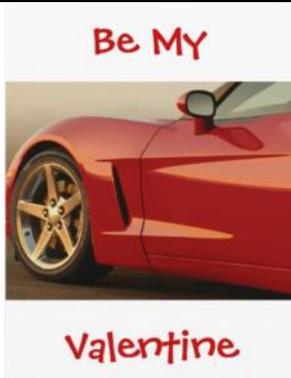


The Queen City Corvette Gazette



Official Newsletter of North Carolina's Largest Corvette Club

February 2023



QCCC February Business Meeting and Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, February 11, 2023

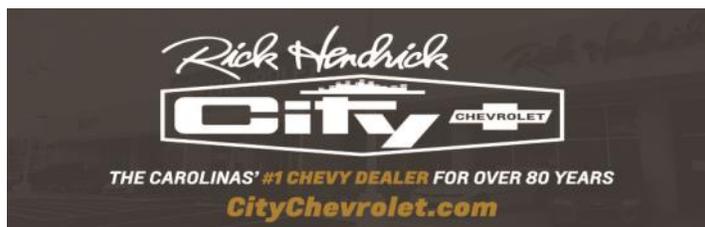
VFW Post 100

VFW Lane

Indian Trail, NC 28079

There are choices for eating dinner at this meeting. See Social Scene (page 7) for details.

- 3:45** All crock pots of chili should arrive for check-in
- 4:00-4:45** Social Time with Chili Tasting & Voting/Desserts should arrive by 4:30
- 4:45-5:30** Dinner
- 5:30** Business Meeting



We Are Proudly Sponsored By City Chevrolet



2023 Board of Directors and Staff

In This Issue

President	Richard Gwilt
Vice President	Ron Berst
Treasurer	Morris Graham
Secretary	Kathie Finocchi
Social Director	Donna Berst
Automotive Director	Tim Fridley
Membership Director	Dan Brubaker
QCCC Car Show Director	Tommy Loftin
Member-At-Large	Carl Bartlett
Care and Compassion	Paul Schmitt
Newsletter Editor	Pam Tucker
Directory & Database	Paul Pelkey
Webmaster	Roger Winge
NCM Ambassador	Paul Mitchell
Photography Coordinator	Alton Loe
Historian	Travis Meredith
Charity	Brenda Loftin
Facebook Coordinator	Jamie Hinson

<i>Content</i>	<i>Page</i>
President's Page	3-5
VP Report	6
Social Scene	7-8
Automotive Director Update	9
City Chevrolet Sponsor Page	10
Sponsor, Patrons & Advertisers	11-13
Club Membership	14
Care & Compassion	15
Secretary's Note & Birthdays	16-17
NCM Corner	18
QCCC History	19
Vintage QCCC	20-21
FACEBOOK	22

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 1621 400 Gilead Rd. Huntersville, NC 28078

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

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



February, 2023

This year 2023 is off to a great start, especially after last year's cancellation of both the January and February meetings. Not this year! We had a great meeting at Victory Lanes in January with 167 attendees – the most we've had so far this year. LOL

Then thanks to Ron and Donna Berst's efforts, our first Day Trip was to Kannapolis to visit the Curb Music and Motorsports Museum, with lunch afterwards.

To wrap up the month a group of us attended the Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona to see the first race of the year for Corvette Racing. It will be another exciting year for the C8.R teams. The number 3 car finished second, however the QCCC finished first by winning the Corvette Corral's Club Participant Award.

I hope everyone is working on their secret chili recipes for the February meeting at the VFW in Indian Trail. With all the time spent indoors over the past two years, surely some of you have become chili-making experts.

We had our first QCCC Car Show planning meeting in January with Hendrick representatives. Yes, planning for such a big event starts early.

Ron and Donna are looking for Day Trip locations and leaders. If you have a favorite place you want to share and lead club members to, please tell Ron and Donna and let's go!

Automotive Director, Tim Fridley is working on automobile events for the year and he is always open to suggestions, so if you have any, let him know. Club members just attended Cars and Coffee at Whitehall in January - over 1,000 cars were there. Watch for a Blast each month for the next one.

Our QCCC yearly event calendar is up and running on the website, so review it and save the dates in your personal calendars. Information on every event we have, will be sent out by Blast with the details and directions, so pay attention and sign up ASAP since some events have limits on the number of participants and limits on the number of hotel rooms available for our club.

GM is on the move again with your next "last Corvette I'll ever buy" with the 2024 E-Ray. The great thing about this car is it will have electric motors on the front wheels to give you greater traction and horsepower, but no, you don't have to plug it in to recharge the batteries. What to do; what a dilemma.

Congratulations to the club's first 2023 C8 deliveries by City Chevrolet to Alton Loe, Dick Gwilt, and Tommy/Brenda Loftin.

Finally, mark your calendars for the Awards Banquet on March 11 to celebrate year 2022 with our members. We will do it a little differently this year by moving up the times so everyone can stay and dance and not go home early. We also will have a local hotel and shuttle for the crazies.

Thanks to all our 400 members for making our club so successful and fun.

Dick Gwilt, President
rgwilt@me.com





CHEVROLET PRESENTS:
THE CORVETTE CORRAL AT
DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY
CLUB PARTICIPANT AWARD
JANUARY 26-29, 2023



**CORVETTE
RACING**





VP Stuff, Ron Berst

So... I meant to send this out last month, but I didn't so here you go. Most all QCCC activities are tracked... by me 😊. I keep track of who attends what event, meeting, day trip, etc. Points are compiled and the top point getters receive gift cards at the March banquet. There will be 13 winners at this year's banquet, first, second and third along with the top 10 in points. All except board members are eligible, here's how it works.

If you attend a QCCC monthly business meeting you earn 5 points. If you attend Auto Fair, a day trip, or overnight trip, volunteer to help at a QCCC event or meeting or are a National Corvette Museum member you earn 10 points. If you lead a day or overnight trip, are a committee leader at our car show, attend the awards banquet, or volunteer at our charity work days you earn 15 points. That's it!

This is a contest that everyone can win something at; your attendance alone will equal many points. So... Volunteer, Sign Up, Attend, and Participate in the many QCCC events scheduled each month and your points will grow and you will help QCCC become an even greater Corvette Club. Keep checking the Event Calendar on the QCCC website and the Blasts that are sent out and you will have many great days and nights of fun!

In a completely different train of thought, in the attached picture James Garner (yes that one) is standing next to a racing car driver... can you identify him? See me at the February Chili cook off meeting at the VFW if you think you know.

That's it for now.

Ron Berst, VP



Social



Scene

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

~Donna Berst~

Our first Day Trip of 2023 was a great success! We had over 20 Corvettes caravan to the Curb Motorsports & Music Museum. Two newly delivered 70th Anniversary Corvettes were in attendance that day. Both Kimberly Knight’s White Pearl Metallic Tri-coat C8 and Dick Gwilt’s Z51 convertible in Satin Black with the Carbon Flash Metallic, made quite a statement! We had 47 QCCC folks who toured the museums and then went on to eat lunch together at Chophouse 101 in Kannapolis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday February 11, 2023, Business Meeting & Chili cook-off at the VFW Post 100 VFW Lane Indian Trail, NC 28079

Times: 3:45	All crock pots of chili should arrive for check-in
4:00-4:45	Social Time with Chili Tasting & Voting/Desserts should arrive by 4:30
4:45-5:30	Dinner
5:30	Business Meeting

There are several choices you need to make if eating dinner at the February meeting.

You can email donnaberst@windstream.net to participate in the Chili Contest by bringing a crock pot of any type of chili to share and be judged. (limited to 24 participants) There will be NO dinner charge for you and your spouse if you provide Chili. *Please bring your own serving utensils.* Prizes for the top three Chili’s will be awarded.

You can email donnaberst@windstream.net to provide a dessert to share (limited to the first 15 offers) There will be NO charge for you and your spouse for the dinner if you provide a dessert. *Please bring your own serving utensils.*

If you aren’t bringing chili or dessert, you can sign-up on our website to purchase a Chili Dinner which includes: hot dogs, salad & dessert for \$5 per person. Please pay by Wednesday, February 8th. Go to: queencitycorvette.com (password is duntov) and is under Club Info + then Event Sign-Up on our website.

Everyone can taste test & vote on the Best Chilis (from 4-4:45)
Hope to see you there!

Saturday March 11, 2023, Awards Banquet for 2022 – “Driving through the Decades” 1953 through the present. **SAVE THE DATE!**

Location: Charlotte Motor Speedway Club 5555 Concord Pkwy South Concord, NC 28027 – 5th Floor Banquet Room. You don’t want to miss this!

The evening is our biggest event of the year and is heavily subsidized by the club. A delicious dinner menu is being planned by the Speedway chef. The renowned band “Too Much Sylvia” will be playing throughout the evening for your listening & dancing pleasure.

Come dressed in attire from your favorite Corvette Decade, in your Fancy Duds or Company Casual. (Men must wear a collared shirt-NO Tees)

A self-pay bar will be open during the night. A Blast went out last week with information so you can reserve a hotel room which includes shuttle service to and from the Speedway.

Awards will be presented for Member QCCC of the Year along VP Awards for those members with the most participation & leadership during in events in 2022.

A BLAST with all the payment information and details will come out next week.

Donna Berst ~ 20223 QCCC Social Director

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

AUTOMOTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to February! Don't forget Valentine's Day on the 14th.

Several of us started January off by attending Cars and Coffee at Whitehall on January 7th. There were 9 QCCC members there as well as, what appeared to be, over 1000 other cars from the exotics to the classics.

I'm not sure if anybody made it to Waterbean Cars and Coffee on January 14th; however, several members attended the Cars and Coffee at the Speedway on January 21st. Our Club President even made an appearance in his new 70th Anniversary Edition Corvette!

There are several other Automotive events just around the corner:

On March 25th, the Gaston County Shrine Club will host their 1st Annual Toy Drive and Show and Shine. The event will be at Eastridge Mall in Gastonia. There will be Top 20 People's Choice Awards. Entry is \$10 per vehicle or \$5 plus a new toy paid at the entrance. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Following the show in Gastonia, we'll be participating in the Spring Auto Fair at Charlotte Motor Speedway on April 15th. We typically have 30+ QCCC members in attendance and hope to have similar results this year. Look for more information over the coming weeks.

John Looney and I continue to work with Legendary Autosports planning an event for 10 club members to go to Greenville and the Michelin Laurens Proving Grounds for an exciting day of on-track driving and education. However, the first proposal we received from Legendary was quite costly and we've gone back to them in an effort to reduce the cost and will keep you posted.

Thinking of Valentine's Day and the one you love, what about your Corvette? Most Corvette lovers are willing to invest significant time and money into protecting their Vettes. Two effective ways to keep your car looking great, and keep that resale value high, are paint protection films and ceramic coatings. Both of these methods of safeguarding your Corvette's exterior involve applying a protective layer over the paint job that can take on many of the impacts, scuffs, and environmental hazards that threaten it daily.

A paint protection film is a clear, lightweight film made of urethane that can be applied to your Corvette to protect its paint job from scuffs, scratches, chips, and chemical damage. It can also protect against chemical damage caused by bird droppings, mineral deposits, and insects so you won't have to break out the hose and sponge multiple times a week to keep your paint job looking great.

Ceramic coating is another way to add a protective layer to your vehicle's exterior, but it is quite different from paint protection film. It's a liquid polymer that you apply to your vehicle's body by hand, creating a chemical bond with the vehicle's paint job that gives it added protection, as well as a nice glossy finish. Ceramic coating can help defend your Corvette's exterior from UV rays and the resulting oxidation threatening its beautiful appearance.

Another great aspect of ceramic coating is that it repels water, so it won't just protect your paint job; it'll prevent the exterior from becoming dirty, muddy, or grimy and make washing your Corvette a much simpler experience. On top of that, the ceramic coating also provides a glossy appearance. Often times, a ceramic coating is applied over top of paint protection film providing added defense against the elements.

Tim Fridley

Automotive Director



The Carolinas' #1 Chevy Dealer For Over 80 Years

Queen City Corvette Club Discount Pricing **Rick Hendrick City Chevrolet** **Effective October 1, 2022**

When I started back at City Chevrolet 5 years ago, one of my many goals was to help grow and build our relationship with the Queen City Corvette Club. Little did I know how strong it would become in such a relatively short amount of time. Thank you to everyone for having faith in us and giving us the opportunity to show you the City Chevrolet difference. Let's make the years to come just as amazing and continue to build on this incredible foundation.

Chris Boone, General Manager

NEW VEHICLES

Members receive an additional \$1000 discount 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.

COLLISION CENTER

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

REFERRAL BONUS

We'll thank you with a \$100 gift card when you refer a non-QCCC member who purchases a vehicle.

Friends & Family of QCCC Members will receive a 10% Service discount.

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

QUEEN CITY CORVETTE CLUB SPONSOR - PATRONS - ADVERTISERS

CLUB SPONSOR



Rick Hendrick

City CHEVROLET

THE CAROLINAS' #1 CHEVY DEALER FOR OVER 80 YEARS

CityChevrolet.com

CLUB PATRONS



WHEEL CRAFT

ADVANCED WHEEL FINISHES

Arrive in Style

WWW.WHEELCRAFT.COM

CLUB ADVERTISERS

DUNTOV LEVEL



ACES
Complete Auto Care
704-684-0265

Chris Farrell, Owner
118 Business Park Dr.
Indian Trail, NC 28079

ASE
CERTIFIED
L1 & L2
MASTERS AUTO
TECHNICIANS

50 years combined experience
Official NC Inspection Station

Visit us at www.acesautomotivenc.com



ATLANTIC
PINSTRIPING
Vehicle Wraps

We proudly support...

QUEEN CITY
CORVETTE CLUB
CHARLOTTE, NC
Cruisin' the Carolinas since 1968

- Paint Protection Film
- Vehicle Wraps & Graphics
- Hand Painted Pinstriping

704-839-0950
atlanticcustomwraps.com

4108 Matthews-Indian Trail Rd.
Matthews, NC 28104

Z06 LEVEL



MONTE CARLO
GARAGE SUITES

STINGRAY LEVEL



americanhydrocarbon.com

Automotive Equipment Company
PROUDLY SERVING THE CAROLINAS SINCE 1999
www.wegotlifts.com

JOE MENDOLA
Email: wegotlifts@yahoo.com
704-616-8291 • Fax: 704-732-9080

**RESIDENTIAL
LIFT SPECIALIST**

Anchora
Anchora Insurance Services, LLC
Amy Larkins

South Carolina
1204-A E. Washington St.
Greenville, SC 29601
Office: 864-232-5011

North Carolina
106 E. Jefferson St.
Monroe, NC 28112
Office: 704-296-0961
Fax: 704-296-0970

amy@anchorainsurance.com www.anchorainsurance.com

BBE
BILLY BOAT EXHAUST
bbexhaust.com

HKM
EMPLOYMENT ATTORNEYS LLP
Representing employees nationwide
hkm.com/charlotte

Karen Evans St. John
President

KEE Since 1964
Auto Top
Manufacturing Co.
Leading Manufacturer of Convertible & Vinyl Tops
Automotive Trim Supplies

(800) 438-5934
(704) 332-8213
Fax: (704) 342-3018
email: karen@keeautotop.com

3018 Stewart Creek Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28216
keeautotop.com

PW PRISTINE WRAPS CO.
•Window Tinting
•Vehicle Wraps
•Ceramic Coating
•Paint Protection Film

704-910-5833
WWW.PRISTINEWRAPSCO.COM

TEAM LOGO USA
For ALL your Promotional Product needs!
Ron Berst 704-661-4751
ronberst@windstream.net
"Quality Embroidery & Screen Printing"

**SPONSOR - PATRONS – ADVERTISERS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

February

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS:

Total Membership	402
Total Families	220
Prospective Members	76
New Members Year to Date	6
Avg. Monthly Attendance	----

NEW MEMBERS:

Brice & Carolyn Auten

Denver, NC

CORVETTE: 2014 Limerock Green Coupe

Greg & Wendy Lucas

Stanfield, NC

CORVETTE: 2012 Ruby Red Grand Sport

David & Mary Anne Wonn

Davidson, NC

CORVETTE: 2023 Silver Flare Coupe

Dan Brubaker

QCCC Membership Director



FEBRUARY 2023

Note: If you would like to be placed on the list, please send me an email on your concerns. We all need Care, Compassion & Prayers when we are sick or when we lose a loved one. Please keep all the Members in your prayers.

Thank You.

Paul Schmitt, QCCC Care and Compassion

paulandchristineschmitt@gmail.com

Secretary's Note:



Hello QCCC Members!

It's time to celebrate February QCCC Member birthdays! Please join us in wishing everyone who is celebrating a birthday in February . . . **a very Happy Birthday!!!**

At our January meeting, we randomly drew a lucky name from those in attendance celebrating birthdays. [Laron Thompson](#) was our winner and he received a \$50 restaurant gift card. Congratulations, Laron!

We are hoping to see all of you on Saturday, February 11 at our business club meeting and chili cook-off, which will be held at the VFW in Indian Trail.

Until then, warmest regards

Kathie Finocchi
QCCC Secretary
(704)905-0394

If you would like your birthday added or deleted from our list, please send an email to me at katfino@hotmail.com.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Billy Boat	2/2
Al Herold	2/2
John Bayne	2/4
Carrie Brescoll	2/5
Steve Bonino	2/6
Nancy Kegel	2/6
Johnny Sutton	2/6
Tommy Loftin	2/7
Bob Nibarger	2/7
Carolyn Zimmer	2/7
Rob Storey	2/9
Ken Bieman	2/10
James (Skeet) McKee	2/10
Shirley Pearson	2/10
Elaine Coulter	2/12
Andrea Fuller	2/12
Nick Chubb	2/14
Valerie Cunningham	2/14
Donn Smith	2/14
Bill Davidson	2/16
David Wonn	2/16
Charlotte Brubaker	2/17
(Jeff Crosby) Ranger	2/19
Alton Loe	2/21
Judy Curva	2/22
John Looney	2/22
Charlie Binder	2/23
Marilyn Becker	2/24
Keith Cross	2/25
Gwen Cunningham	2/25
Betty Hamilton	2/26
Sue Plyler	2/27
Renee Scheuplein	2/27
Mary Ellen Ezarky	2/28



NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM – NEWS AND UPDATES

Paul Mitchell – QCCC Ambassador to the NCM

February 2023

Wow, it's already the second month of the New Year. That means we are a little closer to nicer weather, and lots of activities are planned for QCCC. We've already had a tour to Curb Records and the NC Music Hall of Fame, and a good representation of QCCC attended the Rolex 24 Hour Race in Daytona. But that's just the beginning of all the activities for 2023.

I am asking for 3 things to be done before we get really busy.

1. Please notify me of your membership status in the National Corvette Museum. Many of you have done this, but I am still missing some member information. I need type of membership (individual, family, life-time, or senior), and year you joined. And if you are not currently a member, please consider joining. Contact me if you have questions.
2. Make plans to attend the Michelin Bash at the Museum April 27-29. And please let me know that you are attending. We need this info for planning the Wednesday dinner in Bowling Green, and I will send out a packet of trip information to all attending. But I need to know who's going, so let me know your status.
3. Update your information in the club directory. Check your address, phone numbers, Museum status, and listing of Corvettes that you own. Here's how to get to the update page on the QCCC website –

On the home page go to membership, then to membership info

Scroll to the bottom and click on the bar MEMBER INFORMATION UPDATE FORM

Enter password, click submit

Fill out information

That's it for now. Thank you for your help in getting this information. And get ready for another rockin' year with QCCC!

QCCC HISTORY

While looking through some old club photos trying to come up with a topic for this month, I realized that there was a common thread that needed an explanation. If you recall, in last month's History article, I told a little story about a former member, Handsome Harry Jackson, that had an accompanying photo of Harry at the 1978 National Council of Corvette Clubs Convention. Did you notice that he was wearing a pair of bib overalls? Well, Harry wasn't just making a fashion statement or just left the farm, he actually was wearing what had become a trademark of Queen City Corvette Club in the early seventies. Here's the details:

When Buzz Cagle joined QCCC in 1971 with his drop-dead gorgeous '67 big-block coupe, he was operating his own used car detail shop called "Buzzies Clean-A-Car". He ran his business out of a one-car garage, which was actually across the street from the house on Westover Avenue that became the clubhouse. In fact, it was a visit to see Buzz, when Jim Whitley and I discovered that house for rent, but that's another story. Anyway, Buzz found that wearing bib overalls were not only durable and comfortable, but with no belt buckle, they prevented scratching the paint while running a buffer. He worked all the time, so you never saw him in anything but the overalls. Now this is where my memory gets fuzzy. I don't know who started the trend, but soon other club members showed up with their own bib overalls and they became very popular.

In July of 1972, five QCCC members and their wives made the two-day road trip to Dallas, Texas for the NCCC National Convention. Now in those days there was no NCRS, or Bloomington, or Carlisle, or Museum, so this was far and away the biggest Corvette Only event of the year. Most of the participants came from Michigan, Ohio, New York and every other state in the USA. I remember being shocked that the Corvette Club of Texas had over 120 members, but the south wasn't represented very well. There were some huge clubs there with custom t-shirts and hats, which we didn't have. When we arrived in our bib overalls, we made lots of Yankee friends and it got to the point that when we met someone new, they said things like, "hey, youse guys must be the ones from South Carolina", to which we replied, "North Carolina". I even had one attractive young lady ask me how to get in those overalls? I said, "you can start by buying me a drink".

It was a fantastic week and I'm not sure if we perpetuated the southern stereotype, (Remember the TV show "HeeHaw"? It was popular at that time.) We attempted to leave a positive impression on everyone we met, even wearing bib overalls.

Travis Meredith, *historian*



Travis Meredith and Buzz Cagle, 1972 NCCC Convention

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



From the Paint Shop to the Track in a Few Short Weeks. . .

Most of you know from these stories that QCCC was forward thinking in how we could have fun. Having the club house and racing at NASCAR, especially Charlotte Motor Speedway, which we rented several times for \$200 a weekend. Three such weekends were for the Corvette/Porsche Challenge, where we invited 100 Corvettes and 100 Porsches to race at CMS. This was a high speed event and a real adrenaline rush. We ran this in '75, '76, '77 in the spring-time. Travis was our '72 and '76 President, a real drag race gearhead, who was at that time working at Charlotte Body Shop. He had a great '64 coupe with the 327/365 motor but no race car. Travis, like others in the club, then could not afford two Corvettes due to starting a family. So he had a real dilemma - wanting to race plus he was and will be President in the next year and the ex-Presidents will tell you they want to keep the office well represented.

Trav set out to remedy this flaw. Searching through all his drag race fans, he located a rolling frame with a Corvette body in primer that was being fixed up as a custom car, having already glassed in the headlights. When he got it home he was not sure what he had done. The frame showing in the engine configuration was a greasy mess and so the process began. Knowing you are trying to save your '64 sparked an intense effort. Trav worked on getting it ready for paint, but the frame was a hood down deal. Along comes Darrell Kirkley who is a master at detailing. All of a sudden, Trav notices Darrell scraping the frame in his usual OCD manner and has to stop him and get him to help assemble the mechanics. You could not have a better person to help you. The paint was great, white with an orange hood stripe.

The self-proclaimed car doctor of the club had promised, but not delivered, on a fresh engine. Therefore, being too late to find one, Trav had no choice except to pull the engine from his '64; so that swap was made and things were coming along. The weekend was coming for the race and panic time was here. The funds ran out with the new family plus he was building a free-standing garage for his Corvette and wood working. The next hurdle was the rear end gearing. He had a 3:36 and needed a higher gear. Again, his connections stepped up and found a fellow with a Corvette with a 4:11. In actuality, both would be better off with a 3:70. Anyway, one night after work they put the two cars side by side and swapped them out. Oh, did I mention the other car belonged to a fellow new to Charlotte, a Mr. Rick Hendrick. Last thing was the tires. They were shot and the money was all gone. The need for speed took over. Nothing to do but put it on the plastic card. After all, the race would be over by the time Sharon would find the charge and we will deal with that then. Melvin Pace, QCCC President '85 and '89, working at the Cadillac dealer in Monroe, found the new B.F. Goodrich T/A's, the tire of the day. Things all worked out ok. But if Sharon knew then what she knows now, it might not have been so smooth.

Trav raced that car some more that summer, then Sam Magee President '79 wanted it badly, without an engine. He had crashed his '72. . .Sam paid enough to finish Trav's garage!

I find it amazing the talent that we have in our group! We were young with boundless energy and pulling an engine to switch cars just to race, I think that makes a real statement. There was enough passion and skill to make it work. All this type of effort to get out on the track where the Earnhardt's and Allison's ran.

What an opportunity we had! The good ole days of QCCC! We thought we could do anything and had a pretty good chance of getting there.

Stop for a moment. . .think what Travis did just to race: bought a shell, swapped motors, swapped rear ends, got it painted. That's a lot of passion right there!

Respectfully submitted: Bill Cruthis



***Trav's 1968 Corvette Convertible / Hardtop
Corvette/Porsche Challenge 1975***



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.

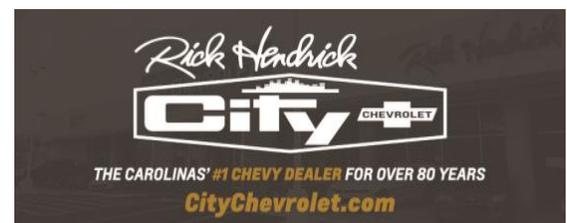
Queen City Corvette Club is an 'open' page for anyone on Facebook

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].



Sponsored by:



Catch the latest QCCC news by joining us on Facebook!