

National Corvette Museum Report for October 2020

After our Smokey September the skies have finally returned to normal and we're enjoying our typical fall weather. With the end of our traditional Corvette cruising weather (although this year has been anything but traditional) we turn more towards indoor activities, which is a great time to check out all of the Corvette related videos and material on line, including our very own Web page and other Social media, as well as the content available at the National Corvette Museum (NCM). Here is some of the latest news from our friends at the NCM.

Two special Corvettes recently donated to the Museum:

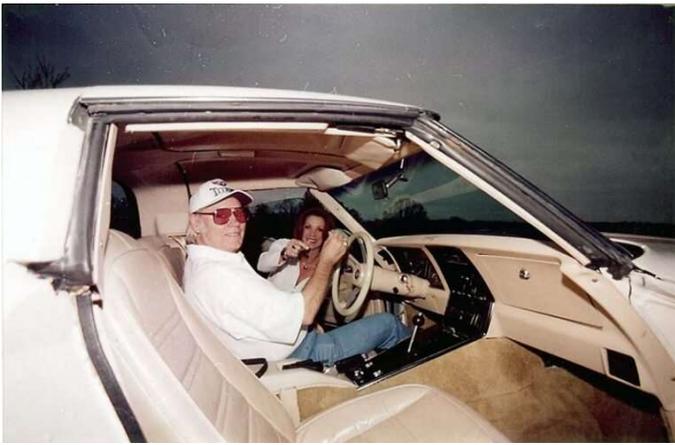
1954 Corvette Donated - The museum celebrated the arrival of a special Corvette donation – a 1954 from David Duggar of Knoxville, Tennessee. David fondly remembers receiving a model '54, also in white, from his aunt when he was a boy and is looking forward to sharing this life size version with the many visitors to the Museum. He purchased the car in California in 2000, and brought it out to Knoxville, TN where he lived. "We've enjoyed it. It's been at the house and then we had it in storage at Reeder Chevrolet in Knoxville, TN. They've had it in their showroom so that other people could look at it and enjoy it."

David has been a customer of Reeder Chevrolet for more than 10 years, previously purchasing vehicles for the business he used to own, and that relationship is what would eventually plant the seed for him to donate his Corvette to the National Corvette Museum. "I deal a lot with Corvettes and I sell a lot of Corvettes," shared Rick Boggs at Reeder Chevrolet "The East Tennessee Corvette Club meets here at Reeder Chevrolet, so I'm familiar with the Museum and what they do. And I know people donate cars to the Museum, so I suggested it might be something he might want to do."

That suggestion would eventually lead to David's September 2020 donation of his 1954 Corvette. "I'd been to the Corvette Museum once before and really didn't think about it until one of the gentlemen at Reeder talked about donating it. And I thought that was a really great idea for other people to look at it and enjoy it. Maybe it will bring back some of their memories." Thank you to David, and to Reeder Chevrolet who planted the seed for David to donate his Corvette to us!



Country music singer George Jones' 1978 Corvette - The National Corvette Museum unveiled a newly acquired Corvette that will be the first celebrity-owned car to join the collection on Friday, September 4, 2020. The 1978 two-tone Corvette was special ordered by Country music singer George Jones and features a one-off paint scheme of Corvette Dark Brown and Corvette Light Beige. Jones special ordered the car in the two-tone scheme because he liked the Pace Car look.



The car was acquired thanks to the generosity of Lifetime Members Lon and Anne Helton of Nashville, TN and Timothy and Donna Vincent of Broussard, Louisiana. Lon Helton, Past-Chair of the NCM Board of Directors and host of the radio series Country Countdown USA, was eager to support to Museum in the acquisition of the Corvette. Helton shared that while he was still up and coming in the Country music industry at the time Jones owned the Corvette, he did get the opportunity to ask him about the car years later. “In 1986 or ’87 when I was doing one of my first interviews with him, I asked him if owning a Corvette affected his decision to cut the song called ‘The Corvette Song’ and he said, ‘Oh, absolutely.’” For those of you who might want to take a listen to the song here is a YOU TUBE link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wh5jfvNOwK0>

After going through a few owners the Corvette ended up in the hands of Timmie and Donna Vincent, by then the car carried Jones’ autograph on the dash, his front license plate which reads “Possum” and a Tennessee plate reading “NO SHOW”. Timmie stated “In 2012 we loaned the George Jones Corvette to the Museum for a Country Music Stars and Cars exhibit so when we decided to let go of the car, the Museum was the first place we thought might be interested in it. We were excited to partner with the Helton’s to preserve its’ history and make the Museum it’s permanent home where it can be enjoyed by all.”

“This will be the first celebrity owned Corvette that the National Corvette Museum has in its collection. We’ve had celebrity-owned cars on loan, but this is the first we will own,” shared Director of Collections / Curator Derek Moore. “Having this Corvette helps us talk about the cross-cultural impact that the Corvette has. It’s an affordable car that the masses can purchase but it’s also a car that celebrities own, love and drive.” Thank you to the Heltons and the Vincents for their dedication to preserving Corvette history!

Demystifying The Corvette Order And Build Process: As part of the National Corvette Museum’s 26th Anniversary Celebration, GM Bowling Green Assembly Plant Manager Kai Spande led a seminar to demystify the Corvette order and build process. There is a great article and video available on the NCM website that goes into great detail for those that are interested. There is too much information to condense here so if you want the details here is the link:

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/demystifying-the-corvette-order-and-build-process/>

Team Corvette Shares 2020 Stingray Order updates: At the 26th Anniversary Celebration Corvette Team Members Tadge Juechter and Harlan Charles, gave an update on the 2020 Corvette Stingray orders:

- 83% Coupe / 17% Convertible
- 3LT most popular trim level (44% on Coupe and 56% on Convertible)
- 89% of buyers - performance exhaust
- 61% order the GT2 seats
- 58% order the front lift (E60)
- 42% order Bright Red calipers
- Most popular wheels: Carbon Flash (42%)

- Most popular exterior color Torch Red with 25% followed by Arctic White: 15%; Black: 12%; Sebring Orange and Elkhart Lake Blue 7% each; Rapid Blue, Ceramic Matrix Gray, Blade Silver and Shadow Gray with 6% each; Long Beach Red 5% and Accelerate Yellow & Zeus Bronze each 3%.
- Expect to see the Accelerate Yellow and Zeus Bronze pickup as they were some of the newer introductions.
- Interior color – Jet Black - 28%
- High wing very popular (23%)



Vettecademy Returns for Season II: One-Off Corvettes: The Vette Academy premier series was so popular that the NCM decided to launch a second series as we roll into fall. In this first episode (9 minute video) of the season, learn about a few one-off Corvettes (XP-819 “The Ugly Duckling”; 1989 ZR12 - “The Snake Skinner”; 2009 ZR-1 “Blue Devil”; 2009 C-7 Split Window Stingray prototype), and their unique stories. Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSzW5TV4hCc> There will be a new Vette academy video available on the NCM web page each week.



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:

	<p>2021 Silver Flare Corvette Coupe Limited to 2000 Tickets Price: \$100 Drawing: October 15, 2020 2:00 PM New Color for 2021!</p>
	<p>2021 Elkhart Lake Blue Corvette Coupe Limited to 1500 Tickets Price: \$150 Drawing: November 5, 2020 2:00 PM Blue Beauty!</p>
	<p>2021 Arctic White Corvette Coupe Unlimited Tickets Price: \$20 Drawing: April 24, 2021 2:00 PM These are the tickets to buy and give out as Holiday Presents!</p>

Latest Winners: The **1.75 Millionth Corvette Arctic White Coupe** was won by Don Creekmore of Wichita, KS with Ticket #1167 drawn on 09/04/2020. All 1,500 available \$200 tickets sold.

The **2020 Torch Red Corvette Coupe** was won by Matthew Driesenga of Holland, MI with ticket #5313 drawn on 09/5/2020. There were unlimited \$20 tickets available.

The **2021 BYO Corvette or \$65,000** was won by Richard Chalcraft of Jackson Beach, FL with ticket #156 drawn on 09/24/2020. 1,209 of the 1,500 available \$250 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. These events are popular and can fill up fast.

In September the NCM began partnerships with Orchestra Kentucky and Bowling Green Cars & Coffee to hold their events at the NCM. Sometimes these events are held several times a month and due to space limitations in our newsletter if you are really interested you can check the NCM website for more details about them and sign up for any of these fabulous events here: <https://www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/> . These are the events currently posted by the museum:

- 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)
- NCM: Vets 'n Vettes presented by Mobil 1 - 11/12 – 11/14 (Registration soon)
- MiM 9 Day Caribbean Cruise: 5/14 - 5/23/2021 (depart & return Fort Lauderdale FL) (Full – Wait List)

Did you know: The National Corvette Museum and Andy Pilgrim's Traffic Safety Education Foundation (TSEF) are teaming up to bring a new educational experience to the NCM Motorsports Park and needs the help of enthusiasts. The TSEF is introducing a Drivers' Safety Course, and the NCM is looking for donations of C5 and/or C6 era Corvettes to use for the educational fleet. Enthusiasts interested in being a part of this program by donating a Corvette can contact the NCM's Director of Collections & Curator, Derek E. Moore, at Derek@CorvetteMuseum.org or 270-777-4516, or NCM Registrar & Collections Manager, Leah Craig, at Leah@CorvetteMuseum.org or 270-777-4562.