



May
2026

MAY 2026 - EVENT CALENDAR

EVERY Thursday morning at 9am, North Coast Vettes members gather at the Coyote Café, 1450 North Santa Fe, Vista (corner of Bobier and Santa Fe); no rsvp required.

- May 7: Monthly meeting at El Camino Country Club, 5:30 pm no-host dinner; 6:30pm Meeting.
- May 20: Happy Hour, Junkyard Sports Bar and Grill, 3617 Ocean Ranch, #100, Oceanside (near Frontwave Arena).
- May 23: Padres Game – *San Diego vs. Oakland A's*. Contact **Dave Tracy** for Information.
- June 4: Monthly meeting at El Camino Country Club, 5:30 pm no-host dinner; 6:30pm Meeting.
- June 7: Main Street America Car Show. Register online; stipulate if you want to park with the club. Limited Availability.
- June 11: BBQ at the newly remodeled **John Trzcinka** abode. Details to follow.
- June 27: Oceanside Patriotic Fourth of July Parade, morning assembly.
- July 2: Monthly meeting at El Camino Country Club, 5:30 pm no-host dinner; 6:30pm Meeting.
- July 12: New Village Arts play “Hairspray”; contact **Scott White**.
- Aug 12: **GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS EVENT** – 3pm – The Shoppes. Plan to attend, with your car, and your NCV shirts/name badges.

MAY AND JUNE BIRTHDAYS

John Boyd	May 10
Herod Howard	May 28
Royann McClellan	May 23
Linda Pick	May 26
John Trzcinka	May 2
Glenn Williams	May 12
Rick Weber	May 12
John Berumen	June 13
Bob Ekstrom	June 17
Marylyn Hatch	June 5
Lisa Lerandean	June 21
Randy Mills	June 11
Sandy Peterson	June 10
Juliana Scoggins	June 21
Joel Thrasher	June 23
Mark Trapolino	June 19
Donna White	June 19



YOU WANT FLOWERS?

North Coast Vettes visited both the Flower Fields in Carlsbad and the Karl Strauss Brewery on April 14.



Ranunculi in all their glory



Shirley Kingery



Susan Johnson, Royann McClellan and Shirley Kingery



Scott and Royann McClellan

GM SAYS... "NO" MANUAL TRANSMISSION

If you're still holding out hope for a manual C8 Corvette, it's time to let go. Chevrolet just made it clear that the mid-engine Corvette is staying automatic. Speaking at the 12 Hours of Sebring, Chief Corvette Engineer Tony Roma addressed the long-running rumors about a potential manual transmission for the C8—and shut them down directly. Speculation surrounding a three-pedal C8 picked up last year after Tremec showed off a six-speed manual reportedly compatible with the C8 at SEMA. Given that Tremec already designed the Corvette's eight-speed dual clutch transmission, it didn't seem like a stretch. But according to Roma, that reveal doesn't square Corvette's reality. "Tremec showed something at SEMA that I wish they hadn't," Roma said during a Q&A session following the C8 Grand Sport's reveal just before the green flag in Sebring. "When people say, but there's one [a manual transmission] that's available. There isn't. It's not real. We don't have any plans to talk about a manual transmission."

Chevrolet is standing squarely behind the current setup. Roma emphasized that the Corvette is both faster and better overall with the DCT than it would be with a manual. "All I can say is our 8-speed DCT is tremendous. It's awesome. The car is faster and essentially better with the transmission we make." There's also a business case behind the decision. According to Corvette vehicle chief engineer Josh Holder, demand for manual transmissions had already dwindled by the end of the C7 generation. AutoGuide's Take: The lack of a manual hasn't hurt the C8's success. In fact, quite the opposite. Chevrolet has consistently moved more than 30,000 Corvettes annually in recent years—figures the previous C7 generation only managed at its peak. Even in 2025, when sales dipped slightly to around 24,500 units, the Corvette still comfortably outsold rivals like the Porsche 911 in the U.S. Reference: *Mike Smith*

NCV PLAYS POKER AT THE JOHNSONS'

Doug and Susan Johnson welcomed NCV members into their lovely home for an evening of food, laughter and cards once again . . . Texas Hold'em, to be specific. So, amid those learning the game, those practiced experts and **Cary Thomas** who brings his own cards, it was a night of fun and frivolity. **Donna White** and **Dave Tracy** tied for the win, splitting the pot, and **Juliana Scoggins** came in third.



CORVETTE C8 GRAND SPORT: NOT ONE “BUT” TWO MODELS C8

Corvette is poised for some very big changes for the 2027 model year, with a slew of updates slated for the powertrain lineup and trim level cadence. To that latter point, the 2027 Corvette will offer not one, but two new Grand Sport model variants, GM Authority has learned. According to sources familiar with the matter, GM will drop the pair of new C8 Grand Sports in between the base-level C8 Stingray and high-revving C8 Z06, following the Vette’s traditional model variant cadence while expanding the eighth-gen portfolio in the process. Check out our exclusive video for all the insights: at the center of the update is the new 6.7L V8 LS6, a high-performance take on GM’s latest Gen 6 Small Block architecture. Set to power both the standard 2027 Corvette Stingray and the newly introduced C8 Grand Sport variants, the new LS6 will be a staple of the C8 lineup for the foreseeable future. The second piece of the puzzle involves the Corvette E-Ray, which is expected to be renamed to Corvette Grand Sport X, per a GM Authority exclusive. The change is most likely part of a broader effort to clarify what the E-Ray has to offer, as removing the “E” designation may help avoid confusion among buyers who would otherwise assume the model is fully electric.

The new Corvette Grand Sport X is expected to drop alongside the non-hybrid Corvette Grand Sport, with the former doling out 720 all-wheel horsepower thanks to the combination of the naturally aspirated LS6 and a front-mounted electric motor, substantially more than the 655 horsepower E-Ray. Meanwhile, the non-hybrid Corvette Grand Sport will use the new LS6 V8 as its only source of motivation, driving the rear wheels exclusively.



THE “RUN” TO THE REAGAN LIBRARY HAD A VARIETY OF STOPS

First stop: Lunch in Orange at the Citrus City Grill.

An expanded group, including **Yvonne and Carm Finocchiaro**, Ruth Kurisu and Harriet Cook met for lunch prior to our visit to the Hilbert Museum of California Art.



***Left side: Doug and Susan Johnson, Cary and Nan Thomas, Mark Trapolino and Harriet Cook.
Right Side: Scott and Royann McClellan, Yvonne and Carm Finocchiaro, Lisa Lerandeau and Ruth Kurisu.***

Second Stop: Hilbert Museum on the Chapman University Campus, Orange.

Joan Gladstone is an artist who was showing her Route 66 100th Anniversary Year paintings at the Hilbert Museum. She was in attendance and gave the club members a personalized description of her inspiration, her process and her history. She wanted to share and maintain the vibrancy of the structures and signage she saw along Route 66, the Mother Road. Below: Joan Gladstone and **Mark Trapolino**



Cary, Nancy, Scott, Royann, Ruth, Yvonne, Carm, Joan, Susan, Mark, Lisa, Harriet and Doug

Third Stop: Calabasas hotel.

Doug, Susan, Lisa, Mark, Royann, Scott, Cary and Nancy continued to Calabasas for Happy Hour and game night. . . looks like we have a winner: **Susan Johnson** winning Right, Left, Center.



Fourth Stop: Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, Thousand Oaks CA

The Reagan Library brought back memories of tough times in our shared past with gas prices, housing costs and fragile world relations. We saw a portion of the Berlin Wall, Air Force One and Marine One. The large control console on Air Force One had less data than today's cell phone.



Susan, Cary, Nan, Doug, Royann and Scott



Mark Trapolino and Lisa Lerandeau



Scott and Royann McClellan



Nan and Cary Thomas



Susan and Doug Johnson



Royann and Scott and Marine One



Susan



Cary and Nan with Air Force One

Fifth Stop: The Nethercutt Museum in Sylmar.

The Nethercutt Museum houses over \$100 million in antique and vintage cars. It has a collection of reproducing music boxes and huge music wall units. It is a fabulous, over-the-top, look at past glories in transportation, music and style. It was decided to forego the Cars and Coffee in San Clemente on our return.



In the beautiful case: A 700 # silver piece from the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco re the opening of the Panama Canal in 1915.



Mark, Lisa, Doug, Susan, Cary, Nancy, Scott and Royann

Thanks to all who participated. **Royann McClellan**

SPECIAL EDITION E-RAY.

General Motors is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with a special lineup of patriotic-themed vehicles, dubbed the Stars & Steel Collection. The collection incorporates several of Chevrolet's most popular nameplates, including every variant of the C8 Corvette family. Now, GM Authority is taking a closer look at the new 2026 Chevy Corvette E-Ray Stars & Steel Limited Edition.

The Stars & Steel Limited Edition package is available in conjunction with both the Coupe and Convertible body styles for the 2026 Corvette E-Ray, but only when the vehicle is configured in the range-topping 3LT trim level. Buyers must also select between two available exterior paint colors, namely Arctic White (color code G8G) and Black (color code GBA). Models finished in Arctic White with the Santorini Blue interior receive a Satin Silver tonal American flag-inspired full-length stripe and graphics package (RPO code DTG). Meanwhile, examples finished in Black with the Adrenaline Red interior feature a Satin Black tonal American flag-inspired full-length stripe and graphics package (RPO code DTK). The Stars & Steel Limited Edition adds a variety of visual and trim upgrades that reinforce the Vette's patriotic undertones. Inside the cabin, the package includes Torch Red seat belts (RPO code 3F9) along with premium carpeted floor mats featuring red stitching (RPO code VYW). The interior also receives exclusive sill plates and a special interior plaque displaying the vehicle's unique build sequence number, ranging from 001 to 250.

As a reminder, the 2026 Corvette E-Ray pairs the naturally aspirated 6.2L V8 LT2 driving the rear wheels with an electric motor powering the front axle, creating an electrified all-wheel-drive system. Combined output is 655 horsepower. The GM Y2 platform provides the underpinnings, while production takes place at the GM Bowling Green plant in Kentucky. Reference: *AutoWorld*



The NCV Thursday Morning Breakfast Brigade had a few laughs this week: **Susan Johnson** and **Wendy Nash** presented Birthday Boy **Doug Johnson** balloons, crown and birthday cupcake.



Happy Thursday Morning Breakfast to all of you!

From your editor: Special thanks this month to all who helped with the newsletter, including **Doug and Susan Johnson, Cary and Nancy Thomas**, and, of course, **Royann McClellan . . .**

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1953-1955



1955-1962



1963-1967



1968-1982



1982-1996



1997-2005



CORVETTE

2005-2014



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2014-2019



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2019-PRESENT