



FLAGS

FEBRUARY 2026

The 4x NCM Award-Winning Newsletter of the Brookville Corvette Club, Inc.

ZR1X



VIN 0005



SAVING CORVETTE

Check out excerpts from Zora's memo to Chevrolet that probably saved Corvette from the scrap heap. Page 32



CORVETTE BLOGGER UPDATES

Have a look at the updates in Corvette Blogger this month. Plenty of info on ZR1 and ZR1X. Page 27

ISSUE 114

Front Page



Page 27 Special Monthly Feature

THE BEST OF
CORVETTEBlogger.com
sales, news, & lifestyle



Page 09 Special Monthly Feature

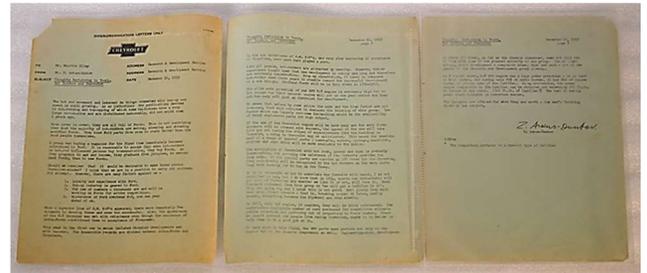
CORVETTE CORNER

WITH

Mike Furman



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Zora Letter

FRONT PAGE

ZR1X – VIN 0005

Scroll to page 08 to see the story on this Corvette. It's pretty cool.

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CORVETTE TIDBITS

Have a look-see at highlights from around the BCC and the world of Corvette.

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THE LETTER THAT SAVED CORVETTE

Not everyone knows that one concise letter from then new hire Zora Arkus-Duntov would end up saving Corvette.

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AMBASSADOR'S REPORT

Check out what's going on at the National Corvette Museum along with the current active Corvette raffles and other relevant news.

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MIKE FURMAN'S CORVETTE CORNER

This month, we have 11 pages dedicated to Mike's weekly upload of pictures from his extensive collection. Enjoy the best of the best.

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KEITH CORNETT'S CORVETTEBLOGGER

Another month brings us five pages of news about Corvette, from 4th quarter build numbers to updates on ZR1 and ZR1X.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2026

Our calendar has been updated with many events scheduled to take place this year. We'll be adding more as the weeks go by.

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The Brookville Corvette Club meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Leiber Center, Golden Gate Park in Brookville, OH at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend

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The Brookville Corvette Club was founded in 1982



Allow me to go way out on a limb here and speak for everyone when I say – **NO MORE SNOW** and what's with the sub-zero temperatures?

I was born and raised in the snow-belt in NE Ohio for years and even did a two-year stint up in Northern Michigan. I've seen and experienced some crazy amounts of snow and frigid temperatures. But now, in my 7th decade, I'm really done with it – especially the cold and wind.

But I digress.

In this issue, we've got some great pictures from **Mike Furman** and some great updates from **Keith Cornett** of corvetteblogger.com.

We share some big news from one of our members as he prepares to take delivery of the fastest production car produced in the U.S. – a **ZR1X**. You can't miss this one.

We all know how influential **Zora** was in keeping the Corvette alive and viable. We share the memo that he wrote back in 1953 that ended up really saving Corvette from the chopping block.

In addition to several raffles that are currently going on at the National Corvette Museum, there is also a new Sweepstakes. The winner takes home a Rally Red 1965 Corvette convertible. Check out the details in the **Ambassador's Report** section.

Some interesting stuff this month in **Corvette Tidbits** – a few surprises and a little bit of history.

So, bundle up, stay warm and cross your fingers that winter ends early this year. I usually say have fun here, but more importantly – stay safe!



Hi, all:

Well, we are all dealing with winter cold and snow. Hopefully, all of you remain healthy.

We had a great January meeting. We've got some new and exciting information forthcoming, so stay tuned and come out to the February meeting.

We are planning some different events for 2026 and you will see those popping up on the annual calendar soon.

We really need our members to speak up and let us know what you'd like to see happen in 2026. Drives, different events, destination adventures – we are open to anything that you'd like to share.

Hope to see everyone at the February meeting! Until then, stay well and don't forget to **Save the Wave!**



COMING UP

BCC CLUB MEETING

Our next meeting will be February 12th at Golden Gate Park at 7:00 p.m. It's time to update the 2026 Events Calendar. Bring your voice and let us know what you'd like to see the Club do in 2026. Any special place you'd like to go? Any neat event that you want to add to the calendar? Everything is on the table at this point.



2026 CALENDAR

Over the next few months, we'll be working on the Club calendar for this year. If you have any shows, events or ideas that you want everyone to be aware of, come to the meeting or drop us an email and let us know. It's important to get everything listed on the calendar so all of the members have the dates to plan ahead.



THIS MONTH'S COVER – ZR1X VIN 0005

So, what if you were presented with the opportunity to be one of the first 10 people to build and own your very own Corvette ZR1X?

In November of 2025, that happened to Brookville Corvette Club member Denny Cassell. He was contacted by his Corvette Dealership who had one of only ten allocations for a ZR1X. When he was asked if he was interested, he could not say yes any faster.



Bottom line, his ZR1X was built in late December. As fate would have it, Denny's VIN was 0005, only the fifth production ZR1X to be built. The picture on the front page and the one above are from the Chevrolet Build page. That's what his ZR1X will look like when delivered (except his lug nuts are actually black).

I won't share the story. If you want to hear exactly how it all came about, come to the meeting in February and I'm sure Denny will share all the details. All I can tell you is that he is as excited as a kid on Christmas morning. Heck, we all would be.

I will tease just a little bit from his build:

- **Model** – ZR1X Coupe – 3LZ Package
- **Wheels** – 10-spoke Visible Carbon Fiber
- **Exterior** – Black with bright red-painted brake calipers and edge red full length dual racing stripes
- **Interior** – Jet black w/adrenaline red seats, Napa leather seating surfaces
- **Options** – Stealth interior trim package, front lift

Want to know more? Come to the meeting and Denny will fill in the blanks. While you are there, congratulate him on having the very first ZR1X in the state of Ohio!

CORVETTE CORNER

WITH

Mike Furman

National Corvette Specialist



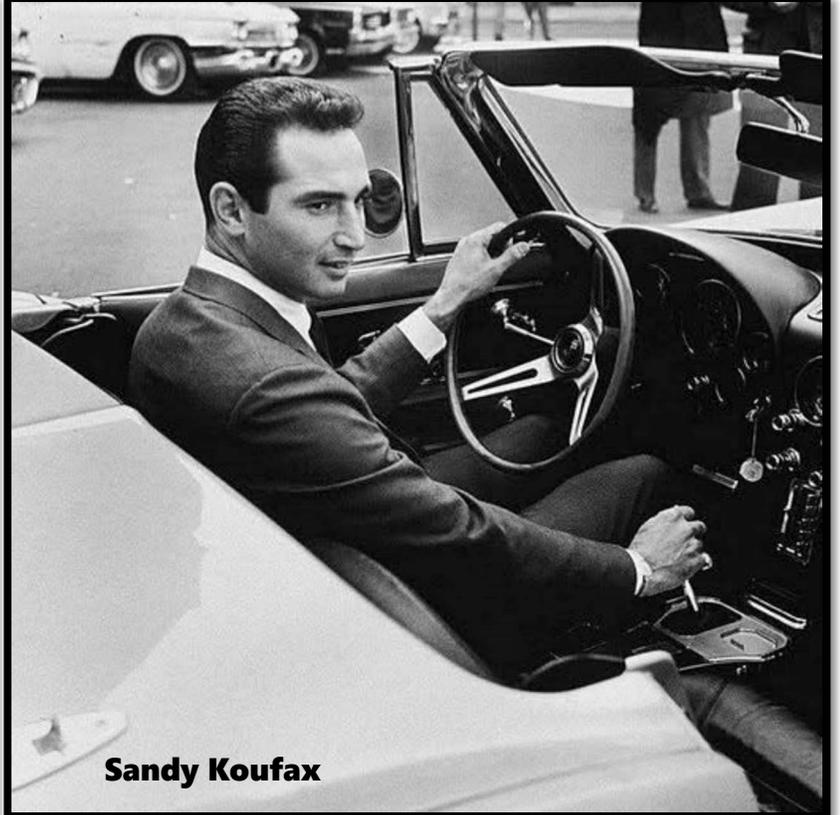
NOTE: All photographs and content in **Corvette Corner** is used with permission from Mike Furman

A new year brings us another year of outstanding Corvette-related pictures from Mike's extensive inventory (close to 70k pictures). Each one is a little bit of Corvette history, whether the subject is a famous Corvette person, great pictures of classic Corvettes or historic dealership pictures. So, sit back and enjoy some of Mike's outstanding pictures. You just never know what you'll see.





R.I.P. Ms. Bardot – a Corvette Girl



Sandy Koufax



The Boss - Zora



Why men leave home.

No small wonder a man gets that faraway look—when there's a new Corvette in the driveway. After all, this is no ordinary car. This is a real out-and-out sports car with a new Turbo-Jet V8 you can order to make

it go (up to 425 hp), 4-wheel disc brakes to make it stop, and an independent rear suspension to make it handle. This is a real, live Grand Touring machine that performs with the best in the world. Yet it's about

as untemperamental as the family sedan. Corvette is a car designed for just one thing, it's to be driven—well and often, mind you. Let it sit idle on a garage floor, and you do

'66 CORVETTE BY CORVETTE

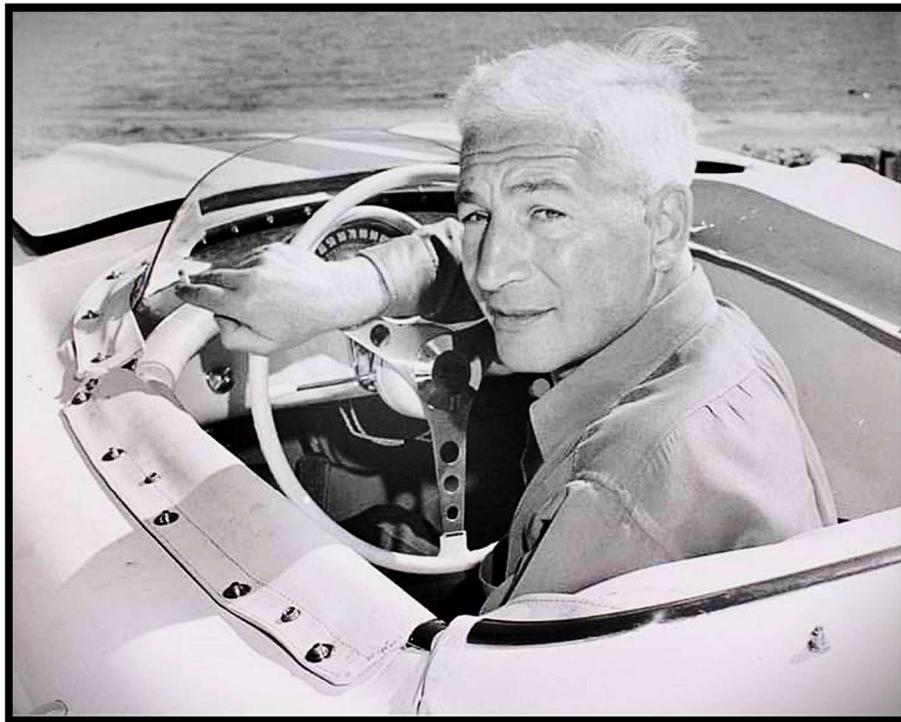


New Corvette Stingray Coupe

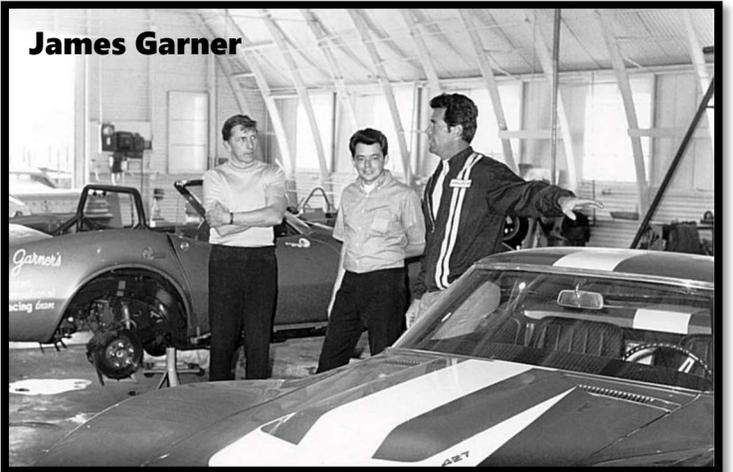
Handle with driving gloves.

Some cars you have to handle with kid gloves. Not so with Corvette. Because under that sleek hull is a sports car capable of handling any road you'd care to put before it. Behind fat P70 x 15 tires are disc brakes all around. And an advanced fully independent suspension. That gives Corvette down to roads most other cars just can't come to grips with. Under that long stretch of hood: a standard 300-hp V8. Or order the 350-, 370-, 390- or 400-hp engine. All are backed up by a 4-Speed shift and Positraction rear axle. And to help you keep tabs on all this, there's an instrument panel that reads out like Apollo 11. Big tach. Ammeter. Oil pressure gauge. Running light monitors—the works. Corvette. Go ahead and try one on a road. It fits like a glove. Putting you first, keeps us first. CHEVROLET

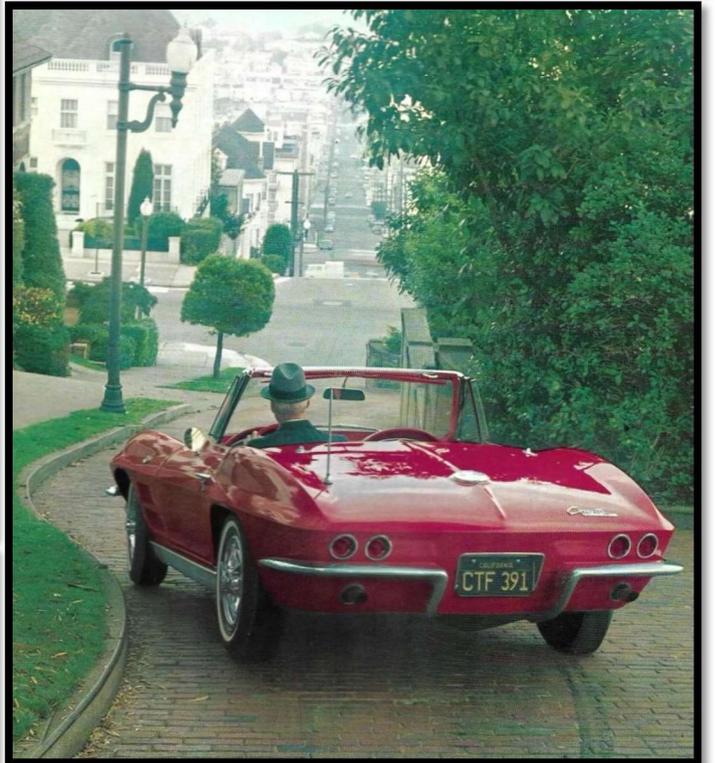
Seriously. I mean, seriously?



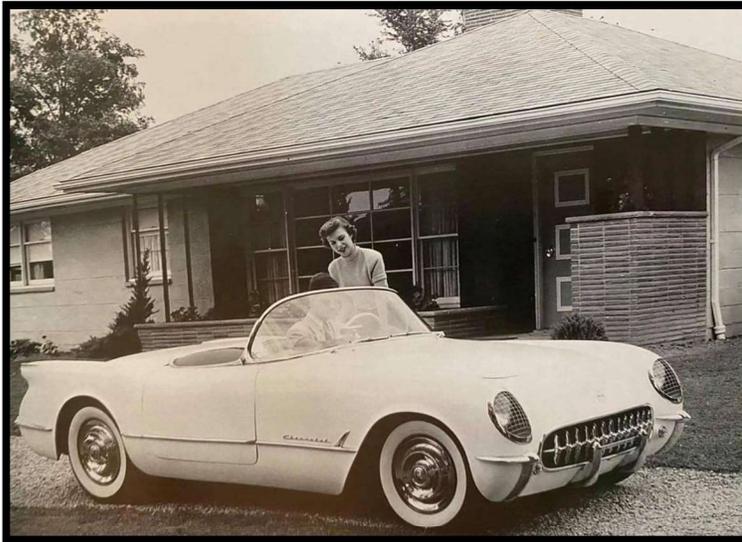


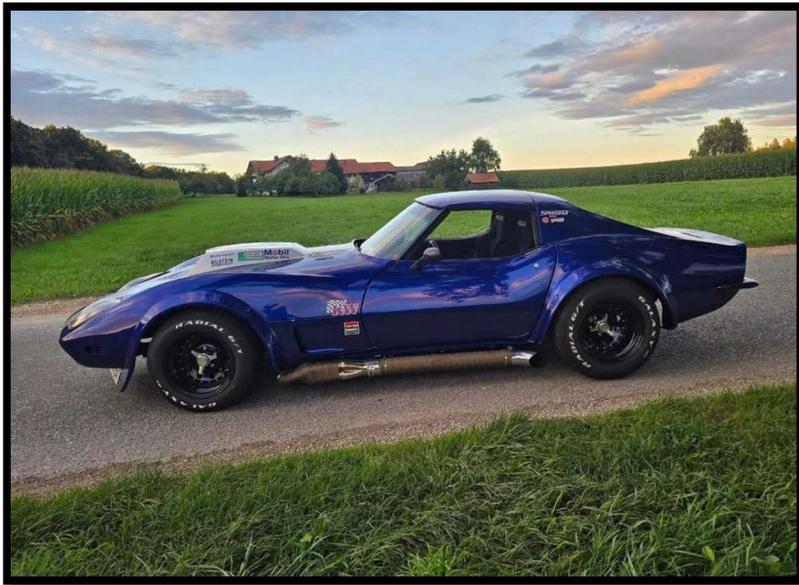


James Garner

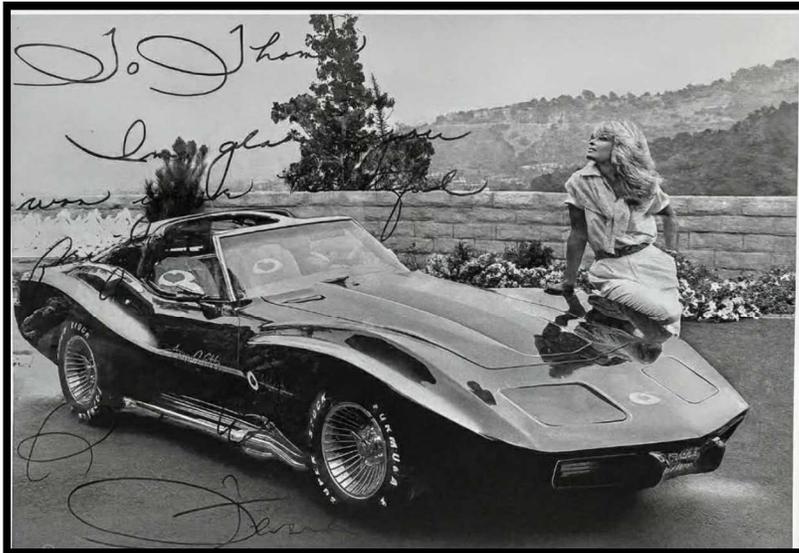


Dave & Zora





Hard to believe she's been gone since 2009

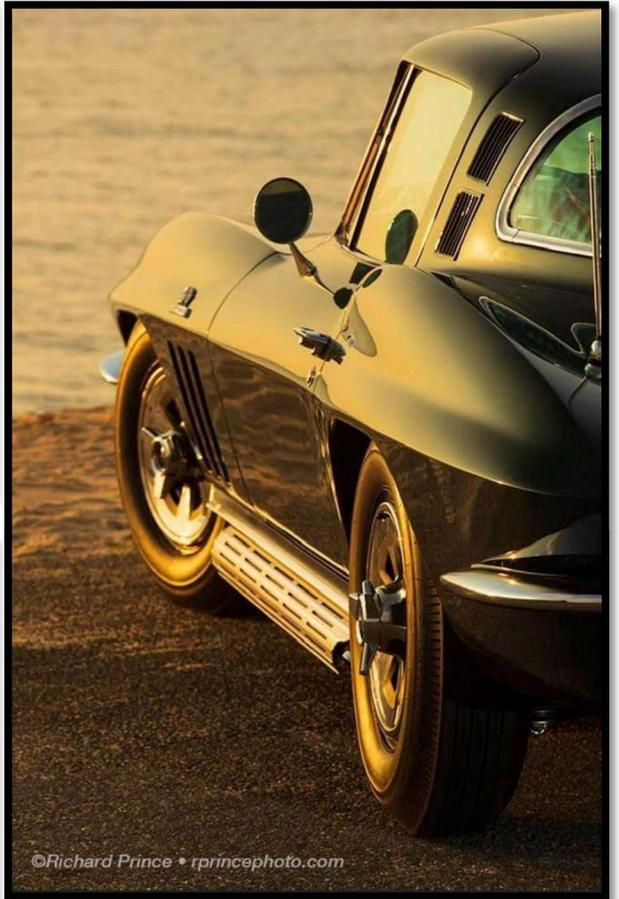


Mike all suited up to sell in 1993.

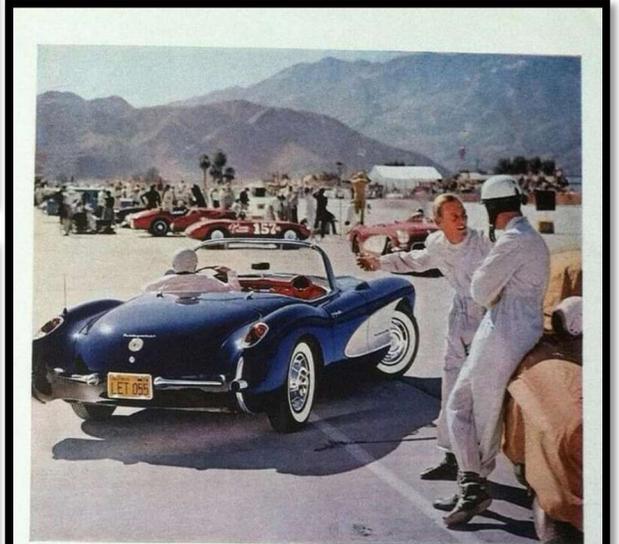




A really good case of the zoomies!



©Richard Prince • rprincephoto.com



"UND SO HELFE MIR, HERMANN, I WAS HOLDING 5900 R.P.M. AND HE CAME PAST ME LIKE A STUKA . . . AND PLAYING THE RADIO, TOO!"

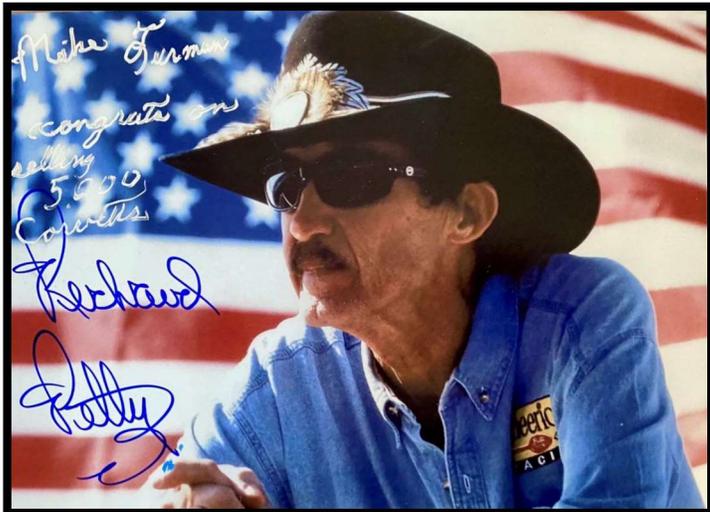
True, the new Corvette has given some distinguished visitors a rude shock. On the other hand, think how pleasant it is for us to have a *real* American sports car . . . one that has proved itself in the classic test of competition.

For the 1957 Corvette is the authentic thing, not a stylist's exercise. It begins with the flat cornering, the taut one-piece feeling, the quick steering of the genuine road car. And it tops this off with an engine that achieves up to one horsepower for each cubic inch of displacement—the 233-h.p. Corvette V8* with fuel injection and high-performance camshaft.

These virtues create a vehicle of a very special kind. One you have never experienced before—because there never has been an automobile that so successfully combines the heart-lifting excitement of the authentic sports car with such complete luxury and practicality. The combination is unique . . . and utterly delightful. But drop in at your Chevrolet dealer's and judge it for yourself. . . . Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.

CORVETTE
by Chevrolet

SPECIFICATIONS: 233-horsepower V8 engine with single four-barrel carburetor, 230 h.p. (Use other engine* range to 202 h.p. and fuel injection). Close-ratio three-speed manual transmission standard, with optional Powerflex automatic drive* available. 2x all-tilt windshield/panoramic engine. Chrome all-weather hard top or power-operated fabric top. Power-Lock windows.* Exhaustions include 6500 r.p.m. tachometer, oil pressure gauge and ammeter.



John Mazmanian – one of the great gasser legends

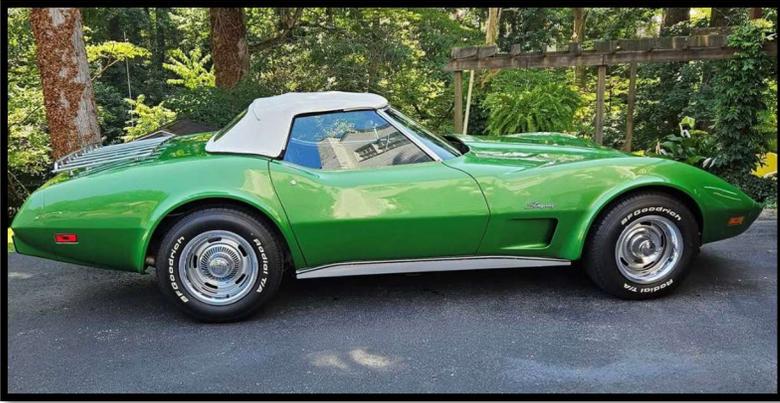


Elvis



Zora directing traffic





TMC PERFORMANCE PHOTO



An exciting new **EXPERIMENTAL**
Chevrolet Corvette...

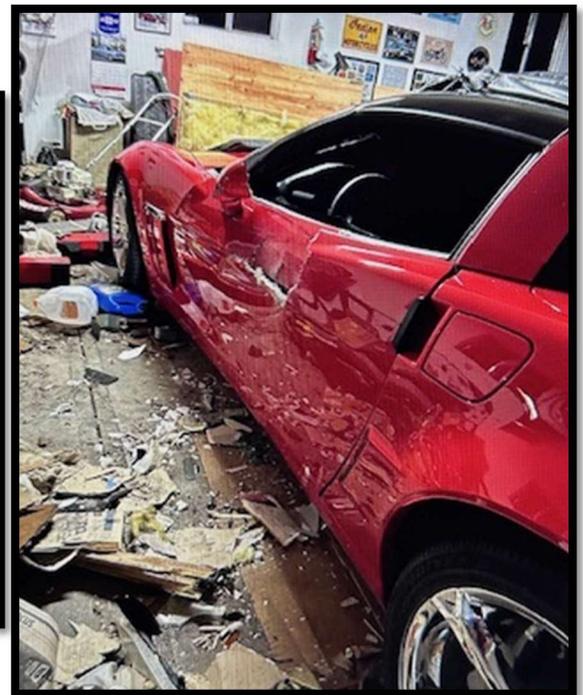
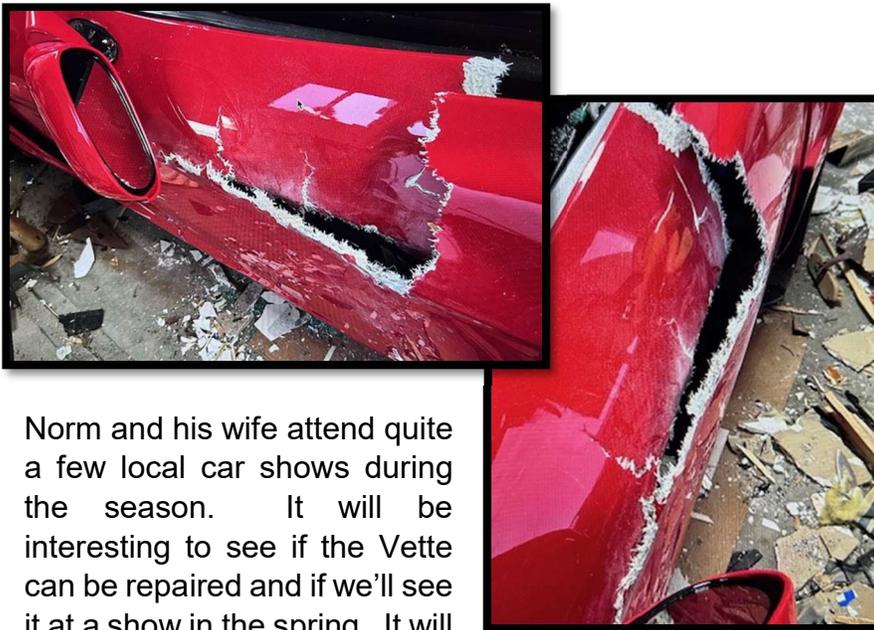
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This is one of Mike's Corvette customers that lives out in Arizona. He sent Mike a few pictures. They (Jim & Val) are the proud owners of an original 1953 Corvette, VIN 188. They recently entered their car in the Arizona Concours and, of course, won. Great to see a '53 roaming around and still being relevant. Probably always will be, too.



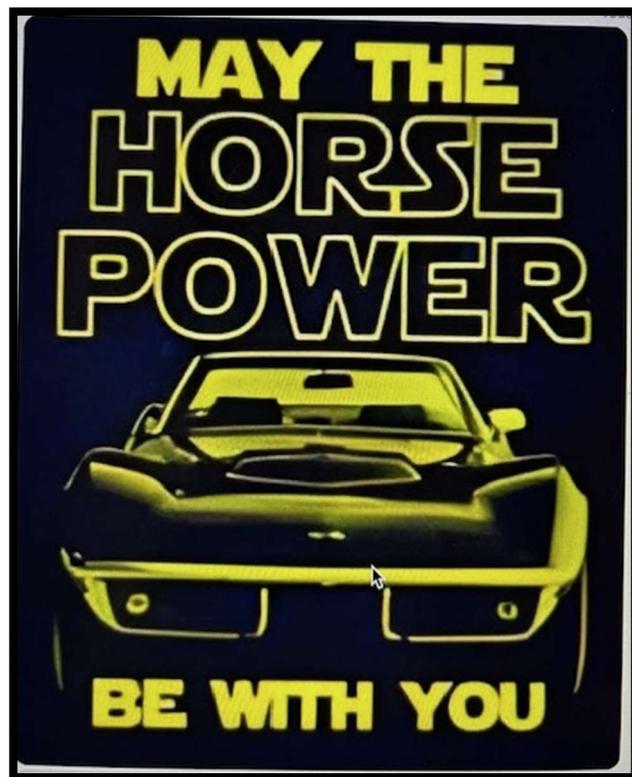
Here are some tidbits from the Club and Corvette nation for January 2026.

- **Just goes to show, you are never safe.** Sent in by Rick Snider. This happened on Christmas eve in North Dayton. A mutual acquaintance (Norm) and his wife were sitting in their home that evening. BANG! "From out on the rooftop (well, in this case, the garage) there arose such a clatter". Actually, someone in a small SUV lost control, slammed into the side of their garage, punched through the brick wall and crashed into Norm's wife's 2011 Corvette. You can see the damage in the pics. As fate would have it, Norm's classic '79 coupe was parked in the middle of the garage and was not touched. While the damage appears bad, it looks like the door took the brunt of the hit and didn't hit the fenders or frame. Still, a lot of damage in total. What a hassle on Christmas eve.

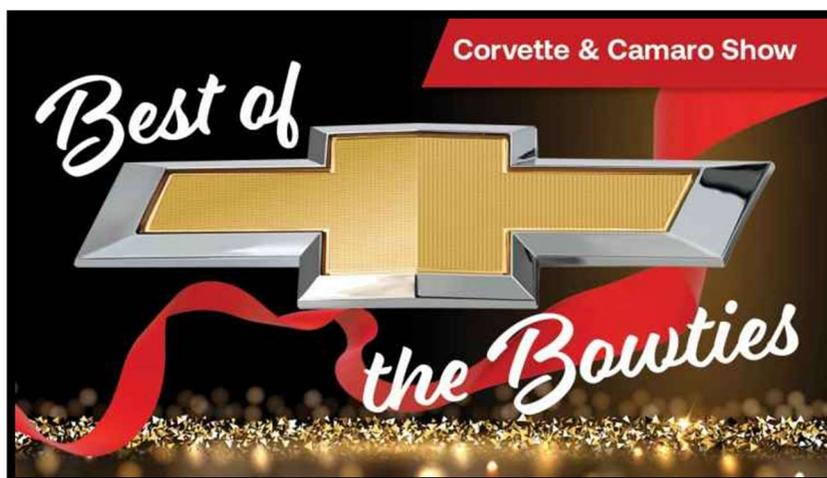


Norm and his wife attend quite a few local car shows during the season. It will be interesting to see if the Vette can be repaired and if we'll see it at a show in the spring. It will be an interesting conversation with them for sure.

- **Obi-Wan Kenobi would be pleased.** Neil R. sent this to me at the end of 2025. I would like to have that as a poster for my garage. Heck, I might even go ahead and have one made on foam board. Always looking for stuff for the walls in the garage.



- **Gilmore Car Show.** Here's one that should be on our short list. Coming up on July 19th, 2026 is the Best of the Bowties car show at the Gilmore Museum. Nothing but Vettes and Camaros. To enter, the fee is \$35.00 which includes the entry fee to participate in the show and includes two tickets to the Museum. If you just want to attend the show, the cost is \$25.00 per person which includes the show and Museum. The 19th is a Sunday. Think about it.

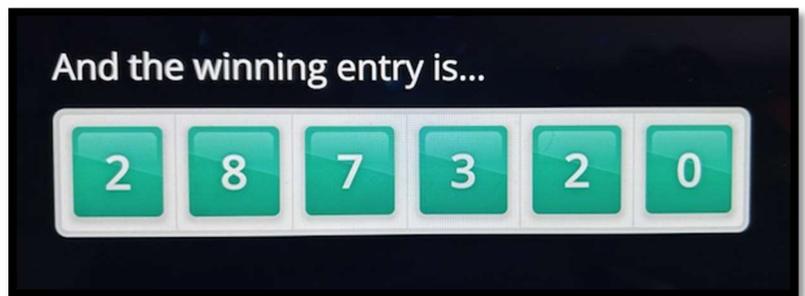


- **ZR1.** I caught this picture of a new ZR1 while roaming around the internet. White is one of the top colors for Corvette. I just thought that all of the black accents on this ZR1 just makes the car pop. Love the wheels and I've always been a fan of that ZTK wing. Just a nice looking package all the way around.



- **And the winner is....** Well, someone had to win the 1967 Stingray Sweepstakes at the NCM. Dale Connor from Gunter, Texas had the winning entry.

Thanks to all of the BCC members that entered the sweepstakes!



- **The other winners were....** The **National Corvette Museum Foundation**. This very first sweepstakes took in \$443,325! Not too shabby for a sweepstakes. The other winner was the **Brookville Corvette Club**. By using the promo code BROOKVILLE, *the Club had the second highest ticket tally for all Clubs that were using promo codes*. Our ticket sales totalled \$1,200.00.

I want to thank all of the members that purchased sweepstakes tickets using our promo code. And, save up your cash and stayed tuned. Sweepstakes #2 just launched!

- **NCM Sweepstakes #2** Next up is a 1965 Corvette Stingray convertible. Painted Rally Red with a black interior and white top. Powered by a venerable 327 V8 with 300 HP. It is frame-off restored with just 56,680 miles on the odometer. The Sweepstakes is open now and closes on April 26th with the winner drawn on May 7th.

Just like last time, when purchasing your tickets, use promo code BROOKVILLE to get bonus tickets. If you are a NCM member, your bonus is 50%. That's worth the price of admission.

Good luck! Hey, someone has to win it. Might as well be you.



- **Socks, socks and more socks.** Here's a picture of Patty Wagner presenting 100 pair of socks to Brinda from Shoes 4 the Shoeless, a non-profit that provides brand new, correctly fitting gym shoes and socks to SW Ohio children in desperate need. It is estimated that 65% of children in SW Ohio live at or below the poverty line.

Shoes 4 the Shoeless began in 2010 and has helped well over 200,000 children to date.

Patty coordinated the sock collection during our annual Christmas party. Hats off to her. We fell a little short of 100 pair, so Patty and Gary made up the difference.



- **A very soggy rough.** I think this could have happened to any of us. The guy was driving his golf cart on a course and headed up to the green. There was a water hazard right next to the green covered in grass and green moss. You can see in the picture it matches the green grass around the green. Well, the poor guy drove right into it and sunk about two feet into the hazard. I certainly agree with his comment: "They should have really put a sign there".

Thanks for sending this in, Joe.



- **Deep conversation.** This photo was taken in early January at Scratch Pizza in Troy. A small group of us had met there for dinner. While sitting there, Dave Hinneman wandered in, grabbed a drink, sat down and joined the conversation.

As you can see, I was riveted to my seat while Dave shared his wisdom and years of experience.

For the life of me, I can't remember what he said.



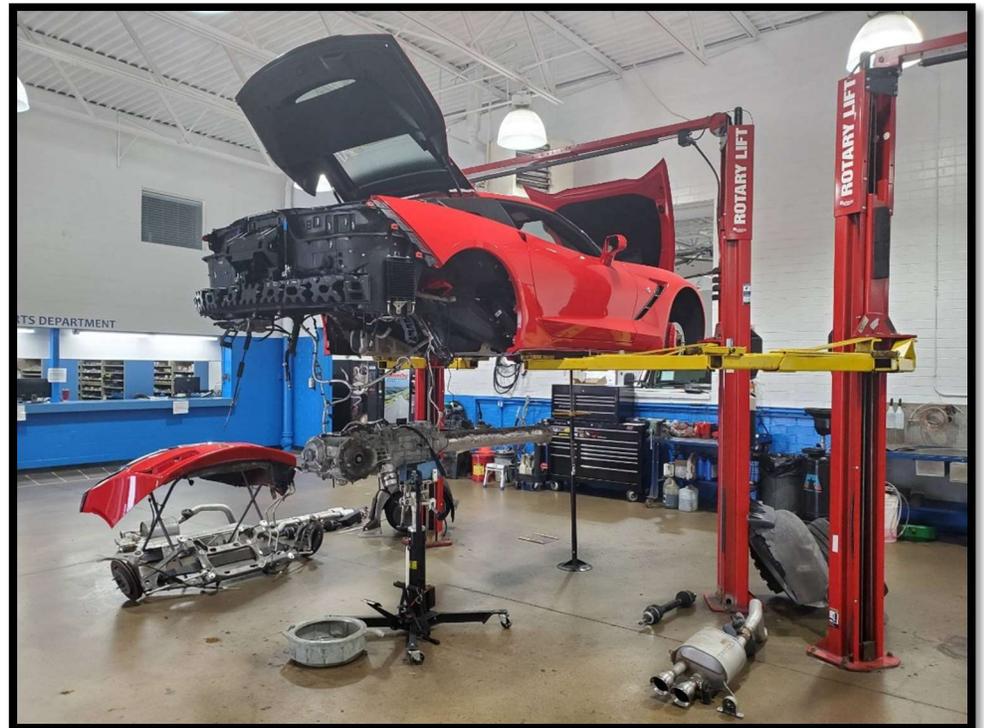
- **Neat pic.** I was wandering through my picture files and came across this one (I think I posted it at the time). It was taken by the Corvette mechanic shortly after he did some work on my C7. He had three Red Corvettes in the bay at the same time, so he lined them up and stacked them like this. That's my previous C7 on the right, someone's C6 in the middle and my neighbor's C8 shortly after he took delivery.



- **The stuff of nightmares.** This was why my C7 was in the garage. He was repairing a faulty fuel connector on one of the fuel tanks. To do that, he pretty much had to disassemble the entire rear-end. He took this picture and sent it to me showing the work in progress.

You can see the drivetrain, transmission, exhaust, rear fascia, all four tires and a few miscellaneous parts on the ground.

This happened in 2001. I still don't sleep well at night.



- **Blast from the past.** I think I may have posted this in a past issue. That's our good friend Don Thokey posing with his (I think) niece in front of his '62. Just a great picture. His niece went on to become a dentist and has a practice up in Madison, OH.

- **If you're gonna plow.....** These were sent in by Danny Miezio and Scott Mazzula. Someone got creative with AI. I guess if you want to plow snow really, really quickly, this might be the way to go. However, the plow weight would certainly tear up the Vette and I believe you'd have almost zero traction when you hit a snow bank.

Also, why on earth would you even try to do that with a Corvette? Mustang...well now, that's another story.



JUST A FEW THOUGHTS

- Once is a mistake, twice is a decision
- People never forget the way you made them feel
- If you're not losing friends, you're not growing
- An apology holds no weight if you have to ask for it
- If your absence doesn't affect them, your presences never mattered
- Know both sides before you judge
- You can't heal from what you don't let yourself feel
- Nothing changes until you change – your life is a reflection of your habits – not your hopes
- Most people don't care about your struggles – they judge you by your results
- Your mind is your biggest enemy – it ruins more dreams than failure ever will
- Family becomes everything – and you won't realize it until time has already taken them
- Comfort is the slowest killer – it destroys potential quietly while pretending to feel safe
- You are fully responsible for the life you are living – excuses only protect your limitations, never your future
- Those who died yesterday had plans for this morning. Those who died this morning had plans for tonight. Don't take life for granted. In the blink of an eye, everything can change. So, forgive often and love with all your heart. You may never get to have that chance again.

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS FROM



NOTE: All of the following content is used with permission from Keith Cornett of Corvetteblogger

Here are this month's highlights from Corvetteblogger.

- **General Motors delivers 6,815 new Corvettes during 4th quarter 2025**

The latest sales report from General Motors hit the wires on January 5th, and we're looking at it as a positive improvement to end the year. GM's fourth quarter sales for Corvette improved to 6,815 units delivered during the quarter. The 4th quarter deliveries were the highest of the year and it broke a streak of five consecutive quarters in which the delivery number declined from the previous quarter.



In the 3rd quarter 2025, the total was just 5,123 new Corvettes so this was a 28.3% improvement over the previous quarter. Despite that good news, 4th quarter 2025's 6,815 total units was still a 10.6% decline from 4th quarter 2024's total of 7,619 units.

For 2025 calendar year, Chevrolet delivered 24,533 new Corvettes in the U.S., which was a 26.4% decline from 2024's 33,330 new Corvettes delivered.

We are now into the 1st quarter of 2026 and we anticipate the sales climate to remain a buyer's market. We've heard some rumors of another plant shut-down within the next few months, but we also have the pending arrival of the ZR1X as well as the new Stars and Steel Collection which should add another 250 guaranteed sales to the bottom line. However, I'm betting those deliveries will probably fall into 2nd quarter 2026.

- **New LS6 leak confirms 6.7L engine will power the Stingrays in 2027**

When CorvetteBlogger broke the news in late December that a new 6.7L V8 engine was headed for Corvette in 2027, the main assumption was that it would be for the new Corvette Grand Sport while also replacing the 495 HP LT2 engine in both the Stingray and E-Ray.



On January 6th, we came across another example that I think has to be definitive proof – again straight from GM’s internal systems – that the new engine will, indeed, be used in the 2027 Stingrays. The post comes from Reddit and it actually shows a printout from a GM screen showing their Vehicle Locator service.

The original poster shared the following screen shot and then simply said **“work at a GM dealer and found this today…”** FYI, you can click the photo to enlarge it and click again to close it. (Ed: decided not to copy and paste the screen shot).

We can assume that both the Stingray model codes (1YC07 and 1YC67) would be showing the LS6 as the engine, and now that it is confirmed for the 2027 Stingray we would most likely see it for the two E-Ray models (1YG07 and 1YG67) as well.

Since our last original post about the LS6 designation, GM has reportedly scrubbed the Parts Book of any LS6 information for the 2027 Grand Sport. So, either our Reddit poster was in there early enough to get his own screenshot, or Chevy missed the one listed under the 2027 Stingray HTC.

- **It’s official! The Corvette ZR1X runs the quarter mile in 8.675 seconds at 159 MPH. But there’s more.**

It’s officially official! The Corvette ZR1X is America’s quickest production car according to General Motors! A press release from Chevrolet on January 13th proclaims the 2026 Corvette ZR1X ran the quarter mile in 8.675 seconds at 159 MPH. It also ran 0 – 60 MPH in a staggering 1.68 second!



The record breaking run was performed by Corvette development engineer Stefan Frick in October 2025 at US 131 Motorsports Track in Martin, Michigan. The track has a prepped surface while the ZR1X was outfitted with the standard aero configuration and utilized pump gas, PS4S production tires with carbon fiber wheels and a 50-state production street-legal engine calibration for the test.

“There are many different parts and subsystems on this car, with teams across the company responsible for them”, said Frick. “We were all motivated by the mission to break into the eights – this is a powerful example of the in-house skill at GM and the level of performance we developed into this car.”

During the test day, the ZR1X ran multiple back-to-back quarter mile runs all under 8.8 seconds. The car also generated an amazing 1.75g of acceleration force as it blasted to 60 MPH in less than 100 feet! GM also tested on an un-prepped course with the ZR1X featuring the ZTK Performance Package with the Carbon Aero package. That time was 8.99 seconds while the 0 – 60 MPH sprint was 1.89 seconds.

GM also offered a competitive breakdown showing how the ZR1X compares to other hypercars offered in the USA. As you can see, most of the vehicles on this list cost multiple millions of dollars while the ZR1X has a starting MSRP of \$209,700.

	QUARTER MILE	TRAP SPEED	0-60 MPH	STARTING MSRP
Corvette ZR1X	8.675 SEC	159 MPH	1.68 SEC	\$209,700
Rimac Nevera R	7.90 SEC	186 MPH	1.66 SEC	\$2.5 MILLION
Pinninfarina Battista	8.55 SEC	155 MPH	1.79 SEC	\$2.2 MILLION
Koenigsegg Jesko Absolut	8.77 SEC	185 MPH	2.4 SEC	\$3.4 MILLION
Bugatti Tourbillon	8.80 SEC	176 MPH	1.9 SEC	\$4.6 MILLION
Lucid Air Sapphire	8.95 SEC	158 MPH	1.89 SEC	\$249,000

The press release also offered all of the 0-60 MPH stats for the entire C8 Corvette line-up:

- Stingray with available Z51 Performance Package: 2.9 seconds
- Z06 with available Z07 Performance Package: 2.6 seconds
- E-Ray with available ZER Performance Package: 2.5 seconds
- ZR1 with available ZTK Performance Package: 2.3 seconds
- ZR1X with available ZTK Performance Package: 1.89 seconds
- ZR1X w/o the ZTK Performance Package: 1.68 seconds

(Editor’s note: Six versions and only a 1.22 second difference in 0-60 MPH. Impressive line-up)

• **C8 Corvette ZR1 is named Road & Track’s 2026 Performance Car of the Year**

“The ZR1 is big, loud and sometimes scary – qualities it shares with the best of its predecessors. But, it also takes the Corvette dynasty to a whole new plane of awesomeness.

Since the event’s inception in 2014, no car has been named Road & Track’s Performance Car of the Year more times than the Chevrolet Corvette.

This year, faced with what the R&T’s editors crowned “probably the most talented group of rivals in PCOTY history, the 1,064-horsepower C8 ZR1 added to the family’s impressive trophy case as the fourth overall champion, joining a pair of C7’s – the Stingray won the inaugural event followed by the supercharged one-year special ZR1 in ’19 and the flat-plane 2023 Z06 in the winner’s circle.



As announced in early January, the newest Corvette to earn the vaunted ZR1 Badge had to vanquish a murderers' row of PCOTY challengers on its way to an impressive triumph. The impressive field of contenders included some real heavy hitters like the 10,000 RPM Lamborghini Temerario, the \$325,000 Mustang GTD track special and the old-school manual-shifted media darling Porsche 911 GT3.



Even though we couldn't help but spoil the outcome, the entire article and accompanying professional photography should be considered "must-see" content but, as an appetizer, we'll leave you with some of the best quotes found in the ZR1's victory lap:

➤ *"PCOTY is a test of driving, not value, but by any measure, the ZR1 is an astonishing bargain. You couldn't go faster by spending three or even four times as much."*

- *"Next, the ZR1 flexed the most muscle PCOTY had ever seen into a lap that was "on a higher plane", even though the 1.6 miles of Thunderhill's West Course were probably too short and tight to play to the Vette's true strengths."*
- *From one unprovoked GM shout-out back to the ZR1, which was dubbed "otherworldly" and even "balletic" or ballerina-like at improbably speeds. The crew continued by comparing the LT7 monster to a rocket ship, which makes occupants feel like "kids on a roller coaster."*
- *"For less than half the price of the Temerario, it's more fun, faster, crazier and "the ZR1 was, by acclimation, the most thrilling car here – which is why it's our winner."*
- *Editor-in-Chief Daniel Pund said, "A Z06 would be awesome and plenty, but this...holy S&%T!" We'd say that pretty much sums up the ZR1, and we're looking forward to seeing if the extra HP can help the X overcome the E-Ray's historical struggle to capture hearts and minds like its widebody C8 brethren.*

• **Chevrolet to re-launch the Engine Build Experience in 2026 for Z06, ZR1 and ZR1X customers**

We have some big news for the Corvette Nation this week. This is for those new Corvette buyers who want the full customer experience when purchasing a new Z06, ZR1 or ZR1X.

Chevrolet is relaunching the Build Your Own Engine Experience that allows buyers to work alongside GM master engine builders in the Corvette Assembly plant's Performance Build Center.



Buyers will be able to build their own LT6 or LT7 engines and, once completed, that engine will be installed in the buyer's new Corvette as it goes down the assembly line. Those that participate in the Engine Build Experience receive a custom engine plaque, photos from the day and an exclusive gift that has yet to be revealed.

GM has posted the Engine Build Experience on its Corvette Experience page at Chevrolet.com.

The Engine Build Experience will return in the spring of 2026. Previously, GM charged \$5,000 to participate in the program in the past. ***As of 28 JAN, the cost to participate in the Engine Build Program is now \$9,995 (according to Rick Conti).***

Stay tuned as we will bring more information.

• **Leak confirms Admiral Blue and a new exclusive color coming in 2027**

One of the biggest changes that Chevrolet makes annually to the Corvette model lineup is the exterior color choices offered to customers. We have recently learned that for the 2027 model year, Chevrolet would be dropping both Riptide Blue Metallic and Hysteria Purple Metallic for two new colors. Now, thanks to another leak from GM's ordering system, we got the new update!

Our friend Justin from the Horsepower Obsessed YouTube channel shared this new discovery and he included two screenshots from GM's internal computer systems showing the list of exterior colors for the 2027 Corvette. The two new colors were listed as:

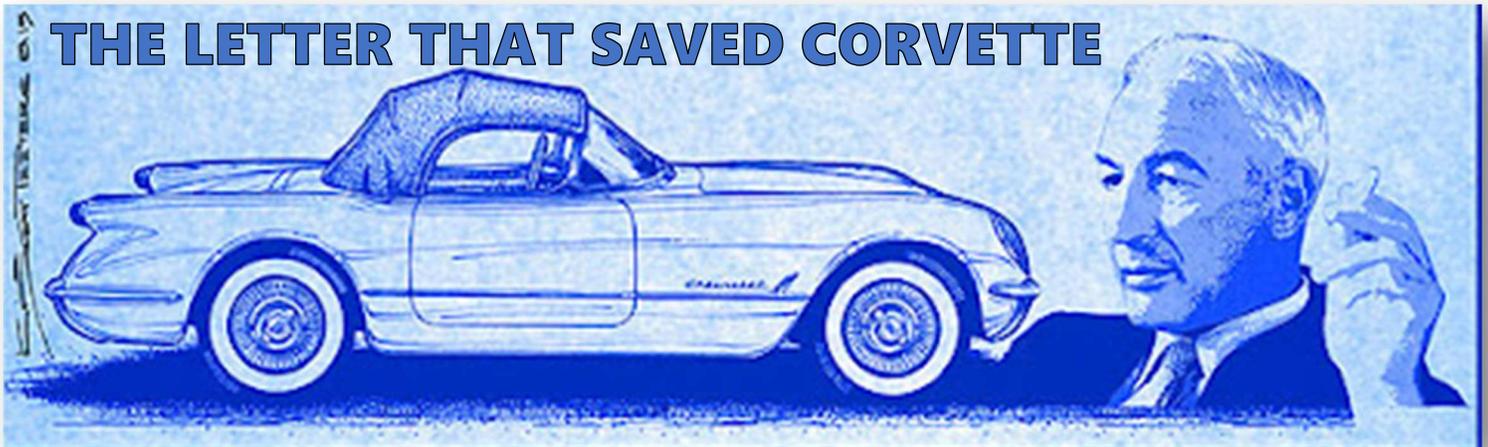


- **GEC** – primary color exterior, Pitch Met – 1 (243F)
- **GTR** – primary color exterior, Opulent Blue Metallic (705U)

As a refresher, GM doesn't call their paint names by the marketing names that we know them as and, instead, uses a name that is only used internally. We also have both the RPO codes for the colors and the accompanying paint codes that are hand for doing searches. We'll start with the second one first, as it has been featured on Corvette previously.

With the lighter Riptide Blue leaving in 2026, it was believed by many Corvette watchers that this would open up the possibility of Admiral Blue returning to the list of options and, sure enough, the GTR code and the internal code name Opulent Blue all point to Admiral Blue returning in 2027.

As we continue to look forward to the 2027 Grand Sport, one of the fantastic colors that was used previously on the C6 Grand Sport was Cyber Gray Metallic and that would be a color that many owners would love to see again. But, that's just speculation so we'll have to wait until we get more from General Motors. Hopefully, we'll see both new colors at the Michelin NCM Bash at the end of April.



Back in 1953, the handwriting was on the wall. Corvette was in trouble from the start, and then recently hired staff engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov knew it. So he composed a memo to Maurice Olley, the Chevrolet Motor Division's Director of R&D.

The memo was titled: **Thoughts Pertaining to Youth, Hot Rodders and Chevrolet.** It was written on December 16, 1953. While not the original memo, the following are major excerpts from that memo.

The Hot Rod movement and interest in things connected with hop-up and speed is still growing. As an indication: the publications devoted to hot rodding and hop-upping, of which some half dozen have a very large circulation and are distributed nationally, did not exist some six years ago.

From cover to cover, they are full of Fords. This is not surprising that the majority of hot rodders are eating, sleeping, and dreaming modified Fords. They know Ford parts from stern to stern better than Ford people themselves.

A young man buying a magazine for the first time immediately becomes introduced to Ford. It is reasonable to assume that when hot rodders or hot rod-influenced persons buy transportation, they buy Fords. As they progress in age and income, they graduate from jalopies to second-hand Fords, then to new Fords.

Should we consider that it would be desirable to make these youths Chevrolet-minded? I think that we are in a position to carry out a successful attempt. However, there are many factors against us:

1. Loyalty and experience with Ford.
2. Hop-up industry is geared with Ford.
3. Law of number-thousands are and will be working on Fords for active competition.
4. Appearance of Ford's overhead V8, now one year ahead of us.

When a superior line of GM V8's appeared, there were remarkably few attempts to develop these, and none too successful. Also, the appearance of the V8's Chrysler was met with reluctance even though the success of Ardu-Fords conditioned them to the acceptance of Firepower.

This year is the first one in which isolated Chrysler development met with success. The Bonneville records are divided between Ardu-Fords and Chryslers.

Like all people, hot rodders are attracted by novelty. However, bitter experience has taught them that new development is costly and long, and therefore they are extremely conservative. From my observation, it takes an advanced hot rodder some three years to stumble toward the successful development of a new design. Overhead Fords will be in this stable between 1956 and 1957.

The slide rule potential of our RPO V8 engine is extremely high, but to let things run their natural course will put us one year behind-and then not too many hot rodders will pick Chevrolet for development. One factor which can largely overcome this handicap would be the availability of ready-engineered parts for higher output:

If the use of the Chevrolet engine would be made easy and the very first attempts would be crowned with success, the appeal of the new RPO V8 engine will take hold and not have the stigma of expensiveness like the Cadillac or Chrysler, and a swing to Chevrolet may be anticipated. This means the development of a range of special parts-camshafts, valves, springs, manifolds, pistons, and such-should be made available to the public.

To make good in this field, the RPO parts must pertain not only to the engine but to the chassis components as well. In fact, the use of light alloys and brake development, such as composite drums and discs, are already on the agenda of the Research and Development group.

These thoughts are offered for what they are worth-one man's thinking aloud on the subject.

Signed: Z. Arkus-Duntov - 12/16/53 -

CALENDAR OF **EVENTS** FOR 2026

January 09	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
February 12	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
20	Club dinner at Buckhorn Tavern. 6:00 p.m.
March 12	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting –Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
13	Club visit to Packard Museum – Dayton from 3:00 to 5:00. Dinner @ Spaghetti Warehouse
April 09	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
18	Greater Dayton Corvette's All Corvette Cruise-In. Air Force Museum from 9 – 3.
23 - 25	Michelin NCM Bash, Bowling Green, KY (Museum). All day.
May 09	Bud's All Corvette Cruise-In, St. Marys, OH. From 9:00 to 1:00. Details to follow
14	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
16	Visit American Sign Museum – Liberty Center. 2:30 p.m. Ford's Garage – dinner
June 06	BCC Cruise Into Summer Car Show – Reichard Chevrolet. 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.
11	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
20	Greater Dayton All Corvette Show. Hollywood Raceway Casino. 9:00 – 3:00
20	Pool party at Sniders. 4:00 p.m.
27	National Trails Car Show
July 05	St. Henry's annual Firecracker Cruise-In Car Show – St. Henry. 1 – 4. Dinner @ Romer's.
09	Camp Independence, car rides – special needs kids (and families) Time TBD
09	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Location to be announced. 7:00 p.m.

August	
13	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
?	Englewood Art Festival & Car Show, Centennial Park. 9:00 to 12:00 p.m. \$10 per car
10	Dayton Dragons ballgame. Corvettes on display at the Park. Meet at Culvers @ 10:30
22	Eaton Car Show – Downtown Saturday Night. Dinner at Wagner’s home
23	Antioch Shrine Car Show. Details to be announced
28 - 30	32nd Anniversary Event @ the National Corvette Museum – Bowling Green, KY
September	
10	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
13	All Corvette Car Show – Lancaster, OH. Time to be determined
20	Dayton Concours d’Elegance @ Carillon Park. 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
26	Tipp City Mum Festival Cruise In. 4:00 p.m.
October	
02	Heritage of Flight Festival & Car Show. From 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. .
08	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
17	Progressive Dinner. Time and locations TBA
?	Camden’s Black Walnut Festival. Registration: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Trophies @ 3:00
November	
12	Brookville Corvette Club Meeting – Golden Gate Park, Brookville. 7:00 p.m.
14	BCC Pizza Party @ Marion’s in Englewood. Watch for details in an e-mail
December	
11	There is no monthly meeting in December.
12	Brookville Corvette Club Christmas Party. Party Barn at Tiernans

(Note: Events/dates that have been grayed out means that either the date for the event has not yet been announced or the event has taken place. All events in black/red are confirmed as of this writing.)

- Trips under consideration for 2026
 - Gilmore Car Museum
 - Henry Ford Museum
 - Woodward Dream Cruise
 - The NCM Bash
 - The NCM Anniversary Event

AM BASSADOR'S REPORT

"The mission of the National Corvette Museum is to educate worldwide audiences on the evolution of the Corvette - America's Sports Car – through collection, preservation and celebration of its legacy"

CORVETTE RAFFLES

On February 12th, you could win a **Build Your Own Corvette** or \$85,000 cash. Tickets are \$250 each with 1000 available. Drawing will be at 2:00 p.m. CST.

On March 5th, you could win a 2026 **Blade Silver HTC**. Tickets are \$200/each with 1,000 available. Drawing will be at 2:00 p.m. CST.

Finally, on April 25, 2026, drive home in a **2026 Torch Red Stingray Coupe**. Tickets are only \$20/each and there are unlimited tickets available. Drawing is at 2:00 p.m. CST.

To purchase tickets, just go to the National Corvette Museum's website link right here: (www.corvettemuseum.org), click on *Win a Corvette*, and then click on *Enter to Win*. It's as easy as that!



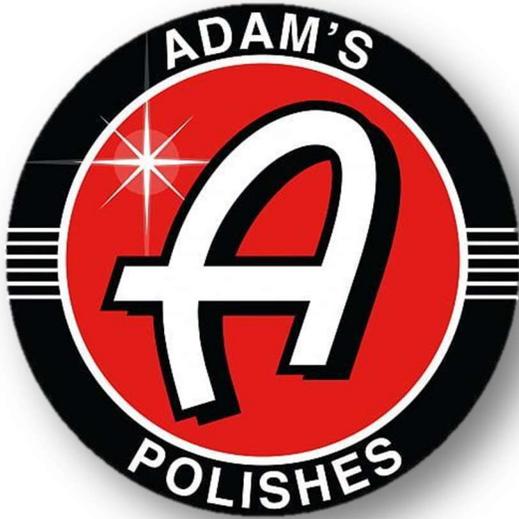
CORVETTE SWEEPSTAKES #2

Here's your next chance to win a classic Corvette Stingray! This is a 1965 convertible painted in Rally Red with a black interior and white top. It is frame-off restored sporting a 327 cu.in. V8 with 300 HP. The odometer reads 56,680 miles. The winner takes delivery at the Museum under the Museum Delivery Experience. The Sweepstakes is open now and the winner will be chosen on May 7th, 2026. Two important points. Just like last time, when you buy your tickets, use promo code BROOKVILLE. If you are a Museum member, you get 50% bonus tickets. You must be a Museum member to qualify for the bonus.



LINKS OF INTEREST

Here are some suppliers of various products and services that may be of interest to you.



Adam's is a supplier of premium car care products, equipment, waxes, microfiber towels, etc. As you know, my personal favorite. Go to: www.adampolishes.com



Yipes Stripes, located in Englewood and owned by Todd Schindler, is a graphic design house specializing in all types of graphic appliques, pin-striping, race stripes, artwork and design services. Just go to:

www.yipesgraphics.com or 937-836-9473



ACS Composites is a supplier of Corvette aftermarket parts with an emphasis on C7 and now C8 ground effects including side rockers, front splitters, hoods, diffusers, etc. Go to: www.acscomposite.com



The National Corvette Museum

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Hours and Directions

Between January 1st through March 1st, the National Corvette Museum is open between 9am and 5pm, CST, Sunday thru Saturday but closed to the public on Tuesdays. Last tickets are sold at 4:30 each day. Tickets can be purchased on-site or on-line. The Museum is located just off of I-65 at exit 28 (about 90 minutes south of Louisville).

The Museum, located on I-65 at exit 28, is closed New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

National Corvette Museum

350 Corvette Blvd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101
www.corvettemuseum.org

Our Express Service Lane is open for your convenience every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Servicing all makes and models!

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