



Prez Says

I hope that everyone is preparing for another Western / upstate NY winter, for its right around the corner. The trees have changed from multi-colors to their leaf-less mode. Many Corvettes are about to change from daily (ok, maybe occasional) drivers, snuggled soundly in their winter resting places under car covers or in their protective bags.

Speaking of changes, we have two significant changes to announce here in the Western New York NCRS Chapter.

First, we have launched our WNY Chapter web site!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Thanks go to our resident WNY member / webmaster Ray Carney for putting together the initial version of our web site. Check it out at www.wnyncrs.org. Ray would appreciate any comments or constructive feedback on the site. It will continue to grow and expand over the coming months.

Our Top Flight Crossed Flags newsletter will be distributed to WNY and other Chapter members, as well as to National officers, via email as much as possible beginning with this issue, Volume 16, Number 3.

Our second, huge change is that Jim and Nancy Frakes have requested to step down as newsletter editors of the Crossed Flags. Jim readily stepped forward and volunteered to become the editor of the Western NY Chapter Crossed Flags News Letter and has held this position continuously since January of 1993. Western New York can proudly say that we have one of the best written and published newsletters within NCRS. During this 13+ year timeframe Jim has published over 75 articles. True to form in helping all members with restoration information, among his very first articles was one which verified the availability for purchase of 37 gallon fuel tanks over the counter. Over the years Jim has written articles on every thing from Delco coils, to information about newly introduced AC rapid fire spark plugs and why they work better, to better methods of sealing gas lines with Teflon spray (including ways to hide the telltale white residue).

Thanks, Jim and Nancy, for all you have contributed toward the success of our Chapter. You have done an awesome job! We continue to welcome your suggestions, advice and ongoing participation in all aspects of the Chapter as we move forward. Acting newsletter editors will be a combination of Susan Manno and Eileen and Jim Miller. Yes, I said acting. We need to recruit someone to volunteer to take the helm and become our new Crossed Flags editor. Please contact Susan, Eileen, or Jim if interested. By the way, we know where you can get some expert mentoring from two former editors.

Activities for 2007 are lining up as follows: 1st quarter plans include a social event in the Syracuse area, and a technical / judging seminar south of Batavia. 2nd quarter will see our judging school, our judging meet on June 2nd in Batavia (see enclosed meet flyer), and a luncheon cruise with other Corvette clubs on beautiful Keuka Lake. 3rd quarter is extra special in 2007, because the 2007 National Meet is right next door to us in Marlboro (Boston) MA from July 22nd through 26th. We plan to caravan to the event, where we hold our annual Chapter member dinner. Vintage races at Watkins Glen close out the quarter on September 7th, 8th, and 9th. Fourth quarter will bring another technical seminar in the Sodus Bay area and a holiday social event.

That's it for now. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.



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Officers – Info	
Co-Chairs	Jim & Eileen Miller
Treasurer/Secretary	Susan Manno
Membership	Tom Atkins
Judging Chairperson	Gene Manno
Activities Coordinators:	Paul Eksten, Rochester Ken Kaczka, Buffalo Ric Rivette, Syracuse
Historian:	Dick Denison
Chapter Flight Coordinator:	Dick Denison
Trip Contact:	Rick Pellotte
WebMaster:	Ray Carney
Newsletter Editor:	TBD

Upcoming Event

Mini Judging School - December, 16th 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Solid Axle Trunk Mats -

*If you could Bring your trunk mats no matter the condition
There are questions on what is correct and what isn't
plus any other parts you may want to discuss*

The more parts we have the better.
Pizza for lunch

Location: Ed Krenzer's, 7970 Margareta Rd, Sodus Point, New York –
Off Route 14 – North of Route 104 or South of Lake Rd.

RSVP to GMVette@rochester.rr.com

Additional Events Planned for January, February & March
Details will come in Year-End Newsletter

Classifieds:

FOR SALE: 1982 Corvette, Red with White Interior, Fully Optioned, Top Flight Award, 28,000 Miles, \$17,5000, Frank Venverloh, Walworth, NY 14568.

WANTED: Newsletter Editor and Technical Articles for Crossed Flags Newsletter

Welcome New Member(s):

Jeff Aiello – we hope to see you at upcoming events!

Vintage Races – Watkins Glen September 8-10 2007 by Eileen Miller



The vintage races always begin on the Friday after Labor Day with a celebration commemorating North America's first Road Race Course which ran through the town of Watkins Glen from 1948 to 1951. Following this the course was moved out of town near the present location of the Watkins Glen International Speedway.

Friday are the re-enactment events with the main street of the town being closed off from approximately 1pm to 9pm. Originally all cars went through tech at Smalley's garage on Franklin Street. They used to set up a tent behind the garage, and inspections went on through the evening before the race. Even once the course moved out of the town, inspections still took place at Smalley's. At 10:00 am a re-enactment of the tech inspections takes place. This year there were 6 cars. In order to be in this event the cars had to have raced on the original circuit. In addition to performing a tech inspection as it would have been done, the history of the race cars is presented, and the current owners also talk about these cars. This year one of the cars was the # 3 1948 MG. This car had been in dry storage in a barn since 1953. It had its original green and cream paint with a very faded hand painted #3 on the door panels, and drove in and out on a set of original 1951 tires that were on the car when it was brought out of dry storage!

In the afternoon some club members attended an event called The Legends Speak. This is a panel of 3 to 4 guests – usually race car drivers - with wonderful stories. In the past we have listened to Sterling Moss, Dan Gurney, Bobby Rahal, Geoff Bodine, and members of the Mark Donahue family.

This year one of the guests was Derrick Bell who drove for Ferrari and Porsche. Among the interesting dynamics of driving for Ferrari was the fact that he was not their top driver, and therefore most of the time he was allowed to only take his car out for a lap or two of testing prior to any race, and never really got the team to adjust and sort out his car before the race. He was most often told to bring it in and park. His car was just being used to test out parts for the top driver, and the team was not interested in getting any other driver to the finish line. However, the strong family relationship with Ferrari from eating home cooked dinners to enjoying vacations with his family is something that he will always treasure. Derrick said that it was not until he moved to Porsche that he was given cars that were capable of winning, however, the Porsches were notoriously hard to handle.

Derrick flew in to New York City from Europe on Thursday, and then drove through the fog to the Glen for the 2006 Vintage races. In spite of his jet lag he had good naturedly agreed to join his good friend Dan Gurney in a driving adventure. Dan had signed both of them up to 'drive' two vintage cars outside of town around some farmland roads as an advertising piece for a local TV station. Derrick hoped the pigs that were up at 4:30 in the morning enjoyed the 2 Porsches winding their way through the country side at some tidy speeds. When asked what his most hair rising moment in racing was he only paused two seconds and then told the following story. As he began to tell this story he stood up, and became very excited, using his



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hands to position the cars on the track in the air in front of him. Even though this event occurred many years ago, it still brought out tremendous energy from him as he spoke:

Before any race he ever drove, and still today, Derrick walks the race course. One of the toughest race courses in Europe is the Belgian Ardennes Forest circuit. You have to understand that there was nothing really safe about it. It wound for about 14.1 KMs through the country side. Much of it skirted through a forest, and if you lost the car you wrapped it around the trees. Many of the turns were blind - you would come up a hill and at the top with no preview have to turn left or right. Some of it ran by farms with cows and only a barbed wire fence between you and them. Spin outs here were always interesting, and in the villages, people 'actually crossed the street' during racing and practice. During the races you could expect all levels of drivers which added yet another element of angst to the event. One morning during practice before the weekend race, he and Jacky Ickx were out on the track. He said that they were having a blast, during some parts of the race Derrick would be in the lead, and then Jacky would catch him and pass. Always he would retake him and pass. For six laps it went on. Derrick said Jacky would always drive full blast up the hill through the blind turn left so he would catch Derrick just before entering the hill and pass him. Derrick kept talking to himself, 'you know the next lap you have to do this - you have to drive through here once or twice full throttle before the race on Sunday.' He steeled his nerves, glanced in the review and could see Jacky coming up on him in the distance. This time he left the throttle full open. When he got to the top of the hill and made the turn - there in front of him was an Alfa Romeo stopped dead in the course..... or maybe he was doing 80mph but at 220 the car appeared dead on the track. There wasn't room to go under him, in the processes of braking Derrick's car slipped sideways and on a plane he slid above and by like an open midget sprint car just narrowing missing and once he was pass by some miracle was able to straighten out his Porsche. Through all of this he kept peeking in his rear view mirror - sure that Jackie would also be airborne and on top of both of them, but he wasn't there. Derrick drove into the pits, and all the team came running up yelling 'why did you come in - you just made your best time...the best time', but Derrick kept driving by, park the car and got out totally shaken. At some point someone handed him a coke. Shortly the little Alfie came rolling in past Derrick as he was striding down the pit lane, and the driver called out in broken English, 'Please mister, I didna mean to causa you no problems!' Only then did Derrick realize that he was holding the coke bottle upside down in a clenched fist. Jacky came in later, and Derrick ran over and asked, where were you, at the turn? Jacky said, 'I had this feeling that something was going to happen there so I backed off..... did something happen?'

The evening events include 2 laps of the original course. About 5000 people line the hay baled streets as a couple hundred Vintage race cars drive the course.

Saturday and Sunday are the Vintage races at WGI. You can go in the garages and tents, talk with the drivers and owners, and take in the races. This year WNY NCRS member and APEX Racing driver, Jeff Bernatovich drove his C4 corvette to a 1st place finish in his class (GT1) and 3rd overall in spite of losing his transmission on the last lap. Our club members meet during the noon race break on Saturday for lunch at the concession stand just before the gas pumps. We hope that more of you can join us next year.



Caravan on the "Seaway Trail" by Susan Manno



On August 12th, a road tour with individuals from the Rochester and Syracuse areas met up with Ed and Aaron Krenzer at the Sodus Point Light House. On this picture perfect day most climbed to the top to look out over Lake Ontario and Chimney Bluffs. We toured the museum which is rich in history of seafaring stories & artifacts of the area from the 1800's.

The Vettes gathered in front of the Light House for a scenic picture which is below. A bride and groom came to the light house for pictures that sunny afternoon. The young couple was delighted to have their picture taken by Rick Pellotte's white/silver '56.

We started our caravan of 6 Vettes, 1 Lincoln plus a Caravan & pickup on the Seaway Trail. Ed & Aaron had us detour to showcase their new facility in Sodus Point to see their collection of project cars. This facility location is spacious pole brown and includes a kitchen and full bath. Ed has graciously offered it to us to hold tech sessions /judging schools in the future which we are taking him up on.

We next arrived Cutter Restaurant on the south east side of Sodus Bay. This is the same location that we had our Chapter meet in June. This time the weather cooperated and we were able to have a nice lunch on the deck overlooking the bay. We all had an enjoyable lunch but saved room for dessert. The favorite was the house specialty - "Mud Balls," a treat in itself.

[Past Events](#)





Minutes of the Oct. 10, 2006 –WNY NCRS Board meeting @ DiPacifics in Canandaigua:

Attendees: Eileen & Jim Miller, Gene & Susan Manno, Ken Kaczka, Ray & Janet Carney, Paul Ekstein, Ric Rivette, Jeff Bernatovich & guest, Dick Denison, Joe Palmisano & guest.

Old Business

- Vintage races at the Glen - Jeff B. told us about the races and in particular his events. Jeff finished third behind two blown Porsches and first in his class. Nice job Jeff and crew.
- Marlboro Regional - We were well represented at the judging and got four top flights. Congratulations to Tom Atkins, Ed Krenzer, Joe Palmisano, and Michael Shaeffer. There were 119 flight judged cars at this meet. Many of us are looking forward to Nationals at Marlboro in 2007. We had a great Chapter dinner at a steak place within walking distance of the meet.

New Business

- 2007 Chapter judging meet site: Ray Carney presented the Batavia site at Ken Barrett's Chevrolet Dealership. We will be able to use the service bays to have the cars inside in the event of rain. We all agreed with Ray's proposal and will hold the meet on Saturday, June 2, 2007. Ray Carney will Chair the meet. Lunch will be brought in as we have a time constraint and do not have the time to go out for lunch. Thanks Ray.
- Jim M. suggested that we review the judging fee for our Chapter meet. After analyzing the fees charged by other Chapter judging events, we agreed on \$20. This is just below the average judging fee charged by the 9 meets that were advertised in the latest Driveline.
- Tech Session with Bill Calorico, Sue M. will check on Bill's availability in Nov. to give part 2 of the tech session on original and reproduction parts. Follow-up: Due to schedule conflicts, this was *not able to be arranged. However, see the upcoming events section in this newsletter where Gene Manno and Ed Krenzer have planned a tech session on 12/16/06 in Sodus, NY. We are also finalizing 2 other events in January / February 2007 – details will be shared next month.*
- Social Events – When Jim M. asked about this idea, Jeff Bernatovich said that he and Lyn might be interested in hosting one. Follow-up: This is in the process of being planned for February in the greater Syracuse area – details to come.
- New members – Jim M. received from Eric Mortimer a list of names in our Western and Central NY area who are NCRS National members, but are not members of the WNY Chapter. He got 330 names and will compose a letter introducing us and see if we can generate a larger membership. *(280 letters have been sent out – currently awaiting responses)*
- New Officers – Editors Jim and Nancy Frakes have decided to pass this job on to someone else after doing the job for 13+ years. We are looking for someone to take over. We want to sincerely thank Jim and Nancy for a wonderful newsletter. *(HELP STILL WANTED!!!!)* Buffalo and Rochester Activities Directors need to be filled – Paul Eksten will be the Rochester area rep and Ken Kaczka stepped up for Buffalo – thanks, guys.
- 2007 Events – Judging school will be at Sodus Point in Ed and Aaron Krenzer's new garage *(December event scheduled with more to follow).*
- National at Marlboro July 22 -26. We all encouraged members to hop onto one of the road tours that will be organized and advertised in upcoming Drivelines.
- Dick D. suggested that we set up a library of videos such as Convertible top installation. He has one for the solid axle cars is and sure that our members have many more. We need to follow up with a plan for implementing this idea and documenting how the process will work – stay tuned.
- A judging school will be conducted in April/May time frame prior to our June 2nd Chapter meet



**2007 Membership Dues are due
NOW
Please RENEW
We Want and Need YOU Back!!**

Western New York Chapter NCRS – Membership Application Renewal

Name	
Address	
City	
State	
Zip	
E-Mail Address	
<u>NCRS National Membership #</u>	
Phone (with area code)	
Date of Application	
Data on your car (s) - optional:	
Year(s) of Corvette	
Engine	
HP	
Color - exterior	
Color – interior	
Coupe or Convertible	

Bolded fields are required.

Annual dues are \$20.00, payable by check to: **WNY Chapter NCRS**

Please complete above form (tab to fields within MS-Word) and mail with check to:

**Tom Atkins
WNY NCRS Membership
8994 N. Seneca Street
Weedsport NY 13166**

Western NY NCRS CHAPTER MEET

Saturday, June 2, 2007 at Batavia, N. Y.

The Western New York NCRS Chapter is pleased to invite all NCRS members to attend our 2007 Judging Meet that will be held at **Ken Barrett Chevrolet-Cadillac Inc** (www.kenbarrett.com). Ken Barrett's is located on Main Street in Batavia, NY, 2 miles from exit 12B of the NY State Thruway - Midway between Rochester and Buffalo.

General Meet and Batavia Information:

Ray Carney ray63@rochester.rr.com
(585) 495 - 6931

.....Judging Information:.....

Gene Manno gmvette@rochester.rr.com
(315) 524 - 7423

Event Schedule:

<p>7:30AM Registration Opens / Coffee & Donuts Available - please be on time</p> <p>8:15AM Judges and Owners Meetings</p>	<p>8:45AM Judging Begins</p> <p>12 Noon to 12:45 PM Lunch</p> <p>3:45 PM Flight Awards</p>
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Name: _____ NCRS # (from Driveline Label) _____

Spouse / Companion / Children: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone (with Area Code): _____

_____ **Registration Fee** (Each NCRS member family must register and pay separately) @ **\$20.00** = \$ **20.00**

All Registrations must be postmarked by 5/21/07

_____ Non-member guest fee: Number of guests _____ times **\$10.00 per guest** = \$ _____

_____ Flight Judging Entry: Year: _____ Engine: _____ HP: _____ @ **\$20.00** = \$ _____

Complete VIN#: _____

We reserve the right to limit number of cars judged so register early!

All Judged Car Owners must help by either Flight Judging or Observer Judging

_____ **I will Flight Judge:** _____ '53 to '62 _____ '63 to '67 _____ '68 to '82 _____ '84 to '91

Preference: ___ Int. ___ Ext. ___ Mech. ___ Ops. Indicate current Judging Level: _____

_____ **I will Observer Judge:** _____ '53 to '62 _____ '63 to '67 _____ '68 to '82 _____ '84 to '91

_____ Sportsman Award Entry (not flight judged) 1953 - 2007 Corvettes are eligible @ **\$10.00** = \$ _____

_____ Special Display car: Year _____ Type (circle one): Duntov / McLellan / Bowtie No Charge

_____ Will you help tabulate score sheets: _____ Yes _____ No

_____ **Lunch** (free to all judges and tabulators) For all others: # _____ people times **\$7.00 each** = \$ _____

_____ Yes, I would like to join WNY NCRS Chapter: @ **\$20.00** = \$ _____

Make All Checks Payable to: WNY NCRS **TOTAL:** \$ _____

Directions and Batavia lodging information provided via Email after registering for the meet

Send Completed Application to: NCRS 2007 CHAPTER MEET

c/o Sue Manno
7289 Slocum Road
Ontario, NY 14519-0751

Hold Harmless Agreement: I agree to insure my vehicle(s) and property against loss, damage, and liability, **and to provide proof of such insurance to NCRS at registration. No Exceptions.** I agree to assume the risk of any and all damages or injury and to indemnify and hold harmless NCRS, its officers, directors, agents, employees, and chapters for any acts or omissions that may result in the theft, damage, or destruction of my property or injury to me or others occurring during, or as a consequence of, this event.

Auto Insured with: _____

Policy #: _____

Policy Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____