



# Vettester

*The official newsletter of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware. July 2008*

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**CCND celebrating  
35 years!**



*Andy Rumford  
&  
Michael Crank  
At the CCND  
Concord Mall Show*

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## This Issue

**1978 - Specs  
Beach Run  
Concord Mall Show  
Penske Show  
Supercharged '79**



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# On the Road

By Andy Rumford



June has always been a month in the Corvette World I looked forward to with much anticipation, largely due to the Concord Mall Show. I've come to quite enjoy that event and this year was no different.

With 25 Corvettes lining the Mall, everything from C1's to C6's, with stock, modified and Custom cars present, we provided the Mall shoppers with a wonderful Fathers Day.

I wish to thank again everyone who was able to make the show. Our club presented Jim Jordan from County Corvette a plaque as well to thank him for his time judging the cars in the judged class.

Did you take time to view the awesome 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Display that Mary Lou and Elouise designed? I saw many members and onlookers viewing the wonderful setup.

Thanks Mary Lou and Elouise, your efforts were surely noticed and appreciated!!!!

The results from the Concord Mall Show:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Peoples Choice - Adam Wahl**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Peoples Choice - Tom Polis**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Peoples Choice - Jack Layton**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Judged - Mary Lou Gilbert**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Judged - Jonathan Settrella**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Judged - Bob Anderson**

**Mall Management - Ken Woodcock**

**Merchants Choice - Andy Rumford**

**Presidents Cup (Best of Show) - Matt Guthan**

July show that is taking "Center Stage" is the Ronald McDonald house event that CCND's own Alan Chambers is hosting. This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the show. The date is Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> from 11-4 at the duPont Hospital for Children. CCND had a strong showing last year with 17+ corvettes filling the lot. Several New Jersey clubs as well came out in mass and although our club took home best club participation, it was close. Lets support Alan and the kids as best as we possibly can. More information about the show will be available at the July meeting as well as a sign up sheet, as we will caravan over together. This event is also part of the "Christmas in July" cruise that Mike Metcalf has organized.

At our July meeting, Mr. Jim Rosen will be our Guest Speaker. Jim was a TV writer for the Route 66 Show which aired in the '60's. His lecture and question/answer period should be quite informative and I for one look forward to his presentation.

Hope all of you have a wonderful time out on the road and don't forget to jot down August 17<sup>th</sup> as the date for CCND's club PICNIC!!

I'll see you all " **On the Road** "

# ***Meeting Agenda***

***Upcoming Agenda for the next meeting on 7/1/08***

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## **Corvette Club of Northern Delaware** **Agenda 7.1.08**

### **Call to Order:**

### **Welcome:**

### **New Members:**

### **2008 Officers Reports:**

Vice President:	Steve Blanchies
Treasurer:	Harvey Smith
Member @ Large:	Mike Metcalf
CCND Governor:	Fred Krumm
Newsletter Editor:	Barry Kimmelman
Social Chairperson:	Jack Layton
Show Chairman:	Michael Crank
* Club Ambassador:	Bob Gerber

### **Old Business:**

Club Calendar - Update (Mike and Steve)  
Christmas in July - Cruise (Mike Update)  
35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Club Shirts – Mary Lou / Steve  
Concord Mall Recap - Plaque to Jim Jordan, Raised \$125.00 for PC

### **New Business:**

Jim Rosen - Guest Speaker July Meeting (Route 66)  
Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> Corvette Show at Lone Star (Charity Benefit)  
CCDV Cavalcade of Corvettes – CCND, 3<sup>rd</sup> place (best club participation).

### **Adjournment:**

### **50/50:**

**Next Meeting date is August 5, 2008**

# CCND Events

Jack Layton

302-998-9434 [87twinturbo@comcast.net](mailto:87twinturbo@comcast.net)



## CCND ACTIVITIES

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
Tuesday

CCND club meeting @ 7pm at the Lone Star Restaurant on Route 13

Sunday  
June 29<sup>th</sup>

Cruise to Waterman's in Rock Hall Md. Meeting at the Goodyear Automotive Store on Route 40, just below Route 896. Leaving at 12 noon.

Wednesday  
July 9<sup>th</sup>

Mid week trip to Chesapeake Inn. We will be out on the deck. Leave the Goodyear @ Rts. 896 & 40 at 6pm. If raining, this event will be cancelled.

July 20<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday

Cruise the Chesapeake. A fun filled day on a 55-foot motor yacht. This event is limited to only the first 20 people who sign up. Bring your favorite dish. Leaving from the Goodyear @ Rts. 895 & 40 @ 9:30 AM sharp.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

August 5<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday

CCND club meeting @ 7pm at the Lone Star Restaurant on Route 13

August 10<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday

Cruise down to Boondocks Restaurant in Smyrna. Leaving the Park-N-Ride at Tybouts Corner at 1:00.

August 20<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday

Dinner at Houlihan's by the Christiana Mall. Meet at the restaurant by 6:30 pm

## June Birthdays



Andy Rumford	July 04	Dave Whitman	July 14
Barry Boulden	July 06	Rick Picho	July 15
Sharen McCarnan	July 07	Lisa Ebner	July 22
Valerie Thawley	July 08	Susan Clendaniel	July 24
William Davidson	July 14		



# Member's Car

Story & Photos by: Andy Rumford

Last November 2007 after the Corvettes for Chip Show, I made the decision that my 1979 Corvette needed a new power plant. The Car was purchased 3 years ago with known engine problems but for 2 years, I worked it as best as possible, limping around on 7 cylinders at one point and taking good-natured ribbing about my propensity to not go much above 55MPH. The car, although outwardly looking nice, internally was crippling along so, the decision was made to go with a new engine.

Next the search took into account exactly "WHOM", I would trust to do the job. Since I reside in Kennett Square, I did want someone within a reasonable driving distance. Little did I know, that a month later, I would choose "Blitz Automotive", a shop which had been building engines and racing them for almost 40 years. One of the best things about choosing Blitz was that they were less than 2 miles from my house. They had the knowledge and expertise and came highly recommend.



In January 2008 the "Build" began. I had decided on a 383 Stroker with dual Holly 750CFM carbs, topped by a Weiland "Street Blower" Supercharger and a Black Matte Custom Hood Scoop. Many parts were replaced in the process. Two gauges were mounted



behind the blower, those being fuel and boost (12 MAX PSI). She achieves 540 HP and 500 lbs. of torque. To handle the new stroker motor, a custom Transmission as well was installed, an automatic with a twist. This tranny at 50MPH requires that I manually shift it into overdrive so it's a "quasi" manual as we call it.

Over the next year or so, we will upgrade the suspension components and brakes, and look at many other aspects of this car. At some point in time she should then be ready for Cecil County or Maple Grove. What a blast she is to drive now. The only thing we DON'T pass is a GAS station!!!

# ***CCND Sunday Breakfast at the Beach***

***Story & Photos by: Steve Blanchies***

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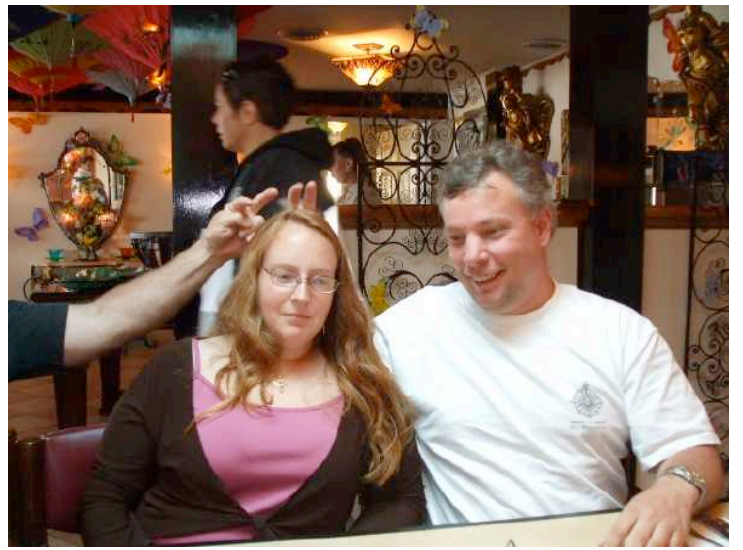
We met at the Tybouts Corner Park & Ride Sunday morning May 18th. Although it was a nice morning there was a possibility of showers forecasted for later in the day, but most of us still drove our Corvettes to the Serendipity Restaurant in Oak Orchard. Along Route 1 there was a definite police presence with many cars pulled over by flashing lights.

There were ten of us for breakfast and afterwards Norman Powell lead us on a small tour, which ended at his place at the beach. We then

headed for the board walk for a stroll which was cut short by the rain. What else to do but head to the Outlets for the rest of the afternoon.

Later, four of us had our shopping interrupted with a great seafood dinner. Then it was back to the outlets for Lynn and me. What a great day! Sorry you missed it.





# ***CCND Concord Mall Spring Show***

***Story by Andy Rumford, Photos by B. Kimmelman***

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June 15<sup>th</sup>, Fathers Day, CCND fills the Concord Mall with 25 Corvettes providing “Mall Shoppers” with a vast array of gorgeous cars to view. C1’s Thru C6’s filled the Mall. From stock to modified to custom, we had it all that day. A new part of the event this year was a “judged” show. We had 8 cars out of the 25 enter that part of the show. In my “On the Road” article this month the winners were noted. Everyone’s Corvette looked just wonderful and the Concord Mall management was “Very Pleased” at the turnout this year from our club. We raised a total of \$825.00, which was down \$50.00 from the October 2007 Mall Show.

Did you have a chance to see the 35<sup>th</sup> Club anniversary display? It was simply “AWESOME” and Mary Lou Gilbert and Elouise Wolos did a magnificent job!

The Concord Mall show this Fall will be a “TRIBUTE to the Ladies of CCND”. From the middle of the mall up to Boscov’s, we will have the ladies of the club park with a display board and photos made up of each one and the story of their car. It should be a wonderful Tribute. More to come on that event soon.

New this year at the Concord Mall were tables for CCND outside of Sears and Boscov’s with CCND Club signs (Thanks Michael), as well as people’s choice voting ballots and a short description of why we were there. Even though the people’s Choice voting contribution was down, the tables seemed to work, as I noticed many people at least picking up ballots. We hope to continue with this at the October Show.

Thanks again to all of you who brought a Car to the event and or who came to “support” such a great club!!!

See all of the pictures on the website: <http://www.vetteclub.org/pictures/CM0608.html>

Hope to see you join us next show.





# **1978 CORVETTE**

## **Corvette specs by the year**



- To mark Corvette's 25th anniversary, the 1978 model received a major aerodynamic restyling with large wraparound back window and a fastback roofline.
- This was the Corvette's first restyling since 1968. Two special editions were produced, one well known and the other little more than an optional paint job.
- New tinted glass lift-out roof panels were wired into the standard anti-theft system.
- A 24-gallon (US) fuel tank replaced the former 17-gallon (US) tank, filling space made available by a new temporary spare tire.
- Inside was a restyled, padded instrument panel with face-mounted round instruments and a new locking glove box that replaced the former map pocket.
- The re-styled interior had more accessible rear storage area with a roll shade to hide luggage.
- The wiper-washer control was moved from the steering column back to the instrument panel, but turn signal and headlight-dimmer controls remained on the steering column.
- Door trim was now of a cut-and-sew design with soft expanded vinyl or cloth.
- As in 1977, the seats had leather side bolsters, with either leather or cloth seating areas in a fine rib pattern.
- Corvette's optional L82 high-performance 350-cid V-8 reached 220 hp as a result of a new dual-snorkel cold-air intake system, larger-diameter exhaust and tailpipes and lower-restriction mufflers.
- A total of 12,739 had the optional L82 engines, 3,385 Corvettes had the M21 four-speed close-ratio gearbox, and 38,614 had automatic transmission.
- Glass roof panels, which had been promised earlier, actually became available this year.
- What Chevrolet described as "aggressive" 60- series white-letter tires also joined the option list for the first time.
- An optional AM/FM-CB stereo radio used a tn-band power antenna on the rear deck.
- Each of this year's Corvettes could have Silver Anniversary emblems on the nose and rear deck.
- A total of 15,283 displayed the \$399 special two-tone "Silver Anniversary" paint combination with silver metallic on top and charcoal silver on the lower body. Pinstripes accentuated the fender's upper profiles, wheel openings, front fender vents, hood, and rear license cavity. Interiors were also silver. Various other options were required, including aluminum wheels.
- For a considerably higher price, buyers could have the Limited Edition replica of the Indy Pace Car with distinctive black-over-silver paint and red accent striping. Equipment in this "Indy Package" (RPO code Z78) included a special silver interior with new lightweight high-back seats, special front and rear spoilers, P255/60R1 5 white-letter tires on alloy wheels and lift-off glass canopy roof panels. The Indy Pace Car package's content included nearly all Corvette options, plus special decals (unless the customer specified that they be omitted). Upholstery was silver leather or leather with smoke gray cloth inserts.
- The year's 11 Corvette colors were: Classic White, Silver, Silver Anniversary, Black, Light Blue, Yellow, Light Beige, Red, Mahogany, Dark Blue, Dark Brown
- Interior colors were Black; Dark Blue; Light Beige; Red; Mahogany; and Oyster.

### **I.D. NUMBERS**

- The serial number [Vehicle Identification Number -- VIN] was stamped on a plate on the inner vertical surface of the left windshield pillar visible through the windshield.
- Serial numbers ranged from 1Z87\*8S400001 to 1Z87\*8S440274
- Engine serial number began 0001001
- Corvette engines have the last six digits of the VIN stamped on the block just ahead of the cylinder head on the right-hand side combined with a three-letter engine code suffix
- Also cast into the top rear of the block is a four-symbol code indicating when the engine was built - the first letter shows the month the block was cast, the one or two numbers shows the month, the last digit shows the year
- The body number plate was located on the engine side of the cowl.
- The Fisher Body Style Number 78-1YZ37 identifies a Corvette Stingray coupe
- The body number is the production serial number of the body.
- The trim number indicates the interior trim color and material.

### **ENGINE & Transmission**

- The standard motor was a 350ci V8 motor, overhead valve with a 4.00" bore and 3.48" stroke. Compression of 8.2:1 with 5 main bearings, hydraulic lifters, and a Rochester four-barrel carb. Output was 185hp@4000rpm.
- One optional motor was available, the L82: The L82 had 8.9.0:1 compression with a Rochester four-barrel carb on an aluminum intake, hydraulic lifters and high performance cam and produced 220hp@5200rpm.
- A manual 4-speed wide ratio transmission was standard, a close ration manual was available, or an automatic 3-speed turbo-hydro-Matic tranny was.

### CHASSIS

Wheelbase:	98 inches	Overall length:	185.2 inches
Front tread:	58.7 inches	Rear tread:	59.5 inches
Wheels:	8" wide slotted steel15"	Tires:	15"
Brakes:	4 wheel disc	ratio:	3.08:1 – up to a 3.70:1
Front suspension:	upper and lower A-arms; unequal-length wishbones; coil springs; anti-roll bar; tubular shocks		
Rear suspension:	fixed differential; nine leaf springs; lateral struts and universally-jointed axle shafts; radius arms and direct-acting shock absorbers		

### OPTIONS

RPO A31 Electric power windows (\$130)  
RPO B2Z Silver Anniversary Paint (\$399)  
RPO C60 Air conditioning (\$605)  
RPO FE7 Gymkhana suspension (\$41)  
RPO G95 Positraction axle, optional highway ratio (\$15)  
RPO M21 4sp close-ratio manual trans (n/c option)  
RPO MX1 Turbo Hydra-Matic auto trans (n/c option).  
RPO QBS P255/60R-15 White-letter radial tires (\$216.32)  
RPO QGR P255/70R-15 White-letter radial tires (\$51)  
RPO UM2 AM-FM stereo radio with tape system (\$419)  
RPO U58 AM-FM stereo radio (\$286)  
RPO U81 Dual rear speakers (\$49).  
RPO ZN1 Trailing package (\$89)

RPO AU3 Power door locks (\$120)  
RPO CC1 Removable glass roof panels (\$349)  
RPO D35 Sport mirrors (\$40)  
RPO U75 Power antenna (\$49)  
RPO K30 Cruise Control (\$99)  
RPO L82 350-cid 210-hp V-8 (\$525)  
RPO UA1 Heavy-duty battery (\$18)  
RPO N37 Tilt-telescopic steering column (\$175)  
RPO ZX2 Convenience group (\$84).  
RPO UP6 AM-FM stereo radio with CB system (\$638)  
RPO U69 AM-FM radio (\$199)  
RPO YJ8 Aluminum wheels (\$340)

### HISTORICAL NOTES

- Introduced: October 6, 1977
- Model-year production: 46,772 (but some industry sources have reported a total of 47,667)
- The limited-edition Indianapolis 500 Pace Car replica was created to commemorate the selection of Corvette as the pace car for the 62nd Indianapolis 500 race on May 28, 1978.
- A production run of 2,500 was planned, but so many potential buyers who saw it at the New York Auto Show in February wanted one that the goal quickly expanded to 6,500 or roughly one for every Chevrolet dealer.
- Buyers also had to endure a selection of "forced RPOs" (items installed at the factory whether wanted or not).
- The mandatory extras included power windows, air conditioning, sport mirrors, a tilt-telescope steering wheel, a rear defogger, an AM/FM stereo with either an 8-track tape player or CB radio, plus power door locks, and a heavy-duty battery.
- Even though so many were built, the Indy Pace Car is still a desirable model.
- Dave McLellan became head of engineering for Corvettes and worked on the next-generation models.



# ***KSCC Penke Show***

***Story by A. Rumford, Photos KSCC***

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June 8<sup>th</sup>, probably one of the hottest days so far this year with temps soaring into the upper 90's as our sister club, Keystone State held their big show of the year at Penske Chevrolet in King of Prussia, Pa.



CCND was well represented with 11 members making the trip. This year's Best Club Participation award went to Liberty Region Corvette Club with 12 cars, besting us by only (1). The show this year had a 'Special Display' of High HP cars (over 500 HP), directly in front of the bay area. In total about 9 or 10 cars were in the display. More vendors this year than I can remember before were at the show as well as the Hooters Girls. Several CCND members were awarded very nice (Gas Pump) trophies for their fine Cars. Those being: Adam Wahl, Mary Lou Gilbert, Mike Metcalf and Andy Rumford.

There were a total of 120 Corvettes who attended this First Class show. One in which I surely will continue to attend year after year.



# Humorous Diversions

Add a smile to your day.....



## Senior Dating

Dorothy and Edna, two senior widows, are talking.

Dorothy: 'That nice George Johnson asked me out for a date. I know you went out with him last week, and I wanted to talk with you about him before I give him my answer.'

Edna: 'Well, I'll tell you. He shows up at my apartment punctually at 7 P.M., dressed like such a gentleman in a fine suit, and he brings me such beautiful flowers! Then he takes me downstairs, and what's there but a luxury car... a limousine, uniformed chauffeur and all. Then he takes me out for dinner... a marvelous dinner... lobster, champagne, dessert, and after-dinner drinks. Then we go see a show.

Let me tell you, Dorothy, I enjoyed it so much I could have just died from pleasure! So then we are coming back to my apartment and he turns into an ANIMAL. Completely crazy, he tears off my expensive new dress and has his way with me two times!'

Dorothy: "Goodness gracious!... so you are telling me I shouldn't go out with him?"

Edna: 'No, no, no... I'm just saying, wear an old dress

## Two old men

Bill and Sam, two elderly friends, met in the park every day to feed the pigeons, watch the squirrels and discuss world problems.

One day Bill didn't show up. Sam wasn't concerned; he thought Bill might have a cold or some urgent appointment. But after Bill hadn't shown up for a week or so, Sam really got worried. However, since Sam didn't know where Bill lived (the only time they ever got together was at the park) he was unable to find out what had happened to him.

After a month had passed, Sam figured he had seen the last of Bill. On his next visit to the park, however, Bill was sitting in their usual place waiting for him.

Amazed and delighted, Sam exclaimed, 'For crying out loud Bill, what in the world happened to you?'

Bill replied, 'I've been in jail for thirty days.

'Jail?' cried Sam. 'You? What on earth for?'

'Well,' Bill said, 'you know Sue, that cute little blonde waitress at the coffee shop where I sometimes go?'

'Yes,' said Sam, 'I remember her. "What about her?'

'Well, one day she filed rape charges against me. At age 89, I was so proud that when I got into court, I pleaded guilty.

The judge gave me 30 days for perjury.

## The Doctor's visit

A woman accompanied her husband to the doctor's office. After his checkup, the doctor called the wife into his office alone.

He said, "Your husband is suffering from a very severe disease, combined with horrible stress. If you don't do the following, your husband will surely die."

"Each morning, fix him a healthy breakfast. Be pleasant, and make sure he is in a good mood. For lunch make him a nutritious meal. For dinner prepare an especially nice meal for him. Don't burden him with chores, as he probably had a hard day.

Don't discuss your problems with him, it will only make his stress worse. And most importantly, make love with your husband several times a week and satisfy his every whim." If you can do this for the next 10 months to a year, I think your husband will regain his health completely.

On the way home, the husband asked his wife.

"What did the doctor say?"

"You're going to die," she replied.

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club of northern delaware  
**CORVETTE**



*The Corvette Club of Northern Delaware was  
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