



# FIBERGLASS FLASHES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Greater Dayton Corvette Club

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**Did you know?** Did you know that America's early astronauts practically turned the Chevrolet Corvette into the unofficial car of the space program? The tradition began with Alan Shepard, the first American in space, who owned a 1957 Corvette and famously bragged that it went "like a bat out of hell". When Shepard visited Detroit after his historic flight, he met GM design chief Bill Mitchell, who was so captivated by the astronauts' daring image that he helped spark a unique relationship between NASA's space pioneers and America's most iconic sports car. Soon, Corvettes became a common sight around Cape Canaveral, driven by test pilots who were already accustomed to pushing machines to their limits.

The connection grew even stronger when a Florida Chevrolet dealer, Jim Rathmann—himself a former Indy 500 champion—arranged a special lease program that allowed astronauts to drive brand-new Corvettes for just \$1 a year. This led to legendary scenes like the Apollo 12 crew posing with their matching custom-painted C3 Corvettes in blue and gold, and astronauts like Buzz Aldrin and the Apollo 15 crew proudly showing off their cars next to lunar rovers. The Corvette became more than transportation—it was a symbol of speed, innovation, and the fearless spirit of the space race. Even today, astronauts like Scott Kelly continue the tradition, proving that the bond between Corvettes and space explorers is as enduring as the American drive to reach for the stars.

## Officers



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## Social Committee

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We would like to announce that Bill Buckey has volunteered to become the Club Historian and is working with former President John Vanscoy to document the clubs history and timeline! We appreciate all the work this will involve by both of them and look forward to seeing the results!

## CLUB SPONSORS

A reminder for all GDCC members, Bud's Chevrolet has been a long-time sponsor of our club and we hope you will consider them if you are planning to purchase a new or used Corvette or need service. They provide \$2,400 a year in support to our club. Reach out to Jim Hendricks at [jim@budschevy.com](mailto:jim@budschevy.com) or (800) 688-2837

Also, Corvette Care, a Corvette only shop with over 50 years of experience working on and restoring Corvettes sponsored our car show this year with a \$500 Donation AND offers all GDCC members a 10% Discount for any service performed. All they do is Corvettes. Please consider them for your future service needs as well. [ryan@corvettecare.com](mailto:ryan@corvettecare.com) or (614) 985-0753 or (614)-495-8999

## **Presidents Corner**

No Presidents Corner this month as we prepared for the December officer elections and the processes for how to disperse our year end giving for 2025

## NCM Updates

**Sweepstakes**- A new sweepstakes to win a 1965 Rally Red Convertible will be coming soon. Check the NCM website for details!

**Current Raffles**: Go to <https://raffle.corvettemuseum.org/> where you can buy tickets even if you are not in Kentucky.

- **2026 Black Z06 Coupe- Tickets are \$300- 1500 Available- December 18**
- **2026 Red Mist Coupe- Tickets are \$100- 2000 Available- January 22, 2026**
- **2026 Build Your Own- Tickets are \$250- 1000 Available- February 12, 2026**
- **2026 Torch Red Coupe- Tickets are \$20- Unlimited Available- April 25, 2026**

If you're not a member of the NCM yet I hope you consider joining this year. I encourage you to take a trip to Bowling Green to tour the museum and check out the NCM Motorsports Park. Want to know why you got a Corvette? Go take it out on the track and you'll know!

Memberships start at just \$60 (\$100 for a family) and even one visit will about pay for itself. Please go the NCM website and find out more about how YOU can support the Corvette legacy.





# GDCC CALENDAR

Check the website  
for updated  
calendars- this will  
be updated next  
month!

## Upcoming Corvette/Car Show Events

**January**

**February**

**March**

**April**

23-25- National Corvette Museum Michelin BASH

**18- Corvettes and Coffee- Air Force Museum, 9-12**

**May**

TBD-Bud Chevrolet Corvette Cruise In-

**16- Corvettes and Coffee- Air Force Museum, 9-12**

**June**

**20- GDCC All Corvette Car Show- Hollywood Dayton Raceway Casino, 9-3**

**July**

**18- Corvettes and Coffee- Air Force Museum, 9-12**

**August**

**15- Corvettes and Coffee- Air Force Museum, 9-12**

**September**

3-5- NCM Anniversary Celebration

13- Lancaster All Corvette Car Show- TBD

**November**

**December**



# GDCC CLUB CALENDAR

<b>2026 GDCC Monthly Meeting Dates- TJ Chumps Fairborn- 7 PM</b>		<b>2025 Special Meeting Dates</b>
January 21	July 15	Executive Board-
February 18	August 19	February-TBD
March 18	September 16	Officer Nominations-
April 15	October 21	November 18
May 20	November 18	Officer Elections-
June 17	December 16	December 16
<b>2026 Monthly Dinners Out</b>		
<b>January-</b> Paul and Nancy Combs		
<b>February-</b>		
<b>March-</b> Tom and Star Brooks		
<b>April-</b> Alex and Sherry Temple		
<b>May-</b>		
<b>June-</b> Larry and Terri Kopa		
<b>July-</b> Donna Tucker and Dan Gorby		
<b>August-</b> Michael and Traci Mills		
<b>September-</b> Wayne and Diane Dawson		
<b>October-</b> Dean and Carol Tavener		
<b>November-</b>		
<b>December-</b>		

You can always check out the calendar in real time on the Greater Dayton Corvette Club website!

[Events - Greater Dayton Corvette Club](#)

# GDCC MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

## NOVEMBER 2025

### Greater Dayton Corvette Club

#### November 19 Minutes

Tom Brooks called the meeting to order at 7 pm and members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome Guests, Introduction of New Members and/or New Cars:

- Mike Bills was last a member in 1999 and kept in touch with Larry and Terry Kopa over the years and has several corvettes.
- Rudy Oliver got a new to him C8 Stingray Supersonic Grey

Announcements:

- Since November is the month of Veteran's Day it is fitting that we acknowledge and honor our Club Members who are Veterans. Carol Tavener mentioned that Jerry McElroy's son purchased a Street Banner in Huber Heights in his honor.
- Received a nice Thank you card from Carol Tavener for flowers sent following her knee surgery. Glad you're doing well and good to see you here tonight
- Carl Durbin is going home on Friday after a short stay in the hospital.
- Roy Arrington had open heart surgery and his wife indicated he is recovering well.
- We want to make sure all club members are receiving Club emails. There were a few sent out in November. If you are not receiving them, please contact Greg Rafuse.

Call for Officer and Committee Reports by Vice-President, Jerry McElroy:

Secretary Report – Barbara Souza:

- Alex Souza motioned to dispense with the reading of the minutes and Greg Rafuse second the motion.

### Treasurer Report – Nancy Oliver:

- Recapped income and expenditures. 2026 dues will be invoiced in January 2026 and only sent via email. Please be sure we have your correct email address on file. Charity contributions for 2025 will be split between 5 charities for a total of \$6,000.00.

### Social – Nancy Combs (Star Brooks filled in for Nancy):

- Sign up sheets being passed around for Nutcracker Movie on November 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm. Purchase tickets upon arrival. Watch email for details for organized dinner beforehand
- Sat Dec 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm Christmas Party at The Barn Stonehill Village Community Center. Information will be sent out again before then. Club will provide meat and drinks. Please bring a covered dish and a drink. There will be a white elephant gift exchange at a value of \$10.00. We will play games, etc. Hope to see you all there.
- Dinner out – 6:00 pm on December 9<sup>th</sup> Anthony and Sarah Brown – passing around signup sheet at Sky Asian Cuisine, Kettering.
- Passing around sign up sheet for 2026 Dinner out schedule
- Carol and Dean Tavener hosting November 20<sup>th</sup> Dinner Out – 6:00 pm Black Rock in Beavercreek. 28 people signed up – still room for more.

### Membership – Carol Tavener:

- 187 Members

### Email/Web Services – Greg Rafuse:

- Not much to report. Sent out email with link to survey for NCM survey. Did you receive the email, if so please take a few minutes to complete the survey on the website. Asked for suggestions on best way to handle future surveys.

Public Relations – Greg Fagan:

- Revamping and some changes coming next year to the Newsletter. If you have anything you can provide to put in the newsletter, please email to Greg Fagan.
- Greg and Debbie attended the New Ambassador Academy at the NCM last week. Will be doing some presentations next year.
- Gave some information on the new Collections Center being built, experience of picking up your car at the NCM, Auto Insurance and many other benefits of being a member of the NCM
- Collect Corvette Hot Wheels for the Museum and bring to meetings for fund a field trip
- 17% of the GDCC Club members are also members of the NCM.
- If you are planning a trip to the museum and are not a member, please check with Greg Fagan or Tom Brooks as we have 6 free passes

New Business and Reminders:

- If you need a name tag, please reach out to Star Brooks
- Carol Tavener has club business cards
- Window Clings are available to all members, donated by Dennis DeHann, please reach out to Star Brooks for your cling.
- Jerry read the duties of each position as stated in the GDCC Constitution. Nominations for Club Officers and the process. Then called for Nominations as follows:
  1. Donna Tucker nominated Nancy Oliver for Treasurer, Carol Tavener 2<sup>nd</sup>
  2. Greg Rafuse nominated Alex Temple for Secretary, a member 2<sup>nd</sup>
  3. Carol Tavener nominated Jerry McElroy for Vice President, a member 2nd
  4. Greg Fagan nominated Tom Brooks for President, a member 2<sup>nd</sup>
  5. There was another nomination for President, but the nominee declined.

Much discussion amongst the members about the voting process, etc.

- Our Club raises money throughout the year for donations to various charitable organizations. A charitable Donation Form is to be used which was emailed to members on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Hard copy available tonight. Much discussion on the process on how to pick the charities, etc.
- Car Show – June 20<sup>th</sup> Saturday 9-3 Hollywood Casino – Paddock Area. Much discussion on what those benefits are for our club. Possibility of handling 200 cars.
- Thank you to the waitstaff – round of applause from the members
- There was mentioned that someone has stepped up to be the Club Historian – I apologies – I did not catch the name

50/50 Raffle – Paul Combs for Nancy Combs:

- \$126.00 collected. \$63.00 split. #594085 – Geoge was the winner.

Tom Brooks has motioned to adjourn the Meeting at 7:49 pm. Next meeting December 17, 2025, T.J. Chumps

# LET'S SEE WHAT AI HAS TO SAY ABOUT...

With the use of Artificial Intelligence there is so much information right at your fingertips! With that in mind I thought how about a series on Care and Craftsmanship. Let's start with Detailing you Corvette!

**My question to COPILOT:** *I need a one-page article for my newsletter that discusses how enthusiasts address cold weather and whether to store it or keep driving it in winter.*

## Care and Craftsmanship Series: Winter Storage & Protection

When the temperatures drop, many Corvette owners face the tough choice: keep driving or tuck their cars away until spring. Proper winter storage is more than just parking—it's about preserving your Corvette's condition and ensuring it's ready to roar when the weather warms.

### Preparing for Storage

- **Clean Thoroughly** – Wash, dry, and wax to protect paint from dust and moisture.
- **Interior Care** – Vacuum carpets, treat leather, and wipe down surfaces to prevent mildew or cracking.
- **Fuel System** – Add a fuel stabilizer to prevent varnish and gum buildup.
- **Battery Maintenance** – Disconnect or use a battery tender to keep it charged without overloading.
- **Tires** – Inflate to recommended pressure and consider tire cradles to prevent flat spots.

### Storage Environment

- **Car Covers** – Use a breathable, fitted cover to shield against dust while preventing trapped moisture.
- **Climate Control** – If possible, store in a dry, temperature-controlled garage.
- **Rodent Prevention** – Seal entry points and avoid leaving food nearby.

### The Spring Payoff

Taking these steps ensures your Corvette emerges from storage looking sharp and running strong. It's peace of mind for owners who value both performance and preservation.

### **Sidebar: Enthusiast Favorites for Winter Storage**

- **Car Covers:** Covercraft or Corvette-branded fitted covers
- **Battery Tenders:** CTEK or Battery Tender Plus
- **Fuel Stabilizer:** STA-BIL Storage Formula
- **Tire Protection:** FlatStoppers or Race Ramps tire cradles
- **Interior Care:** 303 Aerospace Protectant, Lexol Leather Conditioner

