



# Vettester

The official newsletter of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware  
December 2013

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## 1963 Grand Sport at the Simeone Auto Museum, Philadelphia, PA



### ***Featured in this issue:***

- \* ***National Corvette Museum*** – largest ever donation
- \* ***“From the Archives”***
- \* ***Don’t let Mice ruin your Vette’s winter nap...***
- \* ***Simeone Museum People’s Choice***

# CCND NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

## Minutes from the last CCND meeting



Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by **Steve Blanchies** on November 12, 2013. **Steve** thanked everyone who attended. **Christine Carlantonio** brought dessert for all to share.

**Jeff Duda** presented a video regarding caravan to Bowling Green. Info sheet given out - 400+ people signed up - leaving 8/24 - groups coming from the Netherlands, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Pittsburg, and Florida. CCND is a sponsor of the NJ Caravan and presented a check to **Jeff Duda**. **Horace Wahl** volunteered to pay 1/2 of the \$100.00 sponsorship.

- Vice President:** **Mike Metcalf** not able to attend - brother-in-law gravely ill.
- Treasurer:** **Harvey Smith** gave the financial report.
- Webmaster:** **Bob Avery** working on website.
- Member at Large:** **Jane Murray** has a few 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tee shirts as well as decals.
- Newsletter Editor:** **Fred Krumm** appreciates all submissions. You can contact Fred at [www.fredvkrumm@comcast.net](mailto:www.fredvkrumm@comcast.net).
- Social Chairperson:** **Fran Pepeta** not able to attend.
- Show Chair:** **Jack Bianchino** away on vacation.
- Business Manager:** **Bob Avery** reported that Diver is not interested in doing tech nights. NCCC insurance taken care of - have 51%.
- Club Historian:** **Bob Cook** unable to attend - mother-in-law ill.
- Committee Reports:** **Holiday Party** - **Marian Crank** reported \$42/pp- covers gratuity and staff - same menu - Friday, 12/6 @ 6:30 pm - DJ - 36 signed up so far - Marian to bring cake for dessert - cash bar.
- New Business:** 12/28 - Western Railroad dinner- let Steve know if interested - \$11.50/adult - \$10.50 over 60, \$9.50/child  
Adopt A Family - 12/13 meet at Marians house 2pm to deliver gifts  
2014 Officer Nominees:
- |            |                       |                   |                |
|------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| President  | Steve Blanchies       | Social Chair      | Bob Avery      |
| V Pres     | Mike Metcalf          | Newsletter Editor | Fred Krumm     |
| Treasurer  | Harvey Smith          | Member At Large   | Rocky Crisconi |
| Secretary  | Christine Carlantonio | Webmaster         | Jane Murray    |
| Show Chair | Jack Bianchino        | Business Manager  | Jim Davis      |
|            |                       | NCCC Governor     | J Zimmerman    |
- 50/50:** \$52 - **John Perrot**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, **Christine Carlantonio**, Secretary

NEXT MEETING DATE IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2013



PO Box 10132, Wilmington DE 19850

## Meeting Agenda for December 10, 2013:

Call to Order

Welcome

New Members

2013 CCND Officer Reports:

President:	Steve Blanchies	Newsletter Editor:	Fred Krumm
Vice President:	Mike Metcalf	Member @ Large:	Jane Murray
Treasurer:	Harvey Smith	Webmaster:	Bob Avery
Secretary:	Christine Carlantonio	Business Manager:	Bob Avery
Show Chair:	Jack Bianchino	NCCC Governor:	John Zimmerman
Social Chairperson:	Fran Pepeta	Club Historian:	Bob Cook

Committee Report: Christmas Party

Old Business:

- Recap ~ Concord Mall Show
- To be re-scheduled ~ Tour Rick Berry's Corvette Collection

New Business:

- Wilmington Western Rail Road ~ Holiday Lights Express & Dinner 12/28 @ 6 pm
- Ronald McDonald House New Years Day Breakfast
- Election of Officers for 2014

*2014 Pike Creek Cruise Nights: April 5th, May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th*

Adjournment

50/50 -- Jane Murray

Club "Swag":

- CCND 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Window Stickers: \$5.00 for 2. Mount inside or outside
- CCND "Regular" Window Stickers (2 types): \$5.00 ea. Mount inside or outside
- CCND Coffee Cups: \$6.00 ea.
- CCND License Plates: see Jim DeFord →
- 

**Next Meeting: January 14, 2013**

During the meeting can all members please put your **Cell Phones on VIBRATE**...thanks

Please be **generous** to your server



# NCM RECEIVES LARGEST DONATION TO DATE

Courtesy of  **AllAboutVettes**  
.com



Corvette enthusiasts are known world-wide for their passion towards America's sports car and the lifestyle it inspires, but some people take their love for this car beyond the extra mile. Such a person was businessman and Montoursville, PA resident, Donald L. Messner, who made arrangements for his Corvette collection to be gifted to the National Corvette Museum upon his passing.

In business, Don was known for his focus, determination and ability to make things happen. In his personal life, he was equally determined to make the most of it, enjoying a wide variety of activities including scuba diving, horses, racing, power boating, radio control airplanes, fishing, hunting and Corvettes. Don's love for Corvettes led him on a search to acquire low mileage, rare cars that were in excellent condition. Over the years, as his collection grew, he had a special climate-controlled garage built for them that he called The Toy Box.

In January of 2012 Don was diagnosed with melanoma. Knowing it was incurable; he continued to enjoy life as much as he was able. He joined the Museum for the exclusive unveiling of the 2014 Corvette Stingray at the Chevrolet Media Event in Detroit, and traveled to the National Corvette Museum to take delivery of his 2013 Corvette, as well as a visit to the Corvette Assembly Plant. While at the Museum, he decided that it was the best place to permanently display his Corvette collection. For his wife Marlene, she is gratified to see Don's collection going to the Museum to be



*Don and Marlene Messner*

enjoyed by the thousands of visitors who visit annually. “He said he wanted to plant a seed. He wanted others in similar situations with rare Corvettes to see the Museum as a place for them. Most of all, he wanted to inspire future generations to work hard to buy their own Corvettes some day so that they, too, could enjoy the lifestyle that goes with owning them.”

The Corvettes in the Don Messner Collection include:

- 1965 gray coupe, custom race built
- 1967 427 convertible
- 1969 convertible/hard top
- 1989 coupe
- 1990 ZR-1
- 1996 Collector’s Edition
- 1996 Grand Sport
- 2000 convertible
- 2008 Z06
- 2013 60th Anniversary Corvette with R8C Museum Delivery

Don passed on May 22, 2013, but he has left behind a stunning collection of cars that will demonstrate his love of Corvette to others for years to come.

“When people see these cars,” Marlene says, “I want them to remember Don Messner and his legacy. He was an amazing and very generous man.” A special exhibit of these cars will be held in the Museum Exhibit Hall from May 10-September 12, 2014. *(Ed. note – this fine collection will be at the NCM during the 2014 Caravan!)*

## From the Archives

*By Bob Cook, Club Historian*

As you know, during 2013 we have been celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CCND. The newsletters have been carrying articles about the early years of the club, starting with 1973. However, in the 1980s and 90s, most club activities had become annual events, and I'm afraid that the newsletter articles were getting repetitive -- and not so interesting. So, after chatting with our editor, Fred, we have decided to try a new tactic. I will pick out and highlight items "From the Archives" that, hopefully, will be of interest. These may not appear in every issue of the newsletter and may focus on different areas of club history. I would appreciate feedback from club members whether you like having these items in the newsletter and would like any other suggestions you have.

In this issue, we will begin by highlighting the club's first mention in a major Corvette publication. CCND was the first club "spotlighted" in *Vette* magazine's "Club Corner", and a club picture was included in the February, 1991 issue along with a short article (see reproduction of page following this article). You may recognize some of the names of members in the picture. Several of them were past presidents who attended our CCND picnic in September. The picture was taken during a "picture day" and picnic held at Don Hollowell's farm near Longwood Gardens in 1990.



I have also included a couple pictures from the previous year's "picture day", held in the fall of 1989.



These pictures were taken at Don Hallowell's in 1989. As you can see on the next page, we learned quite a bit from 1989. I think most would agree that the 1990's picture was done much better!

## The Corvette Club of Northern Delaware

# CLUB CORNER

**Editor's Note:** This feature kicks off a regular series in VETTE that will spotlight and celebrate Corvette clubs and their members. If you would like us to feature your organization, write to Club Corner, VETTE Magazine, 299 Market Street, Saddle Brook, NJ 07662.

**By Jim Campisano**

PHOTOGRAPHY: DAVE LUNDY

It probably would have worked out fine if the members of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware just got together with their cars for a photo shoot. But, no. That would have been too easy.

They wanted it to be perfect. With that in mind, member Don Hallowell's father-in-law was employed to design a layout. Bob Waites, a retired engineer, got out the graph paper and spent the better part of a day and a half mapping out to the inch a V-shaped design with just the proper amount of space between vehicles. (The finished proposal had contingency plans if more or fewer cars showed up. We're talking thorough.)

The day before the shoot, Bob, Don and club president Rich West were on Don's lawn checking where the sun would be at the scheduled time, then spray painting marks on the lawn where each Vette would sit. That's dedication.

That is also the way this club operates. It is first-class all the way. Whether they are generating money for Spina Bifida through its shows, judging for the National Council of Corvette Clubs, or just having fun with their cars, the members of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware have—for 15 years—done it up right.

Perhaps the club's most famous member is Bob Gold (of Bob Gold Auction/Bloomington Gold fame). His vintage racing '63 is in the second row, second car from the left.

We'd like to take this opportunity to personally thank club president Rich West, his wife, Sharon, Don Hallowell and his wife, Peggy, for helping make this all possible. Their hospitality and congeniality know no bounds.

Below is a list of the owners and their cars as they appear in the photo from front to rear and left to right.



Row 1: Judy Trefsgar, '64; Fred Latham, '85; Lindsay Rice, '88.

Row 2: Ron & Nat Godwin, '86; Bob Gold '63; Henry Green, '87; Jet Griffin, '89.

Row 3: Bob Cook, '85; Darrell Yarnell, '75; Don Hallowell, '72; Jim Davis, '66; Ann Gullo, '85.

Row 4: Kevin Bender, '59; Leaugeay Boyd, '90; Joe Kelly, '63; Peggy Hallowell, '67; Chuck Cleaver, '79; Dave Massey, '65.

Row 5: Sandra Yeager, '74; Del Trefsgar, '80; Jesse Stevens, '65; Richard Gullo, '81; Bob Gold, '65; Bob Godsoe, '72.

Row 6: Bill Wolhar, '85; Erik Hansen, '67; Ron & Maria Boulden, '87; Sharon West, '90; Rich West, '82; Bill Woodman, '78.

Row 7: Tony & Lori Wasile, '65; Mike Riley Jr., '88; Randy Greer, '71; Garth Koniver, '68; Dave DeVoll, '82; Carl Dellose, '65.

# Tips to Keep Mice out of Stored Cars



*Forwarded by Jim DeFord*

If you're a classic car owner, chances are that you've had to store your car at some point. Check out readers' best ideas for nipping rodent problems in the bud, ranging from D-Con and dryer sheets to sulfur and steel wool. If you're putting your car away for the winter, keep reading for ways to keep those small, unwanted guests out of your classic.

## 1. Dryer sheets

"I have had a 1966 Ford Fairlane 500 XL for 18 years, and I also have an acre in the country, so we see our share of mice. The best thing I've used is dryer sheets. Just go to the Dollar Store and buy a box. They don't have to be expensive. I just lay them all over the interior, under the hood, in the trunk, on top of the tires – even in the exhaust pipe. Then, in the spring, gather them all up and toss them. Not only will there be no mice, the car will smell like it just came out of the dryer. Works great for me!"

"One of the best things to deter rodents is to put multiple sheets of a fabric softener inside the car ("Bounce" is excellent!). There is a very low odor associated with the smell after taking the car out of storage, yet rodents hate this item!!! I have a car that I put in storage each winter and also have a 30-foot camping trailer that I store. I have never had one problem since I was introduced to this idea years ago, and I had many problems with rodents before using this technique."

## 2. D-Con

"The best (and most effective) means of removing all rats and mice from virtually any place is to place **D-Con** around in areas accessible by the mice and rats, but too small to be accessible by dogs, cats, or any other pets you may have. You may (or may not) detect a slight odor as they are killed off, but I can assure you will never be bothered by them again. I'm 75 years old and have used D-Con all my life, and have yet to see any signs of mice or rats beyond the third or fourth day of setting out the D-Con. I have an antique car, and I use D-Con in it while it is in storage to guarantee against any damage to upholstery or insulation in the car."

### **3. Traps**

“The best killer is the Victor snap traps with the 1-inch square plastic yellow tongue. It's more sensitive than traditional snap traps with the small metal tongue. I prefer a small smear of peanut butter in a center hole. You don't want much; just enough to give off the scent. The one downside of these traps is that if they sit long enough without a mouse going for the bait, crickets (and some small bugs) can eat all the traces of peanut butter without setting off the traps because they are so light. A combination of fabric sheets, snap traps, and building inspection and maintenance will keep your classic rodent free.”

“I have five classic cars and believe me; I have tried everything to keep the mice away. But I keep going back to the old faithful mouse trap. You have to keep an eye on them, but they do work. I also have a commercial pest control company put out poison. So far (keeping my fingers crossed) I haven't had much trouble or damage from the varmints. Years ago I made the mistake of putting the trap inside the car. It was nearly impossible to get the smell out of the car! Don't make that mistake.”

### **4. Mothballs**

“The ultimate prevention to mice invasion, or any other rodent invasion, is the good, old-fashioned mothball. By the first of summer the mothballs are gone. By opening up the car and taking a few rides, the smell is gone as well.”

“This is the second winter I've tried Bounce, in the car and under the hood. It worked OK last year, so hopefully it will continue to. But of course, there's that half box of mothballs spread around and under the car and in the far corners of the [old] garage, so it may be this combo that works. It sure keeps the chipmunks – destructive monsters compared to mice – out of the garage and from under the porch. “

### **5. Sulphur**

“Garden stores sell granular or powdered pure sulphur. Mice, roaches and other vermin hate the smell. Cut an old pillowcase into 8" x 8" squares and put a spoonful of sulphur in the center. Gather the ends and tie into a small pouch. Place these bags around areas that may have a mouse or bug problem.”

### **6. Steel wool**

“In addition to the soap and mothballs, I put wads of steel wool inside the pipes on my modified '48 Willys Jeepster.”

## **7. Other tips: Tape, jacks, 'Tom Cat,' lowered visors, no covers**

“Don't forget to put tape over the tail pipe opening and the air intake. A friend could tell you a story about tearing down an engine and finding a mouse carcass on top of a piston.”

“I maybe go a bit overboard, but I'd rather spend a few dollars and be safe than lots come spring. I put my car up on jackstands so only mice that can pole vault or jump really high can reach it. I also put lots of Bounce sheets inside and under the hood. I set about four or five mousetraps that I check every time the weather is warm enough to walk over to the garage where I keep it stored (it's only a 50 ft. jaunt, but at 20 below it seems like a mile ). I also, since no pets can get into my garage, set out about six little caps of antifreeze. Most of these can be used year after year and so far have been very effective, or maybe I'm just lucky. Either way, when spring comes and everything is the way it was when I parked it, I'm happy.”

“I reproduce interiors of vehicles; a procedure I inform my customers is to purchase "Tom Cat" mice packets. These are sealed packets (6/ box). Do not open the packets but place in trunk, under seats on floor, on top of the air filter cover under the hood. If packets remain closed the bait will remain fresh, if broken it will indicate the presence of an intruder, (who will not remain within the vehicle but leave and search for water). Remove the broken packet and replace with a new sealed packet. The indication of an open packet will remind one to view the vehicle more often. Unfortunately there is no inexpensive means to totally prevent the appearance of rodents, short of obtaining a complete air tight trailer; but this process has worked to assist in keeping the unwanted guests from a restored vehicle. I also recommend that vehicles not be stored in old barns or garages that present means for rodents to have access to the interior of the building. “

“This is not a method to prevent mice from getting in, but rather an extra precaution in case they do get into the interior. Mice have been known to 'nest' behind the sun visor and cause damage to the visor and headliner. Always lower the visor to eliminate the chance for the critters to establish residence on them.”

“I learned not to cover the car because mice like dark areas to build their nests, usually out of the car's installation, hood blanket, seat cushioning material, etc. I live in Colorado and every fall mice and other critters look for a place to come in out of the cold. Anyway, I now leave my trunk and hood both open and no longer have a problem.”

# Simeone Museum – People’s Choice Demo Day

*By Fred Krumm*

Saturday, November 30, turned out to be a great day for the final Simeone Museum Demo Day of 2013. The annual People’s Choice event showcases 3 or 4 cars from Dr. Simeone’s collection that had been voted on by the public. For 2013, the winners were 4 stunning “Prototypes” from the 1960’s - early 70’s. Probably the least successful (for a variety of reasons, not the least of which was GM management’s enforcement of the 1960’s racing “ban”), but very popular (and LOUD!!!!) was the 1963 Corvette Grand Sport (our “Cover Girl”). Also chosen were a beautiful yellow Ford GT 40, the sleek Cobra Daytona Coupe, and the outrageous 1,000 HP, 240 MPH Porsche 917.



Pat Carzo and I grabbed breakfast at the Hollywood Grille in Fairfax, and then cruised up to the Museum, where we ran into Horace & Adam Wahl and Ken Woodcock. The Museum boasts an unparalleled collection of sports-racing cars, many of

which achieved racing success at such premier circuits as Sebring, Daytona, LeMans, Watkins Glen, the Mille Miglia, Targa Florio and the Nurburgring. We enjoyed all the cars, which were beautifully staged to evoke the glory days of sports car racing. At noon, Dr. Simeone gave a brief history of each vehicle, starting with the Cobra and finishing up with the Porsche. Then the cars were started up and put through their paces in the large lot behind the Museum. Just glorious sights, sounds and smells!

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## December Birthdays:

Dec 1	Harvey Smith
Dec 8	Ivan Price
Dec 13	Anita Zimmerman
Dec 24	Jim Davis
Dec 25	Janice Wahl
Dec 28	Janice Tunell
Dec 29	Alan Simkins

# CCND Membership Application

Come be a part of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware. Simply complete the form and mail to the address below with your \$35.00/yearly payment. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. You can also complete this membership application online at: [www.vetteclub.org](http://www.vetteclub.org)

**Corvette Club of Northern Delaware  
PO Box 10132  
Wilmington, De. 19850**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home # \_\_\_\_\_ Work # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell# \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Corvette Year \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Other Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

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