

FIBERGLASS FOREVER



CORVETTES OF FRESNO



SPONSORED BY HEDRICK'S CHEVROLET

"HOME OF THE LONGEST RUNNING ANNUAL CORVETTE EVENT ON THE PLANET"

ESTABLISHED 1963

JULY 2016



OWNER: PETE & CATHY CHOLAKIAN

JULY & AUGUST EVENTS

JULY 10 - SUNDAY - SELLING CAR SHOW AND BARBEQUE

AUG 20 - SATURDAY - MEET AND EAT

TAHOE 48 - SEPTEMBER 8 - 11, 2016



Tahoe 48

**"THE LONGEST RUNNING ANNUAL
CORVETTE EVENT ON THE PLANET"**

September 8-11, 2016

Silver Legacy Resort Hotel & Casino - 407 N. Virginia St. Reno, Nevada

(COVERED SECURE PARKING ON LEVELS 7 - 8 - 9 OF THE SELF PARKING GARAGE)

Registration: Forms available on the website: www.corvettesoffresno.com

also released via e-mail - jimagar14@gmail.com - teixeira2k@att.net

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 100 CARS

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER AUGUST 15th 2016

How Much: \$195.00 per couple, \$125.00 singles

EARLY BIRD DRAWING

**ALL PAID REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2016 WILL BE ENTERED IN A
DRAWING FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$100.00 CASH!**

**DUE TO CONTRACTS WITH OUR VENDORS WE CANNOT ISSUE ANY REFUNDS ON
CANCELATIONS AFTER AUGUST 15, 2016 (No Exceptions)**

Highlights

Welcome Social Thursday Night at Rum Bullions Island Bar

Shine & Show Friday Morning

Slot Tournament \$10.00pp - Friday Afternoon

Catch a Rising Star Comedy Show - Friday Night (some parts may be objectionable)

Scenic Poker Run along the shores of Lake Tahoe ending with lunch - (extra hands \$5.00)

Saturday Morning & Afternoon 100% payout for low & high hand. 1 POKER HAND INCLUDED

Awards Dinner at Silver Legacy - Saturday Night (INCLUDED)

ALL TICKETS FOR RAFFLE & 50/25/25 DRAWING TO BE PURCHASED AT EVENT

PLEASE NOTE - DRESS CODE FOR AWARDS DINNER IS SMART CASUAL

www.corvettesoffresno.com for Additional Details & Updates

All Net proceeds from Tahoe 48 will be donated to Charity

Accommodations

**Silver Legacy Hotel & Casino: (800) 687- 8733 Use the Group Code 916CORV
Room Rates: Thursday \$79.00 Friday & Saturday \$125.00 (plus tax & resort fee)**

Buffet Breakfast for 2 each Day is Included!

(must book through group code 916CORV to get included breakfast buffet)

Register now so you don't miss out on the 48th Tahoe Tour

Register by August 9, 2016 for Room Rate Guarantee

FIBERGLASS FOREVER



CORVETTES OF FRESNO, INC

Is a non-profit organization formed by those owners who are proud to drive America's only true sports car
THE CORVETTE

Our club meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Yosemite Falls Cafe 4020 North Cedar Between Dakota & Ashlan on the East side of Cedar

If you are an interested Corvette owner, we invite you to attend.

The one time initiation fee is \$30.00 and covers the cost of your Corvettes of Fresno window sticker, membership directory, club by-laws, nametag and many other goodies.

The annual dues are \$95.00 per year per couple, or \$77.00 per year per individual.

COF BOARD MEETING NOTICE

CORVETTES OF FRESNO BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY ON SHAW NEAR CEDAR AVE START TIME IS 6:30 PM
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

1971 TRIVIA

1971 was the last year for fiber optic warning lights, first introduced in 1968.

The only external difference between the 1971 and 1972 Corvettes is the amber front turn signals and chrome plating on the egg-crate grills on the 1972.

CORVETTES OF FRESNO, INC 2016 OFFICERS

President: Bert Sherman
E-mail: president@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-439-9699

Vice Pres.: Chuck Feccia
E-mail: events@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-432-4228

Secretary: Nancy Teixeira
E-mail: secretary@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-449-1505

Treasurer: Gerri Ware
E-mail: treasurer@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-673-1065

Membership: Clay Mumby
E-mail: membership@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 503-507-3059

Webmaster: Chris Campbell
E-mail: webmaster@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-289-8054

Newsletter: Jim Agar
E-mail: newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-593-1234

WSCC Representative: Allen Teixeira
E-mail: representative@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-449-1505

Sunshine: Ruth Looney
E-mail: sunshine@corvettesoffresno.com
Phone: 559-288-2272



FIBERGLASS FOREVER IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION.
PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES NO LATER THAN THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH VIA
EMAIL TO:
newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com



THE PRESIDENT'S EXHAUST



Hello Everyone,

On behalf of Bert Sherman (President), I will be writing the Presidents Exhaust this month. Bert's wife, Patti, has suffered a Heart Attack and is in the hospital. We are all praying for a quick recovery.

The June General Meeting was full, it's great to see the large number people attending the meetings. We now have 140 Members and 91 Corvettes!

Bunko Night at Tom and Teresa Ochoa's was a big success, we had a great time playing and lots of wonderful food. They did a nice job organizing the event, once us amateur's learned how to play, it went very smooth.

Bert and Patti did a fantastic job with the COF Picnic at Meadow Lakes. Bert had everything organized and with the help of many of our members, made it a success! When we left, the place was spotless, good job everyone!

There are quite a few events coming up, check out Chuck's Calendar of Events page here in the Newsletter. You can also find information on the COF Web Site.

Tahoe 48 is coming up fast, we need everyone from the club who is going, to get your registration in as soon as possible. It's a big help if we can get this information early.

Also, we need Donations for the prize give away at Tahoe 48. Please contact Allen Teixeira if you have a donation to make. The more prizes, the more tickets we sell!

If you have an idea for a run or want to plan one, get a hold of Chuck Feccia, he can help you to get it underway and iron out the details.

Well that's all for now, let's keep our Members that are having issues in our thoughts and prayers.

**Thank you,
Chris Campbell
(former COF President)**





CORVETTES OF FRESNO - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 21, 2016



Call to Order: President Bert Sherman was absent so Chris Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. Board Members present were Gerri Ware, Nancy Teixeira, Chuck Feccia., and Clay Mumby. Jim Agar was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was shared by all. Chris reported that Patty Sherman had a heart attack and is still in critical condition.

Secretaries Report: Minutes of the meeting May 2016 are published in the COF newsletter. A motion to waive the reading of the May 2016 minutes was made by Louis Biglieri and seconded by Ron Mattos, Motion carried. A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the May newsletter was made by Gary Gagnebin and seconded by Pat Mattos, motion carried unanimously!

Treasurers Report: Gerri Ware reported the accounts activity for May, which is on file to be reviewed by members only. A Motion was made to approve the treasures report as read by Ruth Looney and seconded by Kaye Campbell. Motion carried unanimously.

Membership: New Members packet was presented to Manny and Lisa Vidal. Clay Mumby reported we have 65 members present and 3 guests. Guests introduced were Nancy Vasquez and Jim and Alice Freeman. Corvettes of Fresno have 140 members and 91 corvettes. June Anniversaries and Birthdays were acknowledged.

The name tag drawing for June is \$20.00.

Communication: Jim Agar was absent

Webmaster: Webmaster Chris Campbell said the Web site will be update with new information about the Melodrama Run and also new member cars and pictures.

WSCC: Allen Teixeira reported the Quarterly Redline is out and asked if anyone did not receive a copy, two members Bigliari and Hurliman did not receive one, Allen will check on it. This was the last issue to have Tahoe 48 flyer appear.

Activities: Please refer to the Calendar of events in the club newsletter, or on the club web site, www.corvettesoffresno.com for more details and up to date information. **Guests are encouraged to attend any event, come join the fun! Remember all sign up sheets are on the side table.**

Past Events:

May 21 Bunko Night was a big success and Don Dukes was asked by the Ochoa's to thank everyone who attended.

June 4 Club picnic at Meadow Lakes Bert Sherman was thanked for chairing and getting all the food along with Clay Mumby for hauling stuff, Chris Campbell for the tent, Ron Lindegren for cooking and everyone who help clean up.

June 7 COF Board Meeting at Spaghetti Factory 6:30pm

June 14 Tahoe 48 Meeting Denny's Herndon and Blackstone at 7pm

Up Coming Events:

June 25 Wine tasting and Pizza run chaired by Ron and Pat Mattos cost \$5.00, leave from Temperance and 168 12pm

June 26 Word from Home Car show, Lifetree Church Madera Ranchos

July 5 COF Board Meeting 6:30 pm Spaghetti Factory

July 10 Snelling Car Show and Barbeque Clay Mumby Chairing, leave 8:45 Herndon & 99

July 12 Tahoe 48 meeting 7pm Denny's Herndon and Blackstone

July 19 COF General Meeting 7pm Yosemite Falls on Cedar

Aug 20 Meet and Eat 1pm Piazza Panne Cedar and Nees, Clay Mumby chair

Nov 19 Melodrama Ocean Biglieri's and Trauger's chairing need to make your own reservations for Melodrama and Condos, details on website flyer

Dec 3 Christmas Party at Pardini's \$35.00 per person Angie DiLiddo chair please indicate if you want chicken or beef on sign up sheet

April 22-26 2017 Trip to St George, Bryce Canyon and Zion chaired by Jim Agar and Allen Teixeira.

Tahoe 48 Allen said registrations are coming but registrations from our own club members are lagging, so if you are planning to attend please get them in soon. Sign ups for donations are being passed around and we would like the money turned in by July 31.

Sunshine Report Ruth Looney reported on Patty Sherman and said the family requests no visitors or flowers at hospital but cards can be sent to the house. Kelly Ashley had hip surgery and is doing well and Celia Feccia had foot surgery and is doing well but is confined to the house for 4 more weeks.

Old Business: Allen announced that there will not be Rods on the Bluff car show in July. Jim Kozera thanked club members who stepped up at the last minute to show cars at the Paint Brush Memory Care facility after other car clubs backed out at the last minute.

New Business: Mokey Cowger announced a Rod and Rock Show June 24 and 25 in Monterey, his band will be performing Friday night and the car show is Saturday. .

Name Tag Drawing: . The drawing is \$20.00 for June, Helen Jolly's name was drawn and she was present and was wearing her name tag so she won the \$20.00. The drawing will be \$10.00 for July.

50/25/25 Raffle: Chuck Robb donated a C6 remote control Corvette for the raffle; Ruth Looney's ticket was drawn.

Jerry Peloian had the first ticket drawn in the 50/25/25 raffle for \$56.00 and the second ticket was Rolando Martinez for \$56.00.

There being no further business a motion was made by Chris Campbell to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Ron Miller the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Nancy Teixeira
By/ net



NANCY TEIXEIRA
SECRETARY

CLAY'S MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Membership

Clay reported that as of the 2016 Calendar Year COF has 140 members and 91 cars.

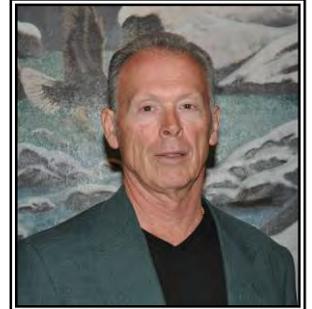
Members & Guests

Total attendance: 68 - 65 Members & 3 Guests, Nancy Vasquez and Jim and Alice Freeman.

Nametag drawing

Helen Jolly's name was drawn & She won \$20.00. The drawing will be for \$10.00 next month.

Remember to wear your nametag at the meeting for a chance to win.



CLAY MUMBY
MEMBERSHIP

Club Directories and Updates

The 2016 electronic copy of the club membership directory is available online at www.corvettesoffresno.com (contact Chris Campbell for the new access info)



JULY ANNIVERSARIES



GENE & EVELYN FOX 5 - BOB & JUDI REINKE 29



JULY BIRTHDAYS



JOE BRATTON 3 - CLIFF SHAUL 3 - KATHY YERGAT - 5
DAVE DUTTON 7 - PHIL RIVAS 14 - GLEN MICHAELS 19
BRENDA DURHAM 12 - EVELYN FOX 15
KAYE CAMPBELL 21 - CHUCK ROBB 24 - SUSAN RIVAS 30

50/25/25 DRAWING WINNERS

JERRY PELOIAN
ROLANDO MARTINEZ

EACH WON
\$56.00
CONGRATULATIONS!



Sunshine Report



RUTH LOONEY REPORTED ON PATTY SHERMAN AND SAID THE FAMILY REQUESTS NO VISITORS OR FLOWERS AT HOSPITAL BUT CARDS CAN BE SENT TO THE HOUSE.

KELLY ASHLEY HAD HIP SURGERY AND IS DOING WELL.

CELIA FECCIA HAD FOOT SURGERY AND IS DOING WELL BUT IS CONFINED TO THE HOUSE FOR 4 MORE WEEKS.



CHUCK ROBB DONATED A C6 REMOTE CONTROL CORVETTE FOR THE RAFFLE; RUTH LOONEY'S TICKET WAS DRAWN.

NEW MEMBERS PACKET WAS
PRESENTED TO
MANNY AND LISA VIDAL

WELCOME TO COF!



CHUCK'S 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS PAGE



JULY 5, 2016 - TUESDAY - BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM AT THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY ON SHAW NEAR CEDAR AVE

JULY 12, 2016 - TUESDAY - TAHOE 48 - MEETING 7PM AT DENNEY'S - HERNDON AND BLACKSTONE

JULY 19, 2016 - TUESDAY - GENERAL MEETING 7:00 PM AT YOSEMITE FALLS CAFE LOCATED AT 4020 N. CEDAR IN GRANITE PARK

JULY 10 - SUNDAY - SNELLING CAR SHOE AND BARBEQUE - CLAY MUMBY

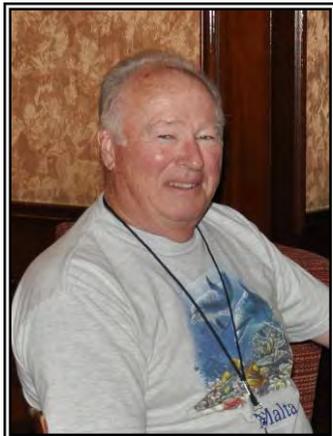
AUG 20 - SATURDAY - MEET AND EAT - 1PM, PIAZZA PANNE CEDAR AND NEES, CLAY MUMBY CHAIR

NOV 19 - SATURDAY - MELODRAMA TRIP TO OCEANO - LOUIS BIGLIERI AND DAVE TRAUGER

DEC 3 - SATURDAY - CHRISTMAS PARTY AT PARDINI'S \$35.00 PER PERSON ANGIE DILIDDO CHAIR.

APRIL 22-26 2017 - TRIP TO ST GEORGE, BRYCE CANYON AND ZION CHAIRED BY JIM AGAR AND ALLEN TEIXEIRA.

TAHOE 48 - SEPTEMBER 8 - 11, 2016



**CHUCK FECCIA
VP ACTIVITIES**

TAHOE 48 MEETING

TAHOE 48 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7:00PM
TUESDAY MAY 9, 2016 AT DENNY'S ON THE CORNER OF
BLACKSTONE & HERNDON

WSSC

ALLEN TEIXEIRA REPORTED THE QUARTERLY REDLINE IS OUT
AND ASKED IF ANYONE DID NOT RECEIVE A COPY, TWO
MEMBERS BIGLIARI AND HURLIMAN DID NOT RECEIVE ONE,
ALLEN WILL CHECK ON IT.
THIS WAS THE LAST ISSUE TO HAVE TAHOE 48 FLYER APPEAR.

A blonde walks into a bank in New York City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5,000. The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of security for loan, so the blonde hands over the keys to a new Corvette parked on the street in front of the bank. Everything checks out, and the bank agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan. The bank's president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the blonde for using a \$45,000 Corvette as collateral against a \$5,000 loan.

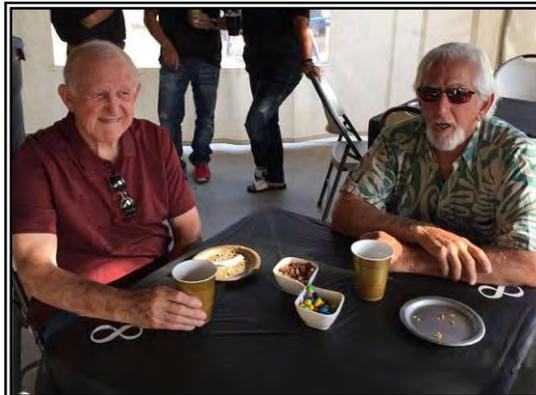
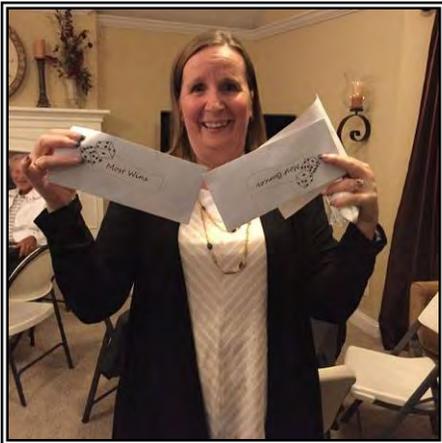
An employee of the bank then proceeds to drive the Corvette into the bank's underground garage and parks it there.

Two weeks later, the blonde returns, repays the \$5,000 and the interest, which comes to \$15.41. The loan officer says, "Miss, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?"

The blond replied, ... "Where else in New York can I park my car for two weeks for only \$15.41?"



BUNCO NIGHT - MAY 21





MEADOW LAKES PICNIC





MEADOW LAKES PICNIC





RECOGNITION PAGE



**CONGRATULATIONS TO CHUCK & GERRI WARE ON THE PURCHASE OF THEIR
2008 CRYSTAL RED COUPE**



WAY TO GO!



1963 SPLIT WINDOW COUPE BOAT

FOR THE CORVETTE OWNER WHO HAS EVERYTHING!!

SNELLING CAR SHOW

Sunday, July 10, 2016

8th ANNUAL

CAR SHOW

10 am to 2 pm

ALL MAKES

ALL YEARS

Corvettes — Hot Rods — Customs — Classics

Parking on the Ball-field Grass

Pre-Registration Fee by July 1st: \$30 per car

\$35 per car on event day July 10th

One meal ticket included with registration

Call Becky at (209) 652-3771 for more info

Registration forms available at

www.YosemiteCorvetteClub.net

AWARDS
at 1:00 pm

60th ANNUAL

DEEP PIT BAR-B-Q

Lunch includes: BBQ Beef, Beans, Salad, Roll & Coffee

Desserts and Cold Drinks available to purchase

Henderson Park, Snelling, CA

Lunch Served from 12 noon to 2 PM

Meal tickets \$12 per person

Entrance FREE to the general public

BINGO 11 am



Corvettes of Fresno run hosted by Louis Biglieri and David Trauger

When: November 19th, 2016 - Saturday

Where: American Melodrama, 1863 Front St. Oceano, CA 93445.

Whats Required:

Melodrama Tickets - Call 805-489-2499 - Mention you are with COF.
Holiday Extravaganza Show. Tickets are \$19.00 - 22.00, buy on line
early, show may sell out. Go to www.americanmelodrama.com or
call to purchase

Hotel Reservations: For those who will be staying the night and don't already
have a place to stay. Pacific Plaza Hotel at 444 Pier Ave. Oceano, CA 93445.
Call 800-300-0903, mention COF for the reserve price of
\$149.00. This price includes Dinner (for 2) and a bottle of wine after the show
(at the hotel restaurant).

Schedule:

More info to come

Questions, Call: Dave Trauger 559-362-9193 or Louis Biglieri 559-696-2467



Corvettes of Fresno

Please join us for our

Annual Christmas Party

Saturday December 3, 2016

at

Pardini's

2257 W Shaw
Fresno, Ca

6:00 pm - No Host Bar

7:00 - 8:00 pm Dinner

8:00 - 10:00 pm - Music by JT & Sarah

\$35 per person

Enjoy a dinner of Braised pan Roast Beef or Chicken Piccata

Hosted by:

Nick & Angie Diliddo

559-439-7267

Please RSVP not later than November 20, 2016

Make checks payable to Corvettes of Fresno



MERRY CHRISTMAS



BRYCE CANYON & ZION NATIONAL PARK



APRIL 23-27 2017 - SAVE THE DATE

ITINERARY

DAY 1

FRESNO TO ST GEORGE, UT 500 MILES
OVERNIGHT @ LA QUINTA INN
DINNER & DESSERT AT STONE CLIFF
ESTATES

DAY 2

DRIVE TO ZION NATIONAL PARK
50 MILES - TOUR ZION
LUNCH AT THUNDERBIRD LODGE IN
MOUNT CARMEL, UT
DRIVE TO BRYCE CANYON - 60 MILES
OVERNIGHT AT BRYCE CANYON
GRAND HOTEL - DINNER AT THE HOTEL

DAY 3

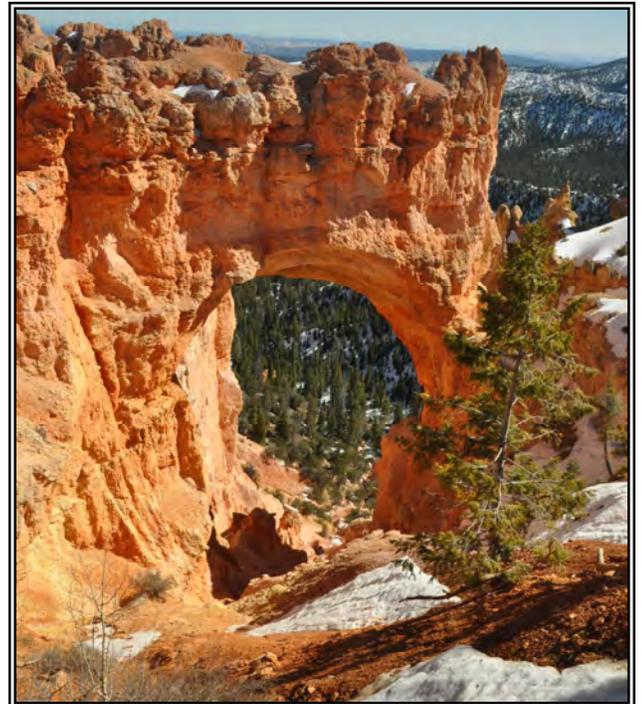
BREAKFAST AT THE LODGE
TOUR BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL
PARK - 36 MILES ROUND TRIP
LUNCH AT RUBY'S INN
DRIVE TO ST GEORGE - 110 MILES
DINNER @ ST HELEN'S
DESSERT @ BRIDAL GATE ESTATES
OVERNIGHT @ LA QUINTA INN

DAY 4

TOUR ST GEORGE & SURROUNDING
AREAS
LUNCH AT CLIFF SIDE LODGE
DINNER @ ERNESTO'S
DESSERT @ SYCAMORE ESTATES
OVERNIGHT @ LA QUINTA INN

DAY 5

HEAD FOR HOME



MORE INFO

JIM AGAR - jimagar14@gmail.com
559-593-1234

ALLEN TEIXEIRA - teixeira2k@att.net
559-449-1505



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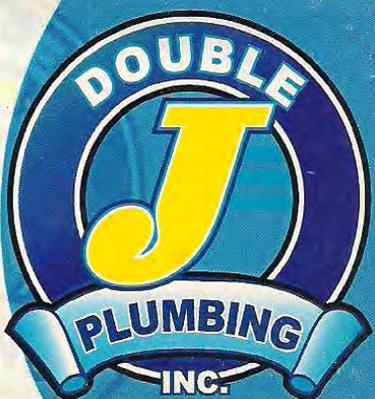
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Clovis, Ca 93611

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Fax: 559-297-1304

Joe Gonzalez
President/Owner

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Fax (559) 226-7205

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Basement Find 1956 Corvette Features Rare Duntov Cam

Tragic circumstances led to the discovery of this “basement find” 1956 Corvette in Jennings, Missouri.

According to writer Jerry Heasley with Hot Rod Magazine, the original owner of this first-generation Corvette was a man named Harold Pohlmann.



He ordered it new from Paul Luehrs Chevrolet in Mascoutah, Illinois and apparently enjoyed the performance of his Corvette, putting 41,000 miles on the odometer in the first 17 years before parking it permanently in 1983.

Pohlmann was one of just 111 people who ordered his 1956 Corvette with option code 469, which included a pair of four-barrel carburetors atop the standard 265 cubic inch engine, and code 449, the Duntov special high-lift cam that increased horsepower to 240.

The car also had the radio-delete option and a three-speed transmission that was later replaced by a four-speed transmission.

“He kept a record of every gas purchase from the time he bought the car new until the day he stored it in his basement garage in 1983 and never drove the car again,” said new owner Bob Kunz.

Tragically, Pohlmann suffered a terrible beating during the theft of his gun collection that he kept at his home. To pay for his nursing home care, all his possessions had to be sold.

Kunz found out about the Corvette but had to buy the entire estate, including the house and an unfinished Crosley dragster, to get his prize Chevrolet.

Kunz didn’t want a trailer queen, so he hasn’t had to do much to the highly original car other than an oil change, an adjustment of the tappets, and a rebuild of the carburetors. He also cleaned the exterior and interior and now just enjoys driving the car regularly.

While the original three-speed and differential were replaced in 1962, the original transmission and linkage came with the car, minus the original differential.

How exciting it must have been for someone like Pohlmann to be in on the ground floor of the Corvette experience! After all, the '56 was just the fourth year for Chevy's new fiberglass sports car.

Kunz says Pohlmann apparently was an enthusiast of Zora Arkus-Duntov, noting that he found "all the times for Duntov and (John) Fitch and whoever drove these cars at Daytona and Sebring."

GM Planning Carbon Fiber Wheels for Performance Cars

No word on how soon GM would offer the wheels, but autoblog.com says it's likely that Australian company Carbon Revolution would supply the wheels, the way it does now for the Ford GT and Mustang Shelby GT350R.

William Rodgers, GM light polymer systems technical fellow, research and development, divulged the information to autoblog.com that the Cadillac V's would be good candidates to get the wheels. That means the Corvette and Camaro would likely be considered, too.



High-performance cars like the Z06 would seem to be a natural fit since the wheels are considerably lighter, with GM saying carbon fiber wheels would cut 35 pounds off each vehicle while improving driving dynamics because the material is stiffer and provides wheels with lower unsprung and rotational mass.

We don't know what all that technical talk means exactly, but it sounds like a win-win situation, other than the fact that carbon fiber is pretty expensive. GM is apparently testing the wheels to make sure they would hold up to everyday driving hazards like potholes and general wear-and-tear. GM is also checking repair costs, though Rodgers said the likely option would be to just replace a damaged carbon fiber wheel.

As for the high cost now, Rodgers says GM thinks the price of the exotic material will come down as carbon fiber becomes more mainstream on other cars.

Lawsuit Filed Against GM By Family of Man Who Died Inside his Corvette

Last weekend, my family and I stumbled onto the 1980s classic movie, *Christine*, about the old car that seemingly has a mind of its own and disposes of people who say bad things about it. That even included locking the doors on its own and refusing to unlock them to let her victims out.

That's the first thing that popped into our mind this week when we heard that General Motors is facing a lawsuit from the children of the 72-year-old man who became locked in his C6 Corvette last year and succumbed to the heat when he couldn't figure out how to open the electronic doors.



Unfortunately, the rookie Corvette owner apparently didn't read the owner's manual where it tells about the emergency handle right next to the driver's seat that instantly pops open the door.

Problem solved.

We're certainly sorry about the death of James Lee Rogers, but we're not sure the locking mechanism is defective the way Troy Rogers and Tricia Hernandez claim in their lawsuit that was filed April 25.

Hundreds of thousands of C6 Corvettes were manufactured, and we haven't heard of another instance where the door locks caused someone's death.

Regardless, the suit was filed in the Jefferson County District Court against General Motors LLC, et al, citing negligence. The plaintiffs claim that GM allegedly manufactured and distributed vehicles with the purportedly defective locking mechanism and failed to warn the public of its dangers.

If the gentleman had taken the time to read the owner's manual, he would have known about the emergency handle. What else could GM have done?

The plaintiffs request a trial by jury and seek exemplary damages, interest, all legal fees and any other relief as this court deems just. They are represented by B. Adam Terrell and Lindsey B. Whisenant of Weller, Green, Toups & Terrell LLP in Beaumont, Texas.

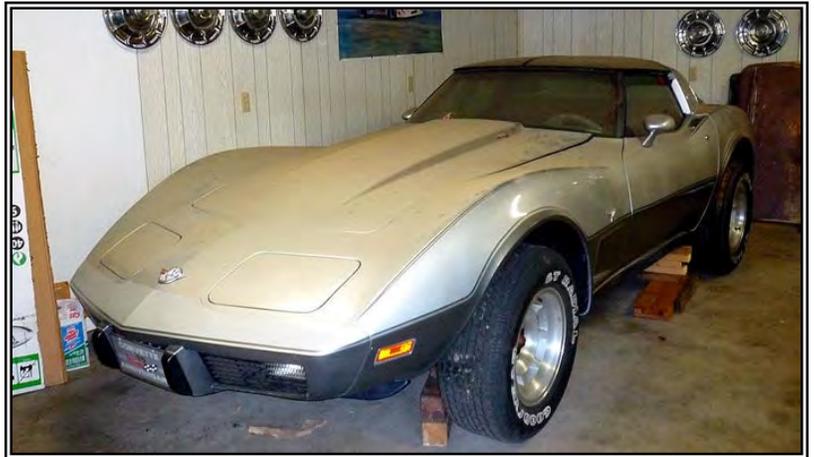
In a previous article for Corvette Blogger right after the death of Mr. Rogers, we wrote the following and repeat it today, hoping the message will save someone else in a similar situation:

We would urge all C6 and C7 Corvette owners to become acquainted with this handle NOW. It could save their lives one day. I had to use it one day in my 2005 convertible when I locked the door without having my keys in my pocket, but fortunately I was in the basement of my house out of the heat and had time to read the owner's manual and find the emergency handle.

4.1 Original Mile 1978 Silver Anniversary Edition

How would you like to buy a brand new 1978 Silver Anniversary Corvette today?

Yes, we know it's been 38 long years since any new 1978 models were sold by a dealer, but this one up for sale on eBay right now is quite possibly the closest thing you'll ever find to a new one these days.



The bids have already run up to \$23,100 and quite naturally haven't met the reserve, but the auction goes on through May 28. How high will it go?

But what's so special about this 1978 Corvette in the first place?

Well, it was purchased new in June 1978 by Paul Adams and immediately put into storage with just 4.1 miles on the odometer.

“The flatbed backed up to the garage, they rolled it off, he fogged the engine and put it up on blocks, and that's where it spent the next nearly 38 years, virtually untouched,” says Chip Lamb, collector car dealer and veteran auctioneer.

“It has never been dealer prepped – the wax crayon markings from the factory are still on the tires, front bumper, rear taillight. The hood release still has a cardboard cover, the hubcaps are in a bag, the horn button and contact are loose, the carpeting is still covered in cardboard, [and] the seats [are] still wrapped in plastic.”

The car has the highly desirable L82 engine, as well as a bundle of other options since Paul Adams bought the car at dealer invoice through his brother-in-law, Emery Bart Smith Jr., a GM regional sales representative in Fredericksburg, Va.

The options include power windows, power locks, removable glass roof panels, electric rear window defogger, air conditioning, sport mirrors, cruise control, tilt and telescoping steering, 60-series white-letter tires, a heavy duty battery, an AM/FM stereo with a built-in CB radio, dual rear speakers, aluminum wheels, the Convenience Group and the popular FE7 Gymkhana Suspension package, which included the a heavy duty front anti-sway bar, springs, shocks, and a rear anti-sway bar. FE7 was available on 1974 to 1982 Corvettes.

The sticker price topped out at \$13,658.21, but Mr. Adams was able to buy it for just \$10,400 plus tax, title, and other fees.

In case you recognize the name of Paul Adams, yes, he is the one who was an early National Corvette Restorers Society (NCRS) Judge and was on the Bloomington Gold Certification board and a vendor of C1-C3 Corvette parts from the 1970s-90s.

Sadly, Mr. Adams didn't really get to enjoy his new Corvette. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the late 1990s and passed away in 2009.

"His brother John stated to me the other day that I was possibly the first person to 'slam' the hood since 1978 as I prepared it for its journey in the trailer," Lamb said.

Whether his foresight to put away the car for a future collector to enjoy was a wise investment remains to be seen, though a similar car with a whopping 9 miles on the odometer sold for \$37,100 (including the auction house's premium) back in 2010. We've got to believe this one should go for more than that.

After all, the original MSRP climbs up to \$50,000 in today's dollars, which is still less than you can buy a new 2016 model for – though we're inclined to believe a lot of progress in automotive technology has been made over the past 38 years!

Says McKeel Hagerty, CEO of Hagerty, the world's largest provider of collector car insurance and publisher of the Hagerty Price Guide:

“Many of the Silver Anniversary cars were put away when new as they were among the first of the ‘Instant collectible’ car craze that started in earnest with the 1976 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible. There was a time where it would be unusual to attend a few collector car auctions and NOT see an under 100 miles example. Those days are gone, but there are still occasional ultra low mileage examples that show up once a year or more.”

According to Hagerty, the market for 1973 to 1982 Corvettes is down 4.5 percent over the market peak in 2006, but since then, the special editions like this Silver Anniversary are up 12 percent since then and the 1978 Pace Car replicas are up 22 percent.

GM Trademark of ZR1 Lends Credence to a New Super Corvette

Late last week news broke that General Motors had filed a trademark application at the US Patent and Trademark Office for the term “ZR1” which would be used for “motor land vehicles, namely, automobiles”.



Of course, the news blew up on the internet with the general consensus being that the term would be used for a future mid-engine Corvette that most believe is currently under development.

GM has used RPO codes as both ZR-1 and ZR1 three times in Corvette’s 63 year history. To see where the future is heading, let’s do a quick recap of the past.



the new LT-1 V8 which had solid lifters and a power output of 370 hp.

The first ZR-1s were introduced in 1970 and ran through 1972 and only 53 were known to be produced. The ZR-1s introduction in 1970 coincided with the retirement of the previous “factory racecar” package known as the L88 in 1969, but in small-block form utilizing

At the same time Chevrolet introduced the ZR-1 package, it was also developing the LS-7, a big-block version of the LT-1 with aluminum heads which would have made 460 hp. A special ZR-2 package was developed for that LS7 but it never materialized and was canceled. However, a ZR-2 package did appear in 1971 with the LS-6 big block V8 and 12 were built during that one-year option run.



The second iteration of the ZR-1 then appeared again from 1990 through 1995, utilizing a specially produced dual overhead cam V8 known as the LT5. Designed by Lotus and built by Mercury Marine, the new LT-5 started off with a rating of 375 hp and by the third year of production, it was boosted to 405 hp. It was during the 6-year model run that the phrase “King of the Hill” was first attached to the ZR-1 name.

Most know about the ZR1 from the last time it appeared in a Corvette, which was 2009-2013. Originally code named the Blue Devil, the C6 ZR1 was an incredible performance buy capable of a 205 mph top speed from the LS9 supercharged 638 horsepower V8.



So to sum it up, except for 1971 with the one-year only ZR-2, every time Chevrolet has used the ZR1 RPO, it's been used to designate the top performance model in Corvette's line-up. Only the L88 occupies that spot in the minds of Corvette enthusiasts and we might remind people that General Motors also has recently trademarked the L88 name as well.

Now, back in 2016, most automotive sites like ourselves are trying to determine what's next for Corvette and it all depends on which direction Chevrolet will take their halo car. Will Chevrolet continue to offer a front engine/rear wheel drive for the masses along with a mid-engine supercar which may get the ZR1 moniker? If the mid-engine is a one-model stand alone, then the ZR1 name makes sense.

But what if they go all in on a mid-engine design only for C8? We can't stop thinking about what *Car and Driver's* Don Sherman recently posted about the Mid-Engine Corvette that most are referring to as the Zora, another recent GM Trademark.

Sherman sources inside GM tell him that the future of Corvettes will C8 will be a mid-engine design only and will feature two distinct models, a regular base model starting at \$80,000 will be introduced at the 2018 Detroit Auto Show followed a year later by a high performance version that will be priced over \$100K.



He also stated that Chevy is likely to send out the C7 generation with a bang, and that's where we are mostly likely to see the return of the ZR1, possibly as early as January 2017's North American International Auto Show.

As Chevrolet recently brought back the Grand Sport name, it would make a lot of sense that a final high performance model called the ZR1 would help close out the C7 run. That also makes the name available again in C8 as the highest performance Corvette.

Regardless of what the future holds, Corvette enthusiasts will be the real winners in the end. Grab your popcorn and drinks because its going to be fun to see how this plays out.

Holden's Finale for Commodore Features LS9 V8 and Will Cost \$165K

If you never got around to buying a new C6 Corvette ZR1 during its run from 2009-13, then you've got another chance...sort of.

News Corp Australia is reporting that General Motors has given the green light to use the left-over ZR1 engines in the final Commodore models to be built next year before the Adelaide production line shuts down in Australia.



But if you thought the ZR1 was expensive at \$125,000 when it rolled out of the dealership showrooms in America, then you'd better hold onto your hat because the Commodore will reportedly have a whopping \$165,000 sticker.

But it will be a historic vehicle for sure, becoming the last V8 sedan made locally AND the most powerful vehicle ever manufactured in Australia over the past 100-plus years!

Holden won't confirm the story, but News Corp Australia claims it has the exclusive inside scoop that the ZR1 engine will indeed power the highly anticipated car in the Land Down Under.

Less than 250 of the cars will be produced because of the limited number of ZR1 engines available.

This would become the second time in recent history that a Corvette engine has been used in a Holden vehicle, the first coming in 2008 with the 7.0-liter Z06 powerplant. That car was made by Holden Special Vehicles, a separate Melbourne-based company that has produced Holden's performance models for 29 years, and News Corp says the encore version is expected to be built there, too.

Holden believes the new supercar will be a hit with the buying public thanks to the end of production looming, not to mention the fact that waiting in the wings is an imported Commodore due in 2018 with just a four-cylinder engine – quite a far cry from the V8 powerhouse swiped out of the ZR1.

The Top 11 Corvette Sales of Mecum Indianapolis 2016

The Mecum Auctions travelling road show stopped in Indianapolis, Indiana last weekend for Dana Mecum's 29th annual Original Spring Classic. After the dust had settled and the red carpet was rolled up 1,094 (70%) of the 1,567 consigned cars found new homes. Total sales were just under \$49,000,000 and that number will probably top \$50M once all the Bid Goes On activity wraps up.



Of those 1,500+ cars offered, 147 were Corvettes. Of those, 84 (57%) were hammered as sold. Here's our look at the top 11 Corvettes that changed hands last weekend.

Dissecting the top 11 list we again see C2 Corvettes in the majority. This time 8 midyear Corvettes cracked the top 11 followed by 2 first generation Corvettes and lone C7. Of those C2's, 5 were from the 1967 model year. Last month at Barrett-Jackson Palm beach we saw 6 C2's, 4 C1's and 1 C7 in that top 11 list. Nine of the top 11 Mecum Indy cars were either restored or factory original. The other 2 were both modified – one by GM itself internally and the other a wild restomod with modern internals.

The total cost of the Top 11 was \$1,540,500 and the average cost per car was \$140,045. Just to make our prestigious top 11 you would have had to lay down \$93,000. These numbers are down slightly from Barrett-Jackson Palm Beach where the top 11's total cost was \$1,675,800 and the average was \$152,345.

The top Corvette sold at Mecum Indy was a rare 1963 Z06. The red on black Z06 is a NCRS Top Flight award winner and one of just 199 produced. It hammered sold for \$210,000. 2nd place went to a sinister 1967 restomod sporting a 600hp LS3 which sold at \$205,000. A freshly restored 1967 437/435 came in 3rd place commanding \$195,000.

Here are the top 11 Corvette Sales from Dana Mecum's 29th annual Original Spring Classic.

F134	1963 Corvette Z06 NCRS Top Flight, 1 of 199 Produced	\$210,000
F218.1	1967 Corvette Resto Mod LS3/600 HP, 6-Speed	\$205,000
S89.1	1967 Corvette Convertible 427/435 HP, Tank Sticker	\$195,000
S170.1	1962 Corvette Styling Car S.O. 10224, Special Firemist Gold Paint	\$150,000
S136	1963 Corvette Split Window Coupe 4-Speed, Factory Air, Bloomington Gold	\$140,000
S105	1965 Corvette Convertible L78 396/425 HP, Bloomington Gold Benchmark	\$122,500
S183	1967 Corvette Coupe Tri-Power 427/400 HP, 4-Speed	\$110,000
S210	1957 Corvette Convertible Dual Quad 283/270 HP, 4-Speed	\$110,000
S53.1	1967 Corvette Convertible 427/390 HP, 4-Speed, Factory Air	\$105,000
F232	1967 Corvette Convertible Tri-Power 427 CI, 4-Speed	\$100,000
F5	2015 Z06 Coupe w/Z07, LT4, 8-speed auto, 24 miles	\$93,000
	Total	\$1,540,500
	Average	\$140,045

Some of the notable no sales last weekend in Indy included a green/green 1969 L88 convertible that bid to \$500,000, a LS3 powered 1963 convertible at \$200,000, and a black/black 1967 427/435 coupe which topped out a \$180,000.

Overall these results look to fall pretty much in line with what we've seen previously. Buyers are willing to spend big bucks on well done, high end restomodded Corvettes. There are still people lining up for 1963-1967 Corvettes (especially 67's) with no end to that demand in sight. Documented restored and original cars still bring all the money and the market remains strong for both buyers and sellers.

May 2016 Corvette Sales

General Motors released the Corvette sales report for May 2016. During the month, a total of 2,673 Corvettes were delivered for a -23.9% decline from May 2015 when 3,514 Corvettes were delivered.

For the Calendar year to date sales, a total of 12,185 Corvettes were sold between January 1st and May 31st which is a -21.4% decline from the same time period in 2015.



GM did offer two different rebate programs during the month of May but currently we haven't seen any continuation of the programs in June.

May was the last month for full production of the 2016 model and it will officially cease on June 24th. The factory will be taking a two-week summer hiatus and then 2017s will start up in early July. With GM staggering production (the 2017 Z06 will not start production until September), it's most likely we will not see full production numbers again from the Bowling Green Assembly Plant until later this fall.

Here's the GM Sales Report for Corvettes in May 2016:

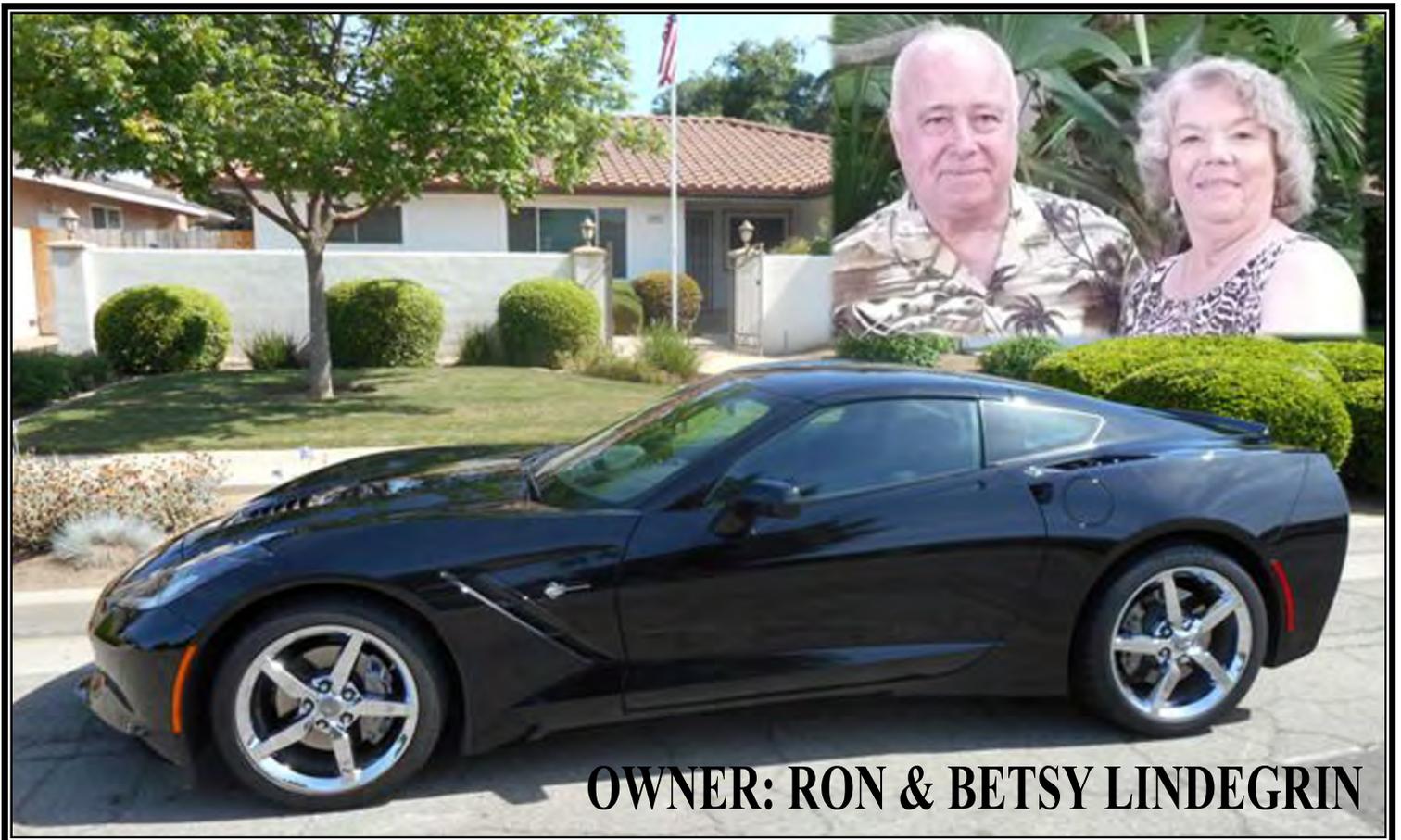
Corvette Delivery Statistics for May 2016							
Month				Calendar Year-to-Date			
Month	2016	2015	% Change	Months	2016	2015	% Change
May	2,673	3,514	-23.9%	Jan-May	12,185	15,500	-21.4%

Corvette Sales Monthly Archive:

Archived Monthly Corvette Delivery Statistics													
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2016	1,501	2,116	2,753	3,142	2,673								12,185
2015	2,127	2,605	3,785	3,469	3,514	2,807	2,794	2,725	2,572	2,526	1,952	2,453	33,329
2014	2,261	2,438	3,480	3,514	3,328	2,723	3,060	2,679	2,467	2,959	2,378	3,552	34,839
2013	908	980	1,053	974	905	853	671	655	831	3,929	2,527	3,005	17,291
2012	629	927	1,376	1,396	1,219	1,475	987	1,210	1,351	1,167	1,104	1,291	14,132
2011	721	955	1,163	1,454	1,304	1,299	1,291	936	1,147	946	910	1,038	13,164
2010	854	624	955	1,089	1,428	1,405	1,199	1,135	1,109	1,011	836	979	12,624
2009	842	1,027	1,183	1,407	1,643	1,396	966	746	1,585	1,154	952	1,033	13,934
2008	2,015	2,071	2,692	3,190	2,904	2,082	1,870	4,242	2,318	1,170	1,093	1,324	26,971
2007	2,234	2,784	3,158	3,227	3,300	2,377	2,377	2,877	2,837	2,484	2,438	2,914	33,685
2006	2,579	3,058	3,655	3,516	3,317	2,938	2,794	2,990	3,056	2,761	2,773	3,081	36,518

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