

Corvette GAZETTE

2016



February

Save the Date



Poynton's Nursery

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 4th February - Cars & Coffee – Poynton's Nursery, Aberfeldie at 10.00am.

Refer COM Chat Events.

Thursday 12th February 2026 - Club Meeting – Tower Hotel, 686 Burwood Road, Hawthorn East.

Pre-Meeting Dinner/Drinks at 7 pm. Meeting commences at 8 pm

Sunday 15th February 2025 Club Run – Massaros 360 Eltham- Yarra Glen Road Kangaroo Ground. 12 pm. Refer COM Chat Events & Gazette for details.

Thursday 12th March 2026 - Club Meeting – Tower Hotel, 686 Burwood Road, Hawthorn East. Pre-Meeting Dinner/Drinks at 7 pm. Meeting commences at 8 pm

Friday 20th to Monday – 23rd March 2026 36th Corvette Nationals – Sunshine Coast, Queensland . Refer Gazette for details



Massaro's

CONTACTS AND CLUB INFORMATION

Correspondence

Corvettes of Melbourne Inc
P.O Box 8052
Camberwell North 3124
Victoria

Club Meeting

Every 2nd Thursday of the month at 8pm (except January)
Tower Hotel, 686 Burwood Road, Hawthorn East
Pre Meeting Dinner/Drinks at 7:00pm
Members are requested to wear their nametags for the benefit of visitors.

Membership Fees

Joining fee \$20 (1 time fee)

Annual Single membership Including access to an electronic copy of the monthly club magazine, 'The Gazette'. \$80.00 per year

Annual Family membership Including access to an electronic copy of the monthly club magazine, 'The Gazette'. \$100.00 per year

All Membership subscriptions are due for renewal by September each year

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Annual Subscription 'The Gazette' hardcopy:

Opt-In subscription to receive a printed copy of the monthly club magazine mailed to your address, \$85.00

Additional Member Name Tag(s)

Your initial Joining Fee includes personalised name tags to each single member and two family members. Additional name tags are available for \$15.00 per tag.

Annual Club Permit Scheme Fee:

Opt-in administration fee applicable only to members who participate in the CPS scheme through the CoM.

NB: the existing 'CPS Year In Advance' fee payment policy will be retained unchanged.

Club Permit Scheme is available through Corvettes of Melbourne to authorised vehicles. Enquiries can be made directly to the club at CPS@corvettesofmelbourne.com. Members applying for the Corvettes of Melbourne Club Plate Scheme must request a copy of the Club Plate Scheme Policy and abide by all conditions as listed. Note fees are applicable for all club plate scheme vehicles, as set out in the club permit scheme policy.
Make cheques out to:

"Corvettes of Melbourne"
P.O Box 8052
Camberwell North 3124

Pay directly into our C.O.M Account
BSB: 083 - 004 Acc: 767880859
Use your name as a reference

Front Cover
Christmas Function 2025
Heritage Golf & Country Club
Chirnside Park

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president@corvettesofmelbourne.com

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0411 131 294

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The purpose of Corvettes of Melbourne Incorporated is to provide a family friendly and inclusive environment that is dedicated to the enjoyment and appreciation of the Chevrolet Corvette sports car. A copy of the Model Rules that have been adopted by Corvettes of Melbourne as our club's standing rules can be found at: <https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/library/forms/clubs-and-not-for-profits-incorporated-associations/model-rules-for-an-incorporated-association.doc>



President's Report



Hi everyone,

Welcome to 2026. I hope you all enjoyed a great Christmas and New Year.

On 17 December 2025, I was the only one from our club who attended the presentation by Korey from Paragon Performance to hear his passionate talk about engine mods etc for the C8. As you know I don't have a C8 (and won't be getting one) but it was interesting to hear about the equipment you can get for a C8.

The 36th Nationals are coming up from 20 to 23 March 2026 when we go home or whatever plans you may have. You all would have received the update from the Queensland Nationals Committee advising that the cut-off date to register was brought forward to the end of January 2026.

Travelling in a convoy to Queensland will be three cars for the trip up and another car will be joining us at Coffs Harbour. There are more members driving up at their own leisure. Safe travels everyone.

Apparently there is a club drive on 15 February 2026, the events team will provide further details.

If you know of any business that would like to advertise in our magazine, please let us know.

Joe has finalised our tax etc via a tax agent and all is good, thanks Joe. Joe will update everyone at our next meeting on 12 February 2026.

I look forward to catching up with you all at the next club meeting.

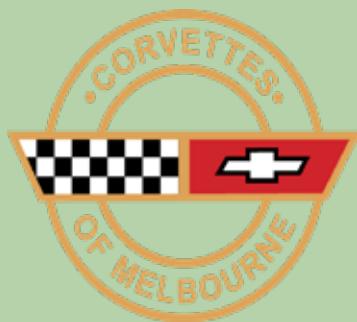
Cheers, Tony Asquith (alias Mr President)



Our new Christmas Toys, Electric Scooters!



If you need to replace a missing nametag or would like a spare one,
text or email gringo via 0419 88 1500 or gringo350@icloud.com



Next Meetings

Thursday 12th February

Thursday 12th March

TOWER HOTEL HAWTHORN

Starts at 8pm or get there at 7pm for some dinner, drinks and a chat

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

All the best to our members who are having a special month



January

Tania Cassidy
Shirley Greene
Anya Polmear
Suzanne Rouvray
Mark Andre
John Bligh
Lawrie Coutts
Mat Polmear
Luke Preston
Tom Sarros
Harry Turner

February

Esther Davis
Roslyn Chessells
Kylie Spiden
Andrew Brown
Teemu Carr
Sam Cataldo
Mark Catania
Russell Fogarty
Graham George - GG !
Michael Hehir
William Luke
Jeff Sutherland
David Szymczak
Neil White
Stephen Younane

Have we missed someone's Birthday ?!
Or are you having a Special one (a big 'O') ?
Let Brendan (gringo) know and we'll update the list.

CLUB PERMIT
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Notice about membership:

It is important that your membership is current during the time of you participate in the CPS.

There is an overlap between when club membership subscriptions fall due and when your CPS will expire. To overcome this the Committee has decided that members on the CPS will pay a once off extra annual membership payment to ensure they are members of the club during the time they are on the CPS. Should you leave the club or no longer partake in the CPS a refund will be made to you.

Officers who can sign off on Permit

applications and renewals:

Garth Bradbury 0411 131 294
Joe Younane 0418 478 814
Dan Butters 0407 726 773
Michael Brand 0425 864 359

People who can sign Vehicle Eligibility and Standards Declarations (Scrutineers):

Garth Bradbury 0411 131 294
Joe Younane 0418 478 814
Dan Butters 0407 726 773
Glenn Pellegrino 0418 398 365



Corvettes of Melbourne Inc No A0023933M

Minutes of General Meeting 11th December 2025, Tower Hotel, Hawthorn.

Meeting Commenced: 8.04pm

Chair: Tony Asquith, President

Welcome

The president welcomed all to the December 2025 meeting.

New Members: Theo Mitsis C7 Corvette

Attendance: 48

Apologies:

Andrew & Shweta Leonard, Ben Perelberg, Helen Cumming & Wayne Jackson, Michael Hehir, Stewart Allison, Darren Verdon, Tom Sarros, Adrian & Lisa Villanti, Neil & Thess White, Nick Bolis.
Moved apologies be accepted: Proposer; Kerrian Taylor, Seconded: Katherine Younane

Minutes of the last Meeting were tabled.

Moved that the minutes be accepted, Proposer; John Weir, Seconded; Glenn Pellegrino

Reports:

Treasurers report:

Joe Younane presented the Treasurers report. The report covers the month of November 2025.
A copy of this month's report is available to members by request.
Moved that the Treasurers report be accepted: Proposer; Greg Webster, Seconded; Graham George

Secretary's report

Correspondence: Online magazine Corvette Club of Queensland.

Moved that the Secretaries report be accepted: Proposer; Vicki O'Donohue,
Seconded: Glenn Pellegrino

Merchandise: Kathy reported that she has recently sold a cap, puffer jacket & T Shirt.

Saturday 17th January Show & Shine followed by coffee at Dan Butters & Christine.

Kerrian reported Club run, **15th February to Restaurant Massaros in Kangaroo Ground.**

Chris Tucker planning a **Car & Coffee on 2nd Wednesday in February.**

GG spoke about the Christmas Party at Heritage Golf Course, 60 people attended, many members drove their corvettes.

Events: James Pierce invited members to attend the Chev Club on 17 December where American Corey from Paragon Performance will be giving a presentation.

General Business: Tony spoke about driving to the Nationals. The itinerary is in the magazine.

GG asked for an update on the Walkie Talkies.

Meeting closed:8.31pm

Next meeting: 12th February 2026

Minutes by Michael Brand, Secretary



“Over and Out” from Michael for 2025



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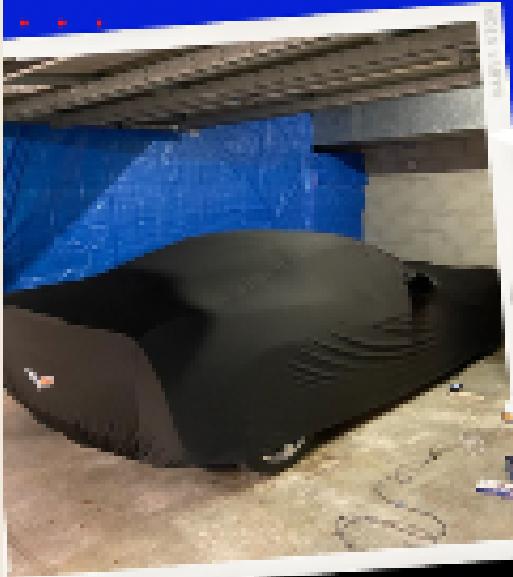
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Club Christmas Party

Perfect weather and perfect company made for a perfectly enjoyable day for our Corvette Club Christmas Party at the **Heritage Golf and Country Club on the 7th December, 2025**.

The line up of Corvettes at the front entrance was definitely a fine display, which included some beautifully restored older cars all the way to new C8's.

Many of us dressed up in all sorts of Christmassy paraphernalia to enjoy lunch, chatting and plenty liquid beverages, while GG read the Bon Bon messages and riddles.

Of course, special mention should be given to **Joel and Trent Newman**, who very capably assisted in the drawing of the raffle tickets and presentation of gifts.



Club Christmas Party



Club Christmas Party



Club Christmas Party



Fact vs. Fiction: Corvettes Are Only for Old Guys Having a Midlife Crisis. Credit: CT Insider



They say stereotypes are funny because they are true. For instance, the “retiree in a red Corvette” image has been the punchline of car culture jokes for many years and for good reason. For decades, the average Corvette owner was older, affluent, and male. And it wasn’t just a perception; there’s data to back it up. Take the C4 for example. About 68% of C4 owners are over 65 years old.

But things are changing. The C8 Corvette’s bold design and mid-engine layout have drawn in a new wave of younger buyers, many of whom see it less as a nostalgia machine and more as a legitimate exotic rival. So how much of this “midlife crisis” myth still holds up?

Fact: The Corvette’s Aging Reputation Didn’t Come from Nowhere. Credit: The Drive

Throughout its history, owning a Corvette has been a dream realized later in life, especially if you wanted to buy it brand new. A recent study by Hedges & Company on Corvette demographics reveals that retirees predominantly owned earlier generations (C4 through C6). Nearly 70% of C4 owners were over 65, and even the C6, built between 2005 and 2013, had 62% of owners in that bracket. Gender trends weren’t any kinder to Corvette’s image either: about 80% of owners were male.

But this is no coincidence. Corvettes have historically offered that sweet spot of performance and comfort. They have consistently been approachable grand tourers rather than uncompromising sports cars. But with rising prices thrown into the mix, only buyers with disposable income and nostalgia tend to gravitate toward Vettes. In other words, folks who admired Corvettes in the ’70s or ’80s, only decades later have the means to buy one. Still, this isn’t just a Corvette phenomenon. As of 2022, the average new-car buyer in the U.S. is around 50 years old, so the Corvette’s age gap just happens to be more visible and thus easier to mock.

Fiction: The C7 and Especially the C8 Are Redefining Who Drives a Corvette



Chevrolet’s first real attempt to modernize the Corvette’s image came with the C7 generation (2014–2019), and they succeeded, at least partially.

The C7 Corvette featured sharper styling and world-class handling, which also broke another myth about the Corvette’s infamous poor handling. This improved Vette started to attract slightly younger buyers. Around 46% were over 65, compared to over 60% in previous generations. Still, the real shift for the Corvette arrived with the introduction of the C8 in 2020.

ACCIDENT

Orlando Fire Department Pulls a Red C8 Stingray from a Roadside Pond

By Keith Cornett. Jan 18, 2026



Photo Credit: Orlando Fire Department / Facebook

It's a mystery that certainly has folks talking...

Just how in the world did this **Red Corvette Stingray** come to be partially submerged in a roadside pond in Central Florida?

The Orlando Fire Department shared these photos to its [Facebook Page](#) on December 15th after they were called to investigate the abandoned vehicle in Orange County near the interchange of State Road 417 and State Road 528.

The reason for the mystery is that the driver was missing from the scene, so the fire rescue department had to put a diver into the water to ensure that it was all clear. The crew then removed the Stingray from the pond.

While authorities are investigating the history of the car, the commenters on the FB post seem to be divided between a case of insurance fraud, or that it was a joyride/stolen car and it was disposed in the pond. The second scenario seems more likely to us.



The C8 Corvette looks to be in relatively good shape despite its driver pretending to be a U-Boat commander. We see the car has the newer Z51 wing on the rear and the front fascia is showing a crack. The passenger window is also down, not that it would have stopped any water intrusion.

Miss February





Corvettes on arrival at Heritage Golf and
Country Club to celebrate Christmas

Corvette Trivia Quiz

Early Models 1953 - 1982

1. What city had the first full-scale Corvette displayed at a hotel in 1953?
 - a. Los Angeles
 - b. Miami
 - c. New York City
 - d. Bowling Green
2. True or False: The first Corvette windows could not roll down.
3. In what three cities have Corvette cars been manufactured?
 - a. Flint, St. Louis, and Bowling Green.
 - b. Detroit, Cleveland, and Indianapolis.
 - c. St. Louis, Little Rock, and Flint.
 - d. Bowling Green, Memphis, and Cincinnati.
4. True or False: Corvette was the first vehicle to create a real “wrap-around” windshield.
5. In what year was the first coupe and convertible Corvette made?
 - a. 1959
 - b. 1960
 - c. 1963
 - d. 1965
6. True or False: The colour “Inca Silver” acrylic laquer paint was used for multiple years.
7. How long did it take the 1953 Corvette to go from 0 to 60mph?
 - a. 10 seconds
 - b. 11 seconds
 - c. 12 seconds
 - d. 13 seconds
8. The first Corvettes were made out of this material:
 - a. Fiberglass
 - b. Aluminium
 - c. Steel
 - d. Iron
9. How much did the 1953 original Corvette sell for?
 - a. \$2,498
 - b. \$3,498
 - c. \$4,498
 - d. \$5,498
10. What was the only year that the split rear window was produced?
 - a. 1959
 - b. 1961
 - c. 1963
 - d. 1965



Urgent Message from the Nationals

Please distribute this bulletin to all members as soon as possible.

I will be closing registrations for the 2026 Nationals one month early. If you are not **registered and paid by midnight, Saturday 31st January**, you will not be able to enter.

If you have registered, but have **not yet booked your room at Peppers by the cut off date**, I won't be able to guarantee our group pricing. Accommodation booked after this date will be at least **\$100+ more per night**.

We currently have **6 one-bedroom and 3 two-bedroom** apartments remaining. These will be released back to Peppers at the end of the week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for taking the time to read this bulletin. I'm really looking forward to catching up with everyone in just under **8 weeks**.

For and on behalf of the Queensland Corvette Club Inc.

Best Regards,

Brad Stumer/ Chairman 2026 Nationals

Mobile: 0414 730 833



December Naughty Santa Photos

Once again, the Naughty Santa Kris Kringle was the highlight for the final meeting for 2026. Fantastic and fun gifts were deposited on the table, and when the draw commenced, there was a continual stream of laughter and general banter, as gifts were unwrapped and cossetted away under tables, out of view of thieving eyes.

Theft was high on the agenda, with the charcuterie board being the main gift chosen by thieves.

Again, most things alcoholic were popular, and for those members who miss meetings, it must be said that the Christmas Meeting is the highlight to cap off the year and put you in the Christmas spirit, so to think.

If you are looking for a night of frivolity and fun, mark your calendar to come in 2026.



December Naughty Santa Photos



December Naughty Santa Photos



December Naughty Santa Photos



Corvettes Of Melbourne

Inc No A0023933M



My Vette

**Have your car featured in our Gazette as
Car Of The Month**

What's your first name ?

Your Partner ?

When did you join CoM ?

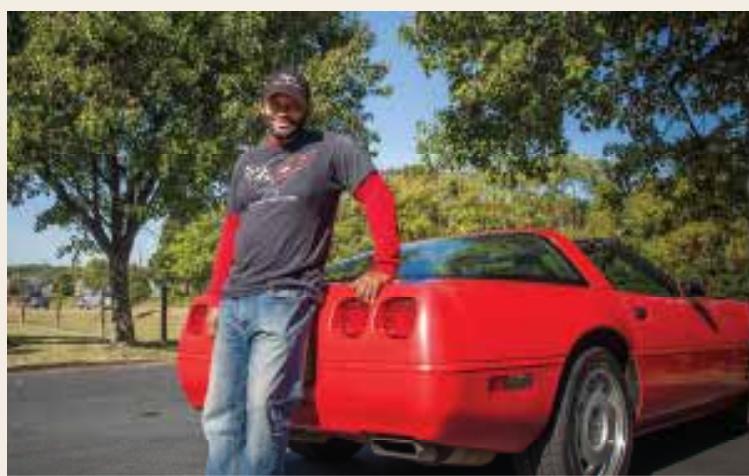
Tell us a little about your car (Year, Coupe / Convertable, engine) :

Why did you buy a Corvette or what do you enjoy about being a Corvette Owner ?

What are your thoughts on The Club ?

Please email this and a couple of photos to : gazette@corvettesofmelbourne.com

Thanks a lot, we look forward to seeing your car in the Gazette !



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Colour: Black

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**6. Polo
\$30**

Colour:
Black



**7. Puffer
\$60**

Colour: Black
Zip up Puffer
vest

**8. Moto
Shirt
\$45**

Colour:
Red/Black



**9. Short
Sleeved
Shirt
\$50**

Colour: Black



**10. Round
Neck
Tshirt
\$25**

Colour:
Black

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2027 Corvette To Drop These Two Paint Colours

By [Jonathan Lopez](#) January 22, 2026 6:01 pm



The 2027 [Corvette](#) is shaping up to be a pivotal model year for the [C8](#), with both major mechanical changes and a new model variant on the docket. However, in addition to the hotly anticipated debut of a new [Gen 6 Small Block V8](#) and the return of the [Grand Sport nameplate](#), the 2027 Corvette is also set to update the customization options. To that latter point, the 2027 Corvette will retire two exterior paint colours.



According to a *GM Authority* source, the following exterior colours will be discontinued from the Corvette lineup after the 2026 model year:

Hysteria Purple Metallic (colour code GXL)

Riptide Blue Metallic (colour code GJV)

Hysteria Purple Metallic [joined the C8 lineup for the 2025 model year](#), while Riptide Blue Metallic has [been available since the 2024 model year](#).

Looking back at data for the 2025 model year, neither colour proved to be particularly popular among buyers.

Depending on the trim level and configuration, take rates for both hues hovered between five and nine percent.



2027 Corvette To Drop These Two Paint Colours

These adjustments to the paint options list will be made amid much larger developments for the 2027 Corvette. As covered previously, General Motors is now gearing up to introduce the next-generation Small Block V8, including a variant set to carry once again the LS6 name. The new engine is rumoured to displace 6.7 litres, representing a meaningful increase over the current 6.2L LT2.



Recent leaks point to a pushrod, overhead-valve architecture paired with both direct injection and port fuel injection. The new LS6 is set to mark one of the most significant mechanical updates to the Stingray since the C8 generation launched for the 2020 model year.

In addition, mounting evidence suggests the Corvette Grand Sport nameplate will return, as well. Absent since the mid-engine Corvette's debut, the Grand Sport will slot between the Stingray and E-Ray, while also adopting the widebody design shared with the E-Ray and Z06, but without the added complexity of the E-Ray's hybrid system. Instead, the new Grand Sport will rely on a traditional internal-combustion-only setup powered by GM's forthcoming Gen 6 Small Block V8.

Trivia Answers:

1. C - New York City, at the Waldorf Astoria.
2. True - The windows had to be taken out, in order to have the windows down.
3. A - Flint, St. Louis, and Bowling Green.
4. True.
5. C - 1963.
6. False - It was only used in 1959.
7. B - 11 seconds.
8. A - Fibreglass.
9. B - \$3,498, or \$31,473 in modern day prices.
10. C - 1963

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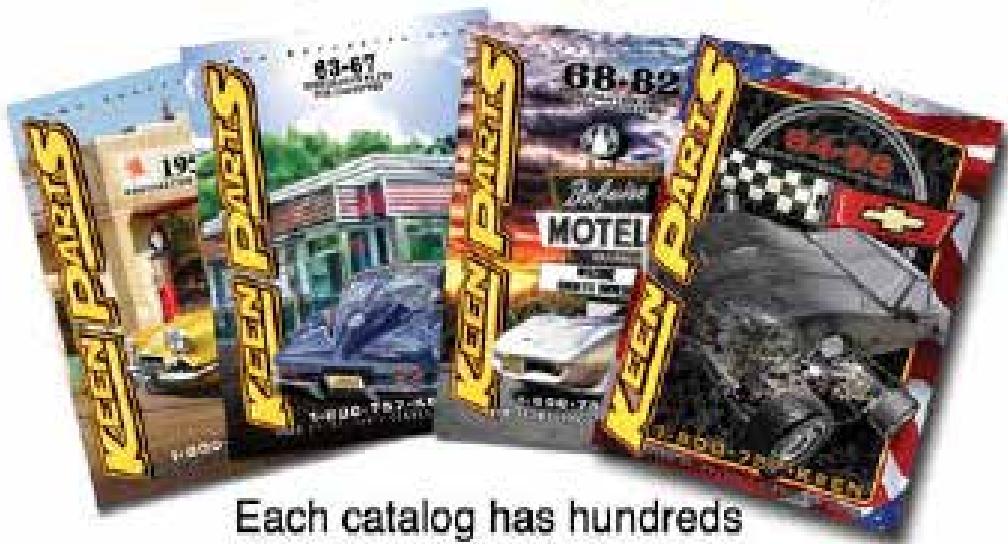
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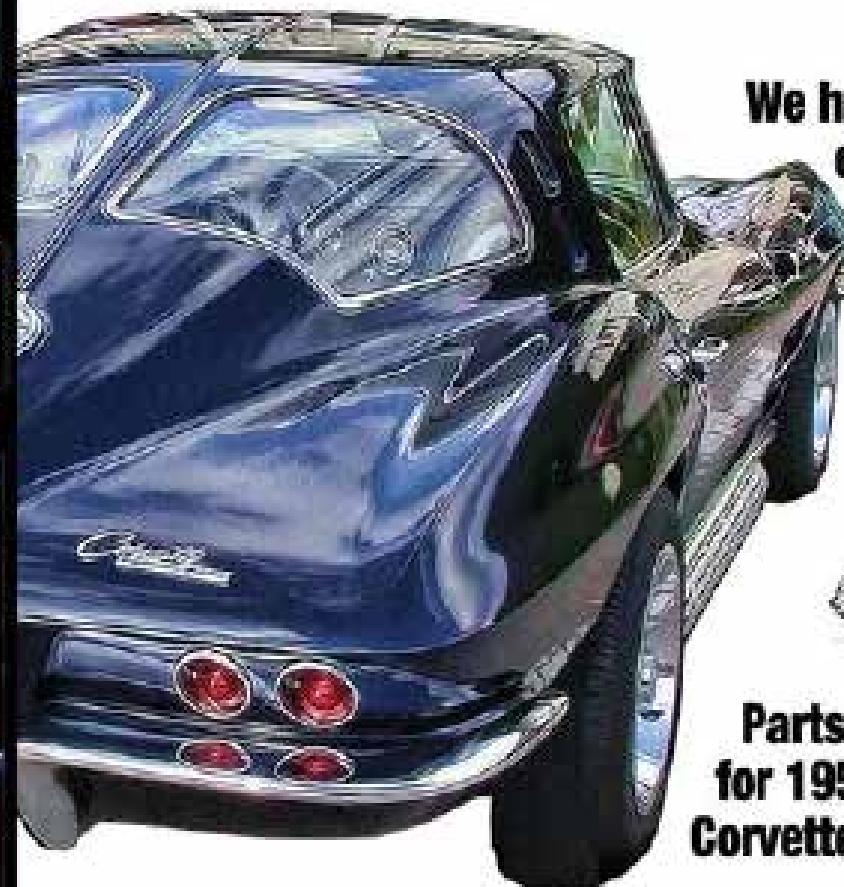
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