



# High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter December 2021

## Officers and Volunteers

**President—Tess Morton**

**Vice Pres.—Don Ginter**

**Secretary—Dee Ginter**

**Treasurer—Suzanne Sawyer**

**Sgt At Arms—Laurilea Gibbs**

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**Newsletter—John Burgess**

**Photographers—John  
Burgess  
Dee Ginter**

**Sunshine—Barbara Bosy**

**Highway Clean up— Ann  
Lankford**

**Publicity—Don Ginter**

**COHD—Chair Person  
Harry Bongers**

## PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

Hello December 2021! Hopefully by now we are all not as stuffed and looking forward to this months festivities. Our annual Corvette Christmas Dinner is fast approaching, December 8th at Aspen Lakes Golf Course, Brand 33 Restaurant. This is our last corvette function for 2021!

This is the time of year we are all anticipating some more fun outings with the club, plus counting the days with no cinders on the roads and our corvettes come out from under the covers! I know I'm jumping the gun a bit, but I'm missing the cars so much already.

Please put January 11 on your calendar for our first club meeting of the New Year! I will be sending out an announcement, when location has been secured!

Until we see each of you again, have a safe and very happy holidays!

Tess Burke-Morton



Tess Morton  
President  
T— Gal



## HDCC Events 2021

- 1/8/21 HDCC Christmas Party Aspen Lakes, Sisters
- 1/11/22 HDCC Business Meeting (location TBD)
- 1/26/22 HDCC Social Night E Bar & Grill Redmond. (max 24 people)  
Clay shoot Creswell Date TBA  
RV Retreat TBA
- 5/28-30 Big Sky Corvette Meet, Whitefish MT.

No official word if the Boise ID. Vette Fest  
Is going to take place

Janice Silence won the  
50/50 Jackpot in the  
amount of \$53.00  
Janice gave \$20.00  
back to the club.  
Thank you Janice



## Officer and Volunteer Positions

The time is fast approaching when the club will be electing new officers  
and asking for people to take on volunteer positions. If you are interested

contact president Tess Morton

## Anniversaries

12/2 Mike & Judy McClean  
12/5 Henry & Joan McDonnell  
12/23 Ron & Diane Wedeman  
12/29 Barry & Christine Larson

## Birthdays

12/7 Jessica Andersen  
12/15 Ann Lankford  
12/15 Scott Foote

## On The Lighter Side

A woman was surprised to find an old picture of herself, younger, slimmer and falling in love with her future husband. When she showed him the picture he said, "WOW, look at that..."



"That's my old Impala!"

**GOOD JUDGEMENT COMES  
FROM EXPERIENCE.**



**AND EXPERIENCE? WELL THAT COMES  
FROM POOR JUDGEMENT.**





## Toys for Tots

HDCC had decided to collect teddy bears for the law enforcement folks to give to kids involved in stressful situations. Turns out the police departments were not interested,. Don and Dee took it on the task of finding a suitable organization to donate the teddy bears. Turns out their nail salon had a toys for tots donation box in their facility so now they have a good home, Thanks Don and Dee for finding a worthy home for the bears.

## Chevy Corvette Among Least Reliable Cars, Says Consumer Reports

The [2022 Chevy Corvette](#) has been ranked as one of the 10 least reliable cars on the market today

According to non-profit consumer organization [Consumer Reports](#), the 2022 [Chevy Corvette](#) was given a reliability score of 13 out of 100. The lower the number, the less reliable a vehicle is. The 13 out of 100 score places the 2022 [Chevy Corvette](#) in fifth with regard to [Consumer Reports'](#) 10 Least Reliable Cars list, slotting in between the [Chevy Silverado](#) in fourth, which scored 11 out of 100, and the Volvo XC90, which scored 17 out of 100. The least-reliable vehicle in the list was the 2022 Mercedes-Benz GLE, which scored 5 out of 100.

The [Consumer Reports](#) list is based on a “deep dive into the numerous things that can go wrong with a vehicle,” with the organization identifying 17 specific “trouble areas.” These range from smaller issues, like broken trim bits, to bigger issues, like drivetrain repairs. Each problem is weighted by the severity of the problem, with studied vehicles requiring at least two model years of data to calculate the predicted reliability score.

In regard to the 2022 Chevy Corvette specifically, [Consumer Reports](#) identified the engine, transmission, drive system, paint, and trim as potential problem areas.

On a personal note, Consumer Reports always gives Corvette a poor grade. We have had 9 Corvettes over the last 50 years and have never had to have one push, pulled or hauled away because of malfunction. Just saying!!!



## “The C8 Corvette is the Best Car I Have Ever Driven”

By John McGann

Editor in Chief

Hot Rod Magazine

This was an article forward to me by Harry Bongers. Interesting to read McGann’s comments. I guess you can get higher praise than the endorsement from Hot Rod Magazine. His only negative was he would like a manual “stick shift” even though it would be slower shifting and round tail lights. The article was a little long to duplicate but here is the link or look up Hot Rod Magazine

<https://www.motortrend.com/reviews/chevy-corvette-c8-best-car-ever-driven/>

## Most Popular Corvette Colors for the 2021 C9

1. Torch Red 19.7%
2. Arctic White 14.4%
3. Red Mist Tint Coat 13.2
4. Black 10.7%
5. Rapid Blue 9.1%
6. Sliver Flare 9.1%
7. Elkhart Blue 6.5%
8. Ceramic Gray 5.2%
9. Sebring Orange 4.8 %
10. Shadow Gray 4.2%
11. Acetate Yellow 3.2 %
12. Zeus Bronze 1.9%

And the winner is Torch Red





## **A transport truck with 10 2022 Corvettes went up in flames**

Ten Corvettes burned not far from the Bowling Green plant. Estimated value was \$900,000.00. There has been no official cause but it appears it started in the engine compartment of the truck.

**OUCH!!!!!!**



## **Custom Mid-Engine Corvette C5 Features Dual LT4 V8**

Custom 2001 C5 with dual LT4 engines are mounted behind the cabin i.e. mid-engine. It touts 1300 HP and 1300 pounds of feet of torque. Weights just 3200 pounds. The two engines feed a single 4L0E automatic Transmission. The car is 194 inches long, 87 inches wide in the rear and 46 inches in front..

**See GM Authority for more details and pictures**





## Corvettes in the Indianapolis 500, years and the drivers

The [Indianapolis 500](#) race has used a Corvette as its [pace car](#) 18 times.<sup>[134]</sup> The 2008 running of the Indy 500 represented a record fifth-consecutive year to lead the field until 2009 when the [Chevrolet Camaro SS](#) was selected. The Corvette's pace car years and details include:

1978 – Driven by 1960 race winner [Jim Rathmann](#); Chevrolet produced 6,502 production replicas.  
1986 – Driven by famed pilot [Chuck Yeager](#); all 7,315 production convertibles were considered pace car convertibles and included official graphics (to be installed at the owner's discretion).

- 1995 – Driven by then-Chevrolet General Manager Jim Perkins; 527 production replicas produced.
- 1998 – Driven by 1963 race winner [Parnelli Jones](#) after an injury prevented golfer [Greg Norman](#) from performing the duty; 1,158 production replicas produced.

2002 – Driven by actor [Jim Caviezel](#); no production replicas produced, but graphics were available by special order. About 300 sets sold.

2004 – Driven by actor [Morgan Freeman](#); no production replicas produced.

2005 – Driven by [General Colin Powell](#); no production replicas produced.

2006 – Driven by cycling champion [Lance Armstrong](#); first [Corvette Z06](#) pace car; no production replicas produced.

2007 – Driven by actor [Patrick Dempsey](#); 500 production replicas – all convertibles.

2008 – Driven by [Emerson Fittipaldi](#); 500 production replicas – coupes and convertibles.

2012 – Driven by chef, [Guy Fieri](#); first [Corvette C6 ZR1](#) pace car; no production replicas produced.

2013 – Driven by [Jim Harbaugh](#); football coach: first year of production for C7 generation.

2015 – Driven by [Jeff Gordon](#); first [Chevrolet Corvette C7 Z06](#) pace car

2017 – Driven by actor [Jeffrey Dean Morgan](#); 2017 Grand Sport Convertible<sup>[135]</sup>

2018 - Driven by professional basketball player [Victor Oladipo](#). Chevrolet Corvette C7 ZR1; no production replicas produced.

2019 - Driven by [NBC Sports](#) broadcaster [Dale Earnhardt, Jr.](#) Last year of production for C7 generation; no production replicas produced.

2020 - Driven by GM President Mark Reuss. 2020 Corvette Stingray Torch Red Coupe. No production replicas produced.



## Mid Engine Corvette Forum

As many of you know who read the newsletter we have been receiving a monthly update on the Mid Engine Corvette Forum for several years. John Elegant started this about three years ago and has been generous enough to share with HDCC. The following is a bit of history of John and his involvement with Corvette.

My Corvette Addiction started during my junior year's spring vacation...My Mom called me then and said her colleague Bob has just brought his 3 week old Corvette to work and would I like to hop on the public bus (8 miles) to come see it? [I did not have my license yet.]. Hell yes!

Bob was magnanimous, even taking me for a spirited ride in his 1963 split window. It was Sebring Silver with red interior, 340 HP, factory 4 speed, and air conditioning. What a rare combination! The hook was set. But we did not come from much means and with my wife and our two kids coming first, including she and I completely building our house, and the night after I wrote the check for our youngest's second semester for her senior year of college, my wonderful wife Ann said, "you have waited more than long enough (36 years), go get your Corvette." Note about Ann and our marriage: We have been married 52 wonderful years; got married the day that man first landed on the moon — and so we say, "our marriage was made in heaven."

Back to trying to get our first Corvette, after my local Chevy dealer screwed me multiple times, lying repeatedly about allocations for our new C5, so I called Dave Salvatore at Kerbeck (now Ciocca) and an hour later OUR C5 was about to start its transporter drive to Dallas, OR. I had never driven a Corvette in my life nor been in one since that fateful high school day when all of sudden in late November it arrived at our house in Dallas, OR. After that great C5, we got a C6 Z06, then a C7 Z06 and now have a completely loaded 2020 C8 black coupe, two tone blue interior with 4,250 miles; it is going on the market soon at \$1 LESS than we have into it for I am not a flipper — even though several times I have been offered stupid money above what we are have into it.

Our terrific C8 is being sold because we are getting a 2023 loaded Z06, this time a HTC. Like our last two, it could well be made the first month, and maybe again even the first week of manufacture as our C7 Z06 was; picking it up at NCM Museum Delivery about next June). In between I have been so fortunate, becoming friends with the top members of the Corvette team. Been invited by GM to six Corvette reveals in a row — including the Z06's private and public reveals just a month ago.

Being in the right place, being a helper of others getting their Corvettes (always at sticker), being a person with integrity while first having been the Exec. Moderator of Stingrayforums for five years, sure has helped. As has just three years ago starting [www.MidEngineCorvetteForum.com](http://www.MidEngineCorvetteForum.com) (MECF)— now the fastest growing C8 forum and the second largest one in the world. GM even invited me in Feb., 2020 to the "C8 First-Drive" at Spring Mountain to report on what I thought of it, e.g two days of bliss all free. As some of you remember, when I come back from a reveal I want to pay it back and I always travel gratis to different Corvette clubs making presentations on the latest-released generation or model (enjoying making one to your club in early summer, 2015). Already the last few weeks I have put on over 600 miles making three club presentations on the Z06. As a top member of the Corvette team one told me at the NCM Bash (to which Ann and I drive every year), after his looking around to insure no one else was listening, "your mid engine forum gives us a 'fair shake,' and that is all

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As to the Z06, it is an e-ticket, thrill ride, coupled with completing ten rounds on the world's largest, steepest, and fastest roller coaster, and then jumping off of Niagara Falls as the climax. Do not get it due to your ego wanting the king of the hill; buy it only if you are an adrenaline junkie, e.g. 0-to-60 in 2.6 seconds via 670 HP @ 8,600 RPM!

I am hoping to be invited back to Spring Mountain next February for the media "Z06 FirstDrive" event. Other pieces of my Corvette addition is that I have helped over 500 people get their new Corvette, and always from dealers who do not charge over MSRP — and during the economic hard times helping them get it at mega thousands below sticker. Never got a referral fee nor anything in return — for the way I look at all things Corvette, is that "we are a Corvette community!"

Lastly, just as Ann and I were the Co-Captains of the 2019 Pacific Northwest part of the National Corvette Caravan (the fifth caravan we were part of), we are again going to be Co-Captains of the 2024 PNW National Corvette Caravan. We know we are leaving Suburban Chevy in Sandy and others at the same time from a Seattle Chevy dealership on Thursday, August 22, 2024. Care to join us? We guarantee the following adventure: Great Corvette activities (over 25 for you to choose from); great roads to exercise your Corvette on; and without giving the exact route away yet (our PNW Captain John Warren will announce our defined route this coming January), let's just say that the scenery we are going on during our highlight day is the best anywhere in the United States of America to drive a Corvette on.



Ann & John Elegant



John

Tadge Juechter

Mike Furman





## Mid Engine Monthly Update: Stingray and Z06 News (John Elegant)

*It revs really fast. It pulls really hard. It sends chills up your spine as it screams to 8,600 RPM. Its sounds vicious and mean! It is a race car yet one that can drive legally on the public roads, go visit your friends for breakfast, and/or to take to the golf course. Then win races! But is it the car you want to own and drive on a daily basis? Do you like an e-ticket thrill ride? Do you want a car that been referred to as "straining at the leash wanting to run?" How much of a race car is it?*

*It is the same width as the C8.R;*

*It has 50% more air inflow for cooling than the Stingray does due to its large additional center heat exchanger (again as does the C8.R);*

*It has 170 more HP and a 1,200 higher RPM limit than the C8.R.*

The above it obviously talking about the Z06. It is now just over one month since its formal reveal and if anything it is creating bigger and bigger buzz as time evolves. How much? These things will start to answer that question. Here's the standard Z06 (though of course a hard top convertible model).



BUT FIRST, PLEASE NOTE there are already announced 2023 Stingray changes coming for sure — listed near the end of this article, so the 2023 will bring new exciting features for the Stingray also. And as suggested below in the last paragraph, *possibly we already know the two new-for-2023 colors and perhaps also those composing the 70th Anniversary Design Package.*

These are just three major examples epitomizing the Z06's busting out and fairly well taking over the sports car scene. 1) The top three Corvette dealers have so many names on their customer Z06 ordering lists, all over 1,000 names, with one reputed to have over 5,000 names on their list, that they have completely closed those lists, i.e., they will no longer take a single name of a new Z06 customer because they know that their first deliveries for the next new customer would not be until at the soonest the 2025 model year and more probably not until the 2026 MY or even later; 2) quite a few individuals, including two of my friends who have waited for several years for the new just-under-500 HP Porsche Caymen GT4 RS (starts @ \$143K) have because of the Z06 have taken their names of those customer lists — while others that have also for a couple of years been on the brand new Lotus Emira purchasing list (it starts around \$94,000), and similarly said, "remove me form your list because I am getting a Z06,;" and, 3) because of insane levels of customer demands for the Z06, some Chevy dealerships are asking, and already getting customers to sign a formal, legal purchasing contract with Z06 pricing of literally \$100,000 over MSRP to get a Z06. Thankfully the biggest four Corvette dealers and some others have kept their integrity and are charging MSRP for it, e.g., no mark up.

What is its MSRP price? Yet unknown but the average pricing estimate is around \$90,000 to start. However we have seen some "trial builds" in which customers have estimated their totally loaded Z06 will approach or even breakthrough \$150,000. We do know its 0-to-60 time is 2.6 seconds, does the quarter mile in 10.6 seconds, and it develops 670 HP from its naturally aspirated 5.5L, flat plane crank, DOHC motor. Its motor is called an LT6. However as its development and testing is not yet completed, we do not yet have its quarter mile trap speed, or all of the following: top speed, Nurburgring lap time, nor its



60-to-0 braking distance. We know that LT6 smashed the previous record for every OEM ever-produced, naturally-aspired V8; that old record was “just” 622 HP. Here are nine pages of factual info from the official GM Z06 press release. <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/323332-z06-official-press-release>

The Z06's brakes, tires and wheels are massive: 275/30/20 F's, 345/25/21 rears; 10" wide front wheels with six-piston brakes, and 13" wide, four-piston rears. All its wheels are forged (six color choices), but additionally there are optional painted and visual carbon fiber wheels (collectively a 41 pounds weight savings). But more than looking good, the Z06/Z07 version's optional visible carbon fiber wheels result in a 1 to 1 1/2 second average savings on a two minute lap.

Impressions from standing next to the Z06 are that both the standard and the Z07 are the “new sheriff.” However, the visual differences between the two versions are crystal clear from 25 yards. For those who want the much more “understated” one, the standard Z06 version without its optional aero package is what you are wanting. Even without one piece of optional aero when one stands next to it, it is powerfully imposing. Its extra width, clearly race-inspired front fascia, its massive, standard massively-wide front rear tires and many more of its components scream, “try me out if you dare.” More good news, as confirmed at the reveal, the Z06 will be available as a HTC right from the get-go. Even a HTC Z07 is available. If you missed the Z06's virtual reveal, you can watch it here: <https://youtu.be/T2NK-9aFeE0>.

Of course there is a Z07 Track Performance version. Here are its standard features (again from the official GM press release): \*Carbon fiber aero package with larger front splitter, front-corner dive planes, a rear wing and underbody strakes that enhance downforce; \*Unique FE7 suspension with specific Magnetic Ride Control 4.0 calibration, and its Michelin Sport Cup 2 R ZP tires developed specifically for the Z07; \*Carbon ceramic brakes (CCB's); \*Re-calibrated MSRC and other systems; 8% stiffer springs. Available carbon fiber wheels deliver a 41-pound (18.6 kg) reduction in unsprung mass.



Yet if you choose, the standard Z06 version, which has the identical LT6, is available for you to optionally order the CCB's; and/or if you wish, you can separately order above aero package.

But more than the Z06 being new for 2023, Harlan shared at the Z06's reveal that **there will be some nice 2023 Stingray enhancements**. The 70th Anniversary Design Package will be available on every C8. As will the extra interior visible carbon fiber package #2. <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/329035-%E2%80%9823-sr-z06-vis-cf-package-2>

Since there was so much Z06 info revealed, here is a summary sheet for those that wish:

I. Articles/Info Including GM Official Releases/Pictures:

\*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/323332-z06-official-press-release>

\*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/323312-official-gm-z06-reveal-pictures>



- \*: <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/323587-2023-z06-reveal-photos>
- \*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/c8-stingray-z06-powertrain-performance-wheels-tires-aa/329183-everything-you-ever-wanted-to-know-about-gm-s-new-670-hp-lt6-flat-plane-crank-v8>
- \*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/323365-z06-street-legal-race-car>
- \*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/323370-impressions-standing-next-to-a-z06>
- \*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/323812-2023-z06-z07-tons-of-carbon-fiber-70th-anniversary-embossed-glass>
- \*<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/323368-key-z06-components-yet-still-unanswered-questions>

## II. Z06 Videos:

Very 1st Z06 Walk Around Video (standard version): <https://youtu.be/Dgu-ly4hbY0>

Best sounding Z06 video (at the Nurburgring): <https://youtu.be/ndMXeBOrcHA>

First drive (and some standard vs Z07 version commentary and comparative analysis and pictures): <https://youtu.be/FeB-vlUn-Yw>

Interview with Tadge & Aaron Link (Vehicle Lead Engineer) about the Z: <https://youtu.be/v6oZDgliD2I>

LT6 Walkaround/Detailed Info: <https://youtu.be/uta6RWwx7s>

Jay Leno Drives It (1st non-GM employee to do so): <https://youtu.be/mRU3UDvhF0s>

Best technical analysis of how the new LT6 motor produces its power (vs the C7 Z06 supercharged motor): <https://youtu.be/1q6p5vlAWEs>

*There are ten more excellent Z06 videos here:* <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/324839-best-z06-pre-post-reveal-videos>

But that is not all that will be new for 2023. Here are changes also available on all 2023 Stingrays: Two new caliper colors; the Morello Red interior will be replaced by a fully dipped Adrenaline Red one; and there will be, as always at least two new exterior colors coming. These typical changes are typically not announced until the late April NCM Bash event but based on an internal GM document which stated that the 2022 model year is ending on May 6th, with 2023 production starting on May 9th, but more importantly that initial 2023 C8 allocations are starting early on March 30th, might there be a new way for some of the 2023 color and other changes to be introduced before the traditional time of the April NCM Bash? One more change is coming to all 2023's as a result of our customer input to the Corvette team, the currently bright aluminum trim within level 2 and level 3 interiors is going to optioning come in what some have described as a "black out trim" package, others as "black chrome," and still others as the "stealth aluminum trim package." It is available whether or not one gets the new-for-2023, aforementioned and linked extra visible carbon fiber package # 2 — or neither carbon fiber interior option.

At the LA Auto Show we quickly saw a case of 14 colored "C8 speed models." The two new ones appear to be a return of the 2012 one-year-only "Carbon Flash" (a metallic black) and Pearlescent Metallic White. If confirmed later, might Arctic White and the traditional, solid Black be taking a one year, 2023 vacation? And might the combination of Pearlescent Metallic White and the new fully dipped Adrenaline Red be the 70th Anniversary Design Package and/or or the Design Package also be the Metallic black and the dipped Red interior. Note: As soon as that display case was placed in public view and then pictures of it were captured in lots of social media locations, it was removed. A trial balloon? A foreshadowing of what is coming for 2023 new colors? A false flag?

May your holidays be especially joyous ones with your family and friends! Safe miles of Corvette driving too. Thanks for reading. John