



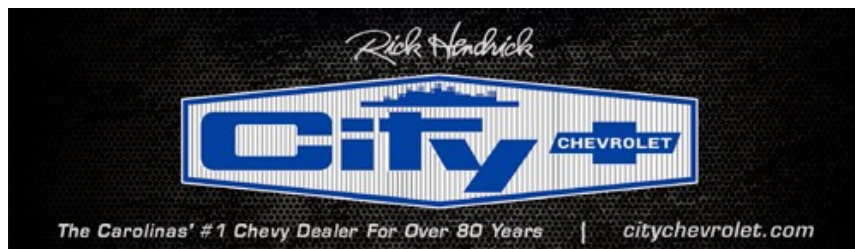
# THE QUEEN CITY CORVETTE GAZETTE

*Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club*

**January 2017**



**December Christmas Party and Club Meeting  
Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church  
December 10, 2016**



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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 electronically published and distributed monthly by volunteers and members of QCCC. Additional information regarding QCCC is available at our website: [www.queencitycorvette.com](http://www.queencitycorvette.com). QCCC is a non-profit club (501(c)(7)) 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. After an initiation fee of \$10.00 per person, club dues are \$100 per year to be paid semiannually or annually. These dues go to cover the cost of programs, events, running the club, and subsidizing the cost of our meetings. Club officers and supporting staff serve as volunteers. To become a member of the QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB, you must be at least 21 years of age, own a Corvette and attend at least three (3) monthly business meetings within a twelve-month period. Come check us out – we love to meet fellow Corvette Enthusiasts! For additional membership information, visit <http://queencitycorvette.com/Membership/> or contact our Membership Director at [membership@queencitycorvette.com](mailto:membership@queencitycorvette.com). We would love to have you join us for a monthly business meeting. If you can't join us, please WAVE!

QCCC's mailing address is: Queen City Corvette Club, PO Box 574 Paw Creek, NC 28130.



## Queen City

# Corvette Conversations

~ *Paul Mitchell, President*

Happy New Year to all QCCC members! Yes, it's a new year, with 12 full months of Corvette fun to look forward to. And having fun is our specialty. So let's tighten the belts and get ready for the ride!

Your QCCC Board is already hard at work with planning and setting priorities. But we need your input as to what you want to include in these plans. I assure you we will be having lots of activities, day trips, a few weekend trips, and continued interaction with our friends in other Corvette Clubs. So give us your ideas so we can include more fun things.

You may notice the title of my article is changed. A conversation is defined as an act of conferring or consulting together. Also as meeting for consultation, discussion, or instruction between individuals or groups. That certainly captures what we do as a Corvette Club – consult together, discuss, get instruction, all covering Corvettes and Corvette related information. So we are constantly holding Corvette conversations. And that is a big part of the fun, benefit, and purpose of QCCC. So join in, be a part, and get involved in all the conversations that will take place this year.

We're off to a great start, with the chili cook off and hot dog feast at our January meeting. At the end of the month we have several members going to the Rolex 24 at Daytona. Then our Valentines Party and Dinner at the February meeting. And finally the big social event of the year – the QCCC Awards Banquet on February 25 at the Speedway Club. That's a great start while winter is limiting our outside activities and driving. We hope to get a day trip in, weather permitting. Then spring is around the corner and the real fun begins. Keep your eye on the calendar on the web site and watch for QCCC Blasts to be sure you are informed.

I and the current Board are honored to serve you, the QCCC membership. We will continue to keep the traditions and reputation of the club first and foremost in all that we do. All we need is your continued support and participation. Let's have another really great year. And, as always –

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



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

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- 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.

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*Please contact:*



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# LIFE IN THE FAST LANE



...SURELY MAKE YOU LOSE YOUR MIND...

**Welcome to 2017**, the 49th year of the Queen City Corvette Club. I'm looking forward to serving as your Vice President and want to thank you for your confidence in me. Gwen and I look forward to another year of outstanding events, activities, meetings, social times and of course, dinners- the one thing that seems to be at the center of the many times that we come together as a family.

I want to encourage you to watch the event calendar on the website. There will be some new activities as well as every year favorites. The calendar entry will be linked to other pages and sites that will give you the information you need as you select which activities to join in with your Corvette family. Many thanks to our Great Webmaster, Bob and Marilyn Becker, for what they do so well.

What am I going to write about now? My monthly remarks will deal with what I consider 'fun-stuff': it could be songs, news, stories, jokes or quotes, but no technical talk. I'll leave the techno-stuff to the car guys. If you any questions about what my car has or can do, ask Brad.

Again, we're looking forward to 2017, wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy 2017.



## Gary, Gwen and Snickers



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Click [Here](#) for the QCCC Website Homepage

Click [Here](#) for Last Month's Club Board and Business Meeting Minutes

Click [Here](#) for Archived Meeting Minutes, Newsletters, Calendars, Etc.

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*Calendar Snapshot of Planned Events for the Next Few Months:*

2017		
January		
14	QCCC Business Meeting & Chili Feed	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
February		
11	QCCC Business Meeting and Valentine's Day Dinner	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
25	QCCC Annual Banquet	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
March		
11	QCCC Business Meeting	<a href="#">Details &amp; Information</a>
April		
8-9	AutoFair at Charlotte Motor Speedway	
	QCCC Business Meeting and Club Picnic	
26-30	National Corvette Museum Bash	See Paul Mariano





## ***Bonino Banter***

### ***– The Social Scene***

## **Happy New Year to all the QCCC Family!!!**

We have so much in store for this year – it makes my head spin! I personally am excited as Social Director because I have not only a group of members (Peggy Wood, Barbara Mariano, Marilyn Becker, Susan Kurt, Tracy Bartlett and lots more) who are always there to step up and help with sign-up sheets, food coordination, taking on full individual events, but now we also have Anne Houck who has offered to help particularly with day trips and some week-end outings. This has been sparse these last couple of years so we need to FILL the calendar so all of you will have lots of choices of activities going on to choose from! As we set-up these events we will post them on the website and for sure be emailing the information out to all of you. Anyone else who would like to help out, please call or email me...we love the help!!!

We have our **5<sup>TH</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off** this Saturday night. Everyone should really enjoy this as this year Paul and Christine Schmitt with the help of the Wings have put a new spin on the contest. This could get very heated!!! (no pun intended). The club will supply the hotdogs but we do need more chili makers and people bringing desserts as well.

Our meeting in February will be a special **catered Valentine Dinner**. It is only \$20 per person and it will include all the trimmings and a special dessert. This will once again be at the VFW Hall in Indian Trail Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. Please sign-up and plan to attend. Sign-up sheet will be at the January meeting and if you don't pay then you can mail a check (made out to QCCC) to Pat Bonino.

Now for our **Annual Banquet...February 25<sup>th</sup> at The Speedway Club** – this is a dressy affair with a sit down wonderful 2 meat dinner, 2016 award ceremony, a special tribute to John Greenwood and The Sebring Raceway and entertainment from the tremendous band – “Too Much Sylvia”. The cost to the members will be \$40 per person and to the PMs \$60 per person. We MUST have this paid prior to event. We need everyone to sign-up and pay for the dinner either at the next two meetings or mail a check to Pat Bonino to lock in your seats!

The best way to get the most out of your membership to QCCC is to come to the events...talk with the folks...enjoy the meals with your friends. Let's make this our best year ever!!!

Your Enthusiastic Social Director

*Pat*

**From the Desk of Your New Automotive Director**  
**(Official Article Title and Accompanying Photo Coming in February)**

Just last night, your illustrious new president notified the new board members of yet another obligation, a monthly write-up for the QCCC newsletter. Doesn't he know I'm retired and have little to no free time???? After stewing for a bit and mumbling a word or two to myself (you know, those words that if heard by my long-suffering wife, Barbara, result in a scolding).

Adding to that, Paul gave me no bounds on what to write, nor an outline. Being too lazy, no wait, too BUSY to look back and see what my predecessor wrote, here is my first attempt to provide a monthly blurb.

This coming year will, of course, see at least two car care days. One will be late February or early March, the other just before the NCM BASH. Since I still run an occasional HPDE, the exact dates will be defined by the next club meeting. John Jensen has been promoted to CREW CHIEF, so when it comes to oil changes at the car care days, expect him to direct you to do the oil change. Boss-men are like that. There will probably be a third day later in the summer.

I didn't go to the Adams Car care day. I did hear it was a hit, so I will do my best to see that become a regular event.

Then there are the two Auto Fairs. I'm not a car show type, so I will probably ask one of you to help with the organizing. Ditto for our show in the fall, I know less than most of you about that event. I will be relying on Gary and Paul to help me through these events.

Those of you that have been to the Blue Ridge area of Virginia know what a beautiful place it is. Barb and I owned a farm east of Bedford. It had a view of the Peaks of Otter. One of our associate members, Robert Anderson, has agreed to put together a two day trip that will include the National D-Day Memorial, a visit to the Parkway Collection, Chateau Morrisette Winery, and a bunch of driving miles on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Don and Peggy Conover will be helping Robert with the planning. This will be an overnigher. Standby for more on this.

Best wishes to all for a prosperous New Year.

Brian Kruse

## **Membership Director's Report January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017**

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

Wow! What happened to 2016? It went by like a flash and here we are, already into 2017. I hope that this year, brings you all great health, great wealth, and maybe even a new Corvette!

First and foremost, I just want to take a minute to thank all those Members that voted for me allowing me to become your QCCC Membership Director. It is very humbling. We have been members for two years, although the many wonderful friends we have made during this brief time make us feel like we've known you our entire lives.

Why this position? Well I love people. I love talking to them and being with them. So the fit is good. Secondly, for the past two years, I can't begin to tell you how impressed I have been with QCCC family. From the Leadership of the Board to the great BBQ's, trips to Bowling Green, ice cream socials, Up Yonder Dinners and just gathering with people that love this great car. The people that make up this outstanding Car Club are the most caring and loving people that I have ever experienced in this type of a setting. So when you boil it down, it's all about this great car, the people that love it, and the social setting that brings all this together. Wow ... I am still amazed.

If you missed the January Meeting, here is a little bio of myself for those of you that do not know me. I am married to Christine for 46 wonderful years. We have lived all over the eastern part of the US and moved here a little over five years ago. We have two children. Our daughter and son in law who live here in Charlotte have 3 boys. Our son, who lives in the Atlanta area with his wife, have a beautiful little girl (our only granddaughter) and a son.

After spending four years in the United States Air Force, the first nine years of my career were spent at a Cadillac Dealership in Buffalo, NY, working in the Service Department. During that time, I went to night school and received my degree, while learning all the facets of a Service Department from administrative to turning a wrench. After receiving my college degree, I applied to General Motors seeking a position at Cadillac Motor Car Division. A *long* year later I landed the job and spent close to 30 years with GM, working various Management and Executive positions in Sales, Service, Advertising, and Marketing for both Cadillac and Chevrolet. When I left GM, I went back into the retail end of the business and managed dealerships that sold Chevrolets, Buicks, Acura and Toyota. At the Chevy store, although I didn't own a Corvette at the time, I was able to arrange the Dealer's sponsorship of the local Rochester Corvette Club. My total number of years in the automobile wholesale and retail business, is close to 40 years. I guess you could say I have gasoline in my veins.

As your Membership Director, I would like to continue one process that was started by Chris Wood and that is Vette Buddies. The QCCC Vette Buddies consists of a group of our members that will assist and help the new Prospective Members as they start their 3-meeting commitment. You and I both know that it nice to be able to go to a Member and ask various questions concerning Membership and the QCCC. More to come on that.

Another item I am thinking about is a QCCC Care & Compassion List. This list will be compiled and available for every meeting showing those members that are ill, upcoming or recuperating from surgery, in the hospital, etc. (Names will *not* be added to the list unless they are approved by the individual as their privacy is most important and will be respected.) I feel this is important as members in a group this large go through health and other issues and may need our support but we are not aware of their situation. The list will keep the QCCC members up to date so they can call, send cards, visit and most importantly pray for that individual. Also included on the list will be those whose family members are serving in the military here or overseas and those who are involved in local Police, State Police or Sheriff's Departments. I am in the process of putting this together and will keep you advised as we near completion.

Last but not least, I want to give my heartfelt thanks to Chris Wood who served honorably as your previous Membership Director. When we became members, as I'm sure many of you likewise experienced, he was always there to answer questions and encourage us with his kind and thoughtful way. I know I have big shoes to fill but know that you will all give me the grace I need to do the best job I can for our great club.

Before I close, I wanted to give you a Membership Report-

Total QCCC Members CYTD 12/31/2016 - 349

Total QCCC Families CYTD 12/31/2016 - 185

Members who joined in 2016 - 56

Members who were removed - 54

Difference - +2

Prospective Members on the list - 24

Eligible to be voted into QCCC in January - 2

Again I thank you one and all. See you at the Chili Cook Off / January Meeting!

All the Best

Paul Schmitt  
Membership Director







## National Corvette Museum



### NCM CORNER

To paraphrase the old cliché, “a new year dawnith”, and with it comes a lot of excitement for the Corvette enthusiast. Rumbles of a new ZR1 with a dual overhead cam V8 and maybe, at long last, a mid-engine Corvette. One or more of the new models should be on display at the NCM Bash in April. Can’t wait to see what the General has wrought.

I thank all of you that voted for me as Member at Large. Even though I ran unopposed, I understand the vote was extremely close. In fact, I understand it took the Electoral College to get me in as I lost the popular vote. Thank goodness for a modified democracy. As the MAL, just let me know if there is anything you would like brought before the board.

Coming attractions at the Motor Sports Park: A go-kart track is being laid out and the MSP will be purchasing high end karts for rentals. If you really want to learn all the nuances of racing, you have to go through the karting discipline. Track safety for motorcycles is also being upgraded by purchasing sections of Aerofence for installation along certain areas of the track. If the club is willing, I can set up a go-fund-me type account at the NCM and you can phone in your donations. All contributions are tax deductible and count toward your yearly giving. Never too early to start thinking taxes for 2017.

Most of you that have signed up for the Bash have been very diligent about making your hotel reservations and answering my four question quiz. Now it’s time for another reminder regarding the trip. If you plan on taking a tour of the Assembly Plant, the sooner you make your reservations the more likely you are to get the tour time that best fits your schedule. Remember, tours are now booked through the museum website not the plant site. Don’t tarry to register for the event as activities fill up fast.

Save the Wave

### BOX SCORE

Paul Mariano  
NCM Ambassador

No. of QCCC Family Units	188
No. of NCM Members	106 (56.4%)
No. of Lifetime Members	40
No. of Duntov Society Members	5
No. of Spire Members	5

# Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

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

**More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past**



## **Thelma and Louise..... well sorta (Janesville or Bust)**

Two of QCCC's Vintagers take a pilgrimage. The time was somewhere in the 80's. Dollar Bill Ingram was up to his usual old tricks. In other words finding outstanding muscle cars dirt cheap and selling at a killer profit. This time it was a '70 Chevelle SS, 454, 425hp, LS 6 motor, convertible, 4 speed, red over black. His asking price \$9,000, which meant he probably paid about \$1,500. Like I said, he was really, really good at what he did. Who else would have known in the early 80's how rare that car was? I expect total numbers under 200, but I am not sure.

Sold, sold, sold. The buyer resided in Janesville, Wisconsin (well north and west of Chicago, below and west of Madison). Not a problem. Time for a road trip. I know not what gear was in the rear end but I can assure you that was a long drive. So Dollar calls up our other car guy, Mr. Darrell Kirkley for a co- driver. My guess is that at times it was their interpretation of The Gumball Rally. They started off out by the airport where Darrell was the first driver. He almost cut the trip short by gassing it to pass a car on Morris Field Lane. This is where he learned what the 425hp would do in a tight narrow two lane road. Darrell has a tendency to drive 10-10ths most of the time as he did when racing. Somehow they made it to Chicago (normally about a 12 hour trip). The next day a brain freeze set in. They drove this fine muscle car to O'Hare airport and rented a big full size sedan. They then proceeded to find a motel room. Having or making (you are free to choose on these trips) time, they decided to take in a Chicago White Sox game. So they left the Chevelle at the motel, (which today would be stolen in 30 minutes), and drove the big box sedan to Cominsky Park. Traffic was backed up when they got to parking. Now keep in mind Bill is a type AA and Darrell at least a type A. They saw a field that was open, so Darrell left the stalled traffic cutting across the lot, and proceeded to park in the field. At this time a "gentleman" came running over and said "you can't park here move it or I will have it towed". Wrong thing to say to Darrell when it is a rental. He replied tow it, I don't care it is a rental. The car remained and was not towed. Next they entered the stadium and got the usual junk food meal and made their way to their seats. As they ate, they wondered why the players were not warming up. After sitting there for a while the announcer declared the game was postponed to another night. They were told the night before there was a rock concert with a big promotion to bring your disco records out to the concert and break them to show rock would remain as disco was fading. Evidently some of the youts had broken the vinyls in such small pieces that the ground crew was struggling to get it all up, making it unsafe for the players. They returned to the motel and the LS6 was still there. The next day they drove both cars to Janesville, then took the rental back to O'Hare for the trip home. I am sure they felt like they really hit a home run with the profit on that car. However, below is auction coverage out of this month's Hemmings Muscle Machine where the same car did not sell to a bid of \$180,000 where the average sell price on it was \$200,000. Somewhere between \$9,000 and \$200,000 somebody hit the big jackpot. They just did not make many LS 6 cars. Can you imagine driving a \$200,000 LS6 Chevelle 1,000 miles to a buyer today? Not.

I imagine there were conversations, and even some drinks involved in this story that best remain untold. But those were the days of QCCC members and their antics.

It was a great time to be into cars. Both remember this adventure, but neither can remember how many times you would have to gas up an LS6 to go over 1,000 miles but you can bet Ingram charged the buyer for the gas.

Funny how you do things as a youth that you would not consider doing as an adult.

Submitted: Bill Cruthis



## CHEVROLET

**Year:** 1970 **Reserve:** Undisclosed  
**Model:** Chevelle SS convertible **Top Bid:** \$180,000 (Not Sold)  
**Condition:** Restored/#1- **Avg. Selling Price:** \$200,000

So, here we had a very carefully worded writeup that left big questions as to what this very clean car actually was. It came with a build sheet, a Protect-O-Plate and an LS6 engine, although the last of these was never actually stated to be correct for this particular car. There was a lot of LS6 talk, about how just 18 convertibles are known to remain, but no confirmation that this was actually one of them. "Believed to be 51,000 miles..." and "Believed to be the only example in Cranberry Red with Black interior..." further muddled the waters. The top bid wasn't chump change, but still short of what a documented, numbers-matching LS6 convertible would bring, indicating that this was probably not one of those.

## **From Track to Street --- *Corvettes In Racing***



### **IMSA Sets Initial Balance of Performance (BoP) for Daytona 24 Test this Weekend**

By [Keith Cornett](#)

Jan 3, 2017

This weekend is the Roar Before the 24, a three-day test session held at the Daytona International Speedway in advance of the 2017 season opener, the Rolex 24 at Daytona, which runs January 28-29th.

IMSA issued its first Balance of Performance (BoP) tables to teams last week and further changes will be made once IMSA reviews the data following the Roar test.

The entire GTLM field including [Corvette Racing](#) will be participating in the Roar Before the 24 test.

In GTLM, the only new car in the ultra-competitive “manufacturers” class is the mid-engine Porsche 911 RSR. That car has been assigned a minimum weight of 1,240 kg (2,734 lbs). For the rest of the existing cars, the BMW M6 minimum weight is set at 1,230 kg while the Corvette C7.R is 1,240 kg, Ferrari 488 is 1,250 kg and the Ford GTs are set at 1,265 kg.

The Corvette C7.Rs have the best air-fuel ratio set at 0.88 while the Porsche is 0.89, Ford is at 0.90, the BMW is 0.96 and the leanest fuel supply goes to the Ferrari twin turbo V8s which is set at 1.10.

The Corvette C7.Rs and the Porsche 911 RSR both have restrictors on their naturally-aspirated engines. The Corvette C7.R has two 29.9 mm restrictors while the Porsche 911 has two 31.2 mm restrictors. The other turbo-charged GTLM race cars will have their own boost curves.

**Well, I went to the Roar Before the 24** and got to see all the new cars. The Corvettes ran very strong and the new entries in the PC and GTD classes look great. It is going to be one great season. The Rolex 24 is on January 28 – 29, so if you are in Daytona come see me. If not, tune in and watch it on TV.

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

*Boyd Kurt*

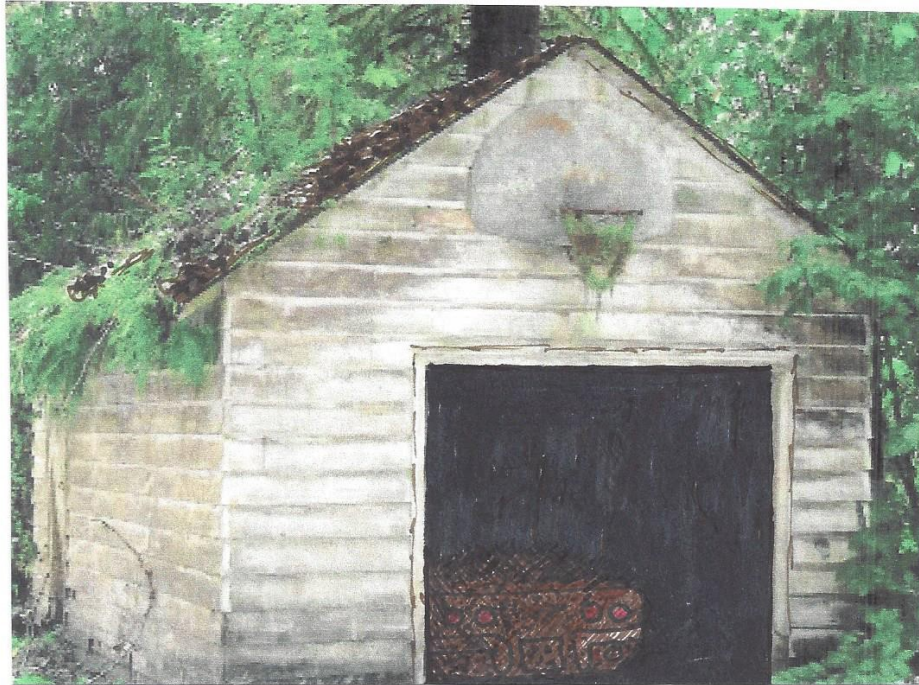




QCCC

# GARAGE OF THE MONTH

AND/OR CORVETTE CAVE



Some are pretty to look at, and done up pretty bold  
Others you can work in, on Corvettes that are old.  
They house history and mystery,  
With oil on the floor,  
Now's your chance to see, what's inside the door.

# **QCCC Garage/Corvette Cave of the Month for January**

## **Trav's Place**

This garage, circa 1976, has housed the '64 coupe, the 2003 Z06, and various cars and SUVs of Sharon's. It shows a rich history of those 40 years. If you notice the white boxes around the ceiling, they contain all but 2 months of Hot Rod magazine since 1953, all chronicled and bound. You will see many QCCC awards on shelves, many of those date back to the 70's. Also of note, one area where there are posted the covers of the old QCCC Newsletters with the artwork by Trav. Not visible, but up in the rafters are many old parts off the '64, replaced by new or reproduction parts. What we have here is some borderline tendency toward hoarding. This has been a working man's garage and many a repair or replace on the '64 was done here. Cool fact: This is the garage where the infamous Blue Moon photo was taken with Jim Whitley & Tommy Mitchem in the '64.

Now let's go inside to the Corvette Cave. A small cubby hole about 10 x 10 but packed full of memorabilia. One photo shows the big Schlitz collection, music cd's, model cars, Juke box, drum, wide screen, computer, refrig, framed photos, certificates and many other unidentifiable items. The other photo shows model cars, Panthers and miscellaneous framed goodies. Also a must have for the cave, the framed velvet Elvis. Somewhere in this hodge podge is a golf ball collection.

The open widow passes thru to Sharon's Cave. Cool fact: The garage is close enough to the house so that when dinner is ready, she just hits the garage door opener as a signal to Trav to come on in. A working man's garage plus a little cozy cave to relax and enjoy the history of your life with your Corvette friends.

Trav's place—your QCCC Garage / Corvette Cave of the month.

(If you would like to have your Garage/Cave featured in the Newsletter just send me some photos and a storyline of how it all developed. Remember, we vote in November for Garage/Cave of the year.)

Thanks

Bill Cruthis







# Ron Fellows

NOT just for the fellows!



While it has been my life-long dream to attend a road course school, the thought of attending and driving at *Ron Fellows Performance Driving School* DID intimidate me. My skills are those of an average driver and I was afraid I would be the only GIRL DRIVER in a class full of highly skilled, overly aggressive, or quite possibly arrogant "hot dog" drivers. After finally getting up the nerve to enroll, my fears were calmed by the Spring Mountain staff. They assured me that I would never be asked to drive above my comfort level and that during track time we would be broken into smaller groups with similar driving skills. They even shared that there would be one other woman in the class. We also would be driving the same type of C-7 Corvette that we owned.



The instructors did not disappoint! They were patient and encouraging, providing confirming and corrective feedback throughout the 2-day course. The content they provided will make me a better daily driver – skills that every woman (and guy) can use. We started with a serpentine turning activity to encourage using peripheral vision, side windows and mirrors, and to anticipate making turns. We then got lessons on making quick stops on dry and wet pavement and quick turning for accident avoidance.

This gave me amazing confidence using the C-7's ABS braking system and weather mode.

Then came track time. As promised we were broken into smaller groups with drivers of similar skill-level. Yep – it was Carol (the other gal in the class), Dave and me on track together. The "hotdogs" were in the other packs – whew! The track time was entirely composed of following the instructor through each turn as he talked us through what we should be doing "brake – down shift – turn – aim for the apex cone – unwind – give it gas – up shift." After each track sessions we got additional classroom instruction, then went back on the track to put more new information to use. For me this included learning to paddle shift in an automatic. On each lap we sped up a little more – not beyond our individual capabilities – but we were challenged to trust the car's incredible capabilities and to be a little more aggressive (i.e. trust our new-found skills) on each lap. It was a BLAST!

So ladies (and guys), if you are intimidated by your new C-7, this class is your best bet to grow your confidence in driving a high-performance car AND in becoming a better and safer daily driver. Want to watch me in action? One of my runs is on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/GqLc5aeJMA>.

Jamie Stamey – Proud graduate of Ron Fellows  
Performance Driving School!





# The "Whirlwind"



We've all heard the term "whirlwind"; a small rotating windstorm of limited extent, **a confused rush**, something that involves many quickly changing events, etc. You also remember reading about the design, transport and constructing of QCCC's NCM club exhibit back in the September Gazette. Well, there is more to the story and this is where the term "**whirlwind**" comes in.

Four QCCC Members, three energetic and wide-eyed, the other not yet awake, left Bill Cruthis' home in Denver



at 6:10 a.m. on December 22nd headed for Bowling Green and the National Corvette Museum. The mission was to take down, pack up and return the QCCC Club display that had been occupying the cherished "rotunda" there for several months. This trip, unlike the one to transport and build the display, was uneventful. Apparently, the gravel trucks had filled all the holes in Kentucky and were parked in a lot somewhere so they couldn't hurt anything. Calling it uneventful is a VERY GOOD thing because it allowed the quartet to travel to the NCM, arrive in record time, chit chat with old friends, do some last minute shopping in the NCM Store, pack up, load Gary's Corvette on the

trailer and return to Bill's home in exactly sixteen hours. Actually, we here home in time to watch the 11:00 p.m. news. I would never have believed it had I not witnessed it myself!

While Brian and John loaded the Corvette on the trailer, Bill and I removed and packed up all the display items (actually, Bill did most of it while I was visiting with the NCM Staff). Because there are only four available seats in the SUV, someone (something?) had to stay behind. Although Judy will be disappointed that "Manny" is no longer around the house to keep Bill company, "Manny" the mannequin, as he (or she, Bill says it's a guy, but I'm not convinced) has affectionately become known, has found a new home in the NCM Store. Now we'll all be able to visit with "Manny" during each trip to the NCM. A few of the NCM employees were skeptical of this initially because for the three months Manny stood on the rotating display, those in the office wondered who that strange person was that kept looking at them. I attempted to convince Bill to ride in Gary's Corvette on the ride back and keep his foot on the brake so the Corvette wouldn't roll off the trailer, but he saw through my scheme.



Many thanks to Brian Kruse, John Jensen, and Bill Cruthis for giving of their time the week before Christmas to accomplish the mission and bring to a close the saga of the QCCC NCM Display. Thanks to Brian for the use of his trailer, to Barbara for loaning us her SUV to travel in, and to Brian and John for a very skillful and safe job of driving the entire trip. Thanks to Bill for all the time he put into visualizing the exhibit, designing it, accumulating the items and making it work so well. The next club to display have big shoes to fill.

The next time you're at the NCM, don't forget to go by and visit with Manny. I'm sure he / she will enjoy the visit! *Chris Wood*



## *QCCC Members & Guests Photos*

*There are many, many more to see on the website!*

*Click [Here](#) to View the Photo Gallery*

*Do you have club photos you would like to share?*

*Click [Here](#) to Upload to the Photo Gallery*





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*Do you have club photos you would like to share?*

*Click [Here](#) to Upload to the Photo Gallery*



On **facebook**?

## Join our QCCC Members page!

*Use the page for all things related to our club,  
our members and Corvettes.*

- Post photos during club meetings, on caravans and at club sponsored events.
- Show us your Corvette in action!
- Share/repost Corvette related articles & news.

**[www.facebook.com/groups/409674005715403/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/409674005715403/)**

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for the Queen City Corvette Club. The header features the club's logo, which includes a crown, a checkered flag, and a red flag with a yellow star, with the text "QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB" and "CHARLOTTE, NC" below it. The page name is "QCCC Members" and it is a "Closed Group". The tagline "Cruisin' the Carolinas" is displayed. Navigation tabs for "Discussion", "Members", "Events", "Photos", and "Files" are visible. A search bar is present. The "Write Post" section includes options for "Write Post", "Add Photo / Video", "Create Poll", and "More". The "Recent Activity" section shows a post by Jamie K Stamey from yesterday at 12:58pm, asking about Top Tier gas retailers. The right sidebar contains an "ADD MEMBERS" section, a "MEMBERS" section showing 71 members with profile pictures, a "DESCRIPTION" section stating "QCCC Members Only", and a "GROUP TYPE" section.

**QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB**  
**CHARLOTTE, NC**

QCCC Members  
Closed Group  
*Cruisin' the Carolinas*

Joined ▾ 1 Share Notifications ...

Discussion Members Events Photos Files Search this group

Write Post Add Photo / Video Create Poll More

**RECENT ACTIVITY**

**Jamie K Stamey**  
Yesterday at 12:58pm  
Have you seen the updated list of Top Tier gas retailers? Check into [www.TopTierGas.com](http://www.TopTierGas.com) periodically to keep up with changes. (Top Tier gas

**ADD MEMBERS**  
+ Enter name or email address...

**MEMBERS** 71 Members

**DESCRIPTION** Edit  
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Members are encouraged to use the page for al... See More

**GROUP TYPE**



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*Cruisin' the Carolinas since 1968*

## **January 14, 2017 Business Meeting Announcement (Location Change)**

**Hopewell Presbyterian Church  
10500 Beatties Ford Road  
Huntersville, N.C. 28078**

### **Chili Cook-off**

**\*Bring along your favorite chili recipe and compete with the rest to win a prize! We also will need desserts. QCCC will provide hotdogs, condiments, chips and drinks.**

**You do not have to bring chili or a dessert to attend unless you are going to eat at this event. This is our January business meeting as well.**

**\*We will have more specific details coming concerning this fun Cook-off for those that sign-up to bring Chili**

**\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF TIMES\*\*\*\*\***

Contestants set up Chili stations	3 pm
Taste Testing & Social	4 pm-5 pm
Dinner (hot dogs, chili, homemade desserts)	5 pm-6 pm
Meeting Time/winner announcements	6 pm -7 pm

***Looking forward to seeing everyone there!!!***