

March  
2010



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More Food, and Fun



Kept QCCC'ers  
Busy this Winter



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# Queen City Corvette Club, Inc

## 2010 Staff Members

President	<b>Boyd Kurt</b>	704-588-3561 <a href="mailto:boyd-qccc@earthlink.net">boyd-qccc@earthlink.net</a>
Vice President	<b>Steve Pelchat</b>	704-552-5325 <a href="mailto:lspelchat@yahoo.com">lspelchat@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	<b>Florence Prather</b>	704-847-9964 <a href="mailto:lkfsprather@windstream.net">lkfsprather@windstream.net</a>
Secretary	<b>Linda Lewis</b>	803-324-5647 <a href="mailto:lhlewis@comporium.net">lhlewis@comporium.net</a>
Director of Social Activities	<b>Adina Ledford</b>	803-628-5342 <a href="mailto:adinaledford@yahoo.com">adinaledford@yahoo.com</a>
Director of Automotive Events	<b>Nelson Sprague</b>	704-847-8374 <a href="mailto:barnel@carolina.rr.com">barnel@carolina.rr.com</a>
Director of Membership	<b>Eddie Burt</b>	704-846-7130 <a href="mailto:eddieburt@carolina.rr.com">eddieburt@carolina.rr.com</a>
Newsletter Editors	<b>Charlie and Iris Binder</b>	704-799-3584 <a href="mailto:chasbinder@roadrunner.com">chasbinder@roadrunner.com</a>
Directory and Database Manager	<b>Paul Pelkey</b>	704-661-0990 <a href="mailto:ppelkey@carolina.rr.com">ppelkey@carolina.rr.com</a>
Webmaster	<b>E.O. Oakley</b>	704-846-2965 <a href="mailto:eoakley@carolina.rr.com">eoakley@carolina.rr.com</a>
National Corvette Museum Ambassador	<b>Paul Mariano</b>	704-992-2726 <a href="mailto:vettltd@aol.com">vettltd@aol.com</a>
Club Photographer	<b>Bob Denney</b>	704-662-7958 <a href="mailto:rddenney@windstream.net">rddenney@windstream.net</a>

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 thought, "What are the awards all about that are given by Queen City Corvette Club?" The gift certificate awards given out at our meetings are to encourage your attendance. The NCM gift certificates the VP gives out, also are used to encourage your attendance and participation in club events. The money for these awards comes from the dues we pay each year.



The 2009 Queen City Corvette winners were as follows:

- Male Rookie of the year - Bill Davidson
- Female Rookie of the Year - Julia Davidson
- Member of the Year - Nelson Sprague
- Jerry Scienski Memorial Award - John Meadows

Our congratulations to all of our 2009 award winners.

The awards we give out at the banquet are very special. The Male and Female Rookie are chosen from the new members who the club felt were the most involved for the previous year. They are selected from all the new members and from October to October of each year. They need not be a couple but they often are.

The Outstanding Member of the year award is also determined by the club and goes to the member who has gone above and beyond being a member or doing his or her job. It is open to all members in the club.

The Jerry Scienski Memorial Award is selected by the president of the club. The president determines the requirements for this award. Some of the new members may be wondering who was or is Jerry Scienski? Jerry, who had a special charm and charisma, was our president several years ago and was a very special member. He unfortunately passed away a year after he was president. He was a major factor in the growth of our club.

I encourage every member to participate in our club. If you do the rewards will be great and the fun is even better.

"Save the Wave" and remember all racing Corvettes are still Yellow. Get ready for Sebring on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your friendship and support,

Boyd

# VP Report

## In the Beginning – Continued

Production of the 1955 Corvette ends with just 700 built, because of the slow selling '54's. The big news for '56 was body style change, both the '56 and little changed '57 Corvettes are considered the most beautiful Corvettes of all time. As great as the '56 Corvette looked, what really ignited the Corvette legend was that GM began racing it. The new V-8 265 cubic inch engine was now rated at 210HP with a Corvette first – an optional engine with two 4-barrel carburetors rated at 225HP.



Daytona Speedweek opened in February '56 with Zora Arkus-Duntov showing up with two drivers, John Fitch and Betty Skelton, along with two specially prepared Corvettes. John Fitch's Corvette went 145.5mph on the beach, while Skelton went 137.8 to win their class. The best Ford Thunderbird ran a 134.4. Production of the '56 Corvette ended with 3640 produced.

Visually the body of the '57 looked the same, but the option list grew. The most important were the new Borg-Warner T-10 4-speed transmission and the V-8's increase to 283 cubic inches. The base engine now produced 220HP, while the top engine, the new 283 with Rochester mechanical fuel injection, rated at 283HP - the first power plant to produce one HP per cubic inch. A '57 Corvette with the new "fuelie" between the frame rails could run 0-60 mph in 5.7 seconds. Production is strong in '57 with 6339 Corvettes produced.

Both the interior and exterior of the '58 were significantly restyled. All car manufacturers went to quad headlights in '58, as did the Corvette. There were now 5 variations of the 283 engine, with ratings from the 230HP base engine to 290HP for the fuelie engine. Changes to the interior gave a real cockpit feel, with all the gauges now directly in front of the driver, and the passenger getting a grab bar. Production for the '58 jumped to 9168.

The only changes in '59 were the removal of the fake louvers on the hood and removing the chrome trunk spears that were on the '58 Corvette. All five engine combinations returned for '59. Production of '59s moved up to 9670 units.

The new decade dawned with the Corvette standing pat. The changes were minor to the '60, it was the first year for anti-sway bars on the rear suspension. The top rated fuel injection engine now had 315HP with new aluminum heads. However, they were never installed on production cars because of casting problems, so the top fuelie stayed at the 290HP rating. This would also be the last year with the taillights in the top of the fender. Production in '60 finally topped 10,000 units with 10,261 produced.

There were big changes in the '61 Corvette exterior: gone was the traditional tooth grill and the new duck tail rear end hinted at things to come in '63. Interiors were almost unchanged from the '60, as were engine options. Production in '61 continued the steady climb since '56 to 10,939 units.

With the same body style as the '61, the news for the '62 was the growth of the small block V-8 to 327 cubic inches. The new base engine now was rated at 250HP, which in 1961 would have

been the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rated engine. The fuel injection engine was rated at 360HP, a big 70 horse power jump for the fuelie. Things were good in 1962 for Chevrolet. It was their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Corvette production showed the enthusiasm with 14,531 units produced. Total production for the solid axle C-1 Corvettes sat at 69,015 units at the end of 1962. The Corvette was flying high in '62, but the chassis was still closely related to the 1952 Chevrolet sedan. A new Corvette was long overdue.

### **Corvette Milestones for March**

**March 24, 1956:** Four 1956 Corvettes take part in the Florida International 12-Hour Grand Prix of Endurance, at Sebring Florida. Car No. 1 with 307-ci engine, driven by John Fitch and Walt Hansgen, runs in SCCA class C/Modified, and finished the race, winning first in its class, and ninth overall.

**March 1960:** A Corvette finishes first in class at the 12 Hours of Sebring race. Two Corvettes of the Camoradi racing team, driven by Jim Jeffords and Fred Gamble, finish second and third in GT class.

**March 1961:** At the 12 Hours of Sebring race, Corvette drivers Delmo Johnson and Dave Morgan finish 1<sup>st</sup> in GT class and 11<sup>th</sup> overall.

**March 27, 1962:** At the 12 Hours of Endurance race at Sebring, M.J.R. Wylie and Duncan Black drive Gulf Oil's 1962 Corvette to 2<sup>nd</sup> in A/Production class, and 18<sup>th</sup> overall.

**March 1966:** Roger Penske, in his 1966 Corvette with 427 ci engine, finishes first in GT class at the 12 Hours of Sebring race.

**March 1967:** At the 12 Hours of Sebring race, Dave Morgan and Don Yenko compete in a 1967 L88 Corvette, finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in GT class and 10<sup>th</sup> overall.

**March 8, 1970:** Steve buys a Horizon Blue 1960 Corvette for \$500.

**March 1972:** At the 12 Hours of Sebring, Dave Heinz and Bob Johnson race Toye English's 1969 L88 convertible to first in GT class.

**March 1973:** The driving team of John Greenwood, Ron Grable, and Mike Brockman drive a Corvette to a win in its class at Sebring, and taking third place overall, the best ever showing for a Corvette at Sebring.

**March 14, 1977:** The 500,000<sup>th</sup> Corvette drives off the assembly line.

**March 27, 1978:** The Wall Street Journal runs a front-page article about the 1978 Corvette Indianapolis 500 Pace Cars, indicating they would be excellent investments.

**March 1989:** Chevrolet introduces the Corvette ZR-1 at the Geneva Auto Show in Switzerland.

**March 2, 1990:** At the Firestone Test Center near Fort Stockton, Texas, a team of drivers set a dozen land speed records with a Corvette ZR-1 and a Corvette L-09. Cars were in near stock condition, minus mufflers and catalytic converters. Records include 5000 miles in a time of 28:46:12.462, - 5000km in a time of 17:40:53.748, and 4221.256 miles in 24 hours. Average speed for all record runs was 170-175mph.



**March 1992:** Ground-breaking ceremony is held next to the Corvette plant for a permanent home for the National Corvette Museum.

The March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at the AutoBarn, 325 McGill Ave #500, Concord, NC. 5:30PM Social; 6:30PM Meeting. No chairs needed. Bring your own non-adult beverage.

Remember, real Corvettes have solid axles.

*Steve Pelchat*

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### Meet The New Members



Brian Marconi  
'00 Yellow Coupe



Greydon and Rose Cruse  
'04 Silver Coupe



Jerry and Dawn Vega  
'07 Victory Red Coupe

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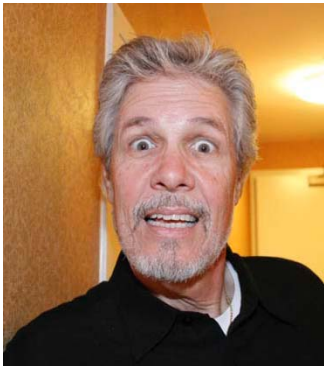
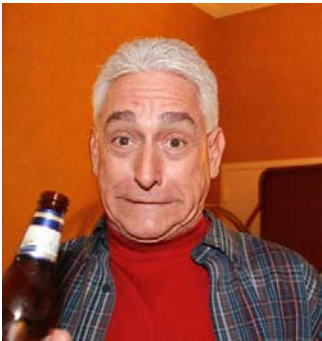
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*Wednesday Dinner at Quaker Steak and Lube*

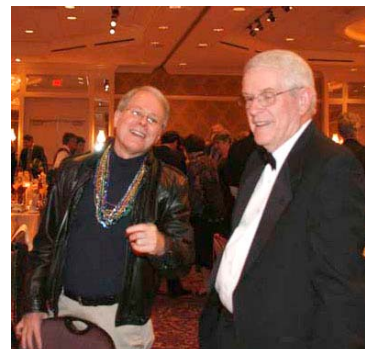
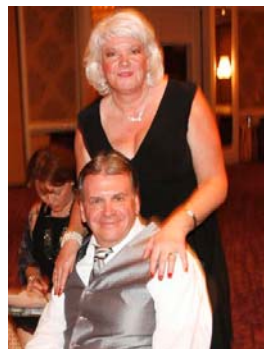




**2010 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET**











## Queen City Corvette Club Board Minutes

FEBRUARY 2, 2010 6.50pm –8.45pm

*FLORENCE PRATHER'S  
home*

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Standing QCCC Board Meeting – First Tuesday of the Month
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Boyd Kurt
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Linda Lewis
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Board Members: Boyd Kurt, President; Steve Pelchat, Vice President; Florence Prather, Treasurer; Nelson Sprague, Automotive Director; Linda Lewis, Secretary; Eddie Burt, Membership; Jane Burt.

### DISCUSSION

- **President - Boyd Kurt**
  - ✓ Called the meeting to order at 6:50pm.
- **Vice President Report – Steve Pelchet**
  - ✓ February 13<sup>th</sup> Harley Davidson
  - ✓ March – Auto Barn
  - ✓ April 17<sup>th</sup> Picnic at Lake Norman
  - ✓ May – City Chevrolet
  - ✓ June – TBD
  - ✓ July, August - TBD
  - ✓ September – Burt's BBQ
  - ✓ October – City Chevrolet
  - ✓ November – TBD
  - ✓ December – Christmas Party
  - ✓ The remaining 2009 Gift Bags will be given to the 2009 membership at the meetings; any remaining bags will be sold.
  - ✓ Discussed the points for 2010
- **Membership Report – Eddie Burt**
  - Gave an update on the membership – 224 members
- **Automotive report – Nelson Sprague**
  - ✓ Car Care Day at Wally and Anita Crawford's was a big success. We had 16 cars and 38 people
  - ✓ February 27<sup>th</sup> - Charlie O's
  - ✓ March 13<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick's Day Parade
  - ✓ March 20<sup>th</sup> – NASCAR Institute
  - ✓ April 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> – Food Lion Auto Fair
  - ✓ City Chevrolet Car Show - TBD
  - ✓ July 13<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup> – NCRS National Convention at Lowes Motor Speedway.



- **Treasurer's Report – Florence Prather**  
Reviewed and updated the 2010 Budget
- **Secretary- Linda Lewis**  
No report
- **Social Director's Report - Boyd Kurt for Adina Ledford**  
Banquet a big success and thanks to all who helped.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

*Next meeting Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm at Boyd's home...*

Respectfully submitted,

**LINDA LEWIS, SECRETARY**

## **Vintage Vetting by Vintage Members of QCCC**

Back when we were younger, circa 1974, QCCC rented a clubhouse on the corner of Independence Blvd and Commonwealth Ave. It was about 5 blocks west of the Merchandise Mart. The boulevard at that time was the main road thru Charlotte so we had a lot of activity there. The house was a 2 bedroom small brick ranch. There was a front living room with a big arch to the dining room; both with hardwood floors. These two rooms were filled with only a couch and juke box. One bedroom housed all the club paraphernalia and timing equipment for racing. The back bedroom was converted into a complete bar which ran the length of one wall. The front two rooms were painted white with a red and blue Corvette racing stripe up one wall over the ceiling, around the arch, and down the wall of the dining room. There was an old garage out back with no door (complete with a resident wino on most occasions). The back yard was flat with no ditch so it was often full of Corvettes.

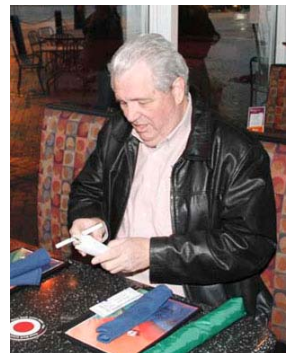
We held our meetings in the attic and sat on barrels and make shift chairs. Those meetings were very hot in the summer and chilly in the winter. At the time there were 27 members: some with wives some with girlfriends and some with both. Maybe it was the beginning of the current Wednesday night dinners, but every Wednesday anyone who could, stopped by the house and on those nights there was always a cold keg of beer in the bar maintained and distributed by Harry "action Jackson," a great friend who could have been on Hee Haw. After imbibing until the wee hours we would shut down and go to the I-hop on Central Avenue for breakfast, usually around 2 a.m., then home for a shower and off to work. Remember we were all in our late 20's.

We have a rich and storied history which with Boyd's blessing we would like to share with the current membership. We will try to keep it short and interesting and as time permits send info to Charlie for the news letter. There were many colorful characters that kept things going and entertaining; it was a racing and rowdy bunch, but the same love of the Corvette has not changed. Anyone having old photos or stories send them to us to add to our endeavor. We are in touch with Martha Ferrell who along with her late husband Earl were charter members. We hope this will be interesting and entertaining to you.

Respectfully submitted

Richard Craig and Bill Cruthis

## ***AN EVENING WITH THE CHARLOTTE CHECKERS!***



# Automotive Report



QCCC Members,

There is a serious case of cabin fever going around the Queen City Corvette Club this winter. There are 42 Corvettes and 83 members and guests signed up for the trip February 27th to O' Charley's Restaurant for lunch and Charlie O Corvettes afterwards. The long range forecast shows a cool day but no rain or snow. This should be an enjoyable outing.

After the printing of the last newsletter, the St. Patrick's Day Parade coordinator changed the limit on the number of Corvettes we could have in the parade. The number of Corvettes is limited to the number of pageant queens we will be carrying. There are 9 queens participating in the parade and 9 members have signed up to carry those queens.

The enthusiasm for NASCAR and just getting to show off our Corvettes really shines with our members. We have 34 Corvettes signed up for the NASCAR Technical Institute Open House on March 20th. This is a great place to spend a few hours and enjoy a free lunch at the same time. The arrival time is 8:30 AM and the open house ends at 3:00 PM. You can see more information on the QCCC website calendar.



It was a pleasant surprise to see the sign up response for the Food Lion AutoFair during our meeting at the Harley Davidson shop. The 30 opening for Saturday, April 10th were full that night. As for Sunday, April 11th, there are still openings for 11 Corvettes. Members have first choice for these spots until the March meeting and then all openings will be available to members' second Corvettes and prospective members who want to display their Corvettes. You will be hearing more from me about getting the remaining Sunday spaces filled in the near future.

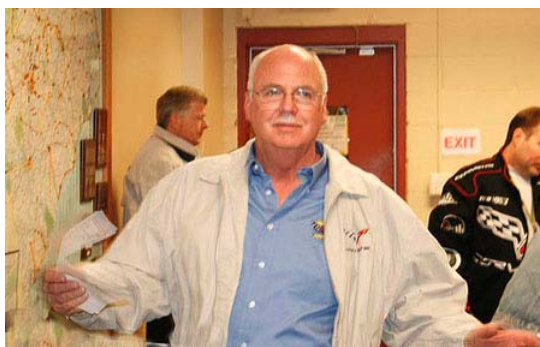
Thank you for your participation.

*Nelson*





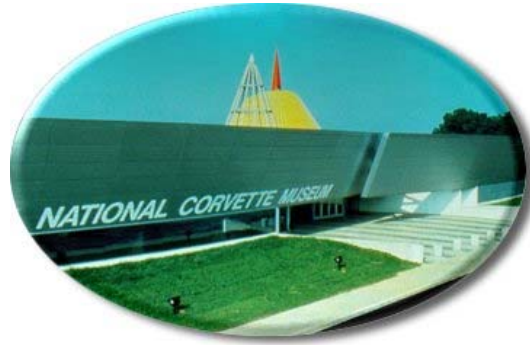
## Highlights of February's Meeting at Harley Davidson







# NCM Corner



Did you know that you can insure all your cars through the NCM? And, chances are you can also save some money. All you have to do to find out is go to

[www.ncminsurance.com](http://www.ncminsurance.com) and get a free on-line quote. This new website is devoted solely to the insurance program at the museum.

Last call for a room at the C5/C6 Bash. After the March meeting, I will be releasing the remaining room(s) back to the hotel. We presently have fifteen couples signed up for the trek to Bowling Green on April 28-May 2.

I must apologize for being rather singularly focused on just a couple of NCM events. With most of our members participating in the Bash, the Anniversary Celebration, or Vets 'n Vettes, I forget to tout the other happenings. There is the Forum Cruise-In in May, the Z06 Fest in September, and the Pace Car Reunion in September. These events cater to those groups as their names indicate, but all are welcome to participate. Take a few minutes on the museum website and acquaint yourself with all these events have to offer.

I wish to extend my deep appreciation to the Board and Charity Committee for all they do to help the museum. The purchase of NCM gift cards for prizes, the yearly monetary commitment, and the charity donation are a great show of support for the center of Corvettedom. And thanks to all our members for your support by attending the events, buying raffle tickets, and your purchases at the Corvette Store. You are a good group. I have the Caravan DVDs for those of you who had ordered them. I will be passing them out at the March meeting.

Save the Wave!  
Paul Mariano  
NCM Ambassador



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## Men's / Women's Thursday Lunch







# QCCC MEETING MINUTES

Saturday February 13, 2010

Held at: Harley-Davidson, Matthews, NC

Officers in attendance: Boyd Kurt, Steve Pelchat, Florence Prather, Adina Ledford, Nelson Sprague, Eddie Burt



## **Boyd Kurt, President:**

- Called meeting to order at 6:30 pm
- Thanked QCCC Member Ken Lipack for providing tonight's meeting location
- Requested a motion that was made, seconded, and approved to accept the January minutes
- Introduced the QCCC Officers and asked for their reports

## **Eddie Burt, Membership**

- Invited Visitors to stand and introduce themselves and their cars:
  - Jim and Catherine Appleyard – 2002 Red Coupe
  - Bill Rambo – 1994 Purple Convertible
  - Tom & Cindy Grizzle – 1999 Pewter Convertible
- Held election of new members:
  - Brian Marconi – 2000 Yellow Coupe
  - Jerry & Dawn Vega – 2007 Red Coupe
  - Greydon & Rose Cruse – 2004 Silver Coupe
- With the 5 new members added tonight, the membership stands at 227
- Income from Advertisers so far this year is \$720.00

## **Steve Pelchat, Vice President**

- March 13 meeting will be at Auto Barn in Concord
- April 17 meeting will be on the third Saturday (due to Auto Fair being on the second Saturday) and will be a catered picnic at a state park - \$10 per person
- Gift cards drawn:
  - Doug Wright – Cracker Barrel
  - Mark Ledford – Ruby Tuesday
  - Chris Wood – Chili's
  - Jerry Vega – Target

## **Nelson Sprague, Automotive**

- Thanked:
  - Wally & Anita Crawford for hosting Car Care Day in January
  - Adina Ledford for a GREAT, yet snowy, Banquet
- Calendar changes:
  - June 5 – QCCC Car Show at City Chevrolet



- August 28 & 29 – Fall Auto Fair. This is the same weekend as Corvettes at Carlisle which many QCCC members will attend. We may reduce the number of cars required at Auto Fair.
- Sign up sheets are available for
  - February 27 - day trip to Charlie O's
  - February 13 - St. Patrick's Day Parade – only 9 cars are needed
  - March 20 – Open House at NASCAR Technical Institute. Only 15 spaces are available inside, all others will park outside.
  - April 10 & 11 – Auto Fair. All 30 spots are taken for Saturday, and only 10 spots are available for Sunday

#### **Paul Mariano, NCM Ambassador**

- April 29 to May 1 – C5/C6 Bash. So far, 14 QCCC members are signed up. Paul has 1 hotel room available if anyone else is interested.
- June 28 & 29 – NCM is hosting a HPDE at VIR
- There are now two driving simulators set up at the Museum
- If you're not a member of the National Corvette Museum, see Paul for information and an application

#### **Florence Prather, Treasurer**

- Reported the current bank balance
- Reviewed the proposed 2010 Budget in detail. As always, our goals are to carryover a minimum balance each year, and spend all the income to benefit QCCC members. Charity funds do not come from membership dues, but from Car Shows, silent auctions, and raffles. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the proposed budget. It will be emailed to the membership next week.

#### **Adina Ledford, Social**

- Emails will be sent with details on upcoming events:
  - March 27 – Day trip to Childress Winery and Race Shops
  - April 23 – 25 – Day/Weekend trip to Asheville, NC
  - May 15 – Day Trip to Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, SC
  - May 29 – 30 – Vettes in the Valley, Maggie Valley, NC
  - June 18 – 20 – Weekend trip to see the Tall Ships in Charleston, SC
  - July 24 – Day Trip to Pisgah National Forest

#### **Tommy Loftin, Member**

The Chrome Bumper Group wants to have several excursions this year. Details will be sent later. All cars are welcome.

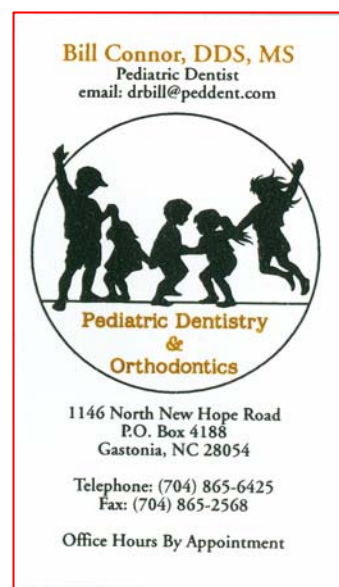
#### **Boyd Kurt, President**

- Presented Participation Awards (gift certificates to the NCM) to members unable to attend the Banquet:
  - Carolyn & Don Zimmer
  - Helen & John Jensen
  - Brenda & Tommy Loftin

- Recognized recipients of additional awards:
  - Rookies of the Year – Julia & Bill Davidson
  - Member of the Year – Nelson Sprague
  - Jerry Scienski Memorial Award – John Meadows
  - King & Queen of the Ball – Mark & Adina Ledford
- New for 2010 – Points will not be given this year for participating in events, and therefore participation awards will not be presented at the next Banquet. Instead, gift certificates to the NCM will be provided for drawings held at events throughout the year, such as Auto Fair.
- August 26 – 29 – Corvettes at Carlisle. So far, 50 QCCC Members are signed up to attend. An email with details and registration information will be sent out soon. Note: this year's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will showcase select 1960 Corvettes.
- Leftover gifts from the Banquet are available to those who were members in 2009:
  - Tote bags – one per family
  - Hurricane glasses – one per person
- Meeting adjourned at: 7:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Jane Burt*, for Linda Lewis, Secretary



## February's Up Yonder Dinner







## March Business Meeting –Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>

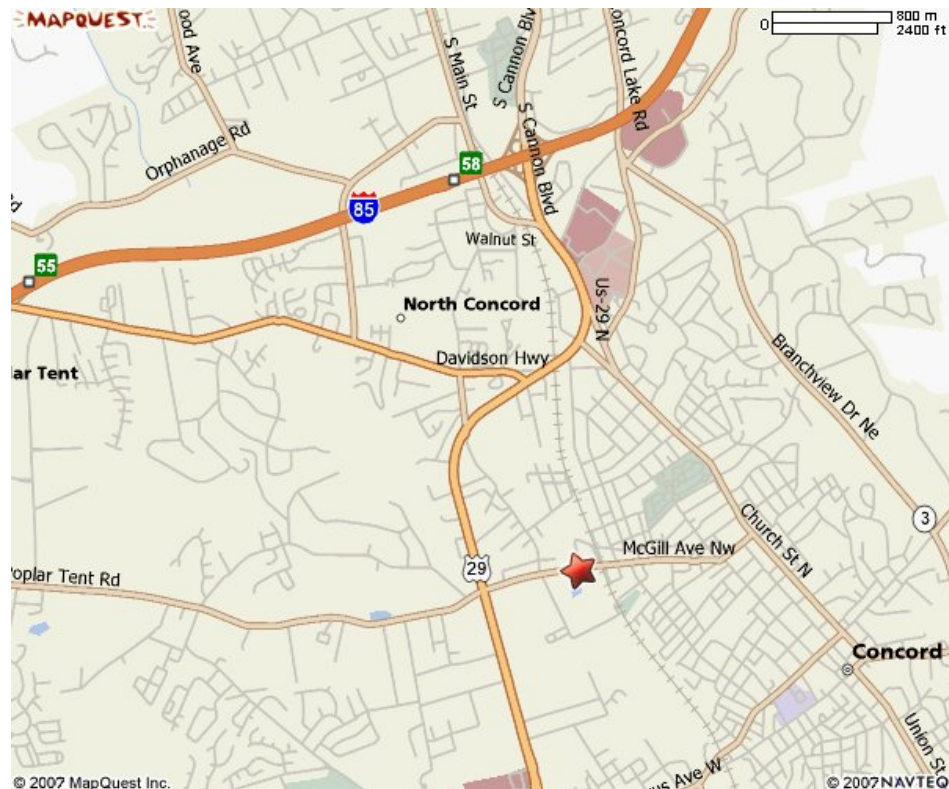
At  
AutoBarn Classic Cars  
325 McGill Avenue  
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Social at 5:30 PM  
Business Meeting at  
6:30 PM

You do not have to  
bring chairs!

Directions: From  
I85 Exit 52, Take  
Poplar Tent Rd  
East, cross Hwy 29,  
road name changes  
to McGill, continue  
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Reminder: Non-  
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