

February 2006



**A Tale of Two Corvettes:
One Recovered,
One Crashed!**

**A Record Number of Cars
Serviced at Car Care Day!**

**Great Fun, Food and Music
at Banquet**

Where We Drive To Eat



Queen City Corvette Club, Inc

2006 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

Well, so far we have started 2006 in grand style. To those of you who were able to attend the Annual Award Banquet (Prom) at Lowes Motor Speedway, we may have had a record crowd. Everyone I spoke with had a fabulous time. The

Speedway Club is a perfect venue for a group of car-loving people to celebrate. The room was set up very nicely, the food was delicious and the DJ was outstanding. Big thanks to Larry & Florence Prather for recommending Mike and helping our Club to book him for our Prom. This great evening was the result of the efforts of several people who worked for weeks on the event. Thanks first of all to our Social Director Jane Burt and her able dancing partner Eddie for taking charge of the Prom. Chris Patton did an unbelievable job of gathering Silent Auction and Gift items from a variety of supporters. Margo, Q and Jess Gross did a beautiful job on our programs. And an extra special thank you to Jess for all of the help she provided during the Prom with the Gifts and so many other things. She really made the evening go very smooth. I want to give a special thanks to my Dance Partner, Gloria, for all of her help and advice to me. The mugs were Gloria's idea as I was searching for an appropriate table gift for each attendee.



By the way, if you want to order more mugs, you can buy them for \$5 each at the Crystal Impressions on I-74 between Matthews and Monroe in Indian Trail. I worked with Clive Berman at (704) 871-6664. Clive said he would honor the \$5 price for one mug or any number.

One more note about the Banquet. Charlie Binder and Bob Denney provided a spectacular slide show. Bob had a great suggestion. We can make the show even bigger....but we need more photos. Please take pictures at our events and then forward them to Bob Denney. Bob will collect them through the year and add them to the slide show for next year's Prom.

Once again Wally opened his garage door to those of us whose Corvette's needed a fresh drink of oil. I always enjoy these Car Care Days because I enjoy getting together with all the other gear-heads in our Club. Even if your car doesn't need an oil change, going to the Car Care Days is just a fun time and I've often learned something about my car I did not know when I woke up that morning. The ladies also had a grand time during the Ladies Day Out. They wouldn't let me join in so I'll have to let them tell you all about their day.



The Board is going to put together a very busy calendar for 2006. There will be lots of exciting and fun events with activities for everyone. We will present our calendar at the February Business Meeting along with our new Budget. I encourage as many members as possible to consider heading up a trip or event. Last year Tom and Brenda Hudalla worked up a trip to the Art Museum in Columbia, South Carolina to see the Norman Rockwell exhibit. We had a great time and saw a very special exhibit. Just dream up great trips and coordinate them with Chris & Jane. We love to drive and eat!!

See you at the February meeting.

Jerry

Remember, the book says, "All Corvettes are RED", (but they really wish that they were BLUE!!)

Meet The New Members



Bart & Carolyn Richards
1999 Torch Red Coupe

Rookies of The Year



Chris and Melissa Patton

Photos in this edition are courtesy of Bob Denney and Charlie Binder

VP REPORT

Good morning all QCCC Members. This January has been an unseasonably mild month and with weather this nice I know everyone can't wait to get their cars out on the road and have fun. QCCC held great events this past month and we are off to a super start on the New Year.



Business Meeting Updates

108 QCCC members attended the January business meeting and we welcomed 5 guests. This was an outstanding turn out. Every meeting I look forward to seeing familiar faces as well as meeting new members and guests. Building friendships, exchanging ideas, and sharing car knowledge is what this club is all about. I encourage everyone to come to our meetings and visit with someone you haven't seen in a while and say hello to all the new folks. My goal as VP is to increase meeting attendance numbers every month.

The February business meeting is scheduled for Saturday February 11th @ the Harley Davidson dealership behind Hooters on Independence Blvd in Charlotte. A map and directions can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

January Banquet

What can be said about the January banquet other than **WHAT A GREAT PARTY!** Jane Burt and her committee of many did an excellent job in putting this shindig together. The Speedway Club was a great setting for our dinner event and everyone had a ball. Congratulations to Wally Crawford for his Member of the Year award and to Chris and Melissa Patton for their Male and Female Rookie of the year awards. Chris and Melissa also nailed down the top two spots in participation points. Wally and Anita Crawford basked in the limelight of being named King and Queen of the ball.

Congratulations go to Bob Denney for receiving the President's Choice award from outgoing President Robert Morgan. Bob has contributed significantly to QCCC through out the years and this award was well deserved. The QCCC year in review shown on the television screens throughout the Speedway Club was due to the hard work of Bob's special events photo shoots. Special thanks go to Charlie Binder for his application of all the photos to DVD format for the enjoyment of all.

There were plenty of door prizes courtesy of our many sponsors and the silent auction event was successful in raising over \$1300 for the QCCC charity fund. Thanks to all who helped line up contributions for door prizes and the silent auction.

And last but not least, thanks to my daughter Jessica Erin Gross, who donated her time and energy so everyone could enjoy their dinner and have fun finding their names on the door prizes.

Car Care Day

Another great car care event was held Jan. 28th at Wally Crawford's Garage Mahal. I am not sure how many quarts of oil were recycled but I do know all in attendance appreciated the use of Wally's facility. Thanks Chris for working with Wally to keep this event on the calendar. Not only do we save money doing it ourselves, there are always plenty of folks there who pass on their Corvette knowledge and help everyone learn more about our cars.

50th Anniversary Ramblings and Trivia

January was a good month for acquiring 50th Anniversary stuff. The dinner event was quite bountiful with many items like the anniversary promotional cards, anniversary coins (thank you Victor and Chris) and the silent auction Revell collector edition models of the 50th coupe and convertible weighing me down as left the event.

I also discovered a new late night Internet habit...ebay! While we purchased our car with only 567 miles on the odometer, due to being previously titled and put into storage for almost 2 ½ years, we were missing the #1 remote entry control. Enter ebay to help find a brand new factory correct #1 remote. The price I paid was a fraction of the dealer list price and following the tech tips from Dave Sigman, programming the remote was a snap. If you can't find the item you need on ebay, it may not be available.



Trivia question time...what was the first year for four-wheel disc brakes in a Corvette? The answer can be found on the last page.

In the meantime, be safe and save the wave!

Q. Gross

Let's Make A Compilation CD of Our Favorite Road Music!

Bring a CD (labeled with your name and favorite track) to our next meeting. We will have someone record it during the meeting and return it to you at the end of the meeting. Then we will create a CD of these favorites to be ready for the next road trip.

Through the Windshield

WOW! What a party! The banquet in January was a blast. Melissa and I want to thank you all for voting us Rookies of the Year for 2005. We feel very fortunate that we have made all the friends we have in the last year with QCCC. It's funny that the year begins with a party and just keeps getting better all the way through.



"I didn't have a problem with you spending \$1,500 on golf clubs, so you shouldn't complain about my spending \$100,000 on a sports car."

The Charity Fund received a healthy cash infusion with the Charity Auction at the banquet. QCCC members raised over \$1300.00 by bidding on everything from dental treatments, jackets, model cars, wine baskets and more. "Many Thanks and Congratulations to all the winners of the Charity Auction." Also a Big Thank You to all the members that donated and solicited items for giveaways and the auction. I also want to mention a special thanks to the members that helped us set up for the Banquet. Jess, Linda, Jen, Charlie, Iris, Gloria and Mel thank you again.

In addition to "bustin' a move" at the speedway, everybody that attended had a good time out at Wally Crawford's Garage Mahal for Car Care Day January 28th. It must be noted that we are all grateful to Wally and Anita for so graciously opening up their home, garage and tools to us for another successful Car Care Day.

A total of eighteen cars came through the line to have fresh oil and a good inspection to get ready for the spring road trips. A big "Thanks" goes out to all that brought food for lunch. There is something about working on a car that just makes people hungry. A very special "Thank You" goes out to Mike Hulett and Greg Tilley for all their help with every single oil change. I thought at one point we had some type of contest going to see how many

people fit under a Corvette when Mike Hulett put his new Z06 on the lift. We must have had fifteen people under the car, that is until the garage door went up and hit the third brake light of his car, mysteriously then everybody did a disappearing act and ran away, all but me. I was found later in the corner rocking back and forth repeating "I am so sorry Mike! I am so sorry Mike!"

Our mechanical abilities will be put to the test on our next road trip on February 25th to a place David Carleton and Eddie Burt found called Brushy Mountain Smoke House in Wilkesboro, NC. We will caravan up there for lunch, and yes they serve Barbeque! More information will follow as soon as we have the trip finalized.

Until next month remember "it's not a car, it's a Corvette"

Chris Patton

Stolen Corvette Found After 37 Years

A Corvette sports car stolen when it was brand new in New York 37 years ago had been recovered in California and would be returned to its rightful owner, authorities said.

The 1968 car, which vanished from Alan Poster's garage in the borough of Queens on January 22, 1969, was identified as stolen as it was being loaded on a container ship for Sweden last November, US Department of Homeland Security spokesman Mike Fleming said.

The car had recently been purchased for \$US10,000 (\$13,300) by a man in Sweden who was unaware it had been stolen nearly four decades earlier, Mr Fleming said. Since Mr Poster's insurance at the time did not cover the Corvette's theft and he was never compensated, he was entitled to get it back.

"When the California Highway Patrol contacted him, he said it's a miracle. He's very excited about it. He's flying in tomorrow," Mr Fleming said. He said Mr Poster had since moved to California and long ago gave up hope of seeing the car again.

The Corvette, which was originally painted blue with a matching interior, is now silver with a red interior. It is missing the gas tank, has a new engine and transmission and no longer ran, Mr Fleming said.

California Highway Patrol officer Joe Zizi said investigators had determined the Swedish man purchased the car from a man in Texas, who in turn bought it from someone in New Mexico.

None of them was involved in the theft or was aware it had been stolen, Mr Zizi said. He said that after the Corvette was found to be a stolen car, detectives in New York were contacted and spent a month sifting through about 10,000 archived stolen car reports to find the original owner.



Minutes of the QCCC Board Meeting Thursday, January 12, 2006

The January Board meeting was held at Jerry and Gloria Scienski's home and called to order at 7:10 PM. Officers present were, Jerry Scienski, Jane and Eddie Burt, Margo Gross, Quentin Gross, Chris Patton and Florence Prather.

Guest present: Past President, Robert Morgan

Officer reports were as follows:

Jerry:

- Reminded board members to email EO with anything for the website addition.
- Discussed several ways to present participation point awards that would speed the process and not hold up dancing.
- Gave Q the club inventory.
- Asked Board members to think about the budget they will need set for upcoming year.

Q:

- Mentioned that he is working on trying to find a location for the North contingency that will hold a large group. He has contacted Ken Lipak at Charlotte Harley Davidson to secure meeting location for February.
- When a tentative schedule has been set he can then work on firming up locations for meetings the remainder of year.

Florence:

- Reviewed actual vs. budgeted expenses as well as 2005 expenses and 2006 dues.

Chris:

- Will be taking all gifts to Speedway club in the early afternoon on the 21st.
- Reviewed list of silent auction and giveaway gifts.
- Discussed Car Care and Ladies day on 1/28/06.
- Has put out an open call for volunteers to serve on the 2006 Charity committee.
- Is working on putting together a road trip in February.
- St. Patrick's Day parade officials have contacted him and will be getting back to him in the next couple weeks to let him know how many cars will be needed.
- Received an invitation for QCCC to participate in Road Atlanta on 4/29/06. They have offered the club inside track parking and a chance to do parade laps around the track.

Eddie:

- Discussed possibility of bringing back a mentorship program.

Jane:

- Reviewed details for the Annual Banquet.
- Will solicit ideas for social events for upcoming year.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo Gross, Secretary



Business Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 14, 2006

The January business meeting was held at **Northcross Medical Center** in Huntersville and called to order by President, Jerry Scienski at 6:30 PM.

Officers Present: Jerry Scienski, Q Gross, Florence Prather, Chris Patton and Margo Gross, Eddie and Jane Burt

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the December business meeting.

Visitors were: **Steve and Maria Swanson**- 2005 Coupe; **Greg Tilley** – 1981 Silver Coupe, **Frank Littlejohn** – C6 Black Convertible, **Bill Connor** – 2006 Silver Z06 Coupe

New members voted in: **Bart & Carolyn Richards** – 1999 Torch Red Coupe

Jerry Scienski, President

- Introduced 2006 Board members.
- Thanked Debbie Rockhold and Pat Bonino for providing great pre-meeting snacks.
- Reminded those members who purchased a club photo or CD to be sure and pick your order up from Gloria before leaving.
- Explained the format of the upcoming annual Banquet on 1/21/06 and how the silent auction will work.
- Thanked Chris, Mel and all club members who helped secure items for the auction and giveaway.
- Asked Walt Krupowicz to stand and told membership that Walt retired in January from the FAA after 39 years.
- Asked Dave Carlton to stand and be recognized for his work in Iraq.
- Thanked EO Oakley for continuing to work on the club website, and Charlie and Iris Binder for their work on the monthly newsletter. Reminded members to send Charlie any pictures or articles you would like to see published in the monthly newsletter.

Quentin Gross, Vice President

- Reminded members to be sure and sign in at every meeting. Mentioned he enlarged the sign-up sheet for the visually impaired.
- Asked members to send him any ideas on new meeting locations. The club is especially in need of a northern location as we have outgrown the Northcross Medical meeting room.

Florence Prather, Treasurer

- Presented treasury report and reminded members that 2006 Dues are now due.

Chris Patton, Automotive Events Director

- Thanked everyone who helped bring in items for the Silent Auction and giveaway.
- Discussed Car Care Day which will be held at Wally's garage mahal on 1/28/06. The day will begin around 8:00 AM and will last until "get er done". Reminded members to be

sure and bring their oil and filter, chair and drinks. Hot dogs will be provided for a nominal fee, and the money goes to the Charity fund.

- Asked for volunteers to serve on the 2006 Charity Committee.
- Mentioned parades this year will not be restricted to convertibles. Anyone can participate whether you have a convertible or coupe.
- He has been in contact with the Charlotte St. Patrick's Day parade committee and they will be getting back to him on how many cars they will need for the parade. The parade route will be on 9th and Tryon. Reminded interested members, to put their names on the sign-up sheet.
- Gave details on Road Atlanta which will be held on 4/29/06. The club will be given inside track parking and a chance to do parade laps around the track. More details will follow.

Jane Burt, Social Events Director

- Reminded members to fill out ballots for *Male and Female Rookie of the Year* and *Outstanding Member of the Year*.
- Explained cost of banquet and why guests will be asked to pay \$46.
- Gave summary of the upcoming banquet and mentioned that Adina Ledford will be taking couple photographs during the social hour of the Banquet.

Eddie Burt, Membership Director

- Introduced guests and those who will be eligible for membership tonight.
- Mentioned that we started 2006 with 205 members.

Martha Vaughn told the membership she will be putting together Monday night dinners for those who live in northern Charlotte. These will not take away from Wednesday night dinners, but hopefully can accommodate those who live too far away to make to dinners that are in the southern end of Charlotte. Any interested members should send her an email and she will add their name to her list jvaughn@carpeoplemarketing.com.

Walt Krupowicz said he is putting together a road trip to Bowling Green, KY, to visit the Corvette Museum and factory June 1-4. Anyone interested should send him an email and he will add them to his list. twokonevette@carolina.rr.com

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

☺ *Kudos to Pat Bonino and Debbie Rockhold for the great snacks!* ☺

Respectfully submitted by,

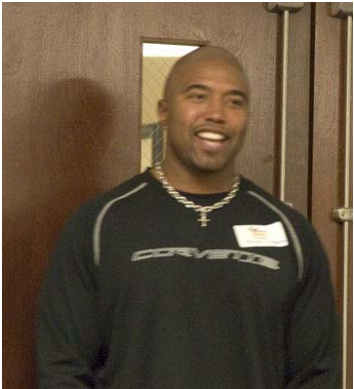
Margo Cross, Secretary

Guys Work - Gals Play At Car Care Day at Wally's Garage

Well, not too many guys worked Saturday at Wally's - but many cars were serviced thanks to the efforts of Mike Hulett and Chris Patton: hardly anybody got their hands dirty. A bunch of the gals took off to go to a nice lunch and some shopping



Highlights of the January Meeting at NorthCross Medical Center

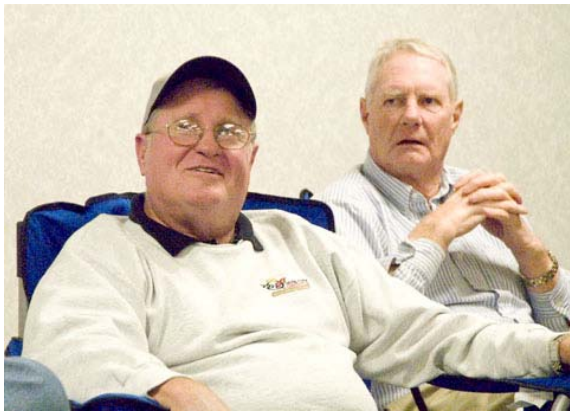




Trying to Look Official



Why is he smiling??



2006 Prom

Where to start... Now that is a real dilemma everything was so great. I guess the best place is the end. Never have Sandy and I seen as many folks staying to hear "Good Night Ladies" at one of our Proms. **Jane** (*quietly don't mention Tex the Brown Bear that accompanied her... He probably didn't help her any, anyway*) and her **committee** must be commended for putting together such a magnificent party.

Now that the important stuff out in the open, I will get down to the real niti-grity ... yep that of eatin. As many of you know this is a drive and eat club. We will drive anywhere if there is food at the destination... for you new members, just look at some of us older fellows and you will see what I mean. Many expanded belt lines...

Jane selected the Speedway Club for this year's event and they performed beyond expectations. The food was superb! The setting was exquisite and the company was beyond description. Jack thanks for being my personal photographer... I am not sure how you describe the DJ that Jane picked out except to say he kept the dance floor full all night, even with Wayne Gary having Bonnie's lipstick thickly smeared all over his lips... He kept them folks on the floor. I don't want to start any rumors but there was some hankie pankie on the dance floor that night. It was associated with a large playing card and a few other fellows. Nuff said about that dark chapter of our lives...

When the partying was kicked off with the announcement of the King and Queen of the Ball, this writer was concerned when the "Old One" was named King and his Child Bride named Queen. Now I knew that the Child Bride would do all right... but I was concerned for the old fellow. Would the excitement be too much for him... would his heart hold out... would he be able to hold his head up under the weight of that crown... could he lead the dancing without an EMS unit close by... you know those things that allow him to survive until his going over the hill party later this month. Well just to put your minds at ease, miraculously he was able to pull thru without any assistance except for what his Bride provided...

If I can be serious for a moment... I want to tell all you just how proud I am to be associated with you. I have belonged to a great many clubs over my life time and I can happily report that I have never belonged to one that was as friendly and caring as you are... Wally reported in the January news letter the Club raised serious money and gifts for ANG kids. It was reported that last night we had raised about \$1300 for the charity fund, **during** the Prom. You all need to give yourselves a pat on the back. These are some of the things that make this Club one of the most outstanding clubs to which I have ever belonged. Not too many clubs are that caring, and I thank you. Robert, again I thank you ...



Bob

Bad Day for a Grand Sport

What was to be a reward to Dee and Pam Putnam's son Will for a great senior semester at Clemson was to borrow their '96 Grand Sport for a week to have some fun. So just before Christmas he and a lady friend went out to dinner in Greenville, S C and then took a short drive to view some Christmas lights. After riding through the neighborhood on a pretty winter night the couple headed down a secondary road Will was not familiar with. The road had several curves and elevation changes and at about 40 mph Will ran off the right side of the road, over corrected and lost control of the car. The car slid across the road, contacted the end of a guardrail and rolled over sideways four times over several stumps, landing on its wheels.



Both were wearing seat belts and fortunately Will suffered only a small cut on the left and his lady friend had no scratches and wasn't even sore the next day. It turns out that the only real suffering and agony in this saga was the call to Dee to tell him about his Corvette!

The good news is that Dee has found an excellent body man in Hickory who will take charge of the restoration.



Highlights of the Annual Banquet



Writing out a Check!







“Corvette Ladies Step Out of Garage”

Saturday January 28th, several of the Lady members of Queen City Corvette Club stepped out on the town to enjoy alternate activities other than changing oil and revving engines. The day began with seven of us enjoying coffee and lattes at Jitterz Coffee House in Harrisburg, NC. A slow start to a relaxing day was had by all who enjoyed the comfortable couches and music at the coffee house.

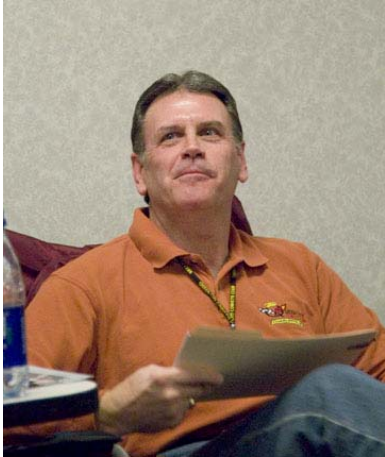
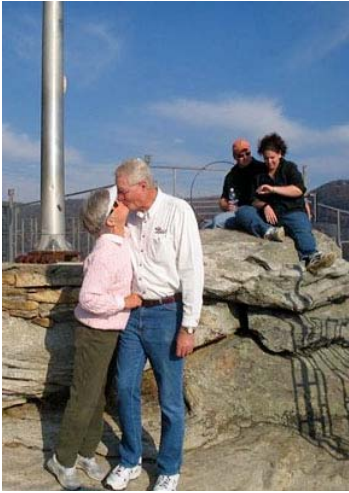
The ladies then traveled a few miles to Chen’s Bistro to meet three more ladies for a buffet lunch filled with unusual and daring selections of sushi, seafood, rice, noodles and desserts. After lunch many of the group gathered to ” worship” at a local dress shop and pay homage to the sale rack and the valued coupon discounts, while others sought a more relaxing atmosphere by getting manicures and pedicures at a local salon and spa.

This was an inaugural event for the ladies of QCCC but will become at least a quarterly event for the upcoming year. Other events to be planned will be an attempt at another movie day, a shopping trip, bowling, massages and a volunteer day at the “Shoe Box” warehouse for the Christmas season.

I feel it safe to say that a good time was had by all which was evident by the laughs and giggles, and it must be said that our event was accident free and unlike the men’s day, nobody’s car got hit! For all of those ladies that did not get to join us, we look forward to your attendance next time. As always, the more the merrier!

***Sincerely,
Melissa Patton***

Caught on Camera



Tentative QCCC Calendar for 2006

February

11 Meeting
12 Virginia Raceway
19 Lunch at Rock Bottom Cafe and Charlotte Checker's Game at 4:00
25 Day trip to Wilkesboro NC, Brushy Mountain Restaurant

March

4 Racing at Kershaw NC
11 Meeting
18 St. Patrick's Day Parade uptown Charlotte 11:00
25 Day trip to Beacons Restaurant and tour of BMW Plant in Spartanburg SC

April

8,9 Auto Fair
15 Meeting, Crawford's house "When you were 16" theme
22,23 Year One overnight event at Road Atlanta and California Dreaming in Columbia on way
back for lunch

May

13 Meeting and Car Show, tentative for Diamond Chevrolet
28 Coca-Cola 600

June

2,3,4,5 Weekend trip to Savannah GA
10 Meeting and Barbecue at Burt's home, "Margaritaville" with Karaoke and talent hour.
30 Cruise in to Oakboro NC

July

8 Meeting
15 Shatley Springs Caravan and Overeating Jamboree
22 Car Care Day and Ladies Day out

August

12 Meeting and Bowling event after
26 Victory Junction daytrip caravan

September

9 Meeting Ledford's house. Bring Picnic lunch, poker run down to Ledford's in York SC
16,17 Auto Fair
21,22,23,24 Weekend Trip to Bowling Green Corvette Museum

October

14 Bank of America Race at Lowe's Motor Speedway
21 Car Show and Meeting TBA

November

3,4,5 Mountain weekend getaway TBA
11 Meeting
18 Monroe Christmas Parade

December

9 Meeting and Christmas Party at Tryon House in Matthews

January 27 2007

Banquet at Lowe's Motor Speedway

Next Meeting at Harley-Davidson of Charlotte
Saturday February 11th
Social - 6:00 PM
Meeting - 6:30 PM

**Harley-Davidson of
Charlotte**

(704) 847-4647
9205 East Independence Blvd.,
Matthews NC

Note: They are in Matthews right
behind the Hooters in the West
bound lane of US 74.

Reminder – *Bring:*

- *Chairs*
- *Beverages – soft!*



From the North:

I-77 South to Brookshire Freeway / I-277 South to Hwy-74 East / Independence Blvd.
Approximately 10 miles on left just past Crown Pointe area. Take the first left after the Crown
Pointe Shopping Center. You will turn into the Shopping Area with Hooters, International House
of Pancakes(IHOP), Midas, Infiniti, Krispy-Kreme and the Suburban Lodge.

From the South:

I-77 North to I-485 East. Take Hwy-74 West exit and head towards uptown Charlotte for
approximately 2 miles. We'll be on the right just behind the International House of Pancakes.

Answer to Quentin's trivia question (page 6) is : **1961**