

CROSSED FLAGS

The Official Newsletter of the
Louisiana Chapter of the
National Corvette Restorers Society



July – Sept , 2011

Page 1

In this newsletter...

General Membership
Meeting Results

Local Corvette Events



2011 Chapter Officers

Chairman: **Jim Boudreaux**
Vice Chairman: **Mike Leeds**
Secretary: **Larry Mulder**
Treasurer: **Ralph Adams**
Judging Chairman: **Bill Folsie**
Asst Judging Chair: **Darrell Suber**
Asst Membership Chair: **Alton Rivero**
Webmaster: **Jim Boudreaux**
Crossed Flags Editor: **Carl Hamilton**
Crossed Flags Asst Editor: **Jim Fox**

2011 Meeting Calendar

Upcoming Chapter Meetings/Events

- **Oct 27 – 30:** Lone Star Regional
- **Nov 20:** LA Chapter Fall Judging Meet and 2012 election of officers at Darrell Suber's garage in Long Beach, Mississippi

Editor's Note:

Please email any articles, event photos, and so forth to Carl Hamilton

Hamil66@bellsouth.net

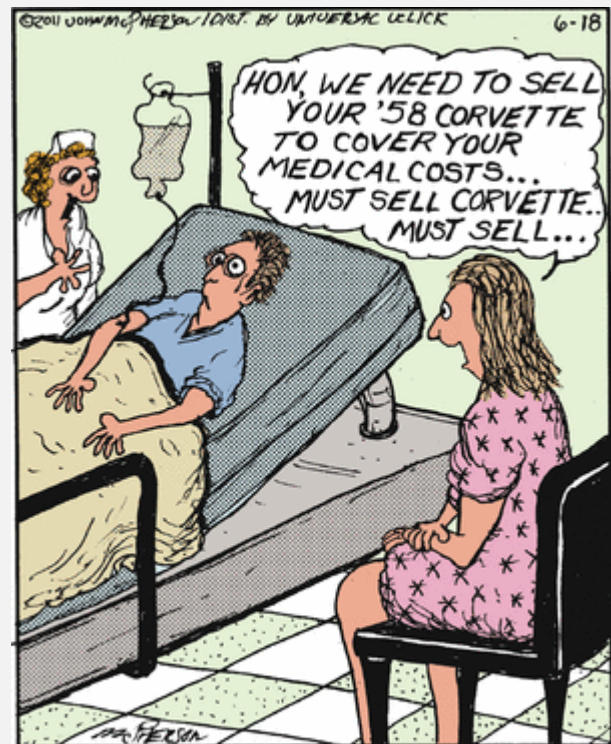
Chairman's Message

Well, here we are closing in on another year and it has been a good one. The meeting at Brady Como's garage was fantastic and Brady was a great host. He has some great cars. He has volunteered to do it again next year and we will take him up on that offer. Bill Folsie put together a great tech and judging school and got us all a judging point. Larry Mulder also informed us all that we were well on our way to another Top Flight Chapter award. We have a judging meet coming up in November and using our new online registration process you can register and even pay your 2012 dues on line.. We will use this system for the 2013 regional. Remember we have increased the dues for 2012 to \$30 to help with the planned Regional costs. I encourage all to test this out and come to the November judging meet. It will be held at Darrell Suber's garage in Long Beach Mississippi. We also have to elect new officers for the 2012 year. This is even more important than usual due to our impending regional in 2013. Planning will start in earnest for that event in early 2012. I encourage all to get involved as we will need all the help we can get. Please come to the November meeting/meet with nominations for officers. We are again planning on having a large representation at the January Florida regional along with many going also to the Texas regional. So if you can please join us for the good times that are always present at these events. We have a large room block set aside for the Florida regional and Mike Leeds will need info on who will be attending in the next several weeks. We are looking ahead at a great two years leading up to our regional, so see you soon at our meetings.

Jim Boudreaux
Chairman



Check out our website
<http://www.ncrs-louisiana.com/>
 for copies of our old and current newsletters and
 our schedule for 2011.



Gary suddenly emerges from his
57-day coma.

Judging Chairman's Message

NCRS is evolving...again...changes are filtering down to us in the chapters!

On the chapter level, we have been changing our emphasis on some of the elements of our activities. We've been spotlighting our Top Flight Chapter benchmarks (thanks to Larry Mulder); we've been incorporating team leader concepts in chapter meets; we've been placing more emphasis on execution of judging documentation.

We are challenged to keep it fun and still improve our skills. Member participation in our activities is a key factor to our objective to continue as a Top Flight Chapter.

Willingness to "try something new" will become an opportunity as the newer Corvettes become eligible. NCRS is already preparing to judge the 5th generation Corvettes. Diversity among our judges can help us prepare as well. Take the opportunity to judge a different generation of Corvette at the next judging meet.

The chapter needs more volunteers from the membership to take a turn in the leadership roles. Hearing the word "Corvette" or "NCRS" should not result in a mental association with a second job. Getting involved is important for the sustainability of the chapter, gives us depth, lets us explore some new things to add value.

Our Fall Judging Meet November 20th is quickly approaching. Darrell Suber has once again offered his shop in Long Beach Mississippi. There is plenty of off street parking, good food, and some beautiful Corvette examples for judging.

Hosting a Regional Judging Meet in 2013 will require us to individually prepare in order to allow the chapter to prepare.

Thanks to all for your interest and involvement. You make this organization a very unique experience.

Bill Folse



Designer Vette



Beauty on the Bayou



Look But Don't Touch!

A Message From Vito about John Pirkle

I am truly saddened to inform everyone that our good friend John Pirkle Sr. passed away today at 3:30 PM surrounded by his loving family. Please keep Faye and all of John's family in your prayers as they go through this very difficult time. May they be comforted knowing that he has gone home.

John was the true meaning of a friend, a friend to his loving wife Faye, a friend to his beautiful family, a friend to his fellow NCRS members, a friend to his Country but most of all John was a friend of the Lord. We all know where John is right now and that gives me comfort. We still all feel the pain of the loss of our dear friend, but we know he has gone home, until we meet again my friend.

Vito Cimilluca
President NCRS

RETRO SHOT

Fenwick Binder



August 27, 2011: Fenwick Binder cruising the old plantations along the Mississippi River levee with the Crescent City Corvette Club.

August 21 Meeting Minutes

General Business Meeting

The meeting was held at Ralph Adam's home in Slidell. Sixteen chapter members attended the meeting. A sign-in sheet was circulated for signatures.

Jim Boudreaux called the meeting to order at around 1:20 PM. The main purpose of this meeting was to begin our planning for our September 2013 Regional Judging Meet at the Pontchartrain Center.

The first item for discussion was setting up on-line registration with a Paypal account for the Louisiana Chapter. This will be needed for the 2013 Regional, but it is also a good idea for other chapter events. This gives everyone the opportunity to register on-line, as well as using the normal paper format for event registration. On-line registration is not required by the NCRS National at this time. However, it appears that within the next year or two, any chapter hosting a Regional or National Event will need to have this in place. A few chapters have already done this. On-line access is obtained through the National NCRS website.

Ralph has been working with folks at the NCRS National over the past few weeks and has developed the necessary program for on-line registrations for our chapter. A few of the officers have been given permission to go on-line and test the program. Ralph stated that we should be able to go "live" within the next few weeks. Jim Boudreaux will send an announcement to the chapter membership when this occurs, and will also provide a link from our Louisiana Chapter website: www.ncrs-louisiana.com.

The chapter will continue to offer the normal paper-based registrations as well for all chapter events.

Ralph is also working to setup the Paypal account so that event fees and membership dues, etc. can be paid on-line. There is a slight charge (2% fee) for this feature, but we feel that it is worth it for our chapter. The NCRS National also recommends Paypal. Jim led discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of the account, and then called for a vote. The Paypal proposal was accepted by those in attendance. Larry will provide some information and chapter documents to Ralph to help in setting up the account.

Ralph discussed some additional information regarding the 2013 Regional. The Hilton Garden Inn that is next door to the Pontchartrain Center will be the Host Hotel. Room rates are less than \$100 per night. However, we will also need to secure a second, overflow hotel close to the event. The newly remodeled Crowne Plaza Hotel at the corner of Willaims and Veterans Blvd was suggested. This will be checked out.

Felix agreed to coordinate the set up of the social activities and attractions for the Regional. Larry agreed to coordinate the vendors and sponsors for the event, and to handle all the vendor rental and setup. Larry and Ralph will meet at the Pontchartrain Center next month (September) to get this going. Leaders for other activities and functions need to be identified in the coming months to ensure the success of this event.

Our next chapter meeting will be on Sunday, September 25 at Brady Como's Garage in Lafayette, Louisiana. Jim will send out an announcement and driving instructions in the next few weeks. We will try to start the meeting around 10 AM. Bill Folsie will provide a Tech Session on the Corvette LT-5 Fuel System. Bill is also planning to have an Ops Judging and a PV Judging comparison using Brady's 1958 (or another) car. This should be a fun and informative meeting.

Bill announced that we currently have three cars (3) registered for our November 20, Chapter Judging Meet in Mississippi. They are a 1965, a 1970, and a 1996 car.

Carl Hamilton said that he will try to publish the **CROSSED FLAGS** Newsletter every two months. The next newsletter (July-August) should go out in early September. Please continue to support the newsletter and send in your articles and comments to Carl.

Felix asked the group if they would be interested in doing an NCRS chapter road trip this fall or winter with the older cars. Send in your ideas and suggestions to Felix, and let's see if we can generate interest in this event.

Mike Leeds announced that our chapter received a **TOP FLIGHT** Chapter Award for last year (2010). Mike accepted the award for our chapter at the NCRS National Convention in Novi. **Congratulations! Everyone should be very proud of this achievement.** This is our second year in row for this award, and we are currently on-track to achieve it again for this year.

Jim stated that we need to begin thinking about Officer Elections for next year. A few of the officers have served for 3-4 years in their current positions, and need a break. New ideas are also needed. Jim will send out a request to the membership for 2012 officer nominations/recommendations within the next month to get the process started. Ralph indicated that he would like to continue to serve as Chapter Treasurer for next year.

The meeting adjourned at around 3 PM.

Larry Mulder
Louisiana Chapter Secretary
NCRS 20401 - 122

General Membership Meeting – Broussard, LA.

Our General Membership Meeting was held September 25, 2011 In Broussard, Louisiana.

Brady Como hosted the meeting. In addition to the general business covered in the meeting, a technical session was presented on C4 fuel system components and judging C4 fuel systems.

Following lunch, a judging seminar was conducted to discuss, compare, and contrast the Operations Judging and Performance Verification functions of the NCRS Judging Matrix.

Following the discussion, a demonstration of various Operations Judging elements were demonstrated utilizing 1972 Brady's Corvette.

In addition to the 1972 Corvette, several other examples were available including Daniel McGuffie's 1991 Dieline ZR-1, possibly a future candidate for NCRS American Heritage designation



2011 NCRS Chapter Award Program

By Larry Mulder, #20401-122

The **NCRS Chapter Award Program** was developed to promote involvement and participation by members in their chapter events while encouraging the sharing of knowledge in the restoration and preservation of the Corvette. The program measures the performance of each chapter against standard award criteria similar to the principal used in NCRS judging. Each chapter is eligible to receive an award every year after submitting the required quarterly reports and fulfilling the required criteria

The Award Program is based on the calendar year January 1 to December 31. Recognition Certificates are issued in February, and the award is presented to the chapter at the National Convention



TOP FLIGHT	SECOND FLIGHT	THIRD FLIGHT
Complete all eight required activities and six or more variable activities	Complete seven required activities and five variable activities	Complete six required activities and four variable activities

Required Activities for the year	Variable Activities for the year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1R Host a Chapter Judging Meet • 2R Conduct a Chapter Technical Seminar • 3R Conduct a Chapter Judging School • 4R Conduct a Chapter Membership Meeting • 5R Conduct a Chapter Charitable Event (does not have to be Corvette related) • 6R Conduct a Chapter Road Tour • 7R Have a Chapter Social Event • 8R Maintain a Chapter Website linked to www.ncrs.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1V Judging Meet must include cars registered for Flight Judging from at least 5% of the chapter membership • 2V Four technical articles must be published in the Chapter Newsletter • 3V A total of 15% or more of the chapter members and/or family members must judge or tabulate at the Judging Meet(s). Each person can only be counted once during the year. • 4V At least 15% of Chapter members must drive their Corvette(s) to a Chapter Meeting or Chapter Event during the year. The Chapter Road Tour is not included. Each person can only be counted once during the year. • 5V Chapter Road Tour must include at least 5% of the members cars. • 6V At least 20% of the chapter members must attend one or more Chapter Meetings or Events. • 7V Set Up NCRS Display at a Non-NCRS Car Event. • 8V A charitable donation of \$100 or more is donated to a 501-3C qualified charity

Quarterly Reporting: Quarterly reports are due April 10, July 10, October 10, and January 10. Reports received after the deadline will result in all activities during that quarter being disallowed. Supporting documentation including Chapter Newsletters and Chapter Meeting Sign-in Sheets must accompany each quarterly report. The reports are to be sent to Arland Dower.

Our Chapter Score: The table below shows our progress toward achieving a **Chapter Award** for 2011. An **"XX"** indicates that we have completed the requirement, and an **"IP"** indicates that work is planned or in progress to complete the requirement. ***We will need to develop plans for those activities that are currently shown blank.***

Activity/Status		Comments	Activity/Status		Comments
1R	IP	One done, also in Nov	1V	IP	Need 2 more cars judged
2R	XX	Planned for September	2V		Need 2 Tech Articles
3R	XX	Also in August	3V	XX	Completed
4R	XX	Also in August	4V	XX	Completed
5R	XX	Completed	5V	XX	Completed
6R	XX	Completed	6V	XX	Completed
7R	XX	Completed	7V		NCRS Display @ Event
8R	XX	Completed	8V	XX	Completed

“My other Corvette is a C5”

Submitted by
Felix Famularo

I know we're not old enough to be judged, but I recently had a problem with my horn that might help those of us that have one of those “new” Corvettes.

Over time (and from constant pounding at stupid inconsiderate drivers) the pressure sensitive switch pad does not return to the “open” position.

Problem: The horn constantly blows. No amount of recycling the switch by pressure on the center pad of the steering wheel will help.

I checked the horn relay. It was operating properly. The horn pad circuit was closed.

The last thing to be checked was the fearful horn contact pad itself. It's located between you and the “explosive” air bag.

With the assembly removed from the steering wheel and the horn pad disconnected, the short circuit went away.

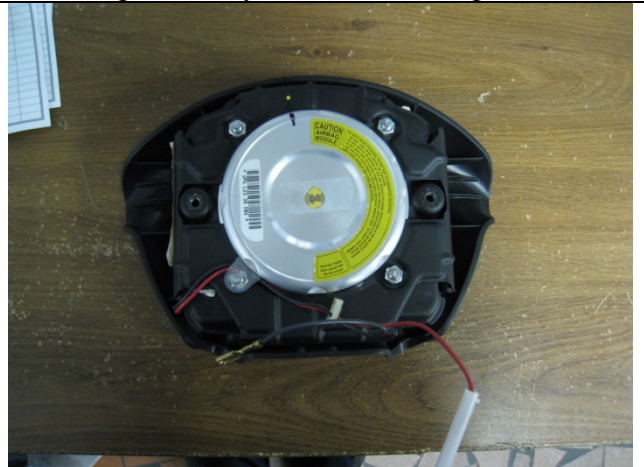
“Duck and Cover”. I brought it to a friend, a fellow corvette owner, and did I mention an ASE Certified Mechanic who owns Clearview Auto, Charlie Horton. For a mere \$829 plus labor, I could have it replaced. What! \$829 “+” to replace a horn pad? It comes as an assembly with the air bag.

No way. Off to the Corvette forum.

I found several articles and after merging them together with pictures, I brought it all back to Charlie. With some trepidation, he cleared his workspace, sent everyone else out of the building, removed all sources of static discharge and very gingerly began to take it apart.

The following are the steps Charlie took after removing the horn/air bag assembly from the steering wheel.

Place a piece of tape over the air bag contacts!



Remove the air bag retaining ring.



Remove the air bag sub-assembly and put it somewhere waaaaaay out of the way.



This exposes the backing plates of the horn contact plates.

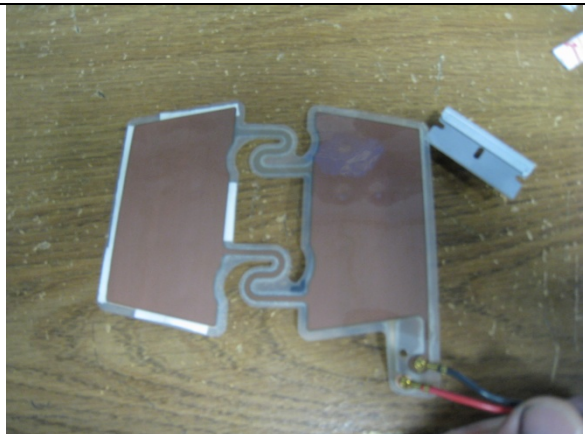
Remove them and take out the contact plates.

Using a razor blade, cut the center of the plastic retainer lugs just in the center of the switch plates (it's not necessary to cut the outer eight lugs, center flaps will lift and you can remove contact pad.

Note in the picture the four edges on each side before cutting (melted plastic bridging the lug) and the eight inner ones after the cut. Just cut the center melted piece out so that the switch plates slide off the lugs.

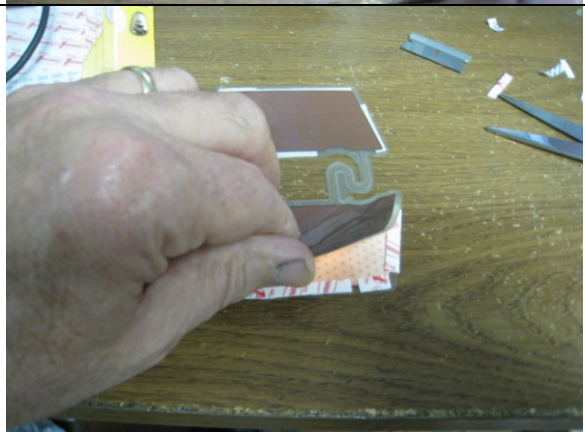


Remove the contact plates.



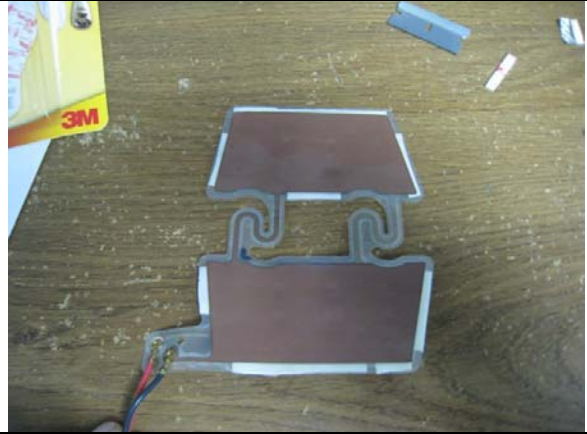
Carefully slip a razor blade between the two halves and split the contact plates apart.

Using the 3M double sided picture hanging tape (approximately 1/16" thick) Install narrow strips of it around the edges between the contact plates and press back together.



Install double sided picture hanging material around the outside edge of the back of the contact plate.

The thickness of the tape keeps the two sides from touching and closing the horn circuit.



Replace the contact plates in their proper position in the steering wheel hub assembly.

Connect an ohm meter to the horn switch leads (red & black) to verify the switch plates have been sufficiently separated. You should read an open circuit.

Carefully replace the backing cover plate over the lugs and secure in place with silicone.



VERY CAREFULLY replace the air bag assembly, securing it with the retaining ring.

Again connect your ohm meter to the horn switch leads (red & black) and depress the front of the assembly as if blowing the horn. The ohm meter should read a closed circuit

Release the pressure on the front of the assembly and the ohm meter should read an open circuit.

If any of the readings are different from those presented above, you have not successfully repaired the horn switch. Retrace your steps to correct the problem.

If the readings on your ohm meter agree with those presented above, continue.

VERY, VERY CAREFULLY: Remove the tape from the air bag contact pins, reconnect the air bag and reinstall the horn pad assembly onto the steering wheel. Make sure you, the air bag assembly and the steering wheel are at the same electrical potential during this part of the assembly.

Finally apply normal pressure to the horn switch and listen for that sound that so many others fear – A Corvette horn!

Viola! A working horn. A few more grey hairs. A tighter butt. And over \$829 to use on shiny stuff.

I don't recommend trying this at home, kids, but if you must, make sure you put a piece of tape over the air bag contacts before continuing disassembly.

Oh. Don't forget to remove the tape before reinstalling or your protective air bag will be rendered useless.

HAPPY HORN BLOWING! Charlie & Felix

"What's Better Than Owning A Boat?"

Submitted By
Jim Fox

This is an old adage we have all heard.

Answer, "A **friend** who owns a boat."
Same goes for owning a Vette.

What's better than owning all the equipment to repair your AC?
Having a **friend** who knows how to work on AC.

But, this old adage doesn't always work out. Sometimes you have to give it a try yourself. I personally am not very mechanically inclined. I can't rebuild a carburetor, but I can do the little things like getting the correct clamps, screws, decals, over spray, etc, etc.

One of the items I lost points for at past NCRS judging events was the condition of the flocking on the interior of my rear storage compartments. Forty years of things sliding around had worn off a lot of the flocking and left some ugly spots. I knew there were places you send the storage compartments to and have them redone, but when you have the original pieces with correct dates on them and you know they would be difficult and costly to replace you are a little leery of shipping them to John Public in Timbuktu. (Not to mention dollars versus points.)

I never lost many points for their condition, but it was one of those things I thought I could fix myself. My first stop was the NCRS technical discussion board. Here I read that a fellow member had used a product called **Jer Dan Flocking Kit** which he purchased from Woodworkers Supply (1-800-645-9292). He was very satisfied with the results. I ordered a kit for a small project that cost \$25. The kit came with a can of adhesive, flocking material, paint brush and flocking applicator. The first step was to sand the interior areas of my old compartments to smooth out the surfaces. Secondly, I brushed on the adhesive, being sure to cover all areas. (You have 10-15 minutes before the adhesive sets up.) Next, I applied the flocking material. The applicator was just two cardboard tubes that fit together making a device that blows out the flocking material as you slide it back and forth. The instructions said to be liberal with the flocking because what doesn't stick can be used on your next project. Lastly, you set the piece aside to dry for 12-15 hours. It worked great.

My storage compartments look brand new. I'll never lose that "2 points" again! (And I did it myself!)

Jim Fox





National Corvette Restorers Society

LOUISIANA CHAPTER Membership Application



Louisiana Chapter 2012 DUES: \$30.00*

JOIN OTHERS WHO SHARE YOUR INTEREST IN CORVETTES

LOUISIANA CHAPTER NCRS, A PART OF AND SANCTIONED BY NCRS NATIONAL, THE WORLD'S LARGEST CORVETTE CLUB!

Name:		Spouse:	
Address			
City, State, ZIP:			
Home Phone:		Work Phone:	
Cell Phone:		FAX:	
E-Mail Address:			

NCRS National Membership Number (required):

Note: National NCRS Membership is required.
(If you do not know your number, enter "yes" but submit the number as soon as available to complete application)

CORVETTES YOU OWN

Year	Body Style & Special Options	Color	Engine & Transmission

NCRS LA CHAPTER APPLICATION DATE:

MAIL THIS FORM WITH DUES ENCLOSED TO:

LOUISIANA CHAPTER NCRS

C/O Jim Boudreaux
539 Evergreen Drive
Mandeville, LA 70448

Order Your Chapter Shirts Here!

Mike Leeds is presently taking orders for chapter shirts. Shirts cost \$55.00 each plus shipping. This cost includes your name and your car's name embroidered on the shirt.

(Completed order sheets should be forwarded to Mike Leeds with payment)

Your Name			Year of Corvette	
Shipping Address			Body Style (Circle One)	Coupe Convertible Hardtop
Phone	Home:		Special Options (Circle)	LT1 ZR1 427 L88
	Cell:			
Email Address			VIN Number	
Name you want on this shirt			Exterior Color	
Circle Appropriate Info	S M L XL XXL	Men's Ladies	Interior Color	
Quantity Ordered			Your Corvette's nickname	

Note that prices are subject to change, so check with Mike before you send a check!