



April 2014

VOLUME 41, NO. 4

# Cowtown

## LOW-DOWN

40TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION!

[www.cowtownvettes.org](http://www.cowtownvettes.org)

SW Region NCCC Awards Banquet 03/15/14 Oklahoma City, OK



Fred & Margaret



Doc & Mary Anne



Donald & Carlanne  
Funkhana Winners

Cathy Anthony  
Women's Speed Events



Kevin Anthony &  
Fred Proctor  
Men's Speed Events



Fred Proctor &  
Kevin Anthony in the  
Men's Top 10



Cathy Anthony &  
Carlanne Hickman in  
the Women's Top 10



Glenda McMahan  
Women's 200 Point  
Participation Award



Official Publication

of

**COWTOWN VETTES**





## CTV Officers 2014

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The April membership meeting will be somewhat bittersweet for Cowtown members accustomed to meeting at Coors. This will be our last meeting at the Coors facility. Coors and Cowtown are parting company on good terms due to a business decision that has nothing to do with us. Again, we want to wish the folks at the Fort Worth Coors facility all the best and a big thanks for the memories. We will have a birthday cake to further celebrate Cowtown's 40th Anniversary. I do not regard the change in meeting venue as any type of setback for Cowtown. Change is inevitable and, if you think about it, the only real constant in life. I want to thank everyone for their support in securing our next venue which is **Red's Roadhouse in Kennedale** (1170 E. Kennedale Pkwy).

Along with Spring comes the increase in club activity. In addition, our 40th celebration activities have begun and will continue. The photo shoot was a success. Doug McMahan our club photographer, has in his possession several proofs that meet with his approval and the smile on his face leads me to believe our 40th club photo will not disappoint. The turnout for the photo shoot was very good. In fact, I would label the gathering as a reunion as much as it was a photo shoot. It was great to see some folks that are not as active in the club as before. It is safe to say that Cooper's BBQ was pleased to have us. We ate lots of BBQ which was our way of thanking them for the use of their parking lot.

Please make an extra effort to attend the Fort Worth City Council meeting on April 1st. A proclamation will be issued designating Sunday, April 6th as "Cowtown Vettes Day" in Fort Worth. It is my wish to demonstrate our club enthusiasm by "packing the house" with blue shirted Cowtown members. Details on when and where can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Low-Down. I plan to be on the road on Sunday, April 6th celebrating my Corvette. What better day to get out on the road and enjoy the car?

Be sure and check the other articles. We need more volunteers for the practice autocross and the other upcoming events. Your help would be appreciated and put to good use. **Keep waving!**

*David Gill*

2014 President  
dogill80@sbcglobal.net



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### 2nd Time Visitors

Gary Monigold  
67 Torch Red Convertible

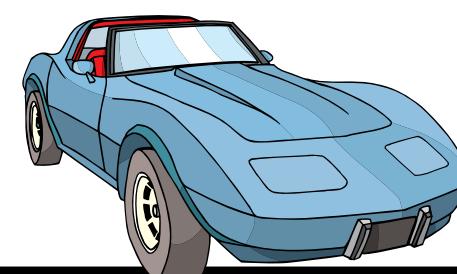
### 1st Time Visitors

Billy Harris  
2014 C7 coupe Z51 Stingray  
Tereser & John Banks  
2013 Grand Sport  
Jason Valek  
1972 Warbonnet Yellow



*Jo Anne Smith*

Membership / Welcome Chairperson  
ctv-membership@yahooroups.com



## APRIL 2014

NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<i>Fort Worth City Council Meeting 7:00pm</i> April Fools Day		2	Texas 500 Weekend at TMS	3 Texas 500 Weekend at TMS * Membership Meeting 7:30 pm
Official Cowtown 40th Anniv Day	7	8	9	10	11	NCCC - CTCC/ MCCC Events : LS Autocross in Waco
<i>NKF Walk</i>						
NCCC - CTCC/ MCCC Events : LS Autocross in Waco	14	15	16 <i>Board Meeting LOW-DOWN DEADLINE</i>	17	18	19
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	21	22	23	<i>Pig in a Blanket Day</i>	24	25
<i>Vines &amp; Vettes at Lost Oak Winery Bureson</i>	28	29	30			

*Bold italic* type denotes CTV events

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

## MAY 2014

National BARBECUE Month!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	<i>* Membership Meeting 7:30 pm @ REDS ROADHOUSE in Kennedale</i>	2
NCCC - LCC Events : LS Autocross in Waco	4	5	6	7	8	NCCC - LCC Events : LS Autocross in Waco
<i>LOST SOCK MEMORIAL DAY</i>						
NCCC -SWR Events : Hallett, OK Susan G Komen Race For the Cure	11	12	13	14 <i>Board Meeting LOW-DOWN DEADLINE</i>	15	16
NCCC -CTV / CCT(BRCC) LS Autocrosses Mineral Wells, TX	18	19	20	21	22	23
NCCC -OKCC Drags @ Thunder Valley in Noble, OK	25	<i>MEMORIAL DAY</i>	26	27	28	29
40th Anniversary Party at REDS ROADHOUSE in Kennedale						30

*Bold italic* type denotes CTV events

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



## CTV Committees 2014

### AUDIT

Kim West: Chairperson

[kdcwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kdcwest@sbcglobal.net)



### CAR SHOW

Jack Gandy: Chairperson

[jgandy55@att.net](mailto:jgandy55@att.net)

Fred Procter: Co-Chairperson



### CHARITIES

Jane Buehler: Chairperson

[buehler8721@gmail.com](mailto:buehler8721@gmail.com)

Cory Armes: Co-Chairperson



### CTV CRUISER

Donald Hickman: Chairperson

[donalldlhickman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donaldlhickman@sbcglobal.net)



### EQUIPMENT

Donald Littlefield: Chairperson

[z06don@gmail.com](mailto:z06don@gmail.com)



### LOGO MERCHANDISE

Karen Watson: Chairperson

[rickandkaren@mindspring.com](mailto:rickandkaren@mindspring.com)



### MEMBERSHIP/WELCOME

Jo Anne Smith: Chairperson

[josmith619@att.net](mailto:josmith619@att.net)

Donna Forsythe: Co-Chairperson



### CTV HISTORIAN

Mary Pittman: Chairperson

[marypittman@hotmail.com](mailto:marypittman@hotmail.com)



## CELEBRATIONS

- 04/01 - Donna Forsythe
- 04/02 - Jessie Guyden, Jr
- 04/02 - Walt Zschirnt
- 04/03 - Bob Morrison
- 04/04 - Kerry King
- 04/05 - Dana Williams
- 04/07 - Karla Gandy
- 04/10 - Jan Brefczynski
- 04/12 - David Clark
- 04/13 - Don Segreti
- 04/16 - Allen Shanholtz
- 04/17 - Anne Rumzek
- 04/18 - Paul Meyers
- 04/19 - Cindy Morrison
- 04/26 - Richard Atkins
- 04/26 - Sharon Zschirnt
- 04/27 - Fred Proctor



- 04/12 - Richard & Karen Watson
- 04/14 - Ricky & Diane Young



Have YOU taken that Lifesaving Step yet...to be a member of Team CORVETTES FOR NKF? If not, please SIGN UP NOW!! As of the writing of this article, the Fort Worth Kidney Walk will take place in 17 days...on Sunday, April 6, at Trinity Park.

Please join me and the current members of CORVETTES FOR NKF (KARYN FOWLER, DAVID GILL, CARLANNE HICKMAN, LARRY HOALDRIDGE, DOUG & GLENDA McMAHAN, WILLIAM NOLAN, CAROL SAVAGE, RALEY & JO ANNE SMITH, RICK WATSON and SHARON ZSCHIRNT) for a wonderful walk in the park.

I would like to thank the members named above who have joined Team CORVETTES FOR NKF; your support of this Walk is greatly appreciated. Remember, it is easy to sign up as a Walk Member or to make a Donation to the Team or to one of the Walkers on the Team. Go to [www.cowtownvettes.org](http://www.cowtownvettes.org) and click on 'April 6, Sunday' under Events Calendar; then click on 'Corvettes for NKF'. This link takes you to the Team CORVETTES FOR NKF Walk page at the FW Kidney Walk website. (Raising \$100 or more in donations will get you an official 2014 Fort Worth Kidney Walk t-shirt.) If you have any questions, please contact me.

As we all know, TMS is hosting this year's first NASCAR weekend the same weekend as the Walk, as is TOCC with hosting the Southwest Region's 1st NCCC weekend. BUT... You can still join Team CORVETTES FOR NKF like Sharon Zschirnt did (She's working TMS that weekend.) and fundraise for NKF by contacting family, friends, co-workers and fellow club members while participating in either the NASCAR Garage Party or TOCC events. (NOTE: The NKF does not charge a Registration Fee for being a Walker; however, the NKF encourages everyone who signs up as a Walker to Fundraise and get family, friends, co-workers & fellow club members involved as well.

Team CORVETTES FOR NKF is currently in 3rd place for Top Team Fundraiser in the Friends & Family category with \$2869. Will you help us achieve a new goal of \$3000?

Be sure to bring your pennies to the April membership meeting. The person having donated the most pennies will receive a \$30 Starbucks gift card. We will also be selling \$1 tickets with proceeds going toward the 50/50 drawing that will be held during CTV's TMS weekend in September. This will be your last chance to purchase \$1 tickets until the August membership meeting. (NOTE: The proceeds from the \$1 ticket sales will go toward the 2015 Fort Worth Kidney Walk.

*Sylvia Hoaldridge*

*Captain, Team CORVETTES FOR NKF*

*Remember: "A short walk can help someone take a lifesaving step."*

## VICE PRESIDENT REPORT



Spring has finally arrived and that means the beginning of seemingly non-stop activities for Cowtown members and guests. It's hard to believe the year is already one quarter gone. Racing season is starting, cruises are being planned, car shows are scheduled, and Cowtown's 40th Anniversary is upon us. This is the best time of the year to try new activities with your Vette and Cowtown friends. If you have an interest that you would like to share with others or a favorite place to visit, let me know. I am always looking for new places to go and things to do.

Two events are mentioned in the Lowdown that are not 100%er events but are dear to the hearts of many members. Please consider participating in the **NKF Walk** on April 6. This charity is the national charity for NCCC and as a member of NCCC we need to show our support locally. If you cannot walk you can still make a donation as a member of the Corvettes for NKF team. On May 10 the **Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure** will be held. Karen Fowler provided a wonderful letter for last month's Lowdown giving details for walking and making donations. If you cannot make the walk, members will gather for breakfast/brunch at the IHOP. You do not need to register to walk to make a donation or join members at the IHOP.

The 40th Anniversary photo shoot on March 23 was the 100%er event for March. Eighty-three Corvettes and 122 members and guests were present. A delicious lunch was enjoyed at Cooper's BBQ by most of those attending, and I don't think anyone went away hungry. Doug and his crew were very efficient in staging the Vettes and things went quickly and smoothly. Due to the cold wind, everyone stayed bundled up until the cue was given to remove our coats and put on big smiles for the camera. After getting a thumbs up everyone bundled up again until the process was repeated when the stagecoach arrived. I was amazed at the variety of Corvettes owned by our members. All seven generations were represented and probably every color produced.

Our 40th Anniversary festivities will continue with the April 100%er being the **Bruce Lowrie Exhibition** on Saturday, April 26th. After seeing the variety of cars within Cowtown, I hope as many are willing to bring them out again for this display. You are encouraged to arrive around 8AM to allow time for parking and detailing. The exhibition will be from 9AM to 1PM. Bring lawn chairs, coolers with NON-alcoholic beverages only, and snacks. Bruce Lowrie has arranged for a food truck to sell BBQ between 11AM and 12:30PM. The dealership is located at **711 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, TX 76134**. If you don't want to show your car, you can still come by and view the cars on display. In the showroom you just might find that new C-7 you've been wanting!

The No Frills Autocross in Mineral Wells will be the 100%er event for May. Flyers will be available at the April and May meetings and on the NCCC website. If you attended the practice autocross in March I hope you will consider participating in this event. Volunteers and participants are needed to make it a successful event.

The BIG EVENT for Cowtown this year is the 40th Anniversary Celebration Party on May 31st at **Red's Roadhouse in Kennedale** beginning at 6:00PM. Tickets are \$15.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members. Details will be finalized soon.

*Carlanne Hickman  
2014 Vice President  
[chickma101@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chickma101@sbcglobal.net)*



## CTV Committees 2014

### MID-AMERICA

James West: Chairperson

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### NCCC EVENTS

Rick Watson: Chairperson

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<Open>: Co-Chairperson



### NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

Kim West: Ambassador

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### NEWSLETTER

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### NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

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### SOCIALS

Carlanne Hickman: Chairman

[chickma101@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chickma101@sbcglobal.net)

Pat Gill: Co-Chairperson



### TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

Rick Garabedian: Chairperson

[rgarab1@yahoo.com](mailto:rgarab1@yahoo.com)

Scott Wheeler: Co-Chairperson



### TIMING

Candy Beck: Chairperson

[candy.beck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:candy.beck@sbcglobal.net)

Becky Clark: Co-Chairperson

## COWTOWN CRUISER



Upcoming cruises include:

Date to be Determined, Robert and Cyndie Geyer are working on a cruise to Nocona, Texas and a private tour of the Horton Classic Car Museum. The museum contains over 120 classic cars including more than 40 Corvettes.

June 5th, 6th, and 7th, 2014, Mark Kirby is planning a cruise to Jefferson, Texas and the Big Cypress Classic Car Show. July 12th, 2014, Mark Kirby is planning a "Peach Cruise" to Terrell, Texas for lunch with desert, peach ice cream, at Ham's Orchard. We did this cruise 3 or 4 years back and it was great fun.

July 17, 18, 19, & 20, 2014, Doug is working on a Blue Bell / Shiner South Texas Cruise.

Date to be Determined, Carlanne and I are working on a cruise to the WinStar World Casino in Thackerville, Ok. Details to follow.

2014 Cruiser Competition, 2014 Cruiser Packets are available electronically or in paper form. Always remember the cruiser program is about getting out and enjoying your Corvette, seeing the countryside, going to places you'd typically never see, and representing Cowtown. You can cruise on your own or on our sponsored cruises.

To make the Cruiser Program a success, we need members to suggest places to go and to sponsor cruises for the coming year. The cruises don't have to be weekend cruises but can be short ½ day or all day trips for lunch, dinner, events, shopping, or just seeing something unique. If you have a destination in mind, we'll help you plan a route. As always, please check the Cruiser Schedule at <http://cowtownvettess.org/CCP/cruisersch.html> for upcoming cruises and any last minute changes.

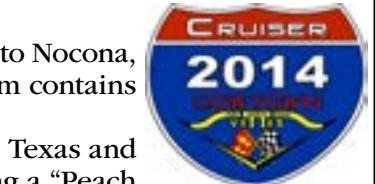
2014 Annual Vette Photo Contest, don't forget to capture your Vette in interesting or unusual places for the "What I Saw Along the Way" photo contest to share the places and things you've seen and enjoyed over the year. When in doubt, take the picture. You will find rules for the Photo Contest on our website. We welcome any suggestions

for improving the program and hope to see new participants in the year ahead.

*Donald Hickman*

*...keep on cruisin'*

2014 Cruiser Chairperson  
[donaldhickman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donaldhickman@sbcglobal.net)



## NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM



**Winner's Circle, Duntov Society, and Spire Society Dinner:** Harry and Anne Rumzek will be traveling to the museum to attend the dinner as Duntov and Spire Society honorees on April 25th.

**Feature Your Corvette on a Cafe Table Top:** Reserve your spot in our Corvette Cafe! We are redoing our table tops and have a limited number of photo display positions available to feature your Corvette image, year, model and color, name and city/state. Display spaces are 4" X 2.5" in size and available on a first come-first serve basis. Photo display space is available at \$50 per spot. You must provide a digital image in jpg or tif format to be

eligible - no spaces will be reserved without image, information and payment. Orders must be received by Tuesday, April 15th at 5:00pm CT. Please send image of Corvette only - no individuals in the photos please.



### PPG Pace Car Rescued From Sinkhole

The One Millionth Corvette was a surprising recovery. In another unexpected turn of events, the construction crew was able to go ahead and also save the 1984 PPG Pace Car. After a 10 ton slab of concrete and the Millionth Corvette were extracted, the team had a better view of the PPG car and could hook on to it. When they did so, the car barely moved - and they then discovered there was more concrete under the dirt and on top of the car. They were able to remove the concrete and then lift out the PPG car. Unfortunately, this car is the most damaged to date as the concrete had "judo chopped" it.

As of now, the plan is to stabilize the sinkhole walls, the red spire and any other measures that are needed so the dirt, concrete, rebar, safety barriers and three remaining Corvettes can be extracted from the hole.



Watch videos of the Millionth, PPG Car and others being rescued on YouTube at:  
<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5Syfif2eF-PwKw8EkYQ3hW12km1LzacC>

They have recovered 5 of the 8 cars. The last 3 are buried so they will have a hard time finding them. The Magazine of the American Society of Civil Engineers has a good article about the engineers working on the sinkhole  
<http://www.asce.org/CEMagazine/Article.aspx?id=23622330143>.

*Kim West NCM Ambassador*

## GOVERNOR'S THOUGHTS



April showers bring May flowers. We can hope for some rain and enjoy the spring! By the time you read this practice autocross will be a thing of the past and last I saw we have a great weather in store for weekend. If you were not able to come out to Mineral Wells ask someone who did about what a great time it was. The Southwest Region NCCC events start up in April, the first being at Pennington Field in Bedford. The following weekend, the next event will be in Waco, TX at the Airport. So if you enjoyed the practice autocross, we would invite you to try it at an NCCC event. We will be more than happy to answer any questions around NCCC, the events, the facilities, etc.

The Southwest Regional Banquet was a nice night with great food, good music with some great friends in the region. Cowtown had 13 members attend and several others that received awards that were not in attendance.

A recap of who received awards:

### Top 10 Men

- #3 – Fred Proctor
- #6 – Doug Shilen
- #10 – Kevin Anthony

### Top 10 Women

- #4 – Cathy Anthony
- #6 – Cindy Morrison
- #7 – Carlanne Hickman

### Events

- #3—Fred Proctor
- #4—Cathy Anthony
- #6—Doug Shilen
- #10—Kevin Anthony

### Rallye

- #1—Cyndie and Robert Geyer
- #2—Deborah and PJ Jackson

### Regional Awards, those earning 200 or more points for 2013

- Donna Forsythe
- Glenda McMahan
- Donald Hickman
- Bob Morrison
- Jim Forsythe
- Doc Lambert
- Red Greenfeder

### Funkana

- #1—Carlanne and Donald Hickman
- #2—Bob Morrison and Jim Forsythe
- #3—Cindy Morrison and Donna Forsythe
- #4—Becky and David Clark

### Club Participation Award

### Tin Hall Toys

### Club Growth Award

### San Jacinto Corvette Club

### Top Club

### Oklahoma City Corvette Club

### Most Valuable Member Award

### Mary Anne Kolb

### #2 Cowtown Vettes

Be sure to congratulate these people when you see them. You too could be on this list if you come out and run some of the Southwest Events. Come out, have fun, learn what you and your car can do and make some great friends. April and May are full months for NCCC, check it out on the schedule off the website.

During the 40th Photo Shoot discussions, you have heard us talk about [FCOA](#) Members. FCOA stands for Future Corvette Owners Association and is the Kid's program within NCCC. For a one-time fee of \$10, you can sign your child, grandchild, niece, nephew, etc. up as a member; good until they are age 16. The program is a great way to help get our youngsters interested in our passion, the Corvette. They receive a packet of Corvette goodies; gear towards their age group. This also associates them as FCOA Members of Cowtown Vettes; currently the Southwest Region has 136 FCOA Members, and about 1/5 of those are Cowtown. Our four grandkids were signed up at birth, so as you could tell at the 40th Photo Shoot this month, they really like the Corvette and functions that involve it; they even have dibs on which Corvette they will inherit ;)

Sign up your kids today: <http://www.corvettesnccc.org/fcoa1.html>

Remember the Southwest Region Scholarship program. Check out the details on the website. Deadline is June 15, 2014.

Get out and enjoy spring,

*Glenda McMahan*  
2014NCCC Governor  
[glenda-gm@att.net](mailto:glenda-gm@att.net)



## SPECIAL 40th ANNIVERSARY INTERVIEW

**Cowtown Vettes**, now celebrating its **40th anniversary**, has its own "American Graffiti" story. The iconic "American Graffiti" coming-of-age movie of the 1970s about teens cruising in hot cars at drive-in restaurants starred Ron Howard and Candy Clark and brought us back to an earlier, innocent time. Cowtown's real life version of "Graffiti" features a young Larry Hoaldridge and a feisty strawberry blonde named Sylvia, exchanging glances at Carlson's, a 1970s-vintage drive-in and a favorite cruising spot for high school and TCU students on Fort Worth's University Drive.

Larry cruised Carlson's in his black 1969 Corvette convertible (more about that later). Sylvia and her roommate cruised in another car, crouching down and peeping out their car window to get a glimpse of the young man in the flashy Corvette. "My roommate and I didn't want to be seen because we had our hair rolled up on orange juice cans," says Sylvia, who a few years later changed her name from Sylvia Ausland to Sylvia Hoaldridge. "We didn't start dating until later," she said. "Larry first dated my roommate."

From that romantic cruise around Carlson's, and a few twists and turns later, Larry and Sylvia, by then close friends, were among the founders of what became Cowtown Vettes.

The genesis for Cowtown Vettes began in the early 1970s. Larry, already a Dallas fireman, had a passion for Corvettes and in his off time worked at a Corvette shop housed in a Quonset hut just off White Settlement Road.

"I was down at the shop one day and me and another kid who worked there heard about this new Corvette club and went to one of its meetings," Larry said. The group, started by two men, including Dennis McPeak, Cowtown's first president, met at an auto interior shop and then a familiar location, Bruce Lowrie Chevrolet.

People in the new Fort Worth Corvette Club were united in their love for Corvettes, but some were not interested in competing with other clubs or joining the National Council of Corvettes Clubs. There was an amicable split and those who, like McPeak, wanted to become part of NCCC, decided to form a new club. They called it Cowtown Vettes and it was chartered April 6, 1974, with 20 members. Now membership has grown to more than 160 and it's recognized as one of the top clubs in the nation.

"We had to have a different name because the other group that split off owned the Fort Worth Corvette Club name," said Larry, who is the last official charter member of CTV still active. Sylvia was around at the beginning but was not a member since she did not own a Corvette and she and Larry were not married at the time. Cowtown members surprised Sylvia at the club's first Christmas party at the old Virgil's LaBarn in Fort Worth by making her its first honorary member. Some early members still a part of CTV are Carol Savage, Don and Karyn Fowler, Jim and Donna Forsythe, Sonny Arnold and Pete Schneider. Other early members include Jerry Lindsey, who is an unofficial charter member since he was in on the founding but dropped out at one point and then rejoined. His wife, Debbie, also played an active role in the early years of CTV. She has continuously served in offices at the national level and now is NCCC's Director of Sponsorship. Judy Shanholtz, who still is a member along with her husband, Allen Shanholtz, was close to being a charter member since she joined in December 1974.

Judy remembers that Jerry Lindsey was the second president after Dennis McPeak. David Gill is the current president. Other former presidents are still members include John Armes, Don Wells, Kim West, Sylvia Hoaldridge, Debbie Lindsey, Judy Rollinger, Rick Garabedian, Bruce Lewis, Don Fowler, Jim Forsythe and Walt Zschirnt. Sarah Jandrucko, a teacher and principal and former CTV member, was the club's first woman president. Another former president, Jim LeGrotte, Judy Shanholtz's ex-husband, wrote a creed for Corvette owners, which is still carried on CTV's Web site. It reads:

**"WE BELIEVE:** That challenge is the stimulant of man; that competition is the test of man; that fellowship is the food of man's spirit; that grace, charm, beauty, elegance and dignity are the very soul of the Corvette; that a Corvette is an extension of a man's personality and that participation in Corvette clubs and their activities all of the aforementioned, are capable of being elevated to the highest level of grandeur."

Cowtown Vettes first met at Bruce Lowrie's, then at Bill McKay Chevrolet on 7th Street downtown between Henderson St. and Summit. While small, the club met in McKay's conference room, but then got bigger and had to move into another building owned by McKay that was pretty dilapidated. "It was an empty showroom," said Larry. "There were no chairs. We either brought our own lawn chairs, sat on the floor or stood during meetings." As numbers increased, the club moved to a meeting room at a Pizza Hut on Camp Bowie (later Mama's Pizza). The club also met for some time at Hudiburg Chevrolet, as well as Vandergriff Chevrolet in Arlington. "We met at restaurants and pizza places and when we just kept getting bigger, we moved back to Mama's Pizza on Camp Bowie" Sylvia recalls. Sylvia noted that Lois Beck, a former CTV president who is deceased, played a major role in negotiating the move to the Coors location where the club has met for more than a dozen years.

Since the club operated on a shoestring budget in the early days, members made their own low-cost fun. Tupperware parties were held to pay for race events at the Texas Motorplex in Ennis in connection with the hosting of the 1992 National Council of Corvette Clubs in Arlington.

"We would go out to Benbrook Lake and have picnics and volleyball games," Larry said. "Our idea was to have a family organization, because a lot of our members had young kids they took with them to our events. We had hot dogs at Burger's Lake." During meetings, someone was assigned to entertain the children. While at Mama's Pizza, two members volunteered to watch children at a playground across the street.

Sylvia noted that one good effect of the 1970s Sunday blue laws was that it left shopping malls closed on Sundays and available for Corvette activities. CTV had autocrosses and other events on the parking lots of the old Seminary South, now La Gran Plaza shopping mall, the old North Hills Mall, the old Forum 303 Mall in Arlington and the present Ridgmar Mall.

## with Sylvia & Larry Hoaldridge - by Jim Jones

"I learned to drive fast at Ridgmar Mall," Sylvia said. On the Seminary South parking lot, club members held Blind Man's GymKhanas, modeled after the IceKhanas held on frozen lakes in the northern states. "The Corvette drivers would be blindfolded and they had a navigator," Larry said. "It was fun to watch but not so fun to drive. The only thing they could hit would be the pylons."

Most events were family oriented. A few were not. One of the memorable "R-rated" events happened in 1975 when CTV sent 40 members to the Southern States Corvette Festival in Oklahoma City, which attracted 800 people. It included a final party that included a "skin to win" body painting contest. "They started in their swim suits, but the two winners were in their birthday suits" Sylvia recalled. She and Larry were not among the body painting participants.

Many highlights have marked the 40 years of Cowtown Vettes. Cowtown has been ranked nationally in the top 15 numerous times and was No. 1 in 1981. Current standings have the club in the top 5.

Members have won national awards and are serving in national and regional offices. Sylvia is retiring this year after 12 years as the acclaimed Editor of Blue Bars, NCCC's official publication. Doug McMahan is NCCC's Director of Public Relations and the Cowtown Vettes Web site he runs has been named No. 1 several times.

The club attracts hundreds from throughout Texas and out of state at its annual Texas Motor Speedway Corvette event. Scott Wheeler and Rick Garabedian recruit CTV members who earn money to help pay for the annual Corvette event by working in security for major races at the Speedway.

Cowtown Vettes won wide praise after hosting the National Council of Corvette Clubs convention in Arlington in 1992. Although car shows, racing and cruising are basic events, CTV has evolved into a major supporter of charities. "At the beginning, we were not a charitable club," Sylvia said. The club first took part in a Jerry Lewis Telethon for muscular dystrophy. Later, it began collecting funds to help spinal bifida, a childhood birth defect that affected the child of a couple who were friends of CTV members. CTV now supports Tarrant Area Food Bank, Cook's Children's Hospital, the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots, National Kidney Foundation, Komen Race for the Cure and the Fisher House Foundation (for wounded warriors).

Larry didn't keep the 1969 loaded Corvette convertible that Sylvia first saw him driving around Carlson's. "It was stolen and stripped and left on a railroad track in Arlington for a train to finish it off" said Larry. "They stripped \$4,200 worth of stuff off the car and only cut one wire. They disassembled it". When the man who stole the car asked a Corvette shop owner to repaint a hood to match his yellow Corvette, the shop owner recognized the black hood as part of Larry's stolen vehicle. "He called me, police got involved, and when the man came back to pick up his hood, detectives were waiting for him" Larry said. "He just threw up his hands. He had my '69 factory pipes on his car and the black seats of my convertible." Larry came out okay. Insurance paid for the loss and he ended up buying back the stolen car from the insurance company, had it repaired and sold it for \$1,000 more than the \$5,700 he paid for it.

Larry had a pearl white 1973 Corvette when CTV first started. Later, he made a splash when he bought a 1966 Corvette coupe. "I built our first pink grand sport. My '66 was originally a real pretty Cadillac blue, but no one noticed it" Larry said. "When I had to repaint it, I said paint the SOB pink. Then they'll notice it." His pink Corvette paired with a pink hydro racing boat with a figure of the Pink Panther won best individual display at the Fort Worth Car Show. "People remembered me from that show for 15 or 20 years," Larry said. "They would say, 'Weren't you the one with that pink Corvette?'"

As many of you know, Larry and Sylvia have their share of Corvettes. Their home has been the scene of many CTV socials. "The only car that is truly, truly his - the one he bought before we were married - is his '56 Corvette," said Sylvia. Larry playfully responded, "She's quick to tell everybody about that."

What's the secret of Cowtown's Vettes' longevity?

"I like to think the club is democratic," Larry said. "We vote to do something, then if I don't care to do it, I just don't do it. People don't get upset because we do what the majority wants."

Another secret to the club's success, Larry and Sylvia said, was that there has always been a core group of members, jokingly called "The Dirty Dozen+" after the old Lee Marvin movie, always willing to volunteer to help out in all CTV activities. "It wasn't a clique" Sylvia said. "It was not always the same group but the Dirty Dozen has always been there."

Sylvia said, "Competent officers and a good board of directors have been assets and the creation of the 100 percenter award has encouraged strong member participation. Corveting is not first and foremost in everybody's life, but it's there when we want it. Members still are excited by America's sports car" she said. "I still get giddy every time I drive my '99 Corvette, and you know how I feel when I get in the race car."

Another tribute to the club, she said, is that new and younger members are joining. "Some people in the club are 20-30 years younger than Larry and I. They are the future of our club, along with our [FCOA \(Future Corvette Owners Association\)](#) members."

If CTV members have a son, daughter, niece or nephew under 16 or is the guardian of a child under 16 they can enroll them in the Future Corvette Owners Association for a \$10 one-time fee.

Both of the founding members say what really has held the club together are the lasting friendships that have been forged over the last 40 years. "Someone has said, '**We came for the cars, but we stayed for the people**'" Larry said. "I think that's a good single sentence that defines what we are all about."

## 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

2014 SANCTIONED COMPETITION SCHEDULE			
DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	CLUB
Apr 06	Bedford, TX	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	TOCC
Apr 12-13	Waco, TX	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	CTCC MCCC
Apr 25-26	St Louis, MO	NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l
May 01	Your Club	Nat'l Club Website Contest - Contest Closes	Nat'l
May 3-4	Waco, TX	1st CHOICE - 10 LS Autocrosses	LCC
May 10-11	Hallett, OK	1st CHOICE - 7 High-Speed Events 1st CHOICE - 7 High-Speed Events	SWR
May 17-18	Mineral Wells, TX	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	CTV / CCT(BRCC)
May 17	Mineral Wells, TX	SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 7 PM @ TBD in TBD	SWR
May 24-25	OKC, OK	1st CHOICE - 7 Autocross Events 1st CHOICE - Drags @ Thunder Valley in Noble, OK	OCCC
Jun 07-08	OKC, OK Sheriff's Facility	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	TVS SCCC
Jun 14	Mansfield, TX	1st CHOICE - Spring Scramble, Car Show, Funkhana & 2 Rallies	CTV
Jun 15	Your Club	Nat'l Newsletter Contest - Final Issue DUE	Nat'l
Aug 25-29	Savannah, GA	NATIONAL CONVENTION 2014 & NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l
Aug 29	Savannah, GA	National Club Newsletter & Website Contest Winners Announced	Nat'l
Sep 20-21	Texas Motor Speedway Ft Worth, TX	1st CHOICE Weekend - 7 LS Autocross Events 1st CHOICE Weekend - 5 LS Autocross Events	CTV (BRCC)
Sep 20	Ft Worth, TX	SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 8 PM @ Hampton Inn on I-35 (just south of Texas Motor Speedway)	SWR
Sep 27-28	OKC, OK Sheriff's Facility	1st CHOICE - 6 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	CCOC SCCC
Oct 4-5	Houston, TX	non-sanctioned DE Lapping Event on Friday the 3rd 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	1st SJCC CMCT
Oct 18-19	OKC, OK Noble, OK	1st CHOICE - ? Autocross Events at Sheriff's Facility 1st CHOICE - ? Drag Events @ Thunder Valley in Noble	COAST OCCC
Oct 25-26	Waco, TX	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses 1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	CTCC TCCC
Oct 25?	TBD	SWR GOVERNOR'S MEETING - 7 PM @ TBD	SWR
Nov 1-2	TBD	1st CHOICE - 7 LS Autocrosses	TV
Nov 7-8	St Louis, MO	NATIONAL MEETINGS	Nat'l

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



OCCC was the 2013  
Top Competition Club

## 40th ANNIVERSARY PHOTO SHOOT



The Final Countdown!



Bart Sinner is the Stagecoach Driver, the horses are brothers, and named Caesar(left) and August(right). The stagecoach is owned by Stockyards Stables.

## 2014 SUSAN G. KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE



The 2014 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2014, in the Ridgmar Mall area in Fort Worth. Good news, we will be walking the route backwards so we'll be going DOWN the big hill instead of UP the big hill! Please see last months Lowdown for complete details.

**Date:** Saturday, May 10, 2014

**Time:** 7:30 A.M. (see below for where to meet)

**Place:** Ridgmar Mall area

Please register online.

Our team name is "Cowtown Vettes".

Email me at [karynfowler14@gmail.com](mailto:karynfowler14@gmail.com) if you have any problems registering.

See you May 10, *Karyn Fowler*



## NCCC EVENTS



Due to the deadline for April's Low Down, there is nothing on our practice autocross we held on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>. I will have all the particulars for it next month. The flyers for the next two events are posted on the Cowtown web site, so please sign up early. We need the support of the entire club to make these event a success. Don't worry about having any experience; we will place you with someone who can show you the ropes.

In May we will have our No-Frills autocross with CCT at Mineral Wells. We will run our event on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and CCT will host their event on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. We will once again be using the Holiday Inn Express there in Mineral Wells as the host hotel. Rooms for this year's event are \$72.00 per night. The group room block is under COW. We have 10 one-bed rooms and 10 two-bed rooms in this block. The cut-off for rooms is May 5<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be from Mesquite Pit BBQ and will be \$6.50 for both participants and racers. There will be sign-up sheet at the April membership meeting. In June we will have the third annual Summer Scramble tentatively planned at Fat Daddy's in Mansfield on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. This is a fun event for the club because there's something for everyone to participate in. This is still a few months out but I am looking for three chairpersons: one to chair the car show (nothing like our October show), one to chair the Funkhana (someone with a warped mind for this), and one to chair the rallies. If you would like to chair one of these events please let me know.

In September we will host our 18<sup>th</sup> annual Super Speedway weekend at TMS September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Hampton Inn & Suites will again be the host hotel for the weekend. We have a block of 30 rooms here. 10 standard double, 10 standard king, and 10 king suites. The cut-off to make a reservation in this block is September 5<sup>th</sup>. The Saturday night dinner will be catered by Shinolas again this year and the cost will be \$12.50 per person.

SWR 2014 Schedule:

May 17th & 18th CTV / CCT (BRCC) No Frills Autocross. Location: Mineral Wells Event meeting will be Wednesday April 23rd in the Coors board room at 7:00 PM.

June 14th CTV (BRCC/CCT) Summer Scramble. Location: Fat Daddy's in Mansfield. Event meeting (location to be determined).

Sept. 20th & 21st CTV (BRCC) 18th Annual Super Speedway Weekend. Location: Texas Motor Speedway Event meeting (location to be determined).

*Rick Watson*  
NCCC Events Coordinator  
[rickandkaren@mindspring.com](mailto:rickandkaren@mindspring.com)

## WEBMASTER



It has been a busy first three months of the year ...primarily with all the 40th Anniversary page changes. All of our 40th Anniversary events are posted on our website (and Facebook); the main 40thlink under the Cowtown Lowdown logo (right side) or on the monthly pages. There will be more information posted on those pages as it becomes available. Likewise, our three NCCC events that we host each year also have pages on our website. While some do not have all of the information available at this time, there is enough to mark your calendars so you can be a part of them.

Webmaster monthly recap: Since my last report, we have added coverage for one additional the SWR Awards Banquet. Starting in April, we should see an increase in activities as the weather gets more desirable to take that Corvette out to enjoy it. So, Please DO NOT forget your camera when you go out to enjoy Corvette Fun, regardless if it is a club event or something you went and participated in. Most importantly, after you take the photos – please send them to me so that we can share them with our members and the world-wide-world of Corvette owners out there. We do have an FTP site available if you have lots of high-resolution photos to share where email isn't the best option. Get in touch with me and I'll get you the login info.

2014 NCCC Nat'l Club Website Contest: Cowtown is eligible this year to participate in the NCCC Nat'l Website Contest. As the webmaster of the Club's website, I need your assistance to make it as great and perfect as it can be (business as usual right ;). As you browse around the website, if you spot something which appears to be incorrect or needs attention, please contact me so it can be validated and updated. Maybe you have an idea for something that would make our website better, content or even looks; 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 always up-to-date and correct.

Cowtown Sponsors; know a business that might like to sponsor Cowtown at some level? Remember, if you have potential business that would like to see become a sponsor, please provide them with a sponsorship brochure or have them contact one of the elected officers. At the bottom of every page you will find a link for the Cowtown Sponsors page – on that page you will find a link for the sponsorship brochure which can be shared.

Facebook: are you a Cowtown Vettes "friend" on Facebook? If not, please do so in order that you can see and participate in the many comments that we receive from some of our teaser photos. When you "like" an event and/or photos on our Facebook page it also helps promote and make Cowtown more visible. The more visible we are, the more potential members we reach for club membership. This exposure also helps us with attendance at events; like our NCCC events or the annual car show. NCCC Nat'l also has a Facebook along with some specific pages around conventions each year; we would invite you to become a Facebook friend with NCCC as well.

Cowtown Email Distribution Lists: we continue to maintain a couple of dozen email distribution lists; these go beyond the Entire-Club list and the Officer list. Most of these are special interest such as Car Show committee, NCCC Events, specialty Cruises, Convention, etc. Our hosted distribution lists, we cannot add anyone to a list without them accepting it – so if you have requested to be added to a list, you will have an invite in your email inbox – you will have to accept it to be added to that list. I would like to remind the Chairpersons that some of these lists (along with webpages) fall within your functional responsibilities so if you are a new chairperson, your email will be added. If you have questions around the distribution lists, getting yourself added to any specific one, etc. then 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. 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](mailto: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 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*  
2014 CTV Webmaster  
[macsvettes@att.net](mailto: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!!!**



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listing. Listings renew each December.  
Contact the Editor for more info.*



### CTV Logo Merchandise

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, 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 .....

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:  
**COWTOWN VETTES**  
P.O. Box 1974  
Fort Worth, Texas 76101



August 25-29, 2014  
[www.corvettesnccc.org/Convention2014.html](http://www.corvettesnccc.org/Convention2014.html)

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](mailto:ctv-membership@yahoogroups.com).

You are invited to attend :

**Cowtown Vettes  
40th Anniversary  
Celebration**

Saturday, May 31, 2014

6:00 - 11:00 PM

Dinner served at 7:00

Build your own Burger Buffet

Cash Bar available

Party Location:

**Red 's Roadhouse**  
1170 E Kennedale Pkwy  
Kennedale, TX 76060

Dress: Casual

Activities: RC Car Races, Valve Cover Races,  
Games, Door Prizes, Give Aways, Music



**RESERVATIONS:**

\$15 - MEMBERS

\$30 - NON-MEMBERS

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:**

MAY 15, 2014

Reservations may be made by giving your cash or check to Becky Clark at the membership meetings or any of the events. If you would prefer a vegetarian burger, please note when you make your reservation.