



# The Queen City Corvette Gazette

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

## January 2011



### *QCCC Leaves Lasting Footprints*

*by Sharing Smiles and Brightening Holidays as 2010 Comes to a Close*

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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, PO Box 77153 Charlotte, NC 28271-7002**. QCCC is a non-profit club (501-C7). Dues and donations are not tax deductible. In addition to various social activities for members, QCCC raises money for and participates with various local charities. We strive to promote exciting, safe and fun ways to enjoy our Corvettes. We hold business meetings on the second Saturday of each month. Our monthly business meeting usually incorporates social time. Our socials are always fun and are focused around fellowship, food & drink. We've had swimming parties, bar-b-ques, cookouts, day cruises and weekend trips. We participate in / conduct mountain tours, holiday parades and several homecoming parades at local area high schools. We also support and participate in local auto shows and hold charity Corvette shows each year. After an initiation fee of \$7.00, club dues are only \$8.00 a month, per family, and are to be paid quarterly or annually. These dues go to cover the costs of running the club, mailing newsletters, and subsidizing the costs of our meetings. Club officers and supporting staff 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.

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*And Much More.....*

### *On The Cover:*

QCCC Members Nelson Sprague, Bob Denney, John Walton and John Meadows deliver Members' donated food and Christmas toys to the Air National Guard & Matthews Help Center. See Nelson's Automotive Report for more information.



# The President's Vault



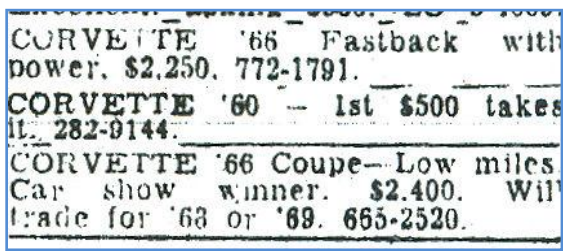
I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday. I want to thank all the people for their kind words and encouragement after the election. I'm looking forward to the upcoming year; I think we're going to have a good assortment of activities for everyone. If anyone has any suggestions for an activity or meeting location, let me know so we can get started planning it. Remember, this is everyone's club, not just the board's club. We need your input to keep coming up with new ideas, or to recycle some old, popular ones. I'd really like to see us out on the road more.

As many of you know, I like automotive history, especially Corvettes. So here's a little story for you.

I've always wished I knew more about the background of my 1960 Corvette. As a sixteen year old in 1970, I didn't pay much attention to the details of buying it as a used car, I can just remember how excited I felt when the garage door popped open and I saw the rear end of it. I didn't care about the hole in the fiberglass or the rip in the canvas. Looking back, I have no idea where the owner lived, but remember exactly what the house looked like. Over the years I have tried to add documentation for the car. Many times I have told my wife, Laura, the story of buying the car, and she figured it would be a good Christmas present to track down the original ad for me.

She called *The Detroit News* to find out if they archived their old classifieds, and was told that the *Detroit Library* was the only place that had them. A follow up call to the library determined that they were only at the main library downtown, and on microfilm, not available online, so it would require a visit. This was no longer something she could do as a surprise for me, since we're 600 miles away. So she told me what she had found out, and we decided to make a trip to Michigan after Thanksgiving, since we had Friday off of work.

The library was only open 10-6 on Saturday, and we were there first thing looking through old classifieds on microfilm. After going through several Sunday papers, I found the ad in the March 15th, 1970 issue. Luckily it was distinctive - "Corvette '60 1st \$500 takes it" and the phone number. The ad was exactly as I remembered it.



We printed it out, I was so excited, I finally had what I wanted. We were feeling pretty good, and Laura suggested that we cross reference the phone number to find the name & address, so I'll finally know where I bought the car. Would the information be available from 1970? Laura worked as a reference librarian assistant in college, and assured me that all the info is there, you just have to know where to look and have patience.

The librarians at the *Detroit Library* were extremely helpful. We looked up the info in *Bresser's Criss Cross*, but found that we needed the *Dearborn-Downriver* version, not the Detroit volumes. The librarian checked online and found the *Henry Ford Centennial Library* in Dearborn had the 1968 and '73 version, but not the 1970 version. We hoped that the previous car owner had lived there for at least a few years, so we could find his name. This library was only open until 5:00, and we only had that one day to be able to research it this trip. So we headed out on Michigan Avenue to Dearborn. We were excited and on a roll! .....To be continued next month.....

Let's drive 'em and enjoy them!

*Steve Pelchat*





# *The QCCC Annual Christmas Meeting & Dinner – One of the Highlights of the Year!*





# Deiger's VP Report



Welcome back for another great year here at the Queen City Corvette Club! It looks as if 2011 is gearing up to be a great year!

I am *Matthew Deiger*, your new Vice President for The Queen City Corvette Club for 2011! I will be coming to you monthly through this newsletter giving you updates on our meeting locations and other various items.

Our meeting on **January 8, 2011** is going to be at the **NASCAR Technical Institute**. This has become a very popular place for the QCCC, and we are very thankful that they are going to have us back again. We will begin *SOCIAL TIME* at 5:30pm with the *MEETING* at 6:30pm. The meeting room is large to accommodate all and there will be plenty of chairs. The address for the NASCAR Technical Institute is as follows:

NASCAR Technical Institute  
220 Byers Creek Road  
 Mooresville, NC 28117  
Phone: 1-877-201-2597

Directions are as follows:

Take I-77 to Exit 36 – go east off I-77 on W Plaza Drive (Hwy 150) – go to Talbert Road (3rd street on left) and turn left – go to Byers Creek Road (4th street on left) and turn left. NASCAR Technical Institute is near the end of the street on the right.

I look forward to seeing everyone there!!

## Coming Attractions:

At the January meeting I will be sharing with you some *highlights* for the year. My goal is to try and vary the sites, to introduce some new places along with some old favorites, mixing in all areas of the county.

Finally, what everyone has been asking about ..... *Our new reward system for 2011!* I have been given this challenge for 2011 and I have come up with something that will **SUPERCHARGE** the group, and put us all in a higher **GEAR!!**

*Stay safe out there!*

*Matthew Deiger*

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# QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB



## CLUB BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES





**Date:** December 11, 2010    **Time:** 6:30 PM – 7:05 PM    **Location:** Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church

**ATTENDEES**    Board Members: Boyd Kurt, President; Steve Pelchat, Vice President; Eddie Burt, Membership; Florence Prather, Treasurer; Linda Lewis, Secretary; Nelson Sprague, Automotive; Adina Ledford, Social; Paul Mariano, NCM Ambassador; Bob Denny, Club Photographer




### DISCUSSION

#### Christmas Dinner from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM



##### President – Boyd Kurt –

-  Called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
-  Introduced the 2010 and 2011 Board Members. Boyd is retiring and Steve Pelchat will take over as President, Matt Deiger will be the new Vice President and Susan Kurt will be our new Social Director. Thanked Adina for serving as the 2010 Social Director
-  We had one addition to the November minutes. Eddie Burt was voted in as the Membership Director for 2011.
-  Minutes approved and seconded.







##### Membership Report – Eddie Burt

-  Visitors and prospective members - Mike and Carole Callea, Dick and Elaine Coulter, Jeff Crosby, David and Dawn Faircloth, Gary and Karen St. John, Sylvia Stallings
-  New members voted in for membership were Jack and Judy Goodison.
-  The club presently has 251 members.


##### Vice President Report – Steve Pelchat

-  January meeting will be at the NASCAR Technical Institute.
-  The following people won gift certificates: Steve Bales, Rita Shultz, Barbara and Nelson Sprague, Bob Denny, Charlie Binder and Mark Chavis.


##### Automotive Report – Nelson Sprague

-  Thanked everyone for the gifts for the children and the food drive. Nelson thanked Jo Graham for helping to shop for the children.
-  The December 8th dinner and trip to see the Speedway Christmas lights was a huge success and thanked Jane Burt for coordinating the event.
-  January 15th – Car Care Day at Wally and Anita Crawford’s garage.
-  February 26th - Road trip to see Tom Smith’s car collection. We will have lunch at O’Charleys. Please see the signup sheets.
-  Reminded everyone of the men’s luncheon on the third Thursday of the month. Let Nelson know if you are interested in attending.
-  Nelson presented Boyd with the Sock Monkey to travel with Mr. Sock.




##### Treasurer’s Report – Florence Prather

-  Reviewed the bank balance. Florence is collecting 2011 dues and banquet money. The total for both is \$166.


##### Secretary’s Report – Linda Lewis

-  Announced the December birthdays.

##### Social Director’s Report - Adina Ledford

-  January 22nd Banquet – The banquet will be held at the downtown Hilton again. All rooms will be \$99 per night. We will provide free parking for members who spend the night. Cost for the banquet will be \$35 per member and \$50 for non-members. Boyd will handle the programs. Justin Michaels will perform.
-  We will have a silent auction.
-  The invitations will be emailed next week.

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**Corvette Museum Report – Paul Mariano**



Signup sheets are available for the C-5 and C-6 Bash in April at the Corvette Museum. GM engineers will be on hand. Urged everyone to join the Museum.

**Chrome Bumper Report – Tommy Loftin**



No report.

**Other Business – Boyd Kurt**



Voted on the Male and Female Rookie of the year and the Member of the year. The winners will be announced at the banquet.



Voted on the name of the newsletter. The January newsletter will be emailed with the new name.



Meeting adjourned at 7.05pm.

**Next meeting is Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at NASCAR Technical Institute.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Linda H. Lewis*, Secretary



*QCCC Welcomes JACK & JUDY GOODISON*

*Jack & Judy have a beautiful 1987 Yellow Convertible*

*Our Newest Members! We're glad you're here!*

*49 NEW MEMBERS in 2010!*

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## *“Look What Followed Me Home”:*



*2007 Atomic Orange C6 6-Sp*



*2004 Commemorative Edition Le Mans Blue Z06 6-Sp*

*Congratulations to QCCC Members Jerry & Patty Miller on not one, but TWO new additions to their family! Enjoy your new RIDES!*

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### **QCCC Member Moves North....Way Up North!**

**QCCC Member Bill Rambo** contacted us recently to tell us he had moved to *Boston, Mass.* Bill sent a note describing the “last run” in his **1994 Black Rose Convertible** before its “hibernation” for the winter. Those of us in the South are not familiar with the chore of putting away our Corvettes during the winter months. Bill has provided a brief description of what it’s like to get your Corvette ready for storage. Bill said he missed the folks at QCCC and plans to keep up with us via the Newsletter. We wish Bill all the best in his new location and hope he’ll be driving his Corvette to see us in Charlotte very soon! **Bill, thanks for the update and stay in touch!**



Chris,

I took my corvette out December 4 for its last run. I decided to leave the Boston area heading north on Interstate 3 and 93. Leaving the comforts of the interstate, I headed north into New Hampshire on Route 16 for the White Mountains. Temperature was around 35 in Conway NH. Heading further into the mountains, scenery rapidly changed, as did the weather. When I finally stopped (got pictures), temperature was now 24 degrees and snowing. I went about ten more miles up 16 when the ASR light came on. That was enough indication for me to turn around and head for warmer and snow free climate.



Sunday was spent cleaning both the interior and exterior to put the car up for the winter. She now sleeps in a garage, up on blocks (tires not on the ground), HEET and fuel stabilizer in the tank, battery removed and in the house, and radiator fluid to minus 30. Nice warm blanket protects the body. I will jump start her at least once every two weeks and hope that will keep everything lubricated. I have an oil warmer to install to at least keep the block warm.

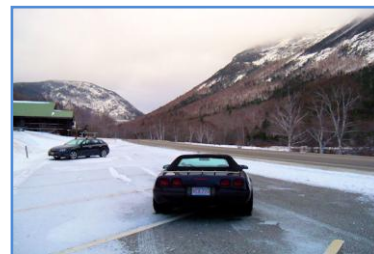
Front tag had to be installed making the front end not look normal. But all is well, I have a corvette, others just wish they had one.

I will keep you posted on the hibernation of a corvette in New England in case another member decides to come this way.

Till then,

Bill

Save the Wave!







## QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **DECEMBER 7, 2010** TIME: **6:45 – 8:30 PM**  
LOCATION: **BOYD KURT'S HOME**




**Board Members & Guests Present:** Boyd Kurt, President; Steve Pelchat, Vice President, Linda Lewis, Secretary; Adina Ledford, Social Director; Nelson Sprague, Automotive Director; Eddie Burt, Membership Director; Jane Burt, Member; Susan Kurt, 2011 Social Director; and Matthew Deiger, 2011 Vice President

### DISCUSSION




 **Boyd Kurt called the meeting to order.**


 **Vice President Report – Steve Pelchat**

-  January Meeting – NASCAR Technical Institute.
-  Discussed the member gift for the Banquet.
-  Would like to send out a questionnaire to the membership on areas of interest for next year.


 **Automotive Director – Nelson Sprague**


-  December 8th – Dinner and trip to view the Speedway Christmas lights. Cost is \$20 per car.
-  Christmas Party - We will have a food drive for Matthews Help Center and presents for the Air National Guard. Nelson will deliver the gifts on Monday, December 13th.
-  All Christmas parades are complete.
-  January 15th – Car Care Day at Wally and Anita Crawford's garage.
-  February 26th - Road trip to view Tom Smith's car collection with lunch at O'Charleys.



 **Secretary's Report – Linda Lewis**

-  No report.




 **Treasurer Report – Florence Prather**

-  No report.







 **Membership Director – Eddie Burt**

-  We have 249 members and 135 families. We have had 49 members join the club this year.
-  We ended the year with 9 advertisers.


 **Social Director – Adina Ledford**

-  Christmas party - We have everything we need. Pat Bonino will handle the gift exchange.
-  January 22nd Banquet – The banquet will be held at the downtown Hilton again. All rooms will be \$99 per night. We will provide free parking for members who spend the night. Cost for the banquet will be \$35 per member and \$50 for non-members. Boyd will handle the programs. Justin Michaels will perform.
-  We will have a silent auction again and donations for the baskets.


 **President – Boyd Kurt**

-  Welcomed the 2011 new board members, Matt Deiger and Susan Kurt.
-  Dues are due on January 5th and are \$96 per year. We prefer for people to pay dues for the entire year.
-  We will vote on the member of the year and the male and female rookie of the year at the Christmas party. The winners will be announced at the banquet.
-  We will vote on the name for the newsletter. The January newsletter will go out with the new name.
-  We will vote on the King and Queen at the banquet.
-  We need an inventory of all club assets and will publish the list in the January newsletter.

 **2011 Social Director – Susan Kurt**

-  Talked about some ideas for 2011 events.

 **2011 Vice President – Matt Deiger**

-  Will meet with Steve Pelchat to discuss points, meeting locations, etc.

**Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 6:30pm on January 4th at Laura Pelchat's office.**

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda H Lewis, Secretary*

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# Automotive Report



QCCC Members,

The New Year is here with more social and automotive programs at QCCC. We will continue to do our best to set up events that can be enjoyed by everyone.

But first, I want to thank everyone for making 2010 a great year for your Automotive Director. I could not have done it all by myself. So many members and prospective members assisted and participated in all the events that it is impossible to name everyone; you know who you are and I thank you for your help.

We finished up our parade schedule with the Indian Trail parade on 11/28/10, (6 cars participated) and the Lake Wylie Elementary parade on 12/4/10, (12 cars participated). These were the last 2 of the 11 parades we participated in during 2010. Thank you to all the drivers who furnished Corvettes.



We completed our charitable activities for 2010 with the delivery of the food donations to the Matthews Help Center and the gifts for 14 Air National Guard and 31 Matthews Help Center children on Monday 12/13/10. As I have said before, your generosity in providing food and gifts to those less fortunate is only surpassed by your enthusiasm for Corvettes. John Meadows, John Walton and Bob (Flash) Denny were my able assistants with these deliveries.

In conjunction with the December 8th Wednesday night dinner, Jane Burt organized the 13 cars going to the Carolina Christmas at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Before Q and Margo led the group through the lights, everyone stopped and the convertibles dropped their tops; the lights shown much brighter with the tops down. Maybe this is the start of a new QCCC tradition.

Starting the New Year, we have **Car Care Day** on January 15th at Wally and Anita Crawford's Garage Mahal in Stanfield. Besides doing the oil and filter changes, we will have lots of enthusiastic conversation and good food. Also, I will have a little *surprise* during the day. You can see all the details on the club calendar.

Our second event is something we haven't done is several years; it is a trip to see Tom Smith's collection of Corvettes, collector cars, animals (stuffed and alive) and his collection of all things John Deere. I understand there are farm implements, bicycles, snow mobiles and just about anything made by the John Deere Co. It is on the calendar for February 26th. I will have a sign up sheet at the January meeting.

Thank you again for your participation in 2010 and I'm looking forward to even better things next year.

*Nelson Sprague*

704-847-8374

[barnel@carolina.rr.com](mailto:barnel@carolina.rr.com)







## *More Corvettes and Christmas Parades—*

*QCCC Members* had one last chance to shine up their *Corvettes* and carry the Queens before the *Christmas* season ended. Even *SANTA* traded in his sleigh for a ride in a shiny *Corvette!*



*As always, please visit our [QCCC Website](#) for many more event photos.*

# NCM CORNER



Looks as if we will have a rather large caravan headed to the NCM for the [C5/C6 Bash](#) in April. Sixteen couples have spoken up for rooms and started their planning for the trip. Still not too late to sign up if you want to go. I sincerely urge our new members who have never been to the museum or assembly plant to make the pilgrimage as I'm sure you will become addicted as others have. I encourage everyone to register for the event ASAP as the various activities fill up fast. In particular, the luncheon with the race team will go quickly. Let me know if you have any difficulties with the hotel or registration.

I may have mentioned it before, but I will again. Take a look at one of the newest Corvette sites on the internet at [www.allaboutvettes.com](http://www.allaboutvettes.com). They do tire tests, oil tests, and other good product and how-to articles.

I would like to thank the Board and all our individual members for their support of the NCM over the past year. And thanks to the *Charity Committee* for the generous donation. The NCM is sustained by its members and receives no aid from General Motors. Only Corvette enthusiasts like us can keep it alive.

If you haven't done so by the time you read this, then you missed your tax opportunity for 2010, but you can start thinking about 2011. If you are considering becoming a *lifetime member* of the NCM, be aware that the fee for that membership is considered a donation and, therefore, tax deductible. There is also a time payment plan which makes it an easy upgrade. I will be glad to explain the benefits of being a lifetime member with you.



Save the Wave!

*Paal Mariano*, NCM Ambassador

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*...And We Braved the **CHILL** for the Warmth of **FRIENDSHIP** at  
QCCC Luncheons & Dinners!*



*Members interested in joining the fun should contact the following to be added to the email list.*

Nelson Sprague ([barnel@carolina.rr.com](mailto:barnel@carolina.rr.com)) – Men’s Luncheon – held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month

Peggy Marlowe ([ToRedVettes@carolina.rr.com](mailto:ToRedVettes@carolina.rr.com)) – Ladies’ Luncheon – held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month

Eddie & Jane Burt ([eddieburt@carolina.rr.com](mailto:eddieburt@carolina.rr.com)) – “Up Yonder” Dinner – held the last Monday of each month

Eddie & Jane Burt ([eddieburt@carolina.rr.com](mailto:eddieburt@carolina.rr.com)) – Wednesday Night Dinner – held MOST Wednesday nights



# Vintage QCCC

By Vintage Guys ~

*Bill Cruthis & Richard Craig*

## *To Pit or Not To Pit*



*Charlotte Motor Speedway - 1976*

The mid 70's saw QCCC very involved with the *National Council Of Corvette Clubs* and racing. Few would argue that **Darrell Kirkley** (a.k.a. Turkey or Turkley - the nickname came from Travis Meredith's 3 yr old daughter who could not say Kirkley so she called him Mr. Turkley which we all shortened to Turkey) was hands down the best we had on the track. He just seemed to have no fear and would push his cars to the limit. Plus he obviously had great skill. We often attributed it to his experience in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot.

Darrell is one of the most talented members QCCC has ever had with an array of auto skills. He could detail a car to better than showroom. His talents and time given to QCCC in the 70's were very instrumental in developing the club. We knew Darrell as always a happy go lucky fellow with a quick wit and full of pranks, but with a friendly side that was always there to help you with your Corvette. Everything Darrell did was all out, from detailing not only the corvette but also his old El Camino and trailer for racing.



In 1976 Darrell got the fever to go *SCCA* racing, having won everything at the club level. He took the *SCCA Drivers School* at the *Charlotte Motor Speedway* on April 17 of 76, and then acquired a semi restored '66 roadster from Richard Carter. The car was in primer and Richard had just put NOS fenders back on it, of course those got flared right back out for the big tires. It was a great looking race car, Sunfire Yellow with red accents and it was #66. He first took the car to Road Atlanta where he won his class and lapped everyone but the overall winner. Shortly thereafter he realized he needed a regular pit crew, so he enlisted **Bill Cruthis**, **Dollar Bill Ingram**, and **Dan Shaver**. We all agreed since he had great looking t-shirts for us with his car silk screened on the front. The four of us hung out a

lot and we were looking forward to the Road Atlanta trip. Over a beer at the clubhouse Dan Shaver asked Darrell on what laps would we be exchanging drivers? After a puzzled look, Darrell explained he drove and we changed the tires. So the pit crew disbanded before it got to the first race. It seems Shaver and Ingram did not care to only change tires. So Darrell continued on solo and finally tagged the wall head on which really destroyed the car. Since it was a self financing deal that put an end to that and maybe a promising career. Today Darrell says he races for fun at the cart track at I-77 and I-85 where he still is top dog. The movies we have on disc now of the '70's show Turkley flying around in autocrosses and at the speedway. It is obvious he missed his calling. We will have future tales of Darrell where Charlotte's finest blue light squad also comes in second. He was a big part of QCCC in the 70's, a real character and a great friend. He has given us many laughs and a lot of fun memories. Darrell was a truly crazy "Corvetter" and Queen City Corvette Club is better off thanks to the Turkley.





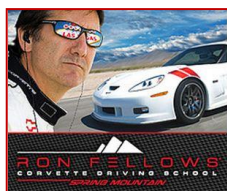
# Driving Spring Mountain

## A First-Hand Account of Experiencing the Ron Fellows Performance Driving School

Last month we described our arrival and day one of our trip to Spring Mountain and spending three days driving ZR1s, Z06s and Grand Sports around the 2.2 mile 11 turn road course at the [Ron Fellows Performance Driving School](#) in Pahrump, Nevada. If you missed it and want to catch up, visit our QCCC website and click on the [December 2010 Newsletter](#).



### Day Two & Ron Fellows:

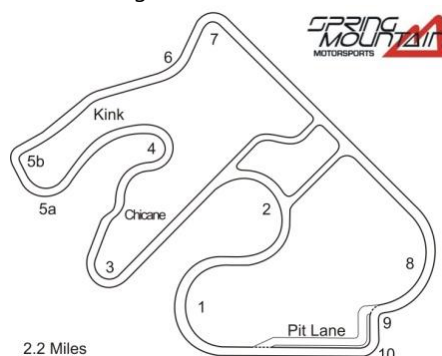


Bill Davidson's and my second day started out with a slightly faster pace than day one. Since we learned the rules, had toured the facilities and met the fine Spring Mountain staff on day one, we jumped right in to class. More heel and toe practice, review of the 2.2 mile course, pointers on braking and shifting and visual skills review. This review time was obviously to allow the "students" to shake out the cobwebs from Monday night in Las Vegas (for those who indulged), ingest some coffee and Gatorade, and get us all focused on our second day of class. The eighteen students again split into two groups with one group of nine participating in class time and the other group of nine hitting the road course in their Corvette of choice. In addition to the review, we covered more car control and threshold braking. In discussing on-track experience with others who have participated in driving schools, there appears to be a variety of driving skills taught. Spring Mountain teaches more "finesse" driving and focuses on using shifting and braking at strategic points to assist in car-control during cornering. This is why more time is spent on finding those perfect braking and shift points in each turn. Track time on day two became a little more aggressive because by this time, we were becoming more and more familiar with the track and our own ability to maneuver the Corvette around it. We weren't even close, however, to understanding the capability of the true American Sports Cars we were driving around the track. Then came the skid-pad.

We learned very quickly that large quantities of water and Gatorade, coupled with the excitement of being where we were, made us forget about the heat and sun in the desert. We spent our longest period of time in the sun at the skid-pad. But with the humidity around 18% – 25%, the heat was really not a factor. There were two exercises and only one of our group of nine could be completing each at a time. The remaining seven watched our classmates skid and slide and patiently awaited our turns. The skip-pad was a large paved area on a very slight incline which allowed the water to run across the pad evenly. The Corvettes we drove had a thick coating of wax covering them. This was to keep the water from the skip-pad from spotting the finishes on the shiny Corvettes. One exercise was negotiating a figure-eight; the other was forcing the Corvette into a skid. Both were accomplished (and I use this term loosely) with the fuse to the Active Handling System removed. This was to familiarize us with how the Corvette handled with no computer assistance...in other words, just how good we could handle the Corvette and manage a skid on our own. And this became a little interesting. Without going into great detail, I will say Bill did a very good job during his turn and only hit one or two cones if I remember correctly. I, on the other hand, unintentionally found out what the Nevada Mountain scenery looked like out the windshield during a full 360° spin. Too bad it happened so fast I couldn't enjoy it. But all in all, I think we were surprised at how well we could maintain control of the Corvette in a skid without computer assist. I will also note here that, luckily, no instructors were lost during this exercise either.



Next came some shadow-lapping. A longer track session allowed us to "shadow" an instructor by following him around the course to observe exactly how he hit the apexes and negotiated each turn. The instructor also "shadowed" each of us, all the while talking to us via the in-car radios giving pointers on how we could improve our track-time by tweaking this and adjusting that. Now the class was really getting interesting because the pace continued to pick up each time we took laps. Shadowing the instructors "at speed" was an eye-opener and really helped confidence levels. We also took a few laps with an instructor driving. And I thought we were fast! Watching the instructor using all the techniques we were learning at what appeared to be wide open, all the while talking us through each turn was a great experience. It showed us just how slow we were really going! I asked the instructor to estimate how close to the limit he pushed the Corvette around the course and his answer was "about 60%". Oh my! For a little taste of how the instructors drive the course, [click here](#) to watch Ron Fellows take a lap in a ZR1. Make sure you watch it in full-screen mode with your sound turned way up!





At this point, I need to comment on how welcomed the wives were by the Spring Mountain staff during the 3 day course. They could not drive, but could sit in the class with us and were even, at times, asked their opinions by Rick Malone, our lead instructor. The wives could eat lunch with us each day in the clubhouse and watch us drive from various points around the track. This allowed them to snap many photos and capture the experience in an even more memorable way. The wives also had the opportunity, if they chose to, to take a few laps with an instructor "at speed". This was very interesting. Julia and Peggy had a blast and the experience gave them an even better appreciation of the Corvette's capability.

Day two turned out to be more strenuous, more intense, and with more techniques to absorb into our already full slate of things to remember. But it was a joy and again, we hated for it to end even though we were very tired, physically and mentally. The class did end with a small disappointment, however. As I said in the Day One coverage, our instructor told us Ron Fellows may be stopping by because he had to be in Las Vegas Wednesday for the Barrett-Jackson Auction. He did not make it to our class on Tuesday. But we were in for a pleasant surprise later that afternoon.

Late Tuesday afternoon, the four of us sat on the patio at the condos enjoying "dust cutters" and sharing opinions of the day's activities with a few other students and their wives. We noticed an SUV pull up to our building and a very familiar figure get out of the driver's seat. Ron Fellows and his brother Rob, a professional driver and artist, arrived to spend the night at the condo two doors down from us. Both were to be at the Barrett-Jackson Auction in Las Vegas the next day. They stopped to chat with us, pose for pictures, and sign a few autographs. After meeting Ron and Rob Fellows and seeing how personable and appreciative they are it became even easier to understand why we are such fans of the Corvette, Corvette Racing and everything associated with it. Corvette folks are just special folks!



For more info, [click here](#) to view a new GM video featuring Ron Fellows and [click here](#) to see Rob Fellows art and read about his racing career. [Click here](#) to view an article in USA Today about Spring Mountain and a video featuring Jim Campbell, GM's US Vice President of Performance Vehicles and Motorsports describing why GM believes in and supports driving schools. Again, watch it in full-screen mode with your sound turned up. *Chris Wood*



***NEXT MONTH - Day Three:***

***"Open Track", Graduation and Barrett-Jackson in Las Vegas***


*Where else but Barrett-Jackson can you see this beauty waiting for a new home?*







# “Heads-Up”


 **Welcome to QCCC’s Newest Sponsor - AutoShield Carolinas** returns this month as a QCCC Sponsor. Thank you AutoShield Carolinas for your support! Visit their [website](#) for their full line of products and services.


 **General Motors, 100 years old and counting** - One hundred years ago, carriage maker William "Billy" Durant placed a big bet on the fledgling auto industry in the early 1900s and created General Motors Corp. Riding America's rise as a superpower, GM went on to dominate the automobile industry for decades, producing some iconic cars and trucks, as well as numerous safety, marketing and technological advances. Examine GM's first century at [detnews.com](#) (The Detroit News). Feel like filling your Corvette up for 19 cents a gallon and cruising Route 66? Check out [Dinah Shore singing the Chevy song](#) we all used to love and hum subconsciously. Takes you back, doesn't it?


 **The '63 Sting Ray Cited As One of GM’s Most Influential Cars** - Though the original 1953 Corvette caused a huge buzz when it was originally launched, it was the '63 Sting Ray coupe that re-cast the 'Vette as a high-performance road-burner.



 **Who Saw That Coming?** – Fan favorite Johnny O’Connell transitions from Corvette racing to Team Cadillac in the SCCA World Challenge GT in 2011. Johnny will team with former Corvette Racing teammate Andy Pilgrim in a pair of Cadillac CTS-V Coupes. Johnny’s replacement and program plans will be announced at a later date by Corvette Racing. Johnny O’Connell will be missed by Corvette fans everywhere but it will be exciting to watch and follow Johnny as Team Cadillac makes an impact.

 **Just Say No To E-15** – The Historic Vehicle Association, along with many others are strongly opposing ethanol mandates and subsidies and say it is not the silver bullet it’s made out to be. What the effects will be on fuel systems, especially in older cars is yet to be seen. We all need to educate ourselves on what is on the horizon. For a start, check out [this article](#) by the HVA.

 **Jim Campbell Appointed VP – Performance Vehicles & Motorsports** – Jim is a past Board Member of the National Corvette Museum and strongly supports the Museum. He is now responsible for integrating engineering and marketing efforts around performance variants of production vehicles, as well as motorsports activities. Jim’s appointment is a positive sign for General Motors in racing.

 **Do You Read The Articles or Just Look At the Pictures?** – OK, how many really read the Gazette each month? To find out, we are offering a \$25 Gift Card to Hooters to the person who actually reads this edition and answers the following trivia question: **In 1982 a little known band had a hit on the Top 40 Country Charts with a song that included the following lyrics. Name the group and the song title. Winner announced in next month’s Gazette.**

“My old Chevy seldom fails to start,  
But when it does I can find the part,  
Get back on the road before it gets too dark,  
If my Chevy fails to start.

Thank God for Chevrolet,  
Harley Davidson and RCA,  
They ain’t perfect but they still say  
\_\_\_\_\_!

**Let the search begin.....**

# IN THE REAR VIEW



- ❖ **Could This Be A Misprint?** – AAA Carolinas Foundation for Traffic Safety recently recognized 30 communities in the Carolinas for their contribution to traffic safety in their jurisdiction. Included in the 30 were Lancaster and Rock Hill in S.C. and Cornelius and Charlotte in N.C. Also, a State Farm Insurance Company publication recently stated that we are driving more carefully. Traffic deaths fell 8.9% from 2008 to 2009, to the lowest level since 1954!
- ❖ **What, No Corvettes?** - Remember the urban legend of the Portuguese Barn Find? It's been flying around the world like an Internet fairy tale for almost four years. The rumor was a N.Y. retiree purchased a house in Portugal, opened up a barn and found 180-plus collector cars. German journalist Wolfgang Blaube wanted to learn the truth, and went to find out. [Here are his photos](#) along with a list of most of the cars.
- ❖ **Remember How Lucky We Really Are In This Country! (so far)** – Bill Cruthis sent in this horror story about Corvette ownership outside the U.S.A. Seems a man in Norway purchased a Torch Red 2001 Corvette Z06 and had it shipped to Norway for \$36K. Before he could put it on the road, he had to pay a car tax based on three criteria: engine size, engine output, and carbon-dioxide production. His car tax total – a mere \$69K, bringing the total cost of driving his prized Corvette on the highway to a whopping \$105,000!
- ❖ **Chevrolet Needs To Maintain The Corvette's Relevancy** – It is no secret Corvette sales have declined. But GM has a lot to celebrate thanks to a drastically improved product lineup, radical restructuring and a little help from the Feds. The C7 is still a few years away, but it is good to see America's Sports Car showing up more and more in advertisements and marketing campaigns. In this edition of the GAZETTE, you'll find links to GM advertisements featuring [Ron Fellows praising the new Grand Sport](#), and GM's brass describing how the [General supports Corvette Driving Schools](#). With Corvette's success on the race track and the transfer of technology into our street cars, the Corvette must remain a flagship for General Motors for years to come.
- ❖ **Bet You Wish You Had One** – The NCM offered 18 Corvette Pedal Cars when the Museum opened in 1994. Now the NCM's Library and Archives folks are trying to locate each of the cars and their owners. Have you seen one in a friend's garage by any chance?
- ❖ **Looking Back At Racing History – December** - December 17, 1909: First motor racing meet takes place on the new brick surface at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.
- ❖ **Scott, You're Supposed to Wave!** – QCCC Members were watching Thursday morning, 12/30/2010, as QCCC Member Scott Hamilton took National Corvette Museum delivery of his new 2011 Grand Sport. Congratulations! What a Christmas present! Hopefully, Scott will have it broken in and will have snapped some great photos of his new family addition for the February edition of the Gazette (*Hint-Hint, Scott*). Notice the QCCC sign on the 'Vette.





**QCCC**  
**Annual Awards Banquet**

Saturday ~ January 22, 2011 ☆ from 6pm – until ?

**Hilton Center City**  
222 E. 3rd St. ~ Charlotte, NC 28202 ~ 704-377-1500

\$35 per member / \$50 per non-member / free parking

Special Room Rate \$99 ~ Make Your Reservations Online with this link:  
[http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/C/CLTHHF-QCC-20110122/index.html?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/C/CLTHHF-QCC-20110122/index.html?WT.mc_id=POG)

Group Code: QCC ~ Group Name: Queen City Corvette Club Room Block  
(or call 1-800-Hiltons or 877-667-7213)

**Smile For The Paparazzi As You Walk The Red Carpet  
Into Our Star Studded Awards Banquet!!!**

Plan to Join Us in Our Hospitality Suite for the After-Party!

RSVP to Adina - [adinaledford@yahoo.com](mailto:adinaledford@yahoo.com)

***RSVP to Adina Ledford –***

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***Check out the Hilton –***

[http://www1.hilton.com/en\\_US/hi/hotel/CLTHHF-Hilton-Charlotte-Center-City-North-Carolina/index.do?brand\\_id=HI&brand\\_directory=/en/hi/&xch=794778205.454EYGROD30JWCSGBIYM22Q](http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/CLTHHF-Hilton-Charlotte-Center-City-North-Carolina/index.do?brand_id=HI&brand_directory=/en/hi/&xch=794778205.454EYGROD30JWCSGBIYM22Q)

***Don't Miss This Celebration Commemorating 2010!***

**JOIN US AT OUR NEXT  
Business Meeting –  
Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**NASCAR TECHNICAL  
INSTITUTE**

220 Byers Creek Road, Mooresville, NC 28117

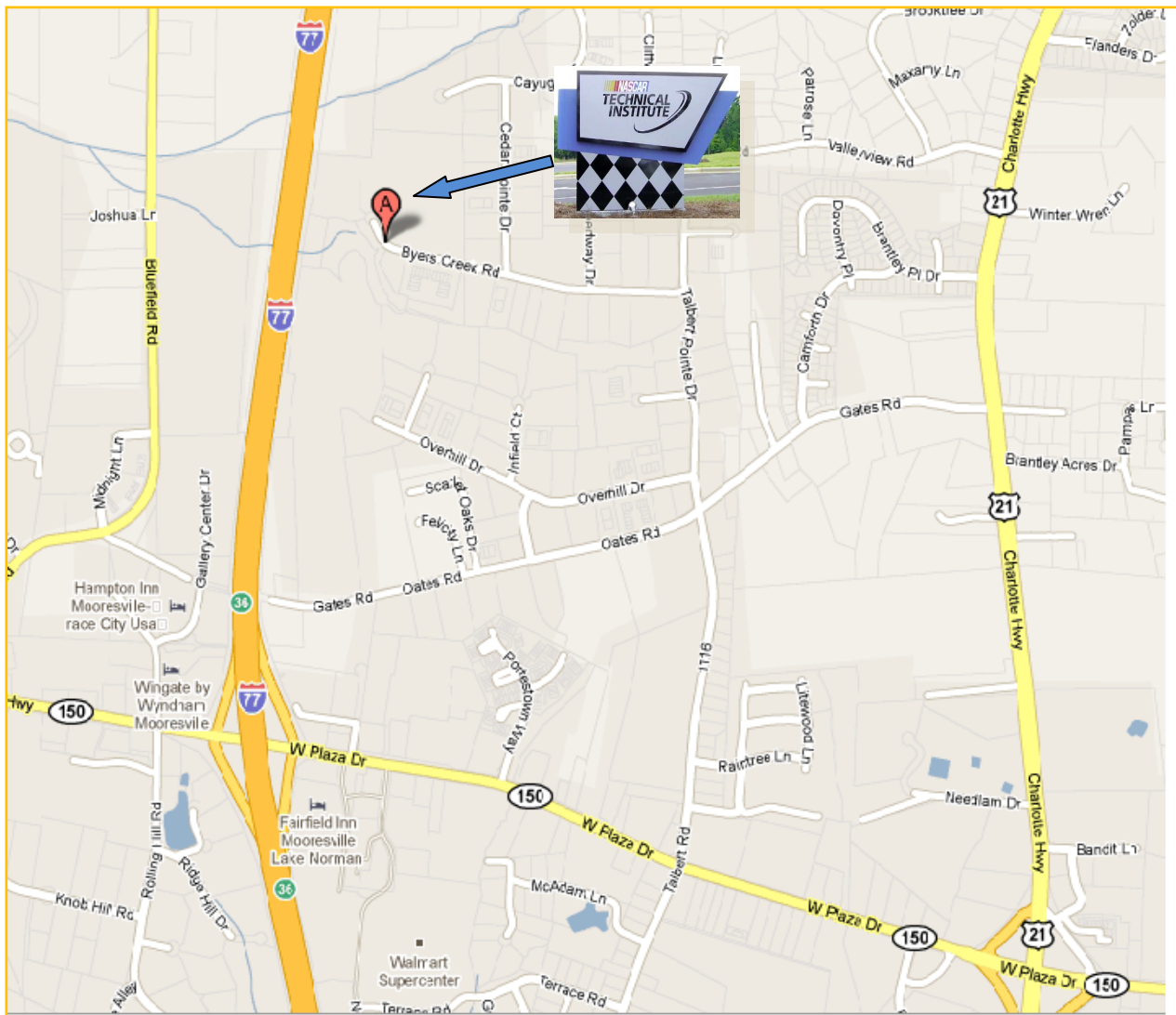
Phone Toll Free 1-877-201-2597



Social - 5:30 PM

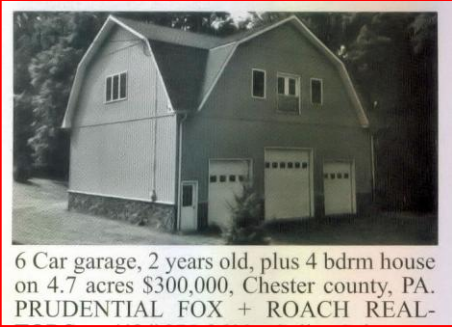
Business Meeting – 6:30 PM

Chairs are provided





*More Fun & Fellowship Caught on the QCCC Camera -*



6 Car garage, 2 years old, plus 4 bdrm house on 4.7 acres \$300,000, Chester county, PA. PRUDENTIAL FOX + ROACH REAL-

*Talk About Having Your Priorities In Order -*

This ad was seen in *Vette Vues Magazine* and shows a nice 6-car garage on 4.7 acres of land for sale in Pennsylvania for \$300,000. Oh yes, and a 4-bedroom house comes with it!



# The Last Page -



## THANK YOU THANK YOU

We have delivered the gifts to the 145th Air National Guard and the Matthews Help Center. I appreciate the delivery help given by John Meadows, John Walton and Bob Denney. Your thoughtfulness and generosity have made it possible for at least 45 children to enjoy a more bountiful Christmas. The managers of both of these organizations expressed their sincere gratitude to the members of Queen City Corvette Club for making this a better Christmas for these children during difficult times.

As head of the charity committee, I want to thank everyone who helped with this program. **Your generosity is only exceeded by your enthusiasm for CORVETTES.**

*Nelson*

Are you interested in going to Sebring, FL (south of Orlando) in March to cheer on the C6.R GT2 Teams?

Then contact:

- **Ken Aycock** at 803-518-7475 or [blkvett@gmail.com](mailto:blkvett@gmail.com)

or

- **Rich Harmon** at 704-528-2455 or [mzharmon@earthlink.net](mailto:mzharmon@earthlink.net)

They are planning a trip and want to see if anyone else is interested so they can get a group rate on hotel rooms. **Please contact them ASAP** since March is prime season and reservations need to be made now.

The 12 hour race starts at 10:00 am on Saturday March 19.

Go to <http://corvetteracing.com/> and [http://sebringraceway.com/12hr\\_tickets.lasso](http://sebringraceway.com/12hr_tickets.lasso) for more information.

Thanks,  
Jane Burt



To all the members of Queen City Corvette Club,

I have just a few thoughts that are very important.

First: It has been a pleasure serving as your President these last two years. I consider it one of the greatest honors of my life. I have truly enjoyed it.

Second: If you have not sent Adina Ledford a message about your attendance to the Awards Banquet (January 22nd) please do so now. Cost is \$35.00 per member and \$50.00 per guest. The club picks up the rest of the cost.

Third: Club dues are due by January 5th for 2011. They are \$96 per year or if you need, \$24 per quarter. We prefer yearly payments. It is easier for our Treasurer.

Adina Ledford's email is : [adinaledford@yahoo.com](mailto:adinaledford@yahoo.com)

Florence Prather's address is:  
2000 Draymore Lane  
Matthews, NC 28105

Checks Payable to QCCC.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays,  
Save the Wave,  
Boyd Kurt - President QCCC

*Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to. ~Bill Vaughn*

*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves. ~Bill Vaughn*

# Happy New Year!

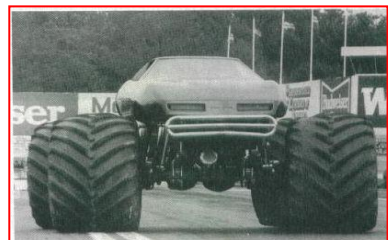
And from the **"Please Say it Isn't So" Department**, come these photos of **Corvettes, yes, actual Corvettes**, modified to suite an owner's taste and personality.



*C5 spotted in Turkey  
(Please keep it there)*



*C5 Rear, C4 Wheels, who knows?  
Needs more antennae  
Note To C7 Designers: Don't Look!*



*And Somewhere in  
Oklahoma...*



# The Last Page (REALLY)

## QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB

**Queen City Corvette Club** Bylaws require that an *inventory* be published annually. Following is the **Annual 2010 End-Of-Year Inventory**.

<b>Quantity:</b>	<b>Item:</b>	<b>Inventoried By:</b>
2	Microphones w/ Bag	Boyd Kurt
1	Amp and Speaker	Boyd Kurt
1	Bullhorn	Boyd Kurt
2	Boxes of misc. paperwork	Boyd Kurt
1	E-Z Up Instant Shelter	Nelson Sprague
2	QCCC Banners - 6 ft X 2 ft (for City Chevrolet)	Nelson Sprague
2	Frames for Banners w/ Carrying Case	Nelson Sprague
1	RubberMaid Roughneck Container - 31 Gal.	Nelson Sprague
2	Line Pennants w/ Chevrolet Bowtie & Checkered Flag	Nelson Sprague
1	Box - Poker Run Cards & Punches	Nelson Sprague
1	Partial Roll of 50/50 tickets	Nelson Sprague
1	Box w/ Chevrolet Plastic Giveaway Bags	Nelson Sprague
1	1997 NCCC South Sectional Trophy	Nelson Sprague
5	Clipboards	Nelson Sprague
1	QCCC Club Flag (John Meadows)	Nelson Sprague
1	Banner w/ QCCC Logo rcvd. from NCM after 2010 display	Nelson Sprague
1	Fire Extinguisher	Eddie Burt
1	Easel Stand	Eddie Burt
1	Blackboard	Eddie Burt
4	20 inch Box Fans	Eddie Burt

**Oral and Implant**  
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Bruce R. Trefz, D.D.S., M.S., M.S., P.A.  
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