WILLAMETTE VALLE CORVETTE ASSOCIATION



GLASS SASS

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 11

Inside this issue: MINUTES	2-3

Paul Article 4-5

Mid-Engine 6-8 Forum



NOVEMBER 2019

 ongratulations to our new board members for 2020: Shane Massey will be the WVCA Association's new
Vice President, Kelly Smothers will be our new Treasurer, Andrea Smothers will be our new Secretary,

Andrea Massey will be our incoming Member at Large and Ken Arck will remain our Web Master and Historian! And yours' truly (me), will give being your Association President, another try and hopefully, I can get it right this time!!!

President Stan Czerniak As the WVCA brings on another new Board, I am excited to learn all that I can from them, especially about the new ideas and goals that they will bring to their respective roles! Without

any question, I think that this group will approach their new roles with much enthusiasm and very high energy and as such, I think that there will be some very fun and exciting times ahead for the WVCA!!! With this new and diverse Board, the WVCA will surely be in some very good hands!!! While I know that our new Board will bring with them new and innovative ideas and directions for the future of the Association, I also believe that they will respect the 51+ year history and accomplishments and fine traditions of the WVCA, that have led us to where we are today!

All of us working together will help guide the WVCA to the next level and as such, we all will benefit by having an even better Association!

lit is also important to remind ourselves that no matter how good our elected Board may be, we cannot hope to accomplish very much without the solid participation and support from the general membership! For with you, we can accomplish much and without you, well that is a different story! I also want to thank our current Board of Directors for all their help and accomplishments during the current year of 2019! I will speak more at length about this in my next month's letter! Suffice it to say, they have accomplished much and helped the WVCA to have one of its finest years ever!!! And they have ALWAYS been there when I needed them, or when anyone else needed them, for that matter!

I would be remiss if I failed to mention that as we enter the Holiday season, we in the WVCA indeed have very much to be thankful for! We have had a fabulous year with a sounder financial footing than ever before, far better sponsorship, the most successful all CORVETTE Car Show in the Willamette Valley, three fun Cruise Ins, several cruises, a well-attended CORVETTE DAY at the World of Speed, an incredibly fun Halloween Party, many great Jacket Nights, participation in the Iris parade and we have shown our Good Neighbor and Community Services side, by sponsoring the Marion County Food Share and the Liberty House for abused children!!! Each and every member can be rightfully proud of what you and your Association have accomplished this year and we can look forward to an even better year in 2020!!! More about this next month!!! Best wishes to you all of you, as we enter another HOLIDAY SEASON and another NEW YEAR!!! Best Regards,

Your Association President, Stan W Czerniak (Kent is under the weather this month so his column is absent)



Glass Sass is published monthly; the deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of the month. Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at Capitol Auto Group, our sponsor. The address is 2855 Maple Ave NE, Salem, Oregon 97301. We welcome all Corvette enthusiasts and prospective members at any of our meetings. The Willamette Valley Corvette Association, Inc., was organized in 1968 to create an esprit-de-corps among Corvette owners; to further the general interest in Corvettes as a sports car; to provide an organization for the exchange of technical information between Corvette owners, dealers and the manufacturer; to encourage skillful handling and safe driving; to provide social gatherings of Corvette owners with a common interest: to encourage and assist members to compete in sanctioned events sponsored by WVCA and by other clubs with similar interests, and to encourage dealer/club co-operation and promote community betterment.

Visit our website for more current information regarding our Club activities and events:

http://www.willamettevalleycorvettes.com

BOARD MEMBERS and OFFICERS for 2019

President: Stan Czerniak 971-218-9951 president@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Vice President: Kent Muhle 503-680-2907 vp@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Secretary: Tom Paddock 503-409-6115 secretary@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Treasurer: Sandra Stark 503-949-9100 treasurer@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Historian/Webmaster: Ken Arck 503-678-6182 historian@willamettevalleycorvettes.com OR

webmaster@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Member-at Large: Lucky King 503-559-3470 memberatlarge@willamettevalleycorvettes.com My father was a die maker for 39 years, so I had a basic understanding of the automobile industry and what the manufacturing world was like, just from the opportunity to spend time with him - just talking, because he was a car buff. Mary Barra

MEETING MINUTES

WILLAMETTE VALLEY CORVETTE ASSOCIATION NOVEMBER 7TH 2019

Meeting called to order by President Stan Czerniak at 6:30pm

Members present: 35

Guests- Dolph and Hanna 2004 Red Coupe

New Members: None

Birthdays: Roger Burgess 4th, Sarah Fish 15th, Kathleen Ridge 19th, Joe Peters 20th, Ben Fish 27th

Minutes Report: Tom Paddock

- Changes to previous minutes: None presented
- Motion to accept as published by: Lucky King
- Motion seconded by: Bob Koenig
- Vote by membership: unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Sandra Stark

- Amount in Checking: \$ 5,517.62
- Amount in Savings: \$ 10,609.33
- Amount Petty Cash: \$ 11.00
- Total All Accounts: \$16,337.95
- Motion to accept presented by: Joe Peters
- Motion seconded by: Paul Ennor
- Vote by membership: unanimous

General Motors/ Bowling Green/ Mid Engine Corvette update: Ken Arck and John Elegant

John Elegant talked about the end of the GM strike and some of the agreement with the UAW. Quality on the initial preproduction cars has been very high and that fine tuning will continue right up to the beginning of production on February 3rd. There may be 2 shifts of production but that has not been confirmed. **Wayne Kreger** mentioned the review with the super high horsepower readings and there were flaws in that test.

The C8 has received very positive reviews from the auto industry. John attended the Hardtop convertible reveal, to which only 220 people were invited at Cape Canaveral in Florida. Ordering for the roadster will begin in January and production will begin the 2nd week of April. The C8R was also at this event and it will feature a flat plane crank DOHC engine. Nothing has been confirmed for consumer production of this engine though.

GLASS SASS

For the most current information available be sure to register over at MidEngineCorvetteForum.com , which is moderated by John.

Kent Muhle presented the nominating committee final recommendations and ballots were passed out to all members in attendance.

John Elegant made a motion to hold the vote and Annie Koenig seconded. All in attendance voted yes.

The results of the ballot count were unanimous and the following members were elected to the following positions:

- President- Stan Czerniak
- Vice President- Shane Massey
- Secretary- Andrea Smothers
- Treasurer- Kelly Smothers
- Member at Large- Andrea Massey
- Historian- Ken Arck

Wayne Kreger thanked all the current board members for their service and **Stan Czerniak** added that the new board takes over in January and thanked them for volunteering.

Activities Report: Shane Massey

Members are encouraged to bring canned food for the Marion/Polk Food Share program to the December meeting.

Julie Hughes will talk about the Christmas party at the December meeting. WVCA collects stuffed animals and has given them to the the Marion County Sheriffs office in the past. Jim Jacks told how they are given to children in domestic situations to provide comfort. David Dunn also mentioned that the Salem Hospital accepts donations as well.

The Halloween Party was a great time and Annie Koenig talked about the fantastic costumes and the preparation and table decoration that were created by Shane and Andrea Massey. Everybody had a great time and are already looking forward to next year.

Upcoming Activities:

November 20th - Jacket Night- Watch for emails and on the WVCA Facebook page for more information. This year Thanksgiving is the following week so any interested members are encouraged to participate.

SACC- Wayne Kreger

Wayne reported that there isn't much going on at this time of year, but did talk about our next Glass on the Grass to be tentatively held the third weekend in July 2021. Russ Strohmeyer expressed interest in being our entertainment. More will follow during 2020.

The Santa Cruise take place in Stayton, OR December 7th at 8pm. This is an event to collect unwrapped toys for needy children. There is a \$7 cost for the dinner.

Glass Sass- .

Editor-In-Chief **Buzz Blogg** encourages all members to send him articles for the newsletter; any topic is acceptable; your first Corvette, a recent trip or even your favorite recipe. It was discussed that members should submit a brief account of their Corvette story.

New Business- The budget committee has completed their review and is presenting their proposal to the board for review. The presentation to the members will be at the December meeting.

Tech Time- Nothing was presented

Trivia- The 1953 Corvette had a 6 cylinder 235ci engine. What was the HP rating? **Wayne Kreger** answered correctly with 150hp.

This standard remained with the base Corvette until what year? The correct answer is 1966 with a 300hp rating.

50/50 Raffle

- \$ 92 total collected by Lucky King
- \$ 65.00 to the club
- \$ 35.00 drawn with **Dave Schwerdt** winning.
- \$ 35.00 drawn with **Pat Peters** winning.

Meeting adjourned by Stan Czerniak at 7:29



PASSING OF THE TORCH HALLOWEEN RETURNS TO WVCA By: Paul Ennor

As President Kennedy famously said during his first inaugural address, "Let it be known that the torch has been passed to a new generation". This quote only came to mind during our Halloween Party October 26th at Trexler Farm when I saw what terrific party our new generation of leaders could plan and put together. I was really blown away with the party that Shane and Andrea planned and put on. Back in the late 1980's and early 90's WVCA used to have an annual Halloween party but that tradition fell be the side of the road sometime in the late 90's or early 21st century due to lack of interest and/or leaders with a desire and drive to keep it going.

Shane and Andrea took the torch from past generations of WVCA Corvetters, resurrected a dead tradition, and pumped it up to the next level!

President Stan told me that he had made it a top priority to bring this tradition back from the grave when he took the helm WVCA. He told me that having heard old stories about club Halloween parties from years ago he made it one of his major policy objectives this year to resurrect this long-forgotten event.

As 2019 event chair persons, Shane and Andria took on the challenge of planning a 2019 Halloween event and, oh boy, they knocked it out of the park! There might have been a small amount of apprehension in their minds when they booked October 26th with Trexler Farm and promised that we would turn out a minimum of 20 bodies for dinner. I myself wondered and worried silently if our current membership would even be interested in a costume party. After all there are only a couple of us who remember those Halloween parties of the late 20th century. As it turned out such concerns were ill-founded. The 2019 Halloween event was a huge success! Almost every member attending showed-up in full costume regalia. We had a cowboy dandy accompanied by his saloon girl companion and they took first place for best costume. There were a couple of pirates, a nun in her habit, a really scary clown, the king and queen were there as was Prince and his little red Corvette. Oh, and then there was the Joker who refused to let anyone sit without dancing, even the mob boss was forced out on the floor. Oh, just a word about the dinner. It was wonderful. A full buffet with salads, side dishes, smoked beef brisket and chicken all topped off with all the homemade desserts AND ice cream accompanied naturally with beverages of each person's choice. If you skipped this party you missed a dandy.

Well, I could go on and on but you wouldn't get the true feel for the night in words alone. So, check out the pictures here because a picture is worth a thousand words as they say:



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GLASS SASS



Engine Monthly Update: HTC Is Excitedly Out of the Closet! Might The Strike Finally Be Over?

(John Elegant)

There are two elephants in the room right now, one super positive; one so negative. Starting with the positive, the 10.2.19 HT convertible reveal at the Kennedy Space Center was truly a special night, e.g., a perfect reveal with two HTC's, having great weather, being within the magnificent "Rocket Garden" location, and, finally, a totally unexpected surprise of the C8.R's initial reveal that evening too,. It was personally magical for all fortunate enough to be invited (including MECF forum co-founders).



Official GM hardtop convertible (HTC) videos, showing it can be raised or lowered in 16 seconds, up to 30 MPH: <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/77788-2020-c8-corvette-stingray-convertible-official-gm-videos</u>

Official HTC press release:<u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-</u>videos/77786-2020-c8-corvette-stingray-convertible-official-gm-press-release

What is interesting is that even traditional Corvette coupe lovers (count me and many in that group), truly were/are smitten by the HT convertible. A few who had their coupe orders already placed and were already status 3000 with a TPW, stated that they had wished they had waited and ordered the HTC instead. At the same time, a current MECF poll of "who is buying which version," is showing that coupe buyers (most who have yet to have their orders submitted and could still change their orders now) are outnumbering convertible buyers by a ratio of 73/27%.

The "massive ugly", strike, *could* be over — we are awaiting this upcoming week's ratification vote. If ratified, still many problems have been caused both for the 600+ C7's ordered that have been on hold these past seven weeks, and for C8 customers whose orders have been delayed or not even yet able to be submitted, major problems too. Many C8 target production weeks (TPW's) have already moved out significantly, up to more than 2 1/2 months. However, even though the strike has already gone on for over just six weeks, might there have been some contingency time in the original, two-full-month allocation for BGA's upgrade conversion to C8 production (originally scheduled for all of Oct and Nov). Several feel that was/is "several weeks generous," and that the remaining month of November and the beginning two weeks of December might be sufficient for both the last part of the plant's upgrade (for they already made 160 C8's within BGA while building C7's), and that November and early December might be enough time for the not only the rest the C7-to-C8

conversion process, but also the needed, extensive employee C8 production training? So while we are seeing TPW's being pushed back, might SOME of the strike caused TPW delays be able to be made up? Might we start to see for example a reverse wave of TPW being now moved closer to the present (a reversal of what we just saw)?

At the same time before the C8 production could start, as noted above, there are literally hundreds of C7's partly assembled within BGA, needed to be first completed, with, if ratification occurs, most if not all of <u>the remaining</u> C7's being able to be completed before this October — especially if the overtime. <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/purchasing-your-new-corvette/81314-uh-oh-c8-tpw%E2%80%99s-are-sliding-backwards-already</u>

Originally, GM originally scheduled December 2nd as the first week of coupe production, with February 10th being the initially-scheduled start of HTC production. What will be the new dates? As the strike is still ongoing, we are still stuck in horrible limbo.

As earlier noted, HTC's 10/2 reveal also came with an extra added bonus of the C8.R's being shown and heard for the first time (but no motor information was provided). Clearly listening to it however, the C8.R did not have the C7.R's ground-pounding, pushrod V8 sound we have all loved, and as we learned the following week at Petit LeMans, the C8.R motor is very different. At the 10.2 reveal, it sure sounded exceptionally loud; I literally jumped when standing next to it when it was started.



Wonder why the C8's interior is what it is, and why it was so changed from the C7's? <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/80548-why-c8-interior-is-what-it-is-e-g-functionality</u>

With the combination of Z51 and the E60 lift option having one significant negative (besides its \$1,495 cost), should one still consider getting it?<u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/80321-re-examining-c8-front-lift-or-not</u>

Finally, the GM coupe's "build and price" website is up. <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-</u> discussion-photos-videos/77786-2020-c8-corvette-stingray-convertible-official-gm-press-release

But until GM expands the above site to include easily pricing the HTC, one can price the HTC the old fashioned way, by doing so option by option by option:<u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/purchasing-</u> your-new-corvette/79189-official-c8-ht-pricing-option-by-option

Thanks to Keith Cornett/CorvetteBlogger, co-MECF founder, who received an invite to the following week's small number of media invited to the C8.R official intro presentation, he took and provided us this video.

https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-picturesand-renderings/81648-video-exclusive-c8-r-backgrounder-presentation-to-the-press

More C8.R info was revealed at Petit LeMans, starting with official confirmation that it is a 5.5L, naturally aspirated, flat plane crank, twin turbo, DOHC motor. Does this portent anything for the motor in the upcoming



Z06? Discussions have already started here: <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/80654-C8-r-news-from-petit-lemans</u>

What does a nice loaded "C8 Accessory Coupe" look like?"



As we await the strike end, is there any new information happening? Lots! There have been over 100 new threads, about half about the HTC, posted just since last months' Mid Engine Monthly update article. Here's two that might be of interest.

Any positives about the strike and TPW "Push Outs?" <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/82878-tpw-push-outs-positive-in-any-way</u>

Wow, the C8 is faster than many exotics costing many, many times more! <u>https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/c8-powertrain-and-performance/82853-</u> <u>c8-faster-than-these-10-amazingly-quick-cars</u>

If I ever can be of help, please contact me at <u>www.MidEngineCorvetteForum.com</u>; it is already the second largest C8 content forum in the world, over 3,700 members and growing quickly, and certainly the friendliest C8 forum. If you are not already a member, thanks for considering visiting us. John (I post on the forum under my first name).



President Stan Czerniak



Vice President Shane Massey and Member at large Andrea Massey Our 2020 Board, and a hearty THANK YOU to the outgoing Board who did a 1st class job!

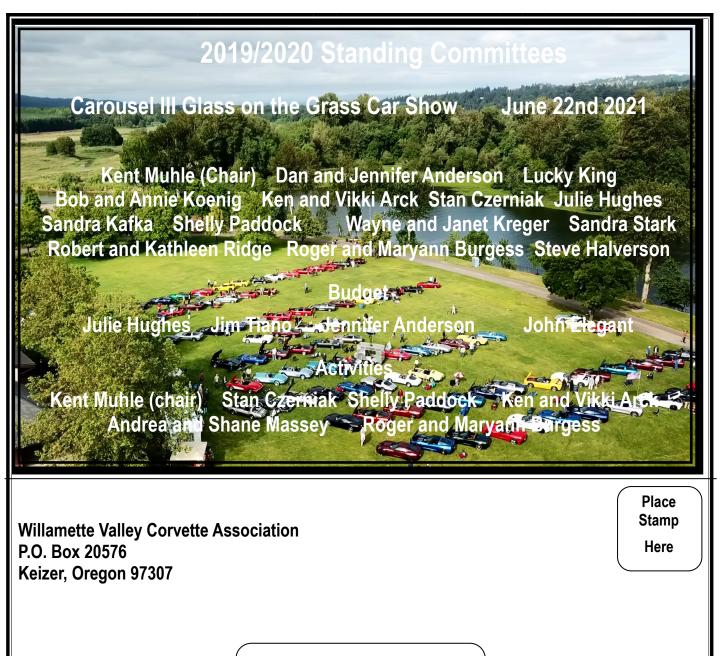


Treasurer Kelly Smothers and Secretary Andrea Smothers



..and continuing as Webmaster and Historian: Ken Arck

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