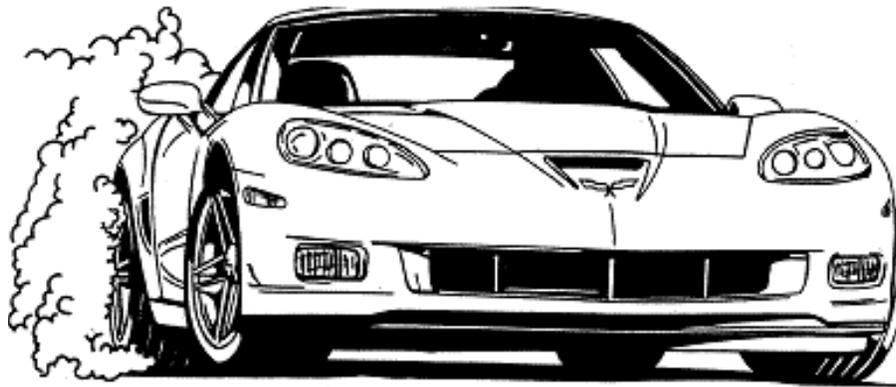


# SPORTSMATE

February

2021

Official  
Publication



*General Meeting*  
*February 16th*  
*Virtually via Zoom*



# Corvette Club of Iowa

[www.corvetteclubofiowa.com](http://www.corvetteclubofiowa.com)

# *Sportsmate*

*The Corvettes displayed in this newsletter are from photos used with owning photographer's permission*

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# 2021 Board of Directors



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## Calendar of Events

- Feb 16<sup>th</sup> General Meeting – Virtual Meeting via Zoom
- Mar 16<sup>th</sup> General Meeting – TBD
- Apr 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting – TBD

## Officer Reports

### From the President...

Happy February, or as I like to call it, Build Season! How are all those winter projects coming? If you are anything like me and you can't be in the seat of those beautiful beasts, then you will find some kind of project for an excuse to spend time with them in the shop. Whether it be fixing something that broke racing last year, general maintenance like oil changes and bleeding brakes, or just because projects like new seats or wheels, January through March in the Midwest are great months to check a few projects off the list.

Are you doing any projects you would like to share with the Membership? We have the luxury of having our very own monthly Sportsmate Newsletter that can serve as the perfect medium to share your work. We have plenty of space available if you are interested in sharing what you are up to. We could call these little features "In the Member's Garage." Share with us tips and tricks you learned along the way. Maybe you found a great resource to leverage. Or again if you are like me, share the mistake you made that others could avoid. Let's stay connected and share our stories about getting our hands dirty.

I am going to give it a try and write something up about one of my many projects. I may start with the Porsche interior I am redoing. I know it's not a Corvette, but it's an automotive undertaking that could be applied to vehicles across the board. Plus, when I tell you the "materials" I found in the car along the way, you will either chuckle or cringe, as it has been an interesting experience.

Keep those gears turning,

*Nichole Di Maio*, President

## Governor's Message...

Greetings:

I hope everyone is staying safe and warm with the snow and extreme cold we've been dealing with this month. The only thing that's keeping me going is the knowledge this frigid weather won't last too much longer and we'll be driving our Corvettes in just a month or two. (Looks more like two, right now)

We've been working on the NCCC sanctioned CCI competition events and we're making steady progress. Dave Vance is working with the Ankeny Airport and the Polk County Aviation Administration to complete all the steps to allow us to run our 21-event low speed autocross weekend at the Ankeny Airport May 29-31, 2021. I think it's safe for you to mark your calendars for that event, although it's still a possibility that COVID could rear its ugly head and make things difficult for us. Clayton Smith is in contact with the folks at the City of Chariton and the Chariton Airport, and barring something unforeseen, this 14-event low speed autocross should happen June 26-27, 2021, with a roll-in type car show on the town square Saturday night. We still aren't sure what we will do with our third weekend, which is on the schedule for August 14-15, 2021. We've discussed a car show, a drag race event, an autocross at an undetermined location, and several other possibilities.

Members of the Board have put together a survey regarding our members' preferences on several different issues. If you haven't done so already, please take just a minute or two to let us know what kind of events/interactions interest you most. Your responses will give us a direction for using that 3<sup>rd</sup> sanctioned weekend I mentioned in the previous paragraph.

The West Region Governors recently had a conference call with Kathy Brisbois, RCD, Gene Gau, RE, and Nan Brittain, RMD. Although there isn't a lot of NCCC things going on right now, we are remaining in contact and we'll be trying to keep up on pertinent issues. It was revealed at that meeting that

Hawkeye Downs in Cedar Rapids has been sold. I missed the first part of the conversation, but I've checked the Hawkeye Downs website and there is no schedule posted for the race track, so I suspect it may be questionable as to whether the Cedar Rapids Corvette Club will be able to get the track for an event this year. Raceway Park of the Midlands (RPM) is expected to operate this year, however, it was reported that the track has yet to repave the pit area, as was promised. Racers now have to pit in the drag strip pit area, which isn't nearly as handy as the normal road course pit. Members of Cornhusker Corvette Club were going to meet with track officials and share the information with WR governors.

Mike Golightly is continuing to work toward enhancing our membership program. For one

thing, he is gathering promotional items to include with a New Member packet and to make available to existing members. Join us for our Zoom General Meeting on Tuesday, February 16 to find out what else Mike is working on.

Finally, the NCCC Annual Convention is June 13-18, 2021 in Cleveland, Ohio. If you are able, please consider joining us for what looks like a week of fun events, great eating and friendly NCCC comradery. For more information, go to the NCCC website at [www.corvettesnccc.org](http://www.corvettesnccc.org) and click on Conventions.

I hope to see you all in person again, soon!

*Gary Foster*, Governor

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## Meeting Minutes

### Board Meeting, January 5, 2021

The CCI Board held the January meeting virtually via Zoom. Meeting was called to order @ 6:32PM by President Nichole DiMaio. Members at this meeting: Wayne Weidmann, Dave Howard, Jeff Jackson, Kevin McClure, Gary Foster, Nichole DiMaio, Laurie McCracken, Luke Stilley, Pat Whalen and Mike Golightly.

#### Officer Reports

**President's Report:** Nichole will be sending regular communication to keep members informed. She has the trailer registration tags and is holding onto them.

**Secretary's Report:** Jeff asked if there were comments or amendments to the December minutes. Gary mentioned changing the minutes to reflect that Nichole would help him with a recognition award for Bob Brown Chevrolet

regarding their support of Toys for Tots. Motion to approve with given changes by Kevin McClure. Second by Gary Foster. Motion carried 6-0. **Treasurer's Report:** Laurie reported on the current financials of CCI. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as stated was made by Jeff Jackson. Second by Kevin McClure. Motion carried 6-0.

**Vice-President/Social Director's Report:** Kevin McClure had no report but hopes to meet with Dave and Kris to discuss past activities and see what can be done with COVID-19. **Governor's Report:** Gary had no report. He checked the NCCC website and nothing new listed. **Competition Director's Report:** Luke had no report.

**Member at Large Report:** Wayne recommends first 3 months of general meetings be held virtually. Discussion was held as to holding the January meeting virtually or other options. Zoom link will be sent through email to the members for January 19<sup>th</sup>. Wayne also mentioned we need the website updated with the new officers. **Editor's Report:** Dave mentioned needing some items for the newsletter... pictures of the new Board

Members. Also needs a Governor's message from Gary. Points Director's Report (TBD): Gary said he is looking to find someone to be appointed as the Points Director. Board provided some suggestions. Membership Director's Report: Mike said as of January 1<sup>st</sup> we are at 104 members. Plans to update the membership with Laurie's address for forms and checks. Will post a membership list on the website. Social Media Director's Report: Pat plans to update the current Board Members for the website. Will update the Calendar for the January general meeting identifying that it is a Zoom meeting. Will put TBD for months following January for general meetings. Discussing with Kathryn to move multiple addresses to one email address with a distribution list. Interested in starting a drop box for photo sharing. Discussion of photos to be used on the website and social media.

Old Business: Custom License Plate for CCI. Gary looked into the process and it would require administrative efforts, upkeep, and the plates are the standard Iowa Plate. The consensus was that this would be more effort than the reward. Discussion of getting club sticker/decals for member cars and for promotion. Gary checked with Dave Vance about the deposit for the Ankeny Airport/Polk County Aviation Authority. Plans to let them keep it as a deposit for 2021. Plaque for Bob Brown for the Toys for Tots... will be getting it soon. Bank items switched over for Laurie as new Treasurer and Nichole as a second signatory. New Business: none at this time.

Motion for meeting adjournment by Wayne Weidmann, seconded by Laurie McCracken. Meeting adjourned @ 7:27PM.

Respectfully,

*Jeff Jackson*, Secretary

## General Meeting, January 19, 2021

The January general meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Meeting was called to order @

6:34PM by President Nichole DiMaio. Members at this meeting: Luke Stilley, Jeff Jackson, Nichole DiMaio, Denny Luther, Nan Brittain, Kevin McClure, Dave Howard, Wayne Nikolish, Mike Golightly, Kris Howard, Gary Foster, Pat Whalen, Wayne Weidmann, Jeff Gray, Carol Wisnowski, Arda Mathern, Larry Mark, Carrol McCracken, Judi Nikolish, Janelle Ohmstede, Dave Ohmstede, Steve Howard. New Members and Guests: none.

### Officer Reports

President's Report: Nichole shared the communication improvements (email, social media, website) and opportunities to meet virtually versus in person to keep everyone safe and healthy. Secretary's Report: Jeff explained that since the last two general meetings were canceled, the minutes requiring approval are from October. Wayne Nikolish made a motion to approve the October 20, 2020 minutes as presented. Kris Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Treasurer's Report: Carrol McCracken gave the update as his wife, Laurie, was out of town for a family emergency. Carrol reported on the current financials of CCI. 10% of balance should be in Charity fund per bylaws. Asked about CD's as one matures tomorrow and the other matures in February. Discussion about whether to roll over or move. Motion to approve Treasurer's report as stated by Judi Nikolish. Second by Gary Foster. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-President/Social Director's Report: Kevin hopes to meet with Dave and Kris to discuss past activities and see what can be done during COVID-19. Hoping for April planning. Governor's Report: Gary has filled the appointed positions on the board. Competition Director is Luke Stilley, Points Director is in process and Membership Director is still Mike Golightly. Shared that there are efforts for better communication due to COVID-19 and not meeting in person. Governor's meeting nationally has been canceled for February due to COVID-19. NCCC wants to have a competition points season this year. Current CCI considerations: May 29-31 – Memorial Day Weekend start with Ankeny Airport. Chariton as a backup. June 26-27 – autocross at

Chariton Airport with Ankeny as a backup. August 14-15 – TBD. Speedway is being rented for events but costs \$10,000-\$12,000 for events for 2 days. Discussed partnership with Cornhuskers CC. NASA might be hosting a track day. 2021 NCCC Convention June 13-18 in Cleveland this year. Registration opens February 1, 2021. Paid \$175 for 2020 Sanction Fees that is still unclaimed. Discussed options. Will gather more information. Charity designations will be chosen next month. Competition Director's Report: Luke noted that registration is open now through February 15<sup>th</sup> for \$15 for West Region Competition Event Number. WR Scholarship availability is open.

Member at Large Report: Wayne Weidmann said Treasury audit completed on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. No exceptions found. Editor's Report: Dave Howard said newsletter in need of content. Points Director's Report: TBD – still looking for a Points Director. Membership Director's Report: Mike Golightly – last application

received in December and a membership packet created. Need to recruit new members. Discussed options for advertising and recruitment yield. Social Media Director's Report: Pat Whalen is working on minor changes to the website. Hopeful to make photo sharing easier. Calendar is up and running. Email distribution updated. Social Media sources (Facebook) also updated.

Old Business: none. New Business: virtual meetings/distancing – discussion about efforts. Buy and Sell: shared there is an auction this week in Colo, Iowa through Wilson Auctions. Carrol McCracken is looking for a '68 or '69 Camaro. Contact him if you know of one.

Motion for adjournment by Denny Luther. Seconded by Nan Brittan. Meeting adjourned at 7:17PM.

Respectfully,

*Jeff Jackson*, Secretary

## CCI Odds and Ends

### General Meeting Details

Although Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds has recently lifted many of the State's restrictive COVID-19 mandates, the CCI Board will again hold a virtual meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM via Zoom. Look for an email from club President Nichole DiMaio in the days leading up to the meeting. The email will have a link to this Zoom meeting so you can sign in.

This is an important meeting to be present for as the Board's recommendations for the club's 2021 charity allocations will be discussed. After discussion and modifications (if any), a motion and vote to approve the allocations is required.

## Member News

**New Members.** Look to this space for the most recent additions to the CCI family. This month we have no new members to report.

**Birthdays.** Wishing a Happy Birthday to the following members with February birthdates:



<i>Jean E. Mark</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Roseann Genovese</i>	<i>2/14</i>
<i>Carol Wisnousky</i>	<i>2/14</i>
<i>Dave Larson</i>	<i>2/15</i>
<i>Mary Robbins</i>	<i>2/16</i>
<i>Kevin McClure</i>	<i>2/16</i>
<i>Sonia McClure</i>	<i>2/19</i>
<i>Sheri Jandik</i>	<i>2/20</i>
<i>Brian Phillips</i>	<i>2/24</i>
<i>Luke Stilley</i>	<i>2/24</i>
<i>Tom Quinlan</i>	<i>2/29</i>

**CCI Apparel.** CCI apparel is available from Kris & Steve Howard's KSH Design Studio. Choose from long sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies. If you're new to CCI or just want to sport some of the latest designs, you can print the order form on Page 11 or use the following link to the form:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/10zro0eP0a5-53oDLtYALP6JlowotKnPhQefaVGe8\\_HU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10zro0eP0a5-53oDLtYALP6JlowotKnPhQefaVGe8_HU/edit?usp=sharing)

Custom embroidery services are now available from KSH also! Check with Kris or Steve if you want a piece of CCI apparel embroidered.

## Events

Here's a wrap-up of recently held events along with a description of events on the horizon:

*There are no events currently scheduled during the next three months. Stay tuned for updates as we move closer to spring.*

## Save the Date!

Mark your calendars and look for more details in upcoming issues of *Sportsmate*:

**May 29-31, 2021.** CCI is currently planning for an autocross event at the Ankeny Airport over Memorial Day weekend. Seven low-speed events are planned per day for a total of 21 during the 3-day weekend. We will reassess the plan regularly to determine if we can safely hold it, keeping COVID-19 trends in mind leading up to May.

**June 26-27, 2021.** A second autocross event, this time at the Chariton Airport, is planned for late June. This event will also feature seven low-speeds each day for a total of 14, along with a roll-in car show on the town square. Once again, the health and safety of participants is paramount and reassessment of the COVID situation will occur regularly as we draw closer.

**Editor's Note:** With a return to racing on the calendar this year, I'd like to revisit an article that CCI member Jim Jandik wrote for *Sportsmate* several years ago. See it opposite.

## Buy & Sell

**FOR SALE: Chrome Wheels and Tires.** Wheels: Front 18"x8.5", Rear 19"x10". Speedline not Repos. Fit 2005-2013 Corvette w/Std. & Z 51 Susp. Also 2014-2018 w/Std. Susp. Tires: Yokohama Avon Neoa Ado8r. Front 255"x35"x18", Rear 295"x30"x19", 6/32" Tread. Price reduced again: now \$1,200 for all. Contact: Larry Steffen 515-975-3885.

**FOR SALE: 1969 Corvette.** My '69 Stingray convertible is black on black with white top, 350/300hp motor and automatic transmission. Original top, interior, and most other. I believe it's original motor, but for sure a Vette motor. I have owned this car for 30 years and only put 6k miles on it. It has around 60k miles total. Besides what I have done myself, work has always been done at WestSide Auto Pros. Asking \$22k. If interested, contact Kirk Jorgensen by email at [jorgensen.kirk@yahoo.com](mailto:jorgensen.kirk@yahoo.com).

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## Wide Open Throttle? Your Engine Temperature Is Key

By Jim Jandik

In helping customers with issues concerning their C4 clutches, I often get asked questions relating to Corvettes in general. There is one question I've been asked several times and interestingly, I recently saw this same question posted on one of the Corvette forums that I provide technical answers for. I did not know what the correct answer was, so I decided to do some research. One of the perks of being

involved with supplying products to Corvette owners around the world is the personal contacts one makes, so I tapped into this valuable knowledge resource.

The question is: “At what engine temperature is it okay to go wide open throttle (WOT) on my Corvette?” This is a great question and I’m intrigued by it on a number of different levels. NCCC racers are faced with the reality of this question at almost any low-speed autocross event they participate in, especially early spring and late fall events where ambient temperatures may be 30 to 40 degrees F. As a competitor, you don’t get a chance to drive the course and warm up your engine. You get to start your car, stage it and then race it. Sometimes this occurs in less than a minute. This is certainly not much time to bring a cold motor up to operating temperature. I’m also interested in this question as it pertains to driving Corvettes on the street. How many times have you witnessed someone mashing the throttle pedal on a Corvette that has a cold engine, say one that is leaving from a car show after being on static display for several hours?

Before I answer the WOT engine operating temperature question, I would like to illustrate some of the concerns facing a cold engine on startup. Perhaps the number one issue is oiling, or lack thereof. From a wear standpoint, starting your cold engine is one of the toughest things you can do to your motor. Oil has drained from critical areas and components of your engine, plus the oil itself is thicker at cold temperatures. The potential for metal-to-metal contact between engine parts exists. That is a bad thing because this is what causes wear. Counteracting and preventing this wear is your crankcase oil. It is in many cases only a very thin film of oil that separates critical motor components from physically touching each other. Lubrication is key to a healthy engine and the durability of that engine.

Here are a few examples of potentially serious failures that can occur to a cold engine because of lack of oiling to critical areas. Higher revs can cause a tremendous amount of friction between parts which in turn will generate heat. So much heat in fact that material can actually shear off of one part and then re-deposit on another part in an undesirable welding process

known as galling. Rocker arms, crankshafts and connecting rods, to name a few moving parts, can all gall and seize. These failures are



This crankshaft is galled, causing the connecting rod, center, to seize onto the crank and break off the end of the rod. Lack of oiling started this catastrophic failure.

much more probable when pulling high RPMs on a cold motor. And since cold oil doesn’t flow as well as warm oil, lack of lubrication can occur in the crankshaft main bearings, rod bearings and camshaft bearings. Accelerated wear on any of these bearing sets will at best result in having to prematurely rebuild your motor. The piston pins (wrist pins) have extremely tight tolerances and they can potentially grab aluminum off the piston, causing them to seize up as well. This in turn can knock the skirt off the piston itself and start a chain reaction of catastrophic events within your motor. It is critical that the wrist pins receive oil to prevent this from happening.



Mahle LT4 piston with GM powdered metal connecting rod. Wrist pins can seize to the piston if not properly lubricated.

Also keep in mind that your motor was designed to operate properly within a specific temperature range. I think most people are aware of thermal expansion in metals. As any given metal increases in temperature, it will grow in size. This is important. When your particular motor was built, the engineers

involved in the design process had to allow for thermal expansion. Sometimes different metals are involved, such as cast iron blocks and aluminum cylinder heads. Not all metals have the same temperature expansion characteristics, so this must be considered as well. So for all engines, there is a temperature at which all of the parts will expand to their required size. Basically, the engine will become stable. A great example of this is your piston, piston ring, and cylinder bore wall. For the engine to work effectively and build maximum horsepower and torque, the piston rings need to seal properly against the bore walls. This can only happen when the motor is thermally stable, which is to say that the pistons, piston rings and cylinder bores have all expanded to their designed dimensions. On a cold motor that sees high rpm's, it is possible that the pistons can actually "rock" within the bore. This can cause scuffing to the surface of the bore and eventually lead to a loss of compression for that cylinder. In extreme cases, it is possible for a piston to rock enough that it can hit the cylinder head. That will dramatically terminate the life of your engine!

Finally, I think the majority of drivers know that as your engine warms up, the oil pressure goes down. There is more resistance to the flow of cold oil and this can be seen in the higher initial oil pressure reading. As the oil warms up and flow is improved, corresponding less resistance shows as lower oil system pressure. What you may not know is that pulling high revolutions on a cold motor can potentially spike the oil pressure to a dangerous level. This pressure spike can implode the internal element of your oil filter. If this happens, you essentially have no oil filtration and whatever metal particles found in your oil are no longer being trapped within the filter. Those particles would then be able to circulate throughout your entire engine. Accelerated and considerable wear to critical engine components would likely result.

So what is the answer to the WOT engine temperature question? **160 degrees F. engine**



C4 Corvette DIC engine oil temperature display

**oil temperature.** This is the ballpark, general consensus I received from both design engineers and race motor builders. Engine oil temperature is easily determined in C4 and newer generation Corvettes through the Driver Information Center (DIC), where a switch pad can be used to display a very precise reading. For our push rod 8-cylinder Corvette motors, the engine is thermally stable at around 160 degrees F. engine oil temperature and the oil is flowing properly into and through all of the close tolerance components that make up your motor. That very thin film of oil is able to reach the areas it needs to and do its lubrication job!

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I would like to thank the following individuals for their technical assistance and thoughts on this subject:

**Graham Behan** – Executive Engineer/Program Manager for LT5 engine development & production

**John Davis** – Race engine builder & owner of Midstate Machine, Des Moines IA

**Dave Denning** – Master machinist & engine builder, Midstate Machine, Des Moines IA



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**ORDER FORM-CCI Apparel**

- Must pre-pay for item(s)
- Delivery at next meeting
- All Shirts are Black with White lettering  
(Special Requests are accepted)

Questions: [KSHDesignStudio26@gmail.com](mailto:KSHDesignStudio26@gmail.com)

T-shirts:\$20	Size	Qty	Price
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<b>Sweatshirts (Crew Neck): \$35</b>			
<b>Hooded Sweatshirts:\$40</b> (pull-over or full zip)			
<b>Front- Small Logo</b>			
<b>Back- Choose 1 design:</b>			
#1-Large Logo			
#2-Large Logo with "Oldest Iowa Corvette Club..."			
#3"Oldest Iowa Corvette Club..."			
Unisex/Adult	M		
	L		
	XL		
	XXL		
	XXXL		

Womens Fit T-Shirt	Circle choice:
Black with White Logo (Front)	V-Neck OR Round Neck
	S
	M
	L
	XL
	XXL
Option: Add Back Design (see Above) \$5	

Total # of Items	
Sub Total	
Sales Tax (6%)	
Total	
(Make checks payable to Kris Howard)	

Questions contact: Kris Howard  
KSHDesignstudio26@gmail.com Or (515) 975-6696

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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