

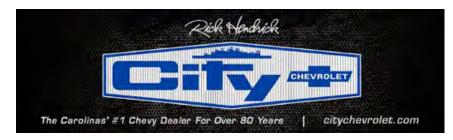
# THE QUEEN CITY CORVETTE GAZETTE

Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

**April 2017** 



March Business Meeting Streetside Classics March 11, 2017





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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: <a href="www.queencitycorvette.com">www.queencitycorvette.com</a>. 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 <a href="http://queencitycorvette.com/Membership/">http://queencitycorvette.com/Membership/</a> or contact our Membership Director at <a href="membership@queencitycorvette.com/">membership@queencitycorvette.com/</a>. 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

I have just returned from Sunday Auto Fair (and yes, Cindy is mad at me because my article is late.) But it is <u>almost</u> worth facing her wrath to be able to report on this event. As usual, QCCC showed up in force! We had 30 cars both days, and they were all show winners. We even had alternates for both days. Six of the seven generations were present, and we especially had some really great C3 cars. And I'm happy to report that Bill Cruthis won QCCC Best of Show with his recently completed 71 coupe. So he gets to represent us at the Auto Fair line of glory. Congratulations to all participants, class winners, and to Brian for a very successful weekend.

April starts in real time our driving season. The annual BBQ is next week at the Loftin's estate. With beautiful weather predicted, we will have another great turnout of outstanding Corvettes. There is a rumor that the Easter Bunny will hide some eggs, with prizes for some of them. So come early and get your inner child on as you find that golden egg!

Following a brief break to get your cars shined up, many of us will be heading to Bowling Green for our annual trek to the Bash. We will have the largest contingent ever to represent QCCC at the Museum, and it will be a really fun event. I can't wait!

May starts out with an opportunity to run your car at Farmington Dragway, or just watch. Then a great trip to the Virginia mountains, organized by the Conovers and Andersons. Our "Corvettes in the Round" meeting is next, and shortly after is another big annual event, the Shelton Vineyards Vettes for Vets. And remember Streetside has their Cars and Coffee the last Saturday of each month.

That's just the next 60 days. June brings the Myrtle Beach show, Earnhardt Chevrolet show, and our summer meeting at the Speedway Club with the opportunity to have a wonderful meal afterwards.

So, as usual, the QCCC calendar is chock full of events, trips, and really fun things to do with your Corvette family. So keep checking the calendar and watch for the email Blasts (and soon watch for QCCC Facebook updates) to see what you want to do the coming weekend in your Corvette. Because we got it goin' on! And don't forget..........

Drive 'em, love '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

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.

Please contact:

**Cam Stewart** 

Cell: 704-591-8800



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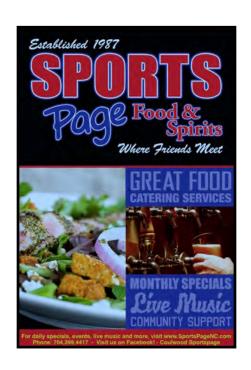




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## LIFE IN THE FAST LANE







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

#### It's April and time to meet at Tommy and Brenda's Garage Mahal

....year #49 of the Premier Corvette Club in the Southeast USA...

The weather is here, wish you were beautiful.....oh, wait, that's a Jimmy Buffett song. But, as advertised in last month's article, here are *Summertime Tunes*. Summertime is here, it's time to get out and show off that Beauty of yours (take your Corvette out, too). Our club calendar is cranking up, Auto Fair is next week-end April  $8^{th}$  and  $9^{th}$ , and like EL Prez Paul says in his column, get out and drive your Corvette, it'll make you and the car smile.

Our club, (which is the Premier Corvette Club in the Southeast USA) has nothing but Beauties in it, from all the classics up to you'ns that can afford those new 2017s, so get out and show off those cars. But, when you go for those rides, whether it's a day trip or a long haul to the NCM, you have to have driving music. And that's where this column comes in. Here are the Top 15 Summertime Tunes to listen to while you're cruising in your Vette. Remember, deep down inside I'm still a long haired kid listening to 70's rock and roll music. Jane Burt- I will burn you a CD and drop it in the mail to you.

### Top 15 Summertime Tunes

#1 Eruption The guitar solo on the 1978 Van Halen eponymous debut album from the band Van Halen and the greatest guitarist of all time, Eddie Van Halen.

**#1A** You Really Got Me This *Kinks*' remake is almost a continuation of the guitar solo, and you can't play one without the other. Yes, it's two number one songs but it is my column....

#2 Shoot to Thrill From the 1980 Back in Black album by AC/DC, I really like this song because it's from IronMan2, and he's my favorite Avenger.

**#3** Life in the Fast Lane From one of the greatest bands of all time, *Eagles* and greatest albums of all time, *Hotel California*. This song was "written" by Joe Walsh, Glenn Frey and Don Henley. The signature riff was one of Joe Walsh's warm-ups that he would do on his guitar getting ready for a concert, and Glenn heard it and the two of them turned it into a melody, the hit song and the title of this award-winning monthly article.

#4 Got Me Under Pressure by that little ole 3 piece band from Texas, ZZ Top.

I met Billy Gibbons one time when he came into my Target store on a Sunday afternoon in Houston, Texas. Ask me at the picnic and I'll tell you that story.

#5 Rock and Roll All Night by Kiss. This signature song, from their 1975 album Dressed to Kill, has to be included in any Summertime Driving songlist.

#6 Big Ole Jet Airliner by the Steve Miller Band, from the 1977 Book of Dreams album. Who hasn't gotten onto an airplane going on vacation while singing this song in their head?

**#7** Rockin' Down the Highway This song has been highlighted in a previous column by this author. Tommy Johnston of the *Doobie Brothers* wrote this song about driving up and down the Pacific Coast Highway in California trying to avoid the highway patrol.

#8 | Can't Drive 55 by Sammy Hagar. It was the lead single from Sammy's 1984 album VOA. He wrote it immediately after getting a speeding ticket in New York State. This song is the anthem of everybody that has put 'one foot on the brake and one on the gas'.

#9 Radar Love by Golden Earring. Everyone knows the opening, your ears prick up when it starts, and you're waiting to sing along, 'I've been driving all night my hands wet on the wheel...'
Tell the truth, you know you do.......

**#10** Hot for Teacher by *Van Halen*. Their 1984 album was full of hits and rocking tunes, and you have to love this video. My teacher never looked like this....

#11 Fool for the City by the British group Foghat. It was released in 1975, and was their first platinum album. Another of their bigger hits "Slow Ride" was the 3<sup>rd</sup> song one the first side of this album. I bought this album in high school, never listened to the second side and gave it to my friend Mike Fletcher. But I do love New York City.

**#12 Big Foot** is real head-banger from Sammy Hagar, Michael Anthony, Joe Satriani and Chad Smith, who define the term 'super-band'. They call this band *Chicken Foot*. Find this video, it's a classic. Even Ms. America bangs her head to this one. Trust me.....

#13 Highway Star from the classic album Machine Head. The album was recorded in 1971 in Montreaux, Switzerland and released in March 1972. The earth stood still in Fayetteville NC when this album hit my mom's Motorola stereo. This song is about a car that nobody can beat; that sounds like any of our Corvettes. We all think 'nobody's gonna beat my car...' One cool thing about a band like Deep Purple is all the live albums available and the different versions of their hits like Highway Star, Woman in Tokyo, and of course, Smoke on the Water that are available to download and enjoy.

Our #14th and last song has another story behind it, kind of like the Paul Harvey piece, "now you know the rest of the story". I worked with a guy in Houston who was the original drummer for this band. They were some high school kids in Johnstown, Pa. who started playing together in one of their garages. They turned into a decent high school band and got some work and made a little money playing clubs as far away as the 2001 Club in Pittsburgh, Pa. that was the inspiration for the disco club in the movie Saturday Night Fever. My friend graduated from high school, went off to

college and left his high school band named *Wild Cherry*. A few years later, the band hit with this song and became famous with.....

#14 Play that Funky Music White Boy. Dance, Michael Bullard, dance.

#### **Quotes about Being Yourself:**

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting at the Loftin's Garage. Get there early, find some Easter Eggs and win some cool high-quality big-money prizes (Really, trust me). Don't forget the BBQ dinner being catered. Touch base with Pat if you haven't signed up for dinner yet. If you can't do BBQ, then bring your own sandwich, chicken or whatever. The point is to BE THERE. Visit with your friends; people miss you if you aren't there. Show up early, check out everyone's beauties, and share stuff about your car. George Manghis has a new 2017 Grand Sport to show off. It's a great new ride, he sent me pictures, how cool. Check his new Highway Star.....

#### Next month, don't' miss Top Five Jack Nicholson Movies!!!

Remember,

Gary, Gwen and Snickers the \$529 Dog



#### 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.

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

April		
2	Day Trip to Old Mecklenburg Brewery	<b>Details &amp; Information</b>
8-9	AutoFair at Charlotte Motor Speedway	<b>Details &amp; Information</b>
15	QCCC Business Meeting and Club Picnic - Loftin's Garage	Details & Information
26-30	National Corvette Museum Bash	See Paul Mariano
29	Streetside Classics Cars and Coffee Cruise-In	Details & Information
May		
6	Corvette Show and Thunder Valley Drags at Farmington Dragway	Details & Information
9-10	Springtime "Run to the Blue Ridge"	<b>Details &amp; Information</b>
13	QCCC Business Meeting - Hopewell Presbyterian Church	Details & Information
27	Streetside Classics Cars and Coffee Cruise-In	<b>Details &amp; Information</b>
27	Shelton Vineyard's Vettes for Vets	Details & Information
June		
2-3	Corvettes at Myrtle Beach - Overview	Details & Information
10	QCCC Business Meeting - Speedway Club at Charlotte Motor Speedway	Details & Information
17	Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet Car Show	<b>Details &amp; Information</b>
24	Streetside Classics Cars and Coffee Cruise-In	Details & Information



#### Bonino Banter

-The Social Scene



# Happy Easter to our Queen City Corvette Family!!

We are now officially into Spring – even though we have been practicing it for several months!! Azaleas, Hydrangeas, Dogwoods, etc. have been in bloom since February!! The good news is though it has given us a longer driving season with our beautiful cars!!!

Also our Social Committee is actively planning trips – some of which we have already taken! Our Committee consisting so far of Anne Houck, Joyce Lontz, Peggy and Don Conover, Ellen Vance, Pam Tucker, Barbara Mariano, Michael Bullard, Sharon Meredith and Steve Ham. Anyone can join this group to help get information and/or do research to take us a step closer to actually going on the trip. Call or email me if you might be interested in helping us out. The goal being we want to get more variety of day or overnight trips on the books!

So far we have taken several trips that have been very successful!! Our first was planned by Anne and Bill Houck to visit the Southern Grace Distillery – taking the Whiskey Tour. We travelled on some beautiful country roads to get us to this old Prison that has been converted to a Whiskey Distillery. We not only learned about how they make Whiskey, but a lot about an old prison's history. We were all able to get pictures behind bars, sample the whiskey and purchase it if we wanted. After the tour we ate in Mt. Pleasant at a great country restaurant – Marvins Fresh House. A wonderful day trip!

Our next day outing, organized by Joyce Lontz, was to The Old Mecklenburg Brewery in Charlotte. Everyone had a great lunch at the Brewery then took a very detailed private tour of the Brewery itself. Everyone said this was one of the best Brewery tours they have ever been on!!!

Both of these events have pictures posted on the website. We hope as we do these trips to repeat them as there is interest for those who couldn't attend the first time around.

Coming up we have an overnight trip planned by Brian Kruse, Peggy and Don Conover and Robert and Judy Anderson. This has already been sold out with a wait list for possibly a future return trip! This will include a visit to the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virgina, a visit to see the Roger Abshire Parkway Car Collection, a visit to the Chateau Morrisette Winery, a nights stay at The Peak's of Otter then concluding with a leisurely trip on the beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway.

Anne Houck will have a sign-up sheet going at the April meeting to see The Black Mountain Candy Factory April 29<sup>th.</sup>. Joyce Lontz is organizing a day trip up to Mt. Airy – date yet to be set and Ellen Vance has another very interesting trip – information to be coming here soon! Michael Bullard is planning a trip to the shooting range in Charlotte- date yet to be set.

We have a large group caravanning up to the Bash at the National Corvette Museum the end of April. This is organized and led by Paul and Barbara Mariano. We always have a blast at this fun filled weekend of activities. In fact EVERYONE should get to the NCM at some point in time.

We want to encourage all of you to watch emails and look at the website as we post each of these activities!

I am so excited that we have this group helping with these trips. And again you don't have to do it all yourself. I am here to help with the flyers, postings, answer questions, etc. we will be working together on all of this!!

Now we look forward to a fun, relaxing day up at The Loftin's beautiful property. We will have snacks, an old fashioned Easter Egg Hunt, a catered BBQ dinner for those who want to participate and our regular April meeting. Come early with CHAIRS and your drink of choice and see Tommy's Corvette garage and cars while having good fellowship with each other!!!

And this is why we are the best Corvette Club around!!!

Your Enthusiatic Social Director - Pat



#### From the Automotive Director's Desk

~ Brian Kruse

Barb and I made our first evening Corvette run to Brewsters for an ice cream cone. Though we didn't lower the ragtop, we still had a good time. Barb is a champion coupon clipper, and we used a 2-for-1. The cost was still over \$5. We take it as another chance to be together; enjoying our C6GS. Can you believe it is going on 7 years old? It seems like yesterday we were at the Museum taking delivery.

Corvette owners are a unique bunch to say the least. We putt around in a \$60-80k (new) sports car and then use a coupon... The really frugal ice cream eaters would buy a ½ gal at the store for \$2.99 and a box of cones. Then stay home, save the gas and have a dozen cones instead of two. I can never predict what a Corvette owner will do.

By the time you read this, the Auto Fair will be history. Looking ahead, the club response was OVER THE TOP for the spring autofair. I will do my humble best to keep the grins up during the 'Fair,

Next on the list is the annual BASH run to the NCM. I won't steal Mariano's thunder, just a word HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE. I'll be at the track Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday, I'll be doing lead car duty for the hot lap lead-follows. I can't guarantee, but if I can I will give anyone a ride that wants one. I'll be in my pewter C5. I'm not sure how it will be set up, but I will have #124 on my car, just look for me and wave me down. Usually, everyone stages on the "grid" and when we finish a hot lap session, we (the lead cars) drive down the hot grid and pick up the next group of cars. Usually, if we have enough lead cars we alternate. If you can't find me, go to the administrative building and ask for Paula Sleeman. Paula will know where I am.

Thursday and Friday is the BASH HPDE. I think there will be some celebrity drivers there that can haul you around the track in your car. Even though ya'll know me to be a reasonably generous person, please don't ask to borrow my helmet for a ride. I've been broken from offering it to others (the story is going around so it won't be told here). You are welcome to come hang around with us. You can drive and park pretty much anywhere in the paddock, just be respectful of the participants and the space they are using. I will be hanging with Craig and Col Dave Lofgren. They both rented garages, and I'll mooch some shade from them. Craig Perry, and Eric Matthews will be driving, and we will be with several of our Virginia HPDE buddies. You need to watch Craig and Eric. Their C7's are wicked fast. Eric has been turning in some very respectable lap times at VIR. However, the NCM track will be new to him, and it is not an easy track to know even after a few laps.

See you at the BASH!!!!

Have a Great Corvette Day,

Brian



# MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S CORNER APRIL 2017



SPRING....it's finally here! The trees are starting to pop, the grass is getting greener, and you can hear the distant CRACK of the bat hitting the ball. That's right folks, baseball season started this week and that is the best sound of the Spring Opener.

There is nothing like the sunshine in Charlotte NC. That is one of the reasons we moved down here. This beautiful weather also gives us all the joy and privilege of driving our Corvettes. The warm sunshine, sunglasses, and the wind in your face, it really doesn't get any better than that!

I think of PICNICS when the nice weather arrives. And we have one coming up at the Loftin's Garage on April 15, 2017; a spectacular location, offering green grass, friends, food, games, and of course an array of beautiful Corvettes! It's a time for QCCC Members to get reacquainted and a time for Prospective Members to meet new friends. I hope to see you all there, enjoying the many activities and the camaraderie of the Members.

Our Calendar for the rest of the year is really getting full. Prior to our picnic / meeting we have the Auto Fair, which will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at Charlotte Motor Speedway. QCCC will have 30 cars on display each day as we fulfill our quest as the #1 Corvette Car Club in Charlotte NC. If you haven't been there, I suggest you put it on your calendar. It is a major event displaying and selling all kinds of cars and trucks.

Also in April, many of us will be caravanning up to Bowling Green for the yearly National Corvette Museum Bash. This is an annual trip that is filled with fun, friends, and many activities that will be held at the Museum. The new 2018 Corvette will be there on display, as well as the Corvette C7.R #4 Race Car. There will be many Vette seminars, with special GM guests like Doug Fehan, GM's Program Manager for Corvette Racing, who will be talking about the Corvette Race Program this year.

Last but not least, don't forget Streetside Classic's Cars & Coffee, that is held the last Saturday of the month from 9:00am-12:00 noon. This month it will be on April 29. All car and truck owners are welcome to show off their vehicles. Come on over to chat with other car enthusiasts and drink some good coffee.

So, my friends, that is the list of some of the activities for April. May, June, July, and August are also packed with QCCC Activities. Be sure you check the QCCC website and our NEW QCCC Facebook page.

April 16<sup>th</sup> is Easter Sunday. I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and a Holy Easter.

All the best,

**Paul Schmitt** 



#### **National Corvette Museum**



#### **NCM CORNER**

Well, soon to be "Bashers" the time to depart draws nigh. As this is written, the registration for the Bash is approaching 1,200 and there are still two weeks before registration closes. The act booked for the Saturday night banquet is supposed to be one of the most entertaining yet. After the Elvis impersonator and the dueling pianos, they have a tall mountain to climb. Of course, the main reason for the large turnout is the unveiling of the 2018 Corvettes. What will they spring on us this time? Barb's guide book will be out shortly which should answer most of your questions regarding the weekend. Should be a good one.

Congratulations to our Associate Members, *Glenn & Andrea Johnson*, on their NCM 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

The VIR race at the end of August appears to be eating up all the rooms in a forty mile radius of Alton, VA. If you plan on going up on Saturday and spending the night, I'll let you know what I found for a room. See me after the meeting, or during, whatever.

Has anybody taken advantage of the GM Supplier pricing offered to NCM members? The museum is reporting that over three hundred requests for a certificate have been received and I was wondering if one of our crew is one of them. Let everyone know how it works out if you are.

So you are a Corvette owner and you belong to the Queen City Corvette Club and you subscribe to one or two (or more) Corvette magazines and you don't belong to the National Corvette Museum. If you are one of those people I just described, I would love to know what prevents you from joining and what it would take to make you a member. If you just haven't had the opportunity to visit the museum with the group and see for yourself how much fun the trip can be, I understand. Let me know what I can do to arrange a trip that fits in with your busy life because it will only take one time to make a believer of you. Don't let a big part of the Corvette lifestyle pass you by.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- GM does not monetarily support the NCM. Almost all income is from its members.
- The NCM opened in 1994. The 2019 Caravan will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- The NCM is considered one of the top ten automobile museums in the world.
- The NCM is the only automobile museum dedicated to one marque.

#### **BOX SCORE**

Save the Wave

Paul Mariano NCM Ambassador

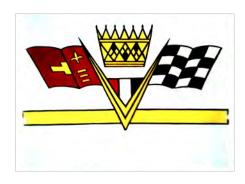
No. of QCCC Family Units	177
No. of NCM Members	103 (58%)
No. of Lifetime Members	40
No. of Duntov Society Members	5
No. of Spire Members	5

### Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

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

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



#### **Only Two-Seaters for Me**

Having never been blessed with childens of my own, I have always surrounded my endomorphic skeleton with mostly two seaters. I never seemed to need a back seat. So most of my adult life has been spent sitting in the bucket seat of a Corvette (12), 14 years with a bucket seat El Camino, over 2 decades with Silverados with two seats. Even the two pickups that I owned that had bench seats had manual transmissions and therefore the 3-foot long shifter would leave the middle passenger in a very compromising position when I went for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> gears. A handy device when you are dating, but otherwise it was inconvenient at best.

Occasionally that was a problem, but never more so than on a warm summer night in 1979. My parents had made the 800 mile journey south the visit their favorite (and only) son. My father was an avid baseball fan. So much that we always listened to the Cubs games during auto trips. You know the ones, where you ride up in the back window counting cars. In all my wisdom I decided to honor his passion by inviting several QCCC members to go with us down to Charlotte to the old Crocket Ballfield. I believe there were seven of us in total. I know Travis Meredith was there, I think Kirkley, Ingram, Shaver, perhaps Sam Orender. Some of these will deny going until they are sure the statute of limitations is up. As a side note, the Crocket family, and they had many kids, also controlled the early days of wrestling in Charlotte. By early we are talking Dano O'Shocker, Mr.Moto, Billy Two Rivers, Cyclone Anaya & The Missouri Mauler.

We iced down two cases of beer which went into the back of the 1978 El Camino. I piloted the vehicle with my father in the front, then the other QCCC members piled in the back with the beer. Rather like having your own drive in bar. The guys would hand us beers thru the window whenever we asked. Crocket Park was a historical site in Charlotte. Built in 1940, becoming the home of the Charlotte Hornets, O's, and Twins. It was all wooden. The roof, the poles, the bleachers, the floors, the outfield walls, all made of wood and many decades old. A fascinating step back in time. By now you should have figured that the amount of beer was going to cause a problem. About the third inning we crossed over the line from tipsy to flat out inebriated. We would have had to have an I.V. line to surpass the pace we were in. As the players took the field to start the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, Travis, whom you all think is so serene, stands up and in his best umpire voice shouts "BASEABALL, BEENE VWERY VWERY GOOST TO ME". It was a perfect rendition of Garret Morris doing the same every week on Saturday Night Live. A spoof back then on the stupidity of most athletes. Now every half inning we were treated to this spectacle. Of course, in our drunken stupor, we egged it on.

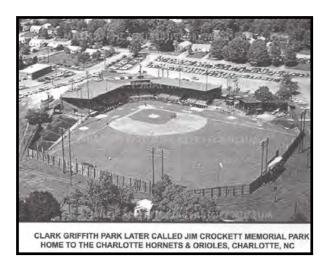
Then all of the sudden I could not find my father. He was not in his seat. So myself and one other walked out to the truck to see if he had gotten sick. Not there either. When I came back in the park I spotted him sitting in row two behind the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout. It turns out our

noise had interfered with his ball game watching. I have told you before he was very wise. After the game we staggered to the El Camino. We ended up back in Mint Hill, but I have no idea how. This was one of six times in my youth that I should not have been driving. So my Guardian Angel used to be a very busy lady and she did a great job.

A few years later in 1985, it was sad watching the 11 p.m. news and seeing that two teenagers were playing with matches and a fire started. Firefighters said the place was so old and the wood so dried out that it burnt like a Christmas tree. If you have ever burnt your used Christmas tree in your fireplace then you know how quickly all those memories turned to smoke. Poof, just like that Crocket Park was gone. It was a heck of a night amongst the best of friends. The only thing we did right that night was to leave the Corvettes in Mint Hill and journey on, all piled in the back of the El Camino.

These are the crazy bonds that hold us together to this very day. So when you see us out with the club eating and laughing, most likely we are reliving some of the old days of QCCC. What a group.

#### Submitted by: Bill Cruthis







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



#### Corvette wins the 12 hours of Sebring.

The title does not tell the entire story. You can read what Corvette said at <a href="https://www.corvetteracing.com">www.corvetteracing.com</a> now for the rest of the story.

During practice on Thursday morning Corvette ran constantly in the top three positions. Ford and Porsche did their own thing and ran from third to sixth. Does the word sandbag come into mind? Maybe they were and maybe they weren't. All I can say the Corvettes sounded great and looked like they found some speed since the 24 hr. Rolex race. Thursday night practice the gloves came off and the Porsche's and Ford's ran a lot faster. Qualifying on Friday was a spirited battle to see who was going to come in second. Ford had first place wrapped up. After all they had three Fords in the field. Corvette #4 placed third but due to some low height problems they had to start at the back of the field. Corvette #3 placed 6<sup>th</sup>. Now for the race.

The first two hours Corvette looked like they were out for bear. Unfortunately the #4 Corvette had a heating problem and went out of the race. The middle part was all Ford and Porsche. It looked like they would get the top three positions. But wait a minute the last hour and half something happened. How did the Corvette get in the top three? Wait now they are second, no first. It just goes to say they kept fighting and had great pit stops and outsmarted their competition. Never say die. Now you know why I go to the races.

You have a perfect opportunity to see a race near Charlotte. VIR is coming in August and the Corvette Coral is not yet sold out. Better hurry though as it usually sells out. You can drive up Sunday morning and see the race and be home by 10:00PM so you can get to work Monday.

You ask what is there to do besides seeing good racing at my favorite track. Visit the vendors, get free stuff, see the drivers, do the grid walk. See all of the cars up close and personal. Meet some great people. Have a ball.

See you at the next Corvette Race.

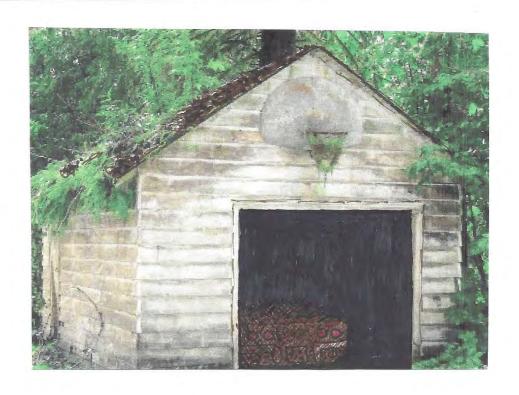
Boyd Kurt



#### 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 February**

This month's Corvette Cave of the month belongs to Bill and Julia. It is an amazing story of two members who had a dream and stayed with it by using a great ability to envision the finished product. Then by demonstrating a tremendous work ethic, they just knuckled down and made it happen. The spot sits with a beautiful view of the lake. Inside, Julia's impeccable taste jumps right out at you. The windows, the views, the woodwork all is done just right so that as she decorates for the different seasons you would think it had been done by a commercial designer. The Corvette Cave is upstairs and could easily pass for an upscale mini night club. As you view the photos take a moment to spot all the many unique items. If this does not grab you, just imagine coming home to this abode with a two and a three car garage to boot. An absolutely terrific home for their Corvettes. Now here is their story: The land was purchased in 1975 with plans for a vacation home to be built. He dreamed of a large game room, she for a huge kitchen. In 2002 they started seeing the vision come true. They added the game room overlooking the kitchen and dining area. Rich cherry hardwoods on the floors really sets the tone. The custom bar was built, and the pool table arrived. Special chairools (chair/stools) face the pool table for you to sit and wait your turn. But they are so comfortable you do not want to get up. Also in the photos you may spot Bill's favorites which he enjoys, the Dale Earnhardt pin ball machine, a Corvette juke box, and all the Corvette memorabilia. There is a Pac-Man machine and life sized cut outs of John Wayne and Dale Earnhardt. You can spend hours trying to take it all in. The 3 car garage was added in 2012 and houses QCCC posters plus the ZR-1. Outside, the yard facing the lake features a water garden that flows into the lake.

So enjoy the photos of this Corvette Cave and remember at the November meeting we will vote for Corvette Garage/Cave of the year.

So far we have:

Trav/Sharon Henri/Henrietta Bob/Benita Bill/Julia

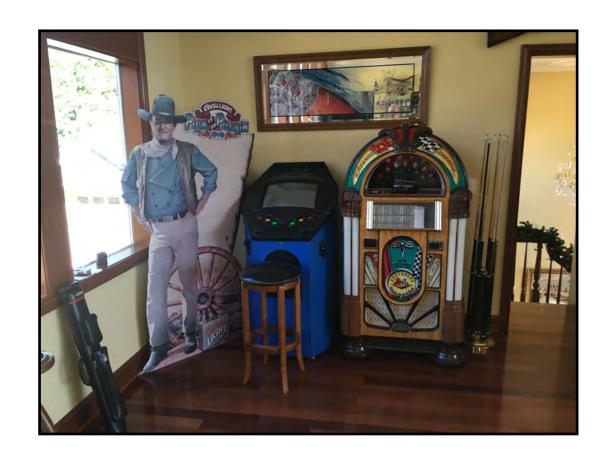
I still have a few slots open so if you want your garage/cave featured let me know. Remember the voting is about the results, but also about the story.

thanks to all

Bill Cruthis











#### **OCCC** 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

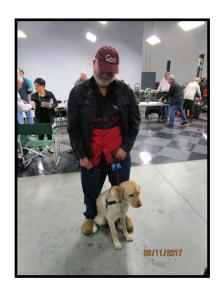
or copy and paste the link below to your browser:

http://qcccphoto.smugmug.com/upload/rZ6vZk/QCCCMemberGallery.

Please send an email to <a href="mailto:photo@queencitycorvette.com">photo@queencitycorvette.com</a> to let Karin know there are pictures recently loaded to the member upload gallery and to which event the photos apply.









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03/18/2017



# 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/







# APRIL 15, 2017 Business Meeting and Club Picnic Announcement

\*\*\*\*Notice to Bring Chairs and the date change\*\*\*\*

## This Picnic and Meeting is on the THIRD Saturday of the month due to Auto Fair on 4/8-9<sup>th</sup>

<u>Loftin's Garage – Troutman, NC</u> 244 Hicks Creek Road, Troutman, NC 28166

Come out and enjoy spring, a nice country drive, great food and fellowship. Wear your favorite Easter Bonnet, bathing suits and flip flops optional!!!! Tommy and Brenda have a fun Garage of lots of memorabilia and cars — come and enjoy their beautiful setting for this Annual Picnic/ Meeting! We have an "old fashioned Easter Egg Hunt planned for fun!!

NOTE: If you want to enjoy a catered BBQ Dinner (BBQ/ Slaw/ BBQ Beans/ Chips/ Rolls/ Iced Tea, Water and Banana Pudding\* (tax, tip, set-up, delivery, and clean-up all included)) The cost is \$16.00 per person. To provide the Caterer a correct headcount --Please RSVP by April 11th, 2017 to Peggy Wood via email <a href="mailto:chrisowood@carolina.rr.com">chrisowood@carolina.rr.com</a> or phone 704 393-0600. Send checks made payable to QCCC to Pat Bonino, 118 Quail Hollow Drive, Kings Mtn., NC 28086

You can bring other drinks of choice. We also ask if anyone wants to bring a snack to share - this would be great!

\*\*\*(you do not have to participate in the catered dinner to be able to come for the fellowship and/or the meeting)

#### Directions to Tommy and Brenda's Garage from I-77

From I-77 take exit 42. Turn left at the Troutman exit onto US-21 N/ US-115 N and go 3.02 miles. Turn left onto Talley Rd. (Note: Turn left at Talley House Restaurant) and go 2.2 miles. Turn left onto East Monbo Rd and go about 50 feet. Turn Left onto Hicks Creek Road and go 0.7 miles. There is a big landscape berm with a black fence.

\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF THE TIMES\*\*\*\*\*

PICNIC TIME: 2:00pm - 5:45pm DINNER: 4:30pm - 5:45pm MEETING TIME: 6:00pm-7:00pm