

# Blue Bars

50 YEARS  
1959 - 2009



**THE NCCC FAMILY . . . . Est. 1959**

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# NCCC's 50th ANNIVERSARY

Almost 50 years have passed since the concept of a national council for Corvette clubs was discussed at a meeting on May 16, 1959 in Washington, DC at the Mayflower Hotel. The enthusiasm of those 16 people representing five clubs from across the nation gave birth to what we now know as The National Council of Corvette Clubs, Inc. (NCCC). Through the continued enthusiasm, dedication and volunteerism of its members throughout the years, NCCC has grown from just a few members and clubs to nearly 300 clubs and close to 19,000 members. Even though NCCC has grown in Membership, it still adheres to many of the original ideals while keeping up to date with the technology of the Corvette and the passion of the Corvette owner. NCCC has grown to become a family made up of good friends and good citizens who are very generous with their time and talents. Members and their clubs support many charitable causes nationwide...and they know how to play and enjoy their Corvettes.

2009 marks NCCC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and NCCC's 50<sup>th</sup> Convention will also take place in Colorado Springs, CO. Plans are in progress for a weeklong celebration of both milestones during Convention Week, August 8-14. An Anniversary Kickoff Banquet and Party will take place on Sunday evening and a 50<sup>th</sup> Convention Party will take place on Wednesday evening. Our History will be displayed all over the place and special surprises throughout the week are in the works. Whether you are a regular Convention attendee, have never been to a Convention or haven't been to a Convention for awhile, 2009 is a "must attend" for all NCCC Members. NCCC will only be 50 once and you don't want to miss any of the excitement and festivities.

So, what do you know about NCCC's history? My husband Jim and I joined NCCC in 1994, so we are still newbies and have a lot to learn. A few years ago, the daughter of one of our deceased members, Ronald Olpp, sent me all of her father's *Blue Bars* and Rulebooks from the 1980s. As I read through them, I became enthralled with all of the history and saw some familiar faces...very young faces...of members whom I have been privileged to already meet. I decided that as NCCC Webmaster, I would try to amass anything that I could about NCCC's history and post a "History of NCCC" on the NCCC Web Site. My first postings can be found under the Competition Program where I have posted all of the NCCC Champions and Final Standings since the beginnings of that program in 1966. There is some tweaking to do and changes to make as I verify spellings and such. I will also add pictures of Champions as I find them and will post articles about the individual and club champions as I come across them. If you have a picture of one of the past individual Champions or a Logo of one of the past Champion clubs, please send them to me.

With the 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations in Colorado Springs just around the corner, I have stepped up my search to find all things that are NCCC history. Things like *Blue Bars* issues, Membership Cards, patches, pins, campaign memorabilia, Convention programs, registration cards, pins, patches and any other giveaways, etc. I am also interested in photos, but I ask that those in the photo be identified along with the place, year and possibly the reason the photo was taken. Thanks to many NCCC Members, I am getting quite a collection and hope

to display most of it at the 2009 Convention. As you do any cleaning out and downsizing, please think of NCCC and my project. Contact me at [NCCCWebmaster@corvettesnccc.org](mailto:NCCCWebmaster@corvettesnccc.org) if you have any questions about what you have. Never assume that I already have something since I do appreciate duplicates and I will accept anything and everything you have.

I have made some new NCCC friends since I started my project. Since Jim and I were already in the state of Washington at the end of our amazing four-day Tiger Cruise aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln in October, we traveled to the southern part of the state to meet with Terry Tetzlaff, an NCCC Charter Member and current MAL member of the Northwest Region. Terry was NCCC's Treasurer for 1964, 1965, 1973, 1974 and 1975; Convention Treasurer for 1976; and he received the President's Award in 1975. He has saved everything NCCC over the years. We had a great visit and Terry told us some great stories, helped me complete my *Blue Bars* collection and gave me or scanned some other very interesting things from NCCC's past.



I appreciate everything that other members have already turned over to my care and intend to acknowledge all contributions as the History is posted. When I have displayed what I can during the Colorado Springs Convention and completed my postings on the Web Site, everything will be safely stored in the NCCC Record Retention area in St. Louis. I hope everyone enjoys learning about NCCC's past history while we all create new history.

So...does anyone know who received the Roger Clancy Humanitarian Award in 1987?

*Joan Thomas*