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CORVETTES OF FRESNO

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SEPTEMBER 2016



OWNER: LARRY & SHARON MINNICH



4th QUARTER EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2, FRIDAY - RODS ON THE BLUFF

SEPTEMBER 8-11 - TAHOE 48

SEPTEMBER 24, - MEET AND EAT 2PM AT SAKURA CHAYA

NOVEMBER 11, FRIDAY - VETERANS DAY PARADE

NOVEMBER 19, SATURDAY - MELODRAMA OCEANO

DECEMBER 3, SATURDAY - CHRISTMAS PARTY AT PARDINI'S



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

1973 TRIVIA

The 1970 - 1972 Corvettes were the last to feature chrome bumpers front and rear. In 1973, due to front impact legislation requirements, the front bumper was changed to a body-colored flexible plastic. In 1974 the rear bumper followed suit.

In 1973, aluminum wheels were again listed as an option. However, their inability to maintain air pressure (much like the problems which plagued the early 1963 aluminum knock off wheels), kept them out of the hands of customers until 1976.

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 THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH VIA

EMAIL TO:
newsletter@corvettesoffresno.com



THE PRESIDENT'S EXHAUST



Hey Corvetters,

Busy month coming up. Tahoe 48 is just days away. A very special thanks to Alan and Jim for again hosting this very well organized event. Also, to all committee chairmen staff and contributors who make this a successful event.

It's time for membership dues at the August general meeting, invoices were handed out to those present and the others have been mailed. Please send your payments to the COF post office box listed at the top of the invoice, or pay at the September general meeting. The membership directory information is also included. Make sure the information is correct. If not, make the necessary corrections and return with your payment.

It's election time again, we have 4 positions to be filled. Board positions of President, 1st VP activities, 2nd VP membership and Secretary need to be filled. Step up and make a major contribution to the club by running for one of these board positions. It's actually a piece of cake, during the transition you will be guided by experienced board members every step of the way. We are very fortunate that our very capable treasurer, Gerri Ware will hold her position for another year.

Keep planning those events, it's great to get together enjoying our cars in good company.

Enough for now, see you at the next event.

Your humble president?

Bert Sherman





CORVETTES OF FRESNO - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 16, 2016



Call to Order: President Bert Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:02 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.

Secretaries Report: Minutes of the meeting July 2016 are published in the COF newsletter. A motion to waive the reading of the July 2016 minutes was made by Dave Dutton and seconded by Steve Moe, Motion carried. A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the August newsletter was made by Chuck Ware and seconded by Gary Gagnebin, motion carried unanimously!

Treasurers Report: Gerri Ware reported the accounts activity for July, which is on file to be reviewed by members only. A Motion was made to approve the treasures report as read by Lee Delap and seconded by Nick DiLiddo. Motion carried unanimously.

Membership: . Clay Mumby reported we have 54 members present and 3 guests. Guests introduced were Frank and Janice Silva and Mike Schwan. Corvettes of Fresno have 141 members and 92 corvettes. August Anniversaries and Birthdays were acknowledged. The name tag drawing for August is \$20.00.

Communication: Jim Agar was absent

Webmaster: Webmaster Chris Campbell said the Web site is up to date.

WSCC: Allen Teixeira reported that some people still have not gotten their Redline, so he will work to get it corrected. No notice has been received as to when the next meeting will be held.

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:

Aug 2 COF Board meeting 6:30 at Spaghetti Factory

Aug 5 Rods on the Bluff Car Show

Aug 9 Tahoe 48 Last Meeting 7pm Denny's Blackstone and Herndon

Up Coming Events:

Aug 20 Meet and Eat Piazza Panne Cedar and Nees 1 pm cost \$15.95, Clay Mumby chair and sign up sheet on table

Aug 26 Relay for Life Car Show in Sanger at Kings River Winery, flyer on table, cost \$25.00 for dinner and music.

Sept 2 Rods on the Bluff

Sept 6 COF Board Meeting 6:30 at Spaghetti Factory

Sept 8-11 Tahoe 48 in Reno

Sept 20 COF General Meeting 7pm Yosemite Falls on Cedar

Sept 24 Meet and Eat 2pm at Sakura Chaya, Clay Mumby Chairing

Nov 11 Veterans Day parade, Billie Talley Chairing

Nov 19 Melodrama Oceano Biglieri's and Trauger's chairing need to make your own reservation 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 reported that we still have reservations coming in. Sign up sheets for those who are leaving Wednesday or Thursday are on the table along with a sign up sheet for Wednesday for route 88 with Art Durham leading. Once we see who is going on each day we will assign someone to lead the group and it will be posted on the website. We have the coolers here for sale for you to purchase if you are not going to Tahoe, the price is \$25.00.

Allen thanked everyone who has donated to Tahoe 48, it is very much appreciated, and he said Jim Agar also wanted to thank everyone for their generosity.

Sunshine Report Ruth Looney reported that Bob Cook passed away and that a plant was sent to Billie Talley. Lloyd Cox has gone from the Veterans Hospital to Kingsburg Rehab and welcomes cards and visitors but check with Gwen first. Bert Sherman commented on the passing of Bob, saying that he participated at many events and was a very likeable guy.

Old Business: None

New Business: Nominations will be in September for the following officers who have served out their terms, Chuck Feccia 1st Vice (Activities), Clay Mumby 2nd Vice (Membership), and Nancy Teixeira Secretary. Bert Sherman said he will not run for another term for President. If you want to run or want to nominate someone please let the Board know before the September meeting.

Name Tag Drawing: The drawing is \$20.00 for August, Virginia Gimbarti's name was drawn and she was not present so the drawing will be \$30.00 in September.

50/25/25 Raffle:

Helen Jolly had the first ticket drawn in the 50/25/25 raffle for \$42.00 and the second ticket was Harry Bellow for \$42.00.

Bert Sherman auctioned a Bird House (made by Mike Haney) with the money donated to the club; it went for \$5.00 bid to Jim Freeman.

There being no further business a motion was made by Nick DiLiddo to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Pete Cholakian the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 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 141 members and 92 cars.



Members & Guests

Total attendance: 57 - 54 Members & 3 Guests, Frank and Janice Silva, Mike Schwan

Nametag drawing

Virginia Gimbarti's name was drawn & She was not present. The drawing will be for \$30.00 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)



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



JERRY & GAIL PELOIAN 2 - LEE & NONIE DELAP 5
JACK & CONNIE QUIGLEY 5 - FRANK & DORIT BATTAGLIA 6
DARRICK & CARLA DUERKSEN 11
CHRIS & KAYE CAMPBELL 21



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



PATTY McGRAW 2 - MELANIE SARKISIAN 5 - BILLIE TALLEY 7
GAILA PELOIAN 9 - BERT SHERMAN 9 - NICK DILIDDO 12
JIM AGAR 12 - SAM SMITH 12 - MARJURIE HARP 17
CARLA DUERKSEN 23 - RICK SARKISIAN 25
LOUIS BIGLIERI 25

50/25/25 DRAWING WINNERS

HELEN JOLLY
&
HARRY BELLOW

EACH WON \$42.00

CONGRATULATIONS!



BOB COOK MEMORIAL

On behalf of Billie Talley, its with a heavy heart to
inform you that Bob Cook, Billie's Boy Friend,
has passed away.

Bob suffered a stroke and never recovered.
Bob was a kind person and he will be missed.
Our thoughts and prayers are with Billie.





CHUCK'S 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



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

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 - TUESDAY - GENERAL MEETING 7:00 PM AT YOSEMITE FALLS CAFE LOCATED AT 4020 N. CEDAR IN GRANITE PARK

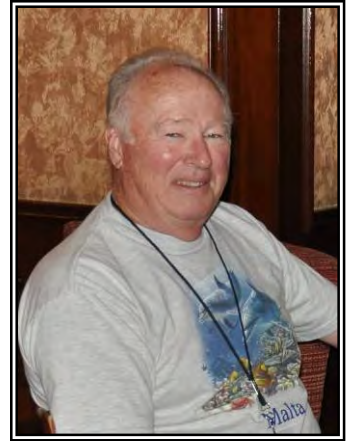
NOVEMBER 11, FRIDAY - VETERANS DAY PARADE - BILLIE TALLEY - MORE INFO TO FOLLOW

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.



**CHUCK FECCIA
VP ACTIVITIES**

WSCC

ALLEN TEIXEIRA REPORTED THAT SOME PEOPLE STILL HAVE NOT GOTTEN THEIR REDLINE, SO HE WILL WORK TO GET IT CORRECTED. NO NOTICE HAS BEEN RECEIVED AS TO WHEN THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD.



Sunshine Report



Ruth Looney reported that Bob Cook passed away and that a plant was sent to Billie Talley.

Lloyd Cox has gone from the Veterans Hospital to Kingsburg Rehab and welcomes cards and visitors but check with Gwen first.

Bert Sherman commented on the passing of Bob, saying that he participated at many events and was a very likeable guy.



CLAY MUMBY GOT THE U-TURN AWARD FOR A WRONG TURN ON THE SNELLING RUN. ALLEN IS ALL SMILES BECAUSE HE FINALLY GOT RID OF IT.



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS



**2017 MEMBERSHIP DUES
ARE DUE & PAYABLE AT THE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 GENERAL MEETING**

**DUES PAID AFTER THE SEPT MEETING WILL BE
CHARGED A \$20.00 LATE FEE & NAME WILL NOT
APPEAR IN THE 2017 DIRECTORY**

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

BYLAWS STATEMENT ON DUES (page 3)

***After* the September meeting, membership shall be cancelled if
dues are not paid. Individuals who have had their
membership cancelled must pay the original dues plus a late
fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00), with six dollars (\$6.00) going to
the parent organization and fourteen dollars (\$14.00) going to
Corvettes of Fresno. They shall be considered members on the
day that total payment is made.**

**SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING NOMINATION OF
2017 BOARD MEMBERS**

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR NOMINATIONS READY FOR
THOSE MEMBERS YOU WOULD LIKE TO REPRESENT
CORVETTES OF FRESNO DURING THE 2017
CALENDAR YEAR!**



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





BRYCE CANYON & ZION NATIONAL PARK



APRIL 22-26 2017 - SAVE THE DATE

ESTIMATED COST OF TRIP \$900.00

ITINERARY

DAY 1 - SATURDAY

FRESNO TO ST GEORGE, UT - 500 MILES

OVERNIGHT @ LA QUINTA INN

DINNER @ CRACKER BARREL

DESSERT @ SYCAMORE ESTATES

DAY 2 - SUNDAY

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL

TOUR ST GEORGE & SURROUNDING AREAS

LUNCH AT SAND HOLLOW GOLF COURSE

DINNER @ THE RIB & CHOP HOUSE

DESSERT @ STONE CLIFF ESTATES

OVERNIGHT @ LA QUINTA INN

DAY 3 - MONDAY

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL

DRIVE TO BRYCE NATIONAL PARK 160 MILES

LUNCH AT RUBY'S INN

TOUR BRYCE CANYON - 36 MILES ROUND TRIP

OVERNIGHT AT BRYCE CANYON GRAND HOTEL

DINNER AT COWBOY'S BUFFET & STEAK ROOM

DAY 4 - TUESDAY

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL

DRIVE TO ST GEORGE VIA ZION NATIONAL PARK - 160 MILES

LUNCH @ CAFE RIO

BACKSTAGE TOUR AT TUACAHN AMPHITHEATRE

SODA BREAK & TOUR AT HARMON'S GROCERY STORE

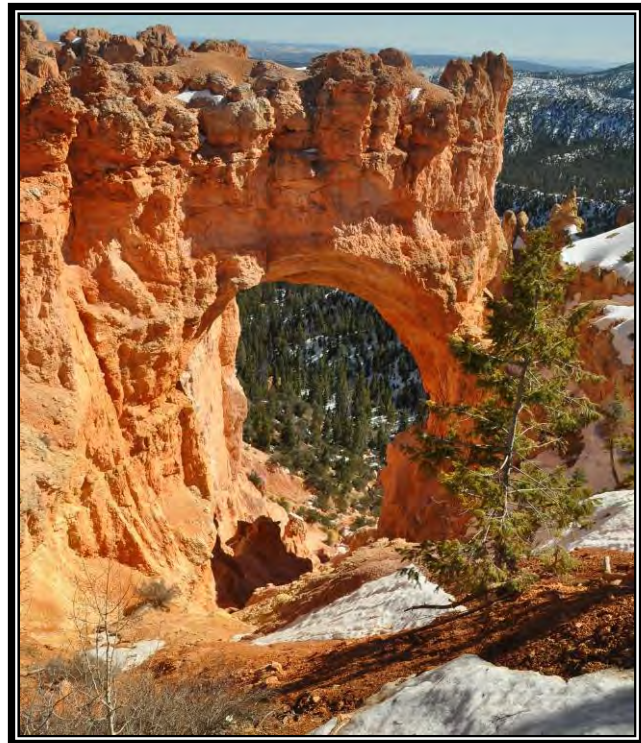
BBQ DINNER & DESSERT @ BRIDAL GATE ESTATES

OVERNIGHT AT LA QUINTA INN

DAY 5 - WEDNESDAY

BREAKFAST @ THE HOTEL

HEAD FOR HOME - 500 MILES



HOTEL CONTACT INFORMATION

LA QUINTA INN & SUITES - 435-674-2664

ASK FOR CORVETTES OF FRESNO GROUP RATE

SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017 - \$129.60

SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2017 - \$98.10

TUESDAY 25, 2017 - \$98.10

RATES ARE + TAX

FULL BREAKFAST INCLUDED

BRYCE CANYON GRAND HOTEL - 435-834-5341

ASK FOR ROOM BLOCK

CORVETTES OF FRESNO/IND - GROUP CODE - **05G**

MONDAY APRIL 24, 2017 - \$109.00 + TAX

FULL BREAKFAST INCLUDED

MORE INFO

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

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

Mid-Engine Corvette Coming in 2019 while C7 Runs through 2021

It seems like more and more C8 Corvette news that was so hard to come by earlier this year is finally starting to make its way out to the public. This latest report on the next generation Corvette comes from the *Detroit News* who cited unnamed sources as saying the mid-engine Corvette will debut in 2019 while the front-engine C7 Corvette will stay around until 2021.

This all appears to follow the C8 timeline that we've been hearing about including the possibility of the C7 and C8 programs overlapping.

According to recent reports, the C8 – known internally at GM as “Emperor” – will make its public reveal in early 2018. We assume that debut will come during the 2018 North American International Auto Show in Detroit. When production of the mid-engine C8 Corvette starts, it will be as a 2019 model year.

Now this is where things get interesting.

Switching the architecture of the Corvette from front-engine to a mid-engine design would be the most radical change in the Corvettes since the 1963 first came in Coupe body design. And while that change was done 10 years into the program, getting current Corvette enthusiasts on board for the C8's radical makeover may be a lot harder than explaining the benefits of putting the engine behind the driver.

Think of hubbub surrounding the C7's controversial tail light design and then multiply that by 1000.

So to keep Corvette's lunatic fringe at bay as the mid-engine Corvette begins production, Chevrolet will continue to offer the current front-engine C7 Grand Sport and Z06 models through 2021.

This allows both models to be sold side-by-side and allows the mid-engine Corvette three years to grow and gain acceptance before the front-engine model official is retired.

Although not said in this report, we do expect that the mid-engine Corvette will morph into multiple models following its inaugural year based on performance and price as Chevrolet has offered previously.

The *Detroit News* report goes on to say that the mid-engine Corvette program, once signed off by Bob Lutz and former Corvette Chief Engineer Tom Wallace in 2007 before being shelved during 2009's bankruptcy is now being championed by Mark Reuss, GM's Global Product Development chief. “It's happening. Mark Reuss wants it,” says an unnamed former GM employee and he adds, “It's the worst-kept secret in town.”



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President/Owner

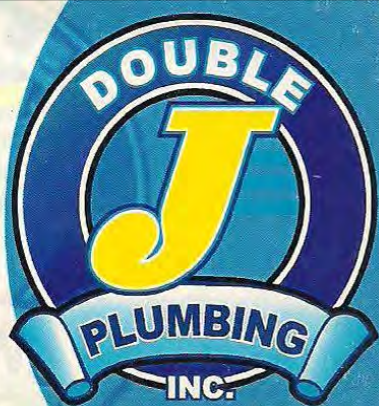
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and acrylic (see-thru)

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Dr. Cliff Shaul

559.434.0552

ccshaul1@aol.com



2017 Corvette Z06 Will Feature New Supercharger Design for Better Cooling

We spent the last couple of days with the Corvette production team in Atlanta to drive the new 2017 Corvette Grand Sport. During the slide presentation, Corvette's Chief Engineer Tadge Juechter touched on the latest updates for 2017 Corvettes and he revealed that the 2017 Corvette Z06 will be sporting a new supercharger design for better cooling of the engine.



Here is what Tadge had to say about the changes to the 2017 Corvette Z06:

“We’ve suspended production of the Z06 for a few months as we launch the Grand Sport, and we’re going to bring it back this fall with some upgrades. We’ve redesigned the top of the supercharger for better flow through the intercooler for better cooling on the track for days like this and we’re adding additional cooling content for the car.”

In addition to the new supercharger cover design, the 2017 Z06 may be getting a new hood with larger vents to increase airflow to the engine.

While Tadge says the Z06's cooling issues effects less than 5% of owners, it's part of the production team's "continual improvement" to develop a solution for the Z06 moving forward.

Let's not forget that in addition to those 5% of owners, early reviews and tests of the Corvette Z06 showed the overheating issue was a real problem which plagues the reputation of the car to this day.

Chevy Developing New LT5 V8 with 750 HP for Mid-Engine Corvette

You didn't really think that Chevy would stop at the 650 horsepower that powers the current Z06, did you?

We didn't think so.

The latest rumor about the upcoming eighth generation Corvette that will supposedly be the long-awaited Holy Grail of Corvettes, i.e., a mid-engine car, is that it will become the all-time American horsepower champion with a whopping 750 horses.

Torque News speculates that the mid-engine car will make its debut at the 2018 Detroit Auto Show with a new supercharged engine that indeed will produce in the area of 750 horsepower.



Torque News writer Patrick Rail says a friend of a friend who is a GM employee told him that the company is working on such a high-powered engine that would debut in the C8 – and then in a slightly less powerful version for its little brother, the Camaro.

Rail believes this new engine could be labeled an LT5 – a nod to the LT5 that was used in the C4 ZR-1 from 1990 to 1995.

He notes that all this information is “100% unofficial ... But my friend assured me that this guy was very familiar with the project.”

So familiar, in fact, that this employee was telling friends not to buy the current horsepower champ, the 707hp Hellcat, “because GM will have an answer very soon.”

Rail believes that official confirmation is more than a year away since the rumored mid-engine Corvette isn’t expected until early 2018.

At least we can dream -and drool- until then!

Police Shut Down Corvette Chop Shop in California

More than \$55,000 worth of stolen GM and Corvette parts are back with their rightful owners, thanks to a successful undercover operation by the San Bernardino County Auto Theft Task Force.

The thefts occurred at a business/car club on U.S. Highway 395 in Victorville, where the suspect, Henry Earl Myers, 41, of Phelan, Calif., had become a new member in March.



He gained the club's confidence in the months after, but then suddenly stopped coming around one day. That's the same time that the club noticed several parts and tools missing that they use to restore classic Corvettes from the 1950s and '60s.

The club puts out a magazine that offers parts for sale and showcases their cars. Myers apparently had the nerve to place an ad in the publication to advertise the stolen items.

Earlier this month, a member of the club spotted the ad and while negotiating a deal with Myers obtained photos of the items and sent the images to the club owner who recognized them instantly.

That set a sting operation into operation, and Myers was found Wednesday at his home on Begonia Road in Phelan. After a search warrant was obtained, lawmen discovered numerous parts on the site, including two classic Corvette frames, suspension parts, fiberglass body parts, doors, wheels, brake systems, an engine that had been installed in Myers' pickup truck, and other classic Corvette accessories.

Myers now faces multiple charges, including burglary, forgery, possession of stolen vehicles, and owning a chop shop.

Dad Uses a C6 Corvette Z06 to Pull Junior's Loose Tooth

This is definitely the most unusual way we've ever seen to pull a loose tooth!

For many of us, the old joke has always been to tie a string around the tooth and then attach the other end to a door knob and slam the door. Presto, one tooth pulled!



Well, this dad, who's behind the wheel of a cammed-up C6 Z06, came up with a much more macho way to get rid of that pesky tooth!

The video shows a boy who appears to be in elementary school at least, with a string hanging from his mouth, tied around his tooth, with the other end attached to the Z06, as his dad offers him some last-second advice to keep his mouth open.

The Corvette then pulls off, the string goes taut briefly, and the boy jerks a napkin up to his mouth, minus one tooth but plus one story that should definitely make him the hero of the playground the next day at school.

Maybe it helps being young because I don't think I would have the nerve to let a powerful Z06 extract one of my teeth! I'd be worried that all 32 of them might come along with it, not to mention my jawbone and my tongue, since the Z06 is one mighty powerful machine!

Maybe Tadge and Zora should have gone to dental school!

Pickup Truck Lands on Top of a Corvette Stingray in California

We certainly hope the driver of this Torch Red C7 Corvette coupe is okay after a pickup truck lands on top of the Stingray on Thursday.

He had to be extricated from the Corvette after the rush hour crash on the southbound 55 Freeway near the 22nd Street on-ramp in Costa Mesa, Calif.



Costa Mesa Fire Department officials said the driver had to be carried to a local trauma center but could give no word on his condition.

Photos from above the scene reveal just how badly damaged the Corvette was. The truck appears to have landed on the driver's side of the car, causing us great concern about his injuries.

Details are not available on the cause of the crash. Traffic was backed up for around two hours before the wreckage was cleared.

Robbie Knievel Jumps his Motorcycle Over 18 Corvettes and Camaros

Like father, like son.

Second generation daredevil Robbie Knievel, following in the footsteps of his dad, the legendary Evel Knievel, jumps over 18 Corvettes (well, actually it looks like a couple of Camaros are thrown in there to us).



The successful stunt, which ended with Robbie clearing all the cars and coming to a gradual stop against a pile of hay bales, came during a celebration and groundbreaking for the construction of a new Clay Cooley Auto Center on Saturday in Irving, Texas.

By the way, we loved Evel Knievel as a kid and were really pulling for him to complete that rocket jump over Snake River Canyon in 1974. You may have heard that Evel holds the Guinness Book of World Records as the survivor of most broken bones (433) in a lifetime, making us wonder how successful a daredevil he was since he got hurt so much!

Of course, it was more exciting to watch a wild crash than a successful jump, so as long as Evel came out alive in the end, any of his jumps might be deemed successful according to his fans. Those broken bones and hospital stays just added to his popularity.

Corvette Museum Receives First Donation of a 1956 Corvette

Terral Wittgow represents all that's good about the Corvette hobby.

He was 10 years old in 1953 when he saw his first Corvette, indeed possibly one of the first few hundred Corvettes ever made.

“I can remember as though it was yesterday,” he recalls. “I went into the showroom and there was sitting probably a 1954 Corvette. It was the only car I could look over the fender into the engine compartment. I was in awe, and I promised myself, promised the car Gods right there I would own a Corvette one day.”

Terral didn’t come from a rich family, but he did come from a hard-working one. He worked his way through college, taking seven years to get his mechanical engineering degree, and the idea of owning a Corvette had to wait longer than he wanted.



But the dream was always there.

In 1964, still a college student but with a pretty good full-time job, Terral saw a small ad for a 1956 Corvette that had been owned by a dentist and was up for sale for \$1,200 – quite a deal now but a lot of money in those days, he says. He sold his existing car piece by piece and finally was able to buy his dream car – though it wasn’t perfect.

The original motor had been replaced with a 327, and the soft top was “so bad I had to stuff blankets in it in the winter time because Nebraska winters are so cold,” Terral said.

“After you freeze your butt off a few winters and the thrill of riding with the top down goes away,” he said, “a hard top becomes more appealing. I was going to college and had the only sports car on campus and was working 40 hours a week. I changed it from a 3-speed to a 4-speed. I thought I was the king of the hill.”

Terral wanted to use his car to compete in the quarter-mile and eventually won a lot of trophies in his class over the years. He credits machinist friends in the experimental shop where they tested aircraft at his work for helping him improve the car.

“I’d read about how to do stuff in the Hot Rod magazine, and those guys were always ready to help me out. I went about 2-3 years steadily improving my time, but in the back of my mind I refused to cut up my little Corvette because it would be worth more without any holes,” Terral said. “The last year, I had a friend whose brother had a 1963 and the motor had been rebuilt. It was so unstreetable. We swapped engines and that’s the engine that’s in it now.”

Eventually, though, Terral met the woman of his dreams, and the couple moved to Australia. The Corvette had to be parked at his father’s farm but he didn’t erase it from his dreams.

“I always thought I would turn 65, retire, and become 16 years old again and get it out,” Terral said. “But that didn’t happen.”

So what to do with the Corvette that offered so many good memories?

“I couldn’t bring myself to let some kid just destroy my childhood and college days’ memories,” he said. “So just by chance last fall I emailed the National Corvette Museum and they voiced interest in adding it to their collection. I just assumed you owned two or three of each year.”

Ironically, it is the first 1956 model owned by the Museum!

“I was more than happy to donate it to the Museum because I didn’t have to try to get it running again, or spend any time on it,” he said. “I’m 73, so just a little too old to be crawling around pulling engines. I thought I’ll just have a little bit of immortality and donate it to the Museum, and someone who knows us some day may go through and see that we donated it to the Museum. That means a lot more to me than money. My wife, Swana, who passed away, she too felt the same way. We’re just average people. It’s a way to keep your name going on.”

Now his Corvette, which was picked up by the Museum in July, will be lovingly taken care of by Daniel Decker of the Maintenance and Preservation Department. It’ll be rotated in and out of display within the Museum’s Performance area.

Dealership Responds to Recent Video of Technician Joy Riding a Corvette

Last week we posted a video and rant from a member on the *Corvette Forum* who was unhappy with how his Corvette was tested during a service visit to Three-Way Chevrolet in Bakersfield, CA. The owner had engaged Valet Mode on his



Performance Data Recorder which captured the tech supposedly “joy riding” the Stingray at speeds up to 83 MPH on city streets.

While the outrage from customer may be warranted, we did realize that we were only getting one side of the story from the video. But now that the story has gone viral, Three-Way Chevrolet has responded to the spat of negative press with a statement calling the accusation that the tech was “joy riding” as false and gave the reasons why the car was in the service department in the first place.

To be fair, we wanted to present the statement that Three-Way Chevrolet left in our comments section yesterday:

Recently, a customer posted a video to the internet accusing our dealership technician as taking a “joyride” in his Corvette. That accusation is false.

On July 13, 2016, this customer brought his vehicle to Three-Way Chevrolet for an oil change and a transmission concern. Our Express Service did complete the oil change with Mobil 1 fully synthetic engine oil, although our invoice did not reflect this. When we learned of our clerical error, we offered to tow the vehicle back to the dealership and complete another service with the correct billing on the repair order. In response to our efforts to rectify the customer’s concern, we were told that this had already been completed by another repair facility and at this point, we are still awaiting an invoice so that we can reimburse the customer for his unanticipated expense.

With regard to the transmission, the customer’s concern was “CUST STATES WHEN DRIVING IN

MANUAL TRANSMISSION MODE THAT WHEN RPMS WERE AROUND 4000 AND CUSTOMER LET OFF OF GAS THAT THE VEHICLE BEGAN JERKING. THIS OCCURRED IN 2ND AND 3RD GEAR AS WELL”

The Corvette is, as most know, a high performance vehicle and as such, capable of great speeds and performance. To duplicate the customer’s performance issue, we were required to reach 4,000 RPM while in third gear. As noted in the owner’s manual, 3rd gear is capable of reaching speeds in excess of 100 mph.

We fully agree that our technician should have used better judgement in choosing an area for the test drive. In no way, do we see that the customer’s car was abused or taken for a “joyride” during the 5-minute test drive. We have dealt with this issue internally and utilized it as an educational point to all technicians.

Three-Way is a local, family owned business that has been serving the community since 1956. We take customer service seriously as shown by our 60-year history. We have apologized to this customer for the billing error on his oil change, as well as what he feels to be excessive driving in his vehicle.

When you take your Corvette in for service, you expect the dealership to address any concerns you have about your car. So we don’t think it was out of bounds for the dealership’s technicians to try to replicate the owners concerns to see if there was a problem. Our only beef was the fact that the test drive appeared to happen on some fairly busy roads where other cars could enter the roadway and not anticipating a Corvette driving 30-50 mph over the posted speed limit.

Three-Way Chevrolet appears to agree with us on this part and is using the experience as a teachable moment for future service encounters which require test drives.

Fastest Corvette Z06 Runs Quarter Mile in 9.3 Seconds at 150.8 MPH

For those keeping score, this black Corvette Z06 is the current reigning champion of the quarter mile. The Z06 takes on a variety of challengers in the video including a Factory Five GTM and then rips a fastest time of 9.3 second quarter mile at 150.8 mph!

The Corvette is said to be modded with a cam and procharger set up and the title proclaims the Z06 with

1,100 horsepower. Combined with the drag radials, launch control and super fast shifts from the automatic transmission, we never see the black Corvette lose a race.



Arizona Police Arrest Man For Vandalism After Scratching Ex-Boss's Corvette

Be careful who you hire ... and fire!

That might be the best lesson to learn from a vandalism incident in Tempe, Arizona involving a very nice black Corvette.

Police say a man recently fired from his job at the Midas auto shop near Broadway and Rural roads returned to pick up his tools.



Witnesses say he did more than just that, though.

Other employees said they saw Nicolus Thomas Western, 33, use an object to “scratch the full length of the driver’s side of the victim’s 2008 Corvette Z06 causing \$3,830 in damage,” court documents revealed.

Western’s ex-boss Michael Duda said he just had a feeling something was up.

“I even said something as he was standing behind me, ‘You’re not going to do anything to my car are you?’”

Duda called the vandalism “heartbreaking” – “to watch a beautiful black car with big gauges in it when you go out” suffer the damage.

The victim vows that Western will be paying for the repairs, “come rain or shine.”

Police say that Western initially told them a transient vandalized the Z06, but besides the witnesses who fingered him, there is surveillance video of the incident, too. It would appear Western walked past the car with something in his hand to quietly do the damage in literally seconds.

Western, who was arrested on August 5, now faces criminal damage charges.

Texas Corvette Driver Killed in Suspected DWI Crash with Off-Duty Police Officer

An 8-year-old girl lost her father in a horrific head-on crash in Fort Bend County, Texas on Friday morning.

And, the veteran Houston police officer who ran head-on into her dad's silver C5 Z06 Corvette has been put on paid leave, pending the results of a blood alcohol test.



Brian Manring, 36, also known as the “Candy Man” because he owned a vending business, was headed to pick up a worker, Kadeem Graham, when the accident occurred at 6:30 a.m. Friday.

Manring was headed eastbound on Beechnut near FM 1464 when the police officer, who was off-duty and has not been named as of yet, struck his Corvette head-on with his Chevrolet Tahoe, causing extensive damage to the driver's side of the Z06.

The cop, who has worked with the Houston Police Department almost seven years, refused to take a field sobriety test on the scene, though investigating cops on the scene detected a smell of alcohol on him.

“Subsequently, we did get a warrant and did a blood draw from him when he was transported to the hospital,” Major Chad Norvell said.

The results of that test won't be known for two to three weeks, so no DWI charges have been filed yet, a normal procedure, according to local attorney Kate Ferrell, an attorney at Tyler Flood and Associates, a firm that specializes in DWI cases.

In the meantime, the cop, who is assigned to the Midwest Patrol Station, has been relieved of duty.

“That makes it 10 times worse,” Graham said. “He's supposed to be protecting and serving.”

Manring's neighbor, Taryn Keene, talked to KTRK about her friend's relationship with his daughter.

“That's what Brian lived for, to put a smile on Holly's face,” Keene said, “and she's not going to have that anymore. It's horrible. I'm crying for him, and I'm crying for Holly.”

Keene said she wants to know the consequences for the cop. “When are they going to come and what are they going to do about it? I want to know.”

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