



# High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter

November 2019

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**Highway Clean up—Pewee  
Blackmore**

**Publicity—Don Ginter  
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Harry Bongers**

## PRESIDENTS PONDERINGS II

### Monthly Newsletter November 2019

### President's Pondering II

### Happy Thanksgiving!

This month's newsletter is going to be short as our year end is approaching quickly and still a few things happening.

We hope everyone is prepared for the holidays because they are here, seems like it came earlier this year. Could be that age thing!

It's Hard to believe that there will be only one more meeting this year in November ending 2019. As we know the sad part is that the "Snowbirds" are already leaving or are preparing to go to the warmer weather, we wish them all safe journeys and they will be missed. We had a fair turnout at the highway clean-up and we now have our part of Hwy. 126 clean again, thanks to the 6 of us who helped.

Keep in mind that we still have events happening like the "Veterans Day Parade" in Bend where we have Veterans ride along, plus our Christmas party @ Aspen Lakes CC (EVERYONE is invited).

The club seems to have a few of our members under the weather and a few with hospital visits, we wish them all a health and speedy recovery.

You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching,  
Love like you'll never be hurt,  
Sing like there's nobody listening,  
And live like it's heaven on earth."  
... William W. Purkey



**Don Ginter**

**HDCC Pres.**



**November Anniversaries**

- 3 Dean & Sande Cowell
- 5 Gary & Janis Silence
- 10 Ron & Sonja Massey
- 18 Steve & Barbara Fisher
- 20 Don & Dee Ginter
- 28 Mike & Suzanne Sawyer
- 29 Dean & Steph Cooper

**November Birthdays**

- 4 Sande Burgess
- 6 Ginger Foote
- 16 Allen Fuller
- 19 Kemi Broadley
- 20 Christine Larson
- 20 Ron Wedemen
- 25 Jere Smith
- 27 Chris Andersen
- 30 Clark Linss

**Jeannine Crowther won the  
50/50 Jackpot drawing**



**Activities**

**November**

- 11 Veterans Day Parade (more info to come)
- 12 HDCC & COHD Mtg Mazatlán Rest.  
Redmond
- No Social night for November & December

**December**

- 11 HDCC Christmas Party Aspen Lakes.

**June**

- Big Sky Corvette Meet, Bozeman, MT>

**June**

- 4-6 Monterey Coast Corvette Cruise  
Monterey, CA

**June**

- 5-6 Corvettes on the Columbia  
Tri-Cities, WA

**June**

- 13 Corvette City Cruise  
Roseburg, OR

**July**

- 15-18 Black Hills Corvette Classic  
Spearfish, S.D.

**July**

- 17-18 Corvettes on the High Desert  
Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond. OR

**Aug**

- 28-30 Sea to Sky Hosted by British Columbia  
Corvette Club  
Squamish, British Columbia

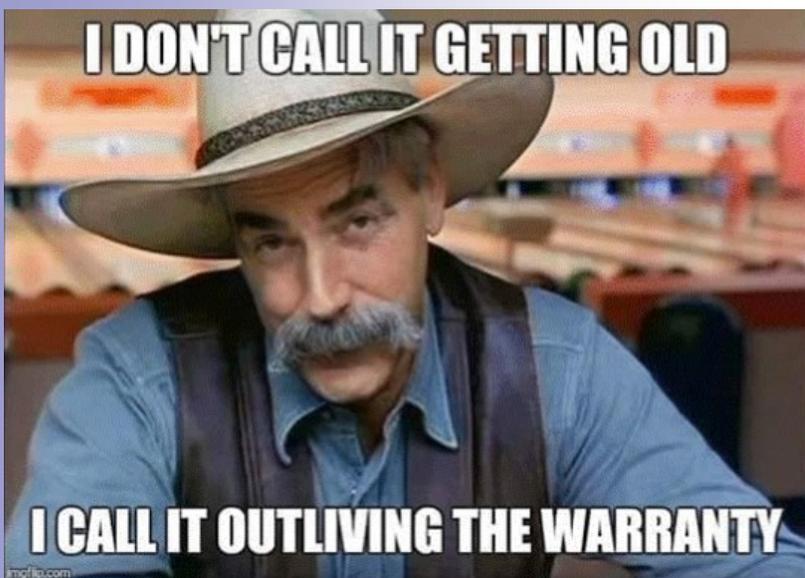


## Crazy Car Tips

For the past several issues of the Newsletter Rich Morton has provided "Crazy Car Tips". These were very comprehensive guides in taking care of your Corvette's finish. Rich has always been willing to offer advice when asked about problems members have had regarding issues with paint etc. Don Ginter and I had the opportunity for hands on instructions from Rich and it was quite the learning experience.



"You're in cubicle 1,739. If you get lost in there, and can never find your way out, can I have your Corvette?"





*Highway Clean up was held on October 16th.*

*Only five members attended. Pretty meager response but we got it done.*

*Thanks Peewee for organizing the event and getting the equipment.*

## **Corvette Stolen 38 years ago finally recovered.**



Don't ever give up hope. That's the lesson to be learned in Livonia, Michigan, where a blue 1981 Corvette [stolen](#) in Pontiac, Michigan in 1981 was recently discovered . It took some serious detective work on the part of the Livonia Police Department to do it, however. Mike Henderson reported the suspicious vehicle in his neighborhood to police a couple of weeks ago. Not having a license plate and hadn't moved in several weeks," fueled Henderson's suspicions.

Police came to the scene and tagged the vehicle as abandoned and days later had it towed to a facility, where subsequent investigation by Detective Anthony Hall led to the realization that the Vehicle Identification Number had been modified since the theft. Thanks to his special auto theft investigation training, however, Hall knew where to find another confidential secondary VIN elsewhere on the car and discovered it had been reported stolen 38 years ago.

Unfortunately, the Pontiac Police Department no longer exists, so multiple agencies are now trying to locate the real owner to return the vehicle to him or her.

The detective says the car has covered just 10,000 miles.



## Winterizing Your Corvette

Many of us put our Vettes away during the ice and snowy months. Lots of varied opinions on what to do to winterize your car. Here are a few ideas floating around. Not hard fast rules but just suggestions, you can pick out what works for you.

1. Install a battery tender to maintain a charge. Remember not all battery tenders are created equal. Spend a little more and get one that stops charging once the battery up to appropriate level. A continuous charging can reduce your batteries life.
2. Fill you tank with fuel to prevent condensation.
3. Put fuel stabilizer in the tank. This is often debated as to the benefit, but it is relatively cheap so why not.
4. Some place carpet or special foam pads under the tires to prevent flat spots. Others just turn the car around so that the car is resting on a different spot on the tire. It is not recommended to jack your car up as this can stress the suspension and the shocks.
5. If possible, start the car every week or so and get it up to temperature.
6. If your storage space has a tendency to attract mice or rats be sure to take measures to prevent their invasion into your car.
7. Finally if you drop some of your insurance remember to reinstate the insurance and double check to be sure that has been accomplished. Most insurances send conformations as to changes made in policies but in the paperless era it would be easy to overlook a notification.

These are only suggestions, pick out what works for you.

## Social Night at Pronghorn Resort



New Members Ron and Diana  
Wedemen



## Featured Members, Peewee and Hazel Blackmore

Peewee and Hazel Blackmore met while cruising the streets of Sunny Side WA on new year's eve.. They have been Married for 58 years.

Hazel was born in Prosser WA., and Peewee in Sunnyside. They have two children, three grandkids and 2 great grandchildren. There daughter was a military wife and has seen much of the country. There son Mike was a cross country runner at the University of Oregon and now coaches cross country at Linfield College, in McMinnville, OR.

Hazel has worked in a hospital and her final position there was in the business office. She is a quilter although she doesn't currently belong to a club. Another very interesting project Hazel is involved with is that she makes Teddy Bears out of favorite material or clothing item from a person who has passed away and gives it to surviving family member. She also makes quilts for the Presbyterian Church to give out and Beyond Borders which sends quilts overseas. She also owned a craft shop for sometime.

Peewee attended Washington State University and is a structural engineer. He worked for Benton County for over 30 years and at retirement he worked as a consultant for SUB consultant engineers. Together they owned a Buster Brown shoe store in Prosser WA. They have not owned Corvettes in the past but Peewee had a 58 Chevrolet Impala which was quite the car in it's day.

They both enjoy golf and are members of the Greens Golf Course in Redmond





## Engine Monthly Update: HTC Is Excitedly Out of the Closet! Might The Strike Finally Be Over? (John Elegant)

There are two elephants in the room right now, one super positive; one so negative. Starting with the positive, the 10.2.19 HT convertible reveal at the Kennedy Space Center was truly a special night, e.g., a perfect reveal with two HTC's, having great weather, being within the magnificent "Rocket Garden" location, and, finally, a totally unexpected surprise of the C8.R's initial reveal that evening too,. It was personally magical for all fortunate enough to be invited (including MECF forum co-founders



Official GM hardtop convertible (HTC) videos, showing it can be raised or lowered in 16 seconds, up to 30 MPH: <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/77788-2020-c8-corvette-stingray-convertible-official-gm-videos>

Official HTC press release: <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/77786-2020-c8-corvette-stingray-convertible-official-gm-press-release>

What is interesting is that even traditional Corvette coupe lovers (count me and many in that group), truly were/are smitten by the HT convertible. A few who had their coupe orders already placed and were already status 3000 with a TPW, stated that they had wished they had waited and ordered the HTC instead. At the same time, a current MECF poll of "who is buying which version," is showing that coupe buyers (most who have yet to have their orders submitted and could still change their orders now) are outnumbering convertible buyers by a ratio of 73/27%.

The "massive ugly", the strike, *could* be over — we are awaiting this upcoming week's ratification vote. If ratified, still many problems have been caused both for the 600+ C7's ordered that have been on hold these past seven weeks, and for C8 customers whose orders have been delayed or not even yet able to be submitted, major problems too. Many C8 target production weeks (TPW's) have already moved out significantly, up to more than 2 1/2 months. However, even though the strike has already gone on for over just six weeks, might there have been some contingency time in the original, two-full-month allocation for BGA's upgrade conversion to C8 production (originally scheduled for all of Oct and Nov). Several feel that was/is "several weeks generous," and that the remaining month of November and the beginning two weeks of December might be sufficient for both the last part of the plant's upgrade (for they already made 160 C8's within BGA while building C7's), and that November and early December might be enough time for the not only the rest the C7-to-C8 conversion process, but also the needed, extensive employee C8 production training? So while we are seeing TPW's being pushed back, might SOME of the strike caused TPW delays be able to be made up? Might we start to see for example a reverse wave of TPW being now moved closer to the present (a reversal of what we just saw)?



## C8 Update continued

At the same time before the C8 production could start, as noted above, there are literally hundreds of C7's partly assembled within BGA, needed to be first completed, with, if ratification occurs, most if not all of the remaining C7's being able to be completed before this October — especially if the overtime. <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/purchasing-your-new-corvette/81314-uh-oh-c8-tpw%E2%80%99s-are-sliding-backwards-already>

Originally, GM originally scheduled December 2nd as the first week of coupe production, with February 10th being the initially-scheduled start of HTC production. What will be the new dates? As the strike is still ongoing, we are still stuck in horrible limbo.

As earlier noted, HTC's 10/2 reveal also came with an extra added bonus of the C8.R's being shown and heard for the first time (but no motor information was provided). Clearly listening to it however, the C8.R did not have the C7.R's ground-pounding, pushrod V8 sound we have all loved, and as we learned the following week at Petit LeMans, the C8.R motor is very different. At the 10.2 reveal, it sure sounded exceptionally loud; I literally jumped when standing next to it when it was started.

Wonder why the C8's interior is what it is, and why it was so changed from the C7's? <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/80548-why-c8-interior-is-what-it-is-e-g-functionality>

With the combination of Z51 and the E60 lift option having one significant negative (besides its \$1,495 cost), should one still consider getting it? <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/80321-re-examining-c8-front-lift-or-not>

Finally, the GM coupe's "build and price" website is up. <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/77786-2020-c8-corvette-stingray-convertible-official-gm-press-release>

But until GM expands the above site to include easily pricing the HTC, one can price the HTC the old fashioned way, by doing so option by option by option: <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/purchasing-your-new-corvette/79189-official-c8-ht-pricing-option-by-option>

Thanks to Keith Cornett/CorvetteBlogger, co-MECF founder, who received an invite to the following week's small number of media invited to the C8.R official intro presentation, he took and provided us this video.

<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/mid-engine-exterior-interior-pictures-and-renderings/81648-video-exclusive-c8-r-backgrounder-presentation-to-the-press>

As we await the strike ends, is there any new information happening? Lots! There have been over 100 new threads, about half about the HTC, posted just since last months' Mid Engine Monthly update article. Here's two that might be of interest.

Any positives about the strike and TPW "Push Outs?" <https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/82878-tpw-push-outs-positive-in-any-way>

Wow, the C8 is faster than many exotics costing many, many times more!  
<https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/mid-engine-corvettes/c8-powertrain-and-performance/82853-c8-faster-than-these-10-amazingly-quick-cars>



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