



Desert Vettes

Palm Springs Corvette Club

September 2026

Corvette Sells for \$18,705.000!!!

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President's Message...

I have a few things I'd like to share with the membership.

First, I want to congratulate **Eric Hauser** on being selected as our **Car of the Month** with his beautiful **2025 C8 Gray Stingray Z51**. Congratulations, Eric! It's a great-looking Corvette and certainly deserving of the honor.



At our August 18th joint meeting of the **Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee**, the Board discussed several items that I'd like everyone to be aware of.

First, the Board voted **5-2** to go dark during the months of **June, July, and August next year**. As we all know, summer in the desert can be pretty challenging, and participation in club activities tends to drop off considerably during those hot months. We felt that taking a summer break makes sense and will give everyone a chance to stay cool, enjoy some time away, and come back in the fall refreshed and ready to get back out on the road.

The second item was approved **unanimously**. The Board voted to allow our **seasonal members to hold officer positions** in the club.

We have many members who spend part of the year here in the desert and part of the year elsewhere. By opening officer positions to our seasonal members, we can tap into more of the talent, experience, and enthusiasm that exists within our membership. It also gives more of our members an opportunity to become involved and help shape the future of our club.

I think both of these changes are positive steps for the Palm Springs Corvette Club, and I appreciate the Board taking the time to look at ways we can continue to make our club stronger and more enjoyable for everyone.

And finally, we're looking forward to welcoming our **snowbirds back over the next few months**. We have a number of great events planned, and I'm sure everyone will enjoy getting together, spending some time with old friends, making some new ones, and—of course—putting some miles on those Corvettes!

So, until then, **stay cool, stay hydrated, and enjoy the ride!**

Bill Jahn
President
Palm Springs Corvette Club



Corvette of the Month....



**Eric
Hauser**

2025 Sea Wolf Grey Stingray Z51

Eric was born and raised in Southern California and moved to the Coachella Valley in 1979. He attended the local area schools to include College of the Desert.

Eric has been happily married to his lovely wife, Lisa, for 28 years, and they have two beautiful daughters, Lainey and Hailey.

He retired from Cathedral City Fire Department 4 years ago after having served for over 33 years. Eric has been a sports car enthusiast his whole life and has owned four Corvettes: 1975, 1979, 2015 and currently a 2025 Stingray Z51.

Eric looks forward to being an active member of the Club and meeting the great people within it.



EricHHauser@me.com

Palm Springs Corvette Club Sponsor...

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Sean Tisdale: Text preferred 925-207-9266.

Email: seantisdale@jessupautoplaza.com

Service Manager: Ron Austin 760-459-7313

email: ronaustin@jessupautoplaza.com



Guinness World Record Event for Bill Hatch...

Guinness World Record Event for Bill Hatch, Member of North Coast Corvettes Aug. 12, 2026 Carlsbad, CA

A great corvette event was held August 12, 2026 in Carlsbad organized by the North Coast Vettes Corvette Club, celebrating Bill, a 94-year-old resident of Carlsbad & member of their corvette club, who set a Guinness World Record for the longest continuous ownership of a vehicle from new. He officially achieved the milestone after owning his black 1957 Chevrolet Corvette convertible for 69 years, purchasing it brand new on August 12, 1957!! Really fun event with lots of corvette clubs and enthusiasts joining in on the celebration, including members of Palm Springs Corvettes! Congrats to Bill & his wife Marylyn on this amazing milestone record, and many thanks to North Coast Vettes Corvette Club for organizing the event! Thank you to Stan and Brenda and Jack and Susie for representing PSCC at this fun event.



Bill and Marylyn Hatch of Carlsbad, California, and their original 1957 Chevrolet Corvette



Cruise to Seattle and Gig Harbor...

Seattle and Gig Harbor
July 2026

A wonderful time was had by
some of our members enjoying
the many beautiful sights in
Seattle and Gig Harbor



Corvette Sells for \$18,705,000!!!



“Monterey Car Week in California has concluded and auction prices are getting more outrageous every year. One of the most anticipated vehicles that was offered at the auction was the 1963 Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport sold by RM Sotheby's. This special vehicle was expected to sell for around \$11 million to \$13 million but ended up going for an astounding \$18,705,000. That makes this car the most expensive Corvette ever sold and the third-most expensive American car to be sold at auction.”

“Corvette generations offer several trims with the Stingray being the base model and the Z06 being the more powerful version. Back in the 1960s, the Grand Sport was the top of the line. The original Grand Sport was made in secret since General Motors withdrew from factory racing after the success of its small block V8 in 1955. Even though corporate support was limited, the man known as "The Father of the Corvette," Zora Arkus-Duntov, was working on a masterpiece behind the scenes.

The small block V8 was replaced with a 377-cubic-inch V8 that had an estimated output of 600 horsepower and over 600 pound-feet of torque. While the modern Grand Sports are road cars, the original was meant for racing and was not built for regular roads.

One of the most important changes to this car compared to the road-going variants was the lightweight fiberglass body, thinner panels, fixed headlamps and other weight-saving additions. Most of the steel in the car was replaced with aluminum and the wheels lighter-weight magnesium. While the regular Corvettes of this era weighed around 3,200 pounds, the Grand Sport trimmed down to 1,900 pounds.”

“How does a Corvette command this big of a price tag? The Corvette is referred to by many as the working man's sports car. It offers the performance to compete with the best performing cars from Europe while being a fraction of the price. While that is still somewhat true today when focusing on the lower trims, auction vehicles are in a different class. ”

The 1963 Grand Sport is one of five models built by the secret Chevrolet racing program under Arkus-Duntov. It's a purpose-built race car that was made to compete with the Shelby Cobra on the track and defeated it, earning the nickname "Snake Eaters."

2027 Grand Sport...



These 10 Car Brands are in trouble and some are close to closing down:

- 10. Maserati**
- 9. Alfa Romero**
- 8. Genesis**
- 7. Lincoln is down to selling only SUV's n Crossovers**
- 6. Buick - GM has stopped investing in the brand.**
- 5. Infiniti- Sales have dropped by 30%!!!**
- 4. Mitsubishi-**
- 3. Stellantis - Chrysler, Ram....**
- 2. Nissan - yearend was a "net loss" of \$4.5B, 20,000 jobs cut and 7 factories closed!!!!**
- 1. Jeep - Sales down -36%!!!!!!**

2029 Corvette???

How do you follow up on the most successful performance shake-up in modern American history? You build on its foundation, erase its styling controversies,

and push it further into the engineering stratosphere. The upcoming ninth-generation 2030 Chevrolet Corvette (C9) is locked in to continue the mid-engine legacy. Arriving just as the automotive world balances internal combustion with high-voltage electrification, the C9 will stand as the second iteration of a mid-engine Corvette, refining the platform based on real-world lessons gathered from the C8 era.

Here is everything we know about the next generation of America's definitive sports car.



What Is The C9 Corvette?

The world's longest-running sports car returns for its ninth generation in 2030. The C9 Chevrolet Corvette will be the product of many hard-earned lessons learned from the C8. For the past 30 years, the Corvette line



has served as a high-performance proving ground for the rest of General Motors, pioneering technologies like Magnetic Ride Control and Performance Traction Management before they filter down to the rest of the fleet. The C9 will maintain this role at the bleeding edge of the performance envelope, acting as the rolling laboratory for GM's next era of power delivery.

2029 Corvette???

C9 Corvette Look Like?



The biggest changes for the C9 generation will be visual. The C8 Corvette, for all its performance merits, is neither a classically pretty Corvette nor a well-proportioned mid-engine sports car. Furthermore, owners weren't in love with the closed-off cockpit feel of the cabin, an issue only partially rectified by the 2026 Corvette facelift. According to our sources, the new C9 Corvette will be heavily influenced by the GM Design Center–penned 2025 Corvette CX concept. Expect softer, more cohesive exterior lines that recall the iconic "Coke bottle" hips of earlier front-engine Corvettes without sacrificing the massive aerodynamic and performance progress made by the transition to a mid-engine layout. Inside, the cabin will focus on a more open, connected layout for both driver and passenger.

What Platform Will The C9 Corvette Use

The C9 will ride on a thoroughly updated—and hopefully lighter—version of the C8's mid-engine architecture. While two of GM's three recent high-performance design concepts were envisioned as four-motor EV hypercars, the platform architecture for the C9 will remain flexible enough to accommodate both traditional mechanical drivetrains and advanced high-voltage batteries during its lifecycle.

What Powertrain Will The C9 Corvette Have?

We expect the C9 to stick with a traditional pushrod V8 at the outset, though we could see a fully electric-powered Corvette join the lineup at some point in the early 2030s. The base Stingray powertrain will likely borrow a page from recent history: the 2027 Corvette Grand Sport marked the debut of Chevy's new LT6 6.7-liter V8, which outputs 535 horsepower and 520 lb-ft of torque. We strongly suspect this engine, paired with a refined eight-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission, will motivate the base C9 when it first turns wheels.

The C9 Corvette is expected to officially hit showrooms in the summer of 2029, launching designated as a 2030 model year vehicle.

Chevrolet Addressed Enthusiast Complaints...

Chevrolet directly addressed long-standing enthusiast complaints by **completely redesigning the Corvette's interior**. The controversial "button wall" has been replaced with a more ergonomic and passenger-friendly layout.

The 2026 update introduces comprehensive changes to improve cabin usability:

- **The Button Wall Eliminated:** The polarizing vertical strip of climate controls that divided the driver and passenger has been removed. It is replaced by a flat, lower console layout that gives both occupants easier access to controls and opens up the cabin.
- **Three-Screen Setup:** The cabin now features a redesigned, digitized dashboard featuring a 14-inch digital Driver Information Center, a 12.7-inch center infotainment display, and a 6.6-inch auxiliary touchscreen on the driver's left.
- **Enhanced Comfort:** The updated layout integrates climate controls just below the main screen and repositions the wireless phone charger.
- **Model Lineup:** The interior overhaul and standard changes apply across the lineup, including the Stingray, Z06, E-Ray, and the twin-turbocharged ZR1X.

Cadillac & Corvette Racing...

What a special day for General Motors and the Cadillac Racing and Corvette Racing Teams in Detroit," said Mark Reuss, President, General Motors. "Winning both classes of the Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic on the streets of the Motor City is a tremendous achievement for our motorsports, design and engineering teams. Congratulations to Whelen Cadillac and Corvette Racing by Pratt Miller Motorsports teams on hard-earned victories at our home race."

2028 Camaro..

The Camaro needs no introduction. Despite shortsighted executives killing it off twice (2003 through 2010, and 2025 to present), Chevrolet's pony



car is bigger than the brand itself—and circumstances have aligned for its return. While General Motors flirted with bringing back the Camaro as an electric SUV to rival Ford's Mustang Mach-E, signs now point to the car returning for 2028 in the familiar form of a classic two-door, four-seat, front-engine, rear-drive coupe.

Powertrain wise, don't expect the 2028 Camaro to break any new ground, either. The base engine will most likely be a version of GM's ubiquitous LSY 2.0-liter turbocharged I-4 with power cranked up to at least match the base Mustang's 315 hp. From there, expect to see a slew of V-8 options, likely courtesy of the 2027 Chevy Silverado. We'll be surprised if the Silverado's new 5.7-liter V-8 isn't found under the hood of the next-gen Camaro SS, with output of about 500 hp. The larger 6.6-liter V-8 should also fit in the relatively trim Alpha 2-2 chassis, making it a fine basis for a Camaro Z/28 revival. Expect both six-speed manual and 10-speed automatic transmission options to be available from the jump.

Do expect the Camaro to Debut With Four Doors As A 2029 Model. Reports from GM Authority claim the standard Camaro will morph into a four-door sedan with overall exterior dimensions similar to the retired Chevy SS or midsize Malibu. While it wouldn't be the traditional form purists expect, it would at least keep the name alive while preserving rear-wheel-drive proportions.



Down the Road...

2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Recurring Events:

- Every Saturday – 6:30 AM – **Cars & Coffee** @ Aspen Mills
46-520 Washington St, La Quinta
- 2nd Tuesday – 7 PM – **General Meeting** @ Jessup Auto Plaza,
68-111 E. Palm Canyon, Cathedral City
- 3rd Thursday – 5 PM – **Dinner Night Out (DNO)** (none in Dec.)
- Last Friday – 11:30 AM – Separate **Diva** and **Stud Luncheons**
(none in Nov. and Dec.)

November - A Welcome Back Dinner for our returning Snowbirds
Here are some runs being planned/considered for next year:

March 2027 - The Joint Club Solvang Run was a great success this past March, but Stan is considering a new itinerary which includes Monterey next year. Let him know your thoughts and ideas.

April 2027 - We are once again planning to attend the Gambler's Classic - All Corvettes

Car Show in Laughlin, Nevada sponsored by Corvettes of Bakersfield.

August 2027 - A possible summer run to Utah/Montana

October 2027 - A return trip to Nashville, Tennessee and the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentuc

Reminder that we ask PSCC Members to collect toiletries from motels, soaps, shampoos and can pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Loma Linda. This is a great cause and saves you throwing them in the recycle or garbage. Just put them in a bag and bring them to each meeting for Vicki and Mike Nichols. The kids will thank you so much, and Ronald will too!

