

Feature Article

My Other Life by Terry Brim

I would guess most people that Nick Kammer comes in contact with during his 9-5 job think he's your typical white collared loan officer with a financial background, house in the suburbs, wife, kids, dog, and two station wagons in the driveway.

If you thought that, you were only half right. Nick is a loan officer with a wife, 3 kids, and a dog alright, but that is where the stereo typing ends, Nick is a true gear head at heart!



One look at inside the car barn at the back of his house is all the evidence you need to see the REAL Nick. Those of you who have attended one of our monthly chapter meets at Nick's place know what I'm talking about.



His other life, or at least his hobby, is all about cars..... Street Rods, Muscle Cars, and of course Corvettes.

Nick grew up like many of us with



cars being a big part of his childhood. Unlike his father or brother, Nick had a keen interest in anything mechanical especially cars. Upon graduation from High School, he opted to attend a vocational college in Nashville ,

Tennessee studying

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auto mechanics. He then spent the next five years working as an auto mechanic at a local car dealer here in town. It didn't take him long to realize that being an auto mechanic was alright as a hobby, but it was not the way he wanted to make his living.

Eventually he became interested in real estate. Nick then went back to college nights and weekends during his career change to Real Estate/Mortgage banking. All this while still working at the auto dealership and selling real estate on the side made

Nick a very busy guy during those years. Lucky for us however, he continued his interest in cars and car shows. Ten years of selling real estate ultimately lead him to his current job as a loan officer.

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Nick wasn't always into corvettes however. The first car he owned was a 37 Ford street rod with a Chevy drive train which he essentially built from scratch....at least it had a Chevy drive train!!

Nick had the street rod for 16 years and then got into muscle cars. These included a couple of Camaro Z28s, a



55 Chevy, Chevelle's, Impala Super Sport, etc

Along the way, Nick met Al Katona....Mr. Corvette! and of course the rest is history as they say. Nick still has his first Corvette, an absolutely stunning 1963 roadster, which was discovered while he and Al along with a group of guys from Dayton were at the last



Bloomington Gold show in Springfield, Illinois in 1997.

The 63' is a body off restored driver with a base coat/clear coat, and a beautifully restored interior complete with leather seats. Nick is currently building a soon to be completed matching numbers motor. When I saw the motor, the block was still being assembled and was wrapped in



“saran wrap” to keep it from rusting. This guy obviously knows what he's doing!

Nick has also rebuilt the trans-

mission, put a power brake booster on the

car, changed the rear end to a .370 gear ratio along with radial tires and knockoff wheels. This beauty is going to be a driver for Nick.... doing what these cars were

mean to do.....be driven.

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Nick's other vette is a 2002 Z06 with a mere 8600 miles which he bought at Carlisle a



couple of years ago.

Obviously, Nick has all the toys, tools and know how to keep his babies in top notch shape. When I asked Nick if he worked on other peoples cars, his answer was “if they were a friend and needed help”after reading this ar-



ticle, Nick may have more friends than he knows what to do with!

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Better get that motor finished Nick, summer is coming and from the looks of it your driver can't wait to hit the road again!

