

The Queen City Corvette Gazette

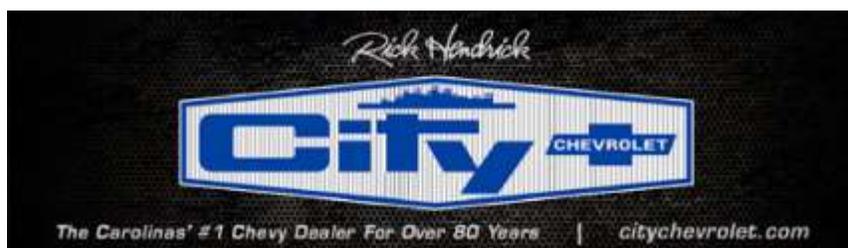


Official Newsletter of NC's Largest Corvette Club

September 2020

Hope to see EVERYONE at the next meeting!

Saturday September 12th: Picnic at The Loftin's Homestead 244 Hicks Rd in Troutman, NC
Mark your calendars and look for an email BLAST



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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 . 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 six-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

Please visit the [QCCC web site Archive page](#) for previous issues of the Gazette



Queen City

Corvette Conversations

~ *Paul Mitchell, President*

Well, &#@\$, the summer is basically over and QCCC has still not had an official membership meeting since February! It is very frustrating, but obviously necessary over the past several months. Things seem to be some better, but we must all still practice proper distancing and mask wearing. We want to keep these in mind at any QCCC event we have.

Speaking of an event, the Board will have a conference call meeting on September 1, and the main topic on the agenda is working out the details on a meeting on September 12. This will be an outdoor setting, with plenty of space to sit and still enjoy the company of our fellow members. We hope to have details out right after that meeting. So look for that Blast and make plans to attend.

We recently had a nice outing at the Indian Trail VFW, with over 30 Corvettes in attendance. Some were guests, and we had 5 C8 cars there! Two belonged to QCCC members, and the other 3 hopefully to future members. This was a nice event, outside, spaced out, and we helped the VFW during these trying times for them.

We will continue to have some events during the nice fall weather. The October meeting will also be in an outdoors setting, and we will see what might be available for meetings after that. VP Ricky Bobby is busy searching for acceptable places to hold meetings, and hopefully some things will be a little more opened up later this year. In the meantime, keep on the lookout for future Blasts telling you what we have planned.

I want to thank the Board for their continued work for QCCC as we navigate these times. They have all contributed to keep things going, and stay positive in every way. And as always, thank you to the QCCC membership for your support, dedication, and participation.

So, again, take care and be hopeful. And soon we will be able to do what we do best.....

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

Social Scene



SOCIAL DIRECTOR

~ Donna Berst ~

It's been great to see some of you again, but I must say it has been interesting trying to guess who's who with our masks on! There have been quite a few new faces attending our outdoor events and it is great getting to know everyone. Look for more day trips and cruise-ins through emailed QCCC BLASTS.

A BIG THANK YOU: to Tom & Terri Pennoni for an outstanding trip to Maggie Valley & VP Gwilt for toasty bonfires each evening. to the Loftin's for organizing the Big Daddy's Wednesday night dinner; to Donn Kegel and the VFW Post for the fun cruise-in Saturday evening!

On the way to the VFW cruise-in we took a side trip to tour the shop of QCCC member and advertiser, Chris Farrell. Chris is the owner and "miracle" mechanic at ACES Automotive in Indian Trail, NC.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Subject to change due to Covid 19)

Saturday September 12th: Picnic at The Loftin's Homestead 244 Hicks Rd in Troutman, NC Mark your calendars and look for an email BLAST.

Saturday October 10th: LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED

Wednesday Night Dinners at Big Daddy's Restaurant: Look for a BLAST.

Keep driving those Vettes! Stay safe & I hope to see you soon!

Donna Berst ~ 2020 QCCC Social Director

It's not where you go... but who you travel with that makes the journey special!

Maggie Valley Overnighter



Aces Automotive



VFW Cruise-In





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Queen City Corvette Club Discount Pricing

Rick Hendrick City Chevrolet

Effective February 1, 2020

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 "Employee Pricing" on all NEW, in-stock Chevrolet vehicles (C8 Corvette, select new models, and specialty vehicles excluded). Rebates and/or incentives will be applied. 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 8000 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 and Family of QCCC Members will receive a 10% service discount.

COLLISION CENTER

10% discount off customer-pay rates. Not applicable on insurance claims or rates.

QCCC MEMBER PURCHASE CONCIERGE

Rick Accurso

Inventory Manager & Corvette Specialist

704-566-7447

Rick.Accurso@hendrickauto.com

QCCC MEMBER SERVICE CONCIERGE

Saverio Longobardo

Service Advisor

704-566-7407

Saverio.Longobardo@hendrickauto.com

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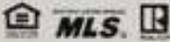
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AUTOMOTIVE INSIDER

Same as last month, hope everyone is healthy and safe. Really missing all the club and car events and it is not looking good for several months to come. At some point our great governor will get off his phase 2 fixation and open up so we can plan some club events. The Corvette Racing Team took first and fourth at VIR last weekend, the next IMSA event will be Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta September 6th.

NOTE: ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS - Check Facebook Pages & Websites for the latest event news.

Here's some pictures to help battle QCCCWS (Queen City Corvette Club Withdrawal Symptom)!!



UPCOMING 2020 AUTOMOTIVE EVENTS

**NOTE: ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS
Check Facebook Pages & Websites for the latest event news**

Roger Winge
Automotive Events Director

VP Report

Richard Gwilt



September 2020

A SUCCESSFUL CORVETTE MONTH

It was a busy and fun month of August for those members who participated in all our outdoor style activities. We started out with a parking lot cruise-in with 33 cars attending, to celebrate QCCC's 52nd Anniversary at the Victory Lanes Entertainment and Events Center on Saturday August 8. We all had our traditional ice cream fix and it was nice to see our yellow QCCC tent set up once again.

Then on Friday August 14, off we went on our annual weekend trip to Maggie Valley to enjoy the winding roads through the mountains, Lake Lure, and especially, the Blue Ridge Parkway. This year, I remembered to bring the newspaper, kindling wood, and fire starters so we could all enjoy two cool nights of bonfires by the fast flowing stream behind the hotel. Thanks to Tom and Terri Pennoni for coordinating this trip and leading our ten cars through the mountains. Only one car was lost going around, and around, and around the Court Square in the middle of Lincolnton.



The following Wednesday, we cruised in to Big Daddy's Seafood Restaurant ready to hang out in the parking lot, but decided to take advantage of the large section set up inside for our QCCC members to space out. We had 11 cars attend. Thanks to Tommy and Brenda Loftin for coordinating this event.

For our final trip for the month, we headed to the VFW in Indian Trail for a picnic style parking lot event coordinated and hosted by two of our QCCC members Donn Kegel and Bob Chichester. Their fellow veterans volunteered to grill our hot dog and BBQ plates. Thanks to all the QCCC members for supporting our Veterans. The parking lot was filled with over 30 beautiful cars including FIVE new C8s in red, white, blue, and gray.

VP Report



Before going to the VFW, ten of us stopped at QCCC member Chris Farrell's automotive garage to check out his facility and talk Corvettes.



Not surprising, all of these events attracted stares, and several people stopped to talk about the cars. This gave us the opportunity to tell them about this awesome club and perhaps lead to future members.

We are presently planning our activities for September with a potential car rally over the Labor Day weekend, an outside picnic on Saturday the 12th at the Loftin's, and a cruise-in to be announced for Saturday the 26th. Details for all events will be coming out in separate BLASTS. We are also planning on one or two days trips to exercise our Corvettes.

For those of you who have worn out your face masks, Ron and Donna Berst have masks with our QCCC logo on them in four different colors. They will be available for sale at all of our events for \$3 each, or a special deal of 3 for \$10.



VP Report



Speaking of wanting to drive a Corvette, I found this little guy rearing to go! He just needs Schmittty to send him the paperwork to join the club. I hope he meets the minimum age requirement. 😊





HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Happy September!!!

Please review the list of Birthdays below, and congratulate those celebrating a **September Birthday!!** While we MAY not be able to celebrate member Birthdays in person, our virtual Happy Birthday wishes are no less heartfelt!

We wish you ALL a VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

This month again, a lucky Birthday member's name was drawn at random, and a Restaurant Gift Card will be sent via EMAIL to the winner. The **September** Birthday Restaurant E-Gift Card WINNER is:

SHARON MEREDITH

Hi Sharon -- Please watch your EMAIL for your Restaurant E-GIFT CARD (make sure your email info in the QCCC database is correct!!).

Again, **HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to All our members on the September List!!

Hope to see you all very soon!!!!

Take Care, Be Safe, and Stay Healthy!!! (Sending lots of virtual hugs.....)

Carolyn Zimmer

QCCC Secretary

Carolynz77@yahoo.com



QCCC SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS*



September

- 9/1 Allen Pritchett (A)
- 9/1 Martin Oehler
- 9/4 Sean Preston
- 9/4 Becky Ross
- 9/6 Norm Jungmann
- 9/8 Will Bradley
- 9/8 Joe vonDholen
- 9/9 Pat Bales
- 9/9 Gloria McCoy
- 9/11 Vinny Vettorino
- 9/12 Sharon Meredith – e-GIFT CARD WINNER**
- 9/12 Doyle Coop
- 9/14 Lynne Solland
- 9/15 Benita McCall
- 9/16 Steve Bales
- 9/18 Vanessa Morgan
- 9/19 Sandy Davies
- 9/24 Gary St John
- 9/26 JC Roberts
- 9/27 Sue Plyler
- 9/27 Carla Malinovsky
- 9/29 Cindy Newsom

*QCCC Members: If you would like your Birthday added or deleted from our Birthday List, please send an email to QCCC Secretary Carolyn Zimmer, carolynz77@yahoo.com.



~MEMBERSHIP REPORT~

SEPTEMBER 2020

Paul Schmitt

~NO NEW MEMBERS~

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS REMAIN THE SAME-

Total membership	343
Total Families	187
Prospective Members	44*
New Members	7
Avg. Mos. Attendance	129

***NOTE: PM'S ARE NOW UP TO 44. SINCE FEBRUARY 2020 WE HAVE HAD 19 PM'S** interested in our Club. We have 5 people waiting to get voted in at our next meeting.

CARE & COMPASSION-

Carl Bel fiore- Carl passed away in July of this year. He was a QCCC Member since November 2016. He was such a wonderful man **AND ALWAYS HAD A SMILE ON HIS FACE. PLEASE REMEMBER CARL'S WIFE BJ** (Elizabeth) and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Please take the time to send BJ a sympathy card or **AN EMAIL. I'M SURE SHE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.**

Email address: bjsbles@yahoo.com Home address: 5085 Woodrun on Tillery, Mt. Gil ead, NC 27306





~MEMBERSHIP REPORT~

SEPTEMBER 2020

Sue Stickels - Sue had back surgery on 8/26 at CMC Main. The neurosurgeon is very pleased with the way the surgery went and said she will be in the hospital until Monday 9/1. Thank you for all the prayers and phone calls from our QCCC family

continue to keep Sue in your thoughts and prayers as she continues her battle with cancer. Cards, emails & notes can be sent to Sue at:

Email is sjstickels@aol.com. Phone- 704-564-0015

Al Kessel - Continuing with his treatments to fight cancer. Please continue to keep Al & Gerri in your prayers as they go through this treatment process.

Email : al_kessel_42@gmail.com Phone: 704-564-1873

Fred & Gloria McCoy- They are home recovering. Cards and emails **WELCOME. LET'S PRAY FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY.**

Email : macvette@carolina.rr.com Phone: 704-280-0858

Norm Lontz- Continue to pray for Norm as he fights Melanoma on top of his head. He is continuing with treatments monthly.

Email : nl_lontz@aol.com Phone: 704-701-4129

Pat Motta- Pat is suffering from metastatic Breast Cancer. She was diagnosed in early March and has suffered with this since 2012. Prayers are most welcome.

As Bob stated: **"WE REALLY NEED A MIRACLE HERE"**.

Cards, Emails, and notes are also welcome.

Email : ramrace@aol.com

ADDRESS:12725 Green Ashe Drive Huntersville 28078



~MEMBERSHIP REPORT~

SEPTEMBER 2020

Brian Kruse: Brian has had two biopsy surgeries, and his cancer has been found in other parts of his body. He may be facing significant surgery, as this is the best path to be cancer-free. He is feeling fine now and is actively seeking additional medical options so he can make a wise and informed decision.

Please pray for healing and also to make the right decision as **TO WHAT TO DO. THERE IS HOPE FOR THIS TYPE OF CANCER, SO LET'S** pray for a complete healing. Kindly send a note of encouragement for him and Barbara as well.

Email address: bj2Kruse@gmail.com

Address: [6125 McIlwaine Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078-7113](#)

NOTE: If there is a QCCC Member that is sick, hospitalized, having surgery, receiving a hip or knee replacement, and would like to be placed on the C&C List please let me know. My email address is: paul.andchristineschmitt@gmail.com.

I do not place anybody on this list unless I receive your approval first.



National Corvette Museum



NCM CORNER

SEPTEMBER 2020

Wake up – Wake up! Another month has passed and we are still combating those outside forces which are curtailing our Corvette activities. Our Board of Directors are doing all they can do to create opportunities to congregate that are both cordial and safe. I must admit, however, that I am among those that just can't accept the risk/reward ratio of venturing outside my comfort zone of contracting the virus. Let us all hope that next year brings us a much more normal lifestyle.

The NCM Anniversary Celebration will be in full swing and maybe even concluded by the time you are reading this issue. I really hope that most of our membership registered for the virtual event so as not to miss out on the latest status of all things Corvette. The museum wants everyone to know how much your involvement is appreciated.

I know how difficult it is to keep the NCM and other Corvette activities in your minds while they are being impinged by all the other news swirling around us but let's try to remain focused on the really important things in our lives. Things like Corvette technicalities, Corvette Racing, Corvette activities, and most importantly, all our Corvette family members. It seems as if a plague of misfortune has descended on our membership with so many people fighting so many illnesses. Prayers to all!!

I shall really miss going to the NCM for the Anniversary Event this year as I hear the museum has never looked better. During the shutdown earlier this year, Dr. Preston used his staff and full time employees to clean, paint, polish and manicure the grounds both inside and out. Along with all the primping, the upgrades to existing displays and new displays make me most anxious to make the pilgrimage to the promised land of Corvettes.

The Hall of Fame banquet for 2020 has now been postponed to the NCM Bash next April. If all this tribulation is behind us by then, let's make our trip to the Bash to be one of the best. I can think of many side adventures to go along with the Bash activities to make it the trip of the year. So-o-o start planning and saving your pennies.

BOX SCORE

No. of QCCC Family Units	-108
No. of NCM Members	-187 (57.7%)
No. of Lifetime Members	- 42
No. of Duntov Society Members	- 4

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



Its' in the eye of the beholder

I believe it is true that women have better taste in almost every issue. I say almost because (with a few exceptions), one being most things auto related, we men screw up items on a regular basis, but we tend to get automotive deals right, we just can't pay for them. I still have to ask if this looks ok after picking out clothes for the day. I remember in the 70's anytime the vintage gang got a new car it was taken at once to the Ingram's basement for a group approval. I also am a firm believer that the right wheels can make your Corvette look great. They have become very expensive but they are the single most dud to stud change you can make on your car. For example, President Paul's silver c-7 wheels are awesome. The wheels are painted nickel which by itself leaves opportunity, but they have the inlets done in polished gray which really sets them off. I am still a chrome person and I struggle to get the impact you are looking for with the black wheels. I have one set of black wheels and I have tried to spice them up with blue calipers and blue stripe rims. I reckon folks my age struggle with the black rims due to our youth adventures with our early cars. If you could not afford nice wheels back then or at least nice hubcaps, then you drove around with dirty black wheels. Sometimes you would see a nice car with one black wheel and you knew that was the spare and they could not afford 4 new tires and wheels. I am guilty of this also. My first car, a Pontiac Catalina Convertible, wore fake Cragar mag hubcaps 4 for \$50 as I could not afford Cargar mags. As I look down the list of the 12 Corvettes I have owned they all are pretty cool although I always wanted side pipes and only one of them was I able to put them on it.

Refresh your memory and go back 2 months and read the vintage article about Tree (owner of Treehouse lounge) and the travels of his car over the decades, and how it ended up being owned by the Cross family. Keith had Justin bring it to the ice cream social last month.

I must confess that I am a huge fan of GM's rally wheel, the best-looking wheel for the money, they ever made. It has so much chrome and with the black on it there is no end to the sparkle and shine that gives off. It has the depth in the ring and the cap hides the lug nuts leaving just a little bit of the steel wheel showing. Rally wheels first showed up on the 67 model which was supposed to be the Mako Shark. The 68 was supposed to be the 67 but GM could not get it ready in time. (ironic the 67 which is the most sought after of the mid-years was not supposed to be made). The 68 had rally wheels planned but they had to make a smaller depth of the ring and a smaller center cap. The full rally wheel debuted in 1968 and lasted thru 1973. when the new alloy with black slots wheel came out. This also was a great looking wheel but could not match the rally wheel for brightness and price. Chevrolet made a deluxe wheel cover (fake wire wheel) option for those same years. It was the upgrade option over the rally wheel. It was a \$59.69 upgrade. The only problem is that it was butt ugly.

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



Here is how I know for certain. My first Corvette bought used right out of college, was a green 68 convertible with rally's. As typical for new grads, I had no money for a home with a garage and was renting an apartment in Jacksonville, Illinois. I did not mention the downfall of the rally wheel, but they are easy to steal. Two fingers under the edge of the cap and it pops right off making only the sound of popping a cork on a bottle of champagne. The trim rings are held on by 3 clips easily removed with a screwdriver. I know this because during my first two months living at the apartment I had 2 full sets of rally wheels stolen. I was shocked at this, welcome to the real world. So, in all my wisdom I bought a set of the full wheel cover- Yes they do not look good on green, hell they don't look good on any color, but they were effective. They were so ugly nobody would steal them. I had to defend those ugly fake wire hubcaps many times by telling my story of the thefts.

Flash forward to the virus days, as Keith and I were waiting for the caravan to form we were discussing his new purchase as I had not seen this car since around 1977. I know the car is all original and I never saw it without the deluxe wheel covers. Those early c-3's had so much chrome on them, bumpers, door handles, window trim, and lots inside. The rally has really brought it all together, especially on the dark colors so me being totally uncouth in my approach, told Keith to change the hubs out (as if I owned the car) because they were butt ugly. He agreed and mentioned that these cost more. One problem he said was Kelly really liked these. Keep in mind that one of the two or both had agreed to take the black wheels off their C6 when they first bought it. Aside from being the most enjoyable people you want in your social circle, Kelly has demonstrated a lot of cool when the family buys another new corvette.

I was pretty sure she had a few of the right chromosomes when it comes to Corvettes. Perhaps she was having some wine the night they enjoyed scoping out their new Corvette. Now don't be hard on Kelly, remember there had to be a group of engineers that designed that wheel, then stood back and said, guys I think we got it. Now that is who deserves the blame. 50% of engineers graduated in the bottom ½ of their class. Anyway, I find after all these decades that I am wrong more than right but I still hope to see rally wheels on the green 69. The deluxe wheel covers I think would look fine on a Buick Riviera or Olds Tornado. I think anyone who had the early C-3 with rally wheels and left them out at night probably has had to buy at least one additional set.

I am encouraged by all of this as hopefully we get to retire one more set of the deluxe wheel covers. I also think the wheels on the 84 thru early 90's are butt ugly with the early ones looking like pizza pans with no depth. I had 3-piece alloy wheels for my 87 and it made all the difference. (I hit a median divider at 5 a.m. heading to Illinois for some of mom's great cooking.) So I have bought six of these wheels at a cost of \$5000. Now who is the dummy?

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



One thing is for sure, it is in the eyes of the beholder. Most of us have spent lots of extra money over the years to put wheels on that make the car pop. GM is finally offering many selections on the new Corvette. Otherwise we would all be driving black cars, ask Henry Ford how long that lasted (until somebody made other colors).

Great to browse thru the cars of QCCC where you will find many that you would like to own.

Next month, an update on last weekends travels to Maggie Valley and we have knighted a certain member with First twurn wong twurn wron.

Submitted: Bill Cruthis



Great looking after market 3 piece wheel weighs only 18 pounds of un sprung weight on the corners. Also the stock pizza pan butt ugly GM wheel. What engineer thought this was a good wheel?

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



Supposed up grade to the rally wheel. Weighed 40 pounds of un-sprung weight on the corners. Fake wire wheel look cost \$57 more per wheel than the stock rally, and it was butt ugly.



Rally wheel one of the best wheels ever by GM

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

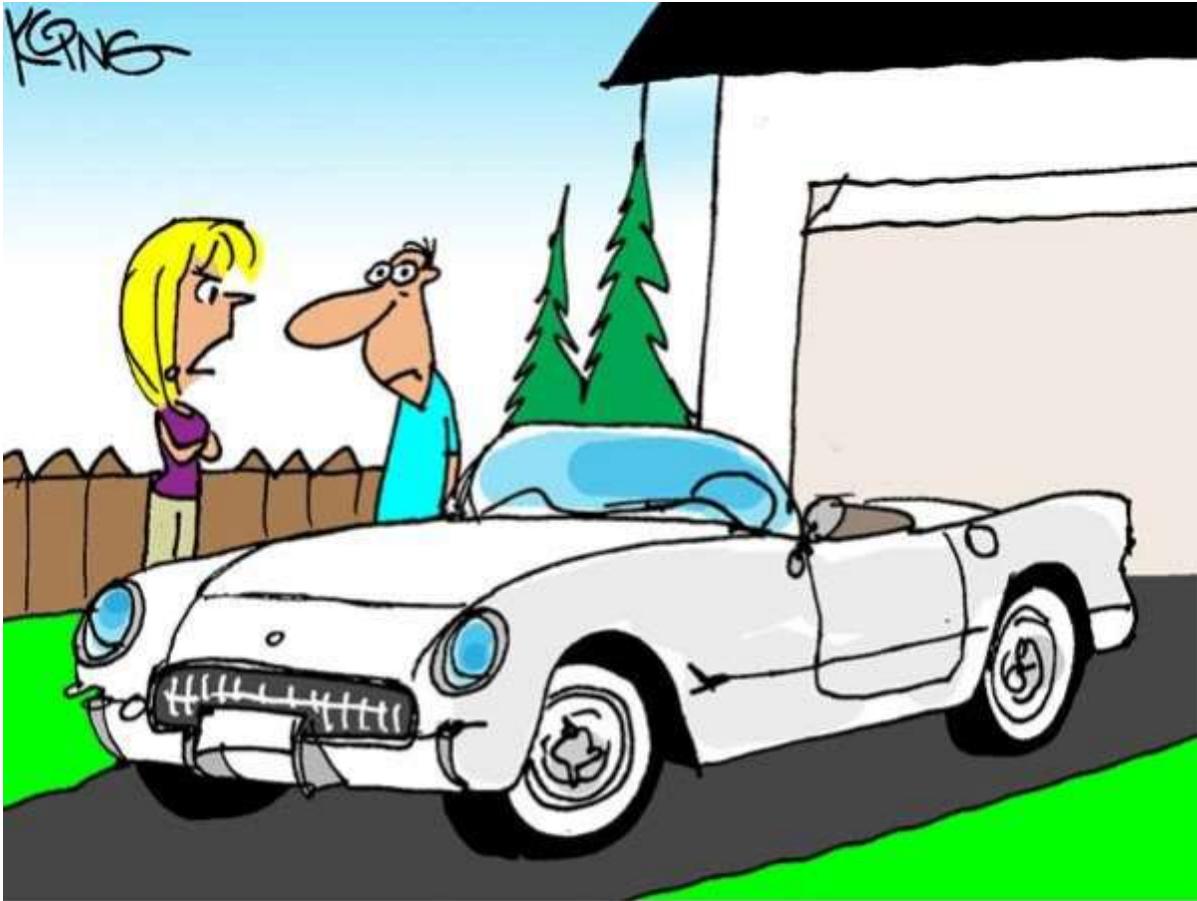


Queen City Corvette Club



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LAST LAUGHS



"I realize you love driving your Corvette, but quit driving it to the end of the driveway to check the mail!"