



High Desert Corvette Club

Newsletter February 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—Roian
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

Winter continues to keep us guessing. While much of the country is buried in snow, Central Oregon has been doing its own thing—with a noticeable lack of snow so far. Not that I'm complaining too loudly... although a few of us wouldn't mind firing up the snowmobiles at least once this season.

One thing that did warm things up nicely was our Soup Social. Great food, great conversations, and a perfect reminder that this club is about more than just Corvettes—it's about community. Huge thanks to everyone who brought soup, sides, and smiles. No one left hungry, that's for sure.

I also want to give a special shout-out to those brave souls who made it to the business meeting despite the icy conditions. Navigating slick roads to support the club doesn't go unnoticed, and we truly appreciate the commitment. Your dedication helps keep HDCC rolling strong, no matter the weather.

Looking ahead, a reminder that club elections are coming up in February. We have an open Sergeant at Arms elected position, as well as an open Activities Coordinator role (not an elected position). For the Executive Board elected positions, please let Dee Ginter (readthepaw@gmail.com) know by January 31st.

The Activities Coordinator is a fun and important position that helps shape our drives, social events, and overall club experience. The roles and responsibilities for this position have changed from what's listed on the website, and the expected time commitment has dramatically decreased. If you enjoy planning, organizing, or just helping bring people together, please consider stepping up. Feel free to give me a call or email if you'd like to learn more—503-793-1113 or ormarker@gmail.com.

We're also excited to share that the COHD Car Show has been finalized. More information is available on the club website, and a detailed flyer will be coming out shortly with all the event information. This is always a highlight of our year, and we're looking forward to another great showing.

We also have our End-of-Year Party coming up on March 28th. We've got some fun and exciting things planned, and it's shaping up to be a great way to celebrate another fantastic year with the club. At this time, however, only three households have signed up. I have a meeting with the venue next week and will be finalizing costs and the theme shortly. That said, we won't be able to move forward with the party if participation remains this low—especially considering we had 54 people attend the holiday party. Please take a moment to sign up if you're interested so we can make this event happen.

As always, thank you for being such an engaged and supportive group. We've got a lot to look forward to as we roll toward spring—cars, cruises, and plenty of good times ahead.

Nathon Marker
HDCC President





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February Birthdays

8 Ramona Heldago
9 Brad Clement
12 Annie Sheaffer
13 Mark Nielson
20 Scott Cheney
25 Nathan Marker
27 Terry Kingsfather

February Anniversaries

2 Scott & Ginter Foote
5 Fred & Jeannene Crowther
6 Doug & Debbie Kunzman
17 David Roth & Nancy Kraemer

Mary Zumwalt won the 50/50
jackpot drawing in the amount
of \$68.00



Five

HDCC Events

Feb 28 Social Night Crab Feed

See information below

Mar 28 Year end Banquet The View

2026
Crab FEED
PBCC

ALL YOU CAN EAT
\$65 PER PERSON

THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT FAST!
SALES END THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

TICKET SALES AND INFO
541-406-0256

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

POWELL BUTTE COMMUNITY CENTER
8404 SW REIF ROAD
POWELL BUTTE, OREGON

All fundraiser proceeds go to the continued improvements of the Powell Butte Community Center

2026 Annual Crab Feed
SATURDAY, FEB 28
CHOOSE FROM TWO SEATING TIMES
100 TO 300
4:00 TO 6:00

FRESH
Dungeness Crab
Caesar Salad
Homemade
Mac & Cheese
Cheese Biscuits

DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

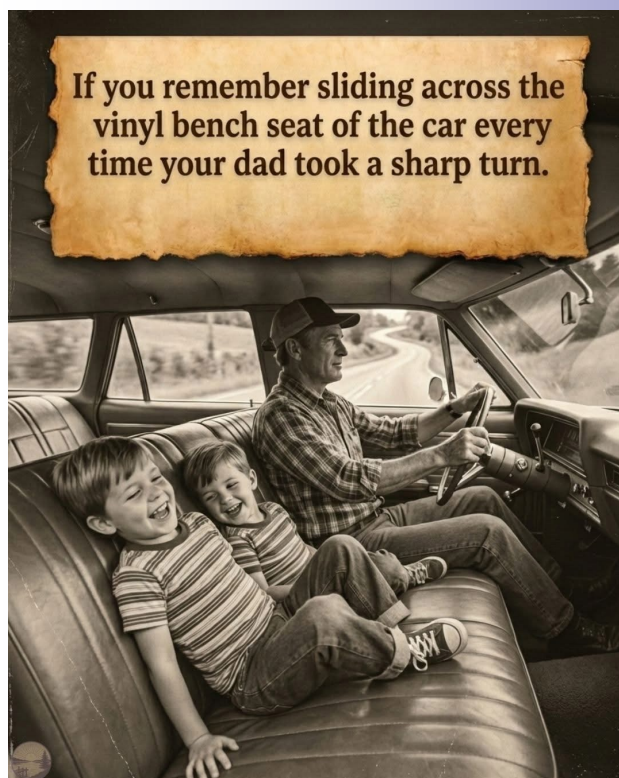
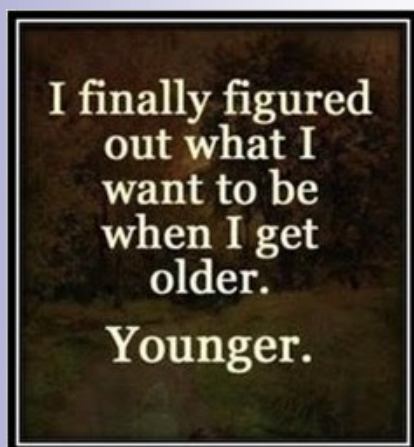
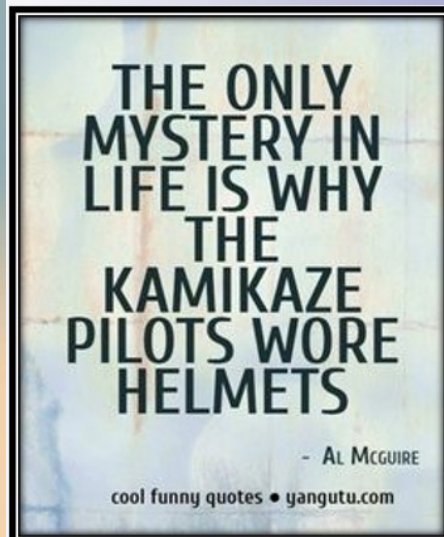
Buy Your TICKETS NOW!
(ENDS 2/19)

•ONLINE AT•
www.pb-center.com
•IN PERSON•
Saturday January 17th at
PBCC Public Dance

On the lighter side.



**THEY SAY WHEN YOU
RETIRE YOU WILL
TRAVEL MORE. WHAT
THEY DON'T TELL YOU IS
THAT IT IS TO DOCTOR'S
APPOINTMENTS.**





CORVETTE ODDS AND ENDS

C8 Corvette ZR1 Named Road & Track's 2026 Performance Car of the Year 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 .

Chevy Corvette Receive J.D. Power 2026 Canada ALG Residual Value Awards The iconic [Chevy Corvette](#) has secured a key victory in the realm of long-term value, earning a [J.D. Power 2026 Canada ALG Residual Value Award](#). The hallowed sports car topped the Midsize Premium Sporty Car segment, a recognition that forecasts its exceptional ability to retain value over time.

The two colors, Riptide Blue and Hysteria Purple will be phased out in 2026. GM had considered combining the two colors and calling it "Burple" but was overruled by common sense.

The 2026 Corvette Stars & Steel Edition Will Cost \$10,000.00 additional . The Stars & Steel Limited Edition will be offered across the entire [C8 Corvette](#) family, including the C8 [Stingray](#), C8 [Z06](#), C8 [E-Ray](#), C8 [ZRI](#), and even the new C8 [ZRIX](#). Buyers will be able to choose from either a coupe or convertible body style, though availability is restricted to the top-tier 3LT and 3LZ trim levels. (From Corvette Blogger)

Corvette Engine Build Experience Will Return In 2026, giving owners the opportunity to personally assemble the heart of their new [C8](#). General Motors last offered the program during the 2019 model year for the C7-generation [Z06](#) and [ZRI](#) .Essentially, the program will allow participants to assemble their own engine for a hands-on, factory-backed experience. Participants will be able to assemble either the [5.5L V8 LT6](#) (Z06) or twin-turbo [5.5L V8 LT7](#) (ZRI, ZRIX) engine, depending on the vehicle ordered. No price point has been established. Previously on the C7 build it cost the participant \$5000.00.

73 Years Ago Chevrolet Introduces the World to the Corvette at the 1953 GM Motorama It was January 73 years ago that the very first prototype Corvette was shown to the public during the [GM Motorama show](#) held in New York City at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. As they say, the rest is history!

Corvette Driver Arrested After Trying to Impress Date doing Donuts in a Church Parking Lot. Deputies say a man tore through an Englewood, Florida church parking lot in a Corvette, spinning donuts so aggressively that blue smoke briefly hid the car from view. So what's the problem here?

Two new colors for the 2027 Corvette. Admiral Blue and Pitch Metallic (type of gray hue)



Drive Like 'Speed Racer' In This Wild 1979 Chevy Corvette C3 Currently Up For Auction

The Mach 5 replica is currently for [sale](#) on *Hagerty*. The custom molded body panels make it difficult to spot the 1979 Corvette C3 lurking underneath the costume at first glance, but the iconic three-point front end does little to conceal the slope of the muscle car's hood and windshield. When viewed from the side, the fixed headlights are hidden between the points of its spear-like front end, but when seen straight on, the rectangular lamps are a dead giveaway.

A prominent speedster hump was added behind the driver's seat to make this Corvette C3 look just like the Mach 5 race car, along with sharklike fins that lead the eye toward the pointed rear overhang. The body is finished in white with red Mach 5 graphics along with a red *Speed Racer* logo on the deck lid. The high bid for this 1979 Chevy Corvette C3 is \$20,250, and fans have until January 9th, 2026 to make a bid on the Mach 5 replica.

Just when you think you have seen the last Corvette aberration, along comes another. To me the front end looks like an old Nebraska corn binder and the rear end looks like an attempt at a batmobile.

From GM Authority





HOW TO MAKE A QUICK \$25,000.00

This 2026 Chevrolet Corvette ZR1 Coupe is a 3LZ ZTK example finished in Red Mist Metallic Tintcoat with Carbon Flash racing stripes. It was ordered new with nearly \$48,000 worth of options for a total MSRP of \$241,373.

Its owner didn't really drive it, though. They waited until the odometer read 49 miles and then auctioned it off to the highest bidder, which turned out to be a gentleman with \$266,000 in his pockets. Fetching \$25,000 over MSRP isn't a bad haul. In fact, one might argue that the buyer walked away with somewhat of a steal.

I realize this may seem counterintuitive. After all, a premium was still paid (not to mention the buyer's fee). But if you take a gander at the new/used C8 ZR1 market right now, you won't find any cars with this exact specification at such a "decent" price. We're talking about delivery miles on a 3LZ car with the ZTK Performance Track package and the ZR1 Carbon Fiber Aero package. Had this been any color other than red, it might have fetched even more.

I'm not saying there's anything wrong with the [Red Mist Metallic](#) exterior; it works great together with the carbon fiber bits and the Carbon Flash racing stripes, but red is still a pretentious color, generally speaking.

SUBMITTED BY Christine Larson via Autoevolution



Subject: 1958 Big Brake Corvette Update Bill's Big Brake Update #5

It's been just over a year since the last update, and much has transpired with the car during the past 13 months. John Burgess thought another update would be appropriate since so many members have inquired about its status.

I finished the restoration in February of this year (2025) and had it judged in Eugene, OR by the NCRS Northwest Chapter judges from Seattle. The car had a few very minor deductions and scored a high second placed just short of "Top Flight"

Having it judged in Eugene, now qualified the car for judging at the National Convention in Las Vegas in September, so off we go to Vegas.

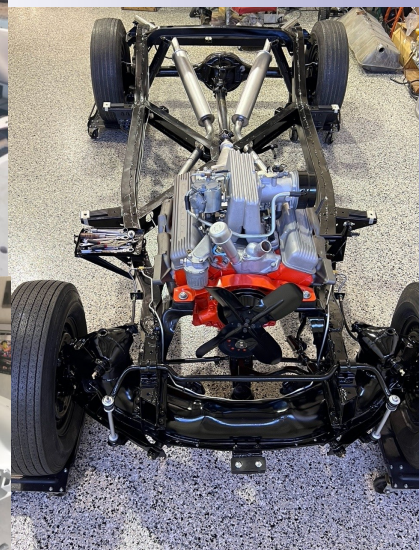
The three, 2-man teams of highly skilled national judges took 4 ½ hours to complete the judging process. All nuts, bolts, screws, and numerous different style lock washers were scrutinized for authenticity. Several hundred of these must be installed in the various positions on the car as called out in the NCRS, 385 pages, judging manual.

See the example bolt head markings and various lock washers in photo.

After four years of hunting for parts, performing the mechanical restoration of body and chassis, the "Big Brake" was finally awarded the "Top Flight" award certification. I'm glad it's done, I'm proud of it, and no it is not for sale.

Thanks to all the members that have shown an interest in this project.

Bill Scherrer





Big Brake (continued)





FTC Says GM And OnStar Were Watching and Selling Your Every Move

Today, the Federal Trade Commission slammed the brakes on General Motors' shadowy data dealings, finalizing a sweeping 20-year order against the automaker and its [OnStar](#) subsidiary. This action settles [explosive allegations](#) that GM secretly harvested and sold the intimate driving lives of millions, from your nightly commute to every hard brake, often as frequently as every three seconds. For affected owners, the betrayal arrived in the form of skyrocketing insurance bills.

The core of the government's case paints a picture of deliberate concealment. The FTC asserts GM used a "misleading enrollment process" for its OnStar Smart Driver feature. Drivers believed they were signing up for a service to "assess their driving habits," but the fine print hid a lucrative scheme. Without clear consent, GM bundled precise geolocation and driving behavior into a product it sold to data brokers and, critically, consumer reporting agencies. This data then flowed directly to insurance companies, influencing rates and coverage decisions.

FTC Chair Lina M. Khan condemned the practice, stating, "GM monitored and sold people's precise geolocation data and driver behavior information... With this action, the FTC is safeguarding Americans' privacy and protecting people from unchecked surveillance." The human cost became starkly real for drivers like Temeika Clay, who saw her car insurance premium jump 80 percent after GM shared 603 entries of her driving data from her [Chevy Camaro](#). "Never did I imagine it would be spying on us," she told [WBSTV](#).

The finalized order demands a fundamental overhaul. For five years, GM faces an absolute ban on sharing geolocation and driver behavior data with consumer reporting agencies. For the next two decades, the company must obtain "affirmative express consent" before collecting or sharing connected vehicle data, with limited exceptions for emergencies. GM must now also provide owners a way to see their collected data, demand its deletion, and disable precise location tracking. In a statement, GM said it "remains committed to protecting customer privacy, maintaining trust, and ensuring customers have a clear understanding of our practices."

This landmark case, the FTC's first targeting connected vehicle data, sends a warning to the entire auto industry. In an era where your car is a smartphone with wheels, privacy can no longer be an optional feature.

From GM Authority



Soup Social at the Gibbs



1969 Corvette Limousine for the Family Man Who Refuses to Compromise

Listed on [Facebook Marketplace](#) out of Santa Ana, California, this one-of-a-kind Corvette is priced at \$98,000. The black cabin features power-adjustable leather seats from a C4 Corvette, a Tuned Port fuel-injected engine paired with 700R4 automatic transmission with overdrive, and a premium sound system. Between the front seats sit two cupholders and a set of digital gauges. Rear passengers get fold-out color TVs from the headliner, while up front there's a fold-down screen that might help with backing up—because parallel parking this beast would be a circus act. And just when you think you have seen them all!!!





For Sale at Bend Chevrolet



1999 Corvette Convertible

53,775 Miles

\$12,900.00



2026 Corvette Z06
2LZ

\$137,130.00