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Great River Celebrates 45 Years

Great River Corvette Club (GRCC) was established with an organizational meeting held at the Nauvoo State Park on June 11, 1972. The Quincy group of nine Corvettes convoyed from Rod Smith Chevrolet in

Quincy, Illinois. A group of five Corvettes joined them from Ft. Madison and Keokuk, IA.

At that meeting, Dick Valentine presented the group with a proposed constitution and by-laws. After a complete reading and explanation the constitution was voted acceptable and was submitted to NCCC for approval.

It began with 29 members. The first set of Officers elected were: President, Jeff Farr; Vice President, Dick Valentine; Treasurer, Glen Schmitt; Secretary, Jeanie Bissell; Officer at Large, Dennis Grimm; NCCC Representative, Jim Surber. Presently, there is one remaining charter member, Anita Duffy, wife of the late Herb Duffy.



A newsletter, "The Corvette Communique" is published each month to keep members up on club events, meeting notices, club socials, and Corvette news. It has been published every month since the club was organized.

The first vote as a club was in July 1972 to join National Council of Corvette Clubs (NCCC). GRCC Membership was at its highest in the early 80's, with 72-80 members. A prominent factory left the area, along with many members. Currently GRCC has 42 members.

In the past 45 years, GRCC has donated time and donations to Camp Callahan, Jerry Lewis Telethon, Spinal Bifida, National Kidney Foundation, American Red Cross, Quincy Humane Society and Habitat for Humanity. We ran the Tricycle Races during Dogwood Days, and sponsored Scholarships to young aspiring students pursuing a higher education in the automotive industry. GRCC is a Club Member of the National Corvette Museum.

Great River Corvette Club of Quincy, Illinois mission is to respect and enjoy all aspects of driving, polishing, and refurbishing of the Great American Sports Car, the Corvette. In addition to sharing the love of our cars, we have monthly meetings and a variety of drive and dine socials, host Autocross's attend and host car shows, participate in parades, join surrounding car clubs in their activities, and above all build lasting friendships with Corvette enthusiasts.

In honor of our 45th Anniversary, we celebrated with GRCC members and autocross participants at the Town & Country Suites in Quincy, IL, with a catered dinner along with music and a magician. To document the current members and their cars, GRCC consigned a professional drone photographer to produce a DVD; each member was given a copy of the flash drive. To view this video go to http://www.greatrivercor-vetteclub.com. We will end our 45th year with a Christmas Party.