



JULY 2021 VOL. 5-7

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 12, 2021

WWW.VILLAGEVETTES.COM

Visit our website at www.villagevettes.com for changes and updates to the schedule

VILLAGE VETTES CORVETTE CLUB 2021

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As the threat of COVID-19 dissipates our Club activities are taking on the a look of normal. About 40 Corvettes arrived at Eisenhower for the pre-meeting cruise in last month. We will do it again on July 8th 4:30 until 6:15 when we go in side for what I expect will be a short meeting.

80 members signed up for the Corvette Flag Waving Cavalcade through the Villages followed by the 2nd Annual Hot Dog Social at Baker House. Thanks to Don Cheney for putting this together again this year.

Hope you all saw Dave LeBlanc and Sadie along with his 2010 Corvette in the “Wheels” Section of the July 2nd Daily Sun. Fun to see our members featured.

We are hoping to have a DJ at the August pre-meeting Eisenhower Cruise-In. Stay tuned for details.

Be safe.

Charlie Tagman/ President 2020/21

Village Vettes "Country Christmas"

This year's annual Village Vettes "Country Christmas" Dinner Party will occur on Thursday, 9 December '20. The entertainment will feature world class showman Kip Sweeny channeling country legend Garth Brooks in his production, "Garth Brooks – The Ultimate Tribute Show." Cost is \$40.00/person.



The event will be catered by the Oakwood Smokehouse Grill. It is a "country" themed event; so, "blame it all on your roots and show up in your boots."

Visit the club's web site (<https://villagevettes.clubexpress.com>) for further details/registration.



The process has commenced to establish a new slating for a new Board Of Directors for the coming year.

The requirement/qualification for office is simple, be a "tenured, member-in-good-standing" and demonstrate an interest in facilitating the direction of the club for the coming year. Elected Directors will serve a one (1) year term with a term of office extending from 01 January '22 thru 31 December '22. The new Board Of Directors will be elected by ballot casted by the attending membership at the 11 November '21 General Membership Meeting.

All office positions are open. If interested, please contact a member of the Nomination/Election Committee. (Mike White or Jim LOGUIDICE).



June 3, 2021

NCM eNEWS

Weekly Email Newsletter of the National Corvette Museum | Bowling Green, Kentucky

This Week's Stories...

- R8C Delivery Customers Show Appreciation
- Tom Peters to Appear on the Classic Car Corner Podcast
- Win a 2021 Torch Red Convertible
- Shop on Amazon Smile and Benefit the Museum
- Corvette Store Featured Items & Free Shipping
- Next Generation Membership
- June Calendar Wallpaper Available
- eBay Auctions Benefiting NCM
- Correction: Museum Welcomes Preservation Intern
- Upcoming Events & Car Shows

NCM Quick Links

- [Corvette Store](#)
- [Become a Member](#)
- [NCM Insurance](#)
- [Build Sheets](#)
- [Corvette Raffle](#)
- [Give Now](#)
- [Museum Homepage](#)
- [Event Calendar](#)



Allan and Sara Theriault of The Villages, Florida have had eleven Corvettes, and today they picked up their 12th in the Museum's R8C Delivery Program. Having never done Museum Delivery, Allan says that they chose R8C because they heard that it was a great experience.

Allan and Sara Theriault with David and Rita Pentz
Allan says that "this Ceramic Matrix Gray Corvette is more than likely the last Corvette. [They] wanted to do it with a bang." They added an element to their delivery to showcase their "gratitude and appreciation to the Museum." The

Theriault's sign on their Corvette reads: "We would like to thank the Corvette Museum for making dreams come true! Hi everyone watching!" Allan states that Museum Delivery "makes you feel like you are the king of the roost. Anyone can take delivery at a dealership but, this is something special."

Having not visited in more than 15 years, Allan and Sara "couldn't have asked for a better day" and even became members of the National Corvette Museum. The Theriault's are also members of Leisure Time Corvette Club and Village Vettes.

Joined by their neighbors, David and Rita Pentz, who are also Corvette owners, Allan and Sara recommend everyone to "try it because it's an experience that you can't get anywhere else.



Allan and Sara Theriault with
David and Rita Pentz

Corvettes Racing

by Ron Cullum



I know that those who write about sporting events are supposed to build up the excitement and gush over every detail, but for once let's hear it for "Truth in Reporting." The race at Watkins Glen was not a big thriller. When you have only two teams racing (one BMW and the two Corvettes) it is a bit hard to get excited when the other categories typically have at least six contenders.

The Number 4 Corvette driven by Nick Tandy (he newest member of the Corvette racing driving team) led for most of the race up until a serious accident shut the course for almost an hour. The ending of the race ended up being a sprint with Jordon Taylor in the yellow #3 Corvette taking the lead. Unfortunately, the number 4 car ended up third – last but only by less than a second.

But this was nothing compared to the boredom at Belle Isle in Detroit where the entire GTLM class was made up of the two Corvettes. Guess what!! Corvette came in first and second. Who cares which car won? Not only that, but this was also not a point race, so one might reasonably ask "Why even race?"

I guess the reason they were there was that it was in the Detroit area and Chevrolet wanted their employees and the others in GM to see their spectacular creation. And this was another good practice session for the BIG RACE – 24 Hours of LeMans.

But other news did come out that weekend that could be very good news for next years races. Porsche, whose dropping out of GTLM earlier fairly well sealed the death of the GTLM class and will force Corvette into a new class next year, announced that they will be coming back to endurance racing (hopefully in the new class that Corvette will be in). But the biggest news is that Porsche signed on Will Powers (an Indy 500 winner and a 39 time Indy car winner) and two other Indy drivers to be on their team next year. So, in the immortal words of Chicago Cubs fans, "Wait till next year!" It should be exciting.



AMBASSADOR

Ron Tanner, VVCC Master Ambassador;
Email: bandito2108@hotmail.com ; Cell: (402) 651-0474

JULY UPDATE - Here's the latest NCM news and offerings.

Welcome to Our Club's Newest NCM Members!

During the period June 1-30, 2021 the following VVCC members became NCM members:

New Senior Individual NCM Members

Ed Henry

New Family NCM Members

Jerry & Betty Wilson

As of June 30, 2021, VVCC has 107 members who are NCM members consisting of the following membership types: 69 Family; 26 Individual; 2 Senior Individual; and 10 Lifetime.

Upcoming On-Site Museum Events

27th Anniversary Celebration Registration Open



The NCM 27th Anniversary Celebration will be held Thursday, September 2nd through Saturday, September 4th, 2021, and online registration is now live! Anniversary registration is \$20 for Lifetime members, \$25 for members, and \$35 for non-members. The deadline for online registration is Friday, August 14th. Early registration includes a hard card badge, lanyard, event pin and dash plaque. Registered attendees can look forward to enjoying three fun days full of activities in and around the Museum! These include interesting road tours, video presentations, raffles, and even more! There is also an option to attend the Anniversary Celebration virtually where registrants will have access to a virtual feed of the seminars and presentations.

Vets 'n Vettes – November 4 – 6, 2021



Sponsored by ExxonMobil

Honoring Those Who Fought for Our Freedom

In 2008 we began a tradition of honoring our veterans with a new event, Vets 'n Vettes. Thursday kicks off with a full day at the NCM Motorsports Park. Complimentary lunch served to all courtesy of Don Franklin Chevrolet! We will celebrate Friday and Saturday with road tours, the Bowling Green Veteran's Day Parade, and lunch at the local VFW. The event offers veterans, servicemen and women and those who want to support them, a comfortable place to meet and share stories and experiences.



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JULY UPDATE - Here's the latest NCM news and offerings.

2022 Michelin NCM Bash - Thursday 4/28 – Saturday 4/30



Kickoff of the 2022 NCM onsite event season with us here at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, KY!

Returning activities include a seminars from all of your favorite Corvette Celebrities, classroom sessions by GM certified Corvette Technician Paul Koerner, enjoy guided road tours through the beautiful Kentucky countryside, two celebrity choice car shows, a celebrity autograph session, auctions, book signings, and the Ladies' Oasis.

Join us at the NCM Motorsports Park for touring laps and Corvette Experiences or feel free to go over and watch other participants as they take to the track to learn what their cars can do

On-line registration includes the event dash plaque, lapel pin and a personalized badge & lanyard. Many of the event activities sell out quickly so it's important to register early. Registration Opens Early 2022.

Update - Participate in an NCM Museum in Motion Trip



Museum in Motion Tours

bring Corvette enthusiasts

together to enjoy driving their Corvettes and visiting new, unique, interesting and exciting venues. All arrangements are made on participant's behalf by the NCM! Here is the list of 2021& 2022 MiM offerings:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| • Colorado Springs Area | July 11-16, 2021 | REGISTER NOW |
| • National Parks Tour (AZ & UT) | September 19-25, 2021 | WAIT LIST |
| • 9-Day Caribbean Cruise | April 15-25, 2022 | REGISTER NOW |

Space is limited on all MiM tours, so get your name on the reservation list early. **Contact Bryce at 270/777-4506 or Maci at 270/467-8804 at NCM to get your name on the list.** Feel free to contact Ron Tanner, NCM Ambassador at 402/651-0474 if you have questions about MiM tours.



AMBASSADOR

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Email: bandito2108@hotmail.com ; Cell: (402) 651-0474

JULY UPDATE - Here's the latest NCM news and offerings.

Upcoming NCM Corvette Raffles



2021 Silver Flare Coupe; 2 LT Equipment Grp; Adrenaline Red Leather Interior

Drawing Date: 7/22/2021 @ 2 PM CDT; Price: \$100.00 Each; Tickets: 2,000 (1,159 Available 6/30/21)



2022 Build Your Own Stingray or Take \$65,000

Drawing Date: 8/19/2021 @ 2 PM CDT; Price: \$250.00 Each; Tickets: 1,500 (1,279 Available 6/30/21)

Car Features include:

- Select Your Color and Options, Coupe or Convertible
- Factory Installed Options Only (All LPO or Dealer Installed Accessories Excluded).
- Stingray Corvettes Only (1LT, 2LT, or 3LT Trim Options).
- Excludes Customer Selectable VIN, Build Your Own Engine, Special Edition Models or Packages, any options on constraint.
- Corvette Museum Delivery



2021 Torch Red Coupe; 2 LT Equipment Grp; Jet Black Leather Interior

Drawing Date: 9/04/2021 @ 3 PM CDT; Price: \$20.00 Each; Tickets: Unlimited Number

Below is a Raffle Ticket request form for the above raffles – simply clip it, complete, and send to the NCM at least 7 days prior to the raffle selected. **The cost of Corvette raffle tickets are tax deductible.**



AMBASSADOR

Ron Tanner, VVCC Master Ambassador;
Email: bandito2108@hotmail.com ; Cell: (402) 651-0474

JULY UPDATE - Here's the latest NCM news and offerings.

Upon receipt of your completed ticket request form with payment, if tickets are still available, a raffle ticket stub will be completed with your contact information and placed in the raffle ticket drum.

RETURN TICKET FORM BELOW WITH PAYMENT TO:

Attn: Raffle
National Corvette Museum
350 Corvette Drive
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Corvette Raffle Ticket Request Form—NOT A TICKET

TICKETS: _____ @ \$100/tkt 7/22/21 _____ @ \$250/tkt 8/19/21 ~~_____ @ \$100/tkt 9/4/21~~ _____ @ \$20/tkt 9/4/21

TOTAL: \$ _____

NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT: Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

RETURN TICKET FORM WITH PAYMENT TO: Attn: Raffle, National Corvette Museum, 350 Corvette Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42101

SOLD BY RON TANNER, VVCC AMBASSADOR

Become an NCM Member and Get the Benefits

- Free Admission to Museum Exhibits
- Discount on NCM Sponsored On-Site Events
- Discount on NCM Sponsored MIM Events
- 10% Discount on Corvette Store Apparel, Car Parts & Accessories
- Discount on NCM Auto Insurance
- Discount on Car Rentals
- Discount on Hotels
- 20% Discount on Carfax Reports
- 10% Discount on Air Evac/AirMedCare Membership
- Discount on Museum Bricks & Tiles
- Discount on Build Sheets & Window Stickers
- Tax Deductibility of Dues, Donations, Raffle Tickets, Bricks & Tiles
- Reduce All or Part of IRA RMD Income by Gifting to NCM



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JULY UPDATE - Here's the latest NCM news and offerings.

- Annual Subscription to America's Sports Car Magazine
- Weekly NCM Email News Updates
- Access to Member Only NCM Website Section

If you are one of the VVCC Club members who do not belong to NCM, please join now to become part of the 36,000 or so fellow Corvette owners, including many VVCC members, who are NCM members. The first year price of becoming an NCM Individual member is only \$37.50 (or \$75.00 for 2 person Family membership) which is a 25% discount for VVCC members --- that's only **72 cents per week** for a person to become an NCM member. Annual renewal dues for Individual and Family memberships cost \$50, and **all dues payments are tax deductible.**

JOINING NCM/RENEWING NCM MEMBERSHIPS VIA VVCC WEBSITE

It's easy to join NCM (or renew your NCM membership) via the VVCC website as follows:

- Go to our website at www.villagevettes.com
- Log onto the website by clicking on **Member Login** in the upper right corner of your screen - have your User Name & Password ready.
- Click on the menu tab at the far right end of the menu bar.
- Scroll down the page to this selection of buttons.

NEW MEMBERSHIP HERE

RENEW EXISTING NCM MEMBERSHIPS HERE

NEW NCM Individual
\$37.50 1st Year

NEW NCM Family
\$75.00 1st Year

NEW NCM LIFETIME
\$1,500.00

NEW NCM
SENIOR Individual
\$500.00 - 20 Years

ReNew NCM Family
\$200.00 - 5 Years

ReNew NCM Family
\$50.00 - 1 Year

ReNew NCM
Individual
\$200.00 - 5 Years

ReNew NCM
Individual
\$50.00 - 1 Year

- Click the desired **NEW** or **ReNEW** button and follow the prompts.
- Pay via credit card on our secure on-line system.

How can I determine if I'm an NCM member?

Easy – when you are **Logged in** as a VVCC member on the VVCC website, push the **MEMBERS ONLY** tab on the home page; scroll down to and open the **Xcel Membership Roster**. NCM membership information is listed for each NCM member in the far right three columns of the Roster.

REMINDER – Whenever you do any type of transaction with the NCM, **please remember to notify the VVCC NCM Ambassador (Ron Tanner) at either the above email address or cell phone to ensure our Club receives recognition for supporting the NCM.**

The Villages®

Friday Jun 12, 2021

DAILY SUN

Villager's Corvette Brings Him a Little Spark of Happiness

Fernandina resident Tony DiSalvo knew he wanted a Corvette since he was 12 years old.

By **MADDIE CUTLER**
Daily Sun Staff Writer

Tony DiSalvo waited four decades to get his dream car.

When he was 12 years old DiSalvo fell in love with older Corvettes, and when opportunity knocked on March 12, 2016, he leapt at the chance.

DiSalvo owns a LeMans Blue 2006 Corvette. He said

his main attraction to the make and model is the look of it, the way the lines all work together to create an impressive silhouette.

"The sleekness and smooth lines are the best," he said. "It's also a performance car that's powerful, but the very first thing I notice every time is the look."

DiSalvo, of the Village of Fernandina, said each time he sees his bright blue car it

brings him a little spark of happiness.

"It's just my absolute favorite. It's a little hard to explain, but once I saw it I loved it," he said.

"It's got these great hideaway headlights, and more room in the trunk than the convertible."

DiSalvo's Corvette is a coupe, which he prefers over the convertible. He said it's not a common preference, but he doesn't like how the retractable roof takes up so much of

2006 LeMans Blue Corvette



Engine:
350 cubic inches



Transmission:
4-speed
automatic



Base Price:
\$44,600

the available trunk space.

"In my trunk I can fit two sets of golf clubs and two suitcases," he said. "That's not something you can always achieve with the convertible."

The hideaway headlights, another other feature he likes, rotate as opposed to the other popular style of pop-up headlights.

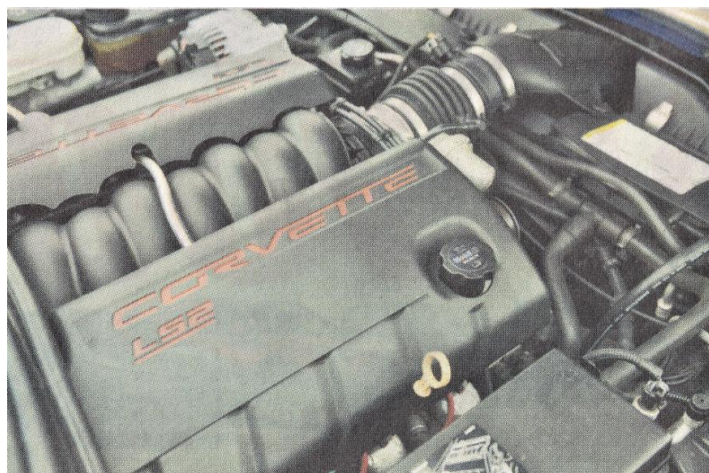
While power isn't the first thing he thinks about, it certainly is something he enjoys.

"Now I don't go around town speeding like crazy, but it's nice to feel the power when I'm able," he said. "It's got great control, too."

His car certainly isn't the flashiest or fanciest, but DiSalvo wouldn't trade it for anything.

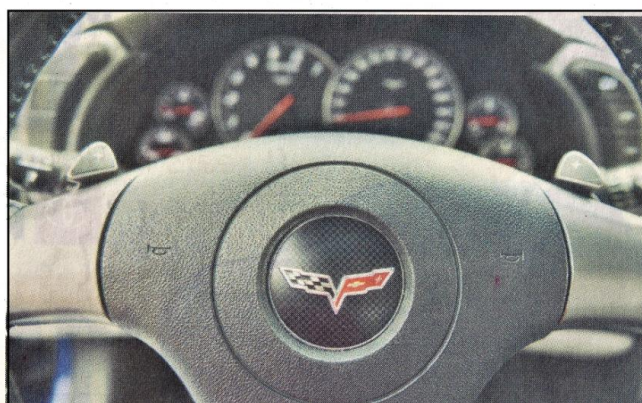
"It's what I've been dreaming of since I was a kid," he said. "I was so happy the day I bought it, kind of a dream come true."

Staff writer Maddie Cutler can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5386, or maddie.cutler@thevillagesmedia.com.



"I was so happy the day I bought it, kind of a dream come true."

TONY DISALVO Village of Fernandina



Photos by Cindy Skop | Daily Sur

Tony DiSalvo, of the Village of Fernandina, jumped at the chance to buy his 2006 LeMans Blue Corvette in 2016. DiSalvo's Corvette is a coupe, which he prefers over the convertible. He said it's not a common preference, but he doesn't like how the retractable roof takes up so much of the available trunk space.

COLOR RUN

**We thought that we'd let you identify with
The Fall Colors, just in case you forgot what they looked like.**

Can you feel the chill in the air, see the frost on the squash, did you put on a jacket to get the morning paper, then pack up for the 2021 Color Run. The sugar maples are turning a bright red, the oaks are a brilliant yellow, their leaves are accumulating on the ground. The sight of all of this color while enjoying a ride through the forest and following directions to your destination.

Roger and Cindy have developed a fabulous trip for you. A scenic byway through the picturesque hardwood forests with all the trees aglow, over picturesque creeks and rivers, and over delightful bridges. Your destination is about a five hour trip somewhere in either Florida, Georgia, or Alabama. You will need a map of each state, a phone, or camera device, a pen/pencil to note different items along the way. You will need to either answer questions or take pictures of different items on your trip. Don and Linda have a catalog of prizes for those that answer the questions correctly. The destination has all kind of activities, either at the hotel or in the area. You will enjoy your leisure day there.

The dates are on October 5th through the 7th, with a two night stay at the undisclosed location.

The cost of this year's Color Run is \$185.00 (\$150.00 plus \$35.00 at registration) as an initial deposit and \$150 at check out for the second night, all taxes included.

After registering on our website, you must call McConkey (262-363-5288) to reserve your room, or I will do it as I receive the reservations.

There are 22 rooms available for a members and one guest each. We're taking every room in the facility. Some of the rooms are on the first floor, some on the second. This hotel is not ADA accessible to the second floor, so when you reserve a room I will need to know what kind of room you are looking for.

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN 07/07/21@8AM The club will transfer the first night's charge to the hotel on 9/1/21. NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER 09/01/21

We have selected a dinner spot about a block away. They are offering to let us pick from the menu. This restaurant / bar combination is the "GoTo" location in town, so be ready to enjoy yourself.

A waiting list will be established AUTOMATICALLY when 22 members have registered for the 22 rooms available. If you miss the window we strongly urge you to get on the waiting list as we've had cancellations every year which allowed those "waiting in line" to join the group.

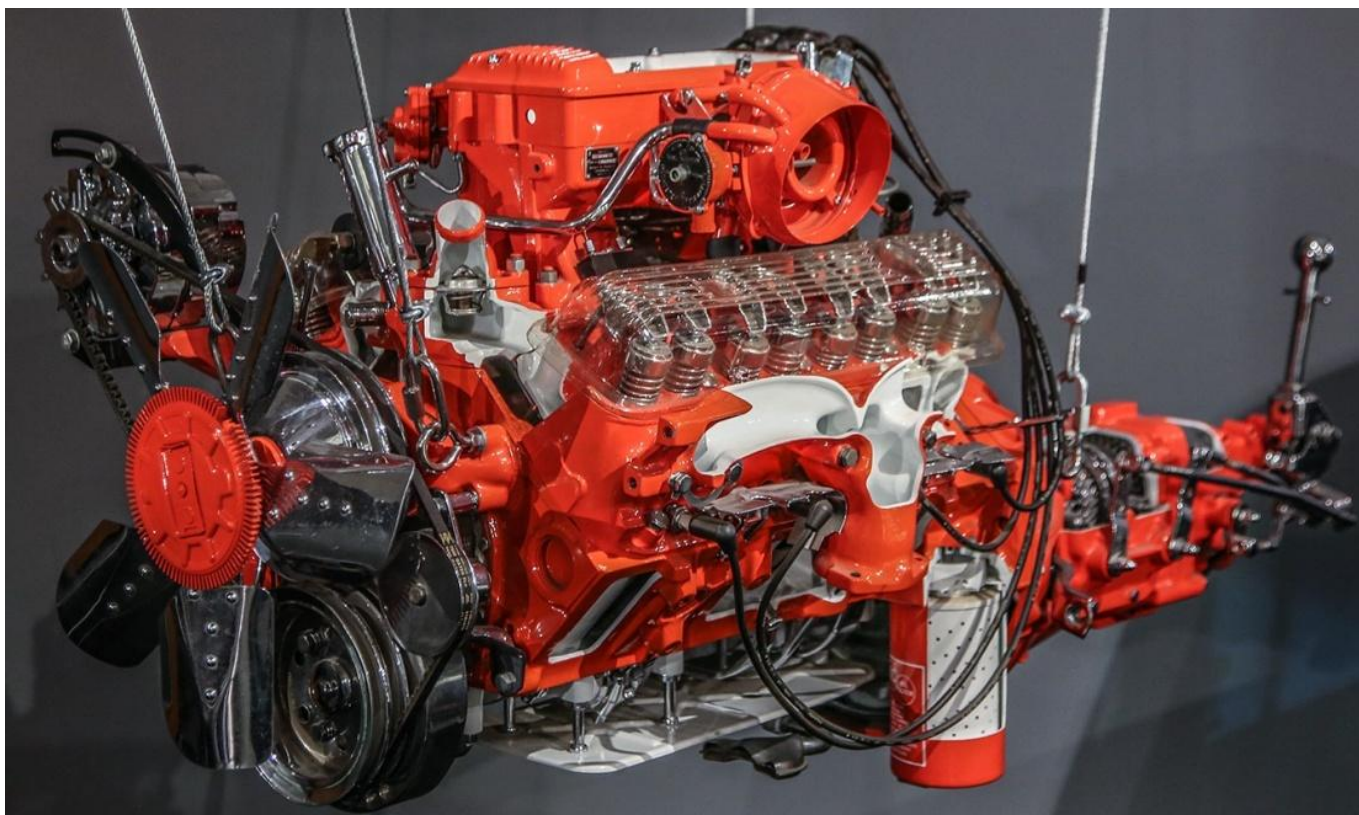
Questions, concerns, etc. contact anyone listed below
Rodger & Cindy
Don & Linda Chaney
Gene McConkey

2021 COLOR RUN - 10/5-10/7



Brandan Gillogly
30 June 2021

TOP 10 CORVETTE V-8'S 50'S, 60'S, & 70'S



June 30th marks the anniversary of America's Sports Car entering production. On that date in 1953, the first Corvette was built. Although there have been ups and downs, and supposedly a few brushes with cancellation, today the MID-ENGINE STINGRAY is in high demand and the future of the crossed flags seems bright.

We're taking this opportunity to look back at our favorite V8s of the era of high octane, high compression ratios, and high horsepower. This is essentially our top 10 Corvette engines before the era of electronic fuel injection. So here they are, in roughly chronological order based on their introductions.



265



CORVETTE has been around so long it predates the vaunted Chevrolet small-block. So while Corvette was initially offered with only the Blue Flame Six in 1953 and '54, the V-8 debuted in 1955 and set the tone for the following 65 years. With just 195 ponies, the first V-8 wasn't a powerhouse, but it was a milestone.

283-2x4'S



Corvette has a long history of offering multiple carburetors. The Blue Flame Six used triple single-barrel carbs to squeeze 155 horses out of the 235-cubic-inch inline-six, but that was soon eclipsed in a big way once the small-block V-8 showed up. In 1956, two flavors of 283 offered dual four barrels, one at 225 hp and another at 240 hp. By 1960 those numbers had improved to 245 hp and 270HP. The visual impact of the carbs was dampened a bit by the large, single air cleaner, but there were other engines available if something a bit more flashy was required

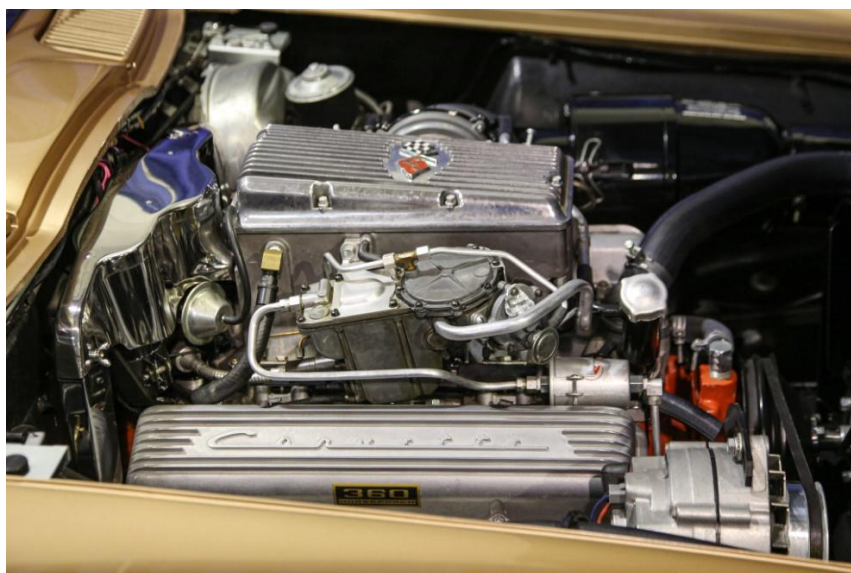


283 Fuelie



While the dual four-barrel 283 we just mentioned was nearly as potent as the mechanical fuel-injected 283 when it was initially offered in 1957 with 250- and 283-hp variants, there are few '50s engines that turn heads and drop jaws like an early "fuelie." By 1961 its output had reached 315 hp

L84-327 Fuelie



This may be the best-looking small-block ever installed in a Corvette, but it was also a serious performer. While the 327 fuelie debuted in 1962 in the C1 Corvette, the second-generation Rochester mechanical fuel injection debuted with the C2 Corvette in 1963. The new manifold used a larger plenum to better feed the 327. As you can see from the sticker on the valve cover, the L84 was initially rated at 360 hp, making it one of the most power-dense small-blocks of its era. When combined with the gorgeous 1963 Corvette coupe's split window styling, it made . For 1964, the engine was rated at 375 hp, making it the most powerful small-block until it was unseated by the DOHC LT5. Granted, we're talking about a totally different, much-more-generous horsepower rating system, but a pushrod motor wouldn't beat that rating until the Z06's 5.7L LS6 in 1999.

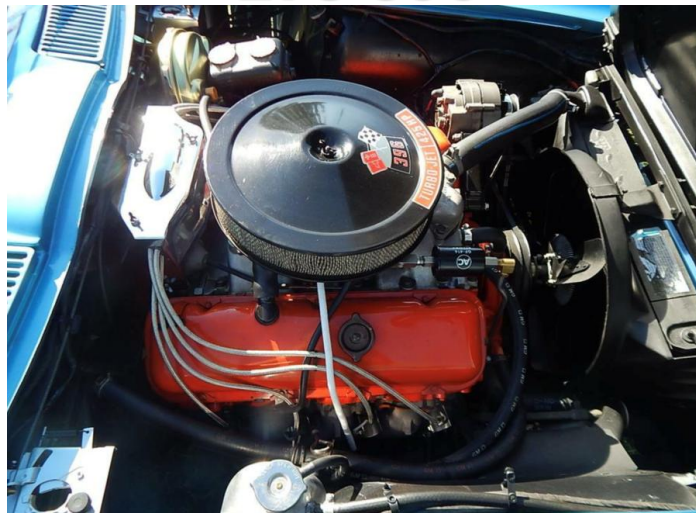


L76-327



The L76 debuted as a high-performance variant of the 327 that used a single four-barrel carb and a solid-lifter cam, the same cam as the L84. Initially rated at 340HP, it also received an updated camshaft for 1964, the legendary "30-30" cam. That brought a high-revving 365HP to the table, just a touch below the L48, making it one of the most beloved 327s to ever sit between a Chevy's frame rails.

L78-396



The Mystery-Motor-powered Split Window Corvettes made their debut during Daytona Speed Week in 1963, but the public would have to wait until they could buy their very own big-block Corvette from the factory. Aside from the milestone of being the first production big-block in a Corvette, the 1965 396, especially the L78, also punched above its weight, making a huge splash and proving that the race-bred big-block wasn't just a truck motor. The L78 was initially rated at , the only year it was available in the Corvette, but it was used in Chevrolet full-size cars and muscle cars through 1970. While its rated output dropped to 375 hp, it was still the same engine inside.

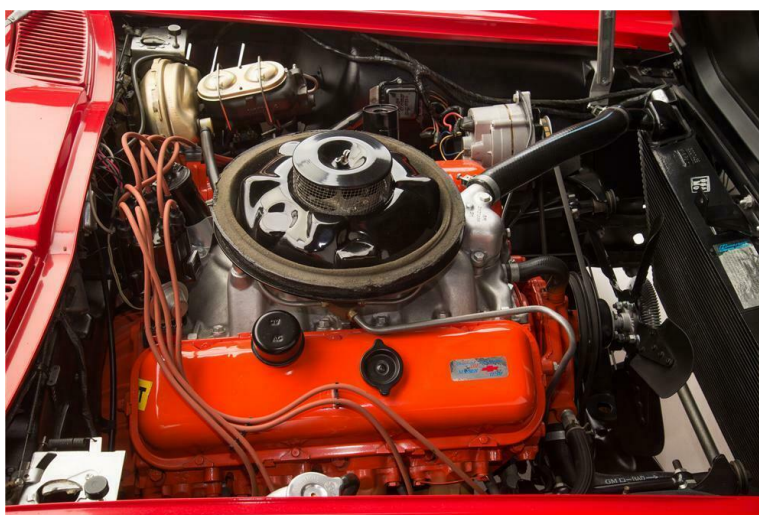


L89-427



The 427 is the quintessential Corvette big-block. The triple two-barrel carbs topped with their signature triangular air cleaner are a hallmark of both C2 Stingrays and C3 Stingrays. Both the L71 and L89 used that 3×2 induction and both were rated at 435 hp, so they’re amazing mills, but the L89 featured aluminum heads with improved exhaust flow. Not only did it take some weight off the front end of the car, it had to have added a bit of power as well, making it our pick for top corvette to feature “three deuces” as Chevrolet advertising put it.

L88-427



As much as we love the looks of a trio of two-barrel carbs, we also know that a properly tuned four-barrel can make a ton of power with a fraction of the expense or hassle. So when it comes to performance, we’ll never knock a simple induction system that works, and the L88 does just that. This high-compression engine wore aluminum heads like the L89, but took the performance up a notch or two with even higher compression. It was a race engine barely tamed for the street and an interior label informed drivers as much: “Warning: Vehicle must operate on a fuel having a minimum of 103 research octane and 95 motor octane or engine damage may result.” It somehow received a 430-hp rating, yet most gearheads estimate its output was closer to 500 hp, especially once it was opened up with a set of headers. The fact that the carb is surrounded by a wire screen implies that it’s capable of inhaling birds, rodents, and any small pets that may wander too close.

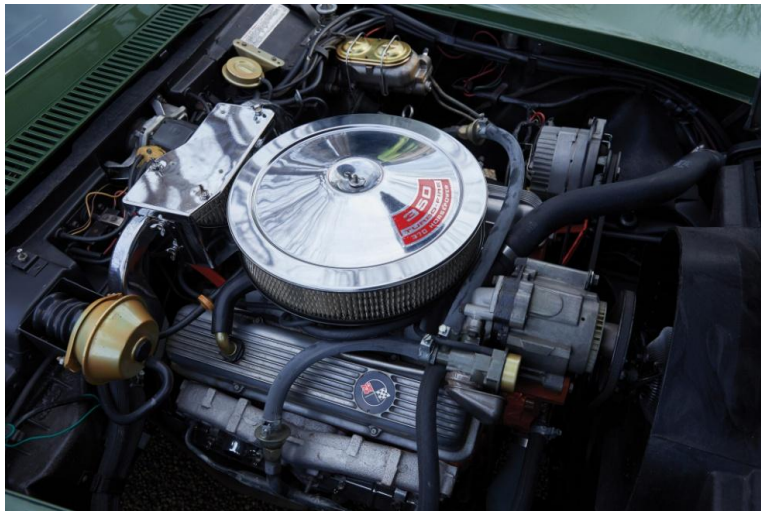


ZL-1



Take an L88 and build it with an aluminum block; that's the ZL1. It was the brainchild of Vince Piggins, a racer at heart who pioneered Chevrolet's race engine development when Chevy was supposed to be keeping its hands off any and all racing. He championed the development of potent big-blocks and convinced Bruce McLaren that an all-aluminum big-block was just what his Can-Am racers needed, and he was right. Just two 1969 Corvettes were built with the engine, and they're practically the Holy Grail of Stingrays.

LT-1 350



When the SCCA allowed competitors to use a de-stroked version of their road-going engines in order to meet the 5.0-liter displacement limit, that spelled the end of Chevrolet's high-revving 302 V-8. However, if you've got cubic inches to make loads of torque, you don't need to be quite so high-revving. Chevrolet's LT-1 350 was the successor to the 302 and the longer stroke of the 350—3.48 vs 3.0 inches—allowing for a much more street-friendly engine that still produced an impressive 370JHP. Due to lowered compression ratios and a change from gross to net power ratings, the LT1 dropped to 255 hp by 1972, its final year.

The Villages® DAILY SUN

Friday July 2, 2021

2010 Chevrolet Corvette

David LeBlanc cruises the streets of The Villages and beyond in his 2010 Chevrolet Corvette convertible, fully enjoying the lifelong dream realized back in 2014. "I lived my life, retired here, and now it's like I get to live it all over again with my dream car." **Page E4**



wheels



Photos by Cindy Skop | Daily Sun
Dave LeBlanc, of the Village of Collier, holds Sadie next to his 2010 Chevrolet Corvette 3LT convertible at the Wildwood Community Center. LeBlanc is well-known by friends and neighbors for his lovable dog, Sadie, and his Corvette. It was his lifelong dream to own a Corvette, and he finally realized it not long after moving to The Villages.

The Villages Helps Turn Corvette Dream Into Reality

Village of Collier resident makes lifelong dream of Corvette ownership come true.

By CODY HILLS
Daily Sun Staff Writer

When asked throughout his life what his dream car would be, David LeBlanc never hesitated.

"I've always wanted one since I was a kid," said LeBlanc, of the Village of Collier. "Every time I'd see one drive by, I'd tell myself, 'I'm going to have one of those someday before I leave this Earth.'"

The "one" is a Corvette — and the "someday" came right here in Florida's Friendliest Hometown.

LeBlanc cruises the streets of The Villages and beyond in his 2010 Chevrolet Corvette convertible, fully enjoying the lifelong dream realized back

in 2014.

"When I retired and moved down here, I was just researching all about the different Corvettes," LeBlanc said. "My wife noticed one day and asked what I was doing, and I told her that I was just dreaming."

"But she said we've made it here (in The Villages) now and to just go buy one, so that's exactly what I did."

Making It Happen

After serving three decades in law enforcement, LeBlanc and his wife of nearly 35 years, Jackie, moved to The Villages from Massachusetts in 2013.

Not long after their arrival, LeBlanc's stumbled-upon research helped him bring home the Corvette with just

27,250 miles back on Nov. 13, 2014.

"The gentleman who had it before me kept it in pristine condition," LeBlanc said. "I think I washed it once, blew the dirt out of the engine compartment quickly, and that was really it. That's all it needed."

Complete with the 3LT interior package, the Corvette hums along to an impressive 26 miles-per-gallon rate on the highway, with its drop-top capability a major selling point to the newly-relocated Floridian.

"It was equipped the exact way I'd like it, especially being a convertible and able to drive it here all year round," LeBlanc said. "The open air and the comfortable ride, it's exactly what I hoped it'd be. I

2010 Chevrolet Corvette



Engine:
436 horsepower



Transmission:
6-speed automatic



Base Price:
\$53,580 (with options: \$67,730)

remember even driving it for so long like I was borrowing someone else's, just because it felt absolutely perfect to me."

Shotgun Sadie

In enjoying his childhood dream of Corvette ownership, LeBlanc rarely does so alone.

Affixed in the passenger seat alongside him sits Sadie, a 1-1/2-year-old Shih Tzu and Bichon Frise mix, who has seemingly rivaled LeBlanc's love for a leisurely drive in the convertible.

"All I have to do is ask if she wants to go for a ride in the car," LeBlanc said of Sadie. "She jumps right in and off we go. She might honestly enjoy the open air just as much as I do."

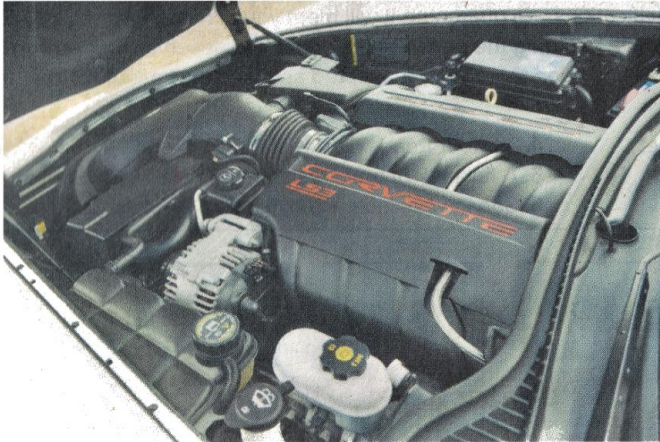
And as the duo take to the streets across The Villages, LeBlanc said each ride presents itself with an opportunity to enjoy the realization time and time again.

"It's very special to have it because it's one of those lifelong dreams that came true," LeBlanc said. "I still drive around sometimes and pinch myself to see if this is real. I lived my life, retired here, and now it's like I get to live it all over again with my dream car."

Staff Writer Cody Hills can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5286, or cody.hills@thevillagesmedia.com.

"I've always wanted one since I was a kid. Every time I'd see one drive by, I'd tell myself, 'I'm going to have one of those someday before I leave this Earth.'"

DAVE LEBLANC | *Village of Collier*



Welcome New Members

List of New Members Since June 1, 2021:

Rod Ballam and Gail Rolleston

They live in the Village of Hacienda
They are from St Augustine, FL and have
a 2001 C5 Torch Red

Dave and Bonnie Bowmer

They live in the Village of Oselola Hills
at Soaring Eagle. They are from Colorado
and they have a 1998 C5 Silver

Glenn and Kathleen Bush

They live in the Village of St Catherine
They are from Allentown, PA and they
have a 2021 C8 Torch Red

Ron and Paula Eichner

They live in the Village of Oselola Hills
at Soaring Eagle. They are from PA & SC
and they have a 1979 C3 Artic White

Billy and Marty Norton

They live in the Village of Sanibel. They
are from Fenton, MI and they have a
2015 C7 Velocity Yellow

Jess Luman

He lives in the Village of Monarch Grove.
He are from New Jersey and he has a
2019 C7 Orange

Wayne and Suzanne MacDonald

They live in the Village of Belvedere.
They are from New Hampshire and they
have a 1975 C3 Bright Blue

Steve and Katie Milo

They live in the Village of Pine Ridge.
They are from Gainesville, FL and they
have a 2015 C7 Blue

Ron Letonoumeau and Sue Knight

They are from Baton Rouge, LA and they
have a 2021 C8 Metallic Red

*Let's give a warm welcome
to our newest members!*

TOTAL MEMBERS 453		
FAMILIES	200	
SINGLES	53	
GEN	Qty	% Tot
C8	35	11%
C7	101	38%
C6	51	23%
C5	42	17%
C4	18	6%
C3	23	8%
C2	15	6%
C1	10	3%
TOT.VETTES	295	

		Body	Qty	% Tot
		RagTop	137	46%
NCM MEMBERSHIP		Targa	107	36%
NCM FAMILIES	73	T-Top	15	5%
INDIVIDUAL	26	Coupe	7	2%
LIFETIME	10	HTC	15	5%
SENIOR INDIV	1	FRC	4	1%
TOTAL = 110		TBD	10	3%
		TOTAL	295	
FullTime		-354	79%	
PartTime		-97	21%	
?????		4		
C8 ON ORDER???		10		

As of: 07/02/21 16:33

TOP 10 VILLAGES	
VILLAGE	#
FERNANDINA	22
PENNECAMP	22
GILCHRIST	21
COLLIER	19
LABELLE	17
PINE HILLS	16
PINELLAS	13
CHARLOTTE	12
HEMINGWAY	12
CHATHAM	11
	37% 165
ALL OTHERS	288

Village Vettes Upcoming Events for July and August

July 8, (Thursday)

PRE-MEETING CRUISE-IN

Eisenhower Parking Lot 4:30 PM

July 8, (Thursday)

General Membership Meeting

Eisenhower Regional Rec Center 6:30 PM

July 14, (Wednesday)

Blackwater Inn - Williams Landing -- Dinner

MEETING PLACE: Laurel Manor Rec Center

MEETING TIME: 4:00PM

DEPART TIME: 4:15PM

July 17, (Saturday)

SPANISH SPRINGS MONTHLY CRUISE-IN

1953-1991 Vettes Welcome

Spanish Springs Town Center 2:00 PM

July 23, (Friday)

Lakeridge Winery Tour and

LUNCH @ Rodelo's (Italiano) 9:00 AM

Registration is required - Contact

Anthony W DiSalvo

352-775-6883 (p)

disalvo7787@hotmail.com 9:00 AM

June 31, (Saturday)

VILLAGES CARS & COFFEE

Parking Lot behind Panera Sumter Landing 9:00 AM

Show up the last Saturday of each month for this casual, fun get together of fellow car guys & gals.

August 12, (Thursday)

PRE-MEETING CRUISE-IN

Eisenhower Parking Lot 4:30 PM

August 12, (Thursday)

General Membership Meeting

Eisenhower Regional Rec Center 6:30 PM

August 17 (Tuesday)

Red's Restaurant -- DRIVE & DINE Lunch

RED'S Restaurant 10:00 AM

August 21, (Saturday)

SPANISH SPRINGS MONTHLY CRUISE-IN

1953-1991 Vettes Welcome

Spanish Springs Town Center 2:00 PM

July 28, (Saturday)

VILLAGES CARS & COFFEE

Parking Lot behind Panera Sumter Landing 9:00 AM

Show up the last Saturday of each month for this casual, fun get together of fellow car guys & gals.

July 31 (Tuesday)

Cedar Lakes Woods & Gardens 8:00 AM

Visit this botanical garden with cascading waterfalls, 50+ garden displays, koi ponds and many breathtaking views. Details regarding this event will be included at a later date, including but not limited to the specific time for the event, meeting location, information as to admission fees and/or other costs and the name and location of a restaurant for lunch.



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ARTICLES OF INTEREST WANTED

We are looking for articles for our newsletter. If any member has an article they think may be of interest to other club members please submit it for consideration to darrybova@gmail.com. Please include information on the source publication if you didn't write it yourself.