



Heart of Ohio Chapter

Newsletter

Volume 2 issue 3

The Front End

March 2005

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Chairman's Message:

I have been working on a number of items. One of the major projects is joining efforts with the **Corvette Alliance of Central Ohio**. I am sure that you have heard talk of this before. The Alliance is made up of 10 central Ohio Corvette clubs for the purpose of supporting each other at their events with a major show in the fall to cap off the season.

The fall show is of course the **Central Ohio Corvette Gathering**. Last year the Gathering was held at the Quaker Stake and Lube, in the Polaris area. The show is comprised of hundreds of Corvettes from all of the clubs, vendors and spectators. The Gathering is used for a charitable fundraiser with all the clubs dividing the funds raised for each club's specific charitable organization.

The Heart of Ohio board members see this as a great way to acquire new membership, exposure and raise charitable funds, all which is a part of NCRS provisions for local chapters obtaining Top Flight status. I am pleased to report that after

inquiring with the regional NCRS representative, the NCRS has no restrictions of local chapters joining forces with the other non-NCRS Corvette clubs. Thus, in the future I will be announcing Corvette Alliance events and asking our chapter members in supporting the Alliance events in hopes of obtaining new members and in turn support for Heart of Ohio Chapter-NCRS events.

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I have also been working on a March technical workshop with the intention of acquiring a technical authority on Corvette alignment on C2 to C3 Corvettes. At present I have a tentative arrangement with a local alignment shop for sometime in March but I am looking for another source for enhanced location. This looks

to be the latter part of March for this event to take place so save your last two weekends in March. Let me remind you that the last weekend in March is the **Glass Society Swap Meet** in Lima Ohio.

The next project will be with our Club's Treasurer, Bob Patrella, and his C5R racecar unveiling for the **American LeMans at MidOhio**, a Corvette weekend (May 20th -22nd). After this event the concentration turns to the **Arthritis Foundation in July** and the Corvette Gathering in the fall. In between these events will be a host of other events throughout the summer and supporting events with the Corvette Alliance clubs plus our own local judging meet at Bob McDorman's and not to forget a week later the **NCRS Regional Meeting in the Queen City**.

I wish to express an immense appreciation to our own chapter member Mike Antonick for the fantastic talk about a most controversial topic "Corvette Engine Broach Marks". The topic was from a personal experience of Mike Antonick's that left a significant impression with Mike and now with our chapter



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Chairman's Message: (Continued)

members as well. Our group was very interested in Mike's talk and quite evident by the number of members that showed up and talked with Mike after his presentation.

Once again thank you Mike and I hope you would be willing to talk to us at another time.

Upcoming Events: (See calendar for details)

Mar ?? - Heart of Ohio Chapter Meet, To be announced, Columbus, OH

Mar 6 - NCRS Pittsburgh – Swap Meet, Tom Henry Chevy, Bakerstown, PA

Mar 12-13 - Chevy Vette Fest, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL

Mar 26 - Glass Society Swap Meet, Lima, OH

Chapter Meeting Notes:

Saturday, February 5th, the Heart of Ohio Chapter tour group met at Cracker Barrel Country Store on the south side of Columbus for a leisurely breakfast. Once filled with solid nourishment gratifying our abdomens, our caravan of non-Corvette vehicles headed for Cincinnati on Interstate 71.

The day emerged to be bright sunny and moderately mild for a February winter's day. As a matter of fact, the weatherman had predicted a high in near 50 in Columbus and 60 in Cincinnati. Time past quickly on our trip south with Perry Yasher behind the wheel, the telephone post looked like picked fences while the rest of us engrossed in Corvette conversations. With just a few times did we have to grin like a cat that ate the canary as we drove past the lurking Highway Patrol. It was a good thing that Perry had turned on his trusty radar detector or we may have conversed more intimately with Mr. Trooper under other conditions. As it was, we made our trip without incident.



Politely greeting us outside the office entrance upon arrival were Darryl Bowman (Vice President) and Scott Ackerman (Regional Sales Manager) from Trim Parts. Darryl asked if we were truly Corvette guys since none of us drove a Corvette to the factory. With a greeting like that how could one not chuckle or smile and nod with agreement, since we are members of the NCRS. However, Joel Eyl met us there shortly after arrival and saved face by arriving in his C5 Corvette.

The tour began at Trim Parts offices and show room. At the start the offices and show room emanated clean, orderly and pride that most often found as part of an urban white-collar in a skyscraping corporate America workplace. I half expected a dusty semi-organized blue-collar rural



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foundry with hosts in attire to match the environment. As we looked around the show room, there on the walls were neatly arranged GM famous monikers of the past muscle car era displayed with commanding pride.



Before Darryl started into to his ordered presentation our members began asking Darryl questions that he assured us would be answered further into the presentation. With an amicable disposition Darryl proceeded to answer our questions, despite us unraveling his planned presentation. Time and again we queried Darryl with nit-picky questions of how Corvette trim was seen from NCRS judges perspective. Darryl and Scott snatched icons from the show room walls in exhibiting examples of true GM trim specimens with explanations of extensive research and documentation that was used to support the

manufacturing of the final iconic products.

Darryl and Scott explained that Trim Parts began as a garage business enterprise by Richard (Dick) Miller, founder after returning from a parts search at the Corvettes at Carlisle show. As the story goes, Dick was in search for a 1963 Corvette gas tank lid emblem, when he came across the very item he need for his Corvette. He asked the gentleman what he wanted for the part and the gentleman replied, one fifty. Dick eagerly pulls out two dollars and thought this is a great deal. However the gentleman proceeded to tell Dick that he meant that the part was really one hundred and fifty dollars. Dick thus sheepishly puts back his meager offering and embarrassedly walked away. That is what inspired Dick to return home and fine away to replicate the part at fraction of the Corvette show prices. Darryl informed us. I am sorry to say, Dick passed away in December 2003.

Over the years the Trim Parts garage grew in increments of 5,000 sq ft. sections until the late 90's when they moved into the

current facilities. To date the plant is on 80 acres of land with a 55,000 sq ft building and approximately 50 employees.



Prior to stepping into the industrialized part of the tour we were pleasantly treated to beverages from a spic and span employees lounge. Proceeding in to the work zone, one could not help but notice a clean and organized work arena. For a manufacturing plant it seemed as though this was a museum exhibition since everything was out in its place and the floor was gleamed like a dance room floor.

The first stage we were presented was the die restoration area. In this particular area dies that obtained from GM are rebuilt to original specifications. When GM terminates the production of parts, Trim Parts thru the contractual status with GM is give the opportunity to



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obtain retired dies from these parts. At this point Trim parts does a market search/analysis to investigate the potential profit and market longevity for the retired GM parts. Most often the dies obtained from GM have long since seen the pinnacle of producing a quality part and thus will need to be rebuilt.



Some times Trim Parts finds that it is better to create a new set of dies than to rebuild the old ones. Current 21st century technology is setup to use CNC machining which incorporates microcomputer technology in machining modern parts. Trim Parts uses 19th century technology in the restoration of the dies. Consequently, manual machining techniques are use to rebuild Trim Part dies much the same techniques used as when GM created the dies.

The next stage we were introduced to was the parts cleaning, inspection and painting area. At this stage parts were thoroughly cleaned and inspected prior to paint. The painting stage was unexpectedly more tediously manual process than just running the parts through a painting booth. Trim Parts like GM uses a painting mask technique to block out sections of the parts that will not receive paint while just the desired area gets painted.

Following plating various paint masks are required, one paint mask for each color of paint used. Trim Parts, reminiscent of GM, uses precise metal painting masks that maintain 1000's of an inch precision to block or unblock painting areas of each intricate part. In some products fine hand brushed painting was used to replicate the desired quality finished look. In the painting area both cast metal and plastic parts appeared together in batch quantities. In an adjacent area, was an interesting chamber used to vacuum deposit metal on plastic, another technique also devised by GM in parts processing. The technique was used on some plastic parts to give it metal on plastic finish

or to obtain a paint-able surface.

The next stage presented by Darryl and Scott was the plastic injection molding area. I half expected just a show of plastic and the materials used to make the parts. What was found interesting was that with a large quantity of opaque material and a few specks of dark pellets the final product turn completely black. For the Red and Yellow lenses used for parking and tail lights again the mixture was the same proportions a few specs of color for large amount of clear material used to obtain the transparent colored plastics.



On the clear plastic parts destined for various colored emblems, like the emblems used to make the front and back of the 58-60's Corvettes, a meticulous inspection of the parts preceded the painting and gold flashing techniques used to produce each part. Again each



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part was laboriously produced to obtain a high quality Trim Part. All of the plastic parts were produced were inspected for the tiniest flaws, if a flaw was discovered the plastic part was put in a bin to be recycled. However, some of the colored parts were not subject to the same recycling due to the plastic color mixing techniques did not reproduce well after the initial cycle.

The next staging area that Darryl and Scott talked about was the metal casting area. We were first introduced to the metal casting oven and injection molder area. The ovens kept in a special room and since the ovens are heated to a temperature of over 800° F, the ovens must remain on even over the weekends. To manufacture a die cast emblem it requires a die cast die and then a trim die. Metal items are stamped using a stamping die, which will vary on the number of stages depending on the part. Adjacent to the metal casting area was the cast metal trimming and inspection area. Here is where the die cast parts are trimmed buffed and polished prior to chrome plating prior to painting. If a product need any holes or screw tapping another fixture

is needed to hold the part. Should assembly be required there is a fixture that is needed to position the parts.

Darryl and Scott next lead us through the custom carpet area. This was where customized carpet molds were used to shape various color carpets for what looked like hundreds of different automobiles. An interesting tid bit of information was shared to us. The current most popular color order these days was a florescent purple. Okay, but no thank you. This part of the operation had been recently purchased. Again the same quality and pride of operation was evident in this work area. Finally our tour ended with a review of the shipping, assembly and packing area.

We thanked our host and conveyed how impressed we were by the entire manufacturing, their presentation and what it takes to produce fine quality products. Just as we were about to step out the door Darryl surprised us with Trim Parts logo hats and T-shirts. Our group was very much appreciated for the worthwhile tour and the cordial hosts. We were also each given another gift that I will not mention here. This is for those that

missed the tour to find out what you missed out on. The group that toured Trim Parts enjoyed it so well and thought that we should put this on again.

Our group Then traveled on to Cincinnati for a leisure lunch and paid a visit to Performance Plus Corvettes (PPC). But, that is another story; you should ask those that went. You would be enlightened to hear about the Corvettes sold at PPC. Perhaps next time!

I speak for the group when I say, with whole heartedly, Thank You Darryl, Scott and Trim Parts for everything!

Article by Lou Zuniga





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Editor's Notes:

I will be using this page to expand on the member benefits of this newsletter and our web site.

Speaker's Grill:

Being able to contribute articles is Club benefit for members. It gives us the ability to share our knowledge and experiences. Contact the editor for further information.

Parts Swap Corner:

Another member benefit is the ability to sell or search for parts. Currently you can do this through this newsletter and, later on, I will incorporate this into our web site.

If you want to post an ad send me a 50 word description of what you need to buy or want to sell. Please include your name, phone number, times you can be reached or you e-mail. I will post it in next newsletter as long I have it by the 15th of the month.

Those Classifieds that I receive after the 15th of the month will be posted the following month.



Advertising Venue:

In an effort to give members more of an opportunity to share advertisements of their business or specialty, you can write to or e-mail me with your art work or article and, as space permits, I will publish it in this newsletter. This is a good place to focus you're your advertisement to a captive audience. The length of time an ad can run can be negotiated.

As with Parts swapping you must submit your posting by the 15th of the month to be included in the upcoming month.

Contact **Herb Harlton** by phone **(614) 847-0774**, or by e-mail at **herb@harltons.com** or by snail-mail at:

Herb Harlton
Attn: HoO Editor
792 Olenhurst Court
Columbus, OH. 43235

Clothing Update:

Currently we are reviewing vendors and products and will have further updates as soon as they become available.

Moving?

Let us know if your mailing address or your e-mail address has changed so, we can update our records and keep you up to date.

Please send changes to Membership Chairman:
pmatejovic@earthlink.net

Pam Matejovic
1003 Urana Ave.
Columbus, OH. 43224



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HoO Vendor List

Help others find quality services and vendors. Share your good experiences by contributing to our list. Send me listings for your favorite vendors. *HH*

Aluminum Arc Welding

Ohio Trailer Supply Inc.
2966 Westerville Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43224
PH: (614) 471-9121

Brakes & Fuel Lines

Fine Lines, Inc.
127 Hartman Rd.
Wadsworth, OH 44281
Phone 800 778-8237

Corvette Reproduction Parts

Corvette Central
P.O. Box 16
13550 Three Oaks Road
Sawyer, MI 49125
Phone 800-345-4122

Corvette Parts, Service & More

Corvette Corner
1661 E Dublin-Grandville Rd.
Columbus, Oh 43229
Phone 614 888-6688

Columbus Corvette
572 S. Nelson Road Building Q
Columbus, OH 43205
Phone 614 253-0066
(Fuel injection adjustment)

Corvette Parts & Instrument Restorations

Corvette Specialties of Maryland
1912 Liberty Road
Eldersburg, MD 21784
Phone 410 795-3180

Corvette Reproduction Parts

Trim Parts Inc.
2175 Deerfield road.
Lebanon, OH. 45036
Phone (513) 934-0815
sales@trimparts.com

Long Island Corvette Supply Inc.
1445 Strong Avenue S.
Copiague, NY. 11726
Phone 800 466-6367

Mid America Motorworks
#1 Mid America Place
P.O. Box 1368
Effingham, IL 62401
Phone 800 500-1500

Paragon Reproductions
8040 S. Jennings Road
Swartz Creek, MI 48473
Phone 810 6554641

Electrical Components

Lectric Limited
6750 W. 74th Street - Suite A
Bedford Park, IL 60638
Phone 708 563-0400

M&H Electric Fabricators, Inc.
13537 Alondra Blvd.
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
Phone 562 926-9552

Frame Repair

Front End Alignment

NTB/Tire Kingdom
2195 Baltimore-Reynoldsburg Road
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Phone 614 863-6926

Glassworks & Stainless Steel

The Hardtop Shop
238 Spring Run Road
Crescent, PA. 15046
Phone 888 340-7812

Holley Carburetor Restoration

Holley Custom Speed Shop
509 Industrial Drive
Springfield, TN 37172
Phone 888 465-5395

Horn Restorations

The Horn Works
967 Hackett Street
Beloit, WI 53511
Phone 608 361-0095

Interior & Upholstery

Al Knoch
9010 North Desert Blvd
Canutillo, Texas 79835
Phone 800 880-8080

Metal Acid Dipping

US Metal Processing
1089 Claycraft Rd.
Columbus, OH 43230
Phone 614 575-1806

Oil & Fluid Services

Paint & Body Shop

Murphy's Classic Restorations
841 Clubview Drive
Dover, OH 44622
Phone 330-343-8778
Fax 330-364-5988
Web Murphysclassics.com



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Powder Coating

Columbus Custom Powder Coating
915 Distribution drive
Columbus, OH 43228
Phone 614 276-6181

Radio & Clock Repair

Radio & Clock Repair
D&M Restoration
46 Grand Ave.
Greenville, SC 29607
Phone 800 722-0854

Radiator Repair

Hedrick Auto Radiator Inc.
2733 Morse Rd.
Columbus, OH 43231
Phone 614 475-3048

Suspension & Brakes

Precision Engineering
3111 Fortune Way Suite B-13
Wellington, FL. 33414
Phone 888 748-0362

Weather Strip & Rubber Products

Corvette Rubber
10640 W. Cadillac Road
Cadillac, MI 49601
Phone 888 216-9412

Window Sticker Reproductions

Triple A Enterprises
P.O. Box 8463
Bloomington, IN 47408
Phone 812 245 8252
<http://www.window-sticker.com>



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Calendar Of Events

Dates in Bold are Heart of Ohio Chapter events

Dates underlined are NCRS chapter events

Dates in italics are other Corvette related events

*Dates in italics and underlined are **Corvette Alliance** events*

MARCH

Mar 19	Heart of Ohio Chapter Meet To Be Announced
Mar 6	<u>NCRS Pittsburgh – Swap Meet Ton Henry Chevy Bakerstown, PA</u>
Mar 12-13	<i>Chevy Vette Fest – McCormick Place – Chicago, IL</i>
Mar 26	<i>Glass Society Swap Meet – Lima, OH</i>

APRIL

Apr 1-3	<u>NCRS Regional Meet – Gonzales, Louisiana</u>
Apr 1-3	<i>Corvette Expo - Spring - Knoxville, TN</i>
Apr 2-9	<i>National Corvette Museum , Western Caribbean Cruise</i>
Apr 9	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – General Membership Meeting Details TBA
Apr 16	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – Board meeting
<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>NCRS Pittsburg. – Judging School – Ken Amrick's Garage – Belle Vernon, PA</u>
Apr 20-24	<i>Carlisle Events – Spring Carlisle – Carlisle, PA</i>
<u>April 21-24</u>	<u>NCRS Regional Golden Gate Regional Meet – San Francisco California</u>
April 21-23	<i>National Corvette Museum C5 / C6 Birthday Bash – Bowling Green, KY</i>

MAY

May 5	Heart of Ohio Spring Tour - Bud's Chevrolet Cruise In - Marysville, OH
<u>May 7</u>	<u>National Road Corvette Club/Corvette Troy, St. Mary's</u>
May 12-14	<u>NCRS Regional Meet – National Corvette Museum – Bowling Green, KY</u>
May 20-21	<u>NCRS Michigan Chapter Meet – W. Bloomfield, MI</u>
May 20-22	<i>American Le Mans / ICMA Racing – Mid Ohio</i>
<u>May 21</u>	<u>Chosen Few Vette Club - TBA</u>
May 27-29	<i>Springfield Cars & Parts Spring Swap Meet – Springfield, OH</i>
May 30	Memorial Day



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Calendar Of Events (Continued)

JUNE

<u>Jun 9-11</u>	<u>NCRS Northwest Regional – Seaside, OR</u>
<u>Jun 11</u>	Heart of Ohio Chapter Technical Seminar – Details TBA
<u>Jun 11</u>	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – Board meeting
<u>Jun 12</u>	<u>Classic Glass Corvette Club - Corvettes at Roscoe Village – Coshocton, OH</u>
<u>June 18</u>	<u>Corvettes of Lancaster – Earth Angel Super Cruise</u>
<u>Jun 23-26</u>	<u>Bloomington Gold – Corvettes USA – St. Charles, IL</u>

JULY

<u>July ??</u>	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – General Membership Meeting
<u>Jul 8-9</u>	<u>Arthritis Foundation Corvettes Show – Dublin, OH</u>
<u>Jul 8-10</u>	<u>Goodguys PPG Hot Rod Nationals – Ohio State Fair Grounds – Columbus, OH</u>
<u>Jul 10</u>	<u>NRCC Wings & Wheels - Airport North on Upper Valley – Springfield, OH</u>
<u>Jul 17</u>	<u>SOCC – Vallery Chevrolet Car Show</u>
<u>Jul 17-22</u>	<u>NCRS National Convention – Park City, UT</u>

AUGUST

<u>Aug 16</u>	<u>CCCC – Corvettes in the Park - Whitehall, OH</u>
<u>Aug 12-14</u>	<u>National Corvette Museum – National Corvette Homecoming – Bowling Green KY</u>
<u>Aug 13</u>	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS Cruise-In Picnic - Need a Day Chairman
<u>Aug 13</u>	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – Board meeting
<u>Aug 19-20</u>	<u>Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise – Detroit, MI</u>
<u>Aug 27</u>	<u>CFCC – Ricart's Chevy Summer Fun Cruise In – Canal Winchester, OH</u>
<u>Aug 27-29</u>	<u>Corvettes of Carlisle – Carlisle, PA</u>



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Calendar Of Events (Continued)

SEPTEMBER

Sept 1-4	National Corvette Museum – Corvette Celebration – Bowling Green, KY
Sept 5	Labor Day
Sept 10	Heart of Ohio Chapter Judging Meet – Bob McDorman’s Chevrolet, Canal Winchester, OH
Sept 15-18	NCRS Midwest Regional – Cincinnati, OH
Sept 16-17	Mid-America Fun Fest – Effingham, IL
Sept 29-Oct 2	Fall Carlisle – Carlisle, PA

OCTOBER

Oct 2	<u>Classic Glass Corvette Club – Atwood Lake Car Show</u>
Oct 8	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – Fall Tour (Need a Day Chairman)
Oct 9	<u>Corvette Alliance car show – Details TBA</u>
Oct 7-9	AACA – Hershey, PA
Oct 13-14	National Corvette Museum Extravaganza – Bowling Green, KY
Oct 14-16	Corvette Expo – Fall – Knoxville, TN
Oct 15	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – General Membership Meeting Board Nominations
Oct 15	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS – Board meeting
Oct 20-22	<u>NCRS Texas Regional – Waco, TX</u>

NOVEMBER

Nov 6	<u>NCRS Pittsburgh, Judging School – Barry Holmes Garage – Saltsburg, PA</u>
Nov 12	Heart of Ohio Chapter – NCRS Judging School – Columbus, OH
Nov 13	<u>NCRS Pittsburgh Chapter Meet - Kenny Ross Chevrolet</u>
Nov 19-20	<u>Chevy Vette Fest – McCormick Place – Chicago, IL</u>
Nov 24	Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

Dec 3	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS Board meeting
Dec 10	Heart of Ohio Chapter NCRS Christmas Party – Details TBA



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