

Hello Corvette Memphis!

As we approach the year's end for 2025, I thought I'd recap the activities we participated in during the year. We have a loyal and stable member base. While 8 members have chosen not to renew their memberships for 2026, we gained 14 new members during 2025.

We've been very fortunate to have our monthly meeting place — provided at no cost — at the Collierville Public Library! Our club's forte is definitely social-oriented (including food, of course). In addition to post-meeting dinners each month, we had many opportunities to enjoy driving, eating, and socializing throughout the year. Many of our members participated in longer distance, multi-day events in our region, and have great memories to share.

Here's a condensed recap of our 2025 activities, in addition to our 3-times-per month Cars & Coffee get-togethers, and monthly meetings/dinners.

Our February meeting gave way to our annual Valentine's Dinner at David Grisanti's on Main. We headed into Hernando, MS, late in the month for a great Wednesday evening dinner at the Parrish seafood restaurant.

As the weather turned spring-like, a good-sized group of us represented our club at the first-annual Dream Wheels Car Show in Cordova on March 8th for a wonderful cause — granting dreams to critically and chronically ill children in the Mid-South.

The weather warmed in April, and so did our schedule! Continuing our tradition, we provided judging for hundreds of amazing Corvettes on display at the annual Beale Street "Show My Ride" car show, sponsored by the International Council of Corvette Clubs (ICCC) on Saturday, April 12th. A large contingent of club members participated in "Cruisin' With the ARC" to benefit individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Northwest Mississippi.

A group of us headed to the National Corvette Museum (NCM) Motorsports Park for the High Performance Driver's Education course on 23-24 April. WHOA! What an adrenaline rush! Great training and fun had by all. The NCM BASH followed from 24-26 April. We enjoyed seeing hundreds of beautiful Corvettes, and relished a beautiful drive through rural Kentucky to the wonderful, all-you-can-eat mom & pop Lighthouse restaurant in thriving Sulpher Well, KY. We made time to tour the NCM's amazing displays of Corvette history, and dined at the Old Talbot Tavern in Bardstown, KY — a legendary restaurant since the late 1700s!

Members enjoyed another beautiful Saturday drive through the country to have lunch at the Catfish Cabin in Jackson, on 31 May, while another small contingent headed further east to negotiate the Tail of the Dragon in Eastern Tennessee.

As the heat of summer was in full swing, we came to Cars & Coffees with one or even two canopies for shade. We enjoyed the main street Byhalia, MS, Cars & Coffee venue for a few months, and took advantage of the close proximity to Casey's Café in Red Bank, MS, for lunch afterwards.

Late summer and early fall saw a huge increase in car show activity. We had a busy September. In spite of a rainy start, we had a great turnout at the 2nd annual Carl Perkins Charity Car Show on Saturday, 6 September, at Living Hope Church in Piperton. A small contingent represented our club at the Healing Hearts Child Advocacy Car Show on 13 September at All Star Chevrolet in Olive Branch.

Our longest road trip of the year from 18-21 September was to attend the Vettes at the Beach Corvette-only show sponsored by the Miracle Strip Corvette Club on Pensacola Beach, FL. Amazing cars, great restaurants, and a mandatory side trip to the National Naval Aviation Museum aboard Naval Air Station Pensacola. A couple of our members attempted to break the land speed record on the drive back home.

We enjoyed another 2-canopy attendance at the annual Collierville Classic Car Show at Central Church on 27 September. Great turnout, amazing cars of all kinds, and benefitting Collierville Education Foundation. Be sure to join us there next year!

George McDowell organized a well-attended drive on October 4th to the Outpost restaurant near the dam at Pickwick Lake. Beautiful scenery and good food! Thanks, George! Let's do it again in 2026!

On October 11th, a bunch of us needed one more car show for the year, so we attended the Edge Car Museum Motorfest in downtown Memphis. Cool cars showed up that we'd never seen before. A couple of our members received trophies, although not all for their Corvettes!

Our annual drive to the Rattlesnake Saloon in Tuscumbia, AL, was 18 October, and did not disappoint. We enjoyed "lunch under a rock" with our friends from the Huntsville, AL, Vets with Vettes club.

From 5-8 November, we headed back to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, KY, this time for Vets N Vettes. We enjoyed some fun parade laps at the Motorsports Park track, took a beautiful fall foliage, back roads tour to the Lighthouse Restaurant in Sulphur Well, KY, ate several wonderful meals in Bowling Green, and participated in the city's Veterans Day Parade. You HAVE to join us in 2026!

As the holidays approached, we cooled our heels — er — hooves, until Friday, December 5th, when we lined our Vettes up for the Collierville Christmas Parade in the form of Santa's Reindeer in full splendor.

We ended our year with a splendid club Christmas Party on 18 December at Memphis National Clubhouse. Excellent food and company, and we were grateful to have the music provided by former club member David (and Kathy) McIntosh who played our Christmas and dance favorites. Thanks to Gary Keirce for organizing the event!

WHEW! What a year! We're looking forward to another fun year in 2026! As always, if you know of a good restaurant or attraction, we'd love to have you help us organize a Mystery Cruise or Drive & Dine. It's easy and fun!

Lastly, I ask that you join me in thanking Ron and Barb Thompson for their leadership and support of Corvette Memphis over the past several DECADES! Their membership will be sorely missed!

Thank you for renewing your Club membership, and for being an active part of OUR club in 2025. Wishing you all the best in the New Year!

Dave Jacobson

President, Corvette Memphis