



The Front End

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Chairman's Message

HoO Chairman's Letter Q4

First day of fall is currently upon us. Lots of fun summer HoO events and they went by quickly. First, special recognition to Mike Treece as National Member of the Year for the NCRS. Mike is a tremendous resource and devotes a lot of time and energy to the NCRS. It was great to see Mike recognized for his work and we are fortunate to have him in our club. When you see him next, give him a well deserved pat on the back.

July started with a road tour out at Dan and Karen Singer's home in Thornville, OH. The tour was eventful to say the least as the winding roads in Hocking Hills didn't disappoint our driving skills. Beautiful day and area followed by a nice lunch at an Amish restaurant.

In August, the HoO picnic was held at Grand Lake State Park in St. Mary's, OH at a nice picnic shelter. We were greeted with an unseasonably cool day (for August). We were concerned about participation due to the location, but the picnic turned out to be one of our best attended events with 26 attending. Also, Shannon Urton, NCRS National President attended and talked about future activities for the National.

Soggy donut anyone? Despite an ALL day rain at the Lancaster Gathering, our charity event was a huge success. Attendance for the show was half as normal but the chapter really showed up to support Matt Lewis and our sponsored charity A Kid Again. The chapter raised \$1000 dollars for the charity in memory of Matt's daughter, Katelyn, and the National will match another \$500. 17 members braved the rain and handed out coffee and donuts to event attendees. Thanks to Mike Treece for bringing the tent!

Also, in September we held a meet and greet for new and



prospective members at my garage. Randy Early and I thought this would be good idea for an informal setting to meet members and hear presentations from Nick Petruzzi and Mike Treece on judging. Terry Buchanan went over the Heart of Ohio Heart Awards. The program is an easy way to get free swag from the chapter. We had over 20 people show for the pizza party and we were delighted at the attendance.

We have 3 more months for 2022. Nice to be back outside. Thanks to all the membership for hanging with us the last couple of years. It wasn't easy. Membership is in good shape as well as financials. As always, check out the website for our future events.

Finally, elections are next month at the October meeting. There are 3 positions available: Chairman, Vice Chair, and membership chair. Some officers have been doing board duties for 10+ years. I was asked by Perry Yasher years ago to help out..and I did. Don't be afraid to run and learn more about the club. Respect the legacy of the club, but bring new ideas. You won't be sorry you did.

Wes

Board Reports

Financials - Pete Hagan

As of August 31, 2022

Beginning Cash Balance 1/01/2022	
Fifth-Third Bank	\$8,028.57
Paypal Account	\$414.27
Total Cash Balance 1/01/2022	\$8,442.84

REVENUE:

Membership Dues	\$460.00
Judging Meet Registration Fees	\$1,010.00
Donation Income	\$155.00
Christmas Luncheon	\$0.00
Total Revenue	\$1,625.00

EXPENSES:

Operations & Planning	\$547.71
Judging Meet Expense	\$616.64
Charitable Contribution	\$0.00
Charity Car Show Expense	\$0.00
PayPal Service Fees	\$68.08
Total Expenses	\$1,232.43

Closing Cash Balance 8/31/2022	\$8,835.41
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Closing Cash Balance 8/31/2022	
Fifth-Third Bank	\$8,560.25
Less: Uncleared Checks	\$0.00
PayPal	\$275.16
Total	\$8,835.41

Board Reports

Upcoming Events - Mike Treece

Upcoming Events

Below are the upcoming events planned, so far, for the Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS 2022:

October 15 Business Meeting Perry Yasher 165 Brandon Drive Pataskala Ohio 43062

November 12 Tech session Matt Lewis 5555 Fessler Buxton Road Houston Ohio 45333

December 10 Party Dur Dutchman 455 Jefferson Ave. Plain City Ohio 43064 5:00-7:00

Visit The Events page of our Chapter website for up to date details.

<https://www.ncrs.org/hoo/events.html>

For full details on events please go to the Chapter events page: <https://www.ncrs.org/hoo/events.html>

Letter from the Editor—Fred Richards

Thank you for reading this issue.

We hope that you will find that each newsletter is filled with educational information, helpful hints and tips, events, and news. We want this newsletter to be valuable for you so *please, please* share your feedback and suggestions to help us improve.

Tech articles can be sent to me via email at:
Fred@98PaceCar.com



Annual Picnic, Grand Lake State Park St Mary's — August 14, 2022



Annual Picnic, Grand Lake State Park St Mary's — August 14, 2022

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We're on the web! www.ncrs.org/hoo

Heart of Ohio Charity Event — September 11, 2022—Lancaster Car Show

Even with the very wet weather the turn out from the club was great. Butch showed that his 1967 top flight 427 would not melt in the rain. Many members drove their cars in the rain to the show.



2022 NCRS National Convention — Karl Luketic

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If you've not been to a National Convention, it is an eye opener. Imagine a Chapter Meet and increase the disorganization by a factor of 10. Everybody tries to do a good job however things still get scrambled. In the end, it comes together and it turns out to be a wonderful event.



For anyone who is familiar with events at a National Convention, this may be redundant. However, the schedule that occurs throughout the week includes tech sessions, judging schools and judging seminars. The schools are put on by master judges or other individuals well skilled in the area of their presentations. Of course, the main focus is on judging cars. Early in the week there is an Annual Membership Meeting at which time, among other activities, some Awards are given out. Judging Hats, Tabulator Hats, Founders Awards are a few examples. Later in the week, after car judging is completed, Flight, Concours and other awards which include a judging component such as Bowtie, Star and Cross Flags are given out. Some of these awards are given out early in the week so as not to prolong the end of the week presentation to the cars receiving judging awards



We're on the web ! www.ncrs.org/hoo

2022 NCRS National Convention — Karl Luketic

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I attended this year's event for a couple of reasons:

- 1.) I had a friend from Florida who is getting a Founders Award as well as submitting his C4 car for Chevrolet Crossed Flags Award and was helping him get his car ready.
- 2.) To observe a fellow Michigan NCRS Chapter member, have his car judged for its Bowtie award.
- 3.) Having attained 100 judging points, I was eligible to get a Master Judges hat at the meeting. This was quite the honor to join the group receiving other awards at this event.

It is difficult to receive a judging assignment at the National level, however it helps to know one of the national team leaders and volunteer to participate in the judging process which I had done as an Observer Judge (OJ). I had the pleasure of working with National Team Leader Brian Pierce on a number of C3 cars.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the next National NCRS Convention at French Lick, which will be a lot closer than Mobile was for those from the HoO Chapter.



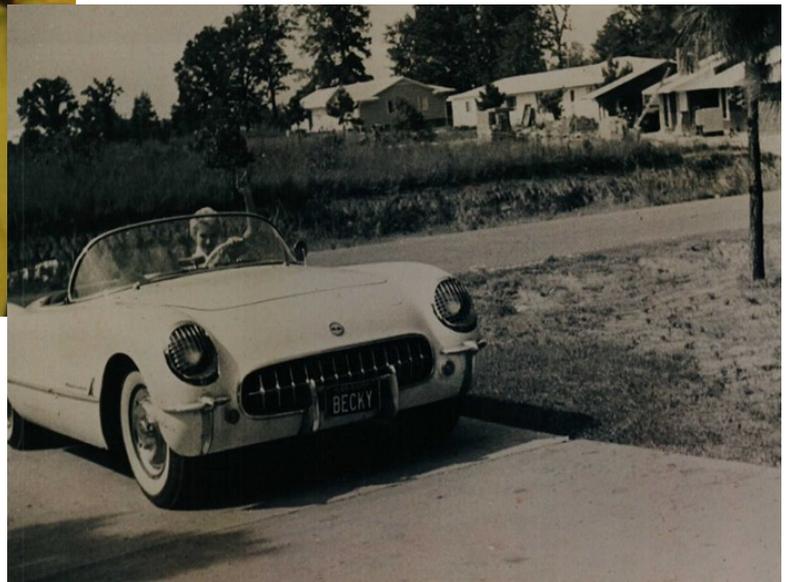
A Car Named Desire—1954 Corvette Original Owner Story—Bill Bulder



The Corvette Twins

The girls drove the car to school, football games and around town. Martha is driving it and waving to us. Note that the front plate says "Becky" – rare to have a personal plate back then.

Rumor spread quickly in school about the car and the occupants as it was hard to believe two such beautiful girls could exist and that they were sisters and drove the fabled and yet unseen and newly developed Corvette was something that could not be believed. But to the dismay of many of the girls and to the delight of the boys, the car and girls did exist and what a sight it was to see such a rare car as there were none in Mississippi or Texas. After all, there were only 3,640 Corvettes built in 1954 and for the fall school year when the mystery car began to appear, there were less than 2,500 in existence. And to be driven by two such beautiful girls defied reality until you saw it coming to a high school football game being driven by the 'Corvette twins' as they were known.



A Car Named Desire—1954 Corvette Original Owner Story—Bill Bulder

Every classic Corvette owner dreams of learning who the original owner of their car was and learning about the person and hoping for a great story to go along with a great car. My dream came true on September 1st, 2022. I was at work when I received a call from Robert Smith who called to tell me his mom, Rebecca Walker, was the original owner of my 1954 Corvette. He had tracked me down as I was listed in the C1 Registry on the internet of car SN #2933.

My involvement with the car started 7 years ago when my wife and I decided to buy an original 1954 Corvette. We fell in love with these early 53-55 Corvettes and their graceful lines that no other Corvette has since eclipsed. The 53 to 55 Corvettes are the only ones to have such rounded and curved lines and the only ones to have their license plate recessed into the trunk with a clear cover to ensure their curved lines. It is the only early version that has its radio antenna embedded into the skin of the trunk to avoid flaring its ing lines. Only the 53-55 cars have no door handles to finish smooth and graceful lines. The car was designed to be and is a piece of artwork while it is sitting still.

To help find an original car, I turned to noted restorer, Steve Newsom, who knew of an original 1954 Corvette located in California. It belonged to another noted restorer, Dave Ferguson. Steve and Dave knew each other as they were co-authors of the NCRS manual on how to restore 1953 to 1955 Corvettes. Both men knew the cars inside and out and appreciated and restored only 1953-1955 Corvettes – no 1957 Corvettes with fuel injection, windows and four speeds for these two. Although Dave had died 10 years earlier, his widow, Jan, still owned it. After a few years of talking with Jan, my wife and I flew from St. Louis to Los Angeles to look at the car. We agreed on a price and brought the car home.

We started tracking the ownership backwards and Dave Ferguson bought the car in 2008 because he knew it was a very original car with 60,900 miles on it because at the time he was the chief Judge for the NCRS for 1953 to 1955 Corvettes. He purchased it from another noted car collector and car expert named Mel Winer who also lived in Los Angeles. Mel had owned the car from 1998 to 2008 but did not know who owned it prior to 1998. I searched Google News and vintage newspapers on line like NewsPapers.com in hopes of finding it listed for sale or maybe an article on it. But, no luck. The trail went cold so I registered my name on the C1 Registry in hopes someone would contact me.

In the years that I owned it, I took it to NCRS local, regional and national events where it earned Top Flight. I drove the car regularly including to work on occasion. It ran as well as it looked. But I was always on the search for the original owner.

Robert Smith called to tell me Corvette #2933 was rather famous. His mom was the very first owner in 1954 while she was only 18 and still in high school. Rebecca and her sister, Martha, drove the car to high school in Jackson, Mississippi. The car and the two blonde occupants were famous when they showed up unexpectedly in Jackson having just moved there from Natchez, MS.



Original 18 Year Old Owner – Rebecca Walker

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A Car Named Desire—1954 Corvette Original Owner Story—Bill Bulder

The “twin’s” dad bought the car in August of 1954 for a stunning price of \$4,645 and traded in his 1953 Belair Convertible. Remember, a Corvette was the flagship of Chevrolet and they cost more than twice as much as any other Chevrolet with the Belair at \$1,620, the 150 at \$1,524 and the 3100 / Pickup at \$1,648.

This car was built on May 19th, 1954 and must have been special ordered to be delivered to Natchez, MS and sold to the twins three months later on August 18th, 1954.

Sadly, the girls’ dad died while they were still young and the car was sold. Eventually, the girls got married and had children and grandchildren. But, they were not forgotten as they left an impression on a fellow student turned writer named William Jeanes who wrote an article about his experience at Central High School in Jackson, MS and the car which article was published in 1999 in the Corvette Quarterly called ‘A Car Named Desire’. Jeanes ended the article by stating he did not know where the twins and the car came from – California, possibly Venus, and if so he wish he had been abducted. A fitting comment to the car and the twins. The twins saw the article and wrote him a letter thanking him and remembering high school and William Jeanes.

When I talked to Rebecca’s son, Robert, he was concerned if the car had faced a rough life and how it looked as some of them had a rough life. I noted it was a no hit body and how original the car was as after all these years as it still had the original interior door panels, dash cover, seat tops and unrestored gauges. Only the carpet and the seat bottoms had been replaced and only one repaint. The engine, head, transmission and drive train were all original and had not been rebuilt. Even the front shocks were still original and dated coded for March of 1954 and the back shocks dated May of 1957. My wife was so excited to be able to ride in a car with 70 year old original shocks – at least that is what she said – dryly.

Robert stated during the Twin’s ownership it had never been in an accident and only the front windshield was replaced and that was because one of the high school football stars asked Rebecca out and she turned him down so he threw an M-80 in the car one night and it blew out the windshield. Sure enough, the windshield had been replaced and there was a little nick in the dash. I thought a rock had gotten the windshield and the nick was a factory defect – after all, the NCRS states these were shoddy cars put together at the truck plant in St. Louis and only made for racing and not for durability or looks. I replaced the windshield with a correct date coded one and left the nick in the dash thinking it was factory - but I was wrong.

JORDAN AUTO CO., INC.					
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI					
CAR INVOICE NO. (281)		August 18 1954			
SALESMAN: Adrian Trimble		SOLD TO Miss Rebecca Walker Natchez, Mississippi			
MODEL	MOTOR NO.	SERIAL NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	TOTAL
54	064663675470	8548002933	New Chevrolet Corvette	3450.00	
			Excise tax	248.00	
			Freight	150.00	
			D & H	48.00	
			Option 101A-heater & defroster	71.20	
			Option 102A-signal seeking radio	144.80	
				4122.00	
			Sales tax	40.50	
				4172.50	
			M.O insurance 24 months	258.00	
			GMAC Differential	217.12	
				4645.62	4645.62
LICENSE NO.					
IGN. KEY					
COMP. KEY					
SETTLEMENT					
			By cash	.50	
53	1A0367362		Used Chevrolet Bel Air Convertible	2512.00	
			24 GMAC notes @ 400.00	2133.12	
					4645.62
LICENSE NO.					

A Car Named Desire—1954 Corvette Original Owner Story—Bill Bulder

Even though the car was very original, it was showing some age as the single repaint was now at least 40 years old and deteriorating and cracking. It made NCRS National Top Flight as it was original and the NCRS places most of its emphasis in judging on originality. But, it could not make Bloomington Gold because although it was original and in great shape for its age, it was far from what it looked like from the factory and Bloomington judging places more emphasis on how it currently looks compared to how it looked when it came from the factory. My wife wanted to bring it back to its former glory. I said the car was like the Mona Lisa and like that classic painting that has a few cracks in the paint you don't repaint the Mona Lisa do you? Well, Mona Lisa got repainted in the spring of 2022 with a fresh interior, rebuilt gauges, new wiring harness, re-chromed bumpers and 70 years of dents in the stainless steel side moldings were pounded out to make the car look like it came from the factory.

Rebecca's son, Robert Smith, did not fall far from the tree as he is also a Corvette enthusiast and owns a very original 1967 Corvette Convertible 365HP, a 1969 Corvette 427 435HP and a 1999 hardtop. This is a picture of Rebecca and her granddaughter sitting on Robert's two Corvettes.



Robert and I are making plans to meet up so that he can see the car in the near future. A great story for a great car. I have no plans to sell it and I still drive it frequently including to the office, the grocery store and of course car shows. Next year, I will drive it to the NCRS Nationals in French Lick which is about 5 hours away. I proudly display the pictures of Rebecca and Martha and the original invoice when it is at car shows. A great ownership story for a great car.

By Bill Mulder, 3325 Hempstead Place, St. Charles, MO 63301 513.305.8949 Billmulder123@gmail.com.

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