

# ***THE ACCCelerator*** ***AQUIA CREEK*** ***CORVETTE CLUB*** ***January 2017***



**Happy Corvette New Year  
2017**

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**Next Meeting - January 17th**

Start Time is 7:30 pm

Aquia Harbor Inn

1415 Washington Dr,

Stafford, VA 22554



## *ACCCording to the President Al McCloud*

Happy New Year fellow Corvette enthusiasts! The holidays are behind us and it's 2017. We have another year to continue making history with the Aquia Creek Corvette Club. This is the year of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - so let's make it one to remember.

I am pleased to serve as your President for 2017. I want to recognize each 2016 Board member for their dedication, attendance at the monthly meetings, and doing the job they were elected to do. Mission accomplished! Also recognition to those who stepped up to fill the board positions for 2017, especially new board members Bud Donner, serving as Vice President, and Pete Rutledge, taking over my duties as Newsletter Editor. We have many talented members and I plan on calling on you for assistance during the year to help support the activities of the club.

Club members are encouraged to be more active in the club, even if it's just attending the monthly meetings. Being a member should be more than just paying your dues once a year, unless you are geographically deprived of making the events. Get involved and have some fun. We had many events last year and I would like to see more participation in 2017. Events like our Ocean City and St Patrick's Day Nags Head trips, supporting the Aquia Creek Fourth of July parade, the Hickory Bridge Cruise in the fall, Corvettes at Carlisle, Garage Nights headed up by Pete, Captain Billy's Seafood House, Manassas All Corvette Cruise-In, monthly breakfasts, and the racing events usually headed up by Skip. Jump in and head up a day or over night cruise or any event you would like for the club to do. We also participate in parades which brings me to a big thank you to Mike Shepherd and Lee Morton for driving their cars in the Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg Christmas parades.

I am also extending an invitation to previous club members, who have decided to leave the club for various reasons, to rejoin and get back into the Corvette family. New members are always welcome as well. I encourage members to wear your name tags at our events, you never know when a potential new member may have some questions about our club. Name tag purchasing info is available on the back page of this newsletter.

[\(Continued on Page 3\)](#)

## *2017 ACCC BOARD MEMBERS*

### **President**

**Al McCloud**

[yankeeal@verizon.net](mailto:yankeeal@verizon.net)



### **Vice President**

**Bud Donner**

[buddonner@msn.com](mailto:buddonner@msn.com)



### **Treasurer**

**Dottie Shadbar**

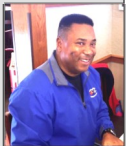
[dvs82760@aol.com](mailto:dvs82760@aol.com)



### **Secretary**

**Lee Morton**

[penn82@aol.com](mailto:penn82@aol.com)



### **Newsletter Editor**

**Pete Rutledge**

[prutledge3@verizon.net](mailto:prutledge3@verizon.net)



### **Membership**

**Marie Sizemore**

[bugbent@aol.com](mailto:bugbent@aol.com)



### **Past President**

**Skip Sizemore**

[bugbent@aol.com](mailto:bugbent@aol.com)



## *ACCCording to the President Al McCloud (cont'd)*

On Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual Christmas Club Party and gift exchange at the Park Lane Restaurant, Spotsylvania Mall, in Fredericksburg, VA. The venue was a great selection for an evening of fellowship. It will be a great place to have our 2017 Christmas Party. It was great to relax with fellow ACCC members and enjoy a festive fun-filled evening. Thanks to Dottie Shadbar and Marie Sizemore for organizing and coordinating the event. Well done! At the event we recognized the outgoing board members for their work over the past years: Skip Sizemore for leading us as President during the past two years, Dave Benton for serving as Vice President for the past year, and yours truly for Newsletter for the past five years, a position I totally enjoyed. New board members, mentioned earlier, were also recognized.

Kick back, stay warm, and keep the batteries warm.

All Corvettes are Red,

*Al*



## *From the Past President*

*Fellow ACCC members,*

As we start 2017, I wanted to take this opportunity to discuss the new ACCC Board. First I want to thank Al McCloud for stepping up to serve as the ACCC President. As most of you know Al has been our newsletter editor for a few years and has done a great job in that role. I for one assumed/hoped Al would continue in that role for another year as well as handling the newly acquired web administrator role. However, Al had other ideas and expressed an interest in the role of President. Lo and behold, after a brutal campaign 😊 Al was elected the ACCC President for 2017. I for one am looking forward to the 2017 ACCC under Al McCloud's leadership.

I also want to also say thank you to new Board members Bud Donner (VP) and Pete Rutledge (Newsletter Editor/ Web site) and to say thanks to returning Board members, Dottie Shadbar, Lee Morton, and Marie Sizemore for serving another year on the ACCC Board. Lastly thank you to Bud Donner for his service as the 2016 National Corvette Museum Ambassador, Bettie Shepherd as Sunshine Person, and David Shadbar as returning ACCC President (a role I will be filling during 2017).

Hope to see everyone at our first 2017 Aqua Creek Corvette Club meeting.

Happy New Year,

*Skip*



**PLEASE NOTE: There was no formal meeting of the ACCC Board in December, hence no minutes in this issue of the newsletter.**





Aquia Creek Corvette Club  
P.O. Box 986  
Stafford, VA 22553  
Website: [www.accclub.org](http://www.accclub.org)

### ***AQUIA CREEK CORVETTE CLUB***

The purpose of this organization shall be to provide educational needs for those with Corvettes, and for the preservation, restoration, and enjoyment of all Corvettes.

Aquia Creek Corvette Club (ACCC) was formed in September 1987 by a group of die-hard Corvette enthusiasts from Aquia Harbor in Stafford, VA. The name was selected reflecting the Club's geographic and historical origins in Old Dominion. Through hard work and commitment, ACCC has enjoyed constant growth and now boasts 50 members representing nearly 70 Corvettes, from a 1953 to 2016. ACCC membership consists primarily of Stafford County residents, but has members from Prince William, Fairfax, Fauquier, Spotsylvania, Orange, Culpeper, Loudon, Louisa counties, and two in Florida. Since September 8th, 2014, the ACCC Facebook Group has been limited to ACCC members only, except for a few that were already group members.



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/437699356306459/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/437699356306459/)

Also Find Us On

**Shutterfly**

<https://accphotos.shutterfly.com/>

*Aquia Creek Corvette Club is sponsored by*

**RADLEY**   
**CHEVROLET**

3670 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Phone:

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Service: 888-720-6236

*ACCCording to the Vice President  
Bud Donner*

*ACCC EVENTS  
Bud Donner, Vice President*

***Fellow ACCC Members,***

First of all, thanks to Dave Benton for doing a great job as our Vice President last year. This is my first shot at a VP column - I like the way Dave has been formatting his articles, so for now I'll use his two column approach.

I checked the Club By-laws for the VP's duties. In addition to showing up for meetings, I'll be maintaining the calendar of events and seeking ideas from the members for fun things to do and places to go. Spring is only a few months away, so start thinking about some new activities and give me your suggestions -

buddonner@msn.com.

Breakfasts will continue on the second Saturday of the month and club meetings will remain on the third Tuesday.

January and February are historically our region's worst months for snow and icy roads, so I won't be planning any big events until late March or early April. A few of our courageous members are going to pray for good weather and drive to Daytona for the Rolex 24 hour race on Jan.25-30.

In addition to our list of traditional annual events like Captain Billy's, Ocean City, and Carlisle, I'll add several day trips and an overnight or two. I'm planning to attend the Bash at the Museum on April 27-29 (see the Ambassador's column in this newsletter) - I hope some of you can join me at this fun event.

***Bud***



***Calendar of Events***

**January 2017**

14<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM, Monthly Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, Rte.234, Dumfries

17<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 PM, ACCC Membership Meeting, Aquia Harbor

25-30 - Rolex 24 Hour Daytona, NCM Trip (Sold Out)

**February 2017**

11<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM, Monthly Breakfast, TBD

21<sup>st</sup> - 7:30 PM, ACCC Membership Meeting, Aquia Harbor

**March 2017**

11<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM, Monthly Breakfast, TBD

21<sup>st</sup> - 7:30 PM, ACCC Membership Meeting, Aquia Harbor

**Looking Ahead**

The Bash, NCM, Bowling Green, April 27-29, 2017

Corvettes at Carlisle, Aug. 24-27, 2017

Corvette Caravan, Aug. 28-31, 2019

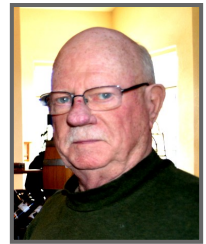




## NCM AMBASSADOR NEWS

January 2017

Bud Donner



Wow! It's been over three years since I wrote my first column as your Ambassador to the National Corvette Museum. I've tried to keep you informed about the many activities and programs sponsored by the NCM - everything from guided trips and tours to their excellent insurance program, the track activities, and the many benefits of NCM membership. It's all there on the museum's recently redesigned website [www.corvettemuseum.org](http://www.corvettemuseum.org) - if you haven't visited it lately, it's worth a look.

The biggest event at the museum every year is the Bash, held on the last weekend of April (27-29). It marks the beginning of the year's activities at NCM. The highlight is the introduction of the next year's colors and design innovations; reps from GM's Michigan headquarters and the Bowling Green assembly plant will be there. There will be a special Corvette Racing Recognition Dinner with team members, and another dinner with some special entertainment. The full agenda and

registration info is available now on the NCM website - I'm planning to go, and I hope you are too. When we have an idea how many are going, I'll put on my new hat as your VP and plan a caravan to Bowling Green.

Later in 2017 the NCM holds its annual Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony. This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> time the NCM honors three individuals with Hall Of Fame membership. The inductees this year are Peter Brock, designer and racer; Jim Minniker, racer and engineer; and Tommy Morrison, who in 1990 drove a stock ZR-1 for 24 hours straight, averaging 175.885 MPH!

Want to be our next Ambassador? Call me at 571-247-2110.

*Bud*



[www.corvettemuseum.org](http://www.corvettemuseum.org)



*Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania Christmas Parades, Dec. 3, 2016,  
with ACCC participation by Lee Morton and Mike Shepherd*





*ACCC Christmas Party, Dec. 18, 2016, Park Lane, Spotsylvania  
Mall, Fredericksburg, VA*





## EDITOR'S NOSTALGIA - 1996

To commemorate the twilight of Corvette's remarkable, 13-year fourth generation (C-4), the company offered another "Collector Edition" with a Metallic Sebring Silver exterior, as well as a special, limited-run "Grand Sport" in Admiral Blue with a wide white center stripe and special detailing.

The silver Collector Edition carried ZR-1 style, 17-inch, five-spoke wheels painted silver. Interiors were black, red or gray but convertible tops were limited to black.

The Grand Sport also used five-spoke, ZR-1 wheels painted black. Coupes featured rear fender flares to accommodate wider tires, whereas convertibles were built without flares. Interior color choices were limited to black, or a red-black combination. Two red "Sebring-style" hash marks were painted on the driver's side front fender.

The Grand Sport option was inspired by the five Grand Sport models built in 1963. Back then, it had been Zora Duntov's dream to build a world class Corvette.

He planned to produce 125 of these 'Cobra-killers' but GM's general ban on racing and performance competition nixed the project. Although the five that were built were amazingly stock looking in appearance, they sported many features that set them apart. A 200mph speedometer, special tubular-steel frame, magnesium knock-off wheels, Plexiglas windows, 36.5 gallon gas tank and many aluminum and alloy parts were just a few of the differences. They last saw racing competition in 1966.

Yet another small block, 350ci, V-8 engine was developed exclusively for the 1996 Corvette, the LT4. It was rated at 330 horsepower, 30 more than the traditional LT1 and featured a higher compression ratio; a new aluminum head design; new camshaft profile, and roller rocker arms. The rpm redline increased to 6,300 over the 1991-developed LT1's 5,700. The LT4 was standard on the Grand Sport and optional on other models, but only with six-speed manual transmissions.

The LT1s were used exclusively with automatic transmissions, which offered better shift quality and improved torque converters. Both the LT4 and LT1 sported a new throttle body.

An electronic Selective Real Time Damping system option was introduced and it differed substantially from the previous Selective Ride option. Data from wheel travel sensors and the Powertrain Control Module were transmitted to a controller that calculated the optimum damping mode. Special shock absorbers could be individually altered every 10-15 milliseconds.

The special Performance Handling Package, a popular option in the 1984-88 models, was re-introduced with several new features. Finally, a more sophisticated, complex on-board package more than doubled its diagnostics from 60 to 140.



## EDITOR'S NOSTALGIA - 1996 (cont'd)

Production in 1996 increased nearly 800 units, with 17,167 coupes and 4,369 convertibles built. Of these, 5,412 were Collector Edition models and 1,000 were Grand Sports. The latter options added \$1,250 and \$3,250, respectively, to the price of the basic car. Base coupes sold for \$37,225 and convertibles for \$45,060.

Thus, the fourth generation of Corvette drew to a close. For 43 years Corvette had pushed the envelope in bringing style, quality, verve and innovation to the driving public.

Many of the options it introduced have become standard features on American and foreign cars built during those four decades.

Sitting behind the wheel of a powerful, high-performance, superbly handling Corvette, no matter the year or model, is a visceral experience...never to be forgotten and always to be repeated as quickly as possible.

What improvements and transformations in automotive form, function, feel and texture would lie ahead as America's own sports car entered its next generation? Only time will tell.

### 1996

**NEWS:** Osama Bin Laden is expelled from Sudan and moves to Afghanistan; Major League Soccer has its first season; severe thunderstorms and a tornado in Bangladesh kills 600; Prince Charles and Diana, Princess of Wales get divorced; Mad Cow disease hits Britain; Cat 4 Cyclone strikes India, 2,000 die; Jumbo jet bursts in flames shortly after takeoff and crashes into the ocean off Long Island; Summer Olympics held in Atlanta; IBM's Deep Blue computer defeats Chess Champion Gary Kasparov for the first time; The Dunblane Massacre – Thomas Hamilton opened fire on a class of 5-6 year olds, killing or wounding every person present bar one pupil. Fifteen children and a teacher died at the scene.

**President/Vice President:** Bill Clinton and Al Gore (Democrats)

#### **Sports:**

**Super Bowl Champs:** Cowboys def Steelers

**World Series:** NY Yankees over Atl Braves

**NBA Champ:** Chicago over Seattle

**Stanley Cup:** Colorado over Florida

#### **Oscars held March 24, 1997**

**Movie:** "The English Patient"

**Actor:** Geoffrey Rush, "Shine"

**Actress:** Frances McDormand, " Fargo"

**Director:** Anthony Minghella, "The English Patient"

#### **Top 5 Songs of 1996**

1. Macarena – Los Del Rio

2. One Sweet Day – M Carey & Boyz II Men

3. Because You Loved Me – Celine Dion

4. Nobody Knows – Tony Rich Project

5. Always Be My Baby – Mariah Carey

Top Country Song: My Maria – Brooks & Dunn



## *January Birthdays*

9th — Butch Loveland  
15th — Lee Morton  
20th — Nan Wehmeyer  
25th — Lourdes Amabile

## *January Anniversaries*

None that we know of

*Congratulations*

1



**2017 Corvette**



# January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 9:00-10:30AM ACCC Breakfast
15	16	17 7:30PM ACCC Meet- ing	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Rolex 24 Hour Daytona, NCM Trip (Sold Out)	26	27	28
29 Rolex 24 Hour Daytona, NCM Trip (Sold Out)	30	31				



## ACCC STORE

*Items For Sale at all Club Events\**

### *Car Flags, US Flag & ACCC Flags*



\$5.00



\$5.00



\$5.00

### *Club Decal & Patch*



*\$2.00 for decal, \$3.00 for patch*

### *Club 25th Anniversary Coin*



\$10.00

### *ACCC Name Badges*



\* Available at Prince William Engraving, 2608 Dynasty Loop, Woodbridge, VA 22192. PH: 703-494-2658. Badges take 5-7 days and will cost \$12.19 each. See article in the June 2016 newsletter, ref-