



Desert Vettes

Palm Springs Corvette Club

March 2022

Shadow Hills Cook Off/Car Show



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President's Message....

We are going to have a very active March. Aside from the Diva lunch and Stud lunch, DNO is a covered wagon ride followed by a great barbecue. If you haven't signed up yet and need information call or text Stan Moreno.



The run this month is on 3/28 depart first night in Solvang. Next day travel to Monterey for two nights and lots of sightseeing, good food as always and fun times with all of our traveling members. The last day travel down hwy 1 ending the day in the Pismo Beach area and a pizza night at the hotel. As of this writing there are 20 cars going the full trip and a few only going as far as Solvang. Total trip is 4 nights with return back home on April 1st.

The Stud lunch this month will be preceded by a trip to see the model railroad display at the Indio fairgrounds. Lunch location to be announced, should be a good fun day.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting March 8th.

Floyd



Palm Springs Corvette Club Sponsors....

JESSUP
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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.



Happy Birthday Floyd...



Rendering of Dan Jessup's New Dealership....



A rendering of the VOLVO and INFINITI Palm Springs auto park along Highway 111 at Library Way.

The mood is electric as Innovative Automotive Holdings, owner of VOLVO Palm Springs and INFINITI Palm Springs plans to develop a new auto park in Rancho Mirage along Highway 111 at Library Way. Plans are in place to break ground on a 6.5-acre parcel of land situated across from the Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory. The project will include an 8,650-square-foot VOLVO showroom, a 5,807-square-foot INFINITI showroom, a 15,995-square-foot vehicle workshop with additional space allotted for a future third dealership.

VOLVO Rancho Mirage and INFINITI Rancho Mirage will be completely engineered, designed and constructed for an electric vehicle future, the first in the nation among its respective network of dealerships to do so. “By the time we open in Rancho Mirage, half of our sales will be all-electric vehicles,” said Dan Jessup, President of Innovative Automotive Holdings. “We have a unique opportunity for EV readiness from the ground up plus the ability to take the lead locally from an environmental and socially relevant standpoint.” The City’s newest automobile dealerships will not only feature environmentally friendly electric vehicles in their showrooms, but the entire development is seeking to become a LEED Gold certified green facility with ecologically conscious features such as solar roof panels, drought-efficient landscaping, and low-level lighting. The latter is especially significant so as not to detract from stargazing at the nearby Rancho Mirage Observatory.....”

Palm Springs Corvette Club Executive....

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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 by the deadline of the first of each month.

Corvette Facts...Did You Know....

“Pewter Silver” was only offered as an exterior colour in 1972.

1972 was the only year air conditioning was available with the LT1 engine and since only 240 were so equipped, this combination is a rare find today.

Although 1973 VINs run to 34464, only 30,464 units were built; the 4,000 serial numbers between 24,001 and 28,000 were never used.

The 1970 - 1972 Corvettes were the last to feature chrome bumpers front and rear. In 1973, due to front impact legislation requirements, the front bumper was changed to body colour as was the 1974.

Palm Springs Corvette Club Charities We Support ...



**Boys & Girls Club
of Cathedral City**

**ALS
ASSOCIATION**

PSCC Dinner Nite & Army Field Band....



The United States
Army Field Band
& Soldiers' Chorus

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

In Concert!

Palm Springs Convention Center
Thursday, February 17th, 7pm

Sponsored by THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

www.ArmyFieldBand.com



Great turnout for Dinner Nite Out at Billy Reid's of over 40 members as always...great food! Then the PSCC Members enjoy an absolutely great concert by the United States Army Field Band & Soldiers' Chorus!!!



19 Diva's Lunched at Heritage Palms...



Stud Lunch & McCormick Auction...

The Stud Luncheon for February was a great success with 13 Studs who enjoyed a walk around the McCormick's 72nd Auction to view over 500 interesting vehicles. Then went to the Real Italian Deli which was great! Thanks Mike N!!!



19 Corvetters@ Shadow Hills Cook Off....

Thanks Stan and the Shadow Hills staff for a great Chili Cook Off! 19 Corvettes took in the show...thanks! Congrats to Dwayne for Best Corvette!!!!



C8 Corvette is easier for thieves to steal!!!

The C8 Corvette comes with a convenience feature that also makes it easier for thieves to steal.



The C8 Corvette has been around for a while now, but its **exotic supercar looks** are still turning heads, and we aren't just talking about the heads of folks that want to go out and buy one for themselves. Thieves are also attracted to the latest version of Chevy's iconic sports car, an unfortunate **side effect of popularity**. So it's fairly shocking to learn that the C8 Corvette can be not only driven away without a key fob present in the vehicle but also restarted, as YouTuber **Rick Conti** recently discovered.

The rise of the key fob itself has led to the former phenomenon in any vehicle, as most can be driven without the fob present, at least for short distances. However, several folks commented on this video and pointed out that the C8 can be driven without the fob inside the cabin for as long as one wants, while other vehicles have a range limit of some sort in place. A warning screen pops up, as is typical in most vehicles, but it also points out that one restart is allowed, which is somewhat alarming.

It's worth pointing out that the C7 Corvette also allowed someone to drive the car for an unspecified distance without the key fob present in the vehicle as well, but it's unclear why this is the case. Regardless, this simple fact means that C8 owners will need to be a little more vigilant to ensure that this little convenience feature doesn't wind up making it easy for a thief to drive off with their shiny new sports car.

The best way to prevent theft is to always turn off your car and lock your doors, but the C8 won't let you lock it using the door lock button while the engine is running. Thus, owners will certainly want to make sure the car is off and they have the key fob on their person before they walk away, perhaps more so than most vehicles out there at the moment, especially since that practice is actually illegal in some states now.



CORVETTE
FORUM

Chip Shortage...C8 Cuts Rear Park Assist...

Faced with more supply chain issues, the 2022 Corvette Stingray will move forward without Rear Park Assist.



The 2022 Corvette Stingray has been a huge success. It doesn't get much hotter than the demand and sales for the mid-engined C8. However, the industry has faced a **recurrent problem in microchip shortage**. Chip shortage and gridlock in the supply chain has thrown a wrench in 2022 Corvette production. As a result, Chevrolet has had to make some cuts to get the Stingray on the road and in the hands of hungry buyers.

Now, Chevrolet has had to remove Rear Park assist. Due to a lack of semiconductors, the driver assist function was chopped on January 24th.

The 2022 Corvette system uses a number of semiconductors. It is a helpful feature, and increases safety and visibility. This year, the 2022 Corvette Stingray has had to cut the Engine Appearance and Lighting Package, carbon fiber elements, splash guards, and most recently the High Wing Spoiler. Corvette is planning to add the additional cut options in Q4 of 2022.

2022's C8 Corvette will continue production until May. And 2023 Corvettes will hit the lines shortly thereafter. Dealer order guides for the next C8 are to be released in late March. And March 24 is when Chevrolet will start accepting 2023 Corvette orders from dealerships. To further stir up excitement in the **2023 Corvette**, Chevrolet will be hitting the road to tease the upcoming '23 Corvette Z06. 146 Chevrolet dealers will be part of the **2023 Corvette Z06 Dealer Tour**. Two pre-production 2023 Corvette Z06 models will cross the country and visiting dealers in the to show off the Z06, as well as give a good peek at options, colors, and trims.

Corvette Racing at 24 Hours of Daytona...

The Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona officially kicked off the 2022 season of the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, and this year's race saw some incredible bumper-to-bumper racing right up to the finish.



It was also the beginning of a season of changes, with new driver line-ups for many classes and a new class category for the GT cars. At the end of last season, IMSA officially closed the GT Le Mans class, which was historically made up of factory-backed teams with full-time pro drivers. Dwindling car counts over the years led to the cancellation of the class, which basically left the Corvette Racing team at a crossroads.

The team announced late last year that the C8.R would drop down to the GT Daytona (GTD) class, which has very similar specs to the FIA GT3 cars, and that numerous changes to the C8.R were needed to meet the class rules. In short, GTD cars are heavier, run a different tire compound, and have more drag and less power than similar cars in the GTLM class, which translates to a steep learning curve for the Corvette Racing team.

Compared to last year's GTLM spec, the GTD version of the C8.R is heavier. They had to add 143 pounds to the car, which required significant changes to the passenger side of the cockpit, moving components around to accommodate the necessary weights. The 5.5-liter V-8 engine is the same as last year, but with a smaller inlet restrictor to limit its power output. The angle of the rear wing is steeper, which increases downforce but limits speed on fast sections of the track, and an anti-lock braking system needed to be added, requiring a complete reworking of the engine and powertrain computers. Basically everything the team's engineers knew about the car last year had to be thrown out, and they had to approach this year as if starting from scratch.

Corvette Racing at 24 Hours of Daytona...

It also didn't help that weather conditions prior to the start of the Rolex 24 didn't allow for good data-gathering in practice sessions. Damp and cold conditions during practice didn't provide accurate info for what would be race conditions—sunny skies and cool air temperatures.



"This was one of those races where you wanted it to be shorter. We learned a lot and there is still more for us to learn," said Antonio Garcia after the race. "We were lacking pace both days. There still was a lot to be gained. If you add some extra testing and something else, then maybe we can be in the hunt. In the last stint, I could tell we were missing a tiny bit. If we were on the lead lap, it would have taken a tiny bit for us to be competitive. We'll carry on to Sebring."

Tommy Milner added, "It's obviously frustrating to have the problems we did. Even so, and looking at the ultimate pace, I don't think we had the car today to race for the win potentially. You never know in these kinds of races. If you're there at the end and you're close, anything can happen. That was kind of our goal today and obviously we didn't achieve that."

Nick Tandy expressed a similar sentiment, saying, "This sort of thing does happen in motor racing. We spent way too much time in the garage today ... We bring two cars to this race for a reason, and that's to have two shots. To have the luck that strikes both in the middle of the night is tough to take, to be sure. It's so surprising because it doesn't often happen with this team. This is motorsport and there are a lot of things that go into putting a car out on track, especially in going around for 24 hours. Sometimes we have good days, like last year, and sometimes it's not so great, like today."

IMSA's next event is the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring, March 16-19. You can find information and race results on IMSA.com. Race coverage in the U.S. is provided by the Peacock Network, or you can listen live for free on IMSA Radio.

GM Recalls Certain C8's....

General Motors and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration have issued a product safety recall for a small number of [C8 Corvette Stingray](#) units that were mistakenly shipped with missing halfshaft bearings.



The problem: affected C8 [Corvette](#) Stingray models had improperly manufactured half shafts installed at the factory that were missing one or more ball bearings. This can result in a loss of drive power, as the engine may not be able to properly deliver power to one or both of the rear wheels. The C8 Corvette Stingray is manufactured exclusively at the [GM Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant in Kentucky.

The hazards: a sudden loss of drive power could prove to be a hazard in traffic and may increase the risk of a crash. No crashes or injuries have been caused as a result of this problem.

The fix: dealers will be instructed to replace the left or right rear half-shaft assemblies. These repairs will be performed at no cost to the vehicle owner.

Affected components: driveshaft assemblies.

Affected vehicles: 2021 Corvette Stingray and 2022 Corvette Stingray

Number of affected vehicles: only 22 vehicles are believed to be affected by this issue. Owners should: GM will mail notification letters to owners of affected vehicles instructing them to make an appointment with their dealer on April 4, 2022. If owners are unsure whether or not their vehicle is affected by this recall, they can visit my.gm.com/recalls and type in their VIN to see any open recalls or other actions that may be active on it. Courtesy transportation is available for customers whose vehicles are involved in this recall and are within the warranty coverage period.

Contacts:

- GM recall number: N212351320
- NHTSA campaign number: 22V091000
- Chevrolet Customer Service: 1-800-222-1020
- NHTSA Toll Free: 1-888-327-4236
- NHTSA (TTY): 1-800-424-9153



Corvette Fastest Selling for January 2022...

The [2022 Chevy Corvette](#) was among the top ten fastest-selling vehicles in January 2022, according to a recent study conducted by market research firm *iSeeCars*.



The mid-engine sports car spent an average of 17.4 days on dealer lots before finding a buyer in January, making it the sixth fastest-selling vehicle for the month. The fastest-selling vehicle overall was the Kia Telluride, which spent an average of 12.8 days on the lot before being sold. The Toyota Corolla was second (15.5 days) followed by the Toyota Sienna (16.5 days), Acura MDX (16.7 days) and Toyota Ford Maverick (16.8 days).

Demand for the C8 [Corvette](#) Stingray has been extremely high following its introduction for the 2020 model year. Lower than usual production output at the [GM Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant in Kentucky has compounded with high demand to make the vehicle very hard to come by. For this reason, the Chevy Corvette managed to remain in the top ten of the fastest-selling vehicles in the winter month of January, when sports cars typically sell a bit slower.

While the [Chevy](#) Corvette is selling a bit more slowly now than it did [last summer](#), for example, it remained the most expensive vehicle in the list of the top ten fastest-selling nameplates. The average transaction price for the mid-engine sports car last month stood at a very high \$98,597. The next most expensive vehicle in the top ten was the Lexus GX 460, which sold for an average of \$61,986.

Production of the [2022 Chevy Corvette Stingray](#) began at the [GM Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant around [September 6th](#), 2021. Pricing for the 2022 Corvette Coupe in the base 1LT trim level starts at \$62,195 including destination and freight charges, while the Convertible starts at \$69,695 with DF

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LS7 Discontinued.....

Hot on the heels of the discontinued supercharged LT5 GM powerhouse we have more bad news: the death of the iconic LS7. Yep, the dry-sump-equipped, race-bred 427ci—the biggest naturally-aspirated LS engine fielded by GM—has been, without fanfare, discontinued. We didn't find out through a well-crafted press release, either,



we found out on social media where people noticed that it was marked as discontinued on many sites. And if that's not bad enough, it looks like the aftermarket version, the LS427/570, is discontinued as well.

Featuring a unique (for a GM production LS engine) 4.00-inch stroke, the LS7's large 4.125-inch bores required a siamesed-bore cylinder block. The 427ci LS7 is stuffed full of race-ready parts and tech including titanium intake valves and rods, that helped churn out 505 rated horsepower, a number that in reality was pretty conservative. The 7.0-liter LS7 was also designed around a hybrid dry/wet oiling system (but referred to as a dry-sump system), a first for GM.

The LS7 saw duty in the C6 ZO6 but it was also drafted to power the insane track-focused fifth-gen Camaro Z/28. Both of these cars have long been out of production so we're not shocked that they stopped production of LS7s as well, but we are a bit surprised they stopped making the less expensive and more powerful wet sump LS427/570 crate engine. According to Chevrolet, it plans on fulfilling current orders until the inventory hits zero, then, as they say, that's all folks.

NASCAR Season Starts with Barn Burner...

NASCAR Cup Series rookie Austin Cindric won Sunday's Daytona 500, beating Bubba Wallace by a nose. The field re-racked for overtime with Cindric lining up on the outside out front with the former driver of his No. 2 Ford, Brad Keselowski, behind him. Cindric quickly dropped low after the restart in front of teammate Ryan Blaney, who tried to move by Cindric on the outside coming down the front stretch.



Team owner Roger Penske a “Happy Birthday” immediately after the race. Penske turned 85 years old on Sunday. This is Penske's third Daytona 500 victory, after Ryan Newman won in 2008, and Joey Logano won in 2015. Cindric also became the first rookie to win the Daytona 500, NASCAR's biggest race, in front of a sellout crowd.

Chevrolet Wins at Auto Club Speedway ...

Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, California once again proved to be a menace to racing slicks during Sunday's 400-mile Nascar event. Twelve cautions slowed the field for 59 out of 200 laps, the product of many spinouts and other incidents during the race.



Eventual race winner and [2021 Nascar Cup Series Champion Kyle Larson](#) was forced to surrender his 13th-place starting position due to an electrical issue with his No. 5 [Chevrolet Camaro](#) ZL1. Larson started at the back of the field since his team had to replace the No. 5's ignition.

Birth of the C8 Z06...

The **2023 Corvette Z06** is remarkable for many reasons. However, at the heart of it all is the all-new **LT6 engine**. You already know the basic specs. 5.5L DOHC flat-plane-crank V8

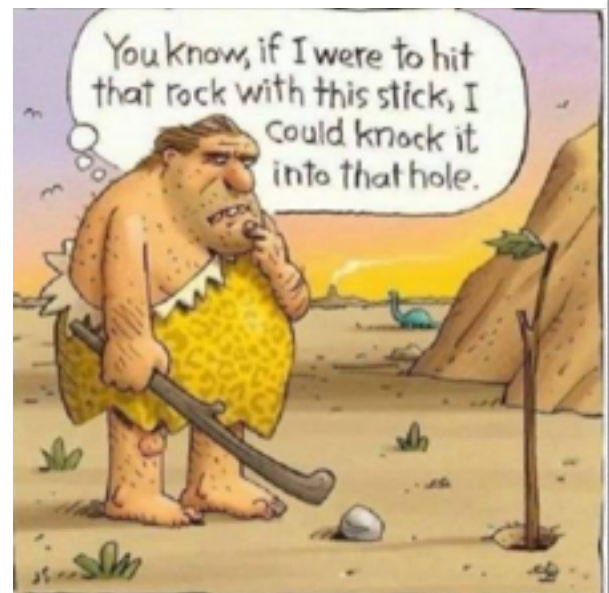


that revs to an 8,600 rpm redline. 670 horsepower. 460 pound-feet of torque. The LT6 is **the most powerful naturally aspirated V8 ever** engineered into a production car. That is all very exciting indeed. However, there's a lot more to the LT6 story you probably don't know. What do you think about the 5.5L LT6?

This week, GM hosted a press event with every engineer on the LT6 team, including Corvette Chief Engineer, Tadge Juechter. Before this LT6 deep dive event even began, we were impressed with what we knew about this engine. Now, having spent three and a half hours with the engineering team, we're completely blown away. Here's what we learned...GM Literally Bought a Wrecked Ferrari to Study Flat Plane Crank Engines.

The new Z06 needed an exotic engine. It had to be designed specifically for the Corvette and nothing else. From a priority perspective, the engine needed to be naturally aspirated for consistent track performance. It needed to be something that would thrill the Z06 driver by its sound, its feel, and even just by looking at it. Above all else, it needed to have exhilarating performance. It needed to perform as well or better than the most exotic cars in the world.

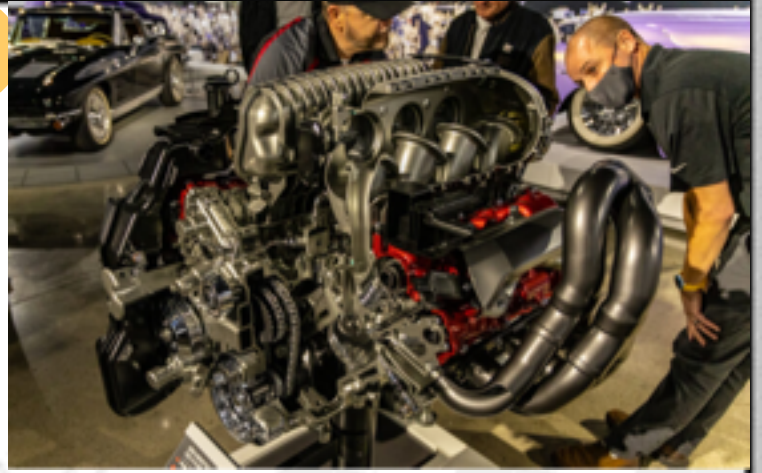
To make sure it achieved that, the LT6 team benchmarked cars from Porsche, McLaren, and Ferrari. They even went so far as to buy a wrecked Ferrari 458 off eBay so they could study the inner workings of the engine.



How Man Learned to Swear.

Birth of the C8 Z06...

GM developed the LT6 under the codename Project Gemini. This was as a nod to the space program and the American astronauts love of Corvettes.



It was also in reference to the fact that this was a moon-shot engine program. Gemini is also Latin for twins. As in twin intakes and throttle bodies, dual fuel pumps, etc. Want some other fun Gemini facts? There are 54 Gemini rockets throughout every LT6 engine, both inside and out. Some of these rockets are even functional as they act as assembly directional arrows for the engine builders.

GM wanted to keep the LT6's overall weight down and they succeeded. Consider these stats.

- The LT6 is only about two pounds heavier than the LT2 in the regular Stingray while making 175 more horsepower.
- Compared to the LT4, the LT6 is a whopping 30 pounds lighter while making 20 horsepower more.
- The forged titanium connecting rods in the LT6 weigh about half as much as the rods used in the LT5 from the last ZR1.
- The forged aluminum pistons used in the LT6 come from the same supplier that provides the pistons for the race engine.
- The crankshaft in the LT6 is 33 percent lighter than the LT2's crankshaft.

This team took weight savings very seriously.



Barrett Jackson Presents...

Ford's new \$500,000 GT supercar Alan Mann Heritage Edition is for the biggest car geeks only!

Ford's New \$500,000 GT Supercar is for the biggest car geeks

Talk about a deep cut. The latest version of the [Ford GT](#) supercar features a paint scheme that pays tribute to a car that never even won a big race. Driving one is a clear indication of your car geek credentials.



The Alan Mann Heritage Edition salutes the experimental versions of the [Ford GT40](#) built by Alan Mann racing in the lead-up to Ford's 1966 win at Le Mans.

The original AM GT-1 cars -- which were powered by the smaller 289 cubic-inch V8, rather than the 427 cubic-inch V8 used to beat Ferrari at the signature 24 hour race -- were equipped with lightweight aluminum body panels, quick-change brakes and an easy-access oil filler, features that would find their way onto future GT40s.

The heritage edition wears the same red, gold and white color scheme as the race cars along with a number roundel, gold interior accents and red paddle shifters behind the steering wheel that match the exterior.

It remains powered by the GT's 660 hp twin-turbocharged 3.5-liter V6 and has an official top speed of 216 mph. Exact pricing has not been announced, but GT heritage edition models typically run around \$500,000 and have included one honoring [the car that won the 1966 24 Hours of Le Mans](#).

The GT was first introduced in the 2017 model year and [Ford](#) previously said it [plans to build 1,350 through 2022](#), but hasn't confirmed how many are left.

The logo for Barrett Jackson, featuring the name in a stylized, cursive red font.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST COLLECTOR CAR AUCTIONS®

PALM BEACH | APRIL 7-9

Down the Road....

- March 12 So Cal Auto Show
- Mar 13 NASCAR Ruoff Mortgage 500
- Mar 13 Southwest Church Car Show
- Mar 17 PSCC Dinner Nite Out
- Mar 16-19 Corvette Racing Sebring
- Mar 20 NASCAR Atlanta
- Apr 3 NASCAR Richmond
- Mar 25 Diva & Stud Lunches
- Mar 27 NASCAR Texas
- Mar 28, 29, 30 & 31 Monterey Cruise
- Apr 3 NASCAR Richmond
- April 8-9 Corvette Racing Long Beach
- April 12 PSCC Club Meeting Jessups
- April 21 PSCC Dinner Nite Out
- Apr 24 NASCAR Talladega
- April 29 Diva & Stud Lunches
- Apr 29-May 1 Corvette Racing Laguna Seca

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



Daylight saving..
Spring Ahead!!!
March 13

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!

