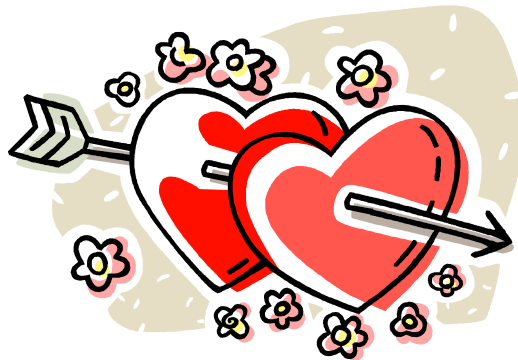


# VicVettes



**HAPPY**

**VALENTINES!!**

**Publication of the Victoria Corvette Club  
February, 2010**

**The Victoria Corvette Club** represents Corvette owners and enthusiasts in the capital city of British Columbia. Victoria, located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, is known as the Garden City and is a major international tourist destination. We hold our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the Station House Pub, 737 Goldstream Ave. We meet at 6:00 PM for dinner, and hold our meetings after we have dined. Guests and new members are always welcome.

Our members own an interesting variety of Corvettes, and we are active year 'round with Corvette-related activities: social events, show and shine, rallies, slaloms, tours, parades and more.

We are a non-profit society, and sponsor our Club charity, the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children.

## Executive

President:	Cam Johnson	250 813-0844	<a href="mailto:johnson151@gmail.com">johnson151@gmail.com</a>
Vice President:	Rick Specht	250 386-7962	<a href="mailto:clspecht@shaw.ca">clspecht@shaw.ca</a>
Treasurer:	Don Hamilton	250 383-5995	<a href="mailto:dhamilton48@shaw.ca">dhamilton48@shaw.ca</a>
Secretary:	Cheryl Specht	250 386-7962	<a href="mailto:clspecht@shaw.ca">clspecht@shaw.ca</a>
Membership Director:	Paul Bonsdorf	250 479-5987	<a href="mailto:paul.bonsdorf@gmail.com">paul.bonsdorf@gmail.com</a>
Canadian Council of Corvette Clubs Director:	Vacant		
Competition Director:	Vacant		
Social Director:	Vacant		
Persons to Notify of Member Occurrences:	Ron or Sylvia Sessions	250 642-3186	<a href="mailto:ronsyl@shaw.ca">ronsyl@shaw.ca</a>
Website	Wolf Schmitz	250 361-8281	<a href="mailto:schmitzw@shaw.ca">schmitzw@shaw.ca</a>
Newsletter Publisher:	Malcolm Baster	250 743-1791	<a href="mailto:spmanor@msn.com">spmanor@msn.com</a>

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Our address:  
Victoria Corvette Club,  
PO Box 5623, Station B,  
Victoria, BC V8R 6S4

Our website: [www.victoriavette.com](http://www.victoriavette.com)  
e-mail: [membership@victoriavette.com](mailto:membership@victoriavette.com)



The way to go in 1958

## *President's Message*

Cam regrets there is no President's Message this month.

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Here we have the Corvette GTR, the creation of Jeff Nowicki and his team at Troy, Michigan based Specter Werkes/Sports.

Specter Werkes built its first GTR about 10 years when about 30 C5-based cars were produced. One each of these went to the Dale Earnhardts, Sr and Jr.

The GTR is now based on the C6. You can specify the amount of power you want, up to 800 HP in the twin-turbo Lingenfelter LS7.



**Our Club Sponsors:**

Principal Sponsor:

**Jenner Chevrolet Ltd.**

1730 Island Highway,

Victoria, BC

(250) 474-1211

Affiliate sponsor:

**Canadian Tire (Gordon Head)**

3993 Cedar Hill Road

Victoria, BC

(250) 721-1125

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**Here at Last      A genuine Canadian Supercar**

Pictured below is the HTT Plethore LC 750...Fabrique au Quebec



The car is built by HTT Technologies, located at the Autodrome St Eustache, northwest of Montreal. It features a central driving position, with two passenger seats, one each to the left and right and slightly behind the driver. (The McLaren F1 supercar has a similar setup.)

Power comes from a supercharged 6.2 litre Corvette ZR1 engine, tuned to produce 750 HP.

The LC 750 will initially only be for sale in Europe, there being too many Rules which Must Be Obeyed to permit the car to be offered here, though there are plans for certification in Canada and the US. The European version is expected to be priced at about \$375,000 CDN.

The company has plans to produce more powerful variants, with a 1,300 HP engine possible.



Inside the Plethore

## Coming Events:

Feb 21

Club Brunch. 10:30 AM, Cowichan Golf & Country Club, 4955 Trans Canada Hwy, Duncan. See Rick Specht's e-mail for details. Let Rick know if you will attend.

250 386-7962 or [clspecht@shaw.ca](mailto:clspecht@shaw.ca)

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### *A bit of Valentine's Day trivia*

- \* Over 110 million (mostly red) roses will be bought and presented
- \* The red rose was associated with the Roman goddess Venus. Red stands for strong feelings. The vast majority of Valentine's roses sold in Canada and the US are imported from South America.
- \* 15% of US women send themselves flowers for Valentine's Day.
- \* 73% of flower-buyers are men, and 27% women.
- \* More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolates will be bought.
- \* 75% of chocolates sold yearly are bought by women, however for Valentines Day, men buy 75% of the chockies.
- \* Over one billion dollars is spent each year on Valentine's chocolates.
- \* One third of Valentine's Day cards are accompanied by gifts.
- \* About 25% of Valentine's Day cards are humorous.
- \* 70% of those marking the day send cards, 49% make telephone calls, 48% give gifts, 37% cook special dinners, 33% give candy, 30% spring for restaurant meals and 19% give flowers.
- \* The Italian city of Verona, home of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, receives about 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet each year.
- \* About 3% of pet owners give their pets Valentine's Day gifts.

### *A bit more useless info*

There are 15 places with the name Valentine in the US, 5 with the name Romance, 3 called Cupid and three named Arrow. There are many more places with names one might associate with Valentine's Day, such as Love and variations thereof, Heart, Flower, Diamond, Rose etc.

In Canada we have Rose Harbour, Rose Lake and Rose Prairie, all in BC. In Newfoundland we find Flowers Cove, Heart's Content, Heart's Delight and Heart's Desire.

The Chinese city of Chengdu has created a pedestrian crossing designed to put you in the mood for love.



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## Big Days:

### Birthdays:

Malcolm Baster	Feb 4
Paul Miller	Feb 11
Jim Sandwith	Feb 17
Sheila Yaremko	Feb 21

### Anniversaries:

Michael & Sheryl Krieger	Feb 14
Yale & Valerie Shap	Feb 15

## Club Notes

Cam, somewhat weak of voice after a recent viral attack, did not have time to retrieve our sound system from home before the meeting, and was thus forced to tax his dwindling vocal reserves to the limit.

Jennifer Jasechko of the Queen Alexandra Foundation attended our meeting, and showed us what our recent donation had bought. She first described the Hippo car seat. It is sometimes necessary for doctors to break a child's leg surgically and then reset it in order for the child to walk. The Hippo seat accommodates that child and his or her cast in a car. We bought two of these. Next she described the Spinoza Bear, of which we bought four. These are cuddly stuffed bears that contain the mechanism to play taped messages to children with psychological disorders. It can be easier in these situations for children to deal with small bears than with big adults. Our last contribution was 20 Fidget Packs. These comprise articles designed to aid communication with stressed out and abused children, and items to help them calm down. Children take these Packs home with them. Jennifer presented us with a framed Certificate of Appreciation, and, most practically, a box of chocolates. We thank Jennifer for her presentation and the Certificate. And most definitely for the chocolates.

Cam advised us that the Camosun parking lot was already fully booked this year, but we have reserved Western Speedway on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> for our Driver Training Day. We have the track from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Cam also said that we should shortly be able to book our 2010 Christmas Party, and we will be advised of the date and location at the March meeting.

Wolf Schmitz showed us a sample of a calendar, and suggested that we could sell similar ones in order to raise a bit of cash. One idea would be to sell an 18 month version at our annual Glass on the Grass. Wolf can obtain calendars for us, and the idea will be explored further.

Rick Specht plans to head south of the border next summer, possibly to Portland or Seattle, and requests that anyone making the same plans advise him soon so that a group run could be organized.

On behalf of the club, Cam thanked Wolf for resurrecting our website. It looks great!

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Jennifer demonstrates the Spinoza Bear (L) and presents our Certificate of Appreciation (R )

Random Pics....

A bit more Valentine's Day fluff:



A Chihuahua from Japan named Heartkun. It's heart-shaped marking is natural.



Or how about a red heart on a green pepper? Hot stuff!



Happy Valentine's, guys!

More Random Pics

One must always be fair....



Happy Valentine's, Gals!!!



Another view of the HTT Plethore LC 750

Plethora translates into English as plethora, meaning an excess or over-abundance.

A secondary meaning (now archaic) is a morbid condition due to an excess of red corpuscles in the blood.

Ernie: What did you buy your wife for Valentine's Day?

George: A belt and a bag.

Ernie: How kind of you. I hope she appreciates the thought.

George: So do I. Anyway, the vacuum cleaner will work better now.



At last, a solution to our heavy, wet snow! Kai Grundt, a resident of Northern Ontario, built this snowblower. It is propelled by a 454 Chevy V8 which churns out 412 HP and 430 Lbs Ft of torque.



Olympics time!

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### The Richter Scale (See “Idlings”)

- \* Developed in 1935 by Charles Richter of the California Institute of Technology
- \* Measures the magnitude (energy released) of earthquakes
- \* Magnitude determined from the logarithm of the amplitude of waves recorded by seismographs
- \* Each whole number increase in magnitude represents a tenfold increase in amplitude
- \* Each whole number increase in magnitude represents about a 31-fold increase in energy released over that associated with the previous whole number
- \* A 7.0 has about 31 times the energy of a 6.0, and 1,000 times the energy of a 5.0
- \* If possible, you should avoid earthquakes over 3.9

# Idlings

Recent disastrous events in Haiti got me thinking about our local earthquake hazard. We reside in what is referred to as the Cascadia Subduction Zone. I won't go into geological details, but it seems that around here the offshore Juan de Fuca tectonic plate is moving eastward at about 40mm per year, and is being forced beneath the North American plate (subducting.) The Cascadia Fault, which extends from northern Vancouver Island to northern California, is currently "locked," but when it slips, the largest type of earthquakes can occur. These are called "megathrust" earthquakes, and can exceed magnitude 9 on the Richter scale. These quakes have a return time of 300 to 600 years. The last one occurred at about 9:00 PM on January 26, 1700. (We know this from very accurate records of the huge tsunami caused by this earthquake that struck Japan.)

As the Juan de Fuca plate subducts, it causes the earth's crust to buckle, and this local buckling and slipping can cause localized earthquakes. These, because they can occur inland and close to our cities, are perhaps a more immediate threat than the "Big One."

There are two ways we can react to this potential catastrophe:

1. "It won't happen in my lifetime, and if it does, the local civil authorities will save me."
2. "I will try to prepare for it as best I can."

Option 1 is obviously the most convenient plan should there be no earthquake, but would tend to leave you at a bit of a disadvantage should a major one occur. The wiser amongst us might wish to explore option 2.

A localized major earthquake would no doubt be very unpleasant for those nearby, but widespread infrastructure destruction should not occur. Assistance and relief supplies would probably arrive in the area within days, so a stock of food, water and other requirements for a week or so would probably suffice. But if a slip along the length of the Cascadia Fault were to cause a magnitude 9 earthquake, the story would be very different.

It's the day of the "Big One." The long awaited earthquake has happened. Thousands are dead, trapped in collapsed buildings, and many more thousands injured. Ruined grocery stores are rapidly emptied by those who can get to them, and fighting breaks out as people struggle for supplies. Vancouver Island imports 80% to 90% of its food, depending on time of year, and most of this arrives in trucks carried by BC Ferries. But with the ferry terminals and many roads destroyed, no fresh supplies are arriving. And there are very few methods of delivering emergency supplies in anything like the quantities needed. Vancouver airport is underwater, and Victoria's airport requires major runway repair before it can be used again. Ferry terminals and seaports on the mainland and on the island are in shambles, and road and rail networks unusable. The Canadian military will do what it can, but little help will come from the US as they are busy dealing with large scale destruction in Washington and Oregon.

So as we huddle in the wreckage of our homes and deal with the inevitable aftershocks, it would definitely be to our advantage to have a good supply of emergency food and water on hand. We would also need a method of defending our supplies from the followers of Option 1 above, who by now would be getting a bit hungry and casting covetous eyes upon our stuff.

It is difficult to know how long we would have to hold out before we could be resupplied or evacuated. I suppose it would depend to a great extent upon where we live and our ability to reach a point at which aid is being delivered. Those who live in comparatively isolated areas would obviously have to be self-sufficient for a longer period.

It would probably be wise to have a stock of food and water for up to three weeks, as well as basic first-aid supplies, blankets and warm clothing. Water purification tablets and filters might also prove useful. And an M60 to discourage would-be robbers, if you could manage one.

I would also recommend you obtain any useful literature you can from your local civil defence or emergency preparedness organizations.

## A Little Earthquake Trivia:

There are about 9,000 earthquakes per day, most of which are not felt.

If the Nagasaki atomic bomb were exploded underground, it would produce a magnitude 5 quake.

The most powerful H-bomb ever tested would produce a 7.1 quake.

There was a 9.2 earthquake in Alaska in 1964

The most powerful earthquake yet recorded was a 9.5 monster in Chile in 1960.