

AUGUST 2011 NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2011 MEETING - SUNDAY the 21st

1:00 p.m. – Ria’s Restaurant & Lounge

3550 West Edgewood Drive

Jefferson City, MO

Columbia Group: Leave Pro-Dental 12:15 p.m.

Moberly Group: Leave Shell 11:30 a.m.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:

We’ve Come a Long Way, Baby,

In 1893 the first horseless carriage appeared in St. Louis and afterward, many car manufacturers began making motorcars there. By 1907 people were intrigued by the new-fangled things, but many were also annoyed by them. Horses were spooked by the constant sputtering, backfiring and tires exploding, not to mention the speed with which they passed them by. Those who engaged in riding in these vehicles were called “joy riding madcaps” because many people didn’t understand why it was necessary—or desirable—to get from one place to another so quickly. It was the Gilded Age and the motorcar was the rage. “The Great 24-Hour Race was held July 3–4, 1907 at the St. Louis Fairground Park dirt track. It started at 10 p.m. on July 3rd and finished 24 hours later. The racetrack was lit with 130 gasoline lamps, which allowed the 5,000–8,000 spectators to see the race clearly. The winner of the race was a Jackson car driven by Robert Burman and E. F. Schuefler. The car only had only one minor repair done during the race and the tires were changed four times”

(<http://www.mohistory.org/exhibits/ShiftingGears/exhibition/sidebars/racing.html>)

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Even more daring drivers would enter various "endurance" races cross-country. One such race in 1908 started in St. Louis and went some 15 miles out in the country to Merrimac across dirt roads through the countryside. It too lasted 24 hrs! A true test of the quality of a car was its ability to make it up the hills. The drivers needed extreme stamina and to carry a shovel because they would become stuck in the mud many times during the race. They also carried with them dry socks to recover from digging out their cars, and extra cash to pay off farmers who became angry about the noise and inconvenience of having their horses startled and property damaged when the cars ran off the "road." Multiple tire blow-outs were inevitable and a common event was broken linkage. It was considered necessary etiquette to stop driving and lead home any horse that had escaped due to fear from the noisy cars.

But cars were rapidly becoming commodities that non-race drivers also wanted. Premiering at the first St. Louis Auto Show in 1907, the new four-horsepower auto buggy, flying at speeds of 4–18 miles per hour with 100 miles to the gallon of gasoline, was priced at \$250. People were beginning to love cars as the following comment from a car enthusiast shows:

"There is no outdoor Sport that I can derive more pure pleasure from than automobiling. When I enter my car a thrill of anticipation of its delights fills my soul with joy." --- Comment made in Auto Crank magazine September, 1905

It's been a long time since the Jackson, Dorris, Moon, and Gardner cars disappeared from the driving scene. But the sentiment of loving to drive cars and feeling the thrill of anticipation remains. I imagine most of us have parked our Corvette, begun to walk away, and turned to look back at it with admiration. I doubt we have had to carry shovels and dry socks to get out of predicaments (although some of us may have seen a cornfield a little too close, right, Larry & Gaylene?!). Perhaps we have had to carry extra cash (although generally to pay cops, not farmers). But most importantly, I bet that most of us regularly experience the "thrill of anticipation of the delights" of our Corvette and that it has "filled our souls with joy." This is the joy that we share as a club and as friends living lives blessed by the privilege of owning, driving, and thoroughly enjoying our Corvettes!

Rebecca Johnson
President
2011-2012

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

08/02	Bobby Mallory	09/02	Gary Pauley
08/13	David Lafrenz	09/08	Deanna DePriest
08/14	Larry Meyers	09/09	Wanda Darby
08/21	Tony Zeilman	09/10	Linda Vorce
08/27	Dick Rohlfing	09/17	Sharon Martin
08/27	Ron Rowlan	09/27	Karen Luebbert
08/30	Barry Malan	09/27	Teresa Mahr

CLUB DUES

2011-2012 club dues (\$24.00 per family) are past due.
Please pay no later than August 30 to insure being included in club
announcements, activities and events.
Our membership year is July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

WEBSITE

<http://www.midmocarvetteclub.com/>

Please check our club website for the latest information on upcoming car
shows, club meetings and events of interest.

JULY 2011 MINUTES

The July 17, 2011, Mid-Missouri Corvette Club meeting at Angelo's Pizza & Steak
House, Columbia, was called to order by President Rebecca Johnson with 37 present.

Vice President's Report: None

Secretary's Report: None

Special thanks to Starla Mallory for taking notes at today's meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

The account balances are:

Club Account \$2,284.59

Corvette Cup (car show) Account \$8,082.26

REMINDER: It's time to pay dues (\$24.00 per family) for the 2011-2012 club year.

New Business:

Our reservation of the Centralia City Hall community room for our Thanksgiving Dinner in November has been confirmed.

Following discussion of the expiration of our current club banner at the National Corvette Museum, a motion was made by Mike Luebbert and seconded by Vickie Mallory that we purchase a new club banner (at a cost of \$350.00) to be displayed at the Museum for the next year. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mike Luebbert and seconded by Vickie Mallory that the club donate \$1,000.00 to the National Corvette Museum. Motion passed.

President Johnson began a discussion of the possibility that the club have a Facebook page as a way of communicating with each other. Discussion followed that the club already has a Facebook page. President Johnson will investigate and report back.

Tommy Mallory announced that Leftfield Productions will get back to the club if future episodes of the Midway Truck Stop program are made.

Upcoming events reported by Tommy were the KCCA show, August 13, in Independence; the National Corvette Museum trip in September, Funfest in Effingham in September (Larry Meyers has secured club parking at this event); and the annual Eureka Springs Corvette Weekend in October.

50/50 Drawing: Les Hogue won \$37.00 in the 50/50 drawing.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Butler

Charlotte Butler, Secretary