

CCND MEMBER OF THE MONTH

A Great Ride by Bob Cook

Car Guy - Yup, that's me. Cars have been a passion for me as long as I can remember. My interest in Corvettes started when, during my time at the University of Iowa, Linda and I moved in across from a white 1967 convertible, and it's owner whom we met shortly thereafter. That 67 was the first Corvette I rode in and the first that I drove - what a blast to drive and how beautiful. I was hooked, and a few months later (December, 1972) we found a 1968 yellow convertible on the "back row" of Bob Brown Chevrolet in Des Moines, Iowa. It had around 40,000 miles, a bad spindle, and was to be wholesaled the following day. We offered



My first Corvette



Yea, I know they never made 'em with red covers

\$1500 (the exact amount for which they had planned to wholesale it) and borrowed a trailer to get it home. A new spindle and we were on the road. Electrical glitches and all, it never left us stranded along the road, but is now in sad need of restoration.

A year later we were living in Camden, South Carolina, having started my first job with DuPont, and we found a fuel-injected 1959 in Columbia, SC. After buying it, we had exactly \$5.00 left for lunch money for the last two weeks of the month. During our two years in South Carolina, we were

founding members of Greater Columbia Corvettes.

Our first assignment with DuPont in Delaware started in May of 1977 and we immediately joined CCND. We had acquired a 1974 Coupe during a two-year assignment in Corpus Christi, Texas and we "refurbished" it in



Linda getting ready to autocross the 85

1980 after crunching a front fender. We subsequently showed the car successfully in a number of CCND shows - including the first ever Concord Mall show where we had 120 cars entered - about 70 inside the mall (before all the kiosks) and the rest outside. During those five years we were in Delaware, I served as President, VP, and the first NCCC Governor. In 1979 George Bukovsky and I flew to Knoxville, TN for the



1974 - Linda's Christmas present in 1976

formal induction of CCND into NCCC. (In those days, a club had to attend the National meeting when they were initiated.)



Ferrari Daytona replica - Camera Car for Miami Vice series (81 Corvette Chassis)

A transfer to Orange, TX in 1982 forced us to change our club membership to San Jacinto Corvette Club in Houston, TX for a few months - before we were transferred to Augusta, GA, where we joined Corvettes of Augusta, Inc. During our time in Georgia, we bought a dark grey 1985 coupe and the Miami Vice Ferrari Daytona replica (81 Corvette Chassis), sold the 74, took CAI into NCCC, and became the first Governor (as well as having several other offices). Also, the white 67 mentioned in the beginning of this article moved to our garage when our friends of many years decided to get a divorce.



1967 - the one that started it all

Then, in 1988 it was back to Delaware and another stint in CCND (President and Governor again) until a move to Parkersburg, WV came along in December of 1990. We joined Blennerhassett Corvette Association, and served as Governor for that club.



1965 - bought cheap - sold cheap

During a nine year stay in West Virginia, we sold the 85 to a Club member, bought and sold a Glen Green 65 convertible (300 hp), and acquired the 93 bright aqua blue metallic convertible that we still have.



1993 in the Concord Mall

In 1999 we moved back to Delaware and re-joined CCND.

And, early this year we bought an Electron Blue 2002 Z06.

Over the years I have been heavily involved in the Corvette hobby. Our first year to attend the Bloomington Gold Show was in 1974 (its second year) as it was a convenient stop on our trip to visit parents in Iowa for the 4th of July. We have only missed a couple Bloomington shows over the years - one being this year when we opted for the 50th celebration in Nashville. From 1989 to 1993, Bob Gold and I developed and put on the



The Bob Gold Auction at Bloomington Gold

Corvette Auction at Bloomington Gold, then in 1994 moved the auction to Corvettes at



The Z06 in the caravan to Nashville

Carlisle for another 6 years - until Bob's death at which point we elected to stop the auction. I met Chip Miller (through the local Delaware Valley NCRS Chapter) in the late 70s and have attended Carlisle events whenever possible. As a member of the National Corvette Restorers Society since 1974, NCCC since 1973, and the Straight Axle Corvette Club since it started, we have attended a number of national conventions, Corvette events (including the dedication of the Corvette Museum and the

35th and 50th Corvette anniversaries in Monterey, CA) all over the country, and have been attending the January NCRS meet in Florida since 1984. As this article is titled, it's been "A Great Ride". We have made friends from all over the country and I have to say that the hobby is made up of a lot



Joe Biden visiting the Diver Show in 1990

of really great people. I used to attend events to see cars; now I attend events to see people (well, and cars too).



Zora Duntov shortly before his death

CCND
NCCC Member # E172-0001
NCRS Member #1135 (DelVal Chapter NCRS)

SACC Member #64
Mid Atl Chapter SACC #87
Corvette Museum Member #18593