

The Queen City Corvette Gazette



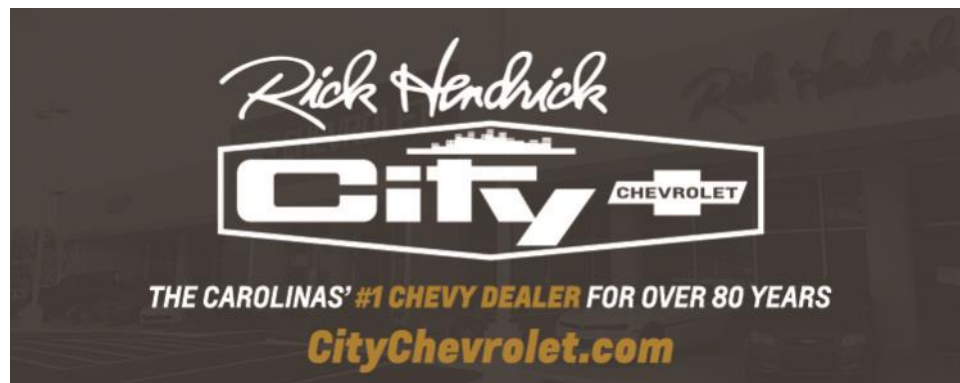
Official Newsletter of North Carolina's Largest Corvette Club

July 2021



July QCCC Business Meeting

Date: Saturday July 10, 2021
Location: Billy Boat Exhaust—125 Infield Ct. Mooresville, NC
Time: Social at 4 pm, Meeting starts at 5 pm



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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

Just last month I was saying it sure was nice that it was finally summer. We had a strange spring with cool and wet weather, then here came the 90-degree temps and we wondered what hit us. But now it's almost the 4th, with summer just 2 weeks away from being halfway done. It just moves too fast for me, as I look forward to it so much. But the good news is that QCCC has so many activities lined up, you will forget about the calendar, the hair melting humidity, and your car thermometer reading so close to 3 digits. We are finally back to full strength. Great meeting locations, day trips, weekend trips, beach trip, Oktoberfest in a real German town (in Georgia), and much more. Please join the group as we rekindle our camaraderie after the long pause in activities.

Car show, car show. Yes, we are getting ever so closer to October 2, and the world famous QCCC Corvette Car Show. And it is famous because of each and every QCCC member that works the show, brings items for goody bags and silent auction, and supports the show in every way. We are finally able to have our first in-person meeting with our Hendrick partners on July 1, and we will be rolling along at full speed. It is going to be another epic Corvette show, so get registered and get involved today.

As you know, our annual Banquet is being held in August rather than the normal early March. This allows us to celebrate in a different manner with a Hawaiian luau theme. Order your QCCC Hawaiian shirts, register, and come enjoy a really fun night with food, drink, and entertainment by our favorite band, Too Much Sylvia. You do NOT want to miss this.

Please keep in mind those members who are ill and needing your prayers. The support of our membership is especially important to those in times of need and hope. One of our main strengths of this club is the compassion we have for one another.

Thank you again for sticking with us over the last year and a half, and thank you to all the new members that have joined us during this difficult time. As has been mentioned, QCCC not only survived the pandemic, but we are now stronger than ever. That's something to be really proud of.

So, you know what to do.....

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

SOCIAL SCENE



SOCIAL DIRECTOR

~ Donna Berst ~



This Photo by Unknown Au-
July is here!!!! Time to enjoy riding in your Vettes and sharing good times with family & friends...

A BIG thank you to all of you who participated in the Corvette Family Feud Game at the June meeting! Paul Schmitt was a perfect fill in for Steve Harvey! The four teams that competed for prizes were the QCCC Rookies Family, the Corvette Racing Family, the Little Red Corvette Family and the Vintage QCCC Family. The Corvette Racing family sped along to claim the victory in a shockingly tight race.

We had 14 Corvettes caravan to Little Switzerland for lunch last Saturday. The weather and the view were spectacular. Our photo is at the end of my article... We ran the "Devil's Whip" with all its hair pin turns on the way down the mountain! Eeek!

Please bring your Car Show Silent Auction items to the meeting and give them to Marilyn Becker or myself. **Also**, Luau Shirts will be available there for you to try on & purchase. (see Ron) Thanks!

Upcoming Events

Saturday July 10, 2021, QCCC BUSINESS MEETING at Billy Boat Exhaust
4pm Social – 5pm Meeting 125 Infield Court, Mooresville 28117

Saturday July 17, 2021, CARS & COFFEE at the Charlotte Motor Speedway & 6pm THE EMBERS at Concerts on the Deck in North Wilkesboro. Look for email Blasts.

Saturday July 24, 2021, SUNSET CARAVAN Rescheduled caravan through Lake Norman State Park, scenic downtown Mooresville & Davidson ending up at Carolina Cones. Look for a Blast!

Saturday August 14, 2021, QCCC ANNIVERSARY & BUSINESS MEETING at Hendrick Motor Sports Complex 4400 Papa Joe Hendrick Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28262

Saturday August 21, 2021, QCCC BANQUET **Mark your calendars** to join us for an Elegant Luau at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Club. There you will enjoy an outstanding dinner followed by a fun filled night of entertainment by the renowned band TOO MUCH SYLVIA! A self-pay bar will be open throughout the evening. More details to follow in upcoming BLASTS.

Friday, August 27 through Sunday, August 29, 2021, MAGGIE VALLEY OVERNIGHTER Coordinators: Tom & Terri Pennoni t_pennoni@hotmail.com . We will once again be staying at the Maggie Valley Creekside Lodge. To reserve a room please call 828-926-1301 **Maggie Valley Creekside Lodge** 2716 Soco Rd., Maggie Valley, NC 28751. Tell Them you are with QCCC. **Once you have made your motel reservations send an email to t_pennoni@hotmail.com** so that he can keep you updated on any changes or details.

Friday September 17 – Sunday September 19, 2021, OKTOBERFEST TRIP TO HELEN, GA. This is a fun filled weekend trip! Make your reservations at the **Baymont Hotel** (706) 878-2111. The price is \$139.00 per night for 2 queen beds plus tax. *Be sure to tell them that you are with the Queen City Corvette Club to get the special rate.* **Email Steve Bonino once you have made your room reservations at vettegs17@gmail.com** to be put on the list of those attending. Steve will then email you more details and things to do in the area around Helen for Saturday when you will be on your own to sightsee.

Saturday October 2, 2021, **QCCC CHARITY CAR SHOW** at Hendrick Motorsports complex.

Thursday/Friday October 21 or 22 to Sunday October 24, 2021, NORTH MYRTLE BEACH TRIP **Contact Dick Gwilt rgwilt@me.com** for more information. Make your reservations (mention QCCC for special rooms/rate) **Ocean Drive Beach and Golf Resort** 98 N. Ocean Blvd. North Myrtle Beach SC 29582 www.oceandrivesort.com 843-249-1436 800-438-9590

Please let Ron or me know if you have any ideas, for future QCCC day or overnight trips or cruise-ins!

Donna Berst ~ 2021 QCCC Social Director

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

Little Switzerland Day Trip



Top row: Ron, Charlie, Victor, Bill, Bob, Dick, Chris, Richard, Steve, Norm, Tom, Wade & John

Bottom Row: Elena, Lori, Cheryl, Jill, Jane, Dee Dee, Pamela, Janet, Joyce, Debbie, Sue & Linda

Not pictured: Jerry & Debra Fitzgerald & dog Remi, Donna (the photographer)

Thanks to Charlie for the great photo edit!

Troutman Independence Day Parade

Queen City really came through by helping us celebrate our country's Independence. We had over 37 Corvettes join the parade, which ran through down town Troutman. The parade consisted of over 150 units in the parade including floats, music, marching units, church groups, civic organizations, scout troops, motorcycles, military units, horses, submarines, classic and antique cars, fire engines, beauty queens, re-enactment groups, politicians, WWII vehicles, trains, planes, and many more surprises.

We are proud to honor all veterans.





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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 "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

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Back in Business!

We just had our best attended QCCC Member Meeting in the past 18 months with over 100 attendees. We had a great mix of long-time members and many new members who had joined in 2020-2021. Of course, meeting at the beautiful Charlotte Motor Speedway overlooking the race track was a big draw for socializing with our friends.

The meeting locations for the second half of the year are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| July 10 | Billy Boat Exhaust - Mooresville, NC
Social 4:00 Meeting 5:00 |
| August 14 | Hendrick Motorsports Complex - Concord, NC
QCCC 53rd Anniversary Celebration
Social 3:30 Meeting 5:00 |
| September 11 | VFW – Indian Trail, NC
Social 4:00 Meeting 5:00 |
| October 9 | Bill & Julia Davidson’s Farm – York, SC
Social 3:00 Meal 4:00 Meeting 5:00 |
| November 13 | Charlotte Motor Speedway – Concord, NC
Social 4:00 Meeting 5:00 |
| December 4 | Victory Event Center – Mooresville NC
Social 3:00 Meal 4:00 Meeting 5:00 |

NOTE:

Times and details are subject to change, so look for a BLAST two weeks before each event.



We also just attended a couple of fun events with our club on Saturday June 19 – a day trip to Little Switzerland for lunch, and then to Kannapolis to hear our favorite band, Too Much Sylvania. The crowd was treated to the video for their new song, “I Wanna Go Back” starting out in Paul Mitchell’s 2021 Corvette and ending in Tommy Loftin’s 1958 Corvette!

As this was the third night in a row that Jane Burt and I had seen them play, the band called us “groupies”!

Dick Gwilt, VP

rgwilt@me.com



We drive to eat!!!



Somebody broke in line!



Too Much Jane???? 😂



June 17 - Rick Lee of Too Much Sylvia & Jane at Music on Main Street, North Myrtle Beach



June 18 - Eddy Howie of Too Much Sylvia & Jane at Duck's Beach Club, North Myrtle Beach

June 19 – Too Much Sylvia’s sound check at Village Park, Kannapolis. That’s Tommy’s car on the screen!



Paul’s car is in the beginning of the video!





MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

July

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS:

Total Membership	345
Total Families	189
Prospective Members	48
New Members Year to Date	23
Avg. Monthly Attendance	91

NEW MEMBERS:

Victor & Lori Lessoff
Stanley, NC
Corvette: 1973 Red L84 4spd Convertible &
2016 Black Z51 Convertible

Bob Novak & Jill Whalen
Huntersville, NC
Corvette: 2019 Artic White GrandSport
Coupe

Justin Cross
QCCC Membership Director



Al Kessel- Al is at home under Hospice Care. Please continue to keep Al & Gerri in your prayers as they go through this difficult time. Cards and Email are welcome.

Norm Lontz- He has 2 more months of immunotherapy to go and they will re-evaluate him. His lab-work each month has very good results. Please continue with your prayers for Joyce & Norm. Cards and Email are welcome.

Pat Motta- Pat is suffering from Metastatic Breast cancer. Prayers are requested for Bob and Pat. Cards, emails, and notes are welcome.

Thankfully COVID continues to improve and life is returning back to normal.

There are many people in the Club that are sick and suffering with Cancer. Their names are not mentioned here because they wish to keep it private. If you know of any of these individuals, please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and by all means call them or send them a note- "I am thinking of you". They all need our prayers and "lifting up". You are all so thoughtful and kind and a great support to each other. We are a family ...

Praying that God continues to keep us all safe in our Club."

NOTE: I will be continuing with Care & Compassion for 2021. If you would like to be placed on the list send me an email. We all need care, compassion & prayers when we are sick. Please do not hesitate to place your name on the list.

Paul Schmitt- paulandchristineschmitt@gmail.com



AUTOMOTIVE INSIDER

Welcome to summer!! We had 35 member Corvettes participate in the 2021 Shelton Vineyards Corvette Car Show. We met at the rest area Saturday morning on I77 and caravanned to the show. QCCC made a grand entrance noticed by all! We had a great weather day and a good time was had by all.

Great news, I just received an email from Charlotte Motor Speedway and 2021 Fall Auto Fair is on for Saturday, September 11th, 2021. I will send out more information and start sign ups soon.

2021 Shelton Vineyards Corvette Car Show Pictures



JULY AUTOMOTIVE SCHEDULE

- Saturday July 10th – Waterbean Cars & Coffee Cornelius, NC
- Saturday July 17th – Charlotte Motor Speedway Cars & Coffee Concord, NC
- Saturday July 24th – LNK Cars & Coffee Mooresville, NC

Roger Winge
Automotive Events Director



10TH Annual Queen City Corvette Club Corvette Show 2021 October 2ND, 2021

We only have 77 QCCC Corvettes registered for our car show and we need over 100. You can go to the QCCC website and go under Club Info – Event Signup – Car Show Member Signup for the no fee member registration. You can also register in person at the July club meeting at Billy Boat and each meeting afterwards. This will also be the time to sign-up for the work detail of your choice and bring donated items. Registration, work detail sign-up and donation items will be open until the September meeting, however we need early commitments for planning purposes. If you have steadfast plans for that date, please let me know. If you do not participate, you will be contacted personally for the reason why.

Our QCCC Challenge Coins and Flyers are here and Dash Plaques and T-Shirts are ready to order. As mentioned, the flyers are here and we ask that you help distribute them. If you have contacts with Corvette Magazines, other Corvette clubs, newspapers, car cruise-ins or anything pertaining to Corvettes, cars and clubs please make contact with them or get the information to me and I will pursue them. We need to make contact now so we can get on their calendars.

Work Detail Team Leaders are as follows:

Advertising & Trophies	Roger Winge, Paul Mitchell, Tommy Loftin
50/50 Raffle Tickets & Charity	Brenda Loftin and Ron Burst
Silent Auction	Donna Burst
Event Sponsors & Goody Bags	Tommy Loftin and Paul Mitchell
Parking	Darrell Kirkley and Larry Miller
Registration	Michelle Moore
Tally & Score Sheet	Craig and Donna Smith
Judging	John Callahan and Brian Moore
Main Tent	Keith and Kelly Cross
Heritage Center Tours	Reggie and Suzie Black
Announcements & Door Prizes	Paul Schmitt and Chris Wood

Donation items needed:

Gift baskets / buckets / tubs, for silent auction are needed and you can make and assemble them or bring items and the committee will assemble them. The Committee will provide the bows, cellophane and filler for your basket if you wish.

Other Donation Suggestions are Gift Certificates, Framed Only Corvette Posters, autographed, if possible, Metal Corvette Signs for the Garage, Corvette Racing Memorabilia, Autographed items, etc. It is time to clean out any usable Corvette items you have laying around and we will put them in the auction.

Door prize suggestions are wash and shine products from Adams, Armor All, Maguire's, Griot's, Mothers, Detail King, Chemical Guys, 3M, etc. These products will be separate items for door prize give-a-ways. All car entrees, including QCCC will qualify for these items. We need at least 100 items for door prizes.

We will also be assembling 300 goody bags for each paid entry. If you have a business or know of someone that has a business that would like to donate small items to be included in the goody bags, please let me know. Also, if you could contact car care suppliers and ask for item donations it would help greatly. We can also use advertisement items from almost anyone from the local area as stuffers.

We need you to sign-up, show-up and help with this annual event. If you would like to be more involved in the show or if you have positive suggestions, please contact me and we can discuss them.

Thank you in advance for all that you are going to do.

Tommy Loftin, QCCC's 10TH Annual Corvette Show Director

tloftin@roadrunner.com

704-902-1330

QCCC Charity Committee Update

Wings of Eagles Ranch

Your Kids, Our Horses & God's Love!

Here at the Ranch, we give the best in care, programming, safety and staffing - through this, we do the impossible.

Wings of Eagles Ranch has been very active this year with therapeutic riding for special needs children and our Veterans. They are now in the Summer Camp mode with a record number of children connecting with horses and camp leaders.



Brenda Loftin, QCCC Charity Chairperson





Happy July Birthdays!!!!

Hi QCCC Members!

JULY – What I think about are parades, warm strolls on the beach, picnics with corn on the cob and watermelon, fireworks and outdoor concerts – and of course driving our Corvettes!! Hope you get to have lots of outdoor fun this month and share good times with Corvette buddies. AND, also this month, please join us in celebrating our July Member Birthdays!!!

The **July** QCCC Birthdays are listed below. Please join me in wishing everyone on the list...

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

During our meetings, we randomly draw a name of a member present at the meeting who is celebrating a Birthday that month, and present him or her with a Darden Restaurant Birthday Gift Card. So please plan to attend **the July QCCC Club Meeting** at the Billy Boat Exhaust facility in Mooresville to see who our lucky Gift Card winner will be!!!! Check out the QCCC Website Calendar for details.

Hope to see you all there!!! Have a great 4th of July celebration!!!

Carolyn Zimmer
QCCC Secretary
carolynz77@yahoo.com



QCCC BIRTHDAYS*

July

- 7/1 **Debbie Rockhold**
- 7/6 **Priscilla Pelkey**
- 7/6 **Brian Peoples**
- 7/6 **Deb Troutwine**
- 7/7 **Peggy Conover**
- 7/7 **Peggy McNamara**
- 7/12 **Laurie Schwartz**
- 7/12 **Anthony Levigne**
- 7/13 **Jane Burt**
- 7/13 **Kimberly Knight**
- 7/14 **Carol McIntyre**
- 7/16 **Carl Bartlett**
- 7/18 **Sandie Holland**
- 7/20 **Jeff Crosby**
- 7/23 **Donna Rice**
- 7/24 **Al Kessel**
- 7/24 **Gerry Leppert**
- 7/25 **Diane Smith**
- 7/25 **Sylvia Self**
- 7/27 **Larry Miller**
- 7/30 **Jim McNamara**
- 7/30 **Curt Quakenbush**
- 7/30 **Tom Rockhold**
- 7/31 **Paige Mitchell**
- 7/31 **Sandy Chichester**

*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.



NCM CORNER



Hello, QCCC members and let me start off by saying, THANK YOU! Thank you to all of you who sent cards, letters, messages, and prayers during my dad's illness and subsequent passing. Mom, Karin, me, and my sister Melissa, were very touched and appreciative of your compassion. My mom and dad are both my heroes and mentors, so you will continue to hear me say "As my dad always said..." for a long time.

I also want to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to continue my dad's legacy as your NCM Ambassador. Special thank you to Keith and Kelly Cross for nominating me and your support. As many of you knew, he was a founding father back in the 80's passing the hat around for funds to get the NCM started. It was his baby.

Mark your calendars, the NCM 27th Anniversary Celebration is coming and is scheduled to start on Thurs Sept 2nd thru Sat Sept 4th. I will be contacting the Hilton Garden Inn behind the Montana Grill and reserving a block of rooms for QCCC, and will have more details to come.

For those of you questioning a lifetime membership, and you are over 65 years old, the NCM offers a Senior Individual Membership for \$500 that is good for 20 years. Compared to the \$1,500 for a full-blown lifetime membership, that is a great bargain.

My dad's last newsletter stated below, and keep in mind, for those who do not join the NCM run the very real risk of him haunting y'all in your sleep. No, really!!

"We have so many new members and the loss of some old members that I have lost track of just who is and who isn't a member of the NCM. So pardon me if I get pushy in the coming months as I ask around regarding your status. If you own a Corvette and aren't a member, I have to ask why not. You are missing out on a big chunk of the Corvette lifestyle."

Congrats to the following members who celebrated milestone NCM anniversary dates from April thru Sept 2021. If I have missed anyone, please let me know. SALUTE!

Boyd and Susan Kurt – 20 Years

Frank and Laura Sancineto (associate members) – 20 Years

Bob and Marilyn Becker – 15 Years

Staton and Sally Boyette – 15 Years

Bill and Judy Cruthis – 15 Years

Travis Meredith – 10 Years

Save the Wave

Mike Mariano

NCM Ambassador



Vintage QCCC

**With the Vintage Gang: Bill Cruthis 1974,
Bill Ingram 1973, Darrell Kirkley 1973,
and Travis Meredith 1970**



The Evolution of the Car Show

First, to clear up from the June meeting, there is some discussion among the vintage contestants in the Corvette Feud Performance....we may be asking the Board to have an independent counsel look into the integrity, including at peek at the financial records of the show host, Sir Schmidt, in case there are large sums of funny money deposited lately. Back stage, it did appear that he had the ear of the producer, and what's with my buzzer going off early, (Russian hacking?). Lastly, the questions for the rookie team seemed more difficult allowing the Corvette Racers a huge advantage. We're just sayin? But we will look forward to a re-match next year.

The month marks Vintage article #144 since the inception of the idea in 2009. We plan to keep going as long as we can. In the meantime, the newer members will enjoy a new article by historian, Travis Meredith, detailing the history of the origins of the club and how it grew to be what it is today.

And now some edumacation on car shows!

How did the car shows develop? This is my take on it and I am confident it has a fair amount of accuracy. Back in the late 60's, Corvette clubs were popping up everywhere. From mid-sized towns to metro areas, all supported by Chevrolet thru the NCCC (National Council of Corvette Clubs). NCCC was a blessing and a curse. They were great for areas like the deep south, which had a proliferation of racetracks, as they offered insurance for our cars while on track in timed events. One of their strict rules stated that every member club must donate the funds of one event to the NCCC charity which was Spina Bifida. Most of these small clubs were just getting organized and did not have the jam-packed calendar we see today. Hence came the idea to have a small car show amongst members and charge a small entry fee which would be sent to NCCC. QCCC had small events like our car show (which was really a car display), held at Southpark Mall in '75. After a couple of years, it was found that we could open the show up to other Corvette owners and increase our revenue to NCCC. Many clubs set their car show with their club picnic in a park. Then in '73, along comes Bloomington Corral and the whole car show world changed. I attended their first show and was amazed. I had never seen so many Corvettes in one place before. Like a Good Guys show, you would see anything. I remember a '66 convertible painted mint green fulie car with factory air. Obviously, that could not be ordered so the owner had added the air and done an excellent job. The show was held at the Bloomington (McLean County) fairgrounds in Illinois. I entered my '70 silver coupe in '74 and won best in class. I still have that small 8- inch trophy. The next year, the show was named Bloomington Gold. It grew like a California wildfire, only limited by early owner greed trying to make more profit by squeezing the host property.

Vintage QCCC

***With the Vintage Gang: Bill Cruthis 1974,
Bill Ingram 1973, Darrell Kirkley 1973,
and Travis Meredith 1970***



This caused a move to the Illinois State Fairgrounds (where it should have stayed), back to Bloomington, then to Turkey Run outside of Chicago, then to the campus of the University of Illinois in Champaign and finally to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Most, but not all changes were by new owners including Meacum. It is now a 4- day event pulling in 30,000 attendees complete with autocross, scenic drive, drag racing, show judging for certification, 3 stages with nightly band performances. This is why we are so fortunate to have them as part of our show.

So, what happened? In our great country a good idea attracts inventive investors such as Guy Larson who are willing to take the risk to be successful. The small club car shows had to find creative ways to grow which took better advertising and new rewards. A small trophy with a bigger one just was not enough. So, cash is always good, right? All the sudden car show flyers were stating \$100, \$200, even \$500 to best of show and now you saw the beginning of the "garage queen Corvette". Once the car was detailed, the less dirt it acquired between shows, the easier it was to prep. As the cash issue grew and got higher, it soon yielded another alternative. Whamo! circa last half of the '70's decade, the flyers started showing up offering a used Corvette to the Show winner. These were not show cars but pretty well used up daily driven Corvettes. None the less, they were a free, and in most cases, a restorable vintage Corvette. These were back in the days where a daily driver would retail for \$1,000.

QCCC travels to Sumpter S.C. for a car show, best of show prize was a '58 Corvette. I trailered my '70 and Darrell Kirkley trailered Dollar Bill Ingram's 67 coupe. I had no shot as the '67 was such a popular car and it was Ingram clean. Enter stage left, one Ward Marsh from Knoxville, Tenn. He brought a gorgeous Marlboro Maroon '69 coupe with chrome side pipes and lots of chrome under the hood. This was a frame off restoration with no fluids in the car. That's right... pushed it off the trailer into the show and back on the trailer after the show and he won the '58. That pretty much ended my show days as frame off cars became the standard. Just like other things in our country, ie: Walmart, Amazon etc., the big eat the small for lunch. The day in Sumpter was not a total loss, as the single guys got to watch a young lady in short pink shorts and high heels enjoy the show.

QCCC continued to have our small show, including some at Larry Jay Chev. On South Blvd. when they were our sponsor, we had a few down at Hendrick's until we grew to a size that was disruptive to their Saturday business. Ten years ago, we met with Hendrick and it was decided to try a show at the Hendrick complex. While it has been a joint effort, we cannot overlook the effort and results that Tommy Loftin has achieved. In an era of shrinking number of car shows, or somewhat car displays now since most new ones are just a different color, Tommy is approaching a 500 Corvette count. That is tremendous.

Vintage QCCC



***With the Vintage Gang: Bill Cruthis 1974,
Bill Ingram 1973, Darrell Kirkley 1973,
and Travis Meredith 1970***

So that is pretty much the ebb and flow of car shows as I see it. No doubt Cars and Coffee meets are chipping away at the car show format. In the U.S.A., change is inevitable.

In the '70's, it was easier to judge the cars. There were no belly pans. You could raise the hood and see the ground so that dirt could easily get in every cranny. Daily driven cars would have leaks around gaskets, gas would stain aluminum intakes, orange engine paint would need resprayed leaving overspray, bugs (especially butterflies), would wedge in the radiators, plus aftermarket clamps etc. worked better but looked wrong. It was nearly impossible to bleach white your raised white letters on the tires and black polish the rest without a smudge or two. And these were the good 'ole days?

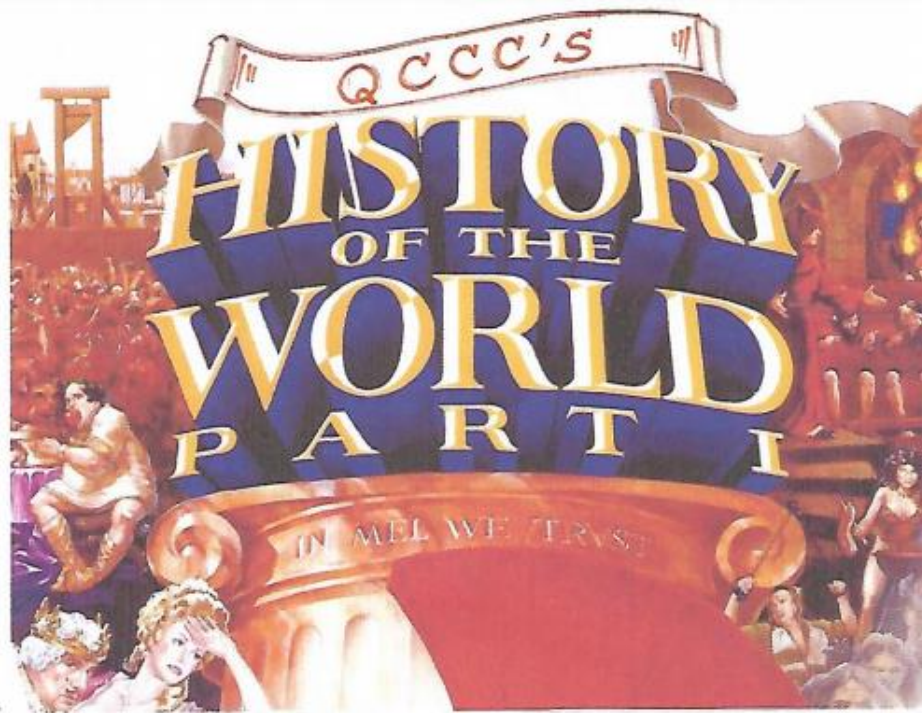
Car shows went from easy to win to impossible, to what special car do you have. It has been an interesting ride. Stay tuned for the next change.

This month's photo: I am not sure I can identify this Corvette. It was for sale at Sumpter. This could be a future best of show prize. While it is pretty cobbled up, someone would restore it.

QCCC car show history has been there thru thick and thin and now with the backing of Mr. Hendrick our future is solid.

Submitted: Bill Cruthis





At the Speedway Club meeting last month, Prez Paul asked for members who had joined QCCC in the last year and a half to stand. I was surprised at the large number that stood. We have a lot of new members and that started me thinking that these rookies need a history lesson. We published a series of “Vintage Gang” articles for the newsletter back in 2013 that covered the origin of QCCC and for the next couple of months we will revisit the club's history, just in time for our 53rd anniversary in August.

But first, a little background:

Chevrolet promoted the “Corvette life style” from an early point in the mid fifties when the Corvette reputation for performance was established by the “godfather” Zora Duntov. Starting in 1957 *CORVETTE NEWS* magazine was published by GM and was free to new Corvette owners. Along with interesting articles on racing and club events, the magazine inspired the owners to organize and join the fun. Each issue listed all of the clubs throughout the country with contact information to promote membership. The National Council of Corvette Clubs was formed in 1959 and was instrumental in providing guidance and insurance for club events. The “Corvette Club of North Carolina” was formed in the mid sixties, and even though based in Charlotte, it had members from all over the state. It seems this group “aged out” in their mid 30's and became inactive in the late 60's.

All of this laid the ground work in 1968 for a group of young men from North Charlotte to get together and form a new club.

Next month, “QCCC.....The Very Beginning”.

Travis Meredith, *historian*

To All QCCC Members:



WANTED/NEEDED anyone who takes pictures or videos with their phone or camera!!!

If you go to an event and take pictures/videos – please upload them to the QCCC photo library. That way they can be shared by all members!

We could also use members to volunteer to take pictures during the events. If you are interested and would like to volunteer, please contact me, Carl, at:

cb8613vette@gmail.com.

DO YOU HAVE QCCC PHOTOS/VIDEOS TO SHARE???

Here are the instructions on how to upload your pictures/videos:

To upload to the “QCCC Photo Gallery”, copy the web link below into your web browser and follow the screen prompts.

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

Please send an email to photo@queencitycorvette.com or cb8613vette@gmail.com with a notation of the Date and Event for which the Pictures/Videos were taken.

The mail message will notify the Club’s “QCCC Photo Gallery” administrator that new Pictures/Videos were recently posted so they can be added to the public viewing web site.

Carl Bartlett
Photography Coordinator



Join Queen City Corvette Club on Facebook

Queen City Corvette Club has two Facebook Pages

QCCC Members is a ‘closed’ group for 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.

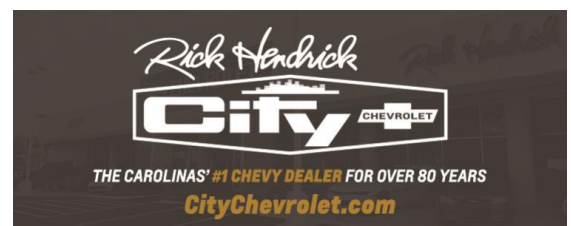
Queen City Corvette Club is an ‘open’ page for anyone on Facebook

www.facebook.com/QueenCityCorvette/

- Anyone on Facebook can “like” and “follow” our events
- Only our Facebook Administrators can post on this page [just ask and we will post for you].



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