



High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter January 2026

Officers and Volunteers

President—Nathon Marker

Vice Pres.— Don Ginter

Secretary— Dee Ginter

Treasurer— Mike Zumwalt

Sgt At Arms— Bryce Woodall

**Activities—Mike & Judy
McClean**

Website—Walt Santos

**Membership—Roiann
Santos**

Newsletter—John Burgess

**Photographers—John
Burgess
Dee Ginter**

Sunshine—Debbie Scherrer

**Highway Clean up— Eric &
Miriam Lea**

Publicity— Rebecca Marker

**COHD—Chair Person
Harry Bongers**

President's Ponderings

As we bring 2025 to a close, I can't help but reflect on what a fantastic year it has been for our club. From early-season drives and car shows to summer road trips, fall colors, and holiday celebrations, this year reminded me once again why this group is so special. It's never just about the cars—it's about the people, the friendships, and the memories we create along the way.

We've welcomed new members, logged countless miles together, and proudly represented our club at events throughout the region. Whether you joined us for a long scenic drive, a casual coffee meetup, a charity event, or simply shared stories and laughter at a meeting, you helped make this year a success. The camaraderie and enthusiasm within this club continue to impress me.

December is always a time to slow down a bit, tuck the Corvettes away (at least for most of us), and enjoy time with family and friends. It's also a good moment to say thank you. Thank you to our board members and volunteers who give their time behind the scenes, to our event leaders who step up to organize drives and activities, and to every member who shows up with a smile and a love for the Corvette lifestyle.

Looking ahead to 2026, we have a lot to be excited about. Plans are already taking shape for new drives, familiar favorites, and a few surprises along the way. I encourage everyone to stay engaged, share ideas, and invite fellow Corvette owners to check us out. The strength of this club comes from participation, and every member plays a role in shaping what we become.

I want to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a safe, healthy New Year. Thank you for an incredible 2025. I'm honored to serve as your president and look forward to many more miles together in the year ahead.

See you in 2026!

Nathan Marker

HDCC President





HDCC Christmas Party 2025

The HDCC Christmas Party was a huge success. Nate and Rebecca did not leave a thing out in order to have the membership have an enjoyable evening. From the moment we walked in there was a festive feeling to the room that continued throughout the evening. The tables were decorated elegantly with glitter and glitz. Members were met at the door by Rebecca with special gifts from her and Nate for each couple. Nate was busy circulating throughout the room in his Christmas holiday themed sports jacket.

Cocktail hour was full of lots of socialization. Dinner was served, on time by the View Tap and Grill in Redmond. The food was excellent and everyone enjoyed the dinner. After dinner everyone enjoyed a white elephant gift exchange. Lots of laughs were shared as gifts were open, kept and stolen. Nate did a very good job of keeping the gift exchange moving. All members left the party feeling the thrill of the Christmas season.

Thank you Nate and Rebeccas for an exceptional Christmas party.

Submitted by Sande Burgess







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January Birthdays

Jan 1 Mark Richards
Jan 7 Ken Kaster
Jan 8 Rick Kerfoot
Jan 8 Sonya Massey
Jan 11 Debbie Scherrer
Jan 12 Janis Torsey
Jan 15 David Roth
Jan 17 Delila Ginter
Jan 19 Sam Davis

January Anniversaries

Jan 17 Daren & Patricia Lucas

Five

HDCC Events

Jan 7 HDCC Business Meeting Pour
House Brew Pub
Jan 28 Social Night The Gibbs (TBD)
Feb 11 HDCC Business Meeting
Feb 20 Social Night Lobster Feed at
The Chenery's
Mar 28 Year end Banquet The View

Car stereo back
In the old days



The Unwritten Rules of Honking and Road Rage

A car horn is a critical safety device. According to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) No. 101 all vehicles must have a horn audible from at least 200 feet. Knowing when to use your horn can prevent an accident with another vehicle or pedestrian. Using your horn as it relates to safety and not in anger is fine. A horn should not be used to express frustration. Blowing your horn to say hello or to scare someone is rude.

Honking your horn can be a crime. In Virginia it is unlawful to use a horn other than as a reasonable warning. The length of the honk matters. A long honk tends to convey frustration and anger, while a short tap is a friendly way of alert another driver of a possible dangerous situation.

If someone honks aggressively, try to defuse the situation with a small wave, do not engage the person's eyes, do not respond with hostility, do not get out of your car and confront an angry driver. Put as much space between you and an aggressive driver as possible and let them pass. **Giving them the finger is not recommended as a solution.**



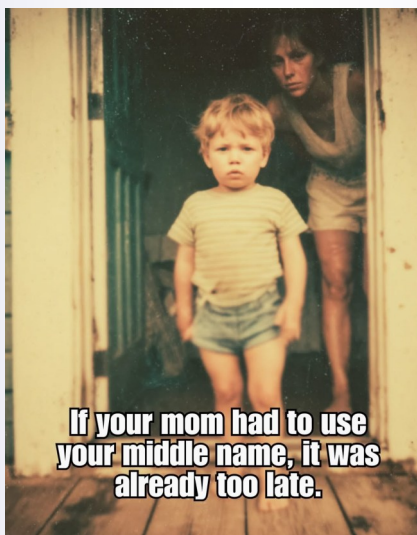
On the lighter side.

**My kids and grandkids
keep laughing about
me losing my memory.**

**They won't be laughing at
Christmas when there's no
eggs under the tree!**



Road Trip Moments



**If your mom had to use
your middle name, it was
already too late.**



A dog day afternoon

Submitted by Sam Davis



CORVETTE ODDS AND ENDS

Corvette attains elite status: You have probably heard of someone referring an a item as being the Mercedes or the Cadillac of something. Corette has made the grade as Family Handy Man magazine in evaluating toasters stated that the Smeg 2-slice toaster was the “Corvette” of toasters. At \$275.00 each it should be.

Consumer Reports magazine has not been particularly kind to Corvette in years past. Not so in the April 2025 issue where the rated the Corvette as the top American car in the 2 seat sports car category. In fact it had the highest rating of any of the categories at 87.

In the May-June 2025 issue Consumer Report’s rating of the cars “owners loved the most” Corvette ranked the highest. The satisfaction score came from subscribers who answered the question “would you buy this car again”? Cars in the “hybrid” had the next highest rating. The least satisfying car was the Jeep Grand Cherokee PHEV.

The median income of the average Corvette buyer is \$214,000.00 in 2024 and average transaction price for a new Corvette in 2024 was \$100,000.00.

The ZRIX super hybrid hypercar promises 0-60 in under two seconds according to GM Authority. [\(the car comes with a neck brace\)](#)

The Gas Guzzler Tax for the ZRIX is \$2,600.00 (Info for 2026 Financial Planning)
Also \$2,200.00 price increase. (Interesting since they haven’t build one yet)

GM Authority

Only about a third of C8 owners is over 65 (and only 46% for C7), compared to 62% for C6 owners, 65% for C5 owners and 68% for C4 owners. Here's the C8 age breakdown: **44 and under: 15% 45 to 54: 22%**

Google

A typical Chevrolet Corvette will last 150,000-200,000 miles with excellent care. This number puts the high mileage point at the 150,000-mile mark .

Google



2026 Corvette Stars & Steel Special Edition

[Chevrolet](#) has [unveiled the Stars & Steel Collection](#), celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States with a series of upgraded model variants that double down on the patriotism. Among them is the [2026 Corvette](#) Stars & Steel Limited Edition, which adds patriotic design elements to the exterior and interior

General Motors will produce just 250 units of the new 2026 [Corvette](#) Stars & Steel Limited Edition, giving a nod to the semiquincentennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Unlike other models in the collection, the Corvette Stars & Steel will be capped at 250 units total, with each example bearing an interior plaque displaying the individual build sequence number.

Chevrolet plans to make the Stars & Steel Limited Edition upgrade available across the entire [C8 Corvette](#) range, from the [C8 Stingray](#) all the way up to the new [C8 ZR1X](#). Each model variant will be equipped the same upgrades, plus a few unique accessories depending on the variant in question. Buyers will also be able to choose from either the coupe or convertible body style, although availability is restricted to the range-topping 3LT and 3LZ trim levels

Two exterior and interior color combinations will be offered. Customers can select Arctic White paired with a Santorini Blue interior, or Black paired with an Adrenaline Red interior. Both configurations are accented by full-length American flag-inspired stripes finished in either Satin Silver or Satin Black. Additional "250" flag graphics are applied to the doors, with matching graphics extending to the spoiler end plates on properly equipped models.

Inside, the Stars & Steel Limited Edition get red seat belts and floor mats with red stitching. The brake calipers are also finished in Edge Red, while certain models will also get an Edge Red engine cover.

Wheel options vary depending on the specific Corvette model, with finishes including Black Gloss and Carbon Flash, as well as available carbon fiber wheels on higher-performance variants. Black exhaust tips round out the exterior enhancements. Pricing details have yet to be released.



From GM Authority



Renderings of the 027 Corvette Grand Sport



With pass-through Air scoop



Without air scoop.

What You Might See in the 2027 Corvette Grand Sport

Hood air scoop. This will decrease the size of the frunk

Wide body like the ZR1

Different rear wing

New wheel options

6.7 liter sixth generation engine

One of the biggest selling points for the car will be the new [6.7 liter Sixth-Gen V8 that was confirmed through a GM Parts Book leak this week](#).

Updated with modern architecture, a 6.7L V8 could utilize a shorter stroke than the LS7 while retaining the higher rev capability than the current 6.2L V8s. Many are saying the 6.7-liter V8 with could offer upwards of 550 horsepower which is a great number while also leaving the Z06 with its value proposition of having the high-revving and more powerful LT6.

These notes are all just speculation as no one really knows much about the Grand Sport at this point.

Centurion Days



HDCC Club members were instrumental in granting a bucket list wish for Helen Olsen who recently reached age 100. To ride in a red Corvette was one of Helen's goals for many years. Joni Olsen and Sande B. arranged the gathering which was a total surprise for Helen. Fourteen cars were on hand to escort Helen to her birthday dinner at Anthony's. Dean Cowell had the honor of providing the red Corvette



The above article was from August 2018. Sadly Mrs. Olsen passed away in October following her birthday. Thought those who participated would like to see the memories

PICTURES FROM THE PAST

Do you Remember?





More Christmas Pictures



Corvette Pickup Truck Rendering Is More Proof AI Has No Soul



The front-three-quarter-angle image looks an awful lot like a [Chevy Silverado](#) 1500, from the front-end design to the body lines. Even the wheels are a bit uninspired; they look like they could be a set of stock wheel options for the Silverado. This looks more like a Silverado appearance package than a distinct model focused on road and track performance.

What makes it a “Corvette” is a botched cross-flag emblem in the grille and...not much else. It looks like there’s supposed to be another red emblem in the grille, possibly an “SS” emblem? There’s also a hood vent that kind of looks like the one on the [C7](#) and some red splotches down in the lower fascia that look like they’re supposed to be red fog lights.

The rendering of the back of the Corvette pickup is at least a bit more interesting; it doesn’t quite look like a Silverado. For starters, it says “Corvette” four times (if you count the license plate) but doesn’t have a crossed-flag emblem at all. Interestingly, it uses fonts from different generations of the Corvette. The lettering in the middle of the tailgate looks like [C4](#) branding, while the other Corvette scripts are more italicized like in more modern generations. The rear light signature is much more unique than the one in the front. Borrowing more inspiration from the C7, it has vents extending out of the taillights .



Available at Bend Chevrolet



2026 Corvette Z06

\$147,130.00



2026 Corvette LT

\$94,715.00



2026 Corvette Z063LZ

\$171,868.00

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2020 Corvette 2LT

14,735 Miles

\$60,991.00



1999 Corvette

53773 miles

\$13,996.00