



# October / November 2022 CCWM Newsletter



051-C-3

051-C-3

## Presidents Message:

### October / November 2022

#### Quick Notes

Club Meeting  
October 11<sup>th</sup>

Remember your  
Face Book Page &  
Website

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

#### Officers

President: Ken Lamontagne  
Vice President: Steve Lachowetz  
Treasurer: E J Wiley  
Secretary: Richard Suomala  
Membership Dir: John Pajak

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Our Club founder, Rene Lajeunesse, has decided to fully retire to Florida ending his leadership of CCWM. This has been coming for some time as Rene and Rose have steadily increased their time in Florida and reduced their role in CCWM. Even so, Rene was heavily involved in running our three shows this year; All-Corvette in May at Balise, Three Charity at K of C in June, and our Veterans fund raiser at Holyoke Soldiers Home in September.

We certainly could not let Rene and Rose go without a proper sendoff. We took advantage of their presence at the Soldiers Home Show to have a short ceremony at the end of the Show. We presented him a monogrammed jacket and praised his success in growing the Club. Rene and Rose will be back for the Summer months and will always be welcome at Club events.

Rene started the Club in 2011 with a dream and 4 members and has grown it into a major Corvette Club with over 100 members and a strong presence throughout New England. It is now incumbent upon us to take the lead and continue to move this Club forward.

Consider running for a board position in our Fall election. We have 3 openings. Also, I will be looking to involve others in running Club events in 2023 as our calendar of activities continues to grow. Why not volunteer for one event!

We all enjoy the benefits of this Club but it requires your support to make it happen.





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## ***KEN'S CORNER!***



We are already planning for 2023 and have decided to streamline our shows and our donations. We will have two shows next year both at Balise; a larger All-Corvette show on May 13 and an All Makes and Models Show on September 9. The May show will be targeted to Donate Life New England and the Fall show to a Veterans charity.

Our Holyoke Soldiers Home Show was quite successful. We had 86 cars registered and the resident Veterans came out for the opening ceremony and at various times to see the cars. We raised over \$2800 net and decided to donate it all to Turkeys for Vets. This brings our charitable donations to over \$7500 this year.

Turkeys for Vets is a local veterans charity run out of the Ludlow VFW. It addresses needy Veterans in many local towns identified through their Veterans Service Officers. All the money goes to food for Thanksgiving. This brings our charitable donations to over \$7500 this year.

Rene stored most of the Club's equipment at his house. He is now downloading that to me. Joyce and I organized, inventoried and labelled everything. Balise agreed to store it at their dealership and it has been put away there. We have what is needed to conduct our Shows and to promote our Club. Rene's insurance files and show records were also reviewed and are now stored with other Club records by the Club Secretary.

Last year we started presenting framed Certificates of Appreciation to our financial sponsors. While presenting one to Dale Frank Financial and discussing our Soldiers Home Show he wrote us another check for \$500.



Thank you to Dale Frank Financial Group, Witch Enterprises, and most especially Balise for your sponsorship.

Cruise nights became active for us this year as many of them adopted theme nights especially a Corvette Night. The Moose, Daily Grind and Buttery Brook Park benefited greatly in attendance from our Club on these nights and they acknowledged our impact.





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Again, this year we had a large presence at CCRI's "Corvettes by the Sea 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary car show" in Rhode Island in August. We had 20 Corvettes in attendance earning us a 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy for most Corvettes from a Club. CCRI President Lilianna Dolan presented us the trophy at the "Vettes at the Beach car show" at Ocean Beach Park in September. Congratulations to all who attended representing our Club.



### Looking Ahead:

We still have a lot of season ahead of us with many events planned. This weekend October 1 or 2 is the Rods and Mods car show at Whalley Park. It is a fund raiser for One Call Away which supports Vets with PTSD.

Frank Cowdry has scheduled our annual Fall foliage cruise to VT for October 15. We will be heading up to Windsor via route 91 and route 5. Lunch is planned at the Harpoon Brewery.

Some of us will be in Hyannis for the weekend of October 20-23. The National Corvette Museum – New England Chapter is hosting a Meet and Greet gathering for the 2024 NCM Caravan. Island tours, Corvette cruises and seafood fill the agenda.

November 5 is our annual Coffee and Corvettes session at Balise. This year we will get to ask questions to various Corvette experts.

Since we made a major contribution to Turkeys for Vets we have been invited to the Veterans Appreciation Pig Roast at Vanished Valley Brewery in Ludlow on November 12. We will have our Corvettes on Display and enjoy the BBQ free of charge.

December 3 is our annual Christmas Party at Tony and Penny's. Rich Suomala and Renee Rafuse have been planning this since last year. The price will be minimal for Club members as the Club is subsidizing the cost. Bruce Marshall is providing music and there will be a gift raffle once again. Register at the October 11 Club meeting.

Finally, on December 17 we will participate in the patriotic Wreaths Across America event at Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. This was a great event last year. Renee Rafuse is leading the effort this year with planning already underway.

Our Board of Directors election also takes place in December at our December 13 Club meeting. Please consider nominating someone for a Board position as we have 3 terms expiring this year. We are accepting nominations now through the November 8 Club meeting. Please get involved!

We all enjoy the benefits of this Club but it requires your support to make it happen!





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## Steve Says



Fall has arrived! The leaves are beginning to change, temperatures are much cooler, and the end of the season is starting to peek over the horizon. What better time to get out and enjoy your car, we still have events on the calendar, dust them off, shine them up and I'll see you on the road.

Thank you everyone who came out to support the veterans at our final show of the season held at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home. This was an event that they really look forward to and was a great success! We raised more than \$2,800 to be donated to a veteran's charity. You should all be very proud!

Stay healthy and safe....see you soon.





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## Rich's Rhetoric



September was a busy month highlighted by our third major event at the Holyoke Soldiers Home. We netted \$2800 to be given to a local Veteran's organization.

Several of us went to the Vette's at the Beach in Ocean Park Beach, New London Ct. This was a corvette's only event with over 300 showing up. Impressive to say the least.

We are now in the midst of prepping for the NCM 2024 Meet and Greet event Oct 20-24<sup>th</sup> in Hyannis Ma.

Frank Cowdrey is also hosting a foliage trip to Harpoon Brewery in VT later in October.

The Secretary notes from July and August's membership meetings notes were recorded and posted.





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## JOHN'S MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



Well, it's coming, hard to believe Mt Washington already received snow! Get out and enjoy your cars while we still have some nice weather.

We have 165 members (91 primary, 69 associate, 3 honorary club founding fathers and 2 honorary Balise) with 101 Corvettes.

Please welcome our new CCWM members Robert & Marianne Campbell driving a C4, Eddie Rivera driving a C8, Manny Abrante & Maria Rivera driving a C6, and Clifton Phillips driving a C5. Welcome Aboard!

If any member has a change of address or any changes, a new car etc., [please email](mailto:pajakjo@yahoo.com) at [pajakjo@yahoo.com](mailto:pajakjo@yahoo.com)





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## August Club Anniversaries

Jeff and Pam Rys	7 years
Dave and Gail Coutu	7 years
Bill Marchand	7 years
Paul St Amour	6 years
Guido and Kathy Guerri	5 years
Jeff and Gina Joniec	5 years
Richard and Janet Stawasz	4 years
Mike and Maryellen Douville	3 years
Dennis and Janis Wood	3 years

## October Club Anniversaries

Steve and Mary Pajak	5 years
Dennis Poulin	5 years
Gregg and Jill Lombardi	4 years
Philip Corbeil	4 years
John Pajak	4 years
Jim and Cindy Ferris	1 year
EJ Wiley	1 year
Donald and Laurie Besancon	1 year





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## Bob's Facebook News



Well, it's getting to that time of the year when many Corvettes hibernate for the winter. If you are planning on storing your Vette, here are some suggestions to pamper your Vette.

1. Be sure to thoroughly wash and clean the exterior of your car. You don't want contaminants sitting on the paint over the winter. Use your usual wax to add an additional layer of protection.
2. Don't forget attention to your tires and wheels. Clean them and add air to the recommended pressure. You might apply a non-silicone dressing to the tires. Don't forget to remove any brake dust from the wheels or calipers.
3. Clean your interior. If you have leather seats, apply a good leather cleaner and conditioner to prevent the leather from drying out or cracking. Place a container of DampRid in the interior to prevent moisture building that can lead to mold forming. Some have placed large sheets of plastic on the garage floor to add a protective barrier to the under carriage of the car.
4. Clean your windows both inside and out.
5. Use a silicone dressing on your weatherstripping to prevent it from drying out.
6. Mice and rodents are often a problem. Many have had success using moth balls and dryer sheets to repel them. If you place them in your engine compartment, don't forget to remove them before starting the car. Cover the exhaust pipes to prevent mice from setting up house there.
7. Ensure your fluids are at the correct levels. Is your antifreeze still effective? Some change their oil before a long storage.
8. Add Stabil to your gas tank to prevent the gas from going bad. Remember to drive the car for about 10 miles to ensure Stabil reaches the fuel line. Fill the tank to prevent condensation from forming.
9. Keep your battery charged. You can either remove the battery or keep it in the car. Use a battery tender to maintain the correct charge for your car.
10. If you must store the car outside, use a good quality weatherproof cover. If you store inside, use a breathable cover. Cotton is good. Don't use plastic to cover your Vette!
11. If possible, start your Vette at least once a month to keep the fluids flowing. Make sure area is well ventilated while car is running. Don't run in an enclosed garage. We want you at our events next year!
12. If you have a convertible, leave the top up. This would be a good time to re-dye and apply a protectant to it. It will also keep the convertible top in its proper shape.
13. And lastly, don't use your car as a storage shelf! Don't place anything on top of the car even if covered. We don't like surprises when we remove the cover in the spring.

Hope for a short and mild winter. If you follow these suggestions, hopefully, getting your car back in service in the spring should be easy.







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## OCTOBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Columbus Day	Club Meeting K of C Granby Road	12	13	14	15 Fall Foliage Cruise
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween					





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# NOVEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 Coffee and Corvettes
6 End Daylight Savings	7	8 Club Meeting Elections	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12 Veterans Appreciation Pig Roast
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25 Black Friday	26
27	28	29	30			





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December 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3 Christmas Party
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Club Meeting Elections	14	15	16	17 Wreaths Across America
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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# Coffee & CORVETTES

**Saturday  
November 5, 2022**  
9–11 a.m. at Balise Buick GMC

- ◆ Come and talk with members of the Corvette Club of Western MA
- ◆ Look at new cars on display
- ◆ Q & A: *Ask the Corvette Tech*—have all your questions answered about the advanced technologies found in late model Corvettes, plus collision repair and painting training required by GM to work on Corvettes
- ◆ Coffee & donuts while they last!



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## Our Charities

### Holyoke Soldiers Home

Established in 1952, the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke is a multifaceted health care facility available to eligible veterans of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.  
110 Cherry Street, Holyoke, MA 01040

[\(413\) 532-9475](tel:4135329475)



### Friends of the Springfield Vet Center.

We are an organization that offers social, recreational and educational programs to the combat Veterans and their families at the Springfield Vet Center. If you would like to volunteer for the Friends of the Springfield Vet Center, please call 413-737-5167 or join us at the Springfield Vet Center at 95 Ashley Ave in West Springfield on Thursday mornings at 11am.

### Donate Life New England

New England Donor Services is an independent, not-for-profit agency whose mission is to save and improve lives through the recovery of organs and tissue for transplantation. The organization is responsible for donation in nearly two hundred hospitals and serves fourteen organ transplant centers in the six New England states. Last year, our work resulted in over 1,000 organ transplants and tens of thousands of tissue transplants. Donate Life New England project is to raise awareness of the continued need for donated organs and tissues and to encourage individuals to register as donors.

New England Donor Services      60 First Avenue, Waltham, MA 02451  
(800) 446-6362      [www.NEDS.org](http://www.NEDS.org)



### DAV Department of Massachusetts

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.



### Springfield Federation Of The Blind

The Greater Springfield Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Massachusetts provides support to members and friends, participates in fund-raising and public awareness activities, advocates for the needs of blind people in the area.

Federation Of The Blind Greater Springfield Chapter  
P.O. Box 3512  
Springfield, MA 01101





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0-60  
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**15% OFF PARTS & LABOR** For all Corvette Club of Western MA members AND their families! Any Vehicle Welcome!

Offer ends 11/30/2022. Visit us online for a complete list of sales and service specials.