

November, 2015

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Chairman's Comments

by Neal Kennedy

It's that time again. Elections. But first, nominations. At the top of the ticket, Phil Gray has agreed to stay on another year as Vice Chairman. But he does not desire to move to the Chairman's slot. That means we will need to elect a new Chairman. I'm finishing the third-year of my third-term in the position. I've served two, two-year stints in the past. Seven years. It's time to step aside.

With about a hundred members, we should be able to find, nominate, then elect an energetic new chairman. So, come to the Saturday breakfast meeting with your thoughts on who you would like to see leading the Oklahoma Chapter NCRS in 2016. Some new energy and new ideas will keep the club on the right road -- not just maintaining the successes of the past, but putting us on a travel plan for a bright future.

My mention of Phil early in this column is intentional. Phil has carried the ball for most of the increasing paperwork required by the national folks, chasing down specific numbers for all sorts of stuff. He's not complained a single time and usually volunteered to do what it takes to keep us in compliance. Point being...the new chairman will have a terrific right-hand-man when he takes over in January. I can't let this paragraph end without thanking Phil for filling in for me when I've been unable to conduct the monthly meeting. Add to that his contributions with his camera when it comes newsletter time each month. Thanks, Phil, for your past and future work for the club.

Speaking of the *Sidepipe*, there has never been a more solid, dependable, longer-term newsletter

editor than Bob Clark. Anywhere, anytime. Seven-years times three, or four, or more. Probably the most time consuming job among the officers month-in and month-out, I'd say. And again, never a complaint, or a late issue! He's had some bumps in the health road along the way, but the newsletter ALWAYS finds its way into our mailboxes. Bob often has to chase down members for articles before putting it all together; then print it and stuff the envelopes with a little help from two or three volunteers. (Bob's Bonney also assists more than most of you realize.) Bob's Bloomington and Carlisle trip coordination skill is legendary.

Another office that takes much more time than the chairman's chores is Judging Chairman. Brett Driscoll's steady, dependable shepherding of our flight judging program has put the Oklahoma Chapter on the map nationally. And for good reason. The paper/computer chores involved before, during and after an event make for a sizeable pile of work. Brett's approach using a calm, steady hand to guide us through the maze is amazing to witness. He's got a reputation of being firm, but fair. His judging classes throughout the year keep us well abreast of recent changes and timeless standards that set the NCRS as the gold standard for similar efforts by other car clubs.

Another long-term office holder is our excellent Membership Chairman. Don Partridge is an ambassador extraordinaire for our chapter, welcoming new members, bird-dogging old members and keeping the arithmetic straight at dues time. His always-cheerful response to helping anyone with parts identification and location issues has no peer in the hobby. He's an excellent information resource, especially when

he's using the abundant gray matter between his ears. Don's ability to recall part numbers is amazing. And on the rare occasion he can't recall an eight-or-ten digit code, he knows where to find the illusive information.

On the job of keeping other numbers straight, our club treasurer has an increasing amount of little numbers to keep track of in little boxes. It would drive me crazy. I just couldn't do it without throwing a calculator or two against the wall during each book keeping session. Scott Pfuehler has to keep the club finances in order and faces an ever-increasing amount of IRS requirements. Just keeping the feds happy is a challenge I have no desire to attempt. His repair and restoration knowledge are also well respected in the hobby.

Secretary Verle Randolph is an officer who quietly deals with his duties and keeps the club well informed on the various automotive and non-automotive happenings-of-interest in the area. He's a past club chairman and a frequent contributor of articles to our newsletter. He's also the bag man, toting the bundle of *Sidepipes* to the post office each month after the fold-and-stuff sessions at Bob's house. Speaking of foldin'-and-stuffin'... Events Coordinator Jim Elder is also a long-time, no, the longest-time folder-and-stuffer with many years of experience and paper cuts to his credit. Jim also has the on-going all-important assignment of securing the meat for our annual Christmas Party. More on that next month!

Next year's Oklahoma Chapter Chairman will likely have this exceptional lineup of fine officers to assist in guiding the club in 2016. Be sure to attend the breakfast meeting and bring your thinking on whom you would like to see at the helm as we navigate the usually calm waters of Corvette restoration and preservation.

It's been a great ride. I wouldn't trade it for anything. But it's time to step down. I can't thank the supporting cast enough. The membership can be proud of the efforts put forth by the above-mentioned individuals. Other members have made significant contributions to the club's activities, and I thank them as well. It's YOUR club. Let's keep the good times rolling.

November Breakfast Meeting

Our monthly breakfast will take place on Saturday, November 7. 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

The gathering place for our November Attitude Adjustment Night on Tuesday evening, November 17, will be Bravo's Mexican Grill at 4532 East 51st St. We will continue to meet at Bravo's for the next few months.

The time people start to arrive is 5:30 p.m. Most are there before 6:00 p.m.

From The Judging Chairman

by Brett Driscoll
NCRS#26846

OK, you Corvette enthusiasts, as I sit at the airport waiting for a flight to Chicago and wondering what would be a good topic to write about . . .

Well, I have a quick thought as sit wishing I was in the garage instead of the airport. How about a challenge? Everyone likes a challenge right? I want each of you to pick some aspect of your Corvette that you think needs improvement and work toward completing it over the winter months. It doesn't have to be a big project--just a task that you can be proud of. That being said, I want you to keep the NCRS matrix of CDCIF in mind while you are accomplishing the task. Configuration, Date, Completeness, Installation and Finish. I don't want anyone to take on a project so large that it takes his or her Corvette off the road for more than a day, but what about that side view mirror with the obscured glass. I think I can have that restoration complete in a week or two.

Here is wishing you a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday! I hope you get to spend some quality time in the garage. And think about a project that you can complete in a reasonable amount time and maintain your NCRS standards while doing so!



2015 Lone Star Regional Frisco, Texas October 22-24

by Joel Miller
and Don Partridge

For those of you who enjoy nice Corvettes and want to see the NCRS in action, The Lone Star NCRS Regional at Frisco, TX., might be what you are looking for. It is close to us and draws many unique and quality cars. It compares to a national event since it is so well run and the judging is second to none.

Don Partridge and I attended the meet and took my 1962 Corvette to try to get a PV award. Scott Pfuehler had kindly loaned me a WS wiper motor to solve a problem with the windshield wipers, so we were ready to attempt the PV test.

The car performed flawlessly, and I even kept my cool. I wasn't worried too much about the car, for Don Partridge and I had done our homework. Our timing couldn't have been better. A PV award was achieved with Dave Heitzman checking the car out.

Monsoon rains started shortly after we finished and got parked inside the building. Saturday, after 10 or more inches of rain we were able to load car in dry weather.

Also attending this meet were Wichita, KS members (also members of our chapter),





Dallas and Kerri Keller. Kerri received her 200 level judging cap, and a member of Kurt Geis's family got a PV award for his 1994 Corvette.



Other Oklahoma chapter members attending were Gene and Gina Holtz. Tom Parsons, David Houlihan, Tony Salter, and Bill Wilhelm, who received a Top Flight award for his red 1966 coupe and also the longest driven award.



The weather was so bad that it took out Dish reception at the hotel, something that the Texas chapter had no control of. It is a very well run meet, one I would probably attend even if I didn't take a car. There are always several vendors at the show. They do a wonderful silent auction to raise money for worthy causes. Dave Ewan even selects the menu for the banquet.

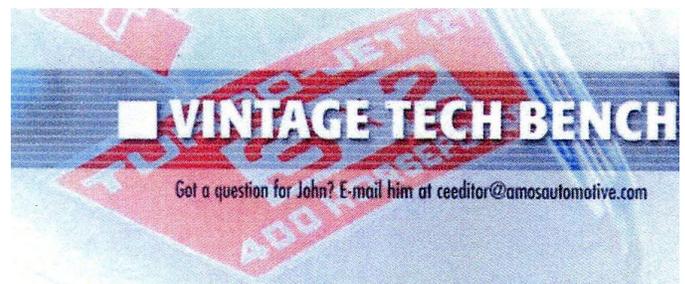


I would encourage anyone with the desire to present a car to consider this meet. If you missed it, mark your calendar for next year. October 20-23, 2016, for Lone Star Regional.



Cap Trap Putting A Stop To All The Drops

by John Hinckley
Vintage Technical Editor
Corvette Enthusiast Magazine



READER'S QUESTION:

I have a 1980 L-82 that I purchased three years ago. It had been parked four or five years before that. Shortly before it was parked, it had a new four core aluminum radiator installed. While cleaning and detailing the engine last year, I had a new water pump, thermostat and hose installed. At that time, the mechanic said the radiator looked fine. I only drive it a little every month or so. I noticed it was leaking coolant, and on checking I found it was coming from the radiator cap. I replaced it with a new "pressure release" cap. It continued leaking, so I tried a stock cap, but it still does it. The gauge doesn't show it to be running hot, but as soon as it warms up it starts hissing and leaking coolant. Any suggestions on the cause or cure would be greatly appreciated.

Jay Truheart, Victoria, Texas

RESPONSE:

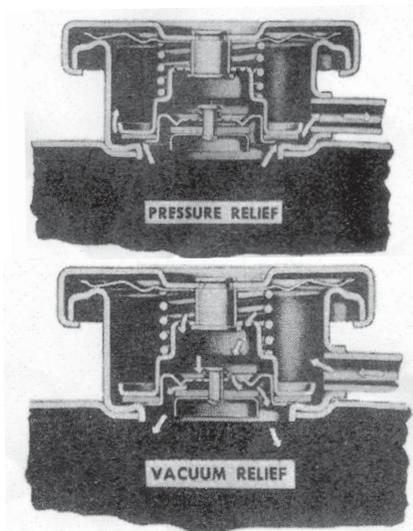
Hi, Jay. Andy Bolig forwarded your question to me.

If the coolant hissing/leaking is coming from under the cap, it isn't sealing properly to the radiator neck, so you need to isolate which sealing surface is at fault.

Take both caps to an auto parts store and have them use their cap pressure tester to verify the integrity of the cap seals. They should hold their rated pressure. If the caps hold their rated pressure, the problem is in the radiator filler neck.

If the caps test OK, check both sealing surfaces on the radiator filler neck. The top surface of the neck seals against the metal gasket in the top of the cap and must be smooth and free of nicks. The other seal surface is down about 1/2-inch inside the filler neck, and it seals against the rubber gasket on the spring-loaded portion of the cap. This is the primary pressure seal for the cooling system and the mating metal seal surface on the filler neck must be perfectly smooth, with no nicks or dents.

The images below from the Chassis Service Manual show how the pressure/vacuum-relief radiator cap works. With a hot engine, in pressure relief mode, if the system pressure exceeds the cap's rating, the pressure on the bottom of the cap exceeds the strength of the large coil spring, and the rubber primary cap seal lifts off the lower seal surface in the filler neck, allowing coolant to escape through the overflow nipple to the coolant recovery bottle. When this occurs, the metal gasket in the top of the cap prevents any coolant from leaking out from under the cap.



When the engine is shut off and the system cools down, the cap is in vacuum relief mode. A slight vacuum is created in the cooling system as the coolant contracts. That vacuum opens the small circular vacuum valve in the center of the bottom of the cap, and the vacuum pulls the expelled coolant

from the coolant recovery bottle back into the radiator. If the other seal between the metal gasket in the top of the cap and the top of the filler neck isn't effective, it becomes a vacuum leak, and air is drawn into the radiator instead of coolant from the bottle.

On Corvettes prior to 1973, there was no coolant recovery system. Any coolant expelled through the overflow nipple in the filler neck simply dribbled on the ground from the end of the overflow hose, and air was pulled into the radiator as the system cooled down.

If the caps test OK, I think you'll find the problem in the lower sealing surface inside the filler neck.

(reprinted with permission from the author, John Hinkley)

To the High Bidder

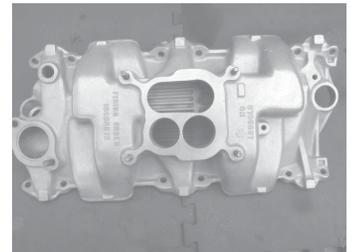
Intake manifold 3795397 Dated 4-23-62. Fresh skinning job. Donated for auction by Rex Bowers after owning it for 30 years or so.

The proceeds from this auction benefit the Little Light House.

Thanks for the bids and to the high bidder.

Scott

Make your check out to the Little Light House.
Scott 918-437-4292



Corvette Classified

For Sale: Turbo 350 for that hot rod project. Tired of shifting that 4 speed, put in an Automatic transmission. Rebuilt to stock. Maybe 20 miles since rebuild. Includes a flywheel & converter. Call me & we will figure out a price that you like. Motivated seller. Tell your buddies.
Call Scott 918-437-5292

For Sale: 2004 Honda VTX-C motorcycle, red, 1300cc with 3108 miles. Always kept covered in garage. It comes with a full cover, hiway bars, a Memphis Shades windshield, motorcycle jack and a shop and parts manual. \$6,000. 918-520-7862

mailto:verlegr@att.net"verlegr@att.net

Upcoming Events

- Nov 7 Oklahoma Chapter Breakfast Meeting - Ollie's Station Restaurant - 4070 Southwest Blvd - Tulsa, OK
Nov 17 Attitude Adjustment Night - Bravos Mexican Grill - 4532 East 51st St. - Tulsa, OK
Dec 5 Oklahoma Chapter Breakfast Meeting - Ollie's Station Restaurant - 4070 Southwest Blvd - Tulsa, OK
Dec 12 Oklahoma Chapter Christmas Dinner & Party - At the home of Mike & Nancy Phillips -Tulsa, OK

2016

- Jan 20-23 Florida SUNnFUN NCRS Winter Regional - Lakeland, Florida - (info in the current issue of *Driveline*)
Apr 21-23 Indiana NCRS Regional - Auburn, Indiana - (Auctions America)
May 19-21 North Central NCRS Regional - Rochester, Minnesota
June 2-4 Northwest NCRS Regional - Bend, Oregon
July 17-22 NCRS National Convention - Warwick, Rhode Island

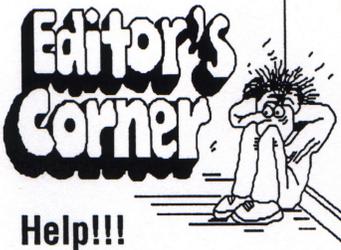


Thanks to Brad Williams and Mazzio's for continuing to support the Oklahoma Chapter NCRS. We appreciate your help.

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 Joel Miller, Don Partridge, Verle Randolph; Brett Driscoll and Bonney Clark 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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