



# SOUTHEAST TEXAS CORVETTE CORNER

Est. 1976

Official Newsletter of the Tri-City Corvette Club

Lifetime Business/  
Club Member #24790  
National Corvette Museum

April 2024 Issue

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[www.tricitycorvetteclub.com](http://www.tricitycorvetteclub.com)

### NEXT MEETING

El Viejo Tony Mexican  
May 7, 2024

Food served at 6pm  
Meeting at 7pm

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The Tri-City Corvette Club (TCCC) newsletter is published monthly by volunteers and members of the TCCC. Subscription rates are free for members. Membership lists and financial data are not published. For change of address and all other TCCC inquiries, write to: **Tri-City Corvette Club, P.O. Box 636, Nederland, TX, 77627**. TCCC is an Unincorporated Non-Profit Association, which raises money for and participates with various local children’s charities and high school college scholarship programs. Dues and donations are not tax deductible. We strive to promote exciting, safe & fun ways to enjoy our Corvettes. We hold business meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. Our monthly business meeting usually incorporates a social time before and after the meeting. Our socials are always fun and are focused on getting to know one another. We have cookouts, day trips and weekend trips, and TCCC caravans to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. We participate in tours, holiday parades, and homecoming events at various high schools. We also participate in various car shows. Club dues are \$50 per person per year and are paid annually by the June business meeting. These dues cover membership in the NCM and the cost of running the club. Club officers, board and committee chairpersons serve as volunteers.

# PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

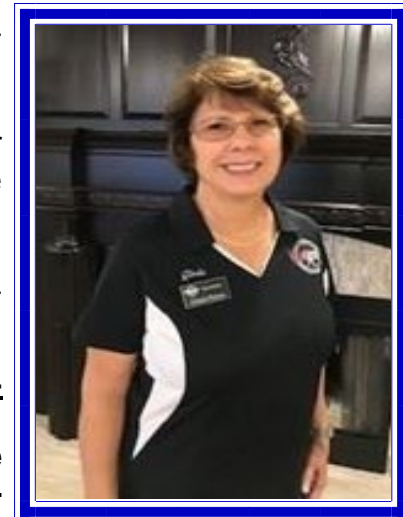
**Glinda Pareso**

**APRIL 2024**

We had a great meeting at Robert's Meat Market and Steakhouse in Orange on April 2, 2024, with 50 members and 2 guests attending the membership meeting.

I would like to say thank you to John Berry & Roger Ross for setting up the location at Robert's Steakhouse for our membership meeting. The food was excellent, and we had a nice space to host the meeting.

Also thank you to the members who attended the membership meeting.



**Please Note: Next Membership meeting is May 7, 2024**

**We are trying a new location at El Viejo Tony Mexican Bar and Grill, 4545 Dowlen Road in Beaumont, in the Parkdale Mall parking lot. It is the old Fuddruckers building. Social/Eat at 6pm & Meeting at 7pm.**

## **Events:**

We had a great Drive & Dine to Fins Restaurant at the Margaritaville RV Resort at Crystal Beach. We had 15 Corvettes and 30 members attend. We had a great time; the food was excellent, and we enjoyed the laughter and friendship. Thank you, John Berry, for making the arrangements for the club to make the run to Margaritaville in Crystal Beach. We enjoyed it. There are a lot of events set up for April so take a look at our website or FB to know what events are coming up for you to enjoy with the club.

## **30th Annual Corvette Car Show:**

The Sponsor Plaques for our 30th Annual Car Show turned out great with the new good looking design, and are available to purchase for \$30 on our website under the Store Tab.

I would like to challenge each of our members to purchase a Sponsor Plaque to help fund our charities and our car show. Also, feel free to contact any business regarding purchasing a Sponsor Plaque. All Sponsor Plaques are engraved with the sponsors name at the bottom of the plaque as follows: "Your Corvette was Recognized By (Your name & Member of the TCCC or the Business name and their logo).

The cool thing about ordering a Sponsor Plaque is that you can select the Corvette you think is unique in color, design, or the Corvette you like the best. Once you select the Corvette you like, you can present the Sponsor Plaque to the owner right then and take pictures with the owner while you present the plaque to them with their Corvette in the background.

The Sponsor Plaques can be purchased for \$30 on our website under the Store Tab and click on the highlighted words Sponsor Plaque. If you have any issues with ordering the plaque, please give me a call on my cell, 210-288-5471, and I will be glad to help. POC: Glinda Pareso

(President's Message continued)

**SPONSOR PLAQUE FOR 2024**

**Remember to Register Early for the Car Show:** You can register on our website. Early registration helps since the registration packets can be prepared in advance and ready at the car show.

**We need everyone to help to make this year's car show a success. Another area our members can assist with the 30th Annual Car Show is bringing some of the items listed below.**

**Items needed for the Car Show:**

- Items for Door Prizes
- Items for the Silent Auction
- Items for the Bucket List
- Items for the Guest Baskets (chips, cookies, crackers, snacks, nuts, water, etc.)
- Items for the Goodie Bags (chips, cookies, crackers, snacks, nuts, water, etc.)

Please collect the items early and bring the donated items to the Holiday Inn on Thursday, May 2 at 6pm. We will be assembling the Goodie Bags and Guest Baskets and collecting items for the Silent Auction and Bucket List at that time.

**I appreciate and I want to say thank you to all the members in advance since I know it takes the entire club and all our members being involved to make our 30th Annual Car Show the very best.**

**Thank You,  
Glinda Pareso  
President, Tri-City Corvette Club  
Cell 210-288-5471  
gpareso@yahoo.com**

# VICE-PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

APRIL 2024

## John Berry



We had 50 members and 2 guests turn out at our April meeting at Robert's Restaurant in Orange, Texas, and it was nice to see everyone. What some great food and fellowship it was.

It was nice to see John Cotton at a second meeting, and thank you for attending with us.

The Board chose the first Quarter Members of The Month and Darrin Nepinsky and Michael Frye received the honor for the first quarter with their giving to the club of their time and efforts. Thank you so much from our members for your dedication and giving. Congratulations!

### **Prayers & Thoughts:**

We have several members in the club that couldn't attend. Cecelia Mouton had a fall and illness, so say a prayer for her for a quick recovery. Keep "Coach" Mike Burgess in your continued prayers as he is dealing with a neck and spine issue. Also keep John Decker in your thoughts with a large kidney stone that he is having surgery to remove. **Prayers & God Bless!**

### **Activities:**

We have several events for April coming up so check out the Events' page on the website and Facebook page and find one to participate in.

Split the Pot was won by Eddie Leis with \$162.00 which was donated back to the club, Congratulations, and thank you for your generosity.

### **Birthdays:**

Jane Barron, Randy Bland, Celia Dominguez, Willa White, Kerri Serafino, Johnny Downs, Darrin Nepinsky, Michelle Dollinger and Juanita Judkins

### **Happy Birthday to you all.**

### **Anniversaries:**

Michael & Kim Merideth (15 years), Mark & Gracie Mott (24 years), Charlie & Mrs. Grado (30 years), Charlie & Linda Buteaud (34 years), Brad & Lynn Metz (42 years) and Bill & Liz Hanley (56 years)

### **Happy Anniversary!!!**

**Member Mention:** Darrin Nepinsky and Eddie Leis helped a broken-down Corvette owner on Easter Sunday and took the time to get him back on the road and back to Houston. This is the quality and type of membership we have and thank you for your hospitality and generosity shown to others. Great Job Guys!

Thank you all and have a great month.

*John Berry*

TCCC, Vice President

*"Be Kind its Free."*

**DONALSON APPRECIATION  
DAY**

**MARCH 30, 2024**





# REDBUD FESTIVAL CAR SHOW

MARCH 2, 2024



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# HUMANE SOCIETY/PETSMART

PET ADOPTION DAY

MARCH 23, 2024



## Tri-City Corvette Club Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2024

### **PRESIDENT, GLINDA PARESO**

- President, Glinda Pareso called the meeting to order and the membership stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Max Dawson offered the opening prayer. We had 50 members and two guests. The guests were John Cotton and Ken and Michelle Dollinger brought Camdon with them for the evening. Glinda presented David Dominguez with a gift for his being named one of the Members of the Month last year. She also presented Ray Long with a token of appreciation for his referral.

### **OFFICER/BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

- **VICE PRESIDENT JOHN BERRY:** Vice President, John Berry, announced the first Member of the Quarter. There were two members the board thought were equally deserving of recognition and they were Darrin Nepinsky and Michael Frye. They both have contributed so much in the creation of our calendar. Darrin also designed the banner that we will send to hang in the NCM and Michael organized and hosted the Red Bud Festival for Buna. Congratulations to both. John Berry gave a brief overview of past events. He noted that Roger brought home new hardware from the Annual Chevy Expo in Galveston. Please refer to our website or our newsletter for details of past events. John then recognized the April birthdays and anniversaries.
- **SECRETARY LIZ HANLEY:** Secretary, Liz Hanley, gave a brief detail of the mail received for the club, most of which was financially related and turned over to our treasurer. She asked if everyone had read the minutes from our previous membership meeting and if anyone had any corrections, deletions, or additions. There were none, and she called for a motion to accept the minutes as published. Brenda Nichols moved we accept the minutes and Patricia McCullor seconded the motion. Motion carried. Liz had nothing else to report.
- **TREASURER MONA BERRY:** Treasurer, Mona Berry, gave a detailed report on our financial status and the bottom line she reported that we are sound financially and prepared to meet all our obligations.
- **BOARD MEMBER COACH BURGESS:** Board Member, Mike Burgess, was unable to attend..
- **BOARD MEMBER CHRIS CORMIER:** Board Member, Chris Cormier, reported that he had gotten the orange traffic cones for the car show thanks to the generosity of Kim McIntosh. He stated that it has been very hard to get donations this year and encouraged all members to please help.
- **BOARD MEMBER JOHN DECKER:** Board Member, John Decker, was unable to attend.
- **BOARD MEMBER BRAD METZ:** Board Member, Brad Metz, was unable to attend, but Mike shared Brad's information, with the exception of the fact that Brad had received some sponsorship funds.
- **BOARD MEMBER DAN PARESO:** Board Member, Dan Pareso, reported that the HSSETX/PetSmart adoption day and pet food drive was successful. We raised \$189.00 outside and quite a bit more was raised inside. We gave a total donation of \$250.00. Two dogs got sponsors and we collected quite a few pounds of pet food. HSSETX also hosted an open house on March 26, and a few of our members attended and toured their new beautiful facility. He reminded the guys about ROMEO.
- **BOARD MEMBER & ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR ROGER ROSS:** Board Member, Roger Ross, was unable to attend. John Berry reviewed the upcoming events and for a complete list of events, please check our website, our Facebook page or our monthly newsletter. Glinda also sends out emails with details of upcoming events. John also reminded the entire membership that derogatory posts regarding Corvettes will not be tolerated and you risk being blocked out of our sites if you post that type of post.
- **PAST PRESIDENT & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR MIKE WHITE:** Past President and Membership Director, Mike White, reminded everyone to pay their dues of \$75.00 per person prior to June 1, 2024, so that dues for NCM will be received on time. He thanked everyone who has already paid their dues. Mike reported that flowers had been sent from TCCC to Lance Marchand's family for the loss of their loved one and also to Nancy Horn's family for the loss of her Mother.

(continued on next page)

(Meeting Minutes continued)

- **PAST PRESIDENT & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR MIKE WHITE (continued):** Mike said he will announce soon another date and time for committee volunteers to meet regarding the car show. He thanked Brad Metz for setting up media interviews April 26, 2024. The Morning Show on KFDM will do 4 segments, approximately 3-4 minutes each. The first two will be at 6:00am and 6:30am and will air live on KFDM 6. The final two will be at 7:00am and 7:30am and will air on FOX 4. Mike will be doing an interview on The Noon Show at the temporary studios in Bridge City. Mike reported that the GoKart for the raffle should arrive next week, and he will store it in the trailer for safe keeping. The board has decided that the best financial gain for TCCC is to sell raffle tickets at \$20.00 per ticket. All proceeds will be profit to go toward our various charities and charitable activities. We will still have Spin the Wheel. Flyers are available for anyone who needs some. He encouraged members to register early and reminded everyone that May 1, 2024, is the deadline for online registration. He then gave a rundown of events and activities. Goodie Bag night is May 2 at 6pm. Bring any and all items for silent auction, goodie bags, and gift baskets that night. May 3 at 8am is set up for parking. Food trucks will also be coming that morning to get set up. May 3 is hospitality night, and we will serve food from Fuzzy's for our out of town guests. Dee Starks has generously donated desserts for the evening hospitality night and will have a booth outside the day of the car show. Drink tickets will be included in room packets this year. Sponsor trophies are ready. You can purchase as many as you like. Jiffy Trophy does the trophies for the valve cover race and Pro-Screens T-Shirt is doing the class winner plaques and the t-shirts. Saturday, May 4 is the day of our 30th Annual TCCC Car Show. Mike gave the details of the agenda for the day.
- **NCM AMBASSADOR GLENN JOHNSON:** NCM Ambassador, Glenn Johnson was unable to attend.
- **SUPPORT STAFF AND COMMITTEES:** Jane Barron, Newsletter Editor, reported that to date she had received 66 pre-registrations.

John Berry told the membership that Eddie Leis and Darrin Nepinsky had gone way above and beyond in helping a total stranger get his Corvette on the road after he had issues with tires, while passing through our area.

John then proceeded to ask the trivia questions and winners were Michelle Dollinger, Celia Dominguez, John Kupper, Harry Nichols, and David Dominguez. All of the following won door prizes; Judy Snowden, Terry Long, Darrin Nepinsky, Lance Marchand (2), Brenda Nichols, Mona Berry (2), Dan Pareso (2), Jenny Nguyen, Judy Morton, Kim McIntosh (2), Joey Catalano, and Rickie Knott.

Glinda asked if there was any other business, and there been none, called for a motion to adjourn. Joey Catalano moved we adjourn and Chris Cormier seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Raffle & Split the Pot:** Split the Pot was won by Eddie Leis for \$162.00 & he donated it to the club.

Thank you, Eddie, for your generosity.

**Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7 at El Viejo Tony Mexican Bar & Grill  
4545 Dowlen Road, Beaumont**

**We will eat & socialize at 6PM and the meeting is at 7PM.**



## NCM Corner

Glenn Johnson,  
TCCC NCM Ambassador

### April 2024

For NCM information about the NCM visit the NCM website at [www.corvettemuseum.org](http://www.corvettemuseum.org)

## 25 CORVETTE FACTS EVERY ENTHUSIAST SHOULD KNOW

Chevrolet has been pumping out Corvettes since 1953. That makes the 'Vette one of the most popular sports cars of all time. First-and second-generation Corvettes were one of the first true collectible cars of the modern era, and collecting Corvettes remains a global phenomenon. More than just another two-seat sports car, the Vette is an American icon. There's a good reason it's often referred to as America's sports car, and every enthusiast should have at least a basic knowledge of its seven generations.

1. **First Corvette with V-8 power:** Although the very first production Corvette hit the streets in 1953, Chevy wouldn't replace its inline six-cylinder engine until 1955. That year, Chevy debuted its new optional 265-cubic-inch small-block V-8.
2. **First Corvette coupe:** All Corvettes produced from 1953–62 were convertibles. Then the C2 Corvette debuted in 1963 with two body styles, a convertible and a coupe with the famous split rear window. It was popular. Of the 21,513 Corvettes built that year, 10,594 were split-window coupes.
3. **First Corvette with independent rear suspension:** Also in 1963, the sports car's 10th year of production, the C2 became the first Corvette with an independent rear suspension. The design incorporated a transverse leaf spring, and it has remained a part of the Corvette's suspension design for the last 55 years.
4. **First Corvette with fuel injection:** In 1957 Chevy enlarged the Corvette's small-block from 265 cubic inches to 283. Three versions were available, including the top-of the range "Fuelie" with the Ramjet mechanical fuel injection system. It was rated at one horsepower per cubic inch, a big deal at the time, and was the first fuel-injected production Corvette.
5. **First Corvette with disc brakes:** Although the Jaguar C-Type and D-Type won the 24 Hours of Le Mans in the 1950s with disc brakes, Chevy wouldn't add the technology to the production Corvette until 1965. Four-wheel discs became standard that year, but some buyers still insisted on the drums and received a \$64.50 credit.

(NCM Corner continued)

6. **First big-block Corvette:** Chevy also gave us the first big-block Corvette in 1965. The L78 396-cubic-inch V-8 had an iron block and heads, an aluminum intake manifold, solid lifters, and big Holley carburetor. It cost \$292.70 and was installed in 2157 Corvettes. With 425 hp it was the most powerful Corvette up to that time.
7. **First Corvette with triple carburetion:** The first production Corvette with triple carburetion was the very first Corvette in 1953. The sports car's 150-hp 235-cu-in Blue Flame Six, which remained through 1955 (it made 155 hp its final year), drank through three one-barrel carbs. Triple carbs with three two-barrel units then returned in 1967 with the optional Tripower 427 big-blocks, the L68 rated at 400 hp and the L71 rated at 435 hp.
8. **First Corvette with dual quads:** By 1956, German engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov was putting his fingerprints on the Corvette and increasing its performance. Although the Corvette had used multiple carburetion since 1953, in '56 came its first dual quad V-8 rated at 225 hp. It was a \$172.20 extra over the base engine with a single four-barrel carb, and most Corvettes built that year—3080 of the 3467—were equipped with the option.
9. **First Corvette with T-tops:** Every Corvette coupe built from 1968–82 had T-tops. The removable panels were fiberglass and body color until 1978, when tinted glass panels were offered as an option.
10. **First Corvette Stingray:** Sting Ray (two words) was first used on the 1963 Corvette and remained throughout the C2 generation. The C3 debuted in 1968 without the Sting Ray name, but it reappeared on the fenders of the 1969 model as one word, Stingray. It would remain there until 1976.
11. **First Corvette with an aluminum engine block:** Today every new Corvette is powered by an all-aluminum engine, but the first production Corvette to use this weight-saving technology was the 1969 ZL1 model. Chevy built two—one yellow, one white—with the all-aluminum ZL1 427 big-block. The engine was rated 430 hp, but with big port heads and 12.5:1 compression ratio everyone knew that was bull. Chevy also put this engine in 69 Camaros that year.
12. **First Corvette with a functional hood scoop:** Functional ram air systems, drawing air from outside the engine compartment to feed the engine cooler and denser air, became popular on muscle cars in the 1960s, and most systems used a hood scoop. The first Corvette with a functional hood scoop was the 1967 model with the L88 427 engine option. Only 20 were produced. The stinger scoop on the other big-block Corvettes looked the same but was not functional.
13. **First Corvette without a trunk:** It's funny to think about now, but from 1963–82 the Corvette did not have a trunk. The small cargo area behind the seats, a very tiny area in the convertibles, had to be accessed from inside the interior. Today such an inconvenience would not be tolerated, but it was for many years. On the 1982 Collector's Edition model, Chevy finally hinged the glass rear window for better access. The design remained through the C4, C5 and C6 generations.
14. **First Corvette with a transaxle:** To better balance and improve the handling of the fifth-generation Corvette, which debuted in 1997, Chevy engineers moved from a traditional transmission location, which is bolted to the engine, to a transaxle design that moves the gearbox to the rear of the car. The design has remained through the C6 and C7 generations.
15. **First Corvette with 17-inch wheels and tires:** When the C4 generation debuted in 1984, it became the first Corvette with 16-inch wheels and tires. Its Goodyear Eagle Gatorbacks (255/50ZR16) were at the time the widest tire ever fitted to a Corvette, but it wasn't long before Chevy increased the Corvette's wheel diameter to 17 inches. In 1988, Corvettes with the Z51 and Z52 suspensions and all 35th Anniversary models wore 17 x 9.5-inch aluminum wheels, which were significantly larger than the 16 x 8.5 wheels on other models. Tire size jumped to 275/40ZR17.

(NCM Corner continued)

16. **First Corvette with DOHC:** There has been only one production Corvette with a double overhead cam engine. [That was the ZR-1](#) produced from 1990–95. The 5.7-liter V-8, developed by Lotus and constructed by Mercury Marine, debuted with 375 hp, but quickly increased to 405 hp.
17. **First Corvette with more than 700 hp:** [Today's 2019 Corvette ZR1](#) (no hyphen) is the first production Corvette with more than 700 hp. Its supercharged 6.2-liter V-8 is rated 755 hp at 6300 rpm and 715 lb-ft of torque at 4400 rpm, making it the most powerful Corvette of all time. It's also the most expensive, with a base price of \$119,995.
18. **First Corvette over \$20,000:** With a base price of \$22,537.59, the 1982 Collector Edition Corvette became the first Corvette with an MSRP higher than \$20,000. Incredibly, when the C4 Corvette debuted two years later, it cost less than the CE with base price of \$21,800.
19. **First Corvette Rally Wheels:** Chevy's Rally Wheels became a fixture on C3 Corvettes for many years, and they are still popular today. But Rally Wheels actually debuted on the C2. In 1967, they made their first appearance on the Corvette as the standard wheel. The aluminum bolt-on wheel was optional.
20. **First Corvette with four-speed transmission:** Interestingly, Corvette's first four-speed manual transmission, the T-10 manufactured by Borg Warner, was a \$188.30 option in 1957—exactly the same price as an optional two-speed Powerglide automatic. But it was worth it. Because Chevy added it to the option list late in the year, only 664 Corvettes got the four-speed. The standard transmission was a three-speed manual.
21. **First Corvette aluminum wheels:** Although the cast-aluminum knock-off wheels appeared in the promotions for the all-new 1963 Corvette, a manufacturing problem kept the wheels from being produced until 1964, when they became an option. Hubcaps over steel wheels remained standard equipment until the introduction of the Rally Wheel in 1967.
22. **First Corvette with hideaway headlights:** Designed by Larry Shinoda and Peter Brock, under the watch of GM Styling Chief Bill Mitchell, the 1963 Corvette became the first with hideaway headlamps. The feature became a fixture on Corvettes until the C6 generation debuted in 2005.
23. **First supercharged Corvette:** Superchargers have been used on the Corvette [since the 2009 ZR1](#). That year the LS9 6.2-liter V-8 made 638 hp and was the most powerful American car up to that time. It was also the first Corvette with more than 600 hp. Today the Corvette Z06 and ZR1 models have supercharged engines.
24. **First Corvette Indy 500 pace car:** [A Corvette has paced the Indianapolis 500](#) an incredible 14 times, more than any other car. But the relationship wasn't fully formed until 1978, the Corvette's 25th year of production. Chevy sold 6502 Pace Car Editions that year, and black and silver two-tone classics continue to rise in value.
25. **First Corvette to race at Le Mans:** In 1960, Sportsman racer Briggs Cunningham, a man who would eventually built and race cars of his own design, took three Corvettes to the 24 Hours of LeMans. Dressed in the traditional American racing colors of white with blue stripes, only one of the near-stock Corvettes finished, winning the big-bore GT class and placing eighth overall.

## **2024 NCM Spring BASH**

**Bowling Green, KY**

**April 25 – April 27, 2024**

**See the Schedules posted on the NCM website**

**Online registration is open. [www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/](http://www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/)**

(NCM Corner continued)

## The 7th National Corvette Caravan is slated for August 29-31, 2024



Often referred to as the world's largest moving automotive event, the National Corvette Caravan is a celebration of America's Sports Car, culminating in Bowling Green, Kentucky for the anniversary celebration of the National Corvette Museum. Hosted only once every five years, the next event is slated for Labor Day Weekend 2024 and will mark the Museum's 30th Anniversary.

Regional caravans will form and join other caravans as they travel across the United States to meet in Bowling Green, Kentucky for four days of festivities at the National Corvette Museum. An event such as this requires years of planning and coordinating. All help is appreciated! The Museum is located at I-65, exit 28 in South Central Kentucky and is open daily, 8am to 5pm Central Time. Stay up to day with the Museum by subscribing to emails [online here](#).

## NCM DELIVERY PROGRAMS

The National Corvette Museum offers several programs to help you truly experience and enjoy your Corvette. Whether you are purchasing a new Corvette or you currently own one, our programs are designed to help you get the most out of the Corvetting hobby!

### R8C Museum Delivery

Referred to as OPTION "R8C" & available through any Chevrolet Dealer when specified during ordering, R8C customers are welcomed with signs and a guided VIP tour of the Museum where their car is displayed, followed by an orientation and presentation of their new vehicle.



**Donalson Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac**  
1415 Hwy 96 Bypass, Silsbee, Texas, 77656

The National Corvette Museum, located in Bowling Green, KY, is a world class facility that showcases the world famous sports car called the Corvette. My purpose, as your NCM Ambassador, is to provide our club with a two way communication link to the NCM. My mission will be that of receiving and disseminating the most current and correct information from the NCM and to convey that information to our club. I will be acting as the Museum representative and will be promoting and soliciting support for the NCM through promotional activities and encouraging other club members to join the NCM. Finally, I will serve as the voice of our Corvette club to the NCM communicating concerns, ideas and suggestions our club may have to the NCM.