



*The*  
**Queen City Corvette**  
**Gazette**

*Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club*

**January 2013**



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### *In This Issue –*

The President's "Crossroads"	Page 3&4
QCCC Advertisers	5&6
The Wave" Vice President"	7
Club Inventory	8
QCCC Meeting Minutes	9 & 10
Laura's Vault – Social	11
QCCC Cornerstones Membership	12
Automotive Tommy	13
National Corvette Museum	14
Vintage QCCC	15 & 16
Club Photo's	17
Track to Street	18
Heads Up & Meeting Location	19
Reconnecting	20 & 21

*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.**

### *On The Cover:*

QCCC Christmas part at the Dilworth Bar and Grill, "Thanks" Flash"

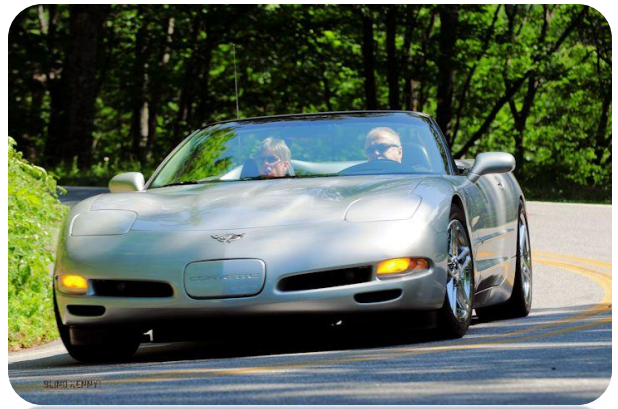
QCCC is a non-profit club (501-C7) whose members all share a common appreciation and love of America's Sports Car – the Corvette. Dues and donations are not tax deductible. In addition to various social activities for members, QCCC raises money for and participates with various local charities. We strive 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!**



# Crossroads

With the President Keith Cross



Let me start **2013** off by saying *Happy New*

*Year* to everyone. I am looking forward to this year and all the fun we will have. I feel the QCCC Board and Support Volunteers, you have asked to serve, will do an excellent job at keeping the momentum going that we had in 2012. As some of you know, it takes many people to keep a club the size of QCCC operating smoothly. We will continue do our best to maintain that momentum. So get ready as we start making plans for trips, meetings, activities, dinners, car shows and our QCCC 45<sup>th</sup> Birthday. We will do our best to keep everyone informed by email and postings on the QCCC Website Calendar as soon as we get things set up. So on your mark, get set, get ready and let's go!

This year I will be encouraging the board members to recruit volunteers to help them with some of the tasks for which they are responsible. With a club this size, we should be able to do just about anything without it being a large burden on any one person. I know many of you like to be involved. So if you have an interest in helping out one of the board members, please feel free to let them know and please don't be surprised if you get ask to help support us. The thing that has most impressed me about our club is its willingness to help. It has been the leadership's fault that we sometimes have not let you know how you can support us. We hope to change that this year.

I look forward at seeing you at the January Business Meeting. Also our QCCC Banquet is coming up in February so please make arrangements to attend.

See you at the Crossroads and remember the wave.

*Keith*

see next page for info on this picture.



## Who is Jerry Sciensky's Presidents Award'?

Steve,

I prepared a few notes about Jerry and his love of Corvettes. I will always treasure the time Jerry belonged to the club. As a Marine, he met men of honor. His experience with QCCC ranked right there with his Marine Corps days.

The banquet is always a highlight of the year. I wish everyone a great evening and a great year behind the wheel of their Corvettes.

Gloria Scienski

### A man, a wish, and an Electron Blue Corvette

Jerry Scienski was a hospital administrator, a Marine Colonel, and a man with a wish. One night after his wife, Gloria, came home from working for the local Make-A-Wish Foundation, Jerry said, "I have a wish." Gloria was surprised as they married young and she had never heard this. Jerry shared his lifetime love of Corvettes.

The following week-end they went to look at cars (well, not just any cars – Corvettes). Upon arriving at the showroom of Parks Chevrolet Jerry spotted a new 2002 Electron Blue Corvette in the showroom. It was love at first sight.

As he drove off in his Corvette, Sissy Parks told Jerry about the Queen City Corvette Club. Jerry was not a club joiner but loved Corvettes and decided to give it a try. At his first meeting a new world opened for Jerry. He fell in love with each and every Corvette. The Club members were amazing people who turned out to be the most amazing friends.

Jerry loved his Electron Blue Corvette and the Queen City Corvette Club. Jerry always said, "Remember, the book says, "All Corvettes are RED", (but they really wish that they were BLUE!!)." Jerry's time as a Corvette owner and a QCCC member was a wish fulfilled.

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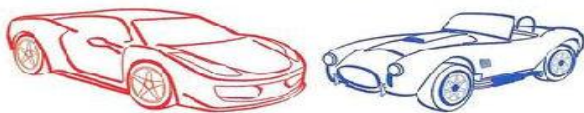
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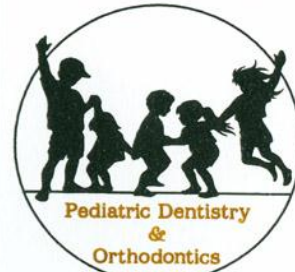


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# The Wave

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*With the Vice President Bill Rambo*

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We begin the New Year with a new QCCC Board and a New C-7. First, I want to say how proud I am to be serving with this fine group and the best Corvette club in the area. I am amazed at every meeting of the number of guests and new members voted in. The generations of Corvettes are extensive, as the wealth of knowledge each person has of their cars.

But foremost, I want to personally thank everyone in the club for your outpouring of support, prayers, calls and wishes. When I decided to participate and be your VP, I knew this this was a great club to be in. But after what I just went through, you proved another thing...family! I was supported by all the families, and I will do my best for you. I am and will be forever grateful.

I will be working closely with our new President, Keith Cross, in assuring the best possible meeting places. I want to hear your ideas and I want the QCCC to be seen across the region. Our meetings are important; it brings fellowship to the club, especially in these cold months ahead, so the locations and activities should be exciting.

I found some interesting history to share. Astronaut Alan Shepard, a long time Corvette owner, was invited by then GM Chief Engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov to drive pre-production Corvette models. General Motors executives later gave Shepard a 1972 model with a Bill Mitchell interior. Jim Rathmann, a Melbourne, Florida Chevrolet dealer and winner of the 1960 Indy 500, befriended astronauts Shepard, Gus Grissom, and Gordon Cooper. Rathman convinced GM President Ed Cole to set up a program which supplied each astronaut with a pair of new cars each year. Most chose a family car for their wives and a Corvette for themselves. In his memoir, *Last Man On The Moon*, Gene Cernan describes how this worked. The astronauts received brand-new Corvettes which they were given the option to purchase at a 'used' price after they'd been driven 3000 miles. Alan Bean recalls Corvettes lined up in the parking lot outside the astronaut offices at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, and friendly races between Shepard and Grissom along the Florida beach roads and

beaches themselves as local police turned a blind eye. Shepard, Grissom and Cooper even pulled each other on skis in the shallow water. The Mercury and later astronauts were unofficially tied to the Corvette and appeared in official photographs with their cars and with mock-ups of space vehicles such as the Lunar Module or Lunar Rover. Cooper talked of the races along Cocoa Beach in his eulogy of Shepard at the Johnson Space Center in 1998.

*Bill*

**Queen City Corvette Club**

**Queen City Corvette Club** Bylaws require that an *inventory* be published annually. Following is the **Annual 2012 End-Of-Year Inventory**.

<u>Quantity:</u>	<u>Item:</u>	<u>Inventoried By:</u>
2	Microphones w/ Bag	Keith Cross
1	Amp and Speaker	Keith Cross
1	Bullhorn	Keith Cross
2	Boxes of misc. paperwork	Keith Cross
1	Cordless Microphone w/ Reciever	Keith Cross
1	E-Z Up Instant Shelter	Tommy Loftin
2	QCCC Banners - 6 ft X 2 ft (for City Chevrolet)	Tommy Loftin
2	Frames for Banners w/ Carrying Case	Tommy Loftin
1	RubberMaid Roughneck Container - 31 Gal.	Tommy Loftin
1	Box - Poker Run Cards & Punches	Tommy Loftin
5	Clipboards	Tommy Loftin
1	QCCC Club Flag (John Meadows)	Tommy Loftin
	Previous Old Banner w/ QCCC Logo rcvd. from	
1	NCM	Tommy Loftin
1	Fire Extinguisher	Eddie Burt
1	Easel Stand	Eddie Burt
1	Blackboard	Eddie Burt
4	20 inch Box Fans	Eddie Burt



## Queen City Corvette Club Minutes

December 15, 2012

6:00PM – 7:00PM

Meeting Held at: Dilworth Bar & Grill

### BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

Board Members: Steve Pelchat, President; Keith Cross, Vice President; John Walton, Automotive Director; Laura Pelchat, Social Director; Florence Prather, Treasurer; Chris Wood, Membership Director; Boyd and Susan Kurt, Newsletter Editor; Bob and Marilyn Becker, Webmaster; Bob Denny, Club Photographer; Paul Pelkey, Database Manager; Paul Mariano, NCM Ambassador.:

### DISCUSSION

#### **President;**

Change in November Board Minutes. Should be 2013 not 2014 Board.

Welcomed the new 2013 Board Members:

Bill Rambo, Vice President, Jim Wisebeg, Treasurer, Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary and Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director.

#### **Membership:**

Please remember our sick members Ken Krupa, Fred McCoy, Pricilla Worthy, Bill Rambo, Bill Loos during the holiday season

Welcome Guests: Peyton Moore, Brian and Barbara Cruse, Todd and Kelly Morrison, George and Allison Ganzhorn.

Voted in as new members Guy and Jean Bising and Bob Rossi and Nancy Jones.

288 members or 152 families. We have and 11 sponsors.

**Treasurer:** Bank balance and reminder that dues are due.

**Automotive Director:** Gave out two awards Auto Cross Larry Miller and Darrell Kirkley

Nelson Sprague thanked John Walton for his service as Automotive Director

#### **Social Director:**

Merry Christmas everyone

January 12th -- January meeting at Boy Scout Camp . We will have a chili cook off.

February 2nd -- Banquet at the Vintage Motor Club in Concord. We will have a silent auction.

#### **Secretary:**

Thank you for allowing me to be your Secretary for the past 4 years. I have really enjoyed my tenure. Carolyn will do a fantastic job. Please attend meetings and participate in events. Enjoy our Club.

Happy Birthdays to all of our December birthdays: Beth Walton, AnnaLuree Wright, Buzz Brescoll, Skip Koski, Vernon Maher Caroline Lentz, Judy Armstrong, Wendy Krupowicz, Brenda Loftin, Linda Meadows, Bill Elko, Wally Crawford, Bob Becker, Bill Cruthis, Barney Peterman .and Rick Mills.

#### **Museum News :**

Paul Mariano June 27th and 28th Birthday Celebration for the Corvette with tour of Factory Detroit engineers and designers will be there. Cost is \$250 per person. Must be on Line December 19th and log in at 9am-- 2pm tickets available. Join the museum!!!!

**New business:** Membership unanimously voted for a lifetime membership for Walter Arhens, 98 year old.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Lewis, Secretary

## **QCCC Board Minutes 12-11-2012**

Meeting 6:00

**Board Members and Staff:** Steve Pelchat, President, Keith Cross Vice President, Linda Lewis, Secretary; Florence Prather, Treasurer; John Walton, Automotive Director; Laura Pelchat, Social Director; Chris Wood, Membership Director.

**President:**

Welcomed new 2013 Board members to meeting: Jim Weisberg Treasurer, Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary, Automotive Director Tommy Loftin.

**Membership:**

284 Members and 154 Families  
Corvette Angels was well attended by our members with 24 cars.  
Donation of \$50 to the Humane Society for Tom Grizzle  
New advertiser-- Jerry Miller for a total of 12.  
Adams Car Care have offered the Club a 10% discount to club members.  
Will vote on Rookie of the Year and the Member of the Year at the next meeting.

**Vice President:**

December 15th meeting is at Dilworth Neighborhood Grill for the Christmas party. Dirty Santa gift exchange. Bad Santa and take gift back from another member \$10 to \$15 per gift please. \$7.50 per person.  
January 12th meeting is at the Boys Scout Camp at Mint Hill. We are going to have a chili cook off.  
Bill Rambo in hospital is checking on the February Meeting.

**Automotive:** No report

**Treasurer:** Bank Balance

**Social Director:**

December 15th--Christmas Party with presents. 132 members are attending. 5pm to 10pm  
Nelson Sprague will handle the food drive for the Matthews Help Center.  
February 2nd-- Banquet at the Vintage Motor Club in Concord.. Plans for a silent auction. Bring your corvettes to park in the banquet hall. \$50 per couple with a DJ for music. Catered meal.  
Picture directory will be started in February.

**Secretary:** I have enjoyed serving as the Secretary for the last 4 years.

**Other Business:**

Dues will be \$100 and due by January 15th.  
Made a motion to donate \$50 for any deceased member to the Charity of the family's choice. Motion was passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

January Board meeting will be at Smith and Stevenson on January 8th at 6pm.  
New Board members please think about your budget and any new ideas that you would like to present.  
Steve Pelchat would like to nominate Walter Arhens for a life time membership.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Need to take Inventory-- must be published in the January newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Lewis



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I can't believe it's time to start another year. I am excited about the coming year, I hope to have some surprises at our meetings throughout the year, to keep things fun. As I mentioned at the Christmas party, I want to come up with an activity that, when you tell your friends, they'll say "You did WHAT with your car club?" So if you have any ideas, let me know.

I'm always looking for people interested in helping on the Social Committee. If you have an idea to pursue, a place of interest, or an activity, let me know. If you're willing to help with meetings or an activity, that's a good way to get to know more people in the club.

January's meeting will be our Charity Chili Cook-off. We have several people that have volunteered to bring chili, but can always use more if you are interested in competing. Call me if you want to bring some and haven't signed up already. The winner will receive a prize; the rest of us will have the chance to taste each chili and vote for the favorite. Each chili entry will have a jar and you can vote for that entry by putting money in the jar. The money will then go to our charity fund. Chef Steve will also be serving up hot dogs with toppings, potato chips and drinks for everyone. We will start serving food at 5:00 and the meeting will begin at 6:00.

Remember, the annual QCCC Awards Banquet will be February 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Vintage Motor Club in Concord. It's a great place for a car club gathering and we'll be highlighting a Corvette from each generation. With a new venue for the banquet and a lower price (\$25 per person), I hope to see a lot of you there. It's always a good time to catch up with friends. There will be a buffet, cash bar, and a DJ for those who want to dance; or you can just listen to the music. We will have a silent auction, so be sure to bring your cash or checkbook. Several items have already been donated; a Coach handbag, Coach wallet, ceramic Jim Beam Corvette, QCCC Banner, car care kit with collapsible bucket, just to mention a few. If you have something to donate or a suggestion please let me know. Don't miss out!! RSVP to me at [Lspelchat@yahoo.com](mailto:Lspelchat@yahoo.com) and send your check, made out to QCCC, by January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next event.

Laura Pelchat  
QCCC Social Director  
704-806-1113



## QCCC Cornerstones

*Building a Great Corvette Club,  
one MEMBER at a time*



*"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime." ~ Babe Ruth*

**H**appy New Year to all! When Keith Cross asked me to write a Membership Report for the Gazette, he didn't have to twist my arm. I knew it was a good idea...and very timely. Our members are what continue to make Queen City Corvette Club the quality club it is, year after year. Our members are the reason non-members and those buying their first Corvette seek us out to learn more about the club and find out what all the smiles are about. I want to thank each of you for being the building blocks of our great club and the reason I'm proud to say I'm a member. If you've been in QCCC for a while, thank you! If you are a new member, welcome! We're glad you joined us! Jump in, attend events, volunteer for committees, become engaged and enjoy the Corvette camaraderie with new friends.

When Peggy and I bought our first Corvette, I began searching on the internet for information on America's Sports Car. To say we were surprised at what we found would be an understatement. We discovered the Corvette had its very own museum in a small town in Kentucky and decided to visit. What we experienced, and became a part of, blew us away. Upon returning home, with a renewed excitement of learning more about the Corvette lifestyle, we began to investigate Corvette Clubs. Discussions with 2 members of QCCC convinced us we needed to investigate the club further. Then, thanks to Eddie & Jane Burt, came Wednesday night dinners, a QCCC Car Show, meeting new friends and finally attending our 3 mandatory meetings. It was a no-brainer for us. This was the club, and the group, we wanted to be a part of. We haven't looked back.

In the coming months, I hope to provide you with information about our membership, and why Queen City Corvette Club continues to be a destination for Corvette owners who want to celebrate our common bond - America's Sports Car. If you are a non-member and you like to meet new like-minded friends and genuinely be an integral part of making each event fun for everyone, please join us! I encourage you to check us out and decide for yourself. I don't think you'll be disappointed!

*Chris Wood*

*Membership Director*



**Guy & Jean Bising**  
2005 Machine Silver Coupe

*This month, we're  
excited to welcome  
our newest members!  
Thanks for joining us!*



**Bob Rossi & Nancy Jones**  
2008 Crystal Red Metallic Convertible

## **From Tommy Loftin: 2013 Automotive Director,**

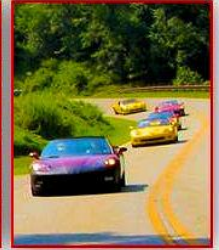
As we know 2012 has slipped by and we are now into a new year with promises and resolutions that we all intend to keep. One of the exciting and gratifying things of being a member of QCCC is the thrill of driving our Corvettes with a group of other Corvette enthusiasts. It really makes you feel good when you pull into a gas station or restaurant and people look at your cars and ask what year model it is or what HP is under the hood or they tell you the story about when they had one. Corvettes have been in the lives of almost everyone over the last 60 years and are as easily recognized as Elvis Presley.

My resolution for this year as Automotive Director is to organize fun and enjoyable outings that will allow us to show off our beautiful Corvettes, make everlasting memories, go places we have never gone, do things we have never done and when it is all over we will walk away with pride and happiness of ownership of the most recognizable sports car in the world, our Corvettes.

And as the old ad said on our big screen, 21 inch TV; "Let's See the USA in Our Chevrolets"

Till Next Time,

*Tommy*



## National Corvette Museum Corner

So now it's 2013. Remember how hard we thought it would be to write 2000? That was only thirteen years ago. Amazing! So what NCM activities do we have to look forward to this New Year?

The year starts off with the event of the century (so far) in Detroit where we get the first view of the new Corvette. Let the complaining begin. Everyone will find something about it they don't like and then go buy one. It happens every time. Trust me. It will be beautiful just like all other Corvettes have been.

We have the NCM Bash at the end of April. We will get to pour over the new C7 Corvette and get all the scoop from the Chevy engineers and design team. With all the QCCC members signed up for this event, it should be a ball in Bowling Green.

In June, it's the special NCM tour of the refurbished Corvette Assembly Plant and briefings by the plant manager and others on the Corvette design team. Always did want to see behind the curtain at the plant.

September is the Birthday Celebration and Hall of Fame dinner. This event is always well attended as you get to rub shoulders with past Corvette heroes and celebrities.

Don't overlook all the other events both at the NCM and on the road. Several Museum In Motion (MIM) Tours will be held around the country to bring the museum to you. High Performance Driving Experiences (HPDE), tours to racetracks, and special road tours are all part of this program. To make sure you keep abreast of all the happenings, please sign up for the NCM e-News.

And planning continues for the big event of 2014. The NCM Caravan in August 2014 will lead us to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Hall of Fame dinner. Your caravan captains and their teams are making sure this event is a grand occurrence. Sign up for the Caravan Chat and visit the Caravan Website at [www.corvettecaravan.com](http://www.corvettecaravan.com) to stay tuned in.

With all these museum activities and the plans your QCCC Board has in the works, you should be getting your Corvette in tip-top condition for the year ahead. Change the fluids, wax the paint, check the tires and make sure the radio and radar detectors are operational. Tally-Ho!



NCM Ambassador



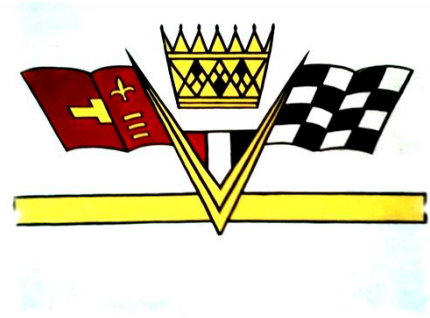
Save the Wave!

*Paul Mariano,*

# Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

*Bill Cruthis, Richard Craig, Darrell Kirkley & Travis Meredith*



*More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past*

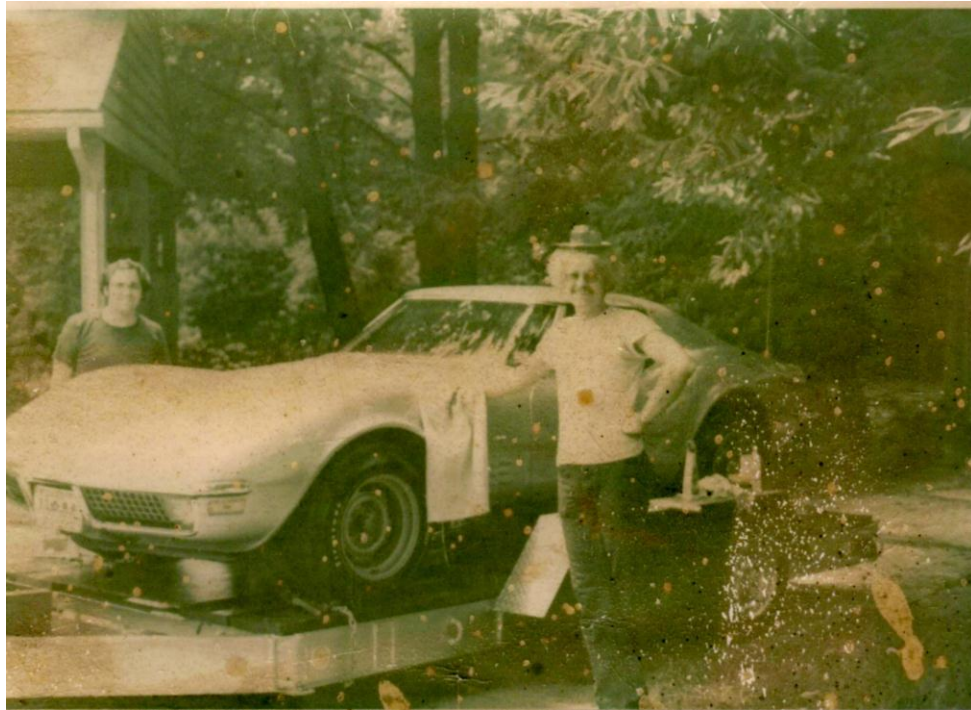
## STRANDED

When Brillo Pad arrived in Charlotte in December 74, he immediately struck up friendships with the concourse group in QCCC. He had brought with him a pristine 70 coupe that was a multiple show winner including Bloomington Gold the second year of that shows existence. Dollar Bill Ingram was the club champion as a wheeler-dealer; he always could find great rare cars in excellent condition. As always, impromptu plans for adventure were derived at the clubhouse bar, on Wednesday keg night, without a lot of forethought or planning. In March of 75, Dollar had just obtained a terrific 67 big block coupe, silver with a black stinger, side pipes, aluminum wheels, the whole package.

He approached Brillo and Turkley at the bar with what seemed like a splendid idea. There was a huge car show at Capital Chevrolet in Washington DC. Since his parents lived in Arlington Virginia, it would be perfect for us to drive up after work on Friday and use their house as base camp. We would get mom's home cooking and use the carport and driveway to prep the cars. To Brillo, it sounded like a great, cheap way to win another car show, since he was undefeated at that time. The plans were finalized (probably after a few too many brewskies) and it was agreed that Turkley would transport Dollar's 67 on his trailer behind Darrel's El Camino. Brillo would transport on his Ii-9 bulldozer trailer. (Trav is still humored by Brillo's 3500 lb Corvette on a 6000 lb trailer being pulled by a 74 Ranchero).

We were to leave Dollar's place early afternoon and travel up I 85 toward DC. When Brillo arrived there was a hitch, and Dollar insisted we stop by Lapointe Chevrolet and see our guy Puckett in the parts department for a last minute need for his 67. Remember, Brillo had only been in Charlotte since December and was not very familiar with downtown Charlotte. So off we go, on Friday afternoon, to Lapointe Chevrolet where Turkley pulls right in with his rig but there is nowhere for Brillo to land. (Aren't these people supposed to work until 5 p.m.? Then what is all this traffic?) It seemed to Bill, the thing to do with all this traffic and no place to park, was to keep circling until they were ready to leave. But after several laps around all the one way streets the Kirkley rig was gone and nowhere to be found. Since this was before cell phones and we had no CB radios, Brillo had a small town panic attack and decided to find I-85 and try to catch up with them. Keep in mind, he was not driving a rig that was much good at high speed and he had no idea the address of Dollar's parents. Brillo tried speeding up and slowing down, but no sign of them. He then decided to pull off into a rest area where a state trooper was sitting. He told the trooper his tale and was assured via radio that the El Camino would be spotted and they would get us together. Now Darrel does not remember this part, but they lit him up with the blue lights and this time he could not run due to the trailer he was pulling. (Only someone who has seen a lot of blue lights would be able to forget such a thing--all true) It was decided Brillo was in the lead and would wait at the rest stop where they were united. We had a great time at Dollar's and spent Saturday detailing the cars. (See picture of Dollar and Brillo with a rally cap on his head, with the 70 and the enormous trailer). On Sunday a.m. we trailered down to Capital where we found a huge show. They were giving some great plaques to the winners. They photographed your car and somehow scanned the photo on the plaque so it looked like a negative. Brillo was excited about getting one of those plaques. Then Sunday late afternoon, the awards were handed out. Dollar got best of show, Brillo got nothing. We got back late Sunday night, and due to being 27 years old, we were not

even tired. Today we would need a week to recover. Brillo is not much on all this new technology but says a cell phone back then would have sure made life easier. Of course the next Wednesday night, at the clubhouse, Bill took it on the chin for his effort. There was much laughter at his expense but we believe Dollar bought a few rounds for the loser.





QCCC Members Caught on Film. See QCCC Website for more photos.





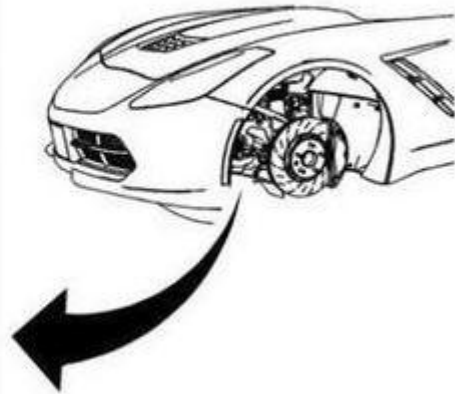
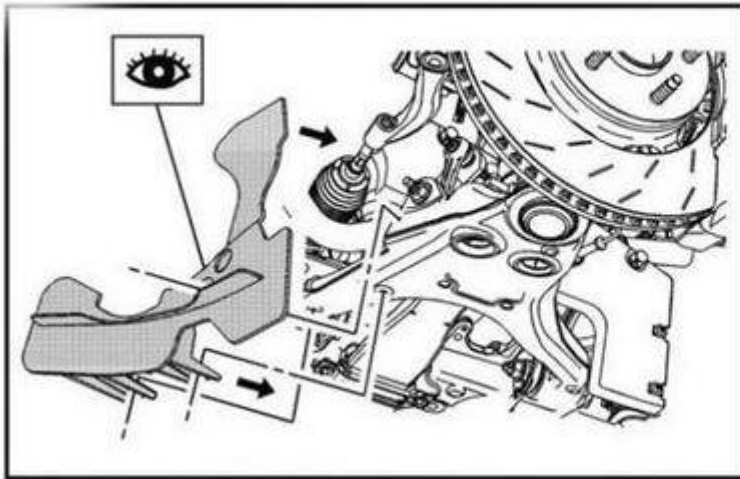
## *From Track to Street*

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### **NEXT EVENT**

Corvette Racing's next event is the 12-hour at Sebring, FL March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Come see Boyd & John at the start finish line.

**Other Corvette Related Items of interest.**



**Is this really the nose from a C7?**

**We will know for sure January 13<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned!!!!**

# “Heads-Up”



## January 12, 2013 Business Meeting & Club Dinner

### Belk Scout Camp – Midland, NC

Belk Scout Camp is located east of Mint Hill on 286 acres of pines, hardwoods, and open fields with two major streams located on the property. The camp is located at the easternmost point of Mecklenburg County and has property located in Mecklenburg, Union and Cabarrus counties. We will be meeting in the Dining Hall that can seat 400 scouts. This is not an outdoor shelter but a very nice fully equipped facility that has full amenities. Yes that means lights, heat and indoor plumbing. The interior roads at the camp are well maintained gravel roads. But due to these roads being gravel your Corvettes are optional for this meeting.

The Social Committee will be providing a Hot Dog Dinner for the club before the meeting starts. Please come out and enjoy the dinner and socialize before the meeting starts.

The meeting address will be; Belk Scout Camp, 9408 Belt Rd., Midland, NC 28107.

#### Directions from Inner and Outer Belt I-485

##### Via Albemarle Road

From Inner Belt I-485, take exit 41, NC 24/27 Albemarle Road east towards Albemarle. Go 1.6 miles and turn right on Cabarrus Road. Go 2.7 miles and turn right on Ferguson Road. Go 0.8 miles and turn left on McManus Road. Go 1.2 miles and turn right on Belt Road. Go 0.6 miles to camp entrance on left. Follow QCCC signs to dinning hall.

##### Via Brief Road

From Outer Belt I-485, take exit 44, NC 218 east toward Fairview. Just past the 485 interchange, turn left on Brief Road. Go 4.5 miles and turn left on Black Road. Go 0.9 miles to the camp entrance on the right. Follow QCCC signs to dinning hall.

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

\*\*\* PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF **TIMES**.\*\*\*

Hot Dog Supper/Social Time: 5:00pm – 6:00pm    Meeting Time: 6:00pm – 7:00p

## *Reconnecting* By Quintrell Merrill

After living and working in Florida for 15 years, in 1995 I took new job in Kansas City. Now I must confess, up front, that for a number of years I had been a 5.0 Mustang guy terrorizing the streets of West Central Florida in a little black coupe packing a built 351 Cleveland and a Vortech Supercharger. I also had a daily driver, which was a somewhat long-in-tooth, a V8 powered rear-wheel drive Pontiac Bonneville.

Moving to Kansas City, I realized that I needed to find an honest and skilled mechanic to help keep my four-wheeled iron running reliably. A co-worker recommended “Redden’s Garage”. A one-man operation owned and operated by Mr. Gail Eignenman.

The first time I took the old Bonneville in to Gail’s shop I noticed a rather shapely lump under a cover in the corner. I asked what it was, and he nonchalantly replied that it was his Corvette, but said nothing more. Over the years and many oil changes, brake jobs, and shock replacements later, Gail gradually opened up about his pride and joy. It was a 1973 Corvette Coupe that he had special ordered and bought new some 22 years earlier. He was proud of the tender loving care he had lavished on this car over the years. Unfortunately, his wife did not share his enthusiasm for the “rough riding and hard to get out of” vehicle that was the apple of Gail’s eye.

Gail told me that as the years past, the Corvette had been driven less and less, until finally he only took it out to replace the leaking brake calipers. As my relationship with Gail began to acquire a little age to it, I began to ask, casually at first, if he would ever be interested in selling his 1973 Corvette. At first his answers were a defiant “absolutely not”! But then as the months and years passed, he began to soften, and finally one spring day in 1999, he paused, then quietly said “I guess so”.

One condition of the sale is that Gail made me promise that I would NEVER bring his little white Vette back to him to work on. I don’t think he could bear to see her driven by another man. I honored his request, and a year later I was transferred to Charlotte, North Carolina.

Twelve years passed, and I lost touch with Gail. Then last year I found what I thought was his home address and phone number through the internet. However, repeated voice mails and even a couple of letters went unanswered.

That was until the other day. Out of the blue, I thought I’d try to call again. A man finally answered and I asked for Gail or Myrna Eignenman. The man said that he was Gail, but with sadness in his voice said that Myrna has passed away two years previously. I told Gail who I was, and asked if he remembered me (he’s now in his 70’s), his voice immediately brightened and he said “Of course I remember you!”

I told him all about how I had taken good care of his little white Vette all these years, and even though she was now pushing 40, she was still in the same fine condition as when he had sold her to me. I told him how I had bought his Vette a sister, an Elkhart green 73 convertible, built exactly one week to the

day after his Vette. With a note of concern in his voice he asked where I kept the Corvettes. I assured him they were both safe in my home's garage. He seemed decidedly comforted by that fact.

Gail then started to tell me about his life in the twelve years that had passed since we had last spoken. With Myrna now gone, he had retired and sold his business. Now alone, he decided he once again would feed his passion for a sports car that only America could build. Earlier this year Gail purchased a bright red 2012 Gran Sport.

Gail says he's now looking for someone new to share his life with, someone that will like to ride in a Corvette!

