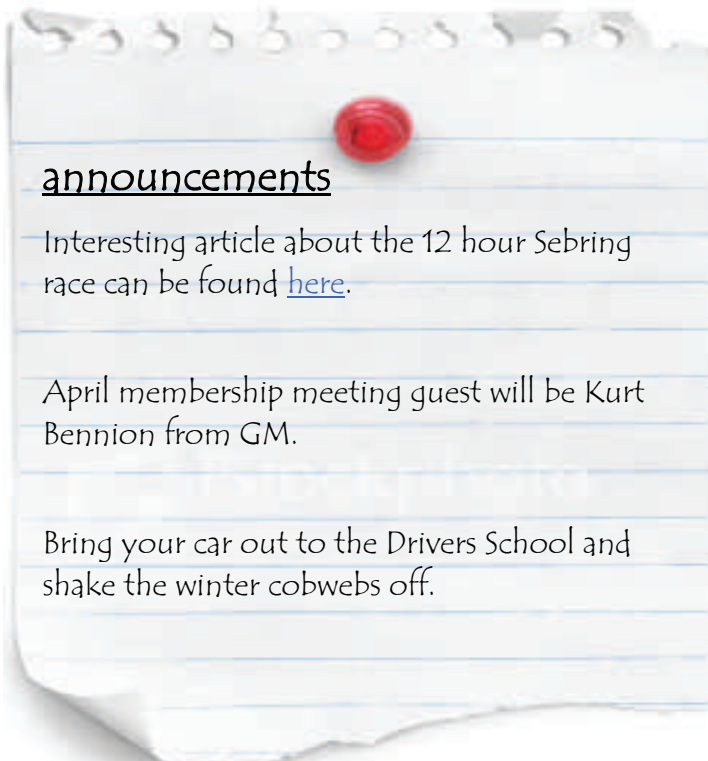




April 2011

we're on the web: www.corvetteclubmi.com
we're on Facebook: CorvetteClub-of-Michigan
To join/unjoin our email list: Go to CCM Home page, located right underneath the picture, enter your email address and click subscribe/unsubscribe.



CCM's Les Stanford representative
Gary Claudio, 248-807-8061, gman3081@comcast.net

join us

General membership meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 4th Wednesday of January to November at our sponsor:



21711 Michigan Ave.
Dearborn, MI 48123, (313) 565-6000

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Email publication material to
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president's pen

SPRING is finally here. At least that is what the calendar is saying. Our first competition event was held on Sunday, March 27th. Hope you all had a good time. Thanks Gordy.

A few reminders: April 9th is the Michigan Region Banquet and Joe Scafero (CCM) is the chairman for this unique event.

Our new member orientation/drivers school will be held **Thursday, April 14th** at Les Stanford Chevrolet on the north side in the lunchroom at 7:30 p.m. We invite all members to attend and enjoy pizza.

Saturday April 16 is a test and tune/school followed on Sunday, April 17th by our first autocross. If you have never done an autocross or want to come out and work we sure could use your help.

A special thanks to Ted Hou for putting together/ sending out the small copy of Slip-Stream. This will be done a few times throughout the year. I have received a few thank you's from members who enjoyed receiving their copy.

Our April 27th program at our CCM General Membership Meeting will be Kirk Bennion. We are looking forward to having a good membership turnout. Mark this date on your calendar. This is YOUR CLUB and we do enjoy seeing you at the meetings. If you missed the last meeting it was unfortunate, because we had Dan Binks from Pratt & Miller as our guest speaker. Dan did a great job reviewing Sebring and gave us posters with the 2011 Corvette Racing Team.

Thanks to Jim Rees and Gary Claudio for doing such a great job with the Corvette Encounter (this is also the CCM inside Concours) and Motor City Corvette Concours. Be sure and mark your calendars for June 11, 2011 and September 24th for these two great events.

Hope to see all of our members at our next event. If you are looking for a new or used vehicle be sure and stop by Les Stanford Chevrolet/Cadillac.

Mary Wentzel, 2011 President



membership report

What do you think? Is spring here? I mean really here, the calendar says yes, the robin I saw the other day, means it is. Or so those old wives tales would lead us to believe. We have had our first competition event of the new season. But hey, I've participated in those before and had to dodge many a snowflake that was falling on that particular day. So all in all I guess time will tell. I for one am sure as heck ready spring to be here!

With all of that being said, we welcome two more new members to The Corvette Club of Michigan. Elizabeth Antos and her husband Darren Erspamer from Ortonville come to the club with a 2004 Z06 and a 2007 coupe. Some of you may be familiar with Elizabeth and Darren, as they are avid autocrossers! Welcome to the club.

Shows – As was mentioned briefly last month, the 15th Annual Corvette Encounter will be held on Saturday June 15, 2011. This all Corvette show is open to ALL Corvettes. Trophies will be awarded for open judged competition. Cars are judged on cleanliness and condition only. In addition there will be a NCCC sanctioned people's choice show, which will allow both entrants and spectators to choose their favorite Corvette from all generations, from C1 thru C6. NCCC points will be awarded along with trophies per the NCCC guidelines. Show flyers and entry forms are online at the club website, (www.corvetteclubmi.com). By pre-registering before June 4, 2011 you will be eligible for a drawing to win a Corvette car cover. I will be needing members to volunteer to work the day of the show. We will be in need of approximately 20-25 persons to assist with judging, the waiver signing, traffic, parking, registration/check-in, 50/50 sales and of course clean-up. All members that volunteer to work will receive not only worker points, but a sleek new royal blue polo style worker shirt. Please contact me with your name, shirt size and which position you would like to work.

Another note to remember coming this month, in April is the new member orientation. **Be sure you notice that the date has been changed to; Thursday April 14 at 7:30 pm.** We will meet in the lunchroom of the new car Chevrolet showroom on the north side of Michigan Ave. Please be sure to RSVP me (www.jrees1957@yahoo.com). The orientation is open to any new member that has joined the club since January 2010, or anyone that would be new to autocrossing this year. On Saturday, April 16, 2011 there will be a test-n-tune and driver's school held in conjunction with our first autocross, the next day Sunday April 16, 2011. Be sure to notify Chris Scafero if you plan on attending on Saturday.

Lastly, we, the Board of the CCM, have mentioned several times recently that anyone who has ideas about an event or function other than autocross that they would like to partake of, please step up and share your thoughts and ideas. Any Board member would be happy to assist you in, or would direct you to another member that can help make your idea or event a reality. We know that most everyone's schedules are quite full these days, but if the right outing came along we need to make it happen. Don't be afraid – no one will point fingers or snicker behind your back. Better yet if someone would like to fill the position of Social or Activities Director, by all means – step up.



Just one last reminder our other big seasonal show: the Motor City Corvette Concours II, is scheduled for Saturday September 24, 2011. More information on that show will be coming soon.

Stay informed and Stay involved.

“Ignite the Passion”

Jim Rees

CCM Membership Director

“Save the Wave”



Corvette Plant Seeking Display Cars for 30th Anniversary

This year the Bowling Green Assembly Plant will be celebrating its 30th year of being the home of Corvette. As part of their celebration they are looking to have one Corvette from each of the generations that were built in the plant on display during their monthly "All Hands" meeting on September 1st. They have asked the NCM to find one each of a C3 (specifically a 1981 BG production), C4, C5 and C6 that can be on display for that meeting, approximately a 2 hour time period.



The owners of the 4 cars selected will bring their cars to the plant at 5:45am on Thursday and will be able to attend the all hands meeting as well as have their picture taken with their car while on display inside.

If you are interested in being part of this event please send an email to Roc Linkov (roc@corvettemuseum.org) with a picture of your car and your contact information. The 4 winners will be selected in mid July, 2011.

From Here to There Science Exhibit Now Open

Explore the science of how things move by land, sea and air at the National Corvette Museum's new traveling exhibition, From Here to There. Lift, launch and levitate as you experiment with hands-on exhibits that make learning about gravity, friction, and the laws of motion fun. Ride a hovercraft to experience how air pressure works, adjust wind speed to form fabric into an airfoil and float your sailboat to experiment with the effect of wind, rudder and sail positions.

Spring VIP Tour Sale

Join us this Spring for a V.I.P. Corvette Plant and Museum tour and save! Guests who book and use their tour between March 7 and April 14 will **save \$50 off the regular price.**

The 3-5 hour tour includes the GM Corvette Assembly Plant and The National Corvette Museum. Tours are more in-depth and include portions not included in the regular tours.

Regular price of tours is \$250 and includes up to four people in a group. Special pricing is \$200. Additional persons are \$50 each. Tour must be used by April 14. Mention this special offer when booking. More information is online. You may also contact Gary Cockriel or Lori Bieschke at 800-205-4248 or by email gary@corvettemuseum.org or lori@corvettemuseum.org.



Group rates are available, and discount tickets are available for the public at any Warren County PNC branch. Additionally, PNC customers may show a bankcard to receive discount admission.

Corvette is a Recommended Buy

According to Consumer Reports - the 2011 Corvette is a Recommended Buy, and Corvette Convertible had the lowest overall insurance losses of any car. Consumer Digest.com also named Corvette a Best Buy, noting: "As it has for decades, the Corvette continues to deliver eye-opening performance, distinctive styling and a surprisingly comfortable ride. All of this puts it in a class of its own. Even at the Z06

level, the Corvettes dual personality—a splendid street car that is just as much at home on a race track—is unmatched for the money that you plunk down. Some auto-industry critics have complained about the quality of the interior of this year's Corvettes, but we are less put off by it. We found the bucket seats to be firm and supportive, and, even on long trips, the Corvette is a comfortable companion." Congratulations, Corvette!



Museum Website Menu Now Mobile Friendly

Thanks to some of our enthusiasts for pointing out that the Museum's main menu was not mobile friendly! We have now made an adjustment to that menu so that you can tap it twice on your iPhone, iPad and other mobile devices to access items on the menu instead of having a drop down menu like is available for desktop PCs.

We anxiously await the completion of our BRAND NEW website which we anticipate to be completed and launched this fall. The new site will make online shopping easier, and you will have only ONE login and password to access not only the store, but event registration and other sections. Stay tuned!



Let Us Help Promote Your Events!

Each month we will list upcoming Corvette and car shows... want to get yours on this list? It's easy and free! First, check to see if your event is listed already. If it's not, click [here](#) to create an account and add it!

This April, the Corvette Store will hit the road, attending a whopping SEVEN shows all over the country! Check them out here, and make plans to come see us!

- April 1 - Leisure Time Corvette Club (The Villages, FL)
- April 1-2 - [Corvette Enid Expo](#) (Enid, OK)
- April 7-9 - Barrett Jackson (West Palm Beach, FL)
- April 9 - [Corvette Cup](#) (Columbia, MO)
- April 14-16 - [Central Arkansas Corvette Show](#) (Hot Springs, AR)
- April 16 - [Vettes 'Doin Charleston](#) (Charleston, SC)
- April 22-23 - [Corvette Beach Odyssey](#) (Panama City Beach, FL)



Corvette Store Feature

[NCM Ladies' V-Neck Tunic.](#) Reach for this ladies' tunic when you are looking for plenty of comfort and Corvette style! Tunic features a flattering v-neck with a built in contrast panel at the neckline. \$21.00





competition report

Greetings CCM Competitors,

By the time you read this our first competition event of 2011 will be history. As I type this, tomorrow Gordon McCann is chairing the Luck of the Irish TSD Rallye. Gordy promised that this is going to be one easy rallye, so I will report back next month and let you know how it went. The weather forecast is looking cold, but sunny.

We are less than one month away from the start of the autocross season. Our first event is April 17th at the Poletown Plant, preceded on Saturday by the autocross school and test & tune on April 16th. Saturday is free for members, and you will receive a lot of seat time to shake off the winter rust, so please plan to attend. Experienced drivers will be called upon to instruct for new drivers. If you are a new member or will be new to CCM competition this year, please plan on coming to our New Member Orientation on THURSDAY April 14th (this is changed recently from Friday) at Les Stanford Chevrolet. Among other aspects of CCM, I will be giving an overview of the CCM competition program. Flyers are included elsewhere in this Slipstream.

Online registration for autocross events will be available soon at myautoevents.com. I will send an email notice when it opens.

Please remember that the helmet requirement is updating to Snell 2005 minimum this year. You are also allowed to use a 2000 if the helmet has a sticker showing the date of manufacture within the last ten years. I recently purchased a new helmet from saferacer.com, which had free shipping on orders over \$99. There was also a 10% off discount coupon code online (google saferacer coupon code). There was however a backorder (Bell helmet), but I received my new helmet in just under a month.

Also, we are in need of volunteers at key positions at our autocrosses this year. We will need 2-3 volunteers at Tech. This position requires familiarity with NCCC and Detroit Council rules and classes, but it is an early job that finishes around noon, giving you the opportunity to socialize and spectate the rest of the day, or get your runs in and head home. We could also use a few volunteers in Timing and Scoring, and in particular operating the timing and registration computer. Please contact me if you are interested in any of these positions or need more info on any of them.

Regards,
Chris Scafero
2011 CCM Competition Director
734-748-9948
cscifero@yahoo.com

2011 Competition Calendar

Updated 2/15/11

DATE	DAY	CCM Competition Events www.corvetteclubmi.com	MI Region NCCC www.michcorvette.org	National NCCC www.corvettesnccc.org	DCSCC, Other Events dcsccl.blogspot.com DCSCC Hotline: 313-388-3301	SCCA Solo and ProSolo www.detroit-scca.org www.scca.org	Waterford Hills Road Racing, Inc. (WHRRRI) www.waterfordhills.com	
22-Feb	Tuesday		Region Meeting					
26-Feb	Saturday			National Officers Mtg				
27-Mar	Sunday	CCM Rallye						
4-5-Apr	Sat-Sun							
09-Apr	Saturday		MI Region Banquet					
15-Apr	Friday	CCM New Member Orientation						
16-Apr	Saturday	CCM Driver School Driving Session/T&T						
17-Apr	Sunday	CCM DCSCC Autocross			CCM Autox		WHRRRI Open Track Day	
26-Apr	Tuesday		Region Meeting					
30-Apr	Saturday			National Officers Mtg				
28-Apr	Thursday					DRSCCA Solo School Classroom LTU	WHRRRI Driver's School	
30-Apr	Saturday					DRSCCA Solo School Belle Isle		
01-May	Sunday					DRSCCA Solo Belle Isle		
07-May	Saturday		LCC 4 Rallye				WHRRRI Race 1	
08-May	Sunday							
14-May	Saturday		CCC Driving School					
15-May	Sunday		CCBC PC Show		AROC Autox			
21-May	Saturday		SCC PC Show					
22-May	Sunday		GVCA Rallye/PC Show					
28-May	Saturday		RCWM 4 Rallyes					
29-May	Sunday	CCM DCSCC Autocross	RCWM PC Show		CCM Autox			
30-May	Monday					DRSCCA Solo Belle Isle		
04-Jun	Saturday		FCC PC Show				WHRRRI Race 2	
05-Jun	Sunday		KCC/CCC 7 Low Speed		MSCC Autox			
11-Jun	Saturday	Corvette Encounter/CCM Concours/NCCC PC Show						
12-Jun	Sunday	CCM/CCBC/GLCC 7 Low Speed				AROC Autox		
14-Jun	Tuesday		Region Meeting					
17-19-Jun	Fri-Sun					Oscoda ProSolo		
18-24-Jun	Sat-Sun	NCCC Convention Tinley Park IL						
24-26-Jun	Fri-Sun					DRSCCA Solo Oscoda		
25-Jun	Saturday						WHRRRI Race 3	
26-Jun	Sunday							
02-Jul	Saturday						WHRRRI Open Track Day	
04-Jul	Monday	CCM Waterford Time Trials						
09-Jul	Saturday		MAG Low Speed					
10-Jul	Sunday		MAG Low Speed					
15-17-Jul	Fri-Sun					DRSCCA Oscoda Test & Tune and 3 Solo		
16-Jul	Saturday		GVCA Low Speed				WHRRRI Race 4 ***Corvettes on the Hill***	
17-Jul	Sunday				MSCC Autox			
23-Jul	Saturday		FCC 5 LS					
24-Jul	Sunday	CCM 7 Low Speed				AROC Autox		
29-31-Jul	Fri-Sun						WHRRRI Vintage Races	
30-Jul	Saturday		CCCC 7 Low Speed					
31-Jul	Sunday		JCC 7 Low Speed					
06-Aug	Saturday	CCM Drags Lapeer Dragway	LCC 4 Rallye					

2011 Competition Calendar

Updated 2/15/11

DATE	DAY	CCM Competition Events www.corvetteclubmi.com	MI Region NCCC www.michcorvette.org	National NCCC www.corvettesnccc.org	DCSCC, Other Events dcsccl.blogspot.com DCSCC Hotline: 313-388-3301	SCCA Solo and ProSolo www.detroit-scca.org www.scca.org	Waterford Hills Road Racing, Inc. (WHRRRI) www.waterfordhills.com
07-Aug	Sunday		SCC 6 Low Speed		MSCC Autox		
13-Aug	Sunday		ACC PC Show				
14-Aug	Sunday	CCM Picnic/NCCC PC Show				DRSCCA Solo Belle Isle	WHRRRI Open Track Day
21-Aug	Sunday	CCM DCSCC Autocross			CCM Autox		
27-Aug	Saturday						WHRRRI Race 5
28-Aug	Sunday				AROC Autox		
06-Sep	Tuesday		Region Meeting				
10-Sep	Saturday			National Officers Mtg			
11-Sep	Sunday					DRSCCA Solo Belle Isle	
17-Sep	Saturday		CCC 3 Rallye/1 PC Show				
18-Sep	Sunday	CCM DCSCC Autocross	CCBC 4 Rallye		CCM Autox		
24-Sep	Sunday	Motor City Corvette Concours/NCCC PC Show					
25-Sep	Sunday		KCC 3 Rallyes				WHRRRI Open Track Day
01-Oct	Saturday						WHRRRI Race 6
02-Oct	Sunday				MSCC Autox		
08-Oct	Saturday	CCM/FCC/RCWM 4 Rallyes					
09-Oct	Sunday	CCM DCSCC Autocross			CCM Autox		
15-Oct	Saturday					DRSCCA Solo Belle Isle	
16-Oct	Sunday	CCM Raindate					
06-Nov	Sunday	CCM 3 NCCC Rallyes					
08-Nov	Tuesday		Region Meeting				
08-Nov	Sunday			National Officers Mtg			



dcsccl report

The Detroit Council held their annual awards banquet at Kart2Kart in early March. A number of CCM members claimed class honors and trophies for their 2010 accomplishments.

Recognition needs to be accorded to:

- Fred King is the AMR class champion, in his '70 coupe.
- Paul Yuska won TSS, driving his '04 Commemorative Edition Z06.
- David Orton captured the TAS class, in his red '00 coupe.
- Brandon Lincoln, in a Chevrolet HHR, took the TGS class.
- Chris MacKay is the SS class winner, in his '08 Z51.
- Bill Rietow claimed the BS class title in his '88 Z51 coupe.
- Ted Godett won the ASP class in his black C5 Z06.
- Chris Scafero repeats as the BSP class champion in his silver C3.
- Bruce Wentzel took the runner-up trophy in BSP.
- Rhonda Kralemann is the TASL class champion in a red '00 coupe.
- Mary Wentzel is the BSPL class champion, in the blue/white/checkered C4.

Rhonda also was the overall Ladies champion. Congratulations, Rhonda!

A unique aspect of the Council autocross series is a team competition. I described how the team competition works in last month's column, but my current plea is for those who want to join a CCM team . . . contact me ASAP!

Elsewhere in this "e-Slipstream" is a copy of the registration form for the Council series. You need to be registered in order to score points and to belong to a team. The good news is that the fee is a small nominal amount . . . five bucks.

The last item to note this month is that in the March issue I provided a tentative calendar. There has been one change. MSCC has moved one of their dates from 5/22 to 6/5.

As always, if you have any questions, shoot me an e-mail or give me a call!

Respectfully submitted,
Al Chan
achan1ee@yahoo.com

CORVETTE CLUB OF MICHIGAN OFFICERS



Elected Positions:

President	Mary Wentzel
Vice President	Glenn Grace
Recording Secretary	Pat Jutras
Corresponding Secretary	Lynn Banister
Treasurer	Ted Hou
Second Year Board Representatives	Dave Krom Dyan Janowitz Roy Thayer
First Year Board Representatives	Diane Watson Brett Watson Paul Yuska
Past President	Bruce Wentzel



Appointed Positions:

Competition Director	Chris Scafero
Detroit Council Rep.	Al Chan
Michigan Region Rep.	Chris Scafero
Points Director	Ken Sumner
SlipStream Editor	Ted Hou (e-interim)
Program Director	Gary Claudio
NCCC Governor	Joe Scafero (734-513-6003)
Public Relations	Fred King
Membership Director	Jim Rees
Social Director	—OPEN—
NCM Ambassador	Joe Thomas



Non-Board Positions:

Club Historian	Ray Horenstein
Webmaster	Steve Budaj, steve@corvetteclubmi.com
CCM Merchandise	— OPEN —

OTHER VIPs

Les Stanford Chevrolet Representative	313-565-6000
Gary Claudio	



COMPETITION COMMITTEE

Chris Scafero – Competition Director	
Chris Davies	Gordy McCann
Ted Godett	Fred King
John Gruber	Jim McLaughlin
Dave Krom	Ken Sumner
Carl Polomski	Joe Scafero
Bruce Wentzel	Paul Yuska
Ted Hou	



CCM - April Birthdays

*Bob Amano
Dick Barkholz
Darren Erspamer
Emmett Mulligan
Barb Mynek
Kathryn Tack*

*Jim Balla
Jim Davies
Bob Kasprzyk
Randy Murphy
Ron Swick
Susan Washburn*



Stanford's Smokin Deals for April

20 IN STOCK! 2011 Corvette Coupes equipped with Auto Trans and Chrome Wheels MSRP \$53015. - GM Family \$43318. 36 Month Lease - \$449 Month Plus \$2500 Down, 1st month and Fees

4 IN STOCK! 2011 Camaro Convertibles - READY FOR DELIVERY

2003 Corvette 50th Anniversary Convertible ONE OWNER - only 5500 Miles. \$34995.

Service & Parts Specials are carry over from March!

Ambassador's Travels

As some of you may know, from time to time, I enjoy writing articles about the events I attend as a Corvette enthusiast and as the ambassador for the club. Most recently, as a board member of the National Corvette Museum, I had the opportunity to attend a one day driving course at the Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch in Pahrump, Nevada.

For those of you that did not know, I became a board member for the NCM two years ago. As a board member, I am required to attend four mandatory meetings a year. Two of these meetings are held during the Birthday Bash in April and the Labor Day event in September. For the last seven years as the ambassador for the Corvette Club of Michigan, I was already attending those events. The third and fourth meetings are held during December and February. As a board member, our travel and hotel expenses are at our own cost, because we are considered volunteers, but as with any board position, there are perks.

During our December meeting, we were given the agenda for the February meeting and told the meeting would be held at the Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch. We were informed our visit would include a One Day Driving School at the Ron Fellows Driving School. The next question was "who's interested in attending and whose spouse would like to go?" Without seeking approval from my spouse, I stated I would go and Jennifer would love to go as well. I later called home and confirmed that I was right.

Move forward to February 22, 2011. Jennifer and I boarded a plane to Las Vegas. We were going to drive the Corvette, but the weather outlook in Michigan did not agree with vehicle travel. We rented a car and drove from Las Vegas to Pahrump, arriving at the resort that afternoon.

Because we arrived early on Wednesday, we had the day to ourselves, so we searched for a restaurant for dinner and located one called the Symphony's at the Pahrump Valley Winery. We participated in a wine tasting then had a delightful dinner before returning to our condominium at the ranch.

Other board members began to arrive on Thursday morning. Our meeting wasn't scheduled until the evening, so Jennifer and I jumped in the rental and set our sights on Death Valley. We drove westward for more than two hours, taking in the beautiful scenery that is Nevada and California.

We arrived at a town called Furnace Creek. As you might guess, there isn't much in Furnace Creek, but there was a lovely inn known as the Furnace Creek Inn

Restaurant and Hotel. Imagine a luxury hotel built in 1927 that still has all of its charm from that era. The restaurant and hotel were built by the Borax Company as a stop over for wealthy travelers going through the desert to see the old mines.

We enjoyed a great lunch, and then returned to the ranch to prepare for the board meeting.

Our meeting was held that night, but earlier in the day, we could see some action on the track. A few Corvettes, Mustangs, and Radicals were on the course.

Friday morning arrived, and we enjoyed breakfast and moved on to registration for our track experience. We were divided into two groups, those with some experience and those without. The class was 50/50 with twenty-two participants total. The group that Jennifer and I were in, included Harlan Charles of General Motors, and David Tatman and his wife Barbie. David is the current plant manager of the Bowling Green Assembly Plant, where the Corvette is assembled.

After the instructor introductions we were divided into our two groups. We were given an overview of the Corvette, which included how it operates and its capabilities. We were then given instruction on the proper techniques for Heel and Toe shifting. This portion of the course concerned me, but as with any instruction, you get out of it what you put into to it.

I successfully completed the Heel and Toe shifting portion of the class and have to admit, my success is directly related to the quality of instruction given by the instructors. "Brake, clutch, blip, shift, clutch, steer, accelerate" are now part of my driving experience.

We were then taken to a small Oval Course. This exercise was designed for achieving the proper apex for a turn. We learned when to begin accelerating, or when to lift. This course also taught you to look beyond where you are. After the oval track we moved on to the Wet Figure – 8. This course taught you how to control the car if you were to go into a skid. They purposely had you get the car out of control, so that you could learn how to regain control. They used terms like "setting the front end", "under steer" and "over steer", lightly braking.

With all of that in mind, it was time for a break. We went to lunch at the clubhouse located on site, and enjoyed a lunch that was catered by one of the local restaurants. Now the time had come to try to remember all that was taught during the morning and try to apply it on the course.

Our driving sessions were conducted, utilizing the "Lead / Follow" method. We were broken up into groups of three or four students, following an instructor. Each student would be in their own car and the instructor would lead the group around the track and only drive as fast as the first student behind him was comfortable. During the session, the first student would then rotate to the rear of the pack and the subsequent student

would become the first student. We utilized Corvette Z06's and Grand Sports and if I hadn't experienced it for myself, you would never have known these cars were used on a race course. They take very good care of the vehicles at Spring Mountain. As you drove through the session, your instructor was in constant communication with you by way of a two-way radio, and giving you feedback as you navigated the course.

The first session dealt with orientation of the course. The instructor would drive the proper line and make comments as to how to properly set yourself up. The second session dealt with shift points, which included certain areas of the course where it was optimum to up shift or downshift, without upsetting the car or making a big mistake. The third session out, you really tried to put it all together. During this session, I found our instructor driving a little faster to see if the students could keep up.

This all sounds pretty simple, but quite honestly, there is an awful lot going on all at once. During each session, you would be on the course for a minimum of nine to twelve laps, depending on how many students were in your group. Each lap you are trying to apply new techniques or refine your skills, all the while benefiting from the instructions being given to you over the radio. I found that some individuals were physically exhausted by the end of the day and there were a few that terminated their sessions early.

All in all, everyone that participated successfully completed the course!



As everyone was winding down and getting ready for the graduation exercise, where we received our certificates, shook hands, and took pictures, four of us were allowed to drive the new ZR1 on the course. The only difference this time was that the instructor would be in the car with us, instead of leading us around the track. I was one of the lucky ones!

The course is a 2.4 mile road course with fourteen turns. The track has elements called the Carousel, the Kink, the S's, the Bus Stop, the Lucy Lu, and of course the back straight and the front straight.

Now I had been on this track all day and feeling pretty comfortable, but I have to admit, due to the students rotating in and out of the cars, I spent most of the day driving Grand Sports. Just prior to being able to drive the ZR1 I did get the chance to drive a Z06 on the track and you can tell the difference. But there is still a difference from the Z06 to the ZR1, and it comes on in a RUSH!

The first lap was, again, an orientation lap. All of the controls are the same, but you know you are driving something different, from the moment you take off. We let the tires warm up a bit, and I got used to the throttle inputs and smoothness of the shifter. I'm thinking to myself, "Complete lap one, enter front straight, start lap two. On the throttle, and right now the acceleration is almost overwhelming! Slight brake into turn one and push a little harder." All the while my instructor is constantly talking, like we are out for an evening cruise. I work my way around the course and get to the back straight, and here is where I let it "rip". I feel myself pinned in the seat, this thing is pulling harder than anything I have ever driven before, and before you know it, it is time to downshift and prepare for the bus stop. In my mind, I'm thinking, don't screw this up, and just like that, "Brake, clutch, blip, shift, clutch, steer, accelerate" and the bus stop is in my rearview mirror.

Instructor, still talking, lap two complete and as I enter turn one he takes the time to say, "I like your line entering this turn". Really? He's talking like we are old friends and I'm starting to sweat, because I've never driven anything this fast before. Just for grins, we "test" the brakes and bring the car to a complete stop. The car brakes almost as hard as it accelerates, and without fade. This goes on for two more laps, pushing a little harder, plus a cool down lap. The ZR1 had plenty left in it, but I wasn't willing to push the car to its limits on this day. All I can say is that the new ZR1 is an awesome car and worthy of the Corvette name. The acceleration is incredible, the brakes are phenomenal. I credit General Motors for being responsible to sending new owners to this school, because in the wrong hands this car could be serious trouble.

If you are looking for a driving school to attend, I would not hesitate to direct you to Spring Mountain. The facilities, vehicles, food and instructors were top notch!



After we left Spring Mountain on Saturday morning, we drove back to Las Vegas. Having never been to Las Vegas before, Jennifer and I decided to make a long weekend out of the Corvette driving experience.

We had booked a room at the Bellagio Hotel. There we took in the sights, and sounds of Vegas! We dined at the Sensi and Prime restaurants in the hotel and on Sunday night we took in the show "O" by Cirque de Soleil. All in all it was a wonderful weekend. Jennifer even managed to surprise the dealer at the roulette tables, bringing home more than we had started with!

So in closing, I now have my first Corvette trip in for the 2011 season and it was a memorable one. I can't wait to try my new techniques out on a course near you.



*DISCLAIMER – The rental car used during this trip was a BMW 750i. That’s another story, and what a beautiful machine that was to drive. *No law enforcement members were encountered during this trip!*

CCM Calendar
www.corvetteclubmi.com

January 2011	February 2011	March 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15: CCM Banquet ○ 26: Annual business conducted at the monthly meeting ○ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 23: Membership Meeting - Jim Minneker - GM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 23: Membership Meeting – Pratt Miller ○ 27: Road Rallye
April 2011	May 2011	June 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9: MI Region Banquet ○ 14: New Member Orientation (location TBD) ○ 16: Drivers' School Driving Session - GM Poletown Site ○ 17: DCSCC Champ AX ○ 27: Membership Meeting – Kirk Bennion – Corvette Designer ○ 28-30: NCM Birthday Bash Caravan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 25: Membership Meeting – Harlan Charles – Corvette Marketing ○ 29: DCSCC Champ AX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 11: Encounter & CCM Concourse ○ 12: NCCC AX 7 LS ○ 18-24: National Convention-Illinois ○ 22: Membership Meeting
July 2011	August 2011	September 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4: Waterford LS Time Trial ○ 24: NCCC AX 7 LS ○ 27: Membership Meeting ○ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6: Bracket Drags ○ 14: Picnic/NCCC PC Show ○ 20: Woodward Dream Cruise ○ 20: Back to the Bricks-Flint ○ 21: DCSCC Champ AX ○ 24: Membership Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 18: DCSCC Champ AX ○ 24: Motor City Corvette Concourse / NCCC PC Show ○ 28: Membership Meeting
October 2011	November 2011	December 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8: NCCC Road Rallye ○ 9: DCSCC Champ AX ○ 26: Membership Meeting - BoD nominations ○ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6: NCCC Road Rallye ○ 23: Membership Meeting ○ Next year Region sanctions selection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BoD ratification at BoD meeting

BoD meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of each month.
 Monthly General Membership meeting is the 4th Wednesday of January thru November.

If you are ever in San Diego....

By Rhonda Kralemann and David Orton

On a recent trip to San Diego, Rhonda and I visited a restaurant that CCM members would find very interesting. The Corvette Diner has been a favorite eatery in San Diego since 1987. The original location had been in Downtown San Diego on 5th Avenue for 22 years, but in 2009 the restaurant had moved to a new location in Liberty Station. Rhonda had dined at the previous restaurant, as she had lived in San Diego from 1985 to 2001. The Corvette Diner is located at:

**2965 Historic Decatur Road
San Diego, CA 92106**

The restaurant has a 50's décor, including a 1958 green Corvette in the lobby. Other Corvette decorations include a C2 Corvette front end above the soda fountain and a room dedicated to the Corvette Owners Club of San Diego. There is a dinner car section that is outfitted to look like an older train club car with movies from the 1950's playing in the "windows". The DayGlo room has a 60's feel to it, while the street car room has a city train theme. The game room is fully equipped with video games, skee ball lanes and pinball machines. We played a modern version of pinball with a shaking LT5 engine and two drag-racing Corvettes.

We arrived on Friday afternoon for lunch. Liberty Station is a converted Navy training facility that now houses businesses, shops and restaurants. Our waitress, complete with bleach blond hair and 50's style, was named Lorraine. After telling her our story, we were very surprised to learn that she was from Holly, Michigan. Small World!!

The Corvette Diner is known for the Rory Burger. Combining peanut butter and bacon on a burger creates a unique taste. Other specialties are the peanut butter/chocolate/marshmallow shake known as the Elvis and the towering swirl of potatoes.





We will definitely visit The Corvette Diner on our next trip to San Diego and if you are ever in San Diego, stop by to experience great food, fun atmosphere and a Corvette theme!