

October!

This Months Articles

- Social Media
- Return to the Kanc
- Batteries you'll get a charge out of
- 2024 NCM Caravan
- Battery Terminology
- Winterizing your ride
- Our newest Admin!
- Welcome our newest Admin!
- Ever been to New Orleans and not know it

Most of us as children looked forward to October each year and the anticipated sweet treats that were part of each years Halloween. Some of us have grown up (Debatable) and are fortunate enough to have gone on to become Corvette owners, who now dread the month, as it usually is a sign that our driving season is coming to a close in the near future. Yes, there still will be a few days here and there in which we can still enjoy getting out in our cars.. but the driving day's are definitely numbered as old man winter sets his sights on us here in the New England.

SO NH CORVETTES has been blessed to enjoy an amazing summer of great events that have taken us across some of the best back roads and amazing destinations New England has to offer. And as October approaches we're not quite done yet as our last scheduled caravan to Bennington VT still lies in front of us! Those of you who came along last year know that there's nothing quite like a drive into Vermont during the foliage season and The Publyk House is reason alone to make this excursion a must!



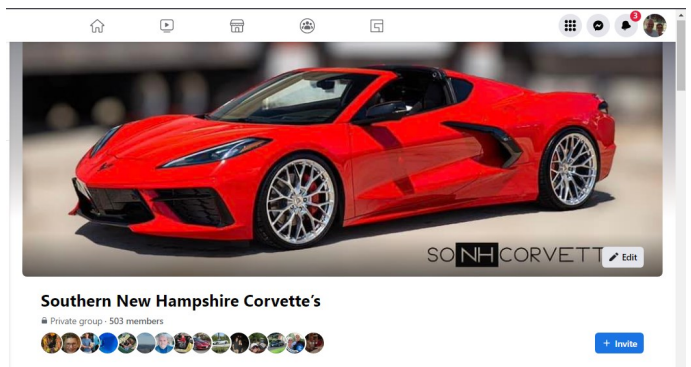
As of the beginning of this month, we hear that the first Z06's are finally coming off the assembly line and will soon be delivered into the hands of their new lucky owners.. And hopefully in time for them to get a few precious miles on them before putting them away for a winter nap! We know some of our group members have Z06's on order and we can't wait to see their beautiful new rides!

Can Social Media sustain a Corvette Club

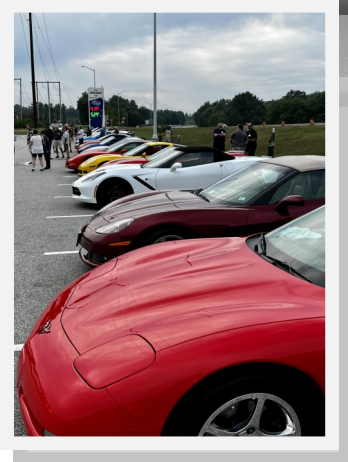
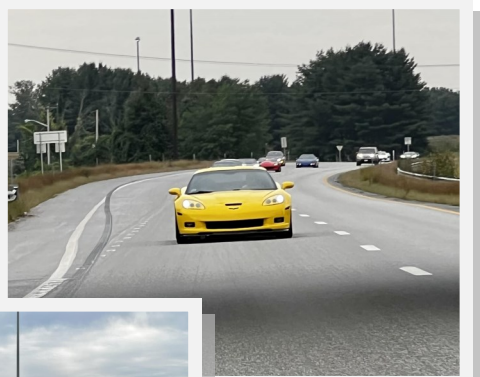
SO NH CORVETTES started as a small Facebook group with only two members back in 2020. Interestingly enough it wasn't started with the intent of ever becoming a club or group, but more as a place where Corvette owners from SO NH could communicate with each other. But with one simple Facebook post about getting some people together to drive our cars across the Kancamagus.. SO NH CORVETTES as we know it was launched! We certainly never envisioned it to become a group with 500 members! But we're certainly both humbled and excited that so many of you have decided to come along on this amazing journey!

I'd be lying if I said back then I envisioned that

Social media would have the ability to sustain us and allow us to continue to grow and prosper as it has. And as 2022 comes to a close, I'm at this point shocked that more Corvette groups have not taken a similar route utilizing social media for all its potential! Yes in many ways Social media can be considered detrimental. But when it is harnessed and utilized for a common good, then there is no doubt that social media is one of the very best ways to communicate with like minded people who share a common interest. We have a presence across all the popular media channels, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, You Tube and Vimeo! Some we're more active on than others. But by being involved in these outlets, its enabled us to get our message out to as many Corvette owners in our area as possible! So.. what does the future hold? Well for us I see the challenge will be to continue to evolve, keep things as fresh as possible and yet still remain true to our original core values! So as 2022 soon will come to a close and we put away our cars for the long winter! We're already looking forward to 2023 and what it will bring!, but not before a sincere Thank you to all who have joined us on one or more of our Caravans this year, we hope we've lived up to your expectations and you'll continue to be a part of this craziness going forward!



Return to the Kanc caravan



Batteries 101

You get in, close the door, put on your seat belt ... and then you push a button or turn the key and with a magic whirl, your car comes to life! Almost seems magical at times just to hear that V8 rumble as it comes to life! But how? What amazing 100 plus year old device breaths life into a dormant metal/plastic machine? **The Battery!**

Batteries play such an integral role in our everyday lives that we take them for granted at this point. Every aspect of our lives is directly or indirectly effected by batteries. Our cell phones, our laptops, our homes, our businesses all depend on and run on Batteries! New EV cars, without the latest battery technology won't move or operate! Today we're 100% dependent upon battery technology!

But what is a battery and how do they work?

As we get ready to put our Corvettes away for the winter and put them into storage, now is good time to learn about batteries and what can we do to extend their lives and keep them ready for when they are needed.

But first, a quick history of batteries.

Battery technology has been around for hundreds of years, and while some historians suggest that batteries have been around since 250BC, The first true battery was invented by the Italian physicist Alessandro Volta in 1800. Volta stacked discs of copper (Cu) and zinc (Zn) separated by cloth soaked in salty water. The lead acid battery that most everyone has in their Corvette was later invented in 1859.



Batteries regardless of makeup, all convert a chemical reaction into electrical current voltage and store it until it is discharged through usage. The process is supplemented by the ability for many batteries to be recharged by some sort of electrical generator, such as the alternator in your car. Together they form the perfect symmetry, where electricity is generated, stored, then used, then recharged for future usage.

There are two primary types of batteries that we use in our everyday lives. The most common primary battery is the **zinc-carbon battery**. These are the alkali batteries we buy from the supermarket in AA, AAA and other sizes. They are designed to hold and discharge their energy and when they are fully discharged they no longer work. In 1989 the rechargeable **nickel-cadmium battery (NiCd)**, that also uses an alkali as an electrolyte was invented and somewhat revolutionized the small household battery as it was a rechargeable, reusable battery, instead of the use until dead batteries.

The second type of battery came with the introduction of **Lithium-ion batteries**, which power our cell phones, laptops and 1000's of other every day devices. Battery technology took a quantum leap forward with this mainstream introduction. (Remember the first type of cell phones, they were huge bag phones due to the battery size that powered them) As Lithium technology has advanced and "Nano" Lithium batteries now power most everything we use! These are the very type of batteries that the EV industry is working on refining for the future electric vehicles!

Car batteries.. in 1859, a French physicist named Gaston Planté developed the first lead-acid battery, which ironically is the same concept still used for most of today's vehicle starting batteries. However

car's equipped with batteries were not the norm until the late 1910's. (The 1912 Cadillac was the first to offer electric start utilizing a battery)



The Ford Model T was the last of the hand crank vehicles until it changed in 1919 to electric start!..

Fast forward 50 years and the automotive battery was a standard in every internal combustion engine, first as a 6 volt battery and then later changed to a 12volt ver-

sion to accommodate all the new electronics that were being put into cars.

The very same process of converting a chemical reaction into electricity that was invented back a hundred years is still in the normal automotive battery that is used today.

Even with all the advancements in car battery technology, the life expectancy of a new car battery is actually shorter than ten years ago.

Why? Because of something called **Parasitic draw!** In today's cars, there is a constant need for electrical power even when the car is not running.

The addition of onboard computers that control every aspect of a vehicle all require power at all times! Not to mention the numerous electrical options and electrical convenience items that all put a far greater demand on automotive batteries beyond starting the vehicle. More constant usage equates to a shorter life! **Three to Five years for a new car battery life is now considered normal.**



So now that you're probably completely bored with battery talk, we get into what you can do to protect and extend your car's battery. This is very relevant as we're about to put away our cars for an extended period of time and not drive them for a few months! The one thing your car battery does not like is to set idol for even a short period of time. It needs to process the chemicals inside and turn it into electricity to maintain its life. Without the chemical process taking place the battery slowly weakens and then dies.

What can you do to prevent this?

Well first obvious thing is to drive the car often and allow the discharge and then recharging of the battery to take place. If you're not able to drive the car often, then you must utilize something that will stimulate the battery allowing it to keep its electrical charge.

You really have only two options to maintain your cars battery when not in use, three if you include starting your car weekly and allowing it to run for twenty minutes or more and allow it to get up to temperature (See this months article on starting your car during the winter months)

First is to disconnect your battery from the car, by either removing the battery completely (never set your battery on a concrete floor as it will discharge the battery very quickly) or by taking the negative terminal off the battery and keeping it away from anything (If you do this step, please remember to wrap the negative terminal in a plastic baggy and



not allow it to touch any part of the vehicle! If it does that's how fires can start!) **But remember..** If you do this step, remember you are cutting off the electrical current to all the com-

ponents of the car, such as the numerous computers on board. Check Engine lights can and will occur, resulting in you not passing your states vehicle emission's inspections without first driving the car for 200 miles. Additionally some of these cars do not so well without electricity being provided at all times. Many C6 owners can attest to the electrical gremlins that occur due to a low charged battery or worse when power is cut off all together! (Ever try getting into a Corvette with a dead battery?)

The second and best solution lies in a device called a trickle charger.

It simply generates a low current charge for your battery providing the battery the energy required to maintain its charge and still provide power to



the onboard systems that always need electricity. There are numerous options for trickle chargers from simple on all the time chargers to some that have a regulator built in that will monitor your cars battery health and turn itself off and on when needed. (Always remember to follow the manufacturers directions when using the tender, and again ask a fellow Corvette owner with the same generation as you, on how they hook up their charger) They range in price from around \$40 to \$150 for a top of the line charger. With the cost of a new battery approaching \$250, a trickle charger is not something you want to scrimp on, or the pay me now or pay me later scenario will rear its ugly head!

Now the Corvette isn't any different that any other vehicle when it comes to purchasing a trickle charger, they don't require any vehicle specific component, they just need to be a high quality UL listed charger. Many retailers offer numerous options when it comes to buying chargers. **The best word of advice is to ask a fellow Corvette owner that has stored their car in the past, what they use!** Don't be the test guinea pig on a new unknown charger when you don't need to be!

Also, remember to keep your battery terminals clean. The green powder that builds up on your cars battery is a indication that the battery is



either old or operating at a reduced capacity! Keeping these clean maximizes the current that flows through the battery.

Terminal protector spay is available and is recommended in helping keep the terminals fresh and clean. (Recommend to clean your terminals without removing them and the resulted resetting of the cars onboard computer systems)

So another recommendation is that once spring rolls around, get your battery tested and analyzed. Some of today's battery testers can not only tell you the level of charge your battery is at. They can actually predict your batteries life going forward and if its going to need replacement!



Next up! New England Corvette Caravan 2024 "Meet and Greet" event

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel – Cape Cod – Hyannis, MA. October 20, 21, 22, 2022

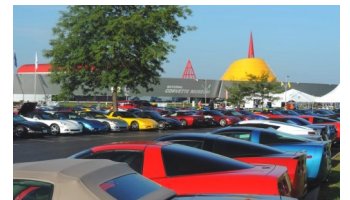
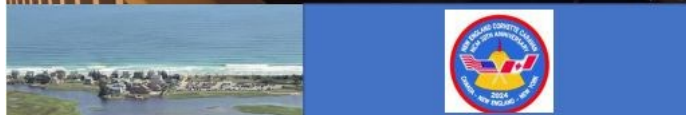


2024 New England Corvette Caravan– Dust Off Weekend

Mariner Resort, Ogunquit, ME

May 18th-20th 2023

Registration Opening Soon!



As of the beginning of October, out of a total of 180 available spots, there are only ten remaining open registration spots available to be a part of the 2024 National Corvette Museum Caravan! This includes all of NE, NY and eastern Canada area! So if you are thinking about attending, register Now! Don't wait! Your registration is fully refundable through June 2024

Common Battery Terminology:



Ampere: The unit of measure of the electron flow rate, or current, through a circuit.

Ampere-Hour: A unit of measure for a battery's electrical storage capacity, obtained by multiplying the current in amperes by the time in hours of discharge. (Example: A battery that delivers 5 amperes for 20 hours delivers 5 amperes x 20 hours = 100 amp-hrs of capacity.)

BCI Group: The Battery Council International (BCI) Group Number "fingerprints" a battery with the following characteristics: (a) dimensions (L x W x H), (b) voltage (6V or 12V), (c) polarity (right-hand front positive, left-hand front positive, etc.), (d) type terminals (top, side, "L", etc.). The BCI Group Number does not designate a battery's capacity; it merely defines the above-listed physical characteristics.

CCA: Cold Cranking Amps is a rating used in the battery industry to define a battery's ability to start an engine in cold temperatures.

Group Size: The Battery Council International (BCI) assigns numbers and letters for common battery types. There are standards for maximum container size, location and type of terminal and special container features.

Reserve Capacity Rating: The time in minutes that a new, fully charged battery will deliver 25 amperes at 27°C (80°F) and maintain a terminal voltage equal to, or higher than, 1.75 volts per cell. This rating represents the time the battery will continue to operate essential accessories if the alternator or generator of a vehicle fails.

State of Charge: The amount of deliverable low-rate electrical energy stored in a battery at a given time expressed as a percentage of the energy when fully charged and measured under the same discharge conditions. If the battery is fully charged, the state of charge is said to be 100 percent.

Remember, you can have a battery with 60% of its health and at a 100% charge! This means its time to replace the battery!

Storing your Corvette for the Winter

A subject that brings a tear to the eye of many Corvette owners.. Putting it away for the winter months.

And while it isn't as simple as just parking the car in the garage for the long winter ahead. It definitely doesn't have to be a monumental task! But there are a definite few steps that you can take to maximize your car's health during the winter hibernation. But remember some of the things listed here are still up for debate, with strong opinions both for and against some of these steps.

The first thing is that, knowledge is strength and one of the best places to get winter storage tips is from an experienced Corvette owner who has gone through the process numerous times and has learned the nuances of storing the car successfully.

The process should be divided into several area's.

Cleaning & Detailing the car

Rodent repellent

Electrical (battery)

Tires

Fluids such as fuel levels and additives

Covers

Starting the car or not Starting the car!

Just like every different Corvette we see, the situation and circumstances we all have when it comes to storing our Corvette for the winter months is different! Depend-ent of your situation, the process will vary greatly!

Some store their car at a climate controlled storage location, Some store it in their own garage. Some of us are forced to store our car outside exposed to the elements of winter.

But regardless of the situation, there are definite do's and don'ts when it comes to storing cars. Even though we choose to treat these cars differently than any other car that GM has produced, GM didn't build them that way. They were designed, engineered and built to be just like the other GM car adjacent to them in the driveway. (I laugh when I hear a Corvette owner say "Its never been exposed to rain" Every one of them is drenched in water as part of the assembly process) But I digress!

So Here is a short list that is generally recommended that you focus on while putting the car in storage and not being driven.

1. **Cleaning and Detailing..** While most Corvette owners always keep their car in detailed condition, some like to take the extra step to give the car a final once all over detailing. A good coat of either wax or ceramic sealant after the claying, polishing and previous detailing steps! A good vacuuming and interior wipe down! Wheels, rims, trim all included in the process! Once the car is clean and ready to be moved into the garage, the next thing is to protect the car from rodents and critters seeking a warm environment to spend the winter months in. While I personally don't advocate the killing of the critters with so many workable and better solutions available that repel **all** of them so effectively they won't even want to come close to the car! Products like Fresh Cab, cedar wood, peppermint oil or cayenne pepper all are effective deterrents to mice and most all critters interested in getting into your Corvette. Easy to deter all of them than kill just some of them! High quality dryer sheets in the engine compartment also work well in addition to any other product you choose to use. Steel wool in the exhaust tips also works very well as a deterrent. Remember to also add moisture desiccant packages to the interior to absorb wetness and moisture during the storage season!

So the car is cleaned, the rodents are addressed, then what's the next step? **The battery** should be an easy one, if you're not planning on driving the car during the winter months, a high quality battery tender installed properly will take care of the cars entire electrical system!

One of the most expensive parts of your car you want to protect is the tires!. the best recommended step would be to place 1 inch thick Styrofoam panels under each wheel to cushion against the concrete. Or purchase rounded wheel chocks for your tires to rest on, both to keeping them from flat spotting! Move the car occasionally a few inches also will work in protecting your tires! Inflate each of the tires pressures by 5 pounds.

One of the area's that many disagree on is what **fuel** level the car should be stored with, as some say to completely fill the car to prevent moisture from building up inside the tanks, to others who feel that since Corvettes utilize plastic fuel tanks, it's best to store them with a quarter tank! Either way it is recommended to add a good fuel stabilizer to the fuel! This is one you should explore the answer to and decide which way is the best one for you! Don't forget to top off all the other vehicle fluids.

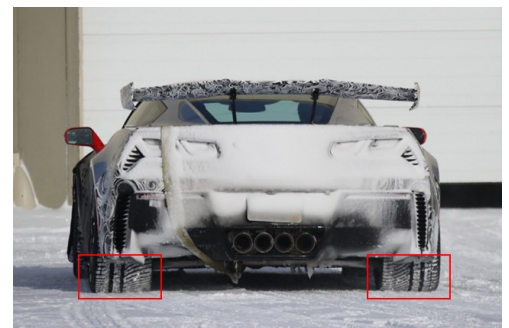
Jack Stands.. Some don't recommended that you place the car on jack stands due to the demands it places on the suspension components that are designed to rest in a neutral position with a load on them rather than hanging unloaded for an extended period of time But many people store their Corvettes on post lifts, so again this a do your homework subject before deciding.

A step often over looked is to clean out your car with any items you may need to use such as sunglasses in your other car during the winter months to avoid having to remove the cover later on!

Finally a high quality (emphasis on high quality) cover designed for indoor usage to cover the car and add a final layer of protection.

If you are like some of us and you end up storing your car outside, then obviously the two areas that you will focus on is the rodent repellent area (place deterrents around the car and some inside as well! And to invest in a high quality car cover designed for outside use only. Chances are you'll start the car every few weeks and it is recommended that when you do you allow the car to reach the normal operating temperature every time. And move the car around. When snow arrives and accumulates, gently brush off the snow and keep the cover exposed.

Remember.. These are suggestions, the best advice will always come from experienced owners who have tired and true methods of keeping their Corvettes in top shape during storage.. Lastly.. They do make snow tires in most Corvette sizes if you don't want to deal with storing it!



The only thing is to remember to do is occasionally go stare at your car in the garage and dream of the coming spring!

We are so fortunate here at **SONH CORVETTES** to have such an amazing group of administrators who work tirelessly to put together our events! Hours of planning, back and forth conversations and dry runs all go into each one and without the work the Admin's put in, none of what we do would be possible. And just as our group has continued to grow, so has our Administration group as we're super excited to welcome **Pedro Montenegro** onboard as our latest Admin! Pedro and Brendale are an amazing couple that bring great energy and passion to every ride or event they are at, and we're confident if you've ever had a conversation with them, you'd certainly agree! **Congratulations Pedro!**



Did You Know... If you would have attended every 2022 SONHCORVETTES caravan and event, you would have driven a total of 1500 miles.. Or the same distance Between Boston MA and New Orleans LA! And just think we never once left New England!

