

The Cruiser

Northshore CORVETTE Club

www.northshorecorvetteclub.com



January, February, March 2010

Volume 7, No. 5

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January's Meeting

Thursday, January 28, 2010

Zea Rotisserie Grill
110 Lake Dr.
Covington, LA 70433

Dinner: 5:30 P.M.
Meeting: 7:00 P.M.

****In the shopping center with McAlister's
Deli & Starbucks****



President's Column

Hi NSCC Members,

Happy New Year!

Hope that everyone had a nice Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Once again, some of the Northshore saw snow. This is unheard of two years in a row in this area!

Well, looks like you will have to put up with me for another year as President. I will try once again to keep everyone up to date of the goings-on, and to give you a fun filled 2010. I would like to congratulate our 2010 Officers and Board Members. We have several new board members, and I am looking forward to working with them this year to plan some fun events. Also, a huge thank you to our outgoing board members for 2009. Thanks for your time and efforts you gave the club during the past year. You helped make the club what it is today.

Our Christmas Party was a huge success, once again. I think everyone had a great time socializing with friends, and maybe making some new ones too. Pinewood Country Club did an outstanding job as usual. We had the Silent Auction once again to raise money for the LA Search and Rescue (LA SAR) Dog Team. Thanks so much for helping us to make this auction a success. Due to the generosity of our members, we were able to raise over \$1,900 for LA SAR. We will be presenting the check hopefully at our January meeting, so please try to join us. Our January meeting will be held one week later than usual due to some unforeseen circumstances. It will be Thursday, January 28, 2010, at Zea Rotisserie Grill in Covington. Hope to see everyone there to kick off the new year!

Kim Avery
President

Welcome

New Members

George & Debbie Boudreaux

Covington, LA

2002 Yellow Convertible

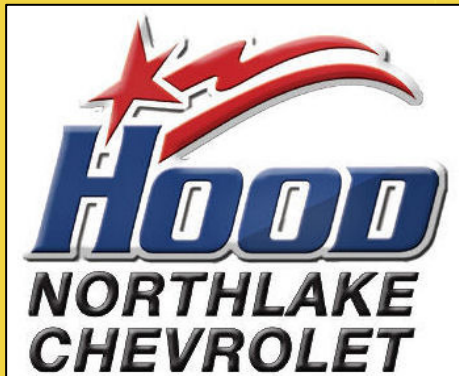
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Mandeville, LA

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*Kim Avery
President*

Extravetteganza

As I said last year...W O W!!! Wonderful, Organized, Well-Planned! The 18th Annual Extravetteganza was a huge success, entertaining, and full of great prizes, good fun, delicious food, fantastic trophies and awards, and lots of friendship.

The day was a combination of rain and sun, heat and humidity, but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the owners of the 177 beautiful Corvettes, and the many spectators who ventured to **Bayou Country** to see the beautiful and well maintained Corvettes, and to take in the many sights of this fantastic Car Show.

The show had several wonderful vendors, and among them were Dani's Jewelry, and the jewelry and pet items sold by the New Orleans Animal Rescue Society, a group of truly kind, dedicated, and caring people, helping those precious creatures so dear to my heart. There were also several other vendors, who sold products and supplies. Some of the other show offerings also included massage technicians, from Blue Cliff School of Massage Therapy, a band, ample door and 50/50 prizes and a silent auction. The valve cover race was colorful and fun and provided a diversion for the more "creative" car enthusiasts. The food at Bayou Country was delicious and the goody bags were well stuffed with wonderful gifts and gadgets and delicious Café Du Monde coffee, generously donated by Joe and Denise Mesa. The bright yellow t-shirts were colorful and well received and displayed the artwork of Malcolm and Barbara Graf's very talented son, who is an artist.

As the afternoon approached, the rain showers subsided and the sun came out for the presentation of many, many awards and prizes. Among them were countless beautiful plaques and many "Best Of" plaques, with Corvettes on them, from such sponsors as Ross Downing Chevrolet, Rotolo's Pizza, Triton Diving Services, Paretti Jaguar, Dorr's Automotive, Supreme Muffler, Catfish Charlie, Paretti Mazda, Production Products and Supply, Café Du Monde, and Crescent City Color. Pictures were made of each winner as they received their cherished plaques and awards. The Northshore Corvette Club also received a cash award for having the most attendees at the show. Kim Avery, the President of the Northshore Corvette Club, accepted the award.

I want to thank the many people who helped to make this fantastic car show so entertaining and such a huge success. Among those hard-working and dedicated people are Bill Folse, Car Show Chairman, and his Co-Chairman, Malcolm and Barbara Graf. I also want to commend the President of the GNOCC, Alton Rivero and Kim Rivero, and the Board of Directors for their organization and tenacity throughout the planning process and on the day of the car show. Ralph Adams always does such a wonderful job of keeping up with all of the statistics of the show and Dr. Dave Mulnick is a great emcee and announcer for the show. Bayou Country was so generous to allow us to have this wonderful Extravetteganza there for the 2nd year in a row, and the recipient of the proceeds of the show, Metro Center, was very appreciative of the generous donation made by GNOCC. A show like this, that prospers and entertains, in rain or sun, is a culmination of countless hours of hard work and tedious planning all year long. Kudos to everyone who made the Extravetteganza such a huge success!! I look forward to attending many more of these fun-filled events.

Kathy Culbertson

Connie Marciante	January 1
Linda Angelica	January 2
Deneb Warner	January 4
Cheryl Jackson	January 5
Jeff Grose	January 6
Ralph Prete	January 8
Felix Famularo	January 9
Eddie Robin	January 10
Clara Rogers	January 12
Beatrice Desper	January 12
Judie Massey	January 15
Colin Normand	January 15
Richard Weixel	January 16
Billie Brown	January 19
John Cramer	January 19
Rick Weaver	January 19
Tina McGinnis	January 23
Ken Jovin	January 23
Kathy Culbertson	January 24
Tim Landry	January 25
Kenneth Pousson	January 25
John Susko	January 25
Perry Brown	January 28



Beth Stire	February 1
Sam Green	February 2
George Larson	February 7
Rusty Rockwell	February 7
Sherry Kelt	February 8
Billy Dillenkoffer	February 12
Dennis Schaff	February 12
George Boudreaux	February 13
Heidi Hager	February 14
Jimmy Stire	February 17
Nick Gristina	February 17
Patricia Schaff	February 19
Linda Ferenczy	February 21
Frank Gafke	February 23
Ann Adams	February 25
Dennis Krystek	February 26
Michael Leeds	February 28

Happy Birthday

Vincent Giannobile	March 3
Mark Kiger	March 6
Chad Triche	March 9
Jim Boudreaux	March 10
Tom Wooten	March 12
Susan Holcomb	March 14
Chip Peacock	March 17
Joan Leeds	March 18
Robert Uhlich	March 18
Paul Rhodes	March 20
Mary Swindler	March 22
Laura Marshall	March 22
Sal Stabile	March 22
Norma Evans	March 23
Bill Ferenczy	March 25
Melissa Brown	March 27
David Mulnick	March 27
Pete Graffagnino	March 30
Lyn Weixel	March 31
Chris Dominique	March 31

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CRUSIN' THE COAST WEEKEND

The Crusin' the Coast weekend was a bit rainy and muggy, but it did not dampen the spirits of the many Corvette enthusiasts who displayed their beautiful Corvettes at the Hollywood Casino in Bay St. Louis on October 10, 2009. The Car Show was fun, as always, and the goody bags were filled with two beautiful blue Corvette shirts and 2 buffet coupons. Chad Barnett is always very generous with these goody bags and we appreciate it immensely. There were about 50 cars on display close to the casino entrance. This was the final weekend of the Corvette Summer giveaway, and some lucky person won a great Corvette that day, too!

On October 11, the three major Corvette Clubs of the Southern Louisiana region, namely, The Greater New Orleans Corvette Club, Crescent City Corvette Club and the Northshore Corvette Club had their annual Seafood Bash at the lovely home of Barbara and Allan Maxwell. The fare was ample and delicious. It included such items as fried catfish, boiled shrimp, seafood sausage, baked beans, cole slaw, potato sala, and countless desserts. The weather was cooler and less rainy than the day before, so the breezeway area under their home was really pleasant to enjoy the tempting seafood items. There were over 200 Corvette members in attendance and the cars were displayed on the lawn and street of the Maxwell home.

I want to praise and thank all of the folks who worked so hard to cook and display the food that day. I also want to commend the people who set up the chairs and tables. A lot of planning and hard work goes into the Seafood Fest and it makes for a very happy and fun day. It is always so nice of the Maxwell's to allow us to use their home for this event and some of us even got to take a private tour of the collections and décor of their well appointed home on the Rigolets.

All in all, the inclement weather did not spoil our fun weekend at Crusin' the Coast and at the Seafood Fest. The Corvette community knows how to enjoy life in rain or shine!

See you next year!

Kathy Culbertson



By Dale Jewett

Recall Roof Panel on 2005 Through 2007 Corvette Coupes

Corvette coupes from the 2005 through 2007 model years may be at risk for the roof panel blowing off the car.

Plenty of Corvette owners like to think they can blow the doors of most everything else on the road. But GM is now recalling Vettes from the 2005 through 2007 model years because the roof panel may blow off. The recall covers Corvette coupes with the removable roof panel. There's a problem with the adhesive that bonds the plastic roof panel to its frame. If the bond breaks, the roof panel could go flying off while driving. There are clues to the problem. Such as a snapping noise from the roof when driving over bumps, water leaking from the headliner or the roof panel moving when the door is closed. Nearly 22,100 cars are involved in the recall. Those with a bad panel--GM has previously run a customer satisfaction campaign for this problem--will get a new one. GM says it will start the recall in January. Until then you may just want to drive topless--weather permitting.

Autoweek Video : <http://www.autoweek.com/article/20091229/VIDEONEWS/912299994>

Trio Collects on Christmas Auction Item

Well it took just over a year, but Ralph, Gerald and Rick finally got together and made the fishing trip they won at the 2008 Christmas party. Great Escape Charters, Captain Tommy Williams, donated a one day trip for three in the Biloxi Marshes to the Club that was auctioned, along with other items at the 2008 Christmas party. The proceeds from the auction went to our charity, LA Search and Rescue Dog Team.

With all the rain and winds, we were worried that the water level would be low. Captain Tommy said that we will find trout, but Redfish like to congregate in the bays and he may not be able to get the boat into his favorite spots. The tidal movement was to be non-existent and when it was to start would be a minimal range through the day. Not the best conditions for fishing. Plans were still made as the weather conditions (except for the cold) looked like a go. We planned to meet Captain Tommy at the dock at 5:30 a.m. I picked up Gerald; and Rick met us there. Weather was to be in the low 30's, rising to 50's by mid day....guess we needed to dress warm. Gerald had on a light jump suit, but said, "He can handle the cold." Rick had his flight jacket and myself, well, I dug out some hunting gear....earflaps and military-issued cold weather gear. Seems I made the right decision.

At the launch, we picked up 50 minnows (no shrimp available) and headed out for our 30 minute trip across Lake Borgne to the marsh. The live bait barrel sat at the stern (rear of the boat for you land lubbers). It was a 30 gallon barrel filled with water, more on this later. Gerald quickly found out that he did not have enough clothes as we got to open water. Doing 30 MPH in 30 degree weather, translates to about a 15 to 20 degree wind chill factor. Both Gerald and Rick quickly found the floor behind the center console, and in front of the bait barrel, and sat on two float cushions. Winds were still blowing 5 - 10 MPH, so Lake Borgne had a 2 - 3 foot chop (waves). Even in our 22' catamaran center console fishing boat, the waves still made the boat bounce. Now, the bait barrel made its mark. On one of the bounces, the loose lid of the barrel opened and water splashed out, yes, on the floor and on Rick and Gerald.....now you can add wet to the chill factor....are we having fun yet?

We arrived at the marsh just as the morning sun rose creating a pastel pallet of colors, sorry no camera handy. Captain Tommy stopped as we approached the first fishing spot to get our gear ready. Gerald brought his own fishing pole and needed to tie on a hook, which became a chore because not only did he not have enough clothes, but did not have gloves, and being wet, shook like a wet dog.....needless to say, we needed to tie it for him.

First stop was a small bay off the main canal. Rick and Gerald were using the minnows and Captain Tommy and I opted for plastic plugs. No trout, but noticed swirls near the bank, good indication of Redfish hunting the shoreline. Captain Tommy positioned the boat near the shore and Rick caught the first fish, a small redfish known to locals as a Rat Red, too small to keep, but a good fight. A lone duck flew overhead and as he crossed over the pond next to us, the quite morning was broken by the sounds of two guys unloading their shotguns at the duck. Not very good shots as six shots rang out and the duck never flinched. Needless to say, we all jumped. We had no clue they were over there. After catching a few more Rat Reds, Captain Tommy hooked a nice Red. No more action, so time to move to the next spot.



Second stop was a dead end canal. Tommy put down the trolling motor (small battery powered motor) and we eased down the canal, fishing the banks on both sides of the boat. It did not take long for us to start catching a few trout, most were keepers (must be 12 inches). Gerald and Rick, still wet and cold from the ride, were hoping



the sun would hurry up and start warming us up. Fishing was still a slow pace, but as we moved down to the end of the canal, it seemed to pick up....spoke too soon, like a light switch, the fish just stopped biting. It was time to head back toward the mouth of the canal. We picked up a few stragglers and as we crossed an opening to a small bay, it seemed the fish were now ready to eat. The tide finally started to move, not strong, but a movement. Captain Tommy beached the boat just past the opening so we could all get a good angle with our backs to the wind, then the fun started. The daily limit is 25 trout per person, so we could take 100 trout. Captain Tommy had a counter on board that we clicked each time a fish came in. This would let us know when to go home. The fishing was not fast and furious, but someone was always bringing in a fish, click, click, and click. At 11:30 it seemed to slow down and we needed three more trout....time to move on. We fished our way out of the canal. At the mouth, I clicked the 100th trout. Just to be sure, we counted and iced the fish for the trip home. Captain Tommy asked if we wanted to try to find a few Redfish, as it was still early.

Third spot, we maneuvered into a small bay and begun fishing the shore line again. Water was real low. Ralph hooked a keeper, but no other activity. It seemed the consensus was time to head home.



With 100 trout and three nice Redfish in the boat, it was time to get ready for the ride home. As Captain Tommy readied the boat, Rick, Gerald and I opted for a Miller Lite and a sandwich. It was kind of a celebration to the end of a good day. Gerald and Rick learned real fast, so they drained the bait tank and positioned themselves on the floor again. Wind chill still was still in the 40's.



Thanks to Captain Tommy for a great fishing trip and we look forward to booking another charter with him. If you are interested in fishing with someone that knows his stuff, contact Captain Tommy at (985) 288-7694 or email at greateescapecharters@yahoo.com.



Ralph, Gerald and Rick.

NORTHSHORE CORVETTE CLUB

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New Motor Sports Park that is planned to open in the fall of 2010

<http://nolamotor.com/?s=m>

NOLA Motorsports Park is a general purpose, club style driving track facility being built in the New Orleans metro area. The facility will be located less than 30 minutes drive from downtown New Orleans. Activities at the facility will include Club driving, track days, high performance driving schools, club racing, and Kart activities. Club type tracks are relatively new in the United States and NOLA Motorsports Park will be in the top tier of such facilities.

Three road courses are being built. The courses will be 2.4, 1.3, and 1.3 miles in length. The courses are flexible with regards to configuration. In the typical dual course configuration, the courses will be 2.4 and 2.6 miles long. A 5 mile course, which is one of the longest in North America will be the longest configuration. The track designer is Alan Wilson of Wilson Motorsports. Operations are scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2010. For more information, visit our web site, nolamotor.com, which will be updated frequently. Questions and requests for information can be submitted at the web site.



Article from the official NOLA's website.



Safety Notice for 2003 and 2004 Corvettes

I would like to bring a serious safety issue to the attention of any of our members who own a late production 2003 and all 2004 Corvettes. Due to a design change, the left hand fuel tanks crack and/or leak at the new metal crossover tube. This allows fuel and fuel vapors to leak and fumes to flood the cabin. This is a very serious safety issue (not to mention an emissions law violation). GM has taken the stance that the cars are out of warranty even though emissions warranties are for 80,000 miles. The dealers want \$2,400 to replace the fuel tanks as this is the only repair. Can you please let our members and the members of our sister clubs know they can go to www.safercar.gov and register a complaint if they drive one of these model corvettes. They can also call Nathan Ong at the NHTSA his number is 1-202-366-5224. Lets hope we can get GM to fix these cars before more burst into flames!

Thank you,

John Cramer

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