



MACC “TRACKS” MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

September - 2007

www.midalcorvette.com

2007 - 2008 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President & Executive Board Member:

Jeff Williams

Vice President, Show Chairman & Executive Board Member:

Terry Truett

Secretary & Executive Board Member:

Jane Lewis

Treasurer & Executive Board Member:

Sara Boehme

Past President & Executive Board Member:

Chris Touchton

Membership:

NCM Ambassador:

Fred Atkins

Newsletter:

Bill Ringler

Web Site Co-Chairs:

Paul Boehme & Thom Williamson

Social Chair:

Cathy Crapet

Sunshine Chair:

Babs Lucas

MESSAGE FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

by Chris Touchton

September signals changes for MACC. Unfortunately the weather is not changing - it's still hot and dry.

The secret to longevity: Exercise, limit red meat and alcohol, and most of all only serve one term as president of the Mid Alabama Corvette Club. Now it's time to change from president to joining the ex-president's clubs where gossip and rumors are not only solicited but appreciated.

With a nod to the past and a peek at the future, I have to say the last two years as Vice President and President have been a blast. Thanks to all of you who served on committees. You guys are the best. And to you who love to send me emails asking, "Who shot John?," you can reach me at the ex-president's club.

I would like to congratulate Jeff Williams for taking on the job as President and Terry Truitt as Vice President, thanks guys. I look forward to the changes you will bring to the club but remember, two wrongs don't make a right, but three lefts do.

The Touchton family is changing (growing). I'm finally going to get the two daughters I've always wanted, well daughter-n-laws. Our oldest son Jason married Michelle in Mobile on August 4th. Scott the youngest will

marry Jamie this coming April in New Orleans.
This is a dream come true for Suzan and I.
In closing, life is short and always
changing, it's time for this old Florida boy to

head to our place at the beach with Suzan and
Lucy. It's mine and Suzan's wish that the Lord
bless you and your family as he has ours.
See y'all, surf's up!

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT & SHOW CHAIR

by Terry Truett

Hello everyone. I am excited to be part of this years MACC leadership and looking forward to being involved in one of the biggest car show events in MACC history. In February we plan to have a display at the World of Wheels and, thanks to a lot of hard work by Chris Gilliland, we have a date with the Barber Motor Sports Park to hold our 2008 annual car show the second weekend in March. The answer to your next question, yes! Everyone is invited to HELP with both events! I would like to extend a personal invitation to each of you to join in on the various show committees while we are in the early planning stages of both of these events.

Drive Safely!

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY

by Jane Lewis

Minutes from the monthly meetings will NOT be published in the club newsletter, but will be available in the "Members Only" section on the MACC web site.

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

by Sharon Mathews

Indian Summer is right around the corner. The cooler evenings and weekends will offer lots of opportunities to enjoy a drive and some time spent with your MACC friends. If you have an idea of a place to go, whether it be for a few hours, or a few days, just send out an e-mail...you never know who might want to go too. How about calling one of the new members and invite them to join you. We have lots of new folks to meet and make welcome. A current member list with all the names and phone numbers is on the website.

NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming the following new members.

Gary Radvany
Leeds, AL
1992 Aqua Roadster

Ken Goodwin
Hueytown, AL
2007 Silver Z06

Raymond & Gloria Williams
Warrior, AL

Danny & Julia Thomason (Danny and Julia were past members)
Birmingham, AL

2004 Red Convertible
rwilliams@merchantsbankal.com

1976 White Coupe
dltalfa@aol.com dthomason@alfains.com

Larry & Sally Davenport
Hoover, AL
2008 Black Coupe
lwant800@charter.net

Gary & Debi Neil
Hoover, AL
2003 Silver Coupe
dandgneil@bellsouth.net

We now have a total of 147 members. This is really something to be proud of!

Member Photos on Website

Is your picture on the website? What about your car? Have you bought a new car, or an additional one? We want to be sure we showcase you and your Vette (s) on our website. Please ask Paul to take a picture at the next meeting or cruise. Have your own favorite shot? Just e-mail it to: pboehme8464@yahoo.com

Member Concerns

Please continue to keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers:

- Maggie Gilliland's Mom who continues with her battle against cancer.
- Karen Cauble's Mom who also struggles with continuing health problems.
- Also, for those of you who know our past President and First Lady, Terry and Marti Garrett, Terry's daughter is fighting life-threatening cancer, and Marti's Mom has suffered a bad fall and is with Terry and Marti as she tries to recuperate. They would also appreciate hearing from you and knowing that they are in your prayers.

If you have an event you want to share with us, either happy or sad, please let me know. MACC is proud to be your extended family and we want to share your concerns, as well as your joys.

Congratulations

To Merv and Bettie Torme. They have a new Crystal Red C6 on order and will be taking Museum delivery soon. Can't wait to see their new "baby".

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If your name should be on this month's list and is not, please e-mail me your dates so we can congratulate you too.

HAPPY "SEPTEMBER" BIRTHDAYS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

President – Jeff Williams	September 1
Hoke Graham	September 10
Ronnie Jones	September 14
Arlene Johnson	September 17
Bari Roseman	September 22
Chuck Lewis	September 24
Merv Torme	September 29

Interesting note: This is president's birthday month. Besides jeff, Hoke, Ronnie and Arlene are all past presidents:

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS ON THEIR SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Paul and Sara Boehme
Terry and Toby Truett
Billy and Babs Lucas
Jeff and Evie Williams

September 1
September 6
September 7
September 23

If you know of someone who you think would enjoy and benefit from our club, please invite them to one of our meetings or functions. A membership application can be mailed to them, or one can be downloaded from our website.

I have enjoyed being your Membership Chairperson again this year, but Terry and I have decided to take 2008 year off from being in a leadership position and just relax and enjoy the club and it's benefits. Please don't hesitate to call me though if you have any need, or question. I love this club and each and every one of you. I am always available.

NEWS FROM THE EVENT CHAIR

by Terry Mathews

THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR IS waiting to take you away.....

We are within the "8 DAYS A WEEK" countdown, we have at least 22 cars with a "TICKET TO RIDE" the "LONG AND WINDING ROAD" to "HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE" through the "STRAWBERRY FIELDS". We will "COME TOGETHER" Sat, at Niki's West (across from the Farmers Market on Finley Blvd) at 7:30 AM for breakfast, and the TOUR leaves at 8:30. Does anyone have an idea where we are going??????

See Ya There !!!!! Terry & Sharon Mathews

"PLEASE PLEASE", Don't be a "WALRUS", check your e-mail regularly for updates "ALL NIGHT LONG" until Sat Morning. We will have "FUN. FUN, FUN" (there's the Beach Boys again!).



NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM NEWS

by Fred Atkins

The National Corvette Museum strives to make each visit one to remember. After many months of planning, we have added our first simulated/interactive exhibit-the pit crew challenge! This exciting hands-on exhibit has been added to our regular display lineup that includes over 70 Corvettes! The pit crew challenge offers a real hands-on experience through the use of actual tools and devices created to simulate a racing pit.

CORVETTE CHRONOLOGY: August Question: When was the last Corvette produced with exposed headlamps? Answer: 1962. September Question: What was offered for the first time in 1978?

NCM 2007 CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS IN STOCK



2007 Christmas ornaments have arrived and are ready for ordering. Complete your set of NCM ornaments by adding the 2007 edition. Find out more and place your order online at: <http://store.corvettemuseum.com>.

NEWS FROM THE SUNSHINE CHAIR

by Babs Lucas

There has been a lot going on this month. In the mail went 13 birthday and 5 anniversary cards. There were 2 "Thinking of You" cards sent as well as 1 sympathy card. A colorful house plant was sent to Jo and Basil Sloan in memory of Jo's brother, Bill Ellenburg. A GET WELL was sent to Dennis Hopkins and hope you are more comfortable since surgery.

We have received special thank you notes from Rob and Fran Conrad and from Jo and Basil Sloan. Please continue to remember them in your daily prayers.

It is a delight to see Cathy Crapet running around after her surgery. Way to go!! Looking forward to seeing Dennis "hoppin" around and back with us soon!!

Well, to be honest and more accurate, I did not send out but 11 birthday cards. I just wished Billy and myself a happy birthday!!! Yea, we got younger too!

Have a GREAT sunshine day!

RESERVATIONS FOR OCTOBER TRIPS

By Cathy Crapet

Please remember to make your reservations for the October trips.

St. Jude's - Memphis, October 6-8

"Vettes at the Village" - Village at Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, October 26-28

Please refer to previous e-mails or contact:

Cathy Crapet
Social Chairman
988-0291
cathycrapet@aol.com

VETTES AT THE VILLAGE

by Cathy Crapet

Sponsored by Playground Corvette Club - Saturday, October 27, 2007

The Playground Corvette Club has once again invited the Mid Alabama Corvette Club to their "Vettes in the Village" show at the Village at Baytowne Wharf. The plans are to leave on Thursday, October 25th, departing on Sunday, October 28th (Some may want to leave on Friday).

The hotel selected this year is the "Village at Baytowne Wharf," which is the official car show site. It offers a hotel room, a one bedroom with a sleeper sofa, or a two bedroom with a sleeper sofa. Both of these have a living area and a kitchen. The thing to do is ask another couple to share a room so your cost will be less per room per night.

Please visit the web site: www.playgroundcorvetteclub.com/vatv.htm to get the registration form and hotel information. They will no longer block off rooms without a deposit on each one. Contact Gina Jackson at 1-850-267-8150, ext. 3765 for reservations. Ask to be placed in the Observation Point North. Gina expresses that you make reservations within 10 days to guarantee you a spot in the same building. When making reservations, mention this #: 21S2L8. Gina also suggested that you can give her Anthony's name and confirmation #, 21W10I, if needed.

All the information is on the web site listed above. In order for the caravan to be organized, please let Cathy Crapet (988-0291) know if you plan to attend and if you will be leaving on Thursday or Friday.

In addition to the car show, there will be a "Meet and Greet" party on Friday night at 6:00 at Graffiti's in the Village. The cost is \$20.00 per couple and will offer Hor'd Oeuvres and a cash bar. It sounds like fun.

This will be MACC's third year to participate in "Vettes at the Village." Since they moved it from August to October, the weather should be wonderful. Plan now, so we will have another great attendance.

RECRUITING A MEMBERSHIP CHAIR FOR 2007 - 2008

Jeff Williams is looking for a volunteer to assume the office of MACC Membership Chair for the 2007 – 2008 fiscal year. Please contact Jeff if you have an interest in helping the club in this important position.

Rocky's Story - Part V

(Don't worry; I know what I am doing)

By Jeff Williams

It has been a while since you last heard from me. Well, a lot has happened since then. Too bad, not much has happened to Rocky...

Well, when we last left Rocky, he was in a strange frame shop while I was gallivanting all over God's creation in Evie's convertible. Paul B brought it back to the house for me, and it was waiting for me when I returned from my joy riding.

The wheels are nice and straight now (after my tape measure alignment), but the ride height is all off. I believe it needs some more tweaking on the frame rails to get the ride height correct. I bought new front springs and a complete rear bushing and mounting bolt kit for the car to make sure there was nothing in the suspension that was screwy. While I had it off the ground, I checked the front frame height. The passenger front spring bucket is about .6" higher than the driver's side. The lower ball joint is about 1.8" higher on the passenger side. When I put the car back on the ground, I get a good rake from right to left on the front, and rear. It is really noticeable from the rear. It is about 3" difference from right to left. When I jack up the frame on the passenger front, the rear of the car levels out just fine.

Next, I decided to get the body on and make the car look like a Corvette. I wanted it to at least appear to be safe for the roads. I put a few screws in the nose to hold it on the chassis, and then a few screws in the bumper to hold it to the nose, then a few bolts in the headlights to hold them to the nose. I plugged them in, just in case I need them. The hood does not fit well, because the radiator support is not in the right spot due to the frame being off a bit in the front. For now, the hood latches are holding on the hood.

I drove the car to the DMV and registered it for the street and got a tag, so it is legal (as far as the police are concerned). Since then I have made a couple voyages to Terry T's house (It is just 2 miles) to see how the car ran and shifted. The first trip was kind of scary, but it seemed to do very well. The fuel gauge toggles between full and half, depending on whether I am accelerating or braking. I have a check engine light that comes on about the same time the fuel gage goes to full. It looks like a short or wiring issue. The second trip, I was a little bolder, and I pushed the car a bit. When I get on it, it has a huge hesitation. Like the fuel injectors are running out of fuel at WOT (Wide Open Throttle). The steering is real touchy, but that is because I have a slight toe-out to the front wheels. The floorboards get REAL hot, but that is because there is no insulation or carpet down. I plan to add a LOT of insulation before I install the carpet. I may even add some external insulation to the bottom of the car. The radio sounds like crap, but that is because the speakers are 25 years old, and in bad shape. I have a new stereo to go in when I get to that point in the build.

I had Terry M make me a MACC logo for the back glass, and I think it looks great!



I took it to the cruise-in at the Wal-Mart in Alabaster last month, and had a great time showing it off.

I had a little bit of an adventure that started out with some trouble getting the car to Wal-Mart. I started out letting the car idle because I had poured a whole can of fuel injector cleaner in the car, and I wanted to run it through the system. The car idled at the house for about 40 minutes and got rather warm. On the way to Wal-Mart, the temp went up to about 220 degrees, and it started to ping and chug a bit. It quit twice, and I thought it was overheating. It was a 100+ day. After hanging out for a few hours, we drove over to Full Moon BBQ (in the parking lot) for a

snack. The car quit twice again and ran terrible. I guessed it was the fuel injector cleaner that I had dumped in the tank earlier and shrugged it off. After the BBQ, everyone cruised to the DQ in Pelham, to harass the Mustangs and eat some ice cream. I went last, so no one else had to wait on my terrible running car. It quit a couple times getting out of the parking lot. Then it quit going down the hill, towards Alabaster. This last time it acted like it was out of gas, so I coasted into the Shell station. I thought maybe a few gallons would clear up the symptoms (Maybe there was some water in the bottom of the tank from condensate or something).

As I was putting gas in, I thought to myself, "I wonder how many gallons of gas this tank holds? Not more than 20 gallons, I bet". I decided to go ahead and fill it up.

The nozzle finally clicked off at 20.7 gallons of gas. "Hmm, maybe it was quitting and running bad because it WAS out of gas. Maybe I should not have let the car idle so long. When was the last time I put gas in the car? You know, I have only put in 5 gallons this year. It has been driven a lot for 5 gallons. Wouldn't it be funny, if all the time, it was running out of gas? Boy would I feel stupid." I said to myself, as I was paying for the gas.

I hopped in and fired the car up. I gingerly pressed the accelerator, expecting hacking and coughing, but was rewarded with a nice vroom! I put the car in gear, and easily pulled the car out into traffic. The car ran smooth as silk, and was at speed in no time. Boy, did I feel stupid!

When I got to the DQ, I could see concern in everybody's face. There were several offers of help. I was cool and collected (at least I thought I was). I just didn't know how to tell them I had been so stupid I had run the car out of gas, so I just said, "It is amazing what 20.7 gallons of gas will do for a poor running engine!" Everybody had a good laugh, and mentally decided to not ever let me touch their cars. (I could see it in their eyes).

Since then, the car has been sitting in the tent out back, waiting for me to coordinate the frame repairs with the shop. The hot weather and a busy job have taken up all my spare time. Hopefully this month, I will get back into the project.

I have bought a rear sway bar, some chrome beauty rings for the wheels, a couple interior parts, and a couple bags of bolts, washers, and nuts.

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September:

- 7th Magical Mystery tour (contact Terry Mathews)
- 16th **MACC monthly meeting at Indian Springs Town Hall pavilion**
- 22nd The Racing Experience at Talladega Super Speedway (contact Jeff Williams)
- 29th Pensacola trip & car show

October:

- 6th Gatlinburg car show
- 6th Corvette Forum St. Jude's trip to Memphis (contact Chris Touchton)
- 20th Corvettes Serving America Foundation
- 21st **MACC monthly meeting at Neighborhood Grill**
- 27th Vettes at the Village at Baytowne Wharf (contact Cathy Crapet)

November:

- 3rd Trip to Lowes Motor Speedway for NASCAR garage tours (contact Wayne Allen)
- 18th **MACC monthly meeting at Neighborhood Grill**

December:

- 8th MACC Christmas Party at Vestavia Hills Country Club (contact Cathy Crapet)

**September 16th MACC Monthly meeting
Behind the Indian Springs Town Hall
at 2635 Cahaba Valley Road – Route 119
Meeting at 2:00
Lunch & ice cream at Peach Park after the meeting**

