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JANUARY 2016



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HAPPY NEW YEAR

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

JANUARY 12, 2016 - TUESDAY - TAHOE 48 MEETING 7PM AT DENNEY'S

FEBRUARY 27, 2016 - SATURDAY - ICE BREAKER TO MONTEREY - INFO TO FOLLOW

APRIL 15-17, 2016 - GAMBLERS CLASSIC IN LAUGHLIN, NV

TAHOE 48 - SEPTEMBER 8 - 11, 2016



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



Myself – Get some of this extra weight off and try to keep it off.

My Corvette – Get it cleaned out and try to keep it clean.

Myself – Exercise more and try to stay fit.

My Corvette – Exercise it more and try to NOT get a ticket.

Myself – Try to enjoy life more this year.

My Corvette – Try to attend more Club activities this year

Myself – Try to appreciate others more.

My Corvette – Try to appreciate other Corvettes,

even though yours is “nicer”

Myself – Be friendlier to others.

My Corvette – SAVE THE WAVE!



“I will not eat, or smoke in my car.”

“I will not text while driving.”

“I will keep my tires properly inflated.”

“I will change my oil every 5000 miles.”

“I will put together a roadside survival kit.”

FIBERGLASS FOREVER



CORVETTES OF FRESNO, INC

Is a non-profit organization formed by those owners who are proud to drive America's only true sports car
THE CORVETTE

Our club meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Yosemite Falls Cafe 4020 North Cedar Between Dakota & Ashlan on the East side of Cedar

If you are an interested Corvette owner, we invite you to attend.

The one time initiation fee is \$30.00 and covers the cost of your Corvettes of Fresno window sticker, membership directory, club by-laws, nametag and many other goodies.

The annual dues are \$95.00 per year per couple, or \$77.00 per year per individual.

COF BOARD MEETING NOTICE

CORVETTES OF FRESNO BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY ON SHAW NEAR CEDAR AVE START TIME IS 6:30 PM EVERYONE IS WELCOME

1965 TRIVIA



The first major tire size change in Corvette history occurred in 1965. Tire size changed from 6.70x15 to 7.75x15

While the 427 was developed first, the 396 went into the Corvette, Chevrolet, and Chevelle in 1965 due to a GM policy restricting them to less than 400 cubic inches.

The 1965 396ci 425hp engine option lasted only one year.

1965 was the first year to have two separate hoods - the smooth small block hood and the big block hood with a "power bulge."

CORVETTES OF FRESNO, INC 2016 OFFICERS

President: Bert Sherman
E-mail: president@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-439-9699

Vice Pres.: Chuck Feccia
E-mail: events@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-259-8501

Secretary: Nancy Teixeira
E-mail: secretary@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-449-1505

Treasurer: Gerri Ware
E-mail: treasurer@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-871-3902

Membership: Clay Mumby
E-mail: membership@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 503-507-3059

Webmaster: Chris Campbell
E-mail: webmaster@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-289-8054

Newsletter: Jim Agar
E-mail: newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-593-1234

WSCC Representative: Allen Teixeira
E-mail: representative@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-449-1505

Sunshine: Ruth Looney
E-mail: sunshine@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-288-2272

(559) 291-7711 At Shaw and Freeway 168 in Clovis
www.hedrickschevrolet.com

FIBERGLASS FOREVER IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION.

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES NO LATER THAN THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH VIA EMAIL TO:

newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com



THE PRESIDENT'S EXHAUST



Hi everyone,

The new year is upon us. I hope the spirit of the holiday season warmed your hearts, as it did mine.

First of all, I'd like to thank those who encouraged and supported me in running for this position. I am looking forward to, and will do my best in working with the board and membership, helping to make this year a rewarding experience for all.

As tradition dictates, our Christmas party replaced our December general meeting. Our thanks to event host Sharon Minnich (with help from Larry and Liz) for an enjoyable evening of camaraderie, good food and entertainment. Good job.

Congratulations to Alan Texiera, a long over due recipient of the Member of the Year Award for 2015. Alan has put in countless hours of time and effort, without recognition, in helping to make this organization stronger and better.

Our next big event, hosted by Steve Profera on February 27, will be our 24th annual Ice Breaker in Monterey. Steve calls it a semi mystery run (sssh, a secret). We have always had a big turnout for this event, so I hope you are all making reservations.

Just after our January meeting, Clay will host a roundtable discussion on coming events for 2016. Remember we are a social club, so put on your thinking caps and attend. Your input is needed and appreciated.

See you at our January meeting,

Bert Sherman



CLAY'S MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Membership

Clay reported that as of the 2016 Calendar Year COF has 133 members and 81 cars.



Members & Guests

There was no December General meeting held.

Nametag drawing

Next months drawing will be for \$10.00


Remember to wear your nametag at the meeting for a chance to win.



**CLAY MUMBY
MEMBERSHIP**

Club Directories and Updates

The 2016 electronic copy of the club membership directory is available online at www.corvettesoffresno.com (contact Chris Campbell for the new access info)




JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

DON & DONNA ZAPATA 29 - ALLEN & NANCY TEIXEIRA 31

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

**PAM FORRESTER 3 - BOB REINKE 3 - LAN MUMBY 6
BRUCE LOONEY 7 - MARGARET RIPPLINGER 9
SHERRY BEATIE 10 - NANCY TEIXEIRA 15
CECE KARLIE 17 - JEANNIE DEHMEL 20
KERRY DEHMEL 21 - JACKEY CHRISTANI 23
DONNA ZAPATA 25 - LAWRENCE COELHO 26
JIM KOZERA 27 - JANE RODRIQUEZ 27**



**50/25/25 DRAWING
WINNERS**

NO DECEMBER MEETING



CONGRATULATIONS!



**ALLEN TEIXEIRA WAS THE RECIPIANT OF
CORVETTES OF FRESNO'S MEMBER OF THE YEAR
AWARD FOR 2015**

**ALLEN HAS PUT IN COUNTLESS HOURS OF TIME &
EFFORT TO HELP MAKE THIS ORGANIZATION
BETTER & STRONGER**

**ALLEN SERVES AS OUR WSCC REPRESENTATIVE,
TAHOE CHAIRMAN, AS WELL AS PUTTING THE
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY TOGETHER.**

CONGRATULATIONS ALLEN!!



CHUCK'S 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS PAGE



JANUARY 5, 2016 TUESDAY - BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM AT THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY ON SHAW NEAR CEDAR AVE

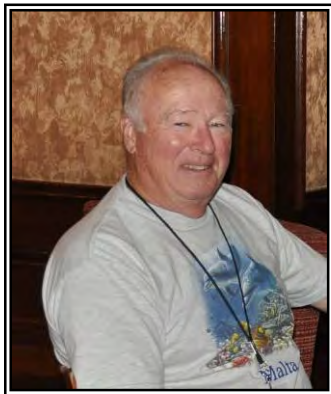
JANUARY 12, 2016 TUESDAY - TAHOE 48 - MEETING 7PM AT DENNEY'S - HERNDON AND BLACKSTONE

JANUARY 19, 2016 - TUESDAY - GENERAL MEETING 7:00 PM AT YOSEMITE FALLS CAFE LOCATED AT 4020 N. CEDAR IN GRANITE PARK

FEBRUARY 27, 2016 - SATURDAY - ICE BREAKER TO MONTEREY - INFO TO FOLLOW

APRIL 15-17, 2016 - GAMBLERS CLASSIC IN LAUGHLIN, NV - FLYER IN NEWSLETTER & WEB

JUNE 3-5, 2016 - MONTEREY COAST CORVETTE CRUISE - FLYER IN NEWSLETTER & WEB



**CHUCK FECCIA
VP ACTIVITIES**

TAHOE 48 MEETING

TAHOE 48 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7:00PM
TUESDAY JAN 12, 2016 AT DENNY'S ON THE CORNER OF
BLACKSTONE & HERNDON

WSCC

The next meeting and Banquet is January 16 in Sacramento. He said he received the minutes from the last meeting and there was discussion about who will chair the convention and if they should have it every other year and also think about hiring an event coordinator.

PLAN A RUN

TAKE US TO YOUR FAVORITE PLACE

TAHOE 48 - SEPTEMBER 8 - 11, 2016



COF CHARITIES GIVE AWAY

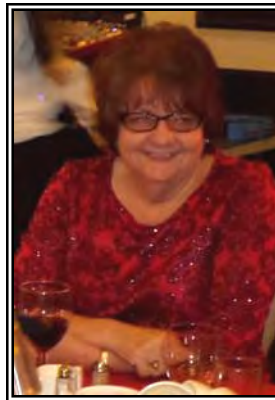


**ON BEHALF OF CORVETTES OF FRESNO, ALLEN TEIXEIRA
& CLAY MUMBY PRESENT OUR 2015 CHARITIES A CHECK FOR \$500.00**

**HINDS HOSPICE - MARJAREE MASON CENTER
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE**



CHRISTMAS PARTY





CHRISTMAS PARTY





Corvette Hall of Fame



Bob Bondurant 2016

Bob was one of the early pioneers of Corvette racers where he dominated on the West Coast. In 1959, he went 18-20 wins in SCCA B Production and won the West Coast Championship in his 1957 Corvette. Between 1960-1963, Bob won 30-32 races driving a 1959 Corvette and then a 1963 Z06. In 1967, he and Dick Guldstrand were leading the GT Class at Le Mans in a stock 1967 L88 Corvette before retiring with 9 hours to go.



Following a major accident that put his racing career on a brief hold, Bob opened the Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving where he taught the art of driving fast to celebrities, enthusiasts and other drivers. Since then, over 500,000 students have graduated from the Bondurant School.

“Like most racers, I started on ground zero. I am an original California hot-rodder turned WHITE HOT when I started winning everything in my Corvettes,” said Bondurant. “My Corvette race record reflects winning National Corvette Driver of the Year and the big launch pad with Carroll Shelby. I went on to win Le Mans, was the winningest driver on the American team, the first and only one to win the World Manufacturer’s Championship, and lived my dream to be a Formula One driver and work for another legend, Enzo Ferrari. Being inducted into the Corvette Hall of Fame is my moment to honor and express my humble appreciation to the #51 and both #614 Corvettes that whispered to me after each win: ‘It’s your destiny to be a champion, now go live your dream’ . . . and I did.”

We're Back! April 15 – 17th 2016

19th Gambler's Classic is on!



**FOR MORE INFO &
REGISTRATION FORMS
FOR THESE RUNS
CONTACT**

**ALLEN TEIXEIRA
teixeira2k@att.net**

OR

**JIM AGAR
jimagar14@gmail.com**



The host hotel for the 19th Gambler's Classic presented by Corvettes of Bakersfield is again Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort and Casino in Laughlin Nevada. The hotel is right on the banks of the beautiful Colorado River.

The Riverside Resort is offering Gambler's Classic participants a very special rate of \$35.00 week night (Thursday) and \$55.00 weekend rates (Friday and Saturday) for a standard room. Upgrades are available at an additional cost, call hotel for details. We will have a "fenced in secured" parking lot for all participants vehicles.

Three hundred rooms at The Riverside have been blocked for this event and will be held until 30 days before the event. We encourage you to make your reservations early, we expect a full house.

For reservations please call The Riverside at 800 227 3849 and reference "C/GCCOB to get the special rate.

Any questions please feel free to call Bob Vella @ 661 809 7387.

2016 Monterey Coast Corvette Cruise

June 3, 4, and 5

Hosted by Monterey Peninsula Corvette Club

It's time to register for the 2016 Monterey Coast Corvette Cruise Event. Prepare yourselves for a fun packed weekend on California's beautiful Monterey peninsula. For those who have participated in prior years, we hope you decide to join us in 2016. For those of you presently "scoping out upcoming events", this event will be all you could hope for. Whichever category you fall into, old or new, spread the word, register, then set back and relax. This is by far one of the best events in the state.

Some of our events over-lap so you participate in those you like, skip the others, or you can send your significant other one way and you go the other. Whatever works for you works for us! We have two goals. One is to make sure our event participants have a wonderful weekend. The second goal is to raise money for The Food Bank of Monterey County, a well deserving organization in the county providing food for individuals and families in need. To date we have raised over \$20K to support their efforts, which equates to over \$140K when combined with other generous partnerships they have built. That makes this weekend a WIN-WIN for everyone!

If you have questions, call Katie Ruskell, Event Coordinator, at 831.624.9018 or email her at cypresspainting@sbcglobal.net. During the event, an MPCC member will be available in our hospitality suite everyday to assist you.

Embassy Suites Lodging ... Single/DbI Occupancy \$179; Triple Occupancy \$199; Quad Occupancy \$219, plus taxes & \$5 per day parking

Arrangements have been made with Embassy Suites to provide rooms for our event participants at significantly reduced summer rates. Although the event is limited to the first 100 registrants, we have arranged for only 75 rooms to be set aside as some participants stay with family, friends, or at other pre-arranged lodging. If you plan on staying at Embassy Suites, book your room as soon as you receive the event group code. Rooms go fast! Reserved rooms include a mixture of single, double, triple, and quad availability with double or king beds. We continually monitor the room block to insure other groups do not infringe on rooms set aside for our event participants. Embassy Suites has graciously agreed to extend the room rates for two days before the event and two days after the event for those of you planning an extended stay. Visit Embassy Suites online to see other hotel accommodations.

GM to Invest \$44 Million and Create 36 New Jobs at the Corvette Assembly Plant

Here we grow again!

The latest news coming from General Motors is that Corvette Z06 sales are going so well (accounting for nearly a third of all Corvette sales) that the company will be expanding the Performance Build Center located inside the Bowling Green Assembly Plant.



According to a press release issued today, the PBC expansion will cost \$44 million and will create 36 new jobs.

This investment comes on top of the already committed \$439 million for a new paint shop and “facility upgrades” that was announced in May 2015:

“Coupled with the investment, for \$439 million for a new paint shop and facility upgrades announced in May, GM has committed \$483 million to Bowling Green this year alone,” said plant manager Kai Spande. “These significant investments indicate the company’s confidence in Bowling Green, the Performance Build Center and our skilled workforce.”

The Performance Build Center is where technicians hand-assemble the Corvette Z06’s LT4 Supercharged V8 engine. Customers can also assemble their own Z06 engines through the “Build Your Engine Program” which charges an additional fee of \$5,000 for the experience.

The expansion of the Performance Build Center comes nearly three years after GM announced the facility was being moved from Wixom, Michigan to the Bowling Green Assembly Plant. GM spent \$3.5 million for the move which created 30 new jobs at the plant.

While this is great news for the Bowling Green Assembly Plant, it’s still our contention that Chevy is expanding the plant’s capacity to produce the rumored mid-engine Corvette known as the Zora or ZR1 and now they will have the space and resources to hand assemble those engines as well.

Construction on the expanded Performance Build Center is expected to start in January 2016.

Corvette Museum's Motorsports Park Could be Heading for a 2016 Jury Trial Over Noise Dispute

The National Corvette Museum Motorsports Park's noisy legal troubles could go on until fall of 2016, but apparently use of the track will be able to go on in the meantime, too.

In a 10-page order released Friday, Warren Circuit Judge John Grise denied a request for a temporary restraining order by nearby residents of the park asking for the park to be shut down temporarily because of the noise the vehicles create. Grise said instead he wants a more permanent solution to the noise problem to be reached in a jury trial that would be held in the fall of 2016.



“The primary job of this Court is to complete a thorough and fair final adjudication of the dispute, rather than a quick and premature one,” Grise wrote in his order.

The judge said the residents can get money damages for the noise at trial and therefore aren't entitled to a temporary restraining order.

The attorney who represents the Clark Circle residents , Chris Davenport, said his clients are in a “catch 22” situation because to show noise pollution at their homes, noise has to be there to measure and quantify.

“That doesn't bring them quiet,” Davenport added.

Meanwhile, the NCM is still trying to develop a permanent way to reduce the noise levels, according to Charles E. “Buzz” English Jr., the attorney who represents them.

“We want to do this the right way,” English said. “We are in the process of considering all of our options. We know the neighbors have expressed frustration.”

Apparently, more details about the trial was discussed during an attorney scheduling conference set by Judge Grise Dec. 14 at 9 a.m.

Also, in another legal matter, the NCM will be in another court on Thursday at 9 a.m. with Warren District Judge John Brown, who will hear its appeal of the \$100-a-day fine set by the Warren code enforcement board because the park doesn't have a certificate of occupancy.



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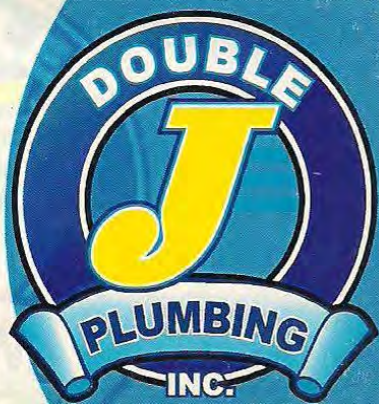
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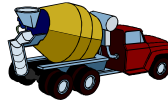
Joe Gonzalez
President/Owner

Phone (559) 226-4600
Fax (559) 226-7205

2219 N. Grantland Ave.
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Man Owns His Dream Corvette for One Hour Before Being Smashed by SUV

Well, at least he didn't have to worry for long about getting that dreaded first scratch on his Corvette.

That's about the only bright spot we can find for a Sandusky, Ohio man who had saved up for several years to buy his dream car...only to see it smashed by an SUV less than 60 minutes later!

David Wilhelm told Cleveland 19 News that he had bought his pride and joy, a very sharp triple black C6 Corvette Grand Sport convertible, on Monday afternoon. Less than an hour later, around 4 p.m., the driver of a Ford SUV T-boned Wilhelm's Corvette, sending it careening into a utility pole at the corner of Hancock and East Monroe streets in Sandusky.



Now pretty much the entire front end of the Corvette was damaged, including the fenders, hood, and bumper, and Wilhelm's once dream car is looking more like a nightmare.

Oh, there is one more bright spot we could find – at least no one was injured in the crash.

The Ford driver, meanwhile, was cited for running a red light.

Pennsylvania Man Gets the Car and the Girl at the National Corvette Museum

Well, this lucky fellow got the Corvette – AND the girl!

Mike Basile of the Philadelphia area had been dating Stacy Sulima for eight years but kept putting her off when it came time for marriage. Their running joke was that they were in “penalty time.”

Explained Mike: “We had been dating for seven years and Stacy was like, ‘now I’m eligible’ but I told her no, it’s like soccer. You don’t know when penalty time is going to end.”



That penalty time finally came to an end a few days ago in the perfect place for a pair of Corvette lovers – the National Corvette Museum.

That's where Mike went to pick up his gorgeous 2016 Velocity Yellow Z06 convertible (complete with stinger hood) that he purchased from Kerbeck Corvette and had it delivered through the Museum's R8C delivery program.

"When I figured out when the delivery date was going to be then I made the decision that it would be the time," Mike said.

After posing for photos next to their new car on the Museum's Corvette Boulevard, the bride was still in the dark until delivery host Jonathon Tabor hollered out that penalty time is up.

Mike drops to his knees, asks Stacy if she will marry him, and the rest is history.

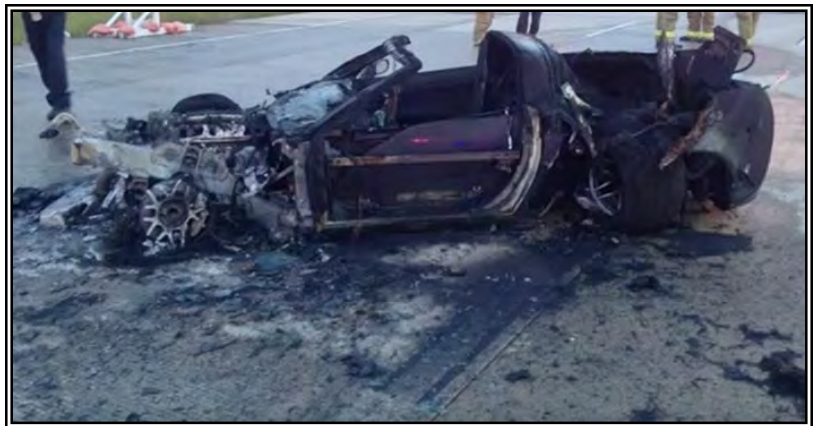
"Apparently penalty time is one year and three days!" Stacy said with a laugh.

By the way, the new Z06 will be the third Corvette for the couple. Mike has a 2003 with 289,000 miles on it (we'd say he's earned a new one!) and Stacy has a 1969 that needs a little work, she says. They're members of the Skyline Drive Corvette Club.

Our best wishes to the couple, and we'll repeat what the NCM hinted: The Conference Center at the Museum makes a great place for a wedding...

Street Racing C6 Corvette Crashes at 150 MPH

When two Corvettes line-up against each other on public streets, there is so much that can go wrong. While most street races end with one winner and one loser, occasionally we get to witness what can really go wrong when cars are racing on streets that are not meant to handle that kind of speed.



Recently, we came across this video showing two C6 Corvettes racing on a highway. After the one-two-three, both Corvettes floor it and soon they are traveling at least 150 mph.

But there is a small rise on the highway these guys are racing on. The Z06 being filmed handles it okay, but the other Corvette gets squirrely after the suspension recompresses and fishtails into a concrete divider before the screen goes black.

When the video resumes, we see the aftermath photos of a reported 800 hp Corvette burning on the highway.

About the only good news we can share is that the crashed Corvette had a roll-bar and 5-point racing harnesses which protected both occupants who walked away with just scratches and a bruised ego.

Racing is serious business and as such it's always the best plan to fulfill your need for speed on the track or drag strip.

Corvette Stingray Earns Kelley Blue Book's Best Buy Award

Three years into the rejuvenated Stingray run, the Corvette continues to earn praise from unbiased sources.

Kelley Blue Book has just named the 2016 Stingray the Best Buy in the Performance Car category for the second consecutive year.



In the process, the Corvette knocked stiff competition like the Mazda MX-5 Miata and the Ford Shelby GT350 – though to a Stingray enthusiast, there is no real competition.

Says Kelley Blue Book of the latest Corvette:

“While the 2016 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray is not cheap — base price on our convertible test model starts at \$64,400 — it remains an attainable dream that can go toe-to-toe with the Porsche 911, a car costing many thousands more. With its smart styling, strong resale and all-around abilities, the Corvette Stingray remains one of the best performance cars on the road today.”

KBB praised the Stingray for its 455 horsepower V8 engine, “capable yet compliant” suspension and choice of an 8-speed automatic or 7-speed manual transmission, saying that combination helps the Stingray hold its own against much more expensive sports cars.

The “well-appointed cabin” and “spacious cargo area” also earned kudos from KBB, which said the Stingray “offers a lot of car for the money.”

In conclusion, KBB says:

“The Corvette may be a stupendously enjoyable car to drive, but its unique blend of practicality, performance, and value elevate it to the level of Kelley Blue Book Best Buy.”

KBB honors outstanding values in 12 categories, then adds an overall champ.

November 2015 Corvette Sales

It's the first of the month and with that comes the monthly sales figures from General Motors. This morning, those sales numbers from November 2015 were released and the results for Corvettes were mixed.



Chevrolet sold 1,952 Corvettes last month which was a decline of -17.9% over the same time period in 2014. For the Calendar Year to Date, sales have dropped -1.3% from 2014's 31,287 to close at 30,876.

November 2015 sales of 1,952 Corvettes marks the worst performing month in sales since the automaker released the C7 Corvette in September 2013.

Comparing November 2015's deliveries to October 2015's 2,526 Corvettes sold and we see a sales decrease of 574 cars or -22.7%.

Here's the GM Sales Report for Corvettes in November 2015:

Corvette Delivery Statistics for October 2015							
Month	Month			Months	Calendar Year-to-Date		
	2015	2014	% Change		2015	2014	% Change
November	1,952	2,378	-17.9%	Jan-Nov	30,876	31,287	-1.3%

Corvette Sales Monthly Archive:

Archived Monthly Corvette Delivery Statistics													
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2015	2,127	2,605	3,785	3,469	3,514	2,807	2,794	2,725	2,572	2,526	1,952		30,876
2014	2,261	2,438	3,480	3,514	3,328	2,723	3,060	2,679	2,467	2,959	2,378	3,552	34,839
2013	908	980	1,053	974	905	853	671	655	831	3,929	2,527	3,005	17,291
2012	629	927	1,376	1,396	1,219	1,475	987	1,210	1,351	1,167	1,104	1,291	14,132
2011	721	955	1,163	1,454	1,304	1,299	1,291	936	1,147	946	910	1,038	13,164
2010	854	624	955	1,089	1,428	1,405	1,199	1,135	1,109	1,011	836	979	12,624
2009	842	1,027	1,183	1,407	1,643	1,396	966	746	1,585	1,154	952	1,033	13,934
2008	2,015	2,071	2,692	3,190	2,904	2,082	1,870	4,242	2,318	1,170	1,093	1,324	26,971
2007	2,234	2,784	3,158	3,227	3,300	2,377	2,377	2,877	2,837	2,484	2,438	2,914	33,685
2006	2,579	3,058	3,655	3,516	3,317	2,938	2,794	2,990	3,056	2,761	2,773	3,081	36,518

For the month of November 2015, GM brands delivered 229,296 vehicles in the United States, a 2% increase compared with a year ago. Sales of Chevrolet trucks rise for the 20th consecutive month and Chevy crossovers were up 35% for the 12th consecutive month. Camaro sales were up 44% as the new 2016 models hit dealerships.

GM Is Building an 850-KW Solar Array at the Corvette Assembly Plant

We all know the C7 Corvette is a performance leader in the sports car world.

Now the light is shining – literally – on the Bowling Green, Ky., facility where the Stingray and Z06 are built.

General Motors is breaking ground this month at the Corvette assembly plant, where the largest solar installation by an automaker in Kentucky will be constructed.



The 850-kilowatt array will generate enough clean energy annually to produce about 850 Corvettes – some 1.2 million kilowatt hours of electricity each year.

“Corvette customers are passionate about their vehicles because of their design, technology and precision performance,” said Rob Threlkeld, GM global manager of renewable energy. “Offering them a product that is partially built using green energy will be another proof point that they’re driving a true supercar.”

Energy efficiency is nothing new for the Corvette, which offers the best highway rating at 29 mpg according to the Environmental Protection Agency ratings.

The new solar array in Bowling Green continues a trend for General Motors, which leads the automotive industry in solar energy use in the United States and is No. 20 on the list of the country’s top 25 solar-powered companies, according to a report released by the Solar Energy Industries Association.

GM joined SEIA in 2013 with the goal of promoting a strong U.S. solar industry. In the past two years, the corporation has added 10 solar arrays, with more on the way. In the coming months, GM will add 2 megawatts of solar power at its facilities, including a 466-kilowatt array at its Rochester Operations facility in New York and an 800-kilowatt array at its Warren Transmission plant.

Sixteen GM facilities will have 11.4 megawatts of solar arrays that will create almost 15 million kilowatt hours of energy each year, preventing the equivalent carbon emissions of 11 million pounds of coal burned.

Milwaukee Garage Hides Two 1957 Corvettes and a 1963 Sting Ray Convertible

Imagine you're a Corvette enthusiast who has stumbled upon a barn-find 1957 Corvette. The car is stashed in a Milwaukee garage with about eight feet of junk piled on top. You say to owner, "Hey that's a '57 Vette!" and his reply is "Yeah, there's two more."



That Corvette enthusiast was a tow-truck operator named "Mike P." who made the three-car barn find discovery when he was summoned to an old garage in Milwaukee to pick up a junked pickup truck.

For years, the garage had held its secret well. Inside was the aforementioned 1957 Corvette which still had its original 283 V8 engine. The other Corvettes were another 1957 Corvette without an engine and a 1963 Corvette Convertible that was parked behind locked, but broken doors in another garage.

Mike says he mentioned to one of the family members on the property about what a great garage they had and right then it was offered for sale. The garage had been a body shop located in a residential neighborhood. Also included was an old house which also needed work. But most importantly, the contents of the garage – including the three Corvettes – was included in the sale. Mike recounts that had the Corvettes not been part of the sale, there would have been no deal for the property.

The family was able to give Mike a brief history of the cars. The 1963 Corvette was bought for the sister in the family when she turned 18. The car was involved in a fender-bender and was parked in the barn in 1973. The two 1957 Corvettes were bought at an auction in the mid-1960s and were parked in 1969 when the body shop was closed.

Mike says he found a cancelled check for the 1963 Corvette in the attic of the house. Also found was a roll of undeveloped film which cost him \$60 to develop and make prints. Some of the pictures on that roll of film included a Corvette that looked a lot like the Mako Shark II concept car.

Zora Duntov and the EX87 Corvette Mule Hit 163 MPH

It was back in December of 1955 – almost 60 years ago from today – that Zora first installed his signature “Duntov Cam” into the 1954 test Corvette called EX87 or EX87/5951, the 5951 being another engineering number that was assigned to the same car. The Corvette was then tested at GM’s Arizona Proving Grounds where it ran an astounding 163 mph!



Zora had increased the displacement of the regular 283 ci engine to 307 and with the new cam, was ready to take on the Daytona Speed Record. That same engine was pulled from EX87 and installed in a 1956 Corvette with the engineering number of 6901 and that car set a new record on the beaches of Daytona in January 1956 with a run of 150.583 mph.

One of the distinctive elements of the EX87 Mule was how Zora fabricated a special fiberglass headrest/tailfin for high speed stability. The car also had the regular windshield removed and in its place was a cut-down curved plexiglass windscreen. To help further the aerodynamics, a fiberglass tonneau covered the passenger side of the cockpit.

Today, Zora’s Mule resides in the Ken Lingenfelter collection where you can occasionally witness the car being started up or even taken for a spin. But sixty years ago almost to the date, EX87 became the Chevrolet’s first high performance Corvette.

Car and Driver Wraps Up Their Long Term Test of a 2014 Corvette Stingray

Maybe *Car and Driver* should have headlined its long-term wrap of the 2014 Stingray “Beauty and the Beast” or maybe “I love to hate you.”

Based on what we’ve seen on various forums, with many owners bragging about how great their experience has been with their first-year C7, it seems as though *Car and Driver* was just unlucky enough to get the exception, rather than the rule.



The magazine reports in its current issue that it had all kinds of problems with its Blade Silver Corvette, not the least of which was the blown engine with just 6,000 miles on the odometer. While that shouldn't have happened, we wonder how well they treated the car.

Also requiring attention at various points were the eight-inch center touch screen, a cracked windshield, two punctured rear tires, the heat/air computer, seats that didn't warm up enough to suit them, excessive tire noise, and leaking axle seals. They also whined that it took up to 12 seconds to crank ... in sub-zero temperatures.

Maybe they should just think about moving south since the problems seemed to clear up with the return of warmer weather – we have plenty of room in Georgia and Florida for more C7 Corvettes. We also think they might want to go a little easier on those burnouts since they claim the rear tires had to be replaced at 13,000 miles because of a puncture. Yeah, right, probably because the tread was worn bare from too many quick starts.

Despite all their problems with the Stingray, though, we're overjoyed to say that overall they loved the car.

“The latest Corvette is an amazing performance bargain, and it still pained us to hand back the keys,” they wrote in the recap.

Writer Don Sherman even gave the Stingray his vote for “America's best car,” calling it “a highly engaging commuter” and “a ride I'd actually stoop to buying.”

Fellow staffer Jennifer Harrington agreed, calling it “such a sweetheart” and pointing out that the fuel economy “still amazes me.”

Perhaps writer Jared Gall summed it up best for the magazine when he said: “I absolutely love this car, but I would never recommend anyone buy one. The only safe course of action is to convince GM to loan you one until it breaks.”

We're inclined to believe that *Car and Driver* just happened to get “one of “those cars” that makes people believe the warning never to buy the first year of a model change, for they write: “We've experienced little if any trouble with the later Stingrays we've driven and want to think of our test car as a first-year anomaly.”

We wish they would get a 2016 model and give it another try.

Street Racing Leads to Death of San Antonio Corvette Driver

Another case of street racing has turned deadly for a Corvette driver.

This time, it happened this morning on the North Side of San Antonio, Texas.

Police say the Corvette driver, in his late 20s to early 30s, stopped at a traffic signal next to an unidentified four-door vehicle in the 18200 block of Bulverde Road at approximately 7 a.m.



The light turned green, and both drivers revved up their engines and stomped it. That's when it turned deadly, according to San Antonio Police Department spokesman officer Douglas Greene.

Police believe the C6 Corvette coupe may have been going 60 to 75 mph when the driver lost control and slammed into a utility pole on his side of the car.

It's believed that the driver was killed instantly.

As for the other driver, police say that there are no signs that he struck the Corvette and it's unclear whether he will face any charges if identified. Had the two cars struck one another, he would likely have been charged with failure to stop and render aid.

Regardless of whether or not it was illegal, don't you think that the morally responsible thing for that driver to have done was stop and see how the Corvette driver was?

Corvette Auction Results for Mecum's Austin 2015 Sale

Mecum held their final sale of the year over the weekend in Austin, Texas and Corvettes did pretty well according to Vette N Vette's Marshall Fancher who was on the scene for us. Marshall reports that of the 53 Corvettes that crossed the block, 32 found new owners for a very respectable 60% sell-through rate.



Two Corvettes tied for the title as top Corvette sale of the auction and what's interesting is that they couldn't be more different from each other. A bright Orange 1959 Corvette restomod with a supercharged LS2 V8 sold for \$130,000 as did a totally restored Sebring Silver 1963 Corvette Sting Ray Split Window Coupe with a matching numbers 327/360 hp fuel injected engine.

Rounding out the top five was a 1964 Corvette restomod which sold for \$102,000, another 1963 Corvette Coupe fuelie which sold for \$95,000 and number five was a NCRS Top Flight 1965 Corvette Convertible with the first year 396/427 big block.

Some good deals at Mecum included a 1971 Corvette selling for \$11,500 and a Ruby Red 1993 Corvette 40th Anniversary Edition which sold for \$5,500.

Here's the sold and high bid list of Corvettes from the Mecum Austin 2015 Sale:

Lot	Year	Body, Motor, Trans, Misc	Sold	Bid
<u>S136</u>	1959	Corvette Resto Mod Supercharged LS2, C4 Suspension	\$130,000	\$0
<u>S112.1</u>	1963	Corvette Split Window Coupe 327/360 HP, Body-Off Restoration	\$130,000	\$0
<u>S178</u>	1964	Corvette Convertible 376/525 HP, 5-Speed	\$102,500	\$0
<u>S35</u>	1963	Corvette Split Window Coupe 327/360 HP, 4-Speed	\$95,000	\$0
<u>S34.1</u>	1965	Corvette Convertible 396/425 HP, 4-Speed, NCRS Top Flight	\$91,000	\$0
<u>S104</u>	2011	Corvette ZR1 Hero Edition Lingenfelter LS9/710 HP	\$90,000	\$0
<u>F213</u>	1963	Corvette Split Window Coupe 327/300 HP, Factory Air	\$82,500	\$0
<u>S36</u>	1963	Corvette Split Window Coupe 327/300 HP, 4-Speed	\$80,000	\$0
<u>S114.1</u>	1965	Corvette Coupe NCRS Top Flight	\$67,500	\$0
<u>S170</u>	1962	Corvette Convertible From the Bill Mitchell Collection	\$67,000	\$0
<u>S173</u>	1967	Corvette Convertible 327/350 HP, 4-Speed	\$65,000	\$0
<u>S105</u>	1967	Corvette Coupe 327/350 HP, 4-Speed, Factory Air	\$60,000	\$0
<u>S118</u>	1964	Corvette Convertible 327/365 HP, 4-Speed	\$45,500	\$0
<u>S155.1</u>	1960	Corvette Convertible 283/230 HP, 4-Speed	\$45,000	\$0
<u>S35.1</u>	1971	Corvette Convertible 454/365 HP, Automatic	\$43,000	\$0
<u>S42</u>	1968	Corvette Coupe 427/390 HP, 4-Speed	\$42,000	\$0
<u>F170</u>	1970	Corvette Convertible 350/300 HP, Two Tops	\$24,000	\$0
<u>F235</u>	1968	Corvette Convertible 327/300 HP, 4-Speed	\$20,500	\$0
<u>F8</u>	1998	Corvette Convertible 345 HP, 6-Speed	\$14,000	\$0
<u>F154</u>	1972	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, Factory Air	\$13,000	\$0
<u>F104</u>	1978	Corvette Coupe 350/185 HP, Build Sheet	\$12,000	\$0
<u>F195</u>	1999	Corvette Coupe 5.7L, Automatic	\$12,000	\$0

<u>F222</u>	1971	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, Automatic	\$11,500	\$0
<u>S50</u>	1982	Corvette Coupe 350/200 HP, Automatic	\$11,000	\$0
<u>F184.1</u>	1982	Corvette Collector Edition 5.7/200 HP, Crossfire Injection	\$11,000	\$0
<u>F204</u>	1974	Corvette Coupe 350/195 HP, Factory Air	\$9,000	\$0
<u>F20</u>	1993	Corvette 40th Anniversary 5.7/300 HP, Automatic	\$8,000	\$0
<u>F242</u>	1980	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, Factory Air	\$7,500	\$0
<u>F29</u>	1986	Corvette Coupe Ground Effects and Spoiler	\$6,250	\$0
<u>S199</u>	1981	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, T-Tops	\$6,000	\$0
<u>F273</u>	1993	Corvette 40th Anniversary 350/300 HP, Removable Roof Panels	\$5,500	\$0
<u>S94</u>	1956	Corvette Resto Mod LS3, Corvette Correction Chassis	\$0	\$80,000
<u>S106</u>	1967	Corvette Convertible 327 CI, 4-Speed	\$0	\$47,000
<u>S179</u>	1967	Corvette Convertible 327/350 HP, Vintage Air	\$0	\$52,000
<u>S95.1</u>	1967	Corvette Coupe 327/350 HP, 4-Speed	\$0	\$50,000
<u>S28</u>	1971	Corvette Coupe 454/365 HP, 4-Speed	\$0	\$26,000
<u>S116</u>	1972	Corvette LT1 Coupe 350/255 HP, 4-Speed, Factory Air	\$0	\$39,000
<u>S132.1</u>	1972	Corvette LT1 Convertible 350/255 HP, 4-Speed	\$0	\$39,000
<u>F53</u>	1973	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, T-Tops	\$0	\$12,000
<u>F88</u>	1978	Corvette Silver Anniversary 350/185 HP, Automatic	\$0	\$15,000
<u>F109</u>	1978	Corvette Pace Car Edition 350/180 HP, T-Tops	\$0	\$12,500
<u>F245</u>	1978	Corvette Coupe 383 CI	\$0	\$8,000
<u>F9</u>	1980	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, Automatic	\$0	\$9,000
<u>F19</u>	1981	Corvette Coupe 350 CI, T-Tops	\$0	\$6,500
<u>F145</u>	1982	Corvette Coupe 350/200 HP, T-Tops	\$0	\$12,000
<u>F75.1</u>	1990	Corvette ZR1 350/375 HP, 6-Speed	\$0	\$11,000
<u>F150.1</u>	1992	Corvette ZR1 350/375 HP, One of 502	\$0	\$20,000
<u>S208</u>	1993	Corvette 40th Anniversary 5.7/300 HP, Automatic	\$0	\$6,500
<u>S163.1</u>	2002	Corvette Z06 Halltech Cold Air Intake, Borla Exhaust	\$0	\$22,000
<u>S65</u>	2007	Corvette Daytona Pace Car 6.0/400 HP, 463 Miles	\$0	\$32,500
<u>F114</u>	2008	Corvette Coupe 6.2/430 HP, 6-Speed	\$0	\$19,000
<u>S185.1</u>	2008	Corvette Coupe 6.2/430 HP, 6-Speed	\$0	\$17,500
<u>F52</u>	1982	Corvette Collector Edition		\$4,000

Mecum will be back in action in January 2016 with one of their largest sales of the year held in sunny Florida in Kissimmee. Over 3,000 vehicles are expected to be offered at Mecum's Kissimmee auction which takes place January 15-24, 2016.

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