

# October 2002



Not to worry, complete catastrophe was averted!  
During the past month your diligent newsletter



staff, in its normal quest for bigger, better, and faster, installed, yet, another computer program, but it was loaded with

something that rendered the Official Queen City Corvette Club Newsletter Computer and Keyboard completely useless. Our highly paid staff of technicians stared at the mess and asked the

stupid question, "Dad, you've got a backup, don't you?" Well, y'all know the answer to that. Hell, No! Real men don't do backups! We spent a week restoring as much as we could find from scraps of paper and old floppies, but there were some things that were lost forever. We'll do our best to cobble together the same quality publication we've published in the past, but some things might be a little less classy, just bear with us.

Now to the fun stuff. Our annual trek to the beach this year was to Hilton Head. Our travel page editor said this event redlined the fun-o-meter. As you can see from the picture below the good times were just beginning.

## "The Club's Monthly Croaker"

We're not always right, but we're sure of it!

### Our Pledge:

To take the simple, and complicate it,  
To take the incomprehensible, and merely confuse it,  
To make 10% of our news factual, we're just not sure which 10% it is.  
But...you'll always get your money's worth!

## 2002 production numbers - Late, but not lost!

Yikes! The most popular color for the last 17 years has finally been dethroned  
See page 20

(Sung to the tune of Gilligan's Island)

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale,  
a tale of a fateful trip.  
That started from this tropic port,  
aboard this tiny ship.



# SS Minnow

# Queen City Corvette Club, Inc.

## 2001 Officers

President	John Meadows	846-4016 –H 841-2233 –O	<a href="mailto:jmeadows@cmgsales.com">jmeadows@cmgsales.com</a>
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Director of Automotive Events	Robert Morgan	844-0205 – H	<a href="mailto:rmvette@aol.com">rmvette@aol.com</a>
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Queen City Corvette Club (QCCC) newsletter is published monthly by volunteers and members of QCCC. Subscription rates are free for members. Guests can receive up to three months of newsletter issues, and then are removed from mailing list if they haven't participated in any QCCC events. Cost for postage and production is paid for through membership dues. Membership list and financial data are not published for guest copies. For change of address and all other QCCC inquiries, write to: **Queen City Corvette Club, P.O. Box 473072, Charlotte, NC 28247**. QCCC is a non-profit club (501-C7), which raises money for and participates with various local children's charities. Dues and donations are not tax deductible. We strive to promote exciting, safe & fun ways to enjoy our Corvettes. We hold business meetings on the second Saturday of each month. Our monthly business meeting usually incorporates a social time afterwards. Our socials are always fun and are focused around food & drink. We've had swimming parties, bar-b-ques, cookouts, day trips and weekend trips. We participate in mountain tours, holiday parades and several homecoming parades at local area high schools. We also participate with several sister Corvette clubs in car shows, drag racing, and autocrossing. After an initiation fee of \$7.00, club dues are only \$8.00 a month, per family, and are to be paid quarterly. These dues go to cover the costs of running the club, mailing newsletters, and subsidizing the costs of our meetings. Club officers serve as volunteers.

To become a member of the QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB, you must own a Corvette and attend at least three (3) monthly business meetings and two (2) events within a six-month time period. Express your wishes for membership during a monthly business meeting, be voted in and begin paying dues.



September 29, 2002

Dear Fellow QCCC Members,

You sure wouldn't know that summer was supposed to be over. We had another fantastic month. We finally realized how we can help Charlotte and the surrounding area with the water shortage, all we have to do is plan a meeting up at the Huntersville Aquatic center. The last three meetings we have had up there produced rain. We still had a great turnout in spite of the precipitation.

Our trip to Hilton Head was great. We had over 60 members attend this outing. You will have to read further in the newsletter to learn more about some of the things that went on. A MOBILE HOUSE? I hear that Larry and Lois DeMontegre were even welcomed by the local police and he didn't even notice the burned out tail light. The area we were staying in Hilton Head was great. It was really neat see all these Yachts and dream. If you didn't get to go this time be sure to talk to someone who did. Remember in November we have our mountain trip. I think reservations can still be made. See Nancy for further details.

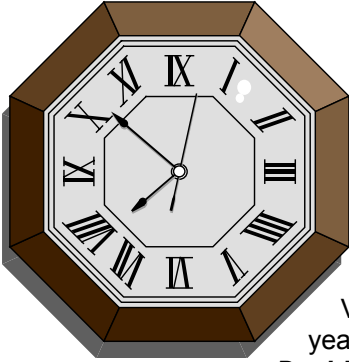
It's getting the time of year that we must start planning for next year. We will be asking for nominations for officers at our next meeting. Several officers are interested in returning next year, but if you would like to serve or know someone who would be interested then be sure to let someone on the board know or be at the next meeting. This meeting is our annual Chili cook off. Be sure to bring you favorite dish. This is always a popular meeting so don't miss out. I look forward to seeing you there.

We also have parades and cars shows coming up this month. Break out the polish and get the cars shinned for these events. There are still a lot more events for everyone, no matter what your interest. Be sure to check out all the upcoming exciting events. Remember, this calendar of events will be in each newsletter and will be kept up to date on the QCCC Website at:

[www.queencitycorvette.com](http://www.queencitycorvette.com).

Again, I encourage everyone to get involved in our club. The more you are involved, the more you will enjoy the your Corvette!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.



## Minutes from QCCC Meeting Saturday, September 14, 2002

The September business meeting of QCCC was held at the Huntersville Community Center, Huntersville, NC. Officers in attendance: John Meadows, Nancy Runnion, Robert Morgan, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt. President John Meadows called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Visitors were asked to stand up, introduce themselves, and tell what year Corvette they have: **Bob & Debbie Lawthers** – 1999 White Coupe, **David & Donna Sigman** – 2000 Pewter Coupe, and **Ed & Elyse Williams**

– 2002 Black Z06.

**NEW MEMBERS** voted in: **David Sigman** and **Ed & Elyse Williams!**

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to amend the August meeting minutes to read: ...  
“A motion was made, seconded, and *tabled to make a donation to the National Corvette Museum (NCM)*. *It was then stated that the NCM would be added to the list of charities the Charity Committee will consider.*”

**John Meadows**, President

- Asked **Dave Gregorino** to share his & **Jane's** adventures on the NCM's Historic Motorama from Flint, MI to Bowling Green, KY in their 1967 along with 49 other Corvettes. Dave has a photo album to share, and a cap with significant autographs to view.
- Asked **Vanessa Krimminger** to share her & **Robert's** impressions of the Corvettes at Carlisle Show – “Overwhelming”
- Told us about the fantastic tour of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass factory arranged by **Boyd Kurt**.
- Has information on dual cup holders for C5s – no drilling necessary.
- At the next meeting, nominations will be taken for the 2003 Officers. Elections will be held in November.

**Robert Morgan**, Automotive Events Director & Charity Committee Chairman reported:

- 6 of the 7 Charity Committee members met tonight to discuss where donations should be made. There is \$950 in the account with another \$500 coming from the City Chevrolet Car Show and possibly another car show later this year. We need to keep \$300 in the account for food for our Christmas families. Charities being considered (suggested by QCCC members) are: NCM, Hospice, Speedway Children's Charities, Loaves & Fishes, Thompson Children's Home, NC Wildlife Endowment, Disaster Relief of NC, MedAssist, & Spinal Bifida. A vote is needed tonight on a donation to the NCM since funds are needed by October 31 to assist in a land purchase. **Dave Gregorino** described the NCM's purpose and activities. Also discussed: (1) if not enough funds are donated, the Museum will have to borrow the balance to buy the land, (2) charities are not mentioned in the Purpose section of the QCCC Bylaws, so we are not obligated to make donations, (3) donations to the NCM can be made from the Charity Account and/or the General Fund, (4) a discrepancy in the Charity Account on the Treasurer's Report appears to be a donation made to the Stars & Stripes Caravan – Gary Artis, Treasurer will be notified. Motions were made, seconded, and approved to donate \$500 from the Charity Account, and \$500 from the General Fund to the National Corvette Museum to assist in their land purchase.

- Homecoming Parades – requests usually come at the last minute, so when he sends e-mails asking for cars, RSVP immediately. Invitations have been received from:  
North Mecklenburg Christian Academy – Sept 20  
Mint Hill Parade – Sept 28  
West Mecklenburg – Oct 18  
Cornelius Parade & Car Show – Oct 26
- October 5 Car Show at City Chevrolet 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Need at least 35 cars.

**Nancy Runnion**, Director of Social Events reported:

- October 12 - Meeting will be at Alpine Village at 5:30. Bring chili or Mexican dish. A road rally will be held at 3:00 that day with a \$5 entry fee and a 50/50 split with the winner. An e-mail will be sent with details.
- October 13 – Leaf trip to a buffet luncheon at the Red Rocker Inn. Nancy needs \$19.50 per person by October 5. Depart Exit 36 on I-77 at 10:00 am.

**Jon Elliott**, Social Events Committee Member reported:

- September 20 – Beach Trip to Hilton Head, SC. 31 couples so far, rooms are still available. Groups leaving at 8:00 am and 9:00 am. **Al Smith** will lead the 9:00 group to Atley's BBQ in Orangeburg.
- October 20 – Day trip to Fancy Gap VA for lunch and a winery tour. Depart Exit 49 on I-85 (Speedway Blvd) at 10:00 am.
- November 15 – Mountain Trip to Lake Lure, NC. See fliers for details.

**Eddie Burt**, Director of Membership reported:

- Membership to date: 111 families, 185 people

**Bruce Goodrich**, QCCC member reported:

- Stephen King, pictured in his wheelchair on page 14 of the Aug/Sept issue of the America's Sports Car magazine from the NCM, was in a serious accident with an 18 wheeler. Please include him in your thoughts and prayers.
- Firestone Tires at Eastland Mall will match lowest tire prices.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jane Burt*, Secretary

## QCCC OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY September 24, 2002

The September officers' meeting was held at Artis & Associates office, Charlotte, NC. Officers present were John Meadows, Wendy Krupowicz, Gary Artis, Nancy Runnion, Robert Morgan, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt. President John Meadows called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### John:

It was decided that John would notify the no-shows at the Hilton Head sailboat ride that they need to reimburse Jon Elliott since the price per person was based on 100% participation of those who said they wanted to sail.

Capital City Corvette Club in Columbia SC has invited us to join them on Dec 21 for a tour & dinner at the Biltmore House & Winery for \$66 per person. John will share with the club.

Will send a letter along with a check for \$1,000 to the National Corvette Museum.

Will e-mail the membership to encourage consideration for running for QCCC Board positions.

Names will be taken at the Oct meeting & afterwards, those people will be contacted & asked if they will run.

### Nancy:

**Oct 12** meeting - the Road Rally before the meeting has been cancelled due to lack of response.

**Oct 20** trip to a winery – having a picnic instead of a buffet lunch because the restaurant has closed.

**Nov 9** meeting - will be in Huntersville (bring an umbrella since it always rains there).

**Nov 15** Lake Lure weekend - \$12.50 per person is needed for the Hoe Down - give \$ to Gary.

**Dec 14** meeting/Holiday Banquet – the Oasis facility is beautiful. Dinner will be choice of prime rib or chicken, green beans, potatoes & dessert. Cost is \$22 per person, however a decision was made for the club to subsidize \$4 per person, so each attendee will pay only \$18. The gift exchange will have a \$10 maximum. Gifts for our needy families will be collected at that time.

Will contact A Child's Place for families to sponsor at Christmas – will request 3 families with 5 or more children.

### Wendy:

Is still accumulating points for Club Participation Awards.

### Robert:

**Sept 28** Mint Hill Parade – we're carrying the Miss Mecklenburg's

**Oct 5** City Chevrolet Car Show – 40 cars have signed up so far!

### Gary:

Reviewed dues payment status & Budget status.

Verified the discrepancy brought up at the Sept meeting was for the Stars & Stripes and has been corrected on the current Treasury Report.

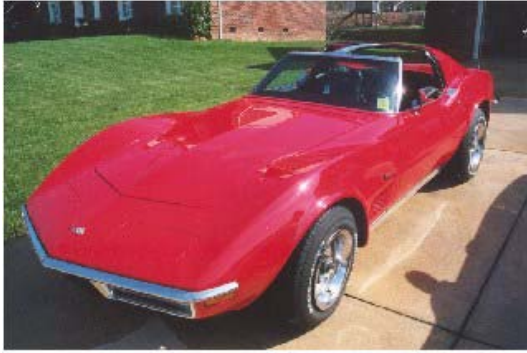
### Eddie:

Mentor Program is resurrected – have 6 new mentors.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jane Burt*, Secretary



# Automotive Events

Many thanks to all who put on the Hilton Head trip this past weekend. If you missed it, you missed a good time! And oh, what lively dinner conversations we had! These get away trips certainly bring out the best in people!

As most noticed in the previous newsletter, my car experienced a small problem on the way back from Carlisle. When the weld breaks and your muffler falls off traveling down the interstate, you don't even need to consider a Bora exhaust system! It's certainly loud enough without one muffler! All is well now after a trip to the Vette doctor and the wound has mended.

**Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** will be our second fund raiser at **City Chevrolet, 5101 East Independence Blvd** from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. City Chevrolet will be donating \$500.00 plus money for our trophies. I've scheduled 6 trophies, one of each class, and one dealer's choice award. I have approximately 40 cars signed up for this event! I'll be putting cars in each of their classes, so if you haven't told me you're coming, I need to know as soon as possible. That way I'll leave enough space in the lot for each group of cars. We'll see how it works out!

**Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** is a homecoming parade at West Mecklenburg High School where we'll be carrying the homecoming beauty queens. We need to be at the school at 6:00 PM and the parade starts before the game at 6:30 PM. I'll need 12 cars for this one.

**Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>** we have been asked to provide cars for the Cornelius Celebration, in downtown Cornelius helping the city raise money for Habitat for Humanity. They will also donate to our charity fund \$500.00 but without any trophies. Starting time is around 9:00 AM and should end around 4:00 PM. If you need to arrive late or leave early, the director said that's okay! The director also has asked if we could parade the cars down the center of town to further show them off! We won't carry anyone in the parade of cars. Presently I have 10 cars signed up and more would help the charity cause!

Speaking of charity causes, over the past month a charity committee has been formed from 6 members requesting to be part of the decision on who should receive monies from our charity fund. The committee met before the last club meeting to discuss suggestions sent to me in regards of possible charities to consider. One of the requests brought before the committee was to donate some of our funds to the National Corvette Museum to help in purchasing the land that sets in front of their building. The request for money for the land fund is different from other donations the club has made in the past to the NCM, and goes solely in helping to purchase this property. The NCM land fund request was ending October 31<sup>st</sup>, so this was a request that needs immediate attention. The committee recommended that a portion of the charity fund be used, and a portion of the general fund be used to help the NCM. This was placed before the membership at the last meeting, and after a lively discussion it was voted to use \$500.00 from our charity fund and \$500.00 from our general fund to help the Museum meet its goals. The charity committee will continue to meet between now and the end of the year to discuss other needy charities that have been suggested. Thanks for everyone's help!

Until next time.... Save the wave!

*Robert*



**Business Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month**

Date	Event	Food	Cost	Time
	<b>OCTOBER</b>			
5th	Car Show @ City Chevrolet			9:00am
12th	Club Meeting Alpine Village, Charlotte	Mexican		5:30pm
12th	Petit LeMans Road Atlanta American LeMans Series C5R			
13th	Leaf Tour to Black Mountain & Red Rocker Inn (See Page 11)	Buffet	19.50	
20th	Picnic on the Parkway Blue Ridge Parkway (See Page 23)			9:30am
	<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
9th	Club Meeting Huntersville Aquatic & Fitness Center			
15-17th	Mountain Trip to Lake Lure (See Page 24)		TBA	
	<b>DECEMBER</b>			
14th	Christmas Meeting Gift Exchange Oasis Shriners	Menu	TBA	
	<b>JANUARY '03</b>			
25 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Banquet - Renaissance Inn – Charlotte			

**This just in from Walt Krupowicz:**

I was on the WEB looking up info on David Farmer. (an occasional visitor to QCCC, and a Corvette racer from Albemarle) <http://www.metricchemical.com/motorsport.html> He initiated a petition for GM to help support small race teams.

***Below is my email reply to David after signing the petition:***

I have just read and signed the online petition "GM Support of SPEED World Challenge Racing" hosted on the web by PetitionOnline.com, the free online petition service, at:

<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/c5corvet/>

I personally agree with what this petition says, and I think you might agree, too. If you can spare a moment, please take a look, and consider signing yourself.

Best wishes,

Walt Krupowicz

***Below is copied from the Corvetteforum racing discussion section:***

I have been discussing GM's involvement in our racing series with the new Racing Boss, Jeff Kettman. GM currently has no involvement in the SPEED World Challenge series, and the lack of support is hurting our effort. If you would, please take a moment to fill out the simple petition form at the site listed below. Your support is appreciated.

David Farmer  
 #35 SPEED GT  
<http://www.petitiononline.com/c5corvet/petition.html>



# QCCC's Pick-An-Event

## Club Monthly Meetings

Huntersville -Aquatic/Fitness Center

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:30

Matthews Area

Oct 12<sup>th</sup> - Alpine Village- 5:30

## Day Trips/Events

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> - Car Show City Chevrolet 9am

Oct 13<sup>th</sup> - Leaf Tour to Black Mountain. Lunch at Red Rocker Inn (see Page 11)

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> - Picnic on the Parkway Blue Ridge Parkway (See Page 23)

## Weekend Trips

Nov 15-17<sup>th</sup> - Mountain Trip - Lake Lure & Chimney Rock (See Page 24)

## Banquet

Jan 25, 2003 - Renaissance Inn, Charlotte

## Christmas Party 2002

Dec 14<sup>th</sup> - Shrine Oasis Club at University Place

## Races

Oct 12<sup>th</sup> - Petit Lemans, Road Atlanta C5R is racing

## Another C6 Sighting

This new C6 prototype was spotted in downtown Troutman, (the trend setting epi-center of the fashion world) by our ever-vigilant newsletter staff. The word is the C6 would be shocking and with that, we have to agree. Notice all the cutting edge technology involved in this model.

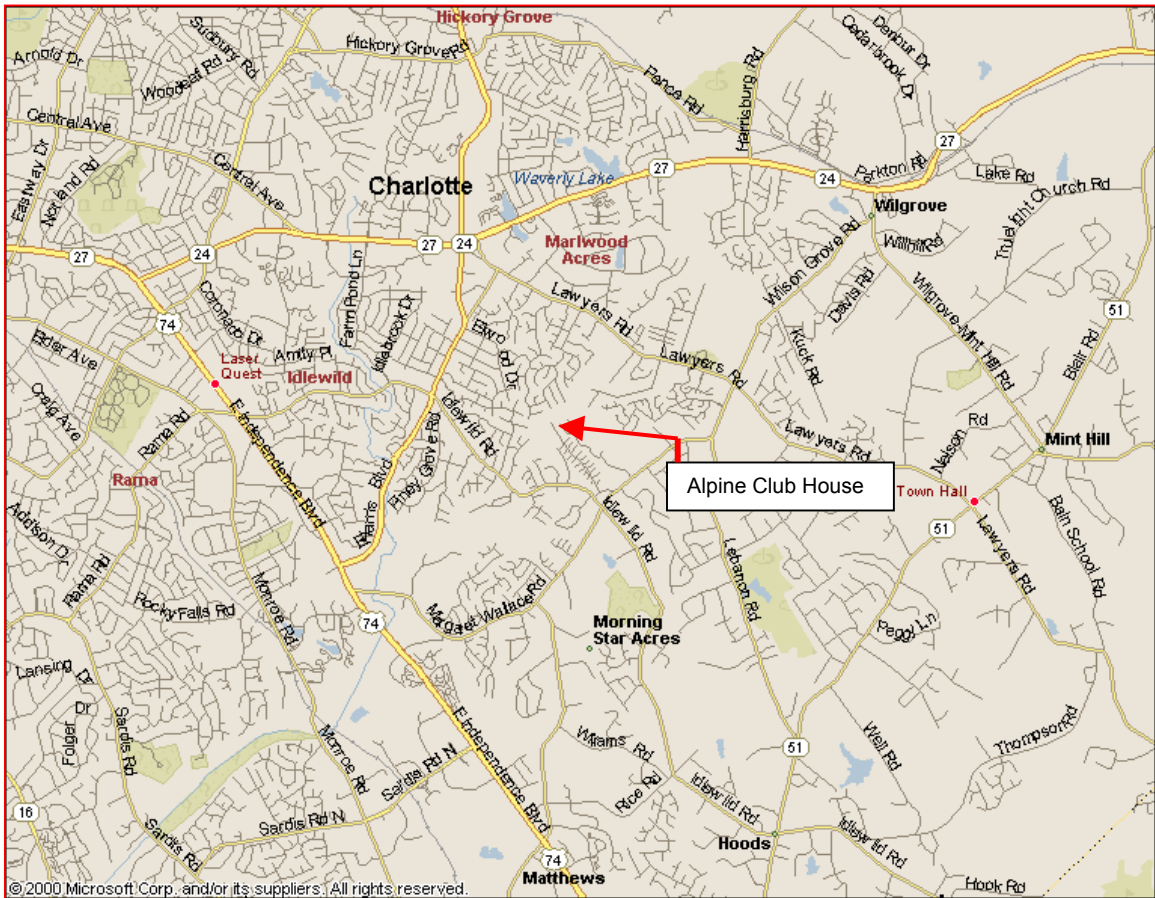


Quad exhausts, aligned at different angles for more thrust

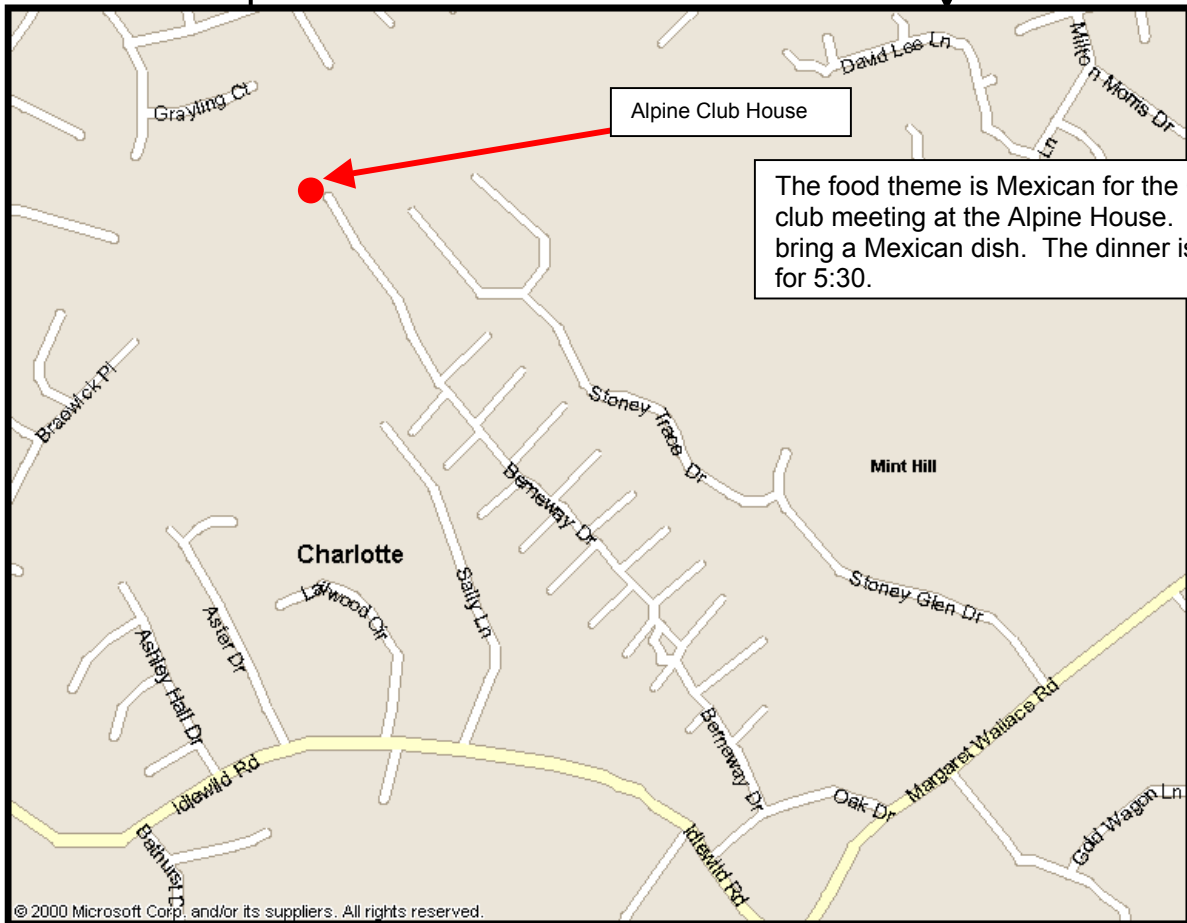
2, not 1, but 2, wings for added downforce

Super high torque twin Corvette & Chevy insignias

High Speed chrome heat extractors (If Bayne sees these, he'll order some)

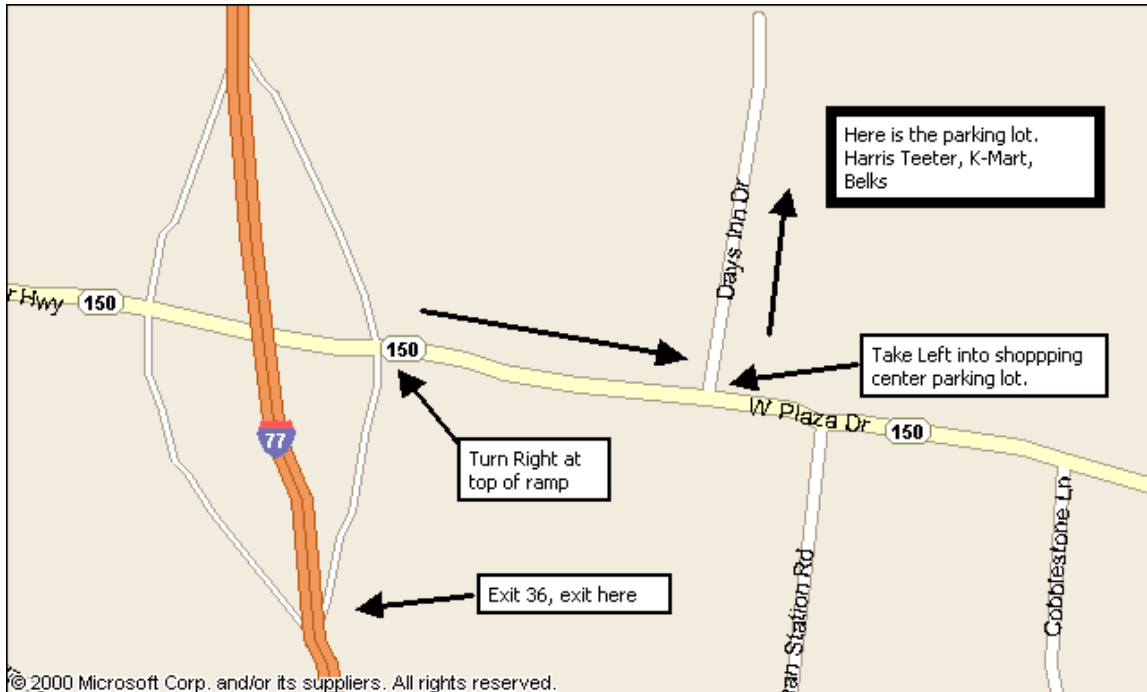


↑ Maps to the Alpine House in East Charlotte ↓



At the club meeting this month Mexican food and chili are the order of the day, so please bring a Mexican-styled dish or chili to the meeting.

For those planning to go on the **Red Rocker** trip on October 13, you must send \$19.50 per person to Nancy Runnion by **October 5<sup>th</sup>**. The caravan will be leaving from Exit #36 on I-77 in Mooresville at 10:00 am. (Map below) We will be eating at 1:00, so please be gassed (uhhh...we mean gas tanks filled) & on time.



## New Acquisitions

WALL STREET, NEW YORK, NY - This month the **Mergers and Acquisitions Division** of the QCCC would like to announce the following acquisitions:

**Betsy & Jon Elliott:** It is a 2003, Electron Blue convertible with black top & black interior. 6-speed, polished wheels, 12 disc & all the stuff that comes along with the 1SB option package. It was built the last week in August '02. This foster 'Vette was adopted from Diamond Chevrolet in Charlotte. The Elliott's will give this Vette lots of TLC & a warm garage to rest in. This car looks like it is the official parade vehicle of the Carolina Panthers....or maybe Your Top Cats cheerleaders.

As a side note to the Elliott's acquisition, consider these coincidences:

Can you say **17**?.....They bought the car on the **17<sup>th</sup>**, which was also their **17<sup>th</sup>** wedding anniversary, it is their **17<sup>th</sup>** 'Vette, and the last 2 digits of the car's VIN is **17**. Go figure the odds of all that.

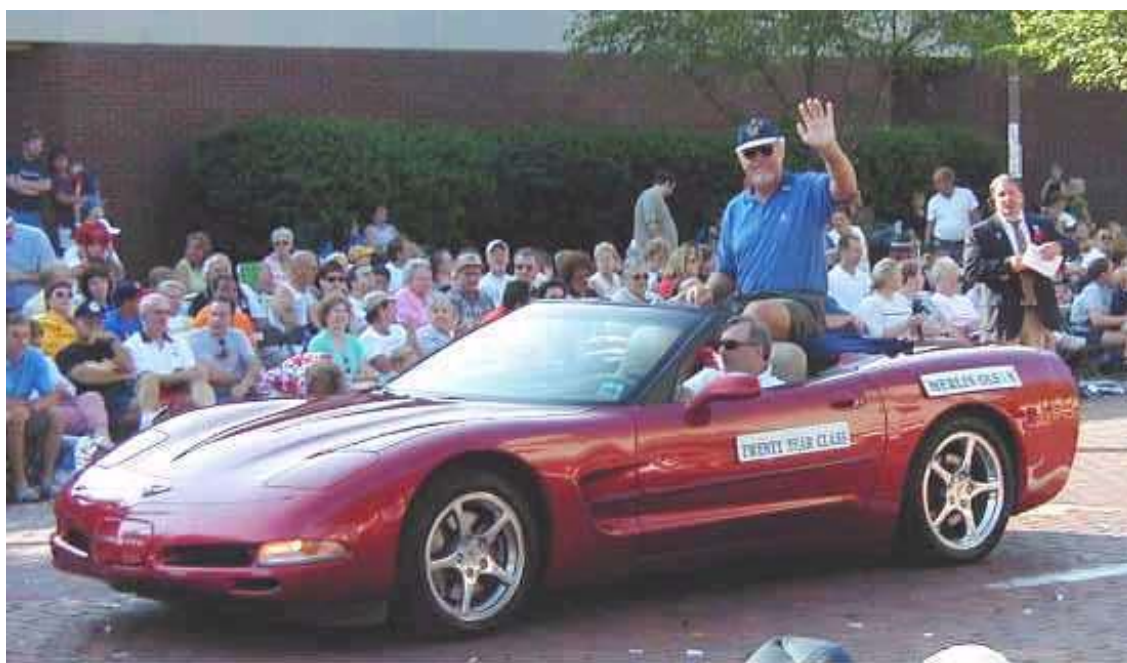


## PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME ENSHRINEMENT CEREMONIES AUGUST 3, 2002

by Jim Weisberg

For the second time, I participated in the Pro Football Hall of Fame parade and induction ceremonies in Canton, Ohio. Football is my favorite sport and rubbing elbows with the elite players of the game is quite a thrill for me. Last year I was not prepared for what was to happen, but this year I was fully prepared and looking forward to meeting some of my heroes.

Kay and I left Charlotte on Friday and traveled to Belpre, Ohio to the home of Dee and Connie Rader. Dee had gotten me my initial invitation last year to participate in the parade and festivities for the enshrinement ceremonies, and I requested a return trip. My request was granted and the day was finally here. We had to be in Canton by 6:30 am on Saturday, which means we had to leave by 4 am. I wasn't sure how much sleep I was going to get, but that didn't matter. I was about to meet some of my heroes, and to see the best the NFL had to offer. Dee and I were both excited about going and the wives were excited for us, especially since they could go shopping at Fenton Glass and Middleton Doll Factory without us complaining about what they spent. As was the case last year, this trip cost me plenty...but it was worth every penny!!



Dee and I left early Saturday morning and made it to Canton with time to spare. We were assembled in a parking lot with plenty of security around us. The 2002 enshrinees were put into Jaguar convertibles (we can't account for poor taste here) and the Hall of Famers were put into our corvettes. There were other convertibles for the common folk. The organization here was excellent. They looked as if they had done this before. We were guided into a garage where they attached the placards on the sides of our cars, and then moved onto a side street where our riders were escorted out of a building and into our cars. Dee was not allowed to ride in the car with me, but he was right there taking pictures. We got to see and talk to the greatest football

players to ever play the game. Most of them were really nice guys and were very congenial. We were not allowed to ask for autographs, though.

The parade kicked off at 7:15 AM and the inductees were at the front of the parade. Once they got off, they looked for that special Vette to carry one of the more popular players. Of course they picked me! My special rider was **Merlin Olsen** from the LA Rams. For those of you not familiar with the "**Fearsome Foursome**", Merlin also starred in Little House on the Prairie and he was the FTD Florists spokesperson. He is a very large and friendly guy. (See picture above - he's the one in the hat ).

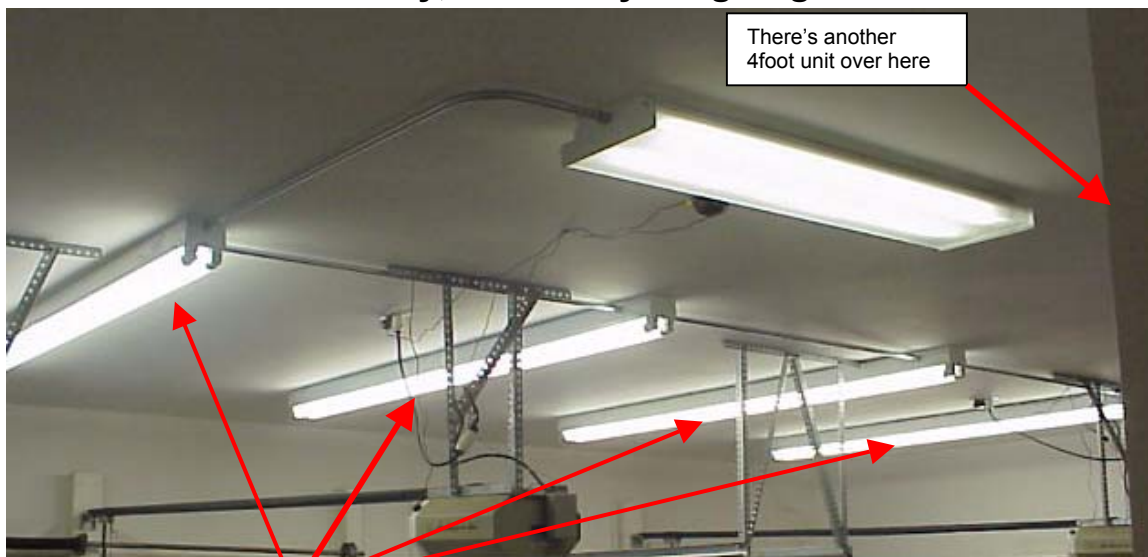
We traveled along a 2½-mile parade route with security on both sides of the car and 225,000 screaming fans along the route. It was the crowning moment of the day. This parade was over 2 ½ hours long and I loved every minute of it. It included several large floats, huge balloon figures, and several marching bands. It was truly a magnificent sight to see. After the parade, they herded all the corvettes with the players into a separate and secure parking lot. We were helped out of our vehicles, offered drinks and snacks, and a chance for a "potty break". After a brief rest, we took our Hall of Fame riders to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. When they saw us coming, the barriers and crowds parted like the Red Sea as we drove up to the front door. Our riders were whisked away and I was once again just a commoner and told to drive back out again. I went back to pick up Dee and we headed back to the Hall of Fame for the enshrinement ceremonies. Parking was at a premium and the local neighborhood was offering parking on their lawns for a fee. Dee and I found the same nice lady who owned the lot where we parked the car last year and she even remembered us. We walked down to the Hall of Fame and for the first time, the ceremonies were being held in the stadium. We watched the ceremonies unfold and broiled in the hot sun, but the day was most enjoyable.

Another in a series of unforgettable experiences. Corvette owners certainly do have all the fun!!

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### Okay, show us your garage!



We just installed these 4 new lights in the official QCCC newsletter offices' garage... We now have 2- 4foot units with 2 bulbs each, and 4- 8foot units with 2 bulbs each in them, that's a total of 80 feet of light in the garage. Welding goggles are now required. **LOUDER, HARDER, FASTER....and now... BRIGHTER!!!!** Ain't America great! God bless Duke Power.

Show us some good stuff you have in your garage. Send us a picture and we'll publish it, and if you request, it will remain anonymous.

# Our September Meeting in Huntersville

I bet I can keep my arms crossed longer than you!

OK, I'll bet you!

I make a motion we fire Arthur Andersen as auditor of the Charity Committee.

Does that mean we're selling our shares of Enron?



## ....and the QCCC Choir



Rock of Ages,  
Rock of Ages ....

Doggone, that Ed can sing. If he'd let me see that hymnal I could bellow a tune myself.



**How 'bout a BIG HOWDY to our newest members!**



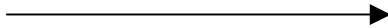
**David & Donna Sigman**

They have a 2000 Pewter coupe.



**Ed & Elyse Williams.**

They have a 2002 Black Z06



..and see that island over there, Jim? That's Africa.

I wonder if Dan knows he has that thing hanging out of his nose?

That University of South Carolina education was worth every penny Fred paid for it.

# Hilton Head

The club had 64 members participate in the Hilton Head trip. Thanks go to Jon Elliott and the social committee for putting together such a great weekend!



To the right are Ray & Patty Stonitsch and Benny & Rene' Frazier enjoying the evening.



Lynne & Chuck Sollard, smiling as always.

Below is Debbie Hord

Let's twist again, like we did last summer. Uh-oh, that guy with a camera caught me dancing.



Dave & Donna Sigman







*Robert Denney*  
Moorestville, NC 28115  
704/662-0000  
rddenney@alltel.net



## Tales from the Caravan

Well, here it is the Monday morning after another fantastic QCCC weekend. As I have said before, you folks that don't take advantage of these weekend trips really are missing some most memorable moments. For example, Friday morning the second group of QCCC Corvettes assembled at the South Carolina Welcome Center to fortify themselves for the perils of highway travel. Knowing that Corvettes can brave anything and everything, we dropped our tops... pulled up our skirts and proceeded to leave the Welcome Center in an orderly fashion. Al Smith lead the group of 12 Corvettes onto the SC Interstate at a brisk pace... wanted to miss the chuckholes you know. Everything progressed smoothly to the recycling stop where we picked up the wayward Patty & Ray Stonitsch who were joining us from their new home in Greenville. On to the Bar B Q food.... Al, you done good... and so was the food.

With lunch over we jumped back into our trusty steeds and wound thru some beautiful streamside roads toward our goal of US 21 south. Knowing once there we could start the boogie toward I-95. Low and behold what to our blood shot eyes should appear but ... no, not a little old driver, but a 3 bedroom house right in the middle of the road. Being the courteous drivers that we were and knowing that nothing, well, almost nothing except maybe a house in the middle of the road could slow our Corvettes we proceeded to follow the house. After a brisk 12 mph cruise for 30 to 45 minutes, Al went up to the house and challenged it to a race... you know just to break the routine. Al even gave it a 3 block head start, then he cried "to the right and don't spare the horses"... to the right we flew to the first stop sign, with tires screeching and smoke flying we turned left and flew down to the next stop sign, again with the tires screeching and the rubber flying we turned left; more smoke and more rubber, the tension was threatening ... would we beat the house, or would we have to say uncle and eat our pride? At the last traffic signal we turned back right on our original path and looking in our rearview mirrors we saw we had finally beaten that horrible roadhogging house and we could settle back and enjoy the ride.



Wouldn't you know it, Mother Nature saw how badly we had beaten one of her favorite houses and she called up some rain. If you remember, some of the Corvettes were topless, so it was screeching stops again for most, Gina said she had been meaning to shampoo her seats and this would kill two birds with one stone. Cruisin' on down US21 we reached I-95 where our Leader/Guide decided to relinquish the leadership role. Yours truly assumed the process of guiding the charging steeds on toward our goal, Harbour Town Resorts on Hilton Head Island. With few problems from traffic signals, and toll boxes, we proceeded fairly smoothly to the Island where we picked up our "Guest Passes." Then on to the Resort itself and check in. Waiting on us outside of the lobby was the first crew. They had surveyed the scene and determined the best method of attack. And attack we did, getting checked in and a few minutes of rest before the reception in the Harbour Town Yacht Club. We joined the other groups and George & Theresa Tilton for some serious picture taking and reminiscing. Wished Jon & Betsy happy anniversary, then it was time for dinner at the Quarter Deck. The food and conversation culminated the start of another perfect QCCC weekend.

Saturday dawned with breakfast on the shore and then on to Beaufort, for some sight seeing and lunch. By this time this driver had to replenish the feed supply of this trusty steed before proceeding much further, see the house really sapped his oats. Then on to the afternoon's diversion of a sailboat ride to calm the nerves. (Remember the house race... real stressful)

Some decided their nerves weren't a bit frazzled so they visited the outlet shops, obviously seeing a need to help the local economy.

As there was nothing planned for Saturday evening E.O. & Anne, John & Linda, Bob & Sandy set out to find the ultimate dining pleasure. Let me tell you, E.O. picked one that approached perfection. We set out to find this superb location. Now remember this was on the other side of the Island, but locate it we did. Checking we found that we could be seated immediately. With the start of dinner a piano player started to tickle the ivories with gusto! Folks, let me ask you, what could be a better way to complete a weekend than a wonderful dinner, beautiful music and fantastic people who we call friends?



(Thanks to Jane Burt, John Babb and Bob Denney for the photos)

## News from Hilton Head.....

We just got a call from the Hilton Head police department telling us we had two members **still** driving around the traffic circle in Hilton Head and they looked tired and hungry. If anyone has Dan & Beth's cell phone number, call and tell them to turn right at the first opportunity.

We had 2 other members get lost while walking back to their condo, so we recommend everyone to drop breadcrumbs when leaving their condos. Right, Fred and Caroline?

Oh...and if you see Gina heading for Alabama, turn her around and send her back to Hilton Head, otherwise she'll be late for the sail boat ride.

# ZES-TEEE!!!!

Sometimes we are surprised at the outside interests some of our fellow members have. Did you know we had a couple of members who participated in Thespian activities? These 2 QCCC members are just too modest to tell us about their hidden talents. These guys answered a casting call we made for the Peter Pan SmackDown Extravaganza we planned for a meeting later in the year.

Looks like Hollywood is in someone's future. Doggone, those tights are nice! Oh Yeah, Baby!



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## Another New Horizon

Donna Littlejohn, an avid 'Vette devotee without peer, a past member of the QCCC, and now the founder of Capitol City Corvette Club ( <http://www.capitolcitycorvetteclub.com> ) in Columbia, SC, has started another new venture. It is "centered on the FEMALE Corvette owner/enthusiast with no luck in finding anything...and is interested in Corvettes and related activities." Here is the link:

<http://www.femalecorvetteowners.com>  
OR <http://www.vettechicks.com>

All you ladies might want to see what Donna has in store for y'all. Good luck, Donna!



## 2002 Final Production Numbers

2002's Production was the largest since 1986

<u>Color</u>	<u>Coupe</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Convert</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Z06</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>
Black	2,522	17	2,402	19	2,205	27	7,129	20
Torch Red	2,830	19	2,286	18	1,746	21	6,862	19
Electron Blue	2,222	15	1,371	11	1,814	22	5,407	15
Quicksilver	1,808	12	1,343	11	1,467	18	4,618	13
Yellow	1,312	9	1,663	13	1,065	13	4,040	11
Mag Red	1,609	11	1,689	13	0	0	3,298	9
Pewter	1,578	11	1,072	8	0	0	2,650	7
Speedway White	<u>879</u>	6	<u>884</u>	7	<u>0</u>	0	<u>1,763</u>	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,760</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>12,710</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8,297</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35,767</b>	

Do you know the 2 years between 1984 and 2002 that traditional Red wasn't the best selling color and what colors replaced Red in those years? As you can see from the above table Black is the winning color for 2002.

Email us at [notnowihaveaheadache@okdear.com](mailto:notnowihaveaheadache@okdear.com) with the correct answer before midnight and win a 3 day weekend (buffet & free parking included) at the Day's Inn in Neverbeenthere, Oklahoma.

## Do you know.....

Which model year Corvette had the most color choices and how many?

If you said 1967, that was an answer, (and not a very good one, we might add).... but it was wrong. Look on page 24 for the answers.

# DOING THE HEEL & TOE (AND A DO-SI-DO) IN TROUTMAN, NC!

As told by Billy Bob Bigblock and translated by your newsletter staff



TROUTMAN, NC - Contrary to popular belief, it really isn't a new line dance. Although, I know some who say moving your feet, correctly, between 3 pedals is much more difficult than any dance. Let's discuss some of the secrets of "Heel and Toe."

The first secret is that it is only used on manual shift vehicles. Automatics only have 2 pedals, so this maneuver isn't needed in those cars.

The second secret is that it is only necessary for downshifting. The balance of the car is so critical during high-speed maneuvering that heel and toe downshifting is essential because, when done properly, it allows the balance to be maintained while slowing quickly, turning and then allowing maximum acceleration out of the turn.

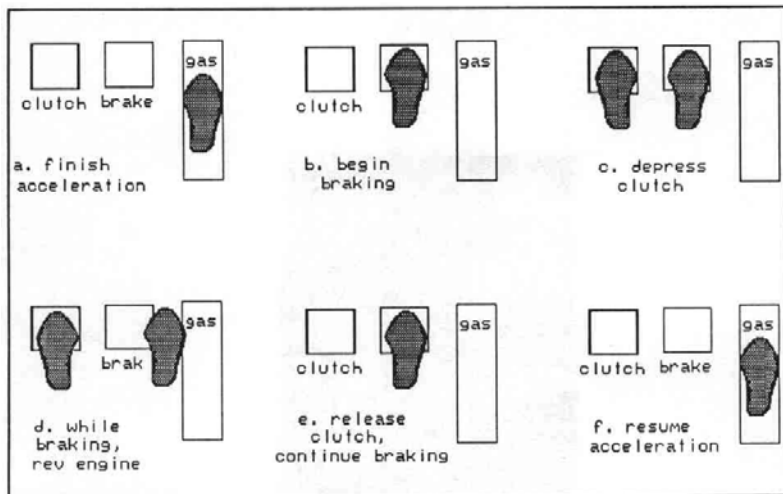
"By definition, when you downshift, you are braking - usually hard. When you snatch the rear tires while braking hard, the car snaps into oversteer." (Because the heel & toe wasn't done smoothly.) "This is not what you want in a braking area. You must "blip" the throttle for every downshift. Until you learn to downshift properly" (heel and toe) "and consistently, there is no way that you can use your brakes to their maximum potential" when slowing for a turn.

The purpose of downshifting is to select the proper gear for the forthcoming corner, and, sometimes, to stabilize the car - not to slow the car."<sup>1</sup>

"Downshifting is difficult because it has to be coordinated with braking and, simultaneously, you have to rev the engine so the car doesn't become unbalanced by a sudden change in engine speed. The time for the downshift is while braking before a turn. You will want to come out of the turn in the lower gear, ready for acceleration. Since you may be accelerating as early as the turn in, you have to get in the lower gear before you enter the turn.

The engine must be revved up so, when you let the clutch out, the rear tires won't have to do the work of getting the engine up to the speed that matches how fast the rear wheels are turning. The tires already have

their plate full, trying to cope with the aggressive braking you are doing and you don't want to make them undertake the extra work of revving up the engine." (Remember, we covered the available traction in the Traction Budget in an earlier edition of *The Club's Monthly Croaker*.)



24 Footwork for Heel & Toe

So, you ask, how in the devil are we supposed to "get that throttle tapped for an instant to get the

<sup>1</sup> "Drive to Win" - Carroll Smith - P. 2-42

revs up” and still smoothly brake the car? We only have two feet, one on the brake and the other on the clutch... Hell, I ain’t got no more feet to “**tap**” the throttle, Mr. Know-it-all! Well, read on my precious little ‘Vette dudes and dudettes, Uncle Billy Bob is here to help.

Heel and toe shifting ”is the method in which the left foot depresses the clutch and the right foot operates the brake **and** the throttle. The throttle must be depressed to get the engine speed up to match the revs required at the current car speed in the newly selected gear.

The approach is to use the ball of the right foot on the right side of the brake pedal” (**d. in diagram on prior page**) “and then rotate the foot over to the right, allowing the right edge of the right foot to depress the throttle briefly. The right foot is actually placed so the ball of the foot is on the brake pedal and the right side of the foot is over the throttle pedal, but not yet touching the throttle. Then, when you need to blip the throttle, a rotation (or rolling over) of the foot will blip the throttle while allowing you to maintain pressure on the brake pedal. The foot doesn’t move from side to side, only the **right side** of the foot moves up and down as needed.”<sup>2</sup>

You, too, can do this. I practice it each time I drive my car. The transition from one gear to the next lower gear should feel seamless and be noticeable only by the sound of the “blip.” If you can feel the shift, i.e. the engine slowing the car down with a jerk, then the shift hasn’t been done correctly. If you can feel it, rest assured the car will feel it, also, and it will react accordingly, probably with “tail lights first off of the asphalt.” Remember, smooth is good, smooth is your friend, and smooth makes speed.

Tune in again next time when we visit with the Bigblock’s, as they have a family gathering to discuss “Identifying Gourmet Road-Kill while traveling 75 MPH” and, later, a symposium on “ABS Braking” and what it means to your tax return. ‘Til then, remember, “Only a fool learns exclusively for his own experience.” - Bismark.

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<sup>2</sup> “Secrets of Solo Racing” – Henry A. Watts – P. 50

## Queen City Corvette Club Social Committee Presents



### **“Picnic on the Parkway”**

**Sunday October 20,  
2002**

Meet at the Texas  
Roadhouse Restaurant,  
at intersection of I-85 (exit  
49) & Speedway Blvd for  
PROMPT, 9:30 AM  
departure.

We will caravan to Fancy Gap, VA and cruise the Blue Ridge Parkway. Be sure to pack and bring along your picnic lunch. We will be stopping along the scenic parkway route to enjoy the mountain views while eating our picnic lunch. Afterwards, we will continue our caravan to Meadows of Dan, VA to tour the winery of Chateau Morrisette. This optional 1-hour winery tour cost \$4.00/per person. We may even stop to take a free tour of Mabry Mill, or view the scenery from Lover's Leap.

Have your Corvettes full of fuel, food & beverages. This will help our group enjoy a PROMPT 9:30 AM departure.

We should return to the Queen City area around 6:00 PM Sunday evening.

Hope to see you on our caravan!

For questions regarding Picnic on the Parkway call your QCCC social committee event coordinator, Jon Elliott, (704) 408-3230.

# Head for the Mountains with Queen City Corvette Club

November 15 & 16, 2002

Spend a weekend with your Corvette in the spectacular Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina this fall with Queen City Corvette Club. The QCCC social committee has planned a thrilling weekend for all Corvette enthusiasts beginning



with wonderful accommodations at the famous 75-year old Lake Lure Inn.

**Friday, 11/15/02**

Dinner at one of the Lake Lure area restaurants (TBA).

QCCC Hospitality room is on first floor, adjacent to lobby of inn.

**Saturday, 11/16/02**

**9:00 AM** - QCCC arrives at Chimney Rock Park for a single file exclusive Corvette Hill Climb. Afterwards, simply enjoy your day in the mountains sight seeing, shopping or simply driving your Corvette around the curvy mountain roads.

**6:00 PM** - Attend our exclusive QCCC outdoor mountain "hoe-down" with plenty of bar-b-que and live mountain music to do some "dirty dancing". Cost: \$12.50/per person

Call Lake Lure Inn at 1-888-434-4970 to make your reservations. Be sure to tell them you are with QCCC. Admission to Chimney Rock Park is included for QCCC members & guest that stay both nights at the Lake Lure Inn. We have negotiated a discounted rate of only \$79/night + tax.

\$12.50/per person payment for our hoe-down dinner & dancing should be made to QCCC before October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2002.



If you have any questions regarding our QCCC mountain weekend call Jon Elliott at (704) 542-0141 or see anyone on our QCCC social committee.

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Answer to Page 20 questions - 1981 22 colors