

VETTE VUES MAGAZINE



The Corvette Enthusiast's Magazine

A RARE FIND



HARVEST 1955 GOLD CORVETTE

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1ST ANN. WATKINS GLEN CORVETTE FESTIVAL
NCM SKYDOME FULL OF ICONIC CORVETTES

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A Corvette Enthusiast's Rare Find: The Captivating Story of Kevin Brady's 1955 Harvest Gold Corvette.

Shining Bright: The '55 Corvette with Matching Numbers Stands Tall. Join us as we look at this extraordinary ride.

Photo Credit William Wolf IV

A Corvette enthusiast, Kevin Brady, recently shared his rare find – a stunning 1955 Corvette boasting a 265-195 hp, V-8, Powerglide, matching numbers engine. The first year of the Corvette V-8! Kevin's '55 is Harvest Gold paint with a Yellow and Dark Green combo interior and a Dark Green Kennedy soft top. The Harvest Gold was exclusive to only 120 Corvettes produced in 1955. This automotive masterpiece was recently displayed at the prestigious Corvette Chevy Expo, captivating the hearts of car enthusiasts and historians alike. Let's delve into the fascinating story of this extraordinary vehicle and the man who owns it.

Kevin Brady's Entrepreneurial Journey

Since 1994, Kevin D. Brady has been a critical factor in the success of Satellite Logistics Group (SLG). He is renowned for inventing the Kegspediter® System, a one-of-a-kind software technology and process for reverse logistics. It has become the leader in keg management and allows users to have access to information concerning keg population, return activities, keg credit issuance, and return cost analysis in real time.

His remarkable achievements have been acknowledged, resulting in his selection as the 2004 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year®. This success was furthered in 2010 when SLG underwent a private equity transaction and was eventually acquired by Hillebrand, a worldwide leader in beer, wine, and spirits. Subsequently, DHL purchased Hillebrand in 2022, resulting in the merging of SLG with a branch dedicated to beer, wine, and spirits. Brady remains part of the SLG Leadership Team and continues to manage special projects.

Collector Kevin Brady:

Kevin Brady's remarkable business accomplishments have allowed him to add six beautiful Corvettes to his personal collection. But how and why did he get each one? Let's find out.

When Kevin turned forty-four, he was met with a profound realization - how quickly life passed. His stepfather had passed away at the same age, and Kevin decided life was to be lived. So, he purchased his first Corvette for his 45th birthday, a 1967 White Corvette.

On his 50th birthday, Kevin treated himself to a stunning 1960 Red Corvette. With the satisfaction at this milestone achievement, he had set his sights on creating the perfect trio, so he procured a 1968 C3 Blue Corvette to complete his collection.

Living on Taylor Lake in Texas, located southeast of Houston near Galveston Bay, Kevin proudly displays his red, white, and blue tribute symbolized by America's Sports Car, flanked by two American flags, on the Fourth of July and Memorial Day to the delight of passing boaters

When Kevin decided to obtain a C8 Corvette Stingray, he placed his order back in 2019. After two long years and seven months of anticipation and still no Corvette, he decided to purchase a stunning 2020 Red Corvette from a member of the Space City Corvette Club, of which he is an active member.

Next, Kevin decided to buy a 1953 Corvette - again on his January 17th birthday. Interestingly, on January 17 (1953), a prototype Corvette sports car debuted at the General Motors (GM) Motorama auto show at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City, and NBC used the occasion to celebrate the 70th anniversary, and GM's announcement of the E-Ray in an expose that included Kevin and his 1953 artifact. Watch for an upcoming article about Kevin's 1953 Corvette in VV Magazine!

On Kevin's most recent birthday, he gifted himself a stunning 1955 Corvette. According to Kevin, the classic car, finished with Harvest Gold

Say you saw it in

and a green convertible top, was manufactured on Saint Patrick's Day on March 17, 1955, in the St. Louis plant. It is truly a desirable birthday gift, and he is proud to be the custodian of such a special piece of history.

Kevin is devoted to promoting the story of Corvettes to bring others into the same wonderful world he experiences. Owning these classic cars is only part of it for Kevin – the bigger part is sharing his admiration with those who appreciate them as much as he does. His passion recently inspired him to create MyVette.com, a platform dedicated to celebrating and educating about America's iconic Corvette. It features an AI-created art gallery and provides a unique service for owners to create personalized pages showcasing their cars, leveraging AI assistance for descriptions. These pages are easily shareable across social media, via QR codes, or on car show placards, fostering a vibrant community of Corvette enthusiasts.

Kevin and Alma, a loving couple blessed with two young daughters, are lifelong supporters of the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Kevin is a dedicated ambassador representing the Space City Corvette Club. Meanwhile, Katherine and her sister Samantha are NextGen members of the NCM. It's a remarkable family legacy that is sure to continue for many years to come.

Finding Kevin's 1955 Harvest Gold Corvette:

Kevin tells VV that he had been looking for a 1955 yellow and green Corvette for a while and found the perfect one after it fell short of the reserve at Kissimmee. The Corvette was completely restored by Dominick Salvemini, the proprietor of Vette Dreams located in Long Island, New York. The full-body restoration cost \$150,000.00, producing a concours condition masterpiece.

This 1955 Corvette Roadster, VIN VE55S001129, is No. 129 of the seven hundred produced that year. Estimates are that there are only approximately 100 1955s left. Kevin purchased this car from Pro Team Corvette, who had also outbid him for another car with the same color combination at an earlier auction. The two, who had previously done business together, worked out the details of adding this special car to Kevin's collection.

The 1955 Harvest Gold Corvette with a Dark Green convertible top is not just a car: it's a symbol of the golden era of automotive design and innovation. In 1955, the Corvette was introduced in Harvest Gold, a one-time-only color. Only around 120 of these cars were produced, and Yellow did not return to the Corvette until 1958 when the 58 Vettes used Panama

Yellow. Kevin tells me that the green top was also only available on the fifty-five.





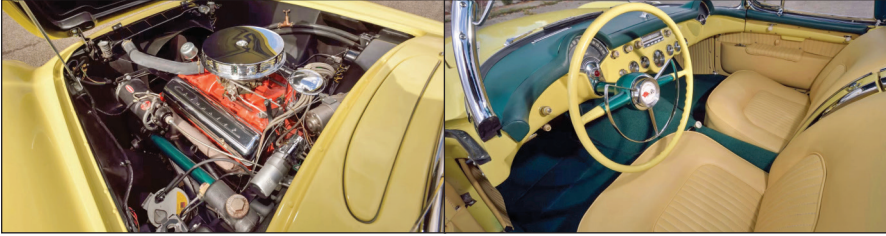
Dominick Salvemini, the owner of Vette Dreams based in Long Island, New York, conducted a complete restoration of the 1955 Harvest Gold Corvette. At a total cost of \$150,000.00, he was able to bring the car to a pristine concours condition.

Unveiling Kevins 1955 at the Corvette Chevy Expo:

Held annually, the Corvette Chevy Expo is a renowned event that gathers car enthusiasts, collectors, and vendors from around the country. It serves as a platform to celebrate the rich history and evolution of Chevrolet's iconic Corvette series. Kevin Brady's decision to unveil his '55 Harvest Gold Corvette at this prestigious event was a testament to his passion for sharing automotive history with fellow enthusiasts.

Following the Expo, Brady's Corvette took First Place C1 at the 27th annual Keels and Wheels Concours d'Elegance in Seabrook, Texas.





The big news for the 1955 Corvettes:

The fifty-fives were the first production Corvettes to feature a V-8 engine. The 1955 Corvette V8 model boasted an impressive 265 cubic inch, 195 horsepower V-8 engine with a 2-speed automatic gearbox or an optional 3-speed manual transmission. Generating a whopping 195 hp and offering up a torque of 260 lb.-ft, this model had an 8.0:1 compression ratio, wheelbase of 102 inches, length of 167 inches, and a curb weight of 2,870 lbs. Top speed was nearly 120 mph, with a 0-60 mph acceleration of 8.5 seconds and a quarter mile of 16.5 seconds. Its 18-22.5 mpg gas mileage was 2-3 mpg better than the standard six-cylinder engine.

Kevin's Corvette Makes History:

On August 24, 2017, the vehicle made history when it was driven by former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, accompanied by Pearl Harbor survivor Armando Gallela, across the newly built Mario Cuomo Bridge. Galella, who also drove across the Tappan Zee Bridge in the inaugural procession on its opening day, may be the only man to drive in two inaugural bridge openings over the same river.

And Kevin is determined to continue to have this car participate in important public celebrations, most recently transporting one of Friendswood, Texas dignitaries in their Independence Day Parade.



VIN / Serial VE55S001129 Specifications:



This restored Corvette sparkles in its unique presentation with its classic yellow and dark green interior, a Kennedy soft top, and matching numbers 265/195 HP V-8 driving a Powerglide 2-speed automatic transmission with a 3.55:1 rear end.

Almost all available options were included, such as directional signals, windshield washers, a heater, courtesy lights, a parking brake alarm, aluminized exhaust, a Wonderbar radio, 6.70-15 wide whitewall tires, and full-size wheel covers.

Kevin Brady's classic 1955 Corvette features a number of its original components, including the spare tire, jack, trunk mat, liner, side windows, window bag, rebound straps, spiral shocks, washer system, shifter, shielding, braided wires, air cleaner, generator, coil cover, distributor, hoses, hose clamps, hood alignment blocks, hood pop-ups, fuel filter, guide Y-50 mirror, owner's manual, and sales brochure.

This 1955 Corvette has documented ownership records that trace back



to 1988 and copies of titles and registrations. Moreover, there is photographic evidence of its restoration/show photos and even photos of Governor Cuomo driving this vehicle, as well as video footage.

A Colorful Connection to the Past:

Fun Fact: You can see pictures of Elfi Duntov with the '55 – '56 Duntov experimental Corvette in its Harvest Gold color and green top. Interestingly, the '55 – '56 Duntov experimental Corvette was registered in the name of Zora's wife, Elfi Duntov. In fact, Elfi drove the car far more frequently than her husband.

Although Kevin's Corvette is not the Duntov Corvette, it is painted in the stunning Harvest Gold that Elfi Duntov obviously enjoyed.

Enduring Legacy:

The remarkable 1955 Corvette continues to leave its mark on today's automotive industry. Its success established the foundation for all subsequent generations of Corvettes, a lineage of legendary American sports cars that have made an impression on fans of all ages.

In the complex history of automobiles, the 1955 Corvette stands out as an impressive blend of style, performance, and innovation. From its early beginnings as a pioneering idea by Chevrolet to the revered status, it holds now, this classic sports car has become part of the fabric of American culture. Its noteworthy history and distinct features have endeared it to car enthusiasts worldwide.

Collectors and enthusiasts value these early-year Corvettes for their historical significance and timeless appeal.

Owning a well-maintained and preserved 1955 Corvette is akin to possessing a piece of automotive history, making it a highly sought-after gem for collectors worldwide.

