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Statistically Speaking

GM has produced over 100 million small block V8 engines from the mid 1950's through 2022, making it the most popular engine design of all time. And while the engine configuration has somewhat changed over the years, the same basic design has not.

The latter LS engines are also the number one motor used in aftermarket street rod and retrofit configurations due to their availability and ease in modifying.



What a year the 2022 SONHC Caravan season was! Can it really be over so quickly! Well with the October Bennington Caravan behind us, our 2022 cruise season is officially in the rear view mirror! But did we have fun! We had over 177 people join us on one or more of our caravans, from Ogunquit To Bennington and to every one in between! And while we didn't have any one person or couple attend every event. Other than Sharon and myself we had a few members that came very close and missed just one! So as we begin our winter hibernation and prepare to put our cars into storage SO NH CORVETTES would like to thank everyone who came out and rode along with us this summer and it's our sincere hope that you all had as much fun participating in them as we did in putting them together! And to the numerous new members who didn't get a chance to get out with us, we certainly hope that you will consider doing so in 2023. Can you say a 100 car Corvette Caravan..



It's your club

So as the 2022 caravan season is now in the rear view mirror, soon enough we will turn our attention to 2023 and what it will hold. As members of the group, everyone has the ability to have input as to what you'd like us to change, add or even get rid of all together for the 2023 season. One change we're already planning on, is to add in some shorter caravans to the mix. There are amazing destinations right here in our back yards that we haven't traveled to yet. Some of these will make it into our 2023 caravan schedule.

Additionally, we may look at changing the days of some of the caravans from the traditional Sunday events to perhaps some Saturday or even mid-week rides. A couple of the destinations we had planned in 2022 were taken out of the mix due to the fact that they were not open on Sundays.. Yeah being closed on a Sunday sounds weird in the 24 hour a day seven day a week world we live in, but there are some locations that have held true to the Sunday blue laws of days gone by. Here are some of the considerations we're throwing around.

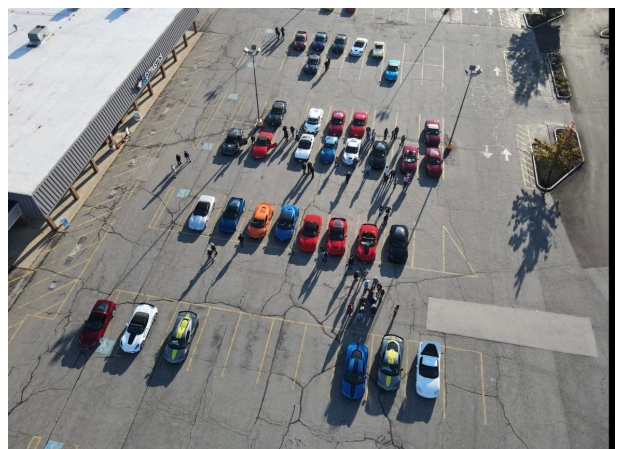
- * Shorter Caravans 3-4 hour events closer to the SO NH area
- * Saturday and Mid-week caravans
- * Holding our own monthly static Corvette only car shows
- * Breakfast and lunch cruises
- * Possibly turning some of the longer caravans into overnight events
- * Holding specialty events such as detailing and maintenance workshops
- * Cross promotion rides with other area clubs

Bennington 2022

What an amazing caravan to close out the 2022 season, A picture perfect day was the backdrop for our trip out to Bennington VT.



We truly were blessed in 2022 to enjoy some amazing caravans to some fun and captivating locations here in New England. Not to mention that other than the occasional rain we had during our first trip to the Maine coast, Mother nature blessed us with some spectacular weather! Here are just a few pictures to look back on from our 2022 Caravan season!



2024 New England Corvette Caravan– Dust Off Weekend

Mariner Resort, Ogunquit, ME

May 18th-20th 2023

Registration Opening this month!



2024 New England Corvette Caravan “Meet and Greet”

Hilton Garden Inn – Horseheads, New York – October 5, 6, 7, 2023

Registration Opening January 2023



As of October 2022, The NCM 2024 Caravan NE Chapter registration is now full and is accepting anyone who is considering attending the event to be added to a standby registration list and as will be added on a first come first serve basis as open spots become available

As the NCM 2024 Caravan inches closer with each passing day, for any members of SO NH CORVETTES that will be attending, we are planning on caravanning out of New England down to meet up with the NE chapter the first night in Gettysburg, PA on Friday August 23!

As we get closer to 2024, we will announce our route and timeline for those that wish to make this great journey together. In the mean time we encourage everyone who is planning on attending the 2024 caravan to make it to one or more of the scheduled pre caravan Meet and Greet events being sponsored by the New England Chapter of the NCM 2024 Caravan.

Winter Storage Tips

Tire Storage

A subject that will become very relevant soon is winter storage, and an important part of storing the car properly is the care for the tires!

Michelin which many consider to be the leader in tire technology states: if your tires have been subjected to long storage times while loaded and over-inflated and with fairly high or low temperatures, the tires could develop a "semi-permanent" flat spotting. This flat spotting will eventually go away, but it may take a good bit of driving.

Tires should not be stored loaded (when the car is parked) or over-inflated while subjected to extreme heat and cold.

Tire Storage tips

Do not overinflate the tires, keep them at the manufacturers recommended pressures!

If you are storing the car for an extended period of time, it is best that the car be moved occasionally, by even just a few inches to change the position of the tires which come in contact with the surface below.

If possible, put some sort of barrier between the tires and the concrete surface, such as foam insulation pads to soften the firmness between the tire and the surface below.

If you are removing your tires and storing them separately, (Not recommended) lay the tires down on a flat padded surface. If the car is being kept on jack stands, the **suspension**

should be kept in a neutral position, (the same height as if the tires were on the car) and not left unloaded or compressed.

Additionally, there are products available as shown in the picture that you can buy and drive onto that will keep your tires in their natural contoured shape.



Fuel Storage

This one is open to debate among many as to which is the best method to store your Corvette during the winter hibernation months. Some say to fill the tank to the brim and add a fuel storage stabilizer and you are all set come spring time. Others say to do a 1/4 tank with stabilizer. Yet others say 1/2 full with stabilizer.

However there are a few things that most everyone agrees on!

1. Always add some sort of fuel stabilizer regardless of how much gas you decide to keep in the tank..
2. Add premium high octane fuel when you store the car for an extended period of time, (most everyone already runs premium high octane fuel year round)
3. Today's fuel tanks and systems are a sealed and closed system and are not prone to any condensation build up in the fuel tanks. (Most modern cars have a closed system)

Here's the one that the majority of the experts think makes the most sense.. Fill your tank between 1/4 and 1/2 full with a good stabilizer. Then in the spring fill your tank with fresh high octane fuel and it will mix with the stored fuel giving you a healthy mix of fuel going through your system.



Battery

Invest in a good high quality battery tender, that will consistently give your battery a low voltage charge during the winter storage months. This will ensure that your battery is in tip top shape come spring time and you go to fire it up! A good quality UL approved charger will run you about \$50 and is a worthwhile investment

Repelling Rodents

One of the biggest areas for many to address is keeping rodents such as mice and other critters away from your car. There are some things that you can do that have been proven effective in repelling mice and other creatures. Place high quality dryer lint sheets such as Bounce in the engine and passenger compartments as a proven highly effective repellent (remember to remove them before starting the car) Covering your exhaust tips with cloth and rubber bands will keep them out of the exhaust tips. Also there are specific repellent products such as a product called Fresh Cab (Available at Tractor Supply that are known to work extremely well.) These items will be much more effective than mice traps that will only deal with the issue one rodent at a time, but instead will keep them all away!



Finally If you are like some of us, who aren't able to keep the car in storage or in a garage, then the investment in a high quality outdoor cover is a must. Start the car every other week and let it run up to temperature for 20 minutes or so! Move the car occasionally to keep the tires from flat spotting and take the same rodent precautions as storing it inside! And just think, if you happen to catch a perfect January day with no snow or salt, then you can take her out for a short spin while everyone else is left staring at theirs in the garage!

Bowling Green Corvette Plant

Some interesting facts about the Bowling Green Corvette production plant in Bowling Green KY.

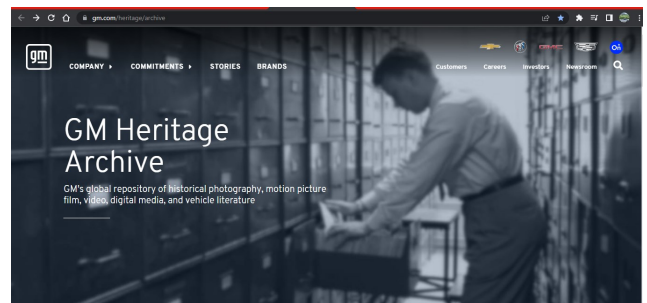
- The Plant sets on 212 acres of land
- The physical dimensions of the plant itself are 1.7 million square feet of space (39 acres) or equivalent to 29 football fields
- There is a 75 acre wildlife area equivalent to 83 football fields on the plant grounds
- The plant employs over 1400 hourly (UAW workers) and salaried personal that work 8 hour shifts Monday through Friday
- At production capacity, 92 corvettes are produced per shift or 184 per day! 1.1 million Corvettes have been produced at the Bowling Green plant!
- Gm is investing in a 1100 acre Solar power farm, 25 miles away from the plant that will help power the Bowling green plant and power production of up to 850 Corvettes annually. The solar farm will also fully power a regional Facebook facility nearby.
- Some 50,000 people annually visit the plant and take the \$7 tour (Pre-COVID) and as of November 1st, 2022 plant tours are once again resuming full operations.
- The plant sits adjacent to the National Corvette Museum and MCM motor park



DID YOU KNOW!

There is a division of GM that does nothing but archives the build history of every vehicle they produce.. Including yes every Corvette! They have copies of build sheets, dealer invoices, plant notes, vehicle spec sheets. You can download copies of your owners manual or order a printed copy, learn if there are any active recalls and or service bulletins. Its an interactive site and has lots of hidden features that can provide insight into any issue you may be having with your car along with maintenance tips and sales brochures for your year car.

Just go to www.GM.com/heritage/archive



May the Force be with you!

The 1973 Corvette that was the star of the 1978 movie Corvette Summer starring Luke Skywalker aka Mark Hamill and Annie Potts was actually converted to right hand drive so that Mark Hamill could be seen hanging out of the car looking at the ladies on the sidewalk. And while the car was extensively modified visually, there were very few modifications to the car from a performance standpoint. The L48 350 engine was fitted with only a Holly high rise carburetor and the Turbo 350 transmission and driveline remained stock. Additionally there were two cars that were built to be used in the filming of the movie, but only one actually ended up being used with the other making appearances in promoting the at the time low grossing movie (9 million dollar production cost and 15 million in revenue) however like many "cult classic" movies, Corvette Summer has gone on to make over 36 million dollars for MGM and the car has become one of the most famous cars in Hollywood movie history with it now on display at the National Corvette Museum.



Target Cruise Night

We would be remiss if we didn't take a moment and thank our fellow SONHC Member **Scott Scribner** for being the host of the very best car show in the Southern New Hampshire area. **Target Cruise Nights!** Many of us enjoyed numerous Friday nights together at this great event! Hosting an event every week takes countless hours of time and dedication to make happen and Scott makes it look effortless! So Thank you for allowing numerous SONHC members to be a part of your great event.

