Q: I had my 1966 Corvettes judged at Bloomington three years ago and really enjoyed the experience. I also have a 1963 Split Window that I would like to get judged. It is highly original – never been painted and I think much of the engine is the real deal. It is Daytona Blue with a Black interior. I have been told that it came with saddle interior… I think black looks much better. I've checked and all the previous owners, second thru fifth, say the car had black interior when they owned it. I do not have any original docs to verify how it was when new. I would like to *Go For The Gold* with my 63 and see if I can get Gold Certified like my 66. Looking for your advice.   Bill

A: Bill. Congratulations on achieving Gold with your 1966 Corvette! Let's dive into the details of your 1963 blue Corvette. A key part of the Certification judging is to confirm the exterior and interior finishes of a Corvette appear as it left the factory. Additionally, we review the engine stampings and vehicle tags to confirm that the car's drivetrain appears as it was when it left the factory. The Trim Tag tells us what color and what material (vinyl / leather) a Corvette was originally equipped with when it was manufactured. You say that others have told you that your Corvette originally came with saddle interior. This would be identified with the data on the Trim Tag on the interior of the car; the Trim Tag would identify if the car came with a saddle color interior or black interior. If your car originated with saddle interior and now has black interior, Bloomington Gold Certification judging would be limited to no higher than Silver Certification. If the Trim Tag indicates your car originated with the black interior, then you are eligible for all Certification awards. So, it would be best to have someone knowledgeable read your Trim Tag and decode the information for you.

Any questions….. contact **Wise Guy**   guy@bloomingtongold.com