

# THE QUEEN CITY CORVETTE GAZETTE

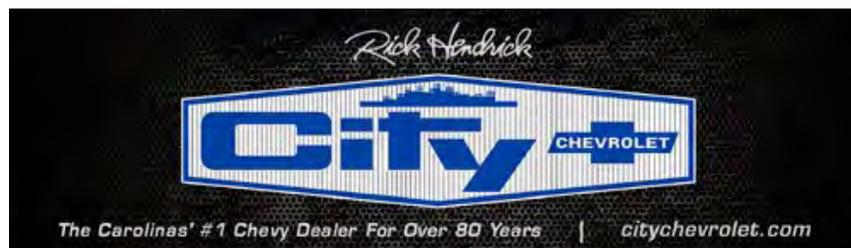


Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

June 2018



**May Business Meeting and Annual Picnic  
Brenda and Tommy Loftin's Garage  
May 12, 2018**



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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 [https://queencitycorvette.com/?page\\_id=330](https://queencitycorvette.com/?page_id=330) 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*

The summer is upon us, and QCCC has many activities lined up for your pleasure. The June meeting this week is at the Speedway Club, with a great meal upstairs after the meeting. If you choose to not eat at the Club, many members will be going out to one of the many great restaurants in the area. As you know, we are famous for driving our beautiful cars to go anywhere to eat. And the comradery of your fellow QCCC members is always the best thing on the menu!

Lots of things are being planned for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at our August meeting at the Hendrick Motorsport facility. Be sure you have August 11 circled red on your calendar, as this will be quite the celebration. Pictures and mementos from 1968 up to now, showing lots of QCCC history. The actual business meeting will be short so we can mingle, take in all the things to see, and enjoy the great history of this club with some members that have been involved for most of those 50 years. And be sure to order your 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary shirt to wear at the meeting. It's going to be a grand event!

There are a couple of overnight trips planned to Georgia and Western NC, and both will be a great opportunity to enjoy our cars and see some beautiful country.

Car show chairman Tommy Loftin is hard at work on the 2018 QCCC Car Show. Much thanks to all the volunteers that have already stepped up to work on the various committees. Things are fully in motion to guarantee another fantastic show. And go ahead and register your car for the show. Only QCCC members can enter for a judged entry or a display only entry.

Don't forget the Earnhardt Chevrolet car show on June 16 in Newton. We will have a good group going to this show, as always. It's fun, lots of cars, and lots of things to bid on the silent auction. I hope to see you there.

The rains are over for now, and the cars are shined and tops down to enjoy this beautiful driving weather. So as you know, it's time to ....

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*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*

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**QCCC MEMBER CONCIERGE**

*Rick Accurso  
Inventory Manager & Corvette Specialist  
704-566-7447  
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# VeeP's View with



Well May gave us some unusual weather to say the least. We had a pretty hot day at the Loftin's for the May meeting and want to thank Tommy and Brenda as always for hosting a great get together. Always a top notch experience, as well as great catering thanks to Margo-Party. Another tough task that went great. Also, in May some of the club was able to meet at Charlotte Motor Speedway to host a visit by Hot Rod Magazine during their Power Tour. See the link here to see the whole video and the last 2 mins with Paul and Darrell doing a great job in representing us all!! Well done.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-9N25dBJOs&feature=youtu.be>

In the Corvette Racing world, we will be holding our breath and hoping for a great showing at Le Mans.

And for some sad news, this past weekend at the Detroit IndyCar race, a brand new 2019 Blue ZR1 Pace Car, met its demise **ON THE INITIAL PACE LAP**, and to add insult to injury...right under the Chevy sign that said "**Find New Roads**"!!!! Poor GM Exec Mark Reuss was the grim reaper of the event for the ZR1 and thankfully not hurt. However the Christmas bonus may be a little light this year.

<http://www.espn.com/video/clip?id=23687491>

I thought I would share a little bit of "What Happened in .....1969";

1. Average Cost of new house \$15,550.00
2. Cost of a gallon of Gas 35 cents
3. Average Cost of a new car \$3,270.00
4. The first man is landed on the moon on the Apollo 11 mission by the United States and Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin became the first humans to set foot on the Moon.

## But the most important automotive event was;

*The second year for the C3 Corvette that continued to produce the monster L88 race engine option, BUT also produced the little know version of the L88 called the ZL1 option. This was an all-aluminum engine block along with aluminum heads. There were 116 L88s produced in 1969...however only 2 ZL1s were made. NICE!*

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





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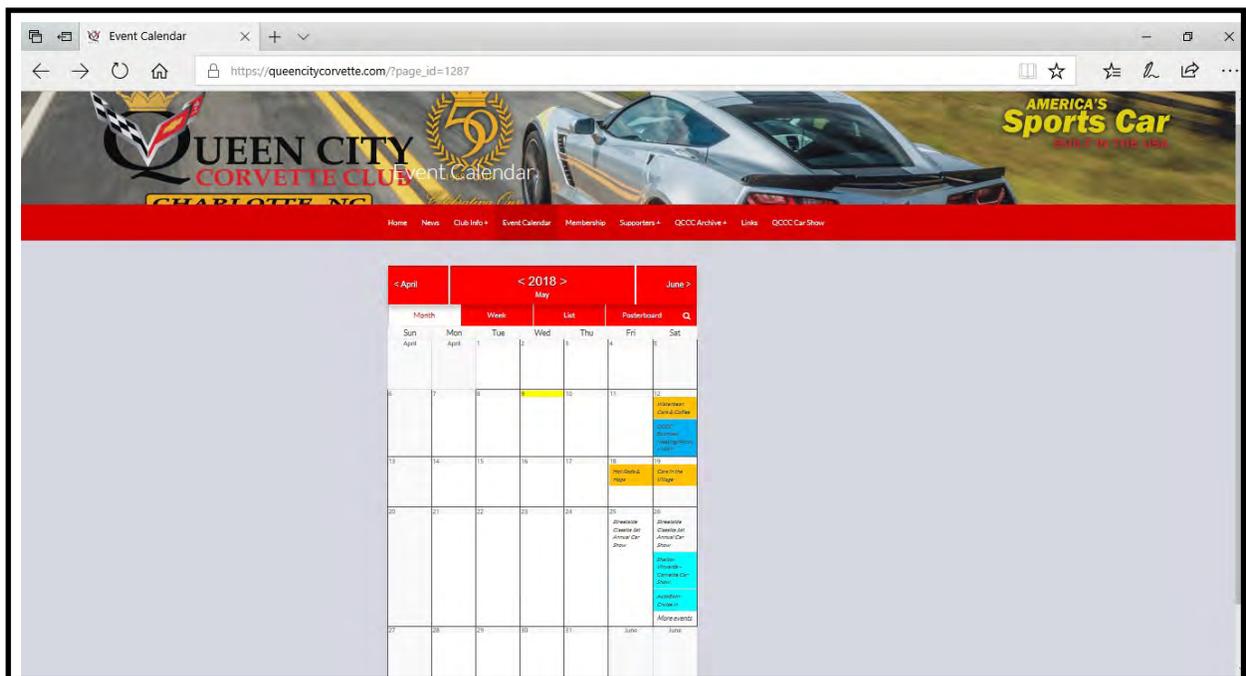
Click [Here](#) for the QCCC Website Homepage

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

Click [Here](#) for Archived Newsletters

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*Click on the Calendar Below to  
Access the Events Calendar Page on the QCCC Website.  
Once you're there, just click on the month name in the top  
section to scroll to the next or previous month.*





## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Social Director  
Margo Gross**

**June 2018**

Summer is finally here and that was a definite given at our recent May Business meeting and picnic at the Loftin's. But, true to our great Corvette spirit everyone hung in there and we enjoyed the day and had a GREAT turnout! I can't thank Tom and Brenda enough for all they did to get their beautiful property ready for all us to have such a pleasant time, as well as all the members who brought snacks for us to enjoy before our meal. I must also give a special thanks to my volunteers, Marilyn Becker and Barbara Kruse who helped with meal check in and also those who helped serve the food, Donna Berst, Reggie and Suzie Black, Wendy Callahan and Christine Schmitt. I can't thank those members enough who stayed after the meeting ended to help clean up and haul trash out etc. I know many of you were hot and ready to get into your cars and get that air conditioning fired up, but you hung in there and helped clean up. 125 people eating plus those who brought picnic lunches can make a lot of trash. Thanks so much!!!!

On the subject of volunteers, with the August meeting approaching we will be celebrating our big 50th Birthday Party at Hendrick Motorsports and I will be in need of a number of volunteers to help with decorations, food set up etc. If you would like to help please see me at either the June or July meeting or send me an email at [margoegross@gmail.com](mailto:margoegross@gmail.com) For the August Birthday Party Meeting I won't be needing any food or snacks just women and/or manpower!

See you all at the upcoming meetings and I hope everyone enjoys their summer.



# AUTOMOTIVE INSIDER

May flew by, starting with beautiful weather for our May club meeting and picnic at the Loftin's. Thank you, Tommy and Brenda for hosting the meeting, your property and garage are awesome.

Several QCCC members attended local Cars & Coffee events, great for meeting other car enthusiasts. You would be amazed who you meet and share automotive knowledge and experiences with. Usually about 4 or 5 QCCC members attend, it would be nice to see more!!

Shelton Vineyards Corvette Car Show weather hurt turnout but there was still a bunch of Corvettes. Kudos to the National Corvette Museum for setting up a nice display, they traveled all the way from Bowling Green and probably didn't have the best day in sales. QCCC had 28 members signed up and we ended up with 12 attending the show.

## ***UP COMING AUTOMOTIVE EVENTS:***

*[see the QCCC Events Calendar on our website for details]:*

- June 9 - Waterbean Cars & Coffee Cornelius
- June 9 - QCCC Monthly Meeting
- June 15 - Hot Rods & Hops Cornelius
- June 16 - Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet Car Show
- June 30 - Caffeine & Classics @ Streetside Classics

Thanks

Roger Winge  
Automotive Director



## **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORS NEWSLETTER**

**JUNE 2018**

Summer has finally arrived, and the sun has been shining. It is a wonderful time to get those Corvettes out for a drive, especially if you have a convertible! We just spent the weekend in Rolling Rock N.C. and it was beautiful. It was our first time there and we enjoyed the drive, the little shops and the very friendly people. As we were driving back home we promised ourselves to visit many of the small towns in the mountains of N.C. There is just so much to see.

We had two terrific events this month. The Annual Picnic at Tom & Brenda Loftin's home and The Shelton Vineyard Tour in Dobson N.C. The Loftin picnic was an enormous success as the weather was fantastic! The buffet lunch with BBQ Pork and Chicken was simply delicious. Special THANKS to Margo Gross for executing the event and ALL the volunteers that assisted in the serving of food. Also, the special QCCC Women that brought in the hours devours that were so delicious. As always, another QCCC successful event!

We started out for Shelton Vineyards on a rain drenched Saturday morning. It felt like we were in a monsoon in the South Pacific, but none the less, we ventured onward. When we arrived at the winery, the sun came out and we had a spectacular day! Those Members that did come spent the day wine tasting, shopping, eating lunch and having enjoyable conversation filled with a lot of laughs.

Remember, there are a lot of activities / events on the calendar for June, July and August. Be sure to check them out and join in the fun. There is no better way than to meet and enjoy new QCCC Members.

## MEMBERSHIP- New Members:

There were 7 people that were voted in to our Club at the April and May Meetings.  
They Are:

**APRIL**- Neil and Judy Flynn- 2013 Night Race Blue Metallic Coupe  
Fort Mill, S.C. 29707



**APRIL**- Bob and Virginia Nibarger- 2013 Red Grand Sport  
Cornelius, N.C. 28031



MAY- Steve Miller and Marliys Petersen- 2017 Red Grand Sport  
Charlotte, N.C. 28269



MAY- Tim Roche- 2017 Long Beach Red Z06 Coupe  
Charlotte, N.C. 28269



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

## Total Membership- May 2018

QCCC Members- 338

QCCC Families- 180

New Members through May 2018- 21

Prospective Members- 21

Potential PM to be voted in next meeting- 4

Average Monthly Attendance- 121

**NEW QCCC NAME BADGES-** If you would like a NEW Name Badge with the NEW logo they are \$7.50 each. Please see me and put your name on the list. Payment is made before the badges are ordered.

## Care and Compassion-

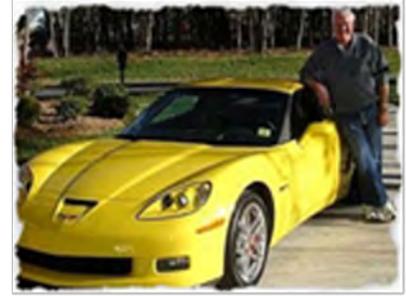
Please check the QCCC Website for those that are ill and in need of your prayers.

## Upcoming Events-

*Check out our QCCC Calendar for all the Summer Events. There are just too many to list here.*



## National Corvette Museum



### NCM CORNER

The racing season is now in full swing and we are fortunate in this area in that we have access to many of the events. We have Daytona, VIR, Atlanta and close circuit TV for LeMans. And Mid-Ohio and Watkins Glen aren't out of reach. So, if you are a race fan and particularly a Corvette race fan, now is the time to get it in gear. The TV feed from LeMans available at the National Corvette Museum is close to a sellout (and may be by now) and the tickets for the Corvette Corral and race at VIR are now available on line (I have mine). If you haven't been to a sports car race you are missing out on a great weekend. It's always party time for two or three days and the race is just the period to the party sentence. Try one, I'm sure you will become addicted.

Have you been keeping up on all the Corvette raffles at the NCM? They have been giving away new 2019 Corvettes at a massive rate. The high end limited quantity tickets are only available online at the Museum website. Ms. Helen Jensen will be glad to sell you a \$10.00 ticket for the next unlimited raffle so give up that one Starbuck coffee and take a chance.

Activities at the NCM Motorsports Park (MSP) are increasing month-by-month. Karts are now available for kids so if you want to introduce a child or grandchild to motorsports this is an ideal venue to do so. And if you want to do yourself a favor and get in on the fun, there are several programs designed to bring the novice track rat into the sport and greatly increase your skills in driving a Corvette. Go Kart (both pro and youngster), first time introduction plans, high speed driving, or just ride alongs, there is something for everyone at the MSP. Be sure and pay it a visit on your next trip to Bowling Green.

It's been said many times by many people and certainly by me, Chevrolet and GM do not provide monetary support to the NCM. It's all taken care of by members like you and the public that finds the Corvette a fascinating icon of the good ole US of A. QCCC is one of those clubs that does its part in supporting the museum in its mission. All of us can do more. Encourage those that aren't members to become one and to actively support NCM projects. Attend the events, buy your Corvette merchandise from the Corvette Store, upgrade your membership level, buy a brick and most helpful, sign up for a monthly contribution on your credit card. Just a few dollars a month won't be missed by you and those pennies from everyone really adds up. As a proud Corvette owner, you will feel good about it.

### BOX SCORE

No. of QCCC Family Units	- 179
No. of NCM Members	- 99 (55%)
No. of Lifetime Members	- 40
No. of Duntov Society Members	- 4
No. of Spire Members	- 5

Save the Wave

Paul Mariano

NCM Ambassador

# *Vintage QCCC*

With the Vintage Gang:

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

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



## **Half Of A Century: How Did We Get There?**

50 years of anything is a long time. In just two months QCCC will have achieved that longevity. First I want to let you know what to expect on our history at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August, then I will let you in on how we managed to get to this milestone.

The history display at the anniversary will be broken down into five decades. We have co-captains of each decade gathering memorabilia. They will be glad to share stories and info from their decades. The co-captains are: 70's - Darrell Kirkley and Bill Ingram, 80's - Travis Meredith and myself, the 90's - Walt Krupowicz and Scott Hamilton, 2000's - John Meadows and Wade Stickels, and 2010's - Keith Cross and Boyd Kurt. They were selected not only for their enthusiasm, but also because they were there during their decade. We have huge amounts of stuff from the 70's, 2000's, and 2010's. We are a little light on the 80's and 90's. If anyone has items from those decades please let us borrow them. Do not miss this meeting/anniversary party. Come early and have time to view our history, it is fascinating.

So how did we manage to survive 50 years? In the beginning 3 young men who each had a Corvette met in an apartment and formed the Queen City Corvette Club. These 3 fellows, like most 20 somethings, were pretty serious about street racing and thought it would be great to start a car club of like-minded guys and gals. There was some growth through putting cards on windshields of Corvettes, but it seemed to stall out around 15-20 members. Then in 1971 Jim Whitley and Travis Meredith found the property at the corner of Westover and Independence for rent. Very soon it became the clubhouse, the gathering spot, the watering hole. With Corvettes parked in the front yard many times a week, it helped draw new members reaching the mid 30's (couples) by the end of the decade. We could not grow much faster as our appeal was geared towards racing and some owners did not buy into that. We raced every weekend, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Rockingham, Greer, Shuffletown, and autocrosses all over the city. More cars were in primer than painted as all the money went into the motor and racing parts. We did accomplish a lot in the first decade: 3 Corvette/Porsche Challenges at Charlotte Motor Speedway; in 1978 we hosted the NCCC National Convention; got incorporated in '76; the ladies got to vote in 1976; held the Sandkhana on Myrtle Beach in 1976 and the SouthEast Sectional at CMS in 1975. As we crossed

into the next decade we lost the clubhouse due to the rent going up, but the 70's were a rollicking great time to be in QCCC.

The 80's: Danger of ending lurked close by. While we had a good balance of social vs racing events, the two groups had some separation. We had been in the National Council of Corvette Clubs in order to obtain insurance to cover us racing. This did not set well with the social group since NCCC required every club member to pay dues, plus the club had to send a governor to quarterly NCCC board meetings. The meetings were usually in the midwest. These burdens of expense with no value to the non-racing sector was what caused the rift. There was a grand party at the Holiday Inn Arrowood in 1988 to celebrate 20 years of QCCC, but the real focus of the entire decade was NCCC racing. To our credit we were Regional Champions almost every year and in 1985 and 1989 we were the NCCC National Champions. After losing the clubhouse at the start of the decade it was difficult to get everyone to the meetings and events. Meetings were held at various apartment clubhouses, member's homes, and the National Guard office. President Sam McGee deserves a lot of credit for holding us together. Keep in mind there were no emails, cell phones or other means of communication. The monthly newsletter was critical. So the 80's came and went without much change and membership numbers stagnated.

The 90's, the decade of maturity. A lot of the young guys went on to other parts of their lives, but the group that remained were really true lovers of the Corvette. As we aged we became more sedate and changes in the country were multitudes. The government and the insurance companies had reduced horsepower to 235 and less for our favorite sports car. The decade started with QCCC taking on another National Convention for NCCC in 1991. Again that was a huge undertaking for such a small group. Another grand party in 1993 was held at the Speedway Club to celebrate 25 years of QCCC. Then the early nineties saw the racing group starting to lose control and the social side was taking over. Some reasons had to do with the maturing of the membership, children getting older and demanding more time, the new Corvettes we were buying lacked power and cost a lot to repair. Keep in mind in the 1970's you could pick up a very used Corvette for less than \$1,000 and go racing for a couple thousand more. By 1985 a new Corvette had stickered for \$25,000 and up vs \$4,500 for a 1970. We just could not afford to crash such a large investment. The last nail for the racing set was the arrival of the C-5 Corvette. While power was on the upswing the cost of the car and repairs rose even faster. If you had a nice C-5 you just did not want to chance messing it up on the racetrack. Racing would not get more popular for 20 more years, when some members retired and had done well investing to a point that they felt comfortable with the cost.

2000-2009 QCCC started to see membership swell past 150, past 250 and approaching 300. What caused this? The C-5 and C-6 models had a lot to do with it. First, you had folks who always wanted a Corvette but family, kids, work, all prevented the purchase. Now the kids were grown, we were in our final home, and retirement had either arrived or was on the horizon. The 80's and 90's had been good to us in our investments, so it was time to pull the trigger. As we grew, we got more exposure. A caravan of 40 new Corvettes drew a lot of attention. Folks either like to be involved in a club or they have no interest, and now we got the exposure to those who wanted to join. The social side of the club grew putting us more out in public places where prospective members could meet us.

2010 to current: Growth shot up to 350 (190) families. I would call this decade that of the National Corvette Museum. With Paul Mariano as our NCM Ambassador, we got very heavily involved with the museum activities. We bought an acre at the Motorsports Park, bought a granite bench sitting outside the NCM and we became as a club a Business Lifetime Member. We have 56% of the membership as NCM members and several have the highest level membership available. Many of our members have either solely or jointly purchased an acre at the Motorsports Park. We made two club-only trips to the museum and have a crowd going to the bash and anniversary yearly. Carolyn Zimmer and Chris Wood have helped organize a caravan of 350 Corvettes going to the museum every 5 years with the next one in 2019. Again, all this exposure is what helps draw in members. Tommy Loftin has grown our car show to big time big, so a lot of Charlotte Corvette owners know us from that. Members got rewarded in this decade by the acknowledgement of the Vintage Members (those actively paying dues for 15 years. Keith Cross developed our Lifetime Service Achievement Award (our Hall of Fame), which recognized those that have gone way above the asking to make QCCC succeed. We have made and solidified a great relationship with the Speedway Club at Charlotte Motor Speedway. On top of our own charities that we are supporting, QCCC is the main supporter of Road Runner Corvettes and their Corvette Angels Toy Drive for the Salvation Army at Christmas.

So where are we today? We are a social club supporting the Corvette. The addition of the Up Yonder Monday Night Dinner, Men's Monthly Lunch, Ladies Monthly Lunch, Men's Monthly Breakfast, Every Week Wednesday Night Dinner, after the club meeting dinners, and eats after social scheduled day trips, have solidified that we drive to eat. There is a small contingent of serious racers out there, Brian Kruse, Craig Perry, Eric Matthews, Bill Ingram, Boyd Kurt, and John Jensen to name most of them. The rest of us are envious of their opportunities. A fairly large group watches closely and in person the season of the factory Corvette Race team.

To me, this is how we have evolved. Each decade had its own contribution and change impact. Through thick and thin we managed to find a way to survive. I hope you find this as interesting as I do. It has taken a lot of folks who have come and stayed or moved on, each giving of their time, money, creativity, and passion for the Corvette. Ben Hinson correctly states that everything has a life span. It is up to us, the membership of QCCC, to not allow our life span to end anytime soon.

Thanks to all the members of QCCC for letting me be a part of your family.

Respectfully submitted: Bill Cruthis



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

<http://www.sportingnews.com/other-sports/news/24-hours-le-mans-2018-dates-tv-coverage-live-stream-entry-list/>

Above is the entry list and TV schedule for the 24 hours at LeMans. If you are lucky enough to have gotten a ticket at the National Corvette Museum direct link we will see you there. Corvette is still looking for a little more speed but this is a race about great pit stops and great driving. Corvette has both. It is a race you don't want to miss.

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](mailto: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/](http://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/](http://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  
latest QCCC  
news by  
joining us on  
Facebook!**



# QCCC JUNE MONTHLY MEETING

**SUBJECT:** June QCCC Monthly Meeting

**DATE:** June 9, 2018

**TIME:** Social Time 4:00 PM  
Meeting Time 5:30 PM  
Speedway Club Dinner 7:00 PM [\$35 per person contact Margo Gross]

**LOCATION:** Speedway Club  
Charlotte Motor Speedway  
5555 Concord Parkway South  
Concord, NC 28027

**DETAILS:** Social time starting at 4 PM, the bar will open at that time.

For those eating dinner after the meeting in the Speedway Club, please remember the dress code for the Club. Collared shirts, no "cut off" shorts (tailored shorts are fine), and no flip flop shoes.