



Desert Vettes

Palm Springs Corvette Club

April 2026

GM Says... "No" Manual Transmission



Special Edition E-Ray... Stars & Steel



GM WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED! GM



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President's Message....

Looking ahead:

- **Gamblers Run:** This annual event in Laughlin, Nevada, is scheduled for April 17th to 19th. At last count, we will have 36 cars stopping for lunch at Lenhart's home in Lake Havasu, with a total of 41 cars arriving in Laughlin.
- **Prescott Arizona Run:** From May 16th to 18th, we are organizing a three-day run to Prescott, Arizona. So far, 8 cars have signed up, and we cannot wait to hit the road together



Additionally, I am pleased to report that our website has seen over 1,700 hits as of the last quarter, reflecting the growing interest and engagement within our community.

Your participation has made all the difference, and I sincerely appreciate each and every one of you. If you haven't yet joined us for an event, I encourage you to explore our website calendar (palmsspringscorvetteclub.com) for upcoming activities.

I hope this message finds you well, and I look forward to seeing you at our general meeting or one of our upcoming fun runs.

Enjoy the ride!

Bill Jahn

President, Palm Springs Corvette Club



2026 PSCC Board of Directors

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Preferred Vendors...

Hey PSCC Members, please don't forget to support our Preferred Vendors. Use your password to unlock your special members-only pricing. Below are our Preferred Vendors:

AWE Exhaust

Extreme Online Store

Evol Auto Works

Jessup Chevrolet, Service / P&A,

Cars NoviStretch Bras

Soler Performance

Wheel Craft

Abel Aguirre: : Paint Protection | Ceramic Coating | Window Tinting

The website also has our Calendar & Events, Meeting Minutes and back issues of our Newsletters, along with Pictures and our Corvette Store.

www.palmspringscorvetteclub.com



Corvettes of the Month...



com5.26.png

Jim & Linda Hargis

1954 & 1955 C1 Convertibles

Jim and Linda have been “snowbirds” in the desert for twenty years, and their primary home is in Vancouver, Washington. They have been married for fifty years and have three children and eleven grandchildren.

Jim started his career in Electrical Engineering, was in higher education for thirteen years, then was a “Serial Entrepreneur” for over thirty-five years. Before retiring, Jim and Linda worked together to build a couple of multi-state businesses. They both enjoy their home in Palm Desert as well as traveling, especially to Europe.

Jim has had a love of cars since he was sixteen. According to Linda, Jim has personally owned 75 cars and currently owns two C1 Corvettes – a white '54 and a red '55. The '54 has won numerous awards, including the coveted NCRS Top Flight Award at 99.7 points.

In addition to PSCC, Jim and Linda are members of the National Council of Corvette Clubs, the NW Corvette Club, and the Palm Springs Cruisin' Association.



Palm Springs Corvette Club Sponsor....

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AUTO PLAZA



Jessup Auto Plaza was established in 1938. It is the premier family-owned and operated dealership in Cathedral City. We've served the Palm Springs, Indio and La Quinta CA Buick, Chevrolet, Corvette, Cadillac drivers for 80 years with new and used vehicles, service and financing. Make it a point to have a look at our inventory online at <https://www.jessupautoplaza.com>. or visit us at 68-111 E Palm Canyon Drive Cathedral City CA.



For Jessup Service; Call the advisor and tell them you are with the Palm Springs Corvette Club and to schedule you with Service Advisors...Sean and their information is:

Sean Tisdale: Text preferred 925-207-9266.

Email: seantisdale@jessupautoplaza.com

Service Manager: Ron Austin 760-459-7313

email: ronaustin@jessupautoplaza.com



Palm Springs Corvette Club Sponsor Discounts

Palm Spring Corvette Club

Jessup Auto Plaza would like to offer all current members the following discounts on Parts and Service.

Over the counter parts will receive a 15% discount up to \$250.00.

Mechanical repairs will receive 15% discount on parts and labor up to \$500.00, excluding maintenance and tires.

All maintenance services will receive a 10% discount.

All customer pay body shop repairs will receive a 15% discount up to \$250.00

Tires are sold with our 30-day price match guarantee. We guarantee the lowest price on any General Motors program tires. Tires are not eligible for discounts due to our price match guarantee.

We appreciate your loyal patronage and look forward to many more years of our partnership.



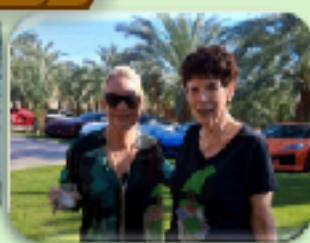
Ron Austin
Service Manager
760-459-7313



Check - PSCC Members Discounts currently covering Parts & Accessories, Jessup Chevrolet Parts & Service, New C8 Stingray & E-Rays, Paint Protection, Ceramic Coating and window tinting (PP, CCC and WT).

Don't Forget!!!!!!

St Patty's Party at Ron & Sharon Burton's...



3/17/26 - Celebrating St. Patrick's Day at Ron & Sharon Burton's beautiful date farm, we were surrounded by gorgeous vettes, music, a fun magic show by Mike Caveney, wonderful company and delicious Mexican food/margaritas catered by Jorge and Laura Sandez. Happy Birthday to Dennis Wilson.



St Patty's Party at Ron & Sharon Burton's...



Prescott Fun Run...

PSCC Members - get ready for another fabulous Prescott Fun Run to look forward to May 16-18, 2026!

May 16th - we will leave the desert that morning, stop for lunch and that evening will go see **25-26 Keith Anderson**, country music artist, at the Jim and Linda Performing Arts Center. Keith Anderson is known for his music hits such as Picking Wildflowers, I'm still Missing You and Every Time I Hear Your Name. Tickets are very reasonable, starting at \$44 to \$59, please click ycpac.com to purchase your tickets.

May 17th - we will do a run out to Montezuma Well/Montezuma's Castle, an archaeological site of cliff dwellings and hopefully have a combined dinner with the Prescott Corvette Club.

May 18th - drive home that morning.

If you're interested in this fun run, I encourage you to get your concert tickets soon as it is a **VERY SMALL VENUE**. Please click ycpac.com to purchase your tickets. **DO NOT USE OTHER TICKET SITES AS YOU WILL PAY 2 TO 3 TIMES MORE!**

There will be a follow-up e-mail with details on meals and hotels.

If interested, please contact me and let me know when you have purchased your tickets.

Thanks,

Michele Langley



GM Says...“No” Manual Transmission

If you're still holding out hope for a manual C8 Corvette, it's time to let go. Chevrolet just made it clear that the mid-engine Corvette is staying automatic.



Speaking at the 12 Hours of Sebring, Chief Corvette Engineer Tony Roma addressed the long-running rumors about a potential manual transmission for the C8—and shut them down directly. Speculation surrounding a three-pedal C8 picked up last year after Tremec showed off a six-speed manual reportedly compatible with the C8 at SEMA.

Given that Tremec already designed the Corvette's eight-speed dual-clutch transmission, it didn't seem like a stretch. But according to Roma, that reveal doesn't square Corvette's reality.

“Tremec showed something at SEMA that I wish they hadn't,” Roma said during a Q&A session following the C8 Grand Sport's reveal just before the green flag in Sebring. “When people say, but there's one [a manual transmission] that's available. There isn't. It's not real. We don't have any plans to talk about a manual transmission.”

Chevrolet is standing squarely behind the current setup. Roma emphasized that the Corvette is both faster and better overall with the DCT than it would be with a manual. “All I can say is our our 8-speed DCT is tremendous. It's awesome. The car is faster and essentially better with the transmission we make.”

There's also a business case behind the decision. According to Corvette vehicle chief engineer Josh Holder, demand for manual transmissions had already dwindled by the end of the C7 generation.

AutoGuide's Take: The lack of a manual hasn't hurt the C8's success. In fact, quite the opposite. Chevrolet has consistently moved more than 30,000 Corvettes annually in recent years—figures the previous C7 generation only managed at its peak. Even in 2025, when sales dipped slightly to around 24,500 units, the Corvette still comfortably outsold rivals like the Porsche 911 in the U.S.



Corvette C8 Grand Sport: Not One, “But” Two Models

C8 Corvette is poised for some very big changes for the 2027 model year, with a slew of updates slated for the powertrain lineup and trim level cadence. To that latter point, the 2027 Corvette will offer not one, but two new Grand Sport model variants, GM Authority has learned.



According to sources familiar with the matter, GM will drop the pair of new C8 Grand Sports in between the base-level C8 Stingray and high-revving C8 Z06, following the Vette’s traditional model variant cadence while expanding the eighth-gen portfolio in the process. Check out our exclusive video for all the insights: at the center of the update is the new 6.7L V8 LS6, a high-performance take on GM’s latest Gen 6 Small Block architecture. Set to power both the standard 2027 Corvette Stingray and the newly introduced C8 Grand Sport variants, the new LS6 will be a staple of the C8 lineup for the foreseeable future.

The second piece of the puzzle involves the Corvette E-Ray, which is expected to be renamed to Corvette Grand Sport X, per a GM Authority exclusive. The change is most likely part of a broader effort to clarify what the E-Ray has to offer, as removing the “E” designation may help avoid confusion among buyers who would otherwise assume the model is fully electric.

The new Corvette Grand Sport X is expected to drop alongside the non-hybrid Corvette Grand Sport, with the former doling out 720 all-wheel horsepower thanks to the combination of the naturally aspirated LS6 and a front-mounted electric motor, substantially more than the 655-horsepower E-Ray. Meanwhile, the non-hybrid Corvette Grand Sport will use the new LS6 V8 as its only source of motivation, driving the rear wheels exclusively.



Special Edition E-Ray...



General Motors is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with a special lineup of patriotic-themed vehicles, dubbed the Stars & Steel Collection. The collection spans incorporates several of Chevrolet's most popular nameplates, including every variant of the C8 Corvette family. Now, GM Authority is taking a closer look at the new 2026 Chevy Corvette E-Ray Stars & Steel Limited Edition.

The Stars & Steel Limited Edition package is available in conjunction with both the Coupe and Convertible body styles for the 2026 Corvette E-Ray, but only when the vehicle is configured in the range-topping 3LT trim level. Buyers must also select between two available exterior paint colors, namely Arctic White (color code G8G) and Black (color code GBA).

Models finished in Arctic White with the Santorini Blue interior receive a Satin Silver tonal American flag-inspired full-length stripe and graphics package (RPO code DTG). Meanwhile, examples finished in Black with the Adrenaline Red interior feature a Satin Black tonal American flag-inspired full-length stripe and graphics package (RPO code DTK).

The Stars & Steel Limited Edition adds a variety of visual and trim upgrades that reinforce the Vette's patriotic undertones. Inside the cabin, the package includes Torch Red seat belts (RPO code 3F9) along with premium carpeted floor mats featuring red stitching (RPO code VYW). The interior also receives exclusive sill plates and a special interior plaque displaying the vehicle's unique build sequence number, ranging from 001 to 250.

As a reminder, the 2026 Corvette E-Ray pairs the naturally aspirated 6.2L V8 LT2 driving the rear wheels with an electric motor powering the front axle, creating an electrified all-wheel-drive system. Combined output is 655 horsepower. The GM Y2 platform provides the underpinnings, while production takes place at the GM Bowling Green plant in Kentucky.

AutoWorld Tidbits...

There are so many updates from Car Manufacturers that is hard to keep up so, I have started to print only the “headlines”!

- Volvo published 2/23/2026: Recalling over 40,000 electric SUVs Worldwide over Battery Fire concerns! Volvo urges Owners to limit charging to 70% and park away from Buildings until repaired!

Tesla Looking to Move Stainless Steel, Lowers Prices on Cybertruck Models!!! With orders and demand stagnating, Tesla is looking to generate some interest in its Cybertruck models, lowering prices on all three versions by at least \$20,000. Now the base model begins at \$59,990.

Nissan recalls over 640,000 vehicles for engine and gear issues of two separate recalls related to engine and gear issues, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration said.



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PALM BEACH | APRIL 16-18



Romp to ...

...and Celebrate Route 66's 100th year



JUNE 11th - 13th, 2026



Celebrating 250 Years of America!

June 6 thru 13th+ 2026

Join Tom Pinard as he resurrects his "infamous" Romps from years gone by. After 28 Corvette Romps through the 1990's and into first two decades of the 21st Century, Tom hung it up but with this year being the 100th Anniversary of the "Mother Road," it is time to dust off the Corvette, head it east with an invitation for a group of adventurous Corvette owners to come on board, join "we" and have fun.....

Tentative Schedule -- details to come

(We're all older so this 5 day Romp across Route 66 (Tom used to do it in 2/3) is designed for US older guys!)

- June 6: Corvette Rompsters rendezvous in Kingmen (All Motels to be confirmed)
- June 7: Underway thru Seligman, Williams, Flagstaff, special evening in Winslow
- June 8: Underway to Gallup, El Rancho lunch, thru ALB, evening in Santa Rosa
- June 9: Underway to Canyon, Cadillac Ranch, Shamrock, evening in Elk City OK
- June 10: Underway thru Tulsa, Claremore, drive the old Rt 66, evening in Joplin MO
- June 11: Underway thru St. Louis — Show up for Thursday Gold Gala 2026/250th Salute
- June 12 & 13: Rub elbows with Corvette owners from across the corn belt & beyond — *Bloomington Gold Corvette USA* is one of top Corvette events of the year nationwide
- June 13 Sunday : It is on your own to head back home, although some might be heading in to Kentucky to see the ARC..... More information to come.....

This will be a Romp through the umbrella of Palm Springs Corvette Club and will be open to Corvette owners from other clubs, as all our Romps of the past were... It is great to share the road and enjoy the company of our fellow Corvette owners/drivers.

Tom Pinard

PS: As old Rompsters know, we are "laid back" on our Romps, stay at older, park at the door motels, stay at great place sometimes, members commit to "hospitalities each evening and....

Corvette Racing 2026 IMSA:

May 9 - May 11 IMSA Monterey Laguna Seca

June 5 - June 7 O'Reilly Auto Parts 4 Hours

June 19 - June 21 VIRginia International Raceway

July 10 - July 12 Chevy Grand Prix

Aug 14 - Aug 16 Road America

Aug 20 - Aug 23 Michelin GT Challenge at VIR

Oct 1 - October 3 Motul

2026 WEC Schedule:

May 9- 6 Hours of Spa
Francorchamps

June 13-14 -24 Hours of
LeMans

July 12 -6 Hours of San
Paulo

Sept 6 - Lone Star
LeMans

Sept 27 - 6 Hours of Fiji

Nov 7 - 8 Hours of Bahrain



National Corvette Museum Offers a Construction Update on the New Collections Facility



The National Corvette Museum's construction of the 66,000 sq ft building that will house the NCM growing collection of Corvettes and other artifacts is progressing as planned.

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**

April 1 - day run to Borrego Springs – details will be sent out a couple days before the event - **contact Jack Carter**

April 2 – Beehive the '60's Musical - it's not too late to sign up - 7:30 PM Desert TheatreWorks, Indio (dinner at 4 PM at Longhorn – **please RSVP to Michele Langley re dinner**)

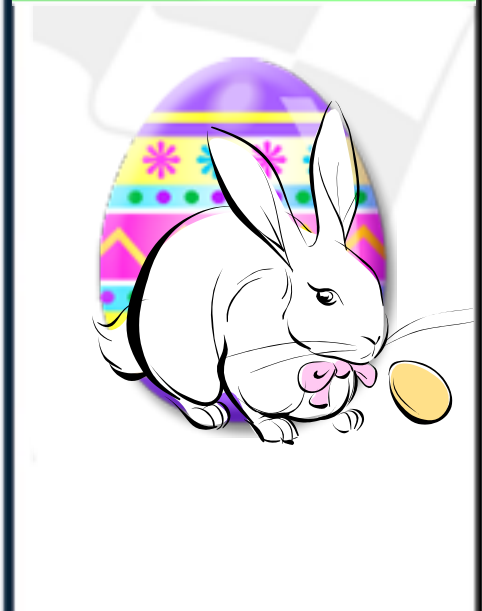
April 16-19 – Gambler's Classic, Laughlin, NV – all FULL

April 24 – Combined Stud Lunch AND March Air Museum Run – depart 9 AM – see email – **respond to Mike Nichols**

May 16-18 – Prescott Run – not too late to sign up - lots of fun events – **respond to Michele Langley**

June 7 – Possible attendance at 29th MSA People's Choice Charity Car Show – 10 AM – 3 PM, Embarcadero Marina Park North (Seaport Village) – **Contact Jack Carter**

July 31-Aug. 2 – Trip to Victoria, BC and Seattle/Gig Harbor, WA – **respond to Stan if interested**



Ronald McDonald House...

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!

