

THE QUEEN CITY CORVETTE GAZETTE

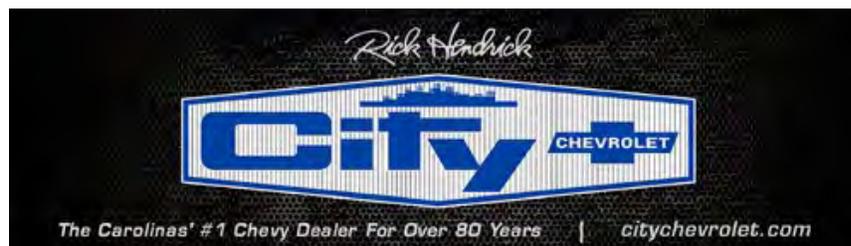


Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

May 2018



April Business Meeting
Hopewell Presbyterian Church
April 14, 2018



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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"	On Hold
NCM	11—12
Vintage QCCC	13—15
Track to Street	16
Club Photos	17
Facebook	18
Upcoming Meeting Details	19

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*

Again, we went straight from late winter to summer. The pollen is rampant, making every car we own Corvette Yellow. But we can get them out to play with, put down the top or take off the half top, and really enjoy driving our beautiful cars. We've been waiting for this for months, so take advantage of this beautiful time of the year. One great way to drive and enjoy is to attend our May meeting at the Loftin's on the 12th. BBQ meal available, this is one of our best attended events, and the weather is going to be perfect, although a bit warm. What a great day to enjoy the drive to the country, wonderful QCCC fellowship, beautiful cars, and Tommy and Brenda's hospitality.

The Bash was another great event, with over 80 QCCC members attending. The main attraction this year was the ZR1, with several of these amazing cars on display. Surprising to me was the number of the cars that were already sold and on the road. It is an amazing machine, not for everyone, but if you want to track a car, or just own one of the fastest and best performing cars in the world, the Corvette ZR1 is the car for you. I will bet anyone a beer that the club will have at least one in our fold very soon. What color will it be? I would guess the Sebring Orange Tintcoat. Just sayin.....

Club members will be able to order several different styles of wearables at the upcoming meeting, both men and ladies styles. All will come with the new QCCC logo, and some can have the 50th anniversary logo added as well. Thanks to Ron and Donna Berst for putting all this together for us. And the pricing is very reasonable.

So the summer is upon us, and lots of activities await the club. Keep up with the calendar on the website, look for Blasts coming your way telling you what is going on, and get your Corvette ready to rumble! Queen City Corvette Club is hitting the road again! Cause it is time to.....

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



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Rick Hendrick City Chevrolet
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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.

PARTS & SERVICE

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



WOW what a great NCM April Bash trip the club had. For those who went, I hope you all had as much fun learning, seeing, and experiencing what the Corvette life is all about. For those who did not attend, there were great seminars from Mobile Oil, Kai Spande spoke about the new manufacturing plant changes, dinner with the C7R Racing management team, as well as getting to watch a live hand building of a ZR1 LT5 755hp monster engine!!! Way cool!!! Can't wait for the next trip. You also have to try out the new C6 racing simulator.

Jan Magnussen and Antonio Garcia earned a podium finish Sunday in Corvette Racing's return to Mid-Ohio Sports Car in the Acura Sports Car Challenge at Mid-Ohio. The duo piloted their No. 3 Corvette C7.R to a third-place finish in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship's GT Le Mans (GTLM) class. Corvette Racing's next event is the 24 Hours of Le Mans on June 16-17.

I thought I would share a little bit of "What Happened in1967";

1. Average Cost of new house \$14,250.00
2. Cost of a gallon of Gas 33 cents
3. Average Cost of a new car \$2,750.00
4. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) created due to the publication of Ralph Nader's book "unsafe at any speed"....weeeee.
5. The war in Vietnam is in full swing.
6. NASA launches the Lunar Orbiter 3 Space Craft

But the most important automotive event was;

The brainchild of Zora Arkus-Duntov, director of GM's performance division, the 1967 L88 Corvette was powered by a highly modified version of Chevy's 427-cubic-inch V-8. Although the factory-claimed horsepower was 430, real power output was likely somewhere between 540 and 580, enough to allow a "stock" L88 to run the quarter-mile in the mid-to-high 11-second range. The L88 could be ordered only with certain options such as a performance suspension, Positraction differential, and upgraded brakes, while other features such as a radio and A/C were not available.

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





WHAT'S HAPPENING

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Margo Gross

May 2018

Spring is here and with that comes all the fun of being

Greetings, and I hope everyone is enjoying this great warm weather. We asked for it and it certainly looks like we have it. This Saturday's picnic and business meeting at the Loftin's is going to be a warm one so come prepared for the heat and don't forget to bring your chairs, your beverages of choice and come early so you will have a chance to visit with all your Corvette buddies and can look around the garage! We have a great crowd, 123 signed up for the barbecue and others bringing their own lunch as well, so we should have a fun time.

I hope you have all seen and read the Blasts that have come out on the two upcoming scheduled out of town trips that have been planned. I really want to thank Clark Belvin and Bonnie Wheeler for putting together the details for the Stone Mountain Georgia trip on June 19th-20th. Also the weekend trip that Tom and Terri Pennoni and Larry and Pam Tucker put together for Maggie Valley June 29th-July 1st, which included finding and blocking rooms at a resort with a discount, restaurants, and places to visit looks like it promises to be great fun. Check the calendar for the links on the information on both these trips. If anyone would like to plan a trip or needs some help with setting one up please let me know.

I would be amiss if I didn't thank Ken and Lois Watts for putting together the Morgan Ridge Vineyards Lunch and Ride April 29th. We were driving to Iowa to celebrate Q's Dad' 95th birthday so we were unable to go, but I heard the weather turned out perfect, the ride was great and the music at the Vineyards was very nice.

I want to remind everyone that the calendar will have links included in the details which will give you important information about an event, who the leader is, their cell phone number, the time and location of where you meet. Hopefully this way if you forget you can still use your cellphone to go to the events page, click on the event, then the link and get your information.

Enjoy the weather and hope to see you at all the upcoming events.



AUTOMOTIVE INSIDER

Just returned from the NCM 2018 BASH and once again everyone from QCCC had a great time, check out the pics on the website! Let's get a bunch of members attending Shelton Vineyards [May 26] as it's one of the nicest events of the year in my opinion, a beautiful vineyard full of Corvettes!!

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

- May 12 - QCCC Monthly Meeting/ Picnic @ Loftin's
- May 12 - Waterbean Cars & Coffee Cornelius
- May 18 - Hot Rods & Hops Cornelius
- May 26 – Shelton Vineyards Corvette Car Show

Thanks

Roger Winge
Automotive Director



National Corvette Museum



NCM CORNER

The Bash is over, long live the Bash! I have received lots of positive feedback from QCCC participants on all facets of the event. Members enjoyed time on the track, seminars, and the Bash banquet. Of course there is always "Lobby Time". Has nothing to do with the museum but is always a big part of the trip. As they say in Bowling Green, "what happens in the lobby, stays in the lobby". Right Terri? If you missed the banquet, you missed some outstanding entertainment from the Dueling Pianos. They were on stage steadily for over two hours and going full blast the whole time. The GM people were there in full force to show off the new ZR1 and the new colors for the 2019 model year. A new blue and gray was on display to replace Admiral Blue and Watkins Glen Gray. The new paint shop is turning out some great looking paint jobs. If you have made yourself a promise to visit the National Corvette Museum and have yet to do so, make plans now to do it. The Anniversary Celebration and Hall of Fame induction ceremony is coming up the end of August and next year's Bash will be here before you know it. Just ask someone who was there this time.

The big news coming out of the museum this week was Wendell Strode announcing his retirement as the Executive Director effective 3 January 2020. Wendell has led the NCM through times thick and thin since 1996. He took over as director when the museum was in dire financial straits and got it on a sound financial foundation. We have the NCM we enjoy today due to his efforts. Times change, we get older, and nothing is forever, so new leadership will be selected and it will go on to bigger and better things. We wish him a contented and enjoyable retirement.

Dereck Moore, Museum Curator, has brought a new and refreshing look in his short time at the NCM. He has some exciting new exhibits in the planning stage so if you happen to be driving by the area, stop in and see what's new. You don't have to wait until a Bash or HOF event to visit and enjoy all that the NCM has to offer. Also, check out Dereck's on line blog, Moore's Mondays, to get a peek behind the curtains. Fascinating.

Still not a NCM member? Shame-shame. You are just depriving yourself of a ton of Corvette enjoyment. Just ask one of the new members what they thought of their first trip to Bowling Green. You can tell who they are, they are wearing a perpetual grin.

BOX SCORE

	No. of QCCC Family Units	- 178
Save the Wave	No. of NCM Members	- 100 (56%)
	No. of Lifetime Members	- 39
Paul Mariano	No. of Duntov Society Members	- 4
NCM Ambassador	No. of Spire Members	- 5

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the QCCC members of "Velocities" and "Three Red Vettes" for their 2 acre purchase for the NCM Motor Sports Park. They received their deed at the NCM Bash in April.



Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



Tommy as Recalled in Wayne's World

As we approach our 50th anniversary this August, we think back to great early times. While we enjoyed those days, we were not always correct, however there is no doubt that so many of the members over the years added to the flavor and enjoyment of QCCC. We always had fun but we also had a commitment to enjoying the drives in our Corvettes while giving our time and money to ensure that QCCC prospered under the leadership of the board and the members. Those former members were the Heartbeat of America.

We recently lost one of our most colorful and loved Past Presidents, Tommy Mitchem. We had dinner after the service with Wayne Marlowe, Rick Wilson, Jim Whitley and their spouses, where we rehashed some of our favorite stories. Wayne and Tommy were like Butch and Sundance, Laurel and Hardy, The Smothers Brothers, well you get my drift. Wayne was comedy in action and could have taken his show on the road. Tommy was the straight man. Following are just a few of our mischievous activities.

CAUTION, IF YOU ARE OF THE POLITICALLY CORRECT PERSUASION, PLEASE READ NO FURTHER. I am merely relating history here. It was a different world back then, when folks had real hide on their skin, and being offended was never even considered. If you could not laugh at yourself you were going to have a rough road to hoe. We learned to give as well as we got.

Tommy was only five foot and three inches tall so he received unmerciful abuse which he turned into his favor. (see photo of Tommy standing on a box to make him taller than Lydia Morse.)

1. Wayne & Tommy had stopped by the clubhouse one day for a beer. While there a knock on the door proved to be a homeless man. Tommy, who had a big heart but little money, was always helping folks. So he gave the man a beer and \$20 to find a ride to Monroe. Wayne tried to stop the deal but could not. As they left the clubhouse going down the boulevard they saw the man coming out of a 7-11 with a brown bag and a 40 ounce in it. Wayne said, I told you so.
2. The dwarf toss. In the early 70's it was popular at some bars to draw customers by having the dwarf toss. They put Velcro strips on one wall and made a suit for the dwarfs to wear with Velcro all over it. You would toss the dwarfs and the higher up the wall you could stick them the better the prize. (note: the dwarfs seemed to enjoy this as much as anyone). Once word got around about this, anytime we were in a bar with Tommy in tow, we would ask if they had dwarf toss. The answer was always no, to which we responded too bad, we brought our own dwarf.
3. On a road trip to Road Atlanta, after alcohol was involved, it was decided a good idea would be to race shopping carts in the parking lot. We were always up for any speed event.

Soon it made a better race to put your wife or girlfriend in the cart for the race. Finally Wayne ended up with a cart and his, Tommy's and Joey's wives all in the cart. He handled it well until he got two left side wheels off the handicap ramp, hence wives went flying, rolling, and bouncing everywhere. It was soon dubbed the Drunken Fart, Three Women in a Cart incident.

4. Tommy headed to Raleigh to visit Rick in a Tempest Station Wagon that he bought from Darrell. (true fact, the same wagon just sold at Barrett Jackson for \$16,000.) He called Rick from the road with a flat. Rick had a company car so he gave Tommy the full size spare for the left front. Then they saw the right front was bald. Rick called a friend also with a company car. Tommy got two new tires for free that day.
5. With his height, someone nicknamed him our Pygmy, after the natives in outback Australia. We had an annual Halloween party back then. Tommy showed up dressed up as a real Pygmy. He was attired in a grass skirt, with some necklace gear and was carrying a skull on a stick. I have no idea what he colored his skin with or how long it took, but once again he turned our kidding into a victory for himself. (photo attached)
6. Tommy showed great leadership in 1975, when we agreed to clean up the Charlotte Motor Speedway infield after the October Nascar Race in exchange for a weekend's free use of the track. With 27 couples, shovels, brooms, an end loader, and a pickup, it soon was obvious this was a big undertaking, and we wanted to quit and go home. Tommy gathered us around and said QCCC does not quit on any deal that we make. It took all weekend but we did it.
7. Our group often had to be called down for being too rowdy at the motel in Myrtle Beach. One year Rick had invited a young lady to his room for tea and crumpets. When others saw this, they proceeded to take the door down from the outside and make sure it was only for tea and crumpets. The manager did not take this well. Someone noticed he had a brand new Cadillac which he parked outside his room. While he was reprimanding us, a party managed to break off a toothpick in the lock to his office with his keys inside (this renders the door inoperable). Being late at night, he had to sleep in his new Cadillac.
8. Wayne and Jeanette were excited about going to the annual picnic at the lake as it was their third meeting and they hoped to be voted into QCCC. After a careful packing of the 71 coupe, with food, beer, chairs etc., they were set to leave when Jeanette asked if the t-tops were in. Nope, no room. You guessed it, a healthy shower that day. To Wayne's credit, he drove that car everywhere. He drag raced it, took trips everywhere, and went to car shows.
9. At Shuffletown Drag Strip, Wayne was running his 71 when a ticking sign developed. Tommy raised the hood and noticed the fan was hitting the plastic shroud. Their solution was to take a hacksaw and cut the top off the shroud. After they finished Robert Scognamellow came by and asked what the h they were doing. He then got a chain and tied the motor down where the left side motor mount had broken.

These were just a few of the milder stories from the evening. If you knew Tommy and Wayne there were new stories every week. These were some of the best folks to get QCCC off to a great start and it has only gotten better over the years. Wayne and Rick will be at the party in August if they can make it. Laughter makes the world go around and Tommy was always laughing and making others laugh. R.I.P. Tommy Mitchem.

Respectfully submitted: Bill Cruthis





From Track to Street

We have had two races since the last newsletter. Corvette worked very hard to win at Long Beach and placed third at Mid-Ohio. Keep up the great work Corvette. They are 3 points behind in the GTLM Manufacturers Championship and are tied for 4th in the Drivers' Championship. Their next race will be at LeMans June 16 – 17th. I think there are tickets available to watch all 24 hours live in Bowling Green for \$150. They feed you all during the race and you get to sit in comfort at the NCM. We hope to see you there.

To keep up with Corvette Racing go to www.corvetteracing.com also you can get all the results at www.imsa.com

Doug Fehan gave another great talk at the Bash along with Jim Campbell the head of Chevrolet Racing. See link below on Utube.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=doug+fehan+talk+at+the+ncm&view=detail&mid=79735F5DDB3F6799284C79735F5DDB3F6799284C&FORM=VIRE>

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



**Catch the
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QCCC MAY MONTHLY MEETING & PICNIC BLAST

SUBJECT: May QCCC Monthly Meeting / Club Picnic

DATE: May 12, 2018

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

LOCATION: Tommy & Brenda Loftin's Garage
244 Hicks Creek Road
Troutman, NC 28166

DETAILS: 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 Loftin's beautiful property weather permitting.

Picnic Details: 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 margogross@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. NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 4th.

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 at margogross@gmail.com

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.***

Directions: 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./ Talley St (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. Address 244 Hicks Creek Road is on your right. There is a big landscape berm with a black fence.