



The
Queen City Corvette
Gazette

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

April 2013



Tommy Milner



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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.**

On The Cover:

Tommy Milner winner of the 12 Hr's of Sebring. I told him before the race if he won, his picture would make the cover. Way to go Corvette Racing. Photo by Boyd Kurt

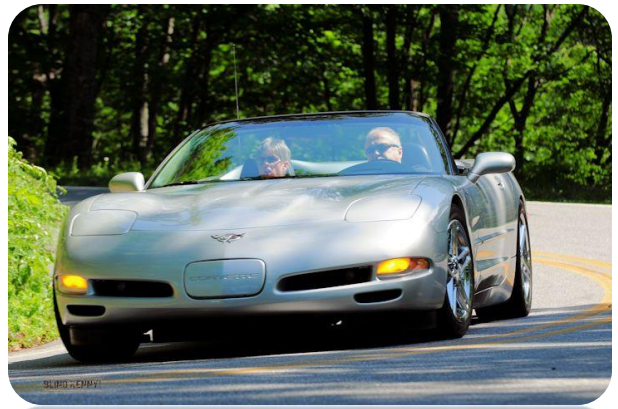
QCCC is a non-profit club (501-C7) whose members all share a common appreciation and love of America's Sports Car – the Corvette. Dues and donations are not tax deductible. In addition to various social activities for members, QCCC raises money for and participates with various local charities. We strive 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 \$10.00, club dues are \$100 per year to be paid semi-annually 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



There's something about wide horizons and limitless possibilities that Americans find sacred. We equate freedom with choices. When life closes in on us, we strive to push back, exercise our freedoms, and breathe again. Some take up golf. Some go on a cruise. And some of us hear the call of the road. We may not always answer, but knowing we can is reassuring that we can hit the highway and feel a sense of empowerment as we race along dotted white lines toward whatever's on the other side of the horizon.

While any vehicle will theoretically take you from point A to point B, certain vehicles are more symbolic of the call. One of them is the Harley Davidson Motorcycle. Another is the Chevrolet Corvette. As a two-seat sports car, it is not built for practical considerations. There's no room for your emotional baggage. You get in and leave the past behind. You feel the exhilaration. You go fast, stop fast, zip around corners, and feel a sense of control and harmony in the universe.

While other sports cars will do many of the same fundamental things, the Corvette does it a little differently. The Corvette has always thrived on the tension between its brash American roots and its increasing reputation as a technical tour de force. In the early days it was a little bad boy, a hot rod, the high school dropout who out-smarted the stuffy prep school grads. Along the way, it won races and outperformed more pedigreed cars, providing a validation of American know-how. But it never lost its reputation of being an iconoclast.

Corvette is a function of its roots. It started out with components borrowed from GM's larger passenger cars. But as time went on, the Corvette came to pioneer technologies that would later appear in many mainstream vehicle breakthroughs like disc brakes, fuel injection, independent rear suspensions, traction control, ABS, stability control systems, lightweight materials, and so on. In time, the car became a technological flagship for General Motors.

How Corvette came to be one of the most popular sports cars in the world and the longest-running automotive nameplate in Chevrolet history is a rich and compelling story that combines politics, passion, performance, design, and popular culture. Corvette has become a worldwide icon much like the Coca-Cola symbol, the McDonald's arches, Marilyn Monroe, or Elvis. It is a symbol for speed, power, and fun.

The above is an excerpt from the book [CORVETTE: America's Sport Car-Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow](#) by Jerry Burton. Jerry is biographer Corvette's first chief engineer – Zora Arkus-Duntov, founding editor of Corvette Quarterly and was on the founding board of directors for the NCM.

Jerry's words, I think, describe many of our feelings and why we have a passion for our Corvettes. We may use our Corvettes to relieve our stress from everyday life, as a bond with our spouses, as a reminder of those younger days, or a celebration that these days of our life have finally arrived. Hopefully, with spring's warmer days right around the corner, and our Poker Run, Club Picnic and Business Meeting set for April, each and every one of you are ready for some FUN!

So remember **“Get your motor running, head out on the highway, looking for adventure, and whatever comes our way”** and...I'll see you at the Crossroads.

Keith



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the View is Always Nice.*



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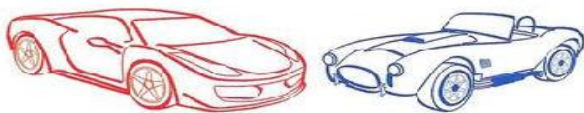
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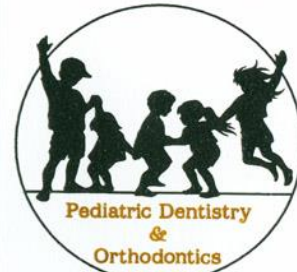
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The Wave

With the Vice President Bill Rambo



Peter Max's 36 Vintage Corvettes: The Full Story

In 1989, VH1 gave away 36 vintage Corvettes in a contest. The winner sold those cars to artist Peter Max, who let them rot in a Brooklyn parking garage for twenty years. The cars recently disappeared. This is their story.



Thanks to the smart work of Daniel McDermon over at the *New York Times*, we're finally piecing together a story that we had heard snippets of for years but never nailed down.

In 1988, VH1 was struggling for ratings. As part of a publicity stunt, the music video network spent a truckload of money on 36 vintage Corvettes. The cars were given away in a telephone sweepstakes the next year, and one winner walked off with the complete set.

The contest was the brainchild of freelance TV producer Jim Cahill. VH1 charged him with the task of raising the network's national profile and attracting the then-vibrant baby-boomer demographic. He came up with the idea — give away one car from every year of the Corvette's three-and-a-half-decade history — while sitting on the freeway in Los Angeles.



What followed was a buying spree of epic proportions. Over the course of several months in 1988, Cahill spent \$610,000 — roughly \$1.1 million when adjusted for inflation — of VH1's money on what must have seemed like the automotive purchasing orgy of a lifetime. According to a period article in *Vette* magazine, the 36 cars that he bought were "drivers," not "Bloomington cars." Fourteen were convertibles, and 25 of the 36 contained automatic transmissions. Cahill shepherded the cars from commercial shoot to commercial shoot, kept them fastidiously clean, and generally went to town with the whole mess. He also did what any of us would do — he drove one home each night for 36 nights. (He has since noted that, although some of the cars were healthy and drove well, many of them were nightmarishly bad.)

To facilitate the contest and help recoup some of the investment, VH1 set up a 900 number that charged two dollars per call. Prospective entrants called the number to register, and AT&T gave the network \$1.49 from every call. 190,000 people called in the first day, 1.3 million registered in total, and VH1 made its money back in less than two weeks. Amazingly, the contest was won by Dennis Amadeo, a carpenter from Long Island who entered only once. He flew to California and was given the five-pound bag of keys by ex-Beach Boy Mike Love in a ceremony in Culver City.

This is where it gets weird.

Enter Peter Max. Max, a Manhattan-dwelling American graphic artist responsible for a large part of the 1960s psychedelic design movement, was, and is not, a car guy. He gained fame for his "Cosmic '60s" style and use of vibrant color, and while he has painted everything from a Boeing 777 to Dale Earnhardt's NASCAR Monte Carlo, he isn't the type of celebrity to have a Lenoesque garage full of automotive weirdness.

Nevertheless, he bought the cars from Amadeo. As he tells it, he found out about the collection through a friend, fell asleep shortly after, and had a dream that included

cheerleaders, the 36 'vettes, and a stadium full of people yelling "They're Peter Max's cars!" Naturally, when he woke up, he got out his wallet. (We make our spontaneous, million-dollar decisions based on REM sleep, too. Doesn't everybody?)

Max contacted Amadeo, made a deal — \$250,000 cash plus \$250,000 in artwork and a portion of the proceeds should the cars be sold again — and, despite a few reservations, had the Corvettes shipped to New York. Cahill facilitated the preparation and handover of all 36 cars, ensuring that they were both clean and drivable when they were put on the truck.

This is where it starts to get depressing: Because Max was then involved in a number of different projects (not the least of which was an IRS investigation), the Corvettes sat, were moved, and then sat again. They eventually ended up in the basement of a Brooklyn apartment building that had once been a *New York Daily News* printing plant. They sat there, gathering dust, for years.



It would not be an exaggeration to say that Max's cars were left to rot, nor that he essentially abandoned them. They remained largely hidden until May of 2005, when a *New York* magazine writer discovered them and wrote a column. A member of the enthusiast forum *Digital Corvettes* read the column, got interested, and went to take a look. When he posted pictures, the Internet went nuts.

The people who lived in the 'vettes' apartment building soon complained, bitching and moaning because their valuable Big Apple parking spaces were being taken up by a celebrity's fiberglass junkyard. A handful of *Digital Corvettes* members, including site owner Patrick Gramm, went to New York to find the cars, take a quasi-legal look, and get some questions answered. (Big-block cars? Rare options? A '53?) Countless people wrote emails and forum posts, offering to maintain the cars for free just so they wouldn't rot away. No one listened, Max remained mum, and nothing happened until a few weeks ago, when the cars disappeared.

That, too, prompted an uprising. The collection was so provocative that the *New York Times* ran a story and several blog posts on it, even going so far as to get David Burroughs, the CEO of Bloomington Gold, to issue a sight-unseen appraisal on the lot. (\$840,000, for the record.) A tenant in the apartment building in question tweeted about the cars' disappearance, expressing joy. A *Times* writer (the aforementioned McDermon) also lived in the building, and his curiosity prompted him to do extensive research, dig up Cahill, and talk to Max. The result was fairly predictable: The Corvettes were in a new, undisclosed location; Max still planned to do something with them but was waiting on financial backing; and Cahill was a bit sad.

Max's plans? He wants to buy 14 more cars, bringing the collection to an even 50 examples and the 2003 model year. He also told the *New York Times* that he wants to paint the cars in a more respectful manner and auction them off. Cahill came out of the woodwork, signing up for a *Digital Corvettes* membership and spilling the beans on the collection's early days. (Random depression: Max's shippers didn't even want the car covers.) And we are, like everyone else, a little sad.

There is a lesson here, but we'll be danged if we know what it is. Regardless, one thing is for sure: No matter who you are, you shouldn't buy a passel of Corvettes if you're going to let them fester in a basement. And Max, if you're out there, listen up: When people offer to fix your cars for free, you listen. Do us a favor and stop hiding your fiberglass light under a bushel, huh? Remember to Wave!!!



Bill

Sebring 2013 Front Stretch Start Finish





Queen City Corvette Club
Club Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, March 09, 2013 **Time:** 6 PM **Location:** Victory Lane Karting

Board Members and Staff Present: Keith Cross, President; Bill Rambo, Vice-President; Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director; Laura Pelchat, Social Director; Chris Wood, Membership Director; Jim Weisberg, Treasurer; Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary; **Staff:** Bob and Marilyn Becker, Webmasters; Boyd and Susan Kurt, Newsletter; Paul Pelkey, Database; Bob and Pat Motta-Nelson and Barbara Sprague, Charity; Bob Denney, Brian and Michelle Moore, Photographers.

DISCUSSION:

President: Keith Cross

- Called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the March meeting.
- Introduced QCCC Board and Staff members.
- Minutes from last meeting were approved by membership.

Membership Director: Chris Wood

- Welcomed Prospective Members / Guests in attendance:
 - Andy and Brenda Molodovitch – attending second meeting
 - Chris and Robin Weant - attending second meeting
 - Guest: Alex Field attending with Karen Day
 - Guest: Zoe Poindexter (daughter of QCCC member David Poindexter)
- Approved and Welcomed as New Members:
 - Bill and Lorraine Miller
- Announced and thanked the new Membership Committee members for volunteering to assist Chris and Peggy: Marilyn Becker, Jean Bising, Jack and Judy Goodison, Barbara Mariano, Fred and Gloria McCoy and Steve Pelchat.
- After new member approvals, QCCC currently has 266 members (142 families).
- Announced and welcomed a new advertiser, H2O Resource Group, a pool service company.
- Notify Chris Wood of any member illnesses, injuries, etc., and cards will be sent.

Vice President: Bill Rambo

- Thanks to all for your prayers, cards and well wishes during recent treatments. Has one more round of chemo planned and is looking forward to full recovery.
- Bill announced location of next few meetings:
 - April 13 - Tommy and Brenda Loftin's Corvette Garage in Troutman (Picnic)
 - May 11 - Harley Davidson Charlotte with Ice Cream social

- Door prizes were won by Dawn Faircloth and Jane Burt.
- Total of 103 members present at the meeting.

Automotive Director: Tommy Loftin

- April 13 Club Meeting at Loftin's Garage
 - Will post directions and additional information on the web.
 - Remember to bring chairs.
 - Poker Run, before the meeting, weather permitting, starting about 2:30 pm.
- Day Trips –
 - March 23, 2013 – Nelson and Barbara Sprague.
 - All attending meet at Curb Museum at 10:15 am.
 - Lunch at Restaurant 46 (sign up by March 18)
 - North Carolina Music Hall of Fame
 - Contact Nelson Sprague for more information.
 - April 20, 2013 Lois and Ken Watts
 - Meet and Eat at R&Rs
 - Drive to Depot in Concord
 - Then drive to Vineyard
 - Contact Lois Watts if you wish to join the trip.
 - Day Trip Hosts: If you wish to host a day trip, you should contact Tommy Loftin as soon as possible for approval to avoid major schedule conflicts. It is OK for day trips to be planned for the same day as other overnight trips, or prior to and ending up at the business meeting. But we should try to avoid planning day trips that conflict with other major events (e.g., Club Car Show).
- Corvette Expo, Sevierville TN, March 22-23, 2013
 - Ten rooms reserved at Hampton Inn Sevierville, with 5 or 6 already taken.
 - More information available on website
- Auto Fair - April 6,7, 2013
 - Two full-day event held at Charlotte Motor Speedway
 - Saturday signup (30 cars) is full. Contact Tommy for waiting list.
 - Sunday still has a few open slots.
 - Snacks will be provided to members both days with Lunch also on Sunday.

- Ticket Packets for those attending will be mailed to your home. Includes Entry Pass, 2 Tickets, maps, information.
- Bring your tents and chairs.
- Vettes Doing Charleston, April 19-20, 2013
 - On Your Own Event
 - Details on the QCCC website.
- SheltonVineyards - Vettes for Vets – May 25.
 - See detailed information on the Website
- Corvettes at Myrtle Beach Car Show - May 31, June 1
 - See detailed information on the Website
- Parades
 - John Meadows is coordinating
 - Please volunteer for the Parade Committee
 - John has enough cars for St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Charlotte
- **QCCC Annual Car Show**
 - **September 14, 2013 this year at Hendrick Motorsports**
 - **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**
 - **Committees will Include**
 - **Parking and Logistics**
 - **Registration and Tabulation**
 - **Judging**
 - **Advertising, Trophies, Vendors**
 - **Please sign up at a Club Meeting or contact Tommy Loftin directly if you wish to volunteer**
 - **More information, and names of Team Leaders, will be posted on the website.**
- Check the QCCC Website Calendar often for the latest details on automotive events.

Treasurer: Jim Weisberg

- Provided YTD status of actual vs. budget financials via email prior to meeting.

Social Director: Laura Pelchat

- April 13 Dinner at Business Meeting at Loftin’s Garage
 - Catered Picnic Dinner will start 4:30 to 5 pm
 - Chicken, BBQ and fixins

- Cost is \$10 each
 - Need commitment to attend Dinner by April 6, 2013
 - Send check to Laura Pelchat prior to April 13 meeting
- Business Meeting will start at 6 pm.
- **Bring Chairs**
- May 3, 4, 5 Pinehurst Concours d' Elegance
 - **NEED EARLY COMMITMENT ASAP** - \$45 per person
 - See more information at www.pinehurstconcours.com/concours-d'elegance
- May 11 Free Ice Cream Social at Business Meeting at Harley Davidson
- May 18 – Asheville NC Comedy Bus Tour
 - **NEED EARLY COMMITMENT ASAP** – 38 people to rent entire bus
 - Go up for just the day or go with the group on Friday (May 17) for lunch, tour Asheville and museum, have dinner at Grove Park Friday night and attend dueling pianos at Grove Park.
 - \$23 each for just the bus tour
 - Have 15 hotel rooms for Friday night at \$129.00/night
 - Contact Laura Pelchat as soon as possible for more details and to sign-up.
- September 12-15, Oktoberfest in Helen GA
 - Contact Pat Bonino or Laura Pelchat for additional information
 - Spring Drive-in Theatre
 - More information will be sent at later date.
- Club Meeting Refreshments: Volunteers are needed to help with bringing refreshments for club business meetings when needed. Club will reimburse volunteers for the cost of food. Contact Laura to volunteer.

Secretary: Carolyn Zimmer

- Announced March Member Birthdays and added some new ones to the list. If you would like your name added to the Happy Birthday list, please contact Carolyn.
- Reminder that QCCC Club Jackets are available for purchase. Pictures of the Jackets and the process to order are on the QCCC Website under the “Club Regalia” bowtie. Contact Carolyn (carolynz77@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.
- Carolyn is the 2014 Carolinas and Virginia (C&VA) Corvette Caravan Registration Chair. The C&VA Caravan is a prelude to the 2014 National Corvette Caravan in Bowling Green KY, and will kick off on August 23, 2014 in Concord NC. Registration for the C&VA caravan is now OPEN. Detailed information and the registration process is available at www.nationalcorvettecaravan.com/va-nc-sc/
-

National Corvette Museum (NCM) Ambassador: Paul Mariano (Chris Wood covering)

- Currently 36 QCCC cars are signed up to travel to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, KY for the 2013 NCM Bash the last week in April (24-28). In addition to the new C7 coupe, a C7 convertible will also be available at Bash for attendees to view (and sit in) up close and personal. Paul has a couple rooms left at the Hilton Hotel in Bowling Green for this trip, but needs to return these rooms by March 22. If you would like to join us, please call Paul ASAP.
- Other NCM Events: Listed on the Corvette Museum Website www.corvettemuseum.com

Old Business

- Charity Fund 50/50 Raffle was won by Gloria McCoy.
- Corvette Stingray Memorabilia Flash Drives were won by Barney Peterman and Buzz Brescoll.
- Two free tickets for a race at Rockingham were offered to club members by Buzz Brescoll.
- QCCC will celebrate our **45th Club Anniversary** with a party at our August meeting, to be held at Hendrick Motorsports. Laura is currently planning the big event, and the Board is sponsoring a QCCC 45th Anniversary Logo Design Contest – specifically for the 45th Anniversary Celebration. NOTE: This is not intended to be a redesign of our current QCCC logo – just a fun contest for our 45th Anniversary.
- QCCC 4^{5th} Anniversary Logo Design Contest Rules:
 - Include current QCCC logo as is. Design around it.
 - Club Members Only
 - By May 1, submit entries to any Board Member
 - Prize: \$50 plus recognition
 - Logo to be used throughout 2013
- Website Calendar terminology has changed.
 - QCCC events will be listed as usual with “Details and Information”
 - Info from other Corvette Clubs, etc. will be listed as “On Your Own Event”
 - NCM Events will be listed as “See Paul Mariano”
- QCCC Logo Tervis Tumblers were used as 2012 Points Awards at the Banquet. Extra tumblers will be given as prizes, or will be sold for \$15 each or two for \$25.
- **New Business / Other**
- Boyd Kurt:
 - Any submissions to the Newsletter should be sent as a WORD document to Boyd by first of the month.
 - Some event pictures are displayed in the Newsletter. All pictures are on Website.
 - NCM Bash in April. Some QCCC members will leave a few days early for a trip to Jack Daniels and a special lunch. Please contact Boyd for detailed information.

- Pat Bonino displayed a new design for a Car Show PVC Stand and Banner with QCCC logo and car owners' names. Price is \$40 each. Contact Pat Bonino to order. Proceeds after cost will be donated.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Zimmer
Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary



Queen City Corvette Club
Board of Directors - Meeting Minutes

When: Tuesday, March 5, 2013 Time: 6 PM Where: Smith & Stevenson

2013 Board Members Present: Keith Cross, President; Chris Wood, Membership Director; Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director; Laura Pelchat, Social Director; Jim Weisberg, Treasurer; Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary.

DISCUSSION:

President: Keith Cross

- Provided Board with latest Club Calendar for review and update.
- Bill Rambo still undergoing treatment. Plans to be at March 9 meeting.

Vice President: Bill Rambo (Keith covering)

- Upcoming Meeting locations planned:
 - March – Victory Lane Karting, Charlotte
 - Will be set up with tables and chairs
 - April – Tommy/Brenda Loftin Corvette Garage, Troutman
 - Poker Run (weather permitting) and Picnic prior to the meeting
 - Steve and Laura Pelchat coordinating Poker Run with prizes
 - May – Harley Davidson, Charlotte
 - With Ice Cream Social

Membership Director: Chris Wood

- Second-meeting prospective member families planning to attend March 9 meeting.
 - Andy and Brenda Molodovitch
 - Chris & Robin Weant
- One prospective member family to be approved for membership (Bill & Lorraine Miller).
- Eight volunteers signed up for Membership Committee to assist Chris and Peggy.

- Fred and Gloria McCoy, Jack and Judy Goodison, Steve Pelchat, Jean Bising, Marilyn Becker, Barbara Mariano.

Automotive Director: Tommy Loftin

- Met with City Chevrolet (Club Sponsor) to discuss QCCC Car Show.
 - Early prep has begun for QCCC car show scheduled for September 14, 2013.
 - Preparing Car Show Budget Proposal for City Chevrolet review.
 - Meeting March 6, 2013 with Car Show Team Leaders.
 - Parking and Logistics
 - Registration
 - Judging
 - Advertising and Trophies and Vendors
- Planning a Poker Run, weather permitting, before Loftin Garage Meeting in April.
- Parades: John Meadows coordinating. We have enough cars for St Patrick's Day Parade.
- Upcoming Automotive Events planned for Calendar:
 - March 23, 2013 Corvette Expo at Sevierville
 - Auto Fair April 7-8 – Thirty cars each day at Charlotte Motor Speedway.
 - Parades and Homecomings with assistance from John Meadows. Will also request additional volunteers for Parade Committee.
 - May 25 Shelton Vineyard – “Vettes for Vets” Car Show
 - May 31 – 1 Corvettes at Myrtle Beach Car Show

Treasurer: Jim Weisberg

- Reviewed 2013 YTD actual expenses-to-budget with the Board.
- Jim will distribute the latest expense/budget detail to members prior to March meeting.

Social Director: Laura Pelchat

- Charlotte Checkers Hockey Game event planned for March 17. Light rail may not be running, however restaurant (Queen City Q) will validate parking.
- Planning a trip to Asheville May 17-19 with various activities including a Comedy Bus Tour and dining and other activities at Grove Park Inn. Details provided at the meeting.
- Coordinating BBQ Picnic for April Meeting at Loftin's Garage. Cost is \$10.
- Planning to attend Oktoberfest in Helen, GA, again this year. Details announced at meeting.
- Board should continue to consider venues for 2013 Christmas Party and 2014 Banquet.
- **Secretary: Carolyn Zimmer**

- Get Well cards sent to Chuck Solland, Anna Luree Wright, Clark Belvin.
- Distributed Club Minutes following February meeting and forwarded Board and Club Minutes to Boyd Kurt for Newsletter publication.
- Updated the Birthday list.

Old Business: Keith Cross

- QCCC 45th Anniversary Logo Design Contest
 - Include current QCCC logo as is. Design around it.
 - Must be submitted by a club member to Board by May 1
 - Prize to be \$50 plus recognition
 - Logo to be used throughout 2013
- Charity:
 - Will have 50/50 raffle and will raffle flash drive from Reveal at meeting.
 - Corvette Angels/Salvation Army Toy Drive will be held November 23, 2013.
 - **New/Other Business:**
- Travis Meredith, Bob Denney and others working on timeline information for QCCC 45th anniversary celebration later this year.
- After 2012 member participation tumbler awards are distributed, Keith will give them as prizes or sell for \$15 each or two for \$25.
- Next Board meeting to be held on April 9, 2013 in Northlake area. Keith will notify us place.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Zimmer

Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary





We had a great time with 28 people going to the Charlotte Checkers hockey game. Enjoyed a good lunch, and the Checkers did their part and won the game. Some of the group ended up in the penalty box, we can't tell what they did to deserve that, what happens at a hockey game, stays at a hockey game.

Don't forget for the April meeting if you want a meal, the catered picnic is \$10 per person. If you haven't reserved your spot yet, let me know right away. We have to pay up front for the meal. The weather should be nice, so plan on a poker run before the picnic. Details are on the website calendar, and poker run information will be sent to the people signing up for it.

Our Asheville Comedy trip will be May 17th & 18th. Great restaurants, lots of comedy, interesting places to see. Plan to come for one day or both. Limited to 40 people for the comedy bus tour on Saturday, so make your decision quickly.

If you are interested in attending the Concours d'elegance in Pinehurst on May 5th, let me know so we can finalize details.

Hope to see you at the next event.

Laura Pelchat
QCCC Social Director
704-806-1113

QCCC Cornerstones

Building a Great Corvette



One MEMBER at a time



“We are not alone.” Usually this is something you hear in a science fiction movie, but it took on a new meaning for me as I looked at the online videos about the new *Stingray’s* trip across Europe to the *Geneva Auto Show*. If you haven’t seen them, I found them on YouTube via the Corvette Forum and other Corvette sites. Check them out when you have the time.



QCCC is one of the largest Corvette Clubs. But take a step back and look at our Corvette community in the big scheme of things. This was never more evident to me as I watched these videos. Although the language I heard in the videos was “foreign” to me (ha), I saw long lines of folks in Corvettes following the bright yellow truck with the Stingray symbol on it to get a look at the new Corvette. I saw Corvette fans wearing all sorts of Corvette attire standing in line to get a peek. The videos were not made in Bowling Green, Sebring or Detroit. They were made in Germany, Switzerland and all points in between. I continue to be amazed at the number of Corvette clubs in NC, SC, and Virginia and I can’t imagine how many there are across the U.S. Visiting the *National Corvette Museum* or *Corvettes at Carlisle* and meeting new friends from just a few of the many clubs out there still can’t quite put things in perspective.



Now think for a moment about the number of Corvette Clubs across the globe. If you do an internet search on Corvette related topics, you get hits from all over the world. Each, I’m sure, has their own car shows, cruise-ins, HPDE events, Corvette trips with Corvette friends, and yes, they probably drive to eat. We all get together for basically the same thing - the enjoyment of *America’s Sports Car*.



We are members of Queen City Corvette Club, but we are also members of a much greater fraternity. Think about it. Kind of makes QCCC seem small, doesn’t it?

Chris Wood, Membership Director

***This month, we’re excited to welcome
our newest members, Bill & Lorraine
Miller!***

***Thanks for joining us Bill &
Lorraine and helping us build a
Great Club!***



2011 Supersonic Blue Grand Sport

The Ride

Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director



March has been a good month for Corvette activities. We have had a day trip to the NC Hall of Fame and CURB Motorsports and an overnigher at the Corvette Expo in Sevierville, Tennessee. Many of us have had our Corvettes out for Sunday drives and we even drove ours Grand Sport to the Florida Keys and back, mostly on back roads for over 2,100 miles.

We are now gearing up for AutoFair April 6th and 7th at the Charlotte Motor Speedway and it has been a huge success this year with all 30 spots filled up for both days and members on a waiting list. This year all QCCC club members are invited to an Outdoor Happy Hour on Wednesday, April 3rd to get everyone excited for AutoFair! This invitation is usually only open to Speedway Club members but they would like to extend it to us to come participate and show our cars in the parking lot outside of Smith Tower! Happy Hour begins at 5:30pm so you can bring your cars up any time after 4:30pm to get here in time to show! Everyone will get a free dinner from the mini buffet and the offer will be good for the car owner plus one guest. This is a great opportunity to mingle and get a great mix of vehicles on display from our club as well as other clubs in our area.

Along with AutoFair April is going to be an active month as well. The business meeting this month will be at our Corvette Garage and will include a Poker Run with a Picnic to follow. Lois and ken Watts are hosting a Day Trip to Dinnes Vineyard and the Depot at Gibson Mill on April 20th and we will all head out to the National Corvette Museum C5/C6 Bash the end of the month.

If all this doesn't keep your wheels rolling, let me know and we will plan more activities.

Till next time,

Tommy Loftin

Till next time,

Tommy



National Corvette Museum Corner

While perusing the latest issue of American Sports Car magazine, the official publication of the National Corvette Museum, I decided to count the names of all QCCC members who contributed to the museum last year. I may have missed a name or two, but my final count was 28 families plus the donation from our club. The museum was built and is maintained by donations from Corvette enthusiasts like ourselves and we are certainly doing our part. As a club and as individuals, we can be proud.

An announcement regarding the upcoming trip to Bowling Green for the NCM Bash. Instead of leaving from Bojangles in Lincolnton at the 150/321 intersection, we will be using a location better suited for the number of cars in our caravan. This time we will depart from the Belk shopping center on Business 321. Go ½ mile West past the 321 overpass and turn right (North) on Business 321. Go 9/10 of a mile and turn left into the Belk center. “Zippers” restaurant is on the left at 475 N. Generals Blvd. “Zippers” opens at 6:00AM so arrive early if you want breakfast. The caravan leaves at 8:00AM. We will depart North on Business 321 to join up with the new road, thereby, avoiding Rt. 150. The date is Wednesday, April 24th.

For you C4 aficionados, the ZR-1/C4 Gathering is being held at the NCM on May 16-18. I know that John Walton and Jeff Cosby are planning on attending, so contact either one of them if you would like to participate. This is one of the premier events for C4 owners and it is being hosted by the ZR-1 Registry and Grand Sport Registry. Take a look at the agenda on the NCM website under the events column – C4/ZR1 Gathering.

I am trying not to confuse everyone with all the upcoming events, but it is time to start thinking about the Anniversary Celebration and Hall of Fame ceremony in August. Just remember, we have the Bash



covered and we are not talking about the 2014 Caravan and Hall of Fame, this is the **2013 event**. The agenda should be posted this month and I will be reserving a block of rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn. If you would like to join us and help honor Johnny O’Connell with his induction in the HOF, let me know and I will put your name on the room and reserved table lists.



Save the Wave!

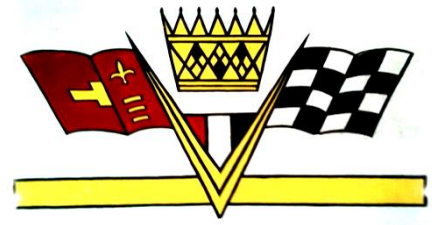
Paul Mariano,
NCM Ambassador

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Richard Craig, Darrell Kirkley & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



KHANA TIME

Gymkhana: a place where athletic events are held, the dictionary explanation. In racing it is mostly linked to autocross events. Therefore, when we raced on the beach, it became Sandkhana. Now it is time to recall the Blindkhana. The first thought was why we needed it, as our calendar was already full. For example from the October 77 newsletter here are the events on schedule that month. Laurens, SC. concurs, drag race at Winston Salem, Speedkhana and concurs Greenville, SC., and economy runs in Shelby and Statesville, NC. So it is anybody's guess why we needed more events probably it was generated at the bar in the clubhouse after too many brewskies. It was decided that a Blindkhana would be another way to add bragging prowess to the driver that won. The first one was held at Glen Hollow apartments on Central Avenue where member Richard Breyere lived. We blocked off the parking lot and set up our orange cones like an autocross only very tight. The driver was blindfolded and the passenger navigated you thru the cones and of course at the end you had to back up into a parking place. The one to have the lowest time was the winner. Trav still remembers Sharon saying to the left to the left and he had to say how far left. Trust us if you have never driven without eyes it is quite an experience. We had so much fun that later we did it again, but this time at Charlotte Town Mall and we added a couple of wrinkles. At one point you had to stop the car, get out, and feel your way around the back following a voice to a spot where you were given a basketball and you navigator helped to guide you to throw it into a barrel that was 6 feet away. You had 3 shots, which if made, helped lower your time. Then at the next stop you again got out and the navigator directed you to an area where a balloon was tacked into the asphalt and you had to stomp on it to break it. Obviously you looked rather foolish stomping all over the parking lot trying to find the balloon. This all sounds ridiculously funny and it was; we have it on the old club movies which, we hope to have at a future event. It was a great cheap way to spend a day with QCCC. We guess is that, while not provable, it might have contributed to the reasons some of us are divorced. Put a bunch of highly competitive guys in hot rods and have the wives tell them where to drive and you get the picture. What a great old memory of the gang at QCCC in the 70's. Let's keep it going.

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





From Track to Street

NEXT EVENT:

Corvette Racing's next event is the Tequila Patrón American Le Mans Series at Long Beach on Saturday, April 20, 2013.

Television Broadcast: Sunday, April 21, 2013 - 1:00pm EDT on ABC

Live Streaming: Saturday, April 20, 2013 - 7:15pm EDT on ESPN3.com

Live Qualifying: Friday, April 19, 2013 - 8:00pm EDT on ESPN3.com

Chevy ALMS at Sebring 12 Hour: Corvette Racing Opens 2013 with Win at Sebring

Tommy Milner made a late pass for the lead and then held on for the final 15 minutes as the No. 4 GT



Compuware Corvette C6.R won the American Le Mans Series GT class 61st Annual Mobil 1 12 Hours of Sebring at Sebring International Raceway on Saturday.

The No. 4 Corvette C6.R - driven by 2012 Drivers' champions Milner and Oliver Gavin, and Richard Westbrook - overcame an early electrical issue and two key penalties to win the 2013 ALMS opener. It is Gavin's fifth victory at Sebring; Milner and Westbrook each recorded his first.

"What an incredible effort by Corvette Racing; these guys never gave up," said Jim Campbell, Chevrolet U.S. Vice-President for Performance Vehicles & Motorsports. "They came from behind multiple times. It was a focused team effort, with great driving and great calls in the pits, and great pits stops, and they delivered a big win. I'm proud of them."

Other Corvette Related Items of interest.

From Wade Stickels: Corvette Radar Avoidance.

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.autoblog.com/2013/03/22/watch-how-corvette-racings-new-collision-avoidance-radar-system/&ct=ga&cad=CACQAhgAJAloATAAOABauqW3igVIAVgAYqVlbi1VUw&cd=rTBrW88qa40&usg=AFQjCNHKIjizpA2AXgQ4BV1NxwuY45jO-w>

C7 path to the options. www.corvetteconti.com on opening page under the color palette click on "Click Here for 2014 Options". Shop away.

"Heads-Up"



April 13, 2013 Business Meeting and Club Picnic Announcement

****Notice to Bring Chairs and the time changes****

Loftin's Garage – Troutman, NC

Our April Business Meeting and Club Spring Picnic will be held at Tommy and Brenda Loftin's garage. **Chairs will NOT be provided**, so bring your own folding chair. Restrooms will be available. So come out and enjoy spring, a nice county drive, great food and fellowship. Their address is **244 Hicks Creek Road, Troutman, NC 28166**. A contact cell phone is (704) 902-1330.

Directions to Tommy and Brenda's garage from I-77.

From I-77 take exit 42. Turn Left at the Troutman exit onto US-21 N / US-115 N and go 3.02 miles. Turn Left onto Talley Rd / Talley St (Note; Turn at Talley House Restaurant) and go 2.2 miles. Turn Left onto East Monbo Rd and go about 50 feet. Turn Left onto Hicks Creek Rd and go 0.7 miles. Address 244 Hicks Creek Rd is on your right. There is a big landscape berm with a black fence.

A **Poker Run** at 2:45 will start the afternoon for those wanting to participate. See flyer on club calendar for details.

Picnic Details: A catered lunch for anyone that has RSVP'd will be served from 4:30 to 5:45. Grilled Chicken, BBQ, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad, Tossed Green Salad, BBQ Beans, Tea, Water, and plenty of homemade desserts. \$10 per person, payable to QCCC and mail to Laura Pelchat, 1800 Starbrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210. Any questions, call 704-806-1113 or email Laura at lspelchat@yahoo.com

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

***** PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF TIMES AND REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHAIRS.*****

Poker Run: 2:45pm – see flyer on club calendar

Picnic Time:

Toms Tips



How to prepare your C-5 and C-6 for a Show and Shine Car Show

This segment covers the engine compartment

The engine compartment is a critical area and one that is sometimes overlooked as we clean our cars for a show. C5 and C6's are low to the ground and tend to suck up road grit and grass clippings and deposit them into tough to get to places. Road grit will accumulate on the fender areas and lodge in small crevices. The best thing to do is use an air nozzle and blow the grit from all crevices, however if you drive to a car show you probably don't have an air compressor. Here are a few tips to use in these cases. First bring a can of compressed air such as what you use to blow out your computer and use it to expel the grit. If you don't have air in a can you can use a small brush such as a tooth brush or paint brush and whisk out the grit. If you have none of these you can pick out the grit with a sharp object like a pocket knife, however be careful not to scratch or damage the paint.

The next trick is to use a soft dusting brush and swab it in all the hard to get to places. This duster will remove most dust and dirt and can get into those hard to get to areas. After doing this use a soft cloth and wipe off all of the top areas. Pay close attention to the front of the engine around the fan and hoses and wipe these areas clean. The hood has insulation on it and it tends to attach grass to it. You will have to actually pick some of the grass out with your fingers; however this is critical and has to be removed in order to have a clean car. If you have driven your car in hard rain or road salts you may have some stains on the insulation and this is difficult to remove and can be a show stopper.

After you have cleaned the motor you need to clean around the windshield wiper areas and around the perimeter of the hood and clean all fingerprints and smudges.

Remember when it comes down to the 1st or 2nd place car you have to be the best at small details to win.

Tommy Loftin

Corvette Expo Show Information

The Corvette Expo was QCCC's first big event on the calendar this year. This was a Friday and Saturday show and was held in Sevierville, Tennessee. One of the big events of the show was a Corvette auction held by Byron Cooper and consisted of over 85 cars. They also had a swap meet, sales corral, viewing of auction cars, and Park "N" Show in the outside lot, with Judged Competition

Cars and additional parts vendors inside the Convention Center. This show was probably one tenth the size of Carlisle; however it had lots of parts and Corvette action much closer to home.

We had a good number of QCCC members at the show with an equal amount from our neighboring Corvette clubs. Brenda and I trailered our 1954 Corvette to the event and as always it was a big hit with people that rarely get to be that close to a piece of Corvette history. As the show progressed and it was time for the awards we had no idea that the 54 would place due to the fact that this was a Show & Shine judging. Just an example of what our competition was there was a 1955 Chevy Belair that had over \$500,000.00 in the restoration. Corvettes were broken down into 3 classes; C1 & 2, C3 & 4, and C5 & 6. Jerry Lyndon of Plastic Care LTD, Statesville club and his 1956 Corvette took first place in my class and as all the special awards dwindled down to the last one I knew that we were going home empty handed. Then the announcer said the last award was their most prestigious award "The Promoters Choice Award" and it goes to a little 1954 Corvette owned by Tommy and Brenda Loftin. What a thrill to receive this award and to represent Queen City Corvette Club in such an event.

Tommy Loftin

MARCH 23d KANNAPOLIS DAY TRIP

On Saturday, 67 members ignored the threat of rain and drove to Kannapolis for an interesting day trip. We all met at the Curb Museum of Motorsports & Music which combined NASCAR and music history. We viewed Dale Earnhardt's #2 car, Richard Petty's #43 car, and Ann Oakley climbing into one of the race cars for a photo op. Manager Jerry Spurgeon and his wife Pearl provided information on Mike Curb's music and NASCAR businesses.

We all drove a short distance to Restaurant 46 for a great lunch. The restaurant had printed up special menus for our group, featuring a picture of an older Corvette and our club name.

Finally we walked around the corner to the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame where Eddie Ray served as our host. Since Eddie is a retired song writer and recording executive, he provided lots of information on his life in the business and the artists featured in the museum. He and Mike Curb had collaborated to bring this museum to Kannapolis in 2009.

What made this trip special was hearing how many members had never heard of the museums before and the fact that it didn't rain in Kannapolis. All three venues are normally closed on Saturday and opened especially for us. They were thrilled with the large number of members who visited. Thanks to all who made this day trip a success.

Nelson & Barbara

