



January 2024 | ISSUE 01
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Newsletter



Holiday Party 2023

32
PAGES

HAPPY
NEW YEAR

CKKC
Corvettes

Automotive Enthusiasts

FROM THE HI-BEAMS STAFF

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL



Participate

From the Hi-Beams Team:

Welcome to the Corvette Club of Kansas City, where the essence of automotive passion is brought to life by our dedicated and active members. In this close-knit community, our members are the driving force behind the success of the club. They organize engaging events, participate in exhilarating drives,

and share their expertise, contributing to a vibrant atmosphere that amplifies the joy of Corvette ownership. More than just a gathering of car enthusiasts, we are a family united by our shared love for the iconic Corvette. Join us, and become an integral part of the heart that beats within the Corvette Club of Kansas City, shaping a community that celebrates the exhilaration of the open road and the bonds forged through a common passion.

PRODUCTION TEAM

EDITORS

- Jim Lucke
- Steve Garrett
- Jana Lucke

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- Jim Lucke
- your name could be here.

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- Angela Oliver
- Mike Engeman

DESIGNERS

- Jim Lucke

SALES

- Steve Garrett
- Jim Lucke

PRINT

- Jim Lucke

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

To book a space in our magazine
Call: (913) 461-8073
Email: stevegarrettdj@gmail.com



Start the new year Off right, volunteer to help make Hi-Beams even better.

2023 Holiday Party

Photo taken at Leawood Country Club.



The Club Member Info

We wanted to share a little information about the club, our sponsor and our meeting locations.



The Corvette club of Kansas City was founded on July 29th, 1960, by a group of people that had on common interest, the Chevrolet Corvette, America's only true sports car. After 63 years, our club is one of the largest Corvctette Clubs in KC.

We are sponsored by one of the largest Corvette dealerships in the country, Hendrick Chevrolet in Shawnee Mission, KS



The next club meeting will be held on Wednesday January 17th. Dinner will be from 5:30-7p; meeting from 7-8p, and will be held at Cinzettis Italian Restaurant. Cinzettis is located at 7201 W 91st St, Overland Park, KS 66212 "Mangia Tutto!" Have it all!



Cover Photo

Cover Photo: Corvette photo from Jim Lucke



Cosentino's Market was started in 1948. Service to the community: Cosentino's Food Stores is committed to serving the communities where we do business, and support local children at need. They live their mission; they have gone beyond time and time again to provide our club with re-

sources to support our Charity. This is why we recognize Cosentino's Market as our Community Sponsor.

Step into the World of Power, Elegance, and Compassion!



Let me be the first to wish you a happy new year! I hope you had a terrific holiday season. I am really looking forward to 2024 - even though this time of year is not necessarily conducive to driving our Corvettes, we are still planning some great events for the first quarter of 2024. If you have any ideas for events (and/or would like to host an event), please contact our new Activities Director, Phil Tummons at 816-718-4214 or at ptummons@msn.com.

We will assist you with hosting the event or we can host it for you. Simply put...we want to hear from you - tell us what you'd like the Corvette Club of Kansas City to do!

Also, 2024 membership renewal is now open at <https://corvetteclubkc.com/membership-renewal/> Please renew by January 31st, 2024. Dues are still only \$45 for the primary membership and \$15 for a spouse or significant other. If you renew after January 31st, you are

▲
CCKC President Steve Garrett's 2023 70th edition white pearl metallic coupe.

subject to a late fee of \$5.00. And our first monthly meeting of 2024 will be at Cinzetti's Italian Buffet at 91st & Metcalf on Wednesday, January 17th starting at 5:30pm for dinner and our meeting beginning promptly at 7:00pm. Again, happy new year! And here's to a happy, healthy and prosperous 2024.

Steve Garrett
President
Corvette Club of
Kansas City

Don't Suffer From



Fear of Missing Out

Renew your Corvette Club of Kansas City membership today, and ensure that you will be included in all of the fun activities for 2024.

Use any of the options below to start the process of renewing your membership to the best Corvette Club in KC.



Click on the button to go to the CCKC Renew Membership Page



Scan me

Copy and paste the link below into a browser window.

<https://corvetteclubkc.com/membership-renewal/>



Meet the new CCKC **Vice-President**

My name is Rick Chushuk,

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the CCKC Vice President. My goal is to have fun with all members and make CCKC to be the Corvette Club by which all others are measured.

My wife Chris and I have 3 boys. All 3 are Eagle Scouts and Graduates of Kansas State University as engineers. We have 3 awesome grandchildren and hope for many more.

We have a Very Sweet (in my humble opinion) 2015 Laguna Blue Stingray that I love to show off and drive on special occasions.

I love being outdoors no matter the season or the reason.

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Honoring Members

Dick Holmes NCM Brick Information

We received the following information from the National Corvette Museum with regards to the Walk of Fame memorial tribute brick for Dick Holmes. The brick has been placed in section 4-H. Thank you for being so supportive of the NCM.



Sharon Bybee Celebration of Life

Saturday, January 27 2024
1p - 4p
Warsaw Community Building Gymnasium
181 W. Harrison Street, Warsaw MO 65355

Parking on upper and lower level.

CCKC will be making a donation to Cancer Action in Sharon's Memory



Celebrating Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Newbies

We love celebrating with our members. Check out who is having a great day or joining our club here.

January Birthdays

Michael	Reed	1/1	Rick	Chushuk	1/21
Dennis	Dowell	1/2	Debra	Gifford	1/22
Jim	Bertsch	1/4	Jose	Lemus	1/22
Michelle	Brown	1/6	Jeff	Hayes	1/23
Cathy	Raymond	1/8	Mary	Tarpley	1/23
Colleen	Juliff	1/9	Gwyn	Hill	1/27
Jerry	Brady	1/10	Eldon	McDonald	1/28
Mike	Downing	1/14	Randy	Petresh	1/28
Teddie	Farnsworth	1/15	Demi	Levitch	1/30
Charlie	Dryer	1/16	Jerry	Verstraete	1/30
Jon	Fullerton	1/16			
Debbie	Lawson	1/16			
Jan	Comstock	1/17			
Fred	Watson	1/18			
Barbara	Southerland	1/19			

” Happy Birthdays to You, Happy Anniversaries to you, Happy Members to We Celebrate you all! (Sic) Jim



Beth Ann	Hutchinson	1982 C3 Coupe Silver
Tina	Jacobs	2004 Coupe Gray
Dean & Beverly	Knox	2008 C6 Coupe Red
Clifton & Keli	Vandeventer	2008 C6 Atomic Orange

January Anniversaries

Jim & Sandie	Field	1/3
Jim & Colleen	Juliff	1/3
Larry & Dale	Magariel	1/8
Richard & Janice	Krahl	1/19

February Anniversaries

Jerry & Melodee	Brady	2/1
Steve & Rhonda	Bell / Garrett	2/5
Mike & Candy	Shanley	2/13
Juse & Dollia	Lemus	2/14
Robert & Lisa	Cohen	2/23

February Birthdays

Lou Ann	Tummons	2/1
Leslie	Doyle	2/2
Brad	Garstang	2/5
Candy	Shanley	2/7
Pei-In	Speer	2/8
Steve (Bell)	Garrett	2/9
Lisa	Edington	2/12
Carol	Sindelar	2/12
Everett	Jacobs	2/13
Steve	Shinners	2/15
Jim	Burns	2/16
Eileen	Benskin	2/17
Mary	Newell	2/17
David	Popper	2/17
Robert	Walden	2/20

Jerrod	Williamson	2/20
Mike	Towell	2/21
Gil	Campbell	2/22
Andy	Campbell	2/23
Frances	Hoehn	2/23
Shirley	Walden	2/23
Patty	Denney	2/26
Ashley	Williams	2/26
Doug	Williams	2/26
Hunter	Boulais	2/27
Sandy	Hines	2/27

Activities

Club Calendar

The place to come for all events CCKC

CCKC 2024 Activity Calendar

January Events

Wed Jan 17 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

February Events

Wed Jan 17 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

March Events

Wed Mar 20 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

April Events

Wed Apr 17 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

May Events

Wed May 15 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

June Events

Wed Jun 19 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

July Events

Wed Jul 17 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

August Events

Wed Aug 21 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

September Events

Wed Sep 18 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

October Events

Wed Oct 16 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

November Events

Wed Nov 20 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event

December Events

Wed Dec 18 Club Meeting @Cinzettis Club Event



Activities Director

Phil Tummons

I want to thank everyone for their vote of confidence in me as Activities Director. My goal is to get more of our members involved in the activities. It is wonderful that we have so many members, but it would be even better if those members participated in the activities of the club. We have had some great activities in the past and I know many of those will continue. I can speak personally that I always enjoy our activities and meeting new people and talking about things in our lives and of course our cars. Now we need more people to host an activity that they enjoy, and others will enjoy also. Hosting is not as difficult as you might imagine. There are always people who can give advice.

Many of you know me but some do not so I thought I would give you a little background information.

- I lived on a farm in Quinter, KS raising cattle and farming.
- I played football, basketball and track at Quinter High School.
- I married my high school sweetheart Louann in 1980.
- I graduated from Fort Hays State University with a BS in Industrial Technology.
- I taught Industrial Technology and coached boys' basketball at the high school level.
- I started a custom woodworking business and had it for 26 years until 2014 when I sold it and retired.
- We have one daughter Emily who is married to Andrew, and they are expecting their first any day.
- Our son Avery is married to Kallie. They have a 2 ½ year old daughter Lyra and an 8-month-old son Grey.

Hobbies: Louann and I love to travel. We spent the first seven years after retirement traveling the US and Canada in our Motorcoach. Hiking in the National Parks is a favorite destination. We are now concentrating on international travel. We enjoy pickleball, watching sports and spending time with our family. I still like doing woodworking and of course tinkering with my cars. I have a 2020 C8 Coupe Sebring Orange and a 1966 Shelby GT350 Mustang Candy Apple Red. I hope we all have an exciting 2024.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any of your thoughts.

Check out what's happening Down under in Queensland

A while back Steve Garrett mentioned that CCKC had been approached by the Corvette club in Queensland Australia to be a sister club, as they had heard good things about our club from their american friends. We will continue to update the club on what's happening down under here in the Hi-Beams. Check out their newsletter: <https://www.qldcorvetteclub.com.au>

We will also be sending our Hi Beams monthly newsletter for them to publish in their newsletter.

The next article/ad submission date is **January 15th, 2024**

Please help by sharing news about trips you've taken, shows you've attended, and suggestions for club activities, as well as technical advice, cleaning tips, or anything else that you feel would be of interest to our members. The club needs your input.

Reports, articles, notices, letters, photos and ads are to be received by the 15th of each month for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter. Thank you for helping to make our newsletter interesting and informative.

Contact: Jim Lucke, Hi-Beams Newsletter Editor
jim@jimlucke.com
(913) 210-9993

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please contact the editor if you are a business or know of a business interested in purchasing advertising space in the newsletter. Yearly rates are available and are as follows:

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Activities & SOAR Calendar

January Events

- SOAR Social Club Thur Jan 4 Lees Summit - 6-8:80pm @ Kidz First Therapy (2706 NE Independence Ave, Lee’s Summit, MO 64064) Kids 18 or older high functioning with out support. Share a meal and play games. [Register here](#)
- Lee’s Summit 1st Thur of each month
- SOAR Social Club Tue Jan 9 Lenexa - 6-8:80pm @ Lenexa Office (12201 W 88th St, Lenexa, KS 66215) Kids 18 or older high functioning with out support. Share a meal and play games. [Register here](#)
- Lenexa 2nd Tues of each month



Camp SOARland - SOAR Camp 2024 registration is now open!

Camp will be in Lees’s Summit MO @ Abundant Life Church July 8-12 & in Lenexa at WestSide Family church July 22-26.

We have limited spots at each camp. Camp cost is \$499 and we once again offer payment plans.

Register now by clicking [here](#)

Volunteer to help SOAR prepare for the largest Special Needs Day Camp in the country.

Do you have a child or grand child looking for a fun summer job? SOAR is looking for Summer Interns to support the SOAR Camp Director with all aspects of preparing, setting up, and coordinating SOAR Camp. SOAR Summer Interns will learn how to recruit, train, and oversee volunteers and work hands-on with SOAR participants of all ages with disabilities.

Learn more now by clicking [here](#)



◀ Kyle the Pizza Guy

Kyle Drake helping distribute pizza to the kids at a Respite night.

Social Club

Social Club is from 6:00pm-8:30pm for individuals who are 18 and older with lower support needs, who desire to build community. We will share a meal, play games, participate in a themed activity, and socialize with friends. The cost is \$20 and covers dinner, games, activities, and staffing.

Adam and family have come to a couple of SOAR's Social Club events. Adam's family has a very unique exotic animal collection that he shares with the SOAR kids. The kids absolutely love the animals and the snakes were a hit, as you can see many were sporting some pretty lively necklaces. The Tortoise weighs 45 pounds.

CCKC Members Involved In SOAR

Members Involved in our Charity

SOAR R&R

SOAR hosts a FREE 3-hour respite for parents of individuals with special needs! We will also have a simultaneous program for siblings from birth - 13 years old. Dinner is provided as well as, full medical and behavior teams to welcome all individuals of every age, diagnosis, and severity.

Kyle Drake has been to a couple of events for SOAR. During the Respite, Kyle was taking charge of the pizza distribution for the participants, and Kyle also spent the day with SOAR during the Sensory Santa event.



Wrapping Gifts ▶

Mike and Linda Downing along with their grandkids helped out SOAR by wrapping gifts.

Christmas Giving

As a part of SOAR's Christmas Giving program, SOAR and its generous donors provide Christmas presents to families around the KC Area.

Those Presents need to be wrapped so SOAR has a fund raising event in which they not only wrap the presents for the families, but will also wrap presents for people for donations. Mike and Linda Downing wanted to contribute and took their grandkids to the SOAR offices to wrap presents.



“The exotic animals Adam's family brought were a hit at the Social Club Event.

It's wonderful to see our CCKC members reaching out to the special needs community and helping SOAR make a difference. If you would like to participate, contact one of these members or you can reach Doc at doc@soarspecial-needs.org



◀ Adam's Animals

Adam and family with some of their exotic animal collection.

December Activities Review

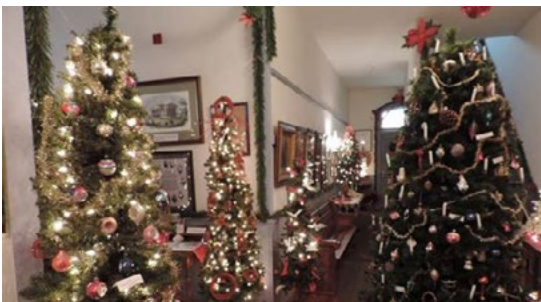
LeCompton Christmas Tree Museum

Mecum Car Auction - Kansas City

CCKC Holiday Party

LeCompton Trees

LeCompton Christmas Tree Museum - Hosted by Chuck Levenson - Nine cars went to Lecompton to see the Christmas trees. They only had 241 up. They ran out of time trying to put all the decorations. It turns out we were there on the one day a year they have vespers on the upper floor and were treated to Christmas carols and choir. Everyone had a great time. Some people went and had dinner in Lawrence. Others enjoyed the ice cream at one of the most wonderful shops in all of Lawrence. All know it was a fun time.



Mecum Auction



CCKC at Ottawa

On Friday, December 1st, Steve Garrett hosted a day with Mecum Auctions in downtown KC at Bartle Hall. It was an entertaining and educational day as we were led on a tour of the auction and informed how it is put together and ran. We then got to sit

down for a Q&A session with John Kraman, the main commentator on Mecum Auction TV. John was very informative about the history and future plans of the

Auction. We then had an open pass to walk around the auction to look at the cars, and watch the bidding process.



If you would like to see more photos, click on the camera to go to the photo share.



CCKC Holiday Party

The Corvette Club of KC
@ Leawood Country Club

The Corvette club of Kansas City held their annual Holiday party at the Country Club of Leawood on December 15th. Almost 100 members enjoyed the evening of appetizers, great food & drinks and catching up with each other. The members were decked out from Santa sweaters to tuxes, and everything in between.

After dinner was served, the Rock Bottom band got people moving with their wide range of music.

We want to thank Roger and Christina Fallek for coordinating and hosting this event, and a special thank you to Christina's mother who made some unbelievably good cookies.





If you would like to see more photos, click on the camera to go to the photo share.

NEW YEARS RESOLUTION

Every New Year, thousands of people around the world celebrate by making a resolution or a wish. From eating grapes to jumping waves and burning wish papers, there are lots of different ways to do it. So how did it all begin?

The very first New Year's resolutions dates happened over 4,000 years ago. The first recorded people to celebrate a new year were the ancient Babylonians. Their new year celebration was a 12-day festival called Akitu, which began at the start of the spring planting season in March. During the celebrations, Babylonians would make resolutions to their gods, but they probably didn't make any promises to exercise more, save more money, or start a new hobby. The Babylonians usually pledged their loyalty to the king and made promises to pay their debts and returned borrowed items to their rightful owners. They believed that if they kept their resolutions, the gods would treat them favorably that year. But, if they broke their promises, they would get on the bad side of the gods.

The modern day Gregorian New Year began in ancient Rome in 46 B.C., when Emperor Julius Caesar introduced a new calendar and declared January 1 as the start of the new year. The Romans originally began the new year starting in March (like the Babylonians), but moved it to January to honor the Roman god Janus. He was a two-faced god who could look back to the past year and forward to the new year. At the new year, the Romans would offer sacrifices to Janus and make resolutions for good behavior.

New Year's resolutions continued into the Middle Ages. Knights would make an annual "Peacock Vow" at the end of the year. They would renew their resolution to maintain the values of knighthood by putting their hands on a live or roasted peacock.

In the 18th century, Christians would hold mass on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day. Worshippers could reflect on the past year and make resolutions to do better in the year ahead. In 1813, a Boston newspaper published the first recorded use of the phrase "New Year Resolution."

Over two centuries later, New Year's resolutions are a common practice around the world from North America to Asia. Whether they're rooted in religion, culture, or an entirely individual practice, these resolutions take different shapes in many different countries. Here is a look at how different countries make New Year's resolutions each year.

United States: Resolutions are a big part of New Year celebrations in the US. At the start of 2022, 23% of people resolved to live healthier, while 21% were focused on personal improvement and happiness and 20% resolved to lose weight. However, of the 41% of Americans who make New Year's resolutions, only 9% followed through on them.

Brazil: On New Year's Eve in Brazil, it's tradition to go to the beach to make your resolutions. After midnight, you should go in the ocean and jump seven waves while making seven wishes. You should

wear all white clothing in the water, as it represents purity. The tradition pays tribute to Yemanjá, the goddess of water.

Italy: In Italy, New Year's resolutions are called buoni propositi, or "good intentions." These resolutions are often similar to those made in the US, such as exercising more or quitting smoking. Some Italians also have luck-bringing traditions. You can eat fatty pork to fatten wallets, or eat black-eyed peas for good fortune. It's said that some Italians also wear red underwear at New Year to bring good luck in the year ahead.

China: The Chinese New Year is a massive two-week festival starting on the first full moon of the lunar calendar. It usually kicks off between January 21 and February 20. The celebrations lead to the Lantern Festival, with millions of people traveling to their families during this time. Chinese people make resolutions by practicing rituals and traditions to ensure good luck in the New Year. They can give red envelopes with money and hold reunion dinners with family. They also offer sacrifices to ancestors and do a thorough house cleaning, to usher in a prosperous New Year.

Columbia: In Colombia, people don't make resolutions (resoluciones) but wishes (deseos). As the clock strikes midnight on January 1, it's tradition to eat one grape for each chime of the bell starting at 12 am. For each grape, you make a wish – so 12 grapes and 12 wishes in total. These wishes aren't like resolutions in the US. Instead of resolving to eat healthier, you would wish for good health. Some people write down their wishes on a piece of paper at New Year's and carry it with them throughout the year. On December 31 they burn their wish paper and make a new one. If you have a specific resolution or wish in Colombia, there are other traditions you can follow too. Those who wish for a bountiful year can fill their pockets with lentils. If you wish to travel, you carry your suitcase around the block at midnight.

Spain: The Spanish also kick start their new year by eating 12 grapes exactly at the stroke of midnight. If you can eat all 12 grapes before the bell finishes chiming 12 times (so one grape every two seconds), you'll have a very luck and prosperous new year. The catch? You have to finish all the grapes by the time the clock finishes striking midnight, or you'll have bad luck!

Maybe we should call our New Year's Resolutions "good intentions" like the Italians. Less pressure!

Editors Ask: CCKC Members Resolution - Be more active in the Corvette Club of Kansas City. We would love to see more of your faces and Corvettes.

NCM Exhibits

The National Corvette Museum has announced big plans to celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2024, including a special art exhibit, the opening of a new Vintage Shop online, the 27th Bash, a special look back at the sinkhole, the 2024 National Corvette Caravan, and more. “The Corvette means so much to so many people, and our 2024 Exhibits and Events plans include something for everyone,” says Sharon Brawner, National Corvette Museum President and CEO. “From 8,000 Corvette enthusiasts traveling from all points across the country with the Corvette Caravan, to art aficionados captivated by the beauty and color so unique to cars and motorcycles, 2024 will deliver the sights, sounds, and experiences worthy of the Museum’s 30th Anniversary.” Beginning March 15 and running through the end of the year, “Luster: Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile and Motorcycle Painting” will display more than 55 paintings by several of today’s realists and hyperrealists whose favorite



2024 Exhibits and Events Schedule

subjects are cars and motorcycles. Art will be juxtaposed against Corvettes, motorcycles and other automotive icons that served as the inspiration for the work, including a 1937 Cord 812 on loan from the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum in Auburn,

Indiana.

Beginning in April, the Vintage Shop will make limited “product drops” of vintage apparel for sale on the recently renovated CorvetteStore.com. In fact, the store is seeking donations of all types of Corvette merchandise, including T-shirts, totes, lapel pins, and more, that is clean, odorless, and in good condition. For more information, visit CorvetteStore.com. The 27th Annual Michelin National Corvette Museum Bash arrives April 25-27, including a seminar and classroom

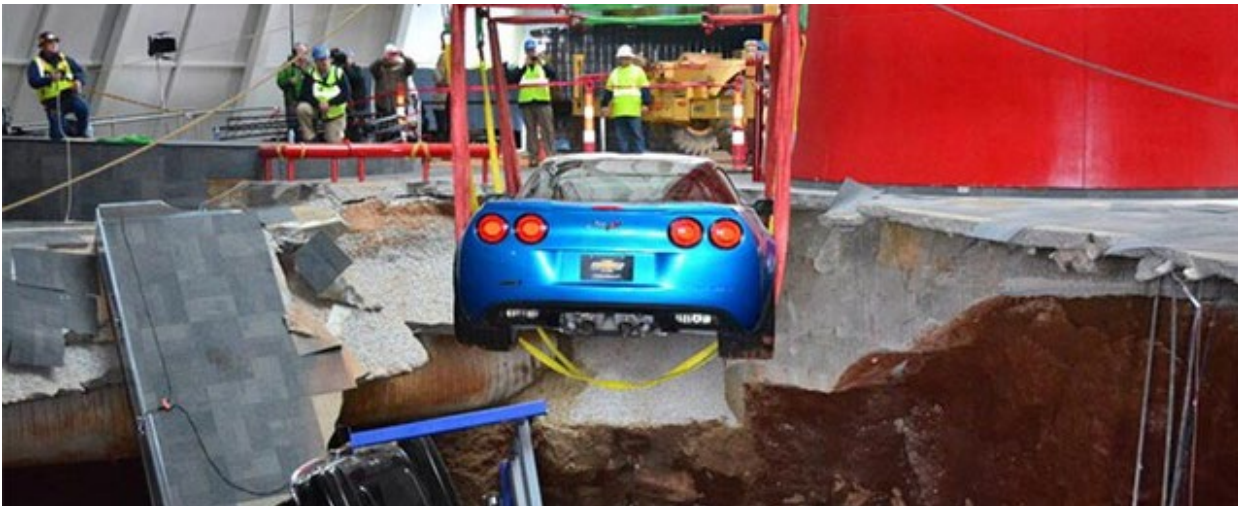


sessions by GM certified Corvette technician Paul Koerner, along with lots of other fun activities, with guided road tours, a Museum's Choice car show, and a live auction with exclusive Corvette memorabilia on tap.

Veterans will again be celebrated during Military Appreciation

Month May 1-31, with all active and retired duty military admitted free to the NCM with military ID. Vets "n Vettes will also offer veterans a comfortable place to meet and share stories and experiences while enjoying road tours and other Corvette-related activities.

Believe it or not, February 2024 will mark the 10th anniversary of the sinkhole that swallowed several key Corvettes that were on display in the Skydome. To mark the occasion, in June, "Ground to Sky: The Sinkhole Re-imagined" opens as a limited engagement exhibit that



includes select cars recovered from the sinkhole and more about the past, present, and future of the NCM.

The 2024 National Corvette Caravan, held every five years with regional caravans forming across the United States to meet in Bowling Green, arrives August 29-31, 2024, with four days of festivities planned, including the 26th Annual Corvette Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on August 31. The year will close out in October with a refreshing of the popular "An American Love Affair: Pop Culture and the Corvette" exhibit that will include a new multimedia performance in the Skydome.

All in all, it's never been a more exciting time to be a Corvette enthusiast. Why not schedule a trip to the National Corvette Museum to celebrate in 2024?



Article & Pictures courtesy of Corvetteblogger.com



John is the creator and owner of MidEngineCorvette.com. A leading source for all things C8.

Total = 53,493 Units (for 2023)

The reason we possibly do not have the exact numbers is that some units, while almost fully completed, are not all 100% built yet. Nor do we know how many CTF (Captured Test Fleet) vehicles were made for each of the four versions. The 53,493 annual production amount is the 2nd highest production year in Corvette history. 1979 was the highest with 53,807 Corvettes. While the 2023 model year production was extended by several months, this is not the first year that production exceeded a traditional 12-month period. But when the final tally is shared by GM, 2023 might just squeak by as the # 1 Corvette production year of all time with 53,808+ total units!

2023 C8 Production Numbers

While we still await the official GM press release of 2023 production totals, thanks to a precision Corvette researcher with great connections, we have these unofficial num-

bers.

Stingrays = 42,728 + 70th Anniversary 4,570=47,298
Z06s = 5,191 + 70th Anniversary 1,004 = 6,195

1st Customer E-Rays Produced

We learned that during the week of December 11th, that E-Ray VINs 001, 002, an 003 were produced. When more will be built is not yet

known. Some customer E-Rays are next scheduled to be built with a TPW (Target Production Week) of 1/8/24. We still do not know what GM's plans are for the percentage of total E-Ray made during the 2024 model year. Will it be 15%, 20% of total production? Since BGA (Bowling Green Assembly) is maxed out in daily output of units, where would those E-Rays come from? My belief is that they would be reducing the number of Stingrays to make the E-Rays



— but that is my guesstimation. To learn this, we might have to wait three months or so until the E-Ray's slow, progressive roll out is completed. The reason I am thinking three months is because it took three months to ramp up production of the C8 Z06.

Record Daily C8 Production Achieved

We had a wonderful surprise in the fact that a new record of 214 C8's were produced in one day in early December. The previous record was 208 in one day. To accomplish these totals, BGA is now working 10-hour double shifts almost every production day. The repair line and other selected work units within the plant are working six-day weeks. Lastly, a new maximum record of 74 Z06s

were made in a single day during December.

Really Good Z07 Availability News

Ever since the first Z06 allocations were granted on August 18, 2022, the number of complete aero packages

were extremely diminished for almost every allocation cycle. For some allocation cycles, not a single Z07 package was available nationwide. Without the full aero, which includes the Z06's high wing and the dive planes, one could not order a Z07. Hence, for some who were near the very top of dealer Z06 lists for many years (even before the Z06 was officially revealed), quite a number of the Z06's customers who wanted Z07 aero were offered a Z06 without aero turned it down. This has gone on for close to 16 months. I know of one customer who was offered a Z06 without Z07 eight different times—he turned it down every single allocation. But, great news happened during the allocation cycle of December 14th when GM allowed EVERY single Z06 allocation to have the complete visible carbon fiber option (“T0G”). Merry Christmas from GM to those who have been waiting for up to twelve total allocation cycles to get their Z06 with Z07 aero. But this begs the question... how come not one painted carbon flash aero package (“T0F”) was available when the identical aero components in visible carbon fiber

Mid-Engine Update

were? The cost to get the “T0G” is several thousands of dollars more than “T0F”. But as one friend stated...”even though I had not budgeted to get visible carbon fiber aero, you can bet I will find that extra money needed”. She is now grinning broadly that her Z06, which is expected to be built in February or March, is going to be, as she put it, “a Z07 beyond my original wishes.”

Why Is Bowling Green Assembly Plant Closing To All Outsiders On February 5th?

When we first heard this, our first fear was that production was stopping for some unknown amount of time. However, C8 production is continuing unabated February 5th forward! So why will us outsiders be shut out? Of course, the answer is

that there are some changes taking place for the C8 that GM does not want those taking public tours of the plant seeing and sharing with the rest of us. When will Corvette plant tours resume? No answer has yet been given. Although, most feel that BGA will re-open just as the April 25th NCM Michelin Bash begins. The major C8 model year changes will possibly be revealed at that event.

Reason for the February 5th closure is one of the following:

- A) A big surprise – maybe a C8 Grand Sport is coming for 2025?
- B) The C8 ZR1 is a 2025 model and will be revealed at the Bash
- C) The long-rumored interi-

or elimination of the “Great Wall of Buttons” to the C8 interior.

<https://www.midengine-corvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-vids/505957-wall-of-buttons-going-goodbye>

Might the new C8 interior without the Great Wall of Buttons look something like this?

Still Two Major C8 Production Issues

There are still some serious long-term production issues that need final resolution. One is that some of the first completed C8 Stingrays for 2024 were transported to Michigan on October 5th. Mid-Engine Corvette Forum that the cause was a replacement of the dual clutch



transmission. However, it was recently confirmed that the 110+ C8's that were shipped to Michigan are not getting brand new DCT's but their transmissions are being rebuilt. Finally, as of late December, the problem has not yet been found and fully rectified. How do we know this? In the past two weeks, two more completed C8's were trucked to Michigan for repairs. Was it defective parts, incorrect assembly process, or both? As a result, we are still seeing more completed C8 Stingrays being shipped to Michigan for a complete DCT rebuild.

The second issue was Corvettes going down the line with missing parts. These are called "Build Shy" units. This issue has unfortunately been going on since August. We know of some documented cases where vehicles being completed without those last few parts (sometimes wheels or fenders or regular badges, etc.), and were put in a back lot at the plant for over 2-1/2 months. Regrettably, we also learned of two specific October 16th vehicles which did not get to their correct dealerships for over 8 weeks. Will the "Build Shy" process ever stop?

<https://www.>

[midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/523660-2023-c8-production-volume](https://www.midenginecorvetteforum.com/forum/me-discussion-photos-videos/523660-2023-c8-production-volume)

We sure hope your December holidays went well and that January 1st started a wonderful new year. May you be safe and healthy on all your activities! And may your 2024 Corvette drives be numerous!

In late August 2024, over five thousand Corvettes (and approximately 9,500 Corvette enthusiasts) will make the pilgrimage on the National Corvette Caravan (NCC) to the NCM (sponsored by the National Corvette Muse-

um). We will leave as part of over 35 regional Caravans, departing from all corners of the country and many "inside" places too. Over 5,000 Corvettes will arrive at the National Corvette Museum. Is the 2024 National Corvette Caravan going to be part of your 2024 activities? We certainly hope so....

Thanks for reading,
John Elegant

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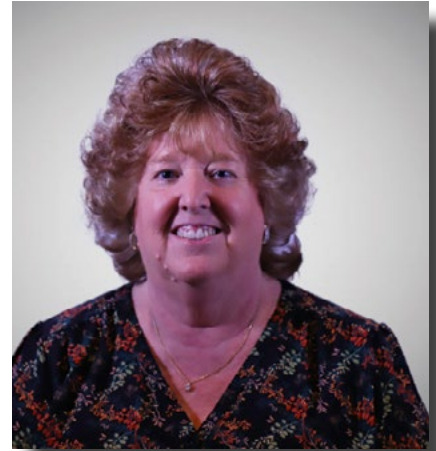


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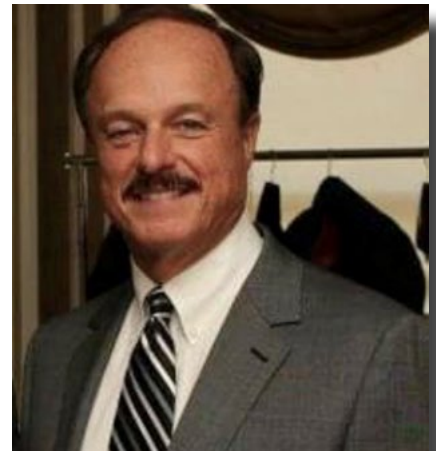


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