

November 2002



“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!

Seems like we just got the turkey deep fryer cleaned up from last year’s Thanksgiving, and now it’s time to do it again. It’s hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us so quickly, what happened to the summer? This year’s going out with a bang, though.

The events we had in October were fantastic, and November shows no sign of being different.

We all went to Mexico for

our monthly meeting. The food was great, and, as always, good to see everyone enjoy themselves.

The next day we ventured to the Red Rocker Inn in Black Mountain. The food was out of this world, as usual. The weather was a little wet, but the trip was successful, nonetheless.



Some of the thousands of women auditioning for the “QCCC PIC-A-CHICK” Calendar



Our City Chevrolet car show was a big hit with 39 cars participating. The selection of cars within the different generations was as good as we’ve ever had. Congratulations go to the winners.

Our “Picnic on the Parkway” was well attended and the weather participated by holding off the rain. And the scenery.....absolutely stunning. The hues were muted, but there was still a cornucopia (Doggone, I love the word) of color.

Remember, we have elections for the Board of Directors at this month’s meeting so plan on attending.

Don’t forget the reason for the season, let’s all count our lucky stars we live where we do and have an abundance of friends, good times and the other blessings we take for granted, Happy Thanksgiving!

Queen City Corvette Club, Inc.

2001 Officers

President	John Meadows	846-4016 –H 841-2233 –O	jmeadows@cmgsales.com
Vice Pres.	Wendy Krupowicz	849-2218 – H	yorkster@juno.com
Treasurer	Gary Artis	846-6730 – H	gartis@artisinc.com
Director of Social Activities	Nancy Runnion	841-2283 – H	nrunnion@carolina.rr.com
Director of Automotive Events	Robert Morgan	844-0205 – H	rmvette@aol.com
Director of Membership	Eddie Burt	846-7130 – H	eddieburt@carolina.rr.com
Secretary	Jane Burt	846-7130 – H	fab4fan@carolina.rr.com
Newsletter Editor	Jody Austin	528-9059 – H 878-6645 – O	c4c5@adelphia.net
Directory and Database Manager	Paul Pelkey	573-9723 – H	ppelkey@carolina.rr.com

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.



October 28, 2002

Dear Fellow QCCC Members,

Summer is over, but we're still moving on!

This has been another busy month. We started out the month with our car show at City Chevrolet. We had a great show with 39 cars being displayed. We got to see a few cars for the first time including Bob Denny's beautifully repainted 40th, Ken Lipack's 1965 Coupe (I love that white interior) and Ron Barr's new 1962 convertible. We also had some old favorites including Jody Austin's Grand Sport, Wally Crawford's and Larry deMontegre C1's, Walt and Wendy Krupowicz's and Robert Morgan's C3's. We had them all, C1 thru C5s. Great job Robert, for organizing this event. Look for further details in Robert's column.

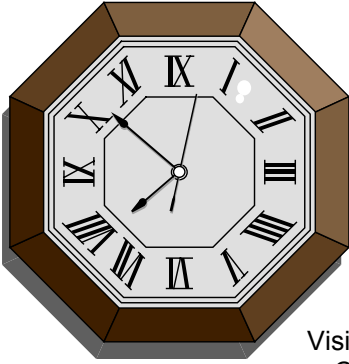
We also took two road trips this month, one to eat and one to drink. The first was our trip back to the Red Rocker Inn and the second trip was to the Chateau Morrisette winery in Fancy Gap, Virginia. We also had several members travel down to Road Atlanta for the Petit Le Mans.

This coming month we have our mountain trip to Lake Lure. Jon Elliot has arranged for a few more rooms. I think reservations can still be made. See Nancy or John for further details.

Our next meeting will be a very important meeting, as we will have elections for the next year's board of directors. It will be at the Huntersville Aquatic Center. We will be asking for further nominations and voting for officers at the November meeting. QCCC needs your help! Several officers are interested in returning next year, but if you would like to serve, BE at the next meeting.

The year is starting to wind down, but the board still has a few events up our sleeves. 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.



Minutes from QCCC Meeting Saturday, October 12, 2002

The October business meeting of QCCC was held at the Alpine Village Clubhouse, Charlotte, NC. Officers in attendance: John Meadows, Wendy Krupowicz, 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: **Glenn & Gladly Baumbblatt** – 1990 White Coupe, **Donna Sigman** (David's wife) – 2000 Pewter Coupe, **John & Dianne Liebe** – 1978 Beige Coupe, and **Lori Monnell** – rides in Rob Gallman's 2002 Yellow Z06.

NEW MEMBERS voted in: **Glenn & Gladly Baumbblatt, Donna Sigman, John & Dianne Liebe, and Lori Monnell!**

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the September meeting minutes.

John Meadows, President

- Asked the 36 members in attendance where they were born (5 were native Charlotteans!), and how they met their significant other (2 couples met on blind dates, 2 couples were High School sweethearts, 2 couples met at Drive In Restaurants, and 2 couples met as the result of injuries).
- Reported on **Dave Gregorino's** post-surgery condition.
- Told us that a Newsletter Editor is needed for next year. **Jody Austin** needs to take a well-earned break, but will be available on a consulting basis for the new Editor.
- Took nominations from the floor for 2003 Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Events, Automotive Events, and Membership). Those nominated will be contacted to see if they will accept the nominations. Elections will be held at the next meeting.

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

- The car show at City Chevrolet was a success with over 40 cars attending and the sale of 1 Corvette.
- Homecoming Parades & Car Shows:
 - West Mecklenburg – Oct 18 – need 14 cars
 - Garinger – Oct 25 – need 11 cars
 - Cornelius Parade & Car Show–Oct 26–as many cars as possible (benefits Habitat For Humanity)
- A check for \$1,000 has been sent to the National Corvette Museum for their land drive, as approved by the QCCC membership at the Sept. meeting. The Charity Committee will meet again before the Nov. meeting to determine other organizations to recommend for donations, for member approval.
- October 13 trip to Red Rocker Inn – 46 people so far! Leave exit 36 at 10:00 am.
- October 19 Classic Cruise-In at Chick-Fil-A on Independence Blvd in Matthews at 4:30 pm

Nancy Runnion, Director of Social Events reported:

- November 9 – next meeting at Huntersville Community Center. No food will be served.
- November 15 & 16 - Trip to Lake Lure Inn - Contact **Jon Elliott** with questions. Less than 5 rooms are still available. Send \$12.50 per person for the Hoe-Down to **Gary Artis**.

- December 14 – Holiday Dinner and meeting at the Oasis Shrine. Cost is \$18 per person for Chicken or Prime Rib (pay in advance). The club is subsidizing \$4 per person. A cash bar will be available. Gifts valued up to \$10 will be exchanged.
- December 20 – deliver food & gifts to 3 families in the Hidden Valley area. See Nancy to sign up for requested presents.

Eddie Burt, Director of Membership reported:

- Membership to date: 112 families, 188 people
- Let Eddie know if you need a nametag.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burt, Secretary

QCCC OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, October 15, 2002

The October officers' meeting was held at Artis & Associates office, Charlotte, NC. Officers present were John Meadows, Gary Artis, Robert Morgan, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt. President John Meadows called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Robert:

Gave charity and trophy checks from City Chevrolet to Gary.

Parades/Car Shows: 10/18 – West Meck
 10/25 – Garinger
 10/26 – Cornelius
 11/23 – Concord
 11/24 – Monroe

South Meck & Providence High Schools have installed rubber tracks where no vehicles are allowed, therefore, no more Homecoming parades.

Gary:

Reviewed dues payment status.

Has received only 5 payments for the Lake Lure Hoe-Down.

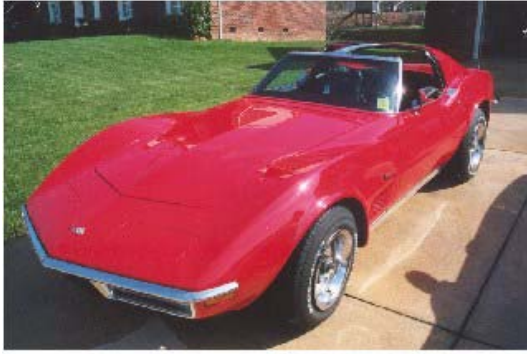
Eddie:

Have 188 members.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burt, Secretary



Automotive Events

We're closing out on the last two months of the year, and so are the car shows and parades. If you've noticed, we haven't done as many high school homecoming parades as we did last year. I found out that most of the schools are installing a rubberized track around their football

fields, which cars cannot drive on. I'm sure the homecoming queens are disappointed without our participation. Two of the schools that I was told had changed their tracks were South Mecklenburg and Providence High Schools. We did conduct the West Mecklenburg homecoming parade with 10 cars attending. The Garinger High School parade was cancelled because of rain.

Our second charity show at City Chevrolet went over with only minor problems. When I say minor problems, I'm referring to myself getting heat exhaustion and having others carry the rest of the day for me! My thanks to John Meadows and Wendy Krupowicz for helping after I started feeling under the weather! Great selections of all years were represented at the show. 34 members were present with 39 cars! Now how does that happen? Show winners were: "Best C1" went to Chuck Beard with for 1962 convertible, "Best C2" went to Ken Lipack for his 1965 coupe, "Best C3" went to Dennis Guessford for his 1970 convertible, "Best C4" went to Jody Austin for his 1996 Grand Sport, and the "Best C5" and "Dealers Choice" award went to Dave Sanders for his 2001 Z06. City Chevrolet really enjoyed us being there. Maybe next year it'll be a little cooler!

This past weekend we gathered in Cornelius to help the merchants raise money for Habitat for Humanity, and also help us raise money for our charities. Even though the weather was a little "iffy" on Saturday morning, we had a great turnout! Our club had 22 cars attending including two Grand Sports, two Z06's and three ZR-1's !!!

November 23rd we are helping in the Concord parade and will carry only 3 Miss Mecklenburg beauty queens. Presently I have enough cars for this and the start time is 2:30 PM.

November 24th we will be in Monroe carrying more of the Miss Mecklenburg beauty queens. I need 5 cars for that parade and need one more car. Start time for this parade is 2:00 PM.

I'll have more information on the staging location and times that we need to be there. I'll keep everyone posted as soon as I have the info. In December we'll have a couple of Christmas parades to do and I'll send out emails as soon as I'm notified of the dates.

I can't say this enough, thanks to everyone that helps out in these events! Until next time, save the wave!

Robert



Business Meeting, 2nd Saturday of the Month

Date	Event	Food	Cost	Time
	NOVEMBER			
9th	Club Meeting Huntersville Aquatic & Fitness Center			6:30
15-17th	Mountain Trip to Lake Lure		TBA	
	DECEMBER			
14th	Christmas Meeting Gift Exchange Oasis Shriners	Menu	TBA	
	JANUARY '03			
25 th	Annual Banquet - Renaissance Inn – Charlotte			

**QCCC's Pick-An-Event
Club Monthly Meetings**

Nov 9th (6:30) - Huntersville -Aquatic/Fitness Center

Weekend Trips

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

Banquet

Jan 25, 2003 - Renaissance Inn, Charlotte

Christmas Party 2002

Dec 14th - Shrine Oasis Club at University Place

Come on, we know you have one in there somewhere, let us have it!

Long, short, funny, serious, tech tips, trip adventures, pictures or articles of general interest are always welcome here at the official Queen City Corvette Club newsletter offices. We'll help you write it or we'll get out of the way and let you do it, just let us know what you want, but send it to us. There's a Tom Clancy in all of you, come on, let him out!

Send your article to us at c4c5@adelphia.net or mail it to us at:
196 Allendale Circle, Troutman, NC 28166

Our ace graphics department can scan photos and return them to you if you don't have digital capabilities. Come on, show us that literary side! Show that 8th grade English teacher who wanted us all to write that you can do it, make her proud!

How 'bout a BIG HOWDY to our newest members!



John and Dianne Liebe

They have a **beige 1978 coupe**



Lori Monnell

She is a co-pilot of a **2002 Z06** piloted by Rob Gallman



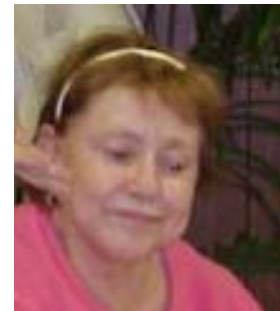
Donna Sigman,
(her husband, David, was
voted in at the September
meeting)

2000 pewter coupe



Glenn and Glady Baublatt

1991 Coupe





New Acquisitions

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

Ron Barr, in a non-hostile takeover got control of a 1962 Black solid axle. As many know, Ron is just a C4 short of a Full House. He now possesses a '62, '65, '69 and a '99. And...they are all really nice cars. Congratulations, Ron!

David Revis, acquired an '02 Z06 because of a power struggle with his daughter, Sheley. David just couldn't stand having his daughter controlling more horsepower than he had. Sheley has a 2001 Z06, and we're sure *she never antagonized her Dad with the information* that the 2000 coupe he had just didn't have the same giddy up as her Z06, but David fixed that problem, he traded the '00 coupe for an '02 Z06 and got 405 hp. We love these family rivalries when they result in more horsepower. Congratulations, David!

Okay, show us your garage!



Check out Bob Denney's garage floor! That looks so nice we'd hate to park a car on it. What the devil is that thing hanging from the ceiling? That can't be a bicycle because we don't see the training wheels.



City Chevrolet Car Show

We had a great turnout for the car show. We here at the international newsletter office had a difficult time determining the best of each class, so thank goodness the public had to vote on it. Sometimes in the past it's been easy to pick the winners, but this time the tide has turned. The C1 & C2 classes have now become very competitive with a couple of new acquisitions. It's good to see that we can afford to invest in the older models.

- Winners were:
- C1: **Chuck Beard**
 - C2: **Ken Lipack**
 - C3: **Dennis & Bev Guessford**
 - C4: **Jody Austin**
 - C5: **Dave Sanders**

Dealer's Choice:
Dave Sanders



Here is the C2 corral. There was another one that showed up after the picture was taken, and it was as nice as the ones pictured here. Thank goodness the public had to pick the winner because we couldn't have chosen just one from this field of worthy candidates.

As you can see the C3 group has nothing but good-looking cars.



To the left is a family of Irish Travelers who dropped by to see if we needed a new roof or driveway repair. After the free lunch, they left.



Off To The Rocker, Again

The day started just a little wet when in Mooresville we all met and all during the hundred-mile trip the rain continued drip by drip. But after getting that terrific meal It made the day a wonderful deal!



A Trip to Road Atlanta

3 of our members, Bob Denney, Wade Stickels & son Dana and David Sigman & son Brent made the venture to see the Corvette C5R wins its class at the Petit LeMans.





2002 Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta by Wade Stickels



It was my first trip to Road Atlanta and the Petit Le Mans race. For those of you that haven't been, it is an experience. I picked up our youngest son at 7 a.m. and we joined Bob Denney, a repeat attendee to this track and event, on I-77. At Billy Graham Parkway, David Sigman and his son joined us for the ride to the north Georgia countryside. The weather forecast all week was for rain on Saturday but we couldn't have asked for better weather for the drive or the race. Three Corvettes cruising down I-85, the sun is shining, top down, grown son in the seat beside me with the CD changer loaded with songs we both love and the volume cranked. I'm smiling now just thinking about it. We arrived at Road Atlanta about 10:30, drove right in and parked behind the bleachers at the start/finish line.

Our Supertickets gave us paddock (garage area) access. We were separated from the track where the cars were staged for the race by a two-foot high concrete wall. We felt like we were in the middle of all the action. I was able to get one of the drivers of the #3 C5R autograph on my C5R cap. Bob, our seasoned tour guide, brought us to the Corvette C5R pit area and then on a walking tour of the track.



Road Atlanta was built in 1970. It is 2.54 miles long with 12 turns. It is quite hilly with an elevation change of 115 feet between turns 3-5 and turn 12. The race is for 1,000 miles or 10 hours, whichever comes first. Four classes of cars race at the same time. These are the LMP900 which include the Cadillac and Audi R8, the LMP675, the GTS, which include Corvette, Ferrari 550, Viper and Saleen, and the GT, which include the Porsche 911. They have developed a simple method to follow each class of cars. Each car has three lights arranged vertically on each side. Each class has their own color so you can follow the first, second, and third place cars

by the color and number of lights lit on each car. The two C5R Corvettes were in second or third for most of the race. A red Ferrari led until he developed a flat with two laps left and Corvette won the GTS class!

They advertise the race as European Style, American Attitude. I think Jody called it European Racing with a Red Neck flavor. It was an experience. Where else do you see a red Ferrari Testarossa parked next to a good ole Georgia boy's pickup with mud tires and then two new Nissan 350Z's and a M5.

There were tents and motor homes, a dad and his two sons walking around, one son carrying a Ferrari flag high above his head and the other son wrapped in a Ferrari flag. Showtime had a tent set up with a bar, tables, and wall to wall wide screen TV's



showing the race and what else but college football. My son laughed and commented about the guys that paid to come to the race, walked a mile and a half up and down hills to get to this tent to sit and drink beer, watch college football, and in the background is the live roar of Ferrari's, Porsche's, and Corvettes. I think we were in heaven and I am ready to go back next year.

A big thank you to Bob Denney for allowing us novices to tag along.



Robert Denney
Mooresville, NC 28115
7041662-0000
rddenney@alltel.net



Another Red Rocker Inn Tale

Well, here it is Monday morning after a very busy Corvette weekend. First was a flying trip Saturday to Road Atlanta for the Petit Le Mans race, then up early to face a dark, dreary Sunday morning. It was a good thing that I knew what lay ahead at the end of our caravan, or I would have proposed to Sandy that we just stay home. Anyway, leaving home a little late I cruised by Sandy's and picked her up on our journey to the parking lot at Belks & Kmart. Arriving at the rendezvous, we noticed there were about 18 gleaming Corvettes, yes and even The Clean Car Guy's Ordinary Yellow Convertible... now can you imagine the Clean Car Guy driving a car that had been driven the previous day and not washed.

Joining the pack we waited until the magic moment hour to hear those familiar words... "**Mount Up.**" Fred Lentz said he knew how to get there so he was the anointed leader. Off we went thru the stoplights of western Mooresville, a major suburb of Troutman. Cruising carefully over hill and dale, we proceeded toward Lincoln. Now this is stoplight city so in the tradition of Wade Stickle we doubled up to clear the stoplights as efficiently as possible. Once we circled the Court House, we reconnoitered in a parking lot until the balance of the pack was able to catch up. Then, thanks to a kind-hearted civilian, we were able to proceed back on the highway toward our goal. Along about now the liquid sunshine started coming down harder and we needed windshield wipers. These stayed on until we reached "potty stop" heaven. Yep, only a 1 holer, but beats the heck out of nuttin. Well, let me tell you ... that potty stop really paid off big time. Only a few miles down the road the Sun started to peek out from behind the clouds. Finally we arrived at I-40 west and the group joined the roaring pack heading west.

Few more miles down the highway it was determined that Fred Lentz was not sure where the Red Rocker Inn was located. So the call went out over the airwaves... Jody, how do we get there from here? Much discussion took place and finally someone said "Jody to the Lead." Now folks, you must remember that our Cop Magnet was successfully hiding back in the pack. With much concerted effort Jody appeared ... passing a car here on the right ... then passing two on the left... he slowly made his way toward the leadership position. Up the hill, around the curve, across 3 lanes of gleaming Corvettes he flew ... ever higher, ever onward toward the peak and the ultimate prize he flew, somewhat like the little old gentleman who rides in a Red Vehicle, around the end of each December, but he is only pulled by reindeer and not 345 horses. With not a second to spare Jody took the lead flying to exit 64... to the right he cried to the right... then someone said, "but this is only exit 65." Jody, being nonplus said "not to worry, this is a shortcut, *I think.*"

Into the Town of Black Mountain flew the 23 gorgeous Corvettes. Catching the first light and then the second we were confronted with two emergency vehicles that flew past us while we turned right toward the ultimate Sunday Brunch. As we arrived right on time, we were ushered right to our tables and after the normal induction, the food started to flow. Now let me tell you there were 46 folks that didn't leave anything on the plates. Some who shall remain unnamed helped themselves to others plates just to supplement their supply until the next replenishment occurred. Finally desert... folks those deserts were sinful. But I managed to pack mine down and I noticed that most were gone. Desert being finished it was time to mount up again for the trip home. Some decided to shop locally, so the group broke up. 7 of us started down I-40 toward I-77 or US 321, concluding another wonderful **Corvette Caravan.**

Homecoming Parade at West Meck





Our Trip to The Winery

Here are a few pictures of the day. The top photo is the winery, with the gift shop and wine making area. The 2nd row photo shows Mount Pilot. We went through Mt. Airy (the fictitious town of Mayberry) on the way and they had just named the main road Andy Griffith highway. As you can see Goobur still has a restaurant there.



The newsletter graphic department passed up an easy chance to cut-n-paste a member's photo into the "Goobur" picture. Uh oh! They're losing their *Killer Instinct*.

Pictured to the right are the self-appointed wine tasters of the QCCC at a rest stop.

17 cars participated.



New Product Alert!

Our crack newsletter staff, in its ceaseless effort to keep the membership on the cutting edge, discovered this new shopping cart for the real "Power" shopper.

Probably good for a "Pottery Crawl", huh, Nancy?

I wonder how that baby will corner, hmmm... looks like the center of gravity is kinda high?



Outta my way, I'm going to Wal*Mart!

The First Time, Do You Remember It?

By Billy Bob Bigblock



Think about it, the "**First Time.**" By definition it can happen only once, it can't be repeated. I know I'll remember the "**First Time**" forever. How could we ever forget such an important, life-changing event, and how could we ever forget the one we did it with? My parents, like parents before and after, said "Son, wait, you're entirely too young. There will be that special one when you are older; you'll know when it's right, you can control your hormones until you're older," and believe me, I tired... I tried so hard to stop those feelings. No matter where I went, though, I couldn't get away from the talk of it, in the locker room all the guys were talking about how good it was and their big brothers did it, and knew all about it, and they said it was wonderful. All my friends and I had "**those**" magazines. We were told, "You'll go blind if you keep looking at those pictures", but none of us stopped. We hid the magazines under our mattresses and looked at them with a flashlight under the covers. But as a 14 year old, in the throes of puberty, it was hard to holdout, and, folks, I have to tell you, I was weak and I gave in to my emotions and hormones that fateful night.

That summer night, as a young and tender boy, I discovered love, lust and satisfaction, all at the same time. It was one of those cheap encounters. It was in a parking lot when no one else was around, just her and me. I hoped she wanted me as much as I wanted her, but she never said so. I remember how I ached until I touched her in parts unknown by me, until that moment... it was heaven. I could see nothing but stars and the release was total, that all-encompassing feeling would live with me the rest of my life. After we finished, I was sweaty and a little embarrassed, but she looked as fresh as a new day, as though she'd done this before. I felt so helpless when I saw her leave with another guy, as I had to stand there in silence and watch. It was so painful to see her leave, I thought we had a lifelong commitment, but that was just my youthful optimism. I can still remember her smell; it wafts through my mind, even to this day, decades later. I wanted to spend every waking moment with her. Days, and even weeks passed, and still I lay in my bed, remembering every little thing about that night, that special smell, the soft caresses, the feel of her under my fingertips. In fact, I didn't wash my hand for days after "The Awakening!"

Like young boys do, I bragged to all my friends that I now knew what their big brothers were talking about. I was a hero to all my friends because they could say their friend had done it, too. I had to describe every detail to them over and over, but I didn't mind.

Yeah, you never forget the “**First Time.**” My “**First Time**” for actually seeing and touching a Corvette in person was a '62 Honduras Maroon Corvette, affectionately known as “Dolly.” Charles Bremer’s dad bought it for him for a high school graduation present. It was the same one I found that evening in a deserted parking lot when I was 14 and I touched every curve on that beautiful body before Charles drove it off. My friends and I would spend hours upon hours looking at car magazines and dreaming of owning a ‘Vette and cussing Charles for driving our car. My Mother would tell me to get that car off of my mind and bear down on the schoolwork, that I was too young to be thinking of expensive toys like that. “Get that special one when you’re old enough to afford it,” she said.

That lustful encounter created a passion I have for Corvettes that lasts today. Yep, I’ll remember the “**First Time**” forever, will you?



Did you know.....



The first fatalities recorded in a C5 were in October 1994.¹ You ask, “How could that be? It wasn’t built until the 1997 model year!” Doggone, we can’t get anything past you guys, can we?

A speeding car broadsided a C5 on the driver’s side at 50 mph and, sadly, neither of the C5’s occupants survived. Through this tragedy, though, we all ride around in a much safer vehicle. The crash punched the driver’s door into the driver and the passenger suffered massive head and chest injuries.

Not to worry, both fatalities were crash dummies in a test vehicle in the early years of C5 planning and testing. And it turned out, part of the reason for the fatalities was that the C5 was **too** strong! There was no energy-absorbing crush zone that reduced the shock from being transmitted to the passengers. Part of the remedy was to weaken the rails just enough, and add some crushable material so that the structure protected the occupants by absorbing the shock and not transmitting it.

So.....that’s the rest of the story!

¹ “All Corvettes Are Red” - James Scheffer. p.344

Members on Our Minds -

It was good to see **Dave Gregorino** at the Cornelius car show. Dave spent a couple of days in the pits at Carolinas' Medical Center, but has recovered nicely. Good to have you back, Dave.

Walt Krupowicz spent a couple of days in the hospital, but has returned home. Walt, you're on our minds and we wish you a quick recovery. Oh, Lordy! Who's directing the planes while Walt is laid up?

Caroline Lentz hurt her shoulder while helping Fred count all his money and she had to have surgery to get her rotator cuff fixed just like those baseball pitchers. But, she's out now, and ready to pitch in the World Series. Good to see you're recovering nicely, Caroline. (Fred, it'd be a lot easier and cheaper to just buy one of those counting machines and keep Caroline out of the hospital.)

Stop the Presses! This just in to our newsroom.....

Here is one of our more upstanding members trying to be *helpful*?

What is this guy thinking? He looks just like Jim Carey when he starred in that movie with Jeff Daniels.

Okay, babycakes, if you don't want that, how 'bout if I let you drive my Vette?



It's Amazing The Things Our Members Will Do.....

to get a tax deduction. Gary Artis bought the Pace Car to use in one commercial and then deduct the whole amount from his income. What a deal. You just can't get ahead of those CPA's. (We hope you know we're kidding, this picture is just to illustrate Gary's use of his Pace Car as a business promotion tool.)



INTERDYN - ARTIS, founded in 1989, is the leading global partner of Microsoft Business Solutions. Since that time InterDyn - Artis has pursued a single minded mission -

"Have a client focus - enhance their success and exceed their expectations."

Billy Bob's Bargain Barn & Gift Emporium

May I have your attention, please! We have an announcement...

- Ed Hord has a set of 89 chrome wheels. Asking \$1000. Here's Ed's email:

vettefan28027@yahoo.com

- Phillip Lewis has a 1982 Silver Green T-Top for sale. Contact Phillip at:

803-324-5647 kandie@rhtc.net

- 1990 Red Convertible - 20,066 miles. Like new. 6 speed, all extras including hard top and custom soft cover. Bought the car from the original owner in 94 and have only put 6000 miles on it. \$17,500. Ron and Carlette Calloway :

704 846-3801 Carolinafan@worldnet.att.net



September 29 2002

Mr. Wendell Strode
Executive Director
National Corvette Museum

Dear Mr. Strode,

On behalf of Queen City Corvette Club, located in the Charlotte NC area, I am enclosing a check for \$1000.00. This check is to be used toward the land purchase fund drive. This money has been raised thru cars shows and by donations of members.

Queen City Corvette Club is currently in its 33rd year of existence. We have over 180 members. These members have in excess of 200 Corvettes. We have cars ranging from 1959 thru the 2003 models. On September 17th one of our club members, Jon Elliott, purchased his 17th Corvette. It was also his 17th Wedding Anniversary. We have many members who have joined the Museum at various membership levels. Queen City Corvette Club is also a corporate member of the Museum. Both our club and many of our club members have also purchased bricks.

Our club is very active in many Corvette activities. One of our members, Dave and Jane Gregorino, participated in the Historic Motorama tour in their beautiful 1967 Convertible. We hold various events to raise money for local charities and for the Corvette Museum. We participate in mountain tours, beach trips, parades and many other fun activities all built around enjoying our Corvettes.

It is with pleasure that we donate this money to the Corvette Museum for such a worthy cause. For those of us who have visited the Museum know the importance of the purchase of this land. We encourage all of our members to come to some of the events at the museum. It is a trip they will never forget. Keep up the great work!

John Meadows
President
Queen City Corvette Club

Ladies Christmas Cookie Exchange

Saturday, December 7th, at 2PM
Sue Stickels' house, Huntersville

- Bring 3 dozen cookies or bars in a container
- Bring one empty container to have a way to transport your cookies home
- Bring a recipe for the cookies you baked

Call Sue Stickels @ 704 892-1153 for directions

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 16th, 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.





**Cruise with Friends from Queen City Corvette Club for Valentine's Day, February 2003.
What a Way to Say "I Love You!"**



We Be Jammin', Mon!



**Royal Caribbean Cruise Line
Radiance of The Sea**

If one more couple signs up significant discounts are available for all the couples participating. *There's still time to sign up!!!!*

Ship Facts:

- Maiden Voyage: March 10, 2001
- Passenger Capacity: 2,051
- Gross Tonnage: 90,090
- Length: 962'
- Beam: 105.6'
- Draft: 26.7'
- Cruising Speed: 25 knots



Cruise Facts:

- 7-Night Southern Caribbean
- Leaving San Juan, Puerto Rico on Sat. Feb 8, 2003
- Visit the following ports:
 - St. Thomas, USVI
 - St. John's, Antigua
 - Philipsburg, St. Marten
 - Castries, St. Lucia
 - Bridgetown, Barbados
 - San Juan, Puerto Rico

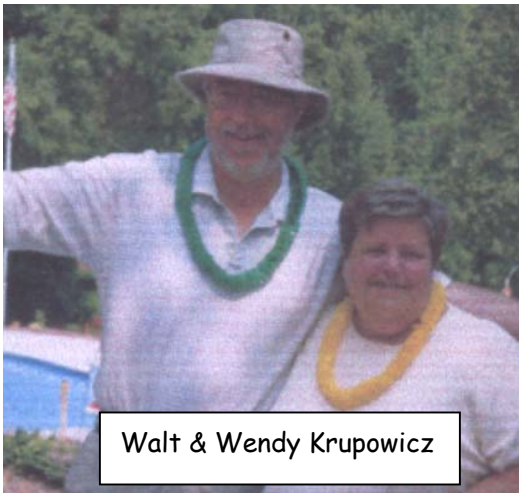


Call Wendy Krupowicz @ 704-849-2218 or email wendy.krupowicz@ncmail.net

Here are the participants (and the obligatory lei) at the Pre-Cruise Gala held in August at the Stickels house.



Karl & Jackie Slavetsky



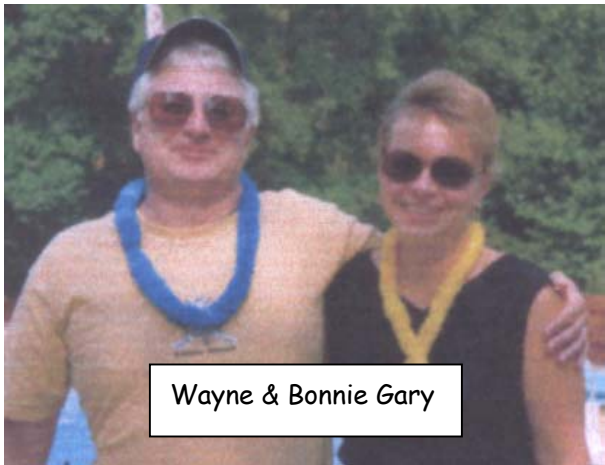
Walt & Wendy Krupowicz



Bob & Nancy Runion



Vanessa Krimminger & Robert Morgan



Wayne & Bonnie Gary



Janice & Mickey Baucom
(BMW Owners)