# Road Notes

# ROUTE 66 CORVETTE CEUB

### - Largest Club in the NCCC Midwest Region -

Time & Temperature 8:51 AM / 39 F Tire Status 6 Top 1 Dourne 2023 == Speed 30271591 fuel Economy 3091091



Volume 25 Issue 3 March 2024 Edited by: Doug Stone

NÖ.

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On the Cover: On the road to the Tin Mill Restaurant, Hermann, MO. Side bar: St. Louis Union Station. Photo by Doug Stone.



### **Meeting Location**

### First Thursday of each month @ 7:00 pm January thru November



Map

Old Hickory Golf Course #1 Dye Club Drive St. Peters, MO 63302 636 -447- 8960

http://www.OldHickoryGC.com









President Don Lorimier

Vice President Paul Kaus

<u>Treasurer</u> Rich Weinhold <u>Directors</u> Bob Lamb Mike Spathelf John Kozlowski Governor Tom Reitz

Secretary Doug Stone

Past President Bill Mitchell

**Committee Chairs** 

<u>Audit</u> Bill Mitchell Bob Isermann NCM Ambassadors Mike Spathelf Jan Spathelf

> Newsletter Doug Stone

Financial Planning Open

> Nomination Don Lorimier Bob Lamb

Sponsorship Bob Isermann Mike Spathelf

> <u>Trailer</u> Tom Reitz

Rules & Regulations Lynda Rothweil

> <u>Social</u> Larry Boyd

<u>Website</u> Joe Anelle Lynda Rothweil

Contact a Board Member

<u>NCCC Events</u> Tom Reitz

> Car Show Paul Kaus

<u>Charity</u> Howard Sardis Sheryl Ray Tom Desmond

Membership Dave Hecht

## **President's Message**

March Presidents Message

As we begin to experience warmer weather, it provides the opportunity for many of us to get our Corvette out of the garage and begin to enjoy the driving experience. To further enhance that experience, Day Light Savings Time is upon us.

Route 66 CC is ramping up with a tremendous activity calendar for everyone to enjoy. This includes St Pat's Day Parade in Rolla, a Solar Eclipse Road Run, Cardinal's Baseball Game, the NCCC Convention in Joplin, MO, and the Route 66 Salute To The Troops Corvette Show.

Regarding our Salute To The Troops show, we continue to ask for everyone to register your car(s), sell the Raffle Tickets that have been distributed, donate raffle baskets or silent auction items, and volunteer to assist in some way during the show.

Be sure you check our Route 66 web page and use the tab at the top of the page to locate our Social Calendar which will provide a complete recap of all activities that are in the pipeline.

Just a reminder to be sure you are wearing your Rt 66 Name Tags to all club events. This will help all of us get to know our members, both new and not so new.

I look forward to seeing everyone at one of our planned events or a regular monthly meeting at Old Hickory GC.

Best Regards Don









**Poage Chevrolet** 851 W Pearce Blvd Wentzville, MO 63385

Sales: 866.688.4054 Service: 877.278.1215

www.poagechevrolet.com

For all sales related questions and information Call or Email:

> Joel Hauk General Manager 636.638.3112 joel@poagechevrolet.com

Randy Wells Store Manager 636.327.6268 wells1r@yahoo.com



### **ROUTE 66 CORVETTE CLUB**

Date: 1 Location: 0 Call to Order: 7 Submitted By: 1

Thursday, March 7, 2024 Old Hickory Golf Club 7:00 PM Doug Stone



#### **Introduction of Officers:**

President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: Governor: Directors:

Past President:

Don Lorimier Paul Kaus Doug Stone Rich Weinhold Tom Reitz Bob Lamb, Mike Spathelf, John Kozlowski Bill Mitchell

### **Introduction of Committee Chairs:**

Audit & Financial Planning: Bill Mitchell,

Nominating:

NCCC Events: Rules & Regulations: Car Show: Social: Charity: Sponsorship:

Membership: NCM Ambassador:

Newsletter: Website & Graphics: Bill Mitchell, Bob Isermann Don Lorimier, Bob Lamb Tom Reitz Lynda Rothweil Paul Kaus Larry Boyd Howard Sardis Bob Isermann, Mike Spathelf Dave Hecht Mike & Jan Spathelf Doug Stone Joe Anelle

### **President's Opening Remarks: Don Lorimier**

Don reported the status of several members:

- Clay Hodge has passed away.
- Sheryl Ray went through surgery recently and is recovering.
- Bob Isermann's wife Barb had eye surgery today.
- Craig Besand had surgery today.

### **Corrections & Approvals of Last Month's Minutes:**

• No corrections were needed. A motion to accept as-is was made and seconded. A Yay/Nay vote was held. The motion passed.

### *Officer's Reports: (cont.)* Introduction of New Members/Guests: Dave Hecht

New: Tom Hartman, 1969, Coup, Burgundy Scott and Mary DePolito, 2003, Z06, Millennium Yellow Guest: Marty Baugh

#### **New Business:**

Ron Reynolds - Shrine Circus - Tickets

- Saturday; March 23 2:30PM at the Family Arena
- Reserved Seats / Special Section for Rt 66 / Refreshments
- Meet in the big white tent.

2023 Audit Report - Bob Isermann / Bill Mitchell

• All is good with our financial records. Great thanks to Rich for keeping such great records.

Second Reading - Proposed Constitution Change

• Don re-read the changes that were proposed at the February meeting. Great simplification was made since that first reading. Instead of removing Section 3 entirely, the addition of the words "as needed" was proposed tonight:

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 3. An Officers Transition Meeting will be held as needed between elected New Officers and Out-going Officers. The purpose of this meeting will be to provide a smooth transition of duties from the outgoing to the incoming elected Officers. A sharing of "lessons learned" and discussion of any open issues is expected to be held at this meeting. The activities and the membership make-up of all committees will be discussed at this meeting. This meeting is open for attendance to all members but voting on any issues will be limited to the incoming Officers and Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of two times annually.

A motion to accept was made and seconded. A Yay/Nay vote was held. The motion passed.

### Officer's Reports: (cont.)

### VP's - Board of Directors Report: Paul Kaus Car Show: Paul Kaus / Chairman

Update Report:

- Raffle Tickets Share the flier via Facebook or other social media.
  - EXTRA RAFFEL TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW! Get them from Don or Rich.
- Sponsor Forms Invite businesses to sponsor our show.
- Silent Auction Items are needed. Bring items that can be a complete basket. And that are not past expiration dates.
- Registration On-line via Web Page or Facebook
- Save The Date 2024 Car Show May 11<sup>th</sup> (Rain Out Date June 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Proceed Distribution to the USO of Missouri Dave and Joan Hecht are coordinating with the local USO at Lambert Field to see if we can ensure some of the funds are spent locally. The remainder of the fund will be distrusted around the state as the USO of Missouri sees fit.
- 46 cars are registered so far, 41 members, 5 guests.
- Mike Spathelf will be the MC at the car show as Bob Isermann has to be at a SEMO
  - graduation.

### **Members Present:**

Tonight's Meeting Attendance was 48.

• 72 members attended the February meeting.



### Officer's Reports: (cont.)

### Sponsorship Report: Poage Chevrolet, Randy Wells and Shaun Labeau

- A C8 3LT Hypersonic Gray is coming tomorrow.
  - (See the video they posted March 8 on the Poage Chevrolet Facebook page.)
- They have a couple of low mileage used Corvettes. And lots of other new and used cars of all makes.
- Come in for your servicing needs. Members get a 10% discount.

### Treasurer's Report: Rich Weinhold

- February 2024 Treasurer Report See next pages. (Reports only in Members Issue.)
- Income & Expense Comparison to 2023 See next pages.

### NCCC Governor's Report: Tom Reitz

- Replacement Governor Craig Besand will replace Tom later in the year. They are already working together.
- Possible NCCC Dues Increase in 2025. It has been many years since dues were increased. NCCC organizes many events and provides liability insurance for the club.
- Membership Cards should be arriving now.
- NCCC Convention Joplin MO May 13 19
  - Holiday Inn
  - Comfort Inn & Suites
- Concours Car Show Judging 9 Volunteers have committed to event on Thursday May 16<sup>th</sup>. (could use 1 more)
  - Block of rooms Hilton Garden Inn Special Rate \$114
- Quad Cities Rallyes in April. Get more info from Tom, Craig or the NCCC website if interested.
- Our Club Rallye will be July 6<sup>th</sup>. See the sign-up in GroupWorks.

### Trailer Committee: Tom Reitz

We are needing a new chairperson for the trailer. The trailer is in a secured storage location near Lake St. Louis. Responsibilities include periodically checking that all is well in storage, and towing the trailer to events, which now is for the most part, the club car show. Equipment in the trailer includes tables, market tents, traffic cones, etc.











### Treasurer's Report - For members only



### Treasurer's Report - For members only



### **Committee Reports:**

#### NCM Ambassador Report: Mike and Jan Spathelf

- A new exhibit called LUSTER has opened at the NCM.
  - Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile and Motorcycle Painting
  - Check the NCM website for more information.
    - <u>https://www.corvettemuseum.org/exhibits/</u>
- An exhibit about the sink hole is coming back in June as part of a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary event.
- Car Raffles are also online at the NCM website.
- NCM Insurance check it out to save \$\$\$.
- NCM Michelin Bash April 25-28. See the ad in Road Notes and the NCM website.
- The search for new NCM CEO is ongoing.
- Plant tours will resume the last week of August 26<sup>th</sup> to coincide with the Caravan. Signups start May 15<sup>th</sup>. See ad on the next page.

### Rules & Regulations Committee: Lynda Rothweil

Don reported for Lynda. Nothing to report.

### Website & Graphics: Joe Anelle

2024 NCM Banner – The banner has been submitted to the NCM. See it on the next page. It will be installed at NCM before the Bash in April.

### Road Notes Newsletter: Doug Stone

- Stories for Road Notes:
  - Send your car stories especially Corvettes but whatever you want to tell of your car experiences.
  - Tell us about your favorite drives. Where do you drive to when you just want to get out with your Corvette?
- Many stories and drives have been published in past issues.

### Membership: Dave Hecht

Total Membership: 205. The membership total was 203 as of the end of January.

### Tech Korner: Rich Weinhold, Doug Stone

- <u>The 2024 Chevrolet Corvette Z06 Brings Supercar Performance to the Street</u>
  <u>MotorWeek Track Test</u>
- <u>Exploring the 1967-1986 Corvette Tilt/Telescopic Steering Column</u>
- For 2024, the NCM Motorsports Park has introduced an all-new experience the NCM MSP Driving Academy!
- [PODCAST] CORVETTE TODAY #202 Meet the Corvette Museum's New R8C Delivery Manager Rod Keller
  - Listen at 12 and 18 minutes to avoid ads and intro.

### **NCM Plant Tours Return**



BREAKING

IEWS

### The Anniversary Celebration just got **EVEN BETTER**

### BOWLING GREEN ASSEMBLY PLANT TOURS

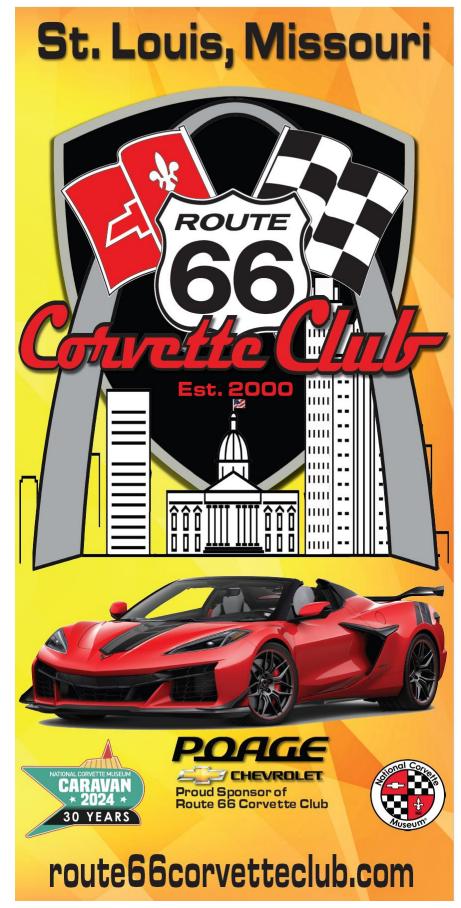
### Returning for the week of the Anniversary Celebration

Reservations are Limited | Available for purchase May 15, 2024



National Corvette Museum

### Rt66CC 2024 NCM Banner



### Committee Reports: (cont.)

#### Social Committee: - Larry Boyd

Update / Overview – Groupworks

• Register if you have not already done so.

#### Upcoming Events:

March

- March 16, Missouri S&T St. Pat's Day Parade Followed by Lunch Ray Shea Lead
- March 23, Shrine Circus @ The Family Arena- Ron Reynolds Lead Meet @ Large White Tent
- March 24, Birthday Bash @ Run to Drifters-Paul K.

### April

- April 6, Pere Marquette-Mike M.
- April 8, Total Eclipse of The Sun-Mike Hicks
- April 13, Mid MO CC Car Show-Paul Kaus
- April 27-28, LOCC Car Show-David & Patti Hall
- April 27, Run to LOCC Car Show-Mike McMillen
- April 29-May 5, Australian Guest

All are invited to submit event ideas to the Social Committee.

### Charity Committee: Howard Sardis (Tom Desmond)

We presented a \$400 check to the Missouri Veterans Memorial last month. And we still need to distribute \$1600 to Stella's Wish, Heroin Education & Awareness League (HEAL), Focus Marines Foundation, and the American Red Cross.

### **Old Business:**

Club Clings, Decals, Patches and Pins are available at meetings.

### Wear Your Pride: Tom Reitz

The pot tonight is at \$110 after it was not won at the last meeting. Remember to wear your "Route 66 Corvette Club" shirt, jacket, or hat to meetings. Also known as "Wear Your Pride"! The basic rules are that pins do not count; name tags do not count. The pot rolls over every month that it is not claimed, increasing by \$10 per meeting until claimed then starts over at \$10 again. The pot was NOT won tonight, the name drawn was Linda Walker. She was not present. The pot will be \$120 at the March meeting.

### 50/50 Drawing: Chris and Greg Fultz

\$250 was collected tonight. \$125 went to The WeekEND Hunger Project. And \$125 was won by Mike Hicks.

### **Motion to Adjourn:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. A Yay/Nay vote was held. The motion passed.

Don Lorimier, President

<u>TOC</u>

### Membership Anniversaries:

			Joined
MOORE	Randy & Karen	22	Mar - 02
METZGER	Dave	16	Mar - 08
ISAKSON	Chad	5	Mar - 19
JILLSON	Jim & Mary	3	Mar - 21
IMPERIALE	Rich & Karen	3	Mar - 21
CALL	Willaim & Kimberly	1	Mar - 23
BRATTON	Michael & Susan	1	Mar - 23
KOENEN	Michael & Suzanne	1	Mar - 23
ROBERTSON	Jason	1	Mar - 23
Members		# of Years	Joined
ISERMANN	Bob & Barb	15	Apr - 09
FULTZ	Greg & Chris	12	Apr - 12
SARDIS	Howard	7	Apr - 17
BAUMANN	Betty	6	Apr - 18
McMILLEN	Michael	6	Apr - 18
SCHWEIKERT	Jeffrey	6	Apr - 18
HECHT	David & Joan	5	Apr - 19
RITTER	Greg & Susan	3	Apr - 21
SCOPEL	Rand & Shelly	3	Apr - 21
BONOMO	Jeff & Angela	2	Apr - 22
RENZ	John & Yvonne	2	Apr - 22
SICKELS	David	1	Apr - 23
HAMILTON	Carol	1	Apr - 23
ВАСН	Thomas & Diane	1	Apr - 23
	MOORE METZGER ISAKSON JILLSON IMPERIALE CALL BRATTON KOENEN ROBERTSON M ISERMANN FULTZ SARDIS BAUMANN MCMILLEN SCHWEIKERT HECHT RITTER SCOPEL BONOMO RENZ SICKELS HAMILTON	METZGERDaveISAKSONChadISAKSONJim & MaryIMPERIALERich & KarenCALLWillaim & KimberlyBRATTONMichael & SusanKOENENMichael & SuzanneROBERTSONJasonMembersISERMANNBob & BarbFULTZGreg & ChrisSARDISHowardBAUMANNBettyMCMILLENMichaelSCHWEIKERTJeffreyHECHTDavid & JoanRITTERGreg & SusanSCOPELRand & ShellyBONOMOJeff & AngelaRENZJohn & YvonneSICKELSDavidHAMILTONCarol	MOORERandy & Karen22METZGERDave16ISAKSONChad5JILLSONJim & Mary3IMPERIALERich & Karen3CALLWillaim & Kimberly1BRATTONMichael & Susan1KOENENMichael & Suzanne1ROBERTSONJason1SERMANNBob & Barb15FULTZGreg & Chris12SARDISHoward7BAUMANNBetty6MCMILLENMichael6SCHWEIKERTJeffrey6HECHTDavid & Joan3SCOPELRand & Shelly3BONOMOJeff & Angela2SICKELSDavid1HAMILTONCarol1

### Handy Club Info:

- Add the Rt66CC Calendar to your Google Calendar:
  - <u>https://www.route66corvetteclub.com/calendar.html</u>
  - Pick: + GoogleCalendar
- Add the Club Logo to Apparel and Accessories:
  - See our website and contact Shirt Kong for more info:
  - <u>https://www.route66corvetteclub.com/clubMerch.html</u>
  - To order individual green polo Club shirts with logo ask to talk with Samm.
- Order name badges at the following link:
  - <u>https://soloperformance.com/products/route66</u>
- Dining Membership at Old Hickory's full-service, casual dining restaurant, The Bistro:
  - Get a 10% discount on all food at Old Hickory by signing up for a dining membership. Old Hickory is waiving the \$100 membership cost for club members. Anyone can join you for dinner. The cost of your dinners are paid monthly via direct withdrawal. There is a \$150 minimum for food and beverages each quarter. Send a text to Pete Christo at Old Hickory at 636-262-7886 to join.

**Event Photos:** 





### Castelli's Moonlight Restaurant Run 2-10-2024











To see more photos and read a description of each event *click the titles* to go to the full photo album.

<u>TOC</u>

**Event Photos:** 

### Missouri National Veterans <u>Memorial</u> 2-20-2024











### **Boeing Prologue Room** 2-21-2024



To see more photos and read a description of each event *click the titles* to go to the full photo album.







Last Name	First Name	Birthday
IVES	Mark	April 2
SMITH	Joan	April 3
ISERMANN	Barb	April 3
JETER	Sandy	April 6
RICHARDET	Leslie	April 7
OSTERHORN	Cheryl	April 10
LORIMIER	Don	April 10
KRIEGERMEIER	Tom	April 12
CLAYTON	Danny	April 12
CLAYTON	Jeri	April 13
LYONS	Gavyn	April 16
WAGANER	Lester	April 17
SARDIS	Howard	April 18
FLYNN	Glenn	April 23
LORIMIER	Carlene	April 24
VAN NESS	Forrest	April 28
PISZAR	Jim	April 29
VAN NESS	Shirlee	April 30

Last Name	First Name	Birthday
SMITH	Jack	Mar 1
WALKER	Scott	Mar 2
HALL	Patti	Mar 3
KOZLOWSKI	John	Mar 9
RAY	Kirk	Mar 9
HANNA	Larry	Mar 12
HENKE	Frederick	Mar 13
HANNA	Joellen	Mar 15
MILLER	Matt	Mar 15
PENBERTHY	Reggie	Mar 16
HICKS	Mike	Mar 20
TURNER	lan	Mar 25
SHEA	Raymond	Mar 28
BOYD	Lisa	Mar 30
MITCHELL	Bill	Mar 30
SPATHELF	Jan	Mar 31





# **Gasoline** Alley

### North American Racing Team Raced a Corvette instead of its Ferrari

- <u>https://www.facebook.com/reel/308233748911053</u>
- <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North\_American\_Racing\_Team</u>
- <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1972\_24\_Hours\_of\_Le\_Mans</u>

### **More Corvette Stories:**

- <u>VLOG 9: Celebrating the End of a Four-Year Corvette Restoration More</u> <u>nostalgic than technical</u>
- Super Gas Corvettes Super Gas Class Is A Gas, Gas, Gas

### **Quotes by Benjamin Franklin:**

- The sting of a reproach, is the truth of it.
- Reading makes a full man, meditation a profound man, discourse a clear man.
- Beware of little expenses: A small leak will sink a great ship.
- Hide not your talents, they for use were made: What's a sun-dial in the shade?
- Do you love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.
- Well done is better than well said.
- Glass, china, and reputation, are easily crack'd, and never well mended.
- He that lies down with Dogs, shall rise up with fleas.
- Genius without education is like silver in the mine.
- If man could have half his wishes, he would double his troubles.
- The poor have little, beggars none, the rich too much, enough not one.
- Don't throw stones at your neighbors, if your own windows are glass.
- A true friend is the best possession.
- Wish not so much to live long as to live well.

### **Apache Blessing:**

"May the sun bring you new energy by day, may the moon softly restore you by night, may the rain wash away your worries, may the breeze blow new strength into your being, may you walk gently through the world and know it's beauty all the days of your life."

# Our Trip from Hell in 2020

### By Jack Smith, Route 66 Corvette Club Member

I sold my 1940 Cadillac Series 72 limousine, 1 of 325. We had owned it for about 25 years which I took about 10 years to restore. I wanted another car that was easier to clean and take care of. I decided to purchase a very nice C5 FRC (Fixed Roof Coupe) 2003 ZO6 Corvette, Torch Red with Black interior.

The C5 that I found was located in El Paso, Texas. After a few weeks of corresponding with the owner and getting photos and asking lots of questions I made up my mind to purchase the C5.

I own a 28-foot enclosed car hauler so my wife Linda and I took off for El Paso to pick up my C5 ZO6. The trip down to El Paso was uneventful. It took us about 3 days (we never travel in a big hurry).

Well, the test drive went very well and the ZO6 was as advertised. I gave the seller cash and got the title, loaded it in my trailer tied it down and was ready for an uneventful trip back home to St. Charles, MO, and this is where the trip starts to show its ugly side. We didn't even get out of El Paso when I had a flat tire on the trailer. I changed the tire and went to a local tire shop where the flat was repaired, and I purchased one new tire so we would have a spare. I let Linda talk me out of putting all new tires on the trailer.

Now we are back on the road. We drove a little longer than we usually do. It was after midnight now, driving through the mountains outside of Carlsbad, NM. This is where my F350 dually starting running very rough. This truck has run flawlessly on other trips, down to the Florida Keys and back, also to San Francisco, California and back. My truck stops on a dark mountain road and it wouldn't restart. We are sitting on a blind curve and Linda was worried that somebody would not see our flashers and hit the trailer.

We called our Good Sam's Roadside service. We sat there maybe 5 hours and the huge tow truck showed up and the driver looked over the situation. He was OK with towing the truck and trailer attached but wanted us to drive the Corvette the 75 miles into Carlsbad which had a shop that worked on large diesel trucks.



### Feature Story: (cont.)

By the time we got into Carlsbad it was very early a.m., and we were having difficulty finding a place to stay. After we dropped the trailer off at the shop, which was closed for the night, Linda started calling motels in the area. They were all very expensive like \$300 to \$400 a night. We were forced to take a room at the Motel 6 which was not so nice and definitely not worth \$350 a night but it was the only room available in the entire town.

We found out the next day from the locals that this is an oil town, and that's why the rooms are so expensive because the oil companies pay very well and the governor doesn't care about the price gouging. And even worse, it was around 5a.m. when we were checking in, we weren't going to be there for very long.

The next morning, we went out looking for places to stay because the shop was going to have my truck two days. We found a place called Stephen's Hotel. It was beautiful and very reasonable; the food was very good and we could eat on the property of the hotel. We took the two days enjoying driving the Corvette around doing some sightseeing and there wasn't much sightseeing to see.

And then after that, we picked up the truck and paid them \$219 for the repair. The shop said it was a loose wire on the starter. It was throwing a code into the computer and it was difficult for them to find. I couldn't see how that was possible but we drove the truck around for about 45 minutes as a test. It seemed to be OK, so we loaded up the Corvette in the trailer and started heading back home.

The one good part of the trip was we stopped in Lubbock, TX to visit Linda's grandkids. We had a very good time with them, went out to dinner and enjoyed ourselves in their company.

After dinner with the grandchildren, we got about 150 miles away from the repair shop and my truck started doing the same thing again. I could let it set for a while and then it would start and drive a while and stop. We did this several time and we made it to Joplin, Missouri. We decided to stay in Joplin so we got a room. I parked my trailer so I could see it from our room. And as I was getting ready to take my shower and get ready to hit the sack, the front desk called saying that someone wanted to talk to me because I had hit their car with my trailer. I went down and talk to the person and it was an older gentleman and his wife and she was a little shaky and nervous. I assured them that if I hit your vehicle, I have insurance, I'm sure everything will be taken care of and I am sorry if I hit your vehicle, but I would like to see the video from the hotel to verify.



### Feature Story: (cont.)

About that time some younger man which was their son that appeared to be in his mid 40s came running into the lobby and screaming at me saying that "he saw me hit his Mom and Dad's car". He also said "it made a real loud bang when my trailer hit the car and the car rocked back-and-forth and that his mother was standing next to the door and she almost got killed." I asked him to calm down and show me the damage on the car.

We went out and looked at the damage on the car, and there was a large round dent behind the rear tire on the driver side with black marks all over it. To me looked as if a large knobby tire maybe from a lifted 4 x 4 truck probably backed into the car and left tire marks on the car from somewhere they had been. I told him at that point that "There is nothing on my trailer that would leave a large round black knobby tire mark on a car." I told him "We'll wait and see what the video shows."

The hotel couldn't show me the video till the next morning because the manager had the password for the video security system. Well, the people that said I had hit their car couldn't stick around because they had to be on the road early.

After that fiasco, I went up to my room, showered and was going to hit the sack. I was ready to have a good night's sleep when we heard a big bang out in the parking lot that sounded like it came from near my trailer. Linda looked out the window and saw a black BMW sitting near my trailer and a man got out and looked at my trailer and then he got back in his BMW and drives away. Luckily, Linda saw where the guy had parked so he was a patron in the hotel. First, I went down to look at the rear bumper on his BMW and there was a large mark on his bumper which matched my trailer. I went to the front desk and asked who is driving a BMW because he ran into my trailer. They called him to the front desk to speak with me. A young man and his girlfriend came to the front desk to speak with me. I asked him to show me his identification, he did not have a driver's license, or insurance and his girlfriend was the interpreter because he couldn't speak English.

We started talking and I asked him, "when were you going to come and tell me that you had run into my trailer?" and through the interpreter, he told me 'That he was going to do it but he hadn't got around to it yet."

I spoke with them and I said "Look, I'm going to have to call the police and make a report on this" and he did not want me to call the police, no police please, no police. I asked "Well how are we going to resolve this?" You have no insurance, I've got damage on my trailer, it's very expensive to fix trailers, I told him, "I'm assuming it's going to cost about \$3600 to fix my trailer, and how am I going to get that money from you, do you have \$3600 on you?" He said he had \$400 on him and I was welcome to it and I said "Well how am I going to get

### Feature Story: (cont.)

the rest of the money to repair my trailer? I can't fix it with 400 bucks" so I'm going to have to call the police and they'll probably put you in jail. So he agreed to pay me by making payments until he paid it off at \$400 a week.

Getting back to the viewing of the security video:

The next morning the police came to view the video, it was true my trailer did touch the door that was open, the video showed that the rear side marker light on the back of my trailer lightly touched the door, not even hard enough to close the door or do any damage to the door. His mother was not standing anywhere near the car, the car didn't rock-back and forth as the younger man told the officer the night before. The officer told me I didn't have anything to worry about.

That morning we started once again to head back to St. Charles. We got about 1 hour or 2 from Joplin when we had another flat. This time the blowout ripped out the electrical brake wiring and wrapped the wires around the wheel. It took me maybe an hour to change that tire which was my only spare. Luckily, we made it home without any more trouble. After I got my Corvette home, the only changes I have made is color correction, Ceramic Coating, and I added the wicker bill on the rear. Then I had added carbon fiber vinyl on the hood, roof, and on the wicker bill.

I like the 2003 ZO6 so much I would do it all again. At this point Linda was not very happy with the Corvette, but she has since changed her mind on that.

Sorry this adventure we took was so long winded but I just wanted to share my story.

Well, I guess you're wondering if I collected the money that he owed me. The first week he paid perfectly on time, wired me \$400 through Walmart. I didn't hear anything else from him for about five weeks. Finally, I was successful getting in touch with him and he said "he would start paying again because he had a problem with his job" and to make a long story short, he did end up squaring up with me several weeks after that, which I thought that was a miracle.

PS: What went wrong with my truck:

After I got home the next day, I did some research and figured out it was the cam position sensor that went out on my truck. It cost \$200 for the part and 15 minutes of my time for me install it.

The loose wire on the starter that the diesel shop told me was the problem was not the problem.

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