

NCRS

AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER



August To December 2008

President
Murray Forman

Vice President
David Alder

Secretary
Wendy Forman

Treasurer
Deborah Barrett

Merchandise
Ron Barrett

Webmaster
Gary Cowans

Editor
Gary Wilkinson

No. Plate Registrar
Scott Munter

Event Coord.
Andrew Mavin

Committee
Neil Fletcher
Colin Woods
Pamela Woods
Richard Dickens

Public Officer
Murray Forman

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Ph: 08 82954440

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Neil Fletcher
Ph: 07 54511883

New South Wales
Murray Forman
Ph: 02 45678330

Victoria
Louis Rokas
Ph: 03 93971799

Note: The State Rep is normally the first point of contact for enquiries regarding NCRS Australia membership or general club info. Enquiries from Tasmania covered by VIC Rep, from NT covered by SA Rep.

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WOODSIDE
OF
GCA

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OFFICE BEARERS



President: Murray Forman

Vice-Pres.: David Alder

Secretary: Wendy Forman



Treasurer: Deborah Barrett

Editor: Gary Wilkinson

Web Master: Gary Cowans



Merchandise: Ron Barrett

No. Plate Reg.: Scott Munter

Event Coord. Andrew Mavin

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Neil Fletcher

Colin Woods

Pamela Woods

Richard Dickens

STATE REPRESENTATIVES



SA: Emmanouel Gaganis

WA: Terry Martin

QLD: Neil Fletcher

NSW: Murray Forman



VIC: Louis Rokas (photo coming)

2008 AGM REPORT

Murray Forman opened the Meeting at 5-00pm Friday October 24th 2008.

In attendance were 30 members and family.

New Members:- Ian Gibbings, Ray Thompson, Karl Taylor.

Minutes from the last meeting were handed around for all to read.

Acceptance of minutes was moved by Colin Morris, 2nd by Gary Cowans

Correspondence in: Secretary had nothing to report.

Presidents Report: Read by Murray Forman.

Vice Presidents Report: Read by David Alder.

Secretary's Report: Read by Wendy Forman.

Web Masters Report: Read by Gary Cowans..

Editors Report: Read by Gary Wilkinson.

Treasurers Report: Read by Deborah Barrett.

In Deborah's Report, she covered the financial year and gave out a financial statement to all members, stating as at 24/10/08: NCRS Australia Inc holds \$32,632-38 in the bank with all expenses paid prior to this AGM. She also reported on holding \$9,946-00 in apparel & stock, which gives us a very strong financial position.

Murray Forman then declared all positions vacant and everybody stood aside. The meeting was handed over to the Enrolling Officer Colin Morris.

Colin conducted the re-election of all positions as there were only single applicants for each position. He read all the positions and the names for those positions. As there was no discussion to be held on the positions, all positions remained the same, no changes at all. The positions remain as follows:

President	- Murray Forman
Vice President	- David Alder
Secretary	- Wendy Forman
Treasurer	- Deborah Barrett
Editor	- Gary Wilkinson
Web Master	- Gary Cowans
Events Co-Ordinator	- Andrew Mavin
Apparel	- Ron Barrett
Club Plate Registrar	- Scott Munter
General Committee	- Colin Woods, Pamela Woods, Richard Dickens
State Reps	- NSW- M.Forman, WA- T.Martin, VIC -L.Rokas, Qld- N.Fletcher, SA- E.Gaganis, Tasmania- C.Farrer.

A motion was put forward to accept all members by Clint Messenger, Second by Terry Martin. Motion passed. At this point Colin Morris closed the election and handed the meeting back over to Murray Forman. Murray Forman thanked Colin Morris and opened the meeting for general discussion.

Murray Forman gave a report on the 2009 Convention to be held at Rooty Hill RSL Club, NSW on March 4th – 8th March..

He spoke about the facilities and pre-event “Vettes in the Vines” tour and Murray put forward a motion to pay deposits for accommodation and bus tours for this event, being a total of \$5,000-00. This motion was seconded by G.Wilkinson, all voted and accepted.

A report was given by Murray on the Chapter nominated charity being Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Murray then put forward a motion to change our Constitution and read out to the members all the changes that needed to be addressed. Those being as follows

- a) Life Membership
- b) Objectives of the Chapter.

This motion was seconded by G.Cowans. All voted and accepted to be changed.

Murray then reported on Club Registration in NSW and indicated he wanted to do the same in other States. He asked the attending VIC members Scott Morten & Peter Whiston if they would be interested, their response was not at this time. No SA or QLD members were present. Murray will speak with them at a later date. The WA members were then asked if they were interested in Club Registration. Their answer was yes.

G.Cowans then gave a report on the WA requirements needed to achieve this project as follows: The Chapter needs two scrutineers to do annual inspection checks in June of each year. Nominations were Terry Martin & David Alder. A Club Registrar was also required and Gary Cowans was nominated for this position. The requirements are for two CMC (Council of Motoring Clubs) Representatives, Ray Thompson & Gary Wilkinson were nominated for these positions. Murray Forman moved a motion to accept all the positions, seconded by Andrew Mavin. The only thing needed to be checked is the Public Liability Policy. Gary Cowans will look into this. The AGM voted to accept unanimously.

Murray Forman spoke on an Australian plaque and produced an example of what he would like to do. He submitted for approval the cost of \$1940-00 to achieve this award.

Louis Rokas moved a motion, Clint Messenger seconded, all AGM members voted and accepted.

Murray Forman then gave a report on the cost of excess baggage for equipment and apparel taken to Chapter Meets in Perth. This cost was \$250-00 by the airline, in future it may be cheaper to pre-ship this equipment rather than pay excess baggage.

Murray then gave a report on the upcoming Chapter Meets being, Sydney 2009 and Perth 2010. At this point he asked the member's where the 2011 Chapter Meet was to be held. After discussions with the Victorian members, Louis Rokas, Scott Morden and Peter Whiston, the decision was made to hold the 2011 Chapter Meet in Melbourne.

Murray explained that these Chapter Meets in 2009, 2010 and 2011, will be classified as an INTERNATIONAL JUDGING MEET to be held in conjunction with the Committee he has established to formulate a new Judging Meet Award. He went on to say that he had approached the NCRS Board for permission to put together a committee to formulate the new Award for the cars that have reached Top Flight status and cannot go any further, unless the cars are returned to the United States for Judging Meets. These cars have to achieve a 97% and above (without driving points) to qualify for this new Award. He is hoping that this new Award will be called the INTERNATIONAL MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARD covering C1, C2, C3 and C4 Corvettes. Of course all this is pending the Board's acceptance.

Murray asked for any other General business. David Alder spoke of banners for your car and also asked about formulating a calendar of all members cars. The general consensus was yes and David was instructed to put together a proposal for the Committee. It was agreed that the best way to choose the cars was by a ballot.

Murray Forman then put forward an idea for the Magazine and the web site to put up a "Parts & Car for Sale" section. Both the Editor and Web Master agreed and will formulate this idea. (*Editor's note 04.12.08: this is now up and running – check the website – great work Gary C!*)

Murray explained to members the business cards, window stickers and the newly printed brochures to be handed out to prospective members to increase our membership.

Gary Wilkinson then gave a report on the Judging Meet starting the following morning and explained how it was going to work. A prompt start for judging was set for 9:00am.

Murray thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting was closed at 6-30pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (delivered @ AGM)

Firstly, I would like to thank the Executive Committee on their outstanding assistance throughout the past year. You have all made my job more pleasant.

So, in saying that, this year has passed by us and our membership has grown to a record, David will outline membership in his report.

We have had a good financial year, as our Treasurer has laid out for us. This allowed us to purchase stock and equipment necessary for improving the running of our Chapter Events, ie: banners, projector, printer and stationary.

The Chapter now has available some advertising brochures that we can hand out to prospective new members. Please take some with you and if you get any chance, hand them out so we can expand our membership.

I would like to thank David Alder, who has really excelled himself as our Vice President, he has arranged sponsorship for the next upcoming three events, being this event, Sydney 2009 and Perth 2010.

Also I would like to thank the Sponsors who have come on board to help us out with these Events. David will outline these in his report

As the President, I would ask you to please support these sponsors in appreciation of their donation to our Chapter. Without their assistance, it is very hard to be successful.

I attended the NCRS National Convention in St Charles, Missouri and in conjunction with Tom Barr and Roy Sinor, I attended the Board Meeting and at this meeting I put forward a proposal to formulate a new Judging Award for "International Chapters" only. The Board accepted my proposal and asked me to present to the Board in January 2009.

At the present, I have put together a Committee and we are working on this project. This Committee consists of the following people: Murray Forman (AU), Tom Barr (AZ), Graeme McDonald (NZ), Trevor Rogers (UK) and Robert Musquetier (HO) We are considering calling this Award the "INTERNATIONAL MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARD". I will keep you informed as details unfold.

In March this year, we held our Chapter Meet in Tasmania and this event was a complete success, we had 19 International Members attend along with 37 local Members and visitors giving a total of 56 attending. I think I can say that everybody who attended had a ball .We were able to make a profit on the event as well. I would like to thank Chris Farrer from Tasmania for all his work and assistance he gave me in running this event.

We are working on the next event in Sydney in 2009 we have booked the site, it is at Rooty Hill RSL in Rooty Hill NSW. Once again, this will be a great event.

Prior to that event we will be doing a coach trip up to the Hunter Valley Wine Region where we will be staying two nights, then travel out west to Spend a night in Mudgee, then off to spend the night in The Jenolan Caves then on to Katoomba and return back to Sydney.

After the Sydney event, we have joined together with NCRS New Zealand to help them run their Chapter Judging Meet. This also will be a great experience for all. So, please participate in these events and I will guarantee that you will have a fantastic time and meet more members on the way.

Once again, thank you all for your assistance.

Murray Forman
President
NCRS Australia Inc.

TREASURER'S REPORT (delivered @ AGM)

	Cheque No	Payee	Amount
5.12.07	105	It Help Web Hosting Fees	130
	106	RF Doctors	100
	107	M Forman postage & other expenses	56.99
	108	Harvey Wrld Travel (Tasmania Travel)	27557
	109	D Mavin Card holders	27.95
	110	M Forman postage & other expenses	483.84
	102	D Mavin Welcome Dinner expenses	150
	104	M Forman Barbecue, \Wrestpoint Exp.	2775.24
	103	D Barrett Welcome Dinners	128
	101	RF Doctors	300
	105	Aust Post PO Box	70
	106	It Help Web Hosting Fees	150
	107	Mach 1 Tshirts, hats	1382.7
	108	Pet Trading T shirts & hats	190.3
	109	Gift Voucher D Mavin	50
	111	D Barrett Expenses	152.63
	114	Harvey World Trav Bus Hire Tasmania	600
	113	M Forman Tasmania Dinners etc	11090.3
	112	Cash Float Tasmania (rebanked)	200
	115	M Forman postage & other expenses	17.05
	116	R Barrett refund Tasmania o/payment	205
	117	D Barrett stamps/stationary	20.5
	118	M Forman exp	518.85
	119	Rooty Hill RSL Deposit	500
	120	M Forman exp	253.85
	121	Web Hosting IT Help	130
	122	MetroDesign Merchandise	408.1
	123	Web Hosting IT Help	130
	124	M Forman postage & other expenses	292.84
	125	Quick Copy Printing Banners Perth	1025.2
8.10.08	110	D Alder Perth Dep	595
	126	Australian Ins Broking (Liability Ins)	542
	127	NSW Dept Fair Trading	40
	128	MetroDesign Merchandise	2445.34
	129	C Messenger refund	20
	130	G Wilkinson refund	20
	131	PWhinston refund	100
	132	C Spiteri refund	100
	133	D Alder refund	200
	134	T Kassimiotis refund	100
	135	M Forman Perth Expenses	614.5
	136	Rightway Panel Beaters (Perth Equip)	682.83
	137	KwickKopy Perth flyers	330
	138	G Wilkinson (laminator)	59.9
			5254.57
		Main Account Balance Carried Forward as at 16.11.07	23787.2
		Income from 17.11.07 - 20.10.08	68931.8
		Operational Account 2 22.10.08	113.86
		Total	92832.86
		Less outgoings	54945.91
		Plus unpresented Cheques	5254.57
		Total Out Goings	60200.48
		Main Account Balance 22.10.08	37690.32
		less u/p cheques	5254.57
		Total cash in bank	32632.38

NCRS AUSTRALIA STOCK REPORT AS AT 23/10/08

FLIGHT AWARDS

TOP FLIGHT	30	
SECOND FLIGHT	30	
THIRD FLIGHT	30	COST -75c US\$ DIVIDE BY -65c AU\$ - \$1-35
SPECIAL INTEREST	0	TOTAL _____ \$323.00
APPRECIATION	30	
TABULATOR	20	
JUDGING	60	
WINDOW IDENTIFICATION	<u>40</u>	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>240</u>	

BOOKS	2	COST - DONATED VALUE AU _____ \$ 50.00
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SHIRTS

BLUE DENIM	26	TOTAL 26@ \$45 = \$1170-00	
GREEN CLUB	23	TOTAL 23 @ \$45 = \$1035-00	
EVENT 2006	28	TOTAL 28 @ \$35 = \$ 980-00	
CLUB CAPS	24	TOYAL 24 @ 20= \$480.00	
LADIES SHIRTS	18	TOTAL 18 @24 = \$432.00	TOTAL <u>\$4097.00</u>

RIBBONS

TOP FLIGHT	8		
SECOND FLIGHT	11		
THIRD FLIGHT	15		
SPORTSMAN	12		COST US\$3-58 DIVIED BY -74c = AU\$4-84
LONGEST TRAVELLED	6		
LONGEST TRAILERED	7		
LADIES CHOICE	5		
SUB-TOTAL	64		@ \$4-84 = \$309-76

SQUARE BANNER	1	@350.00	\$350.00
ROLLUP BANNERS	2	@ \$510.00	\$1020.00
CLIP BOARDS	46	@ \$2-50	\$ 115-00
TORCHES	12	@ \$3-00	\$36-00
EXTENSION MIRRORS	3	@ \$2-50	\$ 7-50
MAGNIFYING LENSES	3	@ \$2-00	\$ 6-00
KNEE PADS (2 SETS)	2	@ \$ 8-00	\$ 16-00
KNEELING PADS	4	@ \$ 2-00	\$ 8-00
FIRST AID KIT	1	@ \$10-00	\$ 10-00
PENCILS	60	@ -50c	\$30-00
JUDGING MANUALS	SET	DONATED VALUE	\$600-00
STORAGE CONTAINERS	7	@ \$15-00 =	\$105-00
FULL SET (5) TRAINING DVD			\$350-00
1 PAIR LOGITECH SPEAKERS			\$200-00
20 LEXMARK PRINTER			\$250-00
1 ACER PROJECTOR			\$350-00
AMERICIAN PAPER IN REAMS	10		\$130-00
CLUB STICKERS			\$233.75
PERTH EVENT EQUIPMENT			\$650.00
PRINTING BROCHURES			\$330.00
LAMINATOR			\$59.90
TOTAL			\$4857.15

GRAND TOTAL OF STOCK \$ 9636.91

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (delivered @ AGM)

2008 has been a very successful year for the NCRS Australia chapter.

Membership:

A net increase of 6 members has been recorded. Members have increased their involvement in the club through a very successful meet in Tasmania and now Perth, together with ongoing schools and regular informal meetings.

Sponsorship:

The following three sponsors have agreed to become Top Flight sponsors for each of the next three years: Prime Health Group (John Poyton), GM Down Under Australia, Inmaco (Morton Benjaminsen), and for two years – Shannons Insurance. Furthermore, Rightway Panel Beaters (Terry Martin) and Harvey World Travel in Richmond have also made significant commitments of their time and money to benefit the members and all our sponsors deserve much recognition and thanks. Over the past 3 months we have raised roughly \$11,000 in sponsorship to cover us for at least the next 3 years, and there is scope to increase this further I believe.

Chapter Profile:

The profile of the chapter and its members has been greatly enhanced throughout the past 14 months as members have travelled to a number of American events, including Corvettes at Carlisle, Bloomington Gold, and the NCRS Nationals. We also have an excellent collection of high end Corvettes in Australia that continues to grow rapidly as the growth of our economy outpaces America's. One of the outcomes of this is that our chapter now has a very good established network with a large number of friends and colleagues that will do whatever they can to assist us in restoring our cars from across the globe. As a club we need to continue to consider what we can do to return these favours, perhaps during the general business section of today's meeting.

Marketing:

Sponsorship funding provides the club with options on how to promote itself and reward the members. As the treasurer will / has reported we are in a very healthy position financially and measures taken to date to promote the club include banners, flyers, an enhanced web site, trophies, business cards, and t-shirts. It is my suggestion that we consider other alternatives perhaps with the assistance of our sponsor in Shannons. As a significant member of the classic car community in Australia they have links which we could capitalise on, and recently I have sought their help with an introduction to Top Gear Australia for a potential TV show timeslot. I have also made contact with Unique Cars Magazine who may also look to write a story on the club and our judging meets. Please feel free to contact either Murray or me with any suggestions you have here.

Future Events:

Murray has already advised you of the Vettes in the Vines in 2009 national event. In March 2010 we intend to host the national event here in Perth. In order to attract overseas guests, ideally with extensive judging experience, as well as Australian members from other states to bring their cars over we need to commence research on this event now, particularly the extra-curricular activities and possible venue. The current committee would greatly appreciate assistance with this wherever possible.

Thanks:

Thank you to all committee members, particularly Murray Forman our President, Gary Cowans our Webmaster, and Gary Wilkinson our enthusiastic Editor for their untiring efforts and commitment of their time and money to growing the profile of our chapter for benefit of you the members.

David Alder
Vice President
NCRS Australia Inc.

EDITOR'S REPORT (delivered @ AGM)

First up, I must have done a half-decent job in 2008 since I didn't receive any hate mail or death threats, ha, ha. This was surprising as this was my first "job" as an Editor of anything and I was quite pushy in the first Newsletter in trying to 'encourage' members to contribute articles.

My 'pushing' for member contributions appears to have worked as I've received, and am still receiving, a good stream of articles/stories for the Newsletter. This is a good sign of a strong club and we need to keep the momentum going – so those of you who haven't contributed as yet, pull your fingers out and send me something (Gary.Wilkinson@woodside.com.au - please make a reference to NCRS in the email subject heading).....here he goes again, I hear you sigh..... :o)

So, I managed to turn out 3 newsletters – Dec-Jan 2007/8, Feb-Mar-Apr 2008 and May-June-July 2008. I hope you enjoyed them. If not, let me know and give suggestions for improvements and additions. The next Newsletter will be Aug-Sept-Oct 2008 and will likely be issued 1st week of November to include the Perth Flight Judging Meet. Depending on contributions, I may shift the frequency to bi-monthly (6 per year).....

I'll be standing for re-election as Editor as I'm enjoying the experience and it also feels like I've only been in the driver's seat for 5-minutes – who can believe that a year has passed since the last judging meet and AGM held at the Fremantle Motor Museum! If another keen member wishes to de-throne me that's cool – but be warned – I'll make your life misery by sending you thousands of C2 related articles for inclusion in the Newsletter, ha, ha.

In closing, I'd like to make a few special mentions: I reckon Gary Cowans is THE BEST Webmaster any club could hope for! What an awesome job he's done in turning our website into the class-act that it is – thanks Gaz! Dave Alder – wow, what a VP! Bringing on-board a healthy slab of sponsorship that will see the club thru the next 3-years in a very healthy financial state (the pesky matter of a wedding mid-way thru his tenure didn't slow him down – only joking Melisa.) And of course Murray & Wendy – without their passion & commitment NCRS Australia wouldn't exist. To you guys go my heartfelt thanks for bringing this great bunch of people we call 'NCRS Australia' together. Oh yeah, and congratulations on becoming the VERY FIRST International Master Judges – awesome!!

All the best,
Gary Wilkinson
Editor, NCRS Australia Inc.

NEW MEMBERS

Please give a warm welcome to our new members:

ROB STEEP	NSW
IAN GIBBINGS	WA
RAY THOMPSON	WA
REG MERRY	QLD
ROCCI LAMANNA	VIC

Congratulations in joining a great Club !

TECH ARTICLES

Note from Editor: apologies for the lack of tech articles this issue – plenty on the burner for future issues.

Gary Cowans's '66 body-off resto (Part 3)

By: Gary Wilkinson

Gary's restoration is nearing completion with all body work complete and colour on the car. The fun now begins with re-fitting all the fiddly-bits and Gary expects to be driving his awesome 'new' vette early in the New Year. We WA member's are really looking forward to Gary joining us on cruises in a non-pink car (sorry Gaz, couldn't resist....)



SMALL STUFF

Note from Editor: full report next issue on Perth Judging Meet by Clint Messenger.....

Saved from the scrap heap (part 2)

By: Neil Bishop

While I was home in Perth working Wendy was busy keeping the project ticking over and getting things done. We decided to tackle the chrome (while I was there working on the car) so we researched on the internet and found a quality chroming place. We dropped all the pieces off however they wouldn't be able to finish them before I had to leave. They do quite a lot of the show cars around the Houston, Texas area. The chrome was very scratched and looked used though not in poor condition. They could

do the job as OEM, quality or show so we decided on show chrome and this is the end result:



We were very happy with the quality of the work. You will notice that we had the bonnet/hood hardware chromed also which is not NCRS correct (they should be silver paint) but should look great when the car is completed. The Distributor cover is not there as it was in good condition and the “chromers” could not save the original plastic tabs so we have spent many hours polishing the marks out of that cover. The people we dealt with were very open and honest as to what they could and could not successfully achieve.

With the seat hardware done Wendy decided to try and tackle the seats. New covers and foam cushions were supplied with the car, along with directions and an installation kit. The old covers and cushions had already been removed leaving just the frames. She could replace the cushions successfully but could not get the tension correct on the covers. (Wendy here...After reading the directions several times and attempting to follow the steps without any success, the seats went to an upholsterer where they completed the job....eventually). The upholsterers put the catch for the seat back on the passenger’s seat around the wrong way and you could not unlatch it, in addition to having too large a gap between the seat bottom and seat back, so back they went to be fixed properly. The covers are vinyl reproduction items as the car originally was fitted with vinyl (comfort weave) rather than leather. My job with the seats was to get the runners working and painted as they were quite rusted. That job was completed on my last trip and the runners are now attached to the seats and slide freely.



Next on the list of things to do was the seat belts and as these are a safety item we did not want to mess around with our lives and attempt to do this job, so the seat belts

were sent to Snake Oil in Dallas, Texas, with the original tags still attached and they came back looking like this.



Look at that. Absolutely stunning work. It will be a pity to put them under covers under the seats. The latches were re-chromed and all the parts within the mechanism were checked for deterioration and replaced if needed. They even cleaned the original tags and put them on the new belt webbing.

This is the build sheet for our Corvette and you can see that quite a lot of the sheet is readable on the left hand side. Because it was so fragile and breaking apart every time we touched it I had it laminated. I have been told that was a BIG mistake on my part. Even old guys can learn. The advice I got after was I should have taken it to a Museum and had it professionally restored.



More to come in further instalments as the rebuilding continues.

Have a great day
Neil
Wendy

A new members thoughts about the Australian Chapter of the National Corvette Restorers Society.

By: Greg Euston

I flew with Murray Forman, his lovely wife Wendy and some of the other East Coast members of the NCRS to the Western Australian NCRS Chapter for their Top Flight Judging meet in Perth. I knew I had to go to the Top Flight Judging meet because I felt I had been stumbling around in the dark when it came to the restoration of my 1971, LS5 Corvette to NCRS standard. I was talking to Murray on the phone about a problem I was having restoring a particular part on my vette when he suggested I should go to the WA meet because the information I would gather there would be invaluable. I was involved in the judging and as we all know, there is no better way to learn than being hands-on.

I'm so glad I took Murray's advice, the information I learnt will be a big help to me restoring my vette. I have new enthusiasm to have my Corvette finished by March next year for Sydney's Top Flight Judging Meet. Not only did I learn a lot, but another wonderful advantage was to met some great people in Perth, such as Colin Morris & his very help boys, Morten Benjaminsen and his lovely wife Helen, Gary Wilkinson and his charming wife Tania , Terry Martin, Clint, Ray, Peter etc etc. A special thanks must go to David & Melissa Alder for inviting me into there home to stay for two nights. David & Melissa are the owners of a stunning black big block 1966 convertible and a 1969 silver Tri Power big block convertible made me feel welcomed and their hospitality was warm and giving. I owe them a dept of gratitude!!!! Special thanks to Colin, Tania , David and Melissa for running us around while we were in Perth!!!!.

Every one of the Perth NCRS members and their partner's should be congratulated for the time, sacrifice and effort they put into organizing their Top Flight Judging Meet, I believe their debrief will show it was great meet and they should celebrate their success!!!!. I have attached some photos of the meet and the work in progress under my Corvette.

I believe we all formed life long friendships in Perth and I look forward to meeting everyone again so we can build on our friendships.

If I've missed some one, please for give me!!!!!!

I advise every one to go to one or more of these Judging Meets, the information you gather at them will save you time, money and grey hair, believe me no one knows this better than I!!!!

I owe Morten Benjaminsen a sincere apology for not having more photos of his Top Flight Award winning and stunning 1970 LS5 Red Convertible Corvette.



POP Motorsports sends a Bonneville Speedweek Report

To all our friends in Australia:

The POP Motorsports landspeed race team has returned from Bonneville's Speedweek with a sad tale to tell. The Streamliner didn't make it. Crew Chief Doug Odom made a first test run on Monday and managed a respectable 236 MPH run although he had an engine fire during his shut down when an oil hose came loose. It took a day and a half to repair the damage and change engines and then Gail drove her first test run late Wed. She was glad to see familiar Aussie faces as DLRA members Norm and Vic Hardinge were filming on the starting line.

The run went well until the shut down at the 5 mile when the high-speed chute came out and all went topsy-turvy. When we see the video that was fortunately taken by the event videographer, we'll have a better idea about why it happened, but at 242 MPH the car flipped on its side, slid a long ways, then began to pencil roll until it came to a stop, fortunately top side up.



Gail managed to get herself out, with a little helping hand that she later discovered was her own husband's - Al was the first car on the scene (we think he may have driven faster than Gail). After no fewer than 5 paramedics had checked her over she was able to convince them that she was okay. They insisted she go to the hospital to be checked by a Dr., but it was a 2 hr drive away so she also managed to have Al drive her instead of an ambulance. Even the Dr couldn't find anything wrong except a slight headache which a few aspirin took care of easily. The prediction of sore muscles the next day did not materialize although several bruises did appear in odd places.



5 accidents occurred in 2 days but we believe none had serious injuries, thankfully. The salt was the best it has been in over 30 years and they had 3 courses set up, 1 long and 2 short so even the lines were manageable. There were many Aussies and Kiwi's there so it was almost like a DLRA event with accents at every turn.

If you are so inclined here are two links to news reports from Salt Lake City TV stations. Copy and paste into your browser bar and then find the small TV on the page with a heading about Bonneville then click on it to start the news report.

<http://www.truevo.com/82008-Drivers-crash-at-Bonneville-Salt-Flats/id/2019346910>

<http://www.ksl.com/index.php?nid=148&sid=4070161>

We miss AU very much and still hope we will be able to return next year for a visit. We are thankful that we all returned home safe and sound and next week we will begin thinking about our future racing plans and goals. (Doug says he can fix the car - Yikes!)

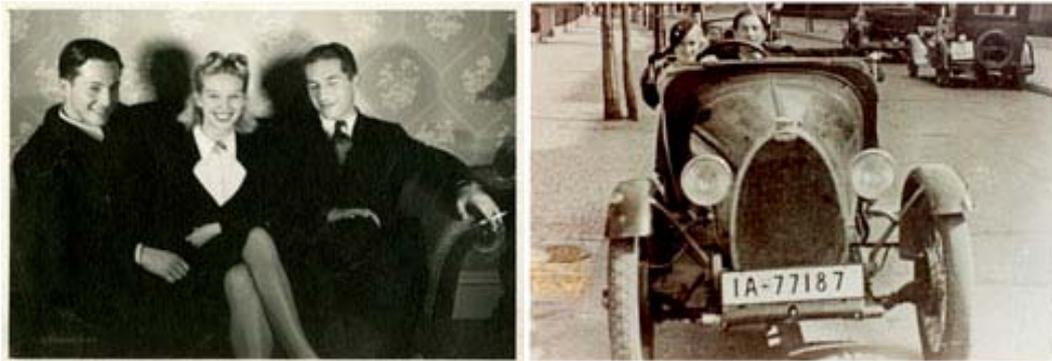
Our best wishes to all our special friends :-)
Gail & Al Phillips
fastdrv@verizon.net
www.popmotorsports.com

The First Lady of the Corvette, Elfi Arkus-Duntov passed away October 23, 2008. 1915 — 2008

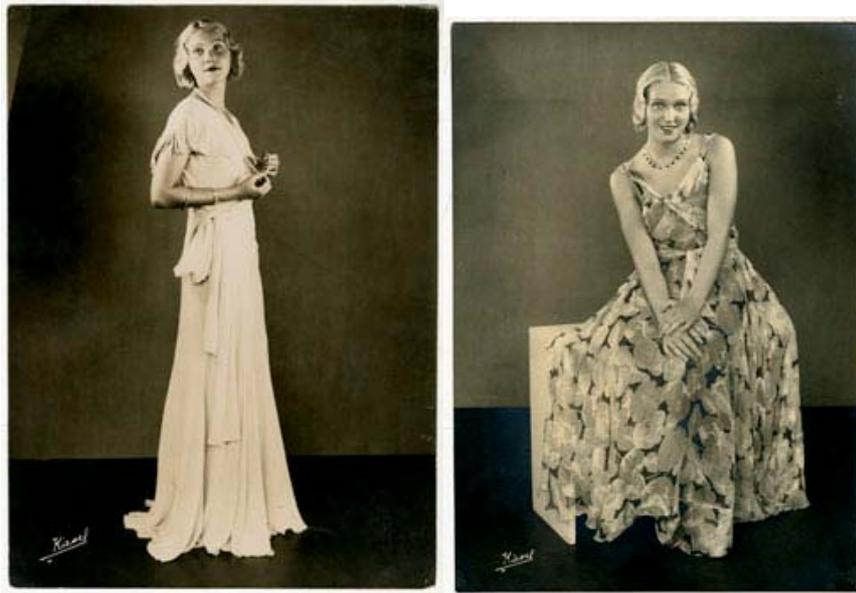
If Zora Arkus-Duntov is the godfather of the Corvette, Elfi Arkus-Duntov is its first lady. With her blonde hair, sparkling blue eyes and German accent, Elfi helped personify the car in her own inimitable way. But Elfi was much more than Zora's other half. She had her own claim to fame as a professional model and dancer with the Follies Bergere in Paris, the Copa Cabana in Miami and on Broadway in New York. She even learned to fly an airplane long before Zora did.

A native of Berlin, Elfi came from an artistic family. Her father, William Wolff, was a great fan of Shakespeare and Elfi, her sister Ruth and brother Walter were all schooled in the fine arts. Elfi specialized in ballet, but also modelled extensively for a Berlin department store.

She met Zora as a teenager in the warm glow of a Berlin café after ducking out of the rain on her way to a date. Captivated by the blue-eyed Russian, she instantly fell in love. They began running around Berlin together in his Bugatti Type 30. She would spell out “Zora” in Russian with bandages on her body and then tan in the sun to brand herself as his girl.



Elfi remained Zora's girl for life. After moving to Paris, she landed as a dancer with the world famous Follies Bergere, becoming a member of the Bluebell girls that performed cabaret-style reviews all over France.



Elfi and Zora married outside of Paris in February 1939 under the gathering storm clouds of World War II and settled in an apartment on the west side of Paris. While Zora was deployed in the French Air Force in the town of Toulouse, Elfi stayed behind and was still there when German tanks began rolling through the streets. So she grabbed everything she could fit into her open-topped MG and sped out of town, despite the fact that she had no travelling papers and no money to purchase gasoline. Relying on the kindness of strangers and luck, she managed to rendezvous with Zora in Toulouse four days later.

Reunited, they engineered a harrowing escape from the Nazi-occupied France, hiding out in a Marseille brothel before finding their way to Lisbon where they boarded a New York-bound refugee ship, the Nyassa, in December 1940.

Landing at Ellis Island, they quickly blended into the West Side Russian-Jewish community that gave us the likes of Irving Berlin and Leonard Bernstein. After the US entered the war, they struck it rich in the war munitions business and enjoyed a penthouse view from their Riverside Drive apartment. After the war, they hosted lavish parties for people in the entertainment and racing business.

After Zora's post war plans to offer overhead valve conversions for Ford flathead V8s failed, the two separated for a time. Zora took a job at Allard sports cars in England and Elfi moved to Miami to become a member of the June Taylor dancers and performed at the Copa Cabana in Miami. Several years later she learned to fly an airplane at Detroit's City Airport during an extended performance in the Motor City.

Eventually they reunited in New York where Elfi danced on Broadway. Meanwhile, Zora saw the '53 Corvette concept at the GM Motorama display at the Waldorf and was instantly dazzled with the car. He secured an engineering position at GM just for the chance to work on it.

Upon coming to Detroit, Elfi and Zora settled on the east side to be close to Lake St. Clair. They became avid boaters and joined the Old Club on

Harsens Island, where they spent many summer weekends when Zora wasn't travelling to a race or a Corvette event.

While Zora was putting the Corvette on the map, Elfi would travel with him to the car shows and the races — to Pikes Peak and Daytona and Sebring and Le Mans. Together they personified the performance and the allure of the Corvette. They became an endearing fixture in the Corvette community.

Even well into their 80s, Zora and Elfi had an energy and spark that infected everyone around them. They were rock stars at the opening of the National Corvette Museum in 1994 and the two would patiently sign autographs for hours at various Corvette events for thousands of adoring fans.

Zora's death at age 86 in 1996 changed her world forever, but she worked tirelessly to promote Zora's legend and saw to it that a fitting biography was written of Zora's life.

Elfi lived on in the Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., home they made together where she often dwelled on their life together. She continued making appearances at places like the National Corvette Museum and Corvettes at Carlisle before health concerns eliminated her ability to travel. But she never stopped loving her Zora, the man who made the Corvette an enduring reality.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 04-13th, 2009.

**NCRS Australia Chapter Flight Judging Meet.
“Vettes in the Vines”**

Rooty Hill RSL Resort
Sydney, New South Wales.

www.ncrs.com.au

This event commences on 4th March with a road tour from Sydney to the Hunter Valley wine district, Mudgee and the Blue Mountains. The 9th & 10th March are set aside for a magnificent tour of all of Sydney's famous attractions. Flight Judging takes place 11th – 13th March at the Rooty Hills RSL Resort. Several USA Judges have already made their bookings so it's another great opportunity for NCRS Australia chapter members to show our friends some great Aussie hospitality – and learn one or two things about Flight Judging along the way :o). This event aligns with the NCRS New Zealand Chapter's Flight Judging meet detailed below. More details on both events on the website.

March 19-21st, 2009

NCRS New Zealand Chapter Flight Judging Meet
Auckland, New Zealand.
Venue t.b.a.

The USA Judges attending the Sydney meet (above), along with many NCRS Australia Chapter members will be attending this meet. It's sure to be a fantastic event with New Zealand being home to many fantastic corvettes – not to mention the wonderful natural attractions and hospitality our “next door neighbours” are sure to turn on. More details to come very soon.

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