

# CORVETTE MUSEUM



**C**ongratulations to Ken and Jan Almer of Oro Valley, who are the winners of the National Corvette Museum's "Build Your Own" Corvette Coupe/Convertible raffle drawing. They already owned a 2002 Magnetic Red Corvette convertible, but had never been to the Museum, in Bowling Green, Kentucky, until they took delivery of their prize in February. Ken was familiar with the factory delivery program, as several members of his club, Sonoran Desert Corvettes of Tucson, have taken delivery that way. The visit was great, but the weather was bad in the Midwest in February, so they had the car shipped back to Arizona.

This is not their first Corvette, of course, not by a long shot. This is Corvette number six, though it's their first brand new one. They'd had a couple of '65s some thirty years ago, two '96 LT-4s, and most recently the 2002 Magnetic Red convertible. That one, however, was sold to make room for their new prize (and to pay the taxes on it). They've had big gaps between them at times, but have always had a Corvette since 2000.

Ken's first car was a great one: The Great One, in fact, a 1966 GTO convertible, red over black with a black top. As with many of us, he wishes he still had that one. From there, he's been through a couple of '57 Chevy convertibles, a '61 Chevy big-block bubbletop (which he also, understandably, wishes he still had), and a run of daily drivers, for a total of 45 cars including the newest Corvette.

Ken and Jan are just back from a drive in

California, but they didn't take the Corvette—too many risks on the roads there. So far, they've driven it to Phoenix and back, not on the open road. Last year, they did a road trip to the Grand Canyon, Zion National Park and New Mexico. As we go to press, they're planning a road trip to Sedona in the new Corvette, and soon they'll return to Zion ("just gorgeous with the top down, in the canyon country of Utah"), as well as one to Yellowstone and another back to Taos, NM.

His daily driver now is a Hyundai Tucson, which he finds really well-designed and well-priced, but wishes had more power in the mountains. Some altitude, headwind and the a/c running, and he misses the Corvette.

Ken and Jan say they've never won anything before, but thought they would take a chance on this raffle, and they are very glad they did. NCM has ongoing raffles; for information, visit [www.corvettemuseum.com](http://www.corvettemuseum.com) ■



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480-661-8410  
602-574-3493  
[evensonart@msn.com](mailto:evensonart@msn.com)