

# The Queen City Corvette Gazette



*Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club*

December 2019



## Saturday, December 7, 2019

**VFW Post**

100 VFW Lane

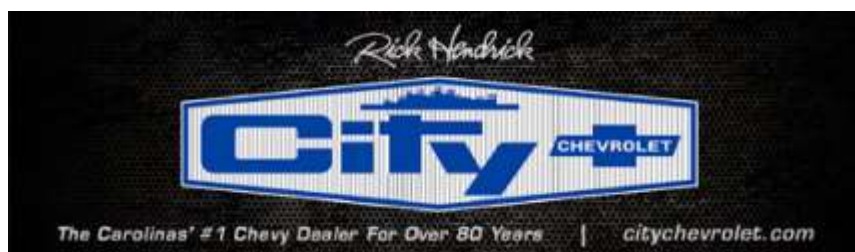
Indian Trail, NC 28079

**TIME:**

4:00 PM **Social** (VFW Cash Bar)

5:00 PM **Italian Dinner Buffet** (for those who preregistered)

6:15 PM **Meeting and Christmas Party**



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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*

### **CORVETTE SOUNDS**

(Sung to the tune of Jingle Bells)

Dashing down the roads in a high horse Corvette car.

O'er the hills we go. It's fun and we want to go far.

Sounds from exhaust ring, making spirits bright!

What fun it is to shift and brake on a beautiful road tonight!

**Corvette sounds**

**Corvette sounds**

**Love the noise they make**

Oh what fun it is to drive! Mash the gas and hit the brake...

**Corvette sounds**

**Corvette sounds**

**So good to hear them roar.**

So drive them fast, drive them far, It'll make your spirit soar!

Thank you to all members of Queen City Corvette Club for another fantastic year. We had so many good times, and all our projects and events were successful. Paige and I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to the many good times ahead, and are so proud to be a part of this fantastic organization. Can't wait to do it again in our 52<sup>nd</sup> year of QCCC rockin' the Corvette World!

# Social Scene



**SOCIAL DIRECTOR**

**- Carolyn Zimmer -**

## **Where Did the Year 2019 Go???**

Are you asking yourself the same question? While the year really seemed to fly by, belonging to our outstanding (the best) Corvette Club, participating in all our many great social events, and spending time with fabulous Corvette friends sure helped make my year (and hopefully yours) full of fun, fellowship, and lots of love!!

My tenure as the 2019 QCCC Social Director is soon coming to an end, and the most important thing I can say to you is **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!** You are the best! Thanks to all of you who volunteered your leadership skills to be an Event Leader, all of you who volunteered your time and talents to lead a day trip, all of you who volunteered to assist with an event, all of you who recommended venues or made suggestions on trips, all of you who assisted with decorating or checking folks into events, all of you who brought food to an event or served food or chopped BBQ or set up or cleaned up, all of you who hosted a Wednesday or a Monday dinner, all of you who gave encouragement to all those who volunteered during the year, and all of you who participated in the social events and made them so much fun for all of us!! Serving as your Social Director has been a sincere pleasure – hope you had as much fun this year as I did!!

## **And please don't forget to join us for the remaining two 2019 Social Events:**

- ◇ **December 7, 2019** – QCCC Christmas Party, Event Leaders **Donna Berst** and **Peggy Wood**. This holiday celebration event will be held again this year at the Indian Trail VFW, thanks to support from member **Bob Chichester** who manages the venue. There will be a catered dinner buffet prior to the short meeting. RSVP and payment were due December 1, so I hope you were able to make that date and will join us for a great Christmas event. And then our fabulous 2019 Awards Banquet.....
- ◇ **March 7, 2020 - SAVE THE DATE – QCCC Annual Awards (2019) Banquet!!!** Great food, great music (*Too Much Sylvia*), wonderful friends, lots of fun, fun, fun, held at the Speedway Club!!! Our incoming Social Director, **Donna Berst** has offered to assist me with this event, and there will be BLASTS forthcoming with lots more details!!!! PLEASE mark your calendar now!!!

I am personally thrilled that **Donna Berst** will assume responsibility as the **QCCC Social Director** on January 1. She is a great Leader, and one of the most capable and creative people I know, and I am personally looking forward to all the fun activities she has in store for us next year. Please give her all your support in 2020 and please offer your time and talents to her wherever possible.

- ◇ **And to kick-off 2020, Event Leaders Paul and Christine Schmitt will (again) host the QCCC Annual Chili Cookoff, on January 11, 2020, at Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntersville.** Please see the BLAST for more details on this really fun event or contact Paul or Christine with questions and to register.

**Again, it has truly been an honor. Thanks so much, as always, for all your support!! I look forward to seeing you soon!!**

**Wishing you a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year (and lots of Hugs)!!!!**

**Carolyn Zimmer**  
**2019 QCCC Social Director**





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## Queen City Corvette Club Discount Pricing

### Rick Hendrick City Chevrolet

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

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#### 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.

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#### 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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#### 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.

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#### 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.

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#### QCCC MEMBER CONCIERGE

Rick Accurso

Inventory Manager & Corvette Specialist

704-566-7447

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# AUTOMOTIVE INSIDER

Congratulations to our group that attended the 2019 Amercar LIVE Car Show. The day started out early meeting at Carolina Cones before daylight and entering the show together with 34 Corvettes in a train, it was very impressive. Ray Evernham greeted each one of us as we entered our reserved lot. Everyone attending had a great day together and QCCC ended with the Car Club trophy for the third year in a row!! John Meadows took home the Dale Earnhardt Jr trophy for his 1963 Split Window Coupe!

The total donated to the Ray Evernham Family charity by our members attending will end up being \$850, well done! Next year I'm shooting for 40 QCCC Corvettes!!



## REMAINING 2019 AUTOMOTIVE EVENTS

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

### 2019 EVENTS

#### **Cars & Coffee**

- Cars & Coffee – Charlotte – First Saturday each month
- Waterbean Coffee - Cornelius 2nd Saturday each month
- Cars & Coffee - Charlotte Motor Speedway 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month
- Streetside Classics - Last Saturday each month

Roger Winge

Automotive Events Director



# Membership News

Queen City Corvette Club

December 7, 2019

*“Building a great Corvette Club one member at a time”*

## **REMINDER:**

**EVENT: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off**

**WHEN: January 11, 2020 (RSVP by January 8, 2020)**

**WHERE: Hopewell Presbyterian Church**

**10100 Beatties Ford Road**

**Huntersville, NC, 28078**

**TIME: 4:00-5:00 PM- Taste Testing**

**5:00 PM- Dinner: Chili, Hot Dogs (\$1.00), Salads, Cornbread,  
Homemade Desserts and Water.**

**6:00 PM- QCCC Meeting and Chili Cook Off Awards**

**SIGN UP- Be sure to sign up at the December QCCC Christmas Party.**

**There is still time to showcase your Chili and potentially  
win a nice prize! Or email me at**

**[paulandchristineschmitt@gmail.com](mailto:paulandchristineschmitt@gmail.com)**

## **NEW MEMBERS**



**Tom and Mitch McQueen**

**Tega Cay, S.C. 29708**

**2019 Torch Red Grand Sport Coupe**



**Jeff Garris**

**1908 Mountain Creak Drive**

**Albemarle, N.C. 28001**

**2017 Torch Red Z06 / Z07**

## **MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS**

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP- 369**  
**TOTAL FAMILIES- 202**  
**TOTAL PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS- 20**  
**NEW MEMBERS- 48**  
**(Up 15% from last year)**  
**Attendance Last Mtg- 121**  
**Avg. Monthly Attendance- 128**

## **QCCC Care and Compassion List**

### **ILLNESS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>MEMBERS NAME</b>	<b>ILLNESS</b>	<b>RELATION</b>
Jan. 2019	Fred McCoy	Muscle Pain- Knee & Hip	Member
Jan. 2019	George Manghis	Complications after Knee Surgery-infections- insurance	Member
Nov. 2019	Iris Bender	Illness	Member
Nov. 2019	Ken Brown	2 <sup>nd</sup> Hip Surgery	Member

### **SYMPATHY**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>MEMBERS NAME</b>	<b>RELATION TO FAMILY</b>	<b>FAMILY MEMBERS NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Nov. 2019	Philip Lewis		Linda (wife)	Rock Hill SC

## ARMED FORCES

DATE	MEMBERS NAME	SERVICE PERSON	BRANCH & RANK	STATIONED
May 2017	Gerry Kessel	Katherine Gordon	Spec. 1 <sup>st</sup> Class ARMY	Iraq
May 2017	Jane Burt	Thomas Currin	Corporal USMC	Camp Pendleton California

## LAW ENFORCEMENT / FIREFIGHTERS

DATE	MEMBERS NAME	NAME	RANK	LOCATION
April 2017	Norm Lontz	Todd C. Lontz	Captain- CMPD	Charlotte South

**REMINDER-** Be sure to carry our QCCC Business Cards with you. When you meet a Corvette owner, give them our card and talk about our Club. It's a great conversation piece. If they are not available, leave the Business Card on their windshield. Thanks!

All the Best,

Paul Schmitt

Membership Director



## National Corvette Museum



### NCM CORNER.

By the time you are reading this edition Thanksgiving will be past and most likely all the turkey eaten. Which brings another thought into my warped mind regarding turkey. And that would be automobile turkeys. Some that flashed before me were the Mustang II, Delorean, Yugo, Pinto, Edsel and Aztec. I will leave you to finish your own personal list. Happy Holidays.

My predicting abilities have taken a severe blow to their status. I thought that after the big turnout for the caravan and Anniversary Celebration this year it would be a small group opting for the 2020 Bash in April. How wrong can I be? Our club now has requests in for 33 rooms and I'm sure more will sign on. No wonder the NCM has such a high regard for QCCC. Our support and participation in museum events are just over the top. You are a great group.

There should be lots of good new stuff to see at the Bash with the re-worked Performance Display and whatever Chevrolet has in store for us with the new C8 Corvette. And if you haven't already heard the news, you will be able to drive the new mid-engine on the Motorsports Park track on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> for the complete Corvette Driving Experience. The price is not insignificant at \$799.00 for the day but some of you may think it's worth it. Or you can purchase four (4) laps in a C8 for \$299.00. Dates available on line or call 270-777-4509 for complete details and purchases. If it might be in your plans, I suggest you sign up right away because I'm sure there will be a lot of people who just can't wait. If you did not receive the announcement from the MSP, let me know and I'll forward it to you. Other dates are available if that day doesn't work for you.

Looking for Christmas presents and hating the mall crush, you can get on line and do your shopping at the Corvette Store and make use of your member's discount. Don't forget to buy something for your Corvette either, its feelings would be hurt.

In closing, here's wishing everyone a most Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Just remember the reason for the season.

### BOX SCORE

No. of QCCC Family Units	-203
No. of NCM Members	-105 (52%)
No. of Lifetime Members	- 44
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



## *The Next Three Leaders Made a Big Difference*

### *1. President Tommy Mitchem 1974.*

*Tommy was born a natural comedian. He was like the Ever Ready Bunny. He packed so much energy in about 5 foot 4 inches, always smiling, laughing, and generally someone you enjoyed being around. In keeping with the times he had his hair done in afro. Seems like we were all copying the Mod Squad "Link" character. Tommy never met a stranger and that was good for QCCC. Put him together with Wayne Marlowe and it was the comedy hour. Tommy's easy going, attitude got tested early in 1975. Charlotte Motor Speedway at the time had an enormous pit that took up the whole left side of the infield. This crater was there because they took the dirt out of it to build the high banks of the track. Tommy and a few others met with the speedway officials and negotiated for QCCC to rent the entire speedway for \$200 for a whole weekend for 1975. Page 2: Of course, we were 25 guys who spent all their paycheck on their Corvettes, so we struggled to come up with \$200. The South East Sectional (all Corvette Clubs in the South East) was scheduled for the fall of 1975. So with no money in the treasury Tommy revisited with speedway officials. He agreed that we would, after the fall Nascar race, clean the entire right side of the infield in exchange for use of the track for an entire weekend. Keep in mind we had 25 couples with shovels and rakes, we had Danny Shaver's pick up, and the speedway let us use their end-loader. So it was scoop the poop into the end-loader, then dump in the pickup, then drive to the pit and scoop it all out of the truck into the pit. Shaver's truck never smelled the same again. The next time you are at Auto Fair or at a race, stop for a minute and think about the task that we undertook. 25 couples. I tell you ½ of the infield was a lot to do. When the campers get ready to leave, they just pull the plug and all the "stuff" they won't take home goes on the ground. Vienny weiners were popular. Basically all of their trash was left behind. Needless to say after about 2 hours, Tommy had a full scale mutiny on his hands. Page 3: A lot of the group said they thought we should call it quits. One of the few times I ever saw Tommy mad, and he rained down upon us. He gathered us around and sternly verbally let us know that QCCC does not quit. He said we will do this job if it takes a month, but nobody goes home until it is done. Think about the monumental job we were facing. Tommy drew a line in the dirt and you could tell now was not the time to challenge him. We dug in and were done by about 4:30 that Saturday. Even exhausted as we were, the speedway was now ours. So from 4:30 to dark (damn daylight savings time) we had a great time. Unhooked the headers and cut loose. Tommy's one act made us a much closer knit group. Only 4 of today's members were there for that chore. I believe each felt like QCCC made a major step closer to our dedicated group we have today. You had some pretty tough ancestors. In the spring Tommy was tasked with planning the first Corvette/Porsche Challenge at the speedway, 100 of each make ran the auto-cross which was a blast. Along with running the regular duties of President, Tommy had those two major issues. The Vintage gang will always remember page 4: Tommy standing on a stool with a drink in one hand and a cigarette in the other and always a big smile. Sadly Tommy passed last year and he is missed by all who knew him. It takes passion to be your President, and that was his strength. QCCC was fortunate that Tommy Mitchem crossed paths with the club in 1974. He brought so much humor, he made us what we are today*

2. *Sam Mcgee: 1977 a.k.a. Father Time. Sam was originally from Minnesota and maintained a heavy big red beard. During Sam's tenure he also held us together. By this time QCCC was heavy into racing, every weekend. We were trying to hold onto the club house but the landlord was insisting he was going to raise the rent, which would be a death nail for us. That was our watering hole, our place to relax and communicate with all. So Sam was left to deal with racers vs social folks. This got to a boiling point more than once as we still paid dues to NCCC and those that did not race could not be persuaded that it was good use of dues funds to pay NCCC which was mandatory for every member. Then as it became clear that we would lose the clubhouse, page 5: Sam's leadership skills would be tested to the max. So eventually with no clubhouse Sam got us into scheduling meetings at various apartment complex clubhouses (the Lake, Glenn Hollow etc). It may be simple but where would we go for meetings? Our strength and friendships were really tested. This was thru the President Jimmy Carter's tenure where gas was rationed, interest on home loans neared 20%, so money was tight, jobs were not abundant, and u had to change your life style. Thru it all Sam was a good leader, the newsletter remained humorous and membership remained steady. Eventually Sam's job changed, and he moved back to Minnesota.*
3. *Joey Hunter: 1978,1979. QCCC was a tight knit bunch in 78. After Travis,72,76, Tommy 74, David Morse 75, Sam 77, and now Joey 78,79 you can see a trend developing. All of these Presidents had a great passion for QCCC and all things Corvette. Joey was so passionate that he had his 63 coupe painted candy apple red with gold flakes. Then he had a scroll with gold which read Queen City Corvette Club. Little Joey, his son, still races this car page 6: in and around the Fayetteville, N. C. area. (as a side note, Little Joey and Little Marty Ingram would bring their hot wheels to the track and play in the dirt. I believe they are pushing 50 today if not past 50) If you spent any time around Joey, u would say he may be the funniest man you have ever known. He had such quick wit and could land the zingers constantly. Joey was President when our 3 year run on Corvette/Porsche Challenges could not be done as the Speedway got money hungry wanting \$5,000 for that which had been paying \$200. There was no negotiating as that was way beyond our budget. Late in Joey's Presidency he was diagnosed with cancer. It was sad to watch him go downhill. He was strong and put a good fight but in the end we lost him. The vintage gang knows Joey was one of our great Presidents. He never stopped telling jokes but we know cancer waits for no one. Fortunately today we can cure 85% of all cancers.*

*It is ironic that each of the Presidents we have covered in the last two months had such different personalities and different ways to accomplish "page 7: Things" They all seemed to bring the right personality at the right time and took challenges head on, almost like we had the guidance to match them with a time that we needed exactly their style.*

*So anytime you think about leaving this group of folks don't think you will find a group with tighter bonds than QCCC. Think about standing on pit road at CMS with a shovel in your hand looking at the size of that infield. Think about being President and having to organize the Corvette/Porsche Challenge including getting the Camel GT circuit to be a main sponsor. As Bob Denney said when he received his Lifetime Service Achievement Award, "This is the finest group of people under God's blue skies."*

*And Chris Wood always reminded us... "You come for the Car, but you Stay for the People".*

*As we review these Presidents, we see that Bill Miller is spot on when he says QCCC has the greatest leaders and therefore will always be successful. Stop for a minute and reflect on what these three leaders did to be sure they would pass on to the next President a page 8: A QCCC that was in at least as good of shape that they received. I remember in my own Presidency, the first thought was Keith Cross is handing me a very well-oiled machine, now just don't screw it up.*

*Great memories from those leaders of the 70's.*

*Next month, Melvin Pace, David Morse, Larry Gunter and Dave Styles*

*Submitted: Bill Cruthis*

## *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/OCCCMemberGallery>.*

*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.*







## Charlotte Motor Speedway November Meeting



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
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Groups



Pages



**QCCC Members**

88 members



**Queen City Corvette Club**



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# LAST LAUGHS



"I wanted to drop by and ask you in person for a Corvette...just in case you didn't get my emails, texts and letters."