



A Quarterly Publication of the Illinois Chapter NCRS

www.ILNCRS.org

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Thoughts from the Chairperson

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are enjoying your summer? Please continue to stay safe, as there are many COVID and Delta cases lurking out there. It saddens me to think of all of the people we have lost to this terrible virus. Please stay safe!

As an ILNCRS Chapter we are doing our best to get back to trying to proceed with our events in hopes of finding some normalcy we have been missing. I hope many of you were able to attend our Summer Kick Off Party and our Galena ILNCRS Chapter Event. It was great to get back to the events we all love so much, not to mention getting to see and visit with so many members and friends.

Our kickoff party had more members than we have seen for a long time, as it was close to 50 people.

Galena was also a great event – Beautiful cars and the weather held out in the 80's -bright sunny skies.

I would like to welcome Chester Kumm to his new position of ILNCRS Vice Chairman, congratulations Chester! We are all also excited that Carol Lindee will remain the ILNCRS Secretary, as she has done such a wonderful job for our Chapter!

Hope to see all of you soon!

Bill Braun- ILNCRS Chairperson

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2021 Calendar of Events

October 17	Charity Drive Location TBD
November 20-21	Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals – Donald E. Stephen Convention Center Rosemont, IL
December 5	Holiday Party – Villa Olivia Bartlett, IL

Kick-off Party Photos





Article by Erv Schlepp

Me and My Corvette:



This is the short story of finding, purchasing, and restoring my 1970 Corvette.

The quest to find an older Corvette to add to the 1984 I owned started in 1990. I found my 1970 Corvette when I was at a friend's body shop visiting him. We lived next door to each other when we were in Jr. High and High school. I mentioned I was looking for a late sixties or early seventies Corvette. Bruce, his shop manager, was also there and he owned a 66 big block convertible he was restoring. He said he knew about a 1970 big block convertible with both tops, 4 speed, and fairly well equipped that had been in storage for 12 years. So naturally I asked about where it was and how to contact the owner. Bruce said he knew a friend of the owner and he would ask if it was still for sale. The answer was yes it was. We arranged a meeting to see the Corvette where it was stored.

My son Dan and I went to a warehouse that was used for storing electronic TVs, stereos, and other items that were purchased in bulk as overstock and then resold. In one corner of the warehouse sat the Corvette with a cover on it. We met with the owner's friend that owned the business. He had the battery charged and tires aired so we could pull the car into the sunlight and look at it. It was in need of restoration, but drivable with some repairs. We took it for a test drive and knew it needed work. It had an original engine and transmission and it was well equipped including air conditioning. It also sounded cool since it had 1969 side pipes installed. With these options I felt it would be worth putting some money into. I did not want to spend considerable money purchasing and restoring a basic optioned and standard engine Corvette. I felt the restoration cost would be similar. So we negotiated a price and purchased the Corvette.

I had been a NCRS member for a few years at the time of purchase so I knew about the numbers on the engine and transmission but not a lot more. My son and I had attended a few IL NCRS Chapter meets, but had never judged. We had been to Bloomington Gold and other car shows together which we enjoyed. I knew just enough to think I had some knowledge of what we were getting into. I had owned Corvettes before and owned a 1984 that I purchased new. We needed to do some immediate repair work to get the car drivable. This included

changing the differential fluid and adding positraction lube additive so it would not pop and bang on turns, rebuilding the brake calipers on each wheel, new brake pads, a tune-up, attempting to correct cooling issues in warm weather, and a complete cleaning inside and out.

I drove the car for a couple of years and then decided to do some restoration. Remember, I said I thought I knew somewhat about what we were getting into in restoring this Corvette. Well that turned out to be an unfounded belief. I speak from experience which I later stated in my WI Vette Gazette newsletter Judging Chairman's Report that every member (especially before doing any restoration or repair) should have their Corvettes judged so they know what they have and what is original or not. I did not do this first and as a result spent money that was either wasted or could have been done better and less costly.

We started the process with my body shop friend at his shop which turned out not to be the best choice. He had completed a few restorations of Pontiacs and one 66 Corvette of my partners. He and I were not really well versed in Corvette restoration and this proved to add to the cost and cause me to redo various items that were not done correctly. The key is having or getting the knowledge required to make informed decisions about what and how to do many of the repairs, restorations, and finding correct NOS, used, or reproduction items. NCRS has the answers in the judging books, reference books, and more importantly members and judges.

The end result was a restored 1970 Corvette that we just missed a Top Flight Award (93.8) the first time it was judged at an IL Chapter Judging Meet. Unfortunately a high beam headlight (Correct T3) burned out the night before judging which would have made the difference in operations judging points. The next year we received a Top Flight Judging Award and have done so again since then. Dan and I have attended many IL and WI NCRS Chapter events together. Dan now owns the 1984 we purchased new. Dan is also the WI Chapter Secretary. The Corvette hobby is something we both enjoy. Dan's in-laws, Ron (WI Chapter Vice Chairman) and Judi Person, are also Corvette owners and NCRS and WI Chapter members so we enjoy the hobby as a family.

The picture above is of the completed restoration over 10 years later. I need to perform some restoration to freshen up the car. As you can see, those leg burning on exit side pipes are gone. This time I think I know what needs to be done. But I will still have it judged again before spending significant money.

I hope you enjoyed this article and you will consider writing one about your Corvette experiences. I am proud to say in my case it should be "Our Corvettes" since this is a family hobby.

Article by Scott Lindee

2021 Illinois NCRS Chapter Meet Road Tour

Start at McDonalds Winnebago - 103 Capriola drive If lost Call Scott 708-670-1564

Motorola Talkabout Channel 10.1

Reset trip-odometer to 0

Get fuel here or at Thriving Thistle **Review Menu for lunch at Thriving Thistle Market**

Drivers Meeting at 10:15

Leave on road tour at 10:30

**thriving thistle
market**

88 mile road tour

We should arrive around 11:45

300 W. Hickory, Apple River

Enjoy the Food Market and Bistro, get gas if needed.

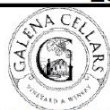
If you wish to have lunch, order as soon as we arrive.



Place food/beer/wine/soda orders also at this cash register. Snacks available in the market shop.

We will stay for 1 1/2 hours. Tour the attached Wellness Center if you wish - interesting place.

Leave Thriving Thistle at 1:15



GALENA CELLARS

VINEYARD & WINERY

Enjoy some beverages or local artisan cheese, cracker, and sausage selections are available for purchase.

The wine tasting room is new, sit on the porch or on the tables outside. Great Views.

Lets stay about 1:15 and plan to leave around 2:45



Look on the left for the rare Norwegian Fjord horses at Green Valley Farm.

I hope some are out in the pasture.



We should arrive around 3:15

**Chestnut
Mountain Resort**

8700 W. Chestnut Mountain Road

800-397-1320

The August 2021 Illinois Chapter Meet at Chestnut Mountain is always preceded with a road tour. It is a wonderful way to meet friends, make new ones and enjoy driving your Corvette with others. This tour is not just for Corvettes, non-Vettes are also very welcome.

Our starting point this year was west of Rockford, at a McDonalds in Winnebago, IL, and next to a gas station. Fill up with a little coffee and top off the tank.

This year's tour was one of the best. Seven Corvettes and 5 metal cars participated, great weather, light traffic, beautiful scenery and no breakdowns!

Less than an hour drive and our first stop is the Thriving Thistle Market and Bistro in Apple River. Our 19 attendees enjoyed excellent food, great menu, and homemade healthy snacks.







This is a unique little business, it is a gas station, mini-mart, bistro, health food store and wellness center, all rolled into one. Thanks to Geoff and Liz, the owners of this new business.

One hour of eating, socializing and fun, we jump back in our Corvettes for the next leg. Westward we journey, on Stagecoach Trail Highway. Great scenery, fun roads with rolling hills and picturesque woods.

Next stop is the Galena Cellars Winery in Galena, just outside the Galena Territory. The new wine tasting room is spacious, excellent selection and well stocked.





GALENA CELLARS

VINEYARD & WINERY

Great wine tastings and refreshments, we enjoyed one and a half hours at this fantastic establishment. Back in our cars for the final and most scenic part of the drive.

Stagecoach takes us to Miner Road where we head south towards The Galena Territory. This is a very nice community, with rolling hills and woods. On Thunder Bay Road we pass the Galena waterfall.



We drive out of the Territory to my favorite road in Galena, Devils Ladder. It was gravel, but recently paved, and now we can take our Corvettes on this winding, hilly road. Perfect for Corvettes.

Turning on Irish Hollow road, we continuing on to Chestnut Mountain we pass a horse farm, Green Valley Farm.

They raise rare Norwegian Fjord horses, unfortunately, we were not lucky enough to see some in the pasture on this trip.



We continue on some outstanding roads and arrive at Chestnut Mountain Resort around 3:30, in time to check in, wash the Vettes, and re-live the ride.

I hope you can join us next year!



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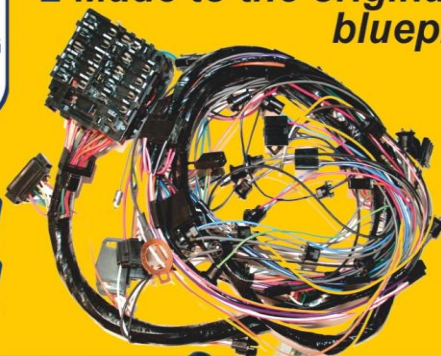
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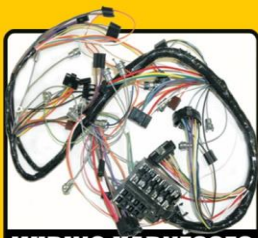
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