

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 7

JULY 2019

2-3		It is hard to believe that after a year of intensive meet- ings and planning, our Car Show has already come and gone! But the memories will linger in our minds and in
4		hundreds of photos and videos of this event! Without any question, all that effort and yes, stress, combined to give us a final result that was beyond any of our expecta- tions!
7/8	President	Last year we were pleased when 103 Corvettes regis-
	Stan Czerniak	tered for our Car Show and afterwards, we received many
8		compliments about what a great show we put on! Many of
0	4. 1	the participants were so pleased that they encouraged us
	to do another one!	
9	Based on this response, we figured that we would do better this year, but none of us dreamed that we would exceed last year's participation by nearly 60 additional cars! And you can add another 10 cars to the total, that showed up, to join in the fun, but who did not actually register to compete in the show!!! So, all in all, we had 160 cars registered and 170 Corvettes in total at our event! This, my fellow members, makes our WVCA Corvette Car Show the largest attended Corvette show, not only in the Willamette Valley, but also in all of Oregon!! (cont p 5)	
	4 7/8 8	<ul> <li>4</li> <li>7/8</li> <li>7/8</li> <li>7/8</li> <li>President Stan Czerniak</li> <li>8</li> <li>8</li> <li>9</li> <li>8</li> <li>9</li> <li>9</li> <li>8</li> <li>10 do another one!</li> <li>Based on this response, us dreamed that we wo cars! And you can add fun, but who did not ac had 160 cars registered members, makes our ways</li> </ul>



Vice President Kent Muhle Well, we did it. The little Corvette show called Corvettes at the Carousel II, Glass on the Grass was a HUGE success with around 170 Corvettes and hundreds of spectators! If you weren't there you missed the largest gathering of America's best sports car in the state. I was standing 100 yards from the entrance gate and couldn't wipe the huge grin off my face as I directed a steady stream of high quality Corvettes onward.

If you wanted to see cars representing every generation they were there. Stock, custom, full on show cars, we had them all. The weather was beautiful, the grounds were perfect, it was an amazing day. I'm just now starting to realize what we accomplished. As you know I'm not a show kind of guy, preferring

performance over bling, and function over form, but it's not lost on me that folks that ARE show people raved about our event. Not just the beautiful setting, the great music, the variety of vendors and the number of awards, they raved about how well we ran it. Despite the near panic experienced by the registration booth, and the incredible stress put on the ballot counters, for the most part we were the only ones that noticed the hiccups.

The show committee knocked it out of the park, and put in an incredible number of hours to do so. The committee members for two years have invested much time, sweat and in many cases their own money to make our show the premier event it's become. I know all the committee members are proud of their work, and at the same time are looking forward to passing the torch onto the next group that steps up to run it. (continued on page 5)

GLASS

**Glass Sass** is published monthly; the deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of the month. Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at Capitol Auto Group, our sponsor. The address is 2855 Maple Ave NE, Salem, Oregon 97301. We welcome all Corvette enthusiasts and prospective members at any of our meetings. The Willamette Valley Corvette Association, Inc., was organized in 1968 to create an esprit-de-corps among Corvette owners; to further the general interest in Corvettes as a sports car; to provide an organization for the exchange of technical information between Corvette owners, dealers and the manufacturer; to encourage skillful handling and safe driving; to provide social gatherings of Corvette owners with a common interest: to encourage and assist members to compete in sanctioned events sponsored by WVCA and by other clubs with similar interests, and to encourage dealer/club co-operation and promote community betterment.

Visit our website for more current information regarding our Club activities and events:

http://www.willamettevalleycorvettes.com

BOARD MEMBERS and OFFICERS for 2019

President: Stan Czerniak 971-218-9951 president@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Vice President: Kent Muhle 503-680-2907 vp@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Secretary: Tom Paddock 503-409-6115 secretary@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Treasurer: Sandra Stark 503-949-9100 treasurer@willamettevallevcorvettes.com

Historian/Webmaster: Ken Arck 503-678-6182 <u>historian@willamettevalleycorvettes.com</u> OR

webmaster@willamettevalleycorvettes.com

Member-at Large: Lucky King 503-559-3470 memberatlarge@willamettevalleycorvettes.com There is no doubt about precisely when folks began racing each other in automobiles. It was the day they built the second automobile. Richard Petty

# **MEETING MINUTES**

WILLAMETTE VALLEY CORVETTE ASSOCIATION JULY 21ST 2019

## July $11^{th}$ , 2019

Meeting called to order by President Stan Czerniak at 6:29pm

Members present: 42

Guests- LD & Sue Thompson '91 Silver Gray

New Members: Bob Farrand Jr, Rick & Cornelia Pittman, Randy Thomas, Alex Becker and Terry Roach were welcomed to WVCA by all in attendance Birthdays: Dan Anderson 6th

Minutes Report: Tom Paddock Changes to previous minutes: None presented Motion to accept as published by: Bob Koenig Motion seconded by: Julie Hughes Vote by membership: unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Sandra Stark

Amount in Checking:\$14,361.54 Amount in Savings: \$3,209.13 Amount Petty Cash: \$11.00 Total All Accounts: \$17581.67 Motion to accept presented by: Annie Koenig Motion seconded by: Bob Koenig Vote by membership: unanimous

General Motors/ Mid Engine Corvette update: John Elegant

- John Elegant talked about the upcoming C8 reveal and that the radical difference may not be too popular with some people but feels that it will become more accepted as time passes. The short nose and long tail is definitely a departure from previous front engine models. Buzz Blogg offered his home for a C8 Reveal viewing party which will replace the July Jacket night. A signup sheet was passed around for the potluck event and interest was very high.
- 07.18.19 is getting close and new details are coming out all the time. For the most current information available be sure to register over at MidEngineCorvetteForum.com , which is moderated by John.

Activities Report: Kent Muhle by Stan Czerniak

Kent Muhle was not in attendance so Stan Czerniak reported that the Glass on the Grass event was a huge success with over 160 cars registered making it one of the largest all Corvette car shows

GLASS SASS

in Oregon. Bob Koenig mentioned the comfortable weather and Wayne Kreger talked about the great support we got from surrounding car clubs and that WVCA members should reciprocate and attend some of the events sponsored by these clubs. Sandy Stark mentioned to be sure to always mention getting donations from businesses that member patronize. Shane Massey mentioned that members put together nice prize baskets but that it would benefit the members more if we can coordinate baskets from outside sources. Roger Burgess and brought up some lessons learned from the vendor relations that will lead to some tweaking for the next show in two years. There are still T-Shirts leftover from both the first and the second shows so please be sure to buy any if you are in need. Stan thanked not only the members of the activities committee but the entire membership of the WVCA for stepping up when needed and helping on the day of the show. The costs of the show were discussed with a total net of \$5353.94 coming back to the club.

#### **Upcoming Activities:**

- July 12<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup>- Southern Oregon Corvettes show in Grants Pass
- July 13<sup>th</sup>- Monthly Cruise- Hosted by Shane and Andrea Massey going to Sisters Oregon for lunch. Meet at the Home Depot parking lot at 7:30am
- July 13<sup>th</sup>- Timberlane Corvette Club show in Roseburg
- July 17<sup>th</sup>- Vette Fest in Boise Idaho
- July 18<sup>th</sup>- C8 Reveal Potluck party at Buzz Blogg's home. Watch the C8 being revealed for the first time. Dinner at 7pm, reveal starts at 8pm.
- July 27<sup>th</sup>- Capitol Chevrolet Cars and Coffee- the second C&C event hopes to be better than the first one.
- August 10<sup>th</sup> Hillsboro Airport Salute to Veterans Cruise in
- August 24<sup>th</sup>- World of Speed Wilsonville Corvette Day- More information coming at the August meeting
- August 25<sup>th</sup>- WVCA / CCC joint Picnic- 2:30 at Duane & Sandra Starks home. More at the August meeting.
- September 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>- Mt Angel Oktoberfest Cruz'n Car Show- Wayne Kreger talked about this SACC event and there is a different show each day. Members can attend both days with trophies being handed out each day. \$15 registration fee per day.
- September 28<sup>th</sup>- Capitol Chevrolet Cars and Coffee 3<sup>rd</sup> event
- Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday- A&W 1215 W Washington St, Stayton Oregon Starts at 5:00pm usually around 120 cars attend so be early for best parking. Good music and A&W food too.

SACC update- Wayne Kreger

Wayne talked about the upcoming Cruz'n Car Show at the Mt Angel Oktoberfest held on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. In the past WVCA has sponsored trophies and Wayne asked the WVCA to sponsor 3 trophies at \$25 each for a total of \$75. There was some discussion as to the relevance to the expense, and Wayne talked about the supported charity for the event is the boys and girls club. Julie Hughes made a motion to approve the expense which was seconded by Lucky King and passed by those in attendance.

Glass Sass- .

Editor-In-Chief Buzz Blogg encourages all members to send him articles for the newsletter; any topic is acceptable; your first Corvette, a recent trip or even your favorite recipe. It was discussed that members should submit a brief account of their Corvette story.

Trivia- Stan Czerniak asked a several part question(s)- . The ZL1 Camaro started in what year? Buzz Blogg answered correctly 1969. The difference from the L88 was an aluminum block, answered by Wayne Kreger Apparently there were only two ordered. The ZL1 upgrade was double the cost of the L88.

50/50 Raffle

- \$ 120 total collected by Lucky King
- \$ 60.00 to the club
- \$ 30.00 drawn with Dave Schwerdt winning.
- \$ 30.00 drawn with Julie Hughes winning.

Meeting adjourned by Stan Czerniak at 7:31



# Summer Events of the past By: Paul Ennor

WOW! I'm still in awe of the success WVCA had with this year's Glass in the

Grass car show last month. It's left me virtually speechless as I try to write my column this month. I've never seen this club come together and bring an event together in the fashion that we did this year. VP Kent, President Stan, and everyone who worked so long and hard on this year's show deserve more credit than I can bestow here, so I'll leave it at that for just a minute. I doubt that this club will ever be able to top the 2019 Glass in the Grass event. It will go into the history book as our number one most successful event to-date.

Paul Ennor

Many years ago, in the early 1990's WVCA put on some events that the members worked hard to make successful though they were completely different from our 21<sup>st</sup> century events. Back in the 80's we put on several successful autocross events at the Woodburn Drag Strip.

They were all NWACC sanctioned events. These were unique autocrosses. Woodburn didn't have a lot of wide-open paved areas to lay out a traditional autocross. So, the club was forced to be creative and work with the pavement available at a drag strip. That meant a quarter mile of straight pavement and some paved pit roads that were available. It worked though. We used the drag strip clocks for timing.

That meant starting like a drag race at the "Christmas tree". Then doing a 180 turn about 200 feet down the track, returning to the pit road on the opposite lane, driving the twists and turns on the pit roads, then returning to the drag strip for a flying 1/8th mile flying finish to get a time on the clocks.

I can't even come close to a good description that does this race justice. I did find some pictures. (I always have pictures, don't I?) There's a video tape somewhere too but I can't find it. No matter, Buzz can't publish a video here anyway.

We thought these autocrosses were successful because they would draw Corvetters from all over the Northwest. A good turnout was counted as a few dozen. No match for our 2019 Show, but not too bad for the era.

















GLASS SASS

here is the Chevy Corvette most popular, both in the USA and around the world? We created an infographic by collecting data about Corvette owners shopping for replacement parts and we have an answer!

According to our data, the largest number of Corvettes are in Texas, Florida, California, and New York. However, on a per-capita basis, we found that Corvettes are quite popular in Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee, and South Carolina, among others. What's perhaps most interesting is that Corvettes are immensely popular in Florida - both on a total volume basis and on a per capita basis!

Looking outside the USA, there are a great number of Corvette owners in Brazil, Mexico, and Germany, as well as a sizable number of Corvettes in the Middle East - Iraq, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia. Who would have guessed that the Corvette - an American icon - would be popular amongst drivers in the Middle East? Not us!

This data was compiled using analytics from GMPartsCenter.net; user IP addresses were categorized by country and (in the US) by state. Then, the total number of users in each state was compared both on an absolute basis and a per-capita basis. Vette popularity in the USA was determined on both a total volume basis and a per-capita basis. Internationally, Vette ownership rankings were based on total volume. (from GM Parts Center)

(continued from cover page) The groundwork has been laid, it's just a matter of following the template and bringing some enthusiasm.

Speaking of enthusiasm, our next event is the second Capitol Cars and Coffee, A Revolutionary Happening on 7-27 at Cap Chev. If you recall, the first one back in May had 83 cars show up. 83!! Again, the venue was perfect and the weather was beautiful. Looking at the extended forecast, at this point the weather channel is calling for a 0% chance of rain and a pleasant 83 degrees. Lets see, we increased attendance at this years show over the last one by 50%, so if we have the same increase at this Cars and Coffee we will have around 120 cars. Sounds like a "Happening" to me.

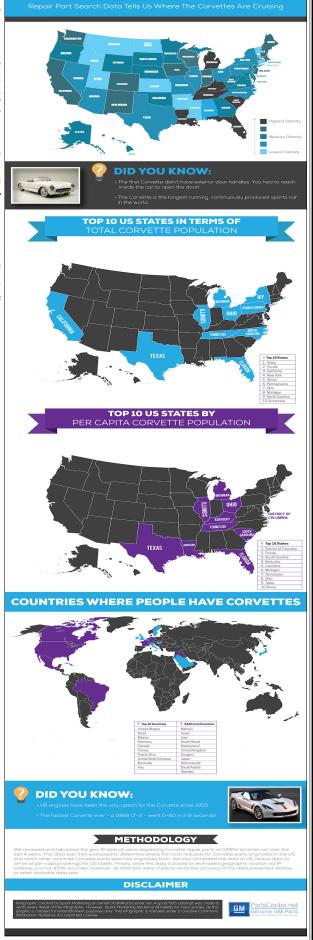
Take a look at the calendar of events on our website. There are tons of things to do with your car this summer, and if you check your email daily you may see an impromptu cruise or two pop up. Some short, some long. I understand some of our members visited a quilting convention in Sisters a few days ago? Rumor has it that Buzz ordered a custom quilted top for Rose.....

While you're online, take a look at our facebook page. Looks like Kelly and Andrea have been bitten by the show bug and are taking their beautiful C3 roadster to lots of shows. Also, congrats on buying one of the cleanest C7's around so you can BOTH show (and share cleaning chores).

Dunno when this will see print, but the next event I'm excited for is the C8 reveal party at Casa De Buzz this Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup>. History will be made that night, and we get to see it with our Corvette family. And that's the best thing about all these events. For me, the cars are the focus of course, but the people make it worth doing for me. Listening to folks talk about their love affair with the Corvette is endlessly fascinating to me, and I've gained many valuable friendships along the way.

I look forward to the rest of the summer and all the memories I'll make with my Corvette family. In keeping with the mid-engined theme, "May the Force be Behind You". Kent

#### Which States Have the MOST CORVETTES? Repair Part Search Data Tells Us Where The Corvettes Are Cruising



7/21/2019

5 5

### WAY TO GO TEAM!!!

There are so many WVCA members who made this event possible and who made it the success that it was!

It would take me many days to name them all and to describe all that they individually did and the contributions that they made. But I will try to point out a few!

Thanks to Kent for getting sponsors and providing the leadership direction and doing much of the conceptual and tireless leg work!!!

Thanks to the Car Show Committee for taking care of a thousand different details and seamlessly handling endless tasks to make this a well-oiled event (I wish I could name them all and they all performed above and beyond the call of duty)!!!

And thanks to the WVCA Membership for your donations, helping with parking, set up, counting, selling raffle tickets and taking down the tents and loading equipment for storage and a million other things that we needed to have done!

Thanks to John for volunteering to judge the specialty awards and thanks to Buzz for always being there to help us design, posters, advertisements etc.! And I could go on and on, for so many members rose to the occasion and showed a "CAN DO" and "Get 'er Done" attitude, no matter what needed to be done, or how difficult it was!!!

Finally, thanks to the WVCA membership for entering 40 cars in this event (last year we had 35) and for being such great ambassadors of good will to the hundreds of registered participants, guests and visitors! You collectively showed these individuals what a classy association that we are and your actions helped us to promote the CAR that we are so passionate about, which is one of the main mission of our association!!!

Your enthusiasm about the generations of the Corvettes, that were in attendance and gracious hospitality towards our guests, will serve our association well in to the future. We also showed our sponsors what a "together," competent and formidable association we are! This will certainly help us in the future, when we again have to come knocking on their doors for their support!

I should also like to mention that one of my proudest moments at our Car Show, was awarding the Liberty House with a check for \$500 as our charitable donation, to this very worthy organization! We have also since given them half of the money collected during our 50/50 raffle, which amounted to about \$350! In this way, the WVCA has very clearly shown it's concern for Oregon's abused and battered children and we have acted as a responsible and positive force within the community that we reside in!

Now that our Car Show is over, let's relax and start to look for ways to have fun with our CORVETTES and with each other!!! There are a bunch of Car Shows and Cruise-In's ahead, cruises to take, picnics to attend and let's not forget our own upcoming joint Cruise In with Capital Chevrolet on July 27th from 10:00am-Noon! Please, turn out and help us again to make this event a success!!!

There will be more reminders of upcoming events, coming in the days ahead, but for now let's resolve not to "waste" too many of the remaining perfect Oregon Summer days and instead commit ourselves to finding "excuses" to get out and enjoy our treasured CORVETTES and being with our fellow WVCA members!!!

Believe me, in the not too distant rainy days of Winter, we will wish we had!!!

In closing I would like to welcome our new members that were voted in during our last meeting! Your participation and ideas for club events and activities are really welcomed! And we look forward to getting to know you and having the opportunity to TALK ABOUT CORVETTES, with you!!!

Take Care, Drive Safely and Have Fun!

Best Regards, Your Association President,

Stan W. Gemiak

Stan W Czerniak

Do not forget our 2nd Cars and Coffee event at Capitol Chevrolet in Keizer on Saturday the 27th. Please come out and support us as a Club!

GLASS SASS

## Mid Engine Monthly Update: C8 Comes Out Of The Closet! (John Elegant)

Being at the C8's reveal was a "lifetime top ten," especially due to energy in the room, both coming off the C8's and everyone's individual and collective excitement. WOW, 0 to 60 in under 3.0 seconds, and under \$60,000 to start!!! All pictures are official GM's photos.



Nice that the entry car comes standard with all seasons, yet gets just a fraction under 1.0G grip. The Z-51 comes standard with the Pilot Sport 4S tires. The car "starts" with 495 HP and 470 TQ (though I believe the final numbers would change them to 500/475 when later officially its exact pricing and more is GM shared). The options list is over the top, and for those who want, or should I say NEED a front axle lift option (E60), it is available to separately order on a 2LT and a 3LT. The C8 holds two regular-sized golf bags in its rear trunk, and has a good sized front "frunk" that holds an airline-sized overhead bin suitcase and also had good additional room above it.

*Impressions?* The car's workmanship is a leap forward, especially the interior, for everywhere is an eye-catching piece of jewelry. It is long; with its +2.2" inches width over a C7 Stingray, it appears as a *wide-bodied* car.



Competitors beware, for at that price point and with its performance and its interior jumping upward, the C8 is coming to get you. Here are a bunch of links to help you learn and enjoy more.

https://media.chevrolet.com/media/us/en/chevrolet/ next-gen-corvette.html

https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/ main-forum/47725-full-press-release-2020-stingrayis-the-fastest-most-powerful-entry-corvette

https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/ me-discussion-photos-videos/48461-2020-orderingguide-available-for-c8-stingray

https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/ me-discussion-photos-videos/48389-c8-stingray-1-2 -3-lt-components

More mid-engine exotics' myths exploded. For the past year, FB and another site have been forecasting C8 doom and gloom, that it is not going to be able to be used on a trip, that the interior is cramped, "worse than a C7." More uninformed crap. The interior of the C8 has over +1" more seat travel than the C7's; the height from the seat cushion to the bottom of the coupe's roof is also increased more than 1"; lastly, the distance between the armrests (its cabin width), is also up in the C8.

The three new seats are terrific. Please do not order the Competition Seat unless you are a significant track person, though if you are, it is improved for the track capabilities, with it more-protruding side and seat bottom bolsters, harder foam, and similar. And now, the issue of "looks" (which is why some bought the C7's Comp seat), is fully resolved in the new C8 GT2 seat. It too has the gorgeous visible carbon fiber "Butterfly," has really nice bolsters (for all of us for whom the track is a not a typical weekend occurrence), and yet has a softer foam than the Comp Seat. It is the perfect world IMO for +90%of us. Again, with its great looks too! Notice the baby-ventilation holes pattern, which BTW is repeated on the C8's luggage set. Speaking of, the entire five piece C7 luggage set will fit into a C8, with room left over.

A fantastic close up video, then others all taken by Jeremy Welburn ("jagamajajaran"), then a second C8 Tadge and team reveal video from the NCM's Friday Expo/Expo event. Thank you so much JAG!!!

GLASS SASS

Corvette Mechanic Paul Koerner On Verifying C7 Magnetic Ride Control Upgrades By Keith Cornett Jul 2, 2019 ack at the end of 2017, Chevrolet introduced a software upgrade for the C7 Corvette's Magnetic Ride Control Shocks. The new calibrations improved performance and handling while also improving ride quality.

The Magnetic Ride Control Calibration upgrades are performed at your Chevrolet dealer at a cost of \$350, and most of the reviews we've read on the upgrades have been very positive.

But now that more and more C7 Corvettes are being sold on the secondary market, one of the questions we've heard more than a couple times is how to tell if the new calibrations have been installed on the Corvette.

Lucky for us, we have a friend who knows that very answer! Let's turn over the discussion to GM World Class Technician Paul Koerner of Key Chevrolet in Middletown, CT.

In this recent video posted to his Corvette Mechanic facebook page, Paul discusses the new calibrations



and shows the paperwork that is generated which includes the new part number and two separate confirmations. Paul says that anything they do via programming to a GM vehi-

cle can be validated and printed out. <u>https://</u> www.corvetteblogger.com/2019/07/02/video-corvette-mechanic-paulkoerner-on-verifying-c7-magnetic-ride-control-upgrades/

Paul also says that if you have a C7 Corvette equipped with the magnetic shocks and don't know if the new calibrations were previously installed, you can visit your local Chevrolet dealer who can scan the car's system. If the new calibrations exist on the car, the scan will show the new part number.

Hopefully, Paul has answered your questions about verifying whether a C7 Corvette has the magnetic ride control calibrations installed.

And speaking of Paul Koerner, Key Chevrolet will be hosting a C8 Corvette seminar on Sunday morning, July 21st at 9:00 am. You must RSVP to attend by emailing heather@keycars.com no later than July 12th. Paul will break down all the information released by GM on the 2020 Corvette.<u>https:www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/</u> <u>me-discussion-photos-videos/48388-c8-corvette-stingray</u> <u>-close-up-walk-around-video</u> (continued from page 7) https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/ me-discussion-photos-videos/48303-friday-c8corvette-stingray-presentation-videos



Want a bunch of C8 factoids that could be helpful for those who want to learn more, and especially for those who are thinking about option choices, here's another place to add to your fun C8 trivia facts.

https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/ me-discussion-photos-videos/48327-c8-stingrayinteresting-facts

We await GM's release of the 125 dealerships that will be receiving a C8 traveling show. By the time you read this, it should be out. As should either a separate or integrated list of such places where we expect it to be, e.g, the Pebble Beach weekend three events, Corvettes At Carlisle, C7.R Corvette Corrals, and GM confirmed, will be at the end of next month's National Corvette Caravan, e.g., NCM's 25 Anniversary Celebration.

A huge thanks to the talented renderers **fvs**, Chazcron, bdsvavars and ZoraC2 for your helping us this past 1 1/2 years with your great artistry. Were you ever spot on in your visual predictions! All of us C8 lovers say *thank you!!!* 

Thanks for considering visiting or joining <u>www.MidEngineCorvetteForum.com</u> — with over 1,000,000 page views the last six months, and now cited/linked by major auto media 100+ times for breaking C8 news — and still has C8 factual content not on any other site. Most importantly, we are having fun! Thank you. John

GLASS SASS

Happy Birthday Corvette! America's Sports Car Turns 66 Today Happy Birthday, Corvette!! By Keith Cornet Jun 30, 2019



Sixty-six years ago the first 1953 Corvettes rolled off the assembly line at a small factory in Flint, Michigan and into automotive history!

In the early 1950's, Harley Earl, GM's head of styling, envisioned a low-cost American sports car that could compete with Europe's Jaguar, MG's and Ferrari. Codenamed "Opel", the very first prototype made its debut in January 1953 at the GM Motorama show at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The great reviews and pubic acclaim for the little white roadster prompted GM to fast track the Corvette into production and the first retail models were hand assembled in the back of the Chevrolet's Customer Delivery Center in Flint, Michigan just six months later.

Chevrolet built 300 Corvettes over the course of the 1953 model year. A uniform design allowed the workers to



concentrate on putting the bodies together without being distracted by trim and equipment variations. Therefore. all 1953

Corvettes were Polo White with Sportsman Red interiors and equipped with a canvas soft-top, 6.70 x 15 whitewall tires and a Delco signal-seeking radio. Also standard was a 5,000-rpm tachometer and a counter for total engine revolutions.

Although some sports car purists took exception to the Corvette's only available transmission – the 2-speed Powerglide automatic, the Corvette was still a decent sports car with well-tuned examples running 0-60 mph in 11 seconds and having a top speed near 105 mph.

The Corvette's original base price was set at \$3,498.00. However the general public was hard pressed to get one

as most of the production was doled out to project engineers, GM executives and other high profile customers including Hollywood movie stars like John Wayne. In fact a dealer notice issued in July '53 from the Central Office proclaimed: "No dealer is in a position to accept firm orders for delivery of a Corvette in 1953."



The 1953 Corvette still remains one of the most sought after Corvette models by collectors. The oldest surviving example, VIN #003 was purchased by collector and Chevrolet dealer Dave Ressler for \$1 million in 2006.

The Chevrolet Corvette has come a long way since that first 1953 rolled off the assembly line. While we celebrate all Corvettes on this birthday, it all started 66 years ago:

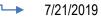


It's here – and it's relatively affordable.

That's right folks, you can snag a brand-new 2020 Chev-

rolet Corvette for less than \$60,000... assuming you get to the online pre-order form in time. At the price, the C8 includes a 450-horsepower (335-kilowatt) 6.2liter V8 – mounted in the middle, of course – yielding a 0-60 mile-per-hour (96 kilometers per hour) time of less than three seconds. That's impressive, considering the cost.Chevrolet announced the C8's sub-\$60K starting price and the availability of an online configurator (currently live on the Chevy website) at the coupe's launch today in L.A. But, the company didn't go into exact details on things like options, trims, and packages. Already we know that with the optional Z51 Performance Package, the Corvette's horsepower figure jumps to 495 (369 kW). But Chevy hasn't divulged pricing on that package just yet. (Motor1.com)

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