



Cowtown **LOW-DOWN**

February 2013

VOLUME 40, NO. 2

www.cowtownvettes.org



Valentine Dinner



Super Bowl Party



Official Publication
of
COWTOWN VETTES





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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Let me start out with a correction: Next month's 100% is not the practice autocross but, the National Kidney Walk as erroneously stated in last month's report. Please join us for this very important occasion. In addition to the membership (1st) and BoD (20th) meetings, March shows some type of Corvette activity on four of the five weekends in the month:

3rd - Dinner Cruise

9th - NCCC SWR Awards Banquet

16th - Low Speed Autocross in Houston

23rd - National Kidney Foundation Walk

24th - Practice Autocross in the DFW area (tentative)

There are other events outside a reasonable driving radius from Fort Worth. Please check our calendar in either the Low-Down or the WWWeb site for more details and potential updates.

I am delighted to announce that Bruce Lowrie Chevrolet has offered its support as Cowtown's Platinum sponsor. As of this writing, the BoD has yet to meet to formalize the agreement but this will be the primary topic of conversation at the next BoD meeting. More detail will be shared at next month's membership meeting on March 1st. I am also happy to announce that Jack Gandy has agreed to chair the Car Show Committee. Jack has proven his level of interest with top car show participant honors within the club.

The NCCC Southwest Region (SWR) awards banquet (as listed above) will be held here in Fort Worth. Everyone is invited to attend. I plan to attend and this will be my first. Please join me and we can act lost together.

I have confirmed Pat's and my registration for the 54th Annual NCCC National Convention to be held in Bowling Green, KY, on 24-28 June. If you plan to go, I urge you to complete your registration soon. We have already been notified that one of our selections has filled and we are listed as "alternates."

I want to remind all members that this club is only as good as its members make it. If you have the capacity, capability, and desire to participate in club activities, please do not hesitate to join us and contribute your time and talent. There are some rather obscure, but critical, occupations that help make our club successful. However, do not attempt to diminish their significance. Without these people working corners, loading the trailer, designing autocross courses, editing handouts, finalizing budgets, supporting TMS events, counting ballots, or counting money as examples, our club would not be very much fun. I have only touched the surface of the variety of opportunities that await your help.

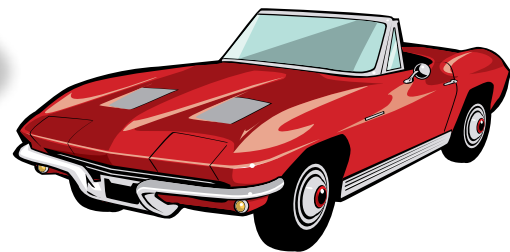
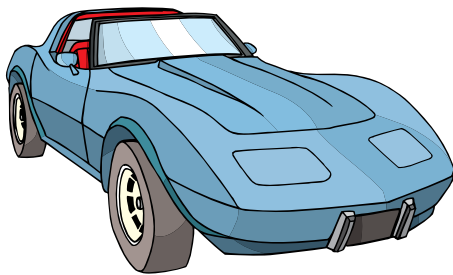
Keep waving!

David Gill

2013 President

dogill80@sbcglobal.net





MARCH 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>* Membership Meeting 7:30 Meeting</i>	2 <i>Lunch Cruise to Thurber Meet at 10AM at Veterans Park White Settlement</i>
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20 <i>Board Meeting LOW-DOWN DEADLINE</i>	21	22	23 <i>*National Kidney Walk Trinity Park see CTV website to sign up & more info</i>
24/31 	25	26	27	28	29	30

Bold italic type denotes CTV events

** Denotes required attendance and participation for 100%er Award eligibility*

APRIL 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 <i>* Membership Meeting 7:30 Meeting</i>	6 <i>Susan G.Komen Race for the Cure Ridgmar Mall see CTV for more info</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 <i>Board Meeting LOW-DOWN DEADLINE</i>	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 <i>3rd Annual Vines Vettes Car Show Registration 2:00 - 3:00</i>	29	30				

Bold italic type denotes CTV events

** Denotes required attendance and participation for 100%er Award eligibility*

Page 3

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

WELCOME!



New Members

Welcome to our new members

Bob & Nancy Greene - 1976 L82 Stingray, Torch Red

We'd also like to welcome Second Time Visitors:

Denise Anderson - 2007 Red Coupe, Black Interior

Dana & Rhonda Williams - 2003 50th Anniversary Coupe

We'd also like welcome First Time Visitors:

William Nolan & Mary Pittman - 2003 C5 coupe, Grey

Jessie D. Guyden, Jr. - 2005 Red Coupe

John D. Williams - 2006 Yellow Convertible

Bob Carden - 1973 Stingray, 2004 Convertible, 2006 Convertible

Gary & Sherry Stephens - 2006 Z06

Jo Anne Smith

Membership / Welcome Chairperson

ctv-membership@yahoogroups.com

CELEBRATIONS

3/3 JASON BLOCKER
3/3 ROB POST
3/6 MANDA GORMAN
3/7 JOE ROSALES
3/10 LOU KIEBY
3/11 BOB GREENE
3/14 BRUCE LEWIS
3/15 JIM PERRY
3/15 DONNA ROSETT
3/16 DOLLIE HUNLEY
3/17 JACK GANDY
3/18 DONALD RANKIN
3/20 WES RHODES
3/26 KAREN PHILLIPS



3/13 LARRY & ANN FREEMAN
3/16 JOHN & CORY ARMES
3/15 DONALD & CARLANNE HICKMAN
3/3 KERRY & ALAINE KING

CTV Committees 2013

AUDIT

Kim West: Chairperson

kdcwest@sbcglobal.net

CAR SHOW

Jack Gandy: Chairperson

jgandy55@att.net

Fred Procter: Co-Chairperson

CHARITIES

Jane Buehler: Chairperson

buehler8721@gmail.com

Cory Armes: Co-Chairperson

CTV CRUISER

Donald Hickman: Chairperson

donaldhickman@sbcglobal.net

Carlanne Hickman: Co-Chairperson

EQUIPMENT

Donald Littlefield: Chairperson

z06don@gmail.com

LOGO MERCHANDISE

Karen Watson: Chairperson

rickandkaren@mindspring.com

MEMBERSHIP/WELCOME

Jo Anne Smith: Chairperson

josmith619@att.net

Donna Forsythe: Co-Chairperson

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT



What an exciting finish to the Super Bowl! There were 41 members and 8 visitors watching the excitement at Pappas Burgers on Sunday, February 3. With Mardi Gras beads, good food, and lively discussions everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. The football pool generated \$100.00 for the club charity fund and \$25.00 for 4 members. Debby and P.J. Jackson won the first quarter, Raley Smith won the second quarter, Walter Wheeler won the 3rd quarter, and Don Fowler won the 4th quarter as a result of the trick play by Baltimore in the final seconds of the game. The 34 minutes of delay put the end of the game after Pappas was supposed to close but they let us stay until it was over which we appreciated.

Love was in the air on Saturday, February 16 at Carino's Italian Grill. Fifty members and guests celebrated Valentine's Day with a buffet dinner of lasagna or lemon-rosemary chicken, bread, salad, and dessert. Decorations of red and pink hearts, balloons, and centerpieces made the room a "lovely" place to be. Each person received a small package of sweet treats to enjoy later.

It's not too late to get in shape for the NKF Walk on Saturday, March 23 at Trinity Park. Cowtown Vettes will have a canopy set up to serve as a gathering place for members. Bring a chair and small cooler with drinks and snacks if you like. Water and fruit is usually available at the site. You are not required to walk to receive credit for the 100%-er event but your presence and support is appreciated. After the walk, there will be an optional lunch/brunch. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the meeting so I can get an estimate of how many will be going to eat. The number of people will help determine where we might go. Lucille's and La Familia are two possibilities. Dust off those running shoes, dig out those jogging pants, and come walk with us for a very worth cause.

Carlanne Hickman

2013 Vice President

chickma101@sbcglobal.net



CTV Committees 2013

MID-AMERICA

James West: Chairperson

jnk69vette@sbcglobal.net



NCCC EVENTS

Rick Watson: Chairperson

rickandkaren@mindspring.com

<Open>: Co-Chairperson



NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

Kim West: Ambassador

kwest1@drborton.com



NEWSLETTER

Becky Clark: Chairperson

dcbc5356@charter.net



NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Robert Geyer: Chairperson

geyerdrill@aol.com



PARLIAMENTARIAN

John Armes: Chairperson

armesgs@gmail.com



SOCIALS

Carlanne Hickman: Chairman

chickman101@sbcglobal.net

Pat Gill: Co-Chairperson



TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

Rick Garabedian: Chairperson

rgarab1@yahoo.com

Scott Wheeler: Co-Chairperson



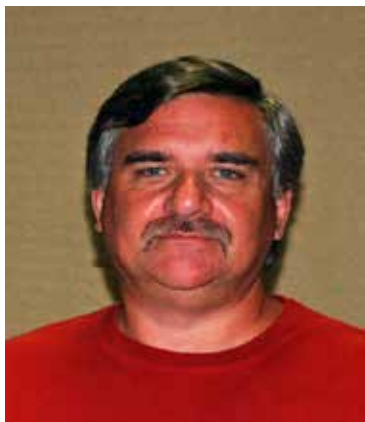
TIMING

Candy Beck: Chairperson

candy.beck@sbcglobal.net

Becky Clark: Co-Chairperson

NCCC EVENTS



As you can see the schedule of our events this year have changed. We will be holding the No Frills weekend with CCT at Mineral Wells on June 1st and 2nd. As soon as I have the hotel information I will be passing that on to Doug for posting on the web site.

The Spring Scramble will be held at Fat Daddy's in Mansfield on Saturday

May 4th, hopefully without the rain.

I think I may have found a location to hold the practice autocross. I will have Doug post it on the web site if it works out .

I do have the contract for rooms with Hampton Inn & Suites for the September event. This is the hotel we have used for the past several years. We have a block of 60 rooms, 40 standard rooms for \$89.00 per night and 20 suites

Rick Watson

NCCC Events Coordinador

rickandkaren@mindspring.com

for \$109.00 per night. This is the same rate as last year. Look for a link on our web site in the near future to reserve your room.

For 2013, the NCCC Events have changed some. The CTV events below are listed on the [SWR 2013 Schedule](#) – please mark your 2013 calendars.

- Date pending availability – Practice Autocross (non-sanctioned) – Location: Tentatively TCC Northwest Campus.
- May 4th (Saturday) Spring Scramble; tentative plans would be an event similar to this year's Fall Scramble. – Location: Fat Daddy's in Mansfield
- June 1st & 2 (Saturday & Sunday) – the No Frills joint Low-Speed NCCC Autocross Event with Corvette Club of Texas (CCT) – Location: Mineral Wells
- September 21st & 22nd (Saturday & Sunday) – the 17th Annual Super Speedway Weekend at Texas Motor Speedway – Location: Texas Motor Speedway

I would like to say, "Thank you" for the numerous people who have approached me to help me with anything that needs to be done in order to make these events happen. I am still looking for a co-chair. Again, you don't need to be a racer in order to be involved.

COWTOWN CRUISER



Spring is just around the corner so get out and drive your Vettes and enjoy the friendship of fellow CTV members and guests. Upcoming cruises include:

March 2, 2013 a cruise through the back roads of Parker and Palo Pinto Counties with lunch at the Smokestack Restaurant in lovely downtown Thurber,

Texas. The route will start at the Veteran's Park in White Settlement and we will cover 115 miles before lunch. The estimated start time is 10:00 AM with lunch around 1:00 PM. For members interested in Cruiser Points we will continue the cruise after lunch back to Mineral Wells and Weatherford.

May 17-19, 2013 Doug and Glenda will host a weekend cruise to the Hill Country. If you have not been on one of CTV's Hill Country Cruises, they are a lot of fun and you get to see a beautiful part of Texas.

...keep on cruisin'

Donald Hickman

2013 Cruiser Chairperson

donaldhickman@sbcglobal.net

& Carlanne Hickman

& Co-Chair

chickma101@sbcglobal.net

August 11-18, 2013 Doug and Glenda will host a week long cruise that will include (1) run the Tail of the Dragon, (2) driving the Cherohala Skyway, (3) visit Biltmore Estates, (4) run the Moonshiner 28 and (5) may include parts of the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway.

Doug and Glenda have a lot of experience planning and hosting Cruises and you won't be disappointed.

Please check the Cruiser Schedule <http://cowtownvettes.org/CCP/cruisersch.html> for upcoming cruises and last minute changes.

2013 Cowtown Cruiser Program (CCP) has started and the 2013 Cruiser Logo and log sheets will be available at the March meeting or you can email me and I will send you a copy along with the Excel log that keeps track of your points. If you have questions, information is available on the Cowtown website or please give me a call.

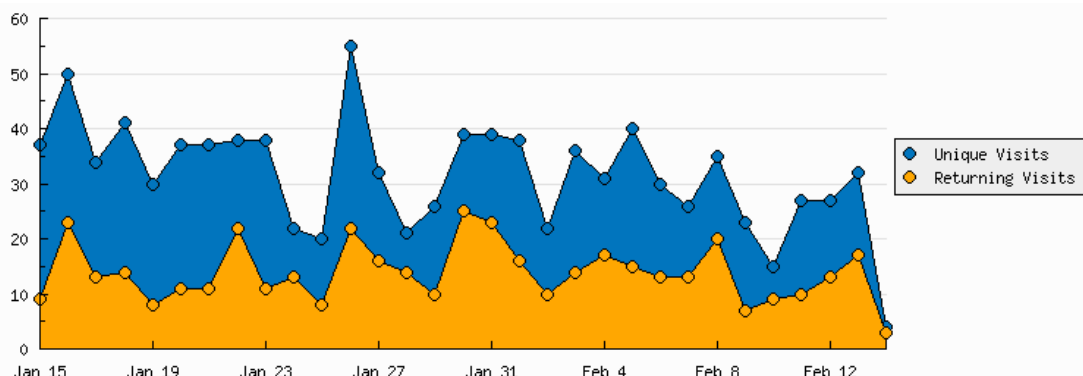
2013 Annual Vette Photo Contest: The "What You Saw Along the Way" Photo Contest has started so you need to be taking interesting pictures of your Vette while you are out cruising. You will find rules for it on our website. We welcome any suggestions for new cruise destinations or improving the program.

WEBMASTER



We did have two club socials in February; a Super Bowl and Valentine's Social. At this time, the SB social has been posted to the website and hopefully the Valentine's social will be by the time this is published. Don't forget your camera when you go out to enjoy any of the many events available, regardless if it is a club event or something you went and participated in; we do welcome YOUR photos! As you browse around the website, if you spot something on a webpage which appears to be incorrect or needs attention, please contact me so it can be looked at. Maybe you have an idea for something that would make our website better; we would like to hear about it. This is the club's website which is viewed from all over the world – so we want it to be up-to-date and always correct.

Speaking of being viewed all over the world, for February, our site was viewed 93% of the time in the USA; the other 7% in countries such as Switzerland, Germany, Canada, UK and France. While those countries won't bring us new members, it is interesting to see how our small Ft Worth based club is being found around the world. In looking at our sitemeter logs, it is great to see that unique visits (new visitors) outnumber the returning visit (those that have been to the site previously). This means that our website is reaching new audiences to not only share what our club is about, but hopefully to reach potential new members as well.



If you have an interest in assisting with the club's website, this has been a goal for some time now; maybe splitting off areas such as the Misc. Car Show & Competition Calendars, maybe even event pages, or social media, etc. If you have an interest, please contact me.

Do you do Social Media? ...Facebook or Linked-In? If so, are you a FB friend with Cowtown Vettes and the National Council of Corvette Clubs (NCCC)? The social media venues are not to replace our traditional website but to provide additional avenues to promote our club, our socials and our events. Events that are open to guests are ones that events are created on the social media; invites are sent to the Club's social media friends where they can accept, decline and even state maybe on their attendance. When they do this, it also generates traffic for others to see the event where some of the potential new participants come from. After the events, we typically select a few pictures to share some of the fun we had; with a link to the event page on our traditional website so they can find more photos and information. Not only does this get a potential new participant or member to that event page but they also browse around our website looking at other fun we have. You can find our clubs and NCCC's Facebook account off the link on our Cowtown website (left bottom). NCCC also has a Facebook account now as well; it is also linked off the Cowtown website – lower left on our website.

Cowtown Email Distribution Lists: I maintain between 25 & 30 email distribution lists at any given time; beyond the CTV-ALL and CTV-EO (officer) lists, most are special interest such as Car Show committee, NCCC Events, Cruises, etc. Chairpersons, some of these lists (along with webpages) go with your functions so if you are a new chairperson, your email will be added. If you have questions around the distribution lists, please get in touch with me. Members, if you change your email address, mailing address, your Vettes, etc., please let membership know so that your address can be updated in the Membership Database along with the various email lists. Cowtown has over thirty email distribution lists, many geared around specific activities or functions, like NCCC, various committees, convention, etc. so, if you'd like to be added to a specific list, get in touch with me. If by chance you are not receiving the CTV-All emails then your correct email address must not be in the system; contact us. Send all email and address updates to: ctv-membership@yahoogroups.com ?

If you have suggestions, questions or comments about how we are managing your Club's website and/or Facebook account, please don't hesitate to give me a shout. I also encourage you to shout if you find any pages that have issues or if there is something you would like to see or things you dislike; after all this is your website and I am only the caretaker of your website.

Doug McMahan
2013 CTV Webmaster
macsvettes@att.net

...whatever your Corvette interest is, pursue your passion,
keep the spirit of fun and fellowship in mind...and most
of all...Have fun doing it!



February Parties



SW Region Clubs

BRAZOS RIVER CORVETTE CLUB (BRCC)
Granbury, TX • SW-540

◆

CEN-TEX CORVETTE CLUB (CTCC)
Waco, TX • SW-200

◆

CORVETTE CLUB OF OKLAHOMA CITY (CCOC)
Oklahoma City, OK • SW-468

◆

CORVETTE CLUB OF TEXAS (CCT)
Dallas, TX • SW-074

◆

**CORVETTE OWNERS ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH TEXAS (COAST)**
San Antonio, TX • SW-143

◆

COWTOWN VETTES (CTV)
Fort Worth, TX • SW-055

◆

EAST TEXAS CORVETTE CLUB (ETCC)
Lufkin, TX • SW-577

◆

LONGHORN CORVETTE CLUB (LCC)
Austin, TX • SW-207

◆

MID-COAST CORVETTE CLUB (MCCC)
Lake Jackson, TX • SW-170

◆

NORTH TEXAS VETTES (NTV)
Fort Worth, TX • SW-555

◆

OKLAHOMA CITY CORVETTE CLUB (OCCC)
Oklahoma City, OK • SW-131

◆

SAN JACINTO CORVETTE CLUB (SJCC)
Houston, TX • SW-063

◆

SUN CITIES CORVETTE CLUB (SCCC)
Albuquerque, NM • SW-085

◆

**TEXAS COMPETITION
CORVETTE CLUB (TCCC)**
McGregor, TX • SW-569

◆

**TEXAS CORVETTE
MOTORSPORTS CLUB (TCMC)**
Houston, TX • SW-568

◆

TEJAS VETTES (TV)
Plano, TX • SW-163

◆

TEXAS OUTLAWS CORVETTE CLUB (TOCC)
Graham, TX • SW-198

◆

TIN HALL TOYS (THT)
Santa Fe, TX • SW-392

◆

TULSA VETTE SET (TVS)
Tulsa, OK • SW-248

2013 COMPETITION SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	CLUB
2/22-23	St Louis, MO	NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l
3/9	Ft Worth, TX	SWR Awards Banquet, hosted by SWR Officers Banquet Registration Deadline: 2/28/13 (rec'd) Hotel Deadline: 2/28/13 (block released) Hotel Registration: \$94 + tax	SWR
3/10-12	Ft Worth, TX	SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 9 AM at TBD	SWR
3/16-17	Houston, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend, 14-LS Events at the Police Academy	SJCC
3/24??	TBD	<u>Test-n-Tune Autocross (non-sanctioned)</u>	CMCT
3/23-24	Houston, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend	SJCC
4/6-07	TBD	1st CHOICE Weekend	TOCC
4/13-14	Waco, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend	CTCC
4/21-22	TBD, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend	CTV (BRCC)
4/26-27	St Louis, MO	NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l
		Driving School / Track Day (non-sanctioned) Friday the 10th	
5/11-12	Hallett, OK	1st CHOICE Weekend - SWR Fundraiser	TBD
5/25-26	OKC, OK Noble, OK	1st CHOICE - 7 Autocross Events <u>1st CHOICE Weekend - Drags @ Thunder Valley in Noble, OK</u>	OCCC
6/1	TBD, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend	CTV (BRCC / CCT)
6/1	TBD	SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 7 PM @ TBD	SWR
6/8-09	OKC, OK Sheriff's Facility	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	TVS SCCC
6/24-28	Bowling Green, KY	NATIONAL CONVENTION 2013 & NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l
6/28	Bowling Green, KY	National Club Newsletter & Website Contest Winners Announced	Nat'l
9/13-14	St Louis, MO	NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l
9/21-22	Ft Worth, TX	<u>1st CHOICE - LS Autocross Events @ Texas Motor Speedway - Laps on the Oval Sunday Morning</u>	CTV
9/21	Ft Worth, TX	<u>SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 8 PM @ Hampton Inn on I-35 (just south of Texas Motor Speedway)</u>	SWR
9/28-29	OKC, OK <u>Sheriff's Facility</u>	1st Choice - 6 LS Autocross Events 1st Choice - 7 LS Autocross Events	CCOC SCCC
10/12-13	TBD, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend	CTCC
10/19-20	OKC, OK Noble, OK	1st CHOICE - 7 Autocross Events at Sheriff's Facility <u>1st CHOICE - 3 Drag Events @ Thunder Valley in Noble</u>	COAST OCCC
11/2-03	TBD, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend	TV
TBD	2-Nov	<u>SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 7 PM @ TBD</u>	SWR
11/8-09	St Louis, MO	NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l

Flyers for these events can be found at <http://ncccswwregion.org/schedule.html>

GOVERNOR'S THOUGHTS



It is March and winter is just about over! Which means spring is in the air and everyone will want to get their corvettes out and exercise the horses!

Rick is still planning a practice autocross if a location can be found. It is always a fun event where everyone can try their hand at driving around an autocross track. If we can not find a location you will get your chance at running an autocross at the March 16th and 17th Houston autocross at the Police Academy. This is a low-speed course with a smooth surface, typically more technical which makes it fun. The complete 2013 SWR schedule is on the website: <http://www.ncccswwregion.org/schedule.html>

The Southwest Region Awards Banquet will be taking place March 9th at the Radisson Hotel in Ft. Worth across I-35 from Coors, our meeting place.

Cowtown has 12 people getting awards for 2012. It is a great party, so I hope to see you there.

NCCC Convention registration is under way and probably most of you have already gotten your plans to attend. It is June 24-28 in the "birth place of Corvette" Bowling Green, KY. It will be a fun filled week of parties, competition and time to socialize with other corvette owners from around the country. Come for the week or even part of the week but you don't want to miss out. You can also visit the Corvette Museum while there. Of course, as always someone will take home a new Corvette. This year it is a 2013 Red Coupe. Buy some raffle tickets, it might just be yours!

The Southwest Region and National Scholarship Programs are taking applications for 2013 now. The National Program deadline is to be received by April 27, 2013. The Southwest Region deadline is to be postmarked by 6/15/2013. See the website links off of Cowtown's website to locate the rules, specifics and addresses.

Glenda McMahon
2013 NCCC Governor
glenda-gm@att.net



3rd Annual Vines & Vettes Corvette Show

Hosted by: **LOST OAK WINERY** Sunday, April 28, 2013

2:00 - 3:00 PM - Registration & Setup
3:00 - 5:30 PM - People's Choice Voting
6:00 PM - Awards

Live Entertainment by **The Swags** - 3-6pm
2116 FM 731 - Burleson, Texas 76028
\$10 per Vette (non-Wine Club Member)
\$8 per person (Wine Club Member)



COWTOWN VETTES CHARITY REPORT



Come Walk With ME

BY: Sylvia Hoaldrige

Please log onto www.kidney.org and sign up to walk as an individual, as a team or make a donation in memory of, or in celebration of a friend, a co-worker, a relative, or yourself. Take a Lifesaving Step. Join me on Saturday, March 23, at Trinity Park. Meet other Walkers in the area around the Pavilion on 7th Street at 8:00 AM. The Fort Worth Walk will begin at 9:00 AM.

Why am I asking you to come and walk with me? Kidney Disease is directly associated to many of today's major health issues: obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and high blood pressure, yet many doctors do not check for kidney disease until it has progressed into later stages and ultimately requires dialysis or a kidney transplant for survival. One in nine (9) people is affected by chronic kidney disease. Hispanic, African Americans, Asian Americans and Native Americans are most at risk for the disease. Every year our community of Walkers increases to help raise funds for the National Kidney Foundation's programs and services, such as research, kidney health awareness, patient services & education, advocacy for organ donation, Camp Reynal kids camp and much more.

As an active member of Cowtown Vettes and NCCC since 1975, I would like to share my story about how kidney disease derailed not only my life and my husband's life but our plans for the future. In August 2006, during a week-long trip to Disney World for NCCC's annual Convention, I became ill with what I thought was a summer bout of flu or an allergic reaction to my hotel's remodeling--new paint, wallpaper, floor tile and carpet. My sense of taste went awry; a sip of Pepsi tasted salty and salty snacks, i.e. chips, pretzels, etc., were sweet. As my week in Orlando progressed, my energy, thirst and appetite waned. Upon my return home, my husband, Larry, immediately saw a drastically different wife than he had sent off to Orlando a week earlier -- no energy, difficulty breathing, extremely bloated.

I had two days (Sat. & Sun.) to decide which doctor I was going to call on Monday morning -- our GP or my allergist. I chose to contact our GP and was fortunate enough to be able to see his PA within an hour of my call. After a brief exam, the PA's diagnosis was that I had acquired a virus during my stay in Orlando, FL. Armed a prescription for Cipro, the PA instructed me to give blood before I left the office.

Larry then took me home and I managed climb into bed with five (5) pillows. Thirty (30) minutes later, our GP called and told me, "Get your butt to Baylor All Saints now. You have 3% usage of your kidneys." Instead of reacting excitedly, I calmly changed clothes, packed a little suitcase for what I thought would be a short hospital stay, and I waited for Larry to return from the drug store with my Cipro that would go unused

Larry and I arrived at the BAS Emergency Room with ER personnel awaiting my arrival. After some poking and prodding, along with numerous questions that even I had difficulty answering, I was transported to the 3rd floor (for patients with kidney [renal] problems). The next morning (August 14, 2006) dawned with my being prepped for surgery to insert an access in my neck for dialysis. [NOTE: The neck access is hooked to a dialysis machine for removing toxins from my blood...in lieu of working kidneys.] During my 3-1/2 week hospital stay, I was referred to by the 3rd floor staff as their "miracle patient," because no one could determine why my kidneys had failed. During my hospital stay, I dialyzed three times a week and my weight went from 178 pounds, my heaviest ever, to 145 pounds.

Since my GP did not have doctor's privileges at BAS, he handed me off to a kidney doctor with privileges. After about 2-1/2 - 3 weeks, I became terribly impatient; I wanted to go home. What I did not know at the time was my doctor had an idea of what had caused my kidney failure, but a 2nd opinion was needed. The 2nd opinion came from Dr. Mary Milam, a hematologist-oncologist. Her first visit came at 11:00 PM with an onslaught of questions. Before Dr. Milam left to continue her hospital rounds, she informed me that I would be having a bone marrow biopsy, followed by a series of skeletal x-rays (from the top of my head to my little toe). [NOTE: If you ever need to have a bone marrow biopsy (bmb), I strongly suggest you request twilight drugs to ease the excruciating pain that accompanies a bone marrow biopsy when only a topical numbing cream is used.) My husband firmly believes that his left hand, which I clasped during the bmb procedure, will never be the same. After two hours of lying flat on my back completely still, I was transported for my skeletal x-ray. Later that evening, while a close friend was visiting Larry and me, Dr. Milam came in to give me the news -- (1) THE GOOD NEWS...I have no holes in my bones; (2) THE BAD NEWS...I have Multiple Myeloma, cancer of the plasma cell. My calmness really scared me; I was immediately relieved to know why my kidneys failed.



COWTOWN VETTES CHARITY REPORT



However, while Larry and our close friend were in the hall, I suddenly felt like my lungs were going to burst! I had to relieve some inner tension -- I screamed at the top my lungs!! What a release that was.

After hearing the news and knowing what caused my kidney failure, I felt that I was ready to get on with my life. Larry and I had been making vacation plans and plans for the future. I was hoping to work part-time; I was looking forward to traveling to racing venues with Larry and racing our '66 pink race car; I wanted to devote some time to my knitting and crochet projects.

Within the next couple of days, Larry and I came to the conclusion that being on dialysis was going to be more of a life changer than having cancer. That conclusion has proved correct and we are making the very best of this situation.

When I said dialysis was going to be a life-changer, that's putting it mildly. Dialysis three days a week, 3-1/2 hours a day took immediate priority in our lives. With the help of my wonderful renal dietician and her continued patience and vast knowledge of a kidney-friendly diet, I have learned what I can and cannot eat; i.e. I have not had orange juice since I started dialyzing; it's not kidney friendly. I also had to learn to control my liquid intake... not just by bottle, glass, cup, etc. but liquid in jello, soup or any dish that contains any kind of liquid. With non-functioning kidneys, my body has no filtering system. I have to continue to monitor my phosphorous, potassium and calcium intake every day for the rest of my life

Being hooked to a dialysis machine is not a substitute for a long, healthy life. In my case, my healthy kidneys were attacked by a protein, which is a marker for Multiple Myeloma. I'm part of 12% of myeloma patients whose kidneys fail in an early stage of myeloma. As Multiple Myeloma becomes more prevalent with adults living longer, there is a slight increase in those myeloma patients who have to dialyze to survive

I was very fortunate that my Multiple Myeloma was found in an early stage due to my kidney failure. I was also very fortunate to have been able to donate my stem cells for my stem cell transplant that took place in April, 2007. Since that time, I see Dr. Milam every 8-10 weeks and go to U.T. Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas for blood tests four times a year and an annual bone marrow biopsy. Currently, my Multiple Myeloma remains in complete remission. I'm also trying to get on the kidney transplant list at Baylor Hospital.

I've wanted to write this article for a number of years and now feel that it is important to let readers know how important it is to take care of our kidneys. I pray that you continue to have healthy kidneys. However, I hope that you will discuss kidney disease to your doctor.

I look forward to seeing many of my Corvette friends on the trail on March 23rd.

Please go to www.cowtownvettes.org for a link to www.kidney.org for more details about the Fort Worth Kidney Walk, along with how to sign up as a walker for Team Corvettes NKF, how to make a donation to an individual walker or to Team Corvettes NKF, etc.

I would like to thank the Cowtown Vettes members for the beautiful green plant and well wishes sent to me after back surgery. I'm still a ways from complete recovery but every day is a new step. Thanks - Becky Clark

SUSAN G. KOMEN Race For The Cure

It's that time of year again to register for the Fort Worth Race for Cure which is on April 6, 2013 at Ridgmar Mall again. We will meet between 7:00 am and 7:30 am on the east side of the Mall at the Neiman Marcus entrance, same place we have met for the past two years. I have registered us as a team, name being "Cowtown Vettes" and I am again the team captain.

To register go to www.komengreaterfortworth.org, Click on Komen Race for the Cure (one of the tabs across the top), on the next page, click on Join an Existing Team and enter Cowtown Vettes. I received an email saying that if you register by midnight tonight, you can save \$10 on your registration fee. If you want to take advantage of the discount, during the registration process you will see a place to enter a discount code. The code is "PINK".

Although we didn't go eat afterwards last year, let's go this year. I will be thinking of a place in the vicinity of the Mall. If anyone has any suggestions, please let me know

Thanks everyone for your support! Let's try to get at least 30 of us on the Team!.

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Do you have a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, or are a guardian to a child under the age of 16 years. If so, don't forget to enroll him/her in the **Future Corvette Owners Association (FCOA)**, NCCC's youth organization.

Website: <http://www.corvettesnccc.org/fcoa1.html>



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**CTV Logo
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Hello everyone. Welcome to the Logo Merchandise store. There are lots of great things for sale with the Cowtown logo on them. Here's just a sampling of some of the things we have for sale:

Caps.....	\$ 7.50
Visors.....	\$ 7.50
Sweatshirts.....	\$20.00
<i>(2XL and up slightly higher)</i>	
Long Sleeve T-shirts.....	\$15.00
<i>(2XL and up slightly higher)</i>	
Short Sleeve T-shirts	\$13.00
Men's & Women's Long Sleeve Denim Shirts	\$25.00
Polo shirts. All different styles.....	\$25.00
<i>(Please note that on all shirt orders,</i>	
<i>2XL and up sizes are slightly higher)</i>	

If you want your name added to your shirt,
it's only \$3 more!

Or if you want a Cowtown logo or a certain year
Corvette on one of your own shirts it's only \$5!

Name tags\$ 12.00

We also have stickers, patches, koozies, and tumblers *(only two of these left!)*

So stop by the Logo table before and after the meeting to place your order. You'll get your order by the next meeting.

Thanks!

Karen Watson

Logo Merchandise Chairperson
rickandkaren@mindspring.com
817-232-3871



ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE SENT TO:

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DO YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS? HAVE YOU SOLD YOUR CORVETTE OR BOUGHT A NEW ONE?
If so, let Membership know so we can update your address on the various email lists. You can send any updates to Membership at: ctv-membership@yahoogroups.com.

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