



# The Queen City Corvette Gazette

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

## March 2011



*Brad Paisley Shows His True Colors  
Under a Jetstream Blue Sky, Sings About the USA and His Brand New Chevrolet  
At the Daytona 500 PreRace Show*



*See Page 2.*

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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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*Please visit the [QCCC web site](#) for back issues of the Gazette*

*And Much More.....*

### *On The Cover:*

If you saw the Daytona 500 PreRace Show, you recognized those familiar Corvette Cross-Flags proudly worn by Country Music Star Brad Paisley, 2010 CMA Entertainer-of-the-Year. He pressed the start button on his new custom-ordered ZR1 at the Bowling Green assembly plant after taking the tour and watching his Corvette being built. The Brad Paisley Hero Edition ZR1 was given away for the Kid's Wish Hero Network Charity. You can also see Corvettes featured in some of Paisley's music videos.

# The President's Vault

With the warmer, sunny weather teasing us, we know cruising time is right around the corner. Long time Corvette owners have expressed a concern about newer owners not being familiar with "Saving the Wave". I've done a little research on it, and have some history, some instruction, and some local stories.



The wave probably started after WWII, when returning GIs brought back strange little automobiles from Europe. They would acknowledge each other with a little wave, when passing another two-seater. By the late forties and early fifties, sports car magazines established a pecking order of who had to wave first, based on the car you were driving. The pecking order was roughly Ferrari, Porsche, Jaguar, Alfa, Morgan, Triumph, MG, etc. With Ferrari at the top, everyone had to wave at them first and they had the choice of returning the wave or not. Along comes the '53 Corvette. Not being considered a real sports car, because of its automatic transmission, it was put on the bottom of the list. Not to be slighted, Corvette owners started waving to each other. The years have been good to the Corvette, as we have multiplied, the others have dwindled. The newest models cost 1/3 the price of a Ferrari, but will equal or best it in most time trials. So, if a Ferrari driver waves at you first, be kind to them and other lesser cars on the road, give them a little wave.

Bob Denney remembers the first time someone waved at him. He was in his new 1957, and a '56 waved as he passed him. When they were stopped at a light, Bob asked him why he waved and he said he was saluting Bob's good taste in cars.

My first time I remember was 1970. I'm driving my '60, and I passed a '56 T-bird and he waves. I asked my friend if he knew who it was, but neither of us did. A few days later I passed a midyear Vette, and he waved, I didn't know him either. I finally caught on.

Next month: Rules of "The Wave", Types of Waves, and more member memories.

Remember, we're always looking for interesting places to visit or things to do. If you have an idea, let me know and we'll see what we can arrange.

Let's drive 'em and enjoy them!

Steve Pelchat

*When You Drive a Corvette,  
the View is Always Nice.*



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# Deiger's VP Report



Well the year is happily moving along! Temperatures are starting to creep up, the car wash materials are making a re-appearance, and great top down driving weather is around the corner. The Road Rally '11 is moving into its 3rd month and we have some tough competition! The big events are just starting, so plenty of time to get your miles! Plus don't forget at anytime a *Supercharge V8* event could make an appearance! Keep active and experience everything **Queen City Corvette Club** has to offer.

The March meeting will be here before you know it and we will be returning to a mainstay in the QCCC schedule, **AUTOBARN!!!** If you have not attended a meeting here, you are sure missing out. The car collection at *Autobarn Classic Cars* is second to none. Feed off your fellow members as someone has a story or history on every car in the collection. Lastly, don't miss out on the opportunity to have your car photographed at the *Autobarn Classic Cars* for the club registry. Please RSVP to me at [matthewdeiger@gmail.com](mailto:matthewdeiger@gmail.com) by Monday, March 7th. No RSVPs will be taken after that date due to planning logistics.

Here is the information about *Autobarn Classic Cars*:

Autobarn Classic Cars  
325 McGill Avenue  
Suite 500  
Concord, NC 28027  
800-650-2774  
[www.autobarnclassiccars.com](http://www.autobarnclassiccars.com)



Please utilize navigation systems or <http://www.mapquest.com> for exact directions from where you are coming from.

Starting times are as follows:

4:30 p.m.: Photographs @ AutoBarn  
5:30 p.m.: Social Time  
6:30 p.m. – 7:30p.m.: Business Meeting

## Eligible Rally Events for March 2011:

St. Patrick's Day Parade: 3/19  
NASCAR Technical Institute Open House: 3/19  
Charleston Trip: 3/25-3/27  
Of course as always Up Yonder and Wednesday Dinners

I look forward to seeing everyone again real soon!

Be safe out there!!

*Matthew Deiger*

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*You Can't Do Better Than Fast Karts & Bar-B-Que At A Business Meeting!*

*QCCC Enjoys Victory Karting in February -*



# QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB

## CLUB BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



Date: February 12, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: Victory Lane Karting

### BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF PRESENT

**Board Members:** Matthew Deiger, Vice President; Eddie Burt, Membership; Nelson Sprague, Automotive; Susan Kurt, Social; **Staff:** Paul Mariano, NCM Ambassador; Bob Denney, Club Photographer; Bob & Marilyn Becker, Webmasters; Chris Wood & Peggy Marlowe, Gazette Editors

### DISCUSSION

#### Matthew Deiger – for Steve Pelchat, President



Called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.



Thanked Victory lane Karting for hosting our meeting, Shane's Rib Shack for catering the meeting.



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 Corvettes:

- 📍 Dave & Kay Cook – 1998 Red Convertible
- 📍 John & Denise Cotroneo – 2011 Black Grand Sport
- 📍 John & Cindy Bennett – 1992 Ruby Red Convertible
- 📍 Paul Mitchell – 2004 Spiral Grey Convertible
- 📍 Jim & Sandy Spencer – 1969 Red Convertible & 2007 C06
- 📍 Heath Edwards – 2000 Blue Coupe
- 📍 Darrell Kirkley – 2004 Green Convertible



The following were voted in as new members: Karen & Gary St. John – 2008 Red Convertible. Welcome new members!!!!



With the two new members added tonight, the membership stands at 248.



Gave his eleven month notice that after ten years as Membership Director, it's time to pass the torch to someone else in 2012. Everyone who is interested in the position should contact Steve Pelchat or Eddie as soon as possible.

#### Matthew Deiger – for Florence Prather, Treasurer



Asked if there were any questions about the Proposed 2011 QCCC Budget that was emailed to everyone. There being none, he requested a motion that was made, seconded, and approved to accept the 2011 Budget.

#### Matthew Deiger – Vice President



Reviewed the QCCC "Road Rally '11" program being used to determine the end-of-year awards based on the number of "miles" each member accrues during the year for attending qualifying events.



One rally mile will be given to everyone that answered correctly the movie quote:

"We have a secret weapon, God is our co-pilot.

God is our co-pilot?

Yeah.

Remember our car – two seats? Where is he going to sit?"

The movie was Cannonball Run.



Anyone wanting to drive go-carts tonight, the price is \$20 for one race and \$50 for 3 races.



The March meeting will be at AutoBarn in Concord, NC.



Future meetings will be at City Chevrolet, Harley-Davidson, the Burt's Home, and perhaps Charlotte Mote Speedway and the NASCAR Hall of Fame.



Gifts cards / Karting coupons drawn: Linda Roberts, Boyd Kurt, Don Zimmer, AnnaLuree Wright.

#### Susan Kurt – Social Director



March 25 – 27 – Charleston, SC trip – sign up now.



October 21 – 23 – Helen, Ga trip to Oktoberfest.



See the calendar on the QCCC website for lots of events in 2011.



Asked Jim & Kay Weisberg to tell about the Murder Mystery planned for Sept. 23 – 25. This will be held in Marietta, Ohio along with the Ohio Corvette Club. The weekend will also include a poker run through covered bridges. When you sign up for the event, you will receive your "part" in the mystery for which you must dress appropriately. Keep it a secret!

**Jane Burt, Member – for Linda Lewis, Secretary**

 Recognized members with February birthdays.

**Nelson Sprague – Automotive Director**

-  Reminded the men that Monday is Valentine’s Day.
-  February 19<sup>th</sup> – Car Care Day at Wally & Anita Crawford’s – bring your own oil.
-  February 26<sup>th</sup> – Day trip to Salisbury to see Tom Smith’s collections. So far, 113 people have signed up. Lunch will be at O’Charley’s.
-  March 19<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick’s Parade in Charlotte – need 15 Corvettes. ALSO we will be at NASCAR Tech’s Open House that same day.
-  April 16<sup>th</sup> – Day trip to Spencer, NC to the NC Transportation Museum (before the QCCC Meeting). The Studebaker Club will be there also.

**Paul Mariano – National Corvette Museum Ambassador**

-  June 27 & 28 – HPDE at VIR - registration opens February 15 at 9:00 am and fills up fast.
-  The NCM is raising funds to build a Motorsports Park via a “One Acre Club”. Paul proposed a way to raise up to \$15,000 for one acre (or less). See him if you would like to contribute. Detailed information is on the NCM website.
-  See Paul for a brochure if you are interested in becoming a member of the NCM.
-  The NCM is one of the Top Ten Automobile Museums in the WORLD, and the ONLY one dedicated to a particular model.
-  Introduced Frank Sancineto, the 2014 Caravan Captain for NC, SC, and VA. Frank thanked the QCCC for their help with the 2009 Caravan and is looking forward to working with us again in 2014, especially Chris Wood and Wade Stickels. It is not too early to be lining up sponsors for the event.

**Bob Becker – Web Master**

 There is a new bowtie on the website homepage called “Club Regalia” which will show the QCCC jackets and belt buckles.

**Chris Wood – Newsletter Editor**

 Thanked everyone for sending in information for the newsletter.

**Bob Denney – Club Photographer**

 Mentioned that the Auto Barn is a good place to take a picture of your car to put on the website. Matthew will check with Auto Barn for approval and send a notice to the club.

**Matthew Deiger – Vice President**

-  To Purchase a QCCC duffle bag for \$15, see Laura Pelchat.
-  Adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.



Respectfully Submitted,

*Jane Burt, for Linda H. Lewis, Secretary*

***PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS! We’re glad you’re here!***



*Karen & Gary St. John  
2008 Red Convertible*

*We all come in as strangers  
and soon become family!*



**QCCC Car Care Day** – Where We Solve the World's Problems and get an Oil Change to boot! VERY SPECIAL THANKS to Wally, Anita & Michael for hosting and to Nelson for coordinating!



Watch for the next Car Care Day on the QCCC Web Site Club Calendar!

## Repaving Daytona In Pictures -



We watched the excitement at **Daytona** on February 20<sup>th</sup> at speeds in excess of 200 MPH. It was made possible, in part, by the new speedway surface. John Meadows provided these interesting photos of the repaving of the 2.5 mile tri-oval. An estimated 50,000 tons of asphalt was used on the project that paved 1,435,000 square feet, about 33 acres in just nineteen weeks. Thanks, John, for sharing!





## QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **FEBRUARY 8, 2011** TIME: **6:10 – 7:40 PM**  
LOCATION: **SMITH & STEVENSON**

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

### DISCUSSION

 **Steve Pelchat called the meeting to order.**

 **President's Report – Steve Pelchat**

 Would like the Board to review the criteria for Lifetime Membership.

 **Vice President – Matthew Deiger**

 March 12th – Auto Barn.

 April 16th – Changed meeting date to accommodate Auto Fair at Lowes Motor Speedway.

 May 14th – City Chevrolet car show and meeting.

 New points – We have 40 couples signed up for the “working stiffs” category and 26 for the “Cruisers”. Matt will post the rally events in the newsletter each month. Rally events are 3 points and every time you drive a chrome bumper Corvette you get 1 extra point.

 **Automotive Director – Nelson Sprague**

 February 19th – 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.

 March 19th – Open house at the NASCAR Institute.

 April 16th – Road trip to NC Transportation Museum.

 Nelson announced that this is his last year as Automotive Director.

 **Secretary's Report – Linda Lewis**

 No report.

 **Treasurer Report – Florence Prather**

 Presented the 2011 budget. Motion approved and seconded.

 **Membership Director – Eddie Burt**

 We have 246 members and 133 families.

 We have a total of 9 advertisers.

 Eddie announced that this is his last year as Membership Director. He has held the position for 10 years. He and Jane will continue to host the annual BBQ and Wednesday night dinners.

 **Social Director – Susan Kurt**

 March 25th – Charleston trip. Check the website for details.

 September 23rd – Museum Anniversary & HOF Ceremony and possible Murder Mystery trip.

 October 21st – Helen GA.

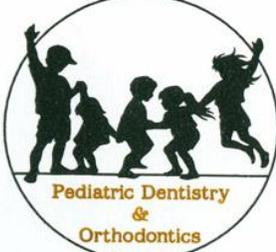
 Planning for the 2012 banquet has already begun. We will have a Corvette theme.

Next meeting is scheduled for **6:00pm** on **March 8th**  
at **Laura Pelchat's office, Smith & Stevenson.**

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda H Lewis, Secretary*



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



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Parktowne49@hcx.com

# Automotive Report



QCCC Members,

**W**hat a way to finally start the new year! The weather on our rescheduled Car Care Day was just fabulous and the members turned out in big numbers. There were 37 members and 2 prospective members at Wally and Anita's Garage Mahal. Wally and Michael changed the oil and did some small changes on 22 Corvettes. According to Wally, this was the largest number of cars he has worked on at a Car Care Day. The snacks brought by the members were a big hit. By the time the hot dogs were served for lunch most of the snacks had been eaten. But our members proved once again, we are good eaters and ate all the hot dogs too. Everyone seemed to have a good time and the only lull in the conversation was when lunch was served. Thank you again to Wally and Anita for being the perfect hosts for our club's Car Care Day.

We enjoyed perfect weather to complement the fabulous turn out for Tom Smith's collection of cars, John Deere tractors and bicycles, the display room of safari trophy animals and all the memorabilia cases and antique equipment needed to service the auto and farm industry. Once again, O' Charley's Restaurant provided outstanding service and good food to sustain us for the afternoon of reviewing Tom's collection. There were a total of 66 cars and 129 members, prospective members and several guests who attended this outing. Mr. Smith was very impressed with not only the size of our group but also the respect for his collection we showed during our visit. And I appreciate every ones' help in making this a great day.



For the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 19th, **we still need 3 cars for this parade.** If you can help with this event it will be appreciated. I will arrange a place to meet for all those who want to go lunch after the parade. The parade line up will be in uptown Charlotte at 9:30 AM and the parade is usually over by 12 to 12:30. I will send out specific instructions closer to the parade date.

Also on March 19th, we have been invited to the NASCAR Technical Institute's Open House. This event is open to any member who wants to display his or her Corvette. So, if you are not participating in the above parade and want to attend this event, go to the [QCCC calendar](#) for time and location.

Let's not forget [Food Lion AutoFair](#) is April 9th and 10th. We have signed up for 30 spots for Saturday and Sunday. There are still 12 openings for Saturday, April 9th and 20 openings for Sunday, April 10th. The signup sheet will be at the March meeting but you can signup now by sending me an email with the day or days you would like to attend.

It is only with your participation that we can make our events enjoyable.

*Nelson Sprague*

704-847-8374

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





## ***QCCC Visits Tom Smith's Extraordinary Collection –***

*Look closely at Bob Denney's photo above and you'll see Corvette after Corvette after Corvette... caravanning to Salisbury and Tom Smith's unique collection of classic & exotic automobiles, John Deere equipment and animals. We now know that Automotive Director Nelson Sprague can work magic – getting 66 Corvettes to their destinations on-time (parking itself a major feat!) and 129 folks fed and back on the road in record time was an incredible accomplishment!*

***THANKS, NELSON, FOR A DAY TO REMEMBER!***



*Please visit our [OCCC web site](#) for many more photos!*





## National Corvette Museum Corner

I would like to clarify my remarks on supporting the [NCM Motorsports Park](#) during the February meeting. I probably left the impression that I was only seeking twenty-five donors who were willing to contribute \$600.00. What I meant to convey was the twenty-five donors were simply an example to show how the donations could be allotted. I hope that many more would be willing to participate therefore lowering the individual amount. Donations at any level would be welcome and some may wish to donate at a higher level than the averaged amount. For the present time, I am just trying to get a list of those willing to contribute to see if pursuing this goal is reasonable and worth-while. Please let me know if you would like to join the effort.

Frank Sancineto, the *NC/SC/VA Caravan Captain for 2014* held his first planning meeting in Concord on February 12th. Approximately 35 people from the three state area attended, getting the process off to a rolling start. Nationwide, twenty-one of twenty-seven captains are in place getting everything geared up for a great twentieth anniversary party for the NCM.

We missed it by just that much. Fred Morrison of W. Columbia, SC won the 2011 Camaro raffle. Darn, I sure wanted that driving school.

The itinerary for the *2012 NCM cruise* has been announced. It is a 14 night cruise starting in Valparaiso, Chile, around "the Horn", and back north to Buenos Aires, Argentina. The start date is February 14, 2012. If this is of interest to you, go to [www.shericlarke.com/ncmcruise.com.aspx](http://www.shericlarke.com/ncmcruise.com.aspx) for detailed information and sign up. Space is limited, so decide early.

Save the Wave!

*Paul Mariano*, NCM Ambassador



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Most Corvette Fans are aware of and closely follow our factory-backed **Corvette Racing Team** in the **American Le Mans Series**. We are passionate about following the Team's success and eager to show our support at every opportunity. Fewer Corvette Fans may be familiar with other racing series in which the Corvette competes on the world's stage against other world-class sports cars. To help familiarize us with **America's Sports Car** in other racing series, we will periodically provide information and updates about other racing championships. This month, the **Gazette** will focus on the **FIA GT1 World Championship**.



**Introduction:** The FIA GT1 World Championship is a world championship sportscar racing series, regulated by the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and brings together six iconic brands – Corvette, Ford, Aston Martin, Lamborghini, Maserati and Nissan – in spectacular competition in an exciting sprint format. The FIA GT1 Series features 12 teams, 24 cars and 48 of the world's top drivers competing on 10 of the leading circuits on four continents. The FIA GT1 Series will visit some of the world's most legendary circuits. Entrants compete in one-hour races driving "Grand Touring" race cars

that are based on standard production road cars, and conform to strict GT1 regulations. Championships are awarded to teams and drivers each season.

**History:** GT (Grand Touring) races first began in the 1950s with Ferrari, McLaren and Lotus providing compelling competition for media and fans. In 1997, the FIA – motorsports world governing body – created an officially sanctioned GT series. The first year saw competition between five manufacturers in GT1 and four in GT2, with an average grid of 45 cars.

**From Manufacturers to Privateers:** With the departure of the last manufacturer after the 1999 season, the FIA GT1 evolved into a championship led by privateer team with manufacturer's support. The series rebuilt itself around the GT and N-GT categories including brands such as Chrysler, Lamborghini, Lister, Porsche and Ferrari. In 2005, the series implemented the FIA's "Balance of Performance System." This guaranteed a level playing field across the different architecture of brands such as Corvette, Aston Martin, Ferrari, Lamborghini, Maserati and Saleen.



**2010 Season:** 2010 was the first season of the new FIA GT1 World Championship, an evolution of the GT1 and GT2 competition. Currently it's strictly GT1, promising an even faster, more exciting racing series. Races were held in 10 countries, with each consisting of 2 one-hour races. The first race serves as a qualifying race to determine starting grid for the main race where Championship points are awarded. Maserati took the 2010 GT1 World Championship by winning 4 of the 10 races.

**The Corvettes:**

Overall Length	178.70"	Wheelbase	106.02"
Overall Width	75.98"	Weight	2645.54 lbs.
Engine Type	LS7 V8	Displacement	650 HP



**The Corvette Teams:**



**C6R Team Phoenix Racing / Carsport** – Location: Germany Car # 14 & Car # 13  
2010 Drivers: Marc Hennerici / Andreas Zuber & Mike Hezemans / Andrea Piccini



**C6R Team Mad-Croc Racing** – Location: Belgium Car # 11 & Car # 12  
2010 Drivers: Pertti Kuismanen / Oliver Gavin or Mike Salo

**The Tracks & 2011 Schedule:**

Yas Marina, United Arab Emirates	March 25, 2011
Zolder, Belgium	April 8
Algarve, Portugal	May 6
Sachsenring, Germany	May 13
Silverstone, Great Britain	June 3
Navarra, Spain	July 1
Paul Ricard HTTT, France	July 15
Ordos, China	September 2
Curitiba, Brazil	October 21
San Luis, Argentina	November 4



## Food, Fun & Fellowship 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 ([chriswood@carolina.rr.com](mailto:chriswood@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*



## "Fool Infected"

Bill Cruthis ("Brillo Pad") blew into Charlotte in December of '74 complete with afro and bell bottoms. He brought a '70 coupe, 350/350 and on the trailer was a '63 split 327/340 with fuel injection bars on the fenders from the previous owner. He came from a small farm town in Illinois with only one police car and virtually no crime, except his speeding ticket and warning for drag racing. So except for 5 years at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, the big city was a foreign place.

On a cold Wednesday night in March of '75 at the QCCC Clubhouse, around 9 PM Big George McLeod stopped in anxiously looking for Dollar Bill Ingram who had not yet shown. It seems a deal was brewing and Big George had an urgency level above ol' Dollar's. On Dollar's part, his late arrival was probably planned as he always kept the upper hand when it came to making money. Big George left and around 1 AM, the stragglers headed to I-HOP on Central Avenue for breakfast. There, Big George walked in, this time his urgency was of a frantic nature, asking if anyone knew where Dollar was. When he learned the negative, he inquired, "Does anyone need a fuel injection unit for a mid-year?" "Brillo" has always had a hard time resisting Corvettes and special parts so he asked how much?

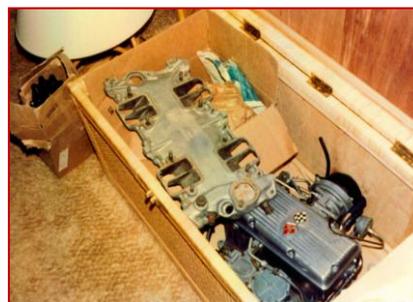
"\$300." came the reply.

"Is it all there?"

"Yes."

"Is it in good shape?"

"Just rebuilt."



The infamous Mid-Year Fuel Injection Unit

Notwithstanding, \$300 was 25% of the \$1200 "Brillo" paid for the whole car, euphoria took over and the unit was soon sitting of the seat of his Ranchero (the only Ford Bill Cruthis ever owned). They finished eating and Bill headed toward his house on Idlewild Road. As he arrived at the intersection of Albemarle and Lawyers Roads he saw at least 2 dozen of Charlotte's finest with blue lights flashing in the parking lot of the Revco Drug where he worked. Wow, adrenalin took over and he pulled in to find the alarm ringing and the front door glass gone. He avoided the first suspicion by explaining that he worked there and would go home to get the keys to turn off the alarm. Clear thinking was absent as there was an extra key in the drawer. Giddy with excitement "Brillo" tore down Idlewild Rd. at over 80 MPH and was promptly pulled over by a Mecklenburg Sheriff's Deputy who was sure he had the vandal from the Revco break-in. Obviously the big piece of racing equipment on the front seat quickly entered the ensuing conversation. As most of you know Bill talks more than his share, but for once it paid off. Yakity yakity yak, he talked his way out of a speeding ticket, reckless driving, having possession of merchandise of unknown origin, and we don't know what else.



George still lives in Charlotte so he must have taken care of his debt, but "Brillo" had to return to his Revco once the police had left. The next 2 hours sitting in the dark pharmacy waiting for the glass man with no front door was quite an experience for a country kid.

There were many close calls but this one was almost a disaster. We often were pretty lucky in the early days of QCCC.



# “Heads-Up”

✉ **Thanks and Welcome To Our Newest Sponsors** – This month we welcome **CruiseOne** ([b.gary@cruiseone.com](mailto:b.gary@cruiseone.com)) and **Accel Discount Tire** as sponsors of Queen City Corvette Club. Please consider our club sponsors. You can find a complete list on our [QCCC web site](#). Thank you **CruiseOne** and **Accel Tire!** We appreciate your support!

✉ **Hey, Didn't You Guys Try That Once Before?** – Speed Cameras could make a comeback if N. C. Lawmakers have their way. When traffic fines were established a long time ago, most of the money was supposed to help fund schools, but that didn't happen. Lawmakers now want to make a wrong right by introducing House Bill 145. Fines could go up to \$250 with most of the money going to help pay what the state owes school districts (insert your own muffled comments here). The bill was introduced February 21<sup>st</sup> and has 3 committees to go through before going to the House floor for debate. If approved, it could become law in October.

✉ **What Do You Mean, It's Snowing In Texas?** – You probably saw the news reports of the snow and ice in Texas around Super Bowl time. Perhaps you saw the video circulating in email of the Corvette owner determined not to let it stop him from getting to his destination. If you missed it, you can witness the Corvette determination by [clicking here](#).



✉ **No More Jetstream Blue?** - Sources say that 2011 will be the last year for Jetstream Blue Metallic. GM will phase out the color early and has already issued a final order date for those that still wish to build a 2011 Corvette in the color.

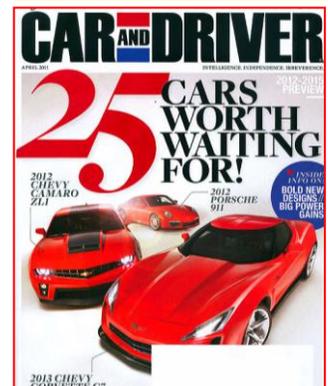
✉ **Corvette Expo Back in Sevierville** – If you can't make the QCCC trip to Charleston March 25 – 27 and want to get your “Corvette fix”, the annual Corvette Expo is back at the Sevierville Events Center March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. [www.corvetteexpo.com](http://www.corvetteexpo.com).

✉ **C5 / C6 Bash Luncheon Features New Corvette Race Team Driver** – Once again, attendees to the **2011 C5 / C6 Bash at the National Corvette Museum** in Bowling Green that sign up will be treated to an opportunity to have lunch with Doug Fehan, Corvette Racing Program Manager, Corvette #3 Crew Chief Dan Binks and new Corvette driver Tommy Milner. Milner, of Lakeland, Fla., has competed in formula and sports car series and has driven for factory teams representing Panoz, Porsche and BMW. He finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the ALMS GT standings in 2010.



✉ **Another Artist's Rendering or The Real Thing?** – For the 2<sup>nd</sup> month in a row, Car & Driver magazine has an update on the C7 Corvette, and this time they include it in their “25 Cars Worth Waiting For” article.” Don't you wish you had a dollar for every “artist's rendering” of the C7 you've seen?

✉ **American Le Mans Series Racing Is Just Around The Corner** – Our Corvette Race Team begins 2011 on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Twelve Hours of Sebring. ABC will show highlights of the race beginning at 12:30 PM ET on March 20<sup>th</sup>. You can check the schedules on the [Corvette Race Team web site](#) or the [ALMS web site](#).



# IN THE REAR VIEW



**We Just Can't Thank You Enough** – We don't know about you, but the Gazette Editors think our QCCC events continue to be more fun than the law allows! Please join us in thanking the Board, both past and present, and all who help make our club so great. Watch the [QCCC website calendar](#) and the Gazette to make sure you are having as much fun as we are.



**Spring Is Near** – Car Shows, Cruises and more opportunities to drive our Corvettes are right around the corner. It's the time of year that you begin to hear terms like waxing, clay bar, machine polishing, Zaino vs. NXT, dreaded swirl marks, water spots, etc., etc. Some QCCC members have mentioned a possible Car Care "Detailing" Day so some of our detailing experts can teach the rest of us on the products, how-tos and why-nots of getting that Corvette ready for show. If you are interested in participating, either sharing your experience or learning from others, send an email to [Chris Wood](#) so we can determine if there is enough interest.



**This Month In Corvette History** – *March, 1992:* Ground-breaking ceremony is held next to the Corvette plant for a permanent home for the **National Corvette Museum**. *March 2, 1990:* at the Firestone Test Center in Stockton, Texas, a team of drivers set a dozen land speed records with a Corvette ZR-1 and a Corvette L-98. *March 14, 1977:* The 500,000<sup>th</sup> Corvette drives off the assembly line. *March, 1983:* The 1984 C4 Corvette goes on sale in the US, except in California.



**How To Enjoy Your Corvette While Watching Your Favorite Team** – Walt Krupowicz sent this photo of a red Corvette with a unique parking spot in the upper deck of a soccer stadium. And it's a convertible, too!



**Corvette Chosen Best Sports Car of the Past Decade** - As if there were any doubt, [Kiplinger's Automotive](#) and [Yahoo!](#) have made it official that the Corvette is the true king of the sports car world. Based on their yearly vehicle ratings, the Corvette has remained the most dominant and beloved Sports Car in America over the past 10 years, and with very good reason. Over the past decade, the Corvette has won Kiplinger's Award for Sports Car of the year on 6 occasions, based on its affordable cost and top-end, super-car performance and style. The most impressive aspect of the Corvette, though, is its staying power. The market against which it competes gets more and more crowded and difficult every year, with competitors from every continent throwing their hats in to the ring in different iterations. The Corvette has kept this in mind, though, and constantly updated itself through the years, gaining more Horsepower and better performance with various iterations throughout the years. The propensity of Chevrolet to continually innovate and develop new models of their flagship sports car, like the Z06 and ZR1 performance versions, has really helped keep the Corvette the best and most beloved Sports car in America. *But we knew that, didn't we?* Thanks to Carolyn Zimmer for providing this info.



**Say It Isn't So!** – A Salisbury, NC resident's 1968 Corvette sustained \$4000 worth of damage during a break-in according to a report filed with the Rowan County Sheriff's Office. The owner told investigators that someone broke into a shed behind the home and took various items. The hood, weatherstripping and door handle was damaged and the Corvette's alternator was missing. Thanks to Wade Stickels for finding this bit of news.

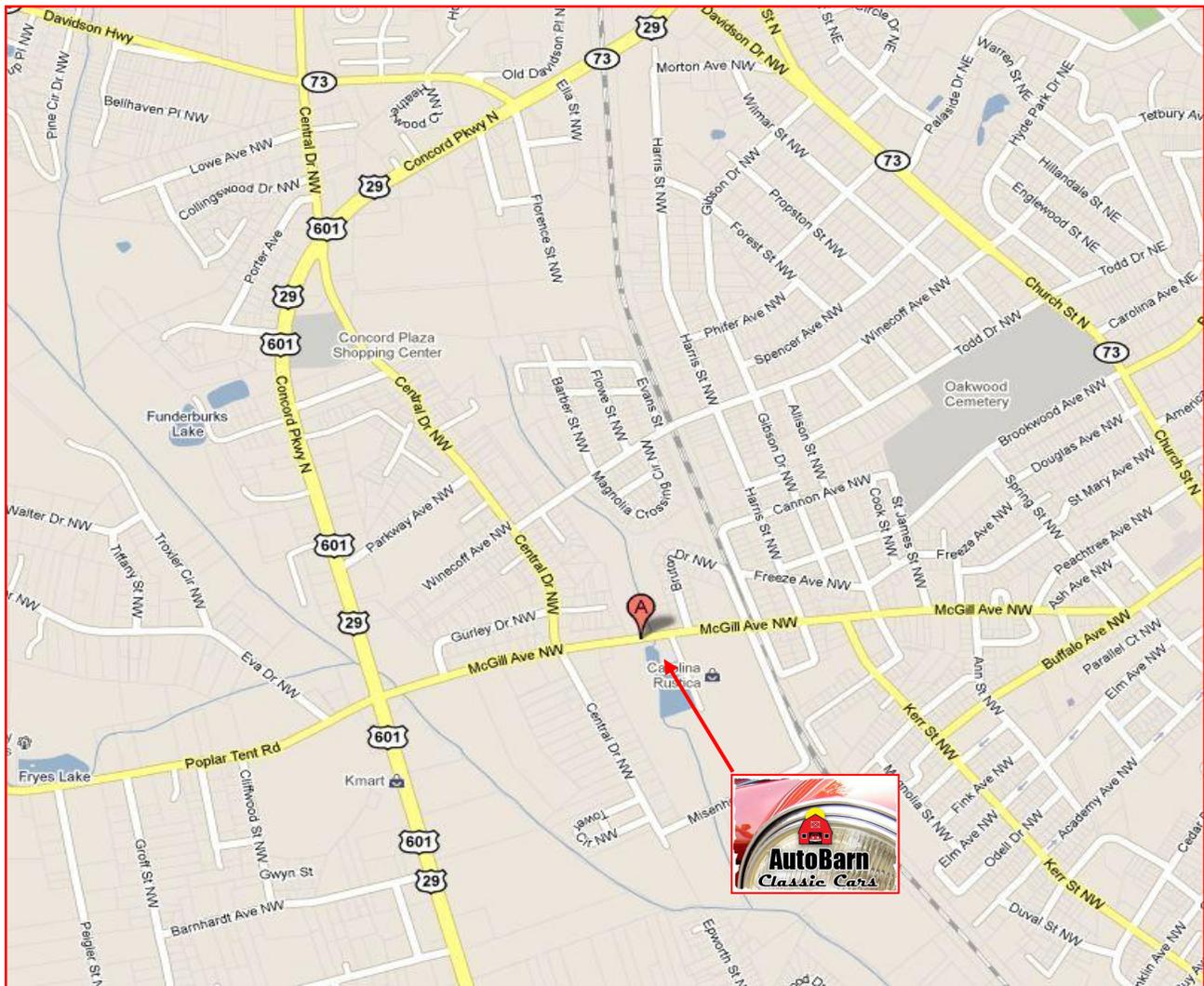


**JOIN US AT OUR NEXT  
Business Meeting –  
Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 2011  
AUTOBARN CLASSIC CARS**

325 McGill Ave., Concord, NC 28027-1506 704-788-2765



Corvette Photo Op – 4:30 PM Social - 5:30 PM Business Meeting – 6:30 PM Chairs are provided



Please see our [OCCC Web site](#) or [Matthew's VP Report](#) for more details.

**Keyless entry systems vulnerable to high-tech car thieves** provided by 

Swiss researchers find holes in the keyless systems from eight car manufacturers.

By Colin Bird  0 votes   187  

Remote keyless entry has been around for a while – since the late 1980s, in fact – and today it's almost standard on all new cars. But the pervasiveness of this feature is not without consequence. As researchers in Switzerland point out, the technology can make vehicle theft a breeze for a savvy thief.

**MORE AT CARS.COM**

- [Hits and misses from the Detroit auto show](#)
- [Kicking Tires, the blog for car shoppers](#)
- [Car questions answered by the experts](#)

Remote keyless-entry systems use radio waves that typically are specific to a manufacturer, and the signals are usually encrypted. When your vehicle's key fob is within 20 feet of the car, you're allowed to transmit a signal to unlock the doors, pop the trunk, remote start your car (when equipped) or activate the car alarm.

Researchers at ETH Zurich discovered that these encrypted signals are easy to intercept and trick.

The theft works by setting up two antennas, one near the targeted vehicle and one near the holder of the key fob — be it in a purse, bag or pocket. This equipment can usually be purchased for \$100 to \$1,000. The person with the antenna aimed at the owner of the key fob needs to get within 26 feet of the target. In a store, this could be a few aisles away, so as to not arouse suspicion.



Keyless entry systems are vulnerable to car thieves.

Once the antenna is near the intended victim's key fob, the key transmits a low-power signal to the antenna, which is then relayed to the antenna near the vehicle. Once that occurs, the thief can unlock the doors and drive away (if the vehicle has push-button start).

The Swiss researchers hacked into eight car manufacturers' passive-entry systems using this method. No cryptology or protocol could stop it.

While this system may seem fairly complicated, it could catch on with car thieves because of the cost of the equipment and anonymity. However, the hack cannot start the cars with traditional keys. Today's ignition systems are increasingly complicated and secure. That's one reason why car thefts are largely on the decline in the U.S.

David Wagner, a computer science professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said there are probably easier ways to steal cars, but the "nasty aspect of high-tech car theft" is that it doesn't leave any sign of forced entry. That could lead to problems with police and insurance companies in tracking down the criminals or with filing claims.

Right now, the only way to protect yourself is by either shielding your key fob's radio with a guard or leaving your key fob at home. Srdjan Capkun, an assistant professor at ETH Zurich, says the institute is working on a way to prevent this sort of theft.

*Thanks to Charlie Binder for this information*

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**Charlotte's Cars & Coffee** – Held the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month in the parking lot behind Panera Bread at Northlake Mall on Harris Blvd. Cars arrive 7 – 7:30 AM and stay till approximately 10 AM.

*This is not a QCCC sponsored event, just an opportunity to show off your car and see many more!*

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# The Last Page -

Join Queen City Corvette Club on our  
"Charleston the Outer Limits" Tour  
March 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Depart SC Welcome Center 8:30am March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Hotel Reservations: We need your commitment now to get a good rate. We are looking at:

Hampton Inn - \$120/night  
Comfort Suites - \$130/night  
Quality Inn - \$120/night

Evening meals:

Friday evening – RB Seafood (Shemps Creek)  
Saturday evening – Creekside Bar & Grill (Or other close by)

Friday Afternoon Tour – Charleston Harbor Tour

Web site: [www.charlestonharbortours.com](http://www.charlestonharbortours.com)



Saturday Morning Tour: Boone Hall Plantation  
House tour, Garden tour, Grounds tour included  
Website: <http://boonehallplantation.com>

Both tours for less than \$30.00 per person. We are working on lower prices for these tours but need to know how many people for the best rate.



Saturday Afternoon: Tour Fort Sumter, the Aircraft Carriers, downtown Charleston, shop or just relax.

Sunday: Enjoy the day and return back to Charlotte.

Respond to Susan Kurt ASAP!!!!!!

[Skurt7167@mindspring.com](mailto:Skurt7167@mindspring.com)

Phone: 704-588-3561

*You can't have a perfect day without doing something for someone who'll never be able to repay you* ~ John Wooden

*The most wasted of our days is one without laughter.* ~ E E Cummings

*A best friend is like a 4-leaf clover, hard to find & lucky to have.* ~ Unknown

*Never iron a 4-leaf clover because you don't want to press your luck.* ~ Unknown

QCCC Member Joan Murray, visiting family in Saskatchewan, sent this photo of another frosty morning on February 17th. Joan said "It's a little crazy up here today – snowing, blowing and about a 35 degree below wind chill after several nice days! I spent the morning shoveling snow..."

Joan came across a Corvette Club that covers Saskatchewan. "There are mountains of snow, lots of salt and sand on the road, they only plow the snow to the side of the roads and the snow banks are higher than people – totally can block your view. Also they don't plow the ice that builds up on the base of the road until the ruts are deeper than 4"...so you can understand that they don't drive Corvettes in the winter!" Joan said she was thinking of all the QCCC folks and all the warm sunshine. She provided this link to the [Western Region of the Canadian Council of Corvette Clubs](#). Check out the sleeping Corvette on the main page!

