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<http://www.ILNCRS.org>

Volume 52

December 2015

Thoughts from the Chairman

And so this is Christmas...And a Happy New Year!

As I sit here and write this, of course I'm thinking of the upcoming holidays with family and friends, expecting Norman Rockwell / Currier & Ives type get-togethers, and making fond memories with my grandsons.

By the time you all read this, Christmas will be over and we will be anticipating what the New Year will bring. I'm looking forward to great things happening.

What a wonderful turnout we had for our Christmas party. This was again held at Villa Olivia. Such a nice get-together with all our Corvette friends (old and new) to share stories, food, drink and laugh about the good times we've shared throughout the past year. Many thanks to Terry Wodniakowski for all her efforts in making this party such a success! I would also like to thank Dana Kleckauskas for her talents as our "Game" leader - directing everyone through a number of questions to see who at each table ended up the winner of the beautiful centerpieces at each guest table.

Several folks from our Chapter will be heading to Florida for the Winter Regional this year. For anyone thinking of going, remember it has moved. Look for the "Sun 'n Fun" Regional in Lakeland, Florida. Since the Cypress Garden shows dating back to the late

Thoughts from the Chairman (continued)

1970's, Florida has provided N.C.R.S. members with a great winter retreat from the harsh weather all around the country. It has always been one of my favorite shows to attend .

Mark your calendars now for February 21st, 2016. ILNCRS will be holding our spring Kick Off party and annual meeting. And that's only the start of our 2016 agenda! April will bring another Technical Session, with our May Judging School not far behind. Stay tuned for further updates...

I'd like to take a minute to ask what your thoughts are about articles for our ILNCRS magazine OFF ROAD. Over the last couple of years, we've put in articles on members' cars, telling stories about how they were found or something special about each of them. I really enjoyed the stories and hope most of you have as well. As good as those articles were, we just never generated enough interest to get four articles a year. I'm asking now, is anyone interested in writing a technical or how-to article that we could publish in our newsletter? If so, please contact Kim or myself.

Remember, the enjoyment that you get from our club is directly related to the effort that you put into participating. Our Board of Directors puts on a broad agenda of things to do each year, many of them at no cost. All you need do is come and enjoy yourself.

Have a safe and joyful holiday season and we will see you all in 2016!

Happy Corvetting.

Jay

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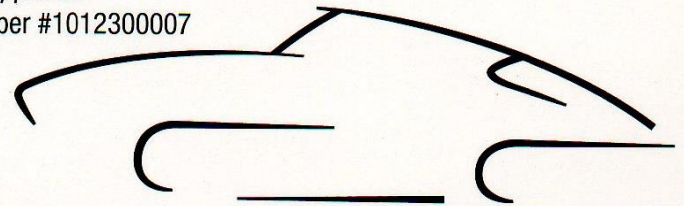
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2016 Calendar of Events

February 21	Annual Kick-Off Party, Moretti's Bartlett, IL
April 24	Tech Session, Location TBD
May 15	Judging School, Location TBD
August 5-6-7	Shutdown Judging Meet, Chestnut Mountain Resort, Galena, Illinois
October 16	Fall Color Drive-Out & Charity Run
December 4	Annual Christmas Brunch

Technical Corner

Technical Article #7

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

It's no secret that sales of new cars have largely suffered during the recent economic downturn. However, that does not necessarily mean consumers have been reluctant to purchase nearly new vehicles that are backed by warranties. Sales of "certified pre-owned" vehicles have more than doubled since the beginning of the decade. Apparently, consumers know good when they see them. The term "certified pre-owned" is the industry's designation for low-mileage used automobiles that are inspected by dealers and backed by warranties. Buyers of these gently used vehicles are remarkably similar to the buyers of new cars – mid-forties in age, mid-sixties in income and 720s in crediworthiness. The only difference is that they have adjusted their thinking about car buying.

HINT: The trade-off for a certified pre-owned car is that it may not have all of the amenities or be the color the buyer would choose in a new vehicle.

Technical Article #8

TESTING ENGINE COLLANT

We know we're supposed to replace engine coolant before it degrades into a good electrical conductor that encourages electrolysis to corrode the heater core, water pump, radiator and other metal parts. However, there are more cars than drivers in many families. Sometimes the years pass faster than the miles. Repairs over the years might have necessitated replacing some, but not all of the coolant in an engine. Here is a quick way to use an inexpensive multi-meter to check to see if engine coolant (in most engines) is preventing or encouraging electrolysis.

Switch the multi-meter to one of its smallest voltage settings. Take the radiator cap off the cold radiator and stick one electrical probe in the coolant and put the other probe on a grounded metal part or the car's negative battery terminal. A reading of 0.4 volts or above indicates the engine coolant is encouraging electrolysis and should be replaced.

Experts recommend starting the cold engine with the radiator cap off (so no pressure builds) and then allowing the engine to warm up before measuring the voltage. The thermostat opens up and coolant starts flowing through the engine and radiator, so not just the stagnant pool of cold coolant below the radiator cap is tested. This might be an especially good tip for engines with the radiator cap located in the middle of a hose or on a small reservoir separate from the radiator.

2015 ILNCRS Fall Color Drive and Charity Event

By Scott & Carol Lindee

After four years, back by popular demand, **Sixty Six miles on Route 66**. Our annual fall charity event to Pontiac Illinois followed Historic Route 66 for almost the entire way.

Including a few members from Wisconsin NCRS and Northern Rays, 24 Corvettes caravanned past sights such as the Chicagoland Speedway, Route 66 Dragstrip, the Gemini Giant in Wilmington and a stop for coffee and doughnuts at the Polka Dot Drive-In in Braidwood.



After the Polka Dot, we went onward through Gardner, stopping at the old (1906) 2 cell jail and the Riviera diner, converted from a horse drawn street car in 1932.



Touring through Dwight, we passed a Frank Lloyd Wright bank, built in 1905, as well as the historic 1891 train depot. A must stop while in Dwight, the 1930's Ambler's Rt. 66 Texaco gas station.



2015 ILNCRS Fall Color Drive and Charity Event (Continued)

Arriving in Pontiac, we were each greeted by the Mayor Bob Russell and the Director of Tourism, Ellie Alexander. This unexpected welcome reception included a goody bag and pin. Nice, and a big thank you to Pontiac for their tremendous hospitality!



Each ILNCRS Corvette had their picture taken in front of the largest Rt. 66 mural in the world. This mural is located behind the Illinois Route 66 Museum in Pontiac. Thanks, Ed & Terry W. for the photos!

On to reserved Corvette parking in front of the recently opened Pontiac-Oakland Museum, with another welcome (and personal behind the scenes tour) by Tim Dye, the owner. But first, lunch at DeLongs restaurant. Forty-nine of us enjoyed excellent food at DeLongs, preluded by a few toasts and thank yous. Tim also showed us the unbelievable air brush artwork of Tang Dongbai - very impressive!



A portion of the participant fare was collected for charity. The Illinois Chapter donated \$500 to the Suburban Service League, with a matching contribution requested from National NCRS.

A great event on what turned out to be a very nice day. There were a lot of interesting sites to see, in addition to enjoying our cars & our friends.

A big thank you to the Northern Rays and Wisconsin Chapter NCRS members for joining us on this, our biggest yet, road tour and charity event!

Annual ILNCRS Christmas Brunch

Sunday, December 6, was a great day for a holiday gathering. It was sunny and unseasonably warm. That always makes for a pleasant outing. We had a nice turn-out for this year's brunch with a total of 47 members and family attending. As usual, Villa Olivia was beautifully decorated.

We started an hour earlier this year. The thinking being that we might beat some of the crowd that usually shows up at Villa Olivia at this time of the year, and to accommodate our members who might have more than one activity scheduled that day.



Annual ILNCRS Christmas Brunch (continued)

The brunch tables were lavishly filled with a large variety of food to choose from. There were Eggs Benedict, regular scrambled eggs, and several varieties of meat as well as numerous salads and lunch selections. They even had custom omelet and beef carving stations and a whole wall of assorted fruit platters and desserts.

The lovely centerpieces, supplied by Terry Wodniakowski, were given to the winners (one at each table) of a fun question and answer game that was played. It was a great day, filled with conversation and comradery.



Our thanks go out to Terry Wodniakowski and her co-chair, Sue Braun, for their hard work in putting all of this together for our members. We appreciate you ladies.



Attention Members!

This is the last “Hard Copy” newsletter you will receive.

*Due to the high cost of printing and postage, it is no longer
Feasible, or cost effective for the club to mail out
“Hard copies” to our approximately 160 members.*

*Beginning with the New Year, our newsletter will be available
By email or on our website at: ILNCRS.org*

*If you’re not sure I have your email address and wish
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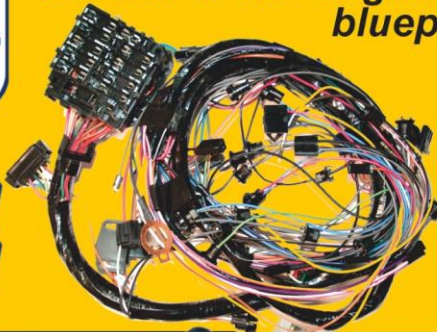
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