

SO NH CORVETTES

SOME CORVETTES

# GENERATIONS

September 2025 Vol 5 NO 8

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5<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
SO NH CORVETTES



## September!

*To many New Englander's, the best season of the year is now on the cusp of arrival! Fall in New England! Despite knowing full well what arrives shortly after fall, the breathtaking beauty and pageantry of our NE fall colors draw us outside to take in all that it offers! Yes, Jackets in the morning, t shirts in the afternoon followed by sweaters in the early evening become our daily norm. But that beautiful crisp fall air draws us to be outside at every opportunity. And while our cruise season is ever so slowly beginning to wind down, it's not before we get to enjoy some of the very best top-down weather events all year long this month! As we transition into our fall caravan season, we have so much to be thankful for, and also much to still look forward to! This month brings us parades, our final Laps For Charity event of the season and our Kancamagus event, the biggest and to some the best event all year! We hope you all are able to get out and enjoy everything that beautiful colorful September offers! And, as always, we thank each of you who continue to come out and join us on these wonderful journeys we undertake together.*

*Rick Delano  
Founder*

## Our August 2025 Events

Finally... The great weather of summer arriving in volumes, in August, letting us change our focus from weather forecasts to actually getting out and enjoying the great caravan and event destinations!

**SONHC** Start the month off with our first visit of 2025 over to Vermont, with a visit to Calcutta's restaurant in Ludlow and a stop at the original *Vermont Country Store* for Ice Cream! A day that was filled with bright sunshine, great back roads and some fantastic food! Members came out to enjoy another Laps For Charity session at NHMS, quickly followed up by a magical stop at the *American Heritage Museum* in Hudson MA!

This one turned out to be one of our best museum visits ever, which says a lot! We closed out the month with a day of relaxation and conversations at New England's Largest Car show...

*The Cruising Downtown Manchester show.*

**SOMEC** members journeyed down to take in some enjoyment at the *Airfield Café* adjacent to the runway for a beautiful outdoor lunch in Hampton, NH. The month closed out with members of both clubs enjoying a day at the prestigious *Club Motorsport Racetrack* in Tamworth, NH.

All in all, a very fun and festive month full of events... And all without a drop of rain in site!







Close to 40 some members have now taken the plunge and purchased new C8's from our club Partners at ***Banks Chevrolet in Concord***. This is addition to the numerous trucks and other used vehicles that members have also purchased through them. *Did you know..* The Banks dealerships are listed in the top fifteen sales volume dealerships in the country!... ***YES, THE ENTIRE COUNTRY!*** And with any huge volume dealership, comes the opportunity for incredible price discounts!

And yes, price is absolutely crucial when considering any new or used vehicle. But with the substantial discounts in place both from their tremendous volume,

along with the discounts all our club members automatically receive, the pricing will be there!

It all really all comes down to the sales and delivery process! And in every case that we know of, Banks absolutely nails this part of the process! Members leave feeling appreciated, are happy in the ease of the overall sales process and the incredible attitude of everyone involved in their purchase!

Something that cannot always be said at every dealership. So, we encourage all our members who are considering a new C8, used Corvette, New truck or even a used vehicle to give Bank's the opportunity to see what they can do for you.



## ***BENNINGTON... WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT***



Just, Great Food, Great vistas, and a Great journey! It is hard to believe we're only weeks away from our October Bennington VT Publyk House visit! A trip that we so look forward to every season, and there is no doubt, We consider this one our Signature Event! Since our first 2021 caravan out to this beautiful Vermont town (And a very wet one that year I might add) each subsequent return visit has just continued to get better and better with each passing visit. The highlight of the trip for us, simply is the Publyk House and the incredible hospitality that they show us each year. From opening early just for our members, to catering their menu to our visit, to the salad bar! Yes, the salad bar, it's that good, as it alone,

makes the drive worth it. But most importantly, it's the incredible hospitality, attitude and warmth they display during our visit. I've said many times, our visit to the Publyk house is like taking a trip back in time to our beloved grandparent homes for that incredible holiday meal. Rich in tradition, rich in great food and surrounded by love! Our 2025 Bennington caravan event happens on October 19<sup>th</sup>!

## OUR SEPTEMBER FEATURE ARTICLE: THE MAKO SHARK'S

For those of us growing up in the sixties and seventies, both the C2 and the C3 Corvettes were considered the absolute pinnacle dream car that as kids, so many of us drooled and panned over. And, more times than not, we got our view of these incredible machines adorning the covers of car magazines. If we were ever so lucky to actually see one out in real life, we would fixate and just stare in admiration and perhaps dream... that just maybe someday!

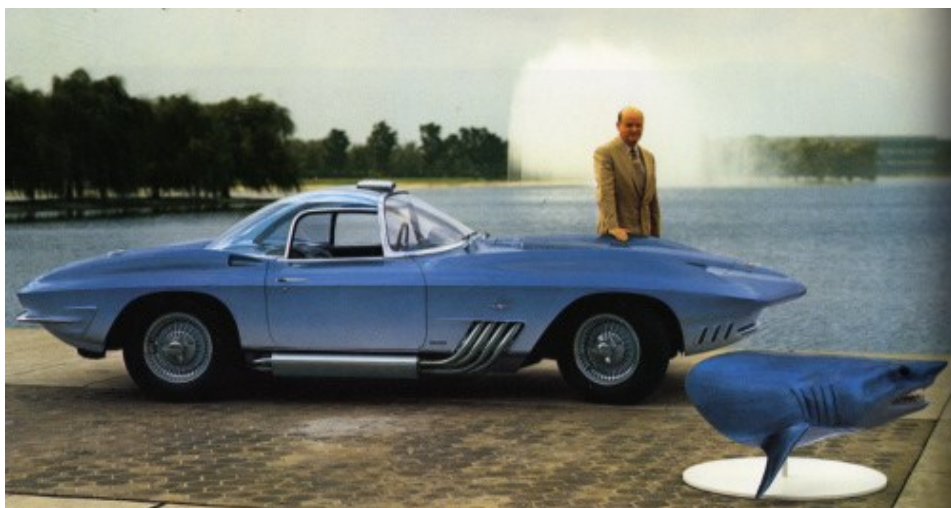
Even fewer of us might have actually gotten a ride in one or two, which as a kid was a certain nirvana moment! With their amazing style and beauty, hidden headlights, swept back fenders and aggressive stance, they just looked for the time to be two of the most incredible iconic automobiles ever created. To some, these two particular generations are still the two most beautiful series of Corvettes ever produced!

And, a lot of the beauty of both the C2 & C3 started interestingly enough from a pair of concept vehicles built exclusively for car shows. The first one, that happened back in the late 50's that absolutely drew attention to the then not yet released but soon to come Corvette C2 gen was a concept vehicle called the Mako Shark! A car that could later on be best described as a 2<sup>nd</sup> gen Corvette on steroids! Most everything on this show car



was enhanced, and accentuated, from the curved bold body lines, to the hideaway headlights to the wild varied blue to gray custom color paint scheme on the body! The completely exposed exhaust of the car almost made it appear more of a Hot Wheels design than that of a real car!

This car's design was inspired by then GM head designer Bill Mitchell, who had gone on a fishing trip in the



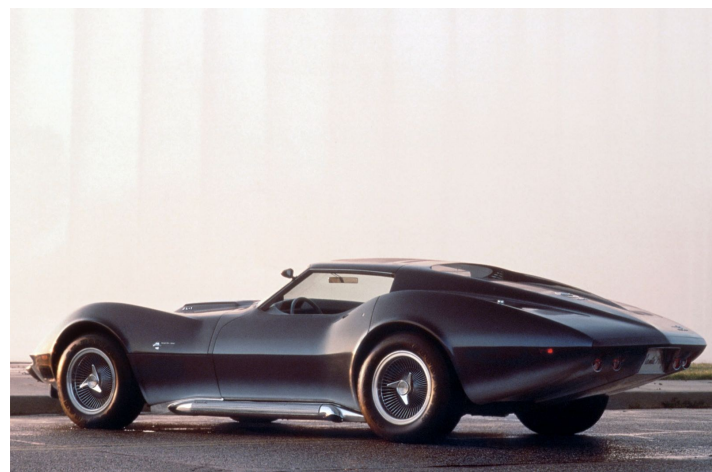
Bahama's and caught a Mako Shark! He so loved the body lines and color of that Mako, he wanted to replicate the look and color of that sleek fish onto the new Corvette concept car! Mitchell set out with GM stylist Larry Shinoda on creating this wild concept that would later go on to strongly influence many of the styling features of the upcoming second generation C2, debuting as a 1963 convertible model!

...Story Continues on page 5



*...Story Continued from page 4*

Interestingly, many of the original body design lines from this concept car actually made its way over into the final production of the first year C2, something that rarely, if ever happens. Gone was the double bubble glass top, a feature that simply was unattainable to produce in mass quantities. The gaudy interior was also replaced with a more subtle working one. There were two of these original concept vehicles produced and were at the time not called the Mako shark, but instead called the XP-755 project. The Mako shark concept car made its public debut at the New York coliseum at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual International Automotive show in 1962 and was received with incredible interest and fanfare. People were shocked when later on, when the 63 model came out and was so close in resemblance and design to the original concept Mako show car. Fast forward to 1964 and the release of the second Mako Shark design, called the Mako Shark II... which also made it debut again at the International Auto Show,, first in NY then in Paris France. This second version of three futuristic looking concept vehicles would go on to help shape the C3 body lines and its release in 1968. Putting these concept vehicles next to the actual production models, it was clear that their design influence was immense as much of the designs truly did carry over into the end production models. There would also be a third design created later on better known as the Manta Ray, that was built on the legacy of the Mako II and incorporated the Chevrolet aluminum 427 Big Block engine! All of these designs were incredibly strong testaments to Mitchell & Shinoda, who were all behind the designs that constantly pushed the boundaries of the early Corvettes designs! Today all 3 of these cars reside at the GM Heritage Museum in Detroit, MI



*Interesting side story:* After Bill Mitchell returned for his initial fishing trip. The Mako he caught that day was taxidermied and mounted on a huge plaque on his wall behind his office desk. As the design of the Mako Shark concept vehicle progressed, Mitchell kept getting more and more frustrated with the paint engineers who could not get the color of the Mako show car to exactly match the color tones of the fish on his wall! After numerous failed attempts at getting the tones exactly correct and each time forcing them to start over. One of the engineers in the paint department came up with a somewhat devious but clever idea. One night he snuck into Bill Mitchell's office and took the fish off the wall and then repainted the fish to match their last rejected color that they had put on the concept car days earlier. They then returned the now repainted fish back onto Mitchell's wall. A couple of days later they summoned Mitchell down to the paint spray booth to approve the latest configuration. The very same one he had rejected just a week earlier. Mitchell eagerly congratulated the engineers; telling them that they had finally gotten the colors correct on the car and it exactly matched the colors and tones on the now repainted fish! Mitchell only many years later, learned of the engineer's sneaky idea of painting the fish colors to match the already painted car!

## What is a Dry Run and why we do them

There is a ten-mile stretch of road called VT Rt 30 just outside of Brattleboro Vermont. A beautiful stretch of main road that we use many times on our Vermont excursions coming back into NH. The Dummerston Covered bridge is a quick left just off this main highway. Another well



traveled mainstay in a lot of our Vermont return home journey's. Rt 30 is a particular stretch of road that we've literally crossed over 25 times in our club's five-year history, and is the very reason that over the past three seasons of events, for almost every one, we conduct something we called a *Dry Run*.

And it is just as it implies... A complete pre-event day trip where we travel over each and every mile of roads that we will be bringing the group over on the day of the actual event. We do this with several objectives in mind, but one main objective is to ensure that the roads were going to ask everyone to travel over are in good to excellent condition.

There is other reasoning behind this dry run event, such as having the opportunity to meet with any restaurant or other stop including any hosts if we're visiting a destination. We check our anticipated times for the days event against what we post on the itinerary that follows to keep us on time during the day of the actual event. Depending up on the size of the group we will be

bringing on the event, it also gives us an idea where the groups will probably get broken up and helps us find the right area where we'll be able to safely pull over and regroup everyone back together. We also use this as an opportunity to check out parking for any of our stops, such as the kind of material, paved or dirt and the condition the lot is in and is it conducive to low slung Corvettes.

Sharon is constantly busy on the dry runs and always has her notebook out writing all the details down we'll use to fine tune the actual day. And it is most definitely a working day for her! Also prior to the dry run, we map out our route using Google maps and as effective a tool as this can be, it's far from perfect, so doing a dry run can either confirm the data we see or allow us to change our route based on real live conditions we experience out on the roads. Finally, we will conduct the dry run almost always within the same week as the actual event, typically on Mondays, so we have as up to date information to work with as possible. So, to say a lot goes into these Dry Run is an understatement. However, on the flip side, it is an opportunity for just the two of us to share a day together in Vetty White, without any distractions other than what we're seeing and noting, which is something we both truly enjoy. It is our time alone and is far



more relaxing than the actual day of the event when we're leading the often-large herd behind us. So, think about this the next time you join us on a caravan event. We've already done it once already before you drive one mile on that event! At the end of a season, we will have traveled literally double the miles of the entire event season!

No wonder Vetty has 111,000 miles on the clock.

The dry runs are also open to all of the Admins to come along and join us, or sometimes the Admins will do the dry run in lieu of us, if we have a scheduling conflict and they do an equally great job of mapping out our routes!

Oh and that stretch of Rt 30 just outside of Brattleboro... The day we went across it with 30 some Corvettes in tow back in 2023?

It had over 10 straight miles of unpaved, dug rough dirt road that they were preparing to pave the following week after our trip. And each Corvette that day was right behind us as we cringed over each and every mile of that stretch of torn up road, muttering to each other.... this dam construction has got to end just around this next corner!



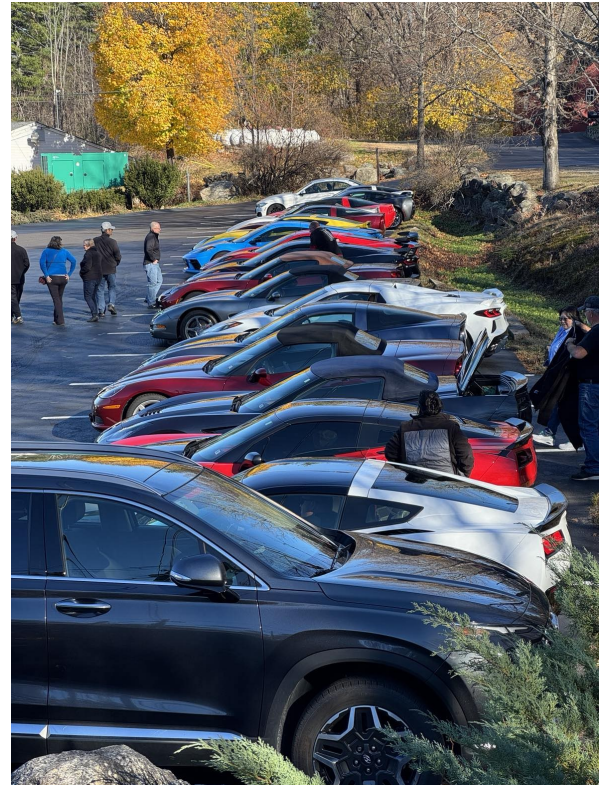


## A LOOK BACK: THE 2024 HART'S TURKEY FARM

*When Novembers arrives, a couple of things are about to occur. One... Our cruise season comes to a rather quick close and the second... the Holidays are a fast approaching! So last year, we decided to incorporate the two! To still get a very late season caravan event in, and also enjoy a traditional holiday meal by adding a November visit up to NH's most famous, and best known Turkey Restaurant. The Hart' Turkey Farm!*

*We were able to get our Turkey Fixings in and also bring to a close our long 2024 caravan season in style!*

*There was also something very special about the Ice Cream we enjoyed that day, perhaps from knowing it was going to be the last group Ice Cream Stop of the year! The tryptophan may have kicked in, but somehow, we all managed to stay awake and safely enjoy the season's final cruise home! Everyone enjoyed the trip so much that we elected to bring it back again this November as our 2025 season close out caravan event. We visit the Hart Turkey Farm on Saturday November 1st!*





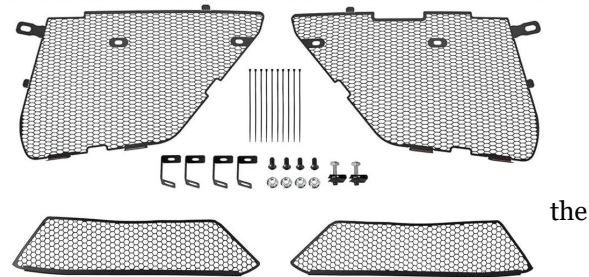
## C8 Radiator guards... Absolute must haves!

When GM released the new C8 design back in 2019, it ushered in a whole new era of Corvette designs! Ever since Duntov pushed for the mid-engine layout way back in the early sixties, his concept for the ultimate Corvette performance model finally made its way off the design table and out into the real world! And consumers gobbled it up! This radical new design brought so many changes to the car that some purists screamed this was no longer a Corvette... at least until they drove one. Purists or not, the performance and looks of the C8 simply cannot be denied. It's a Corvette through and through...And its design is here to stay even in the coming generations!

And, something that if you happen to be fortunate enough to own one of these incredible performance machines, you need to be aware of involves the cars cooling radiators. They are located very low to the ground on the front outer corners of the cars. (We won't even get into the additional radiators the Z06 & ZR1's models have) And, these radiators are constructed primarily out of aluminum, due to the incredible cooling properties that this material has. It's light weight, extremely effective in dissipating engine heat. But they can also be very easily damaged, due to the softness of the materials that make up the majority of the radiator. And... in the case of the C8, due to its locations, they sit very close to the ground making them susceptible to all the debris of the road, such as rocks and debris kicked up by both followed and passing traffic!

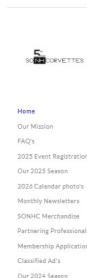
Something smaller than the size of a penny absolutely has the potential to damage or even destroy one of these radiators in moment's notice out on the road. And, if this happens, you are going to be in a world of hurt! The cars built in protective alarm systems will shut your car down, as soon as the temperature rises above an unsafe level, which a punctured or damaged radiator will surely cause, leaving you stranded sitting on the side of the road... and in need of a tow! And, only remedy to fix this issue will be to have the radiator replaced. And at \$1500 each, that's when the real pain kicks in!

But this doesn't have to be a sky is falling moment. There are numerous companies that offer radiator guards that slip right over the radiators. They are extremely effective in adding a layer of impact protection, and are pretty affordable (Downright cheap when compared to a new \$1500 radiator) and some can actually add some cool esthetics to the cars look down low. They are available in a variety of differing styles from numerous sources. A couple of our **Partnering Professionals** companies have several styles available! So, the best advice..., is to deal with this issue now in your driveway, rather than later on while sitting stranded on the side of the road.



## Coming soon! New website private membership Pages

One of the projects we're diligently working on and pulling together, is to add a private section members only area on our SONHC & SOME C website pages. A section only open and available to registered group members. Once you log in for the first time and create your account, using your own credentials, you will have the ability to see everything related to your SONHC or SOME C membership. This new section will include everyone's individual club account info and will be available to be used by members for a multitude of things. Such as being able to see what events you have signed up to attend. Make event cancellation requests and much much more. How many events you've registered to attend, which ones you've gone on, be able to track your season long awarded mile points and also where you rank. You will also be the very first each month to receive our monthly GENERATIONS newsletter, days before anyone else! Registration will be simple and easy, using just your email, including your bio information and the password you'll create. Once it is validated, you'll be able to access these secured pages at any time 24/7!







causing the interest to just absolutely explode! The rest we obviously know is history! Chevrolet never looked back! But even for those first-year buyers... they saw something in this underpowered little car that would lay the ground work for all future Corvette owners to be able to enjoy! And while a lot has certainly changed over the decades, it's that same sensation and joy of ownership that hasn't changed since those first C1 owners paved the way back in the fifties and sixties! Fast Forward some sixty plus years and perhaps we're back in those uncharted waters again with the infusion of all the first time C8 Corvette buyers. We now have more first time Corvette owners than ever before! Thanks to the success of the C8 attracting younger buyers, we now have the lowest average age of a first-time new Corvette owner ever at 39 years young! A stat that is a whopping 12 years younger than the average brand of any other new car buyer! Something Chevrolet certainly set their sights on targeting with the introduction of the mid-engine design! The introduction of the C8 has made the Corvette the number one new sports car for buyers under 35... and it isn't even close!

For those of us that are a little older and grew up in a time when things such as social media, cell phones and even cable TV were things of science fiction, We got our information particularly when it comes to cars by actually seeing them out in real life or... perhaps by browsing the numerous automobile magazines on the shelf at the local grocery store while mom and dad did the weekly food shopping. Many of us little boys and girls also got to enjoy playing with Matchbox cars and later on with the super cool new Hot Wheels... And if you were really lucky, you also got to build plastic scale model Corvettes that came attached in white plastic grids, out of boxes with pictures showing what the Corvette model would look like when it was finished! TV shows weren't very often created around cars... But one was. The TV series called *Route 66* was all about the Corvette with the car prominently on display in every episode... Another subliminal message that was absorbed into the minds of many a child growing up. Collectively they all fueled an addiction to these special cars at a very young age!

Then as the baby boomers grew up becoming adults, and along with all the subliminal messaging of youth, the Hot Wheels, the car magazines, the TV show, the time had finally arrived to realize the dream of owning a Corvette! And many did! Now decades later, there are even some lucky few who are fortunate enough to possess several ones across different generations! But whenever and however you have arrived at Corvette ownership, you need to always remember that regardless of your age, on your first Corvette or your twentieth! We all have the responsibility of continuing on the incredible Heritage and Tradition of these cars! Something we can never ever lose sight of! It will never be just another car!

It's one of the reasons that when we wave (and we must always remember to Wave) as we encounter another Corvette, we should use that moment to think to ourselves... Hey.... I own one of those too! I'm dam lucky

"If you've never owned one, you'll never understand!"

We all arrive at Corvette ownership through differing paths and experiences. While we all are fortunate to share in the lineage and privilege of owning a Corvette together, how we all arrived here is as about as different as any car experience one will ever experience in life. Have you ever stopped to think back about what the original C1 generation buyers were thinking when they laid out thousands on the new first ever Corvette? They didn't have the luxury of any history to draw on when they decided to take the plunge on this newly released brand-new model car. And while sales at first were somewhat dismal... yes, all 300 of them did sell... eventually... the cars future was only secured when Zora Duntov convinced Chevy to stuff a V8 motor into this little sports car,

## **SONHC & SOME C Admins**

### **SONHC & SOME C Founders:**

*Rick & Sharon Delano*

### **SONHC Group Administrators:**

*Dick & Vicki Lemire*

*Pete Langlois*

*John & Suzanne Hodgkins*

### **SOME C Administrators**

*Mark & Whitney Hensley*



## NEW MEMBERS PAGE:

*This is a new page we're including in each month's GENERATIONS newsletter. A page solely dedicated to our newest members who have just recently joined us and are now looking for the how things work, why we do them the way we do and most importantly, where to find the needed information to be able to become active participating members. Each month we will highlight one new aspect of becoming a new SONHC & SOMEK member! This month we introduce our newest page ... FAQ*

Something that we have added to help out our newest members is a new page on our website called Frequently Asked Questions... (FAQ)! It contains answers to some of the most common asked questions we field across all the numerous communication methods available to reach us. Our intent is that this new page will provide instant answers to many of these questions without any waiting. Things such as: How and where do I find a season schedule. How to register for an event? Where can I go when I need service on products for my Corvette. And a few more.

### SONH CORVETTES

#### FAQ

**1. Who is SONH CORVETTES and what do we do?**

**SONH CORVETTES** was first started with just two founding members back in the summer of 2020 and has now grown to include over 1800 members! Since its beginnings, **SONHC** has been a gathering place for all Corvette enthusiasts here in the Granite State area! **SONHC** doesn't have group clicks, or have policies that alienate people or play politics! **SONHC** is a Corvette driving club, first and foremost! We're all about spending quality time in these cars and to bringing members to visit many of the amazing destinations found here in New England and beyond! If driving your Corvette and meeting amazing people along the way is your goal, then you've found the right home! Oh, and in having fun all along the journeys!

#### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"SONHC & SOMEK" are a place that is open and inviting to anyone who owns a Corvette regardless of year or condition and is located within the greater New Hampshire and Maine areas! It is our mission to foster a community of all Corvette enthusiasts and promote participation in Corvette activities, particularly through group gatherings and caravans traveling throughout New England.

Beginning in the summer of 2020, originally starting as an online Facebook group. It was our hope that, through the power of social media, we could bring together like-minded people who all share the same passion and love for America's only true sports car, **The Chevrolet Corvette!**

Our motto is that everyone is equal here, regardless of stature, length of membership or by whatever particular Corvette you happen to own or drive! We consider members as part of our extended family and as such, our intended goal is to make each and every member's experience, a fun, positive, memorable one through all our events!



# Our Season-Long *Partnering Professionals*

We wish to acknowledge and thank each of these incredible companies who have signed on to Partner with us for our 2025 season! We ask that you consider each of them whenever your need should arise!



AMERICAN MUSCLE



Thanks for reading our August 2025 GENERATIONS