

WILLAMETTE VALLEY CORVETTE ASSOCIATION

GLASS SASS

VOLUME 48? – ISSUE 3 – MARCH 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Willamette Valley Corvettes and welcome to the March newsletter. March is usually the time when planning for the sunny months starts ramping up. Kelly and I are both federal employees with the Army Corps of Engineers. While the Department of Defense has been spared from a lot of the drastic personnel cuts so far, we live every day in uncertainty about what the future holds. We're prepared for the worst and hoping for the best and going to live our lives how we want regardless. On with the shenanigans!

You can register online for the first event of the season, the Cascade High School Car show. The event is on Saturday, May 10th. Here's the link: <https://rb.gy/vjwqpp> Make sure to click the link to CHECK OUT at the end and pay for registration. Registration is \$15.

I've also registered Kelly and I for Vettefest in Boise, Idaho, 17 – 20 July. Registration is \$250 per couple and includes: Thursday – Silent Auction and Evening Social, Friday – Poker Run, Auction and Diner and drinks for 2, Saturday – Car show entry, diner and drinks for 2 and also includes an event polo shirt. You can find more info and register online here: <https://valleycorvettes.wildapricot.org/> Hotel rooms at the Riverside Hotel start at \$209 per night. Call the hotel directly at 208-343-1871 and ask for the 'Vettefest' rate.

I'm finishing up the last of my car projects. I should have new seat belts installed by the end of March and then she's headed to the painter to get the front bumper painted. I gambled and ordered a pre-painted front bumper from OEM Painted Parts.com. I lost that gamble. There were runs and debris in the paint and it peeled off in one area. It also didn't match the original paint. Thankfully their customer service was super responsive and they refunded me most of the price and let me keep the new bumper.

For the membership meeting this month I asked the club what tips or tricks do you have for cleaning your corvette. There was some discussion about washing with water vs rinseless washing. (Spell check says rinseless is not a word but I'm using it anyway). I've had problems in the past with water spots regardless of how I try to wash with water so unless there's grasshoppers involved, I go with the no rinse wash. The steps I take are to dust the car thoroughly first. Then I go around the car, panel by panel and use the

rinseless wash to remove dirt and grime. The key is to spray thoroughly and use a microfiber towel wiping in one direction and folding the towel to a clean side to avoid recontamination or scratching. Kelly and I like to use Optimum No Rinse. It comes in a blue version for cars with ceramic coatings or a green version which is a wash and wax. I've used both depending on the car and they both work great. The last couple of years I've also started waxing my car instead of getting the ceramic coating done. Any of the Turtle Waxes with Graphene have excellent results. Some of the weather stripping on my car was looking a little faded so I used Chemical Guys VRP on it and that stuff worked wonders!! For the interior, on the leather parts, I use Gyeon Leather Cleaner and Leather Coat. It does a good job cleaning and doesn't leave a greasy feel. I also have suede inserts in my seats and suede trim on my steering wheel and other areas. I like Dr. Beasley's microsuede cleaner. Kelly is a big fan of Pan, the Organizer for recommendations and comparisons of car detailing products. If you've got a problem area you need help with or other questions about care for your corvette reach out to us or bring it up for tech time at the meeting!

Lastly, for those of you who didn't experience the great grasshopper cruise of 2022, here's what you missed. Yes, all those green things in the carwash are grasshoppers. Yuck!!





WVCA MEETING MINUTES

6 March, 2025

Meeting Called to Order 6:30 PM

Time: 6:30-7:30

Location: Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum, Powerland Heritage Park,
Brooks, Oregon

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1830 by Andrea Smothers.

March Birthdays announced by Dorothy:

- Ken Outfleet 3/1
- Della Edwards 3/2
- Dave Schwerdt 3/2
- Brad Berry 3/3
- John Edwards 3/3
- Richard Grabotin 3/3
- Susan Crowell 3/8
- John Hendricks 3/12
- Boni Lawrence 3/17
- Shelly Paddock 3/24
- Sandra Kafka 3/29

- Julie Schwerdt 3/31

2. Roll Call / Attendance

- Present: [List of board attendees: Andrea Smothers, Joe Peters, Pat Peters, Brent Wilson, Kelly Smothers, Garry Hill, _0_ guest. 33 Members present. A quorum for a membership meeting will be twenty percent of all members of the Association and 2 officers (90 paid members, 18 members required for quorum). Ms. President, we have a quorum.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- The minutes have been distributed to you through the Glass Sass. Dorothy had a couple of corrections regarding the minutes from last month where Kelly said I did something and I didn't cause I wasn't there. Brent Wilson was not present, nor was Andrea. Pretty much just like at home. "Are there any other corrections?"

Any additional updates to the minutes as correct: none

4. Officer and Committee Reports**

- President's Report:

- The board met before the membership meeting tonight to discuss the proposed changes to the bylaws and the constitution. The proposed changes will be mailed out to the membership later this month to be voted on by the members present at the April meeting.

Proposed Changes

Constitution

- Member at Large responsible for member administration and member roster.

Bylaws

- President - Added responsibilities for sponsor management
- Vice President - Added social media responsibilities
- Secretary - Removed new membership responsibilities
- Treasurer - Removed member roster responsibility and limited new member responsibility to dues payment only
- Historian - Updated responsibilities to annual Christmas party instead of year end banquet.
- Member at Large - Added responsibilities for new member administration, membership roster and 50/50 tickets.
- Removed required recognition for officers.
- Committees and Appointed Positions - Removed all standing committees. and simplified it to appoint as needed.
- Glass Sass Editor - Removed membership roster responsibilities
- Webmaster - Added requirement for digital archive of documents. Removed requirement for individual password access to website.

- Added "The President may appoint an assistant to any Board member in order to help carry out the duties of that position. The appointment must be approved by the Board member." I thought this would be easier than creating additional positions and requirements for those positions to be filled.
- Removed 4.0 Board of Directors because none of that is being done.
- Elections - Revised to remove requirement to vote by ballot.
- Change the position of Historian to an appointed position instead of a board position.

2025 Club Management Changes

- You may have noticed a change to the Newsletter last month. In keeping with the goals to make the club easier for anyone to volunteer for the board or participate in general, the responsibilities and level of effort for the newsletter is changing. Julie Schwerdt has volunteered to take on the newsletter for the rest of this year. If you are interested in contributing an article, photo, or anything to the newsletter please submit it to her by the 15th of the Month at Jewel-e1952@hotmail.com.
- Kelly will work on the Newsletter header as Jim Jacks would like to see the old header added to the new newsletter.
- Kelly and I will not be at the Jacket Night this month. We are headed to a much needed vacation in Hawaii. I am hoping that I will soon have some extra time off to plan events for the club.

- Vice Presidents Report: Given by Joe Peters.

- March 19th - Jacket Night Susan and Robert Crocker Macleay Country Inn 8362 Macleay Rd. SE
- April 12th - Cherry Blossom Run 9:00 AM New Harbor Freight.
- May 10th - Cascade High School Car Show 10226 Marion Rd. NE, Turner Or.
- May 23rd-25th Big Sky Corvette Meet - Great Falls MT
- June 7th - Paralyzed Veterans Show and Shine 9:00 AM NWVC&MC Museum
- June 7th - Gears and Grapes Car Show - Patton Valley Winery
- June 15th - Willamette Valley Vineyard Car Show
- July 12th - Vettes at the Fort - Fort Langley, BC (BCCC)
- July 13th - 9:00 Springhill Park North Albany
- July 17-19th Vette Fest Boise Idaho
- July 18-20th - SOCA Corvette weekend. Grants Pass
- July 26th - Brent Strohmeyer Memorial Foundation Car Show 9:00AM Sunrise Park Sublimity
- August 9 Corvettes Cars and Coffee
- September 16th The Wall that Heals

Treasurer's Report: Given By Brent Wilson Balance

Balance in Checking

\$ 3,689.30

Petty Cash (Kelly gave Brent cash from last month 50/50)	\$	101.00
Savings	\$	12,942.48
Interest	\$0.49	

TOTAL \$ 16,732.78

- SACC: Joe Peters - Cherry Blossom Run Volunteers needed at the registration area this year.

- Bowling Green Update: Chevrolet has announced a temporary halt in Corvette production. The facility will pause operations during the week of February 24, the last two weeks of March starting on March 17th, and the week of May 19th. A Chevrolet spokesperson confirmed these interruptions are for "project improvements" and "manufacturing updates."

5. Old Business:

Dorothy spoke to both the Railroad trip and Rogue River trip. Handed out a survey to gauge interest and level of effort. 15 people on Mt Hood Trip from her other organization received 15% off. Rogue trips offer veterans discounts.

6. New Business: No motions made.

7. Tech Time - Maggie and Bob replaced the rear deck lid button.

8. - Good of the order:

Trivia:

Corvette Trivia! 1 ticket each question

The Kogod "Made in America Index" ranks vehicles based on the percentage of U.S. and Canadian-made parts they contain, the source of the engine and transmission and the location of assembly. In the 2024 "Made in America Index" what rank was the Corvette? **12th** The total domestic content was 72.5, tied with the Camaro. Jamie won.

Tesla captured the top 4 spots. <https://kogod.american.edu/autoindex/2024>

The first purpose built Corvette racer built by Zora in the 1950's just sold at auction. A 1957 Chevrolet Corvette SS, internally known as Project XP-64, set a new record for the highest price paid at an auction for a Corvette. What was the selling price? **\$7.7**

Million. Sarah won.

<https://www.roadandtrack.com/news/a64022249/1957-chevrolet-corvette-ss-7-point-7-million-dollar-sale-most-valuable-vette/>

50/50 amounts 195/48/48

Kelly and Sarah were tonight's winners.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1930 by Andrea Smothers.

Next Meeting: April 3rd, 1830, NWVC&MM

Secretary's Signature: Kelly J. Smothers, Secretary, WVCA, 6 March, 2025

Additional Articles of Interest

Provided by Dorothy Ezell

Learning The Ins and Outs of Being a Corvette Owner or how I got my nickname Duct Tape

Hi everyone! I am going to try my hand at sharing my experience of being a semi new Corvette owner. My husband Rick and I went to Victoria, BC in June 2017. I told Rick he needed to get a Corvette to replace the one he sold his 1965 Black Corvette. Well, it did not take much to convince him. On the ferry to Victoria, I searched Car Gurus for Corvettes. But I did not tell him I was doing that. Low and behold when we came home there were close to 50 messages from salesman wanting to sell my hubby a Corvette. He was shocked but I told him what I did.

Soon we found our dream Corvette that we could afford, a 2010 Magnetic Red Corvette with 40,000 miles. For its day it had all the bells and whistles and ticked off all the boxes for us. I persuaded the salesman to get a deposit down just before he went on vacation to secure that Corvette. It was in Redding California. We had many fond memories of trips including going to the 2019 PNW Corvette Caravan to Bowling Green. It was an amazing trip and hubby enjoyed it immensely. Fast forward to July 2023. My husband Rick passed away from an incurable lung condition. Well, in my grief I soon came to the realization that I was now the owner of that beautiful car. It held some very precious memories for me and I decided I needed to keep it and start learning more about it.

So, the first thing I did was get the regular service done as it had sat close to a year and it sorely needed it. Then I contacted Kelly the President of the WVCA. Rick and I had joined the club and he really enjoyed the events we participated in while he could. So, we had put our membership on hiatus up until Rick passed. Kelly welcomed me back to the club and said just show up no problem. Little did he know what work was ahead of him with educating me about care of my car.

First, I was a little frustrated and opened the glove box hard and broke the glove box latch (I called it thingy because I was not quite sure what it was.) Of course, the dealership said they don't get parts for Corvettes over 10 years old but they would look. Ha ha that did not happen. Kelly sent me a link to a part on eBay for just over \$12. He said he would help fix it. Wow that amazed me how gracious he was to do that. In the meantime, I had to tape that glove box shut because the light in there stayed on and at one point it ran the battery down and I had to call AAA to get it started. Well, I went from regular duct tape to packing tape (which took off part of the Chrome Corvette

label when I removed it) to Gorilla 4-inch waterproof tape to keep it closed. Wholly cow, when Kelly got the paint and said bring it over, he almost could not get it off. But he fixed the latch and gave me instructions on how to glue back the chrome piece. My next boo boo was while washing the Corvette the rag I used got caught on the chrome Corvette label on the rear and pulled part of it away and bent it. So, I thought here's what I'll do I'll glue it back with Gorilla Glue. Nope that did not work just left remnants of the glue which eventually took part of the paint off when Kelly went to help put the new Chrome piece back on. He sanded and painted it with the matching paint he ordered for me which was not easy to find.

So, after Kelly got the glove box latch fixed and painted the new Corvette Chrome letters affixed after fixing the paint, I headed home using the GPS on Maps. Well, low and behold it led me straight to the Wheatland Ferry! So not knowing I decided to cross it with the Corvette. Not a good idea. I screwed up the front license plate and bracket when I drove off the ferry on the other side. Man, how much more damage can I do I thought. Well, Kelly found a bracket for a front license plate on Amazon and I got it and the front camera repaired by Sonic Audio. I figured Kelly had done his share of work and I couldn't ask him for more. So here comes the moral of the story!

You know those Ten Commandments of the Corvette! Well, I have a couple more to add:

1. Do not get rough and in a huff pull hard on your glove box latch.
2. Do not use duct or gorilla tape or gorilla glue for a fix on your Corvette.
3. Do not go on the Ferry with your Corvette.
4. Oh, and do not use dawn dishwashing soap to wash your Corvette. (I can hear the eyes rolling.)

And to end this rambling story I just want to thank everyone in the WVCA for their friendship and help in dealing with this newbie! And a great big thanks to Kelly and Andrea for their time and effort with all they do for the Club and club members! And a big thank you for all of you who voted for me and my car for best decorated at the Toys for Tots cruise in Stayton. I could never have got the second-place plaque without you!

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 Northwest Car and Motorcycle Museum, 3995 Brooklake Rd NE, Salem, Oregon 97303. We welcome all Corvette enthusiasts and prospective members to 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

President: Andrea Smothers

503.435.9918

president@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Vice President: Joe Peters

503-769-5620

vp@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Kelly Smothers

971-241-3953

U.S. Bank Controlling Party

secretary@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

webmaster@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Treasurer: Brent Wilson

503-419-7106

treasurer@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Historians: Steve Sims/Gary Hill

805-717-2159 541-554-3866

historian@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Member-at Large: Pat Peters

503 580-3022

memberatlarge@willamettevalleycorvettes.com