

**JULY 2022** 

# YOU NEVER KNOW WHO YOU WILL MEET!

Recently I happened to be at Hutchinson Island for a business meeting and one of the speakers was Winston Scott. If that name sounds a little familiar, it should be. Winston flew on both the Columbia and Edeavor Space Shuttles. He has a long history with the space program as well as being an F16 pilot. He also served as the Vice President of Student Affairs at Florida State University for a time. He spoke at the meeting about his career and some of the challenges he faced. He was very entertaining and a great source of information about the shuttle program, its missions and his time as an actively serving astronaut. I spoke with him after his session, and we discovered that we have something in common – Corvettes! Turns out that Winston is the proud owner of a C6 Z06 – Will Cooksey Edition Corvette. Something that he loves to drive as much as he can. His ride might not be the F16 he once flew but we might argue it's the next best thing. Seems the relationship between astronauts, the space program and Corvette continues on!



## COULD THIS SKETCH FROM GM PREVIEW A ELECTRIC CORVETTE SUV?

General Motors Design on Instagram (@generalmotorsdesign) has shared an interesting sketch of what seems to be a high-riding crossover. It carries GM's current design language, though details point us to believing that it's an EV crossover. And more importantly, that black boomerang on the side resembles what you see on the Chevy Corvette C8. Is this a preview of an electric Corvette SUV?

Well, no. We're used to seeing design studies and sketches posted over on Instagram by *General Motors Design*. And most of the times, they are what they are – studies and scribbles of imagination. This rendering was made by Jason Chen (@macotodesign), who, according to his Instagram and Linkedin profiles, is a creative designer at GM since 2015.

An electric Corvette crossover isn't exactly a fresh idea. Rumors of <u>a separate Corvette brand</u> with an SUV and a sedan have surfaced as early as 2019. The reports allegedly came from a number of unnamed GM insiders. In 2021, a *Bloomberg* report said that <u>GM is already working on at least one electric Corvette SUV</u>, which will signal the start of Corvette as a family of performance vehicles – similar to what Ford did with the <u>Mustang Mach-E</u>. The sources requested not be named for obvious reasons, but it seems like they were privy to the matter. The sources also shared that several Corvette-brand concept vehicle designs are already underway, made by GM designers. Previous reports also said that the vehicle could come out as early as 2025.



Nothing's definite at this point. We'll see whether this rendering by Chen would inspire the rumored model and ultimately translate into the production version. In any case, purists won't be happy about the idea of a high-riding Corvette, that's for sure. Unit sales, however, are another story.

The sources also shared that several Corvette-brand concept vehicle designs are already underway, made by GM designers. Previous reports also said that the vehicle could come out as early as 2025. Nothing's definite at this point. We'll see whether this rendering by Chen would inspire the rumored model and ultimately translate into the production version. In any case, purists won't be happy about the idea of a high-riding Corvette, that's for sure. Unit sales, however, are another story.

Source: General Motors Design via Instagram By: Jacob Oliva

# COME ON OUT!

Our monthly meeting and dinner get together at Glory Days is becoming quite a fun time. We may have to swap places and put the regular customers in the special room and take over the larger main room given the size of our group this month. Our next meeting regular meeting will be July 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Most folks come early, about 6, to grab a reserved parking space out front, eat and just socialize. Put it on your calendar and join the fun. See you there!





#### A NEW CONFIGURATOR....

GM has released a new Corvette Configurator for 2023 that is easier to use and from all reports does a better job. Of course, it includes new colors, options and such as well as a much-improved interface and visual rendering of the car. Give it a try at <a href="https://www.chevrolet.com/performance/corvette/build-and-price/config">https://www.chevrolet.com/performance/corvette/build-and-price/config</a>.

## KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN!

Many of you have asked about the front nose cover I have on my C6. The black, stretchable cover is made by NoviStretch. I have had it since the 2014 National Corvette Caravan, and it has done a great job keeping the vast majority of projectiles and suicidal bugs from hurting my Corvettes nose. The mask is made of a stretchy black mesh material which can be easily installed or removed in about 5 minutes, The mask uses snaps that replace some of the body panel screws under the hood and along the front fender liner. The install of these screw/snaps is simple and the only skill needed is operating a screwdriver. Once done they stay in place and are used to anchors the mask whenever it is needed. The mask is mesh so it does not block air flow to the engine but it will intercept small rocks and road detritus as well as most bug splatter. You can wash it in soap and water, hang it to dry and fold it up to about the size of a small towel for storage in the rear compartment. What could be better?

Recently on our club trip to Sarasota for the Corvettes on the Circle show, I used the mask and when removing it, I managed to accidentally pull one of the bottom anchors snaps off of the mask. I made a temporary repair that held long enough to get home. I figured that after 8 years of reliable service, it was probably time to purchase a new one. I contacted Novistretch about possibly ordering a replacement. Andrew, at Novistretch. and I have corresponded here and there, and they have supported our car shows in the past. When I reached out, we had a good conversation about the mask, its 8-year lifespan and his products. I was able to send my mask back and they checked it out and repaired the problem snap and returned the mask to me with the offer of a small discount if I decided to purchase a new one. I like to support folks who have good products that are reasonably priced, give good service and are from companies that stand behind what they sell. If you are looking for something to help protect your cars nose, I recommend checking out a Novistretch mask. They also make mirror covers....

www.novistretch.com.



#### **APPRECIATING THE FINER THINGS**



# **CORVETTES ON THE CIRCLE!**

The Corvettes on the Circle show is one of the best shows the club participates in each year. The trip is always a fun one and often club members may come home with a trophy. This year was no exception. Participants met at Chris Keena's office and departed about 930AM for a cruise down to Suwannee Belle Landing for lunch on the river. The breeze was wonderful out on the deck, and we had a great stopover before continuing our travels down to Sarasota. There was only a small matter of Andre running out of gas on the way. He got refueled and everyone made it to the Carlisle Inn. The Inn and restaurant, which is run by Amish, was a very nice surprise. The rooms were quite nice, and the service was very good.

The morning of the show can be characterized as an early morning monsoon with some wind and thunder. Fortunately, things cleared up by about 9 and everyone began cleaning and polishing as usual. The show seemed to start off a little smaller than usual but as the day wore on, many more participants showed up. The show always contains Corvettes from all generations and this year was no exception. CCOT members were clustered together in one corner with a nice view of the event. When time came for the awards, to our pleasant surprise, club members placed in several major categories. Congratulations to our winning members at the Corvettes on the Circle Corvette Show.







Third Place C2 to Andre and Kay Pozzuoli Third Place C4 to Russ and Buzzy Sobczak Second Place C6 to Mike and Deb Plumb First Place C7 to Pat and Jan McElveen

A great haul at a very competitive show!

The weekend was also a great opportunity to explore the shopping around the Circle, grab lunch at the Columbia and dinner at several of the great places in the area. If you did not get a chance to attend this year, make sure and pout this trip on your calendar for 2023. You will not be disappointed.

## PANAMA CITY BEACH CRUISE AND SHOW!

Our friends at the Dothan club always put on a great event! This year there was a dinner on Thursday night followed by the cruise from the Peanut Festival Fairgrounds in Dothan to Panama City on Friday morning. After what is usually some spirited driving returning across the Florida line to Panama City, everyone meets up at Margaritaville for lunch. This year, the show was held at the Sheraton with presentations by Corvette Designer Kirk Bennion and Factory Team members. Updates on new items for 2023, the Z06 and 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition were featured topics. Once the judging was done, CCOT members were dominant in this year's winners circle! First place in C2 and Best in Show for Andre Pozzuoli, first place in C4 for Russ and Buzzy Sobczak and first place in C5 for Mike and Angie Wallenfelsz. In addition, Mike and Angie Wallenfelsz's C5 was chosen for a special honor by Damian Zink, Quality Control Manager for the Corvette Plant. An amazing group of wins by our members!





# HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY CHIP AND DINEY!

A surprise drive by was organized and conducted on XX in honor of Chip and Diney Perkins' 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. About 10 cars buzzed the house with lots of horns and

fanfare. There was also an after action gathering at the Summerbrooke Golf Club for refreshments and snacks. Congratulations on a wonderful milestone. We wish you many more years of happiness!





#### NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM UPDATE!

Check Out NCM Insurance! – No one plans on having a total loss in insurance, much less 3 total losses but sadly Paul Read experienced that in just one day. On a frigid February morning in Texas, in a detached garage, home to several collector vehicles Paul found himself trying to save his prized possessions that had just gone up in flames. Paul reached out to us the very next day to start the claims process. "I was immediately assigned a claims adjuster who reached out to me to explain the process" he also says "within a few days an appraiser was sent out to access the damage, try to figure out what caused the fire and take pictures" "American Moderns claims team was great to deal with constant communication throughout the process and within 3 weeks I had a check in my hand and was able to go out and buy a C7 Z06 and 2018 GT350 to try and start the collection process again!" "when you start to shop insurance, you mainly focus on the cost of insurance and not the claims reputation. You never plan on having a claim just paying the insurance on time. This is a great example of why NCM Insurance has great rates but an even better claims team"

Registration is Now Open for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Anniversary Celebration! - This year we mark the 28th Anniversary of the National Corvette Museum! Registered participants can enjoy 3 days of activities in and around the Museum including access to interesting and unique road tours, special video presentations, raffles, and more! *The deadline to register ONLINE is Monday, August 15, 2022, at 5 PM CT.* 

**eBay Items for Auction!** - Have you ever wanted to own a piece of National Corvette Museum history? Your chance to own the "Living the Dream" banner is happening NOW! Place your bids on this item today! Auction ends Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 1 PM CT. Place your bid! <a href="https://www.ebay.com/usr/nationalcorvette">https://www.ebay.com/usr/nationalcorvette</a>

## **Upcoming Museum Events**

- MiM Colorado Springs | July 10 July 14, 2022 (WAIT LIST AVAILABALE)
- MiM Northeast Ohio | August 7 August 11, 2022 (WAIT LIST AVAILABLE)
- 28th Anniversary Celebration | September 1 3, 2022 (REGISTRATION OPEN)
- MiM National Parks Week 1 | September 18 September 24 (REGISTRATION OPEN)
- MiM National Parks Week 2 | September 25 October (REGISTRATION OPEN)
- Corvette Racing Weekend | September 22 September 24 (REGISTRATION OPEN)

View a complete list of events with more information and links to register on the website here.

**Corvette Raffles!** - Currently raffle tickets are only available through the mail, by filling out an order form, or through purchase at the museum or in the State of Kentucky. There are a range of vehicles and raffle types underway, so I encourage you to take a look at the website for a complete listing. I have not won yet, but I remain hopeful. You can't win if you don't play as they say. You can find the latest raffles here - <a href="https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org">https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org</a>

Win 2023 VIN #0001 - On Friday, September 2nd, at 3pm CT, during our 28th Anniversary Celebration, we will be raffling off 2023 Corvette Stingray VIN #001! Tickets are \$300, and the raffle is limited to 2,023 tickets.



Proceeds from raffles support the operations of the National Corvette Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation.

Check the Events Calendar on the UPDATED website for more upcoming activities

Join us for our next meeting on April 7th at Glory Days!

If you have any questions or suggestions about the newsletter, please contact:

John Opper

ccotnews@gmail.com