

April
2009



**They Played With
Animals, Learned
Tech Tips, Did A
Cruise In, Drove In
Parades, Enjoyed
Hockey, And Rode
To Old Salem**



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
Newsletter Editors	Charlie and Iris Binder	704-799-3584 chasbinder@roadrunner.com
Directory and Database Manager	Paul Pelkey	704-661-0990 ppelkey@carolina.rr.com
Webmaster	E.O. Oakley	704-846-2965 eoakley@carolina.rr.com
National Corvette Museum Ambassador	Paul Mariano	704-992-2726 vettld@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.

The afterglow of Sebring is still with me. Yes the Corvette's won 1st and 2nd. The best part of the trip was the race and getting to talk to Ron Fellows and the drivers of the C6-R's. I also got some great items for next years banquet auction.

Start saving your money. Corvette had all six GT1 Championship addition cars on display. They also had a ZR1 for us to drool over. We sure had the Corvette flag waving at the start finish line. The food and people were great but sleep was lost.



March at QCCC was a busy month. It started with the meeting at Harley Davidson then we went to the Lazy 5 Ranch, St Patrick's Day Parade, NASCAR Technical Institute open house, Old Salem day trip and a Charlotte Checkers game. If you missed some of these, you missed a great time.

Our thanks to all of the organizers of these events. April should be just as busy. As I have said, "If you can't find anything to do at QCCC, you are not looking". Be sure to check your emails and the club calendar for all the details.

"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

Gary Artis is the featured member for the month of April. He is originally from Kankakee, Illinois and graduated in 1983 from George Mason

University in Virginia with an accounting degree. Gary moved to Charlotte in 1989 and has a small business that sells financial software and services. He met his wife Linda at a Great Plains software convention in Fargo, North Dakota. They were married three years later at the same convention. Gary and Linda have two children Heather and Christopher.



Gary joined the Queen City Corvette Club in 1991 and served as treasurer for three years. He has loved Corvettes since he was very young boy and took his first ride in a Corvette in the early 1970s. He owns ten Indy Corvette Pace cars, including models from 1978 to 2008. He is only missing one pace car, a 2006 Z06 which he would love to add to complete his Corvette Pace Car collection (and possibly make him the only private collector in the world to have such a collection). Gary owns a Ron Fellows Z06, a 1990 ZR-1 and a 2000 Nassau Blue Coupe that Linda drives. He still has the very first Corvette he ever drove, a 1977 Coupe. He also dreams about purchasing a yellow C6 ZR-1 while they are still being made.



Gary considers himself one of the luckiest guys around in that he has been able to pursue his dream. In 1997 QCCC had a trip to see Tom Smith's garage. It was at this time that Gary decided he wanted a similar operation. He started a new business "Always Out Front - Corvettes and Classics." The other cars in his current collection include both a 1967 and a 1969 Camaro pace car, a 1971 Dodge Challenger pace car, a 1971 Plymouth Barracuda, a 1972 340 CUDA, a 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T and a 1970 Dodge Challenger TA. There were only 2,355 1970 Challenger TA's produced, and he has one of 900 of them with a four speed pistol grip shifter. It is now powered by a 440 six pack motor. I had the pleasure of riding in this car which brought back memories of the

1970's for me. What an experience!

He credits his success to his wife, his family and employees. When Gary first joined the club, he remembers we were geared more toward racing. Over the years, the club's focus has become more social with charity events and helping others. All of his cars are driven and he enjoys sharing them with the members of the club.

The first photo is of Gary sitting at his desk holding a patch he purchased at the NCCC annual convention in 1991. Behind him on the wall is a picture of all the cars from the September 2008 Motorama II 100th year anniversary of GM. His car is one of 55 cars featured. The second photograph is of him standing in front of his Ron Fellows Z06 wearing the actual fire suit worn by a member of the C6R pit crew.

It is the people the make QCCC special, not just the cars. I want to thank Gary for his hospitality, the ride in the 1970 Challenger TA and the tour of his garage.

April's meeting is at the Auto Barn located at 325 McGill Ave #500, Concord, NC 28027. Social hour is at 5:30pm and the meeting starts at 6:30pm. You do not have to bring your chairs.



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 Toll Free: 866.780.1647
 adolphus.w.dunn@ampf.com



Kelly Moore
 kellymoore@bellsouth.net

Michael Brandon
 michaelbrandon@bellsouth.net

Cardinal Graphics, Inc.
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 P: 704.545.4144
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Queen City Corvette Club Board Minutes

March 3, 2009

6:30 – 8:00

Florence Prather'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.


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"> ✓ March meeting has been moved to Harley Davidson, Matthews ✓ April, still up in the air. Harley Davidson again or Motorama. ✓ May Car Show at City Chevrolet ✓ June Burts' BBQ ✓ July Pier 51 in Rock Hill ✓ August is at Norcross Bowling lanes. RSVP for bowling. Norcross serves hamburgers, hot dogs and beer. Will collect money for bowling in advance. Need the number for bowling. ✓ September Fat Boys Exit 36. Seafood Buffet or select from menu. Buffet \$18.60 per person including tip. ✓ October is the Country Fair at the Boninos in Shelby ✓ November Victory Carting ✓ December – Christmas Party • Membership report – Eddie Burt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We started the year with 224 members, 121 families. ✓ The Fitzgerald's have resigned. We will refund the remainder of their dues. ✓ Suggested we buy coolers as a gift for new members. We would like to order about 50. ✓ We presently have nine advertisers. • Automotive report – Nelson Sprague <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Car Care day was a great success. We had 23 cars and 30 attendees. ✓ March 14th St Patrick Day Parade – 16 cars ✓ March 21st – NASCAR Institute - 29 people ✓ March 28th – Old Salem - 16 couples. Need the final number for lunch and the tour.

- ✓ April 4th & 5th -Auto Fair – We have one opening on Saturday and six for Sunday.
- ✓ Vettes in the Valley, National Corvette Museum are non points events
- ✓ Possibility of drag racing in Rockingham
- ✓ The cost for the belt buckle will be \$43 for 20 or more.
- Treasurer’s Report – Florence Prather
 - ✓ Update on the budget
 - ✓ Will send out emails to those members who have not paid their 2009 dues.
- Social Director’s Report - Adina Ledford
 - ✓ Possible Charlotte Nights event
 - ✓ 10 couples have signed up for Daytona
 - ✓ Eight people signed up for Blowing Rock.
 - ✓ Lazy 5 Ranch - 13 people.
 - ✓ The deadline for Helen GA is July due to Octoberfest and reservations.
 - ✓ Working on the banquet
 - ✓ Race World USA is a possibility for an event.
- President Boyd Kurt purchased a new sound system. The Board voted to purchase a wireless mike.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.
- **Next meeting Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 6:30pm at Boyd Kurt’s home**

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send email to EO to update calendar	Phillip	03-14-09
Send get well card to John Meadows	Linda	03-03-09

Bill Connor, DDS, MS
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 email: drbill@peddent.com



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Queen City Corvette Club Minutes

March 14, 2009

5:30 - 7:50

Harley Davidson

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 Editors, Corvette Museum, Paul Mariano
DISCUSSION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social hour from 5:30 to 6:30pm• Boyd Kurt – President called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ February Minutes were approved and seconded.➤ David and Anne Marie Messenger were given \$25 gift certificates from the 2008 banquet for points.• Membership Report - Eddie Burt<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Visitors: Judy Armstrong and Bill Curtis, Mike Maynard, Wes and Susan Hibbard, Rich and Merrilyn Harmon, Ken Krupa.➤ The club voted and approved Jeff Stallings for membership.➤ The club presently has 225 members.➤ We have 10 advertisers for the newsletter.• Vice President Report – Phillip Lewis<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The March meeting will be held at Auto Barn in Concord.➤ Please check the calendar on the website for all updates and meetings.• Automotive report – Nelson Sprague<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ We had 23 cars and 30 people for Car Care Day. Seven ladies met for lunch and a movie. Thanks to Wally and Anita for hosting.➤ All activities for St. Patrick’s Day were rescheduled for March 21st.➤ “Vettes & Vets” see Jack Brunton.➤ Old Salem trip – 36 people signed up.➤ South 21 Cruise - March 20th. Will schedule a cruise in for “Up North”➤ Auto Fair is April 4th and 5th. We need 30 cars each day. Participants picked up their packets. Be sure to return passes if you are not coming back on Sunday. Gates open at 6:30am. We need cars until the event closes.➤ The belt buckle will be \$43.00 with the QCCC Logo. We need 20 members to order for this price.• Treasurer’s Report – Florence Prather<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reviewed the budget and bank balance.➤ 46 members have not paid their dues. You are considered delinquent if you have not paid by January 1st. Membership dues are \$96 per year and due five days before quarter end.➤ Will send emails to those members who are delinquent.	

- **Social Director's Report - Adina Ledford**
 - Pat Bonino gave an update on the Maggie Valley trip. This will be a points event.
 - The Lazy 5 trip has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 22nd.
 - Blowing Rock trip – April 24th – 26th. You need to make your hotel reservation by March 24th.
 - Daytona Trip – presently have 18 people signed up to go.
 - Checkers game - March 27th Email Boyd. \$24 seats for \$15.
 - Helen Ga – October 16th, 17th and 18th, staying at the Country Inn and Suites. Room \$119-\$135 per night.
- **Corvette Museum Report – Paul Mariano**
 - 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.
 - Events planned before we leave in September – Tour of Hendricks Racing, 10 Laps around Lowe's Motor Speedway for \$30, DJ and dancing. Check the website for events.
 - Walt Krupowicz has contacted Vector shirts. Carolina Blue shirts will be available with the 2009 Caravan Logo. Check the website.
- **Other Business**
 - Helen Jensen and Don Zimmer reported on a Corvette Jacket. See website for details.
 - Caroline Lentz reported that the "Just Cause Leisure Group" is planning a trip to Bedford Virginia on May 4th and 5th. All members are invited to attend.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.
- Next meeting Saturday, April 11, 2009 at the Auto Barn, Concord, NC at 5:30pm for the social hour 6:30pm for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda H. Lewis, Secretary



Automotive Report

QCCC Members,

For our first impromptu cruise-in at South 21, we had about 15 Corvettes and their hardy owners brave the chilly weather. They all seemed to enjoy the cars, company and food. As long as long as there is an interest, I will continue to inform you of cruise-ins that you may want to attend around Charlotte.



I want to thank those of you who helped make two of our events a big success. After rain washed out the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14th and it was rescheduled for March 21st, we had a direct conflict between the parade and our NASCAR Technical Institute Open House event. Enough of the members who were scheduled for both events cancelled out of the Open House to be available for carrying the parade queens. This made us short seven cars for the Open House, but we had even more members step in to fill the openings for the NASCAR Open House. We had the needed 6 Corvettes for the parade and 28 Corvettes and 45 members attend the Open House. Your participation was appreciated.

As of this time, we have 21 Corvettes and 41 people set to make the trip to Old Salem on March 28th. Most members will enjoy lunch in the Old Salem Tavern and then join up with the other members who just want to wander the streets of Old Salem and experience how a Moravian community lived in the 18th and 19th centuries.



The sign up for Lowe's AutoFair is complete and we have a full compliment of 30 Corvettes for Saturday and Sunday. Everyone should now have all their information packets and car passes except for Sunday only attendees. Bob Becker will meet those members at the tunnel entrance for gate 4 on Sunday morning. The packet contains the times we should be entering the speedway and a map showing our location.



Adina and Pat are working hard to make the Blowing Rock weekend a fun time for everyone. I have a route planned for those going up Friday morning; it should be a nice easy drive ending with lunch at the Canyons of the Blue Ridge café in Blowing Rock.

Also, please start thinking about attending our May business meeting and City Chevrolet Charity Car Show May 9th.

As always, your participation and support are appreciated,

Nelson

SOCIAL NOTES....

The Lazy Five Ranch trip was a big success. It's still up for grabs who were more enthused; the animals - amazed at the fact that the Corvette Club traded their cars for a horse and buggy, or the QCCC members - amazed that there is wild life in Mooresville!

We had 24 members together on a bright and sunny early spring day take a carriage ride through all sorts of imported and domestic animals, and everyone had the best time! The age range for the trip was 1 to 94! We fed buffalo, emu's, elk, deer, giraffe, potbellied pigs, and so many more that we have no idea what they were! This is a fun place to take kids and grandkids – they have done a lot of improvements there recently, and they even have new lemurs and kangaroos! A great place to visit for all ages! <http://www.lazy5ranch.com/>

Another event that occurred between the writing of this article and the end of the month was the Old Salem day trip. Nelson ran with this one and organized a fabulous day. We had more than 25 people signed up as of this writing. I am sure this trip was a huge success!

UPCOMING DAY TRIPS...

April is so booked with car shows and over-night trips; we have not planned any day trips. As always, check your email, and check our website for updates – you never know when we might just plan something last minute!

May 16th – Day trip to Asheville, NC – we are still working on the details – but save the date – this is going to be a fun event!

May 23rd – Lunch Cruise on Lake Norman. Reservations have not yet been completely confirmed, but will be shortly.

June 20th – Mystery Drive – this is still being planned – more info to follow!

UPCOMING OVERNIGHT TRIPS...

BLOWING ROCK – 4/24-4/26

Join us for a fun Spring Weekend up in the Mountains at The Meadow Brook Inn. So far we have over 20 people signed up for this trip. By the time this newsletter is distributed, we will be past our reservation deadline, but if rooms are still available, they will honor our QCCC discounted rate.

The caravan will leave at 9am on Friday 4/24, and we have lunch reservations at a restaurant with a great view of the mountains called The Canyons. We have the afternoon free to sight-see and enjoy the hotel amenities (like their indoor pool!) Friday night dinner is at The Best Cellar; walking distance from our hotel. Saturday we have a fun mountain drive to Linville Caverns, Grandfather Mountain and The Blowing Rock. We will have dinner at our hotel, and then have socializing afterwards.

If you have not signed up for this trip yet – there is no time to waste – make your reservation today – and then email me to get on the contact list! Need more info? Check out the info sheets on the website on the calendar page, or feel free to call or email me!

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

There are two parts to participating in this event. First you need to go to the website for “Vettes in the Valley” to register for the event – www.vettesinthevalley.com. Here you will find the registration form that you need to fill out and mail with your \$45.00 registration fee to the address on the form. Also on this website will be all the event information you will need for the weekend. Once you have done this let us know so we can compile a list of all going from QCCC by emailing - sbonino@carolina.rr.com.

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 - 70 Soco Road, Maggie Valley, NC 28751

828-926-0201. Room rates for 2 double beds are \$81.95 per night. For more information – visit this link to our website for additional hotel information -

<http://www.queencitycorvette.com/2009%20Calendar/Vettes%20in%20the%20Valley.htm>

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 a dinner planned for Friday night, 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 by 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 ☺

A Day at School – The NASCAR Tech School!


On Saturday a group of about 20 cars drove into the garage area of the NASCAR Tech School in Mooresville. As soon as the last minute polishing was over, members congregated in a circle with their chairs and hung out in the garage. Within minutes swarms of potential students and their families surrounded the collection of Corvettes that ranges from a few vintage C1s to the newest ZR1. Members had ample chance to tour the facilities and discuss tech issues with instructors of the various divisions. Demo labs open included the engine room, both auto and manual trans rooms, the Ford lab as well as the NASCAR section which demonstrated dyno testing.







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NCM Corner



Wendy Krupowicz reports the NCM Cruise to Mexico was a fantastic experience. Not only did they get to the Mexican Riviera, but the pre-cruise trip included visits to Hollywood, the Getty Museum and the Petersen Museum. Over 70 members of the museum participated in this adventure and as a result of that number, over \$17,000 was returned to the NCM. Next year's cruise is scheduled for Northern Europe with stops in Amsterdam, Stockholm, St. Petersburg and Copenhagen. Sounds like a trip worth consideration.

Our merry band to the C5/C6 Bash continues to grow. We now have twelve Corvettes signed up for the trek. Attendance appears to be quite less than in previous years so there is still time to register and get the events you want to participate in. If you need any help getting involved, please let me know.

Planning for the 15th Anniversary Caravan is rolling along with many activities to make the two days prior to departure quite a party. Income from sponsors is exceeding our most ambitious expectations when we started this endeavor over a year ago. We are expecting one more major sponsor and as soon as that happens, the caravan team will be able to firm up some very exciting events in which the entire Corvette community can take part.

The caravan team sincerely thanks everyone who contributed to the QCCC sponsorship of the Route Book. This impromptu support is what Corvette people are all about. Our hobby and passions are alive and well.

Our club NCM membership has stalled out at the 34% level and I was sure we would do better than that. With the archives coming on line with the new addition, there is even more of a reason to make sure the museum endures. Our club is to be commended for its support for all that it donates and purchases from the Corvette Store, but membership growth will be what sustains the museum in the future. For less than \$5.00 a month, you can be a proud part of those who strive to keep the Corvette mystique number one in the automobile world.

Save the Wave.

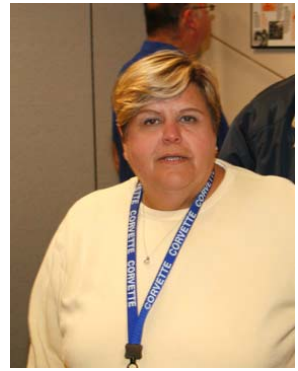
Paul Mariano
NCM Ambassador

A Day at the Lazy 5 Ranch in Mooresville



March Meeting Highlights







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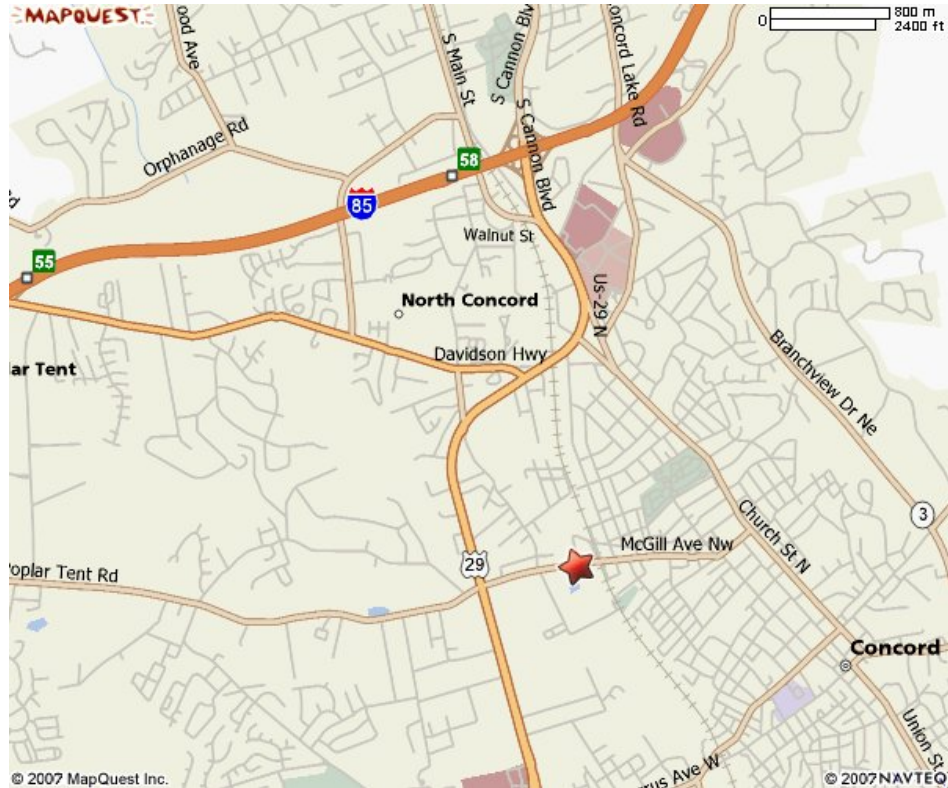
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April Business Meeting –Saturday the 11th
At
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Concord NC

Social at 5:30 PM
Business Meeting at
6:30 PM

You do not have to
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