

# NATIONAL CORVETTE RESTORERS SOCIETY

[ncrs.org](http://ncrs.org)

## NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

[northcentralncrs.com](http://northcentralncrs.com)

New Member Handbook

Aug. 2015

# **New Member Handbook**

## **Welcome**

This handbook has been assembled to help speed your orientation to the Chapter by outlining what you can expect from it and vice versa. Areas addressed include the Board of Directors, membership expectations, newsletter, web site, Chapter social activities, technical education, mentoring, judging, tabulating, services, and more.

## **Board of Directors**

The Chapter is led by an elected Board of Directors including the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Judging Chairman, Membership Chairman, Activities Director, Technical Director, Newsletter Editor and Web Master. Elections are held the first Thursday of October each year. The Board plans the activities for the year, supports all judging activities, and is responsible for the financial health of the Chapter. Board positions are filled exclusively by volunteers. The future of the Chapter will be determined by new members like you, willing to assume leadership roles. You will get out of the Chapter experience exactly what you put into it. It is totally up to you whether your membership will be rewarding or not.

## Our Present Board of Directors

Rick Zierhut - President  
651-451-1118  
[zierhut@tinman.us](mailto:zierhut@tinman.us)

Mike Lyddy - Vice President  
651-216-5685  
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Mike Kittle - Secretary  
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Bob Lund - Technical  
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Jerome Lardy - Membership  
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Steve Johnston - Treasurer  
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Chris Enstrom - Judging  
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Will Zierhut - Assistant Judge  
651-747-7498  
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Dave Murphy - Newsletter  
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Nick Kornder - Web Master  
651-288-4017  
[kornder@northernsun.org](mailto:kornder@northernsun.org)

## What Can You Expect From Your Membership in the Chapter?

All of the following are provided by members volunteering their time.

- Quarterly newsletter
- Annual calendar of activities.
- Updated website with all pertinent Chapter info.
- Assigned mentor for each new member (optional).
- Many member resources to advise on restoration issues.
- At least one Chapter judging meet per year.
- Chapter sponsored technical and social activities each month.
- At least two Chapter sponsored judging schools per year.

## What Does the Chapter Expect of its Membership?

- Learn to judge your year(s) of Corvette using the NCRS judging system. We must have qualified judges to support our Chapter and Regional meets. Whether you want to bring your car through judging or not, becoming a judge is a great experience that will increase your knowledge about Corvettes and allow you to get to know a great group of people in our Chapter.
- You have knowledge and experiences to share so consider contributing articles to our Chapter newsletter. Articles don't have to be long or complicated. If you are working on your car and found a trick to save time or money, write a short article about it. I bet other members in the Chapter would benefit from it.
- All Chapter activities and the Board are supported 100% by volunteer time. You will be asked to volunteer at times to support the Chapter so please be willing to give some time.

## NCRS Membership Number

When you joined the NCRS you were given a membership number, if you are not sure what your number is, look on the address label of your next issue of either The NCRS Driveline or The Corvette Restorer. Memorize this number or else carry it with you to all events as it is important in earning participation credit.

## **Positions**

### **Secretary**

The secretary is an important member of the board who takes notes at all meetings and submits these notes to the newsletter editor for publication. They are also emailed to each board member and approved at the next board meeting. This creates an accurate record of events and decisions.

### **Treasurer**

The primary responsibility of the treasurer is managing the cash and reporting the status of the Chapter checkbook to the Board every month.

Monies are accepted from various sources and promptly get deposited in the Chapter's checking account. Those sources can be dues, Chapter meets, Regional meet or other sources.

The treasurer is also responsible to pay all bills that the Chapter incurs. Payments are made directly to a vendor or to a member who has incurred an expense on the Chapter's behalf. In all cases a receipt is required for the transaction.

Board meeting and activities attendance by the treasurer is required since there is usually someone there who has spent or has collected money for some event and will need to be paid or receipted for that item or event as quickly as possible.

Another treasurer responsibility is to act as registrar for the Regional meets that we try to hold every 3 or 4 years. Payments and information about the registrant are collected and put into a data base. This information is then available for distribution to those individuals responsible for various parts of the event such as judging, meals, registration and so forth. That way those event coordinators know who and how many folks are participating.

## Website

As an active local Chapter of the National Corvette Restorers Society we are obligated to maintain a website available to all internet users. This website allows both members and nonmembers to explore our Chapter and its activities. On this site viewers can find out what we are all about. Posted on the site are activities past, present, and future, names of the board members, and any other items deemed necessary for a good, functional website.

The National and Chapter web site addresses are:

[ncrs.org](http://ncrs.org)

[northcentralncrs.com](http://northcentralncrs.com)

## Newsletter

The Newsletter is a required activity of an NCRS Chapter in order to maintain its active standing in the National Corvette Restorers Society. This newsletter is published quarterly and contains various articles of interest to the Chapter members and the National organization. Most of the articles are written by the members about chapter activities. Every quarter there are articles about tech sessions, social activities, and projects performed by individuals that they think might be helpful or interesting to the Chapter members. The newsletter may also contain advertisements for Corvettes, and/or parts for sale or parts wanted by the membership. Included in the newsletter is the Chapter calendar of events which is helpful for the member's participation.

Member participation is necessary and helpful in putting out an effective newsletter.

Members receive this newsletter by one of two ways. The first is the "snail mail" method and the second is the more popular "email" method. There is an incentive to the email method and that is a reduction in the local Chapter annual dues.

# Membership

## Membership Eligibility and Dues

Membership in the North Central Chapter is open to any National NCRS member. You are not required to own a Corvette to join the National NCRS organization or a Chapter, just an interest in enjoying, restoring and preserving Corvettes. Membership application forms are available on our Chapter web site at [northcentralncrs.com](http://northcentralncrs.com) or by contacting the Membership Chairman to have an application form sent to you.

Member first year North Central Chapter dues are \$25.00 if you have an email address and elect to receive the Crossed Flags Newsletter by email notification. If you choose to receive a hard copy newsletter mailed, dues will be \$30.00. It is highly recommended that each member have an email address so that Chapter events and activity changes can be communicated in a timely manner. If you haven't given us your email address, forward it to the Membership Chairman now. The Tech Director and Judging Chairman both have notifications emailed approximately 7-10 days prior to a planned event.

## Membership Computer Database

The Membership Chairman maintains membership information in a database. This information includes changes to mailing address, email address, phone numbers and Corvettes owned. Address information is used for event notification purposes, so it is very important that we have a valid email address.

For backup protection, a copy of the database is emailed periodically to the Chapter President. A copy of the current database is also emailed to the Newsletter Editor approximately 10 days before the scheduled Crossed Flags newsletter mailing so the necessary address labels can be prepared thereby making it is important for members to communicate any address changes to the Membership Chairman.

## Looking for New Members

The Chapter is always looking for new members, especially individuals who will actively take part in some or many of the scheduled activities. Chapter members are getting short changed if they don't get involved and take advantage of the wealth of information other Chapter members have. The Chapter does mailings to national NCRS members who do not belong to the North Central Chapter, and other Corvette events are attended to hand out Chapter membership information. If you know a Corvette owner or someone who is thinking about purchasing a Corvette, tell them about the NCRS and the North Central Chapter.

## Activities

### Technical

Tech sessions are usually held the third Saturday of the month. The type of tech session and where-its-at information is emailed to you approximately one week ahead of time. So keep the third Saturday open and wait for an email to see if the tech session interests you and you want to attend.

Tech sessions are hosted by members who are doing restorations and/or repairs on their Corvettes so other members can see how it's done or so the other members can help the host. The type of tech sessions that have been done include body-offs, body-drops, engine rebuilds/repairs, brake services, paint removal, electrical repairs, interior repairs (seats, carpet, door panels, or dash), convertible tops, and so on. The Chapter has many members with restoration/mechanical knowledge and they are anxious to teach and assist the other members in the restoration or repair of their Corvette.

To host a tech session, a member should contact the technical director of the Chapter to schedule a technical seminar. The director will assist the member with the planning and execution of the session. There are some requirements to host a session like a location, special tools/equipment, sometimes the project is too large for a Saturday completion, any of these situations can all be worked out with the help of the technical director. The Chapter owns some special tools that are available to members just for the asking. So don't be afraid to host a tech session! The Chapter needs your participation so we can fill the year with tech sessions of interest to all.

The host is compensated by the Chapter for expenses like donuts and refreshments. The session normally starts at 9:00 am and may go past lunch if needed; most of the time the session ends at noon.

Please call or email the technical director with any questions about a tech session. Even if it's a small project, we can combine two or three small projects on a Saturday morning. The tech sessions are a fun and very informative way to spend a Saturday morning with people that have the same interests as you.



## Social

Throughout the year, social activities are planned to compliment the many technical and judging activities. The social activities are designed to have the spouses and “significant others” involved in our chapter.

The activities have included in the past the Winter Social (member get together), Spring Casual Night Out (member get together), the Chili Challenge (includes other clubs), Chapter Picnic, Chapter Road Trip, Road Trips to the National Convention, Corvette or car shows, and occasional impromptu outings.

The activities are well attended and a good time is had by all. We are always open for suggestions and chairing an event is appreciated.

## Judging

More than thirty years after its formation, NCRS is known worldwide as the source of information on Corvettes.

The National Corvette Restorers Society Mission:

*Formed in 1974, the National Corvette Restorers Society is a non-profit hobby group of 15,000+ families dedicated to the restoration, preservation, history and enjoyment of Corvettes made from the model years 1953 through 1996.*

*If you are looking for a 1953 - 96 Corvette: The seller is telling you "the numbers match". Do you know what they mean? Are they truthful? Join the NCRS and learn from all of the information we have gathered in the last 36 years to make a wise decision when you purchase your Corvette.*

*If you already own a 1953 - 96 Corvette: No matter what you are up to, NCRS members have been there before. Benefit from all of the information we have gathered in the last 33 years to make better and smarter decisions as you restore and maintain your valuable Corvette.*

Also from the website are the following two paragraphs regarding judging:

*The NCRS has compiled and is constantly updating highly detailed judging standards and rules for each basic model division from 1953 through 1996. The guidelines in these NCRS Technical Information Manuals are recognized throughout the hobby as THE STANDARD in determining originality.*

*The judging system is designed to educate each owner about their car as well as providing recognition for excellence in the areas of restoration, performance, or preservation. It is not a "cleanliness contest" like other events, nor do you compete against your friends' Corvettes. Judging is not done by some secret group of "experts".*

With this information for a basis, it is felt that judging is the single most important feature of this organization.

The National organization places certain firm obligations on us as a Chapter, one of which is an annual Chapter Judging Meet. Every member of this organization is interested in gaining knowledge about their Corvette. If you want to restore a Corvette to NCRS standards, you should get involved in judging. It is the very reason for our existence.

We are different from most other Corvette clubs, or any car club for that matter, in that we judge our cars against the factory standard rather than popularity or outward appearance. This judging is done with a judging manual in hand.

Every member is a judge to one degree or another. In this endeavor we all are trying to improve; and it is the job of the Judging Chairman to help us improve these skills. There are local Chapter judging seminars a few times throughout the year, and also National holds seminars occasionally and puts out training DVD's. All this is done in attempt to help improve our judging.

If you want to learn about the originality of your car and ways to make the restoration of it closer to what the factory did, there are three things you should do.

1. Get active in your local Chapter. You learn so much by being around others who share the passion for this hobby.
2. Purchase an NCRS *Technical Information Manual & Judging Guide* for your car.
3. Get active in the NCRS judging program.

Look for an opportunity to participate and we look forward to working with you.

## **Alternative Participation**

### **Not just for Men**

NCRS is not just for men! There are lots of women who are involved in NCRS. A woman is currently serving her tenth consecutive term as Secretary of our Chapter. In addition to this position, there are other board positions that could be filled by a woman. We would like to see more women become involved in the Chapter. If you have an interest in judging, there's always a need.

### **Tabulation**

You personally may not want to judge, but might enjoy being involved by tabulating at the judging meets. This is a critical job and we're always looking for help to accomplish it. It's simply a matter of adding up all the points that have been deducted in the judging process to determine the total points that will be awarded for each car. At events like our Regional judging meet, we need help in handling the registration table.

### **Social Events and Runs**

There are also social events which allow for getting together just for fun. The Chapter has a couple weekend runs each year for a chance to drive the Corvettes (or your family car if you prefer) to just get away with friends, to see other areas of the country, and have a good time. You can enjoy being involved in a hobby for which your husband or significant other has a passion. You will make many good friends over the years by being involved in the club so we encourage it.