



The Queen City Corvette Gazette

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

May 2015



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<i>In This Issue –</i>	
Content	Page
The President's "Thoughts"	3-4
QCCC Advertisers	5- 6
Vice President "Tails & Trails"	7
QCCC Minutes	8
Snapshot of Calendar	8
Social "Bonino Banter"	9
Automotive Director's "Thoughts"	10-11
Membership Director's "Thoughts"	12
National Corvette Museum	13-14
Vintage QCCC	15-16
Club Photo's	17-18
Track to Street	19
Heads Up & Meeting Location	20
<i>Please visit the QCCC web site Archive page for previous issues of the Gazette</i>	

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**





President's Message I Told You So

Bill Cruthis

Ever heard that from your parents? Well this time it is from the El Presidento. I told you this would be the best spring ever and we are only 2 weeks into it.

First, thanks to my good friend Dollar Bill, I made my first trip to the plant/museum in Bowling Green, and yes I am ashamed to say after 57 years of Corvette chasing that this was my first trip. Visiting the museum is no different than going home for a week at Mom's. Most of us have lost our parents by now, however think back a few years, you would call home to let her know you were coming. The first thing she would say is I will have dinner waiting, your favorite_____ (you fill in the blank). The museum is no different. Whatever your favorite is, it will be in there. The plant is fascinating. How they do that 10 hours a day for 5 days a week. Let me just say this. If you visit the museum and it does not pull at your heart strings, then you have bought the wrong car. It made me even more proud to be an American, more proud that I have been a part of this chase of the perfect Corvette since 1958. If you visit the museum and do not understand how important it is to contribute to the legacy of the great American sports car, then come and see me. When you see what all they accomplish, you cannot help but want to be a part of it. Folks, it does not operate without funding. So please consider joining the museum and help keep our dreams alive. For gosh sakes you will blow \$75 on a meal and a movie these days. Come on, join in on the fun. Remember the QCCC trip to the museum in July.

Then a week later, auto fair. Good weather and the best of friends. I have such admiration of the QCCC folks, wherever we gather. We have such fun just looking and discussing our Corvettes. We had nearly the max of 30 cars per day. Keith in his most brilliant moment started the President's Award at the Auto Fair. So now I am dealt the hand of selecting between 30 nearly perfect, spotless, polished Corvettes, not to mention all the different generations. I cannot win regardless of my heart's attraction to the C3's, admiration of the C2's, or obvious love of the C7. My selection finally rested on ignoring the generation and looking for a high mileage unrestored car that was super clean. I settled on the convertible of Brian and Michelle Moore, 65,000 miles and totally dirt free. I have no idea how you can drive from Statesville to Auto Fair and not get yourself at least a little bit filthy. I only wish one day for my C7 Z06 to be that spotless once it has that mileage. There is a better chance of Washington balancing the budget than that

happening. What a great Auto Fair and what a wonderful group of folks to share it with. I thank you all. QCCC rocks.

The April meeting and picnic at the Loftin museum. Amongst the Portland, Oregon weather all we asked for was one pretty day. This must prove god drives a Corvette and not a Volksporschewagon. After 5 miserable wet days and before 2 more of the same, the skies parted and the sun shone down on a little acreage of heaven on earth, otherwise known as the Loftin Bar None Ranch. What a great place to have our meeting. Pat Bonino can throw one heck of a party. You have to admit, having a couple of social hours before the meeting is a great time to renew old friendships and to meet the new folks. Tommy and Brenda are so gracious to allow us in their space. What a job they have done. Thanks to all that came out and all that did the work we had a great meeting. If you did not enjoy that day you must be needing to up the dose on your meds. Now some head to the Bash at the museum and others to the Trump Concours show.

So only 2 weeks into spring and wow. I told you this would be the best spring ever. Now in 3 weeks, Corvettes in the Round meeting at Fred's Church. This is a fantastic idea of Paul Mitchell's and another chance for a 2 hour social prior to the meeting. Right after that Carolina Vines trip. Wine and beer at Judy's shop in Denver, then wine and pizza at the Carolina Vines bar in Newton. What is not to like about that. Follow that the next weekend at the Shelton Winery trip and Corvette show. That will finish us up for May, but remember you must have your money and photo in by May first to be sure you are included in the QCCC 18 month Corvette calendar. Remember, there is not room for everyone in the calendar. Do not be left out. These calendars will make great presents for you grandkids. They also will be collector's items about the same time as the C6 Z06. In other words not in your lifetime. Send in your money and photos, your car can be accompanied by you kids, grandkids, pets, or fully clothed wives.

In closing, just sayin, thanks for all you do for me, and for QCCC. You are the Heartbeat of America.



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TALES AND TRAILS FROM UP YONDER

Paul Mitchell, Vice President

The 2015 NCM Bash is over, and as usual, man what a BASH! Queen City was represented by 51 members – probably the most of any club from over 50 miles from Bowling Green. As usual, there were seminars, vendors, Corvette dignitaries, and lots of devoted owners and fans. I was expecting around 25% of the cars to be C7's, but I really think it was more like 40%. To say the C7 is a big hit is an understatement. We saw the new 2016 models, including the limited edition C7R street car. With a few decals and numbers on the doors, you would swear it was a race car going down the street. A couple of new colors and new interior trim/colors were also displayed. As usual, the Corvette always gets a little better and more interesting.



But put aside all the cars, parts, accessories, and activities, and you get the main reason to attend the Bash – the people. Because we had such a large representation of QCCC, you always saw someone you recognized. But you always meet many new people, ones that you will remember next year and beyond. That is the real draw here.

The banquet on Saturday night was quite a spectacle. We had three members of QCCC take the center stage and, well, let's just say they were not BASHful. First our very own Lifetime Board Member, Paul Mariano, turned into Sir Elton John, complete with hat, boa, and banging the piano, "singing" a few of his famous tunes. Much like when you see your first live volcano, or your first sighting of Bigfoot, this will be remembered forever. Next, Charlie Meade was transformed into Elvis. Yes, that Elvis, with hair, glasses, scarf, and the moves. Charlie displayed moves that amazed the audience and probably amazed himself as well. Then we had the finale – Michael Bullard as one of the Village People. He was the fireman, and was the C in YMCA. That's a lot of responsibility, but he pulled it off with dignity and grace. Not really. If you ask around, there may be videos of all three of these amazing feats of entertainment. For mature audiences only, and don't watch completely sober.

At the Winner's Circle dinner, Paige and I were honored to represent all members of QCCC in accepting the award for the contributions from the club to the Museum. But more impressive was when all members present from QCCC were asked to stand up. There was an audible gasp from the audience because of the number standing. All were standing because of significant personal contributions to the Museum in the last year. What a proud moment for us all. This was a clear indication of how QCCC is the best Corvette club in the nation – avid Corvette owners that support our very own shrine to the car we love. As always, QCCC was the shining star of the Bash!

Love 'em, cherish 'em, drive 'em. It'll make you and your car smile!



Queen City Corvette Club

Club Board and Business Meeting Minutes

For Newsletters, Minutes, Calendars, etc.

Web Site Updates :

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

Snapshot of Planned Events in the next few months:

May		
9	QCCC Business Meeting, Ice Cream Social	Details & Information
16	Day trip to Carolina Vines, Newton NC	Details & Information
23	Shelton Vineyard's Vettes for Vets - Commemorative Corvette Label	Details & Information
June		
5-6	Corvettes at Myrtle Beach	Details & Information
6	Streetside Classics Annual Charity Car Show	Details & Information
13	QCCC Business Meeting	Details & Information
20	Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet Annual Car Show	Details & Information
27	Troutman Independence Celebration Parade	Details & Information
July		
11	QCCC Business Meeting	
18	Beach Music & Vettes - Foothills Corvette Club	Details & Information
16-19	National Corvette Museum, Corvette Plant, and Motorsport Park, QCCC Visit	See Paul Mariano



Bonino Banter

– The Social Scene

Have any of you ever thought about what it means to have a “passion” for something? By definition one meaning would be “something that you enjoy or love doing very much”. Another meaning is “overmastering feeling or conviction”.

Now let’s look at us in this club. How many of us have “a passion” for our cars? I would venture to say A LOT!!!! It’s not hard to see the sparkle in the eyes of our members as they wash their cars to get ready for a show or drive their Corvettes to a day outing and caravan with other “passionate QCCers”!!!

Now let’s go a step further....how many of us have a “passion” for the QCCC community that we are? Again I would bet A LOT!!! Why? Because we humans thrive on social interaction. As we age and have to face medical issues, caring for our elderly parents, helping our adult children, babysitting our grandchildren, figuring out how to live in our retirement years, etc., etc. this social interaction helps us to lighten the load, step off the responsibility platform for awhile and laugh, talk, share and enjoy friends who we can relate to on many levels!!!!

This is a journey I choose to be on. I want to pack everything I can into having fun with all my QCCC Friends who I feel like are my extended family. Let’s embrace all the new members and make them feel welcome. They have not yet had the chance to experience all the FUN we have had...we will need to show them the way. And my message to the newer members is ...join in, come to events, go to dinners because trust me the more you do the more you will get out of Queen City Corvette Club!

Pay attention to updates to come out and the website. I may be out of commission for awhile but we have lots of capable members who will be picking up the pieces to allow us to continue to have outings and events. You can always ask any of the Board Members to guide you if you are unclear about anything.

Let’s have a great Spring and get those cars out often during the Summer!

Pat



Automotive Director's Report

Gary Cunningham

It was a busy month of April, with Auto Fair, the Trump Concours Show, the picnic at the Loftin Museum, the Country Drive and Winery trip, and the NCM Bash. It's hard to believe that we are already ONE-THIRD of the way through this year. Please review our event calendar, there is SO MUCH going on,



and something for everyone.

Let me highlight the Spring 2015 Auto Fair winners:

C-1 Keith and Kelly Cross	C-6 Brian and Michelle Moore
C-2 Darrell Kirkley	C-7 Norm Jungmann
C-3 Fred Rice	Participant's Choice Winner was Fred Rice
C-4 Michael Bullard	The President's Award went to Brian and Michelle Moore
C-5 Rick Mills, our Best of Show Winner	

What's in a name, part deux.....

Mike Bullard calls his C4 "the Toy", because he plays hard with it. He bought it at the 2012 Auto Fair. It was "the coolest car I could get for \$10k".

Steve and Pat Bonino call their Vette "Mia Amore", which means "My Love", in Italian. (I hear Dean Martin singing in the background ...*when the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie*.....)

Keith and Kelly Cross call their '61 "Squeaky" for a noise that just won't go away.

Richard Craig's license plate reads "2Quick4U". Enough said there.....

I continue to think and dwell on the "community of the QCCC". As I attend meetings, events and activities, I'm struck by the strong bond of fellowship and friendship that is the QCCC. I see relationships that have grown waaaay past the 'friend' part and have become family; people genuinely glad to see each other, with hugs and embraces that mirror family love. In an earlier article, I highlighted the meaning of "club." Now, let's look at community: *a unified body of individuals; a self-organized network of people with a common agenda*. That describes the QCCC to the letter: people drawn together, because they want to be together, celebrating the unity of the Corvette AND the individuality of the Corvette, many different styles, models and colors.

The QCCC is: *an organized group of people who meet regularly, being drawn and held together by a common theme, united and joined in their love of America's Sportscar, the Corvette.*

There's a site on Twitter that I follow, it's called **Life Is Good**. It's full of great quotes. Here's a few of them to close out this month.

A friend is one of the nicest things you can have and one of the best things you can be.

Life doesn't get easier, you just get stronger.

It takes nothing to join the crowd; it takes everything to stand alone in the right.

We are thick into the planning of our QCCC car show, the 4th Annual All-Chevy Charity Car Show, at Hendrick Motorsports on Sept 19th. Tommy and I will be speaking with you, asking for your volunteer help and participation.

And as always,

Not gonna let them catch me, no, not gonna let them catch the Midnight Rider

Gary





Membership Director's Report

Darrell Kirkley

Building a Great Corvette club One MEMBER at a time

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me; I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it's such a nice change from being young.

**PLEASE WELCOME OUR
NEWEST MEMBERS!**

***You had a choice. Thanks
for choosing Queen City
Corvette Club!***

Mark Kacinski & Ellen Vance
*They own a 1999 Red Coupe &
it is their 4th Corvette. Their
hobbies are fishing, golf,
motorcycle and going to the
beach.*



Dennis & Georgene Couch
*They have Crystal Red 2008.
And his hobby is flying.
(Georgene not pictured)*



Peter Veldhius
*He has a 2015 Shark Gray Z51
Coupe. He is a U.S.M.C
veteran & his hobbies are cars
and photography.*



Steve & Estela Harshbarger
*They have an electron blue
Z06. They enjoy boating at
Lake Norman.*



Kalyn & Eric Matthews
*They have a 2015 Z06 Coupe and
his hobby is weight lifting.*



Ken & Margaret Bieman
*They have a 1986 Red
Convertible & their hobbies are
boating*



QCCC has been and continues to be a destination for Corvette enthusiasts who want to share great times with great friends.

***Thanks to each member for making QCCC that
destination.***



National Corvette Museum



NCM CORNER

The “Best Bash Ever”. Well, that’s what most were saying after all the festivities were over. It started with the track make-up day at the Motorsports Park where everyone got to run pace laps until they finally quit in exhaustion. Those lucky enough to get selected by drawing for hot laps with a pro driver came back wide-eyed and stomach challenged. The buffet by the Sho-Gun restaurant was outstanding. A few of us also got to check out the autocross layout for the upcoming competition. We all had the opportunity to see the new 2016 Corvettes and hear Tadge and Harlan explain all the new features. I do believe that they captured Richard Gwilt for a new Z06 and the Becker’s were drooling over the new Long Beach Red exterior color. The seminars were great, the tours new and memorable and banquets entertaining. Thanks to Paul Mitchell for calling out QCCC when accepting our club award at the VIP dinner. The number of our members that stood up was amazing and we received a loud ovation for our support of the NCM. And at the Bash banquet on Saturday night surprise appearances by Sir Elton John, Elvis and the Village People added to the outstanding performances by the Dueling Pianos. Thanks again to the fifty-five QCCC members that made the trek to the museum. Our club’s support of the NCM is widely recognized and appreciated by the museum management.

For those of you that couldn’t make the Bash, there is another opportunity to enjoy the museum coming up. July 16-19 is the date for QCCC club day at the NCM. This trip is really geared to get all the newbies to visit for the first time by shorting the time to a two day visit. If you have any questions regarding a Club Day, just ask.

Remember, you get a discount on NCM membership since QCCC is a lifetime member of the museum. A single membership is \$37.50 and a family membership is only \$75.00. After the initial sign-up, yearly dues for both classes are \$50.00.

I hope everyone is still buying raffle tickets as new C7s are being given away several times a month. Can’t win without a ticket.

I'm trying not to overload you with NCM trips but fair warning, the 21th Annual Anniversary Celebration is coming up on September 2-6. This is also the Corvette Hall of Fame inductions and Charlotte's own Rick Hendrick is being honored. It's time to start sign-ups of those intending to go so I can arrange hotel rooms and reserve tables for the HOF ceremony. Never too early to begin a good plan.

BOX SCORE

No. of QCCC Family Units	-163
No. of NCM Members	- 88 (54%)
No. of Lifetime Members	- 30
No. of Duntov Society Members	- 4

Save the Wave!

Paul Mariano,

NCM Ambassador

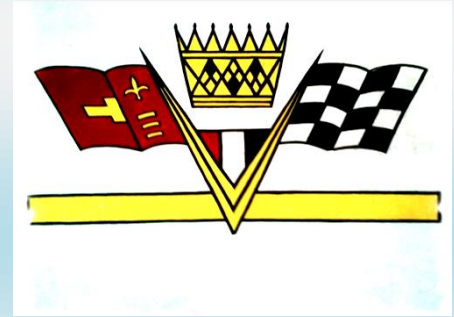


Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Richard Craig, Darrell Kirkley & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



It will be a little different this month for your enjoyment. First watch for a possibility of the Vintage Players performing at the August birthday meeting honoring 47 years of QCCC.

Following are exact excerpts from the newsletters and minutes of QCCC in the mid 70's.

March 1972: called to order at 7:45 by President Travis Meredith. Voted and approved the monthly magazine would be titled "Queen City Corvette News". Meeting adjourned at 9:30. The going away party for Danny and Judy Canup was money well spent and I left at 3 a.m.

Feb. 18, 1975: two suggestions in last month's newsletter were voted down, one being to charge members for not fulfilling their turn at cleaning up the clubhouse, and the other to put a pool table in the clubhouse. President's message: with the weather becoming nicer, I hope the club can start planning outings and scooter-poots. Our bartenders for now will be Ed Sloan and Pete Walther. V.P. Social, Darrell Kirkley, announced due to lack of interest our ski trip was cancelled again.

Feb 1976: the incorporation of QCCC is finalized with thanks going to Bill Ingram. Inter-club points, Darrell Kirkley is 8th with 60, Meredith & Cruthis are 10th with 55, and Craig is 16th with 40. Sunday, March 21st there will be a spaghetti dinner at the clubhouse, charge is \$2.00. Write a caption for the poster of the President for a chance to win a barbecue dinner and a Falstaff for 2 at the Flamingo Drive Inn.

Jan. 1976: Travis Meredith called the meeting to order and reminded members of the importance of the meetings and how members should conduct themselves.

March 1976: members were informed the juke box repair was complete and they were asked not to tamper with it. There will only be one key and the President will keep it. Shad Alberty asked who took his record of "60 Minute Man" out of the juke box. Secretary Sharon Meredith states the damaged tree at the clubhouse is from her suburban and not to tell Travis. Mitchem's car smoked so much in the blindkhana that he did not require a blindfold. Volunteers are needed for the phone committee headed up by Dick Craig.

November 1976: the Halloween party was great except for those who caught colds from the apple bob.

Nov.27th is the annual 50's party at the clubhouse.

Dec.5th is the autocross at UNCC parking lot cost \$5.00.

January 1977: banquet awards: best all around female = Sharon Meredith. Motion to give spouses voting rights was brought up. The Porsche/Corvette challenge will be April 9/10, with Dick Craig in charge of advertising. Girl's nite out will be at the Pineville Dinner Theatre.

January 1978: Darrell Kirkley recommended that in the future, the "Danny Canup Memorial Beer Gut Award" be changed to read the "Al Starnes Memorial Award for Sportsmanship"—approved.

January 1977: Treasurer Lydia Morse noted the bank balance as of Dec.31, 1976 was \$40.25. The clubhouse rent goes to \$175/month. Last year we lost \$1,400 on the clubhouse due to less beer sales. Sam announced that the juke box was broken again and would be fixed as soon as we had the finances. Bank balance 1/31/1977 (-94.61). Lane Self of Classic Corvettes has challenged us to a volleyball game. Look for a foosball table to be added to the back bedroom at the clubhouse.

March 1977: Brenda Alberty has taken over the newsletter from Travis and Sharon. Bill Cruthis will have an open house to draw new members at the clubhouse 3/23/77. Bill Ingram asked all non-Corvettes not be parked in front or back yards of the clubhouse. Bill is not above asking you to move your clunky van. Race movies will be shown in the attic. We will eat at Godfather's Pizza after the meeting. They will give us a free pitcher of beer for every Corvette we put in their parking lot.

March 77: roll called with 13 members present.

July 77: vote called to keep the clubhouse open every Wednesday nite 17 members present, vote approved. Treasurer report we have more outstanding dues than we have money in the bank. Let's get those dues in. Thanks to Bill Henderson for donating the air conditioner to the club. It sure makes it nice in the bar now. Bumper sticker seen on Darrell Kirkley's Corvette: Speed Kills, Drive a Porsche and Live Forever".

By September of 1977 we had to vacate the clubhouse due to lack of funds for rent. It was a sad day for all of us as that was our gatherin spot, our waterin hole. The months that followed were rough and QCCC was lucky to have the leadership to hold things together. And look at us now. The Vintage Gang hopes you enjoy these glimpses into our storied past and we hope all of us can appreciate what it took over 47 years to arrive and stay on top of the heap.

In short, **we've come a long way baby**

With respect to **all** of those who have come before us: submitted by Bill Cruthis

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







From Track to Street

NEXT EVENT

Corvette Racing and the Corvette Daytona Prototypes move on to Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca for the Continental Tire Monterey Grand Prix. The fourth round of the TUDOR Championship is scheduled for 4:05 p.m. ET on Sunday, May 3.

CORVETTE RACING, CORVETTE DP AT LONG BEACH: Thrilling Win for Wayne Taylor Racing

Magnussen, Garcia back on GTLM podium at Long Beach with third-place finish

It was a solid points day in both classes for Chevy and Corvette. Antonio Garcia and Jan Magnussen raced their way to a third-place GT Le Mans (GTLM) finish in Corvette Racing's No. 3 Chevrolet Corvette C7.R. The 2014 Long Beach class winners added Saturday's podium result to their victories at Daytona and Sebring to open the season.

I have been asked to let members know who will be attending the next race of Corvettes. The next two races that are within several hundred miles are VIR in late August and Road Atlanta the first weekend in October. If you are interested or are going to either of these races, just let me know and I will let everyone know so maybe we can get together. Every race has a Corvette Coral and they are a lot of fun to be with your Corvette friends. New and old. So far for the Road Atlanta race Petit LeMans we have the Wood's, Becker's, Moore's, Mariano's, Mead's, Johnson's, Veldhuis, Jensen and of course ME. Keep the names coming.

See you at the next Corvette Race.

Boyd Kurt

“Heads-Up”

Up Coming Events



BLAST!!!

May 9th Meeting

Hopewell Presbyterian Church

10500 Beaties Ford Road

Huntersville, N.C. 28078

Come and enjoy the QCCC Car Show!

We are rescheduling the Ice Cream Social to another meeting to be announced.

If any of you want to bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic drinks to munch on during the QCCC Car Show prior to the meeting – feel free to do this!

****DON'T FORGET YOUR CHAIRS****

Social starts at 4:30

Meeting at 5:30