PACIFIC N.W.

Camaro CLUB

THE *Heartbeat* OF THE NORTHWEST

May / June 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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Note: You must call Rick's Camaros and use the customer ID listed. Make sure you specify your address for shipping.

A Note from our President

Buckle Up for 2024's LS Fest West April 26th to 28th!

Once again it was a huge event and drew thousands of people from all over the Western United States to Las Vegas Motor speedway for a three-day autocross event and included drag racing, 3S challenge, show and shine and burn out contest, and dirt track in celebration of the LS Motor.

I participated in three days of autocross, along with my friends Brent Franich, Chris Nordhaus, and Jon Nidermayer.

LS Fest features two types of autocross courses, a traditional layout in a parking lot (autocross #1) and the second on a road course which was a layout to allow for higher speeds through sweeping curves and straight-away (autocross #2).

Which started out dry on Friday Morning for about an hour and half until we got rained out. Below Brent Franich takes the track.

After nearly a three and a half hour break of hiding out form the rain in the trailer we resumed on autocross #1 by first walking the course and while walking between the rain drops and then by a massive amount of parade laps by all the cars through the course at 10 to 15 mph (sometimes a little faster.) By the time that track was dry I managed to have the course memorized.

The whole event was a blast with everyone driving better and faster and placing higher than last year. With Brent Franich placing second in the Dyno Challenge at 899 WHP!

Brian Stanley
President PNWCC 2024

The 5 Best Chevy Camaros Ever Made, Ranked

Story by Daniel Feininger

The Chevrolet Camaro is a classic racer that's turned heads for decades. It was introduced as a direct competitor to the Ford Mustang. Since it first hit the market in 1966, the Camaro has remained a favorite among track specialists and daily drivers alike in all its trim levels and build iterations. Camaros bring a timeless and muscular body shape to the fore, and owners have continued to flock to an increasingly potent lineup that has only gotten better with time.

Whether you're a big fan of the classics or love the newer additions to the range, there's a Camaro out there that can satisfy any type of driver and car lover. With a pedigree as fabled as the Camaro, it can be a difficult task to select just five examples that set the bar at its pinnacle. Yet, these five offer something special to even the most discerning car enthusiast.

2022 Camaro SS 1LE

The modern SS 1LE Camaros are a work of pure beauty. Producing 455 horsepower and 455 ft-lb of torque through a naturally aspirated V8 engine, it's a born track star (although putting out noticeably less power than others in recent years). This model gets the nod at number five on the list of all-time greats because it blends the racing DNA of the Camaro seamlessly with the needs of the contemporary driver.

When tested, the 2022 Camaro SS 1LE received a 5-star crash safety rating, making it a uniquely versatile vehicle capable of blistering speed and the rush of roadway maneuverability while ensuring that passengers remain safe and secure throughout the commute or speedway drag race. The car comes with a standard six-speed manual transmission installed.

The newer Camaros -- this model included -- utilize a revamped front-end design that takes its cue from the classic visuals of the Camaro name but puts a unique spin on the finished product. There's a much smaller grille sandwiched between the hood ridge and the lower spoiler section. Yet, the same vintage point remains intact, meeting right at the center of the Chevrolet badge. The angular ridges of the car resemble the vintage ride, too, but offer a more aggressive layering throughout the vehicle's body.

The 1969 Yenko Camaros

The Yenko Camaros are a fascinating piece of Chevy history. In the early days of the Camaro range, Chevrolet sought to build a compact racing body rather than a true muscle machine. As a result, the Camaros that rolled off the production line incorporated engines with a maximum displacement of 400 cubic inches, or 6.6L.

With the perfect clarity of hindsight, it's evident that this limitation stripped the Camaro of its full potential. Don Yenko, a Pittsburgh area Chevy dealership owner, saw this expanded potential and custom-ordered Camaros with a larger 7.0L engine (measuring a displacement of 427 cubic inches). He was able to game the system and order the cars with options that normally weren't available, and the result was a run of 201 1969 SC Camaros that have taken on the moniker of the "Yenko Camaro."

The upgraded engine (an L72 engine that produces 425 horsepower) wasn't the only enhancement Yenko could squeeze out of his customization efforts, though. In addition to a larger power plant, the Yenko/SC Camaros benefits from improved cooling systems, buffered suspensions, and dual exhaust fittings. They also ooze style, considering the base vehicle remains a 1969 Chevy Camaro. With the classic chevron grille point and round headlights beneath the center hood ridge, Yenko Camaros are a sight to behold. With the rarity and story behind their creation thrown

into the mix, it's easy to see why these Camaros remain some of the best examples ever built.

2010 Camaro SS (The Bumblebee Camaro)

The Chevy Camaro left the market briefly, with the 2002 Camaro SS marking the brand's "last Camaros." Yet this hiatus proved to be short-lived. In 2009, Chevrolet brought the Camaro back from the dead with a revamped chassis in what would become the fifth generation of the athletic vehicle. The new Camaro was informed by the aesthetics of the '69 model and most prominently featured in the "Transformers" movie series as one of the Autobots, Bumblebee.
The car itself started the first movie as a '77 model. It later incorporated enhancements that resulted in a new concept model that would eventually appear as the 2010 Camaro SS on real-world streets. These vehicles are stunningly designed (and four models used in filming the saga were put up for auction in 2019).

The Bumblebee Camaro SS is notably painted in yellow and black, but under its hood rests a 3.6L V6 engine that produces 304 horsepower and 273 lb-ft of torque. The car could be purchased with the standard six-speed manual or optional six-speed automatic transmission.

1969 Camaro ZL-1

1969 was an excellent year for the Camaro. The ZL-1's from this year broke the earlier mold of engine construction. They utilized an aluminum 7.0L (427 cubic inches) V8 engine inspired by the racing DNA of the Chevy/Chaparral Can-Am race partnership. The new engine weighed 160 pounds less than a standard iron 427 engine, giving the Camaro a significant performance boost. Matched with the 430 horsepower that it could produce, the 1969 ZL-1 was a potent competitor on the racing grid.
In total, just 69 of these fascinating examples were ordered, partly due to the engine upgrade that cost more than the car itself. Still, this gave another dealer the backing he required to use the vehicle in drag racing (at least 50 had to be produced for use on the track).

Fred Gibb utilized the same trick as Don Yenko above to build this specialized Camaro that was purpose-built for dedicated racers. The ZL-1 (COPO 9560) saw enhancements to the suspension, cowl-induction hood, front-end springs, and brake installations. Gibb only ended up selling 13 of the cars at his dealership, and the rest of the specialized order Camaros made their way into the public through various other dealerships in the Chevy community.

1968 Camaro Z/28

The final installment in the quest to find the best Camaros ever built lands on the 1968 Z/28 model. The build wasn't a special order or custom construction, making it a typical sight at a Chevrolet dealership rather than a unicorn that had to be chased down. The vehicle was powered by Chevy's 5.0L V8 with a displacement measuring 302 cubic inches. The V8 produced 350 brake horsepower and 320 ft-lb of torque and could reach a top speed of 132 miles per hour.

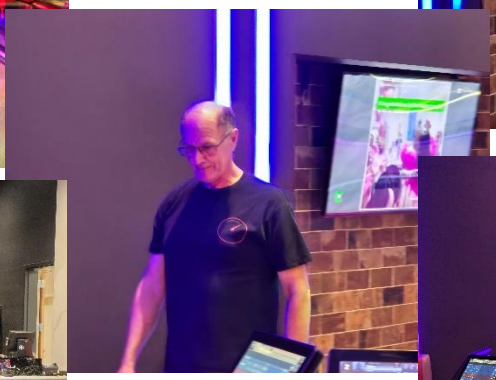
In 1968, Chevrolet produced 7,199 Camaro Z/28s, making them a limited species, to be sure, but nowhere near as rare (and therefore hard to restore or maintain today) as some other specialty Camaros that the company built over the years. The Z/28 was initially destined to become a pure racer, but the powers that be eventually decided to release it for public consumption, sharing the riches with the world.

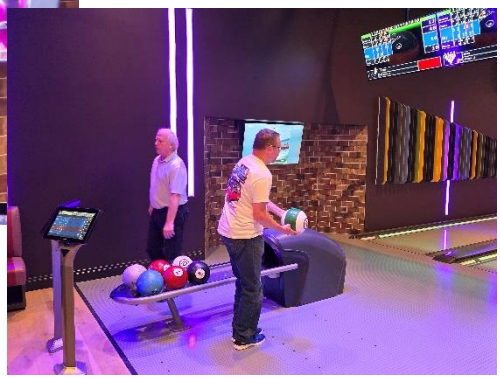
Z/28s are some of the most dominant Camaros that ever raced, and the 1968 examples truly brought Chevy's racing prowess to a new level of achievement. It's perhaps this vehicle that put the Camaro on the map for the average driver looking to purchase something with a little more punch and excitement while out on the road. This history gives the 1968 Z/28 the edge as the best Camaro to wear the Chevy emblem.

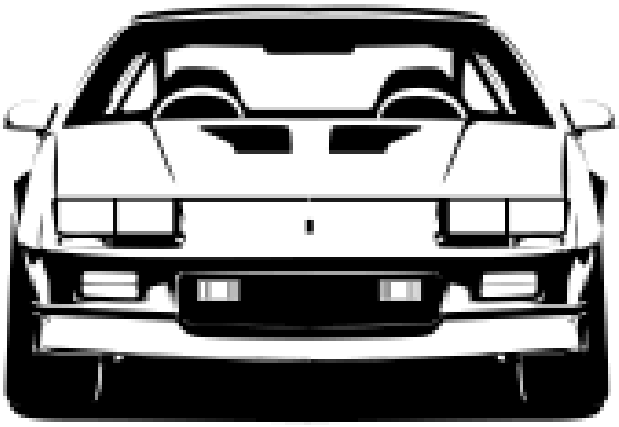
Bowling fun at Strikerz @ Angel of the Winds Casino

Saturday April 20th was the date for the latest Camaro / Firebird Bowling Challenge. We were to gather at the Strikerz Bowling Lanes at Angel of the Winds Casino in Arlington WA, unfortunately, due to bad traffic from the south end and other things happening, the Firebird Club did not have any members that were able to join us. We did have 8 Camaro Club members bowl and 1 Camaro Club member spectate as we enjoyed our 2 hours of bowling fun, if you consider bowling to be fun.

Thank you to all the Camaro Members who made the trek to Arlington, Gary, Natalie and Tyler Schaefer, Larry and Barbara DeCamp, Rick and Marlena Jones, and Clay Dubofsky.







Bowtie People

Birthdays

Jenni Ames	6/7	Leslie Croxton	7/10
Melissa Smith	6/19	Drew Smith	7/14
Lloyd Tamura	6/30	Cliff Samuels	7/15
Tim Loewen	7/1	Victoria Jones	7/16
Jim Weaver	7/7	Ryan Schaefer	7/20
Gary Schaefer	7/9	Andy Ostenberg	7/21
Steve Hartson	7/10	Nora Hennecken	7/31

Anniversaries

Larry and Barbara DeCamp	6/2
Jim and Carrol Weaver	6/6
Marilyn Muscat and Kent Woodworth	7/13
Dan and Kristie Morgan	7/16
Larry and Marcy Angel Rosenlund	7/26

2024 Pacific NW Camaro Club Activities

May

5/24 4:00 pm Car Club Challenge, Pacific Raceways, Kent
5/30-6/2 Camaros in the Cellars, Oxford Suites, breakfast and happy hour Included,1701 East Yakima Ave, Yakima

June

6/1 8:00 am Caffeine & Gasoline Griots Garage 3333 S38th St., Tacoma
6/1 8:00 am Car Club Challenge, Bremerton Raceway
6/12 6:30 pm Concert in the Park, Free Steilacoom Concert in Pioneer Orchard Park, 1701 Commercial St, Steilacoom WA. Bring lawn chairs and your own picnic dinner and beverages. RSVP by 6/10
6/15 8:00 am Car Club Challenge, Bremerton Raceway
6/19-23 Camaro Rally Sturgis, Sturgis, South Dakota
6/21 4:00 pm Car Club Challenge, Pacific Raceways, Kent
6/29 8:00 am Car Club Challenge, Bremerton Raceway
6/29 5:00 pm Quarterly Membership Meeting, North end location TBD

July

7/6 8:00 am Caffeine & Gasoline Griots Garage 3333 S38th St., Tacoma
7/9 6:00 pm Concert in the Park, Free Gig Harbor concert in Skansie Park, 3211 Harborview Dr, Gig Harbor. Bring lawn chair and your own picnic dinner and beverages. RSVP by 7/7
7/12 4:00 pm Car Club Challenge, Pacific Raceways, Kent
7/13 Chevrolet of Everett Open Car Show, Everett, WA
7/26-28 Good Guys Car Show Puyallup
7/28 9:00 am PNWCC ALL CAMARO SHOW, new location, Griot's Garage, 3333 S38th St., Tacoma

August

8/16 4:00 pm Car Club Challenge, Pacific Raceways, Kent
8/23 4:00 pm Car Club Challenge, Pacific Raceways, Kent

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 at activities@pnwcc.com

JULY 13TH
11AM - 3PM
CHEVROLET OF EVERETT presents
ANNUAL CAR SHOW
ALL PROCEEDS & DONATIONS SUPPORT
The mission of Behind the Badge Foundation is to honor law enforcement officers who have died or suffered serious injury in the line of duty. They serve as a trusted resource, providing immediate and ongoing support to families, agencies and communities in times of critical need.
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2024 All Camaro Show

July 28th, 2024

GRIOT'S GARAGE

PACIFIC N.W. Camaro CLUB

THE Heartbeat OF THE NORTHWEST

Registration:
$20.00
Active Duty:
$10.00

Bring a can of food and receive a raffle ticket for each can donated

northwest HARVEST .org

TO REGISTER ONLINE

FLOWCODE PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM

SCAN ME

Griot's Garage

3333 S. 38th St, Tacoma

9am - 2pm

New Location

PNWCC
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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