

## **National Corvette Museum Report for December 2018 (11/17/2018)**

Happy Holidays to all of you Corvette Enthusiasts out there. By now some of you have tucked away your Corvettes for the season, but others of you drive your Corvettes year round. Either way, I hope you enjoy the latest news out of the National Corvette Museum (NCM).

***Check those gifts off your list at the NCM:*** If you are looking for an appropriate gift for the Corvette Enthusiast in your life, look no further than the National Corvette Museum Store - <https://corvettestore.com/>. With a wide variety of offerings including Accessories, Men's and Women's wear, Glassware, Mugs & Cups, Headwear, Prints, Posters & Artwork, Home & Office, Jewelry & Watches, T-shirts & Sweatshirts, you're sure to find something for everyone on your list. You can also shop Clearance & Closeout items, Made in the USA items, and for those who might be contemplating a trip to Bowling Green, KY, there are even driving experiences available at the NCM Motorsports Park. Besides getting a great gift, you are helping to support the National Corvette Museum.

***Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport makes the list for Car and Drivers' Ten Best Cars of 2018.*** The NCM recently announced that the Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport was one of the Car and Drivers' Ten Best Cars of 2018! This marks the second year in a row the car was included. According to Car and Drivers' website, the list represents "a diverse group of satisfying and special machines that deliver a greater combination of value, driving enjoyment, and fulfillment of their intended missions than any other new cars on sale right now. This isn't some point-and-click exercise, carried out at our desks or over instant-messaging software. Rather, our 10 Best list springs from two weeks of extensive, down-and-dirty evaluation of actual cars. The rules for vehicle eligibility are thus: Entrants must cost no more than \$80,000 to start (anything pricier should be amazing), and if they aren't a returning winner, they need to be all new or significantly revised this year."



The “Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport needs little introduction as a mega-performance bargain worthy of our 10 Best Cars list, and 2018 marks the second year in a row that the Grand Sport targa and convertible have made the cut. From its Lightning Lap exploits to our current long-term test car, it is a

track-day thriller and an unflinching ally on winding back roads. Factor in impressive civility at a price that massively undercuts any exotic of similar dynamic capability, and the Grand Sport earns its place again for being one of the best sports-car buys available.”

“Pairing the mighty Corvette Z06’s flared bodywork and hard-core chassis hardware with the regular Stingray’s small-block LT1 powerplant, the \$66,590 Grand Sport targa (and \$70,590 Grand Sport convertible) can cling to the road at up to 1.18 g with the optional Z07 package yet effortlessly deliver nearly 30 mpg during highway cruises. Its tractable, 460-hp 6.2-liter V-8 roars a deep, Old Glory tune through the standard active performance exhaust and can rocket the low-slung two-seater to 60 mph in less than 4.0 seconds with either the standard seven-speed manual transmission or the quick-shifting optional eight-speed automatic.

With its widened stance and radical aero addenda, the Grand Sport is both menacing to behold and forgiving to pilot at warp speed, particularly with the extreme, \$7995 Z07 track bundle. The same upgraded suspension and adaptive dampers that let the GS bound over curbing on the track also afford it long-haul comfort with a weekend’s worth of luggage under the rear hatch or in the convertible’s trunk. This is a livable supercar that will comfortably trundle around town and stop from 70 mph in as little as 129 feet, while clearly communicating its attitude through a direct and nicely weighted steering wheel. Simply retract the convertible’s cloth top or remove the targa’s roof panel to turn things into an open-air party.

The scary thing is that the Grand Sport could be even better. We’re still waiting for General Motors to fit the Corvette with a cabin that isn’t infused with the fragrance of plastic resin after sitting in the sun for a few hours. The GS’s racy handling limits are almost impossible to safely probe on the street, its low-hanging nose is easily damaged in parking lots, and certain versions—such as the Carbon 65 special edition that can easily push \$100,000—bring into question its budget-supercar reputation.

But especially near the Grand Sport’s modest premium over regular Stingrays, those grievances quickly fade when you’re behind the wheel on an open road. 10Best peers such as Porsche’s 718 Cayman and Boxster and Chevrolet’s own squad of extra-strength Camaros have honed their own mixes of affordable thrills, but the Grand Sport is the only one that makes exotic levels of all-around performance so attainable. —Mike Sutton

**2019 National Corvette Museum Events:** 2018 has come to a close as far as NCM events, but 2019 is shaping up to be a spectacular year! For your Corvette vacation planning purposes, here are the currently events currently scheduled for 2019. There will be more events scheduled, so keep an eye on this space. These are popular events and fill up fast! Some of these are already sold out (but you can typically still get your name on a wait list), but I wanted to keep the remaining list here so you can see the types of events the NCM coordinates for us Corvette enthusiasts. There are both Museum in Motion (MiM) events and events at the NCM. You can find more details about these events and sign up for them here: <https://www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/>

- MiM: Jan 23 – 28, 2019; Daytona Rolex 24, Daytona FL (Registration opens JAN)
- 2019 Bash Presented By Michelin @ National Corvette Museum: April 25 – 27, 2019 (opens JAN 2)
- MiM: Tail of the Dragon Run & Biltmore (KY & NC): April 28 – May 1, 2019 (Reg. opens NOV)
- MiM: ‘Branson Experience’ June 4 – 8, 2019 (MO) (Registration opens DEC)
- MiM: 2019 NCM Le Mans Tour (London, Paris & Le Mans) June 6, 2019 – June 17, 2019 (limited)
- 2019 NCM Le Mans Race Weekend at NCM June 15 – 16, 2019 (Registration opens JAN)
- National Corvette Caravan at NCM August 28-31, 2019 (see article in Newsletter for more info)

**NCM Corvette Raffles:** The Corvette Raffles help fund the NCM so it can fulfill its mission of “Celebrating the invention of the Corvette; preserving its past, present and future; and educating the public about Corvette”. If you are in the mood to support the mission of the NCM through a contribution, please consider buying a raffle ticket. You never know, you might win! Remember, the

odds of winning one of these Corvettes are a whole lot better than any Lottery ticket (and the proceeds go to a great cause!). You can buy tickets here: <https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org/>. Just let me know if you enter at ([NCM@CorvetteMarqueClub.com](mailto:NCM@CorvetteMarqueClub.com)) so we can receive credit for our Club supporting the NCM. The upcoming Corvette Raffle is:

**2019 TORCH RED CORVETTE COUPE 12/13/18 (Here's one Santa would love!)**

**\$100 Tickets – Limited to 1500**



Sample-Not Actual Car

## **2019 LONG ARCTIC WHITE CORVETTE COUPE RAFFLE 2/7/2019**

### **\$10 Unlimited Tickets**

If you are looking for a chance on a fun Corvette at a low price, I'm selling \$10 raffle tickets for this 2019 Arctic White Corvette Coupe. Just drop me a line (NCM@CorvetteMarqueClub.com) or see me at the December Meeting for tickets. These tickets will make a great Christmas present for anyone on your list & the funds raised go to support the National Corvette Museum.



Sample-Not Actual Car

I keep hoping that one of our members will win one of these fabulous Corvettes, but no winner here..... YET! If you wonder who actually wins these Corvettes you can find out here:  
<https://corvettestore.com/corvette-raffle>

### **Did you know?**

The National Corvette Museum just received the first donation of a C-7 Corvette! And it's a special one. In 2014, the National Corvette Museum was celebrating their 20th Anniversary. As part of the festivities, two commemorative, one-of-a-kind Corvettes were to be raffled off as fundraisers for the Museum. The first, a 2014 Torch Red Coupe with special features by Corvette Exterior Designer Kirk Bennion. And the second, its' sister car, a 2014 Arctic White Convertible, also with special features by Bennion. The Arctic White and Red convertible was a tribute to the very first Polo White with Red interior Corvette introduced in 1953.

Don and Candy Duncan of Comfort Texas won the Raffle for the Corvette! Then, four years later in June of 2018 they won another NCM Raffle for a 2019 Arctic White Grand Sport Convertible! What a lucky couple (and you wonder who wins these raffles)! As a result of their luck, and the fact that they now owned two Arctic White Corvettes, they decided to donate one back to the museum for display.



Don and Candy beside the C-7 Corvette they recently donated to the NCM.

The 2014 is now being displayed in the Museum's Skydome as part of the Generations display, representing the seventh generation.

**That's all for now – Save the Wave!**