

# VETTE GAZETTE

Volume 3 Issue 3

September 2005

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## Chairman's Corner with Larry Linder

The summer of 05 will be over in a few days. It has been busy and full of fun.

The highlights were "Corvette Carlisle" and the Friday night cruise in, both have been successful.

Carlisle was full of interesting cars and cars we have not seen for a while. It is hard to imagine the number of new Corvettes that had their stock exhaust systems remove and piled up as so much fire wood. If only you could buy a few and store them for tomorrow.

Most of us had a hand in modifying our old cars years ago and tossed the parts only to buy them back for ridiculous sums yesterday. The parts at Carlisle were plentiful and if you couldn't find it there it there "it probably doesn't exist".

The Friday night cruise is a successful event and it is being written about and pictures taken for the car magazines. The discount coupons for Steak & Shake and Skyline Chili are an added attraction.

We are set to send in our application for "Top Flight Chapter Award" for 2005. The award is within our grasp. As we have donated \$800 to various charities and have an outstanding membership turn out for our events.

The one deficiency we have is a "Special Event for Charity". We have three more quarters to fill in this requirement.

The regular meeting at Jerry Blacks was outstanding – several member of other chapters couldn't believe the number of Corvettes in Jerry's yard (31).

They were heard to lament about no one driving their cars to their chapter meeting, even on nice days.

Queen City will have their regional meet in two weeks and the Heart of



### Feature Article

Ohio's meet will be the 10th of September at McDormans'

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## *It all Started with a Picture* *by Terry Brim*

The first question I always ask people whenever I do an interview for a feature article in the Vette Gazette is “how did you get started in cars?” Usually, the answer is my father, brother, uncle, friends, etc. were car nuts and that was how I got started. Jim Stukenborg’s initial response was he didn’t get it from his father. Jim allows as to how his father was the slowest driver in the world.

After some reflection, it hit him, with obvious excitement in his voice, Jim said “I know, I remember exactly the day”. Jim was a freshman in high school and the football team went to Ohio State for a football game. Along the way, they stopped for lunch and there was a hotrod magazine on the news stand with a picture of a 32 duce coupe with a chopped top. Jim remembers thinking that was the most beautiful car he had ever seen!

That was the beginning for Jim. After that came a 37 Ford, a 40 Ford. After high school, came a 34 Dodge coupe and a Packard V12. Jim then promptly put the

After some reflection, it hit him, with obvious excitement in his voice, Jim said “I know, I remember exactly the day”.

Packard V12 in the 34 Dodge coupe and he was on his way! Unfortunately according to Jim, he destroyed the Packard making the switch and the 34 Dodge burned up in a garage fire. Undaunted however, Jim was hooked with the need for power and speed. In 1956, he

bought a 51 Ford with a Olds engine. Next Jim says he got hot on a Studebaker hardtop with a 6 banger...wow! Not to be deterred however, it wasn’t long until he dropped another olds V8 in the Studebaker.

Now at this point you’re probably wondering what does all this have to do with Corvettes? Well just be patient and read on, we’ll get there.

Eventually in 1962, Jim traded the Studebaker on a 59 Corvette....finally! Again however, not happy with what he had, Jim traded out the 3 speed for a 4 speed tranny in the vette.

When I asked Jim where he learned all his mechanical skills, his response was “I didn’t learn it at home....learned it the hard way, trial and error”.....sound familiar to anyone?

Jim had his 59 vette about 3 years until he got married and had a kid....sound familiar to anyone other than yours truly?

Now at this point you’re probably wondering what does all this have to do with Corvettes? Well just be patient and read on, we’ll get there.

Jim then traded the vette for as

he puts it, the world’s worst car, a 1964 Opal Cadet of all things. It didn’t take him long however to trade the Opal for a Turbo Corvair. Unfortunately this turned out to be as Jim puts it “another drag queen” which had been rode hard and put away wet!

From there Jim moved onto yet another Turbo charged Corvair,. This time however, it was a very nice 66’ convertible.

Continued on page 3

## *It all Started with a Picture (con't) by Terry Brim*

Continued from page 2

His next machine was a 72 Camaro. Jim wanted a Z28 with Air Conditioning, but of course as we all know, GM made no such animal in 72'. His solution was to get a 4 speed 396 with Air and then put Z28 strips and wheels on it, not a bad solution for someone who really wanted a Z28 with air!

Jim says he drove the Z28 for about 18 months, but then he no-

ticed a 65 Corvette coupe for sale sitting along the road. It wasn't stock however, it had a duck tail rear end and no front bumper.....but it was a vette. Unfortunately, he waited to late to make the guy an offer he would accept and the car was sold.

Soon after, Jim saw yet another vette for sale, but again he waited to long to make the guy an offer he would accept and that car also sold out from underneath him. At about this time, 72' early 73', Jim decided the Corvette market was really taking off and that he had better get on board.

Shortly thereafter as Jim put it, one day he saw this absolutely beautiful green 65 Corvette coupe go by. (I think what really grabbed Jim's attention were the 10 inch rear wheels). Jim remembers thinking how much he would like to have that car,. Just about that time, he saw an ad in the local newspaper for a green 65 vette coupe, could it be??

At about this time, 72' early 73', Jim decided the Corvette market was really taking off and that he had better get on board.

When he went over to look at the car in the ad, it

was the same one he had seen on the road. In Jim's words, he went ape over the highly modified custom coupe. He still has the car today over 30 years later.

Jim drove the car many



years before he had it painted corvette red which is the color you see today.

The car was originally Glen Green, but according to Jim, "all corvettes are red" ...gee, now where have I heard that one before?

How many of you have a vette in your garage where the last time you put gas in it was 1992?



Jim is currently rebuilding the rear suspension and the differential in the vette along with detailing out some of the engine compartment.



With the help of Larry Linder and some of the other club members, Jim hopes to have the 65 back on the road by next spring. continued on page 4

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## *It all Started with a Picture (con't) by Terry Brim*

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Jim is a true mussel car guy. After buying the 65 coupe, he has owned a 71 GTO convertible which he still has and a Buick Turbo Regal, which eventually was stolen and parts of which were found in a chop shop in West Carrolton. Jim found another Turbo Regal a few months later this time with T-tops which he would use to replace the one that was stolen.

In 1999 He bought a V8 corvaire of all things which he still owns.....so many cars Jim!!



Finally in 2001, Jim bought the car which most of us see him in at our meets, a 2001 red 6 speed corvette convertible.

Like most of us this winter , Jim will have plenty of time to get his 65' coupe put

Back together and ready for spring. Let's hope after all these years sitting in his garage, Jim is indeed successful this winter in getting the car finished.....it will be good to have one more mid-year from the club on the road!!!!



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## **Members Corner**    **By Nick Kammer**

In an effort for us to get to know each other a little better we will feature brief bio's of our fellow members. If you haven't submitted your member profile I would encourage you to do so. You can give as much or as little info as you want. You will find the 'Members Profile' form in our quarterly newsletter accessible at our website.

See page 9 for Members profile form. Fill out and return to Nick Kammer to get your profile published in the next issue of our Vette Gazette

For calendar/upcoming events and for sale items/parts wanted items see the chapter web site:

[www.ncrs.org/mvc](http://www.ncrs.org/mvc)

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Lou Barlow     Joe DeLapp  
Mark Gooding   Ron Smith



**Pete Cerar, CRB**

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## **Miami Valley Chapter Officers**

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**Rules Chairman:**

Jerry Michaels (36147)  
937-866-8703  
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**Events Chairman:**

Tom Sliemers (16327)  
937-429-0596

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One thing that has been contemplated is having a Regional Meet in 2008 - Think about it and bring up questions and suggestions at next meeting. Some guests at our meet in June thought it was one of the best organized and pleasant events they had attended in a long time. It only happens because of you.

If you would like to have

your car as a featured car for the quarter – volunteer. Send Terry Brim an E-Mail and you will have him knocking on your door with a camera in hand.

We have an award winning web site and you all should thank the T Buchanan's for the effort.

Anyone desiring to join the Board of Directors should submit his/her application

before the November meeting. You are welcome to come to a board meeting to experience first hand to see how we operate.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming events.

Regards  
Larry

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# Miami Valley Chapter

National Corvette Restorers Society

## Member Profile

*In an effort for us to get to know each other better we will include in our quarterly newsletter 'Vette Gazette' our members profiles. Whatever facts you wish to share with the rest of us are welcome. If you wish to submit a member profile just complete the profile below and send it to the web address listed below. Input on how we can improve our Chapter is also encouraged. If you would like for me to take your information over the phone just call me at 937-297-3611. Otherwise send the profile as an attachment to your return e-mail back to me (see bottom of page).*

### Name:

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Significant others name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

NCRS # \_\_\_\_\_ (we have this on file but other members may find this an interesting tidbit of information.)

*Place of employment or occupation and brief description of what you do*

\_\_\_\_\_

*What other interests/hobbies do you have?* \_\_\_\_\_

*Under the heading 'Complaints take a number, solutions come on in', what do you like about our Chapter and what could be done to improve what we do?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*First car ever owned* \_\_\_\_\_.

*First Corvette owned* \_\_\_\_\_.

*Present Corvette(s), classic cars owned* \_\_\_\_\_

*Thanks for your input and information.*

*Forward this profile to Nick Kammer, Membership Chairman*

[www.nick.kammer@ncmc.com](mailto:www.nick.kammer@ncmc.com)