



The
Queen City Corvette
Gazette

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

May 2013



Brenda and Tommy Loftin ” Best of Show “



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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:

Best of Show 2013 Spring Auto Fair.

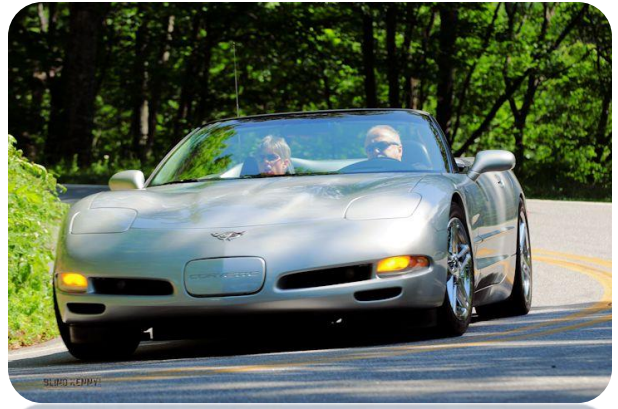
QCCC is a non-profit club (501-C7) whose members all share a common appreciation and love of America's Sports Car – the Corvette. Dues and donations are not tax deductible. In addition to various social activities for members, QCCC raises money for and participates with various local charities. We strive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



Well spring has sprung and QCCC is out and running. So far we have had a great start at waking everyone up from hibernation. The turnout we had for Auto Fair was super. The weather was good and we had a full turnout

for the number of slots we were given. This year a few extra club trophies and a lunch on Sunday were added. Both ideas were well received and deemed a success. Thanks to all those who helped with the show. If you were not able to attend go ahead and mark your calendar for Auto Fair in the fall.

Next was our spring club picnic that we held at our April Business Meeting. The day started earlier with a Poker Run through the country on a beautiful day. Thanks go to all of those involved for setting it up and working it. Then we all enjoyed a great dinner and many deserts provided by the club members. You can always tell when it is good food because it gets all eaten. Thanks to all the coordinators and bakers. Then we ended the day with our meeting a great location. Thanks to our hosts for opening up their Corvette Garage for our club picnic and meeting.

This past weekend QCCC had a very large group of members attend the National Corvette Museum BASH. The main event this year was to see the new C7 on display. Some drove up on their own, some left a day early to go by and tour the Jack Daniels Distillery and rest caravanned up. As always there was much to see at the NCM along with the new C7. During our stay there many attended seminars on the new C7. Others shopped for items for themselves or the Corvettes. Some took day trips to the Makers Mark Distillery or to see local car collections. Thanks to all those who coordinated, set up and planned parts of this event for our members.

So it was with great anticipation that I waited to see the new C7. I like many others had only seen pictures or videos of the new car design. I too like many had once said the back end looked like a Camaro. BUT when I saw the car in person it was completely different. For me the car is stunning. The lines, the stance, the details and in person I must say the back does not look like a Camaro to me. The taillights are 3-dimensional as I heard someone describe them. There were three C7s on display. One was a Laguna Blue Coupe. Another was a Night Race Blue Convertible. And the third was an Aluminum Silver ECO Version. The ECO Version is a light weight one seat version to cut fuel cost. It runs quieter than other cars to reduce noise pollution. In fact the emissions on the Silver model were rated the lowest of any Chevrolet on the market. Also the outer body is made of a material that is not harmful to humans or animals in any way. After carefully studying the three cars I finally decided which one I felt was right for me. So after much negotiation with Chevrolet, making a sizable charity contribution and working with the bank to set up sixty month financing I was able to place my order to get me the very first Aluminum ECO Version.

Keith

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the View is Always Nice.*



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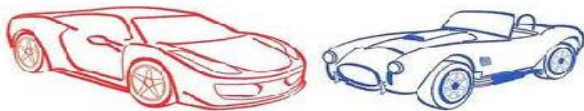
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The Wave

With the Vice President Bill Rambo



<http://www.corvettereport.com/1953-corvette-the-story-of-the-first-c1-corvettes/>

1953 Corvette – The Story of the First C1 Corvettes

Dateline: 5.15.12

A look back 60 years ago to how the first

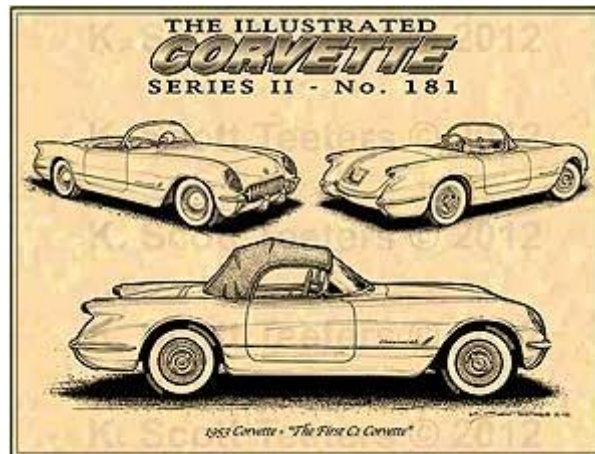


Corvette

came to be.

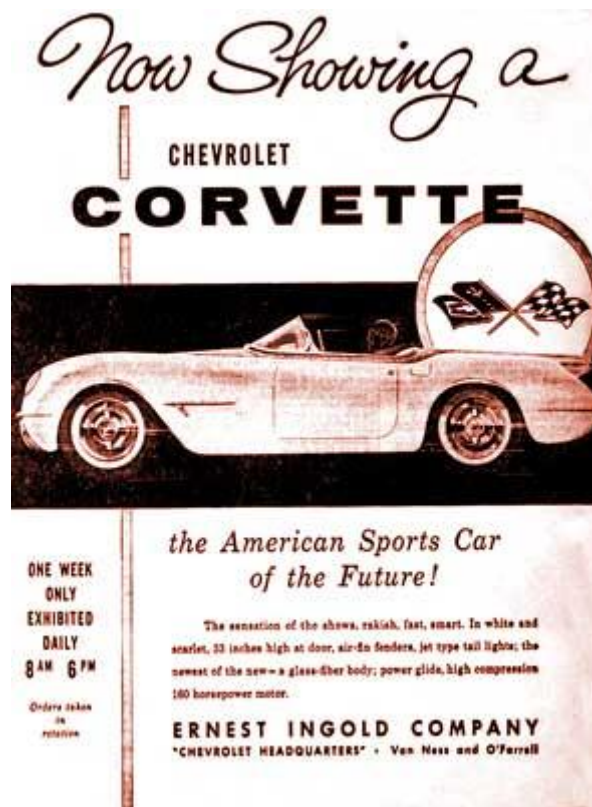
I call the Corvette the “The American Automotive Horatio Alger Story.” It’s the ultimate automotive rags-to-riches story. You could also call it an automotive Cinderella story. While the C6 has taken more flack than it deserves, it’s good to look back to the very beginning to get a really clear picture of how far the Corvette has come in 60 years.

Since we’re rolling into the C6’s final year and looking forward to the new 7th generation Vette, the next several installments of my VETTE Magazine monthly column looks back at the “first” of each generation Corvette. So, let’s go back to the beginning.



In September 1951, GM’s chief of design, Harley Earl took his Le Sabre dream car to Watkins Glen for a little GM-style show’n tell. Earl was impressed with the “sports cars” he saw there and went back to work with a new car concept for General Motors – an American sports car.

Post WW II saw the birth of plastics and glass-reinforced plastic, or “fiberglass” and Earl saw a new way to build prototypes and production cars. In February ‘52, Life Magazine presented the new space age material in a story titled “Plastic Bodies For Autos.” By March, GM was reviewing the Alembic I, a fiberglass bodied Jeep. Impressed with the new material, Earl decided to start moving on his sports car idea. Engineer Robert McLean designed a chassis layout and by April a full-size plaster model was shown to GM’s management. The following month, Ed Cole was promoted to Chief of Engineering for Chevrolet and was onboard with Earl’s project. Earl pitched his concept to GM’s president, Charles Wilson and Chevrolet general manager, Thomas Keating in June and got the approval to build a functional prototype for the GM Motorama in January 1953. The car’s working name was... “the Opel Sports Car.”



Two bodies were built for the project (one finished and one test body) and two fiberglass full-size Chevy bodies for testing of the drive train layout. Chevrolet’s ad agency, Campbell-Ewald came up with a name to replace the working “Opel” name. After 1,500 suggestions, ad man [Myron Scott](#) came up with “Corvette.”

By the end of October ‘52, the parts Fabrication Group completed the very first Corvette body that weighed 200-pounds less than a steel version. The following month, the full-size Chevy fiberglass bodied car was tested, and rolled with very little damage. Just before Christmas, the Motorama car was completed at a cost of between \$55,000 and \$60,000. A new ‘52 Chevy Bel Air cost \$2,006! When the Corvette was shown to GM’s management before the Motorama, only two changes were requested – replace the American flag on the nose and horn badges with a Chevy bow tie and a fleur-de-lis. That was IT! Four days later, on January 16, 1953, the press got their first look at the Corvette. The following day, the Motorama was opened to the public. The response was so overwhelming that the next day, GM’s president announced that Chevrolet would build 200 to 300 Corvettes by the end of June as a test run, followed by full-production IF there was enough demand.

An American classic was born in an era of “more is better and bigger is best.” To really appreciate the Corvette, one only has to look at typical cars of 1953. Dream cars are the easy and fun, it’s the implementation that can be a bear. A makeshift assembly facility was setup at the Customer Delivery Building on Van Slyke Avenue in Flint, Michigan to build the first cars. Quotes came in for 12,300 bodies – 300 for the ‘53 Corvettes and 100 per month for the ‘54 Corvettes from Fisher Body and from vendor Molded Fiber Glass. But management decided that neither company would be up to the challenge, so the St. Louis plant was told to prepare to start making STEEL Corvette bodies! But Molded Fiber Glass successfully argued their case and won the \$4 million dollar contract to build bodies. St. Louis was then informed that they would be the only Corvette plant.

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Cruising a sensation everywhere! The new Chevrolet Corvair has been received with a storm of enthusiastic approval wherever it has been shown.

The new Corvair sets a new style for a new full-size American sports car. Sixty 39 inches high at door level, it has level low lines and a road-lugging center of gravity. The smoothly contoured glass-fiber body is supported by a rigid, back-swing windshield. A smart fabric top folds into a concealed compartment in the long rear deck just ahead of a commodious luggage locker. The spacious two-place cockpit is beautifully styled and finished throughout in typical sports car tradition.

As for performance . . . it's thrilling. A 160 h.p., extra-high-compression "Blue-Flame" engine is teamed with the new Powerglide automatic transmission . . . a combination that makes the Corvair an outstanding performer on any road, under any condition.

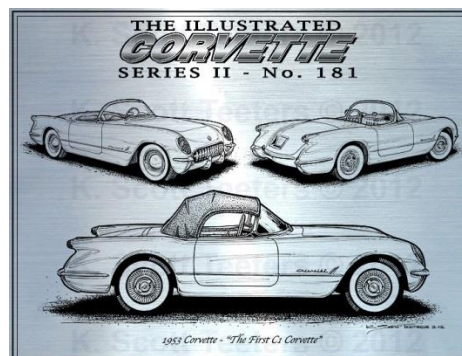
This is a car of which we can say with complete sincerity, "You have to see it to believe it." The Corvair is scheduled for limited production during the last half of 1953.

YOUR CHEVROLET DEALER

More people buy Chevrolets than any other car!

Finally, on June 29, 1953 the first Corvette rolled off the assembly line with line worker Tony Kleiber receiving the honors of driving the very first production Corvette. What happened to cars 001 and 002 is not known, but 003 was tested on GM's Belgian Block stress test and passed with only minor chassis damage. Cars 004, 005, and 006 were sold to Du Pont executives. By the end of September, 50 Corvettes had been delivered and in October, actor John Wayne got car 055. The chassis of the Motorama Corvette was ordered to be used to make the '54 Nomad show car and the body used for a burn test. Also, work had begun for the installing the small-block Chevy V8 for the '55 Corvette. 1953 Corvette production ended December 24 at the Flint plant and on December 28, production of the '54 Corvettes began in St. Louis.

Zora Arkus-Duntov joined GM on May 1, 1953 specifically to work on the Corvette. The Corvette dream team was in place – Earl provided the beauty, Ed Cole was the car's corporate guardian angel, and Duntov would make it all go fast. The Corvette project went from idea to show car in just 17 months and then to real car in another five months. Now that's a modern American automotive miracle. - **The End**





Queen City Corvette Club
Club Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, April 13, 2013 **Time:** 6 PM **Location:** Loftin Corvette Garage

Board Members and Staff Present: Keith Cross, President; Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director; Laura Pelchat, Social Director; Chris Wood, Membership Director; Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary; **Staff:** Bob and Marilyn Becker, Webmasters; Boyd and Susan Kurt, Newsletter Editors; Bob and Pat Motta-Nelson and Barbara Sprague, Charity Committee; Bob Denney-Brian and Michelle Moore, Photographers; Paul Mariano, National Corvette Museum Ambassador

DISCUSSION:

President: Keith Cross

- Called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the April meeting.
- Introduced QCCC Board and Staff members.
- Thanked Brenda and Tommy Loftin for hosting the club meeting in their new “Corvette Garage”
- Thanked Laura and Steve Pelchat for coordinating the Picnic and Poker Run
- Thanked Volunteers for assisting with parking, poker run, garage setup, and picnic.
- Minutes from last meeting were approved by membership.

Membership Director: Chris Wood

- Welcomed Prospective Members / Guests in attendance:
 - Prospective Members:
 - John and Sarah Whitmer (from Oak Island) 1st Meeting
 - Jim Clark – 1st Meeting
 - Bob and Benita McCall – 2nd meeting
 - Approved and Welcomed as New Members:
 - James and Elaine Ford
 - Andy and Brenda Molodovitch
 - Guests:
 - Jo and Rich Randall (Friends of Tommy & Brenda Loftin)
 - Richard Hartsell (Friend of Walter Ahrens)
- Membership: After new member approvals, QCCC currently has 270 members (144 families).
- Member Care:
 - Sandy Welch is recovering from pneumonia
 - Notified during the meeting that Donna Peterman’s father passed away today.
 - Pat Motta will be undergoing surgery on April 18.
- Great to see member Walter Ahrens (98 years young) at the meeting.
- Please notify Chris Wood of any member illnesses, injuries, etc., and cards will be sent.

Vice President: Bill Rambo (Keith covering)

- Bill is recovering from his latest procedure and was unable to attend meeting.
- Upcoming Meeting locations planned:
 - May 11 – Harley Davidson, Charlotte - Ice Cream Social
 - June and July meetings being planned
 - August – QCCC 45th Anniversary Celebration at Hendrick Motorsports
- Door prizes were won by Wendy Callahan and Dave Cook
- Total of 122 members present at the meeting.

Automotive Director: Tommy Loftin

- Spring Auto Fair held at Charlotte Motor Speedway on April 6,7, 2013, was a huge success:
 - 30 QCCC cars participated each day (Saturday and Sunday)
 - Auto Fair Trophies Awarded (show and shine):
 - C6 - Steve Ham
 - C5 - Keith Cross
 - C4 - Jeff Crosby

- C3 - Robert Morgan
 - C2 - John Meadows
 - C1 - Tommy Loftin (1954)
 - Best of Show Award and Ladies' Choice Award: 1954 - Tommy Loftin
 - QCCC Club Trophies:
 - Participants' Choice – Fred Rice
 - Reggie Black - 1st Runner up
 - Brenda Loftin – 2nd runner up
 - Food and drinks provided by QCCC for members during the event were well received.
 - September Fall Auto Fair theme will center around 60th Anniversary for Corvette
 - Organizers are looking for Anniversary or Specialty Vettes to display
 - If interested in displaying your car, contact Tommy or Keith
- Day Trips (Details on QCCC Website):
 - April 20, 2013 - Trip to Dennis Vineyards, Depot, Dinner, Lois Watts
 - June 22, 2013 – Charley O Corvettes, (Clemmons NC) Nelson and Barbara Sprague
 - 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).
- Upcoming 2013 QCCC Automotive Events (Details on QCCC Website):
 - May 25 - Shelton Vineyards Vettes for Vets Car Show - 20 QCCC Cars have signed up
 - May 31, June 1 - Corvettes at Myrtle Beach Car Show- 11 QCCC Cars Registered
 - June 29 - Troutman 4th of July Parade – Sign-up at Meeting to contact Tommy.
 - **September 14 - QCCC 2nd Annual All Chevy Charity Car Show at Hendrick Motorsports**
 - **Will be held Rain or Shine**
 - **Flyers are available for distribution to friends (contact Tommy).**
 - **Dash Plaques to be presented to all participants**
 - **QCCC Volunteers Needed - Sign up with Tommy or at Meetings**
 - **Parking and Logistics**
 - **Registration**
 - **Judging**
 - **Advertising, Trophies, Vendors**
- Other Automotive Events:
 - May 4, 2013 - Dyno Day in Charlotte – coordinated by QCCC Member Merrill Quintrell. Room for 10 cars - \$60 each. Older cars welcome also. Refreshments will be served. Details available on the QCCC Website. Contact Merrill to sign-up.
 - August 23-25, 2013 - Corvettes at Carlisle (PA)
 - Member John Meadows will be displaying his 1963 Corvette at the show. If you would like to attend the show and support John, please contact him. More information on Corvettes at Carlisle are available at: <http://www.carsatcarlisle.com/events/corvettes/>

Treasurer: Jim Weisberg (Keith covering)

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

Social Director: Laura Pelchat

- Laura thanked all the volunteers who brought desserts to the Picnic.
- Poker Run prior to the Picnic and Meeting had 16 Participating Cars
 - Third place – Charlie and Iris Binder
 - Second place – Guy and Jean Bising
 - Top prize – Tom Cramer
- May 3, 4, 5 Pinehurst Concours d' Elegance
 - See more information at www.pinehurstconcours.com/concours-d'elegance
- May 11 Free Ice Cream Social at May Club Meeting at Harley Davidson
- May 17& 18 – Asheville NC Comedy Bus Tour
 - May attend just Saturday (bus tour) or come on Friday for sight-seeing and dinner
 - Bus Tour Cost will be \$23 – 25 per person (depending on number attending)
 - Have 15 hotel rooms blocked 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

Secretary: Carolyn Zimmer

- Announced April Member Birthdays. 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

- April 24-28, 2013 - Currently there are about 35 cars traveling to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, KY, later this month for the NCM Bash. Contact Paul for more information.
- August 2013 - Planning now for the NCM Anniversary Celebration and NCM Hall of Fame Dinner in Bowling Green, KY. Please contact Paul for travel information and access NCM website to register.
- Paul talked about the outpouring of support and encouragement from the Corvette community for Chuck Sheldon – a long-time Corvette enthusiast from Charleston who has entered Hospice care. See additional information at Facebook.com/corvette
- Other NCM Events: Listed on the Corvette Museum Website www.corvettemuseum.com

Old Business

- Charity Committee:
 - 50/50 Raffle won by Betty Ann Brunton
 - Corvette Stingray 1-13-13 C7 Reveal flash drives won by Michelle Moore and John Meadows
- QCCC will celebrate our **45th Club Anniversary** with a party at our August 2013 meeting, to be held at Hendrick Motorsports. Laura Pelchat 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

New Business / Other

- None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Zimmer

Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary





Queen City Corvette Club
Board of Directors - Meeting Minutes

When: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 Time: 6 PM Where: Red Robin Northlake

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

- Thanked everyone for agreeing to the change in meeting nights.
- Provided updated 2013 Calendar for planning purposes.
- Indicated Bill Rambo is recovering from latest procedure and unable to attend the board meeting..

Vice President: Bill Rambo (Keith covering)

- Upcoming Meeting locations planned:
 - April – Tommy/Brenda Loftin Corvette Garage, Troutman
 - 121 people registered for picnic 15 cars registered for Poker Run
 - Steve and Laura Pelchat coordinating Poker Run with prizes
 - May – Harley Davidson, Charlotte
 - With Ice Cream Social
 - June and July meetings being planned

Membership Director: Chris Wood

- Board will need to bring tables for April meeting at Loftin's Garage.
- Garage has Juke Box – Chris will bring IPOD for music during picnic.
- Charlie Meade (provisional member from Pawley's Island) has offered to set up group meals for QCCC members attending Myrtle Beach Car Show in late May.
- Announcements received for some automotive events not sponsored by QCCC will be sent to all members via email for their information.
- A Get Well card will be sent to Sandy Welch who has pneumonia.
- Prospective Members planning to attend April 13 Meeting
 - Sarah and John Whitmer – 1st meeting
 - Bob and Bonita McCall - 2nd meeting
 - Andy and Brenda Molodovitch – 3rd meeting – eligible for membership

Automotive Director: Tommy Loftin

- Auto Fair was held at Charlotte Motor Speedway on April 6,7, 2013
 - 30 QCCC cars participated each day (Saturday and Sunday)
 - Trophies Awarded (show and shine):
 - C6 - Steve Ham
 - C5 - Keith Cross
 - C4 - Jeff Crosby
 - C3 - Robert Morgan
 - C2 - John Meadows
 - C1 - Tommy Loftin (1954)
 - Best of Show and Ladies Choice Award for Auto Fair:
 - Tommy Loftin 1954
 - Participants Choice – Fred Rice
 - Reggie Black - 1st Runner up

- Brenda Loftin – 2nd runner up
 - Food and Drinks provided by QCCC during the event were well received.
 - September Auto Fair theme will center around 60th Anniversary for Corvette
 - Organizers are looking for Anniversary or Specialty Vettes to display
 - Charlotte Motor Speedway is offering laps on Track for 15 minutes for QCCC members for \$150 each the last Saturday in April
- Day Trips:
 - April 20, 2013 - Lois Watts – Trip to Dennis Vineyards, Depot, Dinner
- Upcoming 2013 QCCC Automotive Events (Sign-up Sheets available at April Meeting):
 - May 25 - Shelton Vineyards Vettes for Vets Car Show - 20 QCCC Cars have signed up
 - May 31, June 1 - Corvettes at Myrtle Beach Car Show- 11 QCCC Cars Registered
 - June 29 - Troutman 4th of July Parade
 - September 14 – QCCC 2nd Annual All Chevy Charity Car Show at Hendrick Motorsports
 - Dash Plaques to be presented to all participants
 - Volunteers needed - Sign up with Tommy or at Meetings
 - Parking and Logistics
 - Registration
 - Judging
 - Advertising, Trophies, Vendors
- May 4 – QCCC Member Merrill Quintrell has an opportunity for members to participate in a DynoDay in Charlotte - \$50 each. Merrill will present information at April meeting.

Treasurer: Jim Weisberg

- Jim will now assume coordination of QCCC Club Sponsors Advertising from Chris Wood
- Jim sent YTD detailed Treasurer Report to the Members prior to April meeting.

Social Director: Laura Pelchat

- 2014 QCCC Banquet Date has been Reserved – January 25, 2014 at Vintage Motor Club
- Looking for 2013 Christmas Party Venues – want to combine room/catering in one price
- May Asheville Trip – Looking for new place for evening buffet
- Board agreed to begin initial planning for another Floyd Trip – maybe in June or July
- Pat Bonino continues to work on plans for October Fest in Helen, GA

Secretary: Carolyn Zimmer

- Greeting Cards Sent:
 - Get Well Cards to Kay Weisberg, Anita Crawford, Fred McCoy
 - Thinking of You Cards to Denny and Denise Wade, Pat and Bob Motta
 - Sympathy Cards to Chris Wood, Fred and Caroline Lentz, Bill and Lorraine Miller
- Minutes: Distributed Club Minutes to members following March Meeting and forwarded March Board and Club Minutes sent to Boyd Kurt for Newsletter publication.
- Based on Distribution of Club Meeting Minutes to all members via email, discussion was held on whether to continue publication of Minutes in the monthly Newsletter. It was concluded that the Newsletter also serves as an historical repository for the Minutes, and therefore publication in the Newsletter should continue.
- Updated the QCCC Birthday List.

Old Business: Keith Cross

- QCCC 45th Anniversary Celebration
 - Requesting Designs for 45th Anniversary Logo Design Contest – see details in March Minutes or contact a Board Member.
 - Discussed 45th Anniversary Celebration potential gifts
- Charity Committee:
 - Will have 50/50 raffle and will raffle flash drives from Reveal at April meeting.
 - Corvette Angels/Salvation Army Toy Drive will be held November 23, 2013.
 - Nelson and Barbara Sprague will serve as Interim Chairpersons of Charity Committee as Pat Motta undergoes surgery and recovery.

New/Other Business:

- Discussed uses for available QCCC patches and clings and koozies
- Chris Wood will research volume pricing on potential new QCCC memorabilia
- **Board Member Turnover: Keith Cross (President) has requested that all QCCC Board Members, now and in perpetuity, document and maintain information of all responsibilities, activities, notes, fliers, and procedures for their individual areas of responsibility, and provide all the maintained information to new, incoming Board members as Board changes occur.**

May 7, 2013 Board Meeting to be held at Smith and Stevenson in Charlotte

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Zimmer
Carolyn Zimmer, Secretary





A big thank you to Tommy & Brenda Loftin for providing the location for our picnic meeting last month. We had a nice turnout, and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. The weather ended up being great, so we were able to do the poker run. Congratulations to Tom Cramer winning with three of a kind. Also, thank you to everyone that brought desserts. As usual, they were too good.

The May meeting will be our Ice Cream Social at Harley Davidson in Charlotte. We'll have ice cream and a variety of toppings. Details are on the website and in the "Heads Up" section of this newsletter..

Our Asheville Comedy trip will be May 17th & 18th. There are some spaces still available for the comedy bus tour on Saturday, so make your decision quickly and let me know.

Hope to see you at the next event.

Laura Pelchat
QCCC Social Director



QCCC Cornerstones

Building a Great Corvette



One MEMBER at a time



“Nostalgia is like a grammar lesson: you find the present tense, but the past perfect!”

~Owens Lee

Pomeroy

“Nostalgia is a file that removes the rough edges from the good old days.” ~Doug Larson

Some of us fondly remember the past while others try to forget it. I like to think I'm in the group that fondly remembers. As I get older, I seem more frustrated at the quality of programming on the radio so I have discovered "streaming" oldies stations in faraway places. When I'm unable to stream the music, I have the trusty iPod handy full of golden oldies that take me back to that past I so fondly remember. It's funny how you can hear a certain song, feel a chill and remember snow on the ground because that image was burned into your memory when you first discovered that song. And we all have those special songs that remind us of a sweetheart, a high school dance, a cruise to the drive-in on a warm summer night. Or we may hear a classic rock song and remember the turmoil that surrounded us in the late '60s. Our lives are lived with music playing in the background and only we can decide what the soundtrack is.

I thoroughly enjoy reading the "Vintage QCCC" articles each month in the Gazette. Bill, Richard, Travis, and Darrell vividly describe the days when QCCC was in its infancy. The stories they can't tell in the Gazette sometimes get whispered at a Men's Luncheon or Up Yonder Dinner. They've often told us about the clubhouse off Independence Blvd and the jukebox that only played "Blue Moon" by the Marceles. I can only imagine what the soundtrack would be to those early days of QCCC. I'll bet each of us can think of some songs that would fit the stories. Even though they may have been "King of the Road" back then, "Mustang Sally" probably thought they were "Cathy's Clown". And each time those vintage Corvettes outran a "Hot Rod Lincoln" in "Dead Man's Curve", I'm sure they were trying hard to avoid "The Jailhouse Rock".

What's the soundtrack to QCCC today? One song sure to make my list is "Still Cruisin'."

Chris Wood, Membership Director



James & Elaine Ford
1990 Hunter Green

*Please welcome our
newest members!*

*We're glad you
joined us!*



Andy & Brenda Molodovitch
1969 Can Am White Coupe

The Ride

Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director



April has gone by so fast and the club has had a full calendar of activities to do. First I would like to thank everyone involved in AutoFair Spring 2013. It was the best show ever with record crowds and beautiful weather. We had 30 cars for each day and all the members enjoyed fun, food, and fellowship. Fred Rice took the QCCC Participants Choice Award with his 1971 Corvette and Reggie Black took 1st runner-up with 1SWEET60 and Brenda Loftin 2nd runner-up with Buttercup. The C-6 Best of Show went to Steve Ham, C-5 Best of Show to Keith Cross, C-4 to Jeff Crosby, C-3 to Robert Morgan, C-2 to John Meadows, and C-1 to Tommy Loftin along with the AutoFair Ladies Choice Award to my 1954 Corvette. We are already gearing up for the Fall AutoFair which will be September 19 – 22 and the theme will be The 60th anniversary of the Corvette and will include a lineup of anniversary cars and other special Corvettes. QCCC has been invited to participate in the show which will be in the main display building.

Our April meeting consisted of a day trip and Poker Run through rural Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Catawba and Iredell Counties ending up at TL's Garage for a BBQ picnic and meeting. We had 128 members and probably 60 Corvettes attend and we were all honored to have Walter Ahrens join us.

Our April day trip "Spring Fling Corvette Ride" hosted by Lois and Ken Watts was a huge success. It started with a ride through Cabarrus County to Dennis Vineyard for their Spring Fling and back to the Depot at Gibson Mills for antique shopping and cool cars at Auto Barn. They ended the ride at R&R BBQ with a fine mess of barbeque and fixins.

The month ended up with a ride to the Corvette Museum at Bowling Green, Kentucky for the C-5 and C-6 Bash and first-hand look at the new C-7. This car is an eye catcher and gets your motor revved up inside ready to sell that old Corvette and put the money down on this newly designed C-7 dream car. As one club member said (Reggie) it makes me droll all over myself. Another said I can't quit looking at it, others said I Love it and so on. This is a must see and must have car and you don't have to get used to it; you will love it from the start.

May has two huge events including Shelton Vineyard – Vettes for Vets on May 25th and Corvettes at Myrtle beach on May 31st and June 1st. Both events have huge participation from Queen City and our club always brings back trophies. If you are not signed up yet you still have time. Shelton Vineyard is an onsite sign-up the day of the event and there is no cost. Myrtle Beach is \$25.00 and must be received by May 11th, see Myrtle Beach Corvette Club website for information. I am sure we will have a Day Trip for May so watch your e-mail for last minute information and remember you can host a Day Trip to your favorite hide away, so give me a call and let's line it up.

Till next time,

Tommy Loftin

2nd Annual

Queen City Corvette Club All Chevy Charity Car Show



Sponsored By: 

Hosted By: 
QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB
CHARLOTTE, NC

Saturday, September 14th, 2013

Rain or Shine / Registration @ 8 AM / Judging @ 11 AM / Trophies @ 2 PM
Hendrick Motorsports, 4400 Papa Joe Hendrick Blvd, Charlotte

5 Class Awards

Including: All Corvettes, QCCC Members Only Corvettes, All Camaros, All Other Chevs and Chevy Trucks

Dash Plaques

To The First 100 Entries

Over 50 Trophies

In all 5 Classes and in each age group, plus Best Paint, Best Engine, Best Interior, Dealer's Award, And Best of Show

Entry Fee: All proceeds go to charity
\$25.00 (Scored Judging & Awards)
\$15.00 (Display Only)
Preregister & receive \$5 off (Registration below)

For Questions Contact:
Tommy Loftin 704-902-1330
or www.queencitycorvette.com

Name: _____ Vehicle Model: _____

Address: _____ Year: _____

Color: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Mail all entry forms to:
make checks payable to QCCC

Tommy Loftin
181 Maple View Drive
Troutman, NC 28166

Preregistration

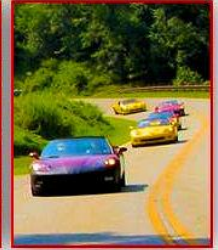
\$20.00 (Scored Judging and Awards)

\$10.00 (Display Only)

Day of Event

\$25.00 (Scored Judging and Awards)

\$15.00 (Display Only)



National Corvette Museum Corner

Prizes, surprises and sunrises. That was the 2014 NCM Bash in a nutshell. Lots of recognition for QCCC. A long parade of awards for members who donated to the Motorsports Park and NCM to qualify for the Winners Circle Reception. QCCC received its deed for the *One Acre Club* with Steve & Laura Pelchat accepting. As well they should since they spearheaded the fund drive last year. The QCCC mob then surrounded the 2014 Stingray for the awards picture and I mean we totally surrounded it. Then came one of the surprises, Bob & Marilyn Becker and Debbie & Charlie Meade each bought an acre on their own and received their deeds. More wild cheering. Don and Carolyn Zimmer won the raffle for a beautiful display of all the emblems on the new 2014 Corvette plus a large banner signed by the plant manager, Dave Tattman. Tommy Loftin is now in serious negotiations for the banner. Then surprise again, John & Wendy Callahan became our newest Lifetime Members (thanks guys). They must have been impressed by the museum since this was their first visit. And the sunrises, oh so many sunrises. But to make all the early seminars on the C7 you also had to see the sunrises. It was a somewhat unique experience for me, however. And a trip to the NCM would not be complete without driving home in a rainstorm. We were not disappointed. Almost forgot the most important item, the new C7 Corvettes themselves. You will just have to ask someone who was there. I think the Loftins and Blacks already have their checkbooks at the ready.

Donations, raffles, and auctions resulted in an increase of over \$150,000 to the Motorsports Park building fund. This amount really cuts into the \$600K needed by 1 July to make sure we have something to play on by the 2014 Caravan. I wish I had all the words to convey to you what this racetrack means to the Corvette Museum, the Corvette Race Team and the Corvette community. With the NCM, the Corvette Assembly Plant and Motorsports Park all in one location, the Corvette world will have something no other marque can claim. Folks, we just have to make this happen and we will find a way.

Now that the Bash is over, here comes the Anniversary Celebration in August. I have a block of ten rooms and five are already asked for. Remember, this is the Hall of Fame dinner and Johnny O'Connell is being inducted. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to go. I wouldn't want to miss this one.

An unannounced benefit of QCCC being a NCM Club Member is a discount on the initial membership payment for individual and family memberships. So now is the time to sign up. The first year an individual membership is \$37.50 and \$75.00 for family. If you just signed up at full price, the NCM appreciates the donation.

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



A HARD LEARNED LESSON

Let's go back to the late 70,s and visit one of Turkley's exploits into racing. With nothing else to do one Friday night Darrel and Dollar Bill Ingram and a few others ventured out to Metrolina Fairgrounds to take in a demolition derby. After some refreshments and the preliminary races everyone was enjoying the festivities. Watching the finale, Darrel exclaimed "I could do this" and so the seed was planted especially when he realized the winner would get \$100. In the ensuing weeks Darrel used his connection at City Chevrolet to acquire a 65 Dodge 2 door sport coupe. He found out they had given the previous owner \$75.00 on a trade in, so his offer of \$75.00 was accepted. He worked the car over and did strap a gas can in the back out of harms way. Later that month Darrel headed (drove) the Dodge to Metrolina , entered the demo derby, stayed pretty much out of harms way and came out with a very clean car and the \$100 first prize money. Now he figured he was onto a good thing and returned for a second night of racing at which time they were ready for him. He learned that the bigger the car the better off your chances of survival or so he thought. That second night he lost gracefully and the car was no longer driveable. It was now time to get serious if you wanted to make any money.

His next purchase was a 57 Ford Country Squire station wagon (that would be like the ones you see restored at the good guys car show at CMS). He did try to beef this one up to take the punishment, then, off he went to Metrolina full of confidence. Fairly soon after the race began a competitor flew completely across the ring and rammed him in the rear end. His only comment about that is "If I had any fillings in my teeth they would have flown out, it really rang my bell" most of us know Darrel is not quite right most of the time and maybe now we know why. Those who have watched Darrel race always remark that he seems to have no fear, maybe he figures it could not be any worse than demolition derby action. As usual it was the talk at the clubhouse bar shortly thereafter. To think you are invincible was kind of the theme in the early days of QCCC. Things like going around Charlotte Motor Speedway at full throttle in a stock Corvette with street tires and a helmet seem a little dangerous now but back then we never considered it a problem.

A great memory from the Vintage Gang who are lucky to have survived the racing opportunites that QCCC gave us.



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





From Track to Street

NEXT EVENT

Corvette Racing's next event is the American Le Mans Monterey, May 9-11 2013.

Television Broadcast: 5/12/2013 at 4:00 pm EDT on ESPN 2

Live Streaming: 5/11/2013 at 6:15 pm EDT on ESPN 3

Live Qualifying: 5/10/2013 at 7:45 pm EDT on ESPN 3

Corvette Racing Finishes 4th and 5th at Long Beach

Corvette Racing scored two top-five finishes at Long Beach to maintain a share of the lead in the American Le Mans Series (ALMS) Manufacturer Standings through the first two races of the season.

Tommy Milner and Oliver Gavin, drove the No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R to a fourth-place finish in the GT class in the two-hour Tequila Patron American Le Mans Series at Long Beach on the 1.968-mile, 11-turn street circuit. Antonio Garcia and Jan Magnussen finished fifth in the No. 3 Compuware Corvette C6.R.

Other Corvette Related Items of interest.

This is just a quick email to let you know that Chevrolet has officially **released pricing on the 2014 C7 Corvette Stingray:**

<http://www.corvetteactioncenter.com/forums/c7-corvette/134367-2014-c7-corvette-stingray-base-price-set-%2451-995-up-3%25.html>

LE MANS: Ricky Taylor Signs With Larbre For LM24 He has been driver of the Spirit of Daytona Corvette DP car. Looks like Corvettes are going to be fun to watch in the Le Man 24!

<http://auto-racing.speedtv.com/article/le-mans-ricky-taylor-signs-with-larbre-for-lm24/>

“Heads-Up”



May 11, 2013 Ice Cream Social and Business Meeting Announcement

****** Ice Cream, Ice Cream, Ice Cream ******

Prior to our May Business Meeting which will be held at the Harley Davidson of Charlotte we will enjoy a good ole fashion ice cream social. So please mark your calendars to come on out a little early and enjoy the ice cream. We will be gathering off the rear parking lot of their facility in their training room. Just look for the Corvettes and the line for Ice Cream.

****** Harley Davidson of Charlotte ******

Harley Davidson of Charlotte is opening their doors again to us for our May Business Meeting. Anyone interested in looking over their beautiful motorcycles or if you need to pick up a few accessories please feel free to come early for the Harley Davidson Showroom closes at 5:00pm. For those who are not familiar we will hold our meeting in their training room. It is located off the rear parking lot of their facility. If you are curious about what Harley Davidson of Charlotte has to offer check out their website to learn more - <http://h-dofcharlotte.com/>. The address for the Harley Davidson of Charlotte is as follows:

Harley Davidson of Charlotte
9205 East Independence Blvd.
Matthews, NC 28105

704-847-4647

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

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

Ice Cream & Social Time: 5:15pm – 6:00pm

Meeting Time: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

First Trip to the National Corvette Museum

It's hard to believe, but even though I have owned a Corvette for over 40 years, this was my first visit to the National Corvette Museum. It started at 7am Wednesday, meeting up with a group of QCCC members at Zippers Restaurant in Lincolnton. After breakfast Paul Mariano rounded up the troops for the drive to Bowling Green. We left Lincolnton promptly at 8am with 10 cars. In the next 20 miles we picked up 7 or 8 more cars in our caravan. The drive was no problem, with just a little rain along the way. We arrived at NCM about 3:30 Central time.

There was our club banner, right by the main entrance. Anyone going into the museum sees the QCCC banner. Walking into NCM for the first time was great, and we were greeted at the door by several of our members that had arrived the day before. With the bash starting that day it was a very festive atmosphere, vendors were setting up everywhere. Laura & I picked up our credentials for the bash and started looking around the museum. Of course, the first place you go is the museum store!

The next day was our walk through the actual museum, we planned our strategy of just walking through quickly, then going through again to really look at everything and read all the information. I really liked the vignettes they have at the beginning, with a Mobil gas station and garage with C-1s in there for gas & repairs, and the early Chevrolet showroom featuring C-2s. They also had a large display of early Corvette racers. Laura had to keep reminding me that this was just our quick walk-thru.

Our second time through the museum the next day took several hours. There were the hands on displays where you can answer questions about Corvettes, we did pretty good on them. We both enjoyed driving the simulator. It's been 42 years since I drove a Corvette in the snow, I could still do donuts. We both did better than the guy behind us – no that wasn't a snowbank, that was a rock outcropping, and the end of his driving days. I really like the dome area with all the banners of people in the NCM Hall of Fame, and all the cars on display that were either donated to the museum or on loan from members.

The big feature of the bash was of course the C7. We were able to see a coupe and a convertible, and they both looked awesome. I'm sure several members were placing orders at local Chevrolet dealers when they got home. There were lots of seminars about the C7 that you could attend: interiors, suspension, and drive train to name a few. My favorite seminar was Corvette Racing with Doug Fehan, general manager, Danny Binks, #3 car crew chief, and Tommy Milner, winning driver of the #3 car. They were very informative and funny; they did about an hour and a half question and answer session in the Chevrolet Theater, standing room only.

The best question was to Tommy Milner, who won the race at Sebring. When he got in the Corvette for the last 2 hours of the race, he was in 2nd place about 37 seconds behind the lead Ferrari. The question to him was "What was the drive like the last two hours trying to catch and pass the Ferrari?" He said it was fantastic, because he was driving the best prepared and fastest Corvette in the world. In the first hour he said he picked up about 10 seconds on the Ferrari. They had to pit and the Ferrari did a driver change and the Corvette was gas, tires and go. After the pit stop his crew told him he was about 8 seconds behind. He started driving the wheels off the Corvette. With about 20 minutes left in the race, he came around the corner and by pit lane he recognized the taillights in front of him as the lead Ferrari. He flicked his headlights on and off a couple of times. Right away his crew chief was on the radio asking if something was wrong and if he needed to come into the pits. Milner said "No pits, I can see the Ferrari's taillights and I wanted him to see me, and let him know I'm coming." He passed the Ferrari at about the 14 minute mark when the Ferrari went wide on a corner. Milner went inside and ran for the victory. **That** was a good Corvette story.

We spent the rest of the week going to events at the museum, with the Winners Circle Dinner a real highlight. The club presented a large ceremonial check to the NCM Motorsports Park for \$15,470 for our acre. It was a fun night with many of the club members in attendance.

Paul Mitchell arranged for us to visit a private collection nearby, GTO Heaven, which was fun. There's even a Corvette in GTO Heaven! Peggy Wood did her usual restaurant expertise, so we were well fed. Sitting in the hotel lobby each evening has to be mentioned, it was a great place to get to know people better. Laura was complaining about her ribs hurting the next day, from laughing so much. Throughout the entire time there, we constantly commenting about how the people at the museum, and everyplace in Bowling Green that we went, were so friendly and helpful. Our thanks to Paul & Barbara Mariano, who have made the trip so often they make it seamless for everyone else. If you haven't taken the time to visit, you should put it on your list.

Laura & Steve Pelchat



Thanks to Norm Jungmann for these pictures.

