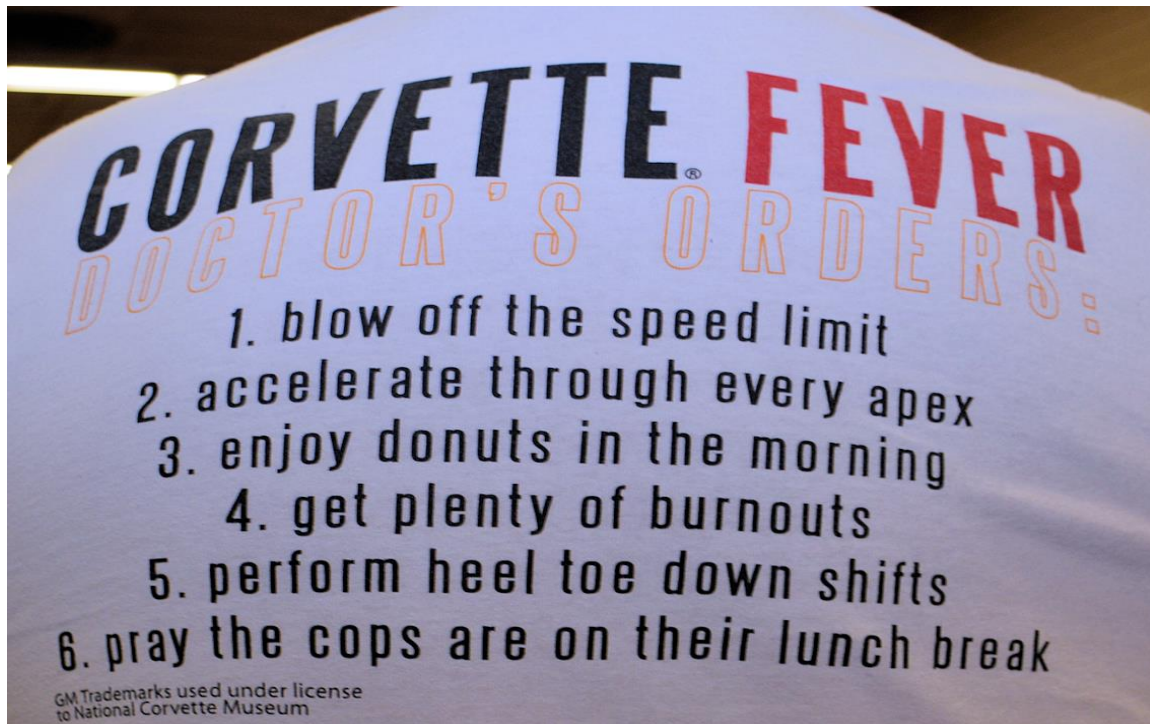




The  
**Queen City Corvette  
Gazette**

*Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club*

**December 2014**



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***On the Cover***

***What is Corvette Fever?***

The Queen City Corvette Gazette is the official newsletter of the [Queen City Corvette Club](#) (QCCC), established in 1968, and is published monthly by volunteers and members of QCCC. Subscription rates are free for members. Guests can receive up to three months of newsletter issues, and then are removed from mailing list if they haven't participated in any QCCC events. Cost for postage and production is paid for through membership dues. Membership list and financial data are not published for guest copies. For change of address and all other QCCC inquiries, write to: **Queen City Corvette Club, PO Box 77153 Charlotte, NC 28271-7002.**

QCCC is a non-profit club (501-C7) whose members all share a common appreciation and love of America's Sports Car – the Corvette. Dues and donations are not tax deductible. In addition to various social activities for members, QCCC raises money for and participates with various local charities. We strive to promote exciting, safe and fun ways to enjoy our Corvettes. We hold business meetings on the second Saturday of each month. Our monthly business meeting usually incorporates social time. Our socials are always fun and are focused around fellowship, food & drink. We've had swimming parties, bar-b-ques, cookouts, day cruises and weekend trips. We participate in / conduct mountain tours, holiday parades and several homecoming parades at local area high schools. We also support and participate in local auto shows and hold charity Corvette shows each year. After an initiation fee of \$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 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



As they say in racing this will be my “White Flag Lap”. These past three years serving on the board have passed quickly and been fun. As we all think of how thankful we are during the holiday season I too am very thankful to be a member of such a great club and to know its members. As I have served as Vice President for one year and President for two years I have many people to thank. My first BIG THANK YOU goes to Kelly for supporting, helping and allowing me the time to serve the club. I love you and words cannot say how much you mean to me. To all the Board Members that I served with during my three years I would say I appreciate all the hard work and effort you gave to keep QCCC active, interesting and moving forward. So another THANK YOU to Pat Bonino, Bill Cruthis, Linda Lewis, Tommy Loftin, Laura Pelchat, Steve Pelchat, Florence Prather, Bill Rambo, John Walton, Chris Wood, Jim Weisberg and Carolyn Zimmer. The next group I want to express appreciation to is the Club Staff that volunteer their time and talents to help organize, track, document and keep QCCC informed. And another THANK YOU goes to Elaine Bass, Bob Becker, Marilyn Becker, Bob Denny, Norm Jungmann, Boyd Kurt, Susan Kurt, Paul Mariano, Travis Meredith, Bill Miller, Brian Moore, Michelle Moore, Bob Motta, Pat Motta, Paul Pelkey, Barbara Sprague, Nelson Sprague, Kay Weisberg and Peggy Wood. Now as you all know we first have to have members interested in being in our club. Without any members there would be no club. It takes members who want to get together and meet, take day trips, gather for food & fellowship, work cars shows, plan activities, attend club sponsored events and give of their time and talents as volunteers whenever needed. It takes members like all of you to keep a club of over 300 members be successful. Lastly but not any less I say THANK YOU to all the QCCC Members for all you do for our club.

During the past 3 years QCCC has set goals and accomplished many things. THANKS to all of you who raised \$15000 under the coordination of Steve Pelchat and purchased an acre for the NCM Motor Sports Park in 2012. We started a very strong Annual Charity Car Show also in 2012 that grew in 2013. And THANKS to the 105 club volunteers when we had 275 cars participate and around 800 people attend our show in 2014. In 2013 we celebrated the 45 Consecutive Year of QCCC and started a historical program to archive our great memories. THANKS again for in 2014 you decided you wanted to leave your mark at the National Corvette Museum so you raised \$5000 for a Monumental Granite Bench that was placed at the flag poles in front of the museum. And if that was not enough another THANKS goes to you. For you raised another \$2500 to purchase a Lifetime Club Membership at the National Corvette Museum in 2014. Then there was the 2014 National Caravan that we had 84 QCCC Members and 43 Corvettes attend. Your accomplishment here was that some of you stepped up and served on the Carolinas & Virginia Caravan Committee to help plan and organize this large undertaking. Then even more of you acted as the host club here at the starting point in Charlotte. Again THANKS for this task took many volunteers and hours as you worked to make all the Carolinas & Virginia Caravan Participants feel at home. In 2014 you raised and donated over \$10000 to local charities, THANKS. Then for the third year you participated in Corvette Angels Toy Drive. With your help our club had the largest club participation and with a THANKS the drive set another toy collection record.

As my current time on the board draws to a closure I was reminded that I have so much to be thankful for to be a part of QCCC. You see our club is more than just a club, it is like a caring family. See you all make a difference in many people's lives. Sometimes it is for people you don't know when you raise money for charities, donate food at the holidays or give toys at Christmas. Then there are the people that you do know and those are the members. You comfort, support and care for each other. You do this every time you send a card, make a phone call or just ask to see how someone is doing. Members caring for its members is what has kept us strong and together for 46 years. Please don't stop and I am sure QCCC will make it to 50, even 75 and more. Thank you all for allowing me the privilege and fun of serving. And yes it was really fun THANKS to all of you.

Now the Thanksgiving Holiday has past. Next we are thrown directly in to the Christmas Holidays and then the New Year will be right around the corner. As we all get busy here at Christmas Time it is normal that we find ourselves deep into the "Holiday Rush". So I would like to remind us all to slow down, do simple, and remember the less fortunate, enjoy family and friends, rest, relax and enjoy your holidays, but most of all remember the Reason for the Season.

In case we don't get to see everyone at the December Business Meeting/Christmas Party let me tell you now. Kelly and I would like to wish each you the Merriest of all Christmases and a Happy New Year. And that God Bless you, your families and your holidays this year.

So the last vision I leave you with will be this one.



Now that I am leaving office I have a new driving outfit to cruise around in thanks to Bill. So next time you're out and you think you just saw "Frosty the Snowman" driving a Corvette, just remember "The Wave" and...

...I'll see you at the Crossroads.

*Keith Cross*

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



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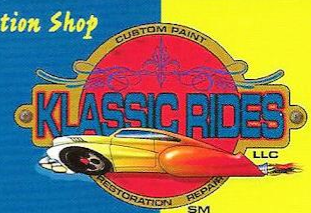
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## V P Report Bill Cruthis

As I submit my last Vice President report so much comes to mind that I am sure to leave something out or someone. First let me say what a pleasure it has been to give back to our great organization. When you enjoy what you are doing, it is never work. Until you serve on this board you do not know how sincere their efforts are on every issue that comes up, to do the best thing for everyone in the club. I say hats off to Keith for an outstanding 2 years of leadership. This board got so much accomplished that there cannot be much left to do. I must thank each board member for their tremendous effort. Behind the scene you see what it takes for Pat or Tommy to put on an event, the foresight to address problems before they come up, to have it staffed properly, and to get everything there on time. While the rest of us are driving our Corvettes, they bring all the “stuff” in a van or trailer. The car show takes an enormous effort and Tommy pulled it off without a hitch. Think about Pat planning any meal/meeting never knowing exactly how many will show up not paid and no notice, a very tough job. What you don’t see, all the emails that Chris gets, and I am talking about hourly, not daily. He takes it all in stride and just keeps adding new members. Think about Jim trying to set up a budget not knowing how many members will renew, so he has only a guess as to how much income we will have. (you can figure quickly, I was the only one over budget). Carolyn reminds me of the court reporter, entering conversations in the computer as fast as we talk, and I talk a lot. She is the rock that keeps the board very straight on Roberts Rules of Order. There will be no mistakes with her watching over us. The hours she put in on the caravan were enormous. In my mind I could not imagine 7 people who would address so many issues and work together so well. If and when you have the time, I recommend you serve on the board it is a very rewarding experience.

Of course, none of this would matter if the members did not show up. I am proud to say we do not have an attendance problem. QCCC travels better than any club in the states. Whether it is a meeting or event, or just to eat, boy we love to eat. Please know that we appreciate everything the members do know matter how large or small, from serving on staff positions, to participation in events or programs, to just being there at the meetings. None of it works without all of you.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for participating and making Corvette Fever the exciting program it became. It started as an out of the box idea, not knowing exactly where it would take us. Then Travis designed the poster, and the T shirt. Jim hit a home run with the loud off contest. Many of you contributed with great fever articles in the newsletter. The monthly Covette Fever trophies kept getting more refined but also growing such that if we had a few more months they would have gotten way out of hand. As a side note, we must worry about Boyd. He is way too happy with his award, he seems to have lost track of the fact it is a model of a nursing home. I hope you have enjoyed going down this path as much as I have.

Some would say it is a business meeting and should just be business. I would remind them of one of the greatest speeches ever given. N.C. State basketball coach Jim Valvano, on his very deathbed, receiving the ESPY award in New York, flew from Raliegh to New York and had to have help just getting up to the stage. The memorable line “everyday if you laugh, cry, and think, then you have had a full day”. So as we go forward we will try to give you laughter, at our ages our Corvette Family will unfortunately have sadness, and I know we can make you think.

So, thanks for letting me have some fun, for letting me give back to an organization that I owe so much to, and for not impeaching me. Some would challenge my sanity to try to follow in Keith’s footsteps. I will think of it the same as when I took my oath in my profession, “first do no harm”. To Keith I say thanks, and I will try not to mess up what you have done.

To all of you, a big thanks for all you do. If you have friends with Corvettes , you will never be alone.

## LEFT LANE AND HAMMER DOWN THE BLUE BY U





*Queen City Corvette Club*  
**Club Board and Business Meeting Minutes**

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<http://queencitycorvette.com/Archive/Archives.htm>

**For Newsletters, Minutes, Calendars, etc.**

**Web Site Updates :**

Added a "Utube Channel" for QCCC Videos. Accessible from the Top Left of the Main Page.

Added an "Awards Bowtie" to the Toolbox. Past Award recipients.

Added Brian Kruze's C5 Engine Mods to the Tech Tips Bowtie.



*Bonino Banter*

– *The Social Scene*



“The best gifts in life will never be found under a Christmas tree, those gifts are FRIENDS, FAMILY, CHILDREN & THE ONE WE LOVE!”

Once again this has been an incredible year for Queen City Corvette Club. We all have made new wonderful friends and had many occasions to spend time with our old friends. It doesn't get much better than this.....whoops I forgot one major part of this equation...we did this while driving our Corvettes!!!

Let's all enjoy our annual Christmas Dinner and Party **December 13<sup>th</sup>** at **The City Club at Gibson Mill** (formally The Vintage Car Club) at **5:30 pm**. Take note for GPS purposes that we used to have an address as 325 McGill Avenue NW, Concord – now they are publishing the address as 1094 Concord Parkway North, Concord. Wear “Christmasy” clothes and hats to add to the spirit. If you are participating in the “Dirty Santa” exchange bring your packages wrapped and label them for a man or woman if this applies.

There will be a sign up sheet at the December meeting for the January Chili-Cook-off and meeting. You do not have to bring Chili to attend. We will have hotdogs, trimmings, drinks and desserts for all who attend plus everyone can sample and vote (monetarily) for their favorite chili!!! All proceeds goes to our charities. We do need to know how many are coming so we can have enough food for everyone.  
Sign-up or email me

Don't forget also to sign-up for the Valentine's Catered Dinner at our February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Most Important....**

Sign-up to attend the BIG event of the year – our Annual Awards Banquet –  
January 31, 2015

All the details are on the website – we will be sending out reminders and  
even more details soon.

Thank you again for all your friendships. Have a fun-filled, blessed holiday  
season.

Your Sentimental Social Director,

*Pat*



# The Ride

Tommy Loftin, Automotive Director



I would like to take this time to thank all of QCCC club members for your support and friendship over the past two years while acting as your Director of Automotive. This has been a fun filled and exciting ride as we traveled down the road of excitement, adventure and success in our Corvettes. Our efforts as a club have brought QCCC into a new era of Corvette enthusiasm with the success of our car show, the growing excitement of AutoFair and the opportunity to visit some of the most prestigious Corvette collections in the world, right here in our home state.

With this The Ride will be signing off, however don't forget to keep air in your tires, grease in your axles and the pedal to the metal as you travel down the highway in your Corvette.

Thanks to all,

*Tommy Loftin*



# QCCC Cornerstones

*Building a Great Corvette Club  
One Member at a Time.*

**"Change is inevitable. Change for the better  
is a full time job." ~ Adlai Stevenson**



**PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!  
Thanks for choosing Queen City Corvette Club!**

This will be my last article for the QCCC Gazette as Membership Director. Effective January 1st, Darrell Kirkley takes the reins and becomes the face of QCCC to our prospective and new members.

It has been my honor to represent Queen City Corvette Club as Membership Director and I truly appreciate the opportunity. It is easy and rewarding to represent an organization you believe in and enjoy being a part of. That pretty well sums up the experience for me. Having the opportunity to meet and get to know our newest members at our dinners, events and meetings when they first discover QCCC has been a blast and I hope I have played a role in their decision to join and become very active members.

Through November 2014, QCCC's membership has increased by 28 new enthusiasts. Each of them already has something in common with the rest of our members. They all share the smile that says they know more fun awaits.

2014 proved to be a very fun and busy year for QCCC. As we begin a new year, I have no doubts the fun will continue. May each of you have a blest Christmas and exciting new year!



**Brian & Cindy Peoples**  
2007 Black Z06



**Paul & Christine Schmitt**  
2000 Torch Red Convertible



**Frank & Laura Sancineto**  
2002 Electron Blue Z06



**Ralph & Betty Snow**  
2014 Arctic White Coupe



## National Corvette Museum Corner

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and all are looking forward to a Very Merry Christmas. Several of our members have had a very rough past several months and, hopefully, everyone is now on the road to recovery. The fact that we are still here and able to enjoy our families and friends is reason enough to be thankful.

The National Corvette Museum now has over 36,000 members. If one stops and thinks about that number, it should make you dismayed. Why, you may ask? Just think about the millions of Corvettes still on the road and that number should easily be ten times that amount. The NCM serves the great purpose of having a central point for all Corvette owners, clubs, and organizations to congregate, enjoy a central library and document depository, and receive news from the Corvette community. All this is most important to ensure our hobby and our beloved Corvette continues to exist. There is no doubt that the Corvette ownership is graying (or has grayed) and we need to make sure that our younger citizens become part of the Corvette world and keep the sport moving along. If we can get them to visit the museum and soak in the history and culture of Corvettedom, they will become converts. With our QCCC membership hovering around the 50% mark, we are doing our part but could be doing much better.

In case you did not receive the latest e-News from the NCM regarding the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, let me tell you that you did well. Thanks to all of you who participated in one way or another, it was a smashing success. The number of pre-registrations was 8,667 and walk-ins were 4,387. The total revenue for the three Corvettes raffled off during the event was in excess of \$830,000.00. Brick sales were \$40,000.00+, auctions were \$21,000.00+ and the Corvette Store took in \$700,000.00+. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The sign up list for the Bash in April is really growing. All twenty-five rooms I had blocked are now spoken for and I will try to get that number increased. If you are planning on attending this premier event, now is the time to secure your room reservation. Or you may find yourself at another hotel. Send me an e-mail asking to get on the list and I will provide you the info to make a reservation. GM has announced that they will be bringing the 2016 Z06s and Stingrays.

Speaking of NCM membership, I ran our roster through the Membership group and if you are in doubt about your status, please ask. I will never embarrass anyone by calling you out at a meeting. I don't want anyone to try to register for an event or make a purchase at the Corvette Store and find your membership has lapsed and you are not eligible for the discount. Congratulations to Jack & Betty Ann Brunton and Nelson & Barbara Sprague on becoming our latest NCM Lifetime members. Now you ladies can enjoy the 15% discount at the Corvette. Sorry guys.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the December meeting and Christmas Party.

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*



## WE DID IT AGAIN

Having pulled off a near perfect National Council of Corvette Clubs at the yearly convention in 1978, QCCC got bold enough to do it again in 1991. Fortunately Travis kept his official NCCC convention 1991 booklet. This one is much improved over the 78 version, being in color and very organized. Think about a small group of Corvette folks organizing a national convention. Take the caravan we just hosted and add being the host city and just ask Carolyn, Chris and Paul if they want to take a stab at that.

Let's look at all the Corvette activities. Sunday- concours moves in at Charlotte motor speedway. Then at the speedway on Monday, a Funkhana and laps around the track and a day with NASCAR. Tuesday a high speed autocross at the speedway, and a low speed event held at Rockingham motor speedway. Wednesday you return to CMS for high speed event and another low speed event at Rockingham. Thursday is the drag race day at Rockingham, NC. Then Friday from the hotel the Corvette rally leaves for a full day of fun.

If that is not enough planning, check out the social. Saturday: a warm up party with DJ, and a separate youth warm up party. Sunday, youth beach party, and adults shaggin' under the stars on the Adam's Mark roof, band is the Embers, yes that is right the Embers. Monday, barbecue at the speedway then music by the Moody Brothers, yes that is right the Moody Brothers. Tuesday, youth party theme "gangster night", adult party at Adam's Mark "prohibition night" in the ballroom, Northtower band. Wednesday, youth program "MTV night", adults sock hop in the ballroom, music by "the Belmont Playboys" yes that is right the Belmont Playboys. Thursday, party for the youth and adult at the Adam's Mark's "Sadie Hawkins" night, music by "the Boomers, yes right, never heard of them. Friday, Adam's Mark hotel youth program banquet and awards, adult farewell party with DJ for music. Now, let us look at what else had to be covered; registration and check in on Saturday, hospitality room was opened every day, convention orientation and drivers meeting on Sunday, day passes sold every day, tech for speed events, judges for concours, information booth staffed daily, Corvette mall open daily for sales of t shirts etc., staffing for Funkhana, speed events, and rally and awards committee which included a raffle for a Corvette giveaway.

It is amazing that a small group of people could pull this off. What a fantastic job they did. Ask any other club in the area if they have done this, not once but twice, once in 1978 then again in 1991. For many of the club members this was there 2 week vacation for the year. The only sad part as you review the program booklet is all the chairman of the events are no longer in QCCC.

The bottom line: we should all be very proud of where QCCC has come from. What this organization has accomplished over 46 years: clubhouse, conventions, events, parades and all the charity money.

We have been a good patron to the city of Charlotte and Charlotte has been very good to us. Where else in the country could you have a week like the one described above; high speed events at CMS, a concours at CMS, and one at Carowinds, rally up thru the mountains, low speed event at Rockingham, a downtown host hotel like Adam's Mark and bands like the Embers and Moody Brothers.

QCCC has a rich history all because of the efforts by the members. You have been giving to QCCC for 46 years. The vintage gang is starting to prep for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club. It will be a doozy. So thanks to all of you for every little thing you do to make QCCC the very best.

Look out o' ya' shoulder thar' good buddy thar's a plain brown wrapper at mile 19. That's a 10-4' over.

THE V GANG

## QCCC Members & Guests Photos: Many More on the Web Site:







## *From Track to Street*

---

Next event is “The Roar before the 24” Jan 9-11, 2015 Daytona and the the Rolex 24 on Jan 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Other Corvette Related Items of interest.**

Driving the 2015 Corvette Z06 at Road Atlanta:

<http://www.automobilemag.com/features/magazine/1501-2015-chevrolet-corvette-z06-review/>



**“Heads-Up”**



**QCCC Annual Christmas Dinner  
&  
Dirty Santa Exchange**

Our Christmas Party will be on Saturday **December 13, 2014** along with our regular business meeting. We will also have a “Dirty Santa” game. Come in your favorite Christmas outfits and fun Christmas hats  
Arrival time is **5:30** with a short business meeting at **6:00**.  
Dinner will be after the meeting then we will have our Santa exchange.

**City Club at Gibson Mill  
(Formally called The Vintage Car Club)  
1094 Concord Parkway North  
Concord, NC 28027  
Lots of parking  
<http://concordcityclub.com>**

Buffet Dinner is **\$12.50 per person**. This must be paid to Pat Bonino by **December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. There is also a cash bar for the evening. Either pay for your dinner at the Nov meeting or mail it to Pat Bonino 118 Quail Hollow Drive, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

**PLEASE** let me know you are attending by signing up at the meeting or emailing as soon as possible –  
[sbonino@carolina.rr.com](mailto:sbonino@carolina.rr.com) as I have to give the caterer the final count by Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.