

October 14, 2024

Hello fellow members of the Corvette Club of Iowa,

Today's topic comes from some ideas from an email and web article written by Haggerty and a couple that are my own. In case you don't recognize Haggerty, it is the same company that offers MotorsportReg, and a lot of other benefits for car owners. Here is the link: [We Love Cars, but These 6 Things Really Grind Our Gears](#). Now that my commercial for Haggerty is over, here are my driving pet peeves:

1. **Merging:** We live in a world of people who are in a hurry and when an upcoming need to merge into one lane or the other arrives, we see this:
 - a. You are driving down a four-lane road and you need to merge over because of some lanes of traffic closed for whatever reason. What do you see but someone rushing past you in the lane that is being closed, who then tries to squeeze into traffic which ends up with everyone behind the person squeezing in to do some braking to avoid a crash. How about being attentive and merging earlier, not slowing other traffic which makes it quicker and smoother for everyone.
 - b. Not in the article is my pet peeve: When I am merging onto a four-lane highway and the driver in the outside lane won't move over when there isn't anyone in the inside lane. So much for courtesy. I try to always look over at lanes or ramps merging in so I can move over.

I have seen an article or news story about one of our Iowa legislators trying to get a new law preventing a prevalent issue for what she calls the Left Hand Lollygagging Law, but it hasn't gained traction in our statehouse. But people may not have pointed out that we already do have such a law with Iowa Code, **Section 321.297 Driving on right-hand side of roadway — exceptions...** "1. A vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway upon all roadways of sufficient width, except as follows: ..."

It seems law enforcement doesn't spend much time on this one. And to do so would probably require some signs along the roadways, and some push to have officers across the state to begin enforcement.

I don't recall which states do try to control people hanging in the inside lane, but some of the southern states post a lot of signs telling trucks to stay to the right unless avoiding something or someone.

2. **Doing a Burnout Leaving a Car Show:** The article covered it well, but my take is that I occasionally see this when you are at a car show, and someone must do a burnout as they leave. I would be surprised if you haven't seen any of the many videos on the internet where someone tries a burnout and they end up with their car hitting some bystanders or something more solid, doing some damage to it, and their car. I, for one, appreciate having law enforcement present to curtail this.

Those are just a couple, but there are many more.

Now onto something positive, the first Progressive Dinner the club has had in many years seemed to be a success. First, we stopped at Arda's house for some appetizers. Then off to Nichole's house for the entrees, where our members raved about her meatloaves. Finally, off to Christine's house for some tasty desserts, coffee, and tea. Every stop also allowed time for members, both old and new, to socialize. We again appreciate Arda, Jim, Nichole, Luke, Tony, and Chrisine for all of the work in preparing, opening their homes and inviting us in for a great time.

The article today wasn't Corvette focused, but still something I wanted to write about that impacts us all no matter if we have a Corvette or any other car you may own and drive. As far as future events, if there is anything else you would like to do, please feel free to set it up. Having more fun events just takes some of our members to step up with an idea and the willingness to run with it.

Save the Wave

Carrol McCracken
President of the Covette Club of Iowa