



Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 1

From the Chapter Chair.....Ned Smull

As 2021 comes to a close and we are all preparing for the Holiday Season, I would like to "Thank" the entire Chapter membership for the support you have contributed to the Chapter's successes this past year. I would also like to offer a sincere "Welcome" to all of the new members that have added their support to the Chapter and have added significant value to us all in insuring the continued successes in future years!!

I would also like to take this opportunity to share some thoughts and observations about the Chapter successes during 2021. Many of the comments below have been shared with the Chapter Board of Directors, Region VIII, and with NCRS National are now being shared with the entire membership along with a few updated comments. Although I am not an impartial observer, I would characterize the Chapter success as an "extraordinary success" due to the efforts of the members and officers during the year as summarized below. Although the Chapter challenges are likely not unique to the Intermountain Chapter, the large geographic area of Idaho/Montana continues to be one of the primary challenges that the Board is continually dealing with. Many of the challenges have been dealt with and the Board is working diligently to solve the remaining challenges during 2022.

In this regard, it is a pleasure to announce to the membership that the Intermountain Chapter is no longer designated as a chapter under the required one year mandatory "probationary" status. Our Chapter achieved "full chapter status" at the National Board Meeting in Frisco Texas on October 21, 2021. I received notification from Bob Johansen (our Region VIII Representative) immediately following the meeting and received a nice congratulatory message from Mike Ingham (National NCRS President) in this regard. The older members will recall that our official "first year" of operation was in 2020 (the COVID year) which restricted the Chapter's ability to accomplish anything meaningful during the year. The inactivity was also shared on a Regional and on a National basis which resulted in the mandatory "probationary" chapter status being extended for an additional year. Fortunately the Intermountain Chapter was able to "open for business" in 2021. Although our scheduled "flight judging" event schedule for October 2, 2021 required postponement/cancellation due to increased COVID cases, much was accomplished during the year which resulted in the Chapter achieving the above mentioned "full chapter status".

For the benefit of all members, I am providing a brief summary of the 2021 accomplishments as bullet points below.

- * **Membership:** Formation year (2019) membership was 33 (24 in Idaho/Montana).
- * **Membership increased during the COVID year (2020) membership increased to 57 (43 in Idaho/Montana).**
- * **Membership Chair Tammy Doty and Committee member Bob Heffley reports that membership has now (2021) increased to 71 (54 in Idaho/Montana).**
- * **Newsletter:** Bob Heffley formatted, produced and distributed a Chapter Newsletter in May 2021 and in December 2021.
- * **501 (c) 7 non-profit:** Chris Kline unincorporated the Chapter in the State of Washington, reincorporated in the State of Idaho, applied for non-profit status with the IRS and received unconditional approval from the IRS on August 3, 2021. She continues to follow with the IRS for access to the e-Postcard system to file the required tax filing 990-N.
- * **Board Addition:** Gene Spranget of Bozeman Montana was appointed to the Board as Vice Chairman which has improved our connection with Montana members and has resulted in increased membership in Montana. Gene also assisted in our "flight judging" event in Post Falls Idaho in August 2021.
- * **Training:** Mike Doty provided training for members on "Standard Deductions" and "CDCIF" in March 2021 at the home of Pat Pinkham in Eagle Idaho. Cars for practice judging were provided by members Pat Pinkham and by Carl Engle.
- * **Flight Judging:** Under the direction of Mike Doty, The Chapter held two (2) first class "flight judging" events during 2021. The first was held on April 24. hosted by LUPU motors in Boise Idaho (coordinated by Mike and Beverly Healy). Three (3) chapter member cars were judged at this event. The second event was hosted and coordinated by Gary and Kayla Main in Post Falls Idaho. The event was on August 28, 2021 and two (2) chapter cars were judged. A large number of Chapter members and officers were involved in both judging and support rolls.



Intermountain Chapter
Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 2

From Ned Smull (continued)

I am confident that the above summary will provide the Intermountain Chapter membership with a good feel as to the Chapter activity this past year which ultimately resulted in the NCRS National Board determination that the Chapter had achieved "full chapter status". I anticipate that 2022 will also be a busy year with continued training and flight judging as well as efforts to accommodate the Board's ability to more efficiently hold board meetings (using ZOOM) and the development of a Chapter website. Both are in process.

Congratulations to all!! Also wishing everyone a very happy and safe holiday season and New Year!! -Ned

FROM THE CHAPTER VICE CHAIR.....Gene Spranget

To all:

The year 2021 was not yet a normal year but in spite of that our chapter had several events that were very successful. The judging events in Boise and Post Falls being the highlights of the year. It is unfortunate that covid still plays a big role in everyone's life and that the October judging had to be cancelled.

I was privileged to be able to attend the event and participate in the judging at the Post Falls event in August. A big thanks to Gary and Kayla Main for hosting the event at their home and amazing shop. Thank you to Steve Nistler from Helena and Merlin Thykeson from Hayden Idaho who each brought their 1963 split window Corvette for judging. Other Montana members in attendance were Bob & Tiffany Berreth from Kalispell and Dave Sheldon from Silver Star. It was a great learning experience for all that attended. Attending an event is also a great opportunity to get together with our fellow Chapter members and in many cases, meeting them for the first time. As we are now into Corvette hibernation mode, I will be contacting the chapter members in Montana getting their input on what their expectations are for 2022 and encouraging their involvement in the Chapter events. A judging school and possible judging event have been topics of discussion. In addition to this we continue to work on bringing more new members into the Chapter.

I am always ready to talk Corvettes, please feel free to contact me at any time by phone or email - 406-580-2606 or gspranget@msn.com. -Gene

FROM THE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN.....Tammy Doty

As your Membership Chairperson, I am excited to tell you that our Intermountain Family is growing, we are currently at 71 Members as of 11/27/21 for the Intermountain Chapter. In our Last Newsletter sent out in May, we were at 62 members, total.

I will be sending out a Membership Directory from the National Data Base to Intermountain Members during the month of December, please look at it to make sure all of your personal information is correct: address, email, phones, etc. You have currently been receiving emails from Bob Heffley's broadcast list that he has put together. It is also important to make sure your personal profile information with the NCRS National is correct. Signing onto the National is a little tricky, for example: first name(space)last name(space)(NCRS#), then enter your password on second line. If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to contact anyone of the members to help you

Membership dues for 2022 will be coming up in January, you will receive an email for the notification along with directions on where to send the check. Our Chapter is currently not set up for on line payments, but we are looking into it to give our members an option to do so.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the Board Members. -Tammy



Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 3

FROM THE CHAPTER JUDGING CHAIRMAN.....Mike Doty

August 28, 2021 Post Falls Chapter Judging Event

The 2nd Intermountain Chapter judging event is in the rear view mirror and a very successful day it was. We want to thank Merlin Thykeson and Steve Nistler for sharing their 1963 coupes with us. They both received 2nd flight awards for their effort. We also need to thank the tabulator, judges and observer judges for their dedication and participation. Operations team was Danette Sawin and Gary Main. Exterior team was Gene Spranget and Carl Engle. Mechanical team was Wayne Gibson and Bill Hirning. Interior team was Tammy Doty and Dave Sheldon, with Bob Heffley and Jim Rand handling the chassis section. Chris Kline again handled tabulating. Thank you for your help in the learning process and Chris for keeping us in line with our duties. Thanks to Nancy Hirning for helping out with photography.

Looking at the atlas shows some observer judges and judges drove over 300 miles one way to the event. We had 5 members arrive from Helena, Bozeman, Silver Star, and Kalispell MT. We had 2 make the journey from Boise. We met a possible new member from Graham, WA, plus members from Mukilteo WA, Spokane WA, Spokane Valley WA, and Yakima WA. Members from Post Falls, Hayden, & Coeur d'Alene, ID rounded out the attendees at Gary and Kayla Main's home in Post Falls, ID. Lyal Sakamoto, our newest member (at the time of the event) was going to make the trip from Alberta, Canada but couldn't get across the border as it was closed due to COVID restrictions. Evidently a Corvette judging event isn't "essential" enough to the powers-that-be in Canada. A special thank you to Kayla and Gary for hosting the event and all the work required for an event like this. We really appreciate their hospitality! We were happy with the turnout from Montana. We need to hold a judging school on the judging process next year for members in that area. We would like some feedback as to where and when we could hold the judging school along the I-90 corridor and how many members would commit to participating at the school. Learning about standard deductions and the CDCIF judging matrix as it applies to judging originality is a great tool for gaining experience in flight judging. Please reach out to Gene Spranget or myself with your thoughts. Let me also know if you are interested in having a car judged next year. You do have the option to enter the car for judging in Redmond, Oregon at the regional meet next summer. -Mike Doty

NCRS Intermountain Chapter summer judging meet
August 28, 2021 at Gary and Kayla Main's home, Post Falls Idaho



Merlin Thykeson, Steve Nistler, Chris Kline, Tom Shipton, Bob Heffley, Bill Hirning, Wayne Gibson, Jim Kline, Mike Doty, Jim Rand, Tammy Doty, Dave Sheldon, Susan Rand, Danette Sawin, Mark Grosvenor, Gene Spranget, Carl Engle, Gary Main, Kayla Main

Left early: Remy Osso, Bob Berreth, Tiffany Berreth, Scott Harris

Photo by Nancy Hirning



Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2

PAGE 4

INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER IN MAY 2021

May 13, 2021 - NCRS Arizona Regional - Scottsdale Arizona

Attendees: Mike Doty, Tammy Doty, Carl Engle, Tom Harris, Jim Lynch, Danette Sawin
Chapter member Jim Lynch earned Top Flight for his 1967 427 convertible.

June 19, 2021 - Idaho Chariots car show - Eagle Idaho

Attendees: Bill Headley, Mike Healy, Bob Heffley, Pat Pinkham, Ned Smull

June 27, 2021 - Eagle christian church - Eagle Idaho

Attendees: Tom Harris, Carl Engle, Bill Headley, Mike Healy, Bob Heffley, Pat Pinkham Ned Smull

July 10, 2021 - Eagle Fun Days - Eagle Idaho,,,,,,,,Mike Healy

Bill Headley, Pat Pinkham and I attended the Eagle Fun Days car show on July 10, 2010.

Bob Heffley and Carl Engle came by to support our efforts. At the end of the day Bill Headley was awarded the trophy sponsored by Jeff Holley Restorations for his 1967 Corvette 400 HP Big Block convertible. Pat Pinkham was awarded the trophy sponsored by Smith and Coelho LLC for his 1972 Corvette 270 HP LS5 Big Block coupe.



1967 CORVETTE
427/400
TRIPLE BLACK
4 SPEED
Factory air
BILL HEADLEY

Eagle Fun Days is always a great event.



1972 CORVETTE LS-5
PAT PINKHAM



EAGLE IDAHO
FUN DAYS
JULY 10, 2021



Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 5

July 18, 2021 - NCRS National Convention - Palm Springs CA

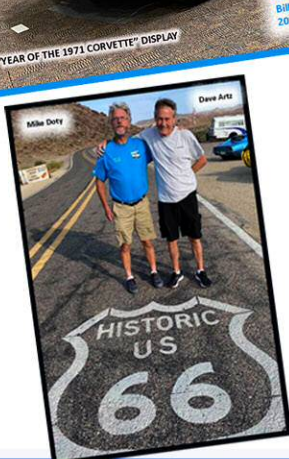
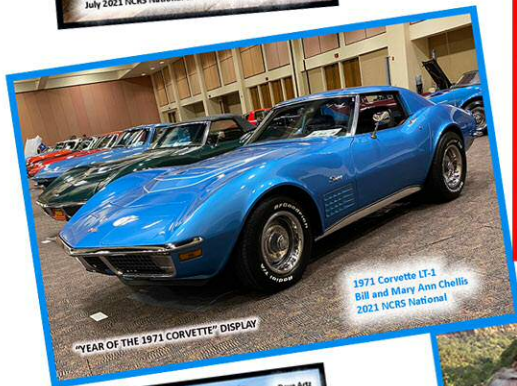
Attendees: Brent Connors, Bill and Mary Ann Chellis, Mike Doty, Tammy Doty, Mark Grosvenor, Jim Lynch, Rick Nordin, Harold and Pamela Runciman, Danette Sawin, Grant Wong.

Chapter member Jim Lynch earned National Top Flight for his 1967 427 convertible.

Jim Lynch also had his 1971 LS-6 judged at this event and earned the prestigious DUNTOV MARK OF EXCELLENCE award.

Chapter members Brent Connors and Grant Wong were presented their Master Judge certifications. Dave Artz was presented with his Level 200 Judging certificate.

Bill and Mary Ann Chellis had their LT-1 in the 1971 display.





Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 6

July 24, 2021 - Valley Corvettes "Corvettes and Classics" - Meridian Idaho.....From Mike Healy

Corvettes and Classics is held every other year by Valley Corvettes of Boise. This event is rotated with VetteFest which is a three-day event.

The 2020 event was canceled because it would be too many cars in a pandemic year. The Snake River Corvette Club in Twin Falls was asked to be this year's special invited guests. The Snake River Corvette Club brought seven cars to our event. We had a total of 70 cars at the event and I and my crew had prepared 145 parking spaces.

Valley Corvette members who are also NCRS Intermountain Chapter members who attended brought seven cars to compete. These Chapter members are:

- Ned Smull
- David Baker (Received the Sponsors Trophy from BOISE MUFFLER)
- Barry Blessin (Received the Sponsors Trophy from XPEL)
- Bill Hirning
- Rob Markus (Had two cars there)
- Steve Powers
- Mike Healy



At the last minute I told NCRS Intermountain Chapter members who were not Valley Corvette members that they could bring their cars and park on the show field. The following Chapter members brought seven cars for display. Tom Harris, Bill Headley, Carl Engle, Billy Headley, Bob Heffley.

Some interesting facts:

- * 14 NCRS Cars were at the event which is 20% of the total which was 70.
- * 17 NCRS Intermountain Chapter members were there: Dave Artz, Mike Baker, Barry Blessin, Mike Doty, Tammy Doty, Carl Engle, Tom Harris, Bill Headley, Mike and Bev Healy, Bob Heffley, Bill Hirning, Rob Marcus and Beth Chandler, Steve and Diane Powers, and Ned Smull.
- * Seven of the 17 are also Valley Corvette members.

Five Sponsor's Trophy's were presented. Chapter member David Baker's 1962 Corvette Restomod received the Sponsors Trophy from Boise Muffler. Chapter member Barry Blessin's 1961 Corvette received the Sponsors Trophy from XPEL.





Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 7

July 24, 2021 - Valley Corvettes "Corvettes and Classics" - Meridian Idaho.....continued





Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 8

August 28, 2021 - Intermountain Chapter judging event - Post Falls Idaho

*** See recap of this Post Falls meet in Mike Doty's and Gene Spranget's comments above ***

Update on judging and support teams

Judging Team Leader was Mike Doty

Operations team was Danette Sawin and Gary Main.

Interior team was Tammy Doty and Dave Sheldon,

Exterior team was Gene Spranget and Carl Engle.

Mechanical team was Wayne Gibson and Bill Hirning.

Chassis team was Jim Rand and Bob Heffley.

Chris Kline again handled tabulating.

Observer Judges were Tiffany Berreth, Robert Berreth,

Scott Harris, Mark Grosvenor, Tom Shipton, and Remy Osso.

Photography: Nancy Hirning

Event hosts, hospitality and logistics: Gary and Kayla Main





Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 9

August 28, 2021 - Intermountain Chapter judging event - Post Falls Idaho - continued





Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 10

September 11, 2021 Corvettes on the Columbia - Pasco Washington.....Mike Healy

The 11th annual Corvettes on the Columbia was held on September 10th and 11th in Pasco, Washington. Corvettes from six states were there. Valley Corvettes of Boise had 24 Corvettes at the event and received the trophy for having the most cars at the event.

NCRS Intermountain Chapter members at the event were Cathy Gordon, Sandy Blaser, Steve and Diane Powers, Rendall and Violet Brushey, Jim and Niki Warren, Mike and Tammy Doty, Mike and Beverly Healy, Doug and Sara Fearing. Chapter member Sandy Blaser's red 2019 ZR-1 coupe received the C7 second place trophy.

This is always a great event. This year \$184,000.00 was raised for Make-a-Wish. McCurley Integrity Dealership is the Big Sponsor of the event. They donate a portion of the sale from new vehicles to Make-a-Wish every year. In the last 11 years over \$750,000.00 has been raised for Make-a-Wish. Next year Corvettes on the Columbia expects to reach a total of one million dollars.



Sandy Blaser Cathy Gordon



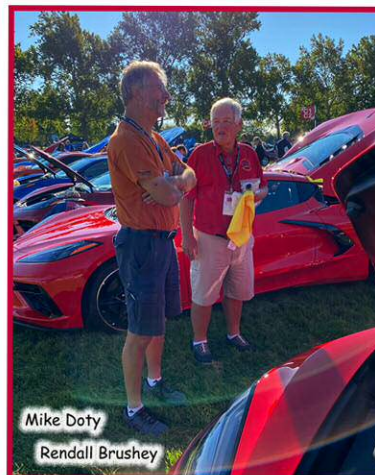
Jim and Niki Warren



Mike and Bev Healy



Tammy and Mike Doty



Mike Doty
 Rendall Brushey



Sara Fearing
 Doug Fearing
 Mike Doty



Intermountain Chapter
Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 11

October 27, 2021 NCRS TEXAS REGIONAL - FRISCO TEXAS

First we have some take aways from the regional meet in Frisco that finished last night. We had four members attend and all were present on the judging floor gaining Corvette knowledge, viewing great cars, and adding judging points to their resumes. Mark, Danette, and Tammy OJ'd at least 1 day with Tammy getting the maximum points as she was on the field all 3 days.

At the celebration of life event for our former vice president Dave Ewan, I met the new national road tour leader and will be leading the NW tour again next year. We plan to meet up with the Colorado group near Denver at the start of their tour. If anyone is interested in seeing the USA next July with us, let me know soon as the Colorado tour leader will be giving the nightly destinations on the way to Mobile very soon.

It is a good time to add the sportsman award category to our options for event car categories for 2022. This award is for members who drive their Corvette to a chapter event and display their car. They will receive a nice ribbon similar to the flight award given out for participation in this program. A very nice plaque is given out for members earning enough sportsman points in I believe a 3 year period . I was surprised when I received mine 2 years ago. I will check on that award if anyone is interested. Cost for participating in the program will be \$15-20 each event. I will bring up the cost with the board at the next meeting. Let me know if this sportsman program appeals to you.

For 2022, we have the 2 cars that are scheduled to be judged to catch up on the canceled October event 4 weeks ago. I am looking for members that would like to have their cars judged for another event in Northern Idaho/Montana, as well as having a judging school for members in that area that couldn't make this year's school. All members of course are welcome to participate in all events. You do have the choice of taking your car to Redmond, Oregon for the regional meet in August to be judged if this is a better opportunity for you. Judges from around the country will be at the regional meet and you will see more experienced judges as well as some national team leaders in attendance.

Finally, if you would like to see an activity in 2022 that your chapter is not currently providing, let me or a board member know and we will discuss it. We are looking for additional help in making your chapter stronger, speak up if you would like to be more involved.

With kind regards,
Mike Doty



Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 12

WHO WE ARE

THIS IS A FLASHBACK OF OUR FIRST EVENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR NEW CHAPTER



New Chapter Introduction

The Intermountain Chapter of the NCRS is pleased to announce that after approximately one year of work provided by the membership in the formation process, the approval for the chapter was received at the NCRS Board Meeting in Frisco, TX on October 24, 2019. The new chapter is part of Region VIII and the approval was accomplished with the assistance and support of our Region VIII Representative/Director Bob Johansen. The chapter members and officers are now reflecting back at the formation year as we prepare our first NCRS Annual Report and are concurrently working on our first official NCRS Flight Judging Event scheduled for April 25, 2020 (see the Judging Registration Form in this issue).



April 27, 2019
Chapter meet

Looking back on 2019



The chapter was able to accomplish the formation work required to form the chapter and combined it with a considerable amount of fellowship and fun. We held our first "unofficial" Board/Membership meeting in late spring combined with an outstanding display of Corvettes and an "unofficial" training session on C2 chassis judging with a power-point presentation. A number of members also participated in lowering bodies back on two C2 Corvettes later in the year and members participated in a practice judging which included a Flight judged car and a Concours judged car. Members also participated in a holiday get together in December. Additionally, it is important that the Intermountain Chapter acknowledge and give a special "shout out" to two of our members who were critical to the chapter formation process. They are Bob

Heffley and Mike Doty. Bob has been an NCRS member for 32 years with 18 of those years affiliated with the Southern California chapter. Bob provided a high level of energy, determination and persistence that could not be escaped. Mike is the Judging Chair for the chapter and has been an NCRS member for 24 years and a Master Judge for 6 years. He provided his enthusiasm and judging expertise that he willingly shared during the year.

Looking forward to 2020

As mentioned above, the Intermountain Chapter is preparing for its first Flight Judging event on April 25th. Additionally, we are tentatively planning to hold an additional Flight Judging later in the year as well as the potential for other special events. The April 25th event promises to be a very nice event for all participants and includes snacks and a meal. The time commitment being dedicated to this event by many chapter members/officers is considerable and greatly appreciated by all. We are anticipating that the event will be well attended.



10/5/2019
Body drop
Tom Harris
1967 427/435

The success during 2020 and beyond is highly dependent on continued additions to the Membership Roster. In this regard, the Intermountain Chapter is specifically serving NCRS members in the Idaho/Montana geographic area. We feel that the fellowship and special events offered through a chapter affiliation will be appealing to many NCRS members who have not enjoyed chapter membership in the past. We are estimating that over 40 current NCRS members within Idaho/Montana fall into this category. We are also accepting NCRS members from any bordering states that may or may not have a current chapter affiliation and find the Idaho/Montana Chapter convenient. Chapter membership has been growing and currently stands at 33 members. This consists of 24 members within Idaho/Montana and 9 members from bordering states. Membership information or requests for a membership application can be directed to: Tammy Doty (Membership Chair) (509) 560-0250 or Bob Hefley (Membership) (818) 219-9286.

Submitted By: Ned Smull, Chairman



Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021 VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 13

FINALLY...!!! this is a human interest story about the life of a very special 1964 Corvette

The letter from Stirling Moss was neatly typed up on Stirling Moss Limited letterhead. It began: "Dear David and Stephanie..."

It was late June 2016. Six months prior, David and Stephanie Lambdin had sent Moss, 86 years old at the time, a care package of photos showing him in 1965 at the Westwood Race Track in Coquitlam, British Columbia. He was pictured with a 1964 Chevrolet Corvette coupe. Their 1964 Corvette coupe. The Lambdins purchased the car in 2012 and were busy researching its history ever since.

The Riverside Red Corvette had quite a storied life including hill climbs, slaloms, racing championships, and 14 previous owners, many of whom lived in Canada and Alaska, the latter of which is where the Lambdins call home. It spent much of the late 1970s looking beat and destitute as it moved from one garage to another, but somewhere along the way the Stingray was restored, picking up Fuel Injection badges on its fenders.

An early build, VIN# 408375100315 was assembled at GM's St. Louis plant on September 19, 1963. Four days later it shipped to Dueck on Broadway, a sizable Chevy dealer in Vancouver. The Corvette was made for speed, with its L76 327-cubic-inch small-block rated at 365 hp. It was the strongest engine available in 1964 short of the 375-horsepower 327 with Rochester fuel injection. It was also equipped with an M21 close-ratio four-speed manual, 4.56 gears, and the J65 option (adding high-performance brakes).

A young man had apparently ordered the car and did it right, but he pulled out of the contract, losing his deposit when his girlfriend became pregnant. The car was quickly purchased by Laurie Craig, a relocated New Zealander that had crewed for Carroll Shelby's Maserati, as well as Stirling Moss' Cooper Formula 1 at the 1959 Ardmore New Zealand Grand Prix. After crewing at Ardmore for four years, Craig wanted to race himself and moved to Vancouver looking for opportunities. He traded a 1960 El Camino and sold another to purchase the Stingray with the full intention of driving it on the street and racing it on the weekends.

With sponsorship from Mander Chevy-Olds, another dealership in the area, Craig and his Corvette, totally stock down to its hubcaps and white striped tires, began to compete successfully in autocross, Gymkhana, and hill climb events. Craig also entered it into events at the Westwood road course which was built in 1959 and operated by the Sports Car Club of British Columbia. Throughout 1965 he was the man to beat in the region as his Corvette, then upgraded with just a roll bar and tires, dominated the sports production class.



B.C.'s BIG PERFORMANCE CAR CENTRE

WHERE THE ACTION IS

Laurie Craig's "Stingray"
CONSTANT WINNER AT RACES, SLALOMS, HILLCLIMBS
A CHAMPION DRIVER AND A CHAMPION CAR

GM SPEED EQUIPMENT



Intermountain Chapter
Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 1, No. 2
PAGE 14

Moss helped design the Westwood course and raced there years prior. In May of 1965, the retired driver attended the Westwood Players Pacific event at the circuit, the largest road race in the northwest, and was reunited with Craig, his old friend and crew member. After the two exchanged racing stories and caught up, Moss climbed into his old driving suit given to Craig years earlier and completed a few laps in Craig's Stingray. In his letter to the Lambdins, Moss confirms it's the first Corvette he had ever driven on a track.

At the same event the following year, again with Moss in attendance, Craig drove his stock Stingray brilliantly in the pouring rain. Despite the weather, he won the overall championship, blowing off a 31-car field that included mid-engine Lotus and Brabhams, a Porsche 904, a Ford GT40, and modified Mustangs and Corvettes.

By the end of 1966, though, the red Corvette was treated as a simple used car. Craig traded it for a brand-new 1967 Camaro Z/28, which he also raced successfully, and so the Corvette was left sitting on the lot at Mander Chevy-Olds. the corvette needs help

While Craig and his 1964 Corvette were making Canadian racing history, Dave Lambdin was a teenage drag racer tearing up the street and strips around Alexandria, Louisiana. His weapon of choice was his Daytona Blue 1963 Corvette roadster, which he purchased in 1964 for \$2200. It had a white top, the optional 340-hp 327, and it looked tough on a set of Cragar S/S mags and blackwall rubber. But by January 1968, Dave was clutching an M16 rifle in Saigon on the opening day of the Tet Offensive, his beloved Stingray stashed away safely in his parent's garage.

In his book, *My Old Car*, which he wrote with his wife Stephanie in 2016, Dave speaks candidly about his return from Vietnam in 1970. "Returning home, my once prized 1963 Stingray now no longer has the appeal or rush it once gave me," he wrote. "Things that matter in life have been severely altered. I sell the 'Vette and buy a fuel efficient Chevrolet Corvair. I become a reclusive surfer and martial arts practitioner."

Despite selling it after the war, Dave's desire to find his old Daytona Blue Corvette roadster rekindled in 1985, and he began looking on the "new internet world wide web" in 1990. But with no old titles, documents, or a vehicle identification number, the going was slow. Then, more life happened. Dave and Stephanie married in 1999, had two children, and in 2005 move to Sitka, a little island city 200 miles off the coast of Alaska. Dave writes, "Between fishing, hunting, crabbing and exploring, I begin to search for my old car once again."

By 2012 Dave's car hadn't materialized, and he felt like he was running out of time. Now 64 years old, he's had several surgeries for war-related Agent Orange poisoning and continues to have terrible bouts with PTSD. But the last thing on his bucket list was to purchase and drive an old Corvette again—even if his blue roadster was gone.





Intermountain Chapter

Idaho - Montana

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY
DECEMBER 2021 **VOLUME 1, No. 2**

PAGE 15

He noticed a Craigslist ad for a red 1964 Corvette coupe with fuel injection emblems, located in Anchorage. With a borrowed \$28,000 and the full support of Stephanie and family, Dave traveled the 1000 miles over land and sea to Anchorage. With a new Corvette to finally scratch his long-neglected itch, he drove the Stingray 765 miles through the Alaskan/Canadian wilderness on the Glenn Highway, which was laid as part of the massive Alcan Highway building project during World War II to finally connect Alaska with the rest of the North American highway system. The final 200 miles from Haines to Sitka (population 8800) would be by ferry. With a few new stone chips, the Corvette made the journey in five days without incident.

Two days later, Dave found the Corvette's old Alaskan registration from 2011 sticking out from under the carpet, along with mounting brackets that appeared to be for a roll bar. He decided to contact Joe Savell, the name on the old registration, to see if he knew if the car was a true fuel-injected model as the fender emblems suggest, and if it had ever been raced.

This one called kicked off a four-year research project to trace the Stingray's history, a journey that would ultimately reconnect Laurie Craig with his favorite race car at the Vintage Racing Club of British Columbia's annual reunion and races. (Dave and Laurie even made a few laps.) The cherry on top of it all? That letter from London, signed Ciao, Sir Stirling Moss.

Today, Dave and Stephanie continue to enjoy their classic sports car during the summer months on Sitka's 15 miles of paved and unpaved roads. And every time Dave takes the Corvette's wood-rimmed steering wheel in his hands, hears the rumble of its small-block and looks out past its long red hood, it's 1965 all over again. After all of its racing pedigree, the red Corvette is still making dreams come true.

I joined the National Corvette Restorers Society (NCRS) several years ago. I was always afraid to have our 1964 historic race car 1964 Vette judged. I knew they were nuts, bolts, parts that were not original. BUT, the Association (NCRS) has now allowed "not all original" Corvettes to be judged in several categories. We went to the judging event in Howie in the Hills, Florida. What a great knowledgeable friendly group of Corvette enthusiasts! We are now scheduled to try for the next round of judging to try and obtain the "American Heritage Award".

This is an honor given to less than 50 Corvettes in the world. If you would like to join and get your Vette judged or just have a great time with Corvette Lovers, I highly recommend Go For It!

