

May 2003



“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!

Have you ever noticed, our club activities are like a drag race, we go from a dead stop to Wide Open Throttle!



We came out of an inactive winter into a very, very active April. It started with a trip to the Red Rocker Inn in Black Mountain. The next weekend was the Autofair, and it was great as always. Next we went to the Virginia mountains and found out why they made Corvettes and curvy roads. Then we traveled to Columbia to visit the zoo and enjoyed a fabulous day. We, here at the QCCC International Newsletter Headquarters at #1 Newsletter Plaza, high above downtown Troutman, get tired just thinking about all that we did this month. And it only continues next month....but ain't it great!!!

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
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Director of Social Activities	Kay Weisberg	708-5073 – H	
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Queen City Corvette Club (QCCC) newsletter is published monthly by volunteers and members of QCCC. 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.



April 26, 2003

Dear Fellow QCCC Members:

I hope everyone is enjoying the wet Spring we're having. I'm sure that by midsummer we'll all wish for a little of this rain to cool us off. Now if I can only find a way to keep the pollen off the car!

I want to thank City Chevrolet for allowing us to invade their service bays at the April business meeting and the offer to hold future meetings there. This is a great idea. It's nice to be able to drive in, park and meet out of the weather. Also, thanks to Jerry Ferrell for presenting a discount letter to our club members for cars, parts and labor at City Chevrolet. Another great benefit for being a club member!

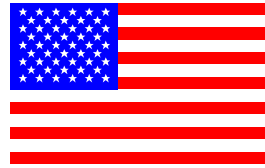
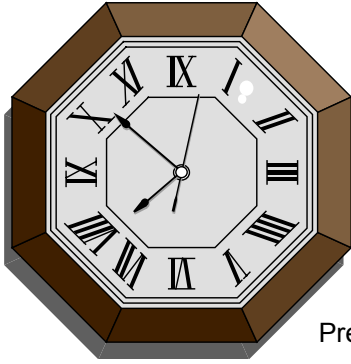
Several of the members have already taken advantage of the discounts at City Chevrolet. However, it seems that not all associates at the dealership are in tune with the discount program. This was also brought up in the board meeting this past week to see how to eliminate the confusion of who's included in the program. I spoke with Jerry Ferrell this past week and he'll speak with his service writers and cashiers to remind them of the discounts. The easiest method we arrived at is to show your discount letter that we received at the club meeting, along with your QCCC nametag to the cashier to prove you're a QCCC member. Just in case you didn't receive the letter at the meeting, I'll send it out in a separate e-mail for you to download. Hopefully, this will eliminate any confusion at City Chevrolet.

AutoFair was a great success even with a little rain on Saturday morning. With the possibility of inclement weather, we still showed 28 cars both days. It was nice to see all of the other Corvette clubs in one location. It was also nice to see our members' cars under the tent for the 50th anniversary display.

May is another event filled month for us, with car shows, parades and road trips planned. What more could you want? Check our website at www.queencitycorvette.com to see the calendar of events. Also, Corvettes in the Queen City is officially advertised on our website. Check it out! A lot of hard work has been put into this and it shows.

Until next time, save the wave!

Robert



Minutes from QCCC Meeting Saturday April 12, 2003

The April business meeting of QCCC was held at City Chevrolet, Charlotte, NC. Officers in attendance: Robert Morgan, E.O.Oakely, Gary Artis, Kay Weisberg, Ben Horack, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt. President Robert Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Visitors were asked to stand up, introduce themselves, and tell what year Corvette they have:

Fred & Rox Mudge – 2001 Pewter Convertible, **Cliff & Betsey Emery** – 1999 Black Coupe, **Q & Margo Gross** – 1999 Red Coupe, **Dick & Beverly Angell** – 1978 Silver Anniversary, **Dave & Jane Barton** – 1996 Black Coupe, **Alonzo & Eva Holloway** – 2002 Electron Blue Z06, **Charlie & Iris Bender** – 2000 Red Hard Top.

New Members voted in – **Patty Wright !**

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

Robert Morgan, President

- Thanked **Jerry Ferrell**, General Sales Manager of City Chevrolet for allowing us to hold our meeting at their facility.
- Jerry welcomed us & said how glad City Chevrolet was to be a QCCC sponsor. He told of the extensive renovations to their shop area & invited us to hold our meetings there anytime. They had sold 5 Corvettes that day! There was an enthusiastic round of applause when he told of their current Dealer programs.
- Sunday April 27 - meet at the SC Welcome Center to go to Columbia, SC for lunch at California Dreaming and then to the Riverbanks Zoo
- Asked if we'd be interested in being included in a book of NC & SC Corvette Clubs. The book would be hardbound and available for purchase for approximately \$50. The answer was "no."

E.O.Oakely, Vice President

- The May 10 meeting will be at the Northcross Medical Center in Huntersville
- The First Quarter Participation Points list will be e-mailed to everyone next week
- Asked everyone to sign the Sign-in sheet

Gary Artis, Treasurer

- Second Quarter dues are due

Kay Weisberg, Social Director

- Thanked **Gloria & Jerry Scienski** for providing appetizers for the pre-meeting get-together
- The March 30 road trip to Red Rocker Inn was a lot of fun & we'll probably do it again

Jody Austin, Trip Coordinator

- Saturday April 19 - will leave from exit 36 at 8:30 am & drive to Bluefield VA for lunch. Should return by 5:00 pm

Eddie Burt, Director of Membership

- Currently have 180 members
- Our Sunday evening "Ice Cream at 6:00" get-togethers will resume this Sunday. Bring you chairs & drinks to Baskin-Robbins at Carmel Commons Shopping Center at 6:pm

- Handed out and reviewed the proposed Bylaws amendments. Thanked the Committee members for their efforts. After a brief discussion, a motion was made, seconded, & approved to accept the amendments.
- **Linda Meadows** pointed out that this is not the only chance to change the Bylaws, any member can make a suggestion to amend the Bylaws at any time – submit suggestions to Eddie
- Copies of the Bylaws are available at each meeting

Ben Horack, Director of Automotive Events

- Car Show at Parks Chevrolet Saturday May 3 10:00 am to 3:00 pm – must have at least 35 cars
- Tuesday May 20 – Parade of Lights – need a lot of convertibles since we'll carry several dignitaries
- October – car show at City Chevrolet
- Auto Fair was a success – trophy winners were: **Reggie Black, Jim Weisberg, Phillip Lewis, Herman Pfisterer, Rob Gallman, and Wally Crawford**. QCCC cars under the BIG TENT to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Corvette belonged to: **Gary Artis** (2 cars), **John Meadows, Jody Austin, Robert Morgan, Richard Klause, and Chauncey Edwards !**

Walt Krupowicz, Chairman, **CORVETTES IN THE QUEEN CITY**

- **CORVETTES IN THE QUEEN CITY** is scheduled for the weekend of September 27. The flier and registration form are on the website. The goal is to draw 200 people from 6 states to the Queen City. Corporate sponsorship of \$500 is still being accepted.
- Thanked the Committee members for their efforts: **Wendy Krupowicz** – goodie bags, **John & Linda Meadows** – advertising, **Robert Morgan** – Road Tour, **Vanessa Morgan** – Westin Hotel arrangements, **Nancy Runnion** – registration, **Gary Artis** – finance, and **EO Oakley**.
- Asked for a show of hands of members who would be attending the event – almost everyone!

Gloria Scienski, Member

- Received a resounding “YES” to her request to use our May 3 car show for publicity for the Make-A-Wish Foundation

Bruce Goodrich, Member

- Wants a representative from each Corvette Club for a talent show at the 50th Anniversary Celebration in Bowling Green & Nashville June 25 – 29 – let him know ASAP

Sandy Welsh, Member

- Saturday May 17 at 4:00 pm. Everyone's invited to a Spring Celebration & Garden Tour at her house – the theme will be “Tropical Paradise” so wear your best Margaritaville duds. There will be a popcorn machine, live music, karaoke, aerial shots of the cars, Sonny's BBQ, and a swimming pool. Send your reservations & \$10 per person to **Bob Denney** by May 10.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burt, Secretary

QCCC OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY APRIL 24, 2003

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

Robert:

Saturday May 10 meeting will be at Northcross Medical Center in Huntersville
Sunday April 27 trip to Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia - their Capital City Corvette Club has been invited to join us

CORVETTES IN THE QUEEN CITY information is on the website & 2 registrations have been received!

Declined the invitation to appear in a NC/SC Corvette Club book

Gary:

Reviewed 2003 dues payment status & first quarter Budget status

Jane for Kay Weisberg:

Banquet will most likely be at the Hyatt at SouthPark. They are bending over backwards for us.
Beach trip will most likely be at Springmaid Beach in South Myrtle
Mountain trip planning is in progress

Eddie:

Will e-mail updated Bylaws to members & send printed copies to those without e-mail. Will also have copies at meetings.

Ben:

Auto Fair was a success

May 3 Car Show at Parks Chevrolet from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm is advertised on their website – need 40 cars. Trophies will be for: C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, Survivor, People's Choice, & Dealer's Choice.

Tuesday May 20 Parade of Lights – we'll carry 6 Miss Mecklenburgs & 7 WBTV dignitaries – want as many cars as possible for a "rolling rainbow"

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burt, Secretary

And this from **James Foreman:**

In a restroom at IBM's Watson Center, a supervisor had placed a sign directly above the sink. It had a single word on it: "THINK!"

The next day, when he went to the restroom, he looked at the sign and right below, immediately above the soap dispenser, someone had carefully lettered another sign which read: "THOAP!"

Automotive Events

STRAIGHT AXLES & STRAIGHT TALK

Greetings from the wonderful world of straight axles and exposed headlights.



As most of you know we've had two very successful automotive events so far this year: the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Auto Fair. In the upcoming weeks, we have two more; May 3rd the Annual Car Show at Parks Chevrolet and May 20th, the Parade of lights. These are UAW-GM important and fun events for the club. The car shows are the club's only source of money for our charities. Without the dealer support we would not be able to help the families we do. We really need to have a strong showing for these shows as support and thanks to Parks and City for all that they do for us. As extra incentive to showoff your Vette, or Vettes, we have added two more trophies; a Survivor Class and People's Choice Best of Show, along with the C1-5 and Dealer's Choice. That's THREE chances to win. Right now we have 30 cars signed up- we really need 40 cars. The show starts at 10:00 AM, we need to be there between 9:00 & 9:30 AM. It will end at 3:00 PM with the presentation of the trophies. Parks will be providing free hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. There will be more email about this.

On May 20th, we have the Parade of Lights, which starts off Speed Week. The **ENTIRE** Club is asked to participate in this, coupes, hard tops, and rag tops. They want ALL of the Vettes we can provide. Come one-come all. As in the past the Parade will leave from the Hal Marshall Center at N. Tryon St. and Phifer St. at 08:00 PM. We will meet in the 1st Baptist Church Parking Lot between 3rd & 2nd St. on Caldwell St. at 06:00PM and go by caravan to the Parade site at 06:30 PM. We will be carrying the Miss Mecklenburg's, Little Miss North Carolinas, the WBTV personalities, as well as other dignitaries for the 600 festival.

I will have emails out to everyone in the near future. If you have any questions in the meantime, please call me at 704-533-1646 or email me at landtramp@msn.com.

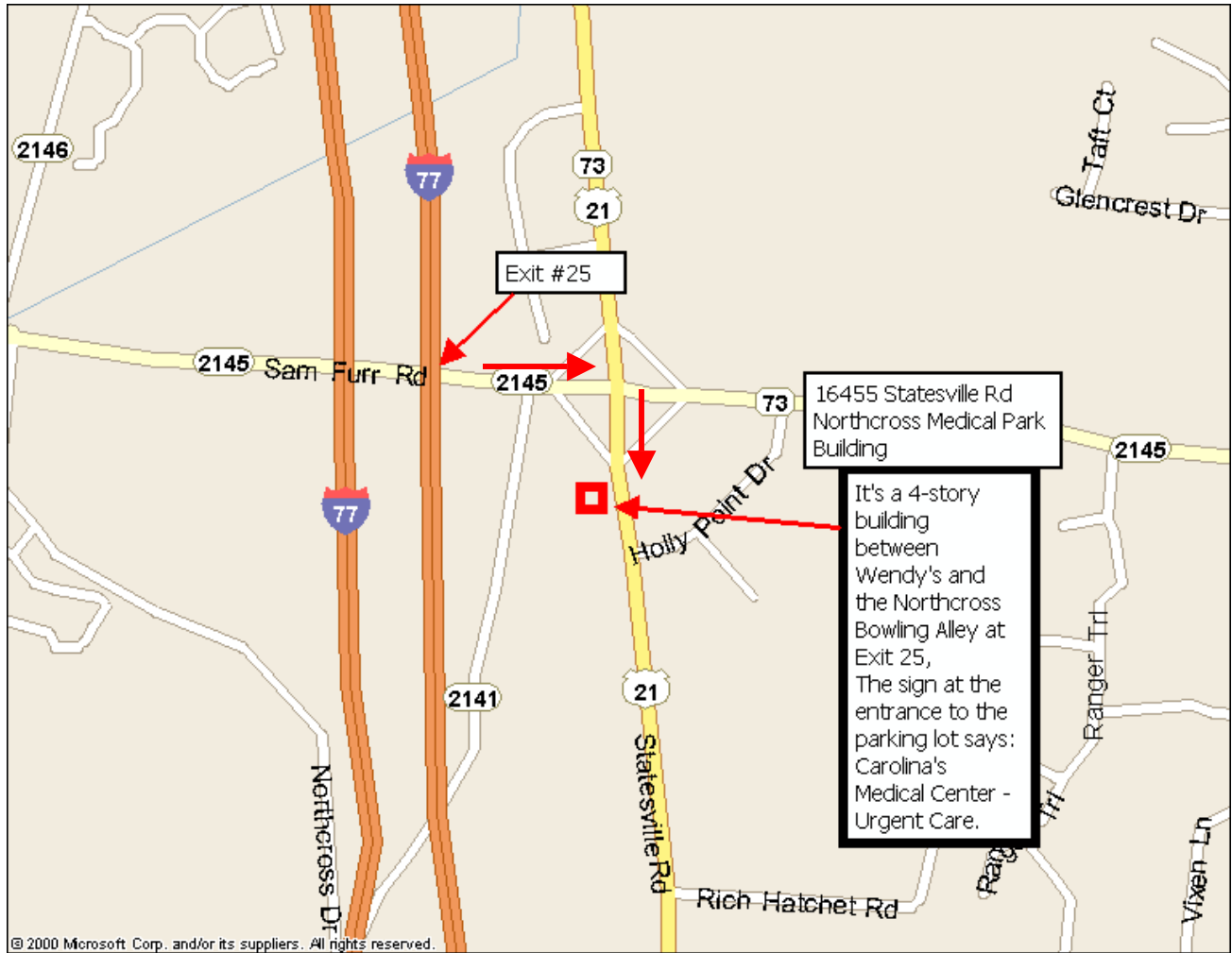


Thanks to EVERYONE who has helped make these events a success. ...and always remember, C-1's NEVER have floppy axles.

Ben "62" Horack

**Map to our May meeting place.
Northcross Medical Park Building
16455 Statesville Road
Huntersville, NC
May 10th at 6:30pm**

Social at 6:00pm Snacks available, but bring your own drinks (non-alcoholic)



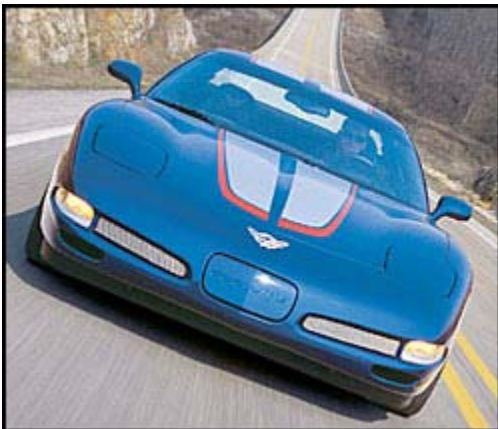
Business Meeting, 2nd Saturday of the Month

2003	Event	Time
May		
3 rd	Auto Show - Park's Chevrolet	
10 th	Business Meeting – Huntersville	
17 th	BBQ @ Sandy Welsh's house 4:30-6:30 Social	4:30
	Dinner provided at Sandy's - Bring drinks & dessert	6:30
20 th	Parade Of Lights - Downtown Charlotte	
May 31-Jun 1	Gatlinburg/Deals Gap/ Arts Tour	
June		
14 th	Business Meeting - BBQ at Burt's	
25 – 29 th	50th Anniversary Celebration	
28 th	Trip to Reed's Gold Mine	
July		
4 th	Pool Party @ Stickels' House	12 Noon
4 th	Parades-Hickory Grove & Tega Cay	
12 th	Business Meeting – Huntersville	
19 th	Progressive Dinner	
August		
???	Mountain Trip	
9 th	Business Meeting	
21 – 23 rd	Corvettes @ Carlisle	
30 th	Parade- Matthews Alive Festival	
September		
13-14 th	Autofair/Business Meeting	
26 th	Corvettes in the City (Walt)	
27 th	Parade-Mint Hill Madness	
October		
???	Beach Trip (Social)	???
11 th	Business Meeting	
18 th	Petit LeMans Road America	
25 th	Car Show – City Chevrolet	
November		
8 th	Business Meeting	
22 nd	Parade – Concord Christmas Parade	
23 rd	Parade – Monroe Christmas Parade	
December		
2 nd	Parade – Kannapolis Christmas Parade	
13 th	Christmas Party (Social)/Business Meeting	

How 'bout a Big Howdy to Our Newest Member



Here is our newest member, **Patty Wright**, pictured with Skip Koski



2004 Z16 Option

Here is what Elvira, a world famous palmist and seer here in downtown Troutman, saw in her crystal ball after a couple of Miller Lites (We'll check back next month and see how accurate she was):

According to GM, the vehicle wears a carbon fiber hood, marking the first use of carbon fiber as a painted exterior panel on a vehicle produced in North America.

The new hood weighs 20.5 pounds, 10.6 pounds lighter than the standard piece. The 5.7-liter V8 remains untouched, but Corvette engineers spent

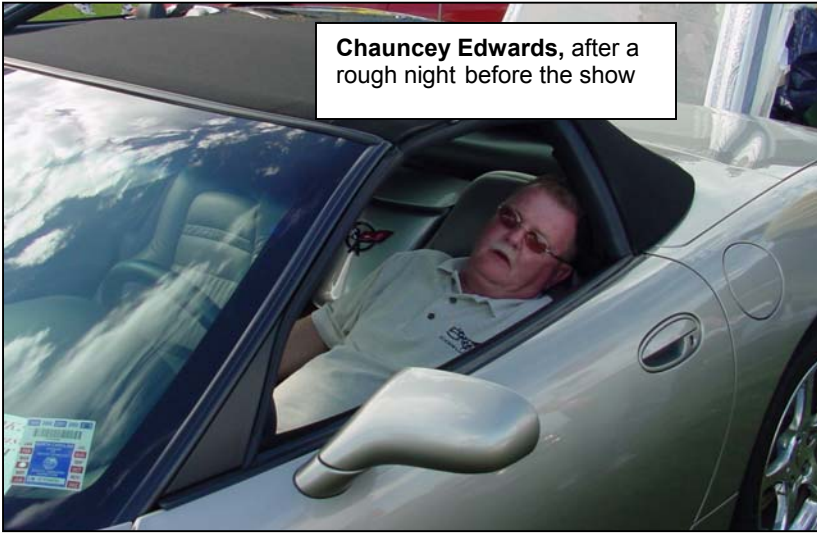
considerable time revising the Z06's shock damping, with much development done at the Nurburgring. The revised suspension will appear on all 2004 Z06s, but the hood will not. Commemorative Edition base coupes and convertibles will also be available, but with cosmetic changes only.

Due to production issues surrounding the carbon fiber hood, Chevrolet is still working out how many Commemorative Z06s will be made, estimating the figure to be "a couple thousand." The company will tack on a \$3,000-to-\$5,000 price hike over the standard Z06 when the car goes on sale in August—by which time Chevy hopes to have another Le Mans victory under its belt.

Story and picture from [Autoweek](#).



Rob Gallman represented the QCCC at the Best in Show contest. Humpy Wheeler (shown greeting Rob) was the judge.



Chauncey Edwards, after a rough night before the show

- And the Award winners were:** (the envelope, please)
- Rob Gallman** – Best of Show
 - C5 – **Herman Phister**
 - C4 – **Phillip Lewis**
 - C3 – **Jim Weisburg**
 - C2 – None Entered
 - C1 – **Reggie Black & Wally Crawford**



Photo: Robert Morgan

TECH TIP

Pssst! Your Wife/Girlfriend Has Been Lying To You,

Size Does Matter!

By Billy Bob Bigblock

Remember the old saying, “There’s no replacement for displacement!” It’s true, “the more displacement, the more power. However, tuning issues associated with bore and stroke definitely influence the type of power a given displacement can give. Large bore, short stroke design (oversquare) tend to be good breathers because larger intake and exhaust valves fit in the bore, and less valve area is shrouded by the cylinder walls. The short stroke supports higher rpm because the piston doesn’t have to travel as far per stroke, and longer connecting rods are easier to package into such an engine by the designer without having overall engine height grow clumsily high. Long rods slow piston acceleration at the top and bottom of each stroke, which allows higher rpm before critical stresses are reached. Thus, oversquare engines are associated with sporty, higher-revving applications.

“Long-stroke, small-bore engines (undersquare) keep the engine from growing overly long because the cylinders are that much closer together. Furthermore, when trying to package truly large displacement, it’s also normally easier to add stroke (height) than bore (length). That’s because a half-inch of stroke means just a half-inch of increased engine height, while a half-inch larger bore is multiplied by the number of cylinders in each bank of cylinders. Thus, engine length grows faster than engine height when adding displacement. Long engine lengths can be difficult as crankshaft rigidity can be an issue, plus engine weight grows, especially if more and smaller cylinders are added.

“Smaller bores can be a hindrance to breathing, so typically long-stroke designs favor lower rpm. In practice, we’ve come to associate such undersquare designs with lower rpm, larger displacement, higher torque applications.”¹

As you’ve just read, whether it’s oversquare or undersquare, more power is developed in bigger engines. There’s ***no replacement for displacement***. So, regardless of what your wife/girlfriend has told you, ***size does matter***.

We hope you paid attention to the details of this article because we will have a pop quiz at the next meeting.

Happy motoring!

¹ Road & Track, January 2003, Technical Correspondence section

How to Launch a PWC

(In case you didn't know, that's a Jet Ski)
or, as they say down at the bait shop:

“Here, hold my beer. Hey Y'all, Watch This!”

Here's Booger Baker and some of the boys down at the baitshop launching Booger's Jet Ski for its maiden voyage on Lake Norman. These good 'ol boys know how to do things right, don't they? We interviewed Booger afterwards and he told us it was all his wife's fault. He said he usually uses the John Deere tractor for launching, but his wife, Loretta, took the tractor when she went shopping down at the flea market, and he had to **borrow** his neighbor's SUV. The neighbors were out of town and Vern didn't think they would mind, but now he has to find some way to get the SUV back in their driveway without them knowing he used it. We're not going to tell, and we hope y'all won't, either.



1. Load your PWC in the back of the SUV, and drive to the nearest launch ramp. Open the back doors of the SUV and back into the water. The PWC should float out into the water.



2. Once the PWC is afloat and the SUV is half filled with water, drive the SUV back onto the ramp. It helps to have someone stand on the walkway and point toward shore.



3. If at any point the SUV starts to disappear from view, you may be fairly certain that the operation is not going as planned. However, this is a viable alternative to crowded parking conditions at most ramps.



4. With your craft safely launched and engine revved, you're now ready for a great day on the lake.

Moments From the Meeting



Jim & Kay Weisburg

Sandy Welch

Oh, my goodness, Karl!
What did you do?



City Chevrolet was gracious enough to invite us to use their service department for our meeting. What a nice place, the floor was clean enough to eat on.

Photos: Bob Denney

Shhh! Don't make a scene, they'll think someone else did it.



Karl & Jackie Slavetsky



Lois & Ken Watts



Charlie & Iris Binder



Debbie & Doug Light

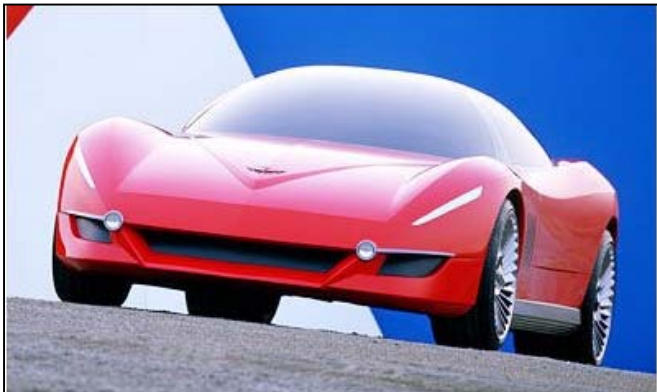
Skip Koski



Due to the high risk of danger to women in secluded parking lots, especially during evening hours, the Charlotte City Council has established a "Women Only" parking lot at South Park Mall. Even the parking lot attendants are exclusively female so that a comfortable and safe environment is created for patrons. Below is the first picture available of this world-first women-only parking lot in Charlotte, NC.



Submitted by the National Organization of Women's biggest advocate, Eddie "ERA" Burt



Could this be the C6?

There was a lot of money spent on this.

It's called the Moray. An Italian design studio as both an exercise and to commemorate the 50th anniversary did this concept car.

Whatcha' think?

Courtesy [AutoWeek](#)





Dave Gregorino suffered a heart attack on Sunday April 13th. No heart damage was reported and Dave came home the following Wednesday.

We talked with Dave and he is recovering nicely.

Dave, you and Jane are in our thoughts and prayers.

Do you know.....



how many cars Chevrolet produced with the Z16 option?
This is almost too easy! Think hard.

Here's a hint, it's not what you're thinking.

Answer:
1,201 Surprised?
Email me for the details!

JULY 4 POOL PARTY



WHEN: Friday, July 4, noon until. We will eat at 1 p.m.

WHERE: The Stickels' home, 16336 Ranger Trail, Huntersville.

FOOD: Please bring a hot or cold prepared covered dish (meat, vegetable, or dessert) and your own beverage.

BRING: Chairs, bathing suits, towels, & sunshine.



Directions: I-77 exit 25, head east on Hwy. 73/Sam Furr Road. Drive past Target and turn right on Ranger Trail into the Greenfarm subdivision. Proceed down Ranger Trail to Tallent Lane. We are on the corner of Ranger Trail and Tallent Lane. 704-892-1153

13 Cars Went To The Mountain

(And, amazingly, all 13 returned!)

by Charlie Binder



The weather was damp, foggy with periods of drizzle, however the spirits of thirteen corvette owners were high with an opportunity to indulge in driving on roads that make their cars stand out.

We met at a parking lot right off Exit 36 on I-77, as the cars lined up curious on lookers admired the entourage of colorful sports cars. With Jody leading the way, the cars entered I-77 going north and managed to stay together despite the pace set by the lead car and numerous vehicles causing us to re-order.

Off of I-77 at Exit 83, then north on 21 headed toward Sparta. The caravan split into two and pitted at a Hardees and a Burger King to get all a chance to stretch their legs and get rid of the breakfast coffee that they had savored hours earlier. The drive was getting interesting, the weather changed to sunny, the

roads narrower and more curvy, the tires were getting warm. A second pit stop at Hungry Mother's State Park set the tone as the drivers readied themselves for the main event.

The drivers that wanted to go fast were told to go ahead and rendezvous at a certain location. Soon the others began. Again, Jody set the pace and the Corvettes were put to a challenge. The road twisted and switched back more than anyone expected. Drivers' arm muscles got a work out pulling the wheel back and forth to stay on the road. Leg muscles were also getting a workout: brake, clutch, downshift, accelerate, upshift, brake, etc.



The road meandered through a mountain pass that barely hugged the side of the cliffs. We were told the view from certain points was terrific; but no one got to see them, they couldn't take their eyes off the road to look. Taking curves at more than double the posted speeds and trying to keep the cars on the road was taking the immediate attention of every driver.

A slight break in the activity took place when we stopped in the parking lot of a funeral home and took a breather, wiped the sweat off our brows and traded stories. Then it was off to Ryan's Steak House for a great lunch and more stories.

After lunch some drivers opted for a more direct (quieter) ride back and took the interstate. A hardy group of six, lead by Jody, found back roads that seemed tame compared to the morning's run.

Every driver was excited and having fun with the morning's drive, though some passengers might not have shared the same level of enthusiasm. I know at least one passenger was having a great time and was hungry for more: Bob Denney's. There is a lot of truth in the saying about the only difference between men and boys is the cost of their toys.

(Editor's Note- I remember hearing Judy saying over & over, "I'm going to be sick" and "You're crazy!" but I've heard her say that, too, when I told her we should have sex, so I wasn't deterred.)

A CHEMIST'S VIEW ON OCTANE

By Tom Johnson (submitted by E.O. Oakley)

Part 2 of 5 Parts

BLENDING COMPONENTS VS. ADDITIVES:

MTBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether) and ethanol are blending components, not additives. However, you'll see them called additives in many places by many people. Blending components are part of base gasoline. The simplest differentiation between an additive and a blending component is that the former are added in ppm (parts-per-million) levels; whereas, the latter are added in percentage quantities.

BRAND OF GASOLINE:

Some of you probably know this; others may be shocked by it. Oil companies swap base gasoline all the time. Let's say I have a refinery in Houston and you have one in Dallas. It makes little sense for me to truck my Houston gasoline to Dallas and for you to truck your gasoline from Dallas to Houston when gasoline is a commodity product. So, I let you draw 100,000 gallons of base gasoline from my storage tank in Houston for your Houston gas stations, and you let me draw 100,000 gallons of base gasoline from your Dallas holding tanks for my Dallas gas stations. That way, we both save on shipping. Yup, Texaco gasoline may have come from a Shell refinery and vice-versa. At a gasoline terminal you may see trucks from up to six different companies all loading at the SAME terminal (that for example may be supplied exclusively by Shell). What comes next, however, is what makes Texaco Texaco and Shell Shell. **Additives!!** Each company has its own additive package and adds it to the base gasoline. So while the base gasoline may be the same, the additive is different, and hence the brand of gasoline you use is different because of the additive, not the base gasoline.

WHICH ADDITIVE IS BETTER?:

Given the above discourse, it's obvious that we all want the gasoline with the best additive. Unfortunately, it's not that simple. Additives respond differently in different base gasolines (even of the same grade). Also, some additives work better with gasolines used in a carbureted car vs. one that uses fuel injection. On a practical level, additives are going to be developed today for today's cars -- meaning fuel injected cars. For Corvette owners who have carbureted Vettes (like me), this is unfortunate. Carbureted engines leave a LOT more deposits behind than fuel injected cars. From a regulatory standpoint, California was the first to call for all gasolines to pass the BMW test (port-fuel-injected engine) in all grades of gasoline. Like all regulations, this one had various messages put to it, but the net effect was that all oil companies went to work developing additives that are a LOT better today than 10 years ago AND they are used in all grades (not just premium -- hence the argument to use premium to get a better additive went out the window).

No more phone calls, we have a winner!!!!

Answer to last month's question: Name the year of the Corvettes pictured below.



1963



1966



1967

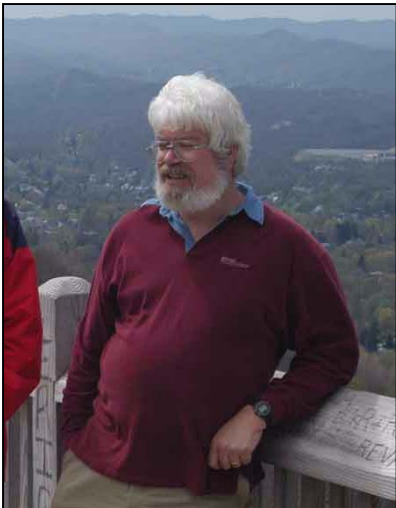


1965



1964

Jon Elliott named these correctly within an hour of receiving the newsletter. Damn, he's good! Congratulations Jon!!



Lunch in Bluefield? or the “You Gotta Be Tough 400”

By Jack Warlick

If anyone asks why I would get up at 7:00 AM on a Saturday to drive 200 miles one way to eat lunch I guess I will just have to say because I am crazy. The day began as so many have in April of this year, gray, cold and wet! Even so, about 25 of us rolled out of bed and made the 200-mile trek (at least it was 200 miles from my house) to, of all places, a Ryan’s Steak House in Bluefield, VA just for the pleasure of eating lunch in the company of a group of friends that are obviously just as crazy.

If you did not come out to play with us on the 19th you missed a good chance to find out just how good you really are in the curves. While it wasn’t Deal’s Gap, it was the next best thing to “The Gap.” Several of us wiped off more than a little tread from our tires and dirtied up the front wheels and tires with a healthy serving of brake dust. I think most of the attendees enjoyed the benefit of “active handling” which limited the amount of sliding through the turns they had to put their co-pilots through but not me. Having the oldest car in attendance I had to rely on other means to stay between the ditches. Those included not only a “seat-of-the-pants” feel for the road but also Sandy’s right side brake pedal. What she doesn’t realize is that I disconnected it before the trip.



Although the weather looked like it was going to spoil the day, as all who went will attest we left the bad weather behind once we were over the first mountain ridge and headed into Virginia. The skies were actually mostly clear and several tops went down or came out after the rest stop at, of all places, the funeral parlor...

The next time the club is heading off on a “day trip” and you are on the fence as to whether or not you should go, call one of us that took the 400 mile round trip drive just to have lunch at a Ryan’s and see what we have to say about it. I say, **SIGN ME UP!**



Photos: Bob Denney &
Charlie Binder

...more from E.O.'s library of frivolous lawsuits:

Jerry Williams of Little Rock, Arkansas, was awarded \$14,500 and medical expenses after being bitten on the buttocks by his next-door neighbor's beagle. The beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. The award was less than sought because the jury felt the dog might have been just a little provoked at the time by Mr. Williams who was shooting it repeatedly with a pellet gun.

Did you know.....



..... in less than seven months, from March 23, 1989 to early October 1989...the C5 was postponed from a 1993 introduction to 1994, then to 1995, then to*indefinite (maybe never)*. GM was having a terrible cash crisis and all new developing models were postponed. Later the C5 slipped even further to a 1997 model. We should consider ourselves lucky because there was talk within GM to axe the Corvette totally.

Contributed by **Jeff Estridge**

Yea, we've all wanted to argue when we were pulled over, but the following are things **NEVER** to say to a cop:

1. I can't reach my license unless you hold my beer. (OK in Texas)
2. Sorry, Officer, I didn't realize my radar detector wasn't plugged in.
3. Aren't you the guy from the Village People?
4. Hey, you must've been doin' about 125 mph to keep up with me. Good job!
5. Are You Andy or Barney?
6. I thought you had to be in relatively good physical condition to be a police officer.
7. You're not gonna check the trunk, are you?
8. I pay your salary!
9. Gee, Officer! That's terrific. The last officer only gave me a warning, too!
10. Do you know why you pulled me over? Okay, just so one of us does.
11. I was trying to keep up with traffic. Yes, I know there are no other cars around. That's how far ahead of me they are.
12. When the Officer says "Gee Son....Your eyes look red, have you been drinking?" You probably shouldn't respond with, "Gee Officer your eyes look glazed, have you been eating doughnuts?"

This just in from **Wade Stickels**, one of our roving reporters:

Health and Beauty Aids for Your Car — While thumbing through a Griot's Garage (products for your garage) catalog I spotted two unique items. A \$76 water hose nozzle and a vinyl & rubber dressing filled "Q-Tip" type Pop Swabs for detailing those hard to reach areas! For those looking for a gift for your car lover that has everything. Go to www.griotsgarage.com for even more exciting items.

(Editor's note – Q-Tips???, what's next, bikini wax for you C4?)

Trip to the Red Rocker



Above from left, Jack Warlick, Betty & Scott Hamilton

To the right is Bob Denney at a table with all of his friends.



Here is the Sigmon's "C6 prototype cleverly disguised as a Taurus," (their words) on the way to the Red Rocker.



From left, Jerry & Gloria Scienski and Eddie Burt

To the right are Wendy & Walt Krupowicz

Photos: Bob Denney, David Sigmon





Please! Do Not Feed The Animals

The Grand Pa Exhibit (L to R)
 Les Wiseman, Scott Hamilton
 Jim Weisburg & Eddie "E1" Burt

QCCC Visits the Zoo

By Jane Burt

Sunday April 27, 2003 the QCCC went to the zoo. There were over 18 Corvettes, 3 SUVs carrying QCCC children & grandchildren, and 2 Harley's carrying Big Bad Dudes (Scott Hamilton & Jim Weisberg).

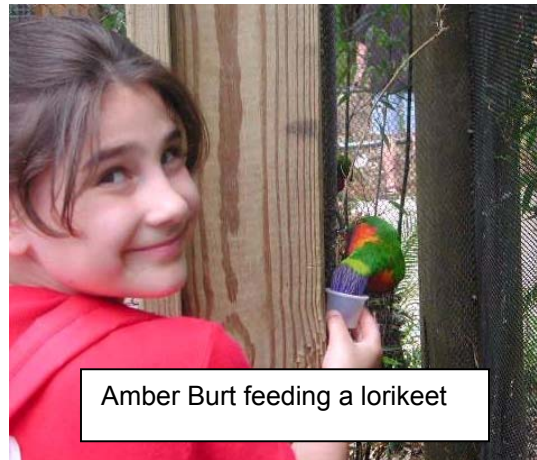
It was a beautiful day to ride to Columbia led by The Pres, Robert Morgan. We drove straight to California Dreaming for lunch, which was very good, and worth another trip! Some

folks went home while others went to the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden.

The zoo had lions, tigers, bears, elephants, a rhino, koalas, a wallaby, flamingos, cows, a llama, goats, an alligator, giraffes, zebras, an ostrich, tortoises, meerkats, gorillas, sea lions, bears, lemurs, and a huge aquarium and reptile complex. There were also gardens and woodland trails.

The QCCC kids were as much fun to watch as the animals (Jim & Kay Weisberg's daughter and 2 granddaughters, Eddie & Jane Burt's granddaughter & grandson (Amber & Lane), and Gary & Linda Artis' daughter Heather.

It was a perfect day to spend with the animals.



Amber Burt feeding a lorikeet



Lane "E3" Burt with a Tiger

See **Wade Stickels** at the **May meeting** or **Park's Chevrolet Car Show** to purchase raffle tickets on both of the Corvettes below. Proceeds benefit the National Corvette Museum

Dale Earnhardt Series 2003 Z06 Corvette



Dale Earnhardt Series 2003 Z06 Corvette Raffle

Win a **one-of-a-kind**, exclusive Dale Earnhardt Series 2003 Z06 Corvette scheduled to be given away June 30, 2003. The unique Z06 features Dale Earnhardt series signature modifications courtesy of Dale Earnhardt Inc. An unlimited number of tickets will be sold at \$25 each on the fully loaded Z06 Corvette, which will be given away as part of the grand finale activities of the June 2003 50th Anniversary Celebration. Price : \$25.00



2004 Corvette Convertible

Win a 2004 convertible Corvette with automatic transmission scheduled to be given away at the Museum's 9th Annual Corvette Celebration scheduled for August 28-31, 2003. The Corvette convertible comes fully loaded and includes the R8C Delivery Option, which entitles the winner to a VIP tour, special hands-on demonstrations and a one-year membership to the Museum. An unlimited number of tickets will be sold at \$10 each on the 2004 model year Corvette.

Price : \$10.00