

**President's Message** 

Winter has been great so far with no snow. I have been out in my Vette many times (as I hope many members have) in December and January. It's a little cold but the air is crisp, sky's clear and the road calls out.



Unfortunately the snow has finally found its way to us and has made a mess of the roads with salt, sand, and pot holes.

January was quiet as members relaxed from the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Happy to say that Ed Forsberg stepped up and hosted the Barrett Jackson auction again this year. It was a great success with about 15 people attending to bid on Chevys and Corvettes. Always a fun time with great food and friends.

I am hoping to have a couple of things for members to do in February so keep watching your email.

Be safe driving in the snow and I look to seeing members at our next members' meeting.

I want to send a quick shout out to all our members that fled the cold. Send Keith a pic of the goings on in sunny Florida.

As always I am "good to go" but not in the snow!

Steve Wilson, EMCC President

CONGRATS TO STEVE ON HIS NEW VETTE!!!





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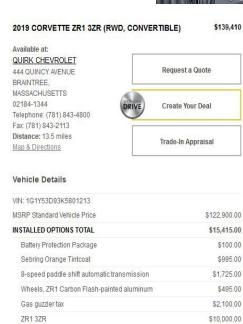
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## DON'T SPEND WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE

#### By Arne Johnson

I find as I age I am spending more of the time reading. This month I read two books. Most of my reading pertains to books about history. One might think at 80 years old I have had enough of history. My reading took a different direction at one point and I was reading the text of a letter from a financial adviser that did not relate to a stock or bond investment but rather

refreshingly to a Corvette order. It seems a gentleman named, Gunther Claub, had become frustrated with government's wasteful habit of spending money they don't have. Gunther decided he would take advantage of the wasteful spending and apply the same to his advantage by spending money he did not have. He decided to purchase a new Corvette and send the bill to the government requesting that they pay for it. He choose to send the bill to the Department of Agriculture and attached a polite note stating, "Thank you for paying this debt." The USDA employees, having no sense of humor, sent the request on to federal prosecutors. Charged under the False Claims Act, Gunther finds himself facing a possible 25 year sentence. Stranger still is the government may face a cost of confinement for Gunther of \$800,000. It seems it would have been a bargain to pay the \$100,000 bill for the Corvette.



Kalahari, Perforated Napa leather seating surfaces

Black convertible top

TOTAL MSRP

PRICE\*

\$0.00

NO CHARGE \$1,095.00

\$139,410.00

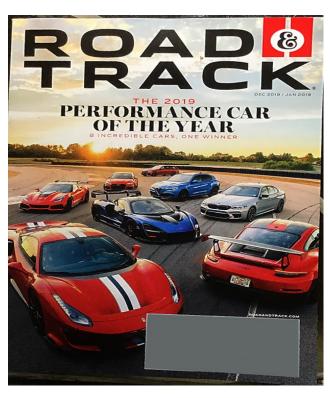
\$139,410



# **ZR1 WINS PCOTY 2019**

#### **Road & Track Performance Car of the Year**

Reported by Bob Gardner



Every year the editors and writers of Road & Track Magazine along with several professional drivers gather together a lineup of performance vehicles for evaluation under different



conditions. This year eight vehicles were chosen to compete. They varied widely. There were supercars boasting over 700 hp and all-wheel drive station wagons. The testing included two days of street driving and two days on the National Corvette Museum track at the NCM Motorsports Park in Bowling Green, Kentucky. During the course of the four plus days each evaluator got to drive each car under all conditions. This year there was rain, rain, and more rain.

I'll skip over the performance sedans and wagons and get right to the big boys. After all, that's what we're interested in. Of the eight entries, four were high-performance vehicles, some with astronomical price tags. The McLaren Senna for instance rings in at a whopping



\$964,966. The Ferrari 488 Pista listed at \$448,884 and the Porsche 911 GT2 RS at \$328,880. And then there was the domestic entry, our own Corvette ZR1 which could be had for a measly \$141,485. This was the sixth annual event and the first in which the weather played such a negative part. Rain and fog dogged the scenic two-day drive across Kentucky and Tennessee.

Following the cross-country sojourn the cars were put on the NCM track for some hard testing including lap times, o-60, quarter mile times, etc.. In the end, the vote was taken not in the spacious main classroom at Motorsports Park but in a much smaller upstairs storage room where all the wrangling became up-close and personal. PCOTY is not a numbers game. If it were, there would be no need for the testing at all. It is a deeply personal decision and a game of intangibles. *Kissin' on the racetrack doesn't always last, but cookin' in a wide variety of conditions does*.

Many liked the Senna though it cost more than twice as much as the next most expensive competitor and you couldn't get one if you wanted since they're already sold out. The Ferrari was loved as a performance car you could drive cross-country in but was found wanting on the track. Then there was the Porsche where-in they have made a supercar out of the 911 that still feels like the rear-engine sports car we've enjoyed for decades. Finally, they decided, *There are two cars in this group that if I'm sitting at a stoplight, I can just reasonably say, "The hell with anything that pulls up next to me – the Senna and the ZR1." They are the animals on the street.* 



It wasn't all good for the ZR1. For instance, *The Corvette while offering a much better and quieter ride*, came in for criticism regarding the speed-bump-seeking radiators in its extended nose – and let's not forget that absurd cowl hood, which seems designed to block

the driver's view of crossing traffic. But in the end the vote was close, but clear-cut. **Senna 2; Corvette 1.** Here are some more quotes, not because I'm lazy, but because their prose is so pretty.

"The Corvette won because it brought out the wide-eyed enthusiast in all of us — IndyCar pros, club racers, jaded journalists alike. Every aspect of the ZR1...strikes a chord. The Chevy also happens to exhibit many of the McLaren's qualities at one-seventh the price. It combines an appetite for lap time with a remarkable ability to handle imperfect roads. We chose the ZR1 because it exhibits every traditional Corvette virtue while rectifying many of the weak points that plagued its predecessors. It's loud enough at idle to produce a cease-and-desist letter from the homeowner's association. Surprisingly the drivers felt the ZR1 is far more than a faster Z06 but rather compared more closely with the Grand Sport, which thrilled us with its feedback but occasionally felt under powered in the fiercest company.

Here are the ZR1's test results: 0-60 in 3.1 seconds; quarter-mile in 11.1 seconds, 129 MPH, top speed 212 MPH; and (Wait for it...) EPA City/Hwy 12/20 mpg.

Finally, this imperial Corvette is a product of a team that treats the customer with both affection and respect. The 755-hp ZR1 refutes the assertion that we must be prepared to put up with everything from a mandatory P-R-N-D-L pattern to a seven-inch ride height. It's a hammer thrown into Big Brother's twin-clutch telescreen, a warp-speed expression of stubborn American independence.

## <u>"IT IS THE 2019 PERFORMANCE CAR OF THE YEAR."</u>





# NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM



#### 2019 Corvette Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

January 17, 2019

The National Corvette Museum has announced the following inductees to be recognized as part of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Corvette Hall of Fame Ceremony in 2019: Dollie Cole in the category of Enthusiast; Briggs Cunningham in the category of Racing; and Tom Peters in the category of GM/Chevrolet. These three individuals will be recognized with the highest honor bestowed by the Museum for their contributions to the past, present and future of Corvette.

The 2019 Corvette Hall of Fame recipients will be inducted into the Corvette Hall of Fame during a ceremony and banquet on Friday, August 30, 2019. Their induction will take place as part of the Museum's  $25^{th}$  Anniversary Celebration August 28 - 31, 2019.

#### Dollie Cole - Enthusiast

Dollie Ann Cole was a force of nature. Although she was happily married to Ed Cole, President of General Motors, she was never content with just being the auto executive's wife. She instead gained a reputation as a respected businessperson, a staunch defender of the automobile industry, and a strong supporter of Corvette.

Colorful and outspoken, she lived life to the fullest, doing everything from being a model, to becoming an accredited test driver and pilot, as well as the Senior Editor for a publishing company. She was also known for getting things done when no one else could. When privateer racing efforts got stuck, sometimes all it took to get some clandestine support from GM engineering was to let Dollie know about it.

Dollie also provided leadership for several charitable organizations in support of disabled people, children, animals, and families of fallen officers. She served on several national and local boards, including PBS, The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, and the National Corvette Museum, where she presided as its Chair in 2000 and 2001.



"Dollie took her position on the board very seriously," Museum Executive Director Wendell Strode remembers. "When the Museum was really struggling, she pushed for a new business plan against strong opposition. She leveraged her contacts in corporate America and GM to open doors to find ways to generate revenue for the Museum. She hosted some large fundraising events for us, and on more than one occasion she would even write a check so that we could be involved in some activity that would make us more visible locally and nationally. Dollie was very proud of her affiliation with the National Corvette Museum. She worked hard to get others excited, involved, and proud of the Museum that represented America's sports car."

#### **Briggs Cunningham - Racing**

Briggs Swift Cunningham was the very definition of the quintessential American sportsman. He came from a wealthy family, which provided him with the means to fully commit himself to his passion for racing. While cars were his primary focus, he also took to the waves, winning the 1958 America's Cup race in a yacht named "The Columbia" that he funded and skippered.

'Mr. C' thrived on automobile competition and set his sights on challenging the Europeans on the international circuits, for America and with American technology. To do that he pulled together the best of the best to build cars and teams. A talented driver himself, he also hired drivers like Dick Thompson, John Fitch, Roger Penske, Stirling Moss and others who had the nerve and the skill to win. In the process he became one of the most prominent figures in the racing world, to the point of making the cover of TIME magazine.



Corvette had come along at just the right time for Briggs as it was already being hailed as America's sports car. It had proven itself earlier in SCCA championships, confirming its ability to be competitive. After talking with Corvette engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov, Briggs bought three 1960 Corvettes to take to France for the most famous race on the planet, the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1960, the three race modified Cunningham Corvettes, painted white with blue stripes, went up against the best in the world. Despite putting on a good run, the #1 Corvette driven by Briggs and Bill Kimberley would be the first to fall when rain would cause the car to flip and then catch fire. Corvette #2, driven by Dick Thompson and Fred Windridge, would also wreck, taking it out of contention. Cunningham Corvette #3 however, driven by Bob Grossman and John Fitch, would make history as the first Corvette ever to win its class at Le Mans, and secure Briggs Cunningham's place for all time in the Corvette Hall of Fame.

Tom Peters

#### Tom Peters – GM/Chevrolet

Growing up, Tom Peters remembers sketching everything, including cars. Still, it wasn't until his second year in college, where he studied fine art and advertising illustration, that he learned about industrial design. "Someone in class brought in an Art Center catalog and it was an epiphany for me. Paging through it I saw all these drawings of cars and products, and these exciting pictures of people working around models and mock ups. I knew right then where I needed to be."

Tom would graduate from Art Center, and in 1980 he was offered a position by Chuck Jordan at GM.

Tom's work in the Advance Studio caught the eye of Jerry Palmer, Corvette Chief Designer for Chevy 3 Studio, who offered him a position on the team. Tom worked on the ZR-1 Corvettes and other variants as well as the Corvette Indy Car, his very first



concept vehicle. He eventually got his own studio and was asked to come up with an advance proposal for the C5 Corvette. His imagination, hard work and ability to inspire the best from his team led to Tom becoming Design Director for the C6 Corvette and later the C7 Stingray, ultimately serving as the Director of Design for Performance Car Exteriors for Corvette and Camaro.

"My goal in working on future Corvettes was to create a unique personality that is still distinctively Corvette—with a character and soul that is both new and timeless. The best and most wonderful thing about working on Corvette is doing it with people in design, engineering and marketing, who have such a strong passion for the car and for the people who drive them. You've heard about the people who make this car their goal in life—the ones who pass that love for the car down through the family. It's a special car to those who drive them. It is a part of their lifestyle and a

part of American culture in general. It's been amazing to have some part in that. Each day that I walked into that studio, I felt honored and blessed. I never took it for granted."

Since its inception in 1997, 71 individuals have been inducted into the Corvette Hall of Fame. Bios, photos and in many case videos of each are available on the Museum's website at <a href="www.corvettemuseum.org">www.corvettemuseum.org</a>.

## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

21 YEARS AGO IN THE VETTE GAZETTE

#### CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH 1998

#### February

- 8 Seacoast Vettes annual calendar planning meeting in NH?
- 22 EMCC Changeover Board meeting, 6pm at the Davis'. Pizza. Mandatory for officers and chairpeople, incoming and outgoing. Open to all members.
- 28 EMCC 14th Anniversary Party, Primavera Restaurant, Millis. Contact Steve Hahn. See flyer

#### March

- 2 EMCC Meeting at the Medfield American Legion, 7:30/8:00
- 8 EMCC Brunch at Finian's, Rte. 1A, Dedham, 9:30 am. RSVP Steve H.
- EMCC 15th Annual Green Grog Party at the Davis' in Walpole, 7:00, RSVP Bill or Carol. Bathing suits welcome.
- 29 EMCC Snow Job II Ralley. 10 am ish start at Wild Bill's, Rte. 1A, Wrentham

#### September

27 EMCC Foliage Cruise. More to follow later from Steve H.

#### October

17-25 East Coast Power Tour, Boston-Florida

25 EMCC Pumpkin Ralley IV by the Nilson Family

A Message From the Pres.

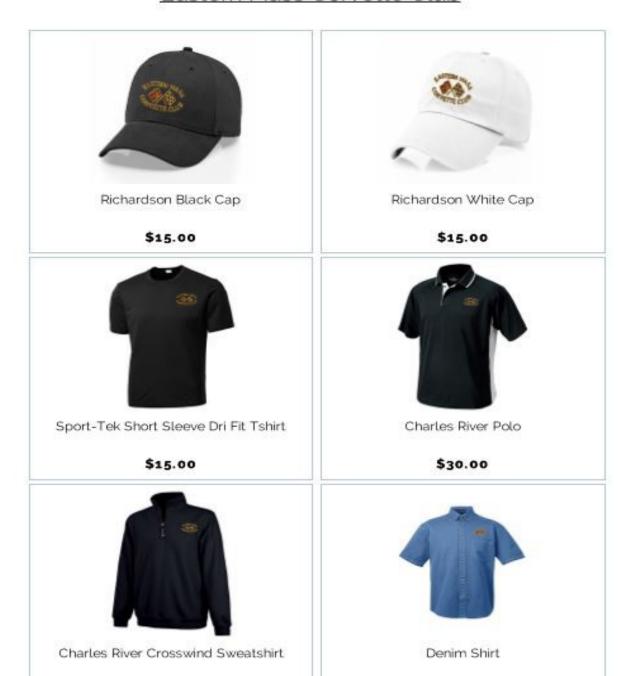
Now that elections are over and there is so much ahead I would like to thank Mike Keefe for all his efforts as Vice President, Dave Nilson for the great job he has done as secretary, Steve Sullivan who kept us to date with the treasury reports and Carol Davis for a fine job with our newsletter.

I would like to welcome Dennis Collins as Vice President, Judy Pitasi as Secretary and JR Gable as Treasurer. As well as Hutch and Joe Lank as co-publications chairmen. These positions will begin in March but I would like to remind all members that the February board meeting will be held at the Davis' on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm.

It is also important to pay for the anniversary party NOW. Time is running out. See Steve Hahn and come along for lots of fun.

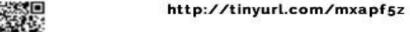
Michael Santos, President.

## Eastern Mass Corvette Club



## **Order Online**

\$35.00



\$35.00



# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

LES "ROOSTER" BROWN FEBRUARY 19

JOE DOYLE

JOHN FORBES

JOE HANLEY

BRUCE KOLOVSON

GLEN KURKJIAN

JOE LANK

FEBRUARY 28

FEBRUARY 28

FEBRUARY 28

FEBRUARY 11

FEBRUARY 11



Deadline for the gazette is one week before the board meeting...I will try to accommodate late submissions ... Thank you

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Member Gerry Criscenzo's band plays at Twin Rivers 3/9 from 9:00 PM – 1:00AM. Soup Party in March at Steve Wilson's house. Details to follow.

#### **EMCC Membership**

As of January 2019 we have 80 paid members, 2 associate, and 3 honorary

#### **Next Board Meeting**

Monday - January 28th at 5:30 PM

at Conrad's, 905 Main Street, Walpole Come early to enjoy dinner & schmoozing

#### **Next Business Meeting**

**Monday - February 4th at 7:00 PM** 

at Conrad's, 905 Main Street, Walpole Come early at 6:00 to enjoy dinner & schmoozing

# "WHERE YOU COME FOR THE CARS ... BUT STAY FOR THE PEOPLE"

# Eastern Mass Corvette Club is a non-profit social club for Corvette owners

We meet at 7:00 PM on the first Monday of every month at Conrad's - 905 Main Street, Walpole, MA

PLEASE JOIN US !!!

E.M.C.C. P.O. Box 291 Medfield, MA 02052

WEBSITE: easternmasscorvetteclub.org

## A NICE COMPLIMENT

Every now and then a nice compliment is given to the gazette. This is a tribute to all of those who contribute and help to make it an interesting read. Steve Childs, a board member of the Great Bay Corvette Club, sent this to Elaine at Corvette Mike's who passed it along. Thanks Steve ...

#### Hi Elaine,

You've sent out many club news letters over the years but this one really stands out and I wanted to respond. You can really feel the enthusiasm, excitement, & shared friendship this club has for all its members. The opening write up of all the hot cars owned "back in the day" was so much fun to read & impressive. Please pass on my note to the EMCC Pres & officers, I congratulate them and all the members for keeping the fun & spirit of Corvette friendships alive for so many years.

God Bless & Happy New Year...

Driven to make a difference!

Steve Childs Great Bay CC





#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital 200 Springs Road Bedford MA 01730

In Reply Refer To: 518/135

September 30, 2018

#### Dear Donor:

On behalf of the Veterans and staff at the Bedford VA, we would like to thank you for your generous donation to our hospitalized Veterans. The items you donate each year are given to Veterans throughout the facility. They benefit those who served from World War II through current day conflict and are especially needed by our homeless Veterans as we work with them to ensure that each of them find housing and work if they are able.

The Veterans and staff love to see the Corvettes here each year; it is an astounding tribute that reassures them that they have not been forgotten. Thank you for joining us in honoring their service and their sacrifice in such an amazing and thoughtful way.

You truly make a difference in the lives of those who have served.

Sincerely.

LAUREL HOLLAND Chief, Voluntary Service

and Halland

# **EMCC SOUP PARTY ...... 2008 !!!**

From the Bob Gardner Photo Archive













# EMCC SOUP PARTY 2019 WILL BE IN MARCH...WATCH YOUR E MAIL FOR DETAILS

# A FEW WORDS FROM THE VICE PREZ

By "SMOKEN" Mal Smith

Many of you have been asking what date we are having our Anniversary Party in February. We will not be celebrating our Anniversary in February this year because it is our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we are going to have a big party on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at Lake Pearl. We had our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party at Lake Pearl and it was quite the success. This year, we will have the beach area all to ourselves and the event will be very private for us. The Anniversary Committee is in the process of making lots of plans for our celebration. We will be taking orders soon for the



35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary polo shirt which we encourage EVERYONE to purchase. If you remember, our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary photo had us all in our matching shirts. Let's do that at the 35<sup>th</sup>.

I have also had a few folks ask about our Soup Party date. In the past we use to have the Soup Party in January but found that the weather was a problem quite a few times, so we changed it to March. We tend to have better weather in March. We do not have the exact date as of this writing, but it will be sponsored again this year by Steve and Sheri Wilson at their home in Wrentham.

It is not too soon to speak up about sponsoring an event this year. The Corvette season will be upon us in no time and we will be looking for things to do as a Club with our American sports cars. If you have a thought about something you would like to do, please let one of the officers know. We will help make the event take place.

Remember, your \$50 dues is due NOW.

Hope to see you at the meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> to vote on the new slate of officers for 2019-2020 and to socialize with the members of this wonderful Club.

See you all soon.

# **Barrett Jackson Night 2019**

Reported by "SMOKEN" Mal Smith

On Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, Joeanne and Eddy Forsberg again sponsored "Barrett Jackson night" at their home in Walpole. This event has become an event that so many of us look forward to each year. There were quite a few members in attendance as you can see from the picture. Missing from the picture is Mike Panasuik who showed up right after the picture was taken.



Joeanne made her special dip and had chips and the traditional chili and more. Yum! It wasn't long before the pizzas arrived and we all had lots to eat.



As many of you know, we pause the TV Barrett Jackson auction just before the price is posted on the screen and we all guess what price the Corvette or Chevy (those are the only vehicles we vote on) sold for. We have a point system for the price closest but not over the selling price and more points if you hit the exact price. Jim Gable is the score keeper and Mal walks around and collects the votes.....just keeping it honest!!!

The winners this year were:

First Place: Steve Sylvia \$100

Second Place: Bob Gardner \$ 50

Tie Second: Joel Baker \$ 50

It was a wonderful time and we are looking forward to next year already.

Thank you so much Joeanne and Ed. We had a great time.

A highlight from the Barrett-Jackson auction:

NASCAR Hall of Fame driver Jeff Gordon raised \$600,000 for charity on Friday, January 18, with the sale of his personal 2016 Chevrolet Corvette C7.R at the Barrett-Jackson in auction in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The car was hammered sold for \$400,000, but the buyer immediately donated it back to be sold again. It was hammered sold a second time for \$200,000.



# **SEE YOU ON THE ROAD**

It is more or less about halfway through the winter and although I think we



have a few more storms ahead of us...I can almost feel springtime in my bones. The Mass



Cruisers/Bass Pro schedule is out...their first cruise night is April 11th. I consider this as the unofficial start of the crusin' season and hope for good weather and to see many of you on that day.

As usual thanks go out to all those who have contributed to this issue in order of appearance:

President Steve Wilson for his comments also congrats on his retirement and new Vette. Arne ... you rock every month.

Bob Gardner thanks for the Performance Car of the Year story.

Joel Baker & Bob Gardner for their information and photos from the club's past.

Steve Childs from the Great Bay Corvette Club for his thoughts about our club.

"SMOKEN" Mal Smith our V.P. for her comments and article on Barrett-Jackson.

It's about 54 days until springtime and I am beginning to see posts about non-club events. I post these on the club's Facebook page and hope that you might just attend one or more. I plan to take in more and different events than the usual ones...I will hit some of those too.

If you know of something taking place that might be of interest to the membership please post it on Facebook or send it to me so that I can. I hope that everyone has an easy, safe, and healthy rest of the winter



# **JUST ANNOUNCED!!!**

Today, Chevrolet revealed not one, but four <u>special edition 2019 Corvette</u> models. Yet, they've leaked ahead of their debut and we've learned the cars have been hiding in plain sight for some time now.

Corvette Blogger reported on the leaked cars on Wednesday after a source informed the site that the Daytona International Speedway smartphone app features the photo seen above. There are four 2019 Corvette Grand Sport Driver Series editions shown, each with input and design from a Corvette Racing driver.

Oliver Gavin, Jan Magnussen, Tommy Milner and Antonio Garcia each selected their own exterior color motif which led the cars' final outfittings. From left to right, we see the first is black with red graphics, the second is Arctic White with Long Beach Red body stripes, the third is finished in Elkhart Lake Blue with silver body stripes, and the final car is Corvette Racing Yellow with black graphics. Each car also wears the Grand Sport's iconic hash marks above the front wheels, too.

The 2019 Corvette Grand Sport Driver Series is said to also feature a commemorative plaque inside and they'll be fully loaded with the 3LT option package.

We'll learn more about the special cars this Friday, but here's a fun fact: Chevrolet has literally hidden the cars in plain sight before the internet discovered them. Three of the four cars have sat parked at the Chevrolet Experience Center at Daytona since the Roar Before the 24 took place. Clearly, no one thought anything of them.

Read more: http://gmauthority.com/blog/2019/01/2019-corvette-grand-sport-driver-series-editions-leak-ahead-of-daytona-debut/#ixzz5dddAiRfe



# LAST LAUGHS





# Save The Wave