

# High Plains Shifter



Newsletter of the NCRS Rocky Mountain Chapter

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

Vol. 26 No.1

1st Quarter 2019

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**Jan 5**  
**Holiday Party**

**February 16**  
**Tech Session "Road**  
**Rash" at Corvette City**

**March 23**  
**Judging School at**  
**Corvette City**



## Chairman's Report

By Rick Reiff

## Happy New Year Rocky Mountain Chapter!

As in prior newsletters, I've provided a little information about NCRS National's current "year of" editions of the Corvette. So, this is the "Year of the 1969," which was introduced 50 years ago and will be recognized this July at the National Convention in Greenville, South Carolina. As you know, there was a major change to the Corvette's styling when the '68 was introduced. The Mako-

Shark theme continued however there were a few noticeable changes in the outward appearance of the Corvette for '69. One was that the pushbutton door release in the '68 was removed and integrated into a release-handle that continued through the rest of C3 production. Also "Stingray" was reintroduced (this time, one word) and was added to each front fender. The rectangle back-up lights in the '68 were integrated into the round taillights. A few other things that you won't find on a '68, or any other Shark, included a factory off-road exhaust system and bright trim on the fender louvers. On the interior, the key slot to start the car was moved from the dash to the steering column, which also took place on other GM models.

The width of the 15-inch diameter wheels was increased from 7 inches to 8 inches, however still shod with F70-15 tires. The big change not readily apparent is under the hood, where the venerable 327 cid small block was increased to 350 cid for '69. The 427 cid engine options were essentially the same as those offered in '68, however there was the all-aluminum ZL1 option offered in '69 with only two known versions sold (same engine as offered in the 69 ZL1 Camaros produced in '69). So rare is the ZL1, that in the more the 20 years of going to NCRS events I have yet to come across one. Let me know if you have ever run across one. Something interesting that I ran across is that Chevrolet apparently listed a 370 hp, LT-1 option small



block for production, however none were produced until the '70 model year.

As a result of delays in getting the '70 production launched ('69 production ran through December due to a strike), there were a lot more '69s built than Corvettes produced in '68 or '70 with 38,762 units sold (22,129 coupes, and 16,633 convertibles). So, there you have it, an overview of the '69 production information.

2020 Regional Update – we will be ramping up coordination this year in preparation of the Regional that will be in Loveland next year. Tom Hosea has agreed to be my co-chair for the event as Pete LaClair has moved out of state and was not able to continue as a co-chair. I look forward to working with Tom and appreciate his stepping up to help. So, stay tuned for additional information as we get the committees put together and start the coordinating process. By the time you read this we will likely have had another fun holiday party. Thanks to Jeff Roth, our activities chair for putting this and the rest of the year's activities together.

Have a great, safe, and healthy 2019!  
Rick Reiff  
Chairman



# Please let me know if you have any ideas for future tech sessions.

*December tech session with Dirk Gaddis and Gary Steffens.*

*Photos by Rick Reiff*



**Activities**  
by Jeff Roth

Well I hope you all had a super holiday season. A miserable cold bug invaded our household so I was even more “Bah Humbug” than usual. Here’s hoping you are staying warm and content this time of year. I look forward to a periodic warm winter day and the chance to take one of the Corvettes out for a spin.

To wrap up fourth quarter activities in 2018, in October began “tech savvy” Jack Humphrey presenting a tech session on late model (1992 to 1997) tune ups. Jack used videos to go through the different items of a tune up. I thought it was a great way to present that kind of information. There would have been no way to get 40 people around the hood of a car. I would like to see more of these presentations in the future. Hopefully with Jack’s computer skills he can craft another one or assist someone else in doing so.

In November we were all set to have a judging meet but the weather did not cooperate, so “right decision” Ralph Ridge made the call to cancel it. I had just bought food at Costco and had ordered the sandwiches when I found out. I was scrambling, but fortunately was able to cancel the sandwich order and return the other goodies. Weather plays a big role in our activities in the winter, so if this type of thing comes up again, I’ll try to give as much notice as possible.

December’s tech session was given by “one armed wonder” Jim Lennartz and “grease monkey” Dirk Gaddis with an assist from “Corvette shop guy” Gary Steffens. It was on steering box adjustment and repair, as well as after-market electric power steering (EPS) for C-1 to C3’s. Great tech session. It amazes me how much knowledge we have in the chapter. I am grateful to everyone who steps up to teach and share their insights.

In January we are trying another new venue for our Annual Holiday Party, Maggianos, in the Tech Center. No stairs to climb to get to the party room and the food should be great. The gift exchange is always a hoot.

February’s tech session will be on dealing with road rash from those ever present pesky little rocks that are plentiful on our Colorado roads.

Please let me know if you have any ideas for future tech sessions. I need and welcome all the help I can get!

Jeff Roth







**Ralph Ridge at the Lone Star Regional winning a Concourse Award.**

**Photos by Rick Reiff**



Since our last newsletter there's been a lot of events affecting our RMC judging processes. Namely, we had to cancel our fall judging meet due to adverse weather conditions. Cancelling a meet is not something I take lightly due to the meticulous preparation of cars by the owners that are getting their car judged and the time commitments our judges need to make, not to mention the amount of preparation necessary by yours truly. However, safety is our primary concern, and after seeing the amount of ice on the highway the day of the meet, I think everyone was relieved by the cancellation. After talking to the car owners who were registered for this meet, we agreed to roll over all of the registrations to our spring meet on May 19th at Medved Chevrolet in Wheat Ridge, this includes owners and judges.

Recently I received an email from David Brigham, our NCRS National Judging Chairman, informing chapter judging chairmen that the chapter level Concourse judging is officially turned on now. This means that for our May meet we will be able to accept online registration for cars in the Concourse division. In anticipation of this, I plan on having a judging school at our March 23rd chapter meet that will cover the Concourse judging process. Having had my '61 judged in this category at the Frisco Regional last fall, I find this new venue to be both challenging and exciting from both an owners and a judges perspective. Looking forward to our Loveland Regional in 2020, I think we'll see this division becoming more and more popular.

Our March judging meet will follow, by a few days, the National Judges Retreat in Dallas. I'll be curious to hear from those who participate in the Retreat as to what, if any, time was devoted to the Concourse judging process.,

Save the Wave,  
Ralph Ridge  
RMC Judging Chairman



**Membership Report**  
by Steve Beatty

## Our roster stands at 118 members.

At the time this report was issued (week before the New Year), our Chapter membership roster stood at 118 members. The names of new members recently joining and their Corvette ownership include: Matthew Cannizzaro (1969), Jack Harris (1967), Daryl McCown (2008) and Michael Naber (1980). Please extend a welcome to these new members at a future meeting.

The 2019 RMC membership dues notices were sent out in November. Many thanks to all who have already paid their dues, if you haven't, please pay them immediately to avoid being dropped from the membership roles. Renewal online via the National NCRS website is encouraged using this link (<https://www.ncrs.org/forums/register/chapter-membership.php>).

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>)

REMINDER, you must be a current member of National NCRS to be a member of RMC, so please check your national dues expiration date.

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.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and look forward to meeting many new members while participating in the upcoming 2019 events.

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





# Announcing: 2019 NCRS Rocky Mountain Road Tour



Pictures taken from the internet  
are from the Smokey Mountains.  
ED

2019 Convention: To be held in Greenville, South Carolina, July 14-19, 2019

Road Tour: Departs Denver, Colorado after lunch on Friday July 5, 2019 and ends with the Last Night Out party on Saturday July 13, 2019. Total mileage to the Convention approximately 1,600 miles.

Overnight Stops: tentatively to include Burlington, Colorado, Junction City, Kansas; Fairview Heights, Illinois; Bowling Green, Kentucky; Nashville, Tennessee and Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Things We'll be Doing Along the Way: Tentative stops include the National Corvette Museum, possible tour of the Corvette Production Line in Bowling Green, Kentucky (subject to availability), Full day in Nashville, Tennessee (Country Music Hall of Fame, Ryman Auditorium, attend a Grand Ole Opry Show), full day at Dollywood, Tennessee (beautiful theme park in the rolling hills of the Great Smoky Mountains) to name a few things.

Are you interested in going?

Some Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Why are you asking about our attendance now? I've learned that the toughest room block to secure is the room block that someone else has already acquired, thus I need to begin to secure room blocks in August, 2018 (next month).
2. What if I'd prefer to join you somewhere along the way vs. starting out in Denver, Colorado? Not a problem; it happens often that we have people that do just that. Just let me know what you are thinking.
3. What if I'm not sure if I can go or not? I'm just trying to get an idea of how many rooms that I need to secure so if you change your mind, not a big problem at all! This just helps me to better plan my room block needs.

If you think that you might be interested in going, or if you have any questions, please contact me by email: [Totirid@aol.com](mailto:Totirid@aol.com) as soon as possible.



by Jack Humphrey  
RMC Treasurer

## NCRS Retirement Benefits are great!

The deadline for providing input to the newsletter is today, the last day of the year. Unfortunately, that's too soon to obtain end of year financial documents and get everything laid into Quickbooks. So, I'm not going to give you a 2018 financial wrap. Also, there would be no time for the Board to review and approve such financials. So, I'll wait for the next newsletter to provide that report. But, I can say things look good. No, I don't expect that we'll report a financial gain for the year. But, I do expect we'll see a very modest loss. We've done a good job of controlling expenses and we eliminated the financial straddle we saw last year with holiday party expenses not being booked into the same calendar year as their offsetting revenues.

A major threat we escaped in 2018 was that of re-tooling our chapter web site. The internet provider who hosted our site went out of business and we were left with a backup disk drive that was kaput. Bottom line, the RMC website was up the creek without a paddle! The board tasked me to research our alternatives. Bob Davis, our webmeister, was buried in works without the spare time to address the emergency. So, I turned to the NCRS National IT department. They helped us out IN SPADES! We were able to host our replacement site behind the NCRS National site as several other chapters have done. That ducks the cost of paying a third party to perform the website hosting function and it eliminates the need to register and maintain an internet domain name. Then, we took the approach of using Word Press to create the replacement website instead of doing a hand-rolled, full custom write of HTML code. Word Press is an incredible utility that generates website code in a vein similar to a spreadsheet. Last, we found an independent consultant skilled in using Word Press who worked with me to generate a replacement site. Bottom line, RMC was back up in the website business with a functional chapter site in roughly 30-days for less than \$500. I think we got lucky in dodging this financial bullet!

Currently, I am the website manager. There's not that much work associated with the job. But, all I've been doing is maintaining the original skeleton that was created. As we enter the new year, I'd like to pass the torch to someone else. Someone who has the time to devote to pruning and growing the chapter website. Plus, Bob Davis did an EXCELLENT job of keeping our site refreshed with pictures of recent chapter events. Word Press HAS the ability to craft nicely laid out multi-picture pages, but I just haven't gone there/done that. So, if you have experience with Word Press and website control consider taking this job. The NCRS retirement benefits are GREAT!!!



# New RMC Merchandise Available

I resupplied many popular merchandise in the last quarter. Specifically, we now have all sizes of the heather gray ringspun 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.

Merchandise may be purchased at NCRS RMC events or by contacting the Merchandise Chairman, Pete LeClair at 970.396.6000 or by email at [prlnascar@comcast.net](mailto:prlnascar@comcast.net). Stock up on our great chapter merchandise before the 2018 Road Tour or National Convention and proudly promote our chapter.”

Pete LeClair  
Merchandise

Item	Value	Color
2015 National Cooler	\$10.00	Blue
Aprons	\$15.00	
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	\$15.00	Black
Hats	\$15.00	Black/Red
Hats	\$15.00	Brown
Hats	\$15.00	Beige
Hats	\$15.00	Beige/Green
Hats	\$15.00	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
Subtotal Polo Shirts		
RMC Window Sticker	\$2.00	

Chambray Shirt (SM - XL)	\$35.00	Denim
Chambray Shirt (XXL - XXXL)	\$40.00	Denim
Chambray Shirt -Short Sleeve	\$30.00	Denim
Shopcoats - 38R	\$35.00	
Shopcoats - 40R	\$35.00	
Shopcoats - 42R	\$35.00	
Shopcoats - 52R	\$35.00	
Shopcoats - 54R	\$35.00	
Shopcoats - 56R	\$35.00	
Shopcoats - 58R	\$35.00	
Sweatshirt (SM - XL)	\$25.00	Gray
Sweatshirt (XXL - XXXL)	\$25.00	Gray
Sweatshirt (SM - XL)	\$25.00	Royal Blue
Sweatshirt (XXL - XXXL)	\$25.00	Royal Blue
T-Shirts - SS - Embroidered w/Pocket (SM - XL)	\$15.00	Black
T-Shirts - SS - Embroidered w/Pocket (XXL - XXXL)	\$20.00	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



Pic. 3



Pic. 1



Pic. 4



Pic. 2



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 from 1953 through 1996. 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 the first year, and are \$20.00 per year for renewal. First year dues entitle the new member to a Chapter ball cap and membership nametag.

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 6 issues or one-year printing. Contact the editor for further information. All editorial material can be sent to the editor.

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## For Sale

**1959 Corvette**, black, red interior, 4sp. Locking diff. 283/270 Hp, Matching numbers. NCRS top Flight, Three Concours wins. Many other first or best of show. Avoid a broker fee or action inflation deal with the owner. See complete You Tube video at dNzDzK9rWbQ . Give me a call lets have a good old conversation. **1971 LT-1** numbers matching high mile car. Red, Black leather, 4sp.,locking diff. Comes with \$20,000 in NOS quality restoration parts. \$20,000 takes it all.

Steve Barrett [leadedglass@barrettglassworks.com](mailto:leadedglass@barrettglassworks.com) or 513-708-2897



2006 Corvette Coupe, 9600 Miles, Silver Metallic, Titanium Gray Interior Still Smells New. 400HP, 3LT, 2 Roofs, Navigation, Bose Premium 7 Speaker System, Polished Aluminum Wheels, Magnetic Ride Control, 6-Speed Paddle Shift, Head-Up Display, Original Window Sticker, Non-Smoker, Always Garaged, No Scratches, Annual Synthetic Oil Changes, All GM Receipts. \$23,000. Michael Gebhardt, 719-531-7408, [gebhardtm@pcisys.net](mailto:gebhardtm@pcisys.net)

