

The St. Louis Corvette Club Newsletter













May 2013

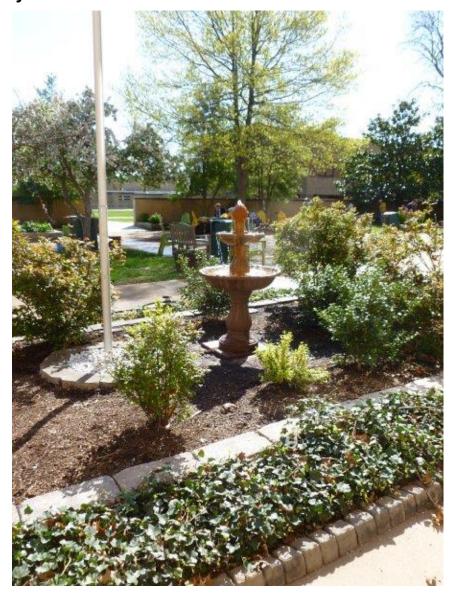
Upcoming Events

April 25-27	NCM Bash
April 28	STLCC Ice Cream Run
May 4	STLCC Car Show @ Elco
May 7	STLCC Monthly Meeting
	Charity: Dog & cat items,
	blankets & cleaning supplies
	for Stray Rescue
May 18	Armynta Craig Memorial
	Drive to Sugar Creek
	Winery
May 19	STLCC Ice Cream Run
June 4	STLCC Monthly Meeting
	Charity: Clean Out Your
	Closet for Kingdom House

Seven Generations...



A job well done!



Remember the May Charity: Dog and cat items, blankets, cleaning supplies, or monetary contributions for **Stray Rescue**. http://strayrescue.org

Participation is always voluntary. Thank you for your kindness!

Letter from the STLCC President

It was nice to see a few cars out at the last meeting. Possible a good sign of beautiful weather coming and will see these cars much more!

Congratulations to Marty Dooley for winning the monthly dinner gift certificate. Looks like he'll be wining and dining Judy at O'Charley's one night!

In regards to our last meeting a few issues came up. First of all, we had more people eat than what signed up for. In the future if you did not sign up at the meeting, please respond when Jan sends out the reminder email for the buffet. Also, two people left last month without paying for their meal. Going forward when you place your drink order the waiter will ask you if you're planning on having the buffet. If your answer is yes, he will bring your bill right back to you so you can pay then. One other request that I received from the owner of Pasta House, please order your alcohol drinks in our meeting room. He gives us a break on the dinner price and the beverage price so he wants us to order in there and not at the bar.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the upcoming car show at ELCO on May 4th. Car show starts at noon and ends at 2:00. Thanks to ELCO for sponsoring this event and providing the food!

Don't forget if you mentioned at the planning meeting that you were working on an event to put on the calendar it's getting to be that time.

Save the Wave!

Ruth Howard

2013 Officers

President: Ruth Howard, president@stlcorvettes.com

Immediate Past President: Michael Zlatic

Vice President: Larry Akins, vice-president@stlcorvettes.com

Secretary: Karen Price, secretary@stlcorvettes.com

Treasurer: Rick Doerr, treasurer@stlcorvettes.com

Sergeant-at-Arms: Don Pickles, sgt-at-arms@stlcorvettes.com

Membership: Jan Murray, membership@stlcorvettes.com
Webmaster: Dave Davidson, webmaster@stlcorvettes.com

National Corvette Museum Ambassador: Judy Dooley, 314.894.0303, ambassador@stlcorvettes.com

National Council of Corvette Clubs Governor: Jeff Craig, 636.397.4071, nccc@stlcorvettes.com



Or, you can contact the Club through the general email box at stl.corvettes@gmail.com

Helpful & Fun Corvette Sites

National Corvette Museum

National Council of Corvette Clubs

Official Corvette Site

Boone Trail Corvette Club

Original Corvette Club of St. Louis

Corvette Racing

Mid America Motorworks

Elco Chevrolet

Corvette Motorsport

Corvette Central

May Birthdays & Anniversaries



Angie Bradford	5/2
Joan Jennewein	5/9
Vickie DeBruin	5/13
Conita Shoulders	5/19
Pat Cox	5/20
Terry Wilson	5/20
Don Giovanoni	5/24
Don Pickles	5/25
Chris Woods	5/26
Sandy Kirby	5/29
Mark Gerecke	5/31



Steve & Leanne Lyle	5/24
David & Glenda Davidson	5/28





News from the National Corvette Museum

If you haven't been to the NCM web site lately, there is a lot of information for you to look at. Such as Events for the year that you and find out what is going on at that event and then register for it if you wish to attend. Assemble plant tours, find out days and times, Exhibits that are now showing in the exhibition hall as well as upcoming events.

You can buy raffle tickets for "special" Corvettes as well as bricks, build sheet & window stickers for your Vette and items in the Corvette Store.

Don't forget to sign up for the free Newsletter, that will be emailed to you from the NCM to find out all the new things going on at your National Corvette Museum.

Judy Dooley NCM Ambassador



Meeting Minutes

Couldn't make it to the meeting? Here is what you missed (and maybe what you were volunteered for):

April 2, 2013- Pasta House

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by president, Ruth Howard. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Ruth recognized current board members president Ruth Howard, vice president Larry Akins, secretary Karen Price, treasurer Rich Doerr, membership Jan Murray, sergeant at arms Don Pickles, immediate past president Mike Zlatic, NCCC Governor Jeff Craig, and NCM Ambassador Judy Dooley. Don Giovanoni, the club's newsletter editor, was also introduced. Webmaster Dave Davidson was absent. The club sponsor ELCO's representative Mark Gerecke was introduced-Eric DeBruin was absent.

Announcements

Ruth reminded everyone to sign the attendance sign in sheet, purchase 50/50 tickets from Don Pickles and place their name in the monthly drawing for attendance prize. She also noted that the suggestion box were for suggestions with a solution and noted that retired Don and Judy Giovanoni had placed their names in the suggestion box for the attendance drawing at the last meeting- she then placed their names in the appropriate jar. The envelope for collection of "Box Tops for Education" for Peggy Craig was noted to be available at the table with the sign up sheets. She also reminded members to sign up for the dinner next meeting.

<u>Guests</u>

There were no guests at the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Sheri Marlo asked for clarification for charity events that were supposed to be available in the Newsletter- Judy Giovanoni explained that they were available as a link on the front page. Bob Woods moved to accept the minutes from the March 5, 2013 meeting as published in the March newsletter. Judy Barron provided a second to the motion which was then approved by the membership.

Treasurer's Report

Rick Doerr provided copies of the March report for the membership and gave an overview of same. Don Pickles moved to accept the report with a second by Marty Dooley and approval by the membership.

Membership Report

Jan Murray reported that we have 79 regular members, 20 associate members, and 2 honorary lifetime members. She acknowledged April birthdays and anniversaries. She then read thank you notes from Conita Shoulders and MaryAnn Hagenow. Elise Akins noted that she had a thank you note which she would bring to the next meeting from our charity Feed My People.

Committee Reports

Budget Committee: Rick Doerr, Randy Howard, Don Pickles and Charlie Miget. No report.

By- Laws Committee: Ron Hagenow, Jeff Craig, Rick Doerr, Ron Miessner- no report.

Car show Committee: Larry Akins, Carl Cox, Mike Price. Larry reported that May 4th was the Spring event from noon-2pm.

Charity Committee – Judy Giovanoni, Elise Akins, Michelle Finn. Judy thanked everyone for their donations for Feed My People and thanked everyone who brought in baby essentials tonight for Nurses for Newborns . Next month's charity is Stray Rescue-looking for items for dogs and cats.

Christmas Committee– Chris Woods and Judy Dooley-December 7th at Sam's Steakhouse deposit has been sent in. Judy will check to see why the check has not cleared yet.

Historians Committee: Carl Ballinger, Marty Dooley, Jerry Craig. Marty reported that there was no report at this time. Carl and Jerry were absent.

Nominating Committee: No report.

Newsletter Editor: Don Giovanoni. Don noted the great article that Steve Lyle has graciously sent in and requested more of these along with any tech ideas.

Parade Committee: Ron Hagenow -no report.

VA Hospital Committee: – Marty and Judy Dooley, Bob Woods and Karen Price. Marty reported that the planting

date was set for April 20^{th.} behind building 52 at the VA. The group will decide on a lunch venue after the work is completed. He thanked the Pickles and Kirby's for helping the Dooley's clean up the area prior to Easter.

Announcements from the floor:

none

National Corvette Museum Ambassador's Report

Judy Dooley reported that the Bash is April 25-27th . There are a block of rooms at the Country Inn and Suites in Bowling Green. She asked the group going to meet in the back after the meeting to work out details for the trip. She reported that the Motorsports park had received \$400,000 donation from the CVB Tourism fund.

National Council of Corvette Clubs Governor's Report

Jeff Craig reported that he had sold sanctions to Rolling Prairie club, Central III club and donated a couple of sanctions to the Midwest Regions fund raiser for a total of \$350 income to the club. He also reported that the Midwest region has 5 of the top men auto crossers. Jeff is 13th in the Region and 25th nationally. Blooming Gold will be held in Champagne Urbana, III this year- we would need 5 cars to qualify for club parking.

Website Report: Dave Davidson- no report.

Sponsor's Report

Mark reported that there has a been a lot of interest in the C7 but they have not received any information as of yet regarding pricing, etc. He is working with Cort and the higher ups for approval for the case for our club treasures. He is looking at getting a second one to match- both to be displayed underneath the Corvette logo in the show room. He mentioned the BBQ at the club car show from noon-2pm on May 4th. He also stated that he is working on trying to get some donations of oil changes, etc to be added to our monthly attendance prizes.

Prior Events: Larry Akins

Crazy Bowl- March 9th – Ruth noted that it was "crazy fun" and that a lot of members were asking to schedule another one. She noted that Mike Price and Ann Brown took home the prized trophies for top games along with

gift cards to Steak and Shake. Sandy Kirby and Pete Sedovic took home the prized trophies for the low games along with gift cards to White Castle. It was a huge success.

Fritz's Ice Cream Run- March 24th at 6pm was cancelled due to snow- yuck!

Future Events

Covered Bridges- April 11-14th see Newsletter for details.

NCM Bash April 25-27th.

April 20th- VA planting date.

April 28th- Fritz's Ice Cream Run

May 4th- Spring Car Show at Elco.

Winery run May 18th in memory of Armynta Craig to be sponsored by Leanne Lyle, Patty and Peggy Craig. Leanne reported that the Run would be to Armynta's favorite Winery- Sugar Creek and held in the fashion that she would approve of. The run would begin at 9:45am from the commuter lot at 40/94 and continue with a scenic drive that would end up at the Winery at 11am. There would be a completion that would include judging by the staff at Sugar Creek to include table setting, food choice etc in honor of "What would Armynta bring?" The award to be a crystal bell from Armynta's private collection. There will be raffle baskets with the proceeds to go toward the Pratt Cancer Center in honor of Armynta's. Sign- up sheet to be available for the next meeting also.

Mackinaw Island Car show/run- Carl Ballinger. Details are available in the Newsletter or from Carl.

Comments from March Suggestion Box:

- We need a larger room
- R we sardines??

Ruth read an email suggestion from Patty and Peggy Craig, Judy Dooley and Sharon Ballinger and Janet (Peggy's friend) which suggested that we try to eat outside prior to the meeting and then just have chairs in the meeting room. Discussion followed as to the arrangement was for the room cost to be offset by food purchased and so this would not be an option. She then noted that the room had been rearranged so that the Board was moved to allow more tables to be set up and also the buffet was disassembled and more tables brought in- tonight- they were vacant. Sheri Marlo suggested that we try our other option of Rizzo's; noting it was cold by the windows and maybe it would offer more room. Ruth noted that the food was \$14.95 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Patty Craig noted that the new configuration of the room was very doable and the food was very good. Ruth put a

vote to the membership to see if they would like to try Pasta House for the next meeting with the new room configuration again- the vote passed and it was decided to work with Pasta House for our next meeting.

New Business

The Howards and the Murray's are sponsoring a 'Night at the Races at Fairmont Park'. Saturday June 22nd 6 pm. Cost \$21.95/person to include admission, program, buffet and a private room. Sign- up sheet available.

Questions/comments/suggestions:

Don Giovanoni asked for pictures from the events as he was not always available to attend.

Randy Howard asked for suggestions as to how to rearrange the room to accommodate the cramped issuethere were no suggestions. He noted that he will keep trying to move the room to address everyone's issues and felt we could easily get things worked out.

Ruth encouraged members to sponsor events.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Price Secretary 2013

50/50 Raffle

Congratulations to Sandy Kirby who won \$59- the winning ticket was pulled by Mark Gerecke.

Drawing for the monthly attendance prize:

Marty Dooley received a \$25 gift card to O'Charley's, drawn by Mike Price.

<u>Dessert</u> – Thanks to the Howard's for the cake tonight. The Akins's will bring the May cake.

Next meeting May 7th.

Tonight's attendance was reported by Jan Murray as 41.

Judy Dooley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 with a second by Chris Woods and approval by the membership. Ruth thanked everyone for coming and wished them a good night and reminded them to drive safely.

I thought this was interesting - Ed.

RESULTS: Porsche 250



No one has submitted a personal story this month, so I will use this as a "getting to know me" article. - Ed.

SUBJECT: Don Giovanoni

I have been a car nut all my life. As a pre-driving youth I used to meet with my friends on the corner and pick out the cool cars ("look, a '63 Corvette" or "wow, a '66 SS396"), then argue about which is faster. While in high school I bought a Chevy V8 engine just to learn about it. It turns out that a buddy and me rebuilt it using used hop up parts and installed it in his car. The darn thing ran and was actually fast!

Once driving, that same high school friend initiated me into sports cars. He stopped by to show me his '59 Austin Healy 100-6. There were already two other friends with him but no problem; I joined the one sitting on the rear deck with only our feet in the car. After a fast turn or two later, both of us on the rear deck went flying out of the car and tumbling down the street. No one was really hurt (scrapes/bruises only), but I was the only one who would get back into the car. Thus, I was hooked on sports cars forever. The first car of my own was a used Triumph TR4 which Judy and I enjoyed leading up to our marriage (at 19).

My first experience with a Corvette was a 1967 Coupe that the local Rolls Royse/Jaguar dealer had for sale. It was 3 years old, 300hp, 4 speed, low mileage, and was traded in on a Jaguar by an Air Force Colonel. I test drove it twice and was ready to pull the trigger on the \$3500 beauty when the $1970\frac{1}{2}$ Z28 Camaro (original LT-1) was introduced. I had to decide between the used Corvette or the new Z28. The Camaro won and I used it to torture the local Mustang clubs at their autocrosses. It was like taking candy from a baby.





Fast forward a bit and I bought a used Meyers Manx dune buggy as a second car to drive to school. It was loaded as it was a demo from the local Manx dealer, complete with a 36hp Manxpower engine. I quickly discovered that the Manx's top speed was about 50mph – this was problematic when one had to drive 17 miles each way to collage. I learned to draft 18 wheelers on the highway (don't try this at home kiddies); once I pulled in *right* behind them I would shoot to 70mph or so. When I got close to

my exit I just pulled out of the draft and immediately slowed as if slamming on the brakes. The Manx had no heater but being young and foolish (as opposed to old and foolish as I am now), I just wore a heavy parka and scraped the ice formed by my breath on the *inside* of the windshield as I commuted.



The Manx enticed me to join an off road club which began a new phase in my automotive life. The Manx was replaced with several rugged tube frame buggies (my car building skills had advanced considerably by then) to go off roading. This then led me into off road racing throughout the Midwest and as far west as Tulsa. I graduated to a real race buggy, a single seat Funco SSII

which had a more reclined seating position (required as I pulled some neck muscles and dislocated some vertebrae racing a previous buggy). The Funco was cool but I realized I couldn't afford to keep it up and built another buggy for play only. Somewhere later along the line I got tired of eating dirt and it was time to move on.



Sports cars were never far from my mind and my next adventure (misadventure?) was SCCA Solo 2. A buddy and I bought an air cooled Super Vee together. We completely rebuilt it and the engine and raced it around the Midwest. I later bought him out, sold it, and bought a Lola T324 Super Vee. Of course the



car was in boxes with a completely disassembled engine (which made the car semi-affordable). After a whole winter of restoring the car and rebuilding the motor, I discovered upon start up that one of the *very* expensive heads was cracked and unusable. My race car budget was shot so I thought the season was over. Judy, bless her heart, simply said how

much do you need, and go ahead and order new heads – we will find the money somewhere. See why I love this woman so much? One of my kids once seriously told me "I thought everyone's father had a race car". Seems almost all of our friends raced with us.

It took a few years but I finally grew tired of prerace preparation and traveling long distances to run for 3-6 minutes at an event. Mind you, a formula Super Vee is quite a thrill ride - ~160hp in a 888lb car that pulls enough lateral g load to leave bruises. But storing the enclosed trailer and all of the hassle/expense finally got to me and we moved on. I do have my SCCA 25th year anniversary pin and hat (I also still have my quick jack and alignment tools just in case I again suffer from formula car sickness).

For my 60th birthday I decided I needed another sports car as our current Manx is only fun in fair, mild weather. I loved the looks of the C6 and found a low mileage one with the color and options I wanted in Kansas City. I used my normal line on Judy (which has been used over and over again), "It has been a while since we have done anything stupid, so...". Off we went to KC and bought the Vette. I have to say that it has exceeded my expectations in all regards. It is fast, comfortable, has great heating/cooling, dependable, and even gets excellent mileage. It turned out also to be my ticket to joining the STLCC and meeting lots of fun people and participating in their adventures.

This is just a quick synopsis of the ongoing car life that Judy and the kids have been put through (51 cars and counting). I am leaving out things like the multiple Datsun/Nissan Z cars and Miata involvement. Thank goodness Judy and the kids have apparently enjoyed this nontraditional car life (both daughters were taught early that helping bleed brakes/clutch was a required passage of womanhood).

I would like a member's story or article every month, please share! - Ed.







Corvettes and Covered Bridges 2013

April 11th thru April 14th

We visited the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Friday, April 12th. We took a tour of the track, and stopped at the "yard of bricks" start/finish line for a look, and photo opportunities. We then visited the "Pagoda" tower and the various areas of the the timing, scoring, press rooms, and the victory stand. The visit was concluded with a visit of the Hall of Fame. Marty and Judy took us for a nice lunch at Charlie Brown's, which is south of the track. I don't believe any of us were insulted or enjoyed it as much as the waitress we had!

A mini-mystery tour was next to Veedersburg, Indiana. We visited the brick yard site which supplied over 90% of the bricks for the Indy Speedway circa 1909. Mark Carr, the current owner, met us there, and gave everyone a paving brick from that era for a souvenir which is identical and made at the same time as the bricks which paved the speedway.

After leaving the brick yard, we drove to Turkey Run Inn, and checked into our rooms. After everyone was settled in, it was off for supper to the Beef House at Covington, Indiana.

Saturday, we toured some of the covered bridges of Parke County, Indiana. Included were the Narrows, Bridgeton and Mansfield. For a late lunch we went to the '36' Saloon in Rockville, Indiana. After dining, we checked out Billie Creek Village, which has historic buildings, and three covered bridges transplanted to the site. For the evening, we relaxed and visited in a side lounge off the lobby at the Inn. The fire place was burning nice, and we were able to have a nice relaxing visit with one another. The down side was that we did not get invited to the wine-tasting party.

Sunday morning we walked a few of the trails, and Karen Price got "skunked" on finding any morel mushrooms. She did find one thing, but none of us knew what it was! We walked across the suspension bridge to trails and sandstone cliffs across Sugar Creek. We picked a good time to do that because as you can see on the attached photo, there has been some rain there this week.

After enjoying Sunday Lunch in the Inn dining room, we packed up, and headed for home.

-Terry Wilson









THE FIRST ANNUAL "ARMYNTA CRAIG MEMORIAL DRIVE -TO SUGAR CREEK WINERY" SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2013

Meet at Hwy 40 & 94 at Commuter Parking Lot @ 9:45AM. Leave @ 10:00 sharp, for a scenic drive along MO Wine Country...arriving at Sugar Creek by 11:00. Those who prefer may go directly to the Winery and meet us there. The winery owners, Ken and Becky Miller close friends of the Craig family, are donating the use of the Pavilion for our club that day.

Everyone is invited to join the Armynta Craig "Winery Place Settings" competition. Show us how well YOU can create an elegant place setting with crystal, linen, and delicious foods like she would always love to do. The winner will receive one of Armynta's crystal bells!

Please sign up if you plan to compete at the April or May meetings.

We are also making this a fundraiser for the Mercy Pratt Cancer Center in Armynta's memory. All money raised at the event will be donated. We'll have several baskets with some of Armynta's favorite things to raffle -and our usual 50/50 drawing at 2:00 PM. There will be a brochure (made by Jerry Craig) telling a little about our dear friend & why she would love having us doing this.

Please sign up for the Cruise at the April 2nd or May 7th meeting

Questions: Call Patty, Peggy, Chris, Judy or Leanne

NOTE: No liquids of any kind (not even water) can be brought into the winery at Sugar Creek!



Come join us on a trip to Mackinaw Island, MI. and beyond to Bowling Green, KY. – home of the Corvette

You can join us for the entire trip or any portion — you do not have to do the entire trip!!!!

Mackinaw, Michigan Trip August 2013

- Wednesday Aug. 21, 2013 travel from St. Louis to Sawyer MI. where we have arranged a tour of the "Corvette Central" facility. We will be eating dinner and spending the night in the Sawyer, MI. area. This is a 375 mi. trip so we will be leaving early to have plenty of time to travel to Sawyer, tour the facility and enjoy our evening. Room reservation details later.....
- 2. Thursday, Aug. 22. depart early and travel 340 mi. from Sawyer, MI. to Mackinaw City, MI. where we will be staying at the Baymont Inn. <u>Call Baymont central reservations at 800-337-0550 and tell them you want a room from the St. Louis Corvette Club room block. They also have a confirmation # 703-006697 which might be helpful but is not necessary. We plan to arrive on Thursday, Aug. 22 and depart on Monday, Aug. 26.</u>
- 3. Friday, Aug. 23. We will visit Mackinaw Island with a lunch at the Grand Hotel. The charge for the ferry ride to the island, admission to the Grand Hotel, lunch at the hotel and taxi ride will be \$69.50 per person. There will also be free live entertainment Friday PM at the Mackinaw Crossings Mall in Mackinaw City.
- 4. Saturday, Aug. 24 Corvette Show sponsored by the Mackinaw City Chamber of Commerce. This event is held in a parking lot next door to our motel so we will have easy access to our rooms all day. The Chamber has booked a full day of activities during and after the Corvette Show. We can keep busy up till 9:00 PM if we want see the attached flyer for details.
- 5. Sunday, Aug. 25 this is an open day so you can tour the region at your leisure. I am gathering information on the area you may want to go back to the Island, travel to Canada (bring your passport), go to the "tunnel of trees", etc.
- 6. Monday, Aug 26 drive to Flint, MI. and visit the Sloan and Buick Museums. The Sloan Museum is very interesting with a lot of history of the region. Room reservation details later....
- 7. Tuesday, Aug. 27 depart Flint and drive to Louisville, KY. This is a 400+ mile day so we will depart early so we do not have to push hard all day. Room reservation details later....
- 8. Wednesday, Aug. 28 spend day in Louisville visiting local attractions like the Louisville Slugger Museum, downtown museums, take a riverboat excursion trip on the Ohio River

that lasts approx. 2 hours, etc. - Lots of things to do in Louisville......Room reservation details later....

- 9. Thursday, Aug. 29 leave Louisville and stop at distillery in Bardstown, Ky. area on our way to Bowling Green, KY. Arrive in Bowling Green in time to register for event and enjoy time at the Corvette Museum and Corvette assembly plant. Plant tours may be available for either Thursday or Friday. This is a large event so we will want to book our rooms ASAP.......
- 10. Event runs until Saturday enjoy your trip. Will depart for home on Sunday. Sept. 1.......















VA Gardening

































From Paul Craig: (The car is a Corvette Grand Sport)



1.



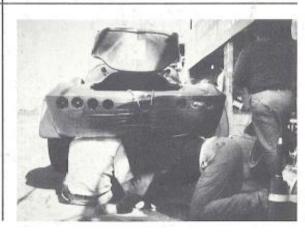


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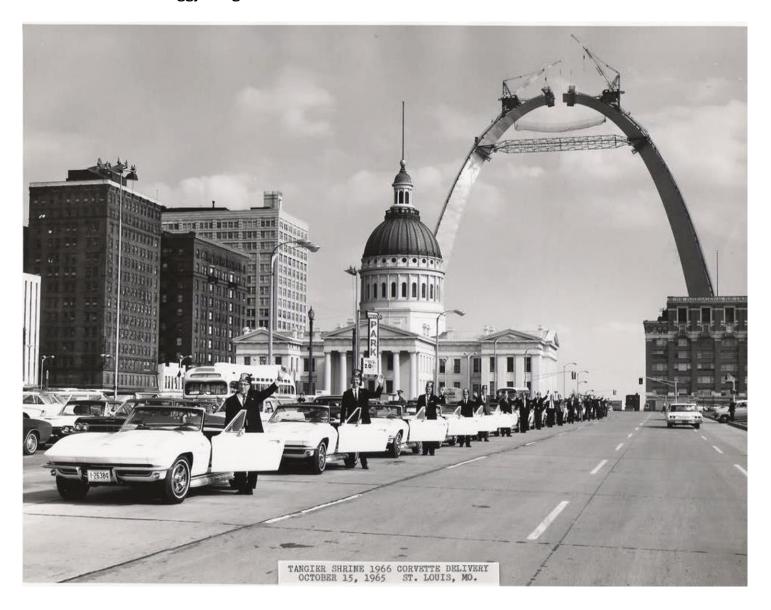


- 1. I can't get it loose!
- 2. Maybe a tap on the rear'll move it.
- 3. I'd forget it . . . drive with it in.
- 4. What you guys need is the soft touch.
- 5. Here kitty, kitty.

4



Great shot! Thanks Peggy Craig!



St. Louis Corvette Club Newsletter

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