

September
2004



Where We Drive to Eat



Queens City Corvette Club, Inc

2004 Officers

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

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

The President's Message

Dear Fellow QCCC Members:

I want to first thank Mark and Adina Ledford in hosting the August business meeting at their house. Even though it was a small turnout, the rain held out and we had plenty of food left over. Once again we prove the theory; we love to drive to eat! The only disappointment for me was that Mark didn't have one of his trucks there for me to try and drive. Yeah like he would let me!

Well the rain didn't hold out for the Knight's baseball game. We arrived at the stadium with threatening skies, and we got the picnic in with no problem. (Here's that eating theme again.) Then the sky opened up and the rains came. Thank goodness the picnic area is covered because it kept us dry and the rain provided some relief to the heat. We waited a little over an hour to hear them tell us the game was cancelled. At least they shot the fireworks off for the small crowd that had waited around. Sorry everyone, I tried to hold the rain off but I didn't do the right non-rain dance.

The Bowling Green trip to the Corvette assembly plant was fantastic. We had a personalized tour of the plant and the Corvette Museum that Walt Krupowicz arranged. We spent Friday on our feet gathering all the Corvette and C6 information that we could hold in one day. Saturday we hopped in the cars and drove to Sevierville, TN, SE of Knoxville, TN to give us a break in the drive back. In Sevierville there's a muscle car museum which had several Corvettes and Corvette engines on display. It was well worth the stop not only to see the Corvettes, but the other muscle cars as well.

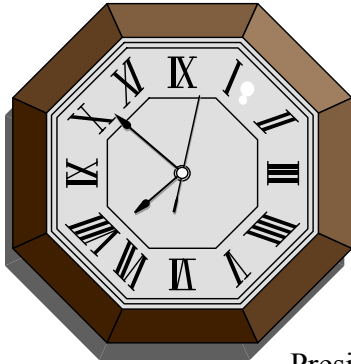
We'll be taking nominations for the 2004 board at the October business meeting. If you can't make that meeting, just email me your nomination at rmvette@aol.com. I'll contact each nominee to ask their interest. We'll be voting on the new officers at the November meeting. If you have questions on the responsibilities of a position, just ask a current board member or you can read about them in the Club's bylaws.

Again check the social calendar. You can view it at www.queencitycorvette.com for approaching events.

Until next time, save the wave!

Robert





Minutes from the QCCC Meeting Saturday August 14, 2004

The August business meeting of QCCC was held at **Mark & Adina Ledford's** house, York, SC.

Officers present: Robert Morgan, Kay Weisberg, Ben Horack, Wally Crawford, Florence Prather, Eddie Burt, and Jane Burt.

President, Robert Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Clark & Pat Belvin – 2000 Red Convertible, **Keith Wade** - 2000 Blue Convertible, **Finley & Marilyn Jones** – 1992 Aqua Coupe, **Ralph & Alberta Weinheimer** – 2002 Red Convertible

New members voted in: **Finley & Marilyn Jones !!!**

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

Robert Morgan, President

- Thanked **Mark & Adina Ledford** for hosting the meeting
- For years, the QCCC Website had been graciously hosted & updated **by John Meadows**. However, his employee is no longer available to maintain it, so **E.O. Oakely** has volunteered to maintain & update the QCCC Website effective in September.
- Sign up for the Charlotte Knight's baseball game Sat. night Aug. 21 with an all-you-can-eat picnic before the game & fireworks after the game for \$20 person. So far, 20 people are going.
- October – will take nominations for the 2005 Board. You can volunteer or be nominated.

Ben Horack, Vice President

- Sept. meeting will be at Northcross Medical Center – enter through the back
- QCCC Business Cards have been delivered to City Chevrolet and will be placed in all Corvette glove compartments
- Oct. meeting will be at City Chevrolet
- Nov. meeting will be at Northcross Medical Center
- Dec. meeting location has not been determined – if you know of a place that has a kitchen and will hold 125 people, let Ben or Kay know
- Sign the Attendance Sheet

Wally Crawford, Automotive Events

- Thanked **Walt Krupowicz** for coordinating the trip to the Corvette Museum and Assembly Plant. 18 people went & had a great time.
- 8 families have signed up for the trip Aug. 20 to Pigeon Forge. Will leave Fri. at 10 am from McDonald's and take the back way with arrival about 4 pm. Will leave Sat. at 10 am for a 45 minute drive to Deal's Gap

- Aug. 27-29 – going to Corvettes at Carlisle, PA
- Sept. 4 – Matthews Alive Parade – need at least 9 cars for Miss Mecklenburgs and dignitaries
- Sept. 18, 19 – Auto Fair – sign up now – must have 30 cars
- Oct. 9 – City Chevrolet Car Show & meeting

Florence Prather, Treasurer

- E-mailed the July Treasury Report today
- Third quarter dues are now being accepted

Kay Weisberg, Social Events

- Aug. 20 – 22 – trip to Gatlinburg. Wally will lead a group on Fri. morning. Staying at the Holiday Inn in Pigeon Forge. Can run Deal's Gap Sat. morning, if you dare.
- Oct. 1-3 – trip to Charleston. Staying at the Holiday Inn Riverview. Planning a dinner Sat. night & a walking Ghost Tour based on the book Ghosts of Charleston. 8 couples have signed up so far.
- Dec. Christmas Party – need help finding a place for 125 folks with a kitchen
- Jan. – Banquet at Hyatt at SouthPark
- Need volunteers to help with snacks before meetings

Eddie Burt, Director of Membership

- Began the year with 198 members & we now have 180, due mostly to moves out-of-state
- 35 folks have contacted us through our website
- Gave QCCC Business Cards to Morrison Motors

Walt Krupowicz, Member & NCRS Representative

- Told a wonderful tale of the recent trip to the Corvette Assembly Plant and Museum in Bowling Green
- If there's enough interest in going next year, the Museum can be leased to have dinner in, and tours can be taken of local distilleries and caves

Boyd Kurt, Member

- Sept. 22 – 25 – Road Atlanta Race – come visit his motor home in the infield

E.O. Oakley, Member

- Will send an e-mail about an upcoming Driving School in Kershaw, SC Oct. 9 & 10

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burt, Secretary

VP REPORT



September Business Meeting:

Our September Business Meeting will be back at the Northside Medical Center. Remember that the meeting room has changed. WE GO TO THE LEFT OF THE BUILDING, TO THE 2ND. SET IF DOUBLE SLIDING DOORS PAST URGENT CARE I'm attaching the map & directions to the meeting for those not familiar with the location. I'll get there early & put a sign on the door.

Future Meetings:

Our October meeting will be at City Chevrolet immediately following the car show on October 9th. The November meeting will have us back up North in Huntersville at Northside Medical. December will be our Christmas party at a place yet to be determined.

Road Trips & Parades:

For those of you that missed the Gatlinburg Deals Gap trip, you missed out on a great time. Wally gave everyone a demonstration on the practical application of "run flat tire" technology. Yep, he punched a 3/8 " hole in his right rear tire on I-40, just so we could see how they work, and they really will keep running. Now that's a dedicated Automotive Director! Then every one else had a beautiful drive down the Parkway. Saturday, Bob Denney drove up and met us to "Run The Dragon" at Deals Gap. If you haven't tried it, 11 miles & 318 curves is just what Corvettes are made for, what a blast. Barbara enjoyed it so much on Saturday, she drove it on Sunday. Don't forget the Matthews Alive Parade on Labor Day weekend, also known as the "let it rain" parade. Speaking of our Automotive "King of the Road," Auto Fair is this month & Wally needs 30 cars for both Saturday & Sunday. We must have 100% turn out or we'll get cat back in the spring. They asked several clubs not to return because of poor attendance in the past.

Final Thoughts:

A special thanks to Mark & Adina for hosting our August meeting. Quinton and Margo Gross came early to help with Mark & Quinton doing the cooking. The rain passed just as everyone was arriving and we had lots of food and fellowship. I am told that there was even a group that went to a local road house to listen to Mark sing Karaoke.

Don't forget the road trip to Charleston, October 1st - 3rd. We're staying at the Holiday Inn Riverview on the Ashley River. On Saturday, there's a trip to Jamison's Custom Corvettes in North Charleston to tour their shops. Kay's also got a Ghost Walk, carriage rides & great restaurants lined up for us. Sounds like more food to me. Deadline to reserve your rooms, at our \$99/night special rate is September 9th.

The October meeting is nomination of Officers for next year with elections in November. These are the people who will lead our club for the next year. If there is someone you'd like to see on the board, this is the time to put their name in on the ballot.

Fall brings great Vette weather & there are still lots of events planned. Auto Fair, car shows, road trips, and parades. Corvettes and fall color go well together. The C-6's are finally out and I wonder who will show up with the 1st. one? No Wally, a C-1 & a C-5 do not equal a C-6.

Ben

FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

I am sitting here on Sunday evening, having just returned from Pigeon Forge and the run up Deal's Gap. I have heard the Deal's Gap stories as long as I have been in the club, but never been able to participate until this year. The real story for me this weekend was not about the road course, but about the people we have as members in this club.



The road trip left on schedule and was a top down enjoyable trip with a rest stop just as planned. Just beyond the rest stop in Marion, I hit a piece of pipe on the road, immediately destroying a brand new Michelin. Alarms went off and lights flashed, the tire popped and I found out how good the run flats really work. **FOLKS-THEY WORK!** We limped about 30 miles into Asheville, and while Ben Horack led most of the club to Pigeon Forge, I found a tire shop.

Now, about some of the people in the club. When my tire went and as soon as I scrubbed off some speed, I got on the radio and let everyone know what had happened. Guess it was unnecessary. Phil McGwier saw the pipe come from under my car, he straddled it without incident but kicked it up onto Kelly's car and it bounced off hitting Philip Lewis' car. How many corvette's can you get with one piece of pipe? The good news is that I was the only one who suffered any damage. We got off at the next exit to examine the damage and I suggested that everyone go on without me. **NO WAY!**

Every single car and person stayed with me to Asheville while my wife was on the cell phone trying to find a tire so we could continue our trip. She located a Goodyear at Tire Kingdom, and after lunch (hey-this is QCCC. We have traditions and priorities.) Ben led the rest of the group to Pigeon Forge and I went for a tire. Phil McGwier and DeLette stayed with Anita and me and we were back on the road within an hour and a half, We checked into the motel not long after everyone else.

I do not usually use this forum as a personal venue and do not mean to do so now, but I am so impressed with the quality of people that we have within our group of members that I thought it important to relay all of this. Thanks to everyone on the trip for your support and understanding. Anita and I feel blessed with our group of friends, and if you have not experienced this kind of camaraderie from QCCC, it is just a matter of time until you do. The more involved you are in club activities the more quickly and deeply you

will experience and enjoy this fellowship, but my suggestion would be that you try to do it cheaper and less dramatically than I did.



Please review the calendar elsewhere in this issue for upcoming events. We could still use a few cars for the Matthew's Alive Parade and definitely need cars for AutoFair. I will keep AutoFair registration closed to all but QCCC members until 8/28. On 8/29 I will open up registration to QCCC members with second cars, prospective members, and anyone else owning a Corvette in that order. I would prefer to have all members cars at the show, and with almost 200 members, it seems that shouldn't be a problem. AutoFair is a gearhead convention. There is plenty to do, not the least of which is just sitting in a lawn chair swapping lies with other members. Try it. It is a great opportunity to get to

know your fellow members better. This club is like any other investment. You will only get out of it what you put into it.

Until later, keep in mind something I just received from Lori Gallman. "While it is true that money will not buy happiness, I would rather cry in a Corvette than a Camry."

Keep the rubber side down.

Wally

**This is one way to
add a garage to a
mobile home!**

Do not attempt this by yourself, this was done by a skilled professional!



QCCC MEETING SCHEDULE 2004

SEPTEMBER 11th. NORTHCROSS MEDICAL CENTER
OCTOBER 9th. CITY CHEVROLET
NOVEMBER 13th. NORTHCROSS MEDICAL CENTER
DECEMBER 11th. CHRISTMAS PARTY

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6:00 PM, WITH A SOCIAL GATHERING. THE BUSINESS MEETING WILL START AT 6:30 PM.

You certainly don't want to dangle your feet in the waters of Cross Lake near Shreveport, LA – close to boyhood home of Eddie Burt



Yes, folks, that is a deer in the alligator's mouth!

Queens City Corvette Club 2004 Automotive Events Schedule

AUGUST

8/27-29 Corvettes at Carlisle *

SEPTEMBER

9/4 Matthews Alive Parade
9/18-9/19 AutoFair-Car Show
9/25 Mint Hill Madness Parade

OCTOBER

10/1-3 Road Trip, Charleston, SC
10/9 City Chevrolet Car Show
10/24 Road Trip, Columbia Zoo

NOVEMBER

11/7 Tom Smith Garage 2:00PM
11/20 Concord Parade
11/21 Monroe Parade
11/30 Kannapolis Parade

DECEMBER

12/4 Road Trip, Old Salem, NC (evening trip for candlelight tour)

* Non Club Event

—————
Congrats to
Barbara
Horack!
According to
Ben, "She may
be the first &
only female
member of
QCCC to "Slay
the Dragon"."



THE DRAGON

QCCC members have, for several years, gone to Pigeon Forge. Some of our despicable members, using the guise of resorts and shopping to trick their spouse, have participated in an impromptu road race/hill climb known to this club as Deals Gap.



Tennessee RT. 129 is known locally as "The Dragon." It consists of 318 turns in 11 miles.

It is a Mecca for motorcycle sport bike riders, European and Japanese sports car owners and crazed Corvette drivers. It is a tight course with interesting elevation changes that tests all of the driver's skills. For a C5 driver it enables you to test active handling, traction control and ABS braking-sometimes all on the same turn.

QCCC took eight cars to Pigeon Forge this year. Phillip and Linda Lewis, their daughter Susan and her significant other Kelly, Phil McGuire and DeLette Roberts, JC & Linda Roberts, Ben & Barbara Horack, and Anita and I caravanned over together on Friday, taking the scenic route. Weather was not the best and the beauty of the Blue Ridge was masked for the most part with overcast skies. Rain held off and convertible tops stayed down the whole way to Pigeon Forge, but the heater was needed on top of the mountains at 64 degrees while Charlotte was at 90+ degrees. It was an eventful trip, but we all made it and most of that group enjoyed dinner together at The Old Mill on Friday evening. Florence and Larry Prather joined us later that evening.

Saturday broke rainy and dismal, not the best of road conditions to run The Dragon. Phillip and DeLette, Ben & Barbara, and Larry and I were not to be dissuaded and left Pigeon Forge for the Dragon Saturday morning as planned. We met Bob Denny on route, as he had driven over for the day to join in the fun.

This turned out to be a challenging weekend for many of our members. I had a run in (literally) with road debris, Bob Denny got lost in Asheville??? Taking a 50 mile detour, JC had overheating problems, and Florence and Anita complained of sore feet from shopping while Larry and I chased one another over twisty roads.

The highlight of the trip for those that attended had to be the Louise Mandrel Concert. Ben Horack used his connections and offered free tickets for the Louise Mandrel Theater to any members going to Pigeon Forge and we were fortunate enough to have her in concert the evening we were there. Ben got first class seats and the concert was incredible. We received VIP treatment and were escorted backstage immediately after the concert and had the opportunity to meet Louise and spend about 20 minutes with her.

The Dragon, continued...

A few questions remain. How do you get lost in Asheville when you are already on the correct interstate; Bob Denny, inquiring minds want to know.

Wally

Time to be Thankful of our Soldiers

The following is an excerpt from an email sent to Jane Burt from QCCC member David Carleton who is stationed in Baghdad...

this is/was an armored suburban we travel in. it cost the tax payers about \$150-175,000 to build and well it actually did work. when we arrived here, we received a shipment of 400 soft skinned or off the lot 2004 chevy tahoes. over the past month weve been replacing the shot up tahoes with armored suburbans. these trucks are saving lives but when the bullets don't go in, they also cant come out. So you can't shoot your way out of a fire fight. they are also very heavy and the doors weigh about 500 pounds each so in a roll over, your pretty much trapped. No way to get out. No convertible models available yet.



Think of this next time you complain of bugs on your bumper!

Knights Baseball Outing Ends in a Bang!

On Saturday, August 21st a group of QCCC members did the expected: We Drove To Eat! Arriving at the Knights Baseball Stadium as the weather started to close in, the skies darkened, but fortunately for us, we went inside under shelter and ate!



The rain poured down while we enjoyed the picnic that Robert Morgan had setup for the club, then after an hour's delay, the game was called due to the wet field. As the rain subsided, we enjoyed the fireworks.





And a good time was had by all!



Why does Peyton look worried?



Gary is lunging for Heather's ice pop!

Photos in this issue are courtesy of E.O. Oakley, Bob Denney, Robert Morgan, Barbara Horack and Charlie Binder

QCCC Members help out with Jerry's Kids - a Muscular Dystrophy Camp on August 11th



Items of Interest

Charleston Trip: October 1-3 Staying at the Holiday Inn Riverview ,301 Savannah Hwy & Hwy 17 Charleston, SC Phone 1-800-766-4451, Rooms are \$99.00 per night. To make reservations, reference code "COR" to get this rate, They will be held until 9/10/04. The Holiday Inn Charleston Riverview is a 14 story circular high rise located on the banks of The Ashley River. It has recently been redone. For more information go to their web site www.holiday-inn.com/chs-riverview. A group dinner is planned for Saturday night and a special Ghost Walk to follow. More details at the July and August meetings.

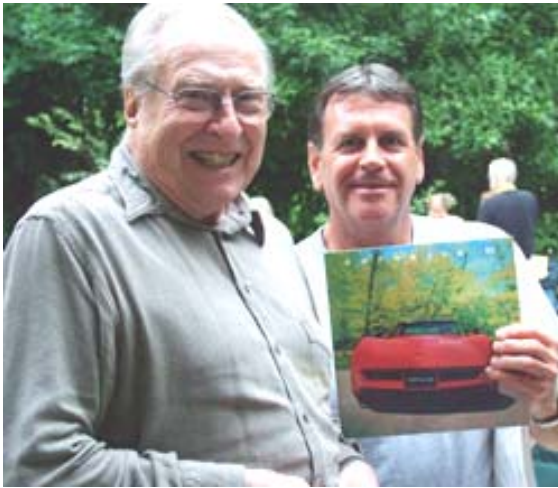
Want to Improve Your Driving? E.O. is advising members that there is going to be Driving School in Kershaw, SC Oct. 9 & 10.

Christmas Party Location: We need help in securing a location for the QCCC Annual Christmas Party/Meeting. We need to have a capacity of 125 and have a kitchen. Call Kay with suggestions.

Coming to a Dealer Near You



August Meeting at Mark and Adina's Place





Mark showing off samples of fine food that some of us missed out on and Wally getting his hugs in!



Corvette Mecca - Bowling Green Kentucky

A group of QCCC members spent a day at the place where Corvettes are born.

Walt Krupowicz arranged the trip and the group had a custom tour of the plant and the Corvette Museum.

Feeling the need for more Corvettes, on the way home they drove to Sevierville, TN and spent some time in a muscle car museum there.



On the trip Robert Morgan found this C4 Corvette race car that had the club's name printed on the side. He is hoping that one of our senior (not necessarily older) members would remember when and for what event QCCC was a sponsor.



Next QCCC Meeting at Huntersville Saturday September 11th at the Northcross Medical Center

Times:

6:00PM Social

6:30 PM Business
Meeting

Reminders:

Please bring chairs,
and non-alcoholic



Now this addresses the issues of not having enough trunk space for those weekend trips!

