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In Honor of the Late Maria Gump
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In Honor of the Late Gary Milsom
Charlene Drogi
585-356-7990

WNYCC mailing address:
WNYCC, P.O. Box 9
West Seneca NY 14224

Newsletter

Please email Information,
Photos, and Articles for the
newsletter by the **third**
Saturday of the month:

Charlene Drogi
drogicd@gmail.com

President's Letter

Hello Everyone:
I hope I conveyed the love and respect of what Maria and Gary meant to our club at last night's meeting. Despite having thought of "the right things to say" the words were still difficult to form as I still can't wrap my mind around this tragedy. I frequently say - this club is what our members make it. Well, last night was a demonstration of our club coming together to remember, grieve, and celebrate the lives of two amazing individuals. I'm so proud to be called the WNYCC President. Our members are more than a club, more than friends, we are a family. Our condolences and prayers go out to both families.

Thank you for welcoming our potential new members who attended the meeting as well. They saw first hand how our club comes together.

Events will continue as scheduled. Sheila and Charlene have resumed their board positions to fill the unexpected vacancies.

Thank you George and Karen Sparks for purchasing a commemorative brick with Gary and Maria's names at the National Corvette Museum. They will provide the brick location when received.

President John

Special Thank you From Nancy Egan:

I wanted to thank all the members who generously helped with the clubs Celebration of Lives last meeting. Sara from Grasso Pizza out did herself, thank you! Jim Wier from the post for donating soft drinks, Dom S for coffee, I consider coffee a food group, and to all our amazing bakers! One of the hardest meetings I've ever attended but, could feel the love and respect the members had not only for Gary and Maria, but for each other.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Sat, May 30, 2026 at 6:30pm
Lt Col Matt Urban VFW Post 7275,
3741 Walden Ave. Lancaster NY

In Memory of our dear friends and Board Members Gary Milsom and Maria Gump
April 22, 2026



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Marie Washburn 5/1
- Janet Mattar 5/2
- Karen Sparks 5/7
- Martin Pietruszewski 5/19
- Bill Pukalo 5/23
- George Sparks 5/23
- Rose Ricigliano 5/24
- Karen Defilippo 5/29
- Jurrien Mitchell 5/29
- Mary Ann Kreamer 5/30
- Bill Shephard 5/30



GET WELL

Evelyn Wier (heart attack)
Areta Buchner (broken wrist)

CONGRATULATIONS

Mary Raley on the loss of her mom
Randy & Debbie Crist - loss of his sister

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Maria Tos
Jurrien Mitchell

WNYCC 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thurs April 30 - 530pm - Dinner at Carmine's Restaurant, 7170 Transit Rd, Williamsville NY 14221
Each pays their own – the restaurant will do separate checks
We need a headcount by Sun April 26; please let Geanine know if you will attend.

Wed May 13 - Opening cruise night - Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275, 3741 Walden Ave, Lancaster NY

Sat May 30 - 630pm - General Meeting - Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275, 3741 Walden Ave, Lancaster NY

Mon June 1 - Alden Town Park - opening cruise night - parade meet at Townline Lutheran Church at 4pm;
departs 4:30pm through Alden to the park; Boys of Summer Band is the entertainment.

Sun June 7 - Cruise to Letchworth State Park and lunch at the Lumber Yard Restaurant - [Page 3](#)

Mon June 8 - Lockport Cruise Night featuring Corvettes

Thurs June 11 - Wide Waters Cruise night featuring Corvettes

Wed June 17 - West Herr All Corvette Show (Rain Date Thus June 18)

Sun - Fri June 21-26 NCCC Convention in Syracuse NY– [See page 4](#)

Sat June 27 - 630pm - General Meeting, Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275, 3741 Walden Ave, Lancaster NY

Thurs July 23 - Akron Cruise night featuring Corvettes

July - no meeting

Sat Aug 1 - Corvettes of Buffalo Caravan

Wed Aug 12 - 630pm-8pm - Queen of Peace – Niagara River Cruise - Rain or Shine
Departs from 184 Sweeney St, North Tonawanda, This event is at capacity
Bring our own drinks and snacks on board - Entertainment is Grace Lougan

Sat Aug 15 - Annual Picnic at Alden Town Park

Sat August 22 - 630pm - General Meeting, Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275

Mon Sept 14/ rain date Tues Sept 15 Fall Cruise

Sun Sept 20 Pembroke Car Show

Sat Sept 26 - 630pm - General Meeting, Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275

Sat Oct 31 - 630pm - General Meeting, Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275

Sat Nov 28 - 630pm - General Meeting, Lt Col Matt Urban Post 7275

Sat Dec 5 Christmas Party

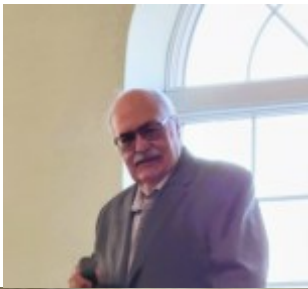
Our friends from Corvettes of Buffalo Club shared this in their newsletter. Used with permission from COB President Bob Joseph.



I regret to inform our members that the Western New York Corvette Club lost two members on the evening of April 22nd in a car accident. Gary Milsom and Maria Gump were driving Gary's 2021 Corvette on its first ride of the season when they crashed on Ridge Rd in Lockport. Details about the accident are currently unavailable. Our thoughts and sympathies are with WNYCC and the families of Gary and Maria.

Installation Dinner at Classics V Banquet & Conference Center

On Saturday, April 11th, the 2026 Officers and Board were installed. A special plaque was presented to Secretary Geanine Sobczak celebrating 40 years as a member (she joined when she was 5 🥰). The Board also presented a gift of appreciation to President John. Members enjoyed a delicious buffet, beverages, dessert, and a few of us even caught a slow dance. Entertainment was Mike and Mandy.



NCM AMBASSADOR - MARCH 2026 REPORT

GEORGE AND KAREN SPARKS

George Sparks Cell: 716-432-8799

Email: buffalogeorge@gmail.com



NCM AMBASSADOR



We are reporting to you with the latest information possible from the National Corvette Museum. As you are reading this, we will already be back in Buffalo, and we will tell our story of the 2026 NCM Michelin BASH. All we can say at this time is it was a phenomenal few days everyone experienced. The excitement, the enthusiasm, the seminars, and the anticipation of new things CORVETTE, plus a few laps on the NCM Motorsports track.

By now you have already heard:

YES...there is a 2027 Corvette Grand Sport and Grand Sport X...

In the meantime, if you haven't taken the covers off yet, take them off! It's time to start your engines and enjoy driving those beautiful rides.

See y'all soon,
George and Karen

Sun June 7 Cruise through Letchworth State Park and late lunch at the Lumber Yard Restaurant with the Niagara Corvette Club. This is a rain or shine event!!

930am Meet at Flying J Truck Stop off Thruway 90 (Pembroke exit); 10am Leave for Letchworth

11am Arrive at Letchworth; there is a fee to enter the park; Tour the park

145pm Leave the park

2pm Lumber Yard Restaurant, Perry NY

Money will be due Sat May 23 - There is a fee to enter the park which we will collect up front and the first car will pay as we enter the park.

Lumber Yard Menu which includes soup and salad bar:

- 8 oz prime rib & potato (twice baked or fries)
- 6 oz Broiled Haddock (lemon-pepper, cajun or plain) & potato (twice baked or fries)
- Chicken Parmesan with Pasta
- Drinks will be purchased separately.

After we know who plans to attend, we will get menu selections and collect money.

Northeast Convention June 20-27 2026

Online registration opened FEB.1 2026 - \$175 convention registration - additional details online
<https://www.corvettesnccc.org/Conventions.html>

Saturday – June 20, 2026

Early Registration: 9 am – 5 pm
Early Tech: 9 am – 5 pm
Corvette Mall: 10 am – 4 pm
Hospitality Room: 10 am -5 pm

Sunday – June 21, 2026

Registration: 9 am – 5 pm
Tech: 9 am – 5 pm
Corvette Mall – 10 am – 5 pm
Hospitality Room – 10 am – 5 pm
Judged Concours: 7 am – 12.00 pm
Peoples Car Show: 7 am – 12.00 pm
Poker Run & Watkins Glen Parade Laps 1 pm – 7 pm
Welcome Party/Buffer Dinner: 6:30 pm – 11 pm (Soul Mine Band) - \$40

Day Pass Options

Monday - Thursday Adult Day Pass - \$35; Youth \$30
Friday - Adult Day Pass - \$25; Youth \$20

⇒ A Day Pass **must be purchased** to participate in an Additional Option(s) per day.

⇒ A Day Pass entitles participation in the Hospitality Room and Evening Parties (**food is purchased separately**)

Monday – June 22, 2026

Day Pass sales: 8 am – 9 am
CORNING GLASS Bus Tour 7:45 am – 4:30 pm = \$100
Corvette Mall: 10 am – 3 pm
Hospitality Room: 10 am – 4 pm
High Speed: 8:30 am – 11:30 am / 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm “Food available for purchase at track”
Champions Banquet 6:00 pm – 10:30 pm
2025 National Competitor Awards - \$50 plated dinner; Youth 12 and under - \$30 plated dinner

Tuesday – June 23, 2026

Bus Tour: COOPERSTOWN Baseball HOF & Ommegang Brewery 7:45 am – 4 pm - \$90 each
Day Pass sales: 8 am – 9 am
Bus Tour: Glenora Wine Cellars 8:45 am – 4 pm - \$90 lunch is included
Corvette Mall – 10 am – 4 pm
Hospitality Room – 10 am – 4 pm
Low Speed – 8:30 am – 11:30 pm / 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm “Food available to purchase at track”
Pool Party / snack & Coke or Root Beer Floats - 6 pm – 8 pm
Valve Cover Races/Model Cars – 7:30 pm -??? - \$25

Wednesday – June 24, 2026

Day Pass sales: 8 am – 9 am
Corvette Mall 10 am – 3:30 pm
Bus Tour: NIAGARA FALLS – 7:45 am 6 pm - \$125 each
(Top of the Falls Restaurant, Maid of the Mist, Seneca Casino) Hospitality Room – 10 am – 5 pm
Drag Day: MTT, Class, Bracket – 8:30 am -???
“ESTA Safety Park Dragway Concession stand open for food purchases”
FREE NIGHT

Thursday – June 25, 2026

Day Pass sales: 8 am – 9 am
Corvette Mall – 10 am- 4 pm
Hospitality Room – 10 am – 4 pm
Bus Tour of Thousand Islands - \$130
Funkhana: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Theme Party: 6:00 pm – 10:30 pm
Americas' 250th Birthday 6:00-pm 7:00 pm - \$40 American Buffet Meal
Buffet Dinner 7:00 pm -10:00 pm
Entertainment - Hastings Duo Wear your Red White & Blue. Prize for best outfit

Friday – June 26, 2026

Buffet Breakfast 8 am -12:00 pm - \$10 breakfast buffet
2026 Convention awards 9 am - 12:00 pm
Passing of the Convention Flag - 12:00 pm

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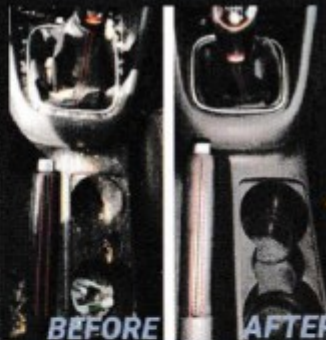
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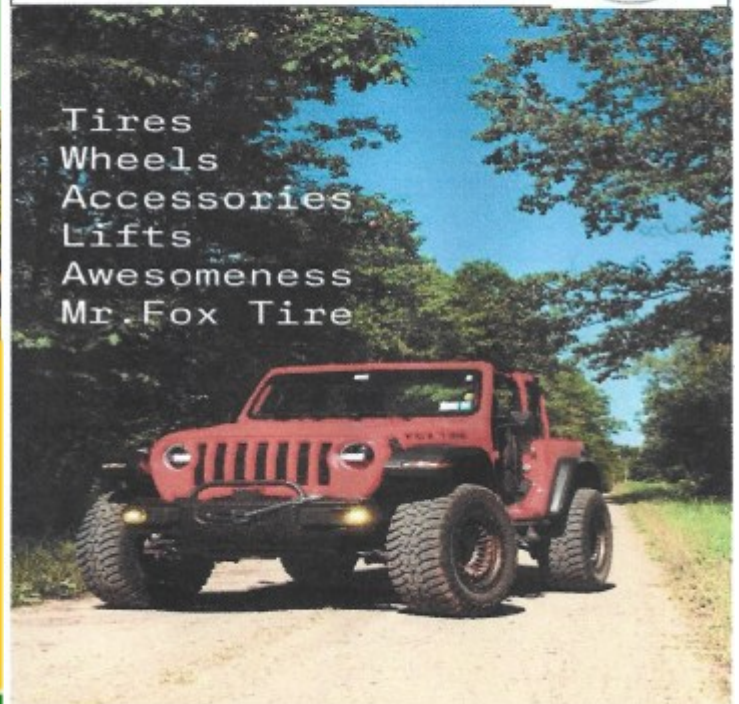
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