



Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 2012



Well, Regina (Majestics Car Show) and Fargo (Toppers Car Show) are behind me and it was fun at each one! Lots of people and as always, new iron to see. Some cars are just over the top with regards to the quality and workmanship that goes into them. There are all levels of restorations and 'fix-ups', all over---even at a car show. Sometimes you wonder about how the cars are picked to enter.

The cruising should start soon. May is swiftly approaching and that's when we start to roll. Remember that we leave from Hardees on S. Broadway at 6:30 pm. If you miss the time, call 852-5277 for the location and come join us!

The club house will be ready soon. At the May meeting, I will be laying out the 'ground rules' for all. Price, rules for such things as insurance, battery disconnect, access, drip pans, etc. IF you want a 'stall' in the club house, please come to the meeting and we will be getting the list started. It will be on a 'first come-first serve' basis. First rule is that you must be a member of the Dakota Cruisers. Vehicle must be in a current registration state and drivable. This will not be storage for project vehicles. I want it to look nice. Call me with questions at 240-6771.

Devils Run, Clastiques, Buggies & Blues, Prairie Cruisers—Season Finale, Motor Magic and all of the rest are on target this year. Even the ones up in Canada. Retirement should allow me to attend just about all of these this year. It looks like no flooding issues will be stopping me this time!

The club "Next Generation" car is finished – if they are ever finished – and it has been shown in Toppers and Majestics car shows with great success. I acknowledged the young folks that got involved and it is always fun to talk about their involvement. Bryce Haug is the one who stuck it out the most. He was there just about every week with Gleam-Pa Larry. Everything from scraping grease to installing a chrome emblem. He did anything that was ready that night that he came. Thanks Bryce and thanks Larry!

The car, termed "CWM III" will now be driven and shown throughout the summer.

Well, I hope to see you at the Vegas on Wednesday the 2nd of May at 7:30 or sooner. We still would like for someone to take over the clothing. We have consolidated that so only a medium and a small tub would be brought to the activities. Keep it in mind if you could help out for a year or so...

Thanks ----- George

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Is there a 1983 corvette?

In: Chevy Corvette

Answer: Improve technically, yes.

44 Corvettes were manufactured with a 1983 VIN numbers but none were released to the public as official production vehicles. These 1983 Corvettes were prototypes, alpha test vehicles, and beta test vehicles used to sort out production details while others were assigned to engineering evaluation and crash testing. A few were part of a press introduction at Riverside Raceway in California, December 1982. The 1983 Corvette resembled the newly redesigned 1984 model (4th generation Corvette). All were destroyed except one, VIN# 1G1AY0783D5100023 (white with medium blue interior), L83 350ci, 250HP V8, 4-speed Automatic transmission and was retired to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. It is owned by GM. It was saved from destruction by a few forward looking individuals who recognized the need to retain one 1983 Corvette for posterity.

According to "America's Sports Car" magazine published by the NCM in its Jan/Feb 2009 issue, this model had suffered through numerous re-do's over its 26 years. Originally built on June 28, 1982, the car was 1983 Pilot Car number 4. Pilot cars are built for production evaluation and to assess the assembly process put in place at the assembly plant. Following its build, the car was taken to Michigan for evaluation and testing. According to Roger Phipps, a Paint Technician at the Bowling Green plant who became the cars' caretaker while it was in Bowling Green, the '83 was used for development and had various parts replaced with engineering enhancements during its time in Michigan.

It ultimately returned to Bowling Green and endured an ignominious existence sitting behind a wall near the plant's employee entrance. Tires went flat, the summer sun faded the carpet and seats, it was never driven or moved, and the Kentucky cardinals left proof they enjoyed using it for target practice. Not an existence a one of a kind vehicle should endure.

Roger and vehicle engineer Tom Hill championed an effort to save the vehicle from further deterioration. They were able to use it for a campaign to select the most "Patriotic" paint scheme for the car. One was chosen and the paint department personnel changed the solid white body to Red, White and Blue flag theme. It was not an awe inspiring design to many who saw it, but the car was moved inside the plant and used as a display for visitors awaiting plant tours. At least it was out of the elements.

The car was later repainted to its current solid white, and rather than return it to sentry duty by the wall, it was placed on loan with the NCM. The NCM is proud to have it.

One vehicle component that is rather unique is its wheels. A set of aluminum wheels were discovered in an old storage barn in the late-1980's on the Milford Proving Ground. They were recognized as being from a book by Michael Lamm on The Newest Corvette on page 27. The wheel design had been developed as an optional 15 inch wheel as a backup in the event the planned 16 inch wheels could not be delivered in ample quantities. The picture shows the wheels on a Design Center Corvette prototype.

Since the wheels were of no further use to GM, and would likely be scrapped, they were recommended to Fraser Smithson, the PG Director, that they be donated to the NCM. He agreed and were delivered to Dan Gale in the early 1990's. The NCM hadn't been built at that time, not had the '83 been donated, but the wheels found the perfect home on the only remaining '83 Corvette. It is ironic they are now on the car for which they were intended.

The following passage is taken from the book by Dave McLellan (the second Corvette Chief Engineer at Chevrolet from 1975 - 1992), Corvette From the Inside, from Bentley Publishing, Cambridge, MA., released in 2002.

Because of delays with the introduction of the new generation (C4) Corvette, production started in the early part of 1983. The new car could be called a 1984 model. The federal government defines the model year by its emission certification rules, which state that the model year can contain only one January 1. There was a lot of spirited

discussions at Chevrolet about the uninterrupted Corvette tradition, but in the end, Chevrolet opted for the logic of building for 17 months and the attendant reduction in paperwork of not having to rectify for the 1984 model year.

THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY THIS EMAIL THAT WAS PASSED ON TO ME...

'Someone asked the other day, 'What was your favorite fast food when you were growing up?'

'We didn't have fast food when I was growing up,' I informed him. 'All the food was slow.'

'C'mon, seriously, where did you eat?' 'It was a place called 'at home,'" I explained. 'Mom cooked every day and when Dad got home from work, we sat down together at the dining room table, and if I didn't like what she put on my plate I was allowed to sit there until I did like it.' By this time, the kid was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn't tell him the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table.

But here are some other things I would have told him about my childhood if I figured his system could have handled it: Some parents NEVER owned their own house, never wore Levis, never set foot on a golf course, never traveled out of the country or had a credit card. In their later years they had something called a revolving charge card. The card was good only at Sears Roebuck. Or maybe it was Sears & Roebuck. Either way, there is no Roebuck anymore. Maybe he died.

My parents never drove me to soccer practice. This was mostly because we never had heard of soccer. I had a bicycle that weighed probably 50 pounds, and only had one speed, (slow) we didn't have a television in our house until I was 19. It was, of course, black and white, and the station went off the air at midnight, after playing the national anthem and a poem about God; it came back on the air at about 6 a.m. and there was usually a locally produced news and farm show on, featuring local people. I was 21 before I tasted my first pizza; it was called 'pizza pie.'

When I bit into it, I burned the roof of my mouth and the cheese slid off, swung down, plastered itself against my chin and burned that, too. It's still the best pizza I ever had. I never had a telephone in my room. The only phone in the house was in the living room and it was on a party line. Before you could dial, you had to listen and make sure some people you didn't know weren't already using the line. Pizzas were not delivered to our home but milk was. All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers --my brother delivered a newspaper, six days a week. It cost 7 cents a paper, of which he got to keep 2 cents. He had to get up at 6AM every morning. On Saturday, he had to collect the 42 cents from his customers. His favorite customers were the ones who gave him 50 cents and told him to keep the change. His least favorite customers were the ones who seemed to never be home on collection day.

Movie stars kissed with their mouths shut. At least, they did in the movies. There were no movie ratings because all movies were responsibly produced for everyone to enjoy viewing, without profanity or violence or most anything offensive.

If you grew up in a generation before there was fast food, you may want to share some of these memories with your children or grandchildren just don't blame me if they bust a gut laughing.

Growing up isn't what it used to be, is it?

MEMORIES from a friend:

My Dad is cleaning out my grandmother's house (she died in December) and he brought me an old Royal Crown Cola bottle. In the bottle top was a stopper with a bunch of holes in it. I knew immediately what it was, but my daughter had no idea. She thought they had tried to make it a salt shaker or something. I knew it as the bottle that sat on the end of the ironing board to 'sprinkle' clothes with because we didn't have steam irons. Man, I am old.

How many do you remember?

Head lights dimmer switches on the floor.

Ignition switches on the dashboard.

Heaters mounted on the inside of the fire wall.

Real ice boxes.

Pant leg clips for bicycles without chain guards.

Soldering irons you heat on a gas burner.

Using hand signals for cars without turn signals.

Older Than Dirt Quiz:

Count all the ones that you remember,
not the ones you were told about.

1. Blackjack chewing gum
2. Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water
3. Candy cigarettes
4. Soda pop machines that dispensed glass bottles
5. Coffee shops or diners with tableside juke boxes
6. Home milk delivery in glass bottles
20. Packards
21. Roller skate keys
22. Cork popguns
23. Drive-ins
24. Studebakers
25. Wash tub wringers

If you remembered 0-5 = You're still young

If you remembered 6-10 = You are getting older

If you remembered 11-15 = Don't tell your age,

If you remembered 16-25 = You're older than dirt!

I might be older than dirt but those memories are some of the best parts of my life,

A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.



God made Coke; God made Pepsi, God made me super sexy!

MAY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 		2	3 Meeting at the Vegas 7:30	4	5 Noon Luncheon-call hotline for location	
6	7	8	9 Wednesday night cruise TBA 	10	11 Noon Luncheon-call hotline for location	12 BLT Day at the Dakota Boys Ranch 10a-2p 80 th Band Day Williston
13 Happy Mother's Day 	14	15	16 Wednesday night cruise to the View-leave Hardee's at 6:30	17	18 Noon Luncheon-call hotline for location	19 Acres of Iron Car Show, 10-4 Mandan, ND Show-n-shine Wadena, Sask
20 3rd Magic City Ruckus-Bike and Car Show Downtown Noon-3pm	21	22	23 Wednesday night cruise Berthold-soda and potluck deserts 	24	25 Noon Luncheon-call hotline for location Spring Fling Rapid City, SD	26 Spring Fling Rapid City, SD
27 Spring Fling Rapid City, SD	28 Memorial Day 	29	30 Wednesday night cruise MAFB golf course park BBQ-Law enforcement appreciation day	31		

Member Directory

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Next General Meeting at the
Vegas:

June 6, 2012