



High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter October 2025

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Vice Pres.— Don Ginter

Secretary— Dee Ginter

Treasurer— Mike Zumwalt

Sgt At Arms— Bryce Woodall

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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

Well, here we are — September has slipped past us, and October is knocking on the garage door. The mornings are a little crisper, the leaves are starting to change, and I'm beginning to wonder if it's time to throw an extra jacket in the Corvette just in case.

September brought plenty of great moments — drives, events, and of course, catching up with friends old and new. It's always a reminder of what this club is all about: community, stories shared over meals, and roads shared on cruises.

As we shift into October, the calendar is still plenty full, but it also feels like that time of year when the pace changes. The long hot days of summer are behind us, but that doesn't mean our season of fun is slowing down. If anything, autumn in Central Oregon makes for some of the best drives of the year. Clear skies, cool air, and those golden fall colors framing the road — it's hard to beat.

A quick reminder: October also marks the time to start thinking ahead. Events, elections, and planning for the next year don't happen by themselves. We've got a strong club because folks step up — whether it's leading a drive, helping organize an event, or lending a hand behind the scenes. If you've been thinking about getting more involved, now's a perfect time to raise your hand.

And finally, let's not forget safety. Shorter days mean earlier sunsets, cooler temps mean slicker roads, and the deer seem to get braver every fall. So as you enjoy the miles ahead, keep both eyes on the road — even if one of them is usually focused on your speedometer.

Here's to a great October filled with crisp drives and warm friendships. See you out there,

Nathon Marker

HDCC President





50-50 Jackpot Winner

Janette Woodall won the 50-50 jackpot drawing in the amount of \$50.00. She donated her winnings back to the club. Congratulations on winning Jeanette, and a big thank you for your generous donation back to HDCC

Highway Clean-up.

Ten HDCC members helped with the highway clean up along our one mile section of the highway near the Eagle Crest turn off on highway 126. It was a busy couple of hours as there were mounds of trash. The Kunzmans, Bongers, Leas, one each of the Larsons, Woodalls, Petersens and Burgess helped with the project. Thank you Eric and Miriam for gathering the equipment and for providing the refreshments.





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October Birthdays

Oct 2 Reg Crossan
Oct 4 Phil Derr
Oct 6 Daren Lucas
Oct 6 Greg Lee
Oct 7 Nancy Kraemer
Oct 11 Doug Maines
Oct 18 Barry Larson
Oct 29 Ingrid Bongers

October Anniversaries

Oct 14 Daren & Patricia Lucas
Oct 18 Nate & Rebecca Marker
Oct 14 Greg & Joanne Lee

HDCC Events

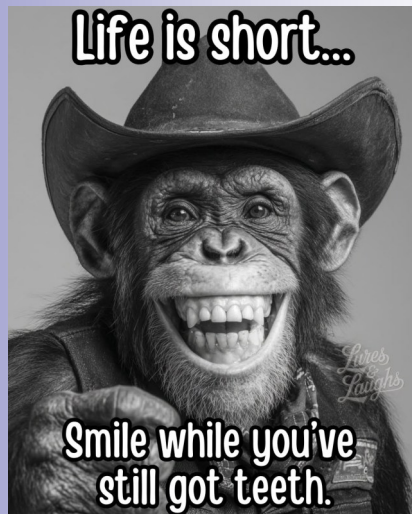
Nov. 2, Timberline Lodge
Nov. 11 Veterans Day Parade
Dec 6 Christmas Party The View Tap & Grill
Jan 1, 2026 Social Night—The Gibbs
Feb 20, 2026 Grab Feed, The Cheney's

Portland Raceway Pro-Drive

Three couples from HDCC attended the Portland Raceway Pro-drive. The Kunzman's the Markers and the Zumwalts all attended the event.



On the lighter side.





Shaquille O' Neal's Stretch Corvette

Shaq's Corvette is a Z06 that has been lengthen 20 inches. Shaq at 7'1" and 325 lbs. is a lot of human to stuff into a Corvette. No figures made public as to the cost but the high end price of a Z06 is \$175,000.00 so let your imagination figure out the price of this car.

What is the most expensive Corvette?

The most expensive Corvette ever sold is the 1957 Chevrolet Corvette SS race car (Project XP-64), which sold for over \$7.7 million at an RM Sotheby's auction in early 2025. This record-breaking sale surpassed the previous record held by a rare 1967 L88 Corvette.





Too good to not share 🍌

- 1. When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.**
 - 2. To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.**
 - 3. Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9:00 pm is the new midnight.**
 - 4. It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.**
 - 5. The older I get, the earlier it gets late.**
 - 6. When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.**
 - 7. I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.**
 - 8. I had my patience tested. I'm negative.**
 - 9. Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.**
 - 10. If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"**
 - 11. When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing," it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.**
 - 12. I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.**
 - 13. I run like the winded.**
 - 14. I hate when a couple argues in public, and I missed the beginning and don't know whose side I'm on.**
 - 15. When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"**
 - 16. When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on an aluminum can stuffed with celery?**
 - 17. I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.**
 - 18. When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "east."**
 - 19. Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you right out.**
 - 20. Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops.**
 - 21. My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.**
- Which one is YOUR favorite?**



10 Fun Facts About The Chevrolet Corvette

1. Haley Earl, the designer of the Corvette, initially designed his roadster under the name "Project Opel." The original target price point was a mere \$2,000.
2. There's a bit of resemblance between early Corvettes and the Jaguar XK120 due to Haley Earl drawing some inspiration from the classic Jaguar.
3. The Corvette has been produced in three different cities: Flint, Bowling Green, and St. Louis. ([More about where Corvettes live here.](#))
4. The first Corvette retailed for \$3,513 in 1953. Adjusted for inflation, that's an affordable \$31,608!
5. Myron Scott, who worked as a photographer for Chevrolet, named the Corvette after a small warship of the same designation. (See some classic Corvette ads [in this post.](#))
6. The Corvette is the only vehicle to ever offer a legitimate "wrap-around" windshield.
7. The original Corvette logo featured the classic checkered flag crossed with the American flag. However, when designers learned that using the stars and stripes on a commercial product was illegal, the logo was changed to the traditional bow-tie emblem and a fleur de lis.
8. The Corvette has been used as the pace car of the Indianapolis 500 thirteen times, more than any other vehicle!
9. You might be surprised to learn that the 1968 LT-2 Corvette prototype is the fastest in history, completing the quarter-mile in 10.86 seconds and going 0-60 in 2.8 seconds. Though the 2009 ZR1 came close with a quarter-mile at 11.4 seconds, the old prototype still reigns supreme.
10. The original 1953 Corvette offered only 2 options—a heater for \$91 and an AM radio for \$145. A Corvette with all the trimmings would set you back a total of \$3,749.



It's Not A Corvette but.....

Pictured is Tom Gray and his "new" ride. It is a 37 Ford with a 307 Chevy engine, a 200 4R tranny four speed with overdrive. Tom say it has manual steering and rumbles nicely. "I hand an extra bay in the garage when insanity struct me.".

For Sale at Bend Chevy



2026

Z06 2LZ

\$147,130.00

Vehicle is in transit



1999

Corvette Convertible

53,773 Miles

\$18991.00



GM recalls over 23,000 Chevy Corvettes — after several spontaneously burst into flames

Several Chevrolet Corvettes have spontaneously burst into flames — prompting General Motors to recall more than 23,000 of the iconic sports cars over a refueling defect that can ignite spilled fuel.

The recall covers certain Corvette Z06 and ZR1 models from the years 2023 until 2026, some of which cost more than \$100,000.

The affected cars are equipped with a left-side radiator and cooling fan positioned below the filler area — hardware that can blow leaked gasoline onto hot components and spark a fire, [according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#).

GM reported at least four fires linked to the issue. Investigators said faulty station pumps that fail to shut off automatically appear to have contributed to two of the incidents. One blaze drew national attention in June when owner Shawn Conner posted video of his 2024 Corvette igniting while he fueled up. The car was destroyed within minutes, the Wall Street Journal reported.

“Anybody have any experience, or ever heard of anything like this before?” Conner asked a Facebook group of Corvette enthusiasts. Car exploded while pumping gas. I have an idea, but would love to hear what everyone else thinks.”

An employee at GM flagged social-media posts showing Corvettes erupting at fuel pumps, including a roundup that listed multiple fires within a 30-day span.

Days later, a GM-owned Corvette test car also burned, according to a company report.

Submitted by Dee Ginter



SEMA-Built Voodoo Corvette C8 Heads to Carlisle Auction After Award-Winning Run

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One off [Chevrolet Corvette C8](#) that has turned heads across the automotive world is now headed for the auction stage. Known internationally as “Voodoo,” the 2022 Corvette Stingray 1LT has earned a reputation as one of the most radical builds of its kind, combining extreme engineering with show-stopping presentation.

The car, Lot #199, began life as a factory Corvette powered by a 6.2-liter V8 and paired with an eight-speed automatic transmission. From there, builders spent more than 1,500 hours transforming it into a Liberty Walk widebody showpiece, complete with twin turbochargers, a methanol injection system, and Dodson Stage 2 clutches. Tuning was handled by Hughs, ensuring the C8’s performance matched its aggressive looks.

Painted in a striking purple hue with a contrasting red interior, the Corvette was not wrapped but finished with a world-class paint job designed to impress under show lights. It features an air ride suspension system painted to match and custom-fitted into the rear trunk. Inside and out, carbon fiber dominates, from the flat-bottom steering wheel and custom mats to the engine bay and a massive rear wing. The build also rides on one-off carbon fiber barrel wheels crafted by Rohana for SEMA at a cost of \$20,000, with custom exhaust and under hood LED lighting rounding out the package.

With more than \$275,000 invested into the project, the award-winning Corvette is now being offered as-is, presenting collectors and enthusiasts a rare chance to own one of the most recognizable modern restomods on the circuit.

Submitted by Dee Ginter



Lake Chelan Trip





The First General Motors Mid-Engine Car Pontiac Fiero



The early 1970s was marred by a horrific stock market crash, the energy crisis, rationing of gasoline, and the death of big-muscle factory hot rods. American auto manufacturers were forced to stop making big, powerful cars and to focus on more economical offerings. That was the original idea behind the **Pontiac Fiero**.

The Pontiac team utilized the subframe, disc brakes, and suspension from the front of the Chevy Citation and moved it to the rear of the Pontiac Fiero. They used a 1.8-liter four cylinder powertrain from the Pontiac J2000. The front suspension was lifted from the Chevy Chevette. Using all these parts from GM's bins would reduce engineering costs substantially. The budget for the new Fiero was \$300 million, or less than a third of what an average new car would cost. The wedge-like front end gave it an aggressive, sporty appearance. It had four-wheel disc brakes, something only seen on sports cars at the time. It looked a little like a Ferrari that had been shrunk in a dryer.

Engineering for the Pontiac Fiero was done by outside contractors, saving Pontiac tons on development. New construction methods saved even more by using a steel spaceframe and lightweight Enduraflex body panels. Because the body panels were plastic, they couldn't dent or rust. But if you damaged part of your car, you go to your Pontiac dealer, buy a new pre-painted part and bolt it right on.

It was the inexpensiveness of the plastic body panels that finally got the Pontiac Fiero approved for production. **The cost for the die to make a metal fender was between \$5 million and \$7 million, but to make one for a plastic fender was just \$50,000.** Meanwhile, the higher approval process had taken so long, the fuel crisis was coming to an end. Therefore, the 1.8 liter was out, and the 92-horsepower, 2.5-liter Iron Duke four cylinder was in.

Fiero, loosely translated from Italian, means proud, not fire. It would have been ironic if it had meant fire, as the Pontiac Fiero had huge problems with catching fire. The fuel-economy specced Pontiac Fiero earned an EPA-estimated 31 miles per gallon city, and 50 miles per gallon highway.

From G.M. Authority