



# THE RED LINE NEWSLETTER



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## NOVEMBER 2007

**"We Still meet every Tuesday Night at the Sylvan Street Grille at 6:30PM for Dinner unless a change is posted on our Website or if you got an e-mail blast that we have changed the location."**

**President::** *Richard Gureghian*  
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*Denny Connolly*

**Historian:** *Mike Pace*  
*Denny Connolly*

**Media Liaison Representative:** *Dave Hunt*

**Sunshine Committee:** *Joanne Kun*  
*Karen Blandini*  
*Ursula Bolz*

### NOVEMBER 15th REGULAR MEETING

We are having a guest speaker to inform us about the different ways to install garage floorings. Don't miss this one, as it should be very informative. Pat Ferullo installed the system in his garage. It took him only one day. He loves it!

For those of you that haven't been to a meeting lately you owe it to your self to get there. We want to hear what you want to do at our up coming meetings. Ladies this goes for you too. Remember we are going to feed you also. November we will serve Pizza, Soda, Water and Coffee. If you would like to bring a dessert, please do so. See You ALL at November's Meeting!

### HOLIDAY GIFTS

2008 White Club Shirt \$29.00

NSCM Blankets SALE Only \$45.00\*

Sweat Shirt - Sm. to XL \$29.00

Sweat Shirt - 2X & 3X \$33.00

Must order, It takes 2 weeks in most cases.

Club Tee Shirts Available in the Spring \$15.00

\*Only while they last.

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Newsletter: Submit before the  
**25th of the month**

Please send all info to: [doncowan57@comcast.net](mailto:doncowan57@comcast.net)

## NOTES FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Howdy, Folks! – Here are some random thoughts — from a guy *known* for random thinking.

First, let me congratulate North Shore Corvettes of MA for the significant support of and participation in the “Vettes to Vets” event, honoring our veterans. Ron Morneau and Karen Blandini made it to our October meeting to thank us and to tell us how important our support was. Take a look at Dan Crovo’s secretary’s notes for the excellent details. I’m proud to be a member of NSCM and proud of our members.

We started the 2007 season with a great ride to the western side of the state and a nice reception at the Hotel Northampton, in Northampton, MA. Everyone liked the brunch but our own Barry Keohan, who helped plan the event and caravan route, was unable to make the trip. The last cruise of this year had a difference. We enjoyed the same destination and the same nice folks to greet us however, this time, Mr. Barry Keohan was present and accounted for! He was all smiles! Our “End-of-the-Season” Cruise went off like a dream. Dan Crovo was the lead car and he set up a route of really nice roads with twists & turns to please any Vette owner. Dan & Diane lead the caravan and, I must say, did a great job. All the rest of us had to do was drive and enjoy ourselves. Thanks, Kids! We had perfect weather and a chance to see beautiful peak autumn colors, do some fun driving and enjoy a great brunch at the Hotel Northampton. Before I go on, I want to express our thanks to their manager, Mr. Al Maravilha, and to their executive chef, Mr. Bob Tessier for making us feel at home – more accurately – making us feel like we owned the place! Our members said they enjoyed themselves and that’s what it’s all about – having fun with your buddies. That’s why the e-board works to arrange these events for our members. Thanks for your efforts, guys!

One of the strengths of North Shore Corvettes is the reality that our Corvette season goes on, after the so-called “last cruise”. Our new members will be gratified to know that we will have activities planned throughout the off-season. One of these will be the annual December meeting & party. This year, we will have treasury funds sufficient to pay for the whole bash. It won’t cost our members a dime. All we ask is that you reserve your place with a \$10.00 per person deposit. Once you arrive at the party, we will refund your money. Not bad – you and your date show up for a night of dinner, dancing, fun and games and when you show up, someone slides you twenty bucks – not bad at all! The reason we do this is to get an accurate head count for the room arrangements and the food & drink (soft drinks). We can plan food & drink needs as well as seating, decorations and place settings, etc. This way, we don’t waste club resources and we make sure all have a good time. The party & meeting will take place on December 13<sup>th</sup>, the second Thursday of the month, not the third Thursday, as is our rule. This, to make sure we allow each of you enough time in the month to enjoy the holidays, to attend all those other parties and have enough time to attend to their own holiday affairs. – Stay tuned, we’ll contact you via e-mail for your reservations & deposits.

Well, it’s November and most of the faithful are looking for storage for their rides. If you need your garage space at home for the family buggies, please note we have an arrangement with Exotic Car Club of America (978-683-7500). These are underground, modern facilities with state-of-the-art security and fire protection and 24/7 access to your vehicle. Jim Smith, the ECCOA President, will try to keep spaces open for us as long as he can but you should act quickly. They have open spaces and closed vaults (the vaults have electricity for your battery maintainer). In addition, Jim offers special services for Corvette “Nuts” such as “us guys”. An example of this is our having access to the purchase of new Vettes at near-invoice prices and sale of cars on consignment instead of trading them in). He can also be your source for previously-owned Vettes & exotic cars at REALLY special prices. Our thanks go to Vice President Don Cowan for setting up our acquaintance with this good company.

In the past months, I mentioned that member Brian Alford was receiving treatment for cancer. He showed up for the gathering of Corvettes for the Vettes to Vets but left shortly. In speaking to his son, Matt, (a brilliant and very handsome Mechanical Engineer – aren’t we all!) he reminded me that the treatments that are kicking the “crap-ola” out of the cancer virus also tend to depress the effectiveness of Brian’s immune system. For this reason, he must be careful to avoid places where he might encounter folks with colds or the flu. Brian had to leave because he was just being careful. Keep up the good work, Mr. Alford! Also, folks, please keep this fact in mind regarding any friends or loved ones receiving such therapy.

My family and I wish to thank all those who expressed concern for my wife, Nelly, who underwent surgery in October. She came through the procedure well and your thoughts and prayers definitely helped out. Please understand that you folks mean a lot to us and your thoughtfulness was a great help.

During the year, we have been trying to set up special arrangements and pricing deals for our members (see this month’s Tech Page). Is there something you need for your Vette? Ask before you buy. One of the benefits of North Shore membership is an inside track on discounts for tires, wheels, wheel restoration, parts & services, etc. The list of available goods and services goes on and on. Our e-board members will be happy to help you to get what you want and more for less. Our contact information is all over this newsletter and our web site. Similarly, if there is an automotive need that’s not covered yet, let us know and we’ll look into special arrangements for North Shore Corvettes of MA members.

**Last Few Thoughts** — Please keep an eye on your e-mails. We could not get the large upstairs room at the Elks for our November meeting. For that reason, we need to use the smaller room downstairs. Same time as always and, as before, supper will be served. Also, our web site will have no updates or maintenance after 18 October, as our web master is on vacation for three weeks. We should be up and running by the second week in November. We’re sorry for this inconvenience.

**Question** – Have any ideas for winter activities? If so, please mention your thoughts to any member of our e-board. The winter’s a time to have fun with your buddies, just as the summer! Let us know your suggestions so we can make the most of the upcoming months. Some of these events will be last-minute affairs, so stay in touch, watch your e-mails and attend our monthly meetings. You miss a lot when you miss a chance to be with your NSCM buddies. Until the next month, save a wave, save a smile and always — Be ready to have FUN! With a wave, Rich Gureghian

## NSCM MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTES:

October 18, 2007

Start time: 7:25 PM

Adjourn time: 8:34 PM

### E-Board Members Present:

Richard Gureghian	President
Don Cowan	Vice-President
Dan Crovo	Secretary
Barry Keohan	Treasurer
Pat Ferullo	Cruise Night Director
Jo Ann Keohan	Membership Director

### E-Board Members Absent:

Jerry Edwards	Webmaster	(Vacation)
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President Rich Gureghian brought the meeting to order at 7:25 PM after most had finished their meals.

### Agenda Items:

Welcome & New Member Introductions - no new members present.

Member Announcements - Brian Alford is doing well, he attended Vettes to Vets, but due to his compromised immune system couldn't stay. Mike Pace is doing well recovering from his head injury. Nelly Gureghian had her surgery yesterday and is doing well; she came home today.

Barry Keohan reports there are two new members; Chuck Mailhot and Jay and Robin Kublin. Membership is now at 125 members.

Treasurer's Report — Barry Keohan read the report. A motion was made to accept it and was seconded. The report was accepted as read.

Secretary's Report - Dan Crovo requested a motion to accept the secretary's report as it appears in the newsletter. The motion was made and seconded. The report was accepted.

Cruise Night Report - Pat Ferullo reports that we are still getting together for dinner at Sylvan on Tuesday nights.

Pat requested ideas for getting more members to attend the monthly meetings.

We had an excellent 2007 season. Cruise nights begin in again in May.

Rich Gureghian recognized the E-Board members and thanked them publicly for their efforts. We are still looking for a merchandise director.

NCM & Ambassador - Register for '09 NCM caravan. When you register, mention Barry's name so he will get credit as our ambassador. NCM bricks can be purchased; \$100 members/ \$150 nonmembers. Details on the NCM Website. Mention Barry's name if you make a purchase.

ZO6 fest happening 10/18-19.

Building mission; NCM is expanding the building.

Next raffle on 11/14 is for a 2008 Artic White; raffle tickets are \$250 each, selling 500 tickets. Following raffle Mid Feb. is for a 2008

Victory Red for \$10 per ticket; no limit on tickets.

MAAC meeting on 10/24 at 7:00 PM; let Rich know if you would like to attend. He and Pat Ferullo are going.

Web Site - Jerry Edwards is on vacation and the web site will not be updated for the next three weeks. We will use email to communicate.

Old Business -

Hillcrest "Roadblock" tech session was September 29th; five cars had the product applied. The club discount was about \$200 depending on the year of the car. Contact Jamie Vasquez at Hillcrest if you are interested in having your car done. Product to maintain roadblock — Plexus —\$19.95 plus tax, available at \$10.00 plus tax per can through NSCM; contact Rich Gureghian.

4th annual Vettes to Vets - was held on Sept. 30th 2007: the event went off flawlessly; 189 cars registered, total number of cars was about 210. Ron Morneau with assistance from Karen and Tony Blandini organized the event. Ron's comments; NSCM member's generosity was outstanding. Our club had 41 cars, the most of any club attending. Ron heard comments from some veterans that they couldn't believe what the Corvette people were doing for them. Karen noted that the event had double the attendance from last year. Karen noted that Jim Smith was able to have the commemorative event pins paid for by corporate sponsors. 5 NE states (Vermont not represented) and New York were represented. Ron noted donations totaled \$6000 in cash and about \$10,000 in merchandise.

Third Annual Lobster Fest on Sept. 23 was successful.

Upcoming Events (New Business) Update -

End-of-Season Cruise — October 21st; rain date is October 28th. We will be going to Northampton for brunch at the Hotel Northampton.

Rich provided flyers with details for anyone interested.

November Meeting - change of venue - the Elks room is not available. We have an invitation from Exotic Car Club Of America in Methuen. Pat Ferullo also offered his restaurant in Winthrop as well. Will confirm the venue.

December Meeting and Party - date change to December 13th — \$10.00 per person, refundable at the party. The fee will aid in ordering the food. Approved by the members present. We will send an email to notify members.

Misc. - Winter activities in the planning stages: Engine compartment & general detailing by Custom touches, i.e. hand pin striping and graphics. Calipers & brakes at Steve Cataldo's shop. Ideas for tech or fun sessions are encouraged. Contact Rich or an E-Board member with your suggestions.

## NSCM MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTES CONT:

Scott Kourian commented that he has had good results using Mother's All Wheel wheel cleaner.

Karen Blandini brought a \$50 gift certificate for Speed Lingerie, a leftover door prize obtained at Spindle City, expires at the end of the month, free for anyone who wants it.

Corvette purchase & sales opportunities (consignment sales, invoice price purchases); Exotic Car Club Of America: Jim Smith is a broker and can arrange purchases for anyone interested.

Don Cowan has white club shirts for \$29, he can order if he doesn't have your size. Sweat Shirts cost: small to XL are \$29.00 and 2XL or 3XL are \$33. Two weeks wait if ordered.

Club T-shirt; the E-Board is suggesting we have one color with Corvette on the sleeve, NSCM on the chest and crossed Corvette flags on the back. Shirts are \$15. We need a minimum order of 3 dozen. We are considering waiting until the spring to place the order.

Membership renewal time is 1/1 through 2/15. We will put it the notice in the newsletter.

Joanne Keohan is working on a New Years Eve party at DiBurro's in Bradford. Kim Edwards is making flyers. Joanne will forward the info to Dan Crovo for an email blast. She is also making arrangements for spending the night at the Best Western in Haverhill for anyone interested.

Check out Designerchecks.com if you are interested in having personal checks with Corvette logos.

Collected \$18 for the Elk's Scholarship fund.

Rich Gureghian requested a motion to adjourn at 8:34, seconded. Meeting adjourned.

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## LETTER RECEIVED

North Shore Corvettes of Massachusetts,

October 2, 2007

This year's "Vettes to Vets" day far surpassed all our expectations. The Corvette Community has to be the most generous and most patriotic group ever. We had hoped to attract 150 Corvettes. In the end, we exceeded 200. We registered 194 and saw several cars missing window cards indicating they may not have registered. When everything is tabulated, we will have collected close to \$6000 in cash and \$10,000 to \$15,000 in much appreciated personal-care items. We filled pickup trucks about six times. Just as importantly, the patients could not believe all these Corvettes came in support of them. The comments some of us heard from patients brought tears to our eyes.

We were fortunate to have an honor guard representing the 101<sup>st</sup> FA Btry. B just back from Iraq and a Gold Star Mother who recently lost her son in combat lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. We owe a special thanks to the Paul Revere Chapter of the Air Force Reserve for serving lunch to 1000 people and to the band Shotz for their awesome, gratis performance.

The winner of the "Veterans Choice Trophy" was Dan Murphy from North Andover with his 1954 roadster. Dan purchased the car in 1955 upon returning home from his tour of duty in Korea – how fitting.

Thanks to the several corporate sponsors who, beyond helping the hospital, made it possible for 100% of the proceeds raised go directly to the patient fund at the hospital. In addition, a special thanks extended to the extremely generous clubs who not only supported the event with member attendance but made a monetary contribution on behalf of their club.

The Corvette Community consists of club members and independents. Each and every one went way beyond generous. It was evident you gave from the bottom of your heart. Please be assured the committee, the patients, the hospital staff and the veterans are all very, very appreciative of your support. Until next year, September 28, 2008 – Thank you and God Bless Our Troops

Ron Morneau, Karen Blandini & Jim Smith

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## IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Article 3 / Section 3 Renewal Membership

A. The Renewal Form will be mailed to all current NSCM Members no later than December 1st of the fiscal year.

B. Renewal Payment will be due no later than January 31st of the fiscal year.

C. There will be a (28) day grace period (February 1st to February 28th) during which there will be a late fee of \$10.00 surcharge for the member to remain an active member.

D. Renewal Payments not received by January 31st or without the \$10.00 late fee surcharge by Feb 28th will be dropped from the NSCM roster. If the member chooses to renew after January 31st and not pay the late fee they will be considered a New Member and will be required to pay the New Member fee accordingly. In such, a case the "NSCM New Member Welcome Package" will not be received by the renewing member.

E. Renewal Membership fees are as follows: a. Single or Family Membership with 1 vote for \$ 35.00

b. Joint Family Membership with 2 votes for \$ 50.00

Note: New Member fee with Single or Family Membership with 1 vote for \$ 50.00

New Member fee with Joint Family Membership with 2 votes for \$ 65.00

**How Good Are You At Pumping?** – Some tricks to help you get your money's worth when pumping gas.

1. Fill up your car or truck in the morning when the temperature is still cool. Remember that all service stations have their storage tanks buried below ground; and the colder the ground, the denser the gasoline. When it gets warmer gasoline expands, so if you're filling up in the afternoon or in the evening, what should be a gallon is not exactly a gallon. In the petroleum business, the specific gravity and temperature of the fuel (gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, ethanol and other petroleum products) are significant. Every truckload that we load is temperature-compensated so that the indicated gallonage is actually the amount pumped. A one-degree rise in temperature is a big deal for businesses, but service stations don't have temperature compensation at their pumps.
2. If a tanker truck is filling the station's tank at the time you want to buy gas, do not fill up; most likely dirt and sludge in the tank is being stirred up when gas is being delivered, and you might be transferring that dirt from the bottom of their tank into your car's tank.
3. Fill up when your gas tank is half-full (or half-empty), because the more gas you have in your tank the less air there is and gasoline evaporates rapidly, especially when it's warm. (Gasoline storage tanks have an internal floating 'roof' membrane to act as a barrier between the gas and the atmosphere, thereby minimizing evaporation.)
4. If you look at the trigger you'll see that it has three delivery settings: slow, medium and high. When you're filling up do not squeeze the trigger of the nozzle to the high setting. You should be pumping at the slow setting, thereby minimizing vapors created while you are pumping. Hoses at the pump are corrugated; the corrugations act as a return path for vapor recovery from gas that already has been metered. If you are pumping at the high setting, the agitated gasoline contains more vapors, which is being sucked back into the underground tank, so you're getting less gas for your money.
5. Once the pump nozzle clicks off, stop pumping. If you attempt to top off the tank, most of the fuel you try to deliver will be siphoned off and returned to the underground tanks as part of the vapor recovery system, built into the gas station.

**Your Roadblock Protects Your Paint – How Do You Protect Your Roadblock?** – At the recent Roadblock Tech Session on 29 September, we not only got a chance to see the techs installing this miracle paint protector but also met the guy who owns Autobahn in New England, Mr. Pierre Richard. He gave us a run through on how to protect the Roadblock treatment through the years. In order to preserve the material itself, he recommends a product called PLEXUS. This liquid, available in a 13 oz. aerosol can, is used primarily by boat owners to protect flexible vinyl windows and other plastics. I contacted West Marine for the Club members who have the Roadblock treatment on their Vettes. West Marine has the product but it seems the price is going from \$14.95 to \$19.95! Trying for a discount, we reached agreement on \$10.00 per can (\$10.50, including tax), if purchased in case lots (12 cans per case.). Let us know if you want some. We currently have a case in stock with our club treasurer, Barry Keohan. (*Man, the things we do for you kids!*)

**I'm Glad I Used Protection** – When I purchased my Vette in 2003, I made sure I had Hillcrest sell me Roadblock protection from Autobahn. A couple of years ago, on the way to Bar Harbor, I ended up with an unwanted introduction to some fragmented pavement. Man, what a bang! I pulled over and saw that by beautiful Corvette's front fascia was deeply marked. You could see the shredded Roadblock material but the deep white scratches told a body shop would have to make things right. This would involve removing the Roadblock, removing the front fascia from the car, having the damaged area repaired and repainted and then praying the color match was there. I asked Pierre Richard of Autobahn to look at the damage to advise if they should remove the Roadblock or if the body shop should do it. He took a careful look and told me there would be no need for body work. The flying pavement didn't make it through the Roadblock. I was a bit incredulous and asked about the white scratches. He responded that those were not primer – those were shredded Roadblock!! Sure enough, I recently had the affected Roadblock panel replaced and Voila, the paint beneath was as new! I saved about \$600 with this resolution – That's what I paid for the Roadblock five years ago! Thank you, Mr. Richard. Thank you, Autobahn.

**Life Can Be A Drag** – As continued from last month, I am submitting some info you will definitely find dazzling. Club member John Toce gave me these really startling facts about "Double-A" fuel dragsters which I thought any gearhead would find interesting. Here are some more of them: — Thank you, John!

- \* Nitro methane burns yellow. The spectacular white flame seen above the stacks at night is raw burning hydrogen, dissociated from atmospheric water vapor by the searing exhaust gases.
- \* Dual magnetos supply 44 amps to each spark plug. This is the output of an arc welder in each cylinder.
- \* Spark plug electrodes are totally consumed during a pass. After that, the engine is dieseling from compression plus the glow of exhaust valves at 1400 degrees F. The engine can be shut down only by cutting the fuel flow.
- \* If spark momentarily fails early in the run, unburned nitro builds up in the affected cylinders and then explodes with sufficient force to blow cylinder heads off the block in pieces or split the block in half.
- \* In order to exceed 300 m.p.h. in 4.5 seconds dragsters must accelerate an average of over 4G's. In order to reach 200 m.p.h. well before half-track, the launch acceleration approaches 8G's.
- \* Dragsters reach over 300 miles per hour before you have completed reading this sentence.
- \* Top Fuel Engines turn approximately 540 revolutions from light to light!
- \* Including the burnout the engine must only survive 900 revolutions under load.
- \* The redline is actually quite high at 9500 r.p.m..
- \* The Bottom Line; Assuming all the equipment is paid off, the crew worked for free, & for once, NOTHING BLOWS UP, each run costs an estimated US \$1,000.00 per second. . – *Interesting, huh? I'll have more next month!*

Hope this helps, guys. Is there a tech question we can help you with? If so, just let me know via the NSCM home page e-mail or e-mail me at [r.gureghian@comcast.net](mailto:r.gureghian@comcast.net). My fax number is 781-272-7457. Keep the wave and always save one for the Corvettes you see!

## 2007 UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Nov. 06 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Nov. 08 - Thursday NSCM Board of Directors Meeting at the Elks. Time: TBA
- Nov. 13 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Nov. 15 - Thursday 7:00PM - NSCM Membership Meeting at Wakefield Elks ([Serving Food](#))**
- Nov. 20 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Nov. 22 - Thursday HAPPY THANKSGIVING
- Nov. 27 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Dec. 04 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Dec. 06 - Thursday NSCM Board of Directors Meeting at the Elks. Time: TBA
- Dec. 11 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Dec. 13 - Tuesday 7:00PM - NSCM Holiday Party - Mark your calendars!** Look for details on our Website or the next newsletter will have a flyer.
- Dec. 18 - Tuesday 6:30PM - Sylvan Street Grille, Peabody, MA (unless notified on web site or an email blast is sent out)
- Dec. 25 - Tuesday MERRY CHRISTMAS - (Hope you get your new Corvette you asked Santa for.)
- Jan. 01 - Tuesday NEW YEARS EVE PARTY PLANS - Info to follow

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## WANT TO HELP YOUR CLUB?

We are looking to fill the following positions: Social Event Director or Merchandise Director.

If you would like to learn more about these positions and thinking of helping you club, please let someone on the e-board know.

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## WANT TO PLACE AN AD?

Selling your Corvette - Company Advertising - Looking for Corvette Parts - Selling Corvette Parts - Storage - Looking for a new Ride

Call Don Cowan at 978-360-0963 or email him at doncowan57@comcast.net

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## CAR KEYS — GOOD INFORMATION - From Charlie "O"

Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies. This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator.

Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage.

If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break in your house, odds are the burglar or rapist won't stick around... after a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that.

And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there..... This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or prevent a sexual abuse crime. Would also be useful for any emergency, such as a heart attack, where you can't reach a phone.

All of us, over 40 yrs. of age, should carry our car keys with us in case we fall outside our cars. We can then activate the car alarm and then someone will know there's a problem.