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Louis A. Groebner Jr.: 1939 - 2007.. It's with great sadness that I write this tribute for Lou Groebner as Lou was a very special person and he was proof that it is not the cars that make our Corvette community so special, *it is the people!* The cars are what first drew us together as a magnet and now "the people" are primary and the cars are secondary. We have Special Collections for our cars. We have Hall of Fames for our cars. We need more Hall of Fames for the special people who have done so much for the hobby... for you Uncle Lou!! Having just returned from the Bloomington Gold show, I reflect back on the Special Collection, not the cars but the people we see each year. Uncle Lou, you will be missed but you'll be in our hearts and memories as you were very special and so deserving of a spot near the door in the Special Collection of exceptional Corvette people. *It was said of Lou "that he'd walk over a mile of Ferraris to get to a Corvette." For more than 30 years, Lou Groebner ran Vette Auto Sales now called Corvette City. The shop specializes in repairs and restoration of classic Corvettes to world class status. The operation was fueled by Lou's passion for rooting out parts at swap meets and rare cars in garages, old barns, and auctions.*

Star Spangled 1954 Red, White, & Blue Collection... ProTeam has assembled a very patriotic trio of 1954 First Generation Corvettes to be sold at the Kruse Fall Labor Day Weekend Auction on Saturday, September 1st, 2007. All three have the Blue Flame Six cylinder engine and have been either NCRS Top Flight or Bloomington Gold certified. This consignment has created a buzz and excitement and may star on ESPN's popular Bidding Wars TV program next year. So if you like fame and notoriety, I expect you'll want to be in the audience with you hand high in the air.

The 1953 to 1955 Corvette... Just for the heck of it, I asked Christine in ProTeam's accounting department to check the records and see how many first generation (1953 to 1955) Corvettes that ProTeam has owned in the last 15 years. Wow! Check this out! 1953 to 1955 Corvettes owned = 64 of which 19 were 1953's, 44

were 1954's, and 11 were 1955's. I remember five years ago when we had to work hard to get someone to pay us \$100,000.00 to \$110,000.00 for a 1953 and now they consistently sell for \$250K to \$450K with no end in sight. *Fun Fact:* Five years ago I sold Banker Bob a nice 1953 for \$105,000.00 and yes, Bob just sold lot S91 at the recent Mecum Bloomington Gold auction for \$296,625.00... Vette-N-Vestment! *Prediction:* as the availability of the 1953 Corvette dries-up the first generation buyers will have to resort to the NEXT BEST THING... that is right! 1954 Corvettes will begin appreciating at a more rapid rate, especially the good ones with the only difference is top color as all 1953's were white paint with red interior and a black soft top.

From Showroom to Top Flight... May/June was busy for ProTeam on the field as ProTeam employee Mike Chilcote hand-picked four ProTeam Corvettes to show at three NCRS meets and one for the Bloomington Gold show. This was a first outing for each car. May: 1961 Corvette Convertible, Silver, 283-245 hp, Stk. #112Y, result: NCRS Top Flight. Early June: 1967 Corvette Convertible, Sunfire Yellow, 435 hp, Stk. #298W, Result: NCRS Top Flight. Mid-June: 1965 Corvette Coupe, Red, 396-425 hp, Stk. #339W, result: Bloomington Gold Survivor® in all four categories, Bloomington Gold certified, and Bloomington Gold Benchmark® award (1 of 12 1965's to ever achieve the Benchmark® recognition). Late June: 1954 Corvette Convertible, White, Blue Flame Six, Stk. #166Y, result: NCRS Second Flight of an older body-off restoration that was shown without a restoration battery, non-working radio and other minor items that could have been addressed prior to judging. *An overall testament to the quality of Corvettes that ProTeam buys and sells.*

A 1965 Bloomington Benchmark... ProTeam's original 21,000 actual mile Red 396-425 hp Coupe (stk. #339W) was never tested on the show circuit. Bloomington Gold 2007 was its first trip under the judges clipboard and it came away with the most elusive of prizes: The Bloomington Gold Benchmark® award. Only twelve Benchmark® awards have ever been awarded to 1965 Corvettes out of a total 172 Corvettes that have ever received the Benchmark® status. The Benchmark® can only be awarded after earning a Survivor® award (a car is judged on originality of paint/body, interior, chassis, and engine after completing a 25.4-mile road course) and then must be Bloomington Gold certified (rigorous scoring standards based on show quality and historic accuracy) by the Bloomington judges. Only then can a car be considered a touchstone for which all other Corvettes should be measured; not a bad couple of afternoons for a rookie. See this 1965 Red Benchmark® Corvette (stk #339W) and the eighteen Corvettes we brought home Bloomington Gold 2007 online at ProTeamCorvette.com

Bloomington Gold Benchmark®... adds 23 cars to the small club (172 total as of June 2007). Here is the breakdown: seven 1965 to 1967's, three 1969 to 1972's, seven 1973 to 1982's, and six 1985 to 1987's. To qualify for judging a car must be at least 20 years old and be bone stock original, unrestored, unmolested, never restored in show condition. It may be slightly worn but not worn out!!! This is the hardest level of judging that the Bloomington Gold Certification Board has!!! The ultimate elite club.

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS: Mecum Bloomington Gold Auction 2007... 295 Corvettes were offered with 145 selling with a sold percentage of 49%. Total auction sales were \$8,255,306.00 and highlights are as follows:

Lot #S53 - 1953 Corvette Convertible: \$283,500.00
Lot #S91 - 1953 Corvette Convertible: \$296,625.00
Lot #S55 - 1955 Corvette Convertible: \$178,500.00
Lot #S32 - 1957 Corvette Convertible: \$152,250.00
Lot #S35 - 1960 Corvette Convertible: \$102,375.00
Lot #S63 - 1963 Corvette Coupe Z06: \$367,500.00
Lot #S67 - 1967 Corvette Convertible Black 435: \$467,250.00
Lot #S73 - 1969 Corvette Convertible: \$97,125.00
Lot #S93 - 1996 Corvette Convertible Grand Sport: \$80,850.00

Terry's Overview: The 1953 Corvettes that sold may sound quite expensive but I predict any restored 1953

Corvette will benchmark at 500 grand within 18 to 24 months at hi-profile events, as several recently sold for almost 500K. The 1963 Z06 that sold for \$367,500.00 recently sold for \$255,000 in the desert (Jan. '07). That is a 31% leap in just six months... Wow! The 1967 Triple Black 435 convertible that sold for \$467,250.00 was a no excuse well-known "Real Deal" and quite frankly I would rather have \$500,000.00 in one "Real Deal" than the same money in 4 or 5 wanna-bee's with fake trim tags and fake paperwork. The 1996 Grand Sport convertible that sold for 80 grand plus, had approximately 6,000 miles on it. These cars are hot as only 190 convertibles were produced. *I guess this kinda shows us that NOT all high prices achieved at auction are Arizona or Florida driven!!!*

Corvette Market Magazine Asks Terry's Opinion... Read it here first: "Corvette popularity knows no boundaries" The Corvette market today is seeing a resurgence of true collectors and enthusiasts who are choosing to buy these classic vehicles as a collectible to drive and enjoy. Demand is definitely growing, as evidenced by the rising price tags these cars are drawing. The popularity of Corvette collecting, I believe, is growing at a pace that outstrips the availability of nice cars, which can only lead to bigger demand down the road. Older Corvettes, especially 1953 to 1972, have a solid pattern of growth that dates back to the early 1970s. What drives it? Well, today's market is a world market and not just restricted to North America, which is demonstrated by the sales we have made in the last 12 months. From the United States to countries across the globe like Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Japan – and recently countries like Russia, Hungary, Croatia, South America and soon China – enthusiasts are digging deep into their pockets to purchase a classic car that is truly special to them. Additionally, factors such as the disposable income of many Baby Boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964) will lead to continued demand of the Corvette. This population group is financially stable and free from the responsibility of children, giving them the time and money to enjoy a truly magnificent classic car. Classic Corvettes are red hot and I only see it growing more and more each year. *Corvette Market Magazine is from the same publishers of Sports Car Market and hits newsstands soon.*

Franklin Mint Spends Week At ProTeam... Franklin Mint photographer Rob Enslin spent the last week of June compiling more than 2,000 photos and dozens of detailed drawings of 1964 through 1967 Corvettes at ProTeam using lasers to gather exact measurements which is necessary in order to assure precise dimensions for Franklin Mint's upcoming "high definition" series of 1/24th scale Corvettes. With nearly 200 Corvettes in inventory between the Napoleon and Auburn facilities, the Franklin Mint's decision to send Mr. Enslin to ProTeam to gather required data was a simple one. A one stop shop is the way Rob described it. After Rob leaves ProTeam, his work will only have just begun. In approximately eighteen months (a release date some time in 2008) the Franklin Mint will introduce its new series of "high definition" Corvette models. ProTeam Corvette was honored to have been chosen by the Franklin Mint to assist in their new project and for recognizing our collection as world class!

Hagerty's Quarterly Magazine Hits a Chord... HagertyPlus, a membership organization and affiliate of Hagerty Insurance Agency, a longtime friend to the collector car community, have dipped their feet into the world of publishing with Hagerty's Magazine. It is a sleek periodical with an impressive presence. The article entitled, "The World of Corvette" by Corvette Quarterly Editor Jerry Burton is worth the read. Hagerty's Magazine tagline is "the voice of the collector car community" and the first issues have made a strong argument in their favor. Go to Hagerty.com for more information

Detroit Auto Scene Features ProTeam Corvette Collection... America's oldest free newspaper (75 years) recently featured ProTeam Corvette. The June 4th, 2007 Auto Scene contained the article "Ohio Shop Caters to 'Vette Fans" and was distributed across Detroit and directly to the car industry at large. The article featured photos from the ProTeam collection and most prominently, the Suisse Racer. Bruce Pollock's article covered the ProTeam Classic Corvette operation from A to Z and it was an honor to be included in one of

America's most well-respected industry weekly's.

Kruse Spring MotorFair 2007... ProTeam combined efforts with Kruse International bringing an additional level of excitement to the 16th Annual Auburn Spring MotorFair which hosted more than 1,000 collector cars from around the country on the 480 acre auction site. The Duesenberg building made for an elegant back drop for the dynamic display of ProTeam Corvettes which featured desirable straight axles and show winning Sting Rays. ProTeam's display was a quick golf cart ride to the ProTeam Auburn store across I-69. *We consider this a dry run for Fall Auburn. Imagine the energy and unbelievable excitement in Auburn over the Labor Day weekend. Make plans to come see the largest most dynamic Corvette collection in the world. Oh yes, we understand that there is an auction in town that weekend as well.*

Manager's Special... ProTeam's Auburn and Napoleon Sales/General Managers will be choosing one Corvette each to add to ProTeam's popular Weekly Specials list. To qualify as a purchaser you must a) travel to that particular location (either Auburn, In. or Napoleon, Oh.) in person, b) do your inspection, and c) complete the transaction prior to the special sales deadline.

Weekly Specials... ProTeam has again added weekly special prices on select Corvettes. You may simply click on the Weekly Special Button on ProTeam's [homepage](#), or [index](#), or go directly to: www.proteamcorvette.com/WeeklySpecials2.html

FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions... What is the best investment Corvette to buy? Do you see the bubble bursting on Corvette prices? Do you allow test drives? What does numbers match mean? If I buy your car and do not like it.. what then?.... To see many other questions and answers go online to www.proteamcorvette.com/Corvettes-FAQ.html

Corvettes Wanted!

We wish to purchase select 1953 to 1962's, 1963 Split Windows, 1965 to 1967's, 1968 to 1972's, 1978 Pace Cars, 1982 Collector Editions, and 1996 Grand Sports. Other years and projects will be considered depending on price. Have a Corvette for sale? Fill out our form at CorvettesWanted.com or email: terry@proteamcorvette.com.

TMichaelis Blog Heaven - 36 years of Corvette Scholarship... You think you know the Corvette but would you like to hear the rest of the story? Insight into Corvette collecting, the hobby, and market trends is available on-line. Think of TMichaelis.com as insider trading to the real world business of Corvette collecting. Have a question that you would like commented on? email: terry@proteamcorvette.com

The Corvette Black Book... is a must have essential for any Corvette enthusiast or potential purchaser. The Corvette Black Book contains 160 pages including a minimum of two pages for each car produced, glossary of terms, historic dates, instructions, trend graphs, Corvette chronology, and photos/specifications. The Corvette Black Book also has an extrapolation section to help you zero-in on Corvettes with genuinely rare option combinations. **This is the genuine pocket sized Corvette Black Book.** Order a [Corvette Black Book](#) today!

TESTIMONIALS... tell a lot about a company, its product, its people, its services, and over 125 have been posted at [ProTeam testimonials](#) plus almost 15 years worth of archived testimonials. We are absolutely ecstatic with each and every compliment we receive. We want our customers to enjoy a positive enjoyable buying experience that hopefully goes beyond the Corvette purchase as our customers are our lifeblood and we want them to experience our passion and fire that has made this the most interesting and fun business that anyone could ever have. "We feel quite lucky!" Thank-you

The Chase... Visit ProTeam soon where you'll be greeted not only by friendly sales assistants but tidal waves of color and high performance. Come Look • Come Shop • Come Inspect • Come Test Drive • Come Visit • Come Tour • Come See What You're Missing!! This is not a typical museum "static" display but a "dynamic" ever-changing inventory of the best classic Corvettes in the world. THE CHASE is the fun part of buying classic cars and interacting with the owners, as each car and owner has a personality of its own and no two cars or their owners will be exactly the same. It is with this in mind that I urge you to personally visit ProTeam and inspect that Corvette of your dreams with your own eyes and participate physically in "The Chase". **You won't be disappointed and that I promise you!!!** Ask your sales assistant how ProTeam might participate financially in paying your flight costs to travel to Detroit, Toledo, or the Ft. Wayne airports.

Add-a-Link... Do us a favor and link ProTeam to your website and we will respond with a reciprocal link. Any questions, please email proteam@proteamcorvette.com

ProTeam Corvette houses the largest most dynamic collection of classic Corvettes in the world. We invite you to view our collection Monday through Saturday, please contact us for viewing hours and tour group information at proteam@proteamcorvette.com. Remember that ProTeam's collection of nearly 200 Corvettes is ready for viewing anytime 24/7 on-line at www.proteamcorvette.com and if you have a Corvette for sale, fill out our form at CorvettesWanted.com.

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