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MAY 2017



OWNER: JOE & MARGARET GONZALEZ

### MAY EVENTS

May 6, 2017 - Saturday - Morro Bay Car Show

May 13, 2017 - Saturday - May Day's Meet and Eat Ice Cream

May 20, 2017- Saturday - Ray Appleton's Car Show

May 29, 2017 - Monday - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Vettes & Vets Car Show

**TAHOE 49 SEPTEMBER 7 - 9, 2017**



# Tahoe 49

**"THE LONGEST RUNNING ANNUAL  
CORVETTE EVENT ON THE PLANET"**

**September 7-10, 2017**

**Silver Legacy Resort Hotel & Casino - 407 N. Virginia St. Reno, Nevada**

**(COVERED SECURE PARKING ON LEVELS 7 - 8 - 9 OF THE SELF PARKING GARAGE)**

**Registration: Forms available on the website: [www.corvettesoffresno.com](http://www.corvettesoffresno.com)  
also released via e-mail - [jimagar14@gmail.com](mailto:jimagar14@gmail.com) - [teixeira2k@att.net](mailto:teixeira2k@att.net)**

**LIMITED TO THE FIRST 100 CARS**

**NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER AUGUST 15th 2017**

**How Much: \$195.00 per couple, \$125.00 singles**

**ALL REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED AFTER AUGUST 1, 2017**

**WILL BE SUBJECT TO A \$20.00 LATE FEE**

**EARLY BIRD DRAWING**

**ALL PAID REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2017 WILL BE ENTERED IN A  
DRAWING FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$100.00 CASH!**

**DUE TO CONTRACTS WITH OUR VENDORS WE CANNOT ISSUE ANY REFUNDS ON  
CANCELATIONS AFTER AUGUST 15, 2017 (No Exceptions)**

**Highlights**

**Welcome Social Thursday Night at Rum Bullions Island Bar**

**Shine & Show Friday Morning**

**Slot Tournament \$10.00p/p - Friday Afternoon**

**Catch a Rising Star Comedy Show - Friday Night (some parts may be objectionable)**

**Scenic Poker Run along the shores of Lake Tahoe ending with lunch - (extra hands \$5.00)**

**Saturday Morning & Afternoon 100% payout for low & high hand. 1 POKER HAND INCLUDED**

**Awards Dinner at Silver Legacy - Saturday Night (INCLUDED)**

**ALL TICKETS FOR RAFFLE & 50/25/25 DRAWING TO BE PURCHASED AT EVENT  
PLEASE NOTE - DRESS CODE FOR AWARDS BANQUET IS SMART CASUAL**

**[www.corvettesoffresno.com](http://www.corvettesoffresno.com) for Additional Details & Updates**

**All Net proceeds from Tahoe 49 will be donated to Charity**

**Accommodations**

**Silver Legacy Hotel & Casino: (800) 687- 8733 Use the Group Code 917CORV  
Room Rates: Thursday \$75.00 Friday & Saturday \$135.00 (plus tax & resort fee)**

**Buffet Breakfast for 2 each Day is Included!**

**(must book through group code 917CORV to get included breakfast buffet)**

**Register now so you don't miss out on the 49th Tahoe Tour**

**Register by August 14, 2017 for Room Rate Guarantee**

# 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**

## 1981 TRIVIA

**There were no optional Corvette engines in 1981.**

**The 1981 Corvette had two cooling fans to increase engine power.**

**In 1981, Corvettes were produced with two different types of paint. Lacquer was applied at the St. Louis plant, and enamel was applied at the new Bowling Green plant.**

## CORVETTES OF FRESNO, INC 2016 OFFICERS

**President:** Chuck Ware  
**E-mail:** [president@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:president@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Vice Pres.:** Dave Trauger  
**E-mail:** [events@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:events@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Secretary:** Ruth Looney  
**E-mail:** [secretary@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:secretary@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Treasurer:** Gerri Ware  
**E-mail:** [treasurer@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:treasurer@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Membership:** Robb Kochevar  
**E-mail:** [membership@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:membership@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Webmaster:** Chris Campbell  
**E-mail:** [webmaster@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:webmaster@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Newsletter:** Jim Agar  
**E-mail:** [newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com)

**WSCC Representative:** Allen Teixeira  
**E-mail:** [representative@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:representative@corvettesoffresno.com)

**Sunshine:** Betsy Lindegren  
**E-mail:** [sunshine@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:sunshine@corvettesoffresno.com)



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**FIBERGLASS FOREVER IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION.  
PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES NO LATER THAN THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH VIA EMAIL TO:  
[newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com](mailto:newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com)**





# THE PRESIDENT'S EXHAUST



**GREETINGS VETTE LOVERS!**

**MAY SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS!!** I suggest we go see them. Lots of opportunities for some scenic runs. Also lots of opportunities to eat at some new and familiar places as well!

We continue to attract new members and our club is always ready for new people who love Corvettes and who love to make new friends. I don't want to brag, (OK I'm going to brag!) but I think Corvettes of Fresno is the friendliest car club in the Valley. It is what attracted Gerri and I when we joined 10+ years ago.

Please try to attend the meeting and runs if you can. It's a great way to meet people, but most importantly its FUN!! Hopefully you didn't buy that Vette to let it just sit in the garage and collect dust

Well that's all for now. I'm going to repeat myself but let me just say if you have an idea for a run or want to put one on but are not sure how to do it, please contact any board member and we will gladly help you.

**Your President**

**Chuck Ware**





**CORVETTES OF FRESNO - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2017**



**Call to Order:** President Chuck Ware called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Board Members present: Dave Trauger, Robb Kochevar, Gerri Ware, and Ruth Looney. Jim Agar was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was shared by all.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the March 21, 2017 meeting are published in the COF newsletter. A motion to waive the reading of the March 2017 Minutes was made by Louis Biglieri and seconded by Jackie Christani. Motion approved.

A motion to accept the Minutes as printed in the March newsletter was made by Clay Mumby and seconded by Jackie Christani. Motion approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gerri Ware reported the accounts activity for March 2017, which is on file to be reviewed by members only. A Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report as read by Steve Profera and seconded by Kaye Campbell. Motion approved unanimously.

**Membership:** Robb Kochevar reported we have 65 members present including 2 guests. Guests were Lee and Cheryl Blackstone. Robb reported we now have 136 members and 92 vettes. Robb presented 3 people with new membership packets: John Rogers, Buddy and Elsa Pond. Anniversaries and Birthdays were acknowledged.

**Communication:** Jim Agar was absent

**Webmaster:** Webmaster Chris Campbell was absent.

**Activities:** Please refer to the Calendar of events in the club newsletter, or on the club web site, [www.corvettesoffresno.com](http://www.corvettesoffresno.com) for more details and up to date information. **Guests are encouraged to attend any event, come join the fun! Remember all sign up sheets are on the side table.**

**Past Events:**

**March 25, 2017:** Mystery Lunch Run chaired by Gerri and Chuck Ware. Chuck reported they had 18 cars. The stopped at Cru Winery and ate at DiCicco's in Madera.

**April 1, 2017:** Cars at the Park, Tulare, CA.

**April 8, 2017:** 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Tower Classic Car Show.

**April 11, 2017:** Tahoe 49 meeting, Denny's, Blackstone/Herndon, 7pm.

**April 14, 2017:** Madera Classic Cars. Walgreens parking lot next to Madera Fairgrounds.

**April 14, 2017:** Diane's Dinner Run, Kingsburg, chaired by Harry Bellows. Harry reported they had 18 cars and it was a nice evening. Harry has been doing this run for many years. Thanks Harry

**April 15, 2017:** Kingsburg Car Show.

**Up Coming Events:**

**April 20-22, 2017:** 20<sup>th</sup> Gambler's Classic by Corvettes of Bakersfield. Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort, Laughlin NV. Flyer on table.

**April 22, 2017:** Minarets High School Senior Project Car Show.

**April 22-26 2017** Bryce Canyon, Zion and St George Run (FULL) People are leaving on various days. Please bring name-tags. Also bring a Senior Pass for National Parks if you have one. If you don't, Jim will be taking us someplace to get one.

**May 6, 2017:** Morro Bay Car Show. Dave and Terri Cavanaugh will host a BBQ at their house for all who go over for the Car Show. Let Dave know.

**May 13, 2017:** May Day's Meet and Eat Ice Cream. Hosted by the Lindegren's and Trauger's. Superior Dairy in Hanford. Meet at Denny's at 99 and Jenson at 10am. Flyer on table.

**May 20, 2017:** Ray Appleton's Car Show at Fairgrounds. Not a lot of information available.

**May 29, 2017:** 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Vettes & Vets Car Show in Sacramento. \$30 Pre-registration includes tickets to Museum. Food, DJ with classic summer tunes, Color Guard. Registration and parking entry starts at 9 am.

**June 22-25, 2017:** Lake Tahoe Corvettes, 13<sup>th</sup> Corvettes at Lake Tahoe at Mont Bleu in Stateline NV.

**July 14-15, 2017:** Southern Oregon Corvettes, 27<sup>th</sup> Corvette Weekend at Grant's Pass, Oregon.

**Tahoe 49:** Allen reported we have about 40 registrations in and invited everyone to the next Tahoe meeting, May 9 at 7pm.

**WSSC:** Allen reported he was unable to attend the April 15 meeting. Everyone should check the Redline Magazine, which lists a lot of different runs. We are associated with them because they provide the liability insurance for the Club.

**Sunshine Report:** Betsy Lindegren reported Margaret Gonzalez' brother died unexpectedly. She sent a card. Ron Mattos was given medication for a stiff neck and due to the muscle relaxer, he fell and broke his foot and ankle. No driving for 6 weeks.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Name Tag Drawing:** Last month Jane Rodriguez' name was drawn and she was present. She received \$10. This month Celia Feccia's name was drawn and she was not present. Next month's drawing will be \$20.

**50/25/25 Raffle:** The raffle winners this month were Betsy Lindegren and Rolando Martinez. They each won \$53.

There being no further business a motion was made by Mike Schwan to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by all. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.

**Respectfully submitted by,  
Ruth Looney**



**RUTH LOONEY  
SECRETARY**



# ROBB'S MEMBERSHIP NEWS



## Membership

Robb reported that as of the 2017 Calendar Year COF has 136 members and 92 cars.

## Members & Guests

Robb Kochevar reported we have 65 members present including 2 guests Lee and Cheryl Blackstone.

## Nametag drawing

Celia Feccia's name was drawn, she was not present. Next months drawing will be for \$20.

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

## Club Directories and Updates

The 2017 electronic copy of the club membership directory is available online at [www.corvettesoffresno.com](http://www.corvettesoffresno.com) (contact Chris Campbell for the new access info)



**ROBB  
KOCHEVAR  
MEMBERSHIP**



## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

JERRY & JO ANN NAJARIAN 7

KERRY & JEANNIE DEHMEL 9 - CHUCK & JESSIE ROBB 18  
CHUCK & CELIA FECCIA 24 - JIM & LYNNE AGAR 25  
RON & PAT MATTOS 29 - ROBB & CINDY KOCHEVAR 31



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

JACK QUIGLEY 2 - MARGIE BACK 2 - RON MILLER 7 TERSA  
OCHOA 7 - JANICE SILVA 9 - JOHN KARLIE 10 MIKE SCHWAN 15  
DEBBIE DUKES 20 - DORIT BATTAGLIA 23 - RUTH LOONEY 24  
CELIA FECCIA 25 - CLAY MUMBY 27  
CAROL TRAUGER 28 - ROBB KOCHEVAR - 31



## 50/25/25 DRAWING WINNERS

BETSY LINDEGREN  
ROLANDO MARTINEZ  
EACH WON \$53.00  
CONGRATULATIONS!



## Sunshine Report



Betsy Lindegren reported Margaret Gonzalez' brother died unexpectedly. She sent a card.

Ron Mattos was given medication for a stiff neck and due to the muscle relaxer, he fell and broke his foot and ankle. No driving for 6 weeks.



## WSCC



Allen reported he was unable to attend the April 15 meeting. Everyone should check the Redline Magazine, which lists a lot of different runs.

We are associated with WSCC because they provide the liability insurance for the Club.



**CORVETTES OF FRESNO  
WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS  
LEFT-BUDDY & ELSA POND  
RIGHT- JOHN RODGERS**



# DAVE'S 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



MAY 2, 2017 - TUESDAY - BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM AT THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY ON SHAW NEAR CEDAR AVE

MAY 9, 2017 TUESDAY - TAHOE MEETING - 7PM, DENNY'S BLACKSTONE AND HERNDON

MAY 16, 2017 - TUESDAY - GENERAL MEETING 7:00 PM AT YOSEMITE FALLS CAFE LOCATED AT 4020 N. CEDAR

MAY 6, 2017: MORRO BAY CAR SHOW - DAVE AND TERRI CAVANAUGH WILL HOST A BBQ AT THEIR HOUSE FOR ALL WHO GO OVER FOR THE CAR SHOW. LET DAVE KNOW

MAY 13, 2017: MAY DAY'S MEET AND EAT ICE CREAM - HOSTED BY THE LINDEGREN'S AND TRAUGER'S. SUPERIOR DAIRY IN HANFORD. MEET AT DENNY'S AT 99 AND JENSON AT 10AM. FLYER ON TABLE.

MAY 20, 2017: RAY APPLETON'S CAR SHOW AT FAIRGROUNDS. NOT A LOT OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

MAY 29, 2017: 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VETTES & VETS CAR SHOW IN SACRAMENTO. \$30 PRE-REGISTRATION INCLUDES TICKETS TO MUSEUM. FOOD, DJ WITH CLASSIC SUMMER TUNES, COLOR GUARD. REGISTRATION AND PARKING ENTRY STARTS AT 9 AM.

JULY 14-15, 2017: SOUTHERN OREGON CORVETTES, 27<sup>TH</sup> CORVETTE WEEKEND AT GRANT'S PASS, OREGON.

JUNE 22-25, 2017: CORVETTES AT LAKE TAHOE BY LAKE TAHOE CORVETTE CLUB



DAVE TRAUGER  
VP ACTIVITIES

THE NEXT TAHOE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE MAY 9, 2017 TUESDAY 7PM DENNY'S BLACKSTONE AND HERNDON

We also would like to get a committee together to start planning Tahoe 50, so if you are interested please come to Tahoe 49 meeting in May.

PLAN A RUN!  
TAKE US TO YOUR FAVORITE PLACE  
"ALL RUNS ARE FUN"  
MEET & EATS  
DAY TRIPS  
OVERNIGHTERS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAN A RUN BUT ARE NOT QUITE SURE HOW TO PROCEED, PLEASE ASK ANY BOARD MEMBER FOR HELP.







# WINE & DINNER RUN





# SNELLING CAR SHOW

Sunday, July 9, 2017

9th ANNUAL **CAR SHOW** 10 am to 2 pm

ALL MAKES

ALL YEARS

Corvettes — Hot Rods — Customs — Classics — Projects

Parking on the Ball-field Grass

**Pre-Registration Fee by July 1st: \$30 per car**

\$35 per car on event day July 9th

**One meal ticket included with registration**

Call Becky at (209) 652-3771 for more info

Registration forms available at

[www.YosemiteCorvetteClub.net](http://www.YosemiteCorvetteClub.net)

**AWARDS**  
at 1:00 pm

61st ANNUAL

**DEEP PIT BAR-B-Q**

Lunch includes: BBQ Beef, Beans, Salad, Roll & Coffee

Desserts and Cold Drinks available to purchase

Henderson Park, Snelling, CA

Lunch Served from 12 noon to 2 PM

Meal tickets \$12 per person

Entrance FREE to the general public

**BINGO 11 am**



# Corvettes of Fresno

Please join us for our

## Annual Christmas Party

Saturday December 2, 2017

at

**Pardini's**

2257 W Shaw  
Fresno, Ca

6:00 pm - No Host Bar

7:00 - 8:00 pm Dinner

8:00 - 10:00 pm - Music by JT & Sarah

**\$38.00 per person**

Enjoy a dinner of Braised pan Roast Beef or Chicken Piccata

Hosted by:

**Nick & Angie Diliddo**

559-439-7267

Please RSVP not later than November 20, 2016

Make checks payable to Corvettes of Fresno



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



The Lake Tahoe Corvette Club Presents

# CORVETTES

June  
22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>  
2017

at Lake Tahoe



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BEST IN SHOW  
1959 owners:  
John and Carmen Clemens

At the

**M O N T B L E U**  
**Hotel and Casino**

Trophies for C1-C7 and Z Class

Poker Run, Slot Tournament, Raffle and Awards Banquet

Check our website at: [laketahoecorvetteclub.org](http://laketahoecorvetteclub.org)





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## Car and Driver Renders the 2018 Corvette ZR1 and Names it the No.1 Car Worth Waiting For

This month in *Car and Driver's* April 2017 magazine, the lead story is "25 Cars Worth Waiting For" and to help sell the magazine is a rendered illustration of the 2018 Corvette ZR1.



The cover also features a couple other cars worth waiting for, specifically, the Kia Stinger and Alfa Romeo Stelvio, but who are we kidding here. It's the ZR1 on the cover that will sell this month's issue and *Car and Driver* rightfully made this the #1 car out of the 25 listed that are worth waiting for.

Corvettes at *Car and Driver* fall under the domain of Don Sherman, the magazine's technical editor and a Corvette owner with a black 1967 big block in his garage. Don offers a couple of pages of mostly recapping what we previously know – the 2018 Corvette ZR1 will serve as the send-off for the C7 generation. Whether that's in one or two years, or up to four or five is currently being speculated.

Also speculated is the 750 horsepower that the car is expected to have on tap thanks to a new DOHC V8 based on the 6.2L Generation V engine. The 750 hp figure tends to almost always reference the 700-hp Dodge Hellcat and it receives a mention in the article as well. Here is Don's take on how the 2018 Corvette ZR1's power will be created:

*With a tip of its hat to the Dodge Hellcats for smashing the 700-hp ceiling, the 2018 Corvette ZR1 should make 750 or so horsepower from the current 6.2 liters. The additional power comes courtesy of larger intercoolers and more air from the Eaton supercharger, with an assist from retuned direct fuel injection and variable valve timing. Based on our surveillance, the new ZR1 will be offered in both coupe and convertible body styles. We're expecting a choice between a seven-speed Tremec manual transmission and GM's eight-speed automatic.*

Don does believe the MSRP for the new Corvette will be at the upper-end of the pricing spectrum. The good news? While super car enthusiasts would routinely pay upwards of \$490,000 for a Ferrari F12 tdf, this is a Chevrolet we're talking about so Don says divide that price by three which is "*the correction factor that typically applies when Chevy combines prancing-horse performance with everyday value*". That new math will get you an MSRP of \$135,624. With the C6 generation ZR1 previously selling with an MSRP at \$113,575 we think that's probably a pretty accurate range for the new King of the Hill.

So how much longer will we have to wait for the 2018 Corvette ZR1? Hard to say with the pending assembly plant shutdown throwing a wrench into 2018 Corvette production. It's a 50-50 bet that the Corvette team will even acknowledge the ZR1 at next's months new model roll-out at the NCM Bash. Others, including Don Sherman, think the public reveal may come during one of the stops on Corvette Racing's schedule, notably the early August date at Road America in Elkhart Lake, WI.

## Detroit News Asks 'Hey, what if GM built a Corvette SUV?'

"There's certainly precedent for non-traditional SUV makers to jump into the market," says Karl Brauer, senior analyst for *Kelley Blue Book*. "Every time one of them has jumped in, it has worked."



Case in point, of course, is the Porsche Cayenne, which has helped Porsche generate one-third of Volkswagen Group's profits with only 2.3 percent of its sales.

"The idea of a Porsche SUV still rubs sports-car purists the wrong way, but it has been a spectacularly profitable product for the brand," says John Rosevear, senior auto specialist for Motleyfool.com.

Count at least one retired GM official among the fans of creating a Corvette SUV.

Tom Wallace, who ran Corvette's program from 2006-08, even liked the name suggestions.

"XC7 and X06 (mimicking the Z06's name) are great starters for naming," Wallace said. "Stingray is off limits."

Wallace's suggestions for the mechanics include front engine, rear drive, with AWD option, along with lots of aluminum in the structure.

"Aluminum is mandatory to support the theme that Corvette embraces to be the lightest vehicle in its class," Wallace said. "The two V8s from the Corvette stable are also a must."

Another former GM leader, Bob Lutz, is also a fan of the idea.



**“Like the Cayenne, the appeal of the ‘Vette SUV would be RWD proportions,” Lutz said. “It should, in fact, have a silhouette not too different from a Cayenne.”**

**Wallace says to engineer the new vehicle, he would use common GM parts to keep costs down.**

**There are a couple of problems that might kill the idea of a Corvette SUV, though.**

**The first is that it would require an all-new RWD/AWD architecture that does not exist, Lutz says, noting that would be a high investment for relatively low volume.**

**“The Corvette ute probably would be a stand-alone architecture (or a major modification of an existing architecture), so volume would be critical to call it a business success,” Wallace told Hollar.**

**The second is that it might not make business sense to GM bean counters.**

**“The reason a Corvette SUV won’t happen is the business case would be tough,” Lutz believes. “Besides cannabilizing ‘normal’ Corvettes, it can also be expected to damage GMC and certainly the Cadillac XT5.”**

**Still, the idea of a Corvette-based family of vehicles is definitely appealing to some.**

**“Corvette is a powerful brand that should be developed,” Lutz said. “Go upmarket with a mid-engine sedan using big Cadillac CT6 architecture, and maybe eventually something like Cayenne. They would split it off from Chevrolet – nobody makes that connection anyway.”**

**Brauer says history suggests there is no downside to building such a vehicle.**

**“Non-Corvette owners who couldn’t justify a two-seat sports car could finally put a Corvette badge in their garage,” he says.**

**Finally, Wallace believes such a Corvette product would be a “smash hit,” saying that an excellent product usually leads to business success.**

**“Let’s convince GM to do it!” Wallace says.**

What is "The Wave"?  
From the August/September 1969 issue of Corvette News

Ever since Corvette No. 00001 first met Corvette No. 00002 on the road, their drivers saluted each other with waves. Today, unfortunately, this grand and glorious tradition is wavering.

**WAVE WHEN YOU PASS ANOTHER CORVETTE!**

There's one item of standard equipment that comes as a pleasant surprise to every new Corvette owner. It's an instant wave of recognition he or she receives when he meets one of their ilk on the road. The first time it happens, they will be taken by surprise. He immediately thinks: 1. He has been mistaken for Sterling Moss. 2. His lights are on. 3. He has just been given the bird.

Soon, however, the new Vette owner anticipates, indeed even relishes, encountering other Vettes as he drives. During this period, he experiments with his waves, running the gamut from the gaping "yoo hoo" to the ultra cool "two finger flip." He perfects his timing, making sure he affects neither a too-early wave, nor the jaded "oh brother" too-late variety. Determined not to be one upped, he even develops a defense mechanism for non wavers, usually settling on the "Wave"? My hand was just on the way to scratch my head" approach. (This is especially useful when you're not driving your Vette, but you forget, and like a dummy, you wave anyway.)

Indeed, one of the most perplexing problems facing a would-be waver is what to do when driving next to a fellow Vette owner. Passing him going in opposite directions is one thing. Greetings are exchanged, and that's that. But what happens when you pull up next to a guy at a light, wave, nod, smile and then pull up to him at the next light, a block later? Wave again? Nod bashfully? Grin self-consciously? Ignore him? Or take the chicken's way out and turn down the next side street? If you're expecting an answer, you won't find it here. Sad to say, some questions don't have any. **SAVE THE WAVE!**

Girl-type Corvette drivers also have a unique problem: to wave or not to wave. This miss or misses who borrows her man's Corvette for the first time is immediately faced with this quandary. Should she wave first and look overly friendly, or ignore the wave and look like a snob? Most ladies who drive their own Vettes prefer to suffer the latter rather than take a chance of being misread. For this reason, all girls are excused for occasionally failing to return a well-meaning wave. So are new owners who are still learning the ropes.

There is no excuse, however, for a guy who refuses to return the wave, not out of ignorance, but of arrogance or apathy. While this type of behavior is the exception to the rule, it seems a few owners of newer models refuse to recognize anything older than theirs, while some others simply won't wave, period. Boo on them. These ding-a-lings don't seem to realize that they are helping to squash a tradition that had its beginnings back when most of us were still driving tootsietoys.



## **Corvette: A Lightly Armed, Fast Ship** **Ranging in Size Between a Destroyer and a Gunboat**

In 1953, a special committee was formed to find a name for the new Chevrolet sports car. The company wanted a name that began with the letter “C” and a review of over 300 names began.

Apparently the group was uninspired until Myron Scott searched the “C” section of the dictionary and found “Corvette” defined as a speedy pursuit ship in the British Navy.



The Chevrolet Corvette name was officially trademarked on September 1, 1953.

Myron would work for Chevrolet until retiring in 1971, Mr. Scott passed away on October 4th, 1998 at the age of 91.

His contribution to naming the Chevrolet Corvette would be recognized by the National Corvette Museum who inducted Myron in the 2002 Corvette Hall of Fame.

### **Dive Into the Production Details of the 43** **Pilot Cars built for the 1983 Corvette**

Only 43 Corvettes were built with a 1983 VIN sequence. Sadly, all were destroyed – except one. The survivor car is VIN 023, a White car with Blue interior, now at the National Corvette Museum. But, what were the exterior and interior colors of the 42 destroyed cars? Were any built with RPO Z51? Did any have RPO FE7 Gymkhana Suspension or RPO F51 Heavy Duty Shocks? Which of them were not considered pilot cars? Did all cars have the same build-order input date?

Let's investigate some historical facts of the 1983 Corvette.

#### **Identification**

Service Parts Identification (SPID) labels were not used – GM introduced the SPID label about a year after the 1983 pilots were built. All 1983 Corvettes used metal trim tags mounted to the passenger-side

hood-latch support in the engine bay. Early 1984 Corvettes – to about VIN 20,000 – also used these metal trim tags. The 1983-84 trim tag was the same format as the 1982 Corvette trim tag.

All 1983 Corvettes had “Cross Fire Injection” RPO L83 engines which had been introduced on the 1982 Corvette. The L83 was used in only three years of Corvettes, 1982, 1983, and 1984. Additionally, all 1983 Corvettes had RPO MD8 automatic transmissions. The 1983 Corvette, although never released, is one of only four years of Corvettes which were not built with a manual transmission – 1953, 1954, 1982, and 1983.

#### Build Sheets – The First 33 Cars

Hand-written notes on the 1983 build sheets indicate that the first thirty-three 1983 Corvettes were classified as “pilot cars.” Their build order was input on June 28, 1982. All had RPO GU2 2.73 axles. None were RPO Z51.

VIN 0001 was input as RPO 53U Gold Metallic. On July 15, 1982, a hand-written note on the build sheet changed the color to RPO 70U Spectra Red.

#### Build Sheets – The Next 10 Cars

A few months later, the next ten (and final) 1983 Corvettes were not classified as pilot cars. Hand-written notes on the build sheets indicate that those ten cars were classified as “non-saleable units.” Their build order was input on November 15, 1982. For these ten cars, all had RPO HE3 3.07 rear axles. Five of these ten cars had RPO Z51. Six of these ten cars were White, while four of the ten were Silver. In December 1982, most of these ten cars were at a press introduction at the Riverside Raceway in Riverside, California.

Here are all 1983 Corvette exterior color totals:

<i>Color</i>		<i>Trim Tag Code</i>	<i>Paint Code</i>	<i>Total Units</i>
White (not clearcoat)		10L/10U	3465	11 <sup>A</sup>
Bright Silver	M	16L/16U	7718	8
Medium Gray	M	18L/18U	7719	0
Black (not clearcoat)		19L/19U	0848	4 <sup>A</sup>
Light Blue	M	20L/20U	7720	5
Medium Blue	M	23L/23U	7721	0
Gold	M	53L/53U	7725	4
Light Bronze	M	63L/63U	7722	4
Dark Bronze	M	66L/66U	7723	0
Spectra Red (not clearcoat)		70L/70U	7717	5 <sup>A</sup>
Bright Red (not clearcoat)		72L/72U	7475	0 <sup>A, B</sup>
Silver/Medium Gray	M	16L/16U/18M	above	0
Lt. Blue/Medium Blue	M	20L/20U/23M	above	1
Lt. Bronze/Dark Bronze	M	63L/63U/66M	above	1
<b>Total</b>				<b>43</b>

M = Metallic



#### **Footnote A:**

**These four colors do not have a clear coat paint finish. That makes sense: 1983 cars were built at the end of 1982 production, and 1982 cars with those same paint codes (10, 19, and 70), were not clear-coated. Strangely, some sources include these paint order codes in 1984 production totals, even though all 1984 Corvettes had clear coat paint. Is it possible that the 43 units of 1983 cars were included in 1984 production totals? See the book All 1997-2000 Corvette Colors, available on Amazon, for a discussion on 1982 Non-Clear-Coat Bowling Green Colors.**

#### **Footnote B:**

**Per DuPont's Classic Corvette Program, the DuPont paint code B8241 was code 72 Bright Red, WA7475, a non-clearcoat paint used on GM trucks. Although the code 72 color was recorded as a 1983 Corvette pilot color, it was not used.**

#### **Color Notes**

**Before being restored to its original White, the only surviving 1983 Corvette was at some time in its past given a "red-white-and-blue" paint job.**

**The only use of code 23U Medium Blue Metallic was for the lower color on the two-tone VIN 0003 car. Similarly, the only use of code 66U Dark Bronze Metallic was for the lower color on the two-tone VIN 0006 car.**

**Medium Gray Metallic, code 18, a scheduled 1983 production color, was not used.**

**Only two 1983 Corvettes had Dark Red Leather seats: VIN 0037 (White exterior) and VIN 0041 (Silver exterior). Both cars were built in the second group of cars, order input November 15. Does that indicate that Dark Red Leather seats were not yet available for the June 28 group of cars?**

#### **Interior Colors**

**Leather and cloth interiors, in six different colors, were used on the 1983 Corvette.**

## March 2017 Corvette Sales

General Motors released the new sales report for March 2017 and Corvette sales totaled 2,460 for the month. That's a -10.6 percent decline from last year's 2,753 deliveries in March 2016. The good news is that for 2017, it's the third monthly increase in a row for the sports car now in its fourth year of production.



Total year to date sales (January-March 2017) were 5,804 which is a decline of -8.9 percent over the same period in 2016.

Since last month's sales report, we've got firm intel on how the Corvette plant will initiate their planned three-month shut down for assembly line upgrades. To recap, the 2017 model year will end on Friday, June 2nd and new 2018 Corvettes will start production the next week. The plant will churn out as many 2018 Corvettes through the end of July, and then the plant goes on hiatus for the months of August-October. The plant will then restart 2018 Corvette production where it left off on November.

Members of the Corvette Team relayed that information at Sebring. A noted point was that there will be no changes in the content of 2018 Corvettes despite the three month layoff.

As far as rebates and incentives go, Chevrolet.com only has offers for 4.9% APR Financing for 60 months for the 2017 Stingray (Base or Z51). We have a feeling there are more out there so contact your dealer for details.

Here's the GM Sales Report for Corvettes in March 2017:

<b>Corvette Delivery Statistics for March 2017</b>							
<b>Month</b>				<b>Calendar Year-to-Date</b>			
<b>Month</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Months</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>
March	2,460	2,753	-10.6%	Jan-Mar	5,804	6,370	-8.9%



## Corvette Sales Monthly Archive:

Archived Monthly Corvette Delivery Statistics													
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2017	1,263	2,081	2,460										5,804
2016	1,501	2,116	2,753	3,142	2,673	2,483	2,159	3,063	2,829	2,626	1,941	2,709	29,995
2015	2,127	2,605	3,785	3,469	3,514	2,807	2,794	2,725	2,572	2,526	1,952	2,453	33,329
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

**General Motors sold 188,715 vehicles in March 2017 to retail customers and 237,388 total overall. Retail sales were up 5 percent and market share equals 17.7 percent.**

**Chevrolet continues its winning streak with the best March retail sales since 2007 led by the all new 2018 Equinox and Trax. The Volt had its best first quarter total and retail sales ever and the Cruze was up 63 percent.**

## **Chevrolet Raises Pricing of all 2018 Corvette Models a Mere \$50**

Chevrolet continues in the tradition of providing the best value for the performance with the Corvette and now we have the latest offerings for the 2018 model year. Each year the Corvette Team provides more ways to customize America's favorite sports car so owners can set up their rides exactly how they want and the latest info continues that tradition.

Along with providing the information about the 2018 Corvettes in the official Corvette Order Guide, preliminary pricing for each of the models was also announced.

I'm not sure the last time that model pricing was announced before the bash, although the 2014 Corvette's MSRP was announced the day of the Bash back in 2013. But looking through yesterday's announcement of the 2018 Corvette Carbon 65 Edition was a fact sheet with the MSRP for each of the three models for 2018: Stingray, Grand Sport and Z06. The good news? Pricing is being increased by just \$50 for each model.

### **2018 Corvette Stingray:**

- \$55,495 – Coupe
- \$59,495 – Convertible

### **2018 Corvette Grand Sport:**

- \$65,495 – Coupe
- \$69,495 – Convertible

### **2018 Corvette Z06:**

- \$79,495 – Coupe
- \$83,495 – Convertible



**\*\$995 Destination fee not included.**

**This is just the preliminary model pricing and we will still have to wait to see if the individual trim packages will remain steady as well.**



The 2018 Carbon 65 package is priced at \$15,000 (compare that to the 2016 Z06 C7.R Edition with an RPO cost of \$23,055) and requires a 3LT or 3LZ trim package. Based on 2017 trim prices, the Grand Sport Carbon 65 Edition Coupe will start in the neighborhood of \$90,200 while a Carbon 65 Z06 Convertible would start around \$107,400 (prices do not include the \$995 destination fee).

I have read some negative posts on the forums and social media in regards to the changes for 2018 being offered and that's par for the course. Are you people ever satisfied, lol? While it's easy to deride lack of horsepower or other major engineering changes to the C7 line-up, those of us that follow Corvette realize that 2018 is more about transitioning the production facility for the next great run. With the plant closing for three months in the middle of 2018 production to perform upgrades along with the new paint shop coming online, there is a lot happening in Bowling Green.

The other point is that the Corvette Order Guide only reflects what has been announced at the time of publication. Just because the 2018 Corvette ZR1 isn't listed doesn't mean it's not coming later in the model year. How many times have we seen GM offer something special in the middle of the year that no one saw coming? More than we can count. So again, stay tuned because there could always be something new coming around the bend.

## **2018 Corvette ZR1 Spotted Testing at the Nurburgring**

While many are drawn to the new front fascia design or the size of the rear wing, I would pay special attention to that hood bulge, which either comes from a larger supercharger on top of the LT4 V8 or the 32-valve DOHC LT5 that may or may not be offered with the car. When you get to the right photo, it looks like there are openings on each side of the hood bulge. The front of the bulge has two openings as well which sort of reminds us of the waterfall hood design on the C7.R race cars.



The Corvette ZR1 is wearing the large wing in these photos and there are no other Corvettes shown in the photo set other than the big-wing car. Other aerodynamic clues include the vertical winglets on the sides of the front splitter while the rocker panels look to be the same as those found on the Z06.

The five-spoke Star-patterned wheels in black are featured all around the car and I hope these do make it to final production as they are different than any previous Corvette wheels offered.

It's still up in the air when Chevrolet will reveal the 2018 Corvette ZR1, and with all the changes happening at the plant, I think at this point that it's unlikely that production would begin anytime in 2017. We're probably looking at an announcement later this year with production beginning sometime in the first half of 2018.

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