



# Western New York Corvette Club

Volume 15, Issue 12 VETTES VOICE

DECEMBER 2024

**Officers**

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67bdustchevelle@gmail.com

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716-824-3982

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**Maria Gump**  
716-870-4441

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**WNYCC mailing address:**

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**Newsletter**

Information / Articles for the newsletter may be emailed to:

**Charlene Drogi**  
drogicd@gmail.com

***President's Letter***

Hello Everyone:

Welcome to 2025! It is hard to believe we are into a new year. Hope everyone had a good holiday season; it always seems to go come and go too soon.

With January upon us, the board will again start to meet to plan out 2025 activities. Our first meeting is January 25th. I know it is early in the season, but a couple of dates to remember: March 29 - The Installation Dinner and August 16 - our annual Club Picnic. Also this month VP John Glennon and I will meet with West Herr to plan our All Corvette Show. We will be trying to do it June 18th. Hopefully, this will work for everyone involved.

Geanine and Maria are already planning fun activities in the months ahead. One event is the annual cruise with the Canadian Corvette Club on May 4. Watch your emails for any updates.

With the New Year comes all the car shows and cruise nights. I see a lot of them are advertising already. I have had some show planners reach out to me about the two WNYCC car shows already. We're looking forward to an interesting season!

President John

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

**Sat January 25, 2025 at 6:30pm**  
Lt Col Matt Urban VFW Post 7275,  
3741 Walden Ave. Lancaster NY

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Fran Bull	1/5
Mark Stephen	1/7
Edward Bosiacki	1/18
Ellen Kost	1/29



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**GET WELL WISHES**

Mike Pabst Covid  
Maria Gump pneumonia  
Mary Raley heart attack & 2 stents  
Patti O'Connor severely infected throat/  
sinus infection

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**WNYCC CLOTHING.**

Cindy at C-Shore Designs  
37 S. Shore Dr. Alden, NY 14004  
<https://c-shoredesign.bravesites.com/>  
Email: cshoreorders@gmail.com  
Phone: 585-937-4127

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**WNYCC ENGRAVED ITEMS**

Chris at IGY6 Bladesmith & Engraving  
<https://igy6bladesmithsengraving.com/>  
To order - text and email are best  
Email: Hntingwolf@aol.com  
Phone: 716-579-4366



**Happy New  
Year 2025**

## WNYCC 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat Jan 4 Tribute to Elvis 730pm - Lancaster Opera House, 21 Central Ave, Lancaster NY 14086  
Pre-purchased tickets only; event is closed.

Sat Jan 25 - 630pm General Meeting  
Lt Col Matt Urban VFW Post 7275, 3741 Walden Ave. Lancaster NY

Sat Feb 22 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat March 22 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat March 29 Installation Dinner at The Columns  
The Columns at Alton's Restaurant, 2221 Transit Rd, Elma NY 14059

April 24-26 Bowling Green Michelin Bash (Tentative)

Sat April 26 - 630pm General Meeting

Sun May 4 NCC Spring Cruise  
Tentatively Hamilton, Ontario - Canadian Warplane Museum

Fri-Sun May 16-18 Corvette Festival in Watkins Glen  
You need to pre-register for this event; Sat morning is the car show (\$70 per car) and Sat night is the dinner (\$40 per person). In January, we will try to secure a block of rooms for the Club.

Sat May 31 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat June 28 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat Aug 23 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat Sept 27 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat Oct 18 - 630pm General Meeting

Sat Nov 22 - 630pm General Meeting

### **Congratulations to the 2025 WNYCC Officers and Board members**

President: John Drogi  
Vice President: John Glennon  
Treasurer: Nancy Egan  
Secretary: Geanine Sobczak  
Board Member: Charlene Drogi  
Board Member: Maria Gump  
Board Member: Gary Milsom

And a big THANK YOU to Sheila Saint for  
being our Treasurer for 2024!!.

### **Christmas and New Year greetings from the UK**

It is mild here so hoping for some run's out over the holiday. Just got a new set of ac Delco 26 plugs as its been four years since I changed them when she first arrived. I will do that over the holidays and give her another oil and filter change. Jilly and the girls have bought me a brand new driveshaft for Christmas which I have wanted to change to see if it helps with the bit of drivetrain vibration that seems to come in just before 3000rpm. It may not help but will rule out driveshaft uj's or balance. Car is looking really good and turns heads everywhere, I really enjoy gradually improving little things on her. I don't know how much longer the powers that be will let us drive our hobby cars around or if they will start to restrict petrol and raise taxes. Their plan seems to be to force us off the roads and into ev's in their ridiculous rush toward net zero. Hopefully we will have a few more years. best wishes to you all.

**Gary (Watts)**





## WNYCC CHRISTMAS PARTY

Presented by Michael Kreamer

Another year and Christmas party has come and gone. The Christmas party was a huge success. Kathy & Lou Atti along with their elves, the Wiers, Gresses & Benoits set up & decorated the VFW Post. The lighting was dimmed and Christmas music played in the background. Santa (aka John Drogi) personally gave everyone a 2024 glass ornament (maybe a new tradition of his?). Hot chocolate mixes made for a cheerful favor along with Kathy's famous candy. Carmine's Catering did a fantastic job with a menu that was perfect, warm and delicious. Many of those attending brought desserts that were a great follow-up to the dinner. Ken Ladue and his guess of the number of kisses (475) took home the chocolate prize. That was followed up with door prizes, a giveaway of the hand-crafted Christmas centerpieces made by Lou & Kathy and ended with a fun gift exchange game of switches and steals that yielded much laughter. A wonderful way to start out the Christmas holiday spirit was capped by a presentation of a check for \$4,000 to the Post to support all of the community services they provide including service dogs for veterans. Thanks to Kathy & Lou for managing and putting together a great event to cap another fun Corvette year.



## NCM AMBASSADOR – JANUARY 2025 REPORT

**GEORGE AND KAREN SPARKS**

George Sparks Cell: 716-432-8799

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NCM AMBASSADOR

We are writing this on the first day of WINTER, along with the brisk cold weather it is the longest day of the year. Happy 2025. At least each day we will be gaining a thin slice of daylight.

Since our “Pride and Joy(s)” are all covered up and tucked away for the Winter, our thoughts wander away from the business of the Holidays and run toward the upcoming Summer.

In the current edition of the Corvette Museum’s “America’s Sports Car among the interesting stories and articles there’s something that has intrigued me for eons. It’s the “History of zero to sixty”.

The story is several pages in length; thus, we can only whet your appetite with some tasty tidbits.

The idea was conceived in 1947 by Tom McCahill while he was reporting on the latest new car(s) he made a reference how fast a car reached sixty miles per hour from a standing as it “0 to 60” time. It became a benchmark in just about every automotive road test report and was frequently used in automotive advertising.

“Road and Track” started publication in 1947 and by March of 1951 their road tests of foreign and domestic vehicles included the “acceleration time from zero to an honest 60 mph. The first car they tested was a Millman Minx with a “0 to 60” time of.....40 seconds.

Today, we still talk in “seconds” but now we talk of single digits with a decimal point.

Our point of is to entice you and pique your interest in becoming a member of the National Corvette Museum, in addition to the quarterly “America’s Sports Car” magazine there are many more interesting benefits by being a member of the NCM.

**This month’s NCM News link:** <https://mailchi.mp/corvettemuseum.org/corvette-campus-connection-november-11404251?e=9581f81d1b>

APPEARING MONTHLY THE FOLLOWING LINK TO: NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM – NEWS  
<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/news/>

### **Who is the “Father” of the Corvette? ZORA Arkus-Duntov**

Zachary “Zora” Arkus-Duntov (born Zachar Arkus; December 25, 1909 – April 21, 1996) was a Russian and American engineer whose work on the Chevrolet Corvette earned him the nickname "Father of the Corvette." Zora didn't create the Corvette, but he saved it. His vision fostered it into the car we know today. His focus was always on high performance and mid-engine design. Zora Duntov got hired by GM after seeing the Corvette prototype at the 1953 New York Motorama show, where he was impressed by its design but disappointed by its engine; he then wrote a letter to Chevrolet chief engineer Ed Cole expressing his desire to work on the car and outlining improvements he believed could be made, which so impressed Cole that he hired Duntov to join the Chevrolet engineering team.

He is sometimes erroneously referred to as the inventor of the Corvette; that title belongs to Harley Earl.

### **Harley Earl**

Harley Earl **is** the Father of Corvette. The Corvette was his idea pure and simple. He was influenced after World War II watching Jaguars and MG’s run road-racing courses like Watkins Glen. Harley Earl visited Watkins Glen, New York in 1951 to watch the Grand Prix of road racing. His experience at the race inspired him to design the Corvette, which went into production in 1953. He felt America needed its own sports car and he convinced GM to develop its own, inexpensive two-seater.

Originally code named “Project Opel”, Earl kept the Corvette program pretty much to himself. He had a special small studio with a handful of people working on it. At the time, Earl wasn’t sure which GM division ought to sell the Corvette, but he felt close to Ed Cole at Chevrolet and decided to give the “Bowtie Division” first shot. Cole was sold the first time he saw the prototype. He knew it was just what the stodgy Chevrolet division needed.

The Corvette debuted at Motorama in New York, January of 1953 and was an instant hit. Six months later the Corvette went into production and the rest is history. \* information provided by National Corvette Museum and Ai.