

- 1) Wayne & Diana Patrick celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 13, 2007.
- 2) Larry & Marjory Bushaw celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 24, 2007.
- 3) Gary & Carol Cummings celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Sept. 9, 2007.
- 4) Al & Kathy Willenborg celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Nov. 18, 2007.

Congratulations to all !!

**It was a big, busy and action packed year. All CRCC members should be proud of the Club's accomplishments, and have good memories of 2007! Congrat's to CRCC!!**

## 2008

Officers for 2008 were: President, Lyle Knutson; VP, Tom Oakley, Secretary, Karla McMurrin; Treasurer, Larry Bushaw; Editor, Katrina See; Social Director, Linda Bonar; Governor, Larry Beebe; Homecoming Director, Dick Butschi; Competition Director, Chris Beebe; Trustees, Al Willenborg, John Watertor & Diane Bowen, and Historian, Dianna Knutson. Webmaster duties were shared by John Needleman and Paul Steier, and Di Neal continued to serve as our official e-mail messenger.

Larry Beebe was NCCC Director of Public Relations and Bob Bowen was NCCC VP of Membership. Diane Bowen was the NCCC West Region Membership Director.

Meetings were held at the St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church basement in Hiawatha, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. A big Thank You to our official club sponsor, Pat McGrath's Chevyland, for being a great host for our March, July, and October meetings.

2008 was truly a Milestone Year! In this 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for the Cedar Rapids Corvette Club, 22 new members joined CRCC. They are Mike Bengel, Paul Steier, John & Denise Baker, Todd Davis, George & Jan Letson, Gary & Nancy Fischer, Marlin Veatch, Jim Schneider, Gerald Udelhofen, Dave & Cheryl Draheim, Chad Dunham, Cody Cooney, Mike Allee, Marv & Diane Peters, Robert & Paulette Wehr, and Nancy Cram. As of December 10, 161 members have paid dues for 2009.

Milestone anniversaries were celebrated by the following club members: 20 yrs - Jan & Jack Gilmore, 40 yrs – Steve & Carol Rohr, Lyle & Dianna Knutson, Terry & Cindi Kocher, Bob & Diane Bowen, 46 yrs – Garland & Sharon Groom, and **50** years – Lew & Marlene Wasendorf. Milestone Birthdays were celebrated by Nancy Cram, Marjory Bushaw, Larry Beebe, Cindi Kocher, Larry Armbrecht, Dianna Knutson, and Larry Bushaw. New grandchildren were welcomed this year by the following members: Dave & Dawn Marsden (Claire Rene), Di Neal (Brock James & Braxton Scott), Bob & Paulette Wehr (Jolie), John & Pat Fritz (Leo John), and Terry & Cindi Kocher (Marissa). Congratulations to all!

Two beautiful CRCC display cases were built by Al Willenborg, and installed at Pat McGrath's Chevyland. They promote good PR for CRCC and Pat McGrath's. CRCC Award plaques and Corvette models are displayed, as well as a digital photo display. Pictures on the display will be changed periodically to keep it current. Thanks, Al, and also thanks to Larry Bushaw for assisting with the installation.

The West Region banquet was held in Topeka, KS on March 29. The 2008 NCCC Convention was held in Tulsa, OK. June 21-28. Several Club members attended and participated in autocross, drags, Funkhanas, and rally events.

Members participated in a variety of "dinner" cruises throughout the year. Tuesday night dinner cruises took us to Kranky Hanks, Carlos O'Kelly's, Ruby Tuesday's, Red Robin, Light House, Iguana's (Hills), Blackstone's (Iowa City), Tuscan Moon (Kalona), Daly Creek Winery (Anamosa), Homestead (Independence), and Champagne's (West Branch). Thank you to Gary Cummings and Linda Bonar for 11 great Tuesday nights out!

CRCC members participated in many events, parades, and car shows, including Houby Days Parade, Cruisin' for Camp Courageous, Chariton Funkhana, 4th of July parades in Central City, Ely and Oxford Junction, Windsor Manor, Bloomington Gold, and Keystone Place open houses, Effingham Vettefest, Vettes on the Rockies, auto-cross weekend at Hawkeye Downs, and road ditch cleanup along Highway 13 in the spring and fall.

CRCC sponsored the "People's Choice Car Show" at Chariton during the Memorial Day Weekend. The event included autocross events as well as the car show. The annual Iowa Braille School Rallye was held on Saturday, May 3. Dennis Purcell announced that this is his last year organizing the event. He will be missed, but the event will continue under the leadership of Doug Blake.

CRCC received the participation award at Camp Courageous again this year with over 40 cars registered, outnumbering the VW club by 14.5 cars. The \$150 participation award was donated back to Camp Courageous for their programs. Homecoming Director, Dick Butschi, presented Camp Courageous with a check for \$1,225, raised by our homecoming parades during 2007.

The devastating flood of 2008 hit Cedar Rapids just two days before our annual "Cruisin'-the-Ave" Car Show at the Lindale Mall. The flood divided Cedar Rapids and most of eastern Iowa, leaving the Cedar Rapids I-380 Bridge as the only way across the Cedar River for more than 60 miles around. The show was scheduled for Saturday, June 14 to raise funds for five charities: 1) Clothe-a-Child, 2) Miracles in Motion, 3) Make-a-Wish Foundation, 4) Eastern Iowa Brain Injury Association, and 5) Iowa Braille & Sight-Saving School. After soul-searching and encouragement, it was decided to go ahead with the show. In the end, it turned out to be a good decision and was a substantial success. Thank you to the Car Show Chairpersons, Dick Butschi & Wayne Martin. We are especially grateful to everyone who participated and/or helped with the car show this year. Checks were presented to the charities at the September meeting. Members continued to donate soaps and toiletries for the Catherine McCauley Center as an additional charitable activity.

The Hawkeye Downs Autocross was held the weekend of August 23 & 24 with great weather and a large turnout of racers. Thanks to Chris & Larry Beebe for organizing a great event. Thanks also to all the workers who helped out to make the two-day event a big success.

Dean McCall was this year's homecoming director, who lined up 216 Corvettes to participate in 23 homecoming parades. A substantial portion of the funds raised will be donated to Camp Courageous in the spring of 2009, during the "Cruisin for Camp Courageous" Charity Car Show.

The Halloween party was held on Saturday October 18, at Maple Ridge Farm. Larry Armbrecht organized the event that included a potluck, bonfire and hayrack ride. A good time was enjoyed by all who attended, and no one left hungry. The following day, Sunday, October 19, 29 cars and 59 people participated in the 2008 Fall Leaf Run. The cruise, which traveled north and east, with a dinner stop at the Hillside Stables Restaurant outside Sabula, was planned and led by John Needleman & Katrina See.

The Christmas party, organized by Linda Bonar, was held December 13, at the Indian Creek Country Club, with a dinner, door prizes, and a DJ and dance. New officers for 2009 were announced and introduced. The 2008 CRCC Outstanding member was Lyle Knutson.

CRCC Family Deaths: CRCC expresses our condolences to all of you for your loss.

Di Neal (Sister), Dawn Marsden (Father), Terry Kocher (Aunt), Sheila Pickrell (Father), Greg Burris (Step-mother), Marjory Bushaw (Brother & Sister), Dave Draheim (Mother), Gin Bruster (Mother), Diane Bowen (Father), Dean McCall (Mother), Jerry Adams (Brother), Brad Roehr (Father), Jerry Krueger (Mother), Linda Bonar (Mother), Tim Fees (Sister), and Doug & Sarah Schoon (Granddaughter).

## 2009 CRCC History

CRCC Officers for 2009 were: President, Lyle Knutson; VP, Tom Oakley, Secretary, Madeline Watertor; Treasurer, Larry Bushaw; Editor, Karla McMurrin; Social Director, Roger Thompson; Governor, Larry Beebe; Homecoming Director, Bob Baker; Competition Director, Chris Beebe; Trustees, John Watertor, Diane Bowen & Wayne Martin, and Historian, Dianna Knutson. Larry Beebe was NCCC Director of Public Relations and Bob Bowen was the NCCC West Region Membership Director. Paul Steier resigned as Webmaster. Larry Bushaw volunteered to take over the Webmaster position and was appointed by the E-board. Di Neal resigned as the Official e-messenger in October. Bob Bowen volunteered and was appointed by the E-board as our new Official e-mail messenger. All Official CRCC E-mails will originate from the following e-mail address: [crcorvetteclub@gmail.com](mailto:crcorvetteclub@gmail.com).

Meetings were held at the St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church basement in Hiawatha, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. A big "Thank You" to our official club sponsor, Pat McGrath's Chevyland, for being a great host for our March, June, and October 2009 meetings.

The West Region banquet was held in Council Bluffs, IA on April 25, 2009. The 2009 NCCC Convention was held in Colorado Springs, Co., August 8-14. CRCC's Larry Beebe was Co-Chair for planning 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on Saturday night at the convention. Also serving on the planning committee were CRCC members, Chris Beebe, Diane Bowen, and Bob Bowen. A big thanks to them and all the other members of the committee for a great convention. Several CRCC members attended and participated in autocross, drags, Funkhanas, and rally events, as well as other private and NCCC sponsored sidetrips and events.

Members participated in a variety of "dinner" cruises throughout the year. Tuesday night dinner cruises took us Shellys in Springille, Thai Moon, Buffalo Wild Wings, Bushwood Grille, Scooters in Anamosa, Brik Haus in Amana, General Store Pub in Stone City, Dyns in Delhi, Prairie Moon in Prairieburg and Ruby Tuesday. We cruised to Phat Daddys for Sunday brunch in Marengo and the Irish Shanti in Gunder (famous for their 20 oz Gunderburger). At our September dinner cruise, we said goodbye with a "roast" for Charter Member Lowell Phelps and his wife Cookie. They moved to sunny Florida at the end of November. We wished them well and promised them lots of company from Iowa.

CRCC members participated in many area events, parades, and car shows, including Cruisin' for Camp Courageous, All Iowa Corvette Weekend at Chariton, 4th of July parades in Central City, Ely and Oxford Junction, Bloomington Gold, Keystone Place open house, Palo Fun Days, Effingham Vettefest, Vinton's Party in the Park, Hawkeye Area Classic Chevy Car Show, practice auto-cross seminar, CRCC's auto-cross weekend at Hawkeye Downs, a Sunday cruise to Ankeny to visit Dennis Albaugh's Chevy collection followed by dinner at Chips, and a Saturday cruise with Cedar Valley Street Rods.

CRCC sponsored the "People's Choice Car Show" at Chariton during the Memorial Day Weekend. The event included autocross events as well as the car show. The annual Iowa Braille School Rallye was held on Saturday, May 2, 2009, organized by Doug Blake.

CRCC received the participation award at Camp Courageous again this year with 52 cars registered. The participation award was donated back to Camp Courageous for their programs. Camp Courageous was also presented with a check from donations received for homecoming parades during 2008. The Cedar Rapids Corvette Club was also honored by receiving the 2009 Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

CRCC's annual "Cruisin'-the-Ave" Car Show was held at Lindale Mall on June 13, 2009. Car Show Chairpersons Wayne Martin & Dick Butschi and Co-chairs Larry Bushaw & Danny Roberts did a great job putting together another successful show. Checks were presented to the charities at the October meeting at Pat McGrath's Chevyland. Members continued to donate soaps and toiletries, as an additional charitable club activity, which Al & Kathie Willenborg deliver to the Catherine McCauley Center at various times during the year.

The Hawkeye Downs Autocross was held the weekend of August 29 & 30 with great weather and a large turnout of racers. A practice autocross was held the previous weekend on August 23. Thanks to Chris & Larry Beebe for

organizing a great event and John Pickrell for a great job at the timing table. Thanks also to all the workers who helped out to make the two-day event a big success.

Bob Baker was this year's homecoming director, who lined up over 200 Corvettes to participate in 23 homecoming parades and coronations. A donation from funds raised will be presented to Camp Courageous in the spring of 2010, during the "Cruisin for Camp Courageous" Charity Car Show.

The Halloween party was held on Saturday October 17, at Maple Ridge Farm. Larry Armbrecht organized the event that included a potluck, bonfire and hayrack ride. A good time was enjoyed by all who attended, and no one left hungry. The following day, Sunday, October 18, more than 30 cars and over 60 people participated in the 2009 Fall Leaf Run. The cruise through east-central Iowa, which included a dinner stop at the Rastrellis in Clinton, a photo op along the Mississippi River, a drive through Palisades Park at Savanna, IL, and a wine tasting at Wide River Winery in Clinton was planned and led by Scott Morgan. Thanks, Scott, for a great cruise.

32 new members joined CRCC in 2009. They are Chris & Linda Thompson, Frank & Rosemary Bowers, Joan Foster, Diana Patten, Heather Stalling, Clint & Liz Wasendorf, James & Donna McCullough, Michael & Laurel Curl, Louis & Pat Yeater, Dennis & Terry Primrose, Rocky & Kim Dales, Thom & Jan Otto, Ron & Loretta Schleder, Mark Phillips, Ty Kempf, Larry Mullendore & Sharon Davis, Scott White, Steve Luense, Emily Rozinek, and Kevin & Helen Wagner. As of December 12, 187 members have paid dues for 2010.

Tom & Sandy Oakley's son, John, is serving a tour of duty in Iraq. Our best wishes go out to John for his safe return. Al Willenborg celebrated his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday at the June meeting at Chevyland. Heather Stalling and Dan Ockenfels were married in September. And Kurt & Connie Crispin celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June. In competition, CRCC finished in 19<sup>th</sup> place among the NCCC Clubs. Chris Beebe finished 20<sup>th</sup> in the women's division. Larry Beebe finished 41<sup>st</sup> and Bob Bonar finished 49<sup>th</sup> in the men's division. Congratulations to all!

CRCC Family Deaths: CRCC expresses our condolences to all of you for your loss.

Pat McGrath (Father-in-Law), Jan Hildebrand (Brother), Wayne Patrick (Mother), Jan Gilmour (Mother), Marlene Wasendorf (Mother), Darold Slaymaker (Mother), Donna McCullough (Father), and Marjory Bushaw (Brother-in-Law), Don Johnson (Mother).

Our condolences also go out to the family of Michael Curl on his death in November. Michael and his wife Laurel joined CRCC in April.

The Christmas party, organized by Roger Thompson, was held December 12, at the Indian Creek Country Club, with a dinner, door prizes, and musical entertainment. New officers for 2010 were announced and introduced. Thanks to the outgoing officers for your service this year, and congratulations to all the new and returning officers. The 2009 CRCC Outstanding member was Larry Bushaw.

**Now, let's go out and make 2010 the best year yet for CRCC!**