

March 2003



"We've grown used to wonders in this century.

It's hard to dazzle us. But for years the United States space program has been doing just that. We've grown used to the idea of space, and perhaps we forget that we've only just begun. We're still pioneers."

These words are so appropriate now with the events of Feb. 1, but they were spoken 17 years ago by President Reagan when the Challenger and crew were lost. The loss of the Columbia and crew, again, demonstrates the extreme risks and hazards facing the pioneers of the unknown. May the crew rest in peace.

Here we are in the winter doldrums. No activities (other than the business meeting) have occurred this month, therefore our ace newsletter reporters have taken many days off preparing their energies for the good times ahead. Now is the time to get the cars in shape for the spring and summer events we have planned.



To the left is a glimpse of the new C6. The sighting was made at the International Auto and Fertilizer show at the fair grounds outside of Troutman. Monica, one of our interns, captured this photo through the keyhole when she was in the men's porta John. Don't ask, we don't know why she was in there. See P. 14 for more details.

Our Gatlinburg trip is set. Here is a picture of the Park Vista, the hotel where we'll be staying. According to the reservation people, the BMW Club of America is planning a trip here in August and they have reserved space for 300 people at this hotel. They are planning on driving Deal's Gap, too. Seems like the word is out about what a great time is available. [Click here for trip details: www.ohyeababy.com](http://www.ohyeababy.com)



Queen City Corvette Club, Inc.

2003 Officers

President	Robert Morgan	844-0205 –H	rmvette@aol.com
Vice Pres.	E. O. Oakley	846-2965 –H	eoakleyjr@aol.com
Treasurer	Gary Artis	846-6730 – H	gartis@artisinc.com
Director of Social Activities	Kay Weisberg	708-5073 – H	
Director of Automotive Events	Ben Horack	588-0169 - H	landtramp@msn.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	austin@statesville.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.



February 25, 2003

Dear Fellow QCCC members:

Vanessa and I are back from our cruise on February 15th and we were rudely welcomed back to Charlotte by a sleet storm. We should have stayed on the warm Caribbean islands sipping little fruity drinks basking in the mid 80 weather. I now have this strange urge to head to the grocery store and buy maraschino cherries for my drinks. I'm certainly ready for spring!

The board met last week and we welcomed Ben Horack as the new Automotive Events Director. Ben mentioned that with his new position, he wouldn't be able to continue on as the chair of the bylaws review committee. Eddie Burt has stepped forward and will assume the responsibility of that position with the previous committee members intact. The bylaws review committee has been asked to address items that may need to be added as an amendment to our functioning bylaw document.

I do a lot of web surfing and spend a lot of time on CorvetteForum.com reading postings and soaking in all the information on Corvettes that I can. I came across a topic this past weekend that concerned me because it dealt with a previous member of our club. To my sadness I read that Donna Littlejohn had a skiing accident and, as a result, a broken back. Thank goodness no paralysis but she will be in a cast for 4 months. Donna was a member of our club approximately 2 years ago and lives in Columbia, SC. She and her husband decided to start a club in Columbia in lieu of making the journey to Charlotte for our club meetings. She has a '98 coupe that has been featured in various Corvette magazines because of its unique paint. We wish Donna a speedy recovery.

Did you know that there's a television program dedicated to the Corvette? "Corvette, the American Dream" airs every Thursday at 10:30 PM. The closest television station is in the Raleigh/Durham area. I'm not sure if the techies in the club with satellite systems can pick these stations up, but check out www.corvette.theamericandream.com for complete listings and times. If this can be picked up, maybe I can convince Vanessa in a satellite system for our house.

Our newest members to the club are: Doug and Debbie Light with a 2002 Electron Blue Coupe, Larry and Florence Prather with a 2002 Red Coupe and Jan Klause, wife of Richard Klause. Welcome all!

Please check the QCCC website at www.queencitycorvette.com for a calendar of events and meeting locations. I'm looking forward in seeing everyone at our next meeting at the Northcross Community Room in the Charlotte Medical Center building in Huntersville. Until next time, save the wave!

Robert



V-P REPORT

Item First: March Meeting Location

For March's QCCC Business meeting we will be back in the Community Room at the Northcross Medical Park building in Huntersville. Meeting will start at the normal time of 6:30 PM. Directions are shown on page 8.

Item Second: Participation Points

In last month's newsletter, I mentioned that the participation points would be posted quarterly on the QCCC Website. After some discussion at the last QCCC Board meeting, it was brought out that doing so would in effect "post" the club membership in a public forum, and that might not be a good thing. So **Plan B** is to send an email to all members on a quarterly basis showing the current participation point status.

Item Third

One obligation of the V-P is to inventory the club equipment and publish in newsletter. Although a month late, here is the

2003 QCCC Equipment Inventory and Location.

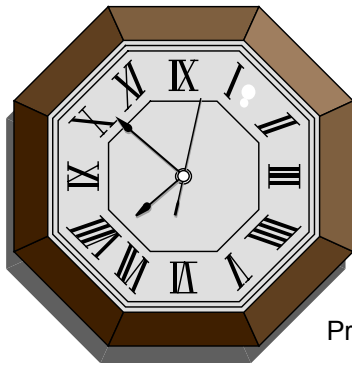
Item	Location	Contact
1 Fire Extinguisher 1 Easel Stand & 1 Blackboard 1 Green Tub with Club Historical Records 5 Wooden Awards & 1 Trophy	Eddie Burt 251 Amanda Drive Matthews, NC 28104	Eddie Burt
1 QCCC Banner 1 Club Tent 1 Bag Koozies Assorted Corvette/Chevrolet Banners	E. O. Oakley 3409 Quail Ridge Lane Matthews, NC 28104	E. O. Oakley
2 Memorex Club FRS Radios 1 Speaker System w/ Microphone 1 QCCC Official Seal	Robert Morgan 220 Southern Cross Matthews, NC 28105	Robert Morgan

That's all for this edition of the Newsletter, and

Hey, Let's Be Careful Out There!

E. O.





Minutes From the QCCC Meeting Saturday February 8, 2003

The February business meeting of QCCC was held at Pleasant Hills Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC. Officers in attendance: E.O.Oakely, Kay Weisberg, Gary Artis, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt. Vice President E.O.Oakley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Visitors were asked to stand up, introduce themselves, and tell what year Corvette they have: **Donovan & Gale Ashton** – 2003 Electron Blue Z06, **Charlie & Iris Binder** – 2000 Red Hardtop, **Ted & Patrice Northrup** – 2001 Dark Blue Hardtop, **Patty Wright** – Skip Koskie's guest, and **Shea Baumberg** – Mike Dickson's guest.

New Members voted in – **Larry & Florence Prather**, **Jan Klause** (Richard's wife), and **Doug & Debbie Light** !

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

E.O.Oakely, Vice President

- Thanked **Boyd Kurt** for arranging the meeting at the church. The March meeting will be at the Northcross Medical Center in Huntersville.
- Announced new additions – 1978 Pace Car to the **Artis** Family, 2003 50th Anniversary Convertible to the **Klause** Family, and a red 1960 Convertible to the **Black** Family.
- Asked for nominations from the floor for the Director of Automotive Events position. None accepted so a motion was made, seconded and approved by acclimation to name **Ben Horack** to the position!
- An inventory of Club property has been prepared and will be in the March Newsletter.
- Sign the Sign-in Sheet to earn points toward the 2003 Participation Awards.
- An editor is still needed for the Newsletter. Until such time as one is found, **Jody** needs QCCC member assistance with taking pictures and editing articles. Contact **Jody**, **EO**, or **Robert** to help. **Dave Gregorino** encouraged everyone to contribute articles & stories for the Newsletter.
- March 17 – St Patrick's Day Parade
- April 4 & 5 – Auto Fair
- **CORVETTES IN THE QUEEN CITY** is scheduled for the weekend of September 27! The Committee is now in the fundraising stage. **John Meadows** has a list of potential sponsors & needs volunteers to contact them to solicit contributions. **E.O.** read a solicitation letter to be given to potential sponsors. The goal is \$20,000. Sponsors will be listed on t-shirts & have their donated items in goody bags. The committee will know by mid-March if this event is a "go."

Gary Artis, Treasurer

- Asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer Report.
- Reviewed the 2002 Budget Analysis. Our goal is to run a balanced budget so that we spend all the funds received. The proposed 2003 Budget is virtually the same as the 2002 Budget. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the 2003 Budget.

John Meadows, Past President

- To thunderous applause, the 2002 President's Award, and 2002 Member of the Year Award plaques were presented to **Jody Austin**, who was unable to attend the Awards' Banquet in January.

Kay Weisberg, Social Director

- Asked for opinions regarding pre-meeting social gatherings, meeting places, & progressive dinners. Let her know your ideas and suggestions.

Eddie Burt, Director of Membership

- Handed out ballots and pens for secret ballot voting of new member candidates.

Jody Austin, Trip Coordinator

- The trip to Gatlinburg, TN is finalized for May 31 – June 1. Get a flier & make your reservations.

John Liebe, Member

- Visited NASCAR Silicon Motor Speedway at Concord Mills Mall, across from the Alabama Grill. They have 80% size NASCAR simulators. The entire facility can be rented for 1 to 2 hours at \$750 an hour plus tax. You get: instructions, 5 minute practice race, 8 minute heat, 12 minute qualifying, and 15 minute Championship race. There can be 14 racers at a time that can race on the same track & each other. You can bring in your own food & soft drinks. Based on a show of hands of those interested, he will contact the facility for additional information & make a proposal at the next meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burt

Secretary

QCCC OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2003

The February officers meeting was held at Artis & Associates office, Charlotte, NC. Officers present were, Robert Morgan, E.O.Oakley, Gary Artis, Kay Weisberg, Ben Horack, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt. Guests were Jim Weisberg and John Meadows. President Robert Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Robert:

Welcomed visitors John Meadows and Jim Weisberg, and recognized Ben as the new Director of Automotive Events.

E.O.:

March meeting will be at Northcross Medical Center.
Will send a points log to the members each quarter by e-mail.
Reviewed the Inventory list.

Gary:

The 2003 Budget was approved with no changes.
Reviewed 2003 dues payment status – most members are paying the annual amount of \$96.
Volunteered to update the 2002 scrapbook he bought at the Banquet, with 2003 events.

Kay:

Will work with Ben to plan day trips.

Eddie:

Gave National Corvette Museum dues renewal letter to Gary to pay.
All visitors have been assigned a mentor, except one.

John:

The Website has been updated with 2003 information.

Ben:

Will check on an indemnification form for members to sign.
Reviewed the 2003 parade schedules for the Miss Mecklenburgs.
Auto Fair in April wants 6 Corvettes to be displayed in the big tent to celebrate the 50th Anniversary.
This Friday, the Raleigh Corvette Club will visit Hendricks and have lunch at the Speedway Club.
We may attend as well.

Jane:

Sent Get Well card to Fred Lentz for knee replacement surgery, and a Sympathy card to Judy Austin for her father's passing.
Volunteered to coordinate a Classified page for QCCC members on a trial basis.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Burt, Secretary



At our Wednesday night dinner get together, Philip Lewis had a birthday cake presented to Linda for her birthday as a surprise. We don't know how old she is, but she wore a button that read, "Seen damn near everything!"
(Sent in by Jane Burt)

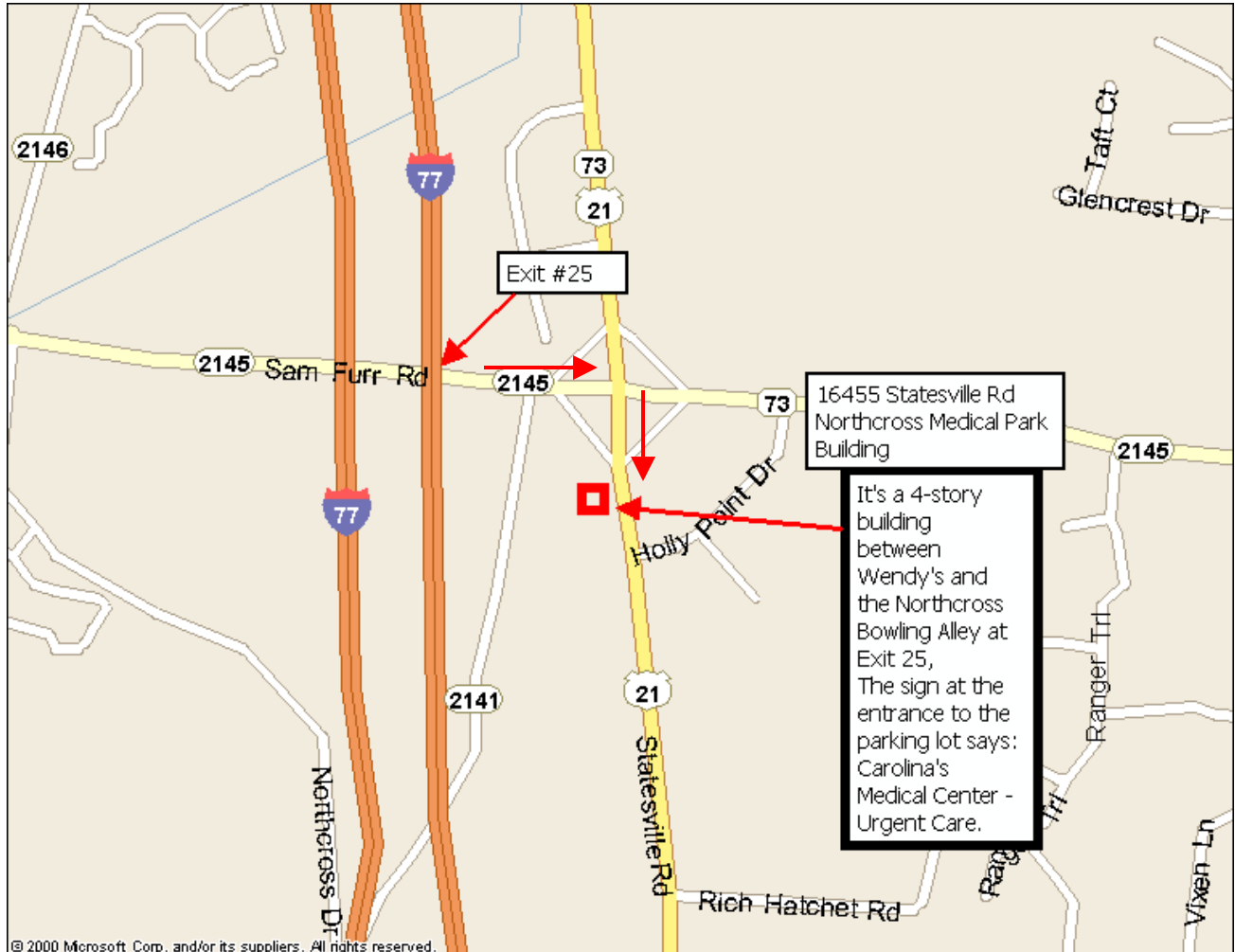
Business Meeting, 2nd Saturday of the Month

2003	Event	Time
<u>March</u>		
7 – 9 th	Amelia Island	
8 th	Business Meeting – Huntersville (see map)	6:30
12 – 15 th	12 Hrs Sebring	
15 th	St. Patrick's Day Parade	10 am
<u>April</u>		
5-6 th	Auto Fair	
12 th	Business Meeting	
19 th	Day Trip to Virginia Mountains Bring your camera. Meet at Exit #36, I-77 at Mooresville @ 8:30	8:30am
24 – 26 th	C5 Birthday Bash Bowling Green	
<u>May</u>		
10 th	Business Meeting – Huntersville	
May 31-Jun 1	Gatlinburg/Deal's Gap/Art Tour	
<u>June</u>		
14 th	Business Meeting	
25 – 29 th	50th Anniversary Celebration	
<u>July</u>		
12 th	Business Meeting – Huntersville	
<u>August</u>		
9 th	Business Meeting	
21 – 23 rd	Corvettes @ Carlisle	
<u>September</u>		
13-14 th	Autofair/Business Meeting	
???	Beach Trip (Social)	
26 th	Corvettes in the City (Walt)	
<u>October</u>		
11 th	Business Meeting	
18 th	Petit LeMans Road America	
<u>November</u>		
???	Mountain Trip (Social)	
8 th	Business Meeting	
<u>December</u>		
13 th	Christmas Party (Social)/Business Meeting	

St. Patrick's Day Parade Details:

Gather at 10am at the Hal Marshall Center @ N. Tryon & Brookshire Blvd.
Need 15 convertibles. Contact Ben Horack at 704-533-1646

**Map to our March meeting place.
Northcross Medical Park Building
16455 Statesville Road
Huntersville, NC
March 8th at 6:30pm**



On behalf of QCCC, cards have been sent and donations of \$50 each have recently been made, in lieu of flowers, at the request of 2 QCCC members.

Fred Lentz had knee replacement surgery February 17 and a donation was made to the Davidson Senior Nutrition Program.

Judy Austin's father, Herman Cunningham, passed away January 28 and a donation was made to the American Heart Association.

Also, **Linda Meadows** is having outpatient arthroscopy knee surgery this Friday.

Jane Burt, Secretary



New Acquisitions

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

Reggie & Suzie Black, in a friendly takeover, acquired a gorgeous red and white 1960. That's going to look nice beside that C5. Congratulations.

Gary & Linda Artis just acquired a '78 Pace car. We've lost count of how many 'Vettes they have now, but they had to rent a storage shed for enough room to just store the keys for all of their cars.

How 'bout a Big Howdy to Our Newest Members

Doug & Debbie Light →

2002 Electron Blue Coupe



←
Richard and Jan Klause. Richard has been a member for some time, Jan was voted in at the February meeting. They just picked up their new 50th anniversary convertible at the museum.

Florence & Larry Prather →

2002 Red Coupe



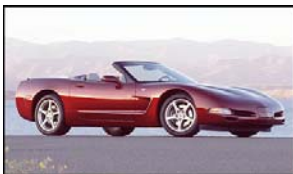
Virgil is just fine, thank you for asking.....

The newsletter staff was bombarded with inquiries about Virgil and his recent legal problems. Well, here is the latest. We're pleased to say the sheriff dropped most of the charges (It's amazing what a campaign contribution can do). Virgil has now enrolled at MIT and will be majoring in automobile technology and culinary arts after a plea bargain required him to drop out of animal husbandry. MIT (Mitchell In Town), a major community college in Statesville, has a community outreach program for people like Virgil. All's well that ends well, *we guess*.



Here's a picture of Virgil and his girlfriend, Zelda, on their way to a big Fescue family reunion. Boy, they make a good-looking couple.

50th Caravan Information



When Caravan participants pull out of Miami and Los Angeles areas, they should make sure they look up and wave. That's because their departures will be covered by the Goodyear blimps stationed in those states.



ANDY PILGRIM DESIGNATED AS FLORIDA CARAVAN'S GRAND MARSHALL

C5-R Race Team driver, Andy Pilgrim, has been announced as the Grand Marshall of the Florida Caravan. Designated as Chevrolet's 50th Anniversary spokesman, Pilgrim will lead the caravan and be a part of the exciting Florida caravan activities that include a stopover at the Atlanta Motor Speedway and much more.

Click here for info: www.nationalcorvettecaravan.com/

Wade Stickels

National Corvette Caravan Local Leader



HOW ABOUT GOING OUT WITH ME TONIGHT, DELETTE?

WELL, I THOUGHT WE'D TAKE THE BUS DOWN TO THE MALL... USING YOUR FREE PASSES

HAVE A ROMANTIC DINNER FOR TWO IN THE FOOD COURT... USING MY SENIOR DISCOUNT

-AND THEN WINDOW SHOP

HELLO, DELETTE!
HELLO, HELLO.....

A day of romance from the Philip McGwier Diaries

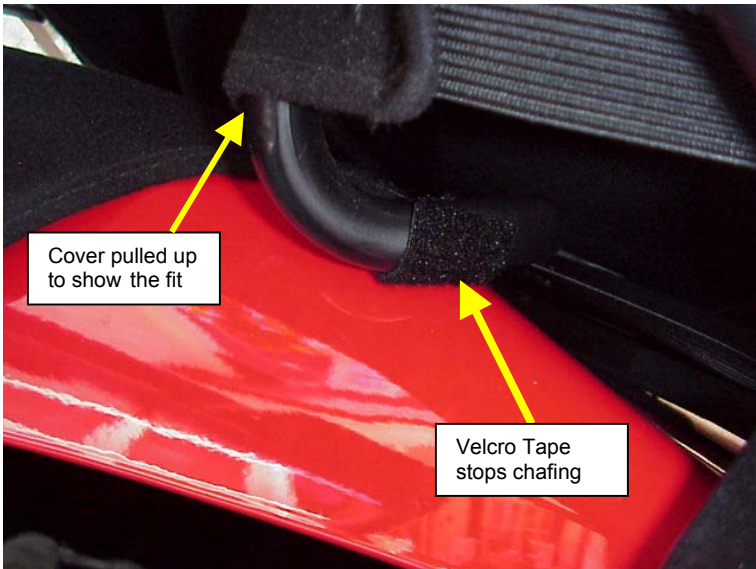
Contributed by Jane Burt

TECH TIP

By Billy Bob Bigblock

Don't you just hate it when you get an unexplained mark (or any mark for that matter) on your new car.

For a long time I kept seeing this little black scuff mark on the edge of the waterfall on my car every time I lowered the top on my C5. After some investigation I found out what was doing it, it was the top bows that fold as you're either lowering or raising the top. This is designed to be a close fit, but with just a minute maladjustment, it can rub the painted area.

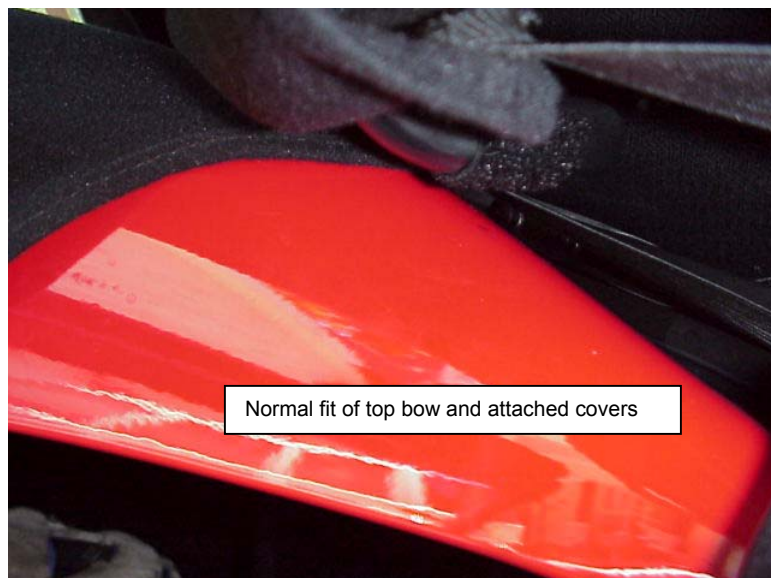


If the bow is adjusted too much it can weaken the seal the top makes with the waterfall, allowing rain and wind to enter at the bottom of the top. Knowing my ability to make things worse when I try adjusting stuff, I opted to fix the problem with America's best known tool – **Duct Tape**. After a few minutes of analysis, I determined that the Duct Tape was just too valuable to waste on cosmetic repairs so I elected to use Velcro tape instead. Although I think Duct Tape would have probably added 15 rear wheel horsepower and

been more attractive and given the C5 a classy, redneck look, the Velcro blends right in to the black and looks factory installed.

The big benefit is that it prevents the paint from being scratched and I don't have to worry about the seal between top and waterfall being weakened.

If you own a C5 convertible you might check the clearance of this bow when raising and lowering the top and perhaps install this Velcro tape if necessary before the finish is permanently marred.



Another Installment from E. O.'s file of frivolous lawsuits.....

A 19-year-old Carl Truman of Los Angeles won \$74,000 and medical expenses when his neighbor ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Mr. Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car when he was trying to steal his neighbor's hubcaps.

Editor's Note- Oh, yeah.....take Carl's word for it: "The ACLU, don't leave home without it."



The Ultimate Synthesis of Science, Art & Technology

While we're speaking of E. O., here is a picture he submitted recently. For those of y'all who don't know, E. O. is from Mississippi and he was there recently to attend a symposium on "The Blending of Automobiles and Function," and he took this picture of an example. He said the upholstery is available in many colors. Oh, by the way, it's called a "Mississippi Mustang."

Look for it at your local dealer...we're just not sure whether it's a plumbing dealer or a car dealer.

Thanks, E. O., you 'da man!

Forget everything you've heard before about the **C6**.....***This is it.*** We have it from a very reliable source that this is the design that was selected and production will start shortly. From what our sources tell us, this is either the Z16 or Z15 option, they weren't sure.



Do you know.....



Excluding Reggie's & Suzie Black's, how many 1960 models were sold with the white top?

4,946

Moments From the Meeting



Here's Jody Austin with the award he received. Hey, is it just me, or do you guys think he looks a lot like Harrison Ford?

Seriously folks, I really appreciate your thoughts. Thanks!

Ben "Where's the Defroster" Horack was elected as our new Director of Automobile Events.

Ben has served on past committees for bylaw revisions and automotive events





↑ Here's the vast right wing conspiracy gathered at the meeting...and its leaders ↓



Above are Reggie and Suzie Black with their new acquisition, a 1960.

Circle City Corvette of Dothan, Alabama 23rd Annual Beach Caravan

May 15th – 18th

Registration: \$50 per Corvette

This Year's event begins in Dothan Al. on Thurs. afternoon and culminates Sunday in Panama City Beach, FL. Event activities include parties, seminars, caravan, road tour, activities on the beach, live entertainment, great food and hospitality. Proceeds go to the National Corvette Museum and local charities. Don't miss being a part of over 250 Corvettes on the world's most beautiful beaches.

Includes one event t-shirt, goody bag, dash plaque and admission for two to all activities. Registration requested NLT May 1, 2003.

Host Motels

Dothan, AL – Thursday, May 15

Best Value Inn \$29 + tax 1-877-353-3311

Days Inn \$32 + tax 1-800-544-1448 /334-793-2550

Panama City Beach – Friday – Sunday, May 16-17

Ramada Limited \$90 + tax 1-850-234-1700

Contact Eddie Burt for more information



**Whew!!!
How High Is High?**

Have you noticed the increases lately? This sign pretty well sums it up!

Thanks to Jane Burt for this sign