

National Corvette Museum Report for November 2020

As we edge into the “brrrr” months and hunker down inside more it’s a good time to explore some of the Corvette content on the World Wide Web, and there is a ton of it out there, including from our friends at the National Corvette Museum (NCM) like season II of Vettecadamy which is up to about Episode 8 by the time you read this. If you missed last year’s episodes there are 35 of them available for viewing here: <https://www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/educational-programs/vettecadamy/> They range in length from 3 minutes to about 12 minutes and cover a wide variety of topics related to Corvette. Perfect for a quick viewing on a cold rainy day. Here is the latest news from the NCM:

Corvette Awarded 2020 Car Of The Year By Popular Mechanics: Throughout the year, the team at Popular Mechanics got behind the wheels of numerous vehicles – from sports cars to sedans to SUVs, driving them on a variety of roads, streets and highways. Using both their own data, and cross-referencing it with experiences and data from other expert sources including Car & Driver, and reliability scores from J.D. Power, Edmunds and Consumer Reports, the team created their list of the best cars and car developments of 2020.

Topping the list as ‘Car of the Year’ is the Chevrolet Corvette Stingray. “The economics of making a mid-engine sports car, it seemed, made it impossible to build one for non-millionaires. But this year, Chevrolet found a way. The new Corvette is a fast, agile, covet-worthy stunner of a car, for \$60,000.”



“Usually, this level of presence and performance costs you everyday practicality, but Chevy figured out a way around that, too. The Corvette is livable, actually comfortable.... And a four-hour trip in heavy traffic and rain, the kind of drive that would be exhausting in any vehicle, was mostly pleasant.” If you want to read more from Popular Mechanics follow this link:

https://www.popularmechanics.com/cars/a34151911/best-cars-2020/#2020_chevrolet_corvette_stingray

1999 Corvette Donated for New Drivers' Learning Course: Last month in my “did you know” segment I discussed the NCM and Andy Pilgrim’s Traffic Safety Education Foundation (TSEF) which is teaming up to bring a new educational experience to the NCM Motorsports Park and needed the help of enthusiasts. The TSEF is introducing a Drivers’ Safety Course, and the NCM was looking for donations of C5 and/or C6 era Corvettes to use for the educational fleet. Well, the first Corvette has already been donated.



Photos: Jan Rue hands over the keys of the 1999 Corvette she and her husband donated to NCM President Dr. Sean Preston

Students learning to drive (and those looking to brush up on their driving skills) will soon have a much cooler venue to practice at. Andy Pilgrim and the Traffic Safety Education Foundation, located at the NCM Motorsports Park, is launching a new drivers' learning course that will be available for use in the paddock, free of charge. And now, thanks to the generosity of Jan Rue and Mark Heusinkveld, students will also have the opportunity to drive a Corvette through the course for an additional fee. Wouldn't that be great to learn to drive in a Corvette? As I recall my driver's training car in high school was an AMC Hornet, and I passed my drivers test in a 1971 Pinto!

Enthusiasts interested in being a part of this program by donating a Corvette can contact the NCM's Director of Collections & Curator, Derek E. Moore, at Derek@CorvetteMuseum.org or 270-777-4516, or NCM Registrar & Collections Manager, Leah Craig, at Leah@CorvetteMuseum.org or 270-777-4562.

2020 Corvette Windshields Feature New Graphic Etching: Owners with VIN 11000 and above on the new 2020 Corvette may notice something new the early cars do not have. At the bottom of the drivers' side windshield "Team Corvette" with the Next Generation Corvette crossed flags appears while on the passengers' side windshield appears the silhouette of Zora Arkus Duntov - the same silhouette many spotted in sticker form on the camo-covered Corvette driven by Mary Barra and Tadge Juechter in New York last year.



According to Harlan Charles, the original idea was to start the etching for the 2021 model year, which would have been near the anniversary of Zora's famous letter that is said to have saved the Corvette. "With the 2020 model year extended to help cover the many orders, the new windshield was ready early, so we break pointed it at VIN 11000 last week." The complete VIN of the first Corvette to have the etching is VIN 1G1Y72D46L5111000.

The Museum received their first shipment of Corvettes with the new etching on October 1st, fresh off the truck and ready to be prepped for delivery through the OPTION "R8C" delivery program. Museum delivery is available through any Chevrolet Dealer when specified during ordering, R8C customers are welcomed with signs and a guided V.I.P. tour of the Museum where their car is displayed, followed by an orientation and presentation of their new vehicle. The customer also receives a one-year individual membership to the NCM, a unique gold decal on the inside of the driver's door jamb, and a commemorative wall plaque (with the customer's name, date of delivery and VIN) when Museum Delivery is ordered.

SAM Arrow Modified Corvette on Display at Museum: Arrow Electronics modified a Corvette to empower quadriplegic and former Indycar Series race driver Sam Schmidt to drive again... using only the motion of his head. Arrow has developed several Corvettes, both for quadriplegic and paraplegic racers and you can see one currently on display at the National Corvette Museum in the Skydome.



While the Museum is currently displaying a SAM C7 Corvette (semi-autonomous motorcar), the track welcomed it's eighth generation counterpart for competition. Former Indy Car Driver, Sam Schmidt, raced competitively for the first time in 20 years. Check out the video of the car on track here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_0WkTzfXNA&feature=youtu.be

Current Corvette Raffles: The Corvette raffles at the NCM are a major fundraiser that helps to keep the museum operating. All you need to do to enter a raffle for a chance to win one of these fabulous Corvettes is go to the NCM Raffle web page: <https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org/> click on “**download an Order Form**” which will enable you to open or download and print the latest form. Just fill it out & send it in to the NCM with a Credit Card number, and they will purchase the tickets for you and enter it into the raffle drawing right there in Kentucky! Also please note, there is now an “**Enter Interactive Mode**” button you can use to print out a form that has your Credit Card number scrambled, if you are queasy about mailing your full credit card information. To use the Interactive mode, you must have a user ID and Log in to the NCM site. Either way, please jot down on the bottom of the form “Ticket sold by Kevin Wilson NCM Ambassador” so our club gets credit for the order. Also, please let me know if you send in an order (kevinwilson@q.com). Here is the current Raffle line-up:



2021 Elkhart Lake Blue Corvette Coupe

Limited to 1500 Tickets

Price: \$150

Drawing: November 5, 2020 2:00 PM

Blue Beauty!



2021 Arctic White Corvette Convertible

Limited to 1500 Tickets

Price: \$200

Drawing: **December 3, 2020 2:00 PM Central**



2021 Torch Red Corvette Coupe

Limited to 2000 Tickets

Price: \$100

**Drawing: December 17, 2020 2:00 PM Central
HO, HO, HO! Here is the Christmas Red
Corvette!**



2021 Arctic White Corvette Coupe

Unlimited Tickets

Price: \$20

Drawing: April 24, 2021 2:00 PM

**These are the inexpensive tickets to buy
and give out as Holiday Presents!**

Latest Winners: The **2021 Silver Flare Corvette Coupe** was won by Jay Davenport of Fort Worth, TX with Ticket #1294 drawn on 10/15/2020. 1,294 tickets sold out of 2,000 available at \$100.

Current National Corvette Museum Events: With the end of 2020 quickly approaching the NCM is working to balance the potential impacts of Covid 19 with the desire of Corvette Enthusiasts to safely get together to drive their vehicles and to celebrate the Marque in meaningful ways. As soon as they have some additional future activities scheduled I will post them. Here is the current schedule (small list) of events and adventures, both on the road (Museum in Motion events - MiM) and at the museum (NCM). Be sure to keep an eye on this space for upcoming trips to consider for your future vacation planning purposes. These events are popular and can fill up fast. You can check the NCM website for more details about them and sign up for them here:

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/explore/events/> . These are the events currently posted by the museum:

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

Did you know:

Corvette Racing is having a very good year with the C8.R racers? There is a web page devoted to Corvette racing for those of you who want to know more here: <https://www.corvetteracing.com/>