



THE VETTE GAZETTE

In this issue I would like to talk about Chevrolet without Corvette?

Sounds like coffee without cream to some folks, but believe it or not, at the turn of the century, General Motors was apparently considering the possibility of making Corvette a brand of its own, according to the recent recollections of Rick Kranz, product editor for Automotive News.

In 2001, Kranz says he was told by then-president of GM North America Ron Zarrella that GM was seriously looking into the expansion of the Corvette line into two models: one with a six-

What was the first year for the "tank sticker" to be placed on a Corvette?

figure price tag and unique body panels and another with considerably less horsepower. But they were also studying the pros and cons of taking Corvette away from Chevy and creating a separate performance brand (similar to what Chrysler is doing with the upcoming new Viper). It's not as far-fetched an idea as it might sound at first glance. Kranz lists several reasons for considering the switch: Corvette did not fit the value image Chevrolet portrayed. Many Chevy dealers didn't even sell Corvettes. If only selected dealers sold the car, it might be thought of as a more exclusive product. Dealers who were chosen could create an exclusive area

of the showroom to display the car. GM could pick the best dealers who might do a better job of selling the car. GM presumably would want dealers who knew what they were doing to sell and service a car that tops \$100K. As everyone knows, the discussions never went any further. Zarrella left the company within days of his conversation with Kranz, shortly after Bob Lutz had been hired as GM vice chairman and product guru. End of discussion. Of course, the super

'Vette did eventually surface in 2009 in the form of the \$100k-plus ZR1, but Chevrolet remained at the helm. After 60 years of nurturing the Corvette, would it really have been fair to take Corvette away from them?

This was an article I read on the internet a few days ago, it really made me think on what if they had really done that with the "flagship" car General Motors, where would the Corvette be today? I'm glad though GM did not go through with such a hasty bad decision, this would of in my opinion would of destroyed the Corvette and if it would even still be around today? If this would of happened..

In what year did
Crossed flag
emblems return
to the nose and
sides of the
Corvette?

With warmer weather around the corner and for those that put your Corvette into a winter Hibernation, here are a few tips to go over so you can enjoy your car all summer long with minimal issues!

1) Clear out the critters. If you haven't ever had the unfortunate experience of finding out the hard way that mice have nested in your car vents, you might be surprised how often this happens. Squirrels, mice and even neighborhood cats think the nooks and crannies in your stored vehicle are great places to bed down or store food. Firing up the engine before checking vents, under the hood and carriage can create a very unpleasant scene and cause your car to stink for months.

2) Check all fluids. This includes oil, transmission, radiator/coolant, power steering and wiper fluid. If any of these fluids are low, empty or sludgy, it's time for them to be changed/refilled. Even if most of these fluids are "ok", springtime is a great time to have all these fluids replaced, especially after a winter of being in storage. Check all fluids again after the engine is fired up

and the car has had a chance to warm up a bit; they might show lower levels or more sludge once the engine has cycled for a few minutes.

With the CB craze dwindling, the last year a CB radio was offered as a Corvette option was what year? And how many Corvettes came equipped with this option?

3) Charge that battery! Hopefully you took a few minutes each month over the winter to allow your stored car's battery to recharge; allowing the battery to fully deplete shortens the battery's overall lifespan. Even if you have kept it well charged over the winter, it's a good idea to allow the battery to fully recharge before heading out.

4) Check tires for proper pressure and weathering. Air

can slowly leak out of tires over the winter, and tires that are well-used can also dry and crack due to changes in the air's humidity. Either

of these problems will cause inefficient gas mileage at best, poor alignment, unsafe traction and flat tires at worst. If you're unsure of whether your car's tires are still good or not, bring your vehicle down to the shop and our technicians can help. Remember: when it comes to maintenance issues that affect vehicle safety, it's better to be safe than sorry!

5) Top up with fresh fuel. Octane levels in gasoline drop each month, so if your vehicle has been sitting in storage all winter, by springtime the fuel left in the tank is not much good. This is especially true if your vehicle hasn't had the luxury of being stored in a dry, cool indoor stable. After clearing out vents and charging the battery, your first stop should be the gas station (where you can re-inflate low tires as well).

Just a reminder

Please note that we have a new meeting room for the remainder of this year I believe it is the large room on the top floor of the library take the elevator or get a work out using the stairs!!

Thanks Dennis!!!!

An e-mail I got from bob on the Wounded Warriors, which is a pretty amazing program to have around and this e-mail I got from bob just speaks for its self on what a little give can make an impact on someone else's life!!

On Feb 14th, Valentine's Day, Bill & Sally Kenny, Burt & Sharon Jaco and I visited the Wounded Warriors of Ft. Carson's building for a special *Thank You* celebration they held as a way to thank all of the folks who have helped support them throughout the last year. Food was great, talk was through smiling faces and hearts were warm. It was a wonderful event to be part of and we were all very glad we attended and were able to represent the club. Thanks to all of you who have been part of this. It not only elevates us in our ability to give, but it truly makes a difference to those soldiers and families who have given of themselves in ways we need to remember and be thankful for.

Then on Mar 7th Burt and I presented the Wounded Warriors with eight large boxes of diapers, some brand new baby clothes and a check from the club for \$100. The diapers and clothes were a gift from one of our members and came straight from their hearts. When the support coordinator, Yvette Allen, saw all the diaper boxes she laughed and was utterly delighted! When I handed her the check, she was astounded that we would do both. When she saw the baby clothes, she cried.

She knows all of the family's children and named which child would be the right age for each piece of clothing and said they would be sooooo thankful!

I'm proud to be a part of a group of big-hearted folks who find ways to make things better for having been someplace. Thank you all. Bob



Corvette Racing Finishes Second and Third in ALMS GT in Sebring

Corvette Racing celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring in style, finishing second and third in the closely contested American Le Mans Series GT class. The final minutes of the 12-hour race saw dramatic shifts of fortune that shuffled the finishing order and propelled both Compuware Corvette C6.Rs onto the podium.

Running third at the start of the last lap, Jan Magnussen passed the No. 71 Ferrari to take second after the Ferrari and the class-leading No. 56 BMW fought for position. Moments earlier, Oliver Gavin passed the No. 155 BMW to secure third on the ALMS podium.



"I really don't know what happened, but apparently the BMW and Ferrari got together," Magnussen said. "I didn't even know that I had passed the Ferrari in the darkness. We were struggling at the end of the race with the track conditions, so second is a huge bonus and a fantastic foundation to build on. Sebring is such a difficult race, and I'm very happy with a podium finish."

Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring GT Results (Combined ALMS/WEC Top 10):

Pos./Car No./Drivers/Car/Laps

1. 56 Muller/Hand/Summerton BMW E92 M3, 307
- 2. 03 Magnussen/Garcia/Taylor, Corvette C6.R, 307**
3. 71 Bertolini/Beretta/Cioci, Ferrari 458 Italia, 307 (WEC)
- 4. 4 Gavin/Milner/Westbrook, Corvette C6.R, 307**

5. 155 Muller/Auberlen/Alzen, BMW E92 M3, 307
6. 77 Lietz/Lieb/Pilet, Porsche 911 GT3 RSR, 306 (WEC)
7. 48 Miller/Maassen/Bell, Porsche 911 GT3 RSR, 303
8. 044 Neiman/Law/Lally, Porsche 911 GT3 RSR, 303
9. 02 Brown/Segal/Lazzaro, Ferrari F458 Italia, 303
10. 97 Mucke/Fernandez/Turner, Aston Martin Vantage V8, 292 (WEC)

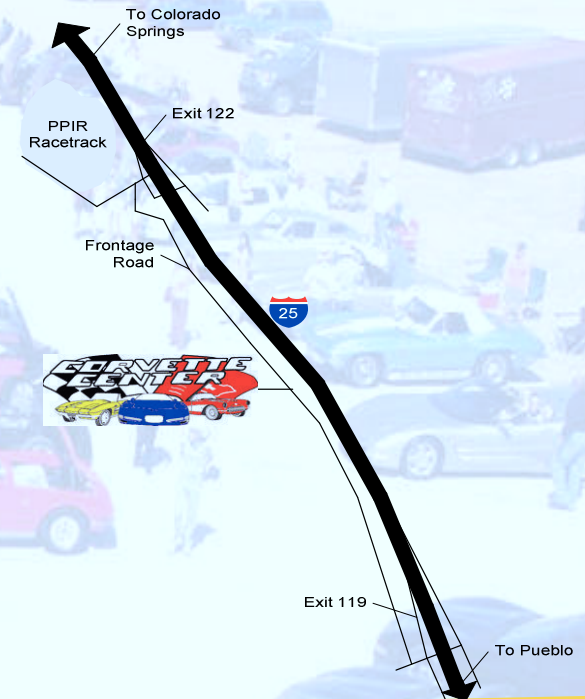
April 14	Tequila Patrón American Le Mans Series at Long Beach Long Beach, CA	ESPN3.com ESPN2 4/17
May 12	American Le Mans Series Monterey Presented by Patrón Salinas, CA	ESPN3.com ESPN2 5/13
June 16-17	24 Heures du Mans Le Mans, France	
July 7	American Le Mans Northeast Grand Prix Lakeville, CT	ESPN3.com ESPN2
July 22	Mobil 1 presents the Grand Prix of Mosport Bowmanville, Ontario, Canada	ESPN3.com ESPN2
August 4	Mid-Ohio Sports Car Challenge Lexington, OH	ABC
August 18	Road Race Showcase Elkhart Lake, WI	ESPN3.com ESPN2 8/19
September 2	Baltimore Grand Prix Baltimore, MD	ABC
September 15	American Le Mans Series at VIR Alton, VA	ESPN3.com ESPN2 9/16
October 20	Petit Le Mans Braselton, GA	



May 12th 2012
Saturday before Mother's Day @ The Corvette Center

**The Colorado Springs Corvette Club
Presents**

The 20th Annual Fun in the Sun Carshow
NCCC Judged Carshow
Concours • Wash & Show • Street Show
Perfect Cars & Clean Daily Drivers



Lunch available
Trophies & Classifications according to NCCC rules
pre-register now at:
<http://www.coloradospringscorvetteclub.org>



Event Location: Corvette Center
18510 Midway Ranch Rd.
7 Minutes South of Fountain, CO
I-25 Exit 119 • Look for the Pink '57 Vette on the fence!

Car Show NCCC Sanction# RM-183-003
Date: May 12th 2012 Cost \$20
Registration Opens: 8:00 am Closes-9:45
Judging Starts-10:00 am

Chairperson: Susan Umland 719-597-2904 6830 Battle Mountain Rd. COS CO 80922
Governor: Wayne Umland Chief Judge: Nick Renfro

SOUTHERN COLORADO CORVETTE CLUB
Is Hosting a Poker & Gimmick Rallyes
April 22nd, 2012



NCCC SANCTION #'S RM-217-001 & RM-217-002

Pueblo Main Library
South Parking Lot
100 E. Abriendo Avenue
Pueblo, CO 81004

REGISTRATION CLOSSES AT 11:45AM April 22nd, 2012

TECH 11:45 AM MST
DRIVERS MEETING 12:00 Noon
FIRST CAR OUT 12:05 PM

\$25.00 Per Car

NCCC RULES AND CLASSES WILL BE USED FOR THE EVENT

GOVERNOR
Lucky Schneberger
1000 Willowcrest Dr.
Pueblo CO, 81005
719-561-2045

CHAIRPERSON
Lucky Schneberger
1000 Willowcrest Dr.
Pueblo CO, 81005
719-561-2045

