



# Desert Vettes

***Palm Springs Corvette Club***

**August 2021**

## **PSCC Run to San Juan Capistrano**



## **Corvette Racing Road America...**



## **In this Issue:**

<b>President's Message</b>
<b>Sponsors - we need them</b>
<b>Executive &amp; Charities</b>
<b>Dinner Nite Out</b>
<b>Diva &amp; Stud Lunches</b>
<b>PSCC Cruise Capistrano</b>
<b>NCRS Convention Recap</b>
<b>NCRS Memory Tour</b>
<b>GM Recalls Bolt</b>
<b>Corvette Racing...Win</b>
<b>C8 Buyers to Pay More</b>
<b>2022 Champion Edition</b>
<b>2022 Regular Edition</b>
<b>C8 Dominates Market</b>
<b>GM Design Images???</b>
<b>New T-Bird vs C8?</b>
<b>PSCC Autocross</b>
<b>Down the Road</b>
<b>Ronald McDonald</b>

## President's Message....

I hope everyone is able to stay cool as June and July set heat records.

So far 2021 has been a good year for our activities due to the easing of covid rules. As has been noted before we are having DNO, Stud Lunch and Diva Lunch with good participation.



The AutoCross event in November is still iffy according to Mike Smith, should the Covid testing discontinue at the fairgrounds we will have a good chance of putting this event

Hopefully our snowbirds and Canadian members will be able to come back to the desert this season.

At the beginning of 2021 we had lost about 26% of our membership. Prior to covid our highest membership was 196 members in December 2019. As of this writing we now have 164 members, 40 new members since January. Thanks to the efforts of many in the club.

Our next meeting is August 10th, I hope to see many of you there!

Floyd





## 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,  
Cathedral City, CA

Country Club Golf Carts



79345 Country Club Dr Ste  
C, Bermuda Dunes, CA

## **Palm Springs Corvette Club Executive....**

**President... Floyd Marcoe**

**VP ...Stan Moreno**

**Treasurer...Hazel Stearns**

**Membership... Ron Singer**

**Editor/Media Russell DeLong**

**Marketing....Garry Dean**

**Governor...Tom Pinard**

**Secretary ...Ron Singer**

**Officer at Large.. Carmel Carbone and Liz Brannon**

**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**



## PSCC Dinner Nite Out at Ci Bon...





**Diva Lunch was held at the Roc's Firehouse Grill with 13 Diva's attending!**



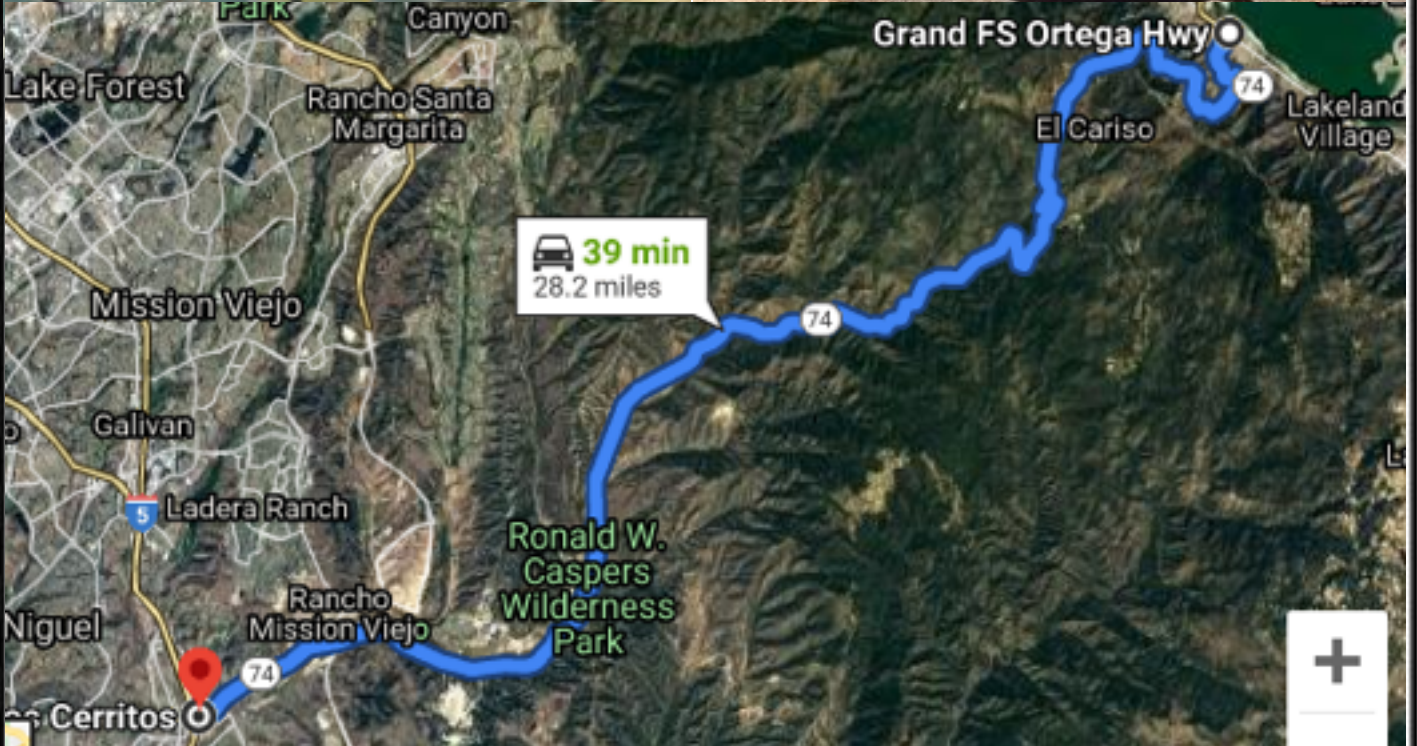
**Stud Lunch had 13 Studs but no photos!!!!!!**





## PSCC Run to San Juan Capistrano ...

Four PSSC Members took a run July 28th to San Juan Capistrano via Hwy 74. Great run, good lunch at Cedar Creek Inn at 11:30.





## NCRS Convention Palm Springs...

The National Corvette Restoration Society Convention was held this past month in Palm Springs. A few PSCC Members attended and given Covid, the heat and the fact that the old Corvettes are very precious it was lightly attended.

Half the cars in the hall seem to be newer Corvettes, certainly not "restored" Corvettes.

Here are Dave Walter, one of our newer members, Stan Moreno and I at the staging for NCRS Sunday evening in the 110 degree heat of Palm Springs.

Robert and Lucia Bell are having their '68 Vette performance verified at the convention. Dave and I went back the next day for the inside activities but this time I am charging my phone so I can take pictures!!!





## NCRS Memory Tour 1991...

### 1991 NCRS Road Tour across Mojave Desert included

In 1991, as a new member of NCRS and back in Wrightwood from Virginia where I had joined and met a lot of great east coast Corvette folks, I rallied my local Corvette club members to help host a "Wrestop" in Wrightwood (20 degrees cooler than the Mojave Desert they were all driving their C-1 and C-2 Corvettes across to get to the Disneyland based National convention).

The artwork was on our tee shirt that each car got from us, wonder how many are still out there 30 years later. Corvette



club members from across the Mojave River Valley and our Village of Wrightwood really extended hospitality 'cept mother nature did an off and on again rain storm right over the Village for a good share of the day. Jerry and Mary Wharton's Vette was staged on the main street as a welcome and through the day the sloping street provided a torrent of water and debris that had pine cones and little rocks up to the rims on the driver's side of the car. Mike Nichols jumped in my Vette at one point to head down to the Junction to make sure folks weren't missing our turn-off up to Wrightwood and came back amazed....

It was hot and sunny just a few miles

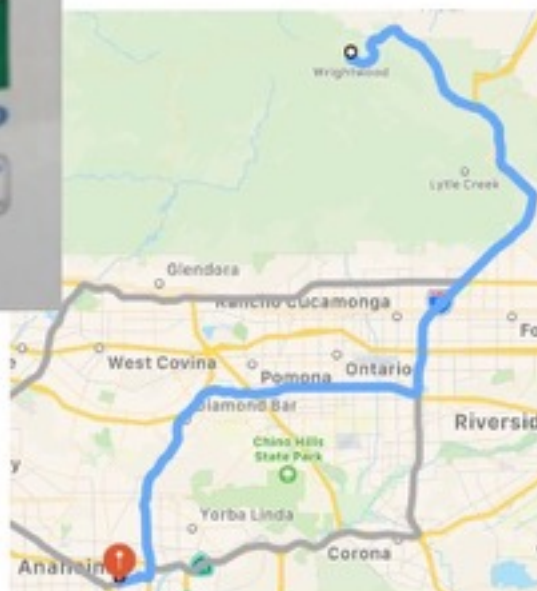
away at the junction of Hwy 2 and 138

Mike led the No. 3 1953 Corvette, being trailered, right up onto Park Drive and rain or no, all got to inspect the car.

It was a great day, wonderful memories.

Tom Pinard

Member #17546



## GM Recalls Bolt...

New York (CNN Business)GM is once again recalling nearly 70,000 Chevrolet Bolt electric vehicles because of a risk that the battery will catch fire when the car is parked.



The company does not have a fix for the problem that has been tied to at least nine fires nationwide since early 2020. The new fix will likely involve replacing battery modules or perhaps the entire battery pack, said GM spokesperson Dan Flores.

GM and federal safety regulators are providing steps that Bolt owners should take before their cars can be repaired. These include not parking it in a garage or next to another structure such as a home or other building due to the risk of a fire spreading. All the fires occurred when the cars were parked, and there were two reports of injuries.

The Bolt is the only EV that GM currently sells in North America, though it has other EVs it sells elsewhere, including China. US sales of the Bolt have been climbing rapidly, rising 142% to 20,000 in the first six months of this year compared with the first half of 2020. The model year 2020 and 2021 Bolts have a newer type of battery than the ones that caught fire.

This latest fire risk is comes just as GM is trying to expand its EV business. Over the next four years, GM plans to invest \$35 billion to unveil 30 different electric vehicles, 20 of them slated for the US market alone. The company has said it expects to be selling 1 million EVs annually by 2025 and has set a goal of selling only emission-free vehicles by 2035.

The new versions of the Bolt, the Bolt EV and Bolt EUV debuted earlier this year. The GMC Hummer EV pickup is due to go on sale later this year, and the Cadillac Lyriq, the luxury brand's first EV, is scheduled to hit dealerships late next year.

## C8 Corvette Z06 Sound....

**Here's What the New C8 Corvette Z06 Sounds Like**

The C8 Z06 will sound a lot like your favorite V-8-powered Ferrari.

Clic the link : <https://apple.news/A3LkzjczLQ8OYqiHGxGHAGw>



## Corvette Racing Road America...Two Podiums!!!

ELKHART LAKE, Wis. (Aug. 8, 2021) – Corvette Racing finished second and third in the GT Le Mans (GTLM) category of the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship on Sunday at Road America as the program now heads across the Atlantic Ocean for the 24 Hours of Le Mans.



GTLM championship leaders Antonio Garcia and Jordan Taylor finished second in the No. 3 Mobil 1/SiriusXM Chevrolet Corvette C8.R, just ahead of Tommy Milner and Nick Tandy in the No. 4 mid-engine Corvette. Shortly after the race, all focus turned to Le Mans with the team traveling over in the coming days with the Test Day set for Aug. 15.

Sunday's race marked Corvette Racing's 20th event at Road America, and early on the two C8.Rs were in control. Taylor and Tandy ran 1-2 during the opening minutes. An early-race call to take fuel and tires just 22 minutes in gave the No. 4 Corvette the advantage during the opening hour. Running second, Tandy took fuel and fresh Michelin tires just ahead of a full-course caution period.

Once the GT pits opened for stops, the No. 3 Corvette side switched to Garcia along with a full fuel fill and fresh tires. Meanwhile, Tandy remained in the No. 4 C8.R and took just enough fuel to top off the tank to move from third to first ahead of the restart at the 40-minute mark.

Garcia stopped the No. 3 Corvette for more fuel and tires with 75 minutes left with the No. 4 coming in less than 15 minutes later for a driver change to Milner. Disaster struck, though, as the car's wheels spun while on the airjacks. Race officials assessed the No. 4 C8.R a drive-through penalty for the infraction.

Meanwhile, Garcia set out to pressure Matt Campbell in the No. 79 entry late but the pace and gap was too much to overcome.

Corvette Racing next makes its return to the 24 Hours of Le Mans, which runs Aug. 21-22.

## C8 Buyers to Pay More...

Corvette shoppers should be prepared to pay quite a bit more than they would have a year ago as the past 18 months have hammered the auto industry, causing all sorts of delays in just about every aspect of the business.



The most publicized issues have come in the production chain, where the rollout of the C8 Corvette has been heavily hampered by multiple component-based issues. That has caused a shortage of new Corvettes, which leads to lower-than-desired inventory levels at dealerships around the country. When dealers are unable to get new inventory, they try to acquire the freshest possible used models for prospective buyers.

Corvette Blogger shared a study by [ISeeCars.com](https://www.iseecars.com), that indicated the model with the most dramatic increase in pricing from April 2020 to April 2021 is the Chevrolet Corvette. The average price for a used Corvette in April was \$68,804, up \$17,432 from the year before. That is an increase of 33.9%.

It is not unusual for someone to buy a **C8 Stingray** for \$70,000 and sell it right away for \$90,000, making a profit on a “used” car of \$20,000. Of course, in most situations, you cannot expect to make money when selling a used car that is a few months old, but when the car is highly sought after and in short supply, like the C8 Corvette, that leads to a unique pricing opportunity for owners.

In short, if you have a Corvette and you have ever thought about selling, right now is probably the time to sell if you want to get the most money possible. Used prices are through the roof and inventory is low, so it is a seller's market. If you are looking to buy a Corvette right now, you should be prepared to pay top dollar and you shouldn't expect dealers to offer much wiggle room in the pricing.



## 2022 C8 Champion Edition...

Here is what you get in the 2022 Corvette Stingray I M S A G T L M Championship Edition.

It is based on the 3LT trim with a Z51 Performance Package, which includes Corvette Racing-themed graphics packages.



The No. 3 version comes in Accelerate Yellow and features gray graphics. The No. 4 is in Hypersonic Gray and features yellow accents. Additional exterior content (varies by market):

- High-wing spoiler in Carbon Flash, which is a black paint finish.
- Yellow brake calipers
- Black Trident design wheels, with the “Jake” logo on the center caps, and black lug nuts
- Exterior mirrors in Carbon Flash
- Black side rockers, the panels that connect the front of the car to the rear.
- Splash guards.

Inside is either a Strike Yellow and Sky Cool Gray cabin that mimics the exterior yellow and gray racing theme, with standard GT2 seats. GT2 seats are premium and provide more support for occupants over longer distances compared with the base GT1 seat.

Kelly said competition sport seats are available too, those are engineered to provide more support for track or high-performance driving. The cars have yellow seat belts and a C8.R Special Edition numbered plaque.

Each car comes with a custom-fitted indoor car cover rendered to the appearance of the No. 3 or No. 4 Corvette C8.R race car and matches each car’s color and graphic scheme. So the No. 4 car has the gray cover, for example, and looks like the race car when it covers the car.

## 2022 C8 Regular Edition...

For those who want the regular 2022 Corvette Stingray, it will come in three new exterior colors: Hypersonic Gray, which is a dark gray, Caffeine, which is a dark brown, and Amplify Orange Tintcoat, which is a burnt orange.



The 2022 Corvette Stingray starts at \$62,195 for coupe and the convertible starts at \$69,695, both prices include the delivery fee. They are priced \$1,200 higher than the starting price for a 2021 model. But the 2022 model comes with a new low-profile rear spoiler and on the Z51 performance package, it includes a front splitter, which is a trim piece that will improve aerodynamics.

The 2022 Corvette Stingray's LT2 6.2-liter V-8 engine has an upgraded direct injection fuel system, improved engine calibration and an enhanced Active Fuel Management range. It remains rated at 490 horsepower or 495 horsepower, with the performance exhaust system.

The eight-speed dual-clutch transmission is standard. A Z51-equipped model can go from 0-60 mph in 2.9 seconds, Kelly said.

The mid-engine Corvette Stingray is offered in coupe and convertible models in 1LT, 2LT and 3LT trims, with the Z51 Performance Package available on all trims.

Coupes include a removable roof panel that stores in the trunk, and convertibles include a power-retractable hardtop. The trunk is large enough for two sets of golf clubs.

Consumers can build and price a 2022 Corvette and see a visualization of it on [chevrolet.com](https://chevrolet.com).

GM will be taking orders for the 2022 Corvette Stingray starting on July 1. Production of the cars will begin at GM's Bowling Green Assembly plant in Kentucky late in the third quarter, Kelly said.



## C8 Dominates Market...

The very impressive triple-digit jump in Chevy Corvette sales in the U.S. during Q2 2021 enabled the perennial sports car to remain the best-selling model in its class. In fact, the Corvette outsold all other rivals combined, including the Porsche 911, Porsche 718 (née Cayman/Boxster), Mercedes-AMG GT, Mercedes-Benz SL, Mercedes-Benz SLC, Audi R8 (see running [Audi R8 sales](#)), Nissan GT-R, Ford GT (see running [Ford GT sales](#)), Acura NSX and BMW i8.



The performance represents an ongoing improvement in Corvette sales volume, following strong numbers posted in [Q1 2021](#) as well as [Q3 2020](#) and [Q4 2020](#). During all three quarters, Corvette sales accounted for 51 percent or higher segment share. However, as we typically note, many contenders in this segment cost significantly more than the Corvette and naturally see lower sales volumes as a result.

During the second quarter of 2021, Corvette managed to double its segment share to 62 percent from 34 percent a year ago. The second-place Porsche 911 – the [most cross-shopped rival with the C8](#) – accounted for roughly a third as many sales with 18 percent segment share, down from 31 percent in the year-ago quarter. The Porsche 718 line, comprised of the 718 Cayman and 718 Boxster, followed in third place with a 7 percent segment share – the same as during the year-ago quarter. The Porsches were followed by the Mercedes-Benz AMG GT with 9 percent and the Audi R8 with 2 percent. All other models, including the Mercedes-Benz SL-Class, Nissan GT-R, Acura NSX, Ford GT, Mercedes-Benz SLC-Class, and BMW i8, each saw a segment share of 1 percent or less.

The premium sports car segment expanded an average of over 78 percent to 12,809 units in Q2 2021, meaning that Corvette sales outpaced the segment nearly three-fold.

## GM Design Imagines Open Top & Wheels Sport Car...

Back in March, the GM Design team shared a sketch on its Instagram page of an [open-top Chevy sports car](#) called the 'CERV 5' that designer Brian Geiszler completed back in 2017.



It seems as though that roofless sportscar experiment wasn't a one-off, as GM Design recently shared a very similar sketch that was completed by a separate designer around the same time period.

This sketch, dated 2018, can be attributed to GM designer Helio Queiroz. It shows a roofless [Chevy](#) sports car with a wedge shape and open-wheel design, giving it a very similar appearance to the aforementioned CERV 5. Queiroz appears to have first sketched the vehicle without its bodywork, revealing the intricate aluminum frame that the svelte body panels bolt to, along with its sophisticated pushrod front suspension.

When the bodywork is attached, this outlandish design actually seems somewhat feasible, incorporating road-ready components like front LED headlights and daytime running lights and taillights. We imagine the slick racing tires, minimal cargo space and lack of side and rear view mirrors would cause some headaches for anyone looking to take this experimental design concept out on the road, though.

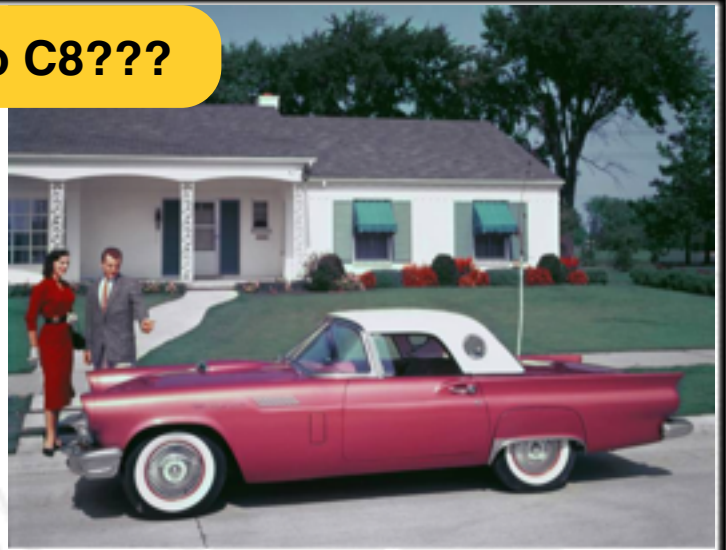
This concept reminds us of the Plymouth Prowler in a way – especially the front end with its inboard-mounted headlights and triangular-shaped grille opening. The Plymouth Prowler wasn't really a sales success (only 11,702 were ever produced), so we can't imagine GM giving a vehicle like this the green light for production, but it's interesting to see what its designers get up to in their spare time.





## New T-Bird Ford's Answer to C8???

Ford vs Chevy rivalry is one of the oldest and biggest in automotive history. The two American carmakers have been going at it across their line ups but the **Thunderbird** vs **C1 Corvette**. and guess what, the Thunderbird wiped the floor with the Corvette, in the 1950s, outselling it 23 to 1. That said, the Corvette went on to become America's definitive sports car, the Thunderbird eventually disappearing from the brand's lineup.



We recently got reports that **Ford is benchmarking a Torch Red C8 Corvette in Dearborn**. In addition, the Blue Oval filed a trademark for the Thunderbird name back in January, which means the Thunderbird name might return on a mid-engine **C8 competitor**.

It may sound counter-intuitive for a high-performance mid-engine sports car, but the fact is the C8 Corvette, despite its performance capabilities, is not as exclusive. This means that Ford might need to tone down the cutting-edge tech that went into their flagship, the **Ford GT**. Nevertheless, the C8 competitor from Ford is bound to share components with the GT, as it wouldn't make sense to develop a brand new platform, given that they already have one. Those are Big Pumpkins!!!

No other manufacturer currently offers a mid-engine V-8 performance car that does 0 to 60 mph (97 km/h) in under 3.0 seconds, with a starting price of \$58,900.

With this in mind, Ford's C8 competitor needs to follow a similar philosophy, as it would need to offer the mid-engine Thunderbird at a similar price. This inevitably means that the C8 rival will be positioned under the highly exclusive Ford GT.



# 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



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
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 day, per car  
Entry fee includes one free run on autocross course.

**\$8 per run or 3 runs for \$20**  
For additional runs in autocross.

**SUPER VALUE PACK!\***

A total of 18 Runs! A \$144 Value for only **\$100!**

\*Includes use of special VIP staging lanes!

Parking: **\$5** for cars not in the event

No entry fee for active Military but must pay for autocross runs.

- Valid drivers license and proof of insurance required.
- Helmets are required for all participants.  
(Limited number of loaner helmets available)
- Vehicle is limited to one driver with one passenger only.



TROPHIES  
AWARDED  
DAILY

**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....

- Aug 19 Dinner Nite Out
- Aug 20-22 Corvette Racing Virginia Raceway
- Aug 22 NASCAR Michigan
- Aug 27 Diva & Stud Lunches
- Aug 28 NASCAR Daytona
- Sept 14 Club Meeting
- Sept 10-12 Corvette Racing Laguna SECA
- Sept 16 Dinner Nite Out
- Oct 26-28 Run to Death Valley
- Oct 30 Palm Springs Air Museum Charity Car Show
- Nov 12,13 & 14 PSCC 22 Annual Autocross
- 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!

LOOK OFFICER,  
I'M JUST SAYING  
IF YOU CAUGHT ME  
THEN YOU WERE  
OBVIOUSLY  
SPEEDING TOO.



## 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!

