

# SIDE PIPE

December, 2014

OKLAHOMA CHAPTER



NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY

The Sidepipe is published monthly by the Oklahoma Chapter NCRS, Inc. • <http://www.ncrs-ok.org>

## Chairman's Comments

by Neal Kennedy

**Y**ou are probably getting this newsletter out of your mailbox on Wednesday. That means you need to pay attention. BECAUSE, the BIG BASH is just TWO DAYS away. Friday night.

It's with a big smile on my face that I start this column with a reminder about the Oklahoma Chapter NCRS Christmas Party. Mike and Nancy Phillips rejoin the long list of members who have opened their beautiful homes to our club for the holiday get-together. We've been there before, and I'm sure this year will be just as enjoyable as several previous visits.

There are many reasons we always have a great time at the Mike and Nancy South location. Among those is the party room they designed into their house. Then there is all the NEAT stuff in it. Mike's many collections are wonderfully displayed, creating car-guy overload. I see different things each time I get to visit his ultra-outfitted man cave.

From the tiny to the mighty. More model cars than you can count. All arranged for easy viewing. You're likely to find many "favorites" among the hundreds on display. As if that isn't enough, Mike has several full size cars from his collection in the party room. It will be fun to see which ones he has driven inside this year. His broad interest in the hobby is evident by the variety of cars on display. There's more cool stuff available for your viewing pleasure besides big and little cars. Too much to list here. You will just have to come to the party to see it all. Jim Elder has again accepted the meat detail. Bob Clark takes care of the cups and plates and other necessary items. Side dishes and desserts are up to you. It always seems to work out about right for a good balance of menu items. You can never have too many baked beans, huh?

Party games? Don Partridge always does a great job of organizing the Dirty Santa affair. Bring an appropriate gift for the event if you want to play. What's appropriate? Uhhhhhh, that's what makes it so much fun. The items exchanged in the past range from the highly desirable to, well... that's the thing that results in so much good humor. Good for the digestion, you know.

Toys for Tots gifts are another annual custom for our Christmas party. Verle Randolph makes sure they make it to the big collection sight in time to be distributed to the needy kids. There's something about that good feeling you get by giving to an "unknown" child that might not have the kind of Christmas most of us enjoy.

If that's not enough reasons for you to get past the "I don't know if I'm gonna go this year" syndrome, here are some more. And maybe at the top of the list. The people. Friends, old and new, sharing the joy of the season. Nancy somehow makes it all look so easy, putting everyone in a comfort zone as soon as they walk in the door. And I've always admired Mike's laid-back style, whether he's racing his S2 at the track, or spinning wrenches on his latest project. Or, hosting a big party.

It's not all about cars. Again, it's the people. There will be plenty of bench racing, yes. But there are lots of stories about kids, grandkids, and for some of us, great grandkids. Please don't miss this opportunity to let the ladies see what a great bunch of guys you hang out with for a few hours every month.

A little farther down the road for club activities. Lee Stigall has a great DVD he's offered to share with us about Chip Miller's efforts to return a straight axle Vette to a classic race track. Mike Aichele has an idea for a tool seminar. It's been a few years since we traveled down old 66 to Stroud to the other Pete's Place. Throw in another Joplin meet,

and our own chapter judging event. So, cue the music, "It's beginning to look a lot like"... another great year for the Oklahoma Chapter NCRS. Stay tuned.

Bloomington Gold is on the move, again. In 2015 it will be at Indy! The long-running event, attended by many of us numerous times back in the 70' and 80's, has had several different locations since then. Most were somewhere in the state of Illinois. Now, the Bloomington show and swap meet will be in Indiana.

Speaking of the new year, it's time for elections. The last monthly meeting approved a slate of officers that looks a lot like the current list. However, new blood is always encouraged and appreciated. Nominations are still open. Speak up if you have interest in contributing to the club in a leadership position. Otherwise you will wind up with the same old farts. We vote Saturday.

## *December Breakfast Meeting*

**O**ur monthly breakfast will take place on Saturday, December 6. The location is Ollie's Station Restaurant in the Redfork area of West Tulsa. The address is 4070 Southwest Blvd. The phone number is (918)446-0524, in case you need it.

You can choose the buffet or you can order from the menu. The time to be there is 8:30 a.m., but people always start arriving by 8:00 - 8:15 a.m.

## *Attitude Adjustment Night*

**T**he gathering place for our December Attitude Adjustment Night on Tuesday evening, December 16, will be The Rib Crib Restaurant, 8040 South Yale. We have the use of a meeting room for our group.

The time people start to arrive is 5:30 p.m. Most are there before 6:00 p.m. The food is quite good and Tuesday night is "Rib Night" - all the ribs and side orders that you can eat for \$13.99. There are specials on beer, too.



**Friday, December 5, 2014  
6:30 p.m.**

**M**ike and Nancy Phillips have again graciously agreed to host the Oklahoma Chapter Christmas Party at their home, 11721 S. Canton, Tulsa, 74137, in the Hunters Hills addition. The easiest way to their house is off East 121<sup>st</sup>. Canton is the second street east of Yale on the north side of 121<sup>st</sup> S. It's a gated community and the gate should be open. If not, **press the KEY button** (looks like an old key) and **then enter 041777** on the keypad and the gate will open. If you have trouble, just enter 041 on the keypad and their home phone will be dialed to open the gate. Their home is about the twelfth house on the right ( east side of the street ). The phone number is (918) 299-2562.

The party will begin at **6:30 p.m.** with dinner. The Chapter will supply BBQ and soft drinks. Please bring pot luck sides or a dessert. So mark your calendars now for **Friday, December 5, 2014**

Plans are to have a gift exchange or "dirty santa" gift game, so bring a gift or two to participate in this fun game. If you would like, please bring an unwrapped toy that will be donated to the Marine's Toys for Tots campaign. Toys for Tots distributes toys to needy children across the Tulsa area.

## *Oklahoma Chapter Merchandise*

by Bob Clark

**W**e currently have Oklahoma Chapter Denim shirts, long and short sleeve, for \$25.00 each. We also have Oklahoma Chapter hats for \$10.00 each. Please let me know what you'd like to have in the future. Call me at 918 / 625-2303 or 918 / 299-9001 to order or see me at the meeting. You could also send an email to [vettefan66@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vettefan66@sbcglobal.net). Be sure to include the type of shirt and size.

## **New Membership Directories are in!**

Two copies were mailed in this newsletter. If you would like additional copies, you can get them at the December meeting.

# NCRS Matrix Training For 1965 Corvette

by Brett Driscoll  
NCRS #26846

It seems that colder weather has arrived. We had wonderful weather for the judging school this past

Saturday. We had a few Corvettes driven to the event. old and new. Don Partridge made the journey in his '67 and the long haul award went to Dave and Tim Houlihan from Wichita, Kansas. We arrived at Lee Stigall's garage around 9:00 a.m. JD had the coffee going and we talked cars while waiting for everyone to arrive.

Lee has big plans for his newly acquired 65 roadster. Our task was to go over the car with a new set of eyes and provide Lee

with a checklist to improve his car. Don Partridge and Scott Pfueller provided a review of the mechanical portion. Jim Elder, Dave Houlihan and Tim Houlihan looked over the chassis section. Mike Aichele and Phil Gray examined the Exterior. Neal Kennedy and I went through the interior section. Lee Stigal was assigned the operations section.

When we were probably half way through with our judging assignments, JD brought out oven fresh chocolate chip cookies. I know that earned Lee extra points with me. Each team provided Lee a set of score sheets with notes and ideas on how to improve the car. Hopefully we have made Lee's road to getting the awards he desires for the car a little easier. It is a knock out car and truly does not need anyone to prove it so.



The fresh Milano Maroon paint looks fantastic. The

gold line tires and knock offs make it one of the best to leave St. Louis.

Once we had finished our tasks of reviewing the score sheets. JD provided us with a wonderful lunch. I want to thank Lee and JD for the awesome hospitality and great work environment. It was my first opportunity to be around race deck flooring, and I have to say I was impressed. I want to thank everyone who made it out and participated in the school. You guys did a great job.



He let Shari and me ride with him for a little bit, and Shari got to blow the horn or whistle or noise device, whatever they call it in Rail Road terms.

Next time you go to Eureka Springs, be sure to visit Alex. The train has dining cars where dinner is served and you can ride the train to the end of the line and back to the station. It's a hoot (if he lets you pull the cord).

Shouldn't this locomotion experience be on your bucket list?



## *Locomotive 4742*

by Sbott Pfuehler  
and Shari Fofaley

**N**ow if you are wondering what the heck a Eureka Springs Locomotive has to do with Corvettes III just tell you.

One of our Oklahoma Chapter NCRS members who owns a nice little 1966 coupe has retired from Tulsa Tech and moved close to Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Yeal I know that's old news, but here is the update.

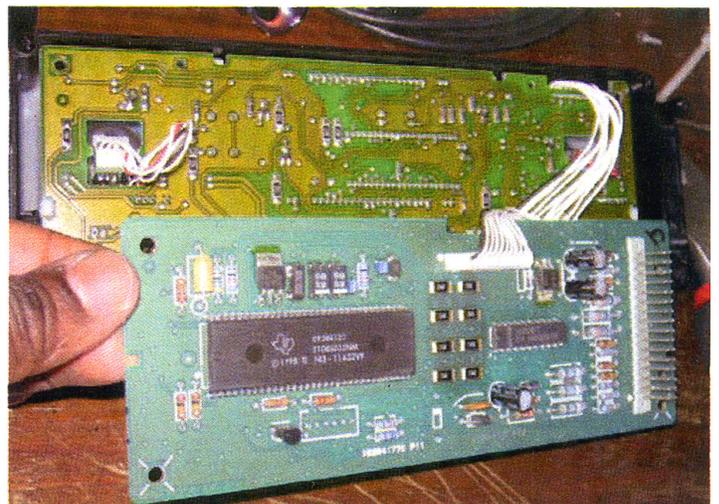
Because Shari and I go to the Eureka Springs Corvette Weekend, Alex Thurocy has stayed in touch. We went to visit Alex in October and got to enjoy Alex in his new endeavor. Alex has become a part time Rail Road Engineer on the Eureka Springs & North Arkansas Rail Road line. Some people's bucket list is quite diverse.

That's Alex driving the train in the picture, striped overalls and hat and an oil can in his hand. Alex can be seen hooking up cars and moving the big ole train up and down the line with confidence and ease.

## *Restoring a Dim Climate Control Panel Display - C5 Corvette*

By Tim Ehiers

**M**y 2003 Anniversary Edition convertible with 90,000 miles has been a very reliable car, but I have run into a short list of very common issues with



CS Corvettes. In each case, a quick internet search of the issue has resulted in a step-by-step procedure to repair the problem. Each time, I'm amazed that the issue has been so common that someone has documented and posted the repair steps.

The most recent problem was a climate control panel display that had grown dimmer and dimmer until it was only readable at night. Sure enough, an internet search yielded not only the DIY repair procedure but a whole industry of folks out there offering repair and exchange services.

The culprit is broken solder joints at one or more of the eight #241 electronic components on the power supply circuit board. Re-soldering 16 connections would correct the display brightness. This is a DIY fix for owners who aren't bashful about taking the console apart, removing electrical connections & components, and are comfortable with their soldering skills.

For those not comfortable with a soldering iron, there are 2 options. There are many companies and individuals that will repair and return a unit that you send them. To eliminate any downtime, there is at least one company that will ship a refurbished unit and refund your core charge after you return a rebuildable unit.

I decided to tackle the job myself. This is the 3rd time I've had my console out so that part was a snap. Shortly after that, the climate control unit is out and apart.

The #241 electrical components are surface mounted and soldered at each end. It took me a few minutes to figure out what surface mounted meant. These components lay across 2 small pads on the circuit board and are soldered at each end. They do not have the typical wire lead that goes through a hole in the circuit board which is then soldered. I quickly re-soldered each end of all 8 components.

Sure enough, within about an hour my display was restored, the console was back together, and I was washing the car!

**Here is the procedure for removing the console trim:** [http://www.vetteessentials.com/instructions/gbezels/bezel howto.html](http://www.vetteessentials.com/instructions/gbezels/bezel%20howto.html)

**Here is the procedure for disassembling and re-soldering the electronic components:**

<http://forums.corvetteforum.com/cS-tech!!583758-c5-climate-control-dim-dark-display-fix.html>

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## *Corvette Classified*

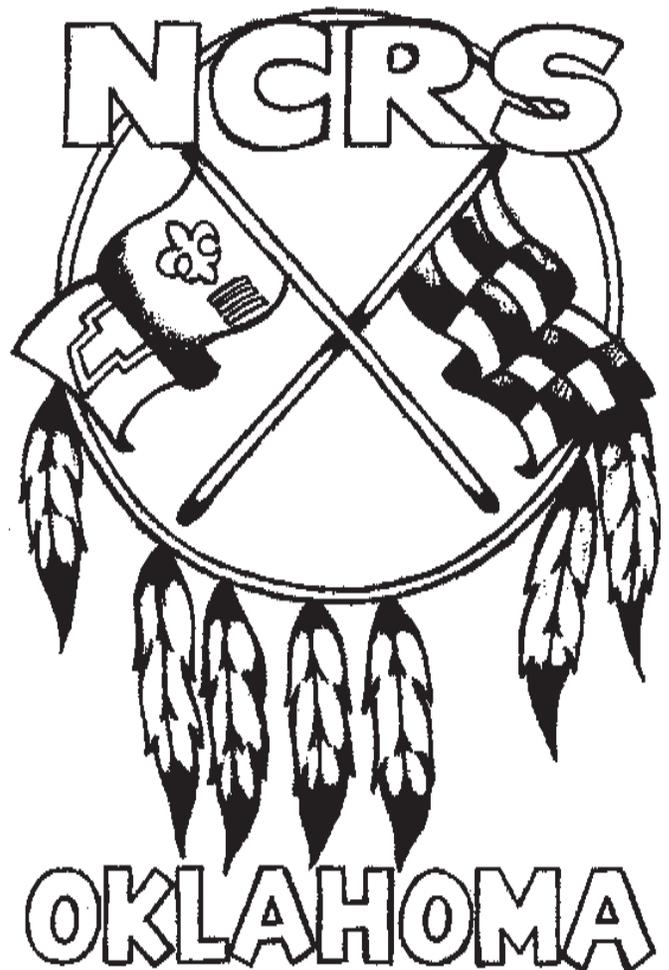
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**Wanted:** 1962 Corvette Hardtop

**For Sale:** 1966 Muncie 4-speed

Call Lee 918-553-2005



## Upcoming Events

- Dec 5 Oklahoma Chapter Christmas Dinner & Party - At the home of Mike & Nancy Phillips -Tulsa, OK - info this *Sidepipe*  
Dec 6 Oklahoma Chapter Breakfast Meeting - Ollie's Station Restaurant - 4070 Southwest Blvd - Tulsa, OK  
Dec 16 Attitude Adjustment Night - Rib Crib Restaurant - 8040 South Yale Ave. - Tulsa, OK

### 2015

- Jan 3 Oklahoma Chapter Breakfast Meeting - Ollie's Station Restaurant - 4070 Southwest Blvd - Tulsa, OK  
Jan 20 Attitude Adjustment Night - Rib Crib Restaurant - 8040 South Yale Ave. - Tulsa, OK  
Jan 21-24 NCRS Florida Regional - Lakeland, Florida - See current *Diveline* for info  
April 18 Oklahoma Chapter NCRS Judging Meet - Contact Brett Driscoll for information - 918-406-3715  
May 15-17 NCRS North Central Regional -Rochester, Minnesota

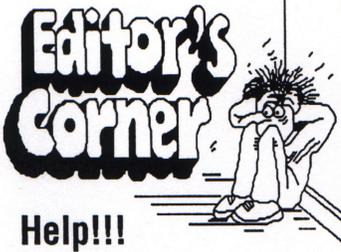


Thanks to Brad Williams and Mazzio's for continuing to support the Oklahoma Chapter NCRS. We appreciate your help.

## NCRS Communication

To keep up to date with the latest news from your Oklahoma Chapter NCRS and your Region VII Director, be sure to advise Bob Clark or Don Partridge of any e-mail address changes. This also applies to phone numbers and new mailing addresses.

If your address is not current, then you will not receive the latest news and information.



Thanks to Brett Driscoll, Scott Pfuehler, Shari Fogaley and Tim Ehlers for their contributions to this issue.

Thanks also go to Jim Elder, Neal Kennedy, and Verle Randolph for their continuing help in folding and mailing.

\*\*\* **Please** think about writing an article or contributing an item of interest for the newsletter. This can be a tech tip you've found, an article to reprint from another publication that would be of interest, a personal experience that would interest other members, or an item of news about the chapter or its members. Remember, include pictures if you can. Your Corvette classified ads are welcome, too. You can mail, e-mail, FAX, or loan me a diskette or flash drive (Windows or Macintosh). **Remember!!** Your help is needed to make this newsletter a voice of our chapter!

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