



# Desert Vettes

**Palm Springs Corvette Club**

**January 2022**

**115 C8's Damaged Beyond Repair....**



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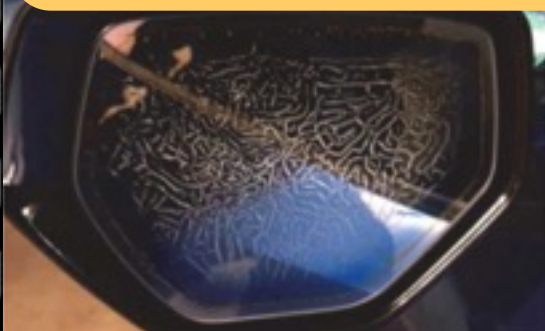
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## President's Message....

A new year and new adventures ahead of us for 2022. We have some exciting travel plans, some overnight and others day trips.

As most know by now the Dr. George Show is cancelled. As of this writing we are still poised to put on the AutoCross on March 11 to 13th. We are waiting for a new contract for this year's event.

On February 1 or 2 we are having a photo shoot at the Palm Springs Air Museum. The goal for this is to be on the cover of the Blue Bars publication. More information to be coming from Stan Moreno and Tom Pinard.

As we are still under state rules for face coverings, please be prepared for meetings to require. At this time it will affect both January and February meetings.

Look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting or event.

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.



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Drive, Cathedral City,  
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## Palm Springs Corvette Club Executive....

President... Floyd Marcoe

VP ...Stan Moreno

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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....

Only two 1969 Corvettes were sold with the ZL-1 all Aluminum 427 engine, making them one of the rarest collector Corvettes of all time. Note: Visit Roger's Corvette Centre in Orlando Florida, for a close-up look at an original 1969 ZL-1

In 1969, the ignition lock was moved from the dash to the steering column. It would remain there until 1997 when it returned to the dash.

In 1970, big block engines increased from 427 to 454 cubic inches and the powerful 370 HP LT1 small block made its debut.

1970 sales were the lowest since 1962 (only 17,316 units) due to a late start in the [production year.

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



Boys & Girls Club  
of Cathedral City

**ALS**  
**ASSOCIATION**



# Annual PSCC Christmas Meeting, Dinner and Dance...





# Annual PSCC Christmas Meeting, Dinner and Dance...



**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**



## Annual PSCC Christmas Meeting, Dinner and Dance...



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**  
and a **HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!**



The second from the last photo is of the ladies that are instrumental in putting the Christmas party together.

The last photo is of Joyce receiving a gift from the Club for all she's done to make the Christmas party special.



**Cars & Coffee January 8th....**



**Great turnout of Corvetters!!!**





**Excellent turnout of  
cars, well over 100+!!!**

## Bowling Green Plant Getting Help...

General Motors' [Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant was [damaged after a tornado touched down](#) in Kentucky last weekend, forcing the automaker to temporarily close the facility until the necessary repairs can be made.



The plant, which is the only facility that builds the [C8 Corvette Stingray](#), may come back online sooner than expected thanks to help from the automaker's [Factory Zero](#) and [Spring Hill](#) plants. According to [The Detroit Free Press](#), the automaker has moved construction cranes from the Factory Zero and Spring Hill construction sites to Bowling Green to help assist with the post-tornado repairs. Some building material was also moved from Factory Zero to Kentucky this week.

Jason Watson, president of the UAW Local 2164 branch that represents Bowling Green Assembly plant workers, told *The Detroit Free Press* that GM is first focusing on performing exterior repairs to the plant before turning its attention to some of the interior damage that occurred. The automaker confirmed Monday the plant had suffered roof damage and a small fire, while an employee entrance was also left in disrepair.

“There’s all kinds of visible damage throughout the building and structural things,” Watson told the newspaper. “The building itself is what they’re trying to concentrate on because there are multiple areas of the roof that were compromised and various siding surrounding the plant. They can’t determine yet if there’s damage to equipment or line, they’re not turning it on yet.”

GM is currently performing major renovations at Factory Zero as it converts the site to a dedicated EV production facility. Similarly, Spring Hill is undergoing major renovations to prepare for production of the [Cadillac Lyriq](#) and perhaps a [future Acura electric crossover](#) as well. It’s unclear when production of the C8 Corvette Stingray will restart at Bowling Green Assembly, however a spokesperson said the production shutdown is so far only in place for this week.



## 115 Corvette Stingray Damaged Beyond Repair....

115 C8 [Corvette](#) Stingray were damaged beyond repair in the tornadoes and must be scrapped. Dealers who placed customer orders for cars affected by this turn of events will need to re-submit their order. GM says that allocation numbers for the next round of 2022 Corvette orders appear to not have been negatively affected, so dealers will be able to place new orders according to last week's order numbers.



Unfortunately, the 115 cars that were damaged whilst sitting inside the plant may not be the only cars that will be scrapped. The memo says Corvettes that were sitting outside in the back of the factory awaiting shipping are still being assessed for damage. These vehicles are currently being held by the plant and will not be shipped to dealers until a full assessment is completed.

GM was already struggling to keep up with demand for the C8 Corvette Stingray and this unfortunate turn of events will likely delay deliveries of the 2022 Corvette even further. Production at the GM Bowling Green Assembly plant is also paused this week as the automaker assesses the damage done to the plant, which included roof damage and a minor amount of fire damage.

“Maintaining a safe work environment for plant employees is our top priority,” a plant spokesperson said this week. “Therefore, we are cancelling production on first and second shift the week of December 13<sup>th</sup> as our trained teams work to get tooling, equipment, and the facility space up to standard.”

The GM Bowling Green Assembly plant employs 1,200 hourly workers and 180 salaried workers. Hourly workers there are represented by UAW Local 2164.

The [GM Bowling Green Assembly](#) plant, the exclusive assembly plant for the [C8 Corvette Stingray](#), will re-open next week after it was idled [due to damage sustained from a tornado](#).

## NCM Spared and NCM Motorsports Park Damage....

During the historic storms on December 11, 2021, the National Corvette Museum was spared any significant damage. All staff - National Corvette Museum, NCM Motorsports Park, and NCM Insurance - were reported as safe.



Fifteen hours after the events, the curatorial team verified that all the artifacts and vehicles in the collection were reported secure. Thirty-six hours after the storm, all individuals with an artifact on loan to the Museum were notified that their loaned items were not in harm's way.

While much of the storm damage was isolated to the Museum's Amphitheater, the Museum was closed over the weekend while crews restored power, cleared roadways of debris, and ensured that our areas were safe once again. We appreciate the calls, e-mails, and check-ins on our staff and institutions.

Our closure was necessary due to the circumstances, but we apologize for any inconvenience you may have encountered and appreciate your patience as we work through this unprecedented situation.

Unfortunately, the NCM Motorsports Park did not have the same fate as the Museum. The Motorsports Park is temporarily unsafe to welcome guests, and all activities are suspended until further notice. Insurance adjusters and crews have begun the assessment and clean-up efforts to help determine our rebuilding plan of the affected areas.

Our hearts are with those across the Commonwealth who these storms have impacted. Anyone who wishes to assist the Bowling Green community can learn to support by visiting [bgky.org](http://bgky.org).



## 2023 Z06's On Route to GM Proving Grounds...

A [Chevy](#) dealer representative took a few snapshots of a truckload of [2023 Corvette Z06](#) units loaded onto a car hauler this week, giving us some of the first real-world photos of the new mid-engine supercar without any camouflage applied to it.



These [Corvette](#) Z06 units are not being dropped at the dealership the rep works at, as customer deliveries of the vehicle will not begin until next year. Instead, these cars are allegedly headed to the [GM Milford Proving Ground](#) in Michigan.

These [2023 Corvette](#) Z06 units will no doubt spend some time on the so-called 'Lutz Ring' at Milford – a 2.9-mile, 17-turn road course that was designed specifically to push a vehicle's powertrain, suspension and brakes to the absolute limit. The Lutz Ring, as the name suggests, is the brainchild of former GM chairman Bob Lutz, who wanted a racetrack that emulated sections of some of the world's most challenging racetracks to help improve the handling and ride comfort of GM vehicles.

Engineers are also sure to have a bit of fun with the new [C8 Corvette Z06](#) at Milford. After all, the supercar is powered by a naturally aspirated [5.5L LT6 V8](#), which produces a healthy 670 horsepower and 460 pound-feet of torque, with the redline set at a sky-high 8,600 rpm. Output is routed rearwards through an eight-speed dual-clutch transmission, enabling it to hustle from zero to 60 mph in about 2.7 seconds.

A handful of these prototypes also appear to be equipped with the available Z07 Performance Package, which enhances the performance ceiling of the 2023 Corvette Z06 with aerodynamic add-ons, sticker Sport Cup 2 R ZP tires, a more robust performance braking setup with carbon ceramic rotors and FE7 suspension with specific calibrations for the [Magnetic Ride Control](#) 4.0 dampers. Models equipped with the Z07 Performance Package can also be equipped with lightweight carbon fiber wheels (shown on the Arctic White-painted model above) – which significantly reduce the vehicle's unsprung mass to improve steering responsiveness and handling.

## Radars Detector Could Damage C8 Rearview Mirror....

Radars detectors are a popular aftermarket modification among sports car owners for what should be fairly obvious reasons, but [C8 Corvette Stingray](#) owners could run into a small problem when using a radar detector in their vehicles, as indicated by a recent post on the *GM TechLink* website.



The article says some C8 [Corvette](#) Stingray owners have complained that their driver-side outside mirror displayed a poor operation and appearance, including numerous lines shown in the mirror and a dim reflection at all times. This problem has been traced back to the installation of an aftermarket radar detector, which, depending on the installation location, may send a higher voltage to the mirror.

This problem is caused when the jumper harness for the aftermarket radar detector is added to the mirror's X1 connector, which is located behind the front cover of the inside rearview mirror.

If a customer experiences this problem, technicians will disconnect the jumper harness and replace the damaged outside rearview mirror. Vehicle damage resulting from aftermarket devices is not covered under warranty, so owners should be cognizant of this before plugging a radar detector into any of the vehicle's ports.





## Corvette Eight-Speed Transmission Production to Ontario Canada Q2 2022....

Production of the [mid-engine Chevy Corvette](#) C8's eight-speed dual-clutch transmission will begin at the [GM St. Catherines plant](#) in Ontario, Canada in Q2 of the 2022 calendar year, *GM Authority* has learned from sources familiar with the matter.



Earlier in November, *GM Authority* reported that the GM St. Catherines plant [would manufacture](#) the [Chevrolet Corvette](#) C8's eight-speed dual-clutch transmission following ratification of a labor contract between General Motors and Canadian labor union, UNIFOR. In order to produce the [C8 Corvette](#) eight-speed dual-clutch transmission, GM will invest \$109 million into the GM St. Catherines facility. The money will also go towards support for “continued V8 engine production.”

Also known as St. Catharines Propulsion, St. Catharines Powertrain, or St. Catharines engine plant, the GM St. Catherines plant first opened in 1954, and is located in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. The facility also produces the GF6 six-speed automatic transmission, as well as the naturally aspirated [5.3L L84 V8](#) gasoline engine and naturally aspirated [6.2L L87 V8](#) gasoline engine.

Going forward, General Motors will take over production of the mid-engine [Chevy](#) Corvette C8's eight-speed dual-clutch transmission from Tremec. Based in Wixom, Michigan, with production facilities in Mexico and Belgium, Tremec is the current manufacturer of the Corvette's DCT.

As a reminder, the C8 Chevy Corvette is offered with two engine specs, including the naturally aspirated [6.2L V8 LT2](#) gasoline engine, which is equipped by the [C8 Corvette Stingray](#), and the naturally aspirated [5.5L V8 LT6](#) gasoline engine, which is equipped by the [C8 Corvette Z06](#). Both models are equipped with the eight-speed dual-clutch transmission, and both ride on the GM Y2 platform. Both vehicles are also assembled at the [GM Bowling Green Assembly facility](#) in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The C8 Corvette Stingray is available now, while the C8 Corvette Z06 will go on sale in 2022 for the 2023 model year.

## New Continental Tires Ad Features C8 Corvette ...

A new advertisement from Continental uses the [C8 Corvette](#) Stingray to promote the German tire manufacturer's products.

This ad features a C8 [Corvette](#) Stingray finished in the Long Beach Red Tintcoat exterior color, which was offered for the 2020 model year before it was replaced by

[Red Mist Tintcoat](#) on the [2021 Corvette](#). The advertisement shows the vehicle driving on an empty countryside road before showing clips of the mid-engine sports car driving slowly in a town center.



C8 Corvette Convertible in Long Beach Red

Strangely, the C8 Corvette Stingray does not come from the factory with Continental brand tires. The mid-engine sports car is equipped with [Michelin tires exclusively](#), including the standard Michelin Pilot Sport All Season 4 all-season and the optional Michelin Pilot Sport 4S summer tire. Both of these tires were developed by Michelin specifically for the C8 Corvette Stingray.

The only Continental Tire product that currently fits the original wheel sizes of the C8 Corvette Stingray is the Continental SportContact 6. This set of rubber, which unlike the factory tires is not a run-flat, is described by Continental as an “ultra high-performance tire,” that is “designed to meet the demands of the most powerful and sportiest vehicles.”

While Continental is not the factory tire supplier for the C8 Corvette Stingray, the company [partnered with American tuning company Lingenfelter](#) to promote its tuning program for the sports car last fall. Lingenfelter released videos and photos of a tuned C8 Corvette Stingray finished in a Continental Tire livery (above) and wearing a set of the company's ExtremeContact Sport rubber, which were installed on a set of aftermarket alloy wheels. These tires do not fit the factory wheel sizes for the mid-engine Corvette, so aftermarket wheels would be required to install them.

Check out the Corvette-themed Continental advertisement embedded below

<https://gmauthority.com/blog/2021/12/new-continental-tires-advert-features-c8-corvette-stingray-video/>



## Porsche Working On Ruggedized Porsche 911?...

An odd-looking Porsche 911 prototype was recently spotted testing in Germany which begs the question – should **Chevy** follow suit with a ruggedized variant of the **Corvette**?



This particular prototype appears to be equipped with a raised suspension, greater ground clearance, taller tires, and flared wheel arches. While the 'Ring might seem like a strange place to test the off-roading variant of *any* vehicle, odds are an off-roader 911 would still spend most of its life on paved roads anyway.

Which brings us to Chevrolet. There's no doubt that off-road models are as popular as ever these days, with a long list of trail-ready vehicles on offer across the crossover, SUV, and pickup truck segments. The recently introduced **GMC Sierra AT4X** and **Chevy Silverado ZR2** certainly come to mind. So then – what about a ruggedized Chevy Corvette?

The nameplate has already evolved massively with the introduction of the **mid-engine C8**, and rumor has it a further evolution is in store down the road. Way back in 2018, *GM Authority* captured a **potential Corvette crossover** undergoing testing, while in September of January of 2020, we risked backlash from the purists by publishing renderings of what a **Corvette SUV** might look like. Early this year, rumor that GM was working on an **all-electric Corvette crossover** once again rekindled the rather controversial subject.



## It Takes Some Guts To Chop A Brand New C8 Corvette And Make A C8 Art Deco-Inspired Custom Build...

The art of coachbuilding has taken a downturn since unibody construction conquered the automotive world. But some people are still out there doing it old school.

Just because what's happening is fairly clear, doesn't mean that it's easy to understand, though. The artisan coachbuilder is turning a brand new C8 Corvette into a unique creation that's partly inspired by what a C2 Corvette would look liked had Chevy chosen a mid-engine layout in the 1960s and partly from the Art Deco movement, which may give some onlookers pause.



Obviously, that's not an easy task as the eighth-generation car places its engine in the middle, rather than in the front, as Chevy opted to do for the second-generation of its most famous sports car. Ignore the fact that even the attempts to turn late-model front-engine Corvettes into older model lookalikes aren't always really that successful. And worry not about production delays for people who actually want to drive their C8 as is; the world needs nuts like Jack Wendel to make oddball cars and to keep car culture weird.

The concept, though odd, isn't completely mad. Mid-engine vehicles from the '60s, such as the the Lamborghini Miura, aka the OG supercar, were still very much interpreting that layout through the lens of long-hooded, front-engine design language and no one would call that car ugly. The proportional strictures of the C8 Corvette this creation is being based on may mean, though, that this DIY car is less universally-adored than Lamborghini's efforts.

Perhaps the most stunning aspect of this project, which the channel claims is being accomplished solely in the maker's spare time and will require no special equipment. In any case, we can't wait to see what the finished item will look like.



## Chevy's Christmas Video...

If you missed Chevy's Christmas Commercial while here it is.

It's a pretty emotional ad, and for those readers that need an uplifting holiday message, this ad could be the perfect thing.



Click on the link and scroll downtime page to the video:

<https://gmauthority.com/blog/2021/12/1966-chevy-impala-featured-in-holiday-ride-advert-video/>

## Checkout these Beauties at Barrett Jackson...



*Celebrating 50 Years of*  
**THE WORLD'S GREATEST  
COLLECTOR CAR AUCTIONS**

**JANUARY 22-30 | SCOTTSDALE**

## **PSCC Photo Shoot at Palm Springs Air Museum!!!**

**We are planning to set up a "front page" type photo of the Club Members Corvettes that potentially may make the cover of the NCCC's Newsletter..."Blue Bars"!**

**We have set up February 1st (option February 2nd) with the Palm Springs Air Museum for the shoot with our "window" 8:00am to 9:45am (they open the Museum at 10am so, we should be done by 9:30am to be fair to the Museum folks).**

**For this photo Shoot, we need every possible member(s) and their Corvettes participating. Anything short of 100% will make the photo shoot a dud so, please plan to attend.**

**Please circle your calendars for these two dates and we will be setting up a call sheets for attendees and by the middle of January, we will know if we are going to have enough of PSCC Members response to make this work.**

**This will be a great photo that would look great in members garage or den along with possible publication(s).**

**We can make it happen if we get enough members participating. Here is a phot of where we will setup.**

**Tom P in a r d ,  
PSCC Governor.**





## 2022 Dr George Charity Car Show Cancelled...

Dear Friends of the Dr. George Charity Car Show,

After weeks of investigation, reviewing of public health trends and agonizing discussions, the Steering Committee and the Board of the Palm Springs Cruisin' Association have determined that the 2022 Dr. George Charity Car Show will be cancelled. We have explored different dates and locations but have not found any solution that would provide the excellent atmosphere we have grown accustomed to at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden.

The COVID pandemic and the threat of an oncoming Omicron variant have created government restrictions that would prove unmanageable for an event such as ours. We are especially sensitive to the fact that this is the second year in a row we have marched up to the event and had to cancel. It is having a significant impact on the Desert Cancer Foundation and so we are looking to other opportunities to help fund this important charity and their efforts to provide cancer care to those who cannot afford it. As you may remember, every dollar we have been able to contribute, generates \$10 in cancer care. That is an investment in human lives we take very seriously.

As an alternative, we will soon be rolling out a new Sweepstakes for a 2023 Chevrolet Corvette Z51, with several performance options. The drawing will be December 17, 2022 and promises to make for the best Christmas present for the lucky winner. You will be getting more information shortly.

For those of you who have already registered your vehicles, your election to donate or refund your fee in full will be honored in weeks to come. We deeply appreciate the generosity of those who have indicated they would donate their fee. To all others, we encourage you to support the Desert Cancer Foundation directly with your year-end giving. Their mailing address is: Desert Cancer Foundation, [74091 Larrea St., Palm Desert, CA 92260](https://www.desertcancer.org/). Please indicate this is from the Dr. George Charity Car Show on your check.

We thank you for your interest and support of the Dr. George Charity Car Show and the Desert Cancer Foundation. We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Ross McMullin, Co-Chair

Craig Korthase, Co-Chair

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

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

**SPRING! Fling**  
**AUTOCROSS**

Benefitting the Boys & Girls Club of Cathedral City



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
CATHEDRAL CITY

Dates: **March 12 & 13 2022**

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.

Event  
**OPEN TO  
ALLVEHICLES**  
regardless of make



TROPHIES  
AWARDED  
DAILY

50/50  
CASH  
DRAWINGS  
ALL DAY!



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**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. COVID cancelled our plans but we are confirmed and planning for the event to GO March 2022! 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....

January 11 Club Meeting Jessup's  
January 20 Dinner Nite Out  
Jan 21-23 Daytona Corvette Racing  
January 28 Diva & Stud Lunches  
Jan 27-30 Daytona Corvette Racing  
Feb 6 NASCAR LA Coliseum  
Feb 8 Club Meeting Jessup's  
Feb 12, 2022 Dr George Car Show  
Feb 17 NASCAR Duel 1 & 2 Daytona  
Feb 20 Daytona 500  
Feb 27 NASCAR Auto Club Speedway  
Mar 6 NASCAR Pennzoil 400  
March 11 (Setup) 12 & 13 PSCC 22nd  
Annual Autocross  
Mar 13 NASCAR Ruoff Mortgage 500

Check the [National Corvette Museum](#) emails/website for activities and offerings near you!

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**



## 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!

