



'Vetter's Letter

An award-winning publication of the Allentown Area Corvette Club

May 1, 2025
Volume 32- Issue 5





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AACC's Sponsor



Official Chevrolet Dealer:
Faulkner Chevrolet Bethlehem
298 Stoke Park Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017
877-260-1080
FaulknerMotors.com

From the val Office

Hello Fellow Club Members,

May is a very busy month for club activities and we welcome all to participate. Hopefully our days will be filled with sunshine and not rain. Let's take advantage of what Mother Nature has to offer us!

Starting with Saturday, May 3rd, club member John Fontaine will provide a "Rinse Less" Washing Clinic at his home. Our club favorite "Mystery Trip" will occur May 4-10 when 30 Corvettes and their passengers will be in for a treat... somewhere?

For the third year in a row, we will be supporting *Leo's Pediatric Cancer Fund Fest* on May 10th. The event is from 9:00am to 5:30pm and there will be plenty of food, music, kid's activities, and terrific raffle prizes waiting to be won.

On May 23rd, it's our club's annual visit to the *Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs* for an exciting baseball game, all in the comfy confines of the PenTele Data Party Porch. The event is sold-out, however Laura Heygi is maintaining a waiting list.

On Saturday, May 24th, we are holding our *Judging Seminar* at Faulkner Chevrolet in Bethlehem. This is for those who are judging the *Springfest* show, but all members are welcome to learn what's involved in judging your Corvette.



Once again, we will be participating in the annual *Bethlehem Memorial Day Parade*, then driving to the parental homes of two local fallen soldiers. You can sign up at our club meetings or contact Valerie Ferguson (**516-330-6088**) or Laura Hegyi (**610-730-2695**) to join the group. Finally, in May a new event this year is a visit to *Barry's Car Barn* and *Kitchen Kettle Village* on May 31st.

Our annual *Springfest* show is just over a month away and we are hoping to increase our member and non-member registrations, as well as our raffle and 50/50 numbers. Let's make sure we have a great time with other car enthusiasts and, most of all, raise some money to support our 3 AACC charities.

Stay Healthy and Have Fun!

Jerry

Jerry Reitano,
President- AACC

**Cover Photos- Michelle Minnich &
John Popowycz**

Memorial Day, 2023



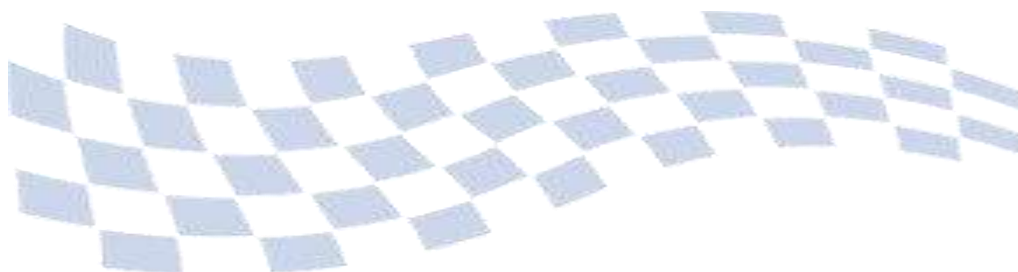
Membership Corner *Chair: Laura Hegyi ('69 Cpe, '07 Cpe, '17 Z06)*

As of the April 23rd club meeting, there are **291 active club members**.

There are currently **4 potential members**:

- Keith & Lisa Gahman Center Valley, PA '09 Cpe
- Patrick Petrillo & Diane Spironello .. Bethlehem, PA '21 Cnv

Thank you for your interest in our club and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming AACC meetings and events.



AACC's Charities



Upcoming Club Meetings:

May 14 May 28 Jun. 11 Jun. 25 Jul. 9 Jul. 23

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Potential Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>
<i>Attendance</i>			
Jan. 8	61	3	2
Feb. 26	87	1	0
Mar. 12	81	3	0
Mar. 26	71	2	0
Apr. 9	81	2	1
Apr. 23	77	2	0

The Allentown Area Corvette Club meets at **7:30pm** at **Se-Wy-Co Banquet Hall, 3621 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA**. **DO NOT PARK** along the side or directly in front of the buildings or the BBQ smoker. You may park on the grass if spots are unavailable in the lot.



*Miracle League of
the Lehigh Valley*



Submission deadline for the June
newsletter is



May 28, 2025

See what you missed on
www.fotki.com



["AAVetteClub"](#)

Join our
group on

facebook



If you know of a member who
is hospitalized, had surgery, or
lost a loved one, please notify
club VP Dave Ricciardi,
dricci427@aol.com,
718-873-6298,
or any board member.

From the Board Chair Marty Hegyi ('69 Cpe, '07 Cpe, '17 Z06)

Wed., Apr. 9 | The following is a summary of our April 9th board meeting:

- The board discussed the status and update of our *Fiberglass & Steel* show with co-chairs John Kostick and Dave Hornung. They are looking for a club member who can provide technical data support for the show in the form of creating, maintaining, and updating MS Excel spreadsheets and MS Word documents.
- The board provided input on recommended nominations for all open officer and board positions for our upcoming club election. Nominations will start with our June 25th meeting and conclude at our August 13th meeting, which is also our election night. New officers and board members will assume their respective positions starting September 1, 2025.

Marty

Marty Hegyi
Chairman- AACC



We will be having an **AACC Auction at our May 28th club meeting**. The items will include auto-



graphed banners and framed posters, Corvette Racing memorabilia, AACC logoed items and much more.



Detailed information including estimated values will be sent to everyone prior to the auction.





SPRINGFEST is Coming on June 7, 2025



<u>WHERE WE STAND</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>@Apr. 30</u>
AACC Registrations	125	60
Premium Parking	25	15
Trophy Sponsors	30	25
Volunteers– Pre show setup	10	9
Parking	10	12
Premium Parking	2	3
50/50	8	4
Raffles	6	5
Registration	8	6
Clean-up	10	11

- *Solicit local businesses or your own business to advertise in the show booklet
- *Purchase a trophy or premium parking sponsorship
- *Donate a complete raffle basket or raffle items
- *Cash contributions and gift cards are welcome
- *Volunteer to assist at the show
- *And of course register your Corvette**

Contact show chairperson Jerry Reitano **610-291-7041** with any questions or to volunteer.
Volunteer sign-up sheets are also available at all meetings.

COMMITTEE

Jerry Reitano– Chairperson/Marketing
Marty Hegyi– Judging
Frank Shovelin– Premium Parking
Scott Smith– Booklet Sponsors
Debbie Beckowski– 50/50

Bernie Toth– Day of Show Registration/Finance
Bob Beckowski– Signage/Logistics/Charities
John Kostick– Parking
Ed Kordeck– Trophy Sponsors
Barb Fredericks – Raffles
Bobbie Paul– Raffles

How To Support SPRINGFEST 2025

Show Registration forms are available this month at the club meetings, on our [website](#), and at the end of this newsletter [\(click here\)](#). **Sponsorship forms** are available upon request and at club meetings. Contact the following committee members for assistance:

Registration- \$20.00
Premium Parking- \$100.00 (includes show registration)
Trophy Sponsor- \$100.00 (includes show registration)
Booklet Sponsor– Levels from \$100 to \$1,000+
Raffle Basket Sponsor– themes still available

Jerry Reitano	jerryreitanosr@gmail.com
Frank Shovelin	nasman2007@aol.com
Ed Kordeck	ekordeck51@yahoo.com
Scott Smith	scott@techdatapcs.com
Barbara Fredericks	mimifred@verizon.net
Bobbie Paul	gaiasci1206@gmail.com

Make checks payable to: AACC

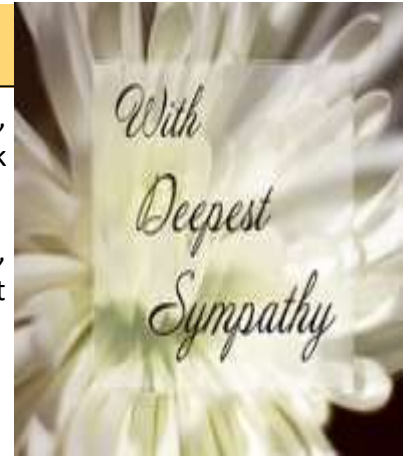


Thinking of You

Ruth Frank, mother of club member Bill Frank, passed away on Friday, April 11, 2025. Her obituary appeared in *The Express-Times* and can be found on Strunk Funeral Home's website: <https://www.strunkfh.com/>.

Visitation was held on April 17th in the funeral Home (602 W. Berwick Street, Easton). A funeral service followed at 11:00am and interment was performed at Hay's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Williams Township Fire Company, 2500 Morgan Hill Road, Easton, PA 18042.



If you wish to send a card to Bill and his wife, Cynthia, their address is 305 Raubsville Rd, Easton, PA 18042.



Local Car Cruises in May '25

Below are cruises conducted on a recurring basis. See *Laura Hegyi's April 2nd email* for a detailed list of ALL shows & cruises.

DATE	SPONSOR	TIME	LOCATION	ADDRESS	CITY
May-2	East Penn Modifiers	5:00 PM	Dairy Queen	261 Harleysville Pk.	Harleysville
May-3	Red Horse Motoring	5:00 PM	Pottstown Nights	Downtown	Pottstown
May-3	Sam's Club	4:00 PM	Northampton Crossings	3796 Nazareth Hwy.	Easton
May-4	LV Cars & Coffee	9:00 AM	Steel Stacks	101 Founders Way	Bethlehem
May-10	Mopar Madness	4:00 PM	Emmaus Borough. Park	1375 Shimerville Rd	Emmaus
May-10	LV AACA	4:00 PM	Dairy Queen	701 S. 25th St.	Easton
May-17	Wheels of Time	2:00 PM	Macungie Mem. Park	50 N. Poplar St	Macungie
May-18	Blue Mtn Classics	4:00 PM	Blue Mtn Drive-In	1439 Blue Mtn Dr.	Danielsville
May-18	Good Time Motorvators	3:00 PM	Dairy Queen	206 S. West End Blvd.	Quakertown
May-18	Ritz Barbeque	4:00 PM	Allentown Fairgrnd.	302 N. 17th St	Allentown
May-21	Airport Diner	5:00 PM	Airport Diner	15110 Kutztown Rd	Kutztown
May-31	LV AACA	4:00 PM	Palmer Park Mall	123 Palmer Park Mall	Easton



Breakfast Club *Chairs: Barbara Fredericks ('23 Cpe), Harry Newman ('14 Cnv)*



Due to the AACC Mystery Trip next week,
there will be no breakfast for the month of May,
but we will resume again in June.

Note: 10 members were in attendance at our April 11th breakfast.

America On Wheels Museum, Allentown, PA *by Jim Gress ('70 Chevelle)*

Tuesday, April 22| Members of the *America On Wheels Museum* enjoyed a **preview of their new exhibit "The Battle of the Car Clubs II."** Following the success of the first car club battle in which guests cast their votes for the best club display, **AOW's** next battle debuts Wednesday, April 23 and will be available for the public until Sunday, October 12, 2025. Featured in this battle are exhibits showcasing vehicles from the following clubs: Antique Truck Club of America, Free Spirit Chapter of the Buick Club of America, Lehigh Valley Model A Club, and Mid-Atlantic Classic AMX-AMC Club.



"Who Knew" - Alan Shepard Becomes the First American in Space

[source – NASA.gov](https://www.nasa.gov)



May 5, 1961 In 1961, the United States and the Soviet Union found themselves in a race to put the first human being into space. The United States initiated Project Mercury in 1958 to put the first American into space and selected its first group of astronauts in 1959 to begin training for that mission.

After hundreds of hours of training in simulators, and three simulations inside the capsule itself, Shepard and his backups Grissom and Glenn prepared for the actual flight. Inclement weather scrubbed the first launch attempt on May 2, 1961, and NASA decided it was time to announce that Shepard would indeed be making the first flight.

On May 5, the weather proved more cooperative and Shepard climbed aboard *Freedom 7* atop the Redstone rocket poised on Launch Pad 5 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, now the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, in Florida. Half a million people had gathered on nearby beaches to watch the launch in person. An estimated 45 million Americans anxiously watched the liftoff on live television, including President Kennedy at the White House. After more than two hours of delays due to technical issues, the rocket engine ignited at 9:34AM Eastern time, propelling Shepard skyward and into the history books.





Featured Members

by: Jim Gress ('70 Chevelle)

This month's featured AACC member is
Joe Iervolino of Bethlehem, PA
("98 Black Corvette Coupe)

As 15 year-old Joe Iervolino walked down a Brooklyn, NY street, he stopped to push his nose against a glass window at a Chevy dealership. On the other side of that glass window was a stunning, all white 1956 Corvette convertible. From that point on, like many auto enthusiasts, Joe Iervolino became hooked.

Flash forward to the 1960s when Joe earned a mechanical engineering degree at The Pratt Institute of Technology in Brooklyn. He then continued his education earning a MS degree in aeronautical engineering at the California Polytechnic University. Joe eventually became an engineer with the Lockheed Corporation at their famed Skunk Works facility, then eventually became the VP of Operations for the BAE Company in Wayne, NJ, retiring after 46 years of employment.

Joe refers to himself as always a "gearhead." During his college years, Joe inherited his first car, a '55 Buick Century equipped with a column-mounted 3-speed manual transmission. It was during these years that Joe's obsession with the automobile grew. Over the next several years Joe enjoyed a wide spectrum of automobiles, including a 1964 GTO equipped with a 389, which he could not leave alone but modified with ported and polished heads and a step-up cam. Joe described the modifications as "massaged" and resulting in regular 13 second quarter mile runs at the West Hampton, NJ raceway.

After the GTO, Joe owned a '67 Shelby GT500 which he described as an absolute "monster." Then in 1972, he purchased a Porsche 911E, which was succeeded by a Ford 300 hp Police Interceptor, a Jaguar XKE, a 1962 Impala SS 409, a Pontiac 421, and a red Triumph TR6. In his later years, Joe owned a Mercedes SL500 and a Mercedes SL63 AMG, which he describes as all torque.

Then, just like when Joe was 15 years old, the Corvette bug bit again, this time less the nose prints on the glass. In 1984, Joe accompanied his neighbor to a Chevy dealership where his neighbor had to order some trucks for his business. It was there Joe fell in love with the new style C4 Corvette. He just had to have one. Joe enjoyed the C4 for a few years but it was not quite the driving machine he had hoped it would be.

In 1998, Joe went to lunch with a friend and passed a Chevy dealership in Wayne, NJ with a '98 Vette on the showroom floor. This time the Corvette bug bit hard... two hours later he owned it.



Joe described the car as "good" as it ran well and handled well. However, the engineering side of Joe was working on a plan. The first stage of modifications included removing the run-flat tires and installing new custom wheels and tires. Joe described this as making a world of difference. Then he started with the visual modifications, such as carbon fiber, striping and spoilers.

(Continued on page 9)

Featured Members (continued)

by: Jim Gress ('70 Chevelle)

(Continued from page 8)



In 2006, Joe became very familiar with the *Vette Doctors* out of Amityville, NY. They had the car for 9 months and pretty much rebuilt the entire car. First, they went through the motor and installed a set of forged pistons, new rings, ported and polished heads, cam, and a set of APS 63mm twin turbos. A ZO6 M12 hardened transmission, ZO6 suspension, heavy-duty springs, shocks, and sway bars were all installed. The car also received Wildwood calipers, brakes, and rotors. The fuel system was upgraded to 60-pound injectors and an upgraded in-tank fuel pump.

The car has been dyno tested at 702 hp and 775 pounds of torque at the rear wheels. This complex build was done by the *Vette Doctors* in corroboration with *John Lingenfelter*. The *Vette Doctors* have featured Joe's car in advertising for years. It is the first forced induction car they know of that has exceeded 700 hp as noted on the Corvette forum.

Joe calls the car "built for spirited moments." He raced it a few times at Englishtown, NJ Raceway before it closed and easily clicked-off low 11 second and high ten second passes without traction. Then one evening he borrowed a set of drag radials from a friend and clicked off a 10.26 second run at 136 mph.

Joe believes there is no part of the car that has been left untouched. The appearance of the engine compartment is nothing short of stunning, as there are a lot of carbon fiber parts in the engine bay and painted parts as well. The hood is also carbon fiber as are many of the interior parts. The side skirts and the mirrors are also carbon fiber. The steering wheel is a custom carbon fiber "D" shaped steering wheel from *Caravaggio*. This is truly a one-of-a-kind car and a consistent trophy winner!

The car show circuit for Joe and his wife, Denise, started about ten years ago when they entered two shows in New Jersey and placed in both. From there, it just blossomed and the trophies started coming. To date, the car has won at least 100 trophies.



Joe and Denise are now enjoying retired life, but Joe has come to realize that he cannot keep-up with the car and can no longer give it the attention it deserves. He is considering moving into a Corvette C7 Grand Sport with an automatic transmission...

It is much easier on the left foot.



Club Merchandise Chair: Amy Cook ('02 Cnv)



SPRING CLEARANCE



Amy has recently amassed a collection of club- and Corvette-related items. The items below are available for a donation in any \$ amount you deem appropriate. Proceeds will be deposited in the AACC treasury. Contact Amy if you are interested in any item and to arrange pickup or delivery at a club meeting.

610-360-0062 or amyacook40@yahoo.com



Men's Shirts
4XL, 3XL, 3XL



Women's Shirt
Medium



Women's Shirts
Large



Women's Shirts
XL



Women's Shirts
XXL



Portable Vacuum



C6 Chrome Side Blades





"Meanwhile..." by Dave Myers ('96 Cpe)

I dropped off my wife, Laura Jane, at our church (Notre Dame, Bethlehem), as she and my daughter, Leslie, have been prepping all week for a big event, "Tricky Tray 2025." It's a huge fundraiser for our church, but my presence wasn't needed once I spent my \$50.

So I headed into town to the *A&A Auto* I have patronized for 30 years. To my surprise, it was closed. I had heard some *A&A Auto* stores were set to close, but didn't think it would happen here. Bummed out, I decided to hit *McDonalds* for lunch, which is almost next door, and walked into a basically empty restaurant. I went up to the counter and a young lady asked me if I would like to order.

I said, "Yes please. I would like a double quarter pounder with cheese meal and a Coke to go, please."

She then said, "What would you like?"

I repeated myself, "A double quarter pounder with cheese meal and a Coke to go."

She then said, "Quarter pounder with cheese?"

I said, "No, a double quarter pounder with cheese meal and a Coke... to go."

"OK, fries then?"

(Grrrrrrr) "Yes, please."

"And what to drink?"

(Grrrrrrr) "A Coke."

"Is Coke OK?"

(Grrrrrrr) "Yes, that's fine."

"And is that for here or to go?"



By now I'm wondering what has happened that this has become a chore instead of a nice little lunch order. As I shell out \$14 for this honor, I am thinking about how I could be at *Prime Steak House* instead with a salad bar and an appetizer on the table by now.

Next time!

Dave's '96 Corvette Trivia For You

1. What year did club member David Myers purchase his award winning "Collectors Edition" Corvette? **1996, 2012, or 2019**
2. Has Dave's Corvette been modified or is it stock?
3. Does Dave's Corvette have Daily Driver, Classic or Antique plates?
4. Dave's wheels on his Corvette are stock? **True or False**
5. Dave has been arrested for 135 mph in a 65mph zone on Rt-33 North? **True or False**

Thanks for playing!

[\(CLICK here for the answers\)](#)



Mark Your Calendar

May 3	10:00am	Rinse "Less" Car Wash Clinic, Allentown, PA	<i>John Fontaine</i>	610-220-4430
May 4-10		AACC Mystery Trip, Wait-listed	<i>Laura Hegyi</i>	610-730-2695
May 10	9:00am	Leo's Pediatric Cancer Fest, Schnecksville, PA	<i>John Kostick</i>	610-703-1753
May 22	5:00pm	"Flags for Unity" Corvette Display	<i>Michelle Steiner</i>	717-575-4701
May 23		LV Iron Pigs Game Night, Allentown, PA Wait-listed	<i>Laura Hegyi</i>	610-730-2695
May 24	2:00pm	"Springfest" Judging Seminar, Bethlehem, PA Recommended for all show judges, all club members welcome	<i>Marty Hegyi</i>	610-730-2846
May 26		Parade/Drive- Fallen Soldiers' Homes	<i>Valerie Fergusen</i>	516-330-6088
May 28	7:30pm	AACC Club Meeting & Auction	<i>Marty Hegyi</i>	610-730-2846
May 29	11:00am	Blue Ridge Winery, Meet at winery	<i>Ken Rovinsky</i>	908-458-7193
May 31		Barry's Car Barn/ Kitchen Kettle, Lancaster, PA	<i>Laura Hegyi</i>	610-730-2695
Jun. 7		"Springfest" AACC Car Show, Bethlehem, PA	<i>Jerry Reitano</i>	610-291-7041
Jun. 14		Faulkner Car Show, Bethlehem, PA help needed with parking & registration	<i>Marty Hegyi</i>	610-730-2846
Jun. 21		AACA Bill Smith Memorial Cruise , Hershey, PA	<i>Laura Hegyi</i>	610-730-2695
Jun. 21		Corvettes for Chip , Carlisle, PA	<i>Marty Hegyi</i>	610-730-2846
Jun. 19-22		Salen's Six Hours of The Glen, Watkins Glen, NY	CANCELLED	
Jun. 30	9:00am	AACC Golf Outing, Twin Lakes GC, Wait-listed	<i>Bob Beckowski</i>	610-837-0384
Jul. 12	8:00am	Vette Detailing Seminar, Allentown, PA NEW DATE- Rescheduled from June 28th	<i>Lisa Magill</i>	570-350-3777
Jul. 13		EACC Breakfast & Car Display, Stroudsburg, PA	<i>Jeff Mohring</i>	610-392-6898
Jul. 20		AACC Summer Picnic, Macungie, PA	<i>Paulette Godfroy</i>	610-442-2933
Jul. 26		Heisler's Ice Cream Fun Run, Tamaqua, PA	<i>Cynthia Frank</i>	484-894-2788
Aug. 1-3		Das Awkscht Fescht, Macungie, PA	<i>Marty Hegyi</i>	610-730-2846
Aug. 10		Classics & Cruisers on Hamilton, Allentown, PA	<i>Jim Gress</i>	610-442-1637
Aug. 16		Chicken Run, Bethel, PA	<i>Jeff Mohring</i>	610-392-6898
Aug. 21-23		Corvettes at Carlisle	<i>Laura Hegyi</i>	610-730-2695
Sep. 3		Putt-U, Center Valley, PA	<i>Jim Fagan</i>	484-714-9952
Sep. 7		Fiberglass & Steel, Macungie, PA	<i>John Kostick</i>	610-703-1753
Sep. 18-21		Mystic Seaport Trip 24 car maximum- 3 spots open, \$1,600-\$1,800/couple	<i>Dave Hausman</i>	610-217-7208
Oct. 23-25		Corvette Racing Weekend, Hershey, PA	<i>Marty Hegyi</i>	610-730-2846
Nov. 1		Halloween Party, Hellertown, PA	<i>Lisa Gontarek</i>	610-733-0800
Dec. 6		Holiday Party, Fogelsville, PA	<i>Laura Hegyi</i>	610-730-2695

NCM Bash

Reported by Marty Hegyi ('69 Cpe, '07 Cpe, '17 Z06)



Wed.-Sat., Apr. 23-26 | The annual *Michelin NCM Bash* took place at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, KY in late April. Highlights of the event included presentations and seminars from Team Corvette, Mobil 1 and Michelin, as well as an update on the Bowling Green assembly plant and the current status of the Pratt Miller Corvette Racing program.

Participants were able to book track time at the NCM Motorsports Park across the highway from the museum as well as partake in various road trips and tours. GM displayed several new 2025 ZR1's which their engineers drove down from Detroit. They also introduced two new 2026 color options, Roswell Green Metallic and Blade Silver Metallic. The 2025 Hall of Fame inductees were also announced and will be inducted into the HOF during the NCM Anniversary celebration at the end of August.

Evenings consisted of a banquet dinner with Corvette Racing as well as an invitation-only Donor Recognition Ceremony. In addition to Laura and me, other AACC members in attendance were Al and Andrea Fuller, and Greg and Lisa Magill. Be sure to make plans to attend the 2026 Michelin Bash next April, where you will get firsthand info on what's new with Corvette for 2027.



Photos— Laura Hegyi
More on:





Spring Clean-up

Chair Valerie Ferguson ('17 Cpe)

Fri., Apr. 25 | Eleven of our energetic AACC members met on Buttermilk Rd. in Williams Twp. with their wheelbarrows, gardening tools, gloves, and energy to help in our annual *Spring Cleanup* at the home of Gold Star parents Missy and Tom Seifert. The mission was to finish a bit of cleanup and lay mulch in their memorial garden in preparation for our annual Memorial Day event to remember their son Christopher.



(L to R) Dave Riccardi, Dave Fredericks, Dennis & Bonnie Corona, Bobbie Paul, Bill Frank, Tom Seifert, Dee Cuva, Jerry Reitano

We were blessed with the weather and in spite of us getting a tiny bit older, we each worked at our own pace, took a break or two, and chatted about cars and life. We were then surprised by a lunch from the Seiferts whose beloved son Christopher's 50th birthday would have been the day before. They were ever so grateful to each of the Corvette club members who have assisted them throughout the years.

We worked well enough and stayed a bit extra so that we could complete our task, and fortunately were able to cancel our second scheduled day, which proved to be cold and rainy.

Sometimes a picture is worth 1000 words!

Photos- Valerie Ferguson & Bob Beckowski



A letter of appreciation from the Seifert's

Dear Gardeners of the AACC,

Thank you very much for your assistance in spreading mulch in Chris' Memorial Garden. The garden looks so beautiful with the cover of mulch. Your visit brightened our day so much. Christopher's birthday was the day before you came. He would have been 50 years old on April 24th. It was a difficult day for us. You helped us so much by willingly volunteering, listening, and giving all those hugs.

Please remember you are always welcome to come back for a visit in the garden.

*With gratitude,
Tom & Missy Seifert*



(L to R) Pete Lilek & Bob Beckowski



Dennis Corona



Ambassador's Corner *edited by Bob Beckowski ('05 Cpe)*

The National Corvette Museum's new *Pop Culture & Corvette* exhibit brings to life the spirit of rock 'n' roll with a star-studded lineup of cars that have shared the road with legends. Among them, one car stands out with unmistakable flair: the **1954 Corvette** once owned by the inimitable Jerry Lee Lewis.

Jerry Lee Lewis, a pioneer of [r]ock 'n' [r]oll, was known for his wild, high-energy performances—often playing piano with his fists, elbows, and even feet. With hits like "Great Balls of Fire" and "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On," Lewis became a household name and an icon of the rebellious spirit that marked the late 1950s. This Corvette, with its sleek white exterior and red interior, embodies the same boldness that characterized Lewis himself.



The 1954 model was a rare gem, one of only 3,640 produced that year at GM's St. Louis plant. Sporting the famous Blue Flame Six engine and Powerglide automatic transmission, this Corvette originally packed 150 horsepower, later boosted to 155 with a camshaft redesign during production. A symbol of innovation and style, it was more than just a car—it was an emblem of an era that celebrated speed, freedom, and rock 'n' roll.



Lewis owned multiple Corvettes throughout his life, yet this one's story is especially unique. Repossessed by the IRS in 1980, it disappeared from public view until it resurfaced in 2023. Now on display, this Corvette gives Museum visitors a rare chance to connect with the shared history of America's Sports Car and rock's untamed energy.

Current NCM Raffles

'25 Riptide Blue Corvette Coupe

1500 tix @ \$150

May 22

'25 Build Your Own Corvette or \$85,000

1500 tix @ \$250

June 19

Visit raffle.corvettemuseum.org for tickets.

2025 Events:

Jun. 7– 17 MiM Le Mans Tour

Jun. 24– 28 MiM Branson Experience

Jul. 13– 17 MiM Colorado Springs

Aug. 28– 30 NCM 31st Anniversary

Sep. 21– 27 MiM National Parks Tour

Visit www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/

Robert Wickens Shines in IMSA WeatherTech Debut

Managed by Bob Berkowitz ('04 Cpe)

Long Beach, CA (April 12, 2025) – In an emotional milestone, Robert Wickens proved he still belongs at the top of motorsport, making his IMSA GTD debut 7 years after being paralyzed in an IndyCar crash.



Robert Wickens had two reasons to celebrate in the streets of Long Beach on Saturday. He achieved his long-sought return to driving in the major leagues by starting in the GTD class of the IMSA WeatherTech Championship, nearly 7 years after severing his spinal cord in an IndyCar crash at Pocono, which left him paralyzed below the waist.

Driving a DXDT Racing Corvette Z06 GT3.R with hand controls featuring fly-by-wire braking devised by Bosch, Wickens and Tommy Milner showed well in the GTD race before encountering some bad luck typical of street fighting. After climbing to 5th place in the 16-car field, Milner was black-flagged for a dangling fender following contact near the finish of the 100-minute dash.

"There are a lot of positive takeaways from the weekend," said Wickens. "We proved we belong here, that we can be competitive. The Bosch hand-control system worked flawlessly. DXDT Racing gave us a great Corvette. The car was good all weekend and I feel like we had one of the cars to beat. We just couldn't maximize it, and that is what hurts."

It was an ironic return for Wickens, given that IMSA shares the weekend with IndyCar. But he's no stranger to the NTT-backed series. His passion for racing has led him to work regularly as a data analyst for Andretti Global.

Shortly before the IMSA race, Wickens cheered on Andretti Global drivers Kyle Kirkwood and Colton Herta as they swept the front row on the grid for the IndyCar finale of the *Acura Long Beach Grand Prix*. Kirkwood was then among those pulling for Wickens in his race. "He's been a huge help for us analyzing video and data," said Kirkwood.

Consulting is one thing, competing in a big-league series another. Wickens, 36, has labored for several years to get his shot in IMSA's top category. He began his racing comeback in IMSA, competing for Bryan Herta Autosport in the *Michelin Pilot Challenge*. He co-drove to the TCR class championship in a Hyundai Elantra equipped with hand controls in 2023.

It was going to be tough from the outset at Long Beach for Wickens, because of two short practice sessions on the temporary street course to acclimate himself to the newly installed hand controls before qualifying, where the rules call for a team's lower-rated driver to be in the cockpit.

"I think we all knew it was coming, that this was almost the worst-case scenario of learning the hand-control system," he said after qualifying. "Honestly, I even surprised myself with the pace that I had in (the second practice) and our potential pace that we could have had in qualifying and even in the race. I felt super comfortable and I felt like I was always attacking more than defending, although I didn't do a whole lot of attacking. But I think that's just the nature of this track."

By: Jonathan Ingram



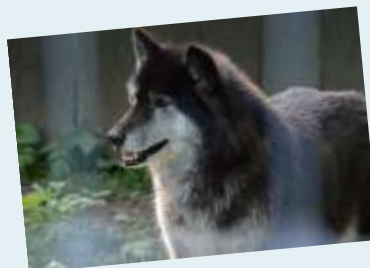
AACC Archives will resurrect articles from prior issues of the club's newsletter. You may find it interesting to read about the automotive issues in the news at that time. *Editor*

Springtime Is a Sure Bet, For a Day Trip In Your Corvette

Reprinted from 'Vetter's Letter
May, 2024

So your Vette is just begging you to get out on the road this spring. You don't want to disappoint him/her now do you? Well "Running On Empty" had some fun "day trip" suggestions for you when they first appeared in prior issues. Like most everyone, we sometimes need reminders. The following recommendations originated in the 'Vetters Letter beginning with the April '23 edition. Refer to the respective newsletter (available at the [club website](#)) or click on the destination's web link below for more info... **Let's "Hit the Road for Some Fun!"**

◆ Boyertown Auto Museum	(Apr '23)	85 South Walnut Street, Boyertown, PA	www.boyertownmuseum.org
◆ Eckleys Miners Village	(May '23)	2 Eckley Main Street, Weatherly, PA	www.eckleyminersvillage.com
◆ Wolf Sanctuary of PA	(Jun. '23)	465 Speedwell Forge Rd., Lititz, PA	www.wolfsanctuarypa.org
◆ Steamtown Ntl. Hist. Site	(Jul. '23)	350 Cliff Street, Scranton, PA	www.nps.gov/stea
◆ Grey Towers Ntl. Hist. Site	(Aug. '23)	122 Old Owego Turnpike, Milford, PA	www.fs.usda.gov/greytowers
◆ Knoebel's Amusement Pk.	(Sep. '23)	391 Knoebels Blvd, Route 487, Elysburg, PA	www.knoebels.com
◆ Storm King Art Center	(Oct. '23)	1 Museum Road, New Windsor, NY	stormking.org
◆ AACA Museum at Hershey	(Nov. '23)	161 Museum Dr., Hershey, PA	www.aacamuseum.org/
◆ Maple Grove Raceway	(Apr. '24)	30 Stauffer Park Ln., Mohnton, PA	www.maplegroveraceway.com





Corvette Classifieds *Managed by Ed Kordeck ('03 Cnv)*

If you have something Corvette-related to sell, email Ed Kordeck ekordeck51@yahoo.com
to run a free ad for six (6) months.

Ads may be removed at any time if space is necessary for new posts.

CARS:

- ♦ **1994 Corvette Black Rose Metallic Convertible**— automatic, 48K miles, black top, very good condition, \$14,000, car is located in Macungie, PA (contact Rick Jankowicz @ 718-757-6956).
- ♦ **1998 Corvette Black Coupe**— 6-speed manual, black with silver, red and white accents, twin APS turbos, makes 702 hp and 775 torque, 69k miles on car/25k on modded motor, \$100k invested, truly a one of a kind car, very "streetable- it's a gas!", asking \$42,000 (contact Joe Iervolino @ 973-219-6307) [click here for more details & pix](#)

PARTS:

- ♦ **C4 Wheels & Tires** (4) from a 1991 convertible, FREE to a good home (Bob @ 610-392-5376)
- ♦ **C2 Inner Hardtop/Convertible Weather Strip** \$10 (Ken @ 267-249-8362)
- ♦ **1971 Corvette Assembly Manual** \$20 (Ken @ 267-249-8362)

WANTED:

- ♦ **C7 Z06 Coupe** - prefer stick, but would consider automatic. (contact Ken Margraff, for_a friend @ 267-249-8362)

Neither the Allentown Area Corvette Club nor the Newsletter Editor are responsible for ad content or for any exchanges as a result of ads published.



**Click on the blue link to view that
"Newsworthy" article.**

"Newsworthy" *Curated by Bob England ('20 Cnv, '82 Cpe)*



- 1) [The Ultimate All-Seasons Sports Car](#) / Feb. 24, 2025
- 2) [Zora Arkus-Duntov's '74-Corvette is Being Restored](#) / Feb. 24, 2025
- 3) [10 Rarest C7 Corvette Colors](#) / Feb. 24, 2025
- 4) [Saratoga Automobile Museum Announces Upcoming Corvette Exhibition](#) / Mar. 23, 2025
- 5) [2025 Corvette ZR1s Take-on The Tail of the Dragon](#) / Feb. 28, 2025
- 6) [Fix for '25 Corvette Contaminated Front-Lift-System](#) / Mar. 16, 2025



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CORVETTE TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Dave purchased his Corvette in... 2019
2. Dave's Corvette is modified with the rare "Hot Wheels" trim
3. Dave's Corvette sports "Antique" plates
4. The wheels on Dave's Corvette are stock C5's... True
5. Dave has been arrested for 135 mph in a 65mph zone... False, not yet

[Click here to return to page 11](#)



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FOR MORE INFO:

Jerry Reitano 610-291-7041

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Make checks payable to: AACC and mail to- Jerry Reitano 1815 Valley View Drive, Allentown, PA 18104

Name: _____

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Circle your Class: (see information above)

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