

Cruzin'

River City Corvette Club Newsletter



**Jerry Ray's Beautiful 1999 Torch Red Convertible
(More Inside)**

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Club News
Event Calendar**



**Volume 13, Issue No. 1
January 2007**



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President: R. T. Cutcher

Vice President: Gene Talley

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Nicole Redden

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Editor: Mike Nabors

Associate Editor:

John Lemons

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Cruzin'

RCCC

Volume 13, Issue 1
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From the PRESIDENT's desk:

Happy New Year fellow River City Corvette Club members! We have before us a new opportunity to make 2007 a banner year for our club. Many past activities will remain, while yet we can also be open to fresh and new ideas. Suggestions are welcome! The beginning of the season is usually cold so events are at a minimum. Of course, as the weather warms we will also be able to participate in more activities.

I know we all as individuals have our own personal lives and many people still work and have families to attend to. No one will be able to, or is expected to, participate in all club functions. The monthly calendar of events is usually filled with various events that members can pick and choose from. In the past separate groups have attended multiple functions on the same day. This is a big plus for us that we have enough people to make multiple showings to represent the club.

Thanks to the officers of

2006 for an excellent job well done. It was a great year for the club. The Hooters car show for Ashley Hoppes was the club's biggest charity event ... so far. Last report our membership was 150 members with 98 Corvettes. That is great! Of course this will vary a little after the March 31 cutoff date for dues. Not only do we want to sign on new members but we want to encourage existing members to participate in more club functions. Please remember that dues are due by March 31, 2007.

My focus this year will tentatively be charity events and joint group club events. Suggestions are welcome, so if you have an idea let an officer know it so it can be considered. Remember, regular monthly meetings are decisive for the makeup and direction of the club. The members that attend will determine many important things for the rest of the club. Like Buddy always says, "YOU ARE THE CLUB!" So, with that in

mind the first 2007 meeting is January 18, at O'Charley's, Hixson Pike: with a guest speaker! [Board meeting on January 9 at Dairy Queen] Let's come out and plan the things we want to do in 2007.

How about a little daytime run to Dalton, GA on January 21 for the first "cruise" of the year? Meet at the Chickamauga Dam Parking Lot and leave at 2:00 PM to head to Dalton Fuddrucker's restaurant on Walnut Avenue. Think about it—we'll talk at the January meeting... I had to start somewhere!

"Please remember, dues are due by March 31, 2007"

"Come on out and let's plan the things we want to do in 2007."



North Georgia! Mike Nabors

Untapped Cruise Country! Just returned from our 34th anniversary trip and we went on a little "getaway" to Helen and Dahlenaga. The roads in the North Georgia mountains are very Corvette friendly—CURVY! Linda—bring the pretzels or the knitting—you're gonna need 'em. We will be planning cruise trips into North Georgia this

year so get ready for a good time. There's the Gold Museum, the wine vineyards, the shops, the waterfalls (ya'll know I am a sucker for a beautiful waterfall),. There are great restaurants with steaks and RIBS (ya'll know I fall for ribs that you don't need teeth to eat!!!) GET READY for 2007!

From the Editor:

As you can see, the newsletter this year will take on a bold, new look, and will include a cover much like a magazine. We (more about the “we” in a moment) titled it “Cruzín” - the Newsletter of the River City Corvette Club. I hope everyone likes it - but if you don’t, then you can volunteer to do this job next year and do it your way!!!

The cover will be a picture of some club-member’s Corvette, selected from among those owners that have a birthday in that particular month, and have sent pictures of their car to the web-site. We’ll keep drawing the names until we get one with pics if some of you haven’t sent in pics so send one in - either to Buddy or myself. Inside the newsletter the picture will be repeated, only much smaller, along with a profile of the car and information about the owner. It will be a great honor to have made the cover of the newsletter. No one’s car will appear twice until we have run through all the pictures we have, so sooner or later yours should make the cover (that is, if we have pics of your car!).

The “guts” of the newsletter will remain similar as in the past, and for those of you who get their newsletter who don’t want to use up a lot of ink (if you desire to print out a hard copy), you can print the “dial up” version and it will look fairly familiar. If it’s your car on the cover, you might wish to print the cover that month - it should be suitable for framing if we’ve done our job well.

For those of you that receive the newsletter by mail, it will not contain the cover sheet, simply to save on costs, except that if your car is selected for the cover, we will include the cover sheet for you. You can get with a friend that has a computer to print out even better copies or if you just want a copy of the cover.

John Lemons will be the Associate Editor (that’s the “we” mentioned above), and will be providing interesting articles - hopefully every month - and I think you will find them entertaining, and truthful!!!! (No offense to anyone who never let the truth get in the way of a good story!!)

Our goal is to provide you with a great newsletter, on a par with the best in the country, which goes right along with the RCCC, the best Corvette Club in the country!

Mike Nabors, Editor



“It will be a great honor to have made the cover of the newsletter.”



Vettes at the “haunted house”

THE VINTAGE VIEW

By John Lemons

When Mike Nabors came to me and asked if I would write a monthly article for the newsletter, I felt the same way that I did when he asked me to run along side him as club vice president, like KILLING him. Nevertheless, I consented. Wondering what I would write about, I already have great respect for Larry Harless who has written many articles.....stories....OK barely truths month after month.

There is no better subject to write about for a Corvette Club Newsletter than..you guessed it.—Corvettes! I hope to feature a particular year model Corvette each month and maybe I might just hit on one you especially like or pass on some statistics you didn't know. What better place to start than at the beginning.

Life began for the Corvette in 1951. The initial seed was planted by Harley Earl, the legendary creator of GM's Art and Color Section, which was the predecessor of auto industry styling departments around the world. Like many great ideas, the Corvette was almost an accident. From 1949 to 1961 General Motors operated its famous Motorama Shows, lavish showcases for presentation of each year's new offerings plus a few "dream cars" to pull the crowd in.

The 1953 is the rarest of all Corvette years. About 200 of the 300 built are still known to exist, but the first two off the line have never been accounted for. Officially, they were engineering test vehicles and were destroyed, but no witnesses or documentation has ever surfaced. Find one of these and you will have found one of the most valuable cars in existence.

All 1953 Corvettes were polo white with sportsman red interior and had black canvas convertible tops. All were pretty much hand-built in Flint, Michigan, in the back of the customer delivery garage. Things unique to the 1953 model included a black oilcloth window storage bag (windows didn't roll up or down), a black canvas top, special valve covers, and a smaller trunk mat. All 1953 and 1954 Corvettes used a Blue Flame six cylinder engine, a tweaked version of a motor that had been in the Chevrolet stable for years, but the engines installed in the first two Corvette years have different serial coding and some internal running changes.

Is the 1953 a practical year to own? Aside from its value and the special constraints that imposes, definitely yes. The 1953 does suffer from some problems that almost sank the Corvette boat right after launch- things like a leaky top, less than breathtaking performance and finicky side mounted carbs- but over the years it has proven to be very durable and trouble free. As an everyday driver, most people would opt for a 1956 or later. A 1954 looks the same as a 1953 to most people at a fraction of the initial cost. But as an investment, the 1953 stands alone.

1953 Corvette Colors / Options:

Color Code	Body Color	Soft Top
None	Polo White	Black

Interior Color: Red

Order #	Item Description
2934	Base Corvette Convertible

Sticker Price: \$3498.00

Options:		
101A	Heater	\$91.40
101B	AM Radio	\$145.15

“There is no better subject to write about for a Corvette Club newsletter than... you guessed it—**Corvettes!**”



Editors Note:

Based on John's assessment, if anyone finds my dead body murdered, save and give the police this article so that John will be on the suspect list... Well, along with Marilyn of course!!!!



Jerry Ray's 1999 Corvette Convertible

Who's Corvette should grace the cover of the first issue of **CRUZIN'**, the new face of the River City Corvette Club Newsletter? We determined that the cover would of course come from the birthday list for January, and well, his name popped up. Must be divine!!!!

Who is Jerry Ray? Dumb question, for all but the newest members, and even they know him because most likely he recruited them. Jerry Ray is one of the founding members of this club. He has been in charge of membership ever since I have been in the club and has been President at one time or another. He probably would be voted the friendliest member, too! I think of him as "Mr. River City Corvettes."

Jerry actually has two Corvettes, a red C3 convertible in addition to his C5. Both cars are show quality and he shows them both. Jerry's cars have won numerous trophies—including two best of shows—with a little help from voting club members!!!

The 1999 C5 is that fabulous red the best ever on a Corvette—TORCH RED! The car has the oak interior and is all stock except for the rear end treatments shown in the pictures here and chrome spokes to replace the painted 1999 "Wagons." Options include the dual zone a/c, heads up display, and automatic transmission. Beautiful cars Jerry!!!!



On the cover....



***"I think of him as
'Mr. River City Corvettes.'"***

Events



January Birthdays

- Jack Arvan 1/1
- Theresa Sielski 1/7
- Jerry Ray 1/9
- Rinda Haynes 1/12
- Carmen Giarrizzo 1/23
- Monte Anderson 1/29

**Happy
New
Year!!
from the
Editors!!!**

Club events in January:

January 21: Cruise!!!

To Fuddruckers in Dalton, GA

Leave parking lot at

Chickamauga Dam at 2:00 pm.

(weather permitting—hey—it’s winter-time!)

Regular Club Events:

Every Tuesday: Dairy Queen at Highway 153 after 5:30 pm.

2nd Tuesday ea. month: RCCC Board Meeting at Dairy Queen Hwy. 153 at 6:30 pm.

3rd Thursday ea. month: RCCC monthly club meeting at O’Charley’s Restaurant on Hixson Pike. Dinner at 6:00 pm and meeting at 7:00 pm.

Every Friday in nice weather: Sonic Drive In in Soddy Daisy on old Highway 27—when weather is nice.

