

---

---

# VETTE NEWS

---

---

Volume 27, Issue 10

October 2008

## **President's Corner**

Many of our Members will be preparing their Corvette(s) for a long winters nap at the end of October, but that doesn't mean the club activities stop. There will be Corvette activities as long as the weather allows, such as a fall foliage cruise and even the club Christmas Brunch. So if you keep your Corvette on the road in November & December, you can enjoy some beautiful fall cruising.

As the Corvette season does slow down in car related activities, the club is still very active in planning, organizing and preparing for the 2009 club events and activities schedule. I am sure most of the Members will be able to attend the Halloween Party on October 25<sup>th</sup>. This will be fun for all, whether you dress up in a costume or not. I hope you can join the party! Thank you Bruce & Ruth Mussehl and Larry & Lynn Ienco for helping to organize this event. Lee & Mike Buccelli are organizing & hosting the Christmas Brunch, which will be another great club event for members to enjoy good food and friendships as we wish each other Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas! Thank You Lee & Mike Buccelli for organizing the Christmas Brunch.

At the September meeting, I explained that some members expressed an interest in planning some "Tech-Nights" for the coming season. (Please see the form in this newsletter) Years ago, the club had these "Tech-Nights" at various locations for the purpose of sharing how to service, clean or upgrade your Corvette. These were usually presented during the week by a talented club member with the expertise to show & train other members "How to do \_\_\_(?)\_\_\_".

*Continued on pg2*

## **What's Happening**

- October 4 Hilton Apple Festival, Hilton NY (10am- 5pm)

---

### *October 11 COB Club Meeting – Clarence Church – 7pm*

---

- October 12 Peak N Peak Car Show (12pm - 4pm)
- October ??? Fall Cruise & Winery Tours – TBD

## **Christmas Brunch**

Will be held on

**Sunday, December 7th,  
11:00Am - 3:00PM  
Hearthstone Manor,  
333 Dick Rd, Depew**

Thanks to the club who will be picking up half of the cost for club members.

**Members pay \$8.65 pp,  
NON-MEMBERS pay \$17.30.pp.**

Please sign up and pay by the November 8th meeting. We need to give the Hearthstone the count by then. You may also contact Lee & Mike Buccilli @ 655-2037 to sign up and then pay by Nov.8th . Please make checks out to Corvettes of Buffalo and give or mail to Mel . Mike and I can't wait to see you all at the Christmas brunch.

Thank you

*Mike and Lee*

OFFICAL PUBLICATION OF



**CORVETTES**  
of Buffalo

[www.corvettesofbuffalo.com](http://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com)



---

---

## **Officers**

President Skip Polowy  
716-741-7677  
Vice President Frank Pastore  
716-694-9024  
Secretary Linda Bonus  
716-695-7643  
Treasurer Mel Skeide  
716-876-1194

## **Board of Directors**

Pete Ricigliano 716-634-6101  
Jim Bonus 716-695-7643  
Jim Lawson 716-838-2920  
Jim Brett 716-684-9364  
Reas Graber 716-830-7500

## **Committees**

Membership Marianne Pastore  
716-694-9024  
Newsletter Jim & Linda Bonus  
716-695-7643  
Phone Comm. Nancy Graber  
716-634-4656  
Sunshine Comm. Karen Rothenberger  
716-675-9467  
Webmaster Jim Bonus

---

---

Meeting every second Saturday of the month at

First Presbyterian Church  
9675 Main St. Clarence, NY  
Meeting starts 7:00 p.m.

---

---

Corvettes of Buffalo is open to all Corvette owners and enthusiasts over the age of 21

Visit us at <http://www.corvettesofbuffalo.com/>

---

---

Send Articles To:  
Jim Bonus,  
1012 Castlebar Drive  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
E-Mail : <mailto:jwbonus@roadrunner.com>

*Submissions must be in by 26<sup>th</sup>*

*Continued from pg1*

Please give some thought to some Corvette topics you may be interested in learning more about, or that you might be interested in presenting to some members. Depending on the topic, we may even get some technical help from one of our club sponsors and ask them to host the Tech-Night. While most of us are NOT "Motorheads" – the club does have some very knowledgeable members that would be willing to help us.

The October meeting also continues the annual nominations for Officers procedure, and I hope you can attend the meeting. This is your opportunity to get more involved in the club, maybe even get nominated for an Officer position. The club always needs talented members to help plan, organize and coordinate the club business & activities.

Save the wave!

*Skip Polowy*

## **Hospitality Committee**

We are looking for 1 or 2 Volunteers to help host the Hospitality Committee at the monthly meetings, starting with the January 2009 club meeting. The Kitchen task includes purchasing, setting up and serving hot & cold beverages. (Supply expenses are paid by the club Treasurer each month) –

Please see Maureen Polowy if interested, or call 741-7677. Thank You

---

---



**WEST HERR**  
NEW YORK

**STEVEN BERRY**  
General Manager

5025 Southwestern Boulevard  
Hamburg, NY 14075

(716) **649-7800** Ext. 262

(716) 926-0350 Fax

(716) 207-0166 Cell

sberry@westherr.com

[westherr.com](http://westherr.com)

Buick  
Cadillac  
Chevrolet  
Chrysler  
Dodge  
Ford  
GMC  
Honda  
Jaguar  
Jeep  
Kia  
Lincoln  
Mercury  
Nissan  
Pontiac  
Saturn  
Scion  
Sprinter  
Subaru  
Toyota

---

---

## ***Officer Nominees for 2009***

The members listed below have been nominated for the following offices

### **President**

Bruce Mussehl  
Frank Pastore  
Pete Ricigliano  
Skip Polowy

### **Vice President**

John Meyerhoff  
Skip Polowy  
Donn Schubert  
Jim Lawson  
Sam Irace  
Jim Brett

### **Treasurer**

Mel Skeide  
Donn Schubert  
Carl Balmas  
Dick Brownlee  
Ed Danahy

### **Secretary**

Linda Bonus  
Pamm Seifert  
Pat Danahy  
Lee Buccilli  
Karen Rothenberger  
Lynn Ienco

Remember: At the October meeting, all nominees must either accept or decline their nomination. If they are not able to attend the meeting, they need to express their intentions either verbally or in writing to an officer or member of the Board of Directors. Nominations can be reopened for further nominations from the floor at the October

## ***The Case of the Missing Wheel Lock***

Recently, Mary Carol expressed some concern about how her ZO6 was handling, particularly on wet roads. After she mentioned it a couple times, I told her I was sure there was nothing wrong with the car (she lets me drive it once in a while!) and that it was probably bad tires. Well, we both went out to the garage with a Lincoln penny and sure enough, the tread on the back tires did not reach Lincoln's head.

After doing a little research, I ordered a couple of 295-35-18 Firestone Firehawks from Tire Rack. The tires came within a couple days and we took them to a local tire dealer who had the right equipment to change the very wide tires without scratching her magnesium wheels. Up went the rear of the car! Off came the bolt caps. Next came the lug nuts. However, one of the lug nuts had a special design (wheel lock) which required a special socket to remove it! So, the young man came to MC and asked for her wheel lock socket. This set off a search through the car, to no avail. Mary bought the car from the original owner and did not recall ever seeing a wheel lock socket. We had to put the lug nuts back on and set off on a search to find the appropriate socket.

First stop was the Chevy dealer in Arcade. Service manager Joe Barrett told us about the McGard Corp in Orchard Park which makes wheel locks for General Motors. He informed us that McGard could sell us the correct wheel lock socket if we took the car there. We called them and arranged to go to the factory on California Rd in Orchard Park. The Customer Service Manager there was very nice and immediately came out with a lug wrench to check the wheel lock bolt so they could get us the appropriate socket. We were elated, thinking our problem was solved and we could go back to the tire shop to complete the process. Unfortunately, as soon as the right bolt cap came off, the lady from McGard took a quick look and said, "I'm sorry, those are not ours. I can't help you." Sensing our keen disappointment (and my growing frustration), she went back inside and wrote a couple of company names down on a sheet of paper, along with their phone numbers. She explained that these were their major competitors in the US, but she didn't know who made the wheel locks on MC's ZO6. Neither was anywhere near WNY, so I put it in my pocket and considered what to do next.

Using McGard's phone book and my cell phone, I

---

---

started calling Chevy dealers from the McGard Corp. parking lot. Hoping to find a dealer with information about the locks or one who would have a Master, I started with Glenn Campbell, since they seem to sell the most Corvettes in town.

Unfortunately, they have a difficult system to plow through for someone who is calling for information. I still don't know whether I should have asked for the green team or the red team, so I hung up and called Paddock Chevrolet. There, I got some helpful information. I spoke to the service manager and he informed me that the Corvette wheel locks were manufactured by Amcor, one of the companies on the list I was given at McGard. No, Paddock did not have any masters or replacement sets, but he got on line and directed me to Joe Basil Chevrolet. So I called Joe Basil, and after what seemed long enough to eat lunch, the parts dept. advised they did not have any, but their computer showed Gillogly had two replacement sets. We're still in the parking lot at McGard, so I think, 'now we're getting somewhere' and we hot-foot it over to Gillogly. At Gillogly, a service writer tries to be helpful, but the mechanic she thinks can help us is out to lunch! Meanwhile, I go to the parts department to check on the replacement sets. Sure enough, they have two. We open one up and guess what, they're made by McGard and don't match what is on MC's car. Eventually, the mechanic gets back and says, "I might have a socket that will fit that". Of course, it doesn't but he thinks maybe he can force it. Meanwhile, I'm thinking about those magnesium wheels getting scratched up and I guess MC is too, because she shakes her head and says "no thanks"! Now it is after lunch, we haven't gotten anything done or even had lunch ourselves!

Since I now know where they were manufactured and Amcor's phone number is on the list, I decided to call there. I was able to reach a customer service manager who listens to my story and says "no, problem; I can help you. Where are you? I name Buffalo and all the surrounding suburbs and she (getting to be lots of women in the auto business!) proceeds to give me a list of half a dozen dealers in the area who are Amcor agents. They will have the wheel lock masters and all we have to do is go there, have them identify the correct wheel lock socket (they're color coded), then call Amcor with that info and they'll send us a replacement. Now I know my day is shot and the tires aren't going on today. So I start calling the six or seven dealers on the list, most of which were Pontiac dealers with one Chevy dealer. The Chevy dealer (Daniels) is out of business and has been taken over by West Herr.

No one there knows anything about it. Three of the

five Pontiac dealers are out of business, one has been taken over by another multiple store dealer and the lone remaining dealer knows nothing about it and says 'no Pontiacs come with wheel locks, so we wouldn't have anything like that! I'm not feeling very good about Amcor at this point, but I called them back anyway to tell them that their dealer network was crumbling!! The customer service manager was very nice, however, and advised that they could solve the problem. All we had to do was take a couple of close up pictures of the wheel lock lug nut, transfer them to the computer and email them to her. She would have their engineers determine which wheel lock socket we needed and then send it to us.

By now the day is shot and its time to get home for my 5:30 golf match. We went home and took the the pictures. After golf we got the best two emailed to Amcor. In the morning we called the service manager and learned she had received the pictures and she thought they were adequate to determine the correct wheel lock socket. She said she would call back after lunch to let us know. Sure enough, around 3:00PM we get the call with the good news. They've identified it and for 20 bucks we can buy a replacement. We're both 'frothing at the bit so we agree to pay an additional \$20. for overnight delivery. Would you believe at 1:10 the following day (Wed), we hear a noise on the porch and get to the door just in time to see the UPS man getting back in his truck. We didn't waste any time ripping open the package and taking the socket out to the car. Believe it or not, it fit!! Of course, by now, the guy who was going to change the tire was off for two weeks to get married and go on his honey-moon, so we had to find another shop capable of handling that size wheel or wait two more weeks, which was totally unacceptable. We learned that the Southtown Tire shop at the corner of RT's 39 and 240 could do it, and that's where the story ended with the successful installation of the two new Firehawks. By the way MC loves them. They are much quieter. The car doesn't get driven hard enough to compare them in extreme handling situations.

If you lose your Corvette wheel lock socket, call Rebecca Worden at Amcor in Livonia, Michigan. The number is 1-800-831-9604 Ext.3. Email is [Rworden@Hi-Volproducts.com](mailto:Rworden@Hi-Volproducts.com).

*John Meyerhoff*

## ***C.O.B. at Carlisle***

We met Adam's Polishes founder Adam Pitale three years ago at Corvettes at Carlisle. C.O.B. Member John Meyerhof returned to our "campsite" with sample bottles of Adam's polishes, and that afternoon many club members went to Adam's location to observe him detail Frank Pastore's C-5 and Phil Gionet's Z06. After watching a marvelous demonstration of detailing, we literally purchased buckets of Adam's products. This year my car partner Bob Meegan and I met Adam at his site and again marveled as he detailed President Skip Polowy's C-6 convertible



You could see the look on Skip's face as Adam bore down as hard as possible with the Porter-Cable random orbit polisher. Not to worry, no damage done and Skip was given the opportunity to use this buffer on his ride with great results.



We spoke to Adam during numerous other demos and he invited us along with the crowds watching, to attend a party near the houses rented outside gates 2 and 3. That evening after pizza and beer, we again spoke to Adam who is quite personable and seemed to enjoy answering the many questions of his guests. During our conversation, Adam offered to extend a 10% discount to C.O.B. members for his products. If you have any doubts regarding these products, talk to Mel Skeide, Carl Balmas, Frank Pastore or John Meyerhof about their assessments. As I told him, Adam is a class act, and his products are terrific!



To obtain the discount, enter the discount code "Buffalo" on the checkout screen at [www.AdamsPolishes.com](http://www.AdamsPolishes.com). Any questions, contact Jason Armstrong, Adam's Polishes Events Coordinator at (866) 965-0400 ext. 120, or [jason@adamspolishes.com](mailto:jason@adamspolishes.com)

***Bruce Mussehl***

## ***New Members***

We are Fred and Marilyn Wolfe

In 1999 Marilyn was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. After the treatment of Surgery, Radiation, and Chemo, things were looking great. A year ago Marilyn was tested again, when it returned. Things are looking great again.

Four years ago, Marilyn said to get back into cars. My response was this time it will be Corvettes. The first one we looked at, was a 1957. It needed to be restored. I was told your're not buying that. At Carlisle, there was a 1957 Corvette Central Concept car. Marilyn loved it. When I told her that this was what the car in Ohio, would look like. I was told to give him a call. It was no longer for sale.

A few months later, we were able to buy a 1961 from him. Some eight months later, came a 1957, which I am restoring. A 2003 followed. Our love affair with Corvettes just keeps growing. Marilyn is the driving force. Which is ok with me.

We are buying a 1964 in Sept. The grand kids, say to keep buying more Gramps. They just love riding and working on them with us. Some day they might end up with them. What a great start for them.

***Fred and Marilyn Wolf***

## ***The First Presbyterian Church Community Pantry***

The Corvettes of Buffalo Members are being encouraged to support the First Presbyterian Church, Community Food Pantry, by donating an item or more. The Church helps needy families that are struggling by supporting them with some basic necessities to raise a family. Please bring your donation to the October Club meeting. The Church and the needy Families really appreciate any and all donations to this program.

Thank You!

### ***Examples of items in need:***

Spaghetti Sauce	Canned spaghetti
Chef Boyardee	Toilet Paper
Paper Towels	Napkins
Kleenex	Pancake Mix
Pancake Syrup	Tuna Fish
Peanut Butter	Mouthwash
Toothpaste	Soap
Shampoo	Deodorant
Cleaning products	Laundry detergent

## ***Indoor Winter Storage***

Winter storage space is still available. Limited space from Oct. 15th, thru April 15, 2009. \$250/season. Early bird discount to members \$235/season. for information call **John Anticola at 983-5690**

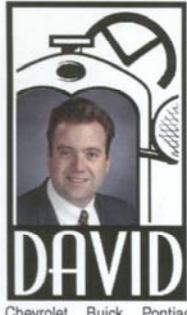


**NGR**  
**NIAGARA GUN RANGE**

HOURS: MON.-SAT., 9AM-9PM, SUN., 10AM-6PM

3355 NIAGARA FALLS BLVD. • N. TONAWANDA, NY 14120  
**716-693-4000**

[WWW.NIAGARAGUNRANGE.COM](http://WWW.NIAGARAGUNRANGE.COM)





**Joe Smith**  
Vice President

David Chevrolet Buick Pontiac  
10225 Niagara Falls Blvd. • Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
(716) 692-7810 • 298-9700 • Fax: 297-7234  
[www.davidcars.com](http://www.davidcars.com)

## **Keep in Touch**

Jack & Carol Kinney  
1860 Bradshaw Blvd.  
Cookerville, TN 38506  
Home Phone # 931 372 8255  
Jack's cell #931 256 1885  
Carol's cell #931 267 1330

[C5jackandcarol@yahoo.com](mailto:C5jackandcarol@yahoo.com)

*Jack and Carol*

## **October COB Anniversaries**

5<sup>th</sup> Sue & John Anticola  
11<sup>th</sup> Nicolet & Jim Brett  
20<sup>th</sup> Alexis & George Frank  
29<sup>th</sup> Debbie & Bob Tkach

## **Birthdays**

3<sup>rd</sup> Jim Brett  
3<sup>rd</sup> Rich Zahner  
4<sup>th</sup> Sue Anticola  
9<sup>th</sup> Frank Pastore  
11<sup>th</sup> Dick Brownlee  
12<sup>th</sup> Chris Balmas  
13<sup>th</sup> Patti Kirkland  
16<sup>th</sup> Cindy Erdey  
16<sup>th</sup> Kathy Huber  
18<sup>th</sup> Dan Krakowski  
27<sup>th</sup> Marianne Pastore  
29<sup>th</sup> Dan Wroblewski

## **THE DOZZIES ATTACK AGAIN!!**

Two more club member have been found afflicted by the DOZZIES. To date a cure has not been found for it! Fortunately all victims feel better when awaking from their coma.



REAS R. GRABER (716) 689-1930 ext. 116  
Sales Associate Fax 689-3029  
Cell (716) 830-7500



Patrick Center  
8600 Transit Road www.PatrickCompanies.net  
East Amherst, NY 14051 e-mail:RGrab@PatrickCompanies.net



**DICK RUTZEN**  
40 YEARS EXPERIENCE

(716) 425-1363  
HOME: (716)957-3151  
[transmanclassic@yahoo.com](mailto:transmanclassic@yahoo.com)

**CLASSIC CAR  
TRANSMISSION**

**Automatic & Standard  
Classic  
Car Repairs**

---

---

## ***Corvettes of Buffalo “Tech - Night” (Questionnaire)***

Please fill in any Corvette related subjects you are interested in learning more about during the 2009 season.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to Present or Organize a “Tech-Night” for the Corvettes of Buffalo Members, please write down the topic or subjects you would like to share. If you know of a Sponsor or Company that may be interested in hosting a Tech – Night Event, please let us know and fill in some contact names, phone number or E-mail address.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any Questions, or Ideas are welcomed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Submit to any Officer or Board Member. Thank You!

### **MR. BEST WRENCH**



Professional Corvette Repair



Restoration

2401 Bedell Rd. Grand Island, NY

[www.mrbestwrench.com](http://www.mrbestwrench.com)



**773-2989**

RODNEY REISDORF

Registered  
7033104  
State of New York  
Motor Vehicle  
Repair Shop

**TREAD CITY  
TIRE INC.**

DON RAISER

(716) 693-4800

89 THOMPSON ST. • NORTH TONAWANDA, NY 14120

---

---

## ***Corvette History***

- **October 1, 1996:** The first production 1997 model Corvette is completed
- **October 5, 1965:** The second Mako shark II car debuts at the Paris Auto Show in France. This version is fully drivable, with a 427ci engine.
- **October 7, 1960:** The CBS TV show, "Route 66" debuts with two young men driving a 1960 Corvette around the US in search of adventure
- **October 13, 1962:** 1963 model production Corvettes make their racing debut at the Los Angeles Times Three-Hour Invitational Grand Prix in Riverside, California. The Ford-powered Shelby Cobra also makes its debut. Four Z06-equipped Corvettes enter, but only one finished, driven by Doug Hooper. The lone Cobra breaks its rear axle one hour into the race. Hooper's Corvette wins the race.
- **October 15, 1954:** Zora Arkus Duntov writes a memo to Ed Cole and Maurice Olley, noting that the Corvette appeared to be a failure. He suggests that to drop the Corvette would be an admission of failure. He urges General Motors not to cancel the car, but to create a separate department within Chevrolet to oversee Corvette Development.
- **October 1992:** General Motors executives approve the design of the next-generation Corvette, with a target release year of 1997.
- **October 19, 1995:** GM names Dave Hill, Corvette's vehicle line executive, a new title in General Motors' ongoing restructuring.



## ***Even Vette Production Takes a Hit***

**Amy Wilson**

**Automotive News**

**September 15, 2008 - 12:01 am ET**

**DETROIT** — The automotive recession is even taking its toll on a car often cited as recession-proof: the Chevrolet Corvette.

General Motors confirmed to Automotive News that it will halt production of the two-seat sports car during the week of Oct. 6, then reduce line speed and lay off some employees. It is the first inventory-related closure of the Corvette assembly plant in Bowling Green, Ky., since at least 1995.

"We've weathered a lot of downturns," said Eldon Renaud, president of UAW Local 2164 in Bowling Green. "But I think this one has finally lasted long enough and people are concerned enough about the economy that it's probably having a minor effect."

It is unclear when the plant last closed for oversupply reasons. Though the plant went from two shifts to one in the 1980s, Renaud says, he can't remember a production shutdown since he arrived in 1981.

When Corvette assembly resumes the week of Oct. 13, the assembly line speed will drop from 18.5 vehicles an hour to 15, GM spokeswoman Sharon Basel said. GM also expects to lay off an undetermined number of employees, she said.

Renaud said up to 75 people could be laid off. The Bowling Green plant, which also assembles the Cadillac XLR roadster, employs about 800 hourly workers on one shift, GM says.

Through the first eight months of 2008, Corvette sales fell 8.5 percent to 21,066. They rebounded 47.4 percent in August after 2008 models were included in GM's employee pricing sale.

The big-ticket discounts, rare on the Corvette, reduced the car's inventory glut fast. The Corvette went from a 145-day supply on Aug. 1 — a 2008 high — to a 56-day supply on Sept. 1.

"But," Basel said, "you can't count on (the incentives) holding inventories down through the balance of the year."



**CORVETTES**  
**& Performance**  
**Specialties**

LARRY LEWIS  
 OWNER

- QUALITY PAINTING & MECHANICAL REPAIRS
- INSURANCE CLAIMS
- FRAME STRAIGHTENING
- RESTORATION SERVICE AVAILABLE
- S/S BRAKE CALIPER DEALER
- NEW & USED GM CORVETTE PARTS

FREE ESTIMATES  
**688-8765**



5895 TRANSIT RD., E. AMHERST, NY 14051

Pat Sarcinelli's



**JOHN ANTICOLA**  
**AUTO**  
**SERVICE, INC.**

*Serving WNY*  
*For 35 Years at*  
*the Same Location.*

**100%**  
*Guaranteed*  
*Credit*  
*Approval*

**716-675-4397**

5710 Seneca at Transit Road  
 Elma/West Seneca, NY 14059

**CLASSIC CAR INSURANCE AGENCY USA**

**RON GIOVINO**  
 3276 NIAGARA FALLS BLVD. (Cor. Nash Rd.)  
 N. TONAWANDA, NY 14120

**CALL US NOW!**  
 FOR A QUOTE & IMMEDIATE I.D. CARDS

**716-692-3333**

ASK FOR RON, JODI OR KATHY !!!

- ♦ ANTIQUES ♦ CLASSICS ♦ STREET RODS
- ♦ KIT CARS ♦ REPLICAS
- ♦ EXOTIC VEHICLES ♦ LEAD SLEDS
- ♦ CAR SHOW LIABILITY INSURANCE

1-866-716-3999  
 (OUT OF AREA)

FAX (716) 692-5601

AGREED VALUE • SINGLE LIABILITY CHARGE • 0 DEDUCTIBLE  
 FREE ROADSIDE SERVICE UP TO \$100 • LOW, LOW RATES  
 FAST CLAIM SERVICE • YOUR CHOICE OF REPAIR SHOP

"THE BEST OF THE BEST FOR YOUR COLLECTOR VEHICLE"

**CORVETTES**  
 of Buffalo

P. O. Box 161  
 West Seneca, NY 14224



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED