

The Queen City Corvette Gazette



Official Newsletter of North Carolina's Largest Corvette Club

January 2022



January QCCC Business Meeting & Optional Chili Dinner

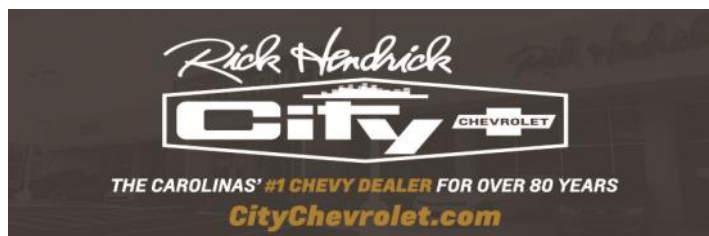
Date: Saturday, January 8, 2022

Location: VFW Post
100 VFW Lane, Indian Trail

Details: 3 p.m. Social
4 p.m. Business Mtg.

5:15 p.m. Optional Chili & Hot Dog Dinner prepared by the VFW Women's Auxiliary.

\$12.50 per person, pre-paid online by January 1st.



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2021 Board of Directors and Staff

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President	Richard Gwilt
Vice President	Ron Berst
Treasurer	Morris Graham
Secretary	Kathie Finocchi
Social Director	Donna Berst
Automotive Director	Roger Winge
Membership Director	Justin Cross
QCCC Car Show Director	Tommy Loftin
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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



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Happy New Year 2022 to all our QCCC members!

This is the end of an era in leadership as President Paul Mitchell, Secretary Carolyn Zimmer, and Treasurer Craig Smith have moved on to our illustrious circle of QCCC Board Alumni. Ron Berst - VP, Kathie Finnoch - Secretary, and Mo Graham – Treasurer are stepping up to the plate and taking their turns on the Board.

The former Board members are not going anywhere though, as Paul has agreed to keep working with Tommy Loftin to assure another fantastic Car Show. Carolyn has committed to take the lead as our Parliamentarian by maintaining our club's policy manuals, by-laws, etc. Craig will help Mo as needed for a smooth transition of overseeing our finances. Paul's presidency will be tough act to follow, but I like challenges and am up to the task, as is the rest of the team.

Your QCCC Board is already working on 2022 and has created a calendar of events, locations, and activities and will be adding to it throughout the year. Please go to the Event Calendar on our website and mark your own calendars so you won't miss out on the events you want to attend next year.

Although winter is typically a slow time for car activities, it's not for our club. We will have our annual chili-focused member meeting in January, our meeting in February, and our Awards Banquet in March. For Corvette Racing fans, we will be making our annual trip to Daytona for the Rolex 24 at the end of January.

Our Board is here to serve our members. If there is anything you would like us to consider doing, please let us know and I promise we will discuss it in our Board meetings. We want to hold events during the year with enough variety that can interest all our membership, so don't hold back with your suggestions.

Lastly, we capped off December with a fun Holiday meeting at Victory Events Center and drove in the Christmas parade in Troutman. It was a great way to end the year with hundreds of kids yelling to our club members to "rev it up". We had a great time.

Dick Gwilt, President
rgwilt@me.com
704-651-8613





VP Stuff, Ron Berst

WOW, 2022... it seems like only yesterday it was 2021☺☺☺.

I hope everyone had a joyful and Merry Christmas as well as a Happy New Year celebration.

Before we move forward, we need to look back a bit. QCCC is about to enter a new chapter, someone other than Paul Mitchell as President. Using the December 2021 membership numbers of 211 families, 79 families were not even members when Paul became President in January of 2017, that's 37% of the club!!! That's an incredible number!!! Over the last 6 years QCCC has grown an amazing amount despite, almost 2 years now of the dreaded Covid 19 virus. QCCC is a bigger, better and stronger club because of the hard work of many, many members but especially due to the leadership of Paul... or "Pres" as I call him.

Now for 2022, we will add a few new additions to our monthly meetings. Tech talks, Corvette Racing info, advertisers corner and more so I invite you to attend our next monthly meeting at the Indian Trail VFW Post on January 8th. I encourage anyone who has an idea or suggestion that will benefit the club or the monthly meeting to contact myself or Dick. We have the best Corvette club anywhere from what I have seen (yes I am biased, and proud to say it!) but we will always look for ways to improve QCCC and make it even better!

Corvettes were made to be DRIVEN; I am doing my part, how about you?

Ron Berst

Vice-President

ronberst@windstream.net

704-661-4751

Social Scene



SOCIAL DIRECTOR

~ Donna Berst ~

I hope everyone enjoyed **“JINGLING & MINGLING”** at our year-end Business Meeting & Christmas Party!!! The QCCC Mingle game winners received a \$25 National Corvette Museum Gift Card. The ten winners were Richard Murawa, Judy Cruthis, Christine Schmitt, Bud Curva, Kim Knight, Terry Fridley, Q. Gross, Dora McKenna, Luanne Levigne & Brian Kruse! Congratulations!

Thank you to all the “QCCC Elves” who helped with planning, set-up and clean-up for the December meeting. Also, a big thanks to Carl Bartlett for taking our Christmas photo’s! Look on our website for all the meeting and event photographs.

Please contact me with any dietary restrictions you may have when a meal is offered at one of our meetings or events. I will work with the caterers to try and modify your dinner to meet your needs.

I look forward to sharing many fun times with you all in 2022!!!!!!!

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Saturday January 8, 2022 BUSINESS MEETING & OPTIONAL CHILI DINNER AFTERWARDS

Location: VFW Post 100, VFW Lane, Indian Trail 3pm Social - 4pm Meeting - 5:15 Optional Chili & Hot Dog dinner prepared by the VFW Women’s Auxiliary. \$12.50 per person, pre-paid online by January 1st.

The Fourth Monday of the month is the Up Yonder Dinner. 43 QCCC members/prospective members attended the November dinner in Mooresville. There will not be a December dinner BUT look for a Blast with the **Monday January 24, 2022** details.

Saturday February 12, 2022 BUSINESS MEETING/Tribute to the 50’s Sweetheart Sock Hop & OPTIONAL DINNER AFTERWARDS. Victory Lanes Entertainment Center in Mooresville. Dig out those saddle shoes, varsity jackets & poodle skirts! Classic 50’s Vette Photo Op will be available (weather permitting). Prizes will be awarded for the best dressed 50’s Era male, female & couple.



Saturday March 5, 2022. Our Mardi Gras-themed Awards Banquet once again will be held at the prestigious Charlotte Motor Speedway Club. Music and entertainment by the awesome band, Too Much Sylvia!

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, May 20th through Sunday, May 22nd, 2022 Maggie Valley Overnighter. **SAVE THE DATE.** Blast with reservation info will be sent in January.

Donna Berst ~ 2022 QCCC Social Director

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



The Carolinas' #1 Chevy Dealer For Over 80 Years

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 a 10% service discount.

COLLISION CENTER

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

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Rick Accurso

Inventory Manager & Corvette Specialist

704-566-7447

Rick.Accurso@hendrickauto.com

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MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

January

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS:

Total Membership	382
Total Families	212
Prospective Members	64
New Members Year to Date	0
Avg. Monthly Attendance	93

NEW MEMBERS:

John & Jane Freeman
 Huntersville, NC
 Corvette: 1969 Blue Convertible

Justin Cross
 QCCC Membership Director



January 2022

Norm Lontz

We are once again asking for prayers for Norm Lontz. I talked with him on Friday at Levine Hospital just before Christmas.

The immunotherapy treatments he received for a year have not stopped or slowed the melanoma. He has been with a new oncologist at the Levine Cancer Center in Charlotte, NC and is receiving injections every 2 weeks.

He is receiving the new treatment called T-VEC. These treatments will require injecting medication directly into the melanoma site. The port was removed today. Each treatment will take a half a day or more. They are painful & he was out of it a couple of hours.

After the initial injection he will have one every two weeks and doctors will decide how many weeks they will need to be done.

Norm has also found out that he does have some prostate cancer also & we going to figure out what they are going to do next.

Please pray for Norm (and Joyce), the prayers are appreciated. Norm said, "I need all the help & prayers I can get." As Joyce said, "QCCC Members are the BEST and most caring people we know".

Let's keep them on our prayer list until this is over. Thank you!

Paige Mitchell

Paige is recovering at home from back surgery. The surgery went well and she is doing fine. Paul & Paige would like to thank all QCCC Members for their emails, cards, and prayers.

COVID 19 Prayers for QCCC Members, Family and Friends

Special prayers for all our QCCC Members, family and close friends. Praying that God keeps them safe and touches those that do have it. This has been a terrible pandemic and we pray for those that have it and those that are fighting it. We also pray for the underlining illnesses that affect this virus and make it more lethal.

Praying that Our Lord keeps us all safe in our Corvette Club.

We also pray for those with other illnesses such as cancer, disease, viruses, bad knees and hips, heart, stroke, etc. that do not want to be placed on this list. We pray for a complete healing.

NOTE: I will be continuing with Care & Compassion for 2022. If you would like to be placed on the C&C monthly list, send me a text first saying that you sent me an email. I am not in my email all the time.

We all need care, compassion & prayers when we are sick. Please do not hesitate to place your name on the list. We are all family.

Paul Schmitt

paulandchristineschmitt@gmail.com

585-944-1926

QCCC Care and Compassion



HAPPY NEW YEAR!! December was a tuff month for automotive events, all Cars & Coffee were rained out. Hope January weather cooperates, and we get to see each other and show off our Corvettes. Registration for the Michelin NCM BASH will open at the beginning of January so watch for it and get signed up for the events you want to participate in.

Miscellaneous pictures from QCCC automotive events over the years



JANUARY AUTOMOTIVE EVENT SCHEDULE

- Saturday January 8th – Waterbean Cars & Coffee Cornelius, NC
- Saturday January 15th – Charlotte Motor Speedway Cars & Coffee Concord, NC
- Saturday January 22nd – LNK Cars & Coffee Mooresville, NC

Roger Winge
Automotive Events Director

QCCC Charity, Wings of Eagles Ranch

QCCC proudly sponsors Wings of Eagles Ranch as our 2022 charity. If you are looking for a tax deduction, please consider Wings of Eagles Ranch.

Tommy & Brenda Loftin



Volunteer for our Hippotherapy Program!

Email our Volunteer Coordinator, Julie Seidenspinner at wingsofeaglesranch@gmail.com

Definition of hippotherapy

: therapy to treat neurological, physical, cognitive, or communication deficits in which a patient (as one affected by cerebral palsy, stroke, autism, or multiple sclerosis) sits or lies on the back of a horse for the therapeutic effect of the horse's movement. In *hippotherapy*, the patient engages in activities on the horse that are enjoyable and challenging. In the controlled *hippotherapy* environment the therapist modifies the horse's movement and carefully grades sensory input.

Therapeutic Riding Schedule

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
(Hippotherapy)	(Special needs youth)	(Adult Classes)	(Special needs youth)	(Hippotherapy)
8:00 - 4:00pm	3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm (fall & spring sessions)	10am, 11am, 12pm	3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm (fall & spring sessions)	8:00 - 4:00pm



Hi QCCC Members I am Kathie Finocchi, your Secretary for 2022. This is my first month on the job so please be patient as I find my way.

Please join me in wishing everyone who is celebrating a birthday in January, a

very Happy Birthday!!!

As we have done in past meetings, we will randomly draw a lucky name from those present who are celebrating birthdays in January. The winner will receive a \$25 gift card from Panera Bread. If you would like your birthday added or deleted from our list, please send an email to me at katfino@hotmail.com.

Wishing all of you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!!

Warmest regards,

Kathie Finocchi

QCCC Secretary

katfino@hotmail.com

(704)905-0394



Happy Birthday

January

- 1/3 Andrea Johnson (A)
- 1/3 Ron Smith
- 1/4 Carole Callea
- 1/5 Bill Bitters
- 1/6 Jamie Stamey Hinson
- 1/6 Jim Gillum
- 1/7 Wendy Callahan
- 1/7 Travis Meredith
- 1/7 Brian Moore
- 1/8 Chris Wood
- 1/10 Laura Pelchat
- 1/10 Paul Pelkey
- 1/11 Chris Farrell
- 1/12 Jim Holland
- 1/13 Bill Ingram
- 1/15 Ted Alford
- 1/17 Scott Hamilton
- 1/18 Kay Weisberg
- 1/19 Jack Higgins
- 1/19 Laron Thompson
- 1/22 Kati Humphrey
- 1/23 Warren Knight
- 1/25 Edie Downs (A)
- 1/25 Betsy Kashinsky
- 1/26 Richard Murawa
- 1/26 Janet Kaufmann
- 1/30 Jack Semelsberger
- 1/31 Kathie Finocchi

Treasurer's Note



As part of the transition for Treasurer from Craig to me, I have opened a new PO Box:

**Queen City Corvette Club
PO Box 1621
400 Gilead Rd
Huntersville, NC 28070**

Morris (Mo) Graham



NCM CORNER

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR QCCC! I am sure most of you heard by now that the devastating storms that swept thru the mid-west on December 11th did some damage to the museum, but not significantly. Damage was left to the Museum's Amphitheater and no one was hurt. However, the Motor Sports Park was not spared the same fate, and was deemed unsafe for visitors and all activities are halted until further notice.

Here is another reminder to mark your calendars for the Michelin NCM Bash scheduled to take place April 28 – April 30. I will be reaching out to the Hilton Garden Inn we usually stay at and reserve a block of rooms, assuming COVID doesn't torpedo our plans again. Here is crossing our fingers.

Special shout out to the NCM for 2021, as they participated in several special events and received several awards for their educational programs, online content, exhibits, and more. You can go to this link to read all the great details. Way to go NCM!! (<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/national-corvette-museum-wins-numerous-awards-in-2021/>)

Again, if the eggnog is not spiked enough, or if the kids/grandkids are standing on your last nerve....and if you have access to Amazon's Alexa, you may want to try your hand at the NCM Corvette Trivia. Just say "Hey Alexa, play Corvette Trivia". 1 to 4 can play and it is sponsored by the NCM. Also, Chris Huffman, NCM IT Operations Manager stated they're working on some additional new interactive applications for use in the Museum including augmented and virtual reality. "Over the years a lot of new, affordable options have become available for Museum use and we've been testing some of those out. We're excited and hope to roll out some new interactive offerings for our exhibits later this year."

Don't miss out on the latest Corvette Raffle to win a **2022 Black Corvette Coupe!** Tickets are \$100, and the raffle is limited to 2000 tickets. The drawing will be on Thursday, January 13th, 2022 at 2pm CT. There is still time to mail in a chance.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, and those who have not yet joined the NCM. . . I will be seeking you out!!

Save the Wave!

Mike Mariano
NCM Ambassador

QCCC HISTORY

The 70's Continue

I had a QCCC member comment to me recently after reading one of our articles about the club in the seventies, saying "I can't imagine this club back then being run by a bunch of guys in their 20's." Well trust me, in the 70's we couldn't imagine this club with an average age near 60. As an example, at the 1972 NCCC Convention in Dallas, Texas, there was a gray-haired couple from Ohio who were recognized and given an award for being by far the oldest participants. They were 65. In 1972, we only had two members over 30. During that period new and used Corvettes weren't priced out of reach for those who really wanted one, regardless of age. The members were not only dedicated gear heads but very resourceful when it came to purchasing their dream car.

The mid to late seventies were a great time for QCCC. Having the Club House was fantastic for the club with growth and enthusiasm off the charts. Every Wednesday night was open bar night and the place was packed almost every week. After some painting and light cleaning the place looked presentable. The only thing that drew negative comments was the bathroom. There was only one and it had suffered from years of neglect. The toilet was very, very old and had a permanent ring embossed in the bowl and it barely flushed. This fact didn't seem to bother the guys but the ladies found it "gross" and always out of toilet paper. Not only that, but the door lock remained broken and no one seemed able to fix it. I can't even describe the bathtub, let's just say it was unusable.

The club was fortunate enough to have as a member a world class shag dancer, Shad Alberty, who used his influence to acquire us a late 60's Rock-Ola juke box and loaded it with all the best beach music. And even though no one could dance like Shad, there was lots of dancing in the nearly empty living room with a hard wood floor.

But with the serious drinking taking place and the revenue that it created so important to our survival, it was necessary for someone to be in charge of the bar. After careful consideration, Ed Sloan was designated as permanent bartender. Ed was a young single guy, kinda shy and quiet, and very responsible and I don't think he drank, at least not like the rest. He was perfect for the job. Ed would show up early every Wednesday and draw the Schlitz with great precision and collect the money. Ed also had this tall blonde girlfriend that would frequent the club house with him, so Ed became very popular.

But as much fun as we were having, an interesting thing happened. We aged, we got older and our lives were changing and our families were growing. Suddenly, the clubhouse in the late 70's became a great place to have baby showers for the members. And we were dropping them like flies. One of the last big events at the club house was a kid's Christmas party where Harry Jackson (a very large guy) dressed like Santa and gave out presents. The club house was full of kids and everyone had a blast. Many members lives not only changed as a result of parenthood, but with career changes and job relocations, club events became secondary. Corvettes were being traded for station wagons and four door sedans (mini-vans hadn't arrived yet, thank goodness). Things were changing for QCCC.

As the club entered the 80's, the old house was torn down to make way for Independence Boulevard to be converted into an expressway and those remaining members were the die-hard racers going to events for NCCC points. QCCC was entering an interesting period of survival. We'll explore that in future articles.

Travis Meredith, *historian*

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



All in the Life of a Trailer

December 31st, 1973 in Central Illinois, the temperature was minus 10. Ice had fallen during the day and frozen on top of the already yellow snow. They are hardy folks up in the midwest so all made it to my New Year's party to hear me exclaim that I would not be living there in one year. That marked the departure from Central Illinois Corvettes, a great group.

Fast forward to October '74. I had ruled out California, Florida, and Texas but got a chance to checkout North Carolina. While here I drove to Martinsville, VA for an interview with Revco Drug at the divisional office. I thought that was a long shot. Upon returning home I immediately got a call from them with an offer, however, I had to be there in 2 weeks. "Sure", I said, without giving it any real intelligent consideration. I hung up and thought, time to crap or remove myself from the pot. I looked around my house: some furniture, mostly from the thrift store, one '74 Rancho, one 1970 Corvette, one 1963 Corvette and one schnauzer. It seemed to me that a car trailer was the most pressing need. I called a couple of the CIC guys and expressed my dilemma. If you ever land living in the Midwest, make friends with the guys in a river town, in my case, Beardstown. They are salt of the earth, plus if you meet the Corvette ones, it is a double positive. Butch Southwell started looking. There was a dragstrip so old rickety trailers abound there. He took me to look at one. Made of I beam steel with double mobile home axles, it had started its life carrying a farmer's bulldozer. The floor boards were like that of a condemned bridge. Many planks were missing. I had no choice. . . \$400 and I was too naïve to be scared. Butch pulled the trailer to his shop and said he would fix it up and get it to me in time for my trip. He arrived two nights before departure having welded running lights, turn signals, good brakes, brackets protecting the tail lights but no new floor or fenders. Time was up. He told me to go the next day and buy a trailer brake to attach to the brake pedal of the Rancho, and tie downs for the '63 Corvette. I called and got an airline ticket for Dale Lael of CIC who was driving the '70 on the trip. The Beardstown boys and other members of CIC arrived the next night and help load and safely tie down the '63. I was learning a lot very quickly. We said our goodbyes. Then being 27, I proceeded to go with David and Tom to the tavern and reflect on everything until 2 a.m.

Up early on travel day, I pulled out with Dale following. I never dreamed what I was doing was rather reckless. I am enclosing three photos. One is very faded. Another is faded but the same photo has been colorized by QCCC member Charlie Binder who is a photo genius. These photos are taken in 1975 at Bill Ingram's childhood home in Arlington, VA where we were going to win the big Corvette concourse show. We had towed my '70 along with his '67 coupe which was on Darrell Kirkley's trailer. Looking closely, you can see that the tongue of the trailer pulls the back of the Rancho nearly to the ground which also lifts the rear of the trailer. This is known as tongue weight and when you get it too far off, well, you'll see. Now that it has all

been explained to me, I feel pretty lucky to have driven 1,500 miles without a serious accident. As Trav says, "the trailer plus the Corvette outweighed the Ranchero by nearly double". It is a wonder I made it without losing the transmission. Seems I was pulling this with what was known as a fancy Fairlane. Can you imagine coming down Black Mountain? After the move south and the Arlington, VA trip, my next journey was to Sumpter, SC for a car show again with Dollar Bill and Kirkley. Next up was to carry the trailer to a welder to get diamond plate fenders added to protect the car. It was apparent my trailer knowledge was again lacking. With no floorboards at this time, I headed north on the then two-lane Harris Road and I had to make about a 210 degree left turn onto Plaza Road Extension. This was an afterthought by NCDOT. I approached a T intersection in a flat area with a ball diamond on the left without fencing. The trailer hopped due to the light weight with no floor. As I looked to my left, I saw the trailer over in the ballfield passing me. Rats, I pulled over to second base to hook the trailer back to the truck as an older gent approached and said I was lucky as an hour earlier the little tykes were playing a ball game. I guess there is good in everything as I probably would have wiped out about 40% of the second grade.

Then I added new 2 x 10 floor boards of treated wood and stained them in deep rich mahogany color. This being done to keep pace with all the QCCC trailer craze that accompanied our racing. In 1975, if you had a trailer it had to match your tow vehicle and car in color, a trend started by Mr. Kirkley. Also, I made a trip to the hill climb at Chimney Rock hauling Pete and Peggy Walter's '71 Corvette which had custom paint. Unfortunately, Pete could not slow the big block coming down from the top and bounced into the mountain side losing the right front fender. This a fate I was tempting coming through the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Finally, after stripping the '63 and getting it painted, I brought it home to add all the chrome and outside trim. Trav had finished the stripping for me and painted it the original Daytona Blue. I remember when I asked him if it was done and he said it was blue. Spell B-L-U-E in a not to pleasant tone and more of sickness than a color. That was a real test of friendship. QCCC was traveling on a Saturday up near Statesville to a parking lot autocross. I thought this to be a good shakedown for the "new 63". Again, in my wisdom, I had put 2 x 10 x 12 blocks where (I thought) all four tires would be placed before tie downs were added. Not so wise, as if and when the tires could slide off the blocks then the tie downs would not function. After running the first round at the autocross, it started to rain. We all packed up in a hurry (too big of a hurry). Sure enough, I got the car loaded too far forward. Remember tongue weight? Too much tongue weight makes your tow vehicle and trailer make a >< where they attach. The result was coming down the first foot hill, all of the sudden I could see my '63 driver's door in the left-hand mirror then the passenger door in the right-hand mirror. The car and trailer were swinging like the pendulum on a very expensive grandfather clock. Can we say dilated eyeballs? I know nutting, nor how I got it stopped before I went over the edge. Once stopped beside I-40, I was able to check my pulse, way up there, triple digits. QCCC member, Danny Shaver, who always saw life in some constant state of humor, was behind me. He came running up to my Ranchero.

I was visibly shaken and expecting some sympathy not knowing if I had messed myself, but what I got was, "bet you could not drive a 10 penny nail up your butt right now".

Like a bpat, I think the best day you own a trailer is the day you sell it. Upon arriving home, I put the trailer for sale and a week later sold it for \$700. Later I traded the Ranchero in on a '78 El Camino SS. Now I rent my trailer from U-Haul or have a car hauler bring the car to me. Back in the vintage days we all had trailers and used them as we raced every weekend. I imagine that trailer was as glad to be traded as I was glad to see it go, but it was an education and I often get to relive all this when the Vintage Gang gathers to eat.

The good ole' days of QCCC! We were too young to think we could not do something, not knowing the risk was half of the fun. Yes, that was my only Ford, ever!

Submitted: Bill Cruthis



Original faded photo



after colorized by Charlie Binder



Original photo. Notice the fulcrum of the truck, trailer hitch at the tongue. How did this not crash in 1500 miles??

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 want to do that, please contact me via email : cb8613vette@gmail.com.

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

Do you have club Photographs or Videos you would like to share?

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.

Thanks!

Carl Bartlett

Cell : 704-281-8673

email : CB8613Vette@gmail.com



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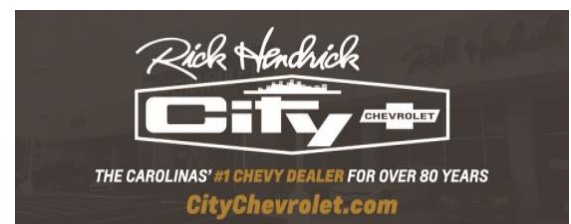
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