



STAR CITY CORVETTE CLUB CELEBRATES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

The Star City Corvette Club in Roanoke, Virginia is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2018. From hosting a 25th Anniversary dinner to being the focus of cruise-ins and car shows, as well as, supporting its various charities, this will be an exciting year for the club. With members spanning the entire 25 years to the newbies, the Club originated from a spin-off of another club to what it has become today.

The Club was formed in August 1993 with a handful of Corvette lovers who wanted to enjoy sharing their cars and experiences with each other. This love of Vettes went from a small handful to its current membership of 172. In fact, two couples who were founding members have remained members throughout those 25 years. The love of Corvettes, sharing experiences, technical knowledge and comradery hasn't changed but grows with enthusiasm. In fact, the club has strengthened and created objectives to support the goals of its members' love of Corvettes. The objectives of the are:

- Bring together those persons who are interested in Corvettes for the enjoyment of the membership
- Promote and encourage better understanding and acceptance of Corvettes by participating in activities that involve the public
- Sponsor, sanction and promote Corvette themed automotive events and social activities for members and with other enthusiasts and the National Corvette Museum
- Support charitable organizations
- Promote skillful and safe driving habits

- Promote the club's sponsors

They have not changed, and these objectives support the original Club ideals.

Why the name Star City Corvette Club? Roanoke, Virginia is known as the "Star City of the South". The Star concept originated in November 1949 as a seasonal Christmas decoration to shine over the city during the holiday season that year. Its success caused Roanoke businesses to keep the Star lit for the almost 50 years since then. It was erected on Mill Mountain and when standing at its location, you are provided with a vista of the city that is second to none. When entering the city at night, the star can be seen far and wide.



The star is 88.5 feet high, weighs 10k lbs. and is illuminated by 2k feet of neon tubing. The club's name and connection to the star came by luck of the draw. The original members were looking for a club name. The members placed their ideas in a hat and Star City Corvette Club was chosen. This was fate. With Roanoke known as being a star of the Roanoke Valley and the South and Corvette being a star of Chevrolet's line-up of models. The fit was perfect. This Chevrolet connection also carries over to our sponsor.



The Club is sponsored by Berglund Chevrolet in Roanoke. Berglund has sponsored the club for almost as many years as the club has been in existence. While providing the club with an annual stipend of support, the dealership also provides the club with meeting space the 2nd Saturday of every month. They provide Corvette discounts to club members and hold a Cruise-in on the first Saturday of each month from April to September. Cruise-ins are a big deal in the Roanoke Valley. Club

members support Berglund's and many other cruise-ins and car shows as weekends have a plethora of events. The Club also conducts a Vettes-n-Vittles Sunday cruise throughout the beautiful Blue Ridge mountains to a dinner destination. With our love of Corvettes and the beautiful mountains and the Blue Ridge Parkway surrounding Roanoke, we offer the opportunity to drive this sports car in a unique environment. Members just love showing off the best sports car in the world. This love carries over to our goal of supporting the National Corvette Museum.

An annual member for many years, the club, through the generosity of its members, became a Lifetime NCM member in 2017. This was a proud moment for the club as it has supported the museum throughout the years with various donations. From purchasing a brick, a tree, being a member of the Acre Club and providing an annual donation to the Winners Circle, members enjoy their visits to the museum and members use the new NCM track facilities whenever in town. One of our members, COL (Ret) Dave Lofgren) known as COL Dave, is often seen at the museum's various HPDEs instructing students on the intricacies of driving the courses in their Vettes. However, the club's support doesn't stop with just supporting the NCM .

The Star City Corvette Club assists many charities throughout Roanoke. It supports the annual **MDA Car Show** fundraiser through its members volunteering to run aspects of the event, to the club sponsoring one of its member's cars for display at the event. With over 10k visitors, this event contributes over \$50k to the MDA. We also use this opportunity to sell numerous NCM raffle tickets.

Another large event supported by the Club is the annual "**Star City Motor Madness**" cruise and car show each year. Held the last weekend in June, this too is a fundraiser and contributes to the Virginia Museum of Transportation. The Club is one of the event sponsors and we assist with parking cars for the Friday night street cruise (nothing like the smell of burning rubber), to having club members' Corvettes registered for display at the Saturday car show. The show draws over 20k attendees to view the various car models

(from "32 coupes to 2017 Vettes) on display and provides our club with the opportunity to "show off". This event has had guests hosts such as George Barris in 2009 and 2013 and Dennis Gage in 2010. In fact, this event was featured on Dennis' TV show in 2011. In honor of the Club's 25th Anniversary, the Star City Motor Madness committee will be honoring Corvettes as its theme in 2018. Therefore, we encourage clubs from other states to consider joining us for this event. You can find out more information by googling starcitymotormadness.com or following it on Facebook. Mark your calendars for June 29-30, 2018!

The Club's involvement doesn't end with these two events. Star City Corvettes have consistently raised funds for charities such as the Salvation Army and the Marine's Toys for Tots and has donated over 5000 bicycles to these two charities and over \$100k to various charities combined since 1999. The Club also conducts food drives throughout the year in support of various church food banks and provides some basic necessities to our veterans at the Veterans Care facility in Salem, VA.

Our history is a proud one and we enjoy the cars and comradery within our club. Our Silver Anniversary is a milestone that we are looking forward to. We ask other clubs to join us in our 2018 celebration. To view our schedule of events, go to Starcitycorvettes.com and click on our calendar.

The Star City Corvette Club opens its doors to all Corvette lovers and encourages them to come, observe, and meet with us. Being a Corvette owner, a club member and member of the National Corvette Museum makes for a fun-filled Corvette experience. These attributes and our objectives will help the Star City Corvette Club endure for another 25 years.