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ELCO Chevrolet**



President's Message

I want to thank John Jordan and all of the board members for their commitment and organizational skills in making our 2025 year a memorable one. I also want to thank all of those club members that planned the many events that we had throughout the year.

Special thanks go out to ELCO Chevrolet and Mark Gerecke for their sponsorship of the club including a meeting location.

I am looking forward to serving as the new President and working with the new board: Randy Howard, Vice President; Mike McElhone, Treasurer; Judy McElhone, Membership; Chris Woods, Secretary; and Jon Midkiff, Sergeant at Arms. I am glad to have these experienced members to help me through my term and I consider it an honor to serve as your new President.

Please plan to attend the 2026 planning meeting at 3:00 p.m. January 11th at Saucy's Pizzeria in High Ridge. We will be able to order from the menu. We need everyone to bring your ideas for fun events and excursions for the upcoming year. Please do not hesitate to suggest whatever you may think would be a memorable event. The board is always open to any suggestions or ideas you may have to improve the club.

C.W. Riehlman, President

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Mary Ann Hagenow

Mike Price

Rhonda Simorka

Larry Akins

Michelle Paillou

Marty Dooley

Carl Cox

ANNIVERSARIES

John & Angie Midkiff

Ken & Barbie Payne

Randy & Ruth Howard

STLCC Anniversary Milestones

10 Year

Gail and Bill Mattler

There were no 20-year, 15-year, or 5-year club anniversaries in December.

Meeting Minutes

The November Meeting Minutes are being repeated to refresh your memory for approval at the January Planning Meeting.

The St. Louis Corvette Club met at ELCO Chevrolet in Ballwin, MO on November 4, 2025. President John Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

John led us with the Pledge of Allegiance.

He introduced the Club officers:

President: John Jordan	Vice President: Don Pickles
Membership: Brian Walsh	Treasurer: Anne Pickles
Secretary: June Walsh	Sergeant at Arms: Dennis Trost
Immediate past president: Karen Price	Sponsor: ELCO Chevrolet Mark Gerecke

John went over the following information:

- He thanked everyone for attending tonight. He reminded everyone of the 50/50 tickets, event sign-up sheets, and retiree lunch sign-up.
- There were no new members or guests in attendance tonight.
- He thanked Kathy Mueller for the great newsletter and Steve Kirby for the outstanding website.
- Michelle Finn introduced two members of the St. Vincent DePaul Society. They talked about the gift giving tree that Michelle does every year and how much it means to the kids and the families of the kids to be able to provide gifts for them. They thanked us for our generosity.
- John asked for a motion to accept the October Secretary Minutes. Steve Kirby made a motion to accept. Judy Dooley seconded it. The motion passed.
- Treasurer's Report: Anne explained why there is no income showing for dues and the Christmas Party. The reason is we do not have all the checks in for the Christmas Party and we are still working on collecting dues. Mike Kunst made a motion to accept the October Treasurer's Report. Barry Seelig seconded it. The motion passed.

- Membership Report: Brian reported that at the last meeting we added three new members. They are Jeff and Karen Gregory and Paul Jarasek. Since the last meeting no one has left.

Regular members: 101
 Lifetime Members: 7
 Emeritus Members: 2
 Associate Members: 11
 Total Members: 121
 Sponsors: 2

There are currently eleven on our waiting list. Brian has two applications to send out.

Brian read club anniversaries, wedding anniversaries and birthdays for November and December.

- Sponsor Report: Mark Gerecke reported that GM finally fixed all the recalls for the Z06 and they are now able to sell them. ELCO has three they are offering with quite a discount. See Mark for details.

Jim and Bev Givens bought a new Equinox.

Mark reported that the Service Department is still learning the new system ELCO put in, so please be patient as they work through the learning curve.

John announced the new Board by acclamation: C.W. Riehlman, President; Randy Howard, Vice President; Mike McElhone, Treasurer; Judy McElone, Membership; John Midkiff, Sergeant at Arms; and Chris Woods, Secretary.

Committee Reports

Charity – Kathy Kilburn talked about jewelry she makes with her church. She made four sets of earrings to auction off with the proceeds going to St. Jude's. Randy will auction them at the end of the meeting.

Budget – Mike Kunst reported that the committee is busy talking with folks about expenses for next year. The Planning meeting in January is where members bring their

ideas for the upcoming year and is the cut-off for the Budget Committee to put a budget together. If you have an idea for an event that you would require some funding from the club, please contact Mike Kunst, Rick Doerr or Don Pickles.

Vice President's Report – Don reviewed past events and future events. They are as follows:

Past Events

October

7th – Monthly Meeting at ELCO

11th – Coffee & Corvettes – The Great Harvest Bread Co. in Kirkwood on West Argonne. They had about 10-12 people but had to move the venue due to construction. Side note: Marcia and Kirt Sheer and Paul Jarasek showed up at the originally scheduled venue.

15th – Retiree Lunch – Sponsored by Mike Kunst at EdgeWild. Nice turnout, around 44 people came.

18th – Annual Picnic – sponsored by the Board at Cliff Cave Park. Dee reported that despite the weather, we had a great turnout and lots of fun.

23rd – Sangria and Sunsets – Sponsored by Jim and Bev Givens. It was the last one for the year and he said no one was there. Marilyn Panter stated that she and Jim Panter were there with their car.

25th – Gateway Trunk or Treat – Michelle Finn reported we had four cars show up and three more joined them from Looking Glass. We earned \$60 for participating.

25th – BUNCO – Sponsored by Karen and Mike Price.

26th – Fritz's Ice Cream – Ken Payne was the only one there due to the bad weather. November 23rd at 3:00 p.m. will be a make-up date. Last one for the year. June and Brian Walsh reported that Lynda Roth also showed but no one was there when she went.

Future Events

November

4th – Monthly Meeting at ELCO

8th - Veteran's Day Parade in St. Charles – Ron Hagenow and Mike Price talked about meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the Subway parking lot off Hwy 70 and 5th street. So far, we have 20 cars signed up, please consider joining in the fun. Mike and Karen Price will take over the parade for Ron since Ron will not be driving as his car got crunched at the retiree luncheon

.

9th – ELCO Hayride at Dickherber Farms in Dardenne Prairie. Please sign up in the back. If you are bringing extra people (grandkids) please make sure you include them in the number so we can make sure there is enough food. It is going to be very windy and cold, so dress for the weather.

15th - BUNCO sponsored by Steven and Kim Marre' - 6 p.m. She needs sides that are not desserts.

19th – Retiree Luncheon at Ethyl's sponsored by Barry Seelig. Fifty-Four people have signed up so far. Please let Barry know if you have changed your mind and cannot make it so he can let the restaurant know.

December

6th – Christmas Party – Val talked about the party and sign up in the back. You can pay tonight. We would love to get more members signed up. We have 78 signed up so far. Starts at 6 p.m., appetizers, open bar until 9:30, D.J. until the party ends at 11 p.m. Cash bar after 9:30.

17th – Retiree Luncheon - Firefly Grill in Chesterfield Valley sponsored by C.W. and Dee Riehlman.

General Information – Sometime in January we will have a planning meeting. It will be

on the weekend and usually lasts a couple of hours. Please plan on being there. Place and time TBD by the new Board.

January 3rd – 12 Days of Christmas Party – sponsored by Karen and Mike Price at 6:00 p.m.

February 1st – Valentine's Day Party sponsored by Ruth Howard and Val Zeisset.

May 3, 2026 – St. Martin's Car show sponsored by Dana and Diana Griggs.

Don talked about next year's Christmas party. Next year they will be charging a room charge of \$750. We are guessing that we will need to charge \$10 more per ticket. Both Boards agreed to put it to the members and tonight we have a survey for everyone to complete anonymously.

REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ALL EVENTS.

New Business

Ruth Howard asked to keep Sherri Marlo in your prayers. She tripped and fractured her hip and had surgery today. Sherri was scheduled to have knee replacement surgery on November 20th but that will be rescheduled.

Jim Givens - \$25 Bourbon raffle – He has 7 tickets left. The cinnamon cakes fund raiser is still going on. Jim will send another email with the link to order.

Good and Welfare

Brian tested everyone's knowledge of Corvettes and Chevys with several trivia questions and even a prop.

- June read a thank-you note from Barbie Payne to the Alaskan group.
- John thanked Randy and Ruth Howard for bringing dessert in place of Tom and Sherri Marlo.

- Dennis Trost announced we have \$120 tonight for 50/50. Congratulations to Michelle Paillou for winning.
- Brian reported we had seventy-one regular members, two lifetime, and two sponsors.
- Judy McElhone thanked everyone for helping Newborns in Need with donations of sleepers and thanked the sewing group for the bibs, burp towels, and blankets.

Randy auctioned the four sets of earrings that Kathy Kilburn donated to raise funds for the St. Jude's Drive. The high bidders were Karen Price, Ruth Howard, Marty Dooley, and Michelle Paillou. Randy raised \$81 with his auctioning skills.

- John asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marilyn Panter made a motion to adjourn. Barry Seelig seconded the motion. The motion passed, and John adjourned the meeting.
- The next meeting will be on February 3rd at ELCO Chevrolet.

***** PLEASE REMEMBER TO ARRIVE AFTER 6:30 PM AND TO BRING YOUR CHAIRS TO THE MEETING *****

Respectfully submitted,

June Walsh
Secretary

Committee Reports & Sponsor Reports

NCM Ambassadors Report

The mission of the National Corvette Museum and the Ambassador Program is to serve as a bridge between the Museum and club members, ensuring that vital information about events, exhibits and initiatives is effectively

communicated. Ambassadors actively encourage membership growth & renewal within their clubs by inspiring passion for the Museum's mission and engaging their clubs and communities in supporting its future.

Marty and Judy Dooley
NCM Ambassadors

Future Events



Annual Planning Meeting

The annual planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 11th at Saucy's in High Ridge. The meeting will begin at 3:00 pm and generally lasts two hours.

The board encourages members to attend and share their ideas to sponsor events, road trips, retiree lunches, car shows, etc. This is your chance to gauge the interest of other club members, and reserve dates on the club calendar.

Saucy's Pizzeria
1630 Gravois Road
High Ridge, MO 63049

St. Louis Corvette Club Valentine's Day Luncheon

Sunday February 1, 2026 at 12:30

Mr. BBQ

643 Ridge Road

Waterloo, IL 62298



Please join us for a day to celebrate LOVE! The annual Valentines luncheon will be held at Mr. BBQ in Waterloo, IL. The food is fabulous! When you arrive if you would like to grab an alcohol beverage, please see the bartender on the first floor. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Planning meeting on January 11th.

If you will not be at the meeting and would like to attend – please contact Valerie (618)719-4937 or Ruth at (314)486-6836.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Never know what games will be played!

Sponsored by the Howard's & Zeisset's



Last day to make reservation is January 26th!

Past Events

Christmas Party

Sponsored by Ruth Howard and Val Zeisset

Photos by Terry Mueller, Ruth Howard, and Barry Seelig



Thank you to Ruth and Val for planning the party. It was a fun party!









Thanks to our sponsor, ELCO Chevrolet!

















Our Sponsors from left to right: Eric DeBruin, Vickie DeBruin, Kim Gerecke, and Mark Gerecke.

We love our sponors!

December Retirees' Lunch

Hosted by C.W. and Dee Riehlman

Photos by Terry Mueller and Dee Riehlman









Below are winners of the prizes that Dee and C.W. provided.





December Bunco

Sponsored by Mike and Karen Price
Photos by Terry Mueller







The 12th Day of Christmas Party
Hosted by Karen and Mike Price
Photos by Terry Mueller











Ugly Sweater Contest Participants



Ugly Sweater Contest Winners



Ugly Sweater Contest Winners

Great Alaska Adventure
STLCC Member Participants
Message to Barb & Ken Payne

Payne Travel Associates, LLC has outdone themselves again with this Great Alaska Adventure consisting of 8 days on land and 7 days at sea and ports of call. The STLCC members who participated in this cruise/tour owe a debt of gratitude to Barb Payne, CEO and President of Payne Travel Associates. Barb plans travel adventures for STLCC with the highest degree of skill and dedication. She is supported by her long-

term Executive Assistant, Ken Payne. And then there are her minions who gleefully carry out her every wish.



Payne Travel Associates CEO and President Barb Payne with her Executive Assistant Ken Payne. Photo taken at Glacier Gardens in Juneau, Alaska.

Alaska!

Part Two: If by Sea!

By Mike Kunst

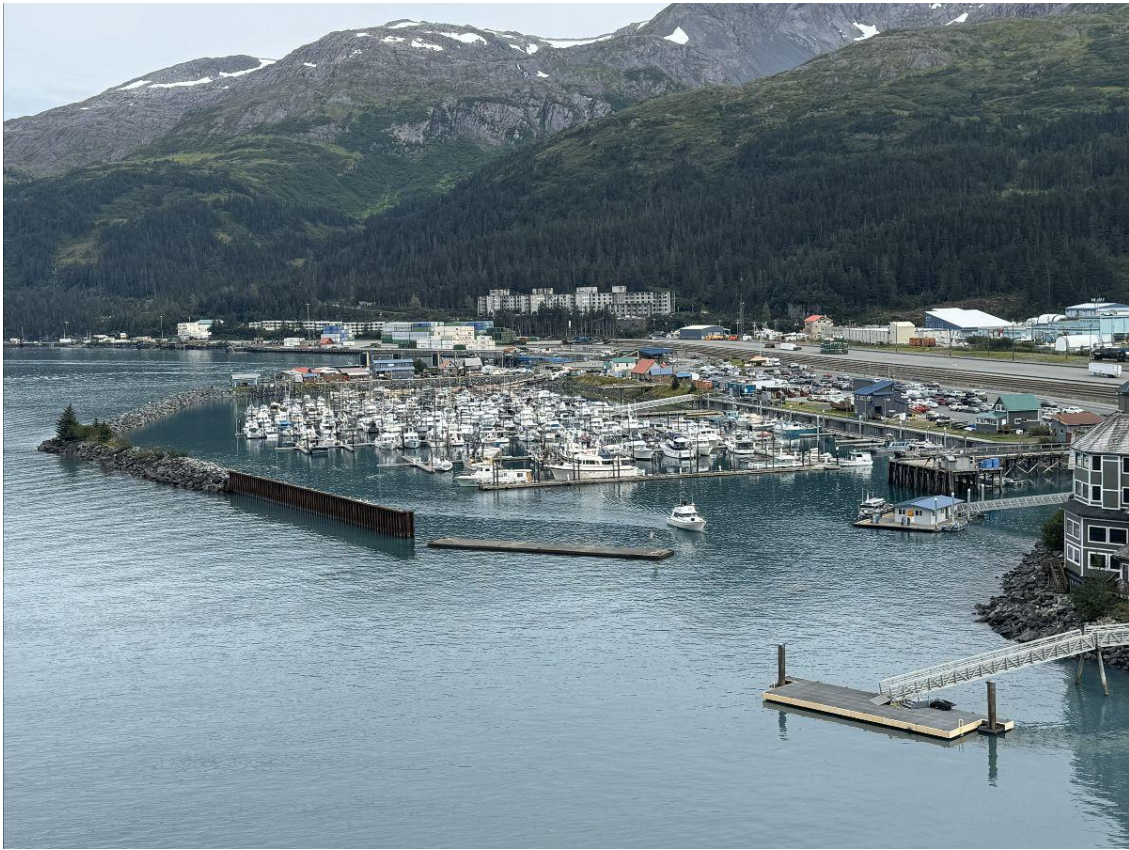
Photos by Mike Kunst, Barb Payne, & John Midkiff

At the end of the first installment of our Great Alaska Adventure, we had just arrived at Whittier to board the Sapphire Princess at noon on Saturday.

Part Two: If by Sea

Day 7, Saturday, August 30

We had time to explore the ship while we waited for our luggage to be delivered to our rooms. Barb arranged for a group dinner in the Savoy Dining Room (nice!) to celebrate Russ and Brenda's 50th wedding anniversary! We had one more adjacent table not shown.



Day 8, Sunday, August 31

Hubbard Glacier scenic cruising.



Day 9, Monday, September 1

Glacier Bay National Park scenic cruising. Three National Park rangers came out to the ship. One of them narrated while we cruised around the bay. There is no way to

visit this park by land as there are no roads or trails. They do have tours to the glaciers by helicopter.





Day 10, Tuesday, September 2

Port of call, Skagway, Alaska. Skagway is a Gold Rush town with many buildings preserved from that era. This was our first opportunity to disembark and enjoy some activities on land. Barb planned a jeep excursion to Carcross in the Yukon! Carcross is a mashup of Caribou Crossing. Just outside of town is the Carcross Dessert! Yes, a dessert in the Yukon!





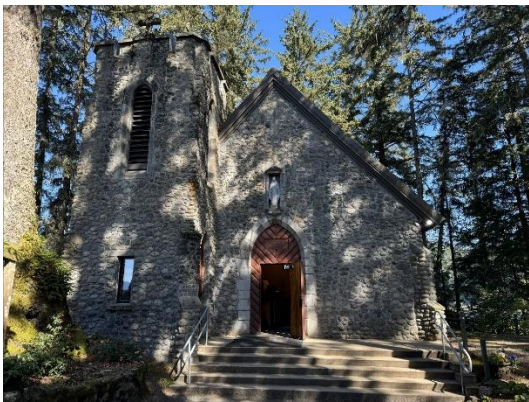


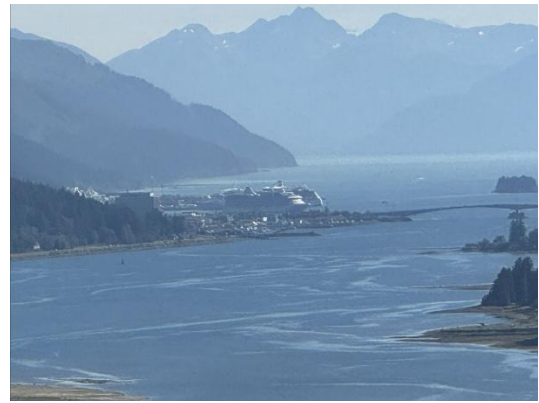


Day 11, Wednesday, September 3

Port of call, Juneau, Alaska. Juneau is the capital of Alaska. Some of us went whale watching with Harv and Marv. John got a lucky photo of a whale tail. These things happen so fast that you are lucky to get your finger on the shutter button quickly enough to catch it. A few of us went to Glacier Gardens, Eagle Beach, and the National Shrine of St. Thérèse. The capitol building looks like an office building and is not very fancy.





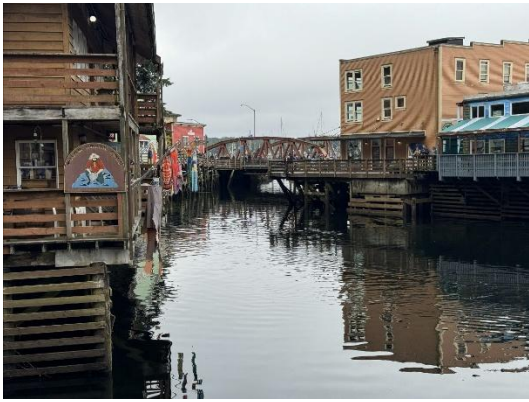




John Midkiff took the photos of the whale on the Harv and Marv whale watching tour. The two photos above are the same photo. The second photo is zoomed in for detail.

Day 12, Thursday, September 4

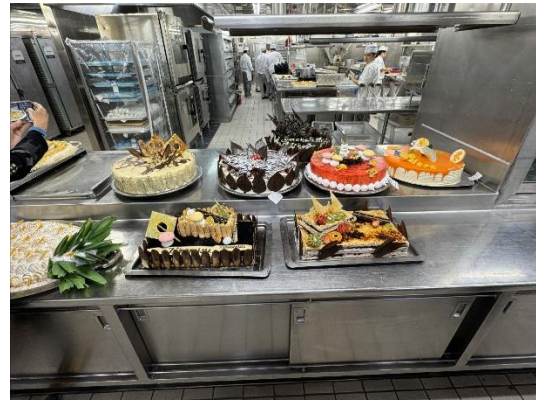
Port of call, Ketchikan, Alaska. Here we found the often photographed Creek Street which is not really a street at all. It is a board walk in front of some buildings on wood column supports that have been there since 1903 when it was established as a red-light district. The brothels were outlawed in 1954. Ketchikan is home to the Tongass Trading Company. Many of us ordered jackets from them prior to the trip thanks to Mike M finding a really great deal on the jackets. While they are not a souvenir store, you can find some there.



The fire truck ladder is extended over a drop off past the parking lot. Look 2 spaces to the left of the pickup truck. There is missing board walk and hand railing where a car crashed.

Day 13, Friday, September 5

At sea, sailing to Vancouver. At sea, sailing to Vancouver. The Food & Beverage team displayed their other talents in a short musical play in the main theater. Then they lead a procession of guests through the main kitchen. What a kitchen!





Day 14, Saturday, September 6

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Disembark and transit to airport for flight home.

Features and Announcements

Hot Wheels Program at the National Corvette Museum

In 2014, Judy and I started a program at the National Corvette Museum. We wanted the school kids who would go to the Museum on field trips to take something home with them. After meeting with the person in charge and leaders at the museum, we

thought we could give each kid a Hot Wheel Corvette.

We started by donating 300 Hot Wheels Corvettes. Since then, we've spent a lot of time hunting for them in St. Louis and the surrounding area. During frequent road trips in the Midwest, we would find more each trip. We also have had many of our St. Louis Corvette Club members find and donate these cars to the Museum. At one of our Ambassador meetings, I was asked to talk about this program. We now have other Ambassadors and clubs from around the country sending Hot Wheels Corvettes.

With that being said, Judy and I are slowing down from our hunt for these toys. We want to thank all who have helped us with this project.

Marty and Judy Dooley



Some of the Hot Wheels Corvettes Marty and Judy collected for the museum.



Hot Wheels Corvettes loaded into Marty and Judy's truck to be taken to the museum.

Articles

The St. Louis Corvette Club

Historical Society Column

By Ron Hagenow

History Committee: Ron Hagenow, Marty Dooley, and Mike Price

Welcome to 2026! Hopefully Santa gave everyone their favorite Corvette accessory for Christmas. Or maybe even a new car! Thank you to the Christmas party

committee for the excellent party last month. And thanks also to the Prices for their annual Twelfth Day of Christmas party. If you went home hungry you obviously were at the wrong party!

Typically, in January there aren't many activities but I need to mention the importance of our planning meeting. This year it is at Saucey's on January 11, 2026 beginning at 3:00 pm. As a club, we do a lot of the same events each year such as the monthly retirees' lunch, Eureka Springs weekend and the Fourth of July and Veterans Day parades. But the club is much more than these normal activities. Ask yourself, why did you join the club? Was it to do fun activities and drive your Corvette? Well, this doesn't happen unless someone plans something. It's not hard and there are a lot of members who have planned events in the past that you can go to for help. Some of the most memorable events we've done have been mystery runs. Show up at a place with a full tank of gas and drive somewhere. But someone first must plan on where we go and determine any stops along the way. So, I urge you to not just sit back and let someone else do it. There is no such thing as a bad idea. A little effort on your part benefits all of us.

Now for some pictures of past events to get you thinking:



A mystery run to Bollinger Mill from June 2020. Marty and Judy Dooley sponsored this run.



From August 2022, the club had a run to Warm Springs for lunch and to visit with the Clydesdales.



From our run to Bob's Gasoline Alley in Cuba, MO in May 2011.



Finally, a run to Elephant Rock State Park in May 2005.

Managing Editor	Kathy Mueller
Columnist	Ron Hagenow
Senior Photo Journalist	Terry Mueller
Photo Journalist	Ruth Howard
Aerial Photo Journalist	Tom Marlo
Archive Specialist	Steve Kirby
Publisher	Mike Kunst

Many Thanks To Our Sponsor

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