

RUNNING CHANGES

—Noland Adams

In response to a couple of inquiries from 1961 owners, we are investigating engine block casting numbers. The accepted casting for 1961's was 3756519 for a long time.

Then, along came an NCRS member named John Dunlap, with a problem. It seems that John's 1961 Corvette engine had an unusual engine block casting number, 3789935. John wrote an article and kept record of the replies, proving that late '61's did have a different casting number.

Now, we'd like to narrow the changeover point as much as possible. Here's what we have:

Up to and including 109354, block 3756519; After and including 109842, block 3789935.

If you have the engine number on 1961 engines from serial numbers 109000 (9,000) to 110500 (10,500), please send them in. We want the entire engine number (right front pad), casting number (left rear corner of the block), and the casting date (middle of the right rear corner of the block).

Are there any other running changes we should be checking out? Please let us know.

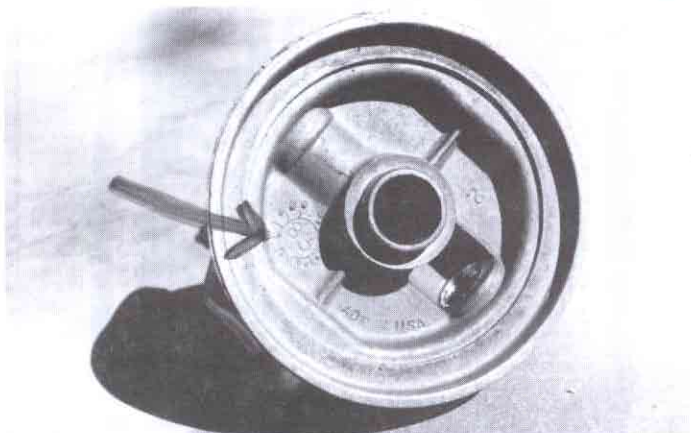
Thanks... Noland Adams

BETTER AIR FILTERS FOR YOUR 'VETTE

—Harry Cianci

The '60 - '62 'Vettes and the mid-sixties Pontiac GTO's with single four-barrel carburetors both used the same basic air cleaner assembly. However, while the 'Vette used a

(Continued next column)



Many parts manufactured in any given year carried that year stamped or casted into them. Examples of this were fuel filters, H.T. windows, engine parts, etc., even though they are correct in design and function.

Better Air Filters For Your 'Vette (Continued)

washable foam-type element, the Pontiac used a much superior throw-away paper filter. This paper air filter is available as AC #A350C, and it fits the 'Vettes perfectly.

I'm going to throw this next one at you as a theory only, as I've never tried it. The '54-'55 six-cylinder 'Vettes use two chrome-plated air cleaners which appear to be very similar to the '37-'47 Chevy truck units. These air filters use a chore-girl type steel mesh element that is about as effective a filter as a chain-link fence. I believe that the Harley-Davidson paper element will fit these Corvette air filters if you lengthen the stud slightly. Ask for AC #A72C.

Let me know how this works.

Hardtop Filler Plate (1956 - 1960)

—Roy Braatz, Jr.

I've gone to many Corvette shows and spent many hours comparing cars against each other. One thing I've noticed with hardtops is this: Some have the filler plate covering the end of the long inside S/S (Fig. #), but most do not.

I didn't give this much thought until I was approached with the question of whether all cars had this plate or not. Well, I researched it and can say that it is my belief that all Corvette hardtops from 1956 - 1960 came with these filler plates installed. The reason that many of them fell out was because they were brazed in with copper. Copper doesn't adhere too well to S/S.

The next time you're at a show, see how many cars have these plates. I've seen quite a few cars with one and the other missing.

It's just another one of those little things that other people might not consider that important, but I made sure that my 1957 'Vette had them both.



Fig. 1 — Filler Plates