

# High Plains Shifter

Newsletter of the NCRS Rocky Mountain Chapter

Published four issues annually by the Rocky Mountain Chapter NCRS, Inc.  
[www.ncrsmc.org](http://www.ncrsmc.org)

Vol. 30 No.3

3rd Quarter 2023

Chair Report	1-2
Membership	2
Judging Chair	3
Editors Corner	4-5
Corvette Museum Ambassador	6-9
Merchandise	10-11
For Sale	12
Board Members	12

**August 20**  
Chapter Judging Meet  
**September 16**  
Fall Road Trip  
**October 21**  
Tech Session



**Chairman's Report**  
By Rick Reiff

## Thanks Lynn and Glenn Reiff for opening their home to RMC members

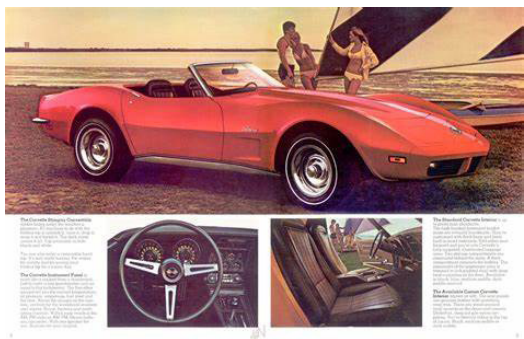
Hello Rocky Mountain Chapter,

It's mid-summer now and hopefully you have had a chance to join in one of the road trips we've had and were able to attend our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic, once again graciously hosted by Lynn and Glenn Reiff at their wonderful home in Fort Collins. Thanks Lynn and Glenn for opening your home to RMC members, it is truly appreciated.

Next up is our Chapter Judging Event on August 20<sup>th</sup> at Stevinson Chevrolet. It is my understanding there is still time to sign up either as a judge or to have a Corvette judged. More details regarding the judging event can be found on the following pages of this newsletter. As I've done in past Q3 newsletters in advance of the National Convention, I provide a little information regarding the "Year Of" that will be recognized this year in French Lick, Indiana. The Year-Of is essentially the model year offered 50 (yes 50!) years ago. Doesn't seem that long ago that the 1973 model was in the Chevrolet showrooms.

Here are some 1973 tidbits.

- The most obvious thing with the '73 is the replacement of the front chrome bumper with a urethane-covered, energy-absorbent nose that was the result of federal safety standards that specified car's bumper should be able to bounce back from a 5-mph impact. Not sure you would want to try a "bounce back" with any Corvette, but the front of the '73 was GM's approach to comply with the newly established safety standards. The rear chrome bumpers remained, so this is the only year Corvette had a urethane



73 Corvette ad back in the day.

front end and a chrome back end. Less obvious, but to comply with the new safety standards, was the installation of the side-impact steel guard beams in the doors.

- This was the first, 12-month model year where sales exceed 30,000 (25,521 coupes/4,943 convertibles).
- Base engine horsepower dropped to 190 hp from 200 hp the year before. Optional engines included the 250 hp L82 (which replaced the LT-1) and the 454 big block that was rated at 275 hp (LS4).
- In the previous Shark models the owners of the coupe could remove the rear window. Not so in '73 as the rear window was fixed and non-removable. Zora apparently thought the open rear window caused buffeting, so that was that.
- Gone for '73 was the vacuum operated wiper pop-up tray that often caused problems in earlier Sharks. The new hood had a cowl induction feature that admitted air from the high-pressure area at the base of the windshield. Also gone were the egg-crate side fender grills, replaced with a single open slot
- Steel-belted radial tires (GR70-15) became standard.
- All '73 models came with Rochester Quadrajet carburetors. The '72 LT-1 was the last Corvette engine equipped with a Holley carb.

Have a great summer and I hope to see you at one of the Chapter events.

Rick Reiff  
Chairman



Membership Report  
by Steve Beatty

**Our current membership is at 118 members.**

We have added the following new members since my last report:  
Russ Tripp (70293) - year - 2013  
Michael Coyle (69279) - year ???  
Please extend a welcome to these new members at a future meeting. Our current membership is 118 members. REMINDER, you must be a current member of National NCRS to be a member of RMC.

A member's NCRS membership expiration date can be found on the mailing label of the Driveline/Restorer.

Chapter notices are generally sent out via email using the addresses contained on the National NCRS member email database. Accordingly, please make sure your National NCRS profile email address is always up to date to avoid missing Chapter news. Here is a link to your member profile: <https://www.ncrs.org/forums/register/change-address.php>  
I will be submitting the 2nd quarter report for the Chapter Top Flight Award Program by July 10<sup>th</sup>. Special thanks to all of the members whose participation in club activities has made it possible for the Chapter to continue its tradition of earning this award.

RMC Chapter membership directories are now available upon request by emailing me at [stingraycpa@hotmail.com](mailto:stingraycpa@hotmail.com). Please keep in mind that the list is confidential and is not to be shared with non-members.

I look forward to seeing everyone at a future event!

Steve Beatty  
Membership Manager  
[stingraycpa@hotmail.com](mailto:stingraycpa@hotmail.com)



Judging Chairs Message  
by Martin Egan

## Hello RMC members

In March 23-25 I was at the Arizona Regional in Tucson. It never got above 50 degrees while I was there. I was on the Judging team for Mechanical on one 1965 coupe owned by a past member of our Rocky Mountain Chapter. I don't remember his name. While I was at the Regional, I saw John Marsico, Tom DiRito and Ron Bergren and their wives. If I missed somebody, sorry. Anyhow, they were test judging the C6 corvette while I was there. After the July NCRS National in French Lick, IN, we will know more about the C6 Judging.

### 2023 RMC SUMMER CHAPTER MEET

As of June 26 we have 3 cars for judging and 2 cars for display. We can use up to 4 more cars for Judging. If you know of someone who needs their car judged, get them to our RMC website and sign up. Registration is set to accept up to 7 cars. All who attend need to register.



This year the meet is on Sunday August 20th, at our new sponsor, Stevinson Chevrolet in Lakewood, CO. The hypertext <https://www.rmc.ncrs.org/events/> takes you to the RMC Events website page where you can simply click on the Chapter Meet that's in color to go to the on-line registration for the meet. Flight and Concours judging for cars is available along with Sportsman entries. Lunch will be provided for all who register. If you have questions, please contact me.

Save the wave.

Martin Egan 4320  
[martinegan6@aol.com](mailto:martinegan6@aol.com),  
307-630-2272  
RMC Judging Chairman







### Editor's Corner

By Dennis Dalton



Our chapter has not received the actual award certificate yet. This is one from the past. ED

## Drum Roll Please

The Golden Quill Awards have been recently announced. The High Plains Shifter received the award for 2022. Thanks to the board and all who contribute to the newsletter. ED

## From the Vault

In his article in this newsletter, Rick Reiff writes of the upcoming Nation Convention Year of the '73. I found an article by one of our past members Bill Lucia on his favorite subject: "Rattle Can Tips". While Bill contributed regularly to the newsletter with his tips, this one has a couple of insights for 73 Corvette owners.

I have not been in contact with Bill since he moved away. Maybe some of the readers have. I hope he is well and still providing valuable insight to members.

## Rattle Can Tips

By Bill Lucia  
(reprinted from July/August 2000)

"Rattle Can" tips are intended to be quick, easy and inexpensive tips that can solve a minor operational or aesthetic problem on your Corvette. By quick, I mean one hour or less to complete. By easy, I mean ANYONE can do them. By inexpensive, I mean \$5 to \$7 max! Additionally, these tips usually involve a product ( spray paint, polish, preservative, etc) that is available at most automotive or hardware stores. In many cases these tips will not pass judging standards, nor are they intended to do so. For the most part, the tips work well for the "driver" in your collection. Once in a while, they will solve a problem on a Duntov car or other

concours class Corvette. Perhaps you have a tip or two of your own that you can share. Here are three of mine. I have used them all on one car or another over the years and they work!!!

### Rattle Can Tip #1

OK this is cheating, but only a little. If you own a '66 to '73 Corvette you can increase the brightness of the taillights by using this tip. Remove all four of the taillight housings and clean them thoroughly.

While you are at it, clean the lenses using Simi-Chrome. It will shine and plastic and remove all but the most severe scratches. Be sure that any corrosion or oxidation has been removed from the housing. You can also clean the bulb sockets with a small piece of crocus cloth wrapped on the end of a pencil. Use a little masking tape to seal off the socket. Now use a good grade of bright silver spray paint and spray the inside of the housing ( this surface is hidden and is not judged). Use several light coats. Once the housing is dry you can reassemble the taillights into the car. The silver paint acts as a reflector giving a little more brightness to your taillights.

### Rattle Can Tip #2

Another tip for the '68-'82 Corvette. The cowl area of these cars was sealed at the factory using a black tar-like substance. Over time, this material dries out, cracks, and turns brown. You can dress up this area using this tip. First remove all of the twigs, leaves and other junk that may have accumulated in this area. (This car is a driver, right?) Use a rag dampened with lacquer thinner to lightly wipe the entire area. Stay away from the painted surfaces! Once the area is clean and free of debris you can freshen the area with a can of spray on undercoat. Several manufacturers offer this product under various names. Mask off the nearby paint and mechanical components and spray on several light coats. You should use just enough to fill the cracks and cover the brown color of the original material.

### Rattle Can Tip #3

Here is one for the mid-year crowd. The 63-67 cars have a rocker panel that is held in place by a series of screws that pass through the bottom of the panel and up into a bracket and nylon bushing. The ends of the rocker panels are held in place by two black phosphate Phillips head screws. These screws will sometimes fall out or deteriorate with age. An easy fix is to visit the local hardware store. Exact replacements for the black phosphate screws are available for about ten cents each. You can also get four metal speed nuts to fit for about the same price. My math tells me that's about \$.80 for a fix that just might save you a point in exterior judging.







Barrett Benson  
bsqaured@q.com

corvettemuseum.org  
1-800-538-3883

## 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CELEBRATION AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

Each year around the Labor Day weekend the Museum celebrates its Grand Opening in 1994 with a participant-focused event. The NCM marks the 29th Anniversary milestone with the focus on the people that Corvette has brought together for a look back on the Museum's history and forward to the future! Registered participants can enjoy 3 days of activities in and around the Museum including access to interesting and unique road tours, special presentations, raffles, Hall of Fame induction ceremony, and more! I have already registered and hope to see you there.

### Events

- Seminars: Bowling Green Assembly Plant, General Motors, Michelin, & Mobil 1
- Return of the AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS
- Classroom Sessions with Corvette Expert Paul Koerner
- Product demonstrations by Corvette Store Partners
- Guided Road Tours
- Additional Evening Activities
- National Corvette Museum Driven Content including:
  - Membership Meeting
  - Hall of Fame Roundtables
  - Demonstration Drives
  - Artifact Spotlights on items exclusive to the Museum's Collection

### Registration

Online registration closes at 9:00 am Central Time of Friday, August 18. All activities are open to *Event Registrants only*. Online registrants will receive a credential, lanyard, event pin and dash plaque.

Lifetime members registration is \$35pp, member registration is \$40pp and non-member Registration is \$50pp. Onsite registrations are available at the increased rates of \$40 / \$45/ \$50. No refunds or cancellations after Advanced Registration closes on August 18.

### New Exhibits

Carl Casper exhibit CUSTOM CARISMA: From his early struggles growing up in poverty, to becoming one of America's most accomplished automotive icons, Carl Casper is a modern-day renaissance man. His talents and array of



Carl Casper wet sanding  
the Batmobile 1989

impressive building and driving his early machines. For his most successful record-setting championship top fuel Young American dragster, he put together a hard charging, amazing team listed on the following Young American graphic.

Carl's creativity also got the attention of Hollywood studios, leading to the building of numerous vehicles for television and the big screen, including the "Batman Returns" Batmobile™, the bright orange "General Lee" Dodge Charger, the "Knight Rider" Pontiac Trans Am, and others...which all became Hollywood stars in their own right.

The Legendary Creations of Carl Casper opened March 10.

An American Love Affair: 70 years of Corvette: Restored by the National Corvette Restorers Society, the newest exhibit of iconic Corvettes from each era marks key milestones in its 70 year history. The exhibit is a walk through time, including cars from the early design eras to the Corvettes that collapsed into the sinkhole in 2014. The exhibit, including artifacts, will also include information about what was going on culturally at the time of each era. The displays, opening prior to the 29<sup>th</sup> Celebration, will be exhibited in the Museum's Skydome

### CORVETTE HALL OF FAME CEREMONY – SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

The Corvette Hall of Fame was established by the National Corvette Museum in 1998 to confer official recognition upon the most influential individuals in the history of the Corvette and honor their achievements. Corvette Hall of Fame inductees have distinguished themselves, not only through their accomplishments, but also by their

interests are as boundless as his determination to overcome any obstacle. His work with rocket design, for example, got the attention of NASA back in the 1960s; the large-scale public events that he coordinated for over 50 years is legendary; and the vast and diverse legacy of incredible automotive design excellence is enough to boggle the imagination. Concerning automotive design, the Casper resume is expansive. Carl designed and built dozens of "Show Rods" during the 1960s and 1970s for hundreds of indoor car shows. Those cars then went on to become plastic model kits that were sold across the world.

Regarding race cars, Carl was very

high standards of integrity and character that reflect and enhance the reputation of the Corvette and the National Corvette Museum.

During the 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremonies, the NCM will induct three individuals in the categories of Enthusiast, GM/Chevrolet, and Racing into the Museum's Hall of Fame.

#### **ENTHUSIAST: John Amgwert, Founding Member of NCRS.**

In 1974, John Amgwert became one of the founders of the National Corvette Restorers Society. Amgwert's passion for Corvette translated into a 25-year stint as the editor-in-chief of *The Corvette Restorer* magazine – a go-to resource for Corvette history. Amgwert's efforts with the NCRS to form a technical library ultimately resulted in what would become the National Corvette Museum. Amgwert's passion for and commitment to seeking out the truth about key cars in Corvette history continues to this day.

#### **GM/CHEVROLET: David Wickman, Retired GM Vehicle Performance Manager of Milford Proving Grounds.**

Born in Detroit, Michigan, David Wickman grew up dreaming of being an engineer for GM someday, and on January 5, 1978, his dream came true. His skill, work ethic, and dedication led to Wickman being assigned to work as the Test Engineer for the launch of the C4 Corvette. Wickman would go on to manage Corvette development activities at the Milford Proving Grounds as the Lead Development Engineer for the C5 Z06, C6, and C7 platforms. In that role, Wickman was responsible for overseeing total vehicle development integration and validation from prototype through production.

#### **RACING: Dan Binks, Retired Crew Chief of Corvette Racing**

Dan Binks is a racing crew chief, fabricator, and do-it-all competitor. For nearly two decades starting in 2002, Binks was a vital member of the Corvette racing team. During his tenure, the Corvette squad scored over 100 race victories, including six class wins at the 24 Hours of Le Mans, three at the 24 Hours of Daytona and 11 at the 12 Hours of Sebring. While Binks retired from the Corvette team in 2020, he did not slow down. In his Brighton, Michigan shop, he prepares the cars he once raced professionally for vintage events, restores race cars, and builds engines.

#### **NCM NATIONAL CARAVAN REMINDER AUGUST 29 – 31, 2024**

It is not too early to start planning for the 2024 Covette Caravan. Often referred to as the world's largest moving automotive event, the National Corvette Caravan is a celebration of America's Sports Car, culminating in Bowling Green, Kentucky for the anniversary celebration of the National Corvette Museum. Hosted only once every five years, the next event is slated for Labor Day Weekend 2024 and will mark the Museum's 30th Anniversary.

Currently Colorado does not have a Caravan Captain! However, the 2019 Colorado Captain is planning and will lead a Colorado contingent from Colorado to Kentucky. You can contact me for more information. I will send your contact information to him so you can join the group.

#### **NCM AMBASSADOR**

I achieved the Master Ambassador level for the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Each ambassador must earn minimum points through various categories to maintain ambassador status; those earning additional points earn Master level, awarded to 20% - 25% of the Ambassadors. Thanks to all RMC members for telling me or e-mailing me when you purchase raffle tickets, insure your Corvettes through NCM Insurance program, join or renew your NCM membership, attend an on-site Museum event, and participate in the Museum Delivery program. I couldn't have earned the Master Ambassador level for 2022 without your support!







**Merchandise**  
**By Eckhard Pobuda**

We now have most sizes of the heather gray ring spun t-shirts, blue silk touch polo shirts, royal blue sweatshirts, gray sweatshirts with embroidered logos. This includes: Heather Charcoal Ring Spun Short Sleeve T-Shirts (Pic 1); Black Heather Silk Touch Long Sleeve T-Shirts (Pic 2); Blue Silk Touch Short Sleeve Polo Shirts (Pic 3); Royal Blue Long Sleeve Sweatshirts (Pic 4). All of this merchandise is available in all sizes. Also, we have replenished the inventory of several of our popular items such as the Chambray Shirts with embroidered pockets and Black Short Sleeve T-Shirts with embroidered pockets. Prices are shown in the attached Merchandise Inventory.

Contact  
Eckhard @ [epobuda@aol.com](mailto:epobuda@aol.com).

Item	Value	Color
2015 National Cooler	\$10.00	Blue
Challenger Jacket (SM - XL)	\$82.50	Red/Navy
Challenger Jacket (SM - XL)	\$82.50	Black/Black
Challenger Jacket (SM - XL)	\$82.50	Blue/Navy
Challenger Jacket (XXL - XXXL)	\$85.00	Red/Navy
Challenger Jacket (XXL - XXXL)	\$85.00	Black/Black
Challenger Jacket (XXL - XXXL)	\$85.00	Blue/Navy
Fleece Vests	\$35.00	Red
Fleece Vests	\$35.00	Blue
Fleece Vests	\$35.00	Black
Hats	\$30.00	Black
Hats	\$30.00	Black/Red
Hats	\$30.00	Brown
Hats	\$30.00	Beige
Hats	\$30.00	Beige/Green
Hats	\$30.00	Beige/Black
Hat Pins	\$3.00	
Pocket Knife	\$5.00	
Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve	\$30.00	Red
Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve	\$30.00	Blue
Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve	\$30.00	White
Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve - Silk Touch (SM - XL)	\$25.00	Blue
Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve - Silk touch (XXL - XXXL)	\$30.00	Blue



Polo Shirt

Chambray Shirt (SM - XL)	\$35.00	Denim
Chambray Shirt (XXL - XXXL)	\$40.00	Denim
Chambray Shirt -Short Sleeve	\$30.00	Denim
Sweatshirt (SM - XL)	\$40.00	Gray
Sweatshirt (XXL - XXXL)	\$45.00	Gray
Sweatshirt (SM - XL)	\$40.00	Royal Blue
Sweatshirt (XXL - XXXL)	\$45.00	Royal Blue
T-Shirts - SS - Embroidered w/Pocket (SM - XL)	\$30.00	Black
T-Shirts - SS - Embroidered w/Pocket (XXL - XXXL)	\$35.00	Black
T-Shirts - Short Sleeve -Stenciled	\$10.00	Gray
T-Shirts -Ring Spun SS -Stenciled (SM - XL)	\$10.00	Heather Charcoal
T-Shirts - Ring Spun SS -Stenciled (XXL - XXXL)	\$15.00	Heather Charcoal
T-Shirts - Silk Touch LS -Stenciled (SM - XL)	\$15.00	Black Heather
T-Shirts - Silk Touch LS -Stenciled (XXL - XXXL)	\$18.00	Black Heather



Sweatshirt



T-Shirt



Long Sleeve T-Shirt

Membership in the NCRS is open to persons interested in the restoration, preservation and history of the Corvette produced by the Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors Corporation. NCRS is not affiliated with Chevrolet or General Motors.

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the NCRS is open to all members of the NCRS National organization. Dues are \$30.00 for each year. First year dues entitle the new member to a \$10 discount on the merchandise of their choice.

Advertising in the Rocky Mountain Chapter Newsletter is free to all active members, for all Corvette related items or Corvettes for sale. Commercial advertising rates for the Newsletter are \$15.00 for a business card, \$25.00 for a ¼ page, \$40.00 for a ½ page and \$60.00 for a full page. All rates are quoted for 4 issues or one-year printing. Contact the editor for further information. All editorial material can be sent to the editor.

NCRS registered marks used in this publication are: NCRS Founders Award□, NCRS Master Judge Award□, NCRS Performance Verification Award□, NCRS Flight Award□, The NCRS American Heritage Award and NCRS Sportsman Award□, and are registered with the United States Department of Commerce and Trademark Office.

<b>Chairman</b> <b>Rick Reiff</b> 12/31/2024	rickreiff@comcast.net (303) 956-2302
<b>Vice Chairman</b> <b>Jeff Roth</b> 12/31/2025	jeffroth60@gmail.com (303) 517-7095
<b>Judging Chairman</b> <b>Martin Egan</b> 12/31/2025	martinegan6@aol.com (307) 630-2272
<b>Editor</b> <b>Dennis Dalton</b> 12/31/2024	newslettermmc.dalton@gmail.com (719) 251-2033
<b>Chapter Liaison/Membership</b> <b>Steve Beatty</b> 12/31/2024	stingraycpa@hotmail.com (720) 501-8668
<b>Secretary</b> <b>Jerry Fearn</b> 12/31/2024	jerryfearn@icloud.com (303) 352-9000
<b>Treasurer</b> <b>Jack Humphrey</b> 12/31/2025	jackhumphreyh@gmail.com (303) 526-9410
<b>Activities</b> <b>Dirk Gaddis</b> 12/31/2025	dirkgaddis@gmail.com 303 482-5214
<b>Merchandise</b> <b>Eckhard Pobuda</b> 12/31/25	epobuda@aol.com (719) 314-5786
<b>Technical Advisor</b> <b>Gary Steffens</b> Appointed Position	CorvetteMasters@cs.com (303) 762-8388

## For Sale:

**2006 Corvette Coupe** Daytona Sunset Orange. LS 2 engine with 6 speed automatic paddle shift. 50190 miles excellent shape. Preferred equipment group interior. Bi Mode exhaust, spider mags, insulated floor. Clear Bra, 2 car covers, build sheet and owners buy book. \$31,000 Fred Koenig member 7496. Email [Erkoenigjr@live.com](mailto:Erkoenigjr@live.com), Cell ( 720 ) 244 - 4177

**1991 ZR-1** Rare Steel Blue Metallic with blue interior. New injectors, coils, plugs and wires. New radiator. 3k miles on tires. Borla Exhaust. K & N Air filter. Custom show sign and Wolf car cover Owners Manual. Nice well maintained driver. NCRS owner for 20 years. 88k miles \$24,500 OBO Steve Beatty, Phone: (720) 501-8668, Email: [stingraycpa@hotmail.com](mailto:stingraycpa@hotmail.com), Member #29095