

March
2009



QCCC Kept Busy in February



We are sponsored by City Chevrolet and Hendrick Cadillac-Chevrolet

Queen City Corvette Club, Inc

2009 Staff Members

President	Boyd Kurt	704-588-3561 boyd-gccc@earthlink.net
Vice President	Phillip Lewis	803-324-5647 pglewis@comporium.net
Treasurer	Florence Prather	704-847-9964 lksprather@alltel.net
Secretary	Linda Lewis	803-324-5647 lhlewis@comporium.net
Director of Social Activities	Adina Ledford	803-628-5342 adinaledford@yahoo.com
Director of Automotive Events	Nelson Sprague	704-847-8374 barnel@carolina.rr.com
Director of Membership	Eddie Burt	704-846-7130 eddieburt@carolina.rr.com
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Webmaster	E.O. Oakley	704-846-2965 eoakley@carolina.rr.com
National Corvette Museum Ambassador	Paul Mariano	704-992-2726 vettltd@aol.com
Club Photographer	Bob Denney	704-662-7958 rddenney@windstream.net

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, PO Box 77153 Charlotte, NC 28271-7002**. 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 Thoughts.

Have you ever seen a battle between a deer and a Corvette? Susan and I did and guess what? The Corvette won. Thanks to the great engineering of Corvette, our car sustained very minor damage from a deer running full blast into the drivers-side. Only a little paint chip. Thanks Corvette and the Man that looks after us all.



How is that for starting out with news? February has been a cold and warm month. We all got the opportunity to take the tops down on our Corvettes and enjoy some of the warm days. I heard the trip to the Shelton Winery was a blast. Thanks to Adina and Pat Bonino for a great job. Our Valentines dinner, meeting and dance at the Captain's Galley was fun. Many stayed around after dinner to enjoy each others company. That's what QCCC is all about. Our thanks go to Phillip, Linda, Adina, Susan and all their helpers, for a very nice evening. Another thanks goes out to Don and Carolyn Zimmer for arranging a private tour of Joe Gibbs Racing. You can understand why so much money is needed to run a first class organization.

We have some cool events and outings planned for March. If you can't find anything to do in QCCC you just aren't looking. Be sure to check your email and the Web Site for updates.

Remember the American Le Mans Series starts March 21st at Sebring. Look for me on the start finish line. I am the one waving the Corvette flag.

“Save the Wave” and remember all racing Corvettes are Yellow,

Boyd

PS: Please let me know how we are doing. Phone, email or just talk to me and let me know. boyd-qccc@earthlink.net

VP REPORT

This month, I had the privilege of interviewing our senior club member Walter Ahrens, 94 years old. He is originally from Stratford Ontario and has been in Charlotte since 1997. He was married for 65 years and has one daughter, Sandy.



Mr. Ahrens worked for General Motors his entire life. He started off in the Fisher Body Department. In 1945 he transferred to the GM Aviation Department and traveled extensively. He approved production of foundry parts for the B25 and P57 airplanes. In 1951 he was assigned to the Grand Blanc Tank plant as assistant engineer in charge. After the war he moved to Research and Development and retired in 1974 from the Warren Michigan plant.

Walter is an avid sportsman. He was a senior club champion snow skier for six years and never lost a tournament. He could shoot a prairie dog from 600 yards. He enjoys golf, archery, guns and of course cars.

His first new car was 1946 Buick Roadmaster and he purchased his first corvette in 2002. He has been a member of the Queen City Corvette Club since 2004. Walter has two corvettes, a 2004 red coupe and a 1982 T top with 38,000 miles. He enjoys the many trips the club offers and especially the people. One of his favorite events is the Burt's BBQ and the picnic at the Ledford's.

Mr. Ahrens shares his home with a pet poodle named Taj and two parrots; one is an Eclectus and the other is an Eastern Rosella, both from the Solomon Islands.

I want to thank Walter for the interview and sharing his experiences with me.

Our next meeting is on March 14, 2009 at Harley-Davidson of Charlotte in Matthews,NC. Social hour is at 5:30 and the meeting starts at 6:30.



Queen City Corvette Club Board Minutes

February 3, 2009

6.30 – 8.40

Eddie and Jane Burt's home

MEETING CALLED BY	Standing QCCC Board Meeting – First Tuesday of the Month
PRESIDENT	Boyd Kurt
SECRETARY	Linda Lewis
ATTENDEES	Board Members: Boyd Kurt, President; Florence Prather, Treasurer; Phillip Lewis, Vice President; Nelson Sprague, Automotive Director; Linda Lewis, Secretary; Eddie Burt, Membership; Adina Ledford, Social; Jane Burt, Q Gross, Past President.

Agenda topics: 2009 Budget

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boyd Kurt called the meeting to order. • Vice President Report – Phillip Lewis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reviewed the meetings and events with points. ✓ The February meeting will be at the Captain's Galley on Valentine's Day. We will have a seafood buffet and music after the meeting. Adina will handle the decorations. • Membership report – Eddie Burt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We started the year with 223 members. We presently have 226. • Automotive report – Nelson Sprague <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reviewed the upcoming events for March. ✓ Received a thank you note from the Miss Mecklenburg parade. Will publish in the newsletter. ✓ Working on a tour at Joe Gibbs Racing. ✓ Nelson will get more information on belt buckles with the QCCC logo. • Treasurer's Report – Florence Prather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Update on the 2008 banquet. ✓ We made \$1,084 on the silent auction. ✓ Reviewed the 2009 budget. • Social Director's Report - Adina Ledford <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Charleston trip was cancelled- too many events occurring in Charleston during the weekend. Problem with hotel rooms. ✓ Possibility of a weekend trip to Blowing Rock. • The Board approved the 2009 budget to be presented at the next meeting. • The Board voted to send out the budget to actual report once a quarter by email to the membership instead of printing copies for everyone. • Q thanked the new Board for their hard work on the budget.

- The Board voted to have name tags made for the officers.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.
- **Next meeting Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 6:30pm at Florence Prather's home**

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Call the Captain's Galley with the final count	Phillip	02-11-09
Send EO the updated meeting points	Phillip	02-07-09
Prepare the budget for presentation to the membership	Florence	02-14-09



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Queen City Corvette Club Minutes

February 14, 2009

5:30 - 7:30

Captain's Galley

ATTENDEES	Board Members: Boyd Kurt, President; Florence Prather, Treasurer; Phillip Lewis, Vice President; Nelson Sprague, Automotive Director; Linda Lewis, Secretary; Eddie Burt, Membership; Adina Ledford, Social; Staff: EO Oakley, Webmaster; Charlie & Iris Binder; Newsletter Editor, Corvette Museum, Paul Mariano
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DISCUSSION

- Social hour from 5:30 to 6:30pm
- Boyd Kurt – President called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
 - Boyd introduced the new board members and staff
 - January Minutes were approved and seconded.
- **Membership Report - Eddie Burt**
 - Visitors: Jeff Stallings, Gene & Debbie Auriemma.
 - The club voted and approved for membership Larry and Lois deMontegre.
 - The club presently has 226 members.
- **Vice President Report – Phillip Lewis**
 - The March meeting will be held at Motorama.
 - Please let Phillip know if you are attending a meeting so he can have adequate seating available.
 - The April meeting will be at the Harley Davidson shop in Matthews.
- **Automotive report – Nelson Sprague**
 - Thanked Chris Wood for handling the Shelton Winery trip
 - Joe Gibbs Racing tour is Wednesday, February 18th. Thank you to the Zimmer's for setting this up.
 - Car Care day is February 21st at Wally Crawford's home.
 - There is a St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14th.
 - Auto Fair is April 4th and 5th. We need 30 cars each day.
 - "Vettes Doing Charleston" trip has been cancelled.
 - Mustang Club Performance Driving School is scheduled for June 5th and 6th, if anyone is interested.
 - We would like to know if anyone is interested in drag racing the cars. If so, email Nelson.
- **Treasurer's Report – Florence Prather**
 - The 2009 budget was approved and seconded.
 - The quarterly budget report will be sent out by email.
- **Social Director's Report - Adina Ledford**
 - Thanked Pat Bonino for her help with the Shelton Winery Trip.
 - Adina will check into the Corvettes in the Valley trip for the membership.
 - On Saturday, March 21st, the ladies will meet for lunch and go shopping while the men have Car Care day.

- The following trips are in the works: Lazy S Ranch March 15th; Old Salem trip March 28th; Blowing Rock April 24th; Ashville trip May 16th; Daytona Beach in September; Helen Ga in October.
- **Corvette Museum Report – Paul Mariano**
 - 340 cars are signed up for the April trip.
 - The convention center is now open.
 - You can buy a raffle ticket on line for \$100 to build a corvette.
 - We have 22 cars signed up for the September trip. We can sponsor a page in the route book for \$20/couple. Carolyn Zimmer is collecting the money.
- **Other Business**
 - EO Oakley talked about a problem with the website. If you get a message asking you to download antivirus software. **DO NOT DOWNLOAD**. Use www.queencitycorvette.com and you should have no problems.
 - EO would like to have more pictures. We are on a rolling 12 months for the website.
 - Four gift certificates were given out for \$25 each. You must be present to win.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.
- Next meeting Saturday, March 14, 2009 at Motorama, Monroe, NC at 5:30pm for the social hour and 6:30pm for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda H. Lewis, Secretary

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Phone: (704) 658-2302

Nick Williams
Bob Wilkinson

Winter Car Care Day at Wally's Garage



A time for crawling under cars, camaraderie, and tall tales!



Automotive Report



QCCC Members,

You made Car Care Day a big success. There were 30 plus attendees and 23 Corvettes had oil and filter changes. I would like to thank Wally, his son Mike and prospective member David Farmer for performing the maintenance. Also, without the expert assistance of Anita the lunch would not have gone off as nicely as it did. The next time you see Wally and Anita, please tell them how much you appreciate their opening their home and garage to help the club members.

The sign up response for St. Patrick's Day Parade was wonderful. We should have a great time at the parade. We have more cars than Miss Mecklenburg Pageant Queens, so all the extra cars will follow the queen's cars in the parade and enjoy the attention our cars always get; the phrase "that's a nice car" is heard many times in the short ride down Tryon.



NASCAR Technical Institute open house still has openings

for 4 more cars. This is a fun event. Training for a job in NASCAR requires many different talents and the tours of their facility show you that people do not walk in off the street and

qualify for those positions. Education and practical training are requirements. Plus, there will be a free lunch for all of our attendees. Please visit our calendar for more information and e-mail me if you would like to attend.

Your response for LOWE'S Auto Fair sign up was great.

Saturday, April 4th was filled by the Monday after the meeting. **We still have 6 openings for cars on Sunday,**

April 5. This is a very good response this early and I hope to have the roster filled by the March meeting. We have not had the club representatives meeting yet so I can not give you any details; but we all know that it is a very enjoyable event with lots to see and very nice members to talk to.



The "Vettes Doin' Charleston" weekend had to be cancelled. There is a tennis event that made it impossible to get accommodations that were reasonable in price and location. If you as an individual are still interested in attending, go to our calendar for information.

In place of the above event, Adina is planning a trip to Blowing Rock for the April 24-26 weekend. More information will be forthcoming from her committee.

On behalf of the Charity Committee, I want to thank the members for their generosity at the Annual Awards Banquet. The total for the 50/50 and Silent Auction was \$1,084.

Thank you for your participation and support,

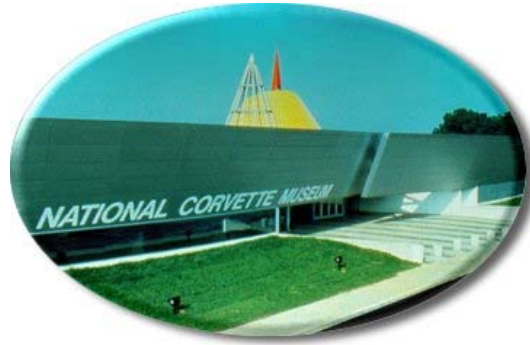
Nelson

Highlights from February Meeting/Valentines Party





NCM Corner



Pre-registrations for the C5/C6 Bash now total 340. It looks as if the total number of participants will be less than 500 so the area will not be overcrowded. Along with all the events planned, it should make for a relaxed and entertaining weekend.

The NCM expansion project is rapidly nearing completion. The new conference center has already hosted its first event and sixteen rentals have been booked for 2009. Successful marketing of this venue will go a long way toward making it a self supporting part of the expansion and producing a nice income stream.

Many thanks to Carolyn Zimmer for suggesting a nice fund raising project for the NCM Caravan. In the past, a Corvette club has sponsored the route book and placed its name on the cover. Carolyn has committed QCCC caravan participants to that sponsorship by asking each couple to donate \$20.00 to that fund. The club logo will appear on the cover and Carolyn is collecting the donations for that privilege. Of course you don't have to be going on the caravan to help out with a personal donation. All funds are appreciated.

Time is rapidly running out to sign up caravan sponsors. Everyone should be able to come up with just one name as a potential advertiser. I will be most happy to follow up if you need a closing sales pitch.

Save the Wave.

Paul Mariano
NCM Ambassador

We are your Corvette headquarters.

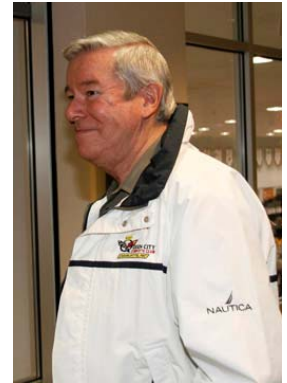
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SOCIAL NOTES....

In February, we had over 80 members join us for our business meeting and Valentines Party. We all had a GREAT time socializing, meeting new friends, eating a delicious dinner and dancing afterwards! Thank you to all who attended and made this evening so much fun!

Another event that occurred between the writing of this article and the end of the month was the Ladies Luncheon in Concord hosted by Pat Bonino and Margo Gross. As of today we have 9 ladies signed up – I am sure it was a fun afternoon of lunch and socializing!

UPCOMING DAY TRIPS...

March 15th – LAZY FIVE RANCH – ANIMAL SAFARI

Join us for a fun Sunday afternoon in Mooresville, NC for an awesome horse-drawn carriage ride through an animal safari and feeding of all the buffalos, emus, deer, goats, antelopes, pot bellied pigs, zebras, giraffes, and so much more! This is a fun place for all ages! I would suggest to leave the ‘Vette home (gravel driveway to get in and gravel parking lot) and bring the kids, grandkids, etc! We will get a group rate, and hopefully our own carriage! So far we have 20 people already signed up! Join us!

Link to Lazy Five Ranch: <http://www.lazy5ranch.com/>

Link to email me to sign up: adinaledford@yahoo.com

March 28th – OLD SALEM, NC – DAY TRIP

Nelson has done a FABULOUS job securing lunch reservations at The Old Salem Tavern, and a group rate for the Village Tour. He will be sending out an email (if it hasn't already gone out) with the lunch menu, itinerary for the day, and sign up sheet. This is sure to be a great early spring day trip! We already have over 20 members signed up for this trip!

Link to Old Salem: <http://www.oldsalem.org/>

Link to the old Salem Tavern: <http://www.oldsalemtavern.com/>

Link to Nelson's email to sign up: barnel@carolina.rr.com

UPCOMING OVERNIGHT TRIPS...

VETTES DOIN' CHARLESTON – 4/17-4/19

Due to the Tennis Tournament in town the same weekend - we, as a club, have decided not to go to Charleston for the weekend. The car show is still going on – and we would love to help support the Coastal Carolina Corvette Club. If you would like to participate, please sign up directly with them!

Link to the Coastal Carolina Corvette Club: <http://www.4cccc.org/content/vdc.cfm>

BLOWING ROCK – 4/24-4/26

I have been in communication with the Meadowbrook Inn located in the heart of Blowing Rock, planning our spring weekend away. We look to leave Friday morning the 24th, head to Blowing Rock and have lunch along the way. We can spend the afternoon wandering around town and doing a little shopping. Saturday, Nelson is planning a fun drive to Linville Caverns possibly

with stops along the way of scenic sites. If you haven't already received the email regarding the details of this trip, it will be coming any day now – keep an eye out for it! We already have 10 members signed up for this trip!

Link to the Meadowbrook Inn:

<http://www.meadowbrook-inn.com/>

Link to email me to sign up:

adinaledford@yahoo.com

VETTES IN THE VALLEY – 5/23-5/24

Although we originally planned not to attend this annual event, MANY of our members have shown interest in this trip. I am still waiting to hear back from them with their lodging and sign up information. Below is the link to their website to get more information directly from them, and we will get an email out to you as soon as I get more information back from them.

Link to the Vettes in The Valley website:

<http://www.vettesinthevalley.com/>

MYRTLE BEACH – 6/5-6/7

Not just a “weekend at the beach” but an awesome car show weekend as well! Help support our neighboring Corvette Club by participating in their Car Show. Registration includes their Welcome Party, the Car Show, and their Awards Banquet. It is a great deal for the cost. For those not interested in participating in the car show and related festivities, we will have an event planned for Saturday, and a dinner event for Saturday evening as well. More details to follow, as the event date gets closer. Rooms are limited – please contact the Landmark Resort Hotel to reserve your room before they are booked up!

Link to Corvettes at Myrtle Beach:

<http://www.myrtlebeachcorvetteclub.com/id6.html>

Link to the Landmark Resort Hotel:

<http://www.landmarkresort.com/>

Link to email me to sign up:

adinaledford@yahoo.com

DAYTONA BEACH – 9/17-9/20

Join us for a long weekend at The Shores. The hotel has been confirmed, and this weekend event will be hosted to Jane & Eddie Burt. I think they have already sent out an email with the details, and a good number of members have already booked their rooms!

Link to The Shores Resort Hotel:

<http://www.shoresresort.com/>

Link to Jane & Eddie to sign up:

eddieburt@carolina.rr.com

We have A LOT going on! We will have more day trips announced as their dates get closer. In addition to these fun events and trips, Nelson has many car shows and parades to participate in as well! There is something for everyone on the calendar of the QCCC!!!!

As always – please feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions or ideas, or if you would like to help with the Social Committee!

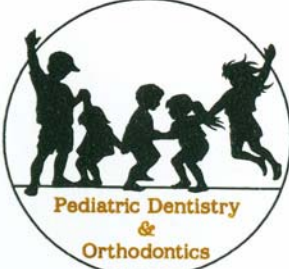
Thank you!

Adina ☺

The Up Yonder Group Dinner



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Office Hours By Appointment

Vettes in the Valley - May 23 – 24th, 2009

There were several couples that voiced their interest in going to this event again this year. We have gathered the information you will need to do this.

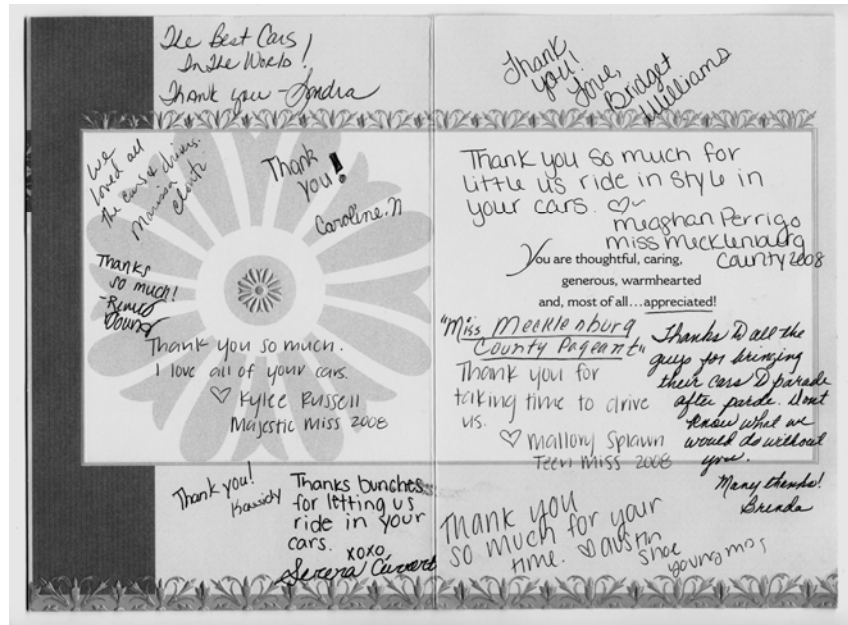
There are two parts to participating in this event.

1. First you need to go to the website for Vettes in the Valley to register for the event – www.vettesinthevalley.com. Here there is the registration form that you need to fill out and mail with your \$45.00 registration fee to the address on the form. Once you have done this let us know so we can compile a list of all going from QCCC. (sbonino@carolina.rr.com) Also on this website will be all the event information you will need for the weekend.
2. Next you need to obtain your place to stay soon. Last year we all went to The Maggie Valley Inn and Conference Center. Once again they have lots of rooms available (below is all the information). They are again the Events Headquarters.

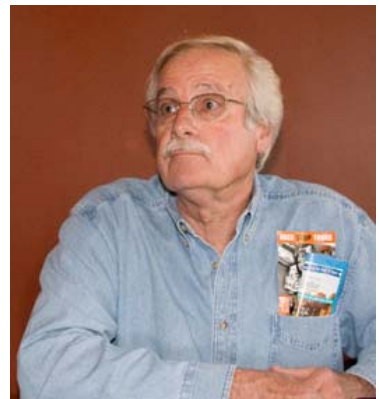
Maggie Valley Inn & Conference Center 828-926-0201
70 Soco Road, Maggie Valley, NC 28751 828-926-0201
They currently have 45 rooms open with 2 double beds for \$81.95 per night

Once we determine who is going we can ask someone to be the “club leader” for this event
If you have any other questions please e-mail me (Pat Bonino) at sbonino@carolina.rr.com.

QCCC Gets Parade Thank You!



Caught in Bob Denney's ViewFinder



**Cardinal**
GRAPHICS

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“On the road again” with the Queen City Corvette Club
Daytona Beach , Florida - September 17 – 20, 2009

We will be spending Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at:

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www.shoresresort.com 386-767-7350

Here’s How:

- Make your reservation as soon as possible by calling 866-934-7467 and ask for the Queen City Corvette Club group rate of \$139 per night, plus taxes. Note: at the time you make your reservation, they will ask for a one-night deposit (refundable if cancelled more than 7 days prior to the check-in date).
- After you’ve made your reservation, please let Eddie &/or Jane Burt know so that they can keep track of how many rooms are still available.

Thursday September 17

- Travel From South Carolina Welcome Center (8:30 AM) arrive 5:00PM ,
- Dinner 6:30 PM at “Down the Hatch”

Friday September 18

- Drive “The Loop”, lunch at “River Grille”
- Then Journey to the “Red Tail Bar and Grill” then 7:00 PM dinner

Saturday September 19

- Afternoon at the Dog Track,
- Then Speed Park Motorsports for drag and go-kart racing.

Sunday September 20

- Leave at your leisure for the trip back to Charlotte.
- Be careful, safe, and cherish the memories.

NOTICE OF QCCC EVENTS AND SIGN UPS

Please review the following information and be thinking about the events in which you would like to participate. These are fun, educational and social events. The QCCC Board tries to vary the events calendar taking in the different interests of the members. Be sure to scan the QCCC Calendar for other social events coming in the next few months.

1. **NASCAR Technical Institute** – 3/21/09 – **Sign up** Time is getting short on signing up for this event and there are still 4 slots open. It would be nice to have a full compliment of cars for this event. You can e-mail me at barnel@carolina.rr.com to sign up.

2. **LOWE'S AUTO FAIR** – 4/4 & 4/5/09 – **Sign up** Thank you for showing early interest in this event. Saturday is full with all 30 slots filled. **SUNDAY we still need 6 cars to fill our quota.** We will open any available space for Sunday 4/5/09 to prospective members and second cars at the March 14th business meeting. You can e-mail me at barnel@carolina.rr.com to sign up.

3. **OLD SALEM DAY TRIP** – 3/28/09 – **Sign up** This trip is open to all members who want to sign up (no limit). Please see the information on the calendar. If you want to sign up you can e-mail me at barnel@carolina.rr.com.

Participation is the only way to meet other members and get the most enjoyment possible from your club. If you want to sign up but need additional information, please give me a call at 704-847-8374 or send an e-mail at barnel@carolina.rr.com.

Thanks, *Nelson Sprague*

Meet the New Members



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March 14th Meeting at Harley-Davidson of Charlotte

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Note: They are in Matthews
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Social Gathering 5:30 PM
Business Meeting 6:30 PM

Reminder – Bring Your
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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.



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