



High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter January 2022

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Dee Ginter**

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**Highway Clean up— Ann
Lankford**

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Harry Bongers**

President's Ponderings

Hello and a BIG HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022 to everyone!

I hope everyone had wonderful holidays, and now have time to get rested up. Thank you everyone who were able to join your fellow veters at the annual Christmas dinner, we had a terrific evening.

We will start off our regular club meeting Tuesday January 11th! Yes, you have read it correctly, we are able to return to our regular day!!! This month we are in Bend at the Pour House Grill

Tess Burke-Morton



Please give consideration to run for an officer or a volunteer position

2021 HDCC in the Rearview Mirror



30 Year Anniversary



Trout Lake



Wine Tour



Pendleton—Joseph Trip



PMT 2021





HDCC Events 2021

- 1/11/22 HDCC Business Meeting Pour House Bar & Grill, 3rd St, Bend.
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.

January Birthdays

- 1/2 Greg Carter
1/2 Cathy Raaf
1/2 Larry Raaf
1/7 Ken Kaster
1/8 Rick Kerfoot
1/8 Sonja Massey
1/11 Debbie Scherrer
1/12 Janice Silence
1/14 Chris O'Driscoll
1/15 David Roth
1/17 Dee Ginter
1/19 Sam Davis
1/20 Rich Morton
1/24 Jack More

January Anniversaries

- 1/17 Tim & Marlene Mangan
1/23 George & Barbara Bosy



While we're in SoCal Don just had to visit Chemical Guys in Buena Park. They take photos of their customers for their Instagram page. We'll be local stars. LOL

On The Lighter Side



My kids say they want a cat for Christmas.

Normally I do a turkey but hey, if it'll make 'em happy...



Tornado-Damaged C8 Corvettes Ready for the Crusher



One of our Facebook friends posted these two photos of the [2022 Corvettes](#) that were allegedly inside the Corvette Assembly Plant at the time [when the tornado struck Bowling Green](#) in the early morning hours of December 11th. Because of the potential for contamination and damage to the electronics from the water that got inside the plant and onto these open cars, General Motors made the difficult decision to destroy them with a crusher.

Very sad to see these going away, but very understandable as GM wants to clear the board and give their customers whose Corvette dreams were delayed by the storm a 2022 Corvette that they can drive worry-free

From Corvette Blogger



More HDCC 2021 Events

Corvette—Porsche Car



Corvettes on the Columbia 2021



HDCC Christmas 2021



Astronauts and Corvettes

Astronaut [Alan Shepard](#), a long-time Corvette owner, was invited by then GM Chief Engineer [Zora Arkus-Duntov](#) to drive pre-production Corvette models. General Motors executives later gave Shepard a 1972 model with a Bill Mitchell interior. [Jim Rathmann](#), a [Melbourne, Florida](#) Chevrolet dealer and winner of the 1960 Indy 500, befriended astronauts Shepard, [Gus Grissom](#), and [Gordon Cooper](#). Rathmann convinced GM President [Ed Cole](#) to set up a program that supplied each astronaut with a pair of new cars each year. Most chose a family car for their wives and a Corvette for themselves.^[117] In his memoir *Last Man On The Moon*, [Gene Cernan](#) describes how this worked. The astronauts received brand-new Corvettes, which they were given the option to purchase at a "used" price after they'd been driven 3000 miles. [Alan Bean](#) recalls Corvettes lined up in the parking lot outside the astronaut offices at the [Johnson Space Center](#) in Houston, and friendly races between Shepard and Grissom along the Florida beach roads and on beaches as local police turned a blind eye.^[118] Shepard, Grissom and Cooper even pulled each other on skis in the shallow water. The Mercury and later astronauts were unofficially tied to the Corvette and appeared in official photographs with their cars and with mock-ups of space vehicles such as the [Apollo Lunar Module](#) or [Lunar Roving Vehicle](#). Cooper talked of the races along Cocoa Beach in his eulogy of Shepard at the Johnson Space Center in 1998.^[119]



Astronaut's with Riverside Gold 1969 Corvettes, Richard Conrad, Pete Conrad and Alan Bean



Astronaut Alan Shepard's Corvette on display at Kennedy Space Center



Update on the Storm Damage to the Corvette Assembly Plant



As the new work week slowly gets underway, new details are emerging about General Motor's response to the storm damage that will keep the plant shuttered for at least the next week and maybe even longer. Since our updates on Saturday, here is what we have learned.

GM announced on Saturday that the [Corvette Assembly Plant](#) will be closed for at least this week. The automaker will be bringing in a specialized group of contractors to review the damage and come up with a repair plan.

We know there was some serious roof damage caused by wind and fire, and GM has said the employee entrance to the assembly plant was also damaged. However, a flyover by a [Nashville TV station](#) didn't show holes in the roof or charred remains from the fire, so we are hoping that it may not be as ominous as it sounds.

General Motors has sent out an official message to suppliers about the closure this week and stated it is unknown whether or not the plant will resume production the week of December 20th

We also know that Shane at the Corvette Museum's R8C delivery program has contacted those customers whose new Corvettes were damaged while being stored at the NCM Motorsports Park. The email states that repairs will be attempted prior to your scheduled delivery appointment, however, it's uncertain at this time. They are asking for "patience and flexibility as we navigate this unprecedented event."

Update; As of Tuesday December 21st, both shifts at the Bowling Green plant are up and operational!!!!



Memories of Sandy

Sandra (Sandy) Lee Marlow

8-1-49 - 12-12-21

Married to David Marlow for 50 years, raised two children a daughter Donna Marlow-Butterfield and a son Scott Marlow who has two daughters, Kim and Kayla. When her youngest child was graduating from high school, Sandy decided to pursue her childhood dream of becoming a nurse. Which she accomplished by becoming a Registered Nurse. Eventually she worked for BMC in sisters with Dr. May Fan.

She really enjoyed being a member of both PEO chapters in Sisters. Was an active member of the Church of the Transfiguration and served as their parish nurse.

Sandy was an avid equestrian being proficient in Hunter-Jumper, Dressage, trail riding and eventually cart driving with her pony. She enjoyed having her two horses at her home in sisters.

She was a member of the High Desert Corvette Club for several years.

She had numerous travel adventures around the country.





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MEMU # 54 Mid Engine Monthly Update: 2022 Calendar Year Starts (john elegant)

What do we know about the C8 world? Actually lots of news starting with massive compliments to BGA team and their outside contractor teams for turning a tornado very-badly-damaged Plant, yet by the 7th work day after the tornado hit, with its consequent fire, partial roof removal, electrical problems inside from water pouring in and filling some of its the inside floor pits, BGA was up and running with two full shifts. What a testament to BGA's commitment and execution, their ending the year on a high note and to already working with those 115 C8 tornado-destroyed, owners' complete rebuilds already priority sequenced for complete re-do's BGA built over 400 C8's before that partial, pre-Christmas week was over — in spite of the fact that not all the tornado damage had yet been completed lay repairs. KUDOS to BGA! Based on known re-scheduled TPW's for those Stingrays which were going to be re-made after the tornado hit, their TPW's are being moved out an average of two weeks, again such a remarkably small amount of time due to the tornado's damage.

What we believe we know as 2022 starts

Might the 2023 Corvettes finally have Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB?) General Motors spokesperson Stuart Fowle said that GM "remains on track to meet the industry commitment to automatic emergency braking by the September 1, 2022 target date."

Based on that super quick BGA production resumption, by the best calculations us outsiders can do, and using what GM told us about the end of the 2022 Corvette production, even though they used the word "estimated" in their written, internal communication to its Chevy dealers, and even if we were to factor in those lost tornado assembly days, this still would leave us with the end of the 2022 model year being around mid-May. While the tornado provided more support for the wisdom of GM always using the words estimated and "subject to change," as the tornado just reinforced to us and as Covid parts supply issues have haunted all of U.S. manufacturing and delivery schedules for now 1 1/2 years, that internal GM scheduling document stated that 2023 Corvette production start just three days later than the May 6th end of the '22 MY — so now again now let's be thinking around mid-May for its start. As all you followers of GM introducing its new model year Corvettes have known for many years, this would be a very early model year start. Might this have a lot to do with the many 2023 Stingray enhancements and the introduction of the exciting new Z06? You all know the answer to that.

How would such timing jibe with the schedule for the April 28th-30th NCM Bash — an event in which new model year changes are every years shared, including that event historically being the event when we have traditionally seen GM introduce the new-for-next-year Corvettes colors???. How do these things fit with a sentence in the GM scheduling document that, the "First Allocation Cycle/Order Entry" would be March 31st? Even if that date were to slide backward those same two weeks to approximately April 10th, would that mean that even before the 2023 changes are typically presented at the Bash, that first allocation customers might have to make their ordering decisions before they have full component, color, and



option knowledge?

Or as some are exciting wondering, might we instead have a sequenced, these first four months of the 2022 new year, some progressive rollout of 2023 information for both the Stingray and the Z06 as the following?

The Z06's MSRP, conspicuous by it not being part of the formal October 26th Z06 Reveal, might it be shared sometime this January?

*Will next the 2023 model Fleet Order Guide be released this February? It would add so much information to the details of the Stingray and Z06 2023 model year's changes.

*The 2023 Build and Price Guides are expected to be first shared in March. Might if the original shared GM schedule remains intact, initial 2023 allocations be granted to dealers at the end of March?

*Lastly could we see the first 2023 orders matched-with-allocations go in in early to mid-April — for according to that internal to its dealers' document, 2023 production is estimated to start on May 9th. However that document was not specific as to whether that production might be just Stingrays or might also include the first of the customer Z06? This critical omission, was it deliberate, is a key for us understanding Z06 timing roll out.

Have we learned anything more about the Z06 this past month? First that BGA is continuing to produce captured test fleet vehicles for further street and track verification and development. Here are six Z06's we learned were heading to GM's Milford Proving Ground in Michigan. We see for the first time, Z06 Graphite wheels on one.

Further, we have gained a little more knowledge about both the standard and the Z06's high wing. While the high wing is standard on the Z07 model, one can get either the standard Z06's calmer standard, deck-mounted spoiler or the full high wing aero packager as an option on the standard Z06. Lots of more aero details here: [:https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/340534-the-standard-z06-spoiler-thread-with-and-without-wickerbill](https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/340534-the-standard-z06-spoiler-thread-with-and-without-wickerbill)

<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/340475-the-z06%E2%80%99s-high-wing-thread>

Many contemplating a new Z06 are evaluating its standard version versus the Z07. The question of the Z07's ride quality is often considered yet we are snail awaiting many eternal evaluations of the question, "how does it differ in stiffness from the standard Z06". Or put another way, "what's it going to be like to drive on the street? Too harsh or just right? This adds a little more to that ongoing discussion. <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/c8-stingray-z06-powertrain-performance-wheels-tires-aa/341705-comparing-c8-z07-vs-z06-ride>

Have a C8 Stingray and yet like/want the look of the C8 Z06's carbon fiber wheels — but do not want to pay for carbon fiber? Your wish is going to be soon available: <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/c8-powertrain-and-performance/341062-z06-looking-mrr-f23-forged-19x8-5-and-20x11-delivery-in-spring>

John Elegant