

MAD
CITY
VETTES



MADISON, WI

On The Road

May, 2010

For the Members and Friends of Mad City Vettes

Volume 12, Issue 4

www.madcityvettes.com

Meet the Members

Rick and Jean Duchrow

Rick...

I grew up in Stevens Point, Wisconsin and lived right on the Wisconsin River on the end of Washington Avenue. My dad was a service manager for Montgomery Wards and he also ran a marina at our property along the river. So I was a "river rat" with the love of water long before I was interested in cars. My dad liked cars and had several different vehicles including a Studebaker Golden Hawk, Cadillac Coup DE Ville (2 door, black with a white top) so I guess that is where my interest was sparked.

My first car was a 1951 Chevrolet two door that I purchased for \$100.00 and after much body and interior work, repainted Robin Egg Shell Blue, put in a floor shift and Baby Moon Hubcaps. It had a straight six and down hill with a string tail wind would hit 70 MPH. (Flying) No air conditioning, AM radio, but it was the first taste of freedom of the road!

I have always lusted after sport cars and knew that someday I would have one. It wasn't until my first wife had passed away and my kids were in high school that I was able to make that dream come true. I traded in her 1 year old turbo charged Chrysler for a 1987 Corvette Coup. It was a little bit of sticker shock as I paid more for that Vette than I did for my first house, but I was in Corvette Heaven!

I dated Jean in that Vette and fortunately she liked sports cars. One year later we were married and WOW has 17 years gone by fast. It was her prodding that encouraged me to purchase our current 1999 White Coupe. We have traveled with Mad City Vettes and made new friendships and done many new and interesting things that would not have been possible without this connection.

I have had many jobs thru the years, working at Swanson Equipment (they built bars, yes the kind you drink at), working summers with my brother-in-law as a tree surgeon, (logo "No Twig Too Big") then using my schooling degree to enter the building industry as an architectural designer. I have been an expeditor and estimator for several building contractors, estimator at a local lumber yard, sales rep for a major window company and a woodworker as a hobby all the time.

While I was not at the first meeting of what was to become MCV, my friend Gene Post and I did go to the one held at Culvers on the west side of Madison. I had my 1987 Vette and Gene was still looking for his. Paul Dowding headed up the meeting in the parking lot and MCV's was born. I remember after the meeting that I told Paul that I did not like to be in the limelight, but preferred to be in the background. So with that being said, I talked my wife Jean in going to the meetings and the rest is history. We are one of the original charter members. After Paul had served two terms, Dick Chvala served one term and then the guy who liked to stay in the background (Yes Me!) took a stab at the presidency. Because of my love for woodworking, I am also the guy that turns out the new gavel for the president when they take charge.

Jean....

I was born in Sterling, Illinois. My parents moved to Omro, Wisconsin when I was eleven to buy a Gambles Hardware Store. That was quite a change for me. We went from living in a house in a great neighborhood with great friends to living in an apartment that was attached to the back of the store with no neighbors. One saving grace is that we lived on the banks of the Fox River so there were always boats floating by or snowmobiles that you could watch from our apartment. It also made it easy for my Dad and I to do the thing we enjoyed best together, and that was fishing. Many a spring evening would find us standing along the banks of the Fox River fishing for White Bass. That was always an exciting time and I loved that he and I could share that together.

I bought my first car in 1973 when I was a Senior in High School. It was a 1968 Camaro, Rally Sport Coupe, the color was Grotto Blue with the white strip across the hood. Ok, I'll confess, I did have to look up the color online. I had no idea this car was a sports car. I just liked the lines of the car and of course the color. It sat at the dealership for a couple of months until I could afford to pay the insurance, something my parent insisted I needed to be responsible for. I had the car for three years and just loved it. I actually wish I still had it today.

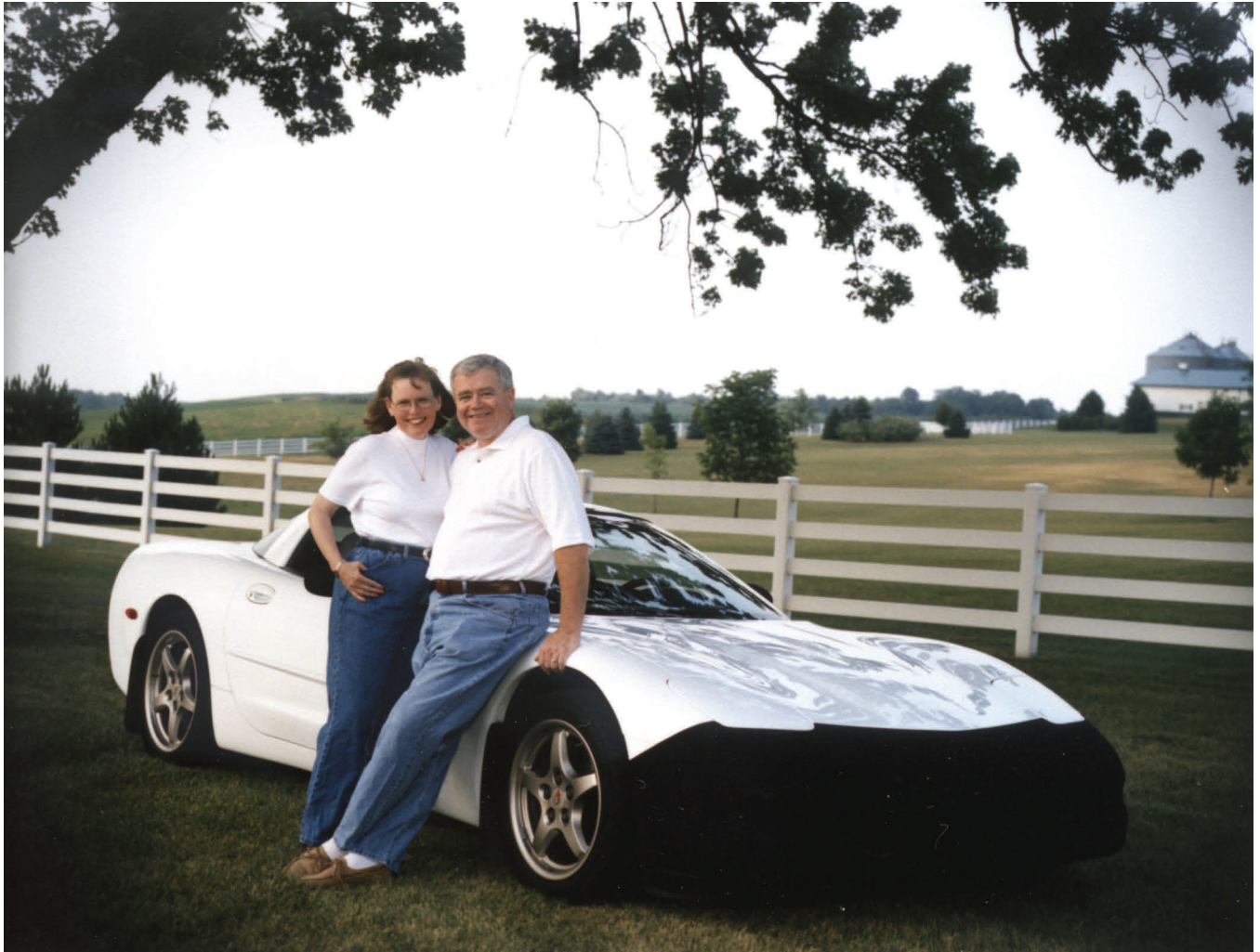
The next car I bought was 1978 Teal colored Firebird with a white interior. Now that car could go! Shhh, I did like to drive it fast when I could get away with it. I guess I'm lucky, I've never ever received a speeding ticket. I had that car for many years until it just rusted away!

I've always loved Corvettes. For several years in the early 80's I was parade coordinator for the Omro 4th of July parade. The Oshkosh Corvette Club (Sawdust City Corvette Club) always came out for our parade along with a lot of classic cars. I arranged to have judges present to give out trophies to the best Corvette and classic car each year before the parade. After the parade they would line up in the park to show off their cars. It was always fun to look at all the different models. I think I drooled over each one of them.

The first time I actually rode in a Corvette was in the late 80's for a parade. It was a 1960 Corvette. I thought I was pretty cool sitting on the back deck waving to everyone. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined I would be lucky enough to own one someday.

Shortly after Rick purchased his Corvette he drove it up to Green Bay for a meeting for work (Rick and I both worked for the same company. I was worked out of the Green Bay office and he the Madison office). Rick was so proud of his new car and everyone had to come out and take a look at it. I sat in the car and thought, "Man this was livin". Little did I know, that I would be co-piloting that car with him on a regular basis in a few years time.

So that brings you up to date on my love of cars and the fact that I was just lucky enough to have found a guy who loves fast cars too. The fact that we belong to the Corvette Club has been the icing on the cake. It is so much fun getting together with people that have the same love for the Corvette we do, to go on cruises, dinner runs, and trips. We have many fond memories over the years because of the people in the club and places we've seen, and we look forward to many, many more.



Rick & Jean Duchrow

Route 66 Cruise

The Dickens are starting to make their plans to continue their cruise on Route 66 across Illinois. We have completed Joliet to Bloomington and then Bloomington to Springfield. Now we are working on Springfield to St Louis. This leg is about 90 miles. We are looking at Saturday May 15 and wondering how many might be interested in joining us this year.

Tentative plans are to leave Springfield around 11am, (that should give you enough time to get to Springfield without leaving too early in the morning, or you could come down Friday afternoon with the Dickens). We will follow the 1926-1930 original route to Chain of Rocks bridge at the Mississippi River, then return back to Springfield following the 1930-1940 route. We should get back to Springfield to have dinner together or to head home. The Dickens will be staying at the Route 66 Hotel Friday and Saturday evening. For those that stay over to Sunday we will then travel back on Route 66 to Joliet (160 miles) and if time allows we will continue into Chicago to the end of Route 66 at Lake Michigan (another 40 miles).

If you are wondering about mileage it is 263 miles from Madison to Springfield or about 4.5 hours. From downtown Chicago back to Madison is 150 miles or about 3 hours. From Joliet to Madison is 165 miles or about 3 hours.

We would like to get an idea of how many are interested in the cruise and how many might be interested in staying at the Route 66 Hotel with the Dickens. We have secured a block of rooms at the Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 625 E Saint Joseph St., Springfield IL (www.rt66hotel.com) The price to stay at the Route 66 Hotel is \$66 per night plus tax. How appropriate with the price. We have the block set aside for both Friday and Saturday nights, May 14 and May 15, you do not have to stay both nights, either Friday, Saturday or both if you want. Some of us are going down Friday to site see around Springfield and then be fresh for the drive Saturday. We will do dinner somewhere in Springfield on Saturday evening then drive Route 66 back on Sunday or you can be on your own on Sunday.

The rooms are under MadCity Vettes, phone number to the hotel is (888)707-8366. The hotel is on Old Route 66 on the south side of Springfield (just down the street from the Cozy Dog Drive-in) on our way to St Louis.

Check out their website for more info.

Then anyone interested in joining the Dickens and the James on the continuation cruise on Route 66 from St Louis to Santa Monica California in 2011 just let us know.

We will bring stuff about the cruise to the next meeting. Any questions or if interested please let me know

Save the wave,

Duane & Barb Dickens

dickensd@charter.net

262-473-2761

Spring Roll Out Party

We are planning a Mad City Vettes Spring Roll Out party on May 8th and hope you can attend! This year it will be held at Token Creek Park, a Dane County facility, where we have reserved a shelter. The shelter has picnic tables, restroom facilities, and lots of parking area. The website for Token Creek park is http://www.countyofdane.com/lwrp/parks/token_creek.aspx and it is great for directions to the park, detailed layout, and general information. We have reserved shelter #5 for those who really wish to explore the park map. Admission to the park is free, as is parking.

The idea is to begin to gather at the park anytime on or after 11:00am; begin lunch around 12:15-12:30pm; leave the park for an organized driving tour (voluntary) around 2:00pm. The driving destination is approximately 45 minutes away and has traditionally been an ice cream stop...you get the idea.

The club will provide:

- Location
- Sandwiches (still working on details, example – ham & turkey)
- Table service (paper plates, plastic utensils)

You will provide:

- Dish to pass
- Own beverages ****NO ALCOHOL allowed in park****

It's optional but may be more comfortable to bring folding chairs than rely on the picnic tables, up to you. Other items would be weather dependent, i.e. sunscreen or umbrellas. In holding with tradition we'd like to use a system for "steering" your dish to pass so that we stay somewhat balanced. People with last names A to K please bring salad type items, L to Z please bring desserts. Thanks to Paul and Cindy Dowding for the idea and they are sorry to break with tradition this year on not hosting the roll out, always an outstanding production, but they are swamped with family commitments this year.

Please RSVP to me if you would like to attend.

Thanks,

Pete Hill
President, Mad City Vettes
gs884@charter.net

Fish Fry Dinner Run

We're planning a Friday Night Fish Fry Dinner Run on Friday, May 14. We'll meet at the Sun Prairie Target Store Parking Lot a little before 5pm. We'll get the liability release form signed and leave around 5:10 pm for a back roads cruise to the restaurant (about 1 hour north of Madison).

The restaurant has a great Friday Night Fish Fry of North Atlantic Cod (fried or broiled), rolls, salad or slaw and choice of potato or vegetable (they have great hash browns!), all for \$12.95. Other menu items are available.

The following people signed up at the April meeting:

Steve McGilvrey & Julie Baxter (?), Dave & Jennifer Kleckner, Al & Bonnie Traverse, Janet & Bill Greig, David & Leslie Armstrong, Bill & Diana Schultz, Don & Jane Bailey, Chris & Arlene Spanos, Ron & Georgia Kuhn, Steven & Stacy Mael, Mike & Mary McIlwee, Jack Hart & Beth Hartzheim.

We'd love to have others join us so please let us know if you can by Sunday, May 9 as we need to give the restaurant a count on Monday, May 10. They are excited about having us and have offered to reserve one section of their parking lot for us.

If you prefer to meet us at the restaurant rather than start from Sun Prairie, please contact us for directions. We're looking forward to seeing many of you for our first 2010 dinner run.

Vern & Phyllis Buskager
vpbuskager@charter.net

Men's Night Out

Our May Men's Night Out is on Tuesday, May 11 at Babe's Sports Grill on the east side of Madison at 4325 Lien Road (formerly Damon's & Tilted Kilt). We'll gather at 6pm and plan to eat dinner at 6:30pm. The following guys already signed up at the April meeting:

Mike McIlwee, Steve McGilvrey, Dave Kleckner, Al Traverse, Frank Weitzel?, David Armstrong, Bill Schultz, Greg Franken, Ron Stark, Ron Kuhn?, Steven Mael, Jeff Zarth, Jack Hart.

We'd like to have more of you join us so if you're interested, please let me know by Sunday, May 9 so I can give the restaurant a final count on Monday. Hope to see you there.

Vern Buskager
vpbuskager@charter.net

REEDSBURG BUTTERFEST PARADE

(FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND)

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Fund raiser for the club. Mark your calendar now to participate in the Reedsburg Butterfest Parade.

Carry Queen and her court as well as last years Queen and this years Miniature Queen. Very short parade route. Plan is to take back roads from Baraboo to Reedsburg's staging area. We are at the start of the parade so there is no worry about avoiding horse droppings, etc. After parade we will do a short cruise with a stop for a "late" lunch. After lunch you will be on your own to either head home or enjoy the rest of the day in the area.

More details will follow the closer to the date.

Any questions, please contact us at twomuch@charter.net OR Home: 608-356-7564 (after 5); Kevin's phone: 608-963-9266 OR Rosie's phone: 608-355-9259.

Kevin & Rosie Krueger

Do you have an article you want to have appear in the newsletter? If so, please submit it in final form to Pete Hill by the Saturday following the club meeting. You can send your article via email to: gs884@charter.net

or

Call Pete at 608-837-0625

NEED TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION?

If any of your personal information has changed, please let me know so I can update the members list. Things like your phone numbers, your email address, any part of your address that might change or a different car. And let me know if I can email the members list to you. It is an Excel file and it is now on letter size to make it easy to print. Thanks for your help! Sandy Van Kleeck – membership, (608)424-6263 or vanklecks@wwdb.org

Board of Directors

President: Pete Hill
Vice President: Jack Hart
Secretary: Phyllis Buskager
Treasurer: Kathy Stark
Governor: Tony Walla

Committee Chairs

Membership: Sandy Van Kleeck
Events Coordinator: Beth Hartzheim
Newsletter Editor: Pete Hill
Webmaster: Vacant
Community Relations: Vacant

**Mad City Vettes
General Membership Meeting
April 20, 2010**

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with Vice-President Jack Hart welcoming the members since President, Pete Hill was unable to be there.

Jack said he realized the most difficult of being President is coming up with the question of the day. Jack then told the sad story of his car not starting when he went to get it out of storage, which brings us to today's question.

Today's question: When you got your car out this season, what was the first thing you had to do.

Responses: I deserve lashes – this is terrible – I haven't uncovered it yet. When my car came out, I was in the office working. I checked the air. I set the clock. After considerable research, I put new tires on. First thing I did was to check the odometer see if my new storage person had driven the car. We got a new car. I've had it out for a month and it works good. I bought another so I cleaned up my other one and put it up for sale. He: I just got in and drove it. She: He made me wash and wax it. This is my first one so I just have to pay for it. I disconnected the battery charger. It's still in storage but we're getting it out next Friday. I called and put the insurance on. I hooked the battery up and drove it. I didn't do anything, I haven't even seen it. I opened the door so Jen could get in. I took the cover off, took the battery tender off and drove it. The car was dirty and it needed an oil change so I just went and bought a new one. I just took the cover off and started it up. I took the cover off, hooked up the battery and started it up. I took the battery tender off and washed and waxed it. I started it and washed it. I had to make a trip to Batteries Plus. I took the winter air out of the tires, put summer air in and drove it to Chicago. I replaced the battery because I took it out for my Pontiac when its battery went dead. I went down to AZ, NM, TX – same story as last month. I used my new jack system to change the oil. I had to move the truck to get the Corvette off the lift. I just showed up at your meeting and if there's a good deal on new members, I want to join.

Jack reported that he will be identifying some possible alternative new meeting locations for consideration at the next meeting. If you have ideas, send them to Jack or Pete. Criteria identified by the Board: better parking and parking that is conducive to gathering around the cars after meetings, food available, adequate meeting space, and convenient location.

Meet Your Fellow MCV Members: Featured members in April were Kerry and Sandy Van Kleeck.

We're glad you talked Kerry out of that Porsche Sandy!

Vice President's report:

Jack Hart reported - I have nothing.

Treasurers report:

Treasurer, Kathy Stark provided the treasurers' report and the can was passed for donations for those who forgot their nametags or others who want to generously contribute to juvenile diabetes fund.

Membership report:

Membership Chair, Sandy Van Kleeck reported that we have 2 new members, Paul & Cathy Pierce, bringing our club membership to 126 members. To our guests tonight, we hope you decide to join -

see Sandy if you would like information about joining. Nametags have been ordered for new members or others who have requested them.

Governor's report:

Tony Walla reported on the website and upcoming NCCC events:

The website is coming along (nice job Tony – applause). There is an online calendar showing all our events. Club photographer, Steve MCV Images is the Flickr link for photos – linked from our website.

2011 Convention (June 17 to 26, 2011) – if anyone is interested in a chairperson opportunity – contact Dave Heinemann, convention director. Check www.mwregion.com for more information.

Frank Weitzel reported on Museum Events: The 13th Annual C5/C6 Bash is coming up on April 29 to May 1, 2010. It's always a great time with lots to do and see: tour the Museum, take factory tours, see all the cars and there are lots of events including unveiling of the 2011 cars.

Events Coordination:

Discussion was directed by Beth Hartzheim.

Recent Events:

- April Ladies' night – Debby Howard. We had 11 ladies, went to Olive Garden. Good food and conversation.

April Men's night – Bill Schultz. Went to Sprechers, 12 guys attended. It was excellent.

Upcoming Events:

- May 8 – Roll out Party. Token Creek Park – Shelter #5. Gather around 11am with lunch at noon. The club will furnish sandwiches, condiments and tableware. Bring your own beverages and a dish to pass (A-K: Salad; L-Z: Dessert). Ron Stark will put together a run after lunch. It's about a 41 mile, one hour run – away from Madison. There is a destination at the other end.
- May 11 Ladies' Night at Nau-Ti-Gal Restaurant on Westport Road – organized by Judy Franken.
- May 11 Men's Night at Babe's Sports Grill on Lien Road (formerly Tilted Kilt and Damon's) – organized by Vern Buskager
- May 14 Fish Fry Dinner Run – Organized by Buskager's
- May 15 Route 66 Run – Continuation of Route 66 Tour – Organized by Dicken's. Duane and Barb are going down on Friday, May 14 and they have a block of rooms for both Friday and Saturday nights.
- June 5 – Dinner Run to Mineral Point – Organized by Schultz's
- June 19 – Butterfest Parade in Reedsburg. Need convertibles and other corvettes. There will be a road trip after – Organized by Krueger's.
- June (date TBD) – Pie Run – Organized by Armstrong's
- July 11 – Dinner Run. Will start on west side of Oregon. An hour scenic drive to a secret location. Organized by Weitzel's.
- July 12 to 19 - Black Hills Classic
- July 23 to 26 – Vettes at the Beach – Sylvan Beach, New York. Organized by Jack Hart & Beth Hartzheim.

August (date TBD) – Picnic and Drive – Organized by Bailey's.

Don't forget about last minute, impromptu events. Just send an email and whoever can go, goes.

Past Events:

March 14 - Brunch at Johnny’s Steakhouse: Bill and Diana Schultz hosted the event that was attended by 24 people. Food was excellent & prices were reasonable. The Bloody Mary Bar was great! They also offered to do a barbeque in the back for us this summer.

March 9 - Ladies Night Out: Jane Bailey hosted Ladies’ Night Out at Kickshaw - 8 ladies attended and all had a great time. The food was pricey but iffy – they’ll probably go out of business.

March 9 - Men’s Night Out: Don Bailey hosted Men’s Night Out at Claddagh Irish Pub – 9 men attended. They got their own private room with a round table like the Knights of the Roundtable. There was a “thing in the center of the table that spun around” – it’s called a lazy Susan, Don.

February 20 – Annual Chili Bowl – Todd McIlwee reported on the Chili Bowl in the March newsletter and tonight awarded the traveling bowling trophy’s:

Tony Walla received the men’s trophy for a 584 series. Tony had a very lucky day – he also won the Judges Choice in the chili contest and the jewelry raffle prize from Chalmer’s Jewelers.

Barb Dickens received the women’s trophy for a 446 series.

Mary McIlwee won the Members Choice for her Peanut Butter Pie dessert.

February 13, 2010 - David and Leslie Armstrong hosted 40 people for a Valentine’s dinner at Benvenuto’s Italian Grill in Fitchburg. The weather, food and service were good and all had a good time.

January 16, 2010 – Ladies Breakfast organized by Diana Schultz. Kathy Stark reported in Diana’s absence. 10 ladies gathered at the Dayton Street Grill in the Concourse Hotel. Great conversation and great breakfast.

MCV Holiday Party, December 8, 2009, Sheraton Hotel with White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Other possible events:

Remember, if you have an idea for an event - Please contact Beth Hartzheim or any other board member!

Tonight’s Presentation –

**** No Presentation this evening -**

MCV Presentations !! — Past , Present & Future -----

**** March 18, 2008 MCV Meeting: Frank Weitzel presented a video of the Corvette Museum Expansion. Thank you Frank!!**

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**** April 15, 2008 MCV Meeting: Jeff Zarth presented the Restoration Story of his 1966 Laguna Blue Corvette. Quite the Story, thank you Jeff!**

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**** May 20, 2008 MCV Meeting - Frank Weitzel presented a video on the 2009 Corvette Caravan. The video showed previous caravans.....I've never seen so many corvettes on the road at one time. Corvette owners throughout the country will again be traveling by many routes to Bowling Green on Labor Day weekend September 3-5, 2009. Thanks Frank!**

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**** June 17, 2008 - Postponed - Jack Herbst will hold a presentation on the Muscle Car Board Game.**

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**** July 15, 2008 – Cruizin USA.com – A new website for Clubs and Groups to post and retrieve driving routes throughout the USA – presented by Sue & Victoria.**

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**** August 2008 MCV Meeting: David & Lesley Armstrong lead the Corvettes in a Corvette Cruise around the Capitol square to the Brocach Irish Pub!**

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**** September 2008 – General Member Discussion**

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**** October 2008 – Brian Newlun-**

****November 2008 – General Member Discussion**

****Paul Dowding has offered to present a slide show on the Steps to a Complete Restoration on a Road Runner for an upcoming presentation.**

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**** Any member willing to share a presentation at an MCV Membership Meeting – please feel free to speak to our MCV Board so we can get you on the schedule!!****

Door Prize:

Bonnie Traverse – Bottle of Wine donated by Todd

Leslie Armstrong – Zimbrick’s Certificate

Club Vice-President, Jack Hart adjourned the MCV membership meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Meeting minutes recorded by Club Secretary, Phyllis Buskager