



FEBRUARY 2017 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE!

I sat down to write this month's post for the NCCC web site and thought since February is the month with Valentine's Day, I would write about something else to think about.

I remember growing up a few years ago in the 60's and one of the common sayings was "make love, not war" I guess that is something that should be practiced even today. I know I would rather get along with someone than fight with them. Life is too short and gone before you know it. And making love can be fun!

Things and situations that would have set me off years ago don't seem to bother me as much now. I use to worry about money, and as I aged I realized I can't buy more time or health, but I can always get more money. I have to thank my eldest sister for teaching me that money is replaceable. I use to worry about having a nice home, new cars, at least one Corvette in the stable, and always trying to impress others how well we are doing.

Today as I look back on my life since high school and college, I find out how important friends and family are over all other things. Attending my 50th high school reunion last year, my wife and I left and I shared how lucky and blessed we are after visiting with some of the remaining graduates who are still alive. Too many are gone way too young, and many are still working and can't retire. And not one owns a Corvette, only me!

Joining a Corvette club in the 70's I became a member of NCCC. I didn't really know what NCCC was, just joined because the local club belonged to NCCC. In 1977 I attended my first NCCC Governors meeting and really got interested. In 1982 I was the proxy governor and in 1984 became the Governor. I have been attending meetings since, was a club governor, regional officer, NCCC Parliamentarian, 2011 Convention Director, and now NCCC President.

Over the years attending NCCC meetings, I have watched good things happen for the members and I have watched battles on the floor because of the passion members have for what they believe in. Some battles have turned member against member who have been friends for years. I think about the passion we all believe in and I respect everyone's opinion. In the world today those passions are really important, but are they as important a value in a social Corvette club as in the real world?

I think the difference of importance is what and who does it affect. If taxes or food, or gas increases, I don't like it. What happens in the world I may not agree with or like? But we belong to a National Council of Corvette Clubs, a social organization formed by people who own a car called a Corvette. NCCC needs to have guide lines. a membership fee to belong, and other rules to govern the organization so what we do is fair for all

members. And yet our passion causes us not to get along or agree with what is going on sometimes.

Since Valentine Day is this month, I thought it would be a good time to start the year off with a little LOVE, to everyone and everybody. Try not to get upset with the little things in life. I have found communication in the key to success! Be willing to listen to someone else's passion as it is important to them. Try to understand we all don't always agree with each other, but we all have the same passion, **The Corvette.**

***It's all about love!** Some NCCC clubs and NCCC members felt upset with some things and did not rejoin NCCC in 2017. Insurance was a reason for some, and some members and clubs for other reasons. I don't think the reasons really matter, but I don't like that Corvette people are missing out on belonging to NCCC. NCCC is not perfect and will not always please everyone. But leaving for insurance reasons bothers me. Remember, it is \$2.08 a month to belong to NCCC.*

***Joe Vasta, Region Executive for the East Region,** wrote a great article in the 2016 Fall issue of Blue Bars. I have asked Joe for permission to add his article to my post this month. As members of NCCC we really need to think about how important members, friends, and club insurance are. Would you not insure your Corvette?*

Remember, it is all about LOVE. And for sure get your Valentine something this month!!

***Dave Heinemann**
President NCCC*

From Joe Vasta, East Region Regional Executive

By the time you read this, we will be ending the annual membership renewal process. I have heard rumblings that some clubs are questioning renewal to NCCC and the primary reason given is insurance. Some clubs feel they do not need insurance because they do not race or they only do social activities. Others believe they can obtain lower rates by purchasing insurance 'by the drink' and by purchasing insurance only when they have an activity. If you or your club is included in this category, I offer the following **Twenty Questions** (imitating a TV show of similar name ages ago):

1. Considering the way items are usually packaged, do you think it's possible to purchase equivalent insurance by the drink cheaper than can be obtained by purchasing insurance through a volume package?
2. Are you aware that NCCC puts their insurance coverage up for bid every year in order to gain the best price for the coverage they obtain?
3. Do you know that NCCC insurance has paid out more in claims for car shows than racing events? Since racing events are more tightly controlled, there is less opportunity for creating a litigious event.
4. Do you know that NCCC insurance has paid out more for a 'prom queen's parade' than any other type of event?

5. Many people spend \$20,000, \$40,000, \$60,000 or more for the core of the hobby – their Corvette. Why would people scrimp on a couple dollars for NCCC dues after spending so much money for the major focus of the hobby?
6. Is it possible that people proposing to obtain cheaper insurance have a personal financial motive by suggesting doing so?
7. Are you aware that by taking advantage of NCCC special promotions you can save more money than you would spend for NCCC dues? Have you looked at the *NCCC Discounts* web page?
8. Are you aware that NCCC offers college scholarships to qualified member's children? Have you visited the *NCCC Charity* web page?
9. Are you aware of NCCC's Hardship program? Monies from this program have assisted members during disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes and fires or floods.
10. Do you believe there are people in this world that would sue an individual or an organization, not to recover damages, but just for their own personal financial gain?
11. Many people within the region are '*points chasers*' in that they attend shows, races and other events to obtain competition points both regionally and nationally. Do you believe they would attend your non-NCCC events should you withdraw from NCCC?
12. It's obvious there are many frivolous suits filed. Do you think it's inexpensive just to defend you (or your organization) against a (frivolous?) suit?
13. How would you feel if you proposed not to renew your NCCC membership and later you (or your organization) were subject to a lawsuit?
14. Remember the good old days and all of the fun you had as a kid? Do you want to act like a teenager again? Have you thought about attending the annual NCCC convention? Remember that it will be held in Bowling Green in 2017.
15. Do you plan to travel outside of your home area and wonder whether advertised attractions at your destination are really worth seeing? You might be able to gain information about your destination through NCCC's *People Helping People*.
16. I assume that most members of Corvette clubs have a tight bond with most other members of their club. Have you participated in other regional events and learned the same bond can be established with members of other clubs? (The NCCC tag line has significant meaning – *I came for the car but stayed for the people!*)
17. Are you planning to buy or sell a Corvette or Corvette parts and have not visited the *NCCC Classifieds* web page?
18. Do you think an insurance payment could be awarded to an individual because they didn't know the coffee they purchased was hot?
19. Should your club choose not to renew, are you aware that you can remain an NCCC member as an individual by becoming a Member At Large (MAL)?
20. Should your club choose not to renew, are you aware that you can form an NCCC club by joining 11 other like-minded individuals?

Bonus question: If you are an officer of a club, what is your legal exposure should a suit be filed against you or your club?

One final question: If you have given the preceding adequate consideration, why would it make sense **not to be an NCCC member?**

If your club was one of the ones considering dropping their NCCC membership and the preceding has given you second thoughts, there may still be time to renew your NCCC membership without financial penalty. **Do it NOW!**

Joe Vasta

East Region Regional Executive