

**“The Untold Story of #211 the 1953 NASCAR Corvette Unit”**

Napoleon, Ohio - - Terry Michaelis, president of ProTeam Corvette, spent 3-1/2 years and the accumulation of fourteen 3-ring binders researching the untold story of the early Corvette's participation in NASCAR sanctioned events in 1955-57. His herculean effort is important because these NASCAR Corvettes may have helped save the Corvette from the dustbin of automotive history. Engaging because of the relationship between Chevrolet Engineering and NASCAR. Captivating because of the larger than life personalities who envisioned the Corvette as America's Sportscar and the men who drove these race cars in Daytona Beach and the Carolinas.

“1953 Corvette NASCAR Unit ‘The Untold’” follows the 1953 Corvette from its delivery to ProTeam Corvette in 2010 through the complete restoration back to its race livery roots in 2014 ending with the run-up to its moment crossing the block in Scottsdale in January 2015 with a no-sale bid of two-million dollars. Its recent past is paired with historic narrative corroborated by information gleaned from GM and NASCAR archives and from the people who had first hand knowledge of #211.

The Daytona Beach NASCAR 1953 Corvette Convertible, VIN #E53F001211, Chevrolet Engineering #3950, Race #27 is one of two, a 1953 and a 1955, that were reclaimed from the depths of Chevrolet Engineering. Work was done by Chevrolet Experimental Shop and Garage, subject title: “Rebuilding of NASCAR Corvettes for Stock Car Racing.” Delivered to Smokey Yunick in Daytona Beach in time for the 7th Annual NASCAR Sanctioned Performance Trials and The Flying Mile competition in 1956. After Daytona Speed Week, the two cars raced at NASCAR's Bowman Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem, Martinsville Speedway, and the Raleigh Speedway. This Dual Branding NASCAR/Chevrolet Engineering effort involved Briggs Cunningham, John Fitch, Z.A. Duntov, Ed Cole, and over 125 engineers and several 1953 to 1955 Corvettes that culminated with a win at Sebring in 1956 with John Fitch driving a 1955 Chevrolet Engineering Corvette VIN #1194 of which helped spare the Corvette from extinction. #211 is the earliest known Corvette to ever race thus "A Pioneer of Speed".

The 50-Page NASCAR Corvette Documentary is full of interesting never before seen old photos, Chevrolet Engineering build orders, and the history of how Ed Cole and Chevrolet Engineering saved the Corvette from the chopping block. The Legends of NASCAR and the story of early Corvettes' participation in Stock Car Racing read like a who's who of 1950's Racing and automotive engineering. Places like Bowman Gray Stadium, Martinsville Speedway, Raleigh Speedway and Daytona Beach. People like Ed Cole, Bill France, Bill France, Jr., Alvin Hawkins, Joe Hawkins, Smokey Yunick, “King of Jazz” Paul Whiteman, Don Thomas, Herb Thomas, Junior Johnson, Johnny Dodson, Ralph Liguori, Bobby Myers, Pee Wee Jones, Gwyn Staley, Jimmy Massey, Hubert Westmoreland, Mauri Rose, and Chevrolet Engineering. Each plays a significant role in the story of #211.

This publication has been produced for peer review, additions, and/or corrections. Send large self-addressed stamped envelope (\$2.50) U.S. for 50-page documentary to ProTeam, PO Box 606, Napoleon, Ohio 43545 or read this fascinating documentary on our flipbook page at [NASCARCorvette.com](http://NASCARCorvette.com)

Terry Michaelis may be the single most versatile contributor to the Corvette Phenomenon. Marketer. Vendor. Dealer. Publisher. Researcher. Collector. Teacher and a car guy from Napoleon, Ohio. He is part-owner of ProTeam Corvette and has bought and sold more than 10,000 Corvettes in his storied career. Michaelis began his Corvette love affair over 40 years ago on a local car lot. By the mid-1970's, Michaelis was dubbed “King” of Corvette aftermarket parts. Michaelis and his brother, Fred, formed ProTeam Classic Corvette in 1987, where they assembled the largest most dynamic collection of classic Corvettes in the world. He has become such a world-renowned expert on Corvettes that his knowledge has been the focus of hundreds of radio interviews and newspaper articles, as well as a long list of industry publications. Terry continues to lobby for the collector Corvette community with the same passion and affection for over the top marketing that he envisioned when he hosted the MGM world premiere of Corvette Summer in 1978 and the production of “The Last Stingray” SPEEDtv miniseries in 2006 of which won a Silver Telly award. Terry is a member of the NCRS #136, SACC #32, Founding member of the National Corvette Museum, Bloomington Gold Great Hall inductee (2014), Named One of Corvette's 50 Most Influential People in 2014.

ProTeam's world famous classic Corvette collection, Napoleon, OH. The inventory of 1953 to 2003 Corvettes is open to the public in climate controlled indoor showrooms. Many of these Corvettes have been beautifully restored to like-new condition and carry prestigious honors such as the Bloomington Gold Certification, NCRS Top Flight award, and the Triple Crown designation. ProTeam Corvette is recognized as the nation's leader in classic Corvette sales, service & restoration selling an estimated 10,000+ Corvettes over the past four decades. Email: [proteam@proteamcorvette.com](mailto:proteam@proteamcorvette.com) or on the web: [www.proteamcorvette.com](http://www.proteamcorvette.com)