

# Heartbeat of Olympia

May 2010

Volume 39, Issue 3

## Corvettes de Olympia 2009 Officers

### PRESIDENT

Meagan Renick  
360-459-0771

### VICE PRESIDENT

Jason Moorash  
301-512-0345

### SECRETARY

Jennie Hatfield

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### NWACC REP.

George Schwartz

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### EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

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### HISTORIAN

Randy Harris

### MEMBERSHIP

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### PUBLICITY

Peggy Rogers

### SCHOLARSHIP

Cliff Reichel and Karen Johnson

### SPONSORSHIP

Peggy Rogers

### TELEPHONE TREE

Betsy Cousineau

### WEB SITE

Art Carter and Jon Cox

### NCM AMBASSADOR

George Schwartz

### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Frankie Sokso

## Minutes of the General Meeting April 14th, 2010

### CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., April 14, 2010 at the Hawks Prairie Inn by President Meagan Renick. Each member introduced themselves as well as their car(s).

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from March 10, 2010 were approved with no additions or corrections.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Larry Weniger**  
Account balances were read by Treasurer Weniger. Larry stated that up to date information is available on the club website.

**NWACC – George Swartz**  
George reported to the group that NWACC is currently looking for a new insurance carrier for next year. He explained that the premium might be drastically cut and the binders will be less. He will have more information throughout the year. The insurance policy could change as of 10/31/2010.

**NCM – George Schwartz**  
Mr. Schwartz encouraged the group to enter the auction for a 2010 C6 Coop. Out of 500 tickets available only 250 have been sold. The drawing will take place on 04/15/2010.

**HISTORIAN- Randy Harris**  
Randy informed the club that there was no new history to report.

**SPONSORSHIP – Peggy Rogers**

Sponsorship Chair Rogers said that three sponsors from last year renewed their sponsorship for 2010. A big thank you went out to Titus Will, Classy Chassie and Dr. Gould!

**SCHOLARSHIP – Karen Johnson**  
Karen informed the group that there was no new information to report.

**WEBSITE – Art Carter**  
Webmaster Art said that except for the newsletters everything is up-to-date.

**MEMBERSHIP – Art Carter**  
Membership Chair, Art informed the group that membership was moving along great.

**SUNSHINE – Frankie Sokso**  
A member of the club reported that Leo D. was in the hospital and is still ill. President Renick stated that Frankie would like to retire from the Sunshine Committee and asked if anyone interested please contact her.

**EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES – Josette Miller and Jon Cox**  
Jon presented each member with a new calendar of events. Club members thanked Jon for putting time and effort into making the calendar. Josette & Jon announced the Top 10 Club Events based upon the recent event survey and announced that the 2010 Events Calendar was not full and all ideas are welcomed. A Thank you letter from the Lions Club was read by Events Chair Miller. Member Mark Twardzicki enthusiastically announced the CdeO Poker Rally on May 2, 2010 and invited everyone to attend.

For the Top 10 Club Events, Poker Rally and  
*(Continued on page 3)*

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**The Next Meeting** Wed, May 12, 2010 @ 7pm  
Hawks Prairie Restaurant, Lacey, WA

The Heartbeat of Olympia is the official publication of Corvettes de Olympia. It is published monthly and samples can be obtained by writing to: Corvettes de Olympia, PO Box 2154, Olympia WA 98507-2154, or by contacting any club member. Newsletter subscription rate for non-members is \$10.00 per year.

Heartbeat of Olympia Editor-in-Chief: Jason Moorash

Corvettes de Olympia is a non-profit organization formed in 1972. Our purpose is to:

1. Develop friendship and pride among Corvette owners and drivers,
2. Encourage skillful, safe and sportsmanlike driving habits on the highways,
3. Improve relations between the community and Corvette people,
4. Actively promote, sponsor, organize, and supervise sports car competition, outings, meetings and other Corvette or sports car activities.

Annual membership dues are family-\$55.00, single-\$27.50. Monthly meetings are normally held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, at 7:00 pm, at a suitable location in Thurston County. Meetings are open to any and all Corvette enthusiasts. **Visit us on the web at: [www.corvettesdeolympia.org](http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org)**

### President's Message

April 26, 2010 President's Message

With spring we have all the usual activities ahead of us, but mainly I would like to take a moment to remind all of the upcoming CdeO Poker Rally. This is our second year that we are taking a stab at something different, and this year we are asking for you participate in the event and have some fun with your Corvette and fellow Corvette friends. On a side note; even though the "All City Rally" has changed, this year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> year that Corvettes de Olympia has put on the annual rally event. Mark has been working diligently to put all of the final details of this rally into place, and we all know how crazy he is, so now that he is in the final stages, I am simply sending out a friendly reminder for you to mark your calendar for Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am sure that you will enjoy what he has in store for you. Our Events and Activities Co-Chairs are working very hard behind the scenes to make sure that all of the events that we are interested in are posted out on our website, this includes a variety of new and old events as a result of their recent poll. If you know of something that isn't posted, get the information to Josette or Jon via email, and they can add it to our website. I can't wait to get out and do some fun stuff in the sun. I encourage you all to attend the upcoming general membership meeting and to check out the website for some of the upcoming events.

Save the Wave!

Meagan Renick



### Past Presidents Corvettes de Olympia

1972	Rick Lockhart
1973	Larry Johnson
1974	Rick Lockhart
1975	Terry Halliday
1976	Ralph Adams
1977	Bill Pollard
1978	Sandy Lockhart
1979	Mike Halliday
1980	Ralph Adams
1981	Larry Johnson
1982	Mike Halliday
1983	Karen Johnson
1984	Jerry Crabill
1985	Tom Kuchman
1986	Larry Johnson
1987	Duncan Johnson
1988	Skip Burch
1989	Jim Turcotte
1990	Karen Johnson
1992	Tom Kuchman
1991	Ron Zielin
1993	Roy Scioli
1994	Tom Hanson
1995	Tom Kuchman
1996	Peggy Rogers
1997	Peggy Rogers
1998	Karen Johnson
1999	Randy Harris
2000	Randy Harris
2001	Jim Turcotte
2002	Peggy Rogers
2003	Peggy Rogers
2004	Vince Puntene
2005	Vince Puntene
2006	Vince Puntene
2007	Brian Cousineau
2008	Peggy Rogers
2009	Meagan Renick
2010	Meagan Renick

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up-to-date event details please refer to the club website.

## OLD BUSINESS

Ann Wax announced that there was an additional charge for ordered jackets and closed jacket orders.

## NEW BUSINESS

A few club members expressed their concern with not being able to see member profiles. Webmaster Art stated that there was a recent change in software and he would look into issue.

Event Chair Jon noted that the entry dates for 2009 event sign-ups on the website have been corrected and we should not see club member sign-ups from 2009.

A caravan to Bowling Green, KY is in its early design state and it looks like it will fall after Labor Day weekend in 2011. More details to come.



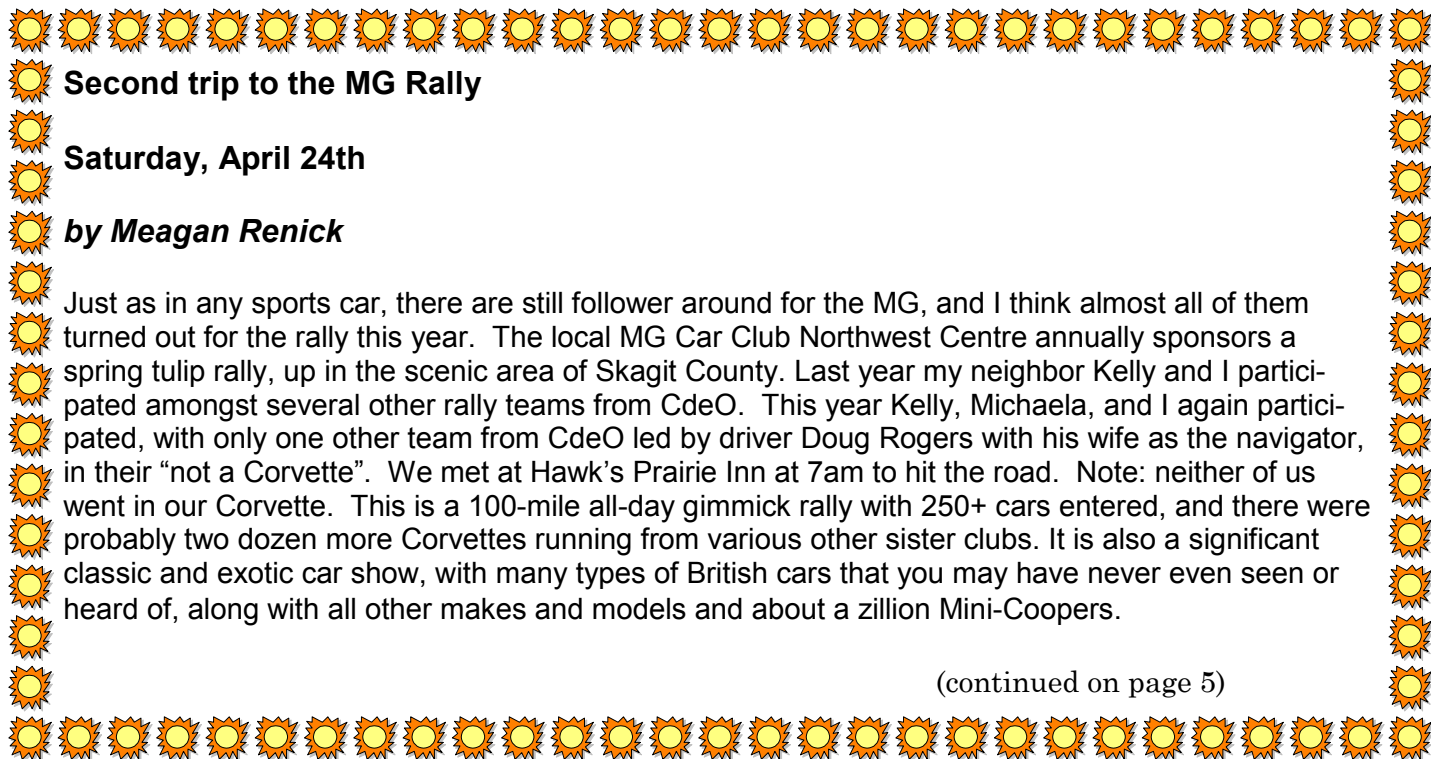
### For sale

2003 Corvette convertible, spiral gray metallic, automatic transmission, memory package, telescoping steering wheel, head up display, magnetic select ride, polished aluminum wheels, 12 disc CD changer, car cover.

16,675 miles. \$29,000. Cliff Reichel 360-456-8623

## Corvette Corner

- The first 2011 Corvette will pay homage to the 1960 Briggs Cunningham [Corvette](#) that won the 24 Hours of Lemans. It shares the same decals as that 1960Vette but also adds some extra performance goodies.
- Chevrolet is recalling about 40,000 Corvettes from the 2005-2006 model years. The recalled cars are equipped with a tilt and telescoping steering column. Read more: [http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/corvette\\_recall.html#ixzz0n7hOAEP2](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/corvette_recall.html#ixzz0n7hOAEP2)
- GM has introduced some juicy financing and incentives for 2009 and 2010 Corvettes.
- The state car of Kentucky is now.....The Corvette!!!!



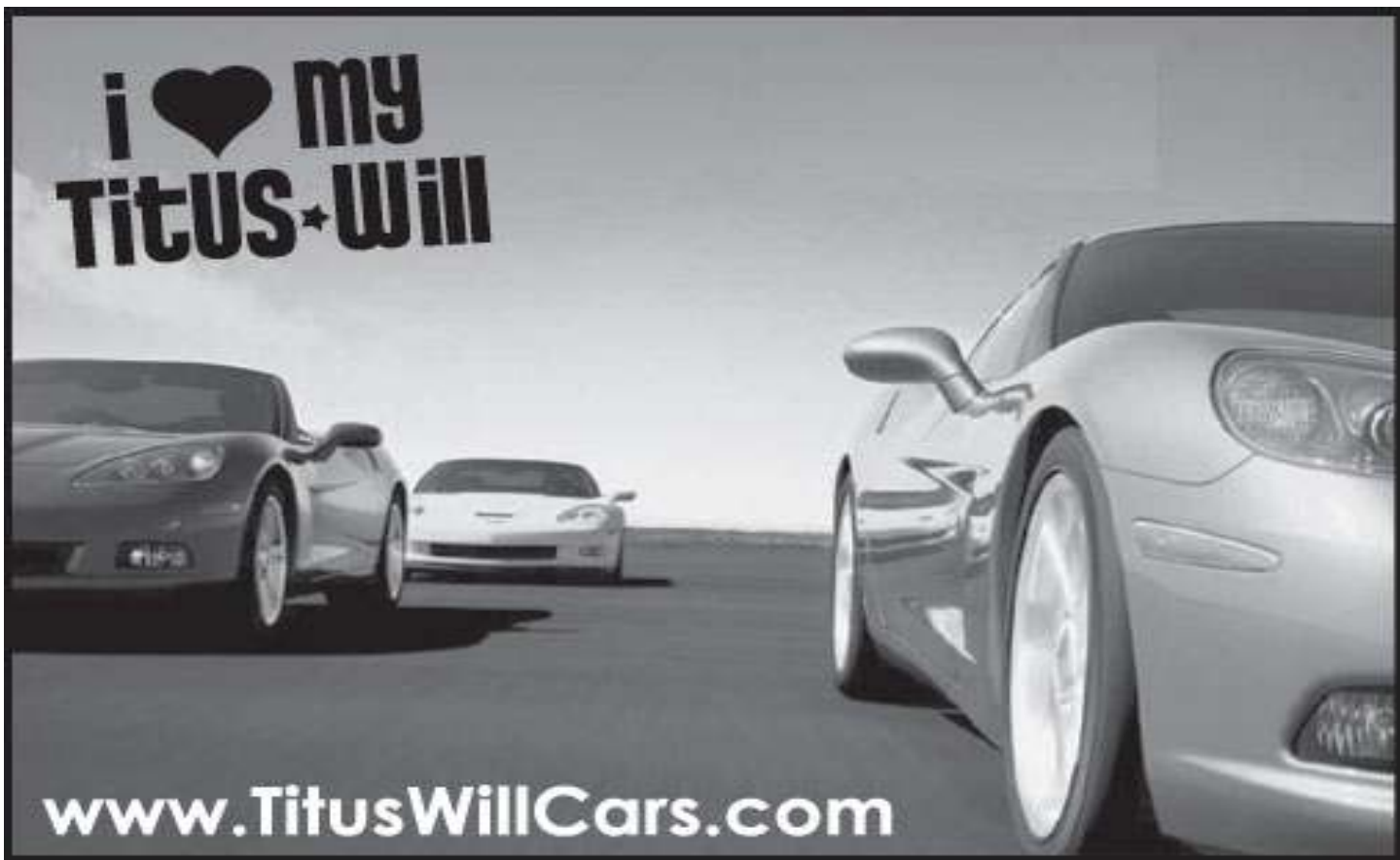
### **Second trip to the MG Rally**

**Saturday, April 24th**

**by Meagan Renick**

Just as in any sports car, there are still follower around for the MG, and I think almost all of them turned out for the rally this year. The local MG Car Club Northwest Centre annually sponsors a spring tulip rally, up in the scenic area of Skagit County. Last year my neighbor Kelly and I participated amongst several other rally teams from CdeO. This year Kelly, Michaela, and I again participated, with only one other team from CdeO led by driver Doug Rogers with his wife as the navigator, in their "not a Corvette". We met at Hawk's Prairie Inn at 7am to hit the road. Note: neither of us went in our Corvette. This is a 100-mile all-day gimmick rally with 250+ cars entered, and there were probably two dozen more Corvettes running from various other sister clubs. It is also a significant classic and exotic car show, with many types of British cars that you may have never even seen or heard of, along with all other makes and models and about a zillion Mini-Coopers.

(continued on page 5)



## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

This year was the 29<sup>th</sup> annual running of this rally. Only one year less than the number of years that we have been doing our club's rally. And surprisingly enough, this is only the 27<sup>th</sup> year of the Tulip Festival. How do we know that you ask? Because it was a trivia question on the rally! The start point was at a cold and over-cast mall parking lot in Burlington, with a 4-abreast starting line, with some line launching a car about every 15 seconds. To keep from creating a huge traffic jam, the rally cars went on at least 3 different routes, which passed each other in sections where the clues and gimmicks were. And even though we knew this from the start, we couldn't help but think that several of them that were passing us were back-tracking! My navigator(s) both being seasoned at this point (Kelly has done this with me one other year, and did the All City Rally with me one year about three years back, and of course Michaela who has several Navigator trophies under her belt dating back to three months old), decided right from the beginning that we were not in the right state of mind for this. So, we stopped along the route to review the entire packet. We found at that time that a majority of the "questions" this year were actually trivia that had absolutely nothing to do with the route itself. So, while others were taking their allotted 30 minute break to view the tulips we decided to go through the entire packet and answer ALL of the trivia questions.

Once we had done that, we got back on the route and looked for the one clue that was stopping us up. We pulled several U-turns in downtown Anacortes, and even stopped in a median to read a sign thoroughly, while a police officer drove past us wondering what we were doing. Luckily, he didn't stop to ask us. We had one "passing" instance where there were several rally cars in a row, being held up on a 50 MPH straight clear road, and as I took my turn to throw a pass, a C-5 Corvette "tried" to race my Honda, and was unsuccessful. I almost felt ashamed, as my navigator laughed hysterically. My only thought is that that guy must have just gotten the car, and didn't yet know how to drive it? That was however the last time that we saw him and his navigator along the route. Once we had gotten all of the clues in that section we decided to stop at a McDonald's to use the restroom. While inside we discovered that several other ralliests (including a Range Rover that had been with us on half of the route) were inside with a laptop trying to figure out the trivia questions.

We got back on the road with the last laugh thinking "that's gonna take them a while, and we are done with that part". There was a lot of beautiful scenery along the way, and we had a great time. I must be lucky that I have a five year old that doesn't whine or complain about these 8 hour driving days! Instead, she just handed out flyers to everyone at both the start and the finish, inviting them to Corvettes de Olympia's poker rally!

We finished the rally and walked around to view all of the cars. After about 30 minutes we decided that we would hit the road again for the long ride home. We didn't stick around for the results of the rally, although they assured us that if we placed, we would get something by mail. Last year, Kelly and I got first place for our club; but this year we had to compete in the open class, so who knows what that means. We thought that we did well, and of course got every question correct, but you never can tell what those crazy Rally Masters are thinking!

All in all we had a great time, and this was yet another great rally! Hopefully next year we can put together a bigger club team and come prepared to hold a tailgate party at the finish per Duncan's suggestion last year!

"Save the Wave"

Meagan Renick's Crazy Rally Team-Honda

Update: After Meagan sent me the original story, she received a package in the mail with a 1st place plaque, a thank you card, and their answer sheet..needless to say they did us all proud.



Corvettes de Olympia

## Calendar of Events

- May 16 [NWACC AutoCross Event \(Shelton\)](#)
- May 22 [First CdeO Day Tour of the Driving Season\\*](#)
- May 22 [Tumwater High School Car Show](#)
- May 29 [Rainbow Falls Rod Run \(Chehalis\)](#)
- 
- June 11 - 13 [Vette-a-bration \(Yakima\)](#)
- June 12 [Ocean Shores Flag Day Parade\\*](#)
- June 20 [One Lap Around Mt. Rainier\\*](#)
- June 20 [NWACC AutoCross](#)
- June 24 [Yelm Prairie Days Parade\\*](#)

**Note:**

Part of becoming a CdeO member, requires attending two meetings and two sanctioned club events within a nine-month period. The events noted with an asterisk (\*) count towards membership qualification. If you're looking for more information, please contact Josette Miller at (360) 413-7645 or contact Jon Cox via email at [events\\_activities@corvettesdeolympia.org](mailto:events_activities@corvettesdeolympia.org).

## Years Ago in the Heartbeat of Olympia

by Professor Arch Ives

### May 2000, ten years ago:

Events & Activities started to circulate two clipboards at meetings to make it doubly easy for everyone to sign up for events... our Vette Fest IV was being postponed until 2001... the former summer C&HP Meet at Puyallup was evolving into the Northwest Automotive Nostalgia Meet... CdeO was now offering two scholarships at SPSCC... the Grapeview Parade run planned to have lunch at the Allyn Tavern... in the All City Rally Pre-Run, Mr. Johnson (Duncan) had dragged out "Mistress" (his '72 roadster) and teamed with "The *Other* Mrs. Johnson" (Karen,) all enjoying a nostalgic run to second place, thus dodging the winners' super-ugly perpetual trophies.

### May 1990, twenty years ago:

A feature article described NWACC and its many events and competitions... the Sciolis' '88 was the Car Of The Month... at the business meeting an investigation was launched into why CdeO was no longer participating in the Lakefair Parade... the All City Rally drew 52 cars and was covered by the Olympian, their reporter riding in the car which finished 11th... a fair amount of confusion resulted along the rally route when some homeowners removed some dwarves from their yard for a while (they were a rally clue,) repainted them a different color, and then re-installed them, all while the rally cars were going by... the June club meeting will be part of a mystery tour and rally... coming club events include the GM Picnic and the McCleary Bear Festival.

## 1999 Modified Triple Black C5

Owner: Eric Ries



“Having a Corvette is a labor of love and the work is never done”

The early morning stillness was shattered by the echoes of pure American horsepower. Seven gleaming beauties snaked through the empty streets, their bellows echoing off the brick storefronts that lined each side of the street. Pedestrians in the small town stopped to admire and for each of the driver's, this was a day to remember. Just a few months prior, these seven drivers were piloting a different kind of machine. All were “Bountyhunters;” Troopers of Echo Troop, 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment of the famed 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. All were army pilots of the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter, and all were brothers connected by something only those who have served in combat can fully understand. After a long year of flying combat missions in Baghdad, Iraq and surrounding areas to include Fallujah, a bond was formed that was hard to explain. Politics aside, these men knew all that mattered was getting their brothers safely home. Their records spoke for everything they accomplished, although you would never hear them talk about it. Just of these seven Soldiers, the awards included a Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and 14 Air Medals (most of those with the Valor Device). They represent the best the Army has to offer, and in the long tradition of Cavalry Soldiers, they take their jobs very seriously. The talk of sports cars started with “Ring Leader,” also known by his Callsign of Bountyhunter 10. CW3 Steve Wells, the senior Warrant Officer in the troop, had driven sports cars all his life, and his plan for his return to Fort Hood, Texas was to purchase a C5 Corvette. His close friend and an Instructor Pilot for the troop, CW3 Chad Griffin, callsign Bountyhunter 11 (but known as Puddin’ by the Troop), was also talking about purchasing a Corvette upon his return. For the rest of us, talk around the “campfire” consisted of girls, beer, and fast cars, but no real plan on how to obtain any of them. Days after the redeployment from Iraq to Texas, Steve Wells, recipient of the Silver Star, stayed true to his moniker of “Ringleader” and purchased his 2001 Navy Metallic Blue Coupe from Corvette Country in Austin. A real beautiful buy, this six-speed monster sported an oak interior and low miles. Little did he know that Chad Griffin had purchased his 1999 Magnetic Red Coupe from Corvettes of Houston just 17 hours earlier. When both of them drove to work on Monday it was all downhill from there. CW2 Eric Ries (Bountyhunter 17), the young, single, wild guy of the bunch (hence his nickname, Manchild) purchased his 1999 Black Coupe from Corvette Country. Still missing the adrenaline he thrived on in Iraq, his new machine was quickly sent to Motorsport Technologies Incorporated for some modifications. When he picked up his “new” car, he was pushing over 500 hp, with an exhaust note that let everyone within a mile know who was in town. CPT Glen Hees (Bountyhunter 6), the Commander for Echo Troop, was quick to follow after seeing the beautiful machines at work everyday. After a few subtle hints to his wife, Wendy, it wasn't long until he was driving home in his 2002 Pewter Coupe from Corvette Country. Even with four Corvettes in the Troop of 30 Soldiers, no one could ever guess that this trend would continue on to a total of eight. CW3 Greg Wooten was the fifth one to fall in love with the Corvette. He purchased his 2001 Torch Red Coupe from a local dealership in Killeen, Texas and also brought his to MTI for some “minor” modifications that had imports scrambling for cover and the crotch-rocket crowd suddenly throttle shy. CW2 Max Merideth held out as long as he could, but after driving Steve's Coupe, newly updated with the Blackwing air intake and Billy Boat quad tip bullets, his resistance was quickly broken and he showed up to work the next day driving his new 2002 Black Coupe. Seventh on the list, our Distinguished Flying Cross recipient, CW2 Jamie Stepan purchased his 2002 White Coupe from Corvette Country just in time for the photo op we had planned at a park in Copperas Cove. As the seven Corvettes stormed into the park, the morning walkers stopped to point and stare and as the convoy stopped and lined up to begin having pictures taken, some onlookers gathered to watch. Although this group was sent to five different states in the upcoming months, and was separated by thousands of miles, nothing could ever break the bond of these brothers. After Echo Troop was deactivated as part of the Army's restructuring plan, one last Bountyhunter purchased a Corvette, bringing the total to eight. CPT Gabe Wolfe, former Platoon Leader (Bountyhunter 26), purchased his 1999 Torch Red Coupe in Chicago and drove it back to Texas before moving on to Alabama and then eventually Washington State. Although separated, the Bountyhunters remain in close contact with each other through emails, phone calls, posts on the Corvette Forum, and the occasional visit. Self-coined as the Baghdad Corvette Club, these brothers in arms and lifelong friends will always have stories to tell their grandchildren about the camaraderie, trust, and friendship built.....oh, and maybe a few about Baghdad as well.

The Baghdad Corvette Club is: CW3 Chad Griffin, CW3 Steve Wells, CW2 Eric Ries, CPT Glen Hees, CW3 Greg Wooten, CW2 Max Merideth, CW2 Jamie Stepan, CPT Gabe Wolfe. Of the eight Corvettes originally acquired in 2005 only two members of the Self-coined Baghdad Corvette Club have retained their cars; Eric Ries and Chad Griffin. The memories of the club will last a lifetime.

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
CORVETTES DE OLYMPIA

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