

The Prez Says

Wow, I cannot believe that 2018 has come and gone and so has my term as president. I think we had a lot of fun over the year. However, none of the events and fellowship could have been accomplished without all of the members. It has been a true privilege to be a part of all of your lives.



I want to give a big thank you to my fellow officers, **Sue Smith** who pulled double duty of VP as well as Activities Director; **Diane**, who served as treasure, and Barbara who graciously stepped up for the role of secretary. Thank you to **Ro Bryant** who continues to keep everything running smooth as the director of membership.

However, the greatest thank you goes to our web master **Tom Quina** and historian, **Hollyann Quina**. Each and every year these two members put in hours and hours of their time keeping the web page updated. Without their time and dedication, most of us would literally be driving around lost.

I also want to give thanks and welcome the new officers for 2019. **Sue Smith** has stepped up to the plate to serve as president, **Curt Randolph** will serve as Vice President, **Barbara Randolph** will serve as Secretary and **Dave Myers** will serve as treasure.

I can take one look at the 2019 club calendar and see that **Tom** already has it updated with a large number of events. So I encourage all of

you to take time and block off some time on your personal schedules to have fun. For the March event, **12 Hours at Sebring**, there are still corvette corral tickets available. There is a limited number of corral tickets, so if you are interested in those tickets, delay is not your friend.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to make suggestion of what types of events you would like for the club to do together. You are all the eyes and the ears for the club. So if you see or hear of something that you think would be fun to do, say something. It could be a new club activity, or even a shoot out

I wish you all a Happy New Year.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Until then, remember to Save the Wave.

Beth

Activities

COMING IN JANUARY

- 2 - Wednesday - Board of Directors Meeting
- 5 - 14 - MECUM AUCTIONS
Large Collection of Corvettes & Muscle Cars
- 10 - Thursday - General Membership Meeting
C.J. Cannon's at the Airport Terminal Building
- 24 - 27 - Thur - Sun - Rolex 24 at Daytona
The Start of the Corvette Racing Season
- 29 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Joe & Diane

COMING IN FEBRUARY

- 2-Saturday - Frank Baudo's "Vero Velocity"
Tour of local restoration shop
- 14 - Thursday - General Membership Meeting
C.J. Cannon's at the Airport Terminal Building
- 26 - Tuesday - Mystery Dinner Cruise
Our Host Dave & Jean

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays for January

Joe Vogt	January 1
Ro Bryant	January 14
Bill Fenton	January 15
Stan Smykowski	January 18
Barbara Muraca	January 22
Stafford Dillon	January 29
Norma Warcup	January 31

Birthdays for February

James Kelly	February 10
Brad Grandage	February 13
Andi Smykowski	February 19
Dave Myers	February 22
Hollyann Quina	February 24
Joann Merklingshaus	February 26

Birthdays for March

Marino Silva	March 3
Curt Randolph	March 7
Walter Beringer	March 7
Terry Smith	March 15
Dan Bryant	March 25
Glen Davis	March 26

Happy Birthday to everyone!

2018 CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas party at **Captain Hiram's** was a great success. We had a very good turnout of members and some even brought friends and family members.

Stan Smykowski has arranged for the band for the parties for several years and he has never let us down. **Stan** I hope you will continue in the future. Thanks to you from all of us.

Dinner was a disappointment the, food was a not up to par. They had a small piece of prime rib and it was sliced it very thin it but it was rare, baked chicken breasts, vegetable mix, house salad and potatoes.

The great fun of the gift exchange was full of gifts that went around the room. Hats were the fun of the evening as some showed up for the third and fourth time. I put all the hat trades in a file to see if Christmas next year you folks bring them back. If you didn't make it to the party you missed all the fun. Take a look at the pictures and try to make the party next year. Next year the party will be in a different location.

Save the wave,
Hollyann



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Did an Insider Just Reveal GM's Bold Plan for the C8 Corvette Manta Ray?

corvetteblogger.com - By Keith Cornett - 12/4/18

I've been a member of the Corvette Forum for over 15 years now and while I'm not a huge participant in forum conversations, I have learned a few things over the years about those that join the forum. There is something about a person's first post that is noteworthy. Did you join because you have a question or problem you are trying to solve? Maybe you are an owner or future owner wanting to learn more. You could be a fan of another make/model and you want to troll some Corvette owners? Maybe you know something about the future Corvette and you just need to get it off your chest.

That last reason is what we are discussing tonight. A first-time poster on the Corvette Forum named unlimitedPower has posted a thread called "Corvette Manta Ray: GM's Bold New Plan" and it has really raised a lot of eyebrows from those that have been following the



development of the C8 mid-engine Corvette.

Could it be that we have another insider following in the steps of those like ZERV that have come and shared some of the Mid-Engine Corvette's secrets? Or is this just a well-written diversion based on the many of the rumors surrounding the next generation Corvette? Like any first-time post on the forum, we have no history to judge any previous comments, but what unlimitedPower has to say does seem very believable.

We've decided to share the entire thread from unlimitedPower with the disclaimer that "Hey, it's on the internet so it must be true." Just

joking but you know what I mean. Take it for what it is, and we'll let history decide if he was correct.

Here's the full post by unlimitedPower on the CorvetteForum.com:

I'm close enough to the inside to know the following about GM's plans for the Corvette. I cannot reveal all I know without jeopardizing my business's success, so please do not ask me to explain further, I will not answer. If you don't believe me then that's fine, I wouldn't either if I was in your shoes, but I'm compelled to post now so there is less disappointment later when the Eagle has Landed.

The C8 Corvettes at Nürburgring are the real thing – the 2020 Corvette Manta Ray. This base Corvette will be powered by an updated LT1 V8 with about 520hp and 485 lb-ft torque. A DCT transaxle is used in all C8 Corvettes, no exceptions. The R&D investment in the DCT is said to be equivalent to that of both the manual and automatic in the C7 – they knew they had one chance to get the DCT right. In 2021 GM will revolutionize the Corvette lineup. In addition to the base Corvette two different high-end models will be introduced: Corvette Grand Tour and Corvette Grand Sport.

The GT is as luxurious as if Cadillac designed it, because a Cadillac team is in fact responsible for the GT. It's a true GT and in addition to standard MRC it will deploy a full gamut of NVH countermeasures like acoustic glass, heavy sound deadening, and special wheels/tires, all for a cross country tourer that with a twist of the mode dial will handle any road or even a race track.

The Grand Sport moniker will be used for the insane sports version and it will feature additional escalating packages with more and more track orientation. GM found that buyers liked the name "Grand Sport" better than their alphanumeric gibberish "ZO6" so they ran with it. MRC is standard and in later years there will

be a track package with DSSV and a higher output engine. What engine, you say? Hold on to your butts because the GS will be powered by a beastly 5.5L twin turbo V8 that is said to be frighteningly powerful and in private track sessions has dominated both "the Germans and Italians." That's just the first year GS, not the track-oriented version. My



description isn't hyperbole – those who have driven the GS tell me that it is literally frightening to floor it. GM even had a team of lawyers in to advise on the legal perils of selling such a potent vehicle for street use.

How the Corvette is sold will change as radically as the engine mounting position. Any GM dealer will be able to sell the Corvette brand, but on the flip side, it will be far more difficult for dealers to qualify to sell Corvettes. You won't have to worry about Joey the Chevy Cruze expert wrenching on your Corvette since dealers will require a minimum count of certified Corvette techs and only those techs will be permitted to work on Corvettes. Since "Corvette" will be a brand unto itself it implies more than just the GT and GS sub-models, doesn't it? Make of this what you will.

So there you have it, GM's bold and brash sports car strategy. These will be the last of GM's gasoline powered sports cars, a bright nuclear flash before the onset of an EV future. I'm familiar with one of the upcoming EV sports cars as well. Suffice to say, performance gearheads have absolutely nothing to worry about because every one of the sports cars (and sports CUVs) in development at GM are poised to vastly exceed expectations.