

NCCC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MARCH 2017



Spring is here I think. As I look out my window it is 78 degrees outside and it is only February 22, 2017. There should be snow on the ground and a temperature of about 20 degrees outside. Here in Chicago area we have broken the temperature record for the last five days as it has been in the high 60's to 70's every day. The grass is even starting to turn

green. What is up with this?

On a brighter side, January 2nd 2017 registration opened up for the 2017 NCCC Convention in Bowling Green, KY. Hotels and events filled up faster than anyone had expected. If you are on a waiting list for events, hold on as the convention team is working on ways to get everyone entered in the events. NCCC promoted this convention as the one to attend due to the National Corvette Museum, the Corvette Factory, the Motorsports Park, and all the sites and things to do around Bowling Green. Planning was done over two years in advance and then the news that the factory would be shutting down in June for three months instead of the normal two-three weeks for change over to the new model. What to do now? Many members were attending the convention in KY to go on the tour of the Corvette plant. Now it is closed during the week of convention.

Keep in mind that what is happening with the plant being closed is like going to a fine restaurant to eat and you order the meal and the waiter comes back and tells you they are out of green beans with the meal. Would you get up and leave? There is more to the NCCC Convention than the plant tour. Convention is about friends and members getting together for five days to have fun with their favorite hobby and their Corvette. Parties, tours, events, and just having a good time in Bowling Green with everyone is what Convention is all about. And who knows, maybe the plant construction will be done and we can still tour and see how the Corvette is built. **Never give up!**

As the weather gets better every day, I encourage you to do things with your club, even if it is only to go out to eat somewhere. Last Sunday 57 members from my club, Windy City Corvettes, went to dinner at the White Fence Farm Restaurant and had a great time together. And then we all went home to bed because that is what older people do. But it was great to get together. Get involved in your club. You never know what fun you can have with just a drive out somewhere.

Events are starting all over the country as you read this. I encourage you to get involved in NCCC at some level. NCCC is like belonging to a family. It is what you make of it. If you have a favorite place to go, share it with your members and set a date. You won't regret leading an event for others. Giving is when you receive. Have fun this year.

Scholarship applications for any child or adult of a NCCC member are now on the NCCC web site. Applications need to be in by June 15, 2017.

The new NCCC Corvette Raffle program is in its second year awarding cash or a certificate for a new Corvette at the Bowling Green Convention this summer. You can order or buy tickets on the NCCC web site.

Have a great spring and fun doing what you enjoy doing. Life is too short not to.

Attached below my report is a summary of the National Kidney Foundation Raffle Program NCCC conducted from 1996 through 2015.

God bless and see you soon.

Dave Heinemann
President NCCC



Betty Parks, NCCC Treasurer Report

By the end of January, all the club and member renewal dues were processed and all moneys were deposited in the bank. A special thanks goes to all the Regional Membership Directors and their Governors for the timely handling of this renewal process.

With that major task accomplished - I turned to researching NCCC's support of the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) - in response to an accusation made by a former NCCC member. The individual was claiming that NCCC had not donated moneys to NKF.

It was a difficult and laborious process to research back to 1996 since a lot of the records are no longer available, especially given that IRS only requires the maintenance of the last 7 years of tax returns. After many hours of looking through box after box, I came across the check register that Patrick Dolan, former Director of Charity, had maintained for the entire period of our association with the NKF!!

The following report is submitted as the result of my investigation and recent conversation with Patrick Dolan:

A new Director of Charity, Patrick Dolan, was appointed in 1996 and a new direction was set with a new charity. 1996 marked the first year that the NCCC Charity Committee was affiliated with the National Kidney Foundation (NKF). One involvement for NCCC was the associate sponsorship of the 1996 Transplant Games held in Salt Lake City, UT. During the Games, Patrick Dolan presented NKF with the first donation check for \$68,640 from the 1996 Corvette Raffle. The entire amount was distributed back to the local affiliates that had raised moneys through the sale of raffle tickets.

The Transplant Games were a biennial event, which meant that NKF would be selling tickets towards NCCC's Corvette Raffle every other year (to help fund their athletes' participation in the Games). It was agreed that all moneys raised from NKF's ticket sales would be returned as NCCC's donation to NKF for that year. This meant that NCCC had sole responsibility to cover all fundraising expenses for the Games years, including the purchase of the Corvette and a reserve for the next year's car, through its sales.

For the non-Transplant Game years, NCCC exclusively sold tickets through its members and at numerous Corvette and Trade Shows. After fundraising expenses were paid and enough money was in reserve to purchase the next year's Corvette, a donation was given to NKF.

Over the years, the largest NKF sale support was in the 2002 Transplant Games with \$121,000 and the lowest participation was in 2010 (just prior to the suspension of the Games) with just under \$28,000. Along the way, support from NCCC's ticket sales started to drop off thus impacting the size of our donation. In 2011, NKF suspended the Transplant Games. In good faith, NCCC continued to try to sell tickets to benefit NKF's General Funds. However, the ever shrinking NCCC ticket sales did not generate enough funds to cover the rising cost of the raffle car and make a donation. In 2015, less than \$30,000 in ticket sales were processed (against a looming cost of \$51,000 for the raffle car) thus causing NCCC to stop the NKF raffle process and re-evaluate the whole Charity program. In 2016, Patrick Dolan decided to retire as Director of Charity after close to 20 years of faithful and tireless service.

Under Patrick's leadership and through our joint efforts with NKF, NCCC has been proud to donate close to \$725,000 to NKF/Transplant Games.

In closing, if you hear **ANYTHING** about NCCC not donating to NKF, you have the true facts!! I'm proud of all the work that our members have done in the past and the future with our charitable efforts.

Save the wave....

Betty Parks
NCCC Treasurer