



The
Queen City Corvette Gazette

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

November 2011



What Could Be Finer Than Cruisin' Through Carolina...

See Page 15

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

The Queen City Corvette Gazette is the official newsletter of the [Queen City Corvette Club](#) (QCCC), established in 1968, and 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) whose members all share a common appreciation and love of America's Sports Car – the Corvette. 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. *Come check us out – we love to meet fellow Corvette Enthusiasts!* Express your wishes for membership during a monthly business meeting and be voted in, begin paying dues and having fun! If you can't join us, **please WAVE!**

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On The Cover:

Just when you thought *Summertime Corvette Cruising* was over this year, along comes Carolina blue skies, mild temperatures and beautiful fall color! QCCC members had many opportunities to enjoy their Corvettes and the fall foliage in October. Check out all the activities in this month's Gazette!



The President's Vault

This year is the 100th anniversary of Chevrolet Motor Company, the division of GM that builds the cars we love, the Corvette. I was in Flint Michigan this summer for the anniversary, and visited several different museums in the motor city area. Something that really struck home was seeing all the connections between the founders and innovative minds that made the automobile industry. Chevrolet's incorporation date was November 3, 1911, so I thought this month would be good for the beginning history of Chevrolet.



William C. Durant owned a very successful business in Flint, MI called Durant-Dort Carriage Company, building as many as 50,000 horse drawn carriages and wagons per year. Durant was intrigued by the automobile business, so he bought controlling interest in the Buick Motor Company on Nov 4, 1904. That year Buick built 37 automobiles. Billy Durant, being a born promoter, went to work to increase sales in 1905 to 750 units and 1400 units in 1906. With every year of sales increase, he sold more stock in the company; building up the bank account to enable his vision of a vast manufacturing complex. By 1907 two new models were introduced at Buick as sales tripled to 4641 units, making them the second largest auto company - only Ford outpaced them.

Durant, being a restless guy, was not satisfied. To produce more automobiles he needed more brands. He formed a holding company September 16, 1908, for \$1000.00, put Buick assets into it, and called it General Motors. Six weeks later he acquired Oldsmobile by exchanging GM stock for 75% controlling interest. The Durant-Dort Carriage Co., which continued building carriages until 1917, put one million dollars into GM stock. By the summer of 1909 GM had acquired Oakland, Cartercar, Elmore, Welch, but the crown jewel, which was acquired July 27, 1909, was Cadillac. Cadillac had been formed in 1902 from the remnant of the Henry Ford Motor Co. Durant paid \$4.5 million for Cadillac and now had a premium 4-cycle automobile in his lineup.

The rapid expansion brought problems in 1910. Of all the acquisitions, only Buick & Cadillac were making money. Durant had to borrow \$15 million to keep GM afloat. The bank lent the money, but forced Durant to leave the company he started. Durant remained on the board of directors, but the CEO job went to the very capable Charles W. Nash, who moved up from production manager. That position was filled by another famous name, Walter P. Chrysler.



After losing control of GM, Billy Durant formed Republic Motors. He raided Buick for personnel, getting William Little, who was Buick's general superintendent, to build a car under the Little name. He also got Buick's #1 race driver, Louis Chevrolet, to come to Republic. Chevrolet had wanted to build a car under his name and on Nov 3, 1911 Chevrolet Motor Co was incorporated with Louis Chevrolet as consulting engineer. Durant needed the name recognition that Chevrolet brought to the new venture.

By 1911 the Little Motor Company started building a new lightweight, four cylinder inexpensive car, as Chevrolet struggled to build a prototype. Durant wanted a small car to go head to head with Ford's Model-T, which produced over 69,000 units in 1911, but Chevrolet wanted to have his name on a luxury car. In 1912 Chevrolet started producing Louis's prototype, a large 6 cylinder touring car called the Classic Six, which sold for \$2150. That put it in the upper price level, as Model Ts at the time sold for about \$600. Chevrolet only produced 2998 units in 1912 and 5987 in 1913.



Chevrolet Classic Six

Durant merged the Little Motor Company into Chevrolet in late 1913, and in 1914 the Little Four became the Chevrolet Baby Grand touring car and the Chevrolet Royal Mail, a small four cylinder roadster that sold for \$750. 1914 was also the year the now famous Chevrolet bowtie emblem was used on the front grill. In 1915 Chevrolet introduced the "490". The name was also the price of the car, which would compete with the Model-T. Chevrolet sold 63,000 units that year.



Chevrolet Baby Grand

Billy Durant had started buying up GM stock after his ouster, and after his banner year with Chevrolet in 1915, had acquired enough shares along with silent partner Pierre S. DuPont to take GM back over at the October 1915 board meeting. Durant would lose control of GM for good in 1920. He died in Flint, MI in 1947 at the age of 87, the manager of a bowling alley. Louise Chevrolet left his namesake at the end of 1913, never to return. After the 1929 stock market crash Louis went to work at a Chevrolet plant as a line mechanic. He died in 1941 at age 62. Chevrolet Motor Company overtook Ford in sales in 1927 before Ford introduced the Model-A. Chevrolet and Ford would trade sales leadership for the next 80 years.

Remember the wave, and let's drive 'em and enjoy them!

Steve Pelchat



If you're a fan of **Johnny Depp**, the actor who starred in *Edward Scissorhands*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, *Donnie Brasco*, *Sleepy Hollow*, and many more, you'll be interested to know he has a 1959 Red Corvette Roadster. He was presented the Corvette that he drove in his latest film *The Rum Diaries* by the producer to show his appreciation to the actor for his work in the film. The producer, Graham King, said the Corvette was "an amazing car." Now we know what you give a man who has everything. Thanks to Wade Stickels for finding this bit of trivia.

Ladies Block Party

QCCC Ladies Turn Ken's Garage into a Craft Shop and Create Beautiful Treasures of the Season

Concord - Lois & Ken Watts hosted a memorable event that was fun and informative and still has the Ladies talking. Rumor has it that Ken had as much fun as the Ladies!



Socials - With Susan



With the coming of cooler weather we can start thinking about Christmas. YIPES!! Our Christmas Party will be on December 10 at Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church. It will be a covered dish dinner with the Club providing the ham. We will also have a gift exchange for those who want to participate. The gifts should be generic and in the \$15-\$20 range. Remember it is just for fun not to impress. We're friends not family!!! We'll let you know closer to the date what your food assignments will be.

While we are talking about dates, be sure to put our Awards Banquet on your calendar. It will be on January 28th. We'll be at the Hilton downtown again with special room rates and of course a Hospitality Suite. We always have a great time and we hate for any of our QCCC friend to miss it, so save the date.

We had a great trip to Helen, Ga. for the Oktoberfest. We visited the Paratrooper Museum in Toccoa, Ga. and then drove on to Helen. We had an authentic German dinner that night and toured the town afterwards. On Saturday some went on a leaf tour and some went shopping in Dahlonega, Ga. That evening we went to the Festhalle and let's just say "What happens in Helen stays in Helen". *Oh, wait there are pictures!!!* Great fun was had by all!



Sociable Susan

Susan Kurt
Social Director



QCCC Members Celebrate Oktoberfest in Helen, Ga.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. From the looks of these photos, QCCC Members who enjoyed the trip will have plenty of stories to tell!



*For many more photos of the good time,
visit our [QCCC website!](#)*

Deiger's VP Report



Our year is fast coming to an end, so will be the QCCC Road Rally '11! However, we do have two more months left with some great events. There are still plenty of dinners to come to, parades galore as we enter the holiday season, and one of our most popular car shows, the **NASCAR Technical Institute Open House!** Plenty of miles for the grabbing!!

Next month's meeting, thanks to John Meadows, will be at the **Hendrick Motorsports Headquarters**. There will be a revised start time for this meeting, so be sure to make note. Here are the details of the meeting:

Hendrick Motorsports
4400 Papa Joe Hendrick Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28262
877-467-4890

www.hendrickmotorsports.com/about/visit



5 24 48 88

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

*****THERE IS A NEW START TIME FOR THIS MONTH'S MEETING. PLEASE TAKE NOTE.*****

Social Time: 5:30pm – 6:00pm

Meeting Time: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Look forward to seeing everyone there!!

Be safe out there!!

Matthew Deiger

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the View is Always Nice.*



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QCCC Corvettes Cruise Under Carolina Blue Skies

A day trip to the Black Forest Restaurant, the Blue Ridge Parkway, Chimney Rock, Lake Lure, and back down the switchbacks of NC RTE 80 gave QCCC Members an opportunity to enjoy the peak Fall foliage



See more photos at the [QCCC web site](#)

Automotive Report



QCCC Members,

Barbara and I are on an "extended day trip" so my report this month will be brief to allow more time to focus on *seeing the USA in our Chevrolet (Corvette)*! On this trip, we've achieved a milestone – We've completed all of old Route 66, the final leg being from Chicago to Oklahoma City. We'll complete our trip by going through Texas and the deep South before returning in November.

The Corvette is packed but we left room for souvenirs from the *Route 66 Museum* in Michigan. If you've never tried it, add a cross-country trip in your Corvette to your bucket list. You will not be disappointed!

Please remember to sign up for the *parades* coming up in November and December. See our [QCCC website calendar](#) and the calendar in this month's *Gazette* for locations and dates. Also, please remember our *Matthews Help Center Food Drive* and bring your donations to the November and December meetings.



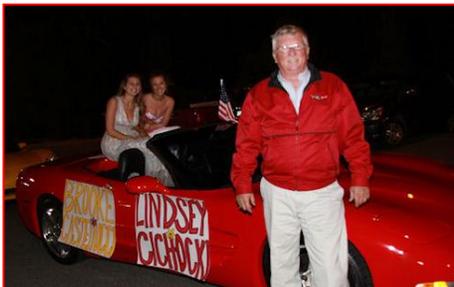
Don't forget the *NASCAR Technical Institute Open House* is scheduled for November 5th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This is always a fun event and there is no limit to the number of cars that can attend.

Your participation makes ours the *premier club of the Southeast*. Thank you!

Nelson Sprague
704-847-8374
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Corvettes, Football and Homecoming Queens

QCCC Corvettes shine under the lights as they carry the ladies





QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **OCTOBER 4, 2011** TIME: **6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**
LOCATION: **SMITH & STEVENSON**

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

DISCUSSION

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

 **President's Report – Steve Pelchat**

- We will submit an amendment to the By-Laws at the November meeting to add a provision concerning provisional membership status.
- The 2012 slate of officers will be presented and voted on at the November meeting.
- Discussed the gifts for the banquet.

 **Vice President's Report – Matthew Deiger**

- Reviewed the point standings for the club members.
- October meeting will be at the NASCAR Technical Institute.
- November meeting will be at Hendrick Motorsports at 6 pm.
- December meeting will be the Christmas Party at Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church.

 **Automotive Director's Report – Nelson Sprague**

- September 17th – Car Care Day at Wally & Anita Crawford's garage was a great success with 21 people.
- November 5th – NASCAR Institute Open House 9 am – 1 pm.
- We will have the yearly food drive for the Matthews Help Center at the November and December meetings.
- We have 20 children we will sponsor for Christmas from the Air National Guard. Sign-up sheets will be emailed to the membership.
- We have the following parades scheduled: Concord, November 19th; Monroe, November 20th; Indian Trail and Lake Wylie, December 3rd. We will have sign-up sheets at the next meeting.

 **Secretary's Report – Linda Lewis**

- No Report.

 **Treasurer's Report – Florence Prather**

- Reviewed budget and gave a report on delinquent members.

 **Membership Director's Report – Eddie Burt**

We have 268 members.

 **Social Director – Susan Kurt**

- October 14th – Bessemer City Drive In.
- October 21st – Helen, Ga. Pat Bonino is working on this trip, an email will be sent out this week.

The next board meeting is on November 1st at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Linda S. Lewis, Secretary



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NASCAR Technical Institute

An Enthusiastic Group of QCCC Members & Guests Assembled for the October Meeting



QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB

CLUB BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



Date: **October 8, 2011**

Time: **6:00 PM – 7:30 PM**

Location: **NASCAR Tech. Institute**

BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF PRESENT

Board Members: Steve Pelchat, President; Eddie Burt, Membership; Nelson Sprague, Automotive; Susan Kurt, Social; **Staff:** Bob Denney, Club Photographer; Bob & Marilyn Becker, Webmasters; Paul Mariano, NCM Ambassador; Peggy Marlowe, Newsletter Editor

President - Steve Pelchat - Called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

- 🚩 Thanked NASCAR Tech. for hosting our meeting.
- 🚩 Requested a motion that was made, seconded and approved to accept the September Minutes.
- 🚩 Introduced the QCCC Officers, NCM Ambassador, QCCC Gazette Editor, Webmasters, Photographer and Directory Coordinator and asked for their reports.

Membership Report - Eddie Burt

- 🚩 Invited visitor's to stand and introduce themselves and their Corvettes:
 - Heath & Jill Traphagen – Modified 1975 Black Coupe w/ Flames
 - Merrill Quintrell (*Former QCCC member*) – 1973 Green Convertible, 1973 White Coupe
 - Sal Giuliano – 1981 Two-Tone Blue Coupe
 - Jeff Furr – 1990 Black & Grey Coupe
- 🚩 Held election of new members and approved for membership:
 - David Everhardt – 2001 Magnetic Red Convertible
 - Denise Wade – Wife of member Dennis Wade
 - Tommy Gurley – Fiancé of member Patti Hamrick
- 🚩 With the 3 new members added tonight, the membership stands at 267.

Vice President Report – Steve Pelchat for Matthew Deiger

- 🚩 November 12th meeting – Hendrick Motorsports Race Shop
- 🚩 December 10th meeting – Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church – Covered dish Christmas party with voluntary gift exchange. Will collect gifts for children of local deployed NC Air National Guardsmen.

Treasurer's Report - Steve Pelchat for Florence Prather

- 🚩 Expenses are in line with the budget and funds are in the bank.

Social Director's Report - Susan Kurt

- 🚩 Invited Pat Bonino to report on the October 21-23 Oktoberfest trip to Helen, Ga.
- 🚩 Invited Boyd Kurt to report on the October 14th Bessemer City Drive-In movie plans.

Automotive Report - Nelson Sprague

- 🚩 September 17 – Car Care Day at Wally & Anita Crawford's – 21 members & guests attended & 12 oil changes were performed.
- 🚩 September 24 – Mint Hill Madness Parade – all needed cars were provided, even in the rain.
- 🚩 November 5 – Sign up tonight to show your cart at the NASCAR Tech. Institute's Open House – lunch will be provided.
- 🚩 Sign up tonight for 4 Fall Parades: Concord, Monroe, Lake Wylie & Indian Trail.
- 🚩 November & December Meetings – Bring food for the Matthews Help Center.
- 🚩 Air National Guard – Sign up to provide Christmas gifts for 28 children of local deployed ANG.
- 🚩 Reported that even though our two Car Shows at City Chevrolet were cancelled this year, City Chevrolet did make their donation to our Charity Fund, as contracted.

National Corvette Museum Ambassador's Report - Paul Mariano

- 🚩 If you are not a member of the Corvette Museum, you have until the 14th to get a \$10 discount on membership.
- 🚩 Check out the Corvette Store on the NCM website for a limited-time 10% discount.
- 🚩 Plans for the 2014 Corvette Caravan are coming along and the excitement is building! Every 5 years, 5,000 – 6,000 Corvettes caravan to the museum in Bowling Green, Ky from around the country and the world, for 3 days of celebrating the Corvette. 2014 will be the 20th Anniversary of the opening of the NCM. If you'd like to share the experience on August 28-30, 2014 see Paul for more information – He is the Caravan's NATIONAL Chairman.

Other Business – John Meadows

- 🚩 Thanked everyone who provided cars for the High School Homecomings at Rocky River, Ardrey Kell, Providence and East Mecklenburg.
- 🚩 QCCC static cling windshield banners are available for \$11. They are 2"X 3' and come in orange, yellow, blue, and two shades of red.

Chrome Bumper Report – Tommy Loftin

- ✿ NCRS (National Corvette Restorers Society) is a great organization to join. Tommy and Brenda's 1954 Corvette was recently judged and received the prestigious Top Flight award. In January, they will attend the regional judging in Florida.
- ✿ October 22 – The Foothills Corvette Club will have a car show in North Wilkesboro.
- ✿ October 23 – Join other Corvette Clubs for a drive to Shatley Springs for lunch.

Other Business – Steve Pelchat

- ✿ A pictorial Membership Directory is in the making. Please see and approve the pictures to be used – they are on the table in the back. Still need pictures of 30 members. See Laura Pelchat for additional information.
- ✿ Election of the 2012 QCCC Board of Directors will take place at the November meeting. There being no nominations from the floor, the slate will be:
 - President – Steve Pelchat
 - Vice President – Keith Cross
 - Secretary – Linda Lewis
 - Treasurer – Florence Prather
 - Automotive – John Walton
 - Membership – Chris Wood
 - Newsletter – Boyd Kurt
 - Social – Kay Weisberg and Laura Pelchat
- ✿ Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.



Next meeting is Saturday, November 12th at the Hendrick Motorsports Race Shop. Social at 5:30 pm, meeting to start at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Burt for Linda Lewis, *Secretary*

Welcome to Our Newest Members! We're glad you joined us!



*Denise Wade (Member Dennis Wade)
2011 Blade Silver Coupe*

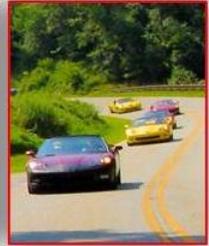
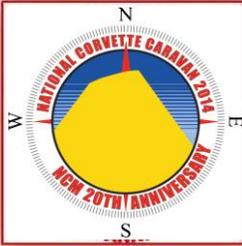


*David Everhardt
01 Magnetic Red Convertible*



*Tommy Gurley (Member Patti Hamrick)
2007 Monterey Red Convertible*





AUGUST 28 - 30, 2014 ALL ROADS LEAD TO BOWLING GREEN THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM ALL ROADS LEAD TO BOWLING GREEN THE NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

National Corvette Museum Corner

Have you ever wondered what causes rational people to volunteer for positions that require them to perform certain activities and then have to write columns like this without any monetary compensation whatsoever? Well, it certainly isn't fame and glory as all can attest. What drives this group of journalistically challenged individuals, commonly known as your board and their staff, is the passion and drive to keep the Corvette in the forefront of the world's sports cars. We do it not for ourselves, but because we just love Corvettes, the Corvette lifestyle and the entire Corvette community.

Each of the positions in the club has its own duties and responsibilities to promote the above ideals both within and outside our club. My chosen path has been to promote the [National Corvette Museum](#) and to show how it can enlarge and extend the club's enjoyment of the world of Corvettes. To say that I am pleased with the growth of NCM membership in the club and the attendance of our members at museum events would be a gross understatement. Also encouraging is the fact that those that take part in museum events continue to do so and ask others to join them on future trips. Bottom line, the NCM must be doing something right.

So, if you are a new QCCC member, or one of long standing, and you are not a member of the NCM, I encourage you to explore what it has to offer in terms of personal satisfaction and benefits. I will be glad to discuss all aspects of membership with you at any time. If you give it a try, I'm sure you will like it.

As the year winds down, it means a new year is rapidly approaching and before you know it the *C5/C6 Bash* will be upon us. The Bash began as a celebration of the introduction of the C5 Corvette. You may recall that the 1997 model was delayed until April of 1997 and an organization known as the *C5 Registry* decided to host an event at the NCM to mark the occasion. It has grown into one of the more popular events and grows in attendance each year. Again next year, a group of QCCC members will be making the trek to Bowling Green and if you would like to join in, just let me know.

Save the Wave!

Paul Mariano,
NCM Ambassador





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Foothills Cruise

Many thanks to Tommy & Brenda Loftin for sharing their fun experience with QCCC members!

Queen City Corvette Club was invited to participate in the "Corvette Fall Tour" hosted by *The Foothills Corvette Club* in North Wilkesboro and our meeting spot was Empire Chevrolet. Last year's tour had over 80 Corvettes and this year's event exceeded 100 Corvettes. We were all lined up by 10:00 AM to feel the curves and see the sights that the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains had to offer. Foothills Corvette Club did a wonderful job organizing the event and had involved the State Highway Patrol, the Sheriff's Department from Wilkes and Allegheny Counties, along with numerous Police Departments from the towns that we went through. We had an escort by the Highway Patrol part of the way and all intersections were blocked so that we could all stay together. It was an amazing sight to see over 100 Corvettes, in line traveling through the curves of the Blue Ridge Mountains.



The only thing that topped that was the Fall colors and the amazing sight that God allowed us to see as we cruised through the hills and valleys.

After about an hour's drive we reached our first destination, "LUNCH" at Shatley Springs. As you could guess, Foothills had it together again. They had reserved the entire restaurant which would seat 250 people and we were seated as soon as we arrived. No sooner than we were seated the food began to roll out to the tables and we were all pigging out, literally. By 1:30 PM we were ready to continue our cruise into Virginia, back into NC, and a potty break at Alleghany High School in Sparta. The Tour would continue from there back to North Wilkesboro, however the QCCC bunch, which included 8 cars were invited to Wade and Sue Stickels cabin for some good old mountain hospitality and a private potty break, we are so privileged to have such Corvette friends.

The total tour, which started in Troutman for the QCCC bunch, was about 200 miles and 8 hours long, which included lunch and breaks. Foothills Corvette Club is planning on doing the tour next year and we all are invited. If you didn't join us on this trip I strongly recommend you do it next year.

Tommy Loftin

Tommy Loftin



Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Richard Craig, Darrell Kirkley & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



'When Winning Was Everything & a Hacksaw Was in Every Racer's Toolbox'

Racing became the rage in the mid 70's and even though we were amateurs, we had a good understanding of the affect and result of good weight to horsepower ratios. So let the carnage begin. It probably all started with Melvin Pace's big block '68, a.k.a. pop-top (named for the t-tops and the Budweiser cans). It was burgundy with a big wide silver stripe and when he finished with it, it was just mean looking and even meaner sounding. You see the problem with early Corvettes and all their horsepower was not being able to get the power to the ground with 5 and 6 inch tires. Today the huge tires work due to the offset being inside the rim, whereas the C2 and C3 had deep dish rims so all the offset of rubber was on the outside right into the fender lip.



QCCC Member Richard Craig's '67 Coupe



Enter Billy Coates, a.k.a. the Car Doctor, and his sabre saw. Almost half the QCCC cars ended up with the rear fenders radius cut then a fiberglass lip added so the big tires would fit, and it did not stop there. Air conditioners, door panels, power steering and anything that added weight or was a drag on the engine had to go. C3 smog equipment had no chance to survive. The C3s ended up lowered with aftermarket side exhaust and huge hood bulges. Brillo had a leaf taken out of the rear spring of his split window just to save weight. Bill Henderson, a.k.a. Spiderman, basically stripped the interior out of a very nice orange/saddle '72 coupe, then painted it red with black splatter paint making it look like a Spiderman mask, thus the nickname.

If you paid attention there was an upside to this massacre, bargains were everywhere. Racing takes money so why not sell those parts you yanked off the car. A previous article mentioned Brillo buying a midyear Fuel Injection unit for \$300. That would soon be topped. Easy Ed Sloan (a very quiet gent) tended bar on Wednesday nights at the QCCC clubhouse. On a side note, you always got a good pour when Ed served...right to the rim. One night over some brewskies, Brillo asked Ed about his C2 coupe ('66 as we recall). We never saw it without primer but it was a work in progress. Racing had Easy's attention and during the conversation, Bill found out the complete air unit had been removed and was in the corner of his garage. Since Bill was into showing Corvettes he asked if Easy Ed would sell it. "Sure," was the reply. "How much?" "\$150." So Bill bought the entire A/C unit, every duct, every nut and bolt for \$150 and shipped it to Damon Smith of *Central Illinois Corvettes* to install on his '65 coupe. It is embarrassing to guess what dollar figure or how many really great cars we messed up that today we would build an extra garage to house. We would caravan down the interstate with half the cars looking like fenders off today's Z06 with crazy mag wheels. Our answer was always, "well, we can rebuild the fenders to stock." If ever there was a true statement it would be "with age comes wisdom."

Looking back, while it seemed right at the time, had we known the end value of those great old Corvettes we probably would not have cobbled up all those great rides. Funny how today a good diet would serve the same purpose for most of us without hurting our cars. But back then when racing fever hit QCCC, it was monkey, see monkey do and we had a ball. The 70's - a great decade for QCCC and Corvettes. All you had to do was wave a green flag and it was on. The real positive result of all this racing was folks like Melvin Pace, Earl Ferrell, Joey Hunter, and Jerry and Jenny Stevens led a small group of 27 QCCC members to the National NCCC Championships on the track in both '78 and '79.

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***Still More Cruising
Friday Nights at the Drive-In,
Luncheons, Dinners, Birthdays and More
Kept QCCC Members Busy In October!***



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

Nelson Sprague (barnel@carolina.rr.com) – Men’s Luncheon
 Peggy Wood (chriswood@carolina.rr.com) – Ladies’ Luncheon
 Eddie & Jane Burt (eddieburt@carolina.rr.com) – “Up Yonder” Dinner
 Eddie & Jane Burt (eddieburt@carolina.rr.com) – Wednesday Night Dinner





The 3rd Annual Vettes On The Point *Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia*

An inside look at the Virginia Corvette Club's Premier Event

Have you ever been to a car show and thought to yourself "this is the perfect place for a show." Probably not. Take a look at the aerial view to the left. This is as perfect a place for a Corvette show as we've seen. The 3rd Annual *Vettes On The Point* was held the first Saturday in October on 8 pristine acres on Smith Mtn. Lake, about 25 miles from Lynchburg, Va. Peggy and I represented QCCC at the event and want to alert QCCC members to put this show on your calendar for 2012.

The host hotels were in Lynchburg and we arrived at ours about the time many other Corvette fans did. At check-in, a goody bag with snacks and information, schedules, directions to all events, etc., was provided. Our hotel provided 2 separate areas to wash our Corvettes and most all took advantage of them.

We joined other Corvettes and caravanned to the Friday night kick-off reception and dinner at a very nice entertainment complex in Lynchburg. Our group had most of the top floor, so there was plenty of room for food, socializing, checking out the vendors, and getting to the cash bar. The event was outstanding with many Corvette clubs from NC, SC, VA, MD, etc., attending.

Saturday morning, 2 caravans were scheduled to drive separate routes through beautiful Virginia back roads to Smith Mtn. Lake. The day's festivities included visiting with vendors such as the National Corvette Museum, Kim's Gold Dust, House of Sparkle, great food, a Wine Garden, a DJ, Pontoon Boat rides around the lake (*the Captain even let Peggy drive*), a Corvette detailing workshop hosted by Adam's Car Care Products, Contests, introduction of Corvette Clubs attending, and Car Show judging and awards presentation. Saturday evening, Peggy and I were adopted by the RTP Corvette Club from Raleigh who invited us to dinner with them.

Sunday, many drove to the National D-Day Memorial for a special tour. The entrance fee was waived for all Corvette owners from the show. We had a great lunch with the RTP Club before heading home that afternoon.

For two years, we've said we wanted to attend this show, but there was always a conflict. Our 3rd time planning to go was a charm and we plan to attend next year. We hope QCCC can be well represented. The VA Corvette Club President said he knows a number of QCCC members and has been trying to get us to the show for 2 years. This is a very well planned and executed Corvette weekend. Kudos to John and JoAnn Langdon and their team for an excellent event! The location is breathtaking and the hospitality was exceptional. We met many new Corvette friends and hope many of you can accompany us to next year's Vettes On The Point! *Chris Wood*



QCCC Members Attend This Year's Petit Le Mans & Cheer on Their Favorite Teams

Thanks to Richard Craig for providing his review of this year's last ALMS race.

Braselton, Ga. - The end of the Championship series of Petit Le Mans lay only 250 miles from Charlotte, North Carolina. It is the last opportunity for Corvette C6.Rs to win yet again this year. The race this year was cold, but exciting with the Corvettes in first and fourth for the big event.



QCCC members there to cheer for the Corvettes this year were Ken Aycock, Bill Davidson, Phil Lewis, Richard Harmon, Fred McCoy, Boyd Kurt and Richard Craig. We came to Road Atlanta to cheer on our boys. For those familiar with the drivers and have followed former Corvette Racing driver Johnny O'Connell, he was there in his super quick...errr... Caddy CTS-V and won the class with his partner close behind in fourth place. Congratulations to the Cadillac Boy's. Johnny O'Connell excelled at his home track and made an easy run and win for Johnny O'Connell.



Now for the Corvettes, we were second in the GT Class to start with and maintained that level of driving and position for a while. Then the Ferrari's were simply too quick for the two C.6R's. But we were still proud of our Corvettes. It was a cold, but Carolina Blue Day, and the cold finally won out. So we picked up and headed for home, our wives and a warm house. However in defense of our beloved Corvettes, even with a down sized engine, the rules were against us. The rules, adopted by the FIA guys, require weight to be added to each of the Corvettes running.



However, there were some home town boys there racing in the SCCA Class earlier in the day and they were cooking really, really good and were very fast, although in my opinion they had to short a gear ratio in the car, but very nearly won the race against bigger and better cars. This club is from Harrisburg, North Carolina and a yellow Corvette really put on a show for us. Keep in mind, if you need any mechanical items added to your Corvette this is likely the place to go. CRP Racing (CompetitionRaceParts.com), located in Harrisburg, is definitely the place to go, as they took the SCCA National Record this year. With a young driver, Mike Skeen, this young man could lay down the time to beat. He was simply awesome.

We made it home OK and now that we are warmed up, we are readying ourselves for next year. If you want the chance to see some top notch Corvettes run like the dickens... THIS IS A MUST FOR YOU. Anytime you get the chance to see a Petit Le Mans, be it in Florida (Sebring), Mosport (now owned by infamous driving legend Ron Fellows), Watkins Glenn or any of the famous race tracks, take the time to go support the Corvettes and cheer them on. Get a chance to know the drivers, which you can do at every Corvette Event. Buy a pass to the *Corvette Corral* and you will be happy you did. They are always staffed by Corvette people from Bowling Green and are the nicest people around. They always have a large Corvette tent, with welcome packages for the Corvette people and special Corvette parking at only the choicest locations to watch the event from. At the tent, you may get a one-on-one with the drivers and have a small chat with them. Doug Fehan, the Chief Dude in charge of the Corvette Race Team is there to provide his perspective on the race. You also can meet the drivers of other favorite cars like Porsche, Ferrari, Aston-Martin, and Jaguar. You get to touch the cars, take pictures of the drivers and get their autographs, if you like.



That's all for now folks, SEE YOU AT THE NEXT CORVETTE EVENT – SEBRING, NEXT YEAR.....2012

Richard L. Craig



“Heads-Up”



Want to go to Spring Mountain and Race Corvettes? – Several QCCC members have inquired about arranging a trip to **Spring Mountain Motorsports Park** and attending the **Ron Fellows Corvette Driving School** next year. At this time, there are four couples who’ve committed, and 2 more getting close. We’ve talked with our contact at Spring Mountain and they are in the process of creating the schedule for the latter-half of 2012. The idea is to attend Spring Mtn. and piggy-back a trip to Las Vegas (60 miles away) and attending the Barrett-Jackson Las Vegas Auction during the same week. B-J LV is in September but they will not commit to an actual date until the first of the year. This is not just for the guys! The ladies will have just as much fun and can even sit in on classes, have lunch with the guys and do everything the guys do except drive (unless you enroll in the school). If you are interested and / or want more info contact **Chris Wood** or **Bill Davidson**. Ladies may want to talk with Peggy and Julia for their perspective on the experience. It would be great to fill the class with QCCC members! Click on these links to get an idea of the experience >> <http://www.springmountainmotorsports.com/>, and [Ron Fellows At Spring Mtn Video](#).



Kudos to our QCCC Vice President Matthew Deiger! – Matthew beat his last year’s time by 1 ½ hours in the **Chicago Marathon** and came through it great. His official time was 4 hrs 53 mins & 44 secs. “Everything felt strong, although a few issues with my right knee, but those are getting worked out” Matt emailed us. Dena accompanied him and provided the moral support throughout the race. “Next big race, if all works out will be in January 2013 at Disney,” said Matthew. Great accomplishment, Matthew, QCCC is proud of you!



The Facts on the American Le Mans Series – Bloomberg TV did a 30-minute program on the ALMS in October. The segment is an in-depth look at the beginning and growth of the sport and why it has been and continues to be so successful. ALMS encourages technological innovation with different tire manufacturers, gas, etc. unlike other cookie-cutter racing series in which you cannot tell one brand from another. If you are a fan of Corvette Racing and the ALMS, watching the short segment will be worth your time. Watch it at www.americanlemans.com. By-the-way, Toyota has announced it will enter their new LMP1 challenger in the 2012 24 Hours of Le Mans.



Gotcha! – Safety or revenue? The National Motorist Assoc. has ranked the top metro areas in the US and Canada to determine which have the greatest concentration of traps. The NMA defines speed traps as places with arbitrarily low limits and heavy traffic enforcement. Fortunately, no locations in the Carolinas or Virginia made the top 25. For a list of speed traps in your area click [here>>>](#)



Mark Your Calendars for April, 2012 – Rumors are circulating that a commemorative-edition 2013 C6 will be introduced at next year’s C5/C6 Bash at the NCM. With the C7 set to bow for 2014, odds are good we may witness the final send-off for the sixth-generation Corvette.



“Cars of the Blues” – “As I was motivatin’ over the hill I saw Maybelline in a Coupe de Ville, Cadillac rollin’ on an open road, but nothing outrun my V8 Ford, Cadillac doin’ about ninety five, bumper-to-bumper rollin’ side to side.” **Hagerty magazine** recently did an article on “Cars of the Blues”. Just like women, floods and money, cars were often the inspiration for many blues tunes. Corvette was missing from the article and with good reason. Who can have the blues when you’re driving a Corvette, anyway?



Temporary Relief from Roadrash – Roadwrap, a disposable, self adhering, clear polyethylene film that sticks to your vehicle is the latest item for the “Car Guy” who can’t stand the tar, bugs, stone chips, etc. encountered on road-trips or the race track. It comes in various sizes, can be cut to the exact size you want, comes with a blade for trimming around grilles and headlights, and, according to the manufacturer, is good for about 7-days use. Watch the video at www.buyroadwrap.com.



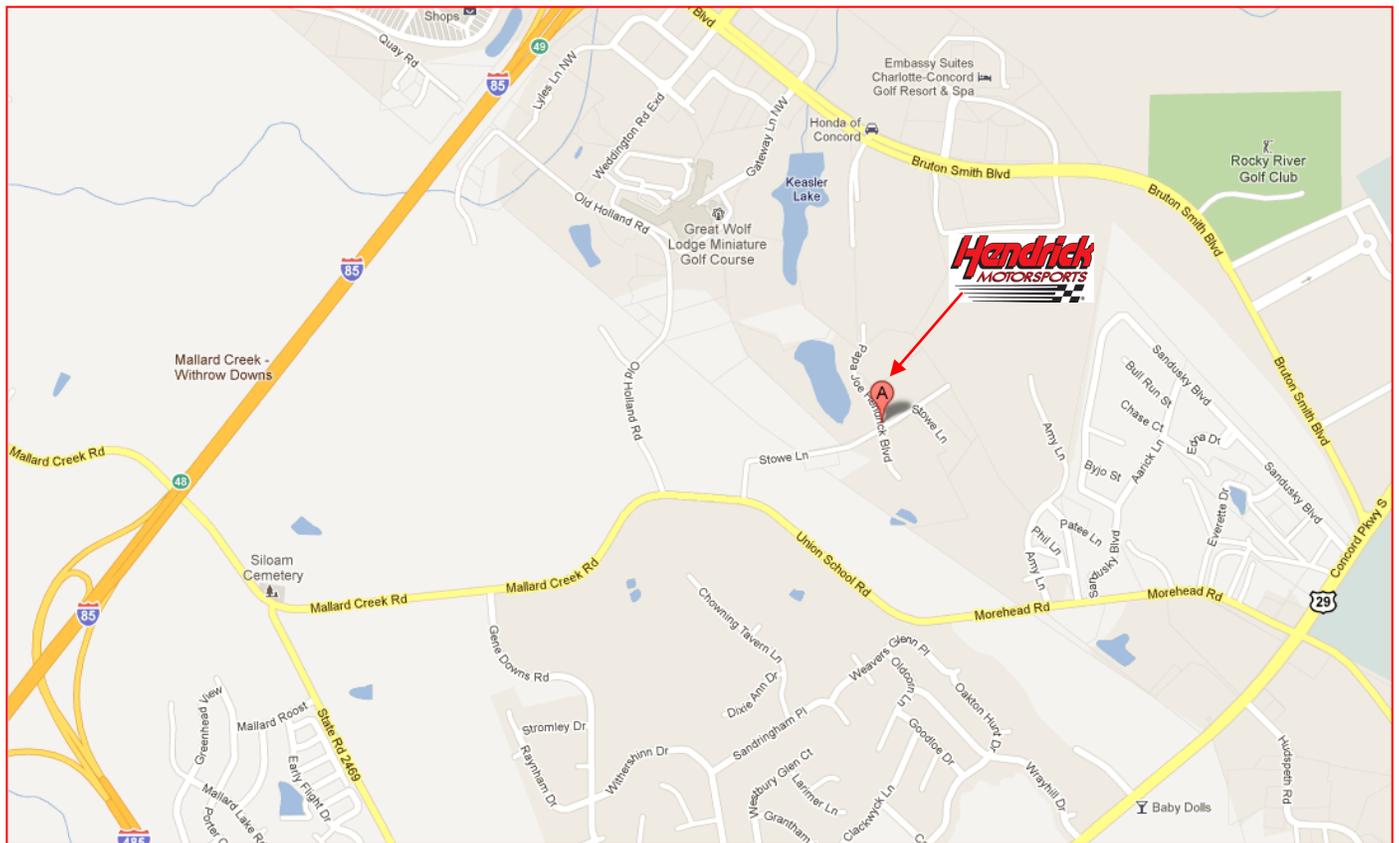
Does It Come With Life Jackets? – Boyd Kurt and other members sent in this info about the amazing Z48 Corvette Boat. Built using parts from a genuine Corvette ZR1, the Z48 has genuine Corvette taillights and badges and an interior that looks eerily similar to the ZR1 with original shifter and steering wheel. And it can go – with a PAIR of 1,350 hp, twin-turbo Mercury Racing engines! You guessed it – the price tag for this is a whopping \$1.7 million. Read more about it [here>>>](#).



**JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT
BUSINESS MEETING**
Saturday, November 12th 2011
**HENDRICK MOTORSPORTS
RACE SHOP**



4400 Papa Joe Hendrick Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28262 877-467-4890



5:30 pm – Social

6:00 pm – Business Meeting

Chairs provided

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

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9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

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Announcement:

If you plan on attending the 2014 NCM Corvette Caravan and also plan to visit the National Corvette Museum anytime during 2011, 2012, and/or 2013, check out the special offer from the Hampton Inn to Caravan participants. Any stay prior to the Caravan will result in a savings off the room rate during the Caravan. Example: Stay during 2011, receive \$10 off per night during the Caravan, stay another night during 2012, receive another \$10 off the room rate during the caravan. A stay during 2011, 2012, and 2013 gets you \$30 off the normal room rate per night at the 2014 caravan. Visit www.howlinggreenky.hamptoninn.com or see Chris Wood or Wade Sticks for details.

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IN THE REAR VIEW



Upcoming Events - 2011

- Nov 5 - *NASCAR Tech Open House*
- Nov 12 - 2nd Annual Drive to End Alzheimer's
Cool Car Poker Rally 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
- Nov 12 - *QCCC Business Meeting*
- Nov 19- *Concord Parade*
- Nov 20- *Monroe Parade*
- Nov 27- *Indian Trail Parade*
- Dec 3- *Lake Wylie Parade*
- Dec 4- *Gastonia Parade*
- Dec 10 - *QCCC Christmas Party & Business Meeting*

2012

- Jan 28 - QCCC Banquet
- Mar 13-17- NCM Museum-in-Motion @ Sebring
- Apr 26-28- NCM Bash

QCCC Sponsored Events in Italics
For more events & details, see the [QCCC Calendar](#)

Beaten By A Camaro – The votes are in from Chevrolet's 100th Anniversary survey on the best "Bowtie" vehicle of all time. The **1969 Camaro** was voted best of the 124,368 votes cast by the public. The 1970 Chevelle was 2nd. We voted for the Corvettes, but it just wasn't enough. That's OK, we're proud of little brother Camaro.

This Month In Corvette History – Nov. 2, 1990: The National Corvette Museum Annex opens in a small shopping center in Bowling Green, Ky. **Nov. 2, 1999:** Chevrolet announces that it will enter a C5R Corvette race car at the 68th annual 24 Hours of Le Mans in France in 2000. **Nov. 7, 1969:** The 250,000th Corvette, a Riverside Gold Roadster) rolls off the assembly line. **Nov. 1992:** Dave Hill accepts a job offer to become Corvette Chief Engineer.

This Guy's Got the Right Idea – We've seen Corvettes pulling Harleys, but a Corvette trailer pulled by a Harley?



Sorry We Missed It – Rally Appalachia, a 1500 mile road rally beginning in Winchester, VA. and ending in Charleston, SC took place in July. Many "regular folks" participated in just as many different types of cars, including Corvettes. Plans for the 2012 "Rally Dixie" are leaking out and we hear the event is planned for mid-to-late June. Day 1 stopping point is Bowling Green, Ky. (I wonder where....), participants may get hot laps at Talladega, and the finish line will be in the panhandle of Florida. All fees go to charities.

Look Who's In The Magazine – QCCC members are no strangers to print media – it seems we turn up at events when the cameras are rolling. The November issue of *Vette* magazine had a photo of Peggy Wood at the NCM getting an autograph from Dan Binks and Tommy Milner of the Corvette Race Team. Thanks to the QCCC members who shared this article with us!

Another Celebrity With A Corvette – Wade Stickels provided this bit of Corvette trivia: A Bruce Springsteen exhibit including guitars, handwritten lyrics, and a 1960 Corvette will open at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia this winter. "From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen" will open at the museum after closing in February at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland. The collection has been in the Rock & Roll HOF since 2009. Springsteen contributed many of his own items to the exhibit, including the Corvette he bought after the success of "Born To Run."



Travel Channel Pays Homage to America's Sports Car - The Travel Channel has a new series - paying homage to America's Sports Car in their show "Made in America." The episode was filmed at the Corvette Assembly Plant. You can watch a brief video segment of the show [here>>>](#)

Are You Drinking Too Much? – Bob Denney sent this photo of an antique car that doesn't seem to know which way it's going, or is it just me?



Five Classic American Drives – Thanks to Jane Burt for providing this link to the Yahoo Travel article on our country's most inspiring drives. The five are: The Great Alaskan Wilderness, Route 66, California's Other Wine Country, Cross-Country: Chicago to LA, and Utah's Canyon Country. Read why [here>>>](#). And we all know the only way to experience these drives is in a Corvette!

Winning the World Series Is Nice, But Winning A Corvette Is Awesome! – The Cardinals David Freese was the lucky one in game 7 of the World Series. He was voted MVP and received a 2012 Chevy Corvette. During the trophy / car presentation, broadcaster Chris Rose said "I think there's about 50,000 people who want a ride home tonight." Another nice ad for Chevy. Thanks again to Jane Burt emailing this article.



Veteran's Day is November 11th



Let Us Never Forget