

National Corvette Museum Report for September 2020

Since it's mid August as I write this edition for the September Newsletter and it is prime Corvette Driving season, there is very little news out of the National Corvette Museum (NCM). They are busy hosting Corvette fans from throughout the USA and from overseas as well. Hopefully you are spending a fair amount of time during this gorgeous summer driving your Corvette around our beautiful Pacific Northwest, I certainly am. Here is the latest summer news from our friends at the NCM

Drive a C8 On the Track at NCM Motorsports park:



A trip to Bowling Green, Kentucky is not complete without getting behind the wheel of a Corvette! Whether you own your own and want to take it for some laps on the track at the NCM Motorsports Park, or you've been dying to test out the 2020 'Next Generation' Stingray Corvette, the 3.15 mile road course will not disappoint! The track offers a fleet of seven "C8s" that you can choose from to drive - which is a great opportunity for you and a group of friends to get out on track together. While walk-up laps are offered many week-days, advanced reservations are highly recommended. You can get more information and book a drive here:

<https://www.motorsportspark.org/corvette-experiences/>

Road Muscle Radio Features NCM:



In Episode 17, Catfish Groves and Brett Hatfield are joined by Dr. Sean Preston, President of the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky, to discuss the museum's cool history, amazing exhibits, and exciting future. Plus news about the first birthday for the C8, car appreciation day part two, how to make a wish and blow out your lightning fire, and a million-dollar McPherson challenge for a worthy classic future. All this and more, on Road Muscle Radio. You can listen to the 51 minute episode here:

<https://shows.acast.com/roadmuscleradio/episodes/ep017-sean-preston-president-of-the-national-corvette-museum>

NCM 26th Anniversary Celebration September 2nd – 5th In just a few days the NCM will welcome enthusiasts to for the 26th Anniversary Celebration. While this years' event will look a little different from past events, the content and camaraderie will still be what you've come to love from Museum events. The Museum has implemented a number of measures to keep on site guests safe, including the option to attend seminars outdoors, spread out seating indoors with chairs being wiped down between seminars, additional road tours

giving the option to socially distance in your own car, hand sanitizing stations throughout the museum and encouraging the use of masks when it's difficult to socially distance.

In addition to on-site activities, the NCM is once again offering a virtual component to the event - giving you the opportunity to tune in to seminars from home! Many of the seminars will be delivered live, but via SKYPE or ZOOM, allowing for Q&A and other interaction among guests.

Two more Corvettes donated to the NCM:

On Tuesday, June 30 the National Corvette Museum received a donation of a **1988 Miss America Corvette Convertible**, a car the donor had owned for about ten years. But it wasn't until he inquired about donating it to the Museum that the history of the car started to come to light. "My dad purchased the car about 10 years ago at a car dealership in lower Michigan and enjoyed it," shared son, Lars Wallace Jr. "The car had 200,000 miles on it at the time. We enjoyed it for about five years, and he picked up a couple more Corvettes that he'd rotate through. Now he's getting up there in age a little bit and we thought we'd thin out the herd."

The Wallace family had visited the Museum several times and were aware that the Museum regularly received vehicle donations. "Dad said he was thinking about donating the car, so I talked to him about it. We brought the title by the Museum in February to get it researched and to see if the Museum would be interested in the car. They looked it up and found out it was a Miss America pageant car."

In pulling the build sheet on Lars Wallace's Corvette, a Chevrolet Motor Division internal memo was attached with the subject '1988 Miss America Corvette Convertibles' dated August 7, 1987. On the memo, five order numbers and VINs were listed with the cars to be shipped to Chevrolet Central Office – Show & Display for upcoming auto shows in 1988. Included on the list was Lars' VIN.

"I was the first Miss America to enjoy a whirlwind of a year with one of our national sponsors, Chevrolet Motor Division," shared Miss America 1988 Kaye Lani Rafko Wilson. "I recall during the week of competition a gentleman from Chevrolet came into the rehearsal hall and mentioned to all of us how excited they were to be a part of the Miss America organization and that the newly crowned Miss America, which would be crowned that Saturday, would go home with her very own 1988 red convertible Corvette."

Kaye Lani was the first Miss America to receive a Corvette through the competition, and to this day still owns her 1988 Bright Red Convertible. She is the only Miss America of the six winners to receive a Corvette to still own hers. The last Miss America to receive a Corvette was 1993 titleholder and tv personality Leanza Cornett. That Corvette was previously part of Corvette Hall of Fame inductee Bob McDorman's collection and sold at a Mecum Auction in 2010.



Miss America 1988 Kaye Lani Rafko Wilson Zoom calls in during the donation ceremony while Kentucky's Miss America 2000 Heather French Henry speaks on behalf of the Miss America organization during the ceremony.

"GM/Chevrolet became a sponsor in 1988, so various Miss Americas would get a Corvette after they were crowned," shared Heather Renee French Henry, Kentucky's only Miss America and titleholder for 2000, who was present at the donation ceremony. "Corvette was present at a lot of appearances throughout the year and of course, Corvettes, even still today, are present at the famous 'Show Us Your Shoes' parade at the Atlantic City Boardwalk."

“My sisters and I are deeply appreciative of the many sponsors that have been able to help us through the years, but Chevrolet was one of my most favorite,” added Kaye Lani. “I still have my Corvette and absolutely love it.” The 1988 Miss America Corvette donated by Lars Wallace, is Dark Blue Metallic and has nearly 225,000 miles on it.

“I think it’s just amazing that a car like this, with a non-rebuilt engine, can have over 220,000 miles on it. It illustrates the reliability and durability of GM cars,” shared Lars Jr. “Every Corvette is special. It just turns out that this one is a little more special than the common one. We hope that we have an exhibit here in the future focusing on the Miss America cars.”

Thank you to Lars Wallace, and Lars Wallace Jr. for their generosity and help in preserving the history of Corvette! You can watch a short (3 min) video of the donation here:

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/1988-miss-america-corvette-convertible-donated/>

2019 Grand Sport Donated in Memory of Father

Richard Hoffman's last purchase before his passing was a 2019 Ceramic Matrix Gray Grand Sport. His son, Derek Hoffman, donated the Corvette to the National Corvette Museum in memory of his father. You can watch a short (3 min) You Tube video of the donation here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmdKggERzEk&feature=youtu.be>



Current Corvette Raffles: The Corvette raffles at the NCM are a major fundraiser that helps to keep the museum operating. All you need to do to enter a raffle for a chance to win one of these fabulous Corvettes is go to the NCM Raffle web page: <https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org/> click on “**download an Order Form**” which will enable you to open or download and print the latest form. Just fill it out & send it in to the NCM with a Credit Card number, and they will purchase the tickets for you and enter it into the raffle drawing right there in Kentucky! Also please note, there is now an “**Enter Interactive Mode**” button you can use to print out a form that has your Credit Card number scrambled, if you are queasy about mailing your full credit card information. To use the Interactive mode, you must have a user ID and Log in to the NCM site. Either way, please jot down on the bottom of the form “Ticket sold by Kevin Wilson NCM Ambassador” so our club gets credit for the order. Also, please let me know if you send in an order (kevinwilson@q.com). Here is the current Raffle line-up:



The 1.75 Millionth Corvette!!

2020 Artic White Corvette Coupe

Limited to 1500 Tickets

Price: \$200

Drawing: September 4, 2020 3:00 PM

	<p>2020 Torch Red Corvette Coupe Unlimited Tickets Price: \$20 Drawing: September 5, 2020 3:00 PM These are the least expensive tickets by far!</p>
	<p>2021 BYO Corvette or \$65,000 Limited to 1500 Tickets Price: \$250 Drawing: September 24, 2020 2:00 PM</p>
	<p>2021 Silver Corvette Coupe Limited to 2000 Tickets Price: \$100 Drawing: October 15, 2020 2:00 PM</p>

Latest Winners: The **2021 Black Stingray Corvette Coupe** was won by James Flader of New Tripoli, PA with Ticket #1948 drawn 08/20/2020. All 2,000 available tickets sold.

The **2021 Shadow Gray Stingray Corvette Coupe** was won by Christopher Ruffino of Hopewell Junction, NY with ticket #95 drawn on July 30th, 2020. All 1500 available tickets sold.

Current National Corvette Museum Events: Here is the current schedule of events and adventures, both on the road (Museum in Motion events - MiM) and at the museum (NCM) for the year and a new Cruise (on a ship, not in a Corvette) was added for 2021, but it's already full now! So be sure to keep an eye on this space for upcoming trips to consider for your future vacation planning purposes. Registration is open on some of these events now and they fill up quickly. You can find more details about them and sign up here:

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/> . These are the events currently posted by the museum:

- NCM 26th Anniv. LIVE Celebration & Hall of Fame Induction Sep 2–5, 2020 (**Closed**)
- NCM 26th Anniv. VIRTUAL Celebration & Hall of Fame Induction Sep 2–5 2020 (**Registration open**)
- MiM Dragon Run Presented by Michelin @ Biltmore (NC) Estate Sep 7th –10th, 2020 (**Wait List**)
- MiM 'Branson Experience' Sep 8th –12th, 2020; Branson MO; (**Wait List**)
- MiM National Parks Tour: Sep 20-26; AZ & UT; (**Wait List**)
- MiM Lap of Kentucky tour 1: 9/28-10/3 (**Registration open**)
- MiM Lap of Kentucky tour 2: 10/12-10/17 (**Registration open**)
- MiM Lap of Kentucky tour 3: 10/19-10/24 (**Registration open**)
- MiM Michelin Corvette Racing Weekend @ AACA Museum, 10/23-24, Hershey, PA (**Registration open**)
- MiM Lap of Kentucky tour 4: 10/26-10/31 (**Registration open**)
- MiM 9 Day Caribbean Cruise: 5/14 - 5/23/2021 (depart & return Fort Lauderdale FL) (**Full – Wait List**)

Did you know: The NCM logo was created by Sting Ray designer Larry Shinoda from original artwork Larry did for Chevrolet in the late 1950's but was never used!



That's all for now – Save the Wave!