



Vettester

The official newsletter of the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware



February 2012

Last issue we asked: “Is this the 2014 Vette?”



The answer (1/13/13): “Pretty much...”



Featured in this edition:

- * Corvette Racing 2012 – Top Dogs in ALMS GT Class***
- * Pictures from New Year’s Day at Ronald McDonald House***
- * Philadelphia 2013 Auto Show***

CCND JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the last CCND meeting



Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by **Steve Blanchies** on January 8, 2013. **Steve** thanked everyone who attended. **Christine Carlantonio** brought dessert for all to share.

- Vice President:** **Mike Metcalf** not able to attend. **Steve** reported 89 members and 99 paid members.
- Treasurer:** **Harvey Smith** not able to attend. **Steve** gave financial report. Motion approved.
- Webmaster:** **Bob Avery** reported "a work in progress" – trying to get with **Barry Kimmelman** for assistance.
- Member at Large:** **Jane Murray** created a CCND Facebook page and is working on 40th anniversary patches.
- Newsletter Editor:** **Fred Krumm** needs articles for newsletter. Anyone who has any articles let him know.
- Social Chairperson:** **Fran Pepeta** reported that he needs ideas for spring kickoff – members enjoyed Whip last year – let him know if any other ideas.
- Show Chair:** **Jack Bianchino** (see Old and New Business)
- Business Manager:** **Bob Avery** sent an email to Diver – **Scott** is our new contact – wants to make sure club & Diver on same page
- Club Historian:** **Bob Cook** looking for old newsletters that he can scan.
- Old Business:** **Deferred Business from November Meeting –**
- Motion to charge \$20 for Christmas Party and club to pay balance – club pays \$500 deposit so instead of \$40/pp club would charge \$30/pp (**Bob Cook** amended)
 - Motion of not charging for Concord Mall show due to club receiving \$750 – club members will not be charged – non-members charged \$20 (**Bob Cook** amended)
 - Motion of club picnic expense – club pays for picnic – **Harvey** volunteered his house for picnic, including renting tables, chairs, tent – need committee to organize food, etc.
 - Motion to support local veterans – club already took care of
- Ed Teddison** (Concord Mall) would like us to do a Sunday show in April
Steve to switch the club post office box to a smaller one
Christmas Party - plans to switch to a less expensive place – better attendance if on a Friday or Saturday night
Concord Mall Shows – **Jack** reported resentment of members paying – non-members happy to pay – we need more cars – fill the mall and we get more \$\$ from votes
- New Business:** **Board Meeting** – to be scheduled
Philadelphia Car Show – 1/22/13 – Diver discounts of \$3 off show tickets
40th Anniversary – picnic at **Harvey's** inviting all members, past presidents – any ideas call **Steve Blanchies**
Tech Nights – **Ed** and **Dave** or maybe **Bill Skinner** agreed to do
Cruise Nights – **Jack** reported that Lantana played out a lot of problems – would like to continue cruise nights – creates camaraderie – Pike Creek – Ruby Tuesday interested in one every week – would give club a % of what he takes in during cruise night – will pay for a DJay – rope off area – major commitment – **Jack** would need support to run – **Jack** will be away for February meeting but would like to discuss upon his return. **Jack** to discuss with Mustang club who also meets there and will get back to club.
- Bob Cook** motion that club authorizes to do cruise at Pike Creek – Fran seconded and motion was approved.
- 50/50:** **Jim Henderson - \$46**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, *Christine Carlantonio*, Secretary

NEXT MEETING DATE IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013



Meeting Agenda for February 12, 2013:

Call to Order

Welcome

New Members

2013 CCND Officer Reports:

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

Old Business:

- Planning for 2013 & 40th year for CCND
- Cruise Nights
- Philly Car Show 1/22/13

New Business:

-
-

Adjournment

50/50 -- Jane Murray

Club "Swag":

- CCND Window Stickers (a): \$5.00 ea. Mount inside or outside
- CCND Window Stickers (b): \$5.00 ea. Mount inside - clear background
- CCND Coffee Cups: \$6.00 ea.
- CCND License Plates: \$25 & \$27 -- see Jim DeFord


Next Meeting March 12, 2013

During the meeting can all members please put your **Cell Phones on VIBRATE**...thanks
Please be **generous** to your server.

C6R RACING: 2012 IN REVIEW



CHEVROLET TEAM REIGNS IN 2012 AMERICAN LEMANS SERIES GT

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AS Chevrolet celebrated the 60th year of Corvette production; Chevrolet's Corvette Racing team reigned in the production-based GT class in the 2012 American Le Mans Series.

In 10 ALMS races, the twin Compuware Corvette C6.R's posted four victories, six runner-up finishes, 12 podium appearances, two poles, and five fastest race laps. That performance propelled Corvette Racing to a sweep of the GT class championships. Corvette Racing won the team title and Chevrolet captured the manufacturer championship. Oliver Gavin and Tommy Milner won the GT drivers championship in the No. 4 Corvette C6.R, while Jan Magnussen and Antonio Garcia finished third in the driver standings in the No. 3 Corvette C6.R. Magnussen and Garcia won the Michelin Green X Challenge four times, securing the Green X GT manufacturer championship for Chevrolet. Corvette Racing also won the ALMS "From the Fans" award in popular voting.

The 2012 season saw Corvette Racing return to the championship-winning form that previously produced eight consecutive team and manufacturer titles and seven straight driver championships in the GT1 class. After a mid-season move to the fiercely competitive GT (formerly GT2) category in 2009, the team scored single ALMS victories in each of the following seasons. The introduction of new wide-body Corvette C6.R race cars and a realignment of the driver roster produced a dramatic turnaround in 2012.



"There may have been some in the sports car racing community who had questions about the capability and resolve of Corvette Racing after our initial struggles in GT," said Doug Fehan, Corvette Racing program manager. "I think 2012 answered those questions conclusively as Corvette Racing once again demonstrated its passion, its dedication, and its execution, thereby reaffirming Corvette's standing as a championship-winning, world-class sports car."

Many of the updates in the 2012 Corvette C6.R race cars were the result of changes in the GT class rules. The new Corvettes were two inches wider than the preceding version, with corresponding revisions in the bodywork and suspension to accommodate the increased track width. The rear wing was raised, and the Corvettes' 5.5-liter engines were outfitted with larger intake air restrictors in accordance with the GT regulations. "The rule change that allowed wider bodywork and increased track width was a significant gain for us," said Corvette Racing team manager Gary Pratt. "That was really what the car needed. Michelin developed tires specifically for the

C6.R that worked well with the changes to the chassis. We spent considerable time in the wind tunnel and doing CFD simulations that improved the aerodynamics. The first time the drivers tested the new package, they were very happy."

Corvette Racing's revised driver lineup delivered a winning combination of youth and experience this season. Jan Magnussen and Tommy Milner traded seats, with Magnussen returning to the No. 3 Corvette C6.R alongside Antonio Garcia, who became a full-season driver after three years as third driver in endurance events. Corvette Racing's "youth movement" accelerated with the addition of 21-year-old Jordan Taylor as third driver in the No. 3 Corvette for Sebring, Le Mans, and Road Atlanta. Milner joined Oliver Gavin in the No. 4 Corvette C6.R, with Richard Westbrook continuing his role as third driver in the three long-distance races.

2012 GT Team Champion: Corvette Racing



The Anglo-American alliance of Gavin and Milner produced immediate results. After a third-place finish in the ALMS GT class at the season-opening Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring, the pair scored back-to-back wins in Long Beach and Laguna Seca. A third at Lime Rock after the Le Mans break was followed in short order by another

win at Mid-Ohio, a fourth at Road America, and a runner-up finish in Baltimore. The pair clinched the GT championship with a decisive victory at Virginia International Raceway in Gavin's 100th career ALMS start. Even when things went wrong – a gearbox problem at Mosport, a broken steering rack at Road Atlanta – the No. 4 Corvette fought back and was running at the finish.

"This year has been the toughest and hardest championship in all of my years with Corvette Racing," Gavin said. "The level of competition, whether it's coming from Ferrari, Porsche, BMW, or our own teammates, has been phenomenal. We rose to the challenge, and a lot of that comes down to the fantastic crew working on the car. Tommy has been a great teammate and performed brilliantly, and that's one of the

reasons we won this championship." "This year has been special," Milner said. "In 2011 we won the 24 Hours of Le Mans, but we struggled a bit in ALMS. Then I got my first ALMS win at Long Beach, and that felt really good. This year we had the whole package, and it came down to being consistent and not making mistakes. It's been great to be a part of the competition in the GT class, and I'm looking forward to more."

It was boom-or-bust for the No. 3 Corvette in 2012. Magnussen, Garcia, and Taylor racked up the first of five runner-up finishes at the Sebring season-opener. Second-place finishes at Laguna Seca, Lime Rock, and Mosport kept Magnussen and Garcia in contention for second place in the driver standings going into the final round at Road Atlanta. First-lap incidents in Long Beach, Baltimore, and VIR, combined with late-race contact at Mid-Ohio and Road America, cost the Danish/Spanish pairing valuable points. The Petit Le Mans season finale was another heartbreaker, as the ESM Ferrari pulled off a risky fuel strategy to win the race over the fast-closing Corvette, leaving Magnussen and Garcia second at the checkered flag and third in the championship.

No. 4 Corvette C6.R team (left to right): Crew chief Brian Hoyer, drivers Oliver Gavin and Tommy Milner, engineer Chuck Houghton



"All in all, it's been a fantastic year, and we were very competitive at every race," Magnussen said.

"We were just in the wrong place at the wrong time,

most of the time. We were in with a shot at winning every race, but it was just one of those years. Corvette Racing has done a fantastic job on both cars, and I can't wait for next year." "I learned a lot this year, and I appreciate all that the team did for me," said Garcia after his first full season with Corvette Racing. "I'm proud that I have become part of Corvette Racing and the team knows they can rely on me. We will continue to learn and come back stronger next year."

The Michelin Green X Challenge is a "race within a race" at every ALMS event. It recognizes clean, fast and efficient performance to accelerate the development of new technologies and energy sources. Corvette Racing won the inaugural Michelin Green X

Challenge at Road Atlanta in 2008. This year the No. 3 Corvette C6.R scored a quartet of Green X Challenge victories at Laguna Seca, Lime Rock, Mosport, and Road America to capture the Green X Challenge GT team championship, and secure the Green X GT manufacturer championship for Chevrolet. Engine manager Dave Henninger and the GM Powertrain team developed the 5.5-liter Chevy small-block V-8 engines that proved to be powerful, reliable, and efficient through a long season, without a single engine-related issue. Technical partners Mobil 1 and Michelin provided proprietary technology that minimized friction and rolling resistance, thereby improving overall performance in the Green X Challenge. "In the sports car world, we are trying to deliver power, efficiency, and durability," said Jim Campbell, Chevrolet U.S. Vice President for Performance Vehicles and Motorsports. "The Michelin Green X Challenge award addresses that area of efficiency. That's important not only at the race track, but also with the production car today and tomorrow."

ALMS fans showed their appreciation for the team's performance on and off the track by casting their votes for Corvette Racing as having made the biggest contribution to sports car racing during the past year. Corvette Racing won the "From the Fans" award, the sixth time that the award has been given to the Chevrolet team or its members.

Editor's Note: ALMS GT racing is not the only way to cheer on Team Chevy in high-level sports car racing. At this year's "Rolex 24 at Daytona," Corvette prototypes, featuring several of the drivers featured in the article above, finished 2nd, 4th and 5th in the highly competitive DP class. This June, Northeast Vette lovers will have a great opportunity to enjoy a fun-filled race weekend at legendary Watkins Glen and cheer on their favorites. Kurt and I plan to attend; please let me know if you wish to go as well. See contact info below, from Bob Roessel's note, which Steve recently sent out to CCND members:



"I wanted to take a moment to reach out to the Corvette Club of Northern Delaware to share a very special Corvette Corral offer during our Grand Am Event, Sahlens Six Hours of The Glen June 28-30th. The offer includes a discounted weekend admission ticket, Corvette Corral Parking, and on track parade laps. For more information, please contact broessel@theglen.com. I would love to fill our Corral area with all Corvettes! If you have any questions or just would like to talk about the new C7 unveil, feel free to contact me at the information below."

Thanks,

Rob Roessel, Business Development Coordinator
p: (607) 535-2486 x351 / c: (607) 331-7437

BREAKFAST AT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE -1/1/13

(photos by Jim Davis)

Once again, a group of CCND'ers recovered enough from New Year's Eve festivities to whip up a delicious meal for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware located off Rockland Road near the A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children:

Should "doing good" really be this much fun?



"Dressed" for the occasion



Looks good enough to eat!



WE INVADE THE PHILLY AUTO SHOW – 1/24/13

(photos by Steve Blanchies)

Eschewing the Vettes, a group of us let Amtrak do the driving and enjoyed a day at the Reading Terminal Market and the Philly Auto Show. Too bad the new C7 wasn't there, but there were plenty of cool new (and old) cars to keep us occupied...





Coollest. Taillights. Ever. ==>

“BITS & PIECES”

2013 Concord Mall Shows Scheduled:

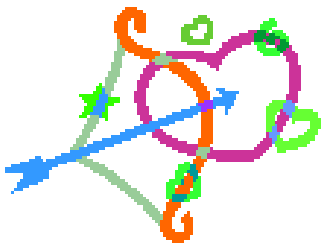
- April 28
- June 16
- October 20

Don't forget to mark your calendars – these are a great opportunity to share the Corvette hobby with a wide range of folks. AND, proceeds greatly benefit our Club charities. Be sure to participate in at least one of these fun events!



Planning is already underway for CCND's 2013 Holiday Party! Marion Crank writes:

“We had a wonderful dinner as always, and so nice to see everyone before the holidays. I plan on getting the cost down for dinner, so more folks will try to get together. \$80 per couple is high at this time of the year, so I will prepare for next year and keep everyone posted. It really helped that everyone paid with checks also so I thank you all for that too. If anyone has any ideas for entertainment or other suggestions, just drop me a note. Thanks again, M&M Crank.”



Happy Birthday CCND Members

Feb 6	Marion Crank
	John Perrott
Feb 7	Denise Cervelli
Feb 8	Donna Rumford
Feb 14	Gail Bajda
Feb 21	Don Nayden
	John Zimmerman
Feb 23	Walter Rupp
Feb 26	Jack Bianchino
Feb 27	Ron Stewart
Feb 28	Kathy Hupp



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

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PO Box 10103
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Signature _____

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