

MINUTES
EAST OHIO REGIONAL MEETING
MARCH 7, 2009

Regional Executive:	Charles Heretta
Regional Competition Director:	Charles Stephens
Regional Membership Director:	Peggy Stephens
Secretary/Treasurer:	Susan Hamilton

NEXT MEETING @ ESBER'S RESTAURANT
MAY 9, 2009 @ 10:00 AM

SCHEDULE OF 2009 MEETINGS:

REGIONAL:

March 7, 2009 @ 9:30 at Quality Inn & Suites, Richfield, OH (Banquet)
May 9, 2009 @ 10:00 at Esber's Restaurant, Canton, OH
July 18, 2009 @ 10:00 at Esber's Restaurant, Canton, OH
October 17, 2009 @ 10:00 at Esber's Restaurant, Canton, OH
December 5, 2009 @ 9:30 at Esber's Restaurant, Canton, OH (Bidding)

NATIONAL:

February 27, 28 & March 1, 2009 in Saint Louis, MO
May 1, 2, 3, 2009 in Saint Louis, MO
August 8 – 16, 2009 at Convention in Colorado Springs, CO
September 11, 12, 13, 2009 in Saint Louis, MO
November 13, 14, 15, 2009 in Saint Louis, MO

EAST OHIO REGION MEETING
MARCH 7, 2009

PRESENT:

Chuck Heretta, RE, Buckeye Corvette Club
Chuck Stephens, RCD, Kanawha Valley Corvette Club
Peggy Stephens, RMD, Kanawha Valley Corvette Club
Sue Hamilton, Secretary/Treasurer, Buckeye Corvette Club
Mark Thurin, Governor, Canton Corvette Club
Stan Wolfe, Governor, Central West Virginia Corvette Club
Don Burk, Governor, Competition Corvettes
Elaine Heretta, Governor, Corvette Cleveland
Aurel Ouellette, Governor, Fun Center Corvette Club
Bill Wood, Governor, Kanawha Valley Corvette Club
Ric Keller, Governor, Lakeshore Corvette Club
Dan Lynden, Governor, Mahoning Valley Corvette Club
Ken Rutherford, Governor, Mid-Ohio Corvette Club
Ken Jecmen, Governor, Northeast Ohio Vette Club
Terry Sells, Governor, Tiretown Corvette Club
Bob Kutty, Hall of Fame, Corvette Cleveland
Roger Flading, Guest, Buckeye Corvettes
Larry Haight, Guest, Central West Virginia Corvette Club
Bob Rogers, Guest, Central West Virginia Corvette Club
Constance Green, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Bob Thomsen, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Warren Obert, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Tim Obert, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Al Etzel, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Carol Etzel, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Fred Kubiak, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Lory Arthur, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Dennis Arthur, Guest, Corvette Cleveland
Ted Vannelli, Guest Corvette Cleveland
Sharon Burk, Guest, Competition Corvettes
Mickey Ouellette, Guest, Fun Center Corvette Club
Bob Miller, Guest, Mahoning Valley Corvette Club
Denny McCoy, Guest, Mahoning Valley Corvette Club
Terry Muich, Guest, Mid-Ohio Corvette Club
Alan Moore, Guest, Tiretown Corvette Club

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE: Chuck Heretta, Regional Executive, brought the meeting to order at 9:37 AM. A quorum was met. Chuck introduced the board and all present introduced themselves.

SECRETARY:

A motion was made by Bob Kutty to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Second was made by Terry Sells. Motion passed. Corrections were discussed. Correct Buckeye membership from 1624 to 164. Correct Governor Subsidy used by Chuck Stephens from Kanawha Valley to Pioneer Club. Chuck Heretta asked that above the Roundtable notes, the “National” Budget be corrected to the “Regional” Budget.

TREASURER:

Treasurer’s report for the period of December 1, 2008 through February 28, 2009 was read by Sue Hamilton. Mickey Ouellette questioned the total money held by the club. She thought club was only permitted total money of under \$25,000 or we needed to file taxes. Chuck Heretta responded that is no longer the case. Also, after bills are paid for the banquet, we will be under \$25,000. Bob Kutty questioned incorporation as opposed to LLC for lawsuits against officers. Chuck responded we need to stay as we are as an incorporated entity. Chuck is still working with Sue to re-allocate funds for the budget. Terry Sells made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Second was made by Don Burk. Motion passed. Extra reports were available on table.

CHARITY:

Elaine Heretta reported the raffle tickets are for gray Corvette with the LT3 package. Members should use the green sheet in the Member’s Package to purchase tickets. They are 5 for \$25 by mail. Scholarship deadline is May 9th for applications. Elaine feels that at least one recommendation should come from someone in the club not all academic.

HALL OF FAME:

Bob Kutty advised ballots and bios were sent early in the year by e-mail, as in the past. There were not enough responses for induction. Bob only received nine responses and was very disappointed. Bob recommended we combine the 50/50 Hall Of Fame drawing at this meeting with the banquet tonight. These funds offset the cost for the HOF expenses.

MEMBERSHIP:

East Ohio Region presently has 16 clubs with 801 members. Top clubs are Buckeye Corvettes with 155 members, Corvette Cleveland with 109 and Tiretown Corvette with 83. We have 10 clubs with less than 60 members. NCCC has 275 clubs with 16,374 members. There are 279 lifetime members. Peggy distributed new club membership lists to governors asking to have them checked for accuracy. Approximately 10% of packets were returned due to incorrect addresses. This increases postage. The RMDs personally handled the delivery of pins to the governors to reduce postage costs.

FCOA has 2,710 members as of February 28, 2009. Midwest Region is the largest with 487 FCOA members. Corvette Cleveland leads the East Ohio Region with 56 FCOA members. Be sure to use the new FCOA membership form issued in September, 2008. Pat Kelly received 125 packets back with incorrect addresses. Pat just assigned number 4000 to a 7-year old boy in the East Region.

The NCCC display is available for use at club functions. Please contact Peggy in advance for this display.

Renewed members received a 50th Anniversary patch, membership card and luggage tag. Lifetime members must also retain their black lifetime card. The anniversary card does not permanently replace this.

A motion was passed at the Governor's meeting in St. Louis to eliminate perks in the membership packets starting in 2010. Pins may be available for purchase with a pre-order system.

Sylvia Hoaldrige is working on getting a periodical postage rate to reduce the costs of mailing the Blue Bars. She is also working to limit the number of color pages. The convention issue this year will not have regional articles due to the space needed for convention articles.

The 50th anniversary celebration will be held in conjunction with NCCC 2009 convention in Colorado Springs, Colorado from August 8th through August 14th. Get registered as soon as possible. Bob commented on the menu items not being clarified. Patches and luggage tags may be available for purchase after May. Peggy is still looking for contact information for Anthony Cotturo, Don Criss and Eileen Timko.

Peggy asked that any e-mail address changes in your club be reported to her. She will forward to Joan Thomas to update her files. Changes should also be sent to the NCCC VP of Membership and to the NCCC Secretary.

Shirts for the 50th anniversary are available at a cost of \$27 and are offered in several colors. The website has the shirts shown

Peggy said she is sorry for the loss of Jack Eakins and knows that Mahoning Valley will greatly miss him. Jack was a member of NCCC for 50 years and served in various offices.

Roger Flading suggested, due to the cost of re-mailing member packets, any that were returned should go to the governor of that club. They should be responsible for making sure addresses are correct. Chuck Heretta suggested that the governors should provide the correct address rather than re-mailing. Addresses should be verified at renewal.

COMPETITION:

Chuck Stephens reported the number one club on National level is the Corn Husker's club with 22,539 points, Corvette Cleveland is in 10th place with 6,583 points, Tiretown in 13th place, Buckeye in 18th place, Competition in 36th place, Kanawha Valley in 42nd place, Mid Ohio in 50th place, and Medina in 74th place, NEOVC 87th place, Central Corvette Club 90th place, Lakeshore 94th place, Blennerhassett 105th place, Mahoning Valley 110th place, Corvette Club of West Virginia 155th place, Mound City 157th place, Corvette Canton 161st place and Fun Center in 165th place.

National level: Men - Ray Neisman in first place; Ladies - Tracy Gadoo in first place.

The rule book changes were discussed at the National meeting and are on the website. The clarifications are highlighted.

Four clarifications were discussed. GTP car with frame altered is not a Corvette. A question was asked if a person can run "space saver" tires on the front. It was voted that they can not run space saver tires because rating is unknown. Space saver tires wording has been changed. Fire extinguishers must have a metal gauge and must be mounted with metal bracket and metal straps. Plastic could deteriorate and the extinguisher could become loose.

For drag racing, the Rule Book says you must run the same tires on all four corners. Change front tire wording for drag prepared cars. The question was asked how many points were needed to win top position. The number of points for Men in NCCC to win was 3,015 with 272 events attended. The second place was 2,489 points with 272 events attended. The number for recognition in the Ladies top 15 was 1,058 points.

Chuck Stephens has a flyer for the new Blue Grass Motor Sports Park in Sparta, KY. They have a new speed course event on May 23rd and 24th. This is a fun day and a good course. Chuck Stephens has the prices.

Chuck Stephens has contacted the airport twice in New Philadelphia for speed events. They are receptive to shut down for a Sunday but, most likely, will not shut down for both Saturday and Sunday. After a few events, Chuck Stephens will push for a weekend. Cost has not been discussed. Hopefully, Chuck can get for no cost. He is working with the city council as well.

Bob Kutty asked about the speed (drag) event Buckeye was checking into. Per Chuck Heretta, there was not much response and the cost was prohibitive and did not pursue further.

Ken Jeckman discussed the clinic NEOVC is offering on March 18th at 6:30 at Tim Lally's on Rockside Road. A sign-up sheet is available. They will discuss the NCCC rules and teach how to judge and show a car. Pizza or sandwiches will be available. Ken Rutherford mentioned the problem with a Concourse is not necessarily the judging, but a participant problem. Judging must be consistent.

Roger Flading discussed that a club should instruct members on what a Concourse entails to avoid members getting upset over judging. Alan Moore noted that most everyone thinks their car is perfect and they have a problem with the judging. Fred Kubiak thinks car shows have become a popularity contest and thinks there should be more concourses rather than car shows. Ken Rutherford feels car shows are not a competition because there is no judging. Alan Moore and Chuck Heretta discussed the reason car shows were added were because clubs felt a concourse event was too much work. Terry Muich mentioned his tractor club has rules for judging and the consistency of judging and feels a concourse resolves the popularity contests with car shows. Bob Miller disagrees on rules for judging. A simple water spot can be the tie breaker for two vehicles. He feels there must be a better way to judge. Bob Kutty mentioned an area to check. He requests participant open fuse door to check for dust etc.

Terry Sells entered a 3 day paid concourse at Cleveland IX Auto-Rama and at end of day, the judges checked car. You were not present at judging. The following day, there was a slip if you won an award. Tim Obert mentioned the proximity to clubs for events. We are fortunate we have a small area for our region's events. Travel is at a minimum. Keep in mind that a vehicle may be entered as Exhibition which is not judged.

Mark Thurin advised that for his next two concourses, if you enter as Street and Show or Wash and Show, you will need your mileage documented. These two events are very close together. Alan Moore feels we will never get rid of car shows. Some time ago, it was discussed if the number of points should be limited for Chance Ralleys and did not get a favorable response.

Ken Jeckman asked that anyone interested sign up for the clinic.

Chuck Stephens mentioned that we had six clubs in the top 50. We are competing and diversified. In auto crossing, points such as 11 point FTD, is getting out of hand. The point spread is getting further apart. Chuck Stephens feels we should only have two FTD's - One Men and one Ladies.

K & K Insurance stated "If the wheel turns, you will need a Certificate of Insurance." If you have a non-sanctioned event, you must contact Chuck Stephens for a non-sanctioned number. This includes caravans, social events, parades etc. In the past, anything in the rule book was insured. However, they never had a copy of the rule book. The only time a Certificate of Insurance was needed was if the land owner requested one. (Example: Nelson's Ledges) The wheel does not need to be on a Corvette. Any vehicle can be used in a club event such as a social or trip to a restaurant after a meeting.

The form to request the Certificate of Insurance is on the website. You will need to submit this to K & K. Governors need to get with their boards now. These forms can be obtained electronically. Chuck Heretta advised that waivers have not changed. K & K will mail them.

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE:

At the national meeting, the Regional Executives discussed the by-laws and how to get FCOA members into NCCC at age 16.

A by-law change approximately a year ago requested any proposed change to NCCC by-laws be received by the committee 14 days prior to the first national meeting of the year. Question arose if this should fall into the amendment category. REs (by-law committee) are looking at duties of the Regional Executive Committee and also at Article 15 (which is amendment to National by-laws) to make sure the two of them are not in conflict.

Budget 2008 was reviewed. The projected \$47,000 loss was actually a \$38,000 profit. The Budget for 2009 shows a \$90,000 deficit. NCCC will probably lose money this year.

Please continue to publicize all events in your newsletter, prior to event for insurance reasons.

The 2009 Convention is in Colorado Springs, CO from August 8th through 14th, 2009. Registration is open and first registration period ends April 15th. Information is on NCCC website. Everything can be done electronically.

Scholarship deadline is May 9, 2009. Make sure form is completed.

The give-away car is gray with the LT3 package. Best deal on tickets is with the green sheet in your membership renewal packet. General Motors is no longer a sponsor for NCCC. As mentioned earlier, the perks packages will be gone for 2010. There may be a 50th Anniversary pin available and will be on a pre-order basis. Articles for Blue Bars are due by May 31, 2009. Chuck Heretta has written an article for this issue. The reason he has not written one in the recent past is he has not had anything positive to report. He gets information at RE meeting on Friday night and then gets conflicting information at the National meeting on Saturday. If anyone has a comment, please contact Chuck directly. Sylvia has received many negative comments on the \$20,000 overage on the Blue Bars budget and about the quality of the convention issue. It was a large issue; however, it was poorly done. Chuck Heretta would like to see an article from Mid Ohio regarding Boy's Village in Wooster, Ohio. This is the type of article Sylvia needs. It should be a member friendly magazine. Look for a change in Blue Bars.

Ken Rutherford encourages governors to attend meetings. The East Ohio Region will reimburse a governor \$150 per club to attend these meetings. Terry Sells attends and feels more governors need to attend regularly.

The 2010 Convention will be in West Palm Beach, Florida. There has been a request for additional funds. The Speedway has changed ownership. They originally wanted a \$20,000 deposit by the first of January. This was not possible. A concession was made for a deposit of approximately \$8,300 with the remaining \$12,000 in two installments due by the first of the year. Chuck Heretta listened to the discussion on the floor and then asked why this deposit was not put into escrow. Apparently, the contracts were already signed and returned to the speedway and the governors were not aware of this. No one asked if escrow could be done. Contracts should be reviewed more carefully. The business manager will ask if the money could be put into escrow. Since this was not in the original contract, Chuck Heretta will wait on an answer.

Chuck Heretta continued discussion on the Governor subsidy. This is a reimbursement per club and is a one time reimbursement. The governor will get so much more out of a live meeting rather than reading the minutes. Chuck has their proxy votes and will vote what is best for the region. Aurel mentioned that the Governor Subsidy account is very low. Chuck and Sue will re-allocate based on the new budget.

There is a new club, Buffalo Corvette, in Buffalo, New York. The new governor drove to Saint Louis to attend his first meeting. This is in the North East Region. They have been without representation for the past few years. There has been some talk about re-alignment of Regions.

OLD BUSINESS:

Regional Banquet – Chuck Heretta thanked Don and Sharon Burk and Competition Corvette for all of their hard work. We had 82 reservations. The luau was a great success on Friday night.

The guest speaker tonight at the dinner is from the National Corvette Museum. Doors open at 5:00 with a cash bar and dinner at 6:00. Volunteers are needed for the Regional Banquet in 2010.

Chuck clarified the December minutes on Page 7 regarding Bob Thomsen's expenses being covered and the usage of the timing equipment. He is not paid for timing at sanctioned events by the region. He is reimbursed for his expenses from the profit of the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Volunteers are needed for the Regional Banquet in 2010. The club is not liable for anything. This is a Regional event. Regional Executive will sign all contracts. Chuck Heretta will need a volunteer prior to the May meeting.

Chuck Heretta discussed the Hall of Fame. No one was inducted this year. Voting requirements are to obtain 80% of the votes received. Only 9 governors of 16 clubs voted. There were two roll-overs from last year. Everything was sent to all governors in ample time. A decision is needed if this program needs revised. Maybe the committee should nominate the candidates as opposed to voting by the governors. In May, we will decide if it will continue and how it will be done. We received 14 votes last year.

Chuck Heretta has been looking for a new Webmaster. Bob Kirsch has continued to update the site. Chuck spoke to the person who applied. He currently handles the Mid Ohio site; however not as a volunteer. Mid Ohio pays him a fee. Ken Rutherford said this person is very capable and has done a good job on their site. Bob Kirsch built our site. Bob Kirsch has offered to continue at a cost of \$20 per month with payment of six months up front. Elaine Heretta made a motion to accept Bob Kirsch as Webmaster with a written agreement. Don Burk seconded the motion and it passed. Chuck will write a simple contract for Bob. Chuck Heretta wants the governors to check the website for any changes or updates. These suggestions will be needed as soon as possible for the May meeting.

Chuck Heretta asked Bill Wood to delay his discussion regarding Standing rule proposed changes. Standing Rules were e-mailed to all governors.

Chuck Heretta sent 2009 budget to all governors. Chuck advised how he arrived at these numbers. Mark Thurin made a motion to accept budget. Terry Sells seconded the motion. None opposed and motion passed. Chuck advised that the secretary is keeping the tapes of the Minutes from the Regional meetings for a full year now.

ROUNDTABLE:

Bill Wood, Kanawha Valley Corvette Club, mentioned flyers are on the back table for a great event. His proposed changes to by laws are on the back table with corrections from December meeting.

Mark Thurin, Corvette Canton Club, thought the banquet committee did a great job.

Stan Wolfe, Central West Virginia Corvette Club, also thought the banquet committee did a good job.

Aurel Ouellette, Fun Center Corvette Club, every this is fine.

Ken Jeckman, Northeast Ohio Vette Club, reminded everyone about his judging clinic.

Elaine Heretta, Corvette Cleveland, had nothing to report.

Don Burk, Competition Corvette Club, mentioned his cars shows on June 13th and June 27th and 28th. These are a good time.

Ric Keller, Lakeshore Corvette Club, mentioned their Vettemillion car show. Check the date.

Dan Lynden, Mahoning Valley Corvette Club, mentioned their car show on July 21st

Terry Muich for Ken Rutherford, Mid Ohio Club, reminded everyone about Boys Village event, they are looking for a new place for low speed events and ralley in May.

Terry Sells, Tiretown Corvette Club, mentioned his ralley in July. Father Bob is helping.

Chuck Heretta, Buckeye Corvette Club, mentioned their ralleys and car shows in May and reported on the February steak fry social with Buckeye, Corvette Cleveland and Tiretown.

Chuck Heretta reminded everyone that we need a club to volunteer to put on the 2010 Banquet.

Peggy Stephens reminded everyone that she has the pins and not to forget to get theirs from her.

Meeting closed at 1:03 PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Sue Hamilton

Secretary/Treasurer East Ohio Region