

THE QUEEN CITY CORVETTE GAZETTE

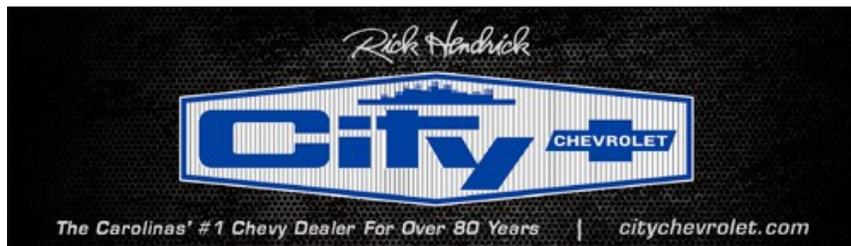


Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

April 2018



Spring Auto Fair
Charlotte Motor Speedway
Saturday, April 7 & Sunday, April 8



We Are Proudly Sponsored By City Chevrolet





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IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Content</i>	<i>Page</i>
President's "Corvette Conversations"	3
QCCC Advertisers	4—6
Vice President's "VeeP's View"	7
QCCC Minutes / Website Link	8
Snapshot of Calendar	8
Social Director's "What's Happening"	9
Automotive Director's "Thoughts"	10
Membership Director's "Thoughts"	11—13
NCM	14
Vintage QCCC	15
Track to Street	16
Club Photos	17
Facebook	18
Upcoming Meeting Details	19—20

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. 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 https://queencitycorvette.com/?page_id=330 or contact our Membership Director at 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*

The 2018 Spring edition of Auto Fair just ended, and it was quite a weekend. Saturday was cool and rainy, Sunday was sunny and very COLD. But none of this stopped QCCC from being there in force! We had almost 30 cars there each day. We totally stole the show as far as club participation, again showing the car world that QCCC is the dominant Corvette Club in the area.

Congratulations to all the winners at Auto Fair. Trophies were given for the Participation vote by attendees, and by the judging done by our friends at Victory Lane Corvette Club. But I want to mention the President's Award, which I was very glad to present. The award went to Travis Meredith and his 1964 Riverside Red coupe. This car is an excellent example of a Day Two Car (a Day Two car is what a car would look like on the day after purchase, after the new owner has done some modifications). Travis has recently added a beautiful set of Torq Thrust wheels. He has the Hurst shifter, the side pipes. It is a 365 hp 327 motor. It has a beautiful paint job that he did 10 years ago. The best part is that he has owned it over 40 years, and he drives it and enjoys it like it should be. So again, congratulations to Travis for a really special and beautiful C2 Corvette.

April is a busy month. We have our Corvettes in the Round meeting this Saturday, and the weather forecast as of today looks perfect. This is a special time to view all our cars, see who has gotten something new, or done some modifications to their cars. Come early and look around.

The next week is Car Care Day at the Brian Kruse garage. If you need oil changes, brakes, or other minor work done to get ready for the trip to Bowling Green (or anywhere else), this is the place to get that done. Brian and his ace crew chief John Jensen are ready, willing, and certainly able to perform the needed tasks.

Then on the 25th, over 80 QCCC members will make the annual trek to the National Corvette Museum for the BASH! Always enjoyable, great things to see and do, many meals together, and laughs till you drop at the evening gathering around the "camp fire." As always, thanks to Paul and Barbara Mariano for putting everything together.

Plus MarGO PARTY has an event for non-Bashers on the 29th that will be a great event. There will be an Up Yonder Dinner hosted by Paige and I on the 30th. So watch for all this information to get the full scoop.

So now the weather is very close to real spring, meaning just one thing. It's time to

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
Effective February 8, 2018

Having been with the Hendrick Automotive Group for over 18 years, my career started at City Chevrolet. As the flagship store, we strive to not only represent, but set the benchmark for the culture of the organization. We often say, "City people make City Chevrolet," and that's why I'm excited to not only come back to where I started (my "home") but also to rebuild the City pride in our teammates, customers, vendors, and partners alike.

I'm dedicated to rebuilding the relationship between the Queen City Corvette Club and Rick Hendrick City Chevrolet. Our team is looking forward to further fostering the connection through the mutual support of our organizations. You have my commitment.

Chris Boone, General Manager

NEW VEHICLES

Members pay "Dealer Invoice" or "Supplier Pricing," whichever is less from Chevrolet. Rebates or incentives will be applied. General Manager may limit this offer to "in-stock" or "on-order" vehicles. Extra costs may apply for locates, transportation, or specialty vehicles.

PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

Retail in-stock vehicles may be purchased for \$500 over inventory amount. Extra costs may apply for transportation or specialty vehicles. Vehicle must pass NCSI through our service department. Over 7000 pre-owned vehicles available through our Hendrick network. Shipping costs may apply.

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15% discount off posted customer-pay rate for GM original equipment parts and service labor. May not be combined with other coupons or specials.

REFERRAL BONUS

We'll thank you with a \$100 gift card when you refer a non-QCCC member who purchases a vehicle. Friends & Family of QCCC Members will receive a 10% Service discount.

QCCC MEMBER CONCIERGE

*Rick Accurso
Inventory Manager & Corvette Specialist
704-566-7447
Rick.Accurso@hendrickauto.com*

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VeeP's View with



Hope all of you who braved this past weekend AutoFair at Charlotte Motor Speedway were finally able to dry out or thaw out depending on which days you attended. Wet on Saturday and frozen on Sunday. Still a great time and special thanks to "The Captain" Roger Winge for another great job!! And congrats to all those who won, like Travis and his awesome '64 with new American mags. Great period wheels!! I am also guessing that those who are venturing to the April NCM Bash are planning away for the few days of fun, festivities, and of course late nights down at the lobby with the club!!! Will see you all there.

The Corvette Racing team No. 4 C7.R placed sixth in GT Le Mans (GTLM) and the No. 3 Corvette – finished eighth in class after a determined fightback from a variety of early-race troubles. Here's to hoping the team can do a bit better at the next event for Corvette Racing which is the Bubba Burger Sports Car Grand Prix at Long Beach from the streets of Long Beach, Calif., on Saturday, April 14. Fingers crossed!!!

I thought I would share a little bit of "What Happened in1965";

1. Average Cost of new house \$13,600.00
2. Cost of a gallon of Gas 31 cents
3. Average Cost of a new car \$2,650.00
4. Racing driver Jim Clark wins the Indianapolis 500, and later wins the Formula One world driving championship in the same year.
5. The war in Vietnam is in full swing.
6. The St. Louis, Gateway Arch is completed

But the most important automotive event was;

The Chevrolet Corvette debuted the new 396 BIG BLOCK L78, and it was underrated at 425-HP and 415-ft/lbs of torque, the real numbers were closer to 450-HP, nearly 100 more than the L84 Fuelie. Over the next three years, the L78 evolved in to the L72 427, the L71 427/435, with the L88 reaching legend status. 0000H how I love the big blocks!

Smoke'em if you got'em.....(tires that is!)





WHAT'S HAPPENING

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Margo Gross

April 2018

Spring is here and with that comes all the fun of being outside and doing those events we so enjoy with our cars and Corvette friends. I must apologize for not being able to get the March event together to the Spencer train museum that I mentioned last month. Many of you may not be aware but the morning of the March meeting my best pal, co-pilot in life and sweet husband gave me quite a scare and we had to take a little detour and spend several days in the hospital! Due to that I've had to put the Social Calendar on the back burner. Going forward we hope to get more things on the calendar.

I do hope you all noticed the fun lunch, drive and Morgan Ridge Vineyards trip that Ken and Lois Watts have planned for April 29th. This event will take up to 20 cars, meet for lunch at Johnny's Farmhouse in Concord, followed by a nice drive ending at Morgan Ridge Vineyards. Once there, entry is \$20 per person to hear Too Much Sylvia from 3-6pm. All proceeds from the event that day will be going to Saving Grace Farms. Ken and Lois have negotiated with the winery to get special parking (free) for our Corvettes in one spot. If the 20 car list is full and you would like to join up with the group at the winery, bring your chairs and don't worry about eating as there will be plenty of food trucks there, as well as a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction all benefiting Saving Grace Farms.

Another fun event coming up is our May Picnic and Business meeting which will be held at Tommy and Brenda Loftin's. This setting is so pretty and they have a great garage to wander through. We will have a catered barbecue dinner from Sonny's Bar B-Q with each plate to include bone-in chicken, chopped pork, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw, roll, butter and of course, banana pudding along with your choice of iced tea or lemonade, all at a cost of \$14 per person. If you care to partake in this you **MUST RSVP** me at marrgoegross@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN MAY 4th**. Unfortunately, this caterer is very strict on the cutoff so I cannot take any reservations or money the day of the event. Checks should be made out to QCCC and sent to Margo Gross at 4720 Kellswater Bridge Blvd, Kannapolis, NC 28081 by **May 4th**. You are also welcome to bring your own picnic dinner if you so wish as well as drinks of your own choice.

Since the May picnic is an afternoon of fellowship and fun I'm also asking for volunteers to bring snacks to share during the afternoon. People can start arriving about 2:00pm and we won't begin eating until 4:30pm so snacks should keep everyone smiling ☺.

Let's hope that sun keeps shining brightly ☀️ and see you all soon!



AUTOMOTIVE INSIDER

Spring 2018 AutoFair is in the books. QCCC had a strong showing with 24 cars both Saturday and Sunday. With the rain and cold we should be very proud of our participation. Thanks to everyone who worked hard on their cars for the show and braved the lousy weather.

Here's a list of the awards:

- BEST IN CLASS C1 - Kelly Cross
- BEST IN CLASS C2 - Travis Meredith
- BEST IN CLASS C3 - Brad Dusterhoft
- BEST IN CLASS C4/C5 - Craig Smith
- BEST IN CLASS C6 - Keith Cross
- BEST IN CLASS C7 - Roger Winge
- PRESIDENTS AWARD - Travis Meredith
- QCCC BEST OF SHOW - Brad Dusterhoft
- PARTICIPANTS CHOICE – SATURDAY - Eric Mathews
- PARTICIPANTS CHOICE – SUNDAY – (Tie) John Meadows & Roger Winge

Really looking forward to the BASH, we have a large group of members attending again this year. Check out the agenda on the National Corvette Museum website [events].

April brings us the following events [*see the QCCC Events Calendar on our website for details*]:

- April 14 - QCCC Monthly Meeting
- April 14 - Waterbean Cars & Coffee Cornelius
- April 20 - Hot Rods & Hops Cornelius
- April 21 - QCCC Car Care Day
- April 26-28 – NCM Bash – Bowling Green, KY
- April 28 - Caffeine & Classics (Streetside Classics) - Concord

Thanks

Roger Winge
Automotive Director



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORS NEWSLETTER- APRIL 2018

I don't know about you, but I am still waiting for Spring! Here we are in Charlotte NC in April and I am still using my fireplace to get the chill out of the house. This morning it was 35 degrees outside. We are still holding our breath!

Saturday, I attended the Auto Fair at Charlotte Motor Speedway. As I arrived at 6:00AM it was cold, wet and rainy. At 7:00AM, I was proud to say we had 25 Corvettes standing tall, as the rain drops drizzled off the polished cars. We were the first Car Club to be there in full array. Did we complain? Sure, we did. However, we were there as a TEAM as we huddled under the 10X10 Tents and drank our hot coffee. The crowd was minimal as we told old war stories and laughed as we enjoyed each other's company. This is what I love about our Club, the commitment each of the Members have and the genuine friendship we all have towards each other. It is the biggest and the BEST Corvette Club in North Carolina.

Congratulations to Eric Matthews as he took the Participants Choice Award for the day which was voted in by the QCCC Show participants. Today is Sunday and the sun is shining. Hopefully the Members will have a much better day!

MEMBERSHIP- New Members:

There were 5 people that were voted in to our Club at the last meeting held at Streetside Classics. They Are:

Dave and Carla Malinovsky

2000 Black on Black Convertible



Art and Laurel Cole
2009 Crystal Red Coupe



Lonnie Wallace
2008 Black Z51 Coupe



CONGRATULATIONS!! And welcome to the Queen City Corvette Club!

Total Membership- April 2018

QCCC Members- 332

QCCC Families- 176

New Members through March 2018- 12

Prospective Members- 24

Potential PM to be voted in next meeting- 5

Average Monthly Attendance- 116

Care and Compassion-

Jim Ramandanes- Jim had intestinal surgery Feb. 23rd. He is home recovering. Please pray for a quick recovery.

Gloria McCoy- Just completed a series of medical tests. It has been determined that she has developed thyroid cancer. Surgery will be soon. Please pray for Gloria & Fred as they continue with this journey. As soon as we hear more news we will keep you all posted.

Please check the QCCC Website for others that are ill and need your prayers.

Upcoming Events-

April 21st Car Care Days- Brian Kruse Home in Huntersville NC.

April 25th – April 29th National Corvette Museum Bash in Bowling Green Kentucky.

May 12th - QCCC Picnic- Tommy Loftin's Home in Troutman NC.

May 26th - Shelton Vineyards

June 9th- QCCC Meeting at the Speedway Club. Dinner after the Meeting.



National Corvette Museum



NCM CORNER

The box score has returned! As you can see in the figures below, we are holding steady in the 56% area for membership in the NCM. I'm sure this number will increase once many of our new club members visit the museum. And why wouldn't you want to be a member? You get reduced registration fees for the events, a discount at the Corvette Store, a world class Corvette magazine and a membership into an exclusive group that many people envy. Yearly dues, after the initial sign-up fee, is only \$50.00 which is much cheaper than a Starbucks coffee each month. Become a real Corvette enthusiast, not just a Corvette owner. You will be surprised how much your fun factor will increase with this involvement.

Speaking of becoming a Corvette enthusiast, introduce yourselves to activities outside of the QCCC. Once you find how much fun it is to interface with Corvette people, you need to venture out into the Corvette world and surprise yourself with what you have been missing. The Corvette Museum offers a half-dozen events each year and the Motorsports Park always has something going on. But let's stretch that envelope even further and consider other venues. There is Corvettes at Carlisle, The Black Hills Classic, Mid-America's Fun Fest, Corvette Expo in Tennessee, Corvettes on Woodward, etc. If you aren't familiar with any of these events be sure and Google them just to see what's out there, and if those aren't enticement enough, check out the Corvettes racing at Daytona, Atlanta, VIR and all the other tracks. You are missing out on a Corvette Life if you don't get out there and explore. If those aren't enough for you, create your own event and tour parts of the United States you have never visited. Life does not wait so why should you?

Want to keep up with all Corvette news? Try looking at www.corvetteactioncenter.com, www.corvetteforum.com and www.corvetteblogger.com. These three sites will keep you up to date on all the happenings.

There is always a great raffle going on at the NCM for a new Corvette. Log on to the NCM site and check on "Corvette Raffles" to check out the limited ticket ones. If you want an unlimited \$10.00 ticket, see Helen Jensen and she will fix you right up.

Congratulations to **Tommy and Brenda Loftin** on their Tenth Anniversary as NCM members. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

BOX SCORE

Save the Wave

Paul Mariano

NCM Ambassador

No. of QCCC Family Units	- 178
No. of NCM Members	- 100 (56%)
No. of Lifetime Members	- 39
No. of Duntov Society Members	- 4
No. of Spire Members	- 5

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



Remembering Tommy Mitchem

Queen City Corvette Club lost another pioneer recently. 1974 QCCC President Tommy Mitchem passed away March 13, 2018 at the age of 71.

Tommy and his wife, Aretha, joined the club in January of 1972 after purchasing a white 1969 Corvette roadster with a black vinyl hardtop, a 350 horsepower engine and a 4 speed transmission. The Mitchems were enthusiastic members from the very beginning and were participants in all of the club events. Tommy would shine up his Corvette for a show one weekend, race it the next and then take it on a road trip. They seldom missed any club activity and formed close friendships that remain active today. No matter what the event, as far as Tommy was concerned, it was something to do until the party started.

Wayne and Jeanette Marlowe joined QCCC about the same time as the Mitchems and they instantly became best friends. Tommy and Wayne constantly fed off each other and the result was usually hysterically funny and always entertaining. They could have had a stand up comedy career. Tommy had a great sense of humor and never met a stranger.

Tommy was elected President of QCCC in 1974 and was instrumental in club growth and participation in events during that year. The club was NCCC regional champions that year. His influence was shown as the club decorated the newly acquired club house on Independence Boulevard. He insisted that the living room be left open without much furniture so there could be dancing. He sponsored purchasing the old Rock-Ola juke box and helped pro shagger and club member Shad Alberty choose the records. He also promoted building the bar and the purchasing of a beer tapper. No surprise since he was an avid shagger, loved old beach music and cold beer.

One example of his leadership, a February 1974 club ski trip during the Arab oil embargo was about to be canceled because of the gas shortage. President Tommy, not wanting to miss a road trip, proposed chartering a bus. The Corvettes stayed home while a car club took the bus to Boone. Tommy was great at problem solving and always projected a positive attitude.

Tommy and Aretha remained active in the club until they sold their Corvette with the arrival of their daughter Allison in 1976.

Tommy, a native of North Charlotte, was a mechanical engineer specializing in monorails and conveyor systems and owned Mitchem Material Handling in Matthews. He had also been president of the Charlotte Jaycees and very active in Ducks Unlimited. He and Aretha had just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this February.

Tommy was indeed a QCCC pioneer and our thoughts and prayers go out to Aretha, Allison and their entire family.

Travis Meredith, *historian*



From Track to Street

As promised from Dan Binks' (Corvette Racing) mouth, I will explain Team and Drivers points.

The highest placed team of each manufacturer is awarded team points for each race. All other teams of that manufacturer receive no points toward the team championship. If a team changes drivers during the season they do not lose team points. The team with the highest points at the end of the season receives the Team Championship.

The drivers receive points based on how they place in each race. The driver with the most points receives the Driver Championship. All drivers in the race receive points depending on how they placed in the race.

I hope I have not confused you. To keep an eye on the points go to IMSA.com or just click on; <https://sportschampionship.imsa.com/standings>

Sebring was a fun race, but BMW and Porsche and almost everyone else was given BOP help except Corvette. You can just guess what happened. I will say Corvette tried as hard as they could to get a top 3 but were not even close. Let's hope IMSA gets it right before the end of the season.

See you at the next Corvette Race.

Boyd Kurt



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

or copy and paste the link below to your browser:

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

Please send an email to photo@queencitycorvette.com to let Karin know there are pictures recently loaded to the member upload gallery and to which event the photos apply.



On **facebook** ?

ICYMI – we have TWO Facebook pages?

QCCC Members is a 'closed' group for only paid QCCC members
www.facebook.com/groups/409674005715403/

- Members have to ask to join
- Once approved, any member can freely post your photos, car events, videos and share/post Corvette-related news.

Queen City Corvette Club is an 'open' page for anyone on FB
www.facebook.com/QueenCityCorvette/

- Anyone on FB can "like" and "follow" our events
- Only our FB administrators can post on this page
 - Just ask and we'll post for you
- Anyone on FB can like or reply to our posts.



Groups



Pages



QCCC Members

88 members



Queen City Corvette Club



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latest QCCC
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MAY 12, 2018
CLUB PICNIC and BUSINESS MEETING
BRENDA and TOMMY LOFTIN'S
244 HICKS CREEK ROAD, TROUTMAN, NC 28166

Picnic: 2:00pm- 5:45pm
Dinner: 4:30pm- 5:45pm
Meeting: 6:00pm- 7:00pm

Come out and enjoy the great weather, a nice country drive, great food and fellowship. Tommy and Brenda have a fabulous garage full of lots of memorabilia and cars. Enjoy this beautiful setting and be sure to bring your chairs! The picnic will be outside on Loftins's beautiful property weather permitting.

Sonny's Catering will be providing our picnic dinner this year at a cost of **\$14 per person.** Dinner plate will include: Two meats- bone-in chicken, pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls and butter, banana pudding, ice tea and lemonade.

Please RSVP **NO LATER THAN MAY 4, 2018** to Margo Gross at **margoegross@gmail.com.** Checks should be made out to QCCC and sent to Margo Gross at 4720 Kellswater Bridge Blvd, Kannapolis, NC 28081. **No reservations or money accepted day of the event. Caterer has a FIRM cutoff of MAY 4, 2018.**

Since many people come early for this meeting I am also asking for volunteers to bring snacks or goodies to share before the meeting. If you are willing to do so please send me a note.

*****You do not have to feel like you have to participate in the catered picnic dinner. If you so wish, please feel free to bring your own dinner.**

You may also bring other drinks of your choice to this meeting.