



# Desert Vettes

***Palm Springs Corvette Club***

**September 2021**

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## President's Message....

Another summer is almost behind us.

Fall and Winter are our busiest time for activities. With that said we have a lot of activities planned for the remainder of this year into next year.



If you are a new member, and have any questions or reservations regarding any of the planned activities including, runs, DNO, Stud Lunch, and Diva Lunch, please contact any board member or existing member. We will do our best to mentor you and make sure your experience is great.

If you are unable to attend the monthly meeting you will receive an email with the minutes highlighting the above mentioned activities.

Happy Birthday to our Club Secretary...Ron Singer

Thanks

Floyd

PS - *GM Authority* has learned that General Motors will default one allocation of the C8 Corvette Stingray to "all" U.S. dealers who did not receive a 2021-model-year vehicle. The change is set to take effect through September and October. Essentially, this means that all U.S. dealers that sell the [Chevy Corvette](#) will receive at least one unit of the latest C8 Corvette Stingray. That's great news for anyone interested in checking out the [mid-engine Chevy](#) sports car for themselves in their local show room.



## Palm Springs Corvette Club Sponsors....

**JESSUP**  
EST. 1938  
**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.



30-777 Date Palm Drive,  
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## **Palm Springs Corvette Club Executive....**

**President... Floyd Marcoe**

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**Editor/Media Russell DeLong**

**Marketing....Garry Dean**

**Governor...Tom Pinard**

**Secretary ...Ron Singer**

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**Newsletter Editor..Mike Smith**

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:** Articles, letters, jokes, photos, event ads and classified ads are encouraged from the membership. Please send to Mike Smith via [mjsmith3@shaw.ca](mailto:mjsmith3@shaw.ca) by the deadline of the first of each month.

### **Corvette Facts...Did You Know....**

Emission control equipment was installed on the first 1968 models in the fall of 1967 even though the federal law required it only as of January 1, 1968.

1968 was the first year an AM/FM stereo radio was offered as an option.

The Sting Ray name was not used on the 1968 Corvette, but returned in 1969, this time spelled as one word "Stingray"!

### **Palm Springs Corvette Club Charities We Support ...**



**Boys & Girls Club  
of Cathedral City**



**Golden West  
Chapter**



**Diva Lunch was held at the Fisherman's Market and Grill 78575 Hwy 111 La Quite with 13 Diva's attending!**

**Stud Lunch had 12 Studs at the Beer Hunter La Quinta!**



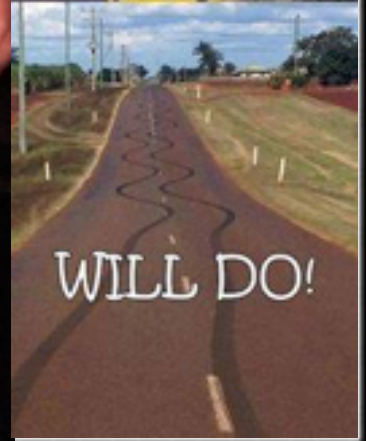
**LABOR DAY**



Obey all Posted Signs . . .



It's The Law!





## PSCC Run to John Babashoff's Cabin...

There were 6 cars that caravanned up to John Babashoff's "Cabin".  
Led by Tom Pinard.

Oh, what a gorgeous, beautiful, wonderful place! I think my favourite part is the inlaid Parquet Living Room floor. When he says "cabin", don't let him fool you. This is a 3 story **AMAZING HOUSE !!**

Decorated to the nth degree!! A great time was had by all.

Thank you, John and Carol. It was fun getting to know people a little bit better. Ron Singer was the picture taker for the house.





## PSCC Run to John Babashoff's Cabin...



## Corvette Racing at Laguna SECA: C8.R No 4 Wins...

**MONTEREY, Calif.**  
(Sept. 12, 2021) –

Tommy Milner and  
Nick Tandy won for  
Corvette Racing in  
the GT Le Mans  
(GTLM) category of  
the IMSA  
WeatherTech



SportsCar Championship on Sunday, the first victory for the No. 4 Mobil 1/SiriusXM Chevrolet Corvette C8.R since Detroit in June.

It also marked Corvette Racing's first victory at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna SECA since 2014. Sunday's race marked 23 consecutive years of the program competing at the famed circuit near the Monterey Peninsula.

**TOMMY MILNER, NO. 4 MOBIL 1/SiriusXM CHEVROLET CORVETTE C8.R – GTLM RACE WINNER:** "It's awesome... finally! We finally get a points win for the No. 4 Corvette. We've been close so many times and just had problems. To finally get it is awesome. Nick did an awesome job there at the end. He didn't have A/C for a bit but he did a great job soldiering through. We've been close and had great racecars all year long. Just little things here and there caused us to just miss out. It feels good to finally get that monkey off our back and use this momentum going forward."

**ANTONIO GARCIA & JORDAN TAYLOR NO. 3 MOBIL 1/SiriusXM CHEVROLET CORVETTE C8.R – GTLM RACE Second Place:** "The Corvette was fantastic.."





## C8 2021 Production Numbers Announced...

A total of 26,212 examples of the 2021 [Corvette](#) Stingray were produced at the [GM Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant in Kentucky this year. That's up nearly 6,000 units from last year, when GM managed to build [20,368 units](#) of the mid-engine sports car. Production of the 2021 Corvette Stingray began last December and lasted through to September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Production of the 2022 Corvette will begin on September 14<sup>th</sup>.



GM managed to build more than 26,000 examples of the 2021 Corvette Stingray despite production setbacks related to parts shortages. The automaker also [stopped taking new sold orders](#) for the 2021 model year in the Spring due to overwhelming demand. Tony Johnson, director of car and crossover marketing for [Chevy](#), told *GM Authority* the automaker is [“not even close”](#) to meeting demand for the C8 Corvette Stingray and that it currently has “more orders than we can handle.”

The 2022 Corvette will continue with the same naturally aspirated [6.2L LT2 V8](#) engine and eight-speed dual-clutch transmission, although the engine has received revised engine management calibration and a retuned [Active Fuel Management](#) system for 2022, mildly improving its fuel efficiency and emissions. Nevertheless, it will still produce 495 horsepower and 470 pound-feet of torque when equipped with the optional performance exhaust. The 2022 model will also introduce a new IMSA GTLM Championship Edition, which pays homage to the [Corvette C8.R](#) race car's dominant performance during the 2020 IMSA season, as well as [three new exterior colors](#) in the way of Hypersonic Gray, Caffeine, and Amplify Orange Tintcoat.

Chevy has plans to expand the C8 Corvette model range for the following 2023 model year. It will unveil the highly-anticipated [Z06](#) launching later this year as a 2023 model, which will be followed shortly after by the hybrid [Corvette E-Ray](#).

## GM Loses Production on 800,000 Vehicles???

According to data from Autoforecast Solutions cited by [Automotive News](#), the chip shortage has reduced GM's global production output this year by 777,928 vehicles this year. While almost all of the automaker's plants have felt the impact of the chip shortage to some degree, [GM Fairfax Assembly](#) in Kansas has been the hardest hit. The facility, which produces the [Cadillac XT4](#) crossover and [Chevy Malibu](#) sedan, has remained dark since February, although XT4 production is [set to return on September 20<sup>th</sup>](#). It's not clear when production of the [Chevy](#) Malibu will return, although GM has already cut 96,001 production units of the Malibu so far this year.



GM has maintained adequate output of its ever-important pickup truck models by implementing creative production solutions. Some of its pickups are being built without certain technologies, [Active Fuel Management](#), [Dynamic Fuel Management](#) or [HD Radio](#). It has also implemented a [“build shy” strategy](#) at its truck and SUV plants, which entails partially completing production of vehicles, storing them in a lot nearby and bringing them back into the plant once it receives the semiconductor chips it needs to finish them. Despite these efforts, it is still facing periodic shutdowns at its truck and SUV plants, which include [Flint Assembly](#) in Michigan, [Fort Wayne Assembly](#) in Indiana, [Silao Assembly](#) in Mexico and [Arlington Assembly](#) in Texas.

AN says GM has implemented special software tools to help dealers cope with reduced inventory levels. One of the programs includes a dashboard that places vehicle trim options side-by-side with market data, allowing dealers to see which vehicles are in highest demand in their area to ensure they are making the most of their limited production allocations. Another program called VinView allows dealers to track a vehicle's order status and provide updates to the buyer on when their vehicle will be delivered.

Many experts predict the chip shortage will persist throughout 2021 and well into 2022 as demand continues to outweigh production output. Some experts have said the shortage could even [last into 2023](#).



## C8 Corvette Gets Stolen Off Dealer Lot...

A [Chevy](#) salesman in Virginia was left dismayed after the customer they were serving got behind the wheel of a [C8 Corvette Stingray](#) display model and drove it off the lot without permission.



A video of the incident was uploaded to a Facebook fan page called [C8 Corvette Owners and Friends](#) this week.

According to the original Facebook post, this harebrained car thief only drove about a mile or so before they were caught. The vehicle was later returned to the dealership without incident. It's not clear if the person was arrested after this little stunt. It's also not clear if the sports car had already been sold and the customer was waiting to take delivery, or if the dealership was still seeking a buyer for it.

Another commenter said the customer only wanted to get in the vehicle to check out the interior and did not mention taking the vehicle for a test drive. The salesperson was about to join them in the passenger seat of the vehicle, but the thief then started the vehicle up and began driving away.

This is the second viral mishap involving a Chevy dealer and C8 Corvette Stingray in recent weeks. Last month, a Chevy dealer went viral after a service person was [caught joyriding and street racing a customer's C8 Corvette Stingray](#) by the onboard Performance Data Recorder camera system. The dealership has [since offered to replace the customer's car](#) with a new 2022 Corvette Stingray.

## Convertibles Accounted For 42 Percent Of 2021...

Speaking during a recent presentation at the National Corvette Museum, [Chevrolet Corvette](#) and [Camaro](#) Product Marketing Manager Harlan Charles revealed the final production numbers for the 2021 Corvette Stingray. According to Charles, about 42 percent of 2021 Corvette Stingray orders were for the Convertible body style. Of these convertibles, 8 percent were ordered in the 1LT trim level, 40 percent were ordered in the 2LT trim level and 52 percent were ordered in the range-topping 3LT trim. Additionally, 35 percent also opted for the contrast painted roof, while a further 9 percent went for the painted Nacelles.



“If you look at the Convertible, it’s up to 42 percent and climbing,” Charles said during the presentation. “I think [for the 2022 model year] so far it’s up to 45. I think we’ll get to the point where the majority ends up being Convertible one of these days. Both are great cars, but I think with the retractable hardtop and the benefits, people are starting to see those.”

As we reported previously, Chevy [produced 26,212 examples](#) of the 2021 Corvette Stingray – up from [20,368 units](#) in 2020. Chevy will likely build even more 2022 Corvettes, as this year’s production run was still fraught with setbacks due to parts shortages. Tony Johnson, director of car and crossover marketing for [Chevy](#), told *GM Authority* previously the automaker is [“not even close”](#) to meeting demand for the [C8 Corvette Stingray](#) and that it currently has “more orders than we can handle.”

GM began producing the 2022 Corvette Stingray [on the week of September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021](#). The 3D visualizer for the mid-engine sports car went live in August, while the build your own tool (which includes full pricing) will go live on September 14<sup>th</sup> at [Chevrolet.com](#).



## C8 Tops J.D. Power 2021 Quality Study...

The [Chevy Corvette Stingray C8](#) was rated the best Premium Sporty Car in the [2021 J.D. Power U.S. Initial Quality Study](#).



The Chevy [Corvette](#) Stingray beat out two of its closest rivals to top its category in the annual J.D. Power Study – the Porsche 718 and the Lexus LC. The Porsche 911, long considered the most direct rival to the [Chevy](#) Corvette, is notably absent from the top three.

The J.D. Power Initial Quality Study is conducted by surveying new vehicle owners on the number of problems they experienced during the first 90 days of ownership, per 100 vehicles. A lower score means fewer problems were experienced and is thus indicative of a higher quality. The industry average score in this year's edition of the annual study was 162, with 20 of 32 brands improving their quality from last year's study. The survey is based on the responses from 110,827 purchasers and lessees of new 2021 model-year vehicles, who answered 223 questions with regard to vehicle quality split into nine vehicle categories. These included infotainment, features, controls and displays, exterior, driving assistance, interior, powertrain, seats, driving experience and climate. The study was fielded from February through July 2021.

A high initial quality score for the C8 Corvette Stingray means owners are experiencing minimal problems with the vehicle early in their ownership. Common problems experienced early with new vehicles include infotainment bugs, smartphone/Bluetooth connectivity issues and loose/squeaky trim pieces. One in four of all problems cited by new-vehicle owners are in the infotainment category, J.D. Power says, and six of the top 10 problems across the industry are infotainment-related.

J.D. Power says the addition of wireless versions of Apple CarPlay and Android Auto has made these connectivity/infotainment issues even more common.

“The top complaint this year is Android Auto/Apple CarPlay connectivity, which worsens significantly,” the research agency said. “This is a particular problem when these systems are operated wirelessly, which is increasingly common.”

The [2022 Corvette Stingray](#) will enter production at the [GM Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant on September 6<sup>th</sup>, introducing [minor changes](#) like [new exterior colors](#) and a [new low rear spoiler](#).

## C8's sell 102% of MSRP...

The [C8 Corvette Stingray](#) is undoubtedly one of the hottest new cars on the market right now, with eager fans buying up every available unit just about [as quickly as they become available](#). Unsurprisingly, the



new [C8 Corvette Stingray](#) has been identified as one model that's consistently selling above MSRP.

According to a recent report from [Autotrader](#), the new C8 Corvette Stingray is selling, on average, at 102 percent of MSRP. *Autotrader* recently compiled a list of 20 new vehicles consistently selling above the full retail price, placing the new Corvette Stingray in 15<sup>th</sup> place underneath the Ford Bronco and above the Toyota Tacoma, both of which are also selling at an average of 102 percent of MSRP.

At the top of the *Autotrader* list is the Mercedes-Benz G-Class, which is selling at 118 percent of MSRP, followed by the Kia Telluride at 108 percent of MSRP and the Kia Carnival at 107 percent of MSRP.

Several other General Motors models also made the list, including the [Chevy Bolt EUV](#) in 20<sup>th</sup> at 100.5 percent of MSRP, the [GMC Yukon](#) XL in 19<sup>th</sup> at 101 percent of MSRP, and, as *GM Authority* covered previously, the [Cadillac Escalade](#) in 8<sup>th</sup> at [104 percent of MSRP](#).

As covered previously, dealers around the country have been [marking up](#) the C8 Corvette Stingray in response to soaring demand and low supply. However, it's likely that those C8 Corvette Stingray markups should [begin to go away now](#), as General Motors has shifted away from an historic dealer allocation model, which allocates supply based on how many models a dealer has sold, to an [Available Day Supply dealer allocation model](#), which prioritizes the rapidity with which a model is sold, incentivizing lower pricing to move units more quickly.



## NCM Announces New CEO...

**BOWLING GREEN, KY, September 1, 2021 –** The National Corvette Museum Board of Directors has selected Sharon Brawner to serve as President and CEO of the National Corvette Museum. Brawner joins the National Corvette Museum, effective today, from Nashville, TN where she served as the longtime Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing at the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum. Brawner will assume full CEO duties effective today, September 1, 2021.



**About The National Corvette Museum:** Since 1953, the Corvette has been America's Sports Car. The National Corvette Museum was established as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit foundation with a mission of celebrating the invention of the Corvette; preserving its past, present and future; and educating the public about Corvette. The Museum is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT and is located at exit 28 off I-65 in Bowling Green, KY. For more information visit [corvettemuseum.org](http://corvettemuseum.org) or call 270-781-7973.

## Richard Petty Racing Visits NCM...

This week, the National Corvette Museum welcomed NASCAR legend Richard Petty of Richard Petty Motorsports and driver Erik Jones for a tour of the NCM. Jones, a long time Corvette fan, currently owns four Corvettes: a 1962, 1965, 1969, and a 2019 ZR1. This was Jones' first visit to the NCM! Members of the Museum can read more about Jones and his Corvette collection in the Jan/Feb/March Issue of America's Sports Car Magazine.



# PSCC 2021 Autocross...put it in your calendars!!!

The Palm Springs Corvette Club Presents the  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Annual**  
*Fall Fling*  
**AUTOCROSS**

Benefitting the Boys & Girls Club of Cathedral City



EVENT OPEN TO  
ALL VEHICLES  
regardless of make

Dates: **November 13 & 14, 2021**

Place: **Riverside County Fairgrounds**

Located at Hwy 111 and Arabia in Indio  
(Enter on Dr. Carreon at back entrance of fairgrounds)

Time: **9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Prices: **\$20 entry fee per driver**

Entry fee includes

\$20

**Postponed Due to Covid...  
Revised date to be Confirmed!!!**

50/50  
CASH  
DRAWINGS  
ALL DAY!



Special thanks to



Date Palm Drive

Country Club Golf Carts



Sponsored by the SoCals Corvette Headquarters

**JESSUP**  
EST. 1938  
**CHEVROLET**

For additional information visit: [www.palmspringscorvetteclub.com](http://www.palmspringscorvetteclub.com)

PSCC has annually for 22 years utilizes the Autocross to support the Boys & Girls Club of Cathedral City. The March event last year was cancelled and again this March due to COVID. We are presently booked for November 12th, 13th and 14th assuming COVID is eradicated. I am planning for the event to GO! Therefore, we will need as many members as possible to make this a success so please put these dates in your calendar so we can continue our great support! Thanks Mike Smith.



## Down the Road....

Oct 21 Dinner Nite Out Marvyn's  
Magic Theater

Oct 29 Diva/Stud Lunch

Oct 26-28 Run to Death Valley

Oct 30 Palm Springs Air Museum  
Charity Car Shop

Nov 9 Club Meeting

Nov 12,13 & 14 PSCC 22 Annual  
Autocross **POSTPONED!**

Nov 18 Dinner Nite Out

Nov 26 Diva/Stud Lunch

Dec 11 PSCC Xmas Dinner and  
Dance

Feb 12, 2022 Dr George Car Show



Check the National Corvette  
Museum emails/website for  
activities and offerings near you!



## Collecting for Ronald MacDonald 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!

