



The Tailpipe

March 1992

Publication of the Texas Chapter of the NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY

From the President

*John Smart, President,
Texas Chapter NCRS*

Is it just my imagination or are things really hopping in the Corvette community? The hobby has enjoyed sustained high interest and continued to evolve in spite of the economic roller coaster we are all on. Last month I had the opportunity to attend the Cypress Gardens Show where several new attendance records were set.

On the Texas scene, things are hopping here too! We will be voting on new Chapter officers at the Houston Expo. Shortly after we will be in Austin for our '92 event. Austin should be an interesting location for the whole family.

Another change is our new "Tailpipe" editor, Buddy Williams, of Ft. Worth. He is an avid Corvette enthusiast who will no doubt be an asset to the Chapter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lee Hagedwood for her diligent work as the previous "Tailpipe" editor. She has done a very admirable job and hopefully she will stay with us.

With the new officers coming in, this will be my last "President's Page", but I'll still be involved in

the club. I'm very confident that we will be in good hands. Thanks for all of your continued support and I hope to see you in Austin.

Next Business Meeting

Houston Expo, Saturday, March 7th
at 2:00 p.m.

NCRS OFFICE MOVES

The main NCRS office is in the process of moving from Lincoln, Ne. to Sedona, Az.. The new address is as follows:

NCRS Publications - John Amgwert
P.O. Box 10453
Sedona, Az. 87336 - 8453

The phone number will continue to operate as (402) 421-1953 until the move is complete (approx. March 10, 1992).

Annual Dues Notice

Don't forget, the new year is here and renewing your annual membership in the Texas Chapter needs to be a top priority. See the back page for the necessary form or be sure to include your renewal fee with your registration to the Chapter meet.

OFFICERS

Texas Chapter
National Corvette Restorers
Society

President

John Smart
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Desoto, TX 75115
(214) 230-0739

Vice President

Dave Ewan
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Grapevine, TX 76051
(817) 481-3921

Secretary

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Austin, TX 78759
(512) 345-6319

Finance Officer

Bruce Knierim
4302 North Hills Drive
Austin, TX 78731
(512) 345-0608

Judging Chairman

Eddie Dolezal
2010 Wagon Gap
Houston, TX 77090
(713) 444-3257

Newsletter

Buddy Williams
7920 Tree Leaf Lane
Ft. Worth, TX 76123
(817) 294-3648

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 1977. NCRS is not affiliated with Chevrolet or General Motors.

Membership in the Texas Chapter of the NCRS is open to all members of the NCRS National Organization. Dues payable to the Texas Chapter are \$12 per year, and should be sent to Bruce Knierim, Treasurer, 4302 North Hills Drive, Austin, TX 78731.

TECH TIPS

Buddy Williams

I am now on the mailing list for all of the other NCRS Chapter Newsletters from across the country. Interesting material can be found in these newsletters. The North Central Chapter NCRS recently published a list of their "Top 44 All Time Favorite Tech Tips" previously printed in their Newsletter. Here are a few...

FOILED AGAIN

When doing touch-up painting on the chassis, engine compartment, etc. use aluminum foil as a masking media. Aluminum foil conforms nicely to odd shapes and does an excellent job on such things as wiring harnesses, brake lines, and linkages. It can also be reused.

DATED WINDSHIELDS

My 1970 big block needs a new windshield because of scratches and pitting in what is the original glass. Wanting to replace it with correctly dated and coded glass, I checked O.E.M. Glass, Inc. and their retail price was \$362.00. Seemed a little (lot?) too high. I did some further checking and came up with a company called Alliance Classic Glass. (800-638-4840) in Oregon which also does dated windshields. His price was \$168.00. Quite a difference! I asked him why he was so much lower priced than O.E.M. Glass and if the quality is the same. He said that this was a part time business for him, he had no overhead other than himself, so the lower price. He said the technique he used was the same as used by O.E.M. Glass which is buying windshields made by major vendors, machine buffing out the manufacturer's logo and date coding, and acid etching the proper logo and date coding. At this price differential, I think it's worth giving this other company a shot although O.E.M. Glass has a very good reputation.

WHEELCOVERS

Large trash bags make excellent wheel and tire covers when sanding or painting in the vicinity of your wheel wells. They don't hold dust like professional cloth covers do.

WATCH IT SHINE

Jim Fenske also reports that an excellent product for polishing stainless steel is FLITZ. This product not only polishes the stainless but will remove minor scratches. FLITZ can be ordered from:

FLITZ INTERNATIONAL LTD.,
821 MOHR AVE. WATERFORD, WI,
53185. They will accept credit card orders. Their telephone number is 414-534-5898.

PAINT BY THE NUMBERS

Want the exact eggshell black for your GM firewall, inner radiator support and other engine compartment areas? Here is a lacquer formula that duplicates the finish very well. -PPG PAINTS-
Two quarts "Mixing Black" #386, One quart "Universal Flattening Agent", One quart "Mixing Clear" #310
Use PPG #DDL-16 quick dry thinner. Don't use a slow dry thinner. Stir paint well. It will look very thin but is a perfect match to the original GM paint.

EASY VALVE ADJUST

You can adjust hydraulic lifters statically when rebuilding an engine by merely rotating the engine until the valve you want to adjust is on the base circle of the cam. Then merely tighten the adjusting nut until you can no longer rotate the pushrod with your fingers. Then tighten the nut about 1/8th turn beyond that point, then repeat the process for the next valve in sequence, etc..

NATURAL COLOR?

If your car came with natural finished metal parts (no paint or plating) and all

Corvettes have many of these parts. Here is a neat trick to keep them from rusting. Most clear enamels are too shiny to give a natural look, However, VHT and Krylon have developed a clear paint with a dull finish. It's impossible to tell that a part has been clearcoated. The Krylon part number is 1313.

DETAILING CADMIUM, ZINC, AND ALUMINUM

Something that works wonders when reconditioning or detailing in the engine compartment is a product called Rub N' Buff. The product is available in most craft stores. It comes in a small tube in many colors and is the consistency of toothpaste. The silver color has been used very successfully for condensers and bolts or fittings that are supposed to be Zinc or Cadmium plated or for natural aluminum parts. Excellent results have been obtained when used for headlight vacuum canisters on a '70 Vette. Obtaining close to the correct iridate color can be done by mixing a small amount of silver with the gold. The secret to using Rub' N Buff is to scuff the surface to a shine using a fine steel wool or a very fine wire wheel. Then apply the Rub N' Buff very sparingly with a soft cloth and finally buff off any excess. You will be amazed at the results!

COOL IT MAN

When filling your cooling system with coolant, elevate the front of your car slightly to bring the radiator above the block to ensure that the coolant fills the block and thermostat housing.

If you have any experience with the Tech Tips shown here or have any others to report, you can share them with your fellow Texas Chapter members by sending them to:

Buddy Williams
7920 Tree Leaf Lane
Ft. Worth, TX. 76123

MORE TECH TIPS...

LOCATING NOS PARTS

One of the challenges during the restoration of your Corvette is finding the parts that are needed. If a part is needed, the first thing to do is find out if the part is still serviced by General Motors. Determine the original GM part number by looking it up in an old Chevrolet Corvette Parts Book or look it up in a Factory Assembly Instruction Manual (AIM). Then go to your friendly Chevrolet parts counter and have them enter the part number into their computer to see if the part is available from GM. If it is not, here's the next thing you should do. Find out if your dealer subscribes to a computer service called PARTS LOCATOR. Most dealers in the United States with a computerized inventory system belong to this service. Listed in this computer system are all the part numbers each dealer has in stock even if it is no longer serviced by GM. In other words, NOS parts the dealer has in inventory. By feeding in the part number you are trying to locate, a printout listing the dealer name, location and phone number (many times a toll free 800 number) will be printed for each dealer that has the part. You can then call the dealer directly that has the part inventoried. Just be aware that it is a two step process to find out if GM services a part and inquiring about the PARTS LOCATOR service to see if any dealer has NOS inventory.



**Tailpipe
Schedule**

Mails the 1st week of January, March June and September. Deadline for input: 15th of the preceding month. Mail articles and want ads (free to members) to Buddy Williams.

CORVETTES IN AUSTIN

Buddy Williams

This year's chapter meet promises to be the finest yet. Again, as with last year's meet, the event will be held indoors and will be made open to the public. Along with the cars which will be flight judged there will be some very special cars on display. Some unrestored and others which have achieved extraordinary recognition. Also, for the first time, the '73 - '77 class will be invited to display their cars.

A technical seminar will be held Friday night hosted by Ken Naber and Dave Ewan. A special guest, Ed Gurdjian, who is one of the founders of NCRS is scheduled to make an appearance. He will be available to answer questions regarding Corvette batteries. A date coding service will be available for batteries previously purchased from Ed, and he will also have a limited number of batteries for sale.

This is the first time the meet will be held in Austin. The city offers a variety of interesting and entertaining things to do for the weekend. The State Capitol. Arts and entertainment. Historic landmarks. Great Food, drink, and shopping. Scenic views. "6th" street. Music. Plenty of activities for everyone.

An informal outing is being planned for Saturday night for those who wish to attend. Specifics will be announced as soon as they become available (probably Saturday afternoon). As a reminder, this year the awards banquet will be held on Sunday morning rather than Saturday night.

There will be plenty of space indoors at the Palmer Auditorium. Ample trailer space is available.

However, no security will be provided, so trailer owners should bring locks, chains, etc. as needed. Below is a list of regulations as a reminder to those taking their vehicle indoors for judging or display;

- Gas tanks as empty as possible (the lesser of 5 gallons or 1/4 tank)
- Use locking gas cap or bring duct tape to tape gas cap. If a locking gas cap is used, a deduction will be made only if the owner does not have his original gas cap with him.
- Battery cables must be disconnected. Bring your own tools!
- Ignition keys must be removed from cars.

There are many different ways to become involved in this year's event. Just complete the enclosed registration form and mail to Bruce Knierim as soon as possible. Again, we encourage the owners of the '73 - '77 class to bring your cars. Be sure to make note on the registration form in the space provided so we know how many display cars to expect.

You will also find in this newsletter, a schedule of events. For your convenience, a map of Austin with the key points of interest is printed on the reverse side. This should at least get you in the general direction of where you need to be. So whether you pack up the family, or leave them behind, get away to Austin this spring for some good times and good Vettes. See you there!



The
Tailpipe

c/o Buddy Williams
7920 Tree Leaf Lane
Ft. Worth, TX 76123

It's time to renew your membership

Texas Chapter
of the
National Corvette Restorers Society

Please Note: Membership in the National NCRS is required as a condition for Texas Chapter Membership. Your national NCRS identification number is on the mailing label of this newsletter.

National NCRS membership ID: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Corvettes: _____, _____, _____, _____

Dues for the Texas Chapter Membership are \$12.00 (U.S.) per year and expire on December 31.

Please make your check payable to: **Texas Chapter NCRS** and mail to:

Bruce Knierim
4302 North Hills Drive
Austin, TX. 78731

**TEXAS CHAPTER
8th ANNUAL MEET
MARCH 27 - 29 1992
AUSTIN, TEXAS**



MEET REGISTRATION: (note: you must be a current National NCRS member *)

Name _____ Spouse/Companion _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____ NCRS membership number _____

____ Yes, I want my car flight judged: year _____ cpe _____ cv _____ eng _____

____ Yes, I would like to judge: (division) _____

____ Yes, I would like to participate as an observer Judge _____

____ Yes, I would like to display my '73 - '77 Corvette: year _____ cpe _____ cv _____ eng _____

____ Yes, I would like to help tabulate: (name) _____

Family registration (postmarked after 3/7/92 add \$5.00).....\$ 20.00

Flight judging fee (\$10.00 per car).....\$ _____

Sunday brunch awards (Jalisco Rest.) \$10.00 per person
attending _____ \$ _____

* I would like to join the National NCRS at this time: (\$25.00).....\$ _____

I would like to join/renew Texas Chapter: (\$12.00).....\$ _____

Indoor vendor space (10' X 20') for \$10.00\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED\$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Texas Chapter NCRS
Mail to: Bruce Knierim, 4302 N. Hills Dr., Austin, TX. 78731
Phone: (512) 345-0608

LODGING INFORMATION

Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, TX. 78704 phone (512) 477-1234. Rates are \$79.00 per night. Be sure to mention NCRS. The Hyatt Regency is a first class hotel with a scenic view on the lake side. Reservations must be made before March 6, 1992 to take advantage of the reduced room rates and to ensure room availability.

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I agree to insure my vehicle and property against loss, damage and liability and to provide proof of such insurance to NCRS at time of registration. I agree to assume risk of any and all damages or injury and to indemnify and hold harmless NCRS, its officers, directors, agents, employees and chapters for any acts or omissions which may result in the theft, damage or destruction of my property or injury to me or others occurring during, or as a consequence of, this meet in Austin, Texas.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Auto Insured with: _____

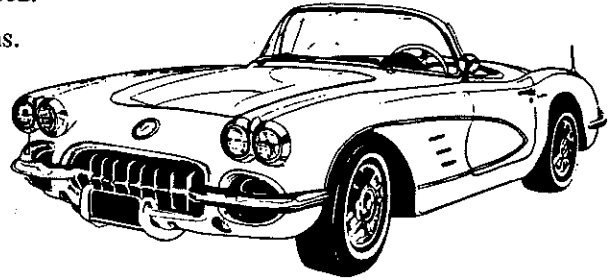
Policy number: _____ Expires: _____

1992 TEXAS CHAPTER NCRS MEET

(MARCH 27 - 29 1992)

The Texas Chapter NCRS will hold their annual event in centrally located Austin, Texas at the indoor Palmer Auditorium. Lodging will be within walking distance at the Hyatt Regency on beautiful Town Lake. With Austin being the State Capitol, there will be many activities available for the whole family.

- All flight judging will be held indoors at the Palmer Auditorium.
- Tech check will be performed prior to entering building, so be prepared!
- Proof of insurance is required before entering building. No exceptions.
- Batteries need to be disconnected once cars are in building.
- Gas tanks as empty as possible. Please plan ahead.
- No outdoor security at Palmer Auditorium.
- Cars will be locked inside the auditorium at night.



Schedule of Events

Friday, March 27

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Technical check and placement of cars at the Palmer Auditorium |
| 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM | Meet registration at the Hyatt Regency hospitality room. |
| 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM | Technical session by Ken Naber and Dave Ewan |

Saturday, March 28

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM | Technical check and placement of cars at the Palmer Auditorium |
| 9:00 AM - 9:15 AM | Car owners meeting |
| 9:15 AM - 9:30 AM | Judges meeting |
| 9:30 AM - Completion | Flight Judging |
| 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Open for Public Viewing |
| Saturday Evening | - Open - |

(An informal outing (TBA) is being planned Saturday evening for those who wish to attend)

Sunday, March 29

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM | Brunch and awards presentation at Jalisco's |
| 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Remove cars and vendors from Palmer Auditorium |

- To find Palmer Auditorium from I-35, exit at Riverside Dr. and go west.
- Hyatt Regency - 208 Barton Springs Rd. (512) 477-1234

AUSTIN, TEXAS

