PACIFIC N.W.

THE *Heartbeat* OF THE NORTHWEST

January / February 2024

The ***Heartbeat of the Northwest*** is the official publication of the ***Pacific Northwest Camaro Club*** and is provided bimonthly to active members. Distribution is also provided, by the direction of the Club President, to other individuals, clubs, and/or commercial enterprises. The ***Pacific Northwest Camaro Club*** is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of the Chevrolet Camaro, and no person shall be denied membership because of age, sex, race, or religion.

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A Note from our President

Happy 2024. I hope the new year finds everyone healthy and happy. I am honored to be the latest club president and hope to lead an exciting year.

2023 ended on low note with two disappointing events. The first one of course is the end of our favorite pony car – the Camaro. The 5th generation brought the Camaro back after an eight-year absence. 2024 marks the beginning of another dark period. Although there are rumors, opinions, “informed” articles claiming to know, or hope, what the 7th generation will entail, the reality is that we don’t know at this time. All we can do is hope that the next incarnation of the Camaro upholds the tradition of its rich and storied heritage.

Another sad 2023 event was the closing of the Triple XXX Rootbeer Drive-in in Issaquah. After years of hosting the All-Camaro Show, as well as many other car shows, they are no more. Though not as tragic as the end of Camaro production, XXX will be missed.

Despite these events, the club lives on. Recently, 17 of us got together to plan events for this upcoming year. We hope to join up with many of you at these upcoming activities. Schedules will be coming out shortly, but some things to look forward to are:

A St. Patrick’s Poker Run
Spring Getaway to Long Beach, WA
Progressive dinner
Yakima winery road trip
and more.

The big item of course, is the **All-Camaro Show**. XXX was not the end. The ACS will continue in a new location: the famous Griot’s Garage in Tacoma with its grass field, ample parking, and amenities. The ACS is currently scheduled for July 28, 2024

I invite all members to participate in our upcoming events. Whether your Camaro is up and running, or it is in your garage waiting for its next upgrade, join your club members for fun with other Camaro enthusiasts.

Mark Hennecken
President PNWCC 2024

Camaro Club Annual Christmas Party

The PNWCC held their Annual Christmas party on December 9th. Thank you to Jerry Yoder and Karen Purves for being our gracious hosts for the evening. We had lots of wonderful food, a gift exchange, and toys donated to Toys for Tots and Child Study & Treatment Center in Lakewood.

We were even treated to a viewing of Jerry's car collection in his "Museum". A great time was had by all in attendance, and we look forward to doing it again next year.

Issaquah's Triple XXX Rootbeer Drive-In closes its doors after 55 years

The announcement came just hours before the Issaquah spot closed on Nov. 29.

ISSAQUAH, Wash. — Issaquah's Triple XXX Rootbeer Drive-In announced its closure just hours before ending operations for good on Nov. 29. The drive-in, located at 98 NE Gilman Boulevard, sold for an undisclosed amount, according to Glenn Combs, who represented the seller. The sale closes Dec. 1. "We thank you for the many happy years of serving you," the sign, posted by management, reads. "We have retired!!!"

The new owners are a group from Issaquah that have long ties to the community, Combs said. The group is still deciding what to do with the property.

XXX Root Beer Drive-In opened in 1968, according to the restaurant's website. The drive-in is known for its comically large portions of 1950s-style diner favorites, including giant XXX burgers, "Why did the chicken cross I-90?" entrees and, of course, root beer floats and milkshakes. The vintage-inspired restaurant was purchased in March 1999 by Jose Enciso and his wife, according to its website. The owner's son, Jose Enciso, Jr., said he came to the restaurant with his kids on Wednesday to enjoy a last meal, say goodbye to his dad and reminisce.

Customers enjoy the final meals of the Triple XXX Rootbeer Drive-In, a hot dog and burger, on Nov. 29.

Then, the crowds kept coming. "It got to the point where we had to get up and punch in, throw on a T-shirt," said Enciso, Jr. While he was here to eat dinner, he ended up working through the night. "But it's good, I wouldn't have had it any other way the last night being here," he said. "To come together as a family again and deliver to our community."

ALL CAMARO SHOW NEW DATE & LOCATION

As a result of the unexpected closure of the Triple X Rootbeer Drive-In we have a new location for the All Camaro Show.

Our Annual show will be held at Griot's Garage in Tacoma. We have a new date as well, the show is scheduled for July 28th, this is one week later than usual. We will announce more information as it becomes available.

So, mark your calendars for July 28, 2024 for our All Camaro Show at Griot's Garage in Tacoma, WA.

The ZL1/1LE Is the Final Gas-Powered Chevy Camaro EVER

Chevrolet saved the best for last with a fully optioned Summit White ZL1/1LE M6 beast!

Dec 21, 2023

There are many of us who remember the heartbreak when the last fourth-gen Chevy Camaro was built over 20 years ago. For us Camaro fans it was a sad day when that last Camaro rolled down the assembly line, but we had hints the Camaro would be back. We had to wait eight long years for the 2010 gen-five Camaro to hit the market, but given its performance, it was worth the patience.

When Was The Last Sixth Gen Camaro Built?

Well, it's deja vu with the Camaro cancelled once again, and the last Camaro was built on December 14, 2023. GM has hinted that the model will be back, but with the EV craze not quite over, there's a fear that what comes back will be a bastardized, *Pet Cemetery* version of the car we loved. Chevrolet wouldn't hook us up with any photos of the final Camaro to be produced, but they did tell us it was a Summit White 2024 ZL1/1LE with a proper six-speed manual transmission! So, it's nice that Chevrolet ended the run with the fastest, best-handling, and most powerful Camaro ever designed.

When Did ZL1 Camaro Production Start?

The Camaro ZL1, once just an RPO engine code, became an official production model in 2012. Unlike the originals, this one was developed to perform on a road course as well as the dragstrip, but it really shone at the dragstrip. MotorTrend was able to lay down a 3.8-second 0-60 time and a 12.1-second e.t. at 117 mph. Fifth-gen ZL1 production totaled 14,213 from 2012-2015.

Was The Sixth-Gen Camaro Faster Than The Fifth-Gen?

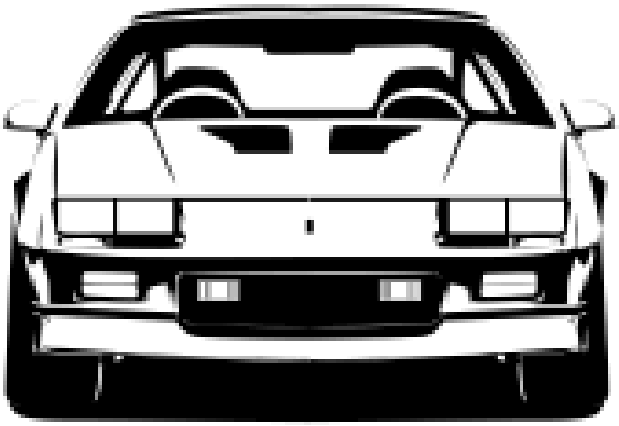
The sixth-gen Camaro ZL1 upped the performance and had a significantly greater power-to-weight ratio with 60 more hp in a car that weighed around 200 pounds less than the fifth-gen ZL1. There was also an all-new 10-speed automatic transmission and more driver-control technology as well. Later models of the ZL1 were given the option of a six-speed manual transmission.

When Was The Last Camaro LT4 Engine Built?

A version of the Corvette Z06's supercharged LT4 engine powered the sixth-gen ZL1 and the later track-centric ZL1/1LE. Due to the taller hood line of the Camaro, Chevrolet was able to move to a taller blower lid with larger intercooler blocks to solve a heat-soak issue endemic to the C7 Z06. Only a handful of production-related differences distinguish it in the Camaro application, and it is rated at an estimated 650 hp and 650 lb-ft of torque. Its 1.7-liter Eaton TVS blower is a little smaller than the LSA's but spins faster—up to 20,000 rpm—to help make power across a broader rpm range. The last Camaro LT4 engine was built in November of 2023.

Where Is The Last Sixth-Gen Camaro Going?

The ZL1/1LE and ZL1 Camaros saw only minor changes over their runs from 2018 to 2024, and they will go out on top as the most potent Camaros ever built by GM. Certainly a great legacy to the ZL1 badge and Camaros in general. No word where the last Camaro will be going, but our bet would be that it's held by Chevrolet in their legacy collection, so we hope to see it on display eventually.



Bowtie People

Birthdays

Ted Chetnik	2/4	Karen Nidermeyer	2/29
Anika Lidstrom	2/5	Gary Marshall	3/2
Niklas Lidstrom	2/13	Lynda Kelstrom	3/3
Dick Perry	2/18	Julia Weaver	3/3
Lenore Voit	2/20	Andrew Hill	3/10
Larry DeCamp	2/25	Brent Franich	3/21

Anniversaries

Ted and Karrlie Chetnik	2/13
Patrick and Terrie Kranjcevich	3/15
Bill and Jackie Wallace	3/30
Lynne and Cliff Samuels	3/31

2023 Pacific NW Camaro Club Activities

February

3	8:00 am	Caffeine and Gasoline, Griot's Garage, Tacoma
10	9:00 am	Swap Meet, Pacific Raceways, Kent
17	9:00 am	Swap Meet, Puyallup Fairgrounds, Puyallup

March

2	8:00 am	Caffeine and Gasoline, Griot's Garage, Tacoma
17		St. Patrick's Day Poker Run, TBD, Tacoma
23	5:00 pm	PNWCC General Meeting, TBD, Tacoma

April

5-7		Spring Getaway, Long Beach Peninsula
6	8:00 am	Caffeine and Gasoline, Griot's Garage, Tacoma
20		Camaro Club / Firebird Club Bowling Challenge, Angel of the Winds Casino, Arlington
26-28		LS Fest West, Las Vegas, Nevada

If there are any events you would like to see, or you know of something that we could do as a club; please contact Activities director Nora Hennecken at activities@pnwcc.com

PNWCC
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PACIFIC N.W. Camaro CLUB

THE Heartbeat OF THE NORTHWEST

NEW MEMBER _____ OR RENEWAL _____

NAME:_____ DATE:_____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY:_____ STATE:_____ ZIP:_____

PHONE#: _____ ALT PHONE#: _____

EMAIL:_____ ALT EMAIL: _____

Would you like to receive your newsletter by (check one): ____EMAIL ____REGULAR MAIL ____BOTH

Would you like to receive event and other club announcements by email? (check one): _____YES _____NO

MEMBER & FAMILY	BIRTHDAY (MM/DD)	FAMILY MEMBER	BIRTHDAY (MM/DD)

ANNIVERSAY (mm/dd):_____

CAMARO	YEAR	MODEL	TYPE	ENGINE	TRANS	COLOR
#1						

OTHER INFO/REMARKS:_____

#2						

OTHER INFO/REMARKS:_____

#3						

OTHER INFO/REMARKS:_____

How did you find out about PNWCC? (circle one): Friend Website Facebook Google/Bing

or other source?_____

Interests (circle all that apply): Cruising Shows Drag Racing Restoring Modifying

or other: _____

Please mail this application with check/cash for membership dues of **$20.00** - checks payable to:

Pacific Northwest Camaro Club (PNWCC)

126 S. 293rd Pl, Federal Way, WA 98003

Web: www.pnwcc.com or Contact: secretary@pnwcc.com