



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

*Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club*

**August 2015**



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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**





## PERPETUAL EMOTION MACHINES

### *President's Message* **THE END OF AN ERA????**

Bill Cruthis

I wish to state what an honor it is to hang with this group who refuse to slow down. In about 5 months I will be at Ron Fellows High Performance Driving School blasting around a race track in a C7 Z06, just a few days short of my 69<sup>th</sup> birthday. Many of you have been or are scheduled to go. I have paused lately to reflect, and recall my own grandfather at age 70 had sold his farm and become for the most part an armchair quarterback. So thank you all for hangin in there, we refuse to quit as was evidenced this past week when 56 of us aging geriatrics took the pilgrimage to bowling green where we ate, drank, toured, and tracked like we were 20.

Seems like there are a lot of elephants in the room lately. From what I am seeing and hearing car shows are waning, even at the Corvette homecoming this weekend in Bowling Green, we heard attendance was down and vendors were saying sales were soft. First, why is this? My belief is that it goes along with the youths drifting from muscle cars to technology. Most entrants at the car shows are shall we say balding, and they have been doing it for 5 decades. Add to that, in our golden years we do not have to drive our cars daily so that most C5, C6 or C7 cars are super clean giving the judges little to differentiate. Also I am not convinced that another trophy holds the allure it did when we were 20. The end result is they are becoming car displays not car shows.

So why is ours still a car show. For one thing, we still judge the cars. It is a shine and show event, but the participants do not select the winners. Then add the opportunity to view the Hendrick Collection, the fact that the National Corvette Museum will be here selling items, and we are upgrading our food

vendors. We will have our jewelry vendor plus a great DJ with 50's and 60's music. We have upgraded our trophies just to change your mind about wanting one. We have added sponsorship from Hagerty and Nationwide Insurance. Hagerty has a youth program so we will be adding a class of trophies where the youth will select the winners. The answer to stop the slipping attendance at car shows is to get younger folks involved as members and as entrants. The best way to do that is to put on a great show that gets a reputation spreading. It will take all of us to make it better than last year. We are up to it and it will be the best ever. Let's build a springboard for next year when we plan to add a Friday nite party, a host hotel, and laps at Charlotte Motor Speedway on Friday for all entrants. We are the best for a reason, we work at it. Thanks in advance for your help at Queen City Corvette All Chevy Charity Car Show.



I'LL SEE YA AT THE CAR DISPLAYS.  
LEFT LANE AND HAMMER DOWN  
365 HP, 505 HP, 650 HP  
***CRU'S BLUES***



## Club Sponsor

City Chevrolet, our club sponsor, has a new General Manager. Mr. Cam Stewart has been in the position just 30 days and has already reached out to QCCC to start building his vision of a symbiotic relationship.

Cam is an admitted Corvette junkie being on his 23<sup>rd</sup> Corvette now, which is a 2014 Vet with a Mallett Supercharger. We have met with Cam and you will find the attached sheet which is his promotional promise to all club members. We know you will like it and it opens up opportunities for you to save.

In addition, Cam is rebuilding the City Chevrolet web site which has countless viewers as they have over 7000 cars listed. As he builds the new site, he is adding the Queen City logo which will be a direct link to our web site. We will be asking Bob Becker to make that reversible so that those visiting our website can click on the City Chevrolet site.

We welcome Cam into his new position and look forward to a strong relationship that benefits both parties, QCCC and all of our friends at City Chevrolet.

**LEFT LANE AND HAMMER DOWN!**

**365 HP---505 HP---650 HP**

**Bill Cruthis, President**



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## Queen City Corvette Club Discount Pricing Rick Hendrick City Chevrolet

Effective June, 12, 2015

Queen City Corvette Club members are entitled to discount pricing for New Chevrolet Cars, Trucks, Commercial Vehicles, Used Vehicles, Service Labor (15%), and Parts Purchases (15%) at City Chevrolet. The Vehicle Purchases will need to be titled in the Name or Business of the QCCC member, or a member of his/her immediate family. Friends and Referrals of QCCC members will also receive discounts for Sales and Service (10%). "Friends" Vehicle transaction prices will be set by the General Manager of City Chevrolet, Cam Stewart. 704-591-8800

### New Vehicles

- QCCC members pay "Dealer Invoice" or "Supplier Pricing" whichever is less from Chevrolet. Rebates or Incentive's will be applied to reduce the purchase price. Affiliate and Commercial rebates may also apply to further reduce the purchase price.
- The General Manager reserves the right to limit this offer to "In Stock" or "On Order" vehicles. Extra costs may apply for Locates, Transportation, or Specialty Vehicles.

### Pre-Owned Vehicles

- Vehicles in-stock and available for retail sale may be purchased for inventory amount plus \$500. Extra costs may apply for Transportation, or Specialty Vehicles.
- All vehicles sold to QCCC members must first pass NC State Inspection through our service department. We service every retail vehicle sold at City Chevrolet prior to sale.
- City offers over 7000 Used Vehicles online that can be transferred in for delivery. The prices of these vehicles are on our website CityChevrolet.com. Shipping costs may apply.

### Parts & Service

- Parts or Service Labor will receive a 15% discount off the posted Customer pay rate. 15% discount may not be combined with other coupons or specials. We also offer Restoration Parts and services through GM, ZIP, Ecklers, and Corvette Central.

### Referral Bonus

- If you refer a non-QCCC member and they purchase a vehicle, we will thank you with @\$100 referral Gift Card for supporting the partnership.



Cam Stewart-  
GM@City

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



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# ***TALES AND TRAILS FROM UP YONDER***

**Paul Mitchell, Vice President**



Dang, it's already August. It seems like we shiver and freeze for 9 months, and the warm weather is fleeting. Here comes all the important holidays, like Mother's Day, Memorial Day, my birthday, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and all of a sudden we see Halloween costumes and Christmas cards in Walmart. It just goes so fast.

But look at what QCCC has done already this year since warm weather arrived, just at our meetings. Starting with the first official sign of spring, the Loftin picnic, we had our own car show at the May meeting, a fabulous meeting at the Speedway Club in June, and observed 2,616 Corvette horsepower in July. We have yet to go to our birthday meeting at Hendrick Motorsports, our great annual picnic, Streetside meeting, back to the Speedway Club, and the Christmas party. And that's just meetings! We have gone to Auto Fair, the Bash, Shelton show, Myrtle Beach show, Earnhardt show, Beach Music, and a QCCC trip to Bowling Green. Plus several day trips. So yes, we have been busy. So we can't be too upset about the summer winding down.

But with the nice weather we have left, we can still get out there and enjoy our Corvettes. We have the Corvette Club Ball Park Show, our QCCC show, Fall Auto Fair, and our first ever Black Top Fun Road Rally. Plus other day trips will pop up. I will have another fall drive in the Foothills. I want to plan a drive to Black Mountain for lunch, then a drive down Hwy 9 to Lake Lure on the return trip. And I would like to plan a weekend excursion to beautiful Edenton, on the Inner Banks. Let me know by phone, e-mail, or tell me at the meeting if you would be interested.

So if you get the cold weather blues like I do, just think of all the things we have to look forward to between now and brrrrrr. Make the most of the remainder of the warm weather, get out there, and DRIVE!! As I always say –

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



## Queen City Corvette Club

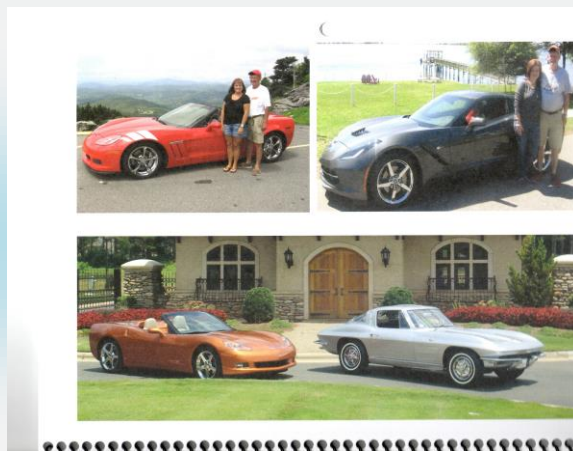
### Club Board and Business Meeting Minutes

For Newsletters, Minutes, Calendars, etc.

## Web Site Updates :

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

*Snapshot of Planned Events in the next few months:*



## August

8	QCCC Business Meeting	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
15	Greater Charlotte Corvette Club Ball Park Show	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
28-30	Corvettes at Carlisle, <a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>	On Your Own

## September

3-5	*National Corvette Museum - Anniversary Celebration & Hall of Fame Induction*	See Paul Mariano
12	QCCC Business Meeting & BBQ	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
19	4th Annual All Chevy Charity Car Show - <a href="#">The NCM Store will be at the Show</a>	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
26-27	AutoFair at Charlotte Motor Speedway	



***Bonino Banter***

## ***– The Social Scene***

### **Caravanning with No Clothes?**

Now this isn't what you think it is!!! Just a nice story!

Story by Troy Lephart of Westerville, Ohio

I purchased my 98 roadster in the fall of 2000. I had always wanted a Vette and when shopping for a Monte Carlo I came home with the Vette. I had enjoyed driving it for nearly three years when some family tragedies had caused me to lose interest in it. I decided to drive it through the summer then sell it.

In June of 2003 I heard about the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Caravan and celebration. I heard on the radio that the Ohio Caravan would be starting from near my home in the Columbus area and was having a cruise-in the night before. I attended the cruise-in the night before the caravan and registered with the intent to caravan from Columbus to Cincinnati and return to work that afternoon. The caravan had only traveled 35 miles before its breakfast stop at Bob McDorman Chevy. At this point some folks I met the night before encouraged me to continue on south. Not thinking, I decided to go along. I called my boss and asked for some time off and kept going!

At some point I realized I had no clothes, room reservations or extra cash! Mind you that I travel for a living and always keep packed luggage. At the next stop in Cinci, I started to worry about lodging for the night when someone pointed out the general manager of the casino/hotel the caravan was staying at. He made a call and set me up. That evening I made calls for rooms in the Bowling Green area and the closest I could find was Goodlettsville, Tennessee.

After washing my socks and boxers in the sink that night, I started to think this wasn't my best-planned adventure. In the morning I made my way to the front desk to secure a razor and toothbrush. At this time I checked out.

Dumb move, I had to shave and clean up in the casino restroom. When I returned to the lobby a large gentleman approached and introduced himself as Mark Thomas with Capital Corvette Club of Columbus Ohio. He asked if I was the guy gaining fame in the caravan with no change of clothes or reservations! Of course I had to respond...yes. He offered a spare room his club had in Bowling Green, and I continued on after finding a Kmart and purchasing some needed items. On arrival at Bowling Green I hung out with Mark and the rest of the CCCC gang and soon became a club member.

Needless to say the Corvette wasn't sold, and the following year I was elected as club VP. Moral to the story....sometimes life is more fun when you just "wing it"!

Save the Wave!!!!

See all of you soon,

Pat

# *Automotive Director's Report*

Gary Cunningham



## Summertime in the City

When you think of Summer, what comes to mind? I think of hot weather, our annual trip to Las Vegas, cold drinks, driving the midnight Rider on the Blue Ridge Parkway with the t-tops out. I also think about Pirate baseball, and the soon to start NFL season and .... Summer music.

While cruising the parkway, I love to let the Pandora radio play 'summertime music'. Here's a few of my favorite summertime songs:

**Vehicle** by the Ides of March, great horn parts, the perfect AM radio song:

*"I'm the friendly stranger in the black sedan, won't ya hop inside my car..... "*

**Margaritaville** by Jimmy Buffett, the classic summer tune everyone knows:

*"....wasting away again in Margaritaville...."*

**Summertime** by George Gershwin, as recorded by Ella Fitzgerald:

*Summertime and the livin's easy. Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high....*

**Sweet Home Alabama** by Lynyrd Skynyrd

*"Big wheels keep on turning, carry me home to see my kin..."*

**Smuggler's Blues** by Glenn Frey; this comes from a guest star spot he had on Miami Vice on Feb 1, 1985.

*"There's trouble on the street tonight, I can feel it in my bones...it's the politics of contraband, it's the smuggler's blues...."*

**Saturday in the Park** by Chicago. The Best. Horn. Band. Ever.

*"Saturday in the park, I think it was the Fourth of July. People laughing, people dancing, a man selling ice cream....."*

**Beautiful Girls** by Van Halen, from their second album. By the way, this is Gwen's ringtone on my cellphone.

*...she had her drink in her hand, she had her toes in the sand, what a beautiful girl; just a sweet talkin' honey with a little bit of money to turn your head around...*

**Summertime** also leads to some important events in the annual QCCC calendar, especially our Fourth Annual All Chevy Charity Car Show on Sept 19th at Hendrick Motorsports Complex. Before that, we have our First Annual Great Charlotte Corvette Club Ball Park Show at Kannapolis Intimidators Stadium on August 15th. And then, the meeting of the year, the Annual Burt's BBQ on Sept 12th - now that's a party.

**Please attend** our monthly meetings. The quality, events and locations continue to evolve and improve. This month's meeting location is Hendrick Motorsports Complex. Don't miss the annual pictures, great social time, information and BIRTHDAY CAKE.

We'll dive deep into the Car Show and the need for the QCCC Community to step up like they do every time. We need cars and volunteers at our car show. We've made many great plans, continuing to improve the show each year. This year, we have a wider variety of vendors, including the National Corvette Museum.

We. Need. You. And. Your. Corvette. I'll see you at Hendrick for the birthday meeting.

And, now, back to the radio.... our last song of the day.....

**Drive My Car** by The Beatles

*....Baby, you can drive my car, yes I'm gonna be a star.....and Baby I Love You.....beep beep, beep beep, YEAH!*

*'not gonna let them catch me, no; not gonna let them catch the Midnight Rider....*

Gary and Gwen



## ***Membership Director's Report***

*Darrell Kirkley*

### **Building a Great Corvette club One MEMBER at a time**



Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason why so few engage in it.

– Henry Ford

----- 0 -----

I will always choose a LAZY person to do a difficult job... because, he will find an EASY way to do it.

– Bill Gates

## ***PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!***

### **Cam & Heidi Stewart**

*They have a 2014 Nightrace Blue Supercharged Convertible. Their hobbies are cars, sports, workout & gardening*



### **Nick & Moira Yeager**

*They have a 2007 Red Coupe. Their hobbies are cars, golf & sewing.*



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

Maybe it was just my perception or maybe I just saw what I wanted to see, but I believe everyone had a blast at the QCCC day at the NCM. I didn't hold much hope for a good weekend as all the construction delays in route made the trip over a true ordeal. However, upon arrival, the Hilton Garden Inn met us with an outstanding reception with enough finger food to make us want to cancel our reservation at the Montana Grille. But, who are we to turn down an opportunity to eat? So off to dinner to partake of more food. Friday was the plant tour and then the museum tour with lunch at the Corvette Café in between. Saturday morning we were off to the Motorsports Park for parade laps. Well sorta. The laps did get a little spirited which everyone did enjoy to the max. Except for the second group, which got behind a rust bucket that was invited off the track. On the way home we enjoyed a buffet at the Cumberland Falls Resort. Nice back roads made for a Corvette made it a great trip home. So, what about the museum as a home for all things Corvette? Please ask all the first time visitors what their take was on the trip and consider joining us on the next excursion to Bowling Green.

We welcome the newest lifetime members to the NCM, *Scott and Betty Hamilton and Steve and Lynda Morris*. Also welcome to *Larry and Kathy Miller* as new converts to the bright side.

Did you know? Did you know that the NCM is supported by its membership and Corvette enthusiasts from all over the world? General Motors provides no monetary support, but does attend the NCM Bash in April and the Birthday Celebration on Labor Day to show off all the new Corvettes and technology offered for your enjoyment. The primary source of income is the profits netted from the Corvette raffles. With a yearly budget of over \$13.0 million, the doors would close if we all didn't do our part to support "our" Museum. Every time you renew your membership, buy a brick, or buy a raffle ticket, you are helping to keep one of the 10 best automotive museums in the world open and providing all of us Corvette owners with a central place we can call "Corvette Home".

Are you interested in attending the 24 Hours of LeMans next June? If so, the NCM Museum-in-Motion program has an eleven day tour, which includes tours of Paris, now open for registration. The price is \$4,995.00/person double occupancy and \$6,295.00/person single occupancy. Airfare not included. Openings are very limited, so if you would like to join in on the fun, go to the "Events" pull down on the NCM website and check out all the details. Happy racing.

We are not approaching our president's goal of 66% NCM membership for our club. The box score below shows our present status. You really don't know what you're missing by not being a member and taking part in the NCM activities.

#### BOX SCORE

No. of QCCC Family Units	-167
No. of NCM Members	- 91 (54.5%)
No. of Lifetime Members	- 32
No. of Duntov Society Members	- 4

Save the Wave!

*Paul Mariano,*

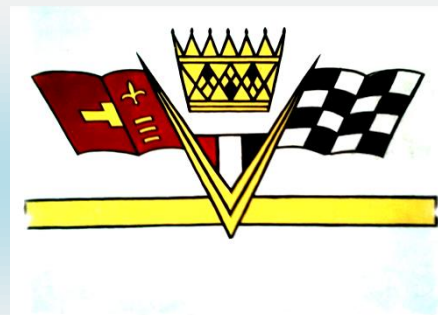
NCM Ambassador

## *Vintage QCCC*

With the Vintage Gang:

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

*More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past*



### QCCC.....THE VERY BEGINNING AGAIN

As we approach the club's 47th anniversary, we thought it would be appropriate to recall again how QCCC came into existence. It's also appropriate to pay our respects to two of the charter members that have passed on.

In the summer of 1968, twenty two year old high school buddies Earl Ferrell and Carl Brown had acquired new Corvettes in 1966 and spent time together cruising Charlotte and hanging out at a local service station enjoying their toys. When Earl's neighbor Clyde Richards bought a new Corvette the duo became a trio. During that period Chevrolet produced a great magazine, "Corvette News" and sent it to owners at no charge. It was full of articles that inspired owners to organize and join the fun. The magazine

demonstrated that owning a Corvette was as much a life style as a means of transportation. The “Corvette Club of North Carolina” was based in Charlotte, but had members from all over the state. Their membership was getting “older” (late 30’s early 40’s) and becoming less active. That club had no appeal to Earl and the boys, so Earl raised the question “why don’t we start a club and organize some of our own events?” The seed was planted. After a hard sell to Carl and Clyde, Earl convinced them it was worth a try and even agreed to be the first president. The club was born.

Recruitment started immediately. Earl had some business cards printed where you could write in your name and phone number, and he would leave them under the windshield wipers of every Corvette he saw sitting still. Butch Bigham remembers being at LaPointe Chevrolet having a problem solved on his new 68 (he was there a lot) when Earl approached him in the service lane. Butch joined in July.

The first thing on the agenda was a name. They all agreed it should have a direct connection to Charlotte and being called the “Queen City” it wasn’t long before that name was chosen.

The by-laws were drafted and approved and stated that charter members were to be voted on by August 9, 1968. There were four charter members on that date.

The group struggled with deciding on a logo, they wanted something unique yet identifiable with Chevrolet. Clyde had a fender emblem from a 1966 427 Caprice hanging in his garage and said “what about this?” They added a crown and it was adopted. Some of the early copies even had “427 Turbo-Jet” in the two bars that were on either side of the V. Later, “Charlotte N. Carolina” was added there. They all wanted to display the new logo on their cars, but custom tags were expensive and you had to order a lot of them to make it worthwhile, a minor point to this group. Someone knew a friend who had a relative that worked for a printer, who will remain nameless, even though the statute of limitations has run out. They made the tags out of photo engraved metal printing plates. They were heavy metal and had to be hand painted, but they served the purpose.

It’s ironic to think that 47 years have passed since some very young men in their early 20’s, found a way to own a Corvette and form a group of like minded people to spend their spare time with. The cars were the common denominator, but the close relationships developed quickly and it became a brotherhood. It’s also worth mentioning that none of this would have worked if the wives and girlfriends had not joined in and soon it was one big happy family.

We were sad to learn that Carl Brown passed away March 20 of this year at the age of 68. Even though he wasn’t a member of the club very long, he was instrumental in organizing the club along with his buddy Earl. Earl Ferrell stayed active in the club right up to his death on October 20, 1987 at the age of 41.

This club has a long, rich history which we all can take pride in, as we celebrate our 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

We invite you to go to the QCCC website, click on the “newsletter” tool box and enjoy the “Vintage QCCC” articles from the past, starting with the March 2010 issue.

Trav Meredith, *historian*

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







## ***From Track to Street***

### **NEXT EVENT**

The next race for Corvette Racing and the Corvette Daytona Prototypes is the Continental Tire Road Race Showcase from Road America on Sunday, Aug. 9.

### **CORVETTE RACING IN CANADA: Garcia, Magnussen Reclaim GTLM Points Lead**

Corvette Racing and the Corvette Daytona Prototype program each had days to remember Sunday in the Mobil 1 SportsCar Grand Prix presented by Hawk Performance. Jan Magnussen and Antonio Garcia regained the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship's GT Le Mans Driver points lead while Jordan Taylor and Ricky Taylor led a 1-2 overall finish for the Corvette DP at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park.

Garcia and Magnussen drove their No. 3 Chevrolet Corvette C7.R to a third-place finish - a result that seemed unlikely in the race's opening half. The duo moved from seventh at the one-hour mark to the podium for the first time since the third race of the season at Long Beach. Doubly important is that they broke a first-place tie for driver points as Garcia took advantage of a mistake with two laps to go by the No. 25 BMW, whose drivers were tied with the No. 3 for the championship lead entering the race.

Garcia and Magnussen now lead by two points heading to Road America in August.

### **See you at the next Corvette Race.**

*Boyd Kurt*



# *Other Interesting QCCC Stuff*



## *QCCC Trip to National Corvette Museum*

### **QCCC Journey to Bowling Green**

Back in January we decided QCCC should make our own pilgrimage to taste the home cookin at the National Corvette Museum. As I reflect on a wonderful time, I start with our unspoken motto, "we drive to eat". 17 cars started with bellies resting on the steering wheel after a great breakfast at Zippers Restaurant in Lincolnnton. We proceeded to a rest stop on I-40 where we picked up more folks including the Pipeks, otherwise known as the real Up Yonder members. Before I knew it, we were off the road again at Wendy's for more food and gas plus the usual bladder buster stop. Lunch being a mere 1.5 hours from breakfast. Then on to Knoxville and then north to the Cumberland Parkway. Here we learned that Kentucky stores all their orange barrels for the whole state in the right hand lane of the Cumberland Parkway. Oh well at least they have good basketball. Oops time to stop again and pick up the Newsom's. A crazy busy McDonalds with a lot of folks taking photos of the cars. Here I bought soda and candy, why? Because that is what you do when you travel. Now we head down the last big stretch of the Cumberland. Miles and miles of orange barrels, then whoa Nellie, better take one last bladder break. Darn nothing there but a Family Dollar. Arrived at 5 p.m., waddled in, and the host hotel had a buffet for us with open bar. No need to unpack just pig out quickly, supper is at 7. We walk to Montana Grill for a great meal. Then we are lobby lizards till 11 p.m.

We are up early for a great free breakfast then off to the museum and sign up for our plant tour. The plant is mesmerizing. We all want one just some do not know what color. Margaret Bieman gets to start a 2016 torch red. Then it is back to the museum café to eat again. (only been 3 hours). We had some free time to load up at the museum store and watch the museum delivery owners pick up their cars. We were turning green. Then we toured the museum and the repaired sink hole. A great experience. We better get back, time to go to the Holiday Inn and view the Corvette Homecoming displays and vendors. I need a nap. No can do, got to be ready for the dinner meal at the Brickyard at 7. Another great evening. Saturday a.m. up early for free giant breakfast but have to be back at the Museum for a group photo. Now over to the Motorsports track for a few “parade” laps. Of course my really bad blue Z06 was a blur. The track is really superb. Lots of tight twisty curves and you can see most of it from the balcony on the back side of the garages. We are done at the track around 1 p.m. Lunch is on our own. Do we need to eat? NO. Do we eat? YES. We all stop at Rafferty’s. Got to have a big meal we don’t eat again until 7 back at Montana’s. Lobby lizards again every nite with the open bar. Sunday morning we must get that giant free breakfast before we depart. Of course this causes an early pit stop where we somehow lost Fred and Gloria. Jim and Kay stayed with them but one wrong turn at the speeds we drive makes it hard to catch up. Finally up a twisty road to the Cumberland Lodge for a great buffet and view of the Cumberland River. Trying to stay together in Sunday traffic on I-40, no chance.

We got home at 7 p.m. Sunday nite and I can say I never in my life enjoyed putting on 5 pounds more than those 4 days. The end result, a great trip, great friends, great cars, all well planned by Paul and Barb, and Chris and Peggy. We have never laughed as much as we did on these 4 days. The museum and plant each time gives you new visual stimulus. To a person, our only thoughts now are when is the next trip.

## WHAT A BLAST! QCCC TRAVELS WELL

Bill Cruthis

### *Comments from the Trip*

From: Steve Harshbarger

Subject: KY trip

KY trip

Newbies' 1st trip to Bowling Green, KY

When we heard about this trip, we couldn't wait to sign up. We didn't know what to expect but have heard so many wonderful things about it.

This whole trip was well organized from beginning to end. Starting from breakfast at Zippers

not Zimmers in Lincoln all the way up to lunch at Cumberland lodge on Sunday.

On Friday, we were getting really excited, it was finally time to see the plant and the museum. Wow, it was amazing when we walked in the museum to see all the cars lined up and roped off in the lobby. We found out that these cars were ordered and owners were taking delivery. We walked up to each individual cars dreaming that one of those would show our names. What a way to get started before heading to the plant assembly! The plant was enormous! Really enjoyed seeing how the cars are being put together; integrating technology with manual labor changed our whole appreciation of the car. My next trip would be to have "the VIP" tour of the plant.

The museum tour was very interesting, we were able to learn and appreciate the history of the Corvette; how the symbol originated and going through different eras. Our guide Debbie was very knowledgeable and had made the tour fun with her anecdotes. Visiting the area where the sink hole was gave us the chills, the cars were all on display and the damage that occurred made our stomach turn as we were deeply saddened to see this happen.

Finally, the most anticipated drive, Motorsports Park. This was an exciting event for us. First time we've ever driven a car, let alone a Corvette on a track. It's really hard to describe how it felt but it was exhilarating. My advice is if you ever have an opportunity to drive on a track, do it! Just make sure you're not behind a 2015 Laguna Blue Z06... You may not have to use your brakes as much.

The entire trip was very enjoyable but the part we love the most was the camaraderie between the group. We got to talk to most of the members and have gotten to know a little about each and everyone. We've often heard in mtgs that you'll really get to know who the members are and we have found this to be exactly true. We've made new friends in this trip and look forward to many more trips with our new family and sharing the same passion, driving our Corvette.

Special thanks to the Marianos for arranging a wonderful visit to the plant and the museum, the Woods for making sure we had great places to enjoy dinner, and Brian Kruse for arranging Motorsports Park.

We would also like to thank Bill and Judy for reintroducing us to the Corvette and the QCCC family. We have always enjoyed reading the newsletters and notice Bill always ending with  
Left lane  
Hammer down  
But this must only mean when he is behind you?  
We love you Bill & Judy.

To all.

I just want to say a special thanks to a great group. In January we decided to make a journey to the Museum. What a fantastic trip. Those unable to go missed some super fun.

So thanks to all that went. To all that did the planning and to each of you for your contribution, whether large or small just your conversation was unreal.

We sold one person on ordering a C-7 and two others one trying to convince the wife and one wife trying to urge the husband.

We salvaged one serious car guy from going over to the dark side and getting a Porsche. When you are willing to lose a down payment to stay out of that pit it really says something. P.S. to Tom. One white upside down bathtub 911 passed our chain of cars on I-40. He was by himself poor guy no friends just his whiny little exhaust noise.

I still say going to the museum is like going home to mom's cookin! You cannot beat it.

Special thanks to those that helped Big Fred and to Big Fred for a gallant effort. (Especially Jim and Kay for getting him home)

So let's do it again next year. Hope all arrived home safe, we got here at 7 p.m.

Left lane and hammer down (or at least half way down)  
Bill

Good Afternoon, Bill!

Thank you for putting a nice capstone on another great QCCC adventure. Donna & I thoroughly enjoyed the trip and the wonderful company. Getting to spend some extended time with some club members that we don't know too well was a real treat.

Please pass our thanks along to Paul & Barbara and Chris & Peggy for all they did to make our visit so enjoyable!

Fred & Donna

Dear Fellow QCCC Members,

We also would like to thank Paul & Barbara for putting the QCCC trip to BG together, you know we think the world of you two. Also, "Miss" Peggy & Chris for taking care of the dinner arrangements, think the world of you two also.

It was a real pleasure seeing old Queen City friends and meeting new ones. Barb and I really enjoyed ourselves and hope we were able to help some of you out with our little knowledge of the NCM. We did drop the ball on one thing and should have introduced you all to some special people that are Staff at the museum. You all got to briefly meet Connie (Development Coordinator) that was recruited to take the photos at the QCCC bench. But, we should have taken everyone into the Library/Archives and introduced you to Betty ( Library & Archives Coordinator) and Sharon, Betty was the first museum employee. Barb has a soft spot in her heart for those two ladies as she volunteers there when we go to the NCM for an event.

In the store there is Marla (Car Show Coordinator) and Jeanie (Stock Room Manager) that work behind the scenes. I volunteer in the store and should have taken you to meet those

two ladies. We are sorry as we know they would have loved to have met you all. Next trip that is a must.

We hope everyone will be at the QCCC Birthday Party/Meeting on Saturday August 8th. We will be there as that will be our 3rd meeting this year, no more Provisional/Associate members.

Attached some photos---#s 08-10 is the photo op in front of the museum, # 25 is Bill's Z06, # 26 is Tom & Gayle's 08 and # 30 is The Only C4. I took numerous photos of the track time.

Everyone have a Great week!

Art & Barb Pipek----the "Real Up Yonder" QCCC members

Thanks again to Paul and Barbara for putting this trip together and all the extras we had. To Peggy and Chris for putting together the dinners, and to everyone for being such great company. We enjoyed meeting new people and getting better acquainted with members we don't see that often. The ride home and the back roads Paul took is what the car was made for Barney gave me the driver's seat and what fun I had.

Thank for the memories.

Barney & Donna

Thanks to EVERYONE for all their kindness in taking care of Fred and me during this great trip to NCM. We had a wonderful time and could not have done it without all of you.

Paul and Barbara, a big thank you for getting this ride together. We enjoyed the trip so much. The Plant tour was great and so interesting to see how the new vettes were assembled. We were so impressed how much the race track has come along since our last visit. Fred enjoyed getting to see the races up on the platform (he actually climbed the steps).

All the fellowship dinners were so much fun.

Another big thanks to Brian & Barbara Kruse for driving us around, pushing Fred in the wheelchair, and taking care of us and making sure that Fred did not have to walk far.

Can't forget Chris and Peggy for always looking after us, making sure Fred was taken care of all the time, along with Kay & Jim Weisberg. We can't express our feelings to everyone how we feel about you all. You are the most wonderful, kindest, considerate friends and extended family we could ever hope for. We love you all.

We enjoyed meeting so many new folks and getting to know them. And as always, seeing our vintage friends, a joy and making our trip such fun.

Sorry we got lost on the way back home, however on the good side, we got to see a lot of beautiful country. We appreciate and thank Kay and Jim Weisberg for helping to drive for Fred and me and hanging out with us on the way back home. Thanks to Kay for pushing me

around in the wheelchair at the plant. Such great friends.

God bless you all,  
Fred & Gloria McCoy

P.S. It was good to see Paul & Priscilla Pelkey. We have missed you!

Paul Pelkey wrote:

I concur. Met some great new members and got to spend time with vintage members. ;)

We pulled into the rest area, just before the lovely merge traffic jam, and Priscilla ran into the McCoy's and Weisbergs. I was glad to see them.

We got home just before 7:00 and have approximately 2 gallons of fuel to spare...averaged just over 28 mpg...not bad

Paul and Barbara,

Thank you for all you did to coordinate the museum, plant, and track tours. Awesome fun great memories.

Steve and Laura,

Thanks for hanging back with us...once the car finally got over its automotive PMS it ran like a champ...that's why I never slowed down when we met the group for fear the gremlin would arise again. I saw the cardboard make a bee-line for your car...hope there were no marks.  
We had a great time!!!

Steve & I really enjoyed ourselves and want to thank Paul & Barbara, and Peggy & Chris for giving us a great opportunity again. We know how much effort it takes to make things run smoothly. Brian, thanks for arranging the time at the Motorsports Park. We were blown away by the facility. I thought it was great to see it in person, instead of just moving paper cars around the picture of the track! Steve had fun getting better acquainted with the six speed. As always, my favorite part was lobby time in the evening. The things you learn! We got to spend time with old friends and made some new ones, too. But even a long weekend doesn't give you enough time to get to know everyone. Already looking forward to the next trip.

Steve & Laura Pelchat

Ditto on all the great times had on our trip. Larry and I are still on the road in South Bend, so the car has some new roads to travel! So enjoyed getting to talk with folks we did not previously know as well. Being kind of newbies in the club (almost two years) we definitely look forward to these trips for many reasons but especially for the opportunity to get to know our fellow members.

Thanks to Paul, Barbara, Peggy, Chris, et al for putting this together. Our club rocks!!

Cindy and Larry Newsom

I wanted to wait until most of you had sent "Thank You" emails, so I could just say ditto to all the good things you said and not have to write as much!! LOL

Seriously, Ann & I really enjoyed the trip. Due a variety of reasons, we have sorta been MIA from club events over the past couple of years. It sure was nice to get back into the groove of club activities. Got to meet and get to know a lot of new folks – always a pleasure.

As usual – and we do sometimes take it for granted – Paul and Barbara did a great job. Thanks to Peggy and Brian for their parts, made the events go off without a hitch.

E. O. & Ann

P. S. Paul, could you have them pick up the orange barrels for our next trip?? 😊

I have been a member of QCCC for almost 16 years and it still amazes me how the vehicle I drive can bring so much pleasure. I have gone places and met people I never would have dreamed about before joining this club. This truly has become a second family to me and I continue to add more family members all the time. You really get to know each other when you travel together and I highly recommend it to everyone. I also know the planning that goes into everything we do and I thank all those who make these trips and everything else possible. We look forward to many more.  
Save the Wave!  
Jim & Kay

I hope all you folk arrived home safe and sound (especially Paul Pelkey who had too much sound). Thanks to all of you for your support of the National Corvette Museum and QCCC. Barb and I had a ball getting to know some of you and finding out more secrets from those we thought we knew. As most of you know, Chris and Peggy had a big hand in arranging the evening meals and Brian Kruse made sure things were all in order at the MotorSports Park. You are a special group and I was made even more aware of that when I saw you giving a helping hand to your travelmates to make sure everyone got to participate and enjoy the event. It is our pleasure to introduce you to the wide world of Corvettedom and all the different venues available for you to enjoy. We look forward to many more of these trips with all of you.

Paul and Barb



# **“Heads-Up”**

## ***Up Coming Events***



## **QCCC 47th Birthday Party**

**August 8, 2015 Meeting  
Hendrick Motorsports**

**Special refreshments  
Pictures of everyone by Corvette  
generation ownership**

**Party and pictures 4 p.m.  
Meeting 5:30 p.m.**

# September 12, 2015 QCCC Meeting and Annual Eddie

Burt **BBQ**

**BBQ**

**BBQ**



**3:30 pm**    **Arrival**  
**5:00 pm**    **Pig Out Time**  
**6:30 pm**    **Meeting**

Please bring covered dishes according to your last name as follows:

**A – Q**

**Side Dishes and Salads**

**R – Z**

**Desserts**

Bring chairs and your preference in beverages.

We need 10 – 12 canopies for shade. If you can bring one, please call or email Eddie.

## **Note:**

Please park along the streets and make SURE there's enough room for emergency vehicles.

Jane & Eddie Burt  
251 Amanda Drive \*  
Matthews NC 28104  
704-846-7130  
980-322-8565 cell

## \* Directions from I-485

Exit 57 – Hwy 16/Providence Rd – Turn north (toward Charlotte).  
Turn Right at the light, onto McKee Rd. Go half a mile.  
Turn Right at the light, onto Tilley Morris Rd. Go 1.8 miles.

Turn Right onto Weddington-Matthews Rd (Seminary is on the left). Go half a mile.  
Turn Right onto Amanda Dr.  
251 is the second house on the left, with Corvettes in the yard.

