

THE
QUEEN CITY
GAZETTE



Official Newsletter of North Carolina's Largest Corvette Club

April 2025



Easter Chocolate!!!

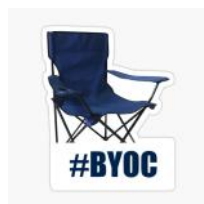


QCCC Business Meeting

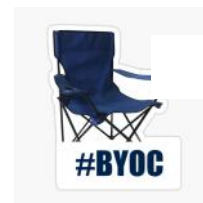
Saturday, April 12, 2025

American Legion Huntersville Post 321

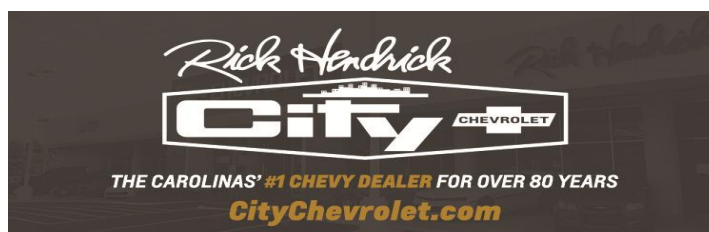
107 N. Main Street
Huntersville, NC 28078



3:00 Social Time
4:00 Business Meeting



Non-members: Please contact our Membership Director via membership@queencitycorvette.com to attend as a guest or prospective member.



We Are Proudly Sponsored By City Chevrolet



2025 Board of Directors and Staff

In This Issue

President	Ron Berst
Vice President	Gary Cunningham
Treasurer	Morris Graham
Secretary	Charlotte Brubaker
Social Director	Kimberly Knight
Automotive Director	John Looney
Membership Director	Dan Brubaker
QCCC Car Show Director	Tommy Loftin
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NCM Ambassador	Dick Gwilt
Photography Coordinator	Alton Loe
Historian	Travis Meredith
Charity	Warren Knight
Facebook Coordinator	Jamie Hinson

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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 1621 400 Gilead Rd. Huntersville, NC 28078

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

President's Stuff



April 2025

Great, Fantastic, Super... and in my humble opinion, "Best Ever"! In case you missed it, I am describing our Annual Awards Banquet we just held on the 8th. The table and room decorations were incredible, the food was delicious, "Too Much Silvia" played many requests, and sounded great! Sabrina and Susan with the Jeff Gordon's Children's Foundation Charity told us about Jeff's passion, Corvette for a Cure charity and raffled off a leather racing jacket signed by Jeff. A beautiful charcuterie/cutting board (mostly paid for by City Chevrolet) was the banquet gift for each family. Best sponsor ever! Thirteen members were recognized and honored with VP participation awards, Charlotte and Dan Brubaker deservedly were selected as President's Award winners for 2024 and finally, Roger Winge was voted Member of the Year for 2024. Our own QCCC military veterans were honored during a special song at the end of the evening. I don't know how it could have been any better! Kimberly "Let's Party" Knight and many members worked very hard to make this such a successful banquet. Thank you to all! QCCC Rocks! Mark your calendar now, March 14th, 2026 so you don't miss the next one!

If that wasn't enough, we joined the Victory Lane Corvette Club for the 2nd annual bowling challenge on the 1st. Brian Kruse hosted a mechanical car care day at his garage on the 15th. Thanks, Brian, Barbara, and Clark. We toured Billy Boats Exhaust shop on the 19th. Great tour, Billy. On the 26th we have a Penske Racing tour scheduled. Thanks to Mike Becker for getting us in. Dick Gwilt has a tech tips and miscellaneous car care day set for the 29th. As promised, keeping the calendar full is one of our goals for 2025.

Our April meeting is on the 12th at the American Legion Hall in Huntersville. Social is at 3:00, the meeting starts at 4:00. **Bring chairs.**

That's it for now!

Ron Berst

President





WELCOME BACK MY FRIENDS...

To the show that never ends, we're so glad you could attend, come inside, come inside...

Welcome back to Life in The Fast Lane in 2025 with the Queen City Corvette Club

Let me take an opportunity to highlight the next three club meetings and their locations:

April 12th - returning to a club-fave location

American Legion Hall Huntersville Post 321

107 N. Main Street

Huntersville, NC 28078

3 PM Social 4 PM Meeting

Bring your chairs!!!



May 10th - meeting down south

Atlantic Pinstriping and Vehicle Wraps

4108 Matthews Indian Trail Rd.

Matthews, NC 28104

4 PM Social, 5 PM Meeting

Bring your chairs!!!



June 14th Monthly Business Meeting

Charlotte Motor Speedway Club

5555 Concord Parkway S

Concord, NC 28027

4 PM Social, 5 PM Meeting, 6 PM Dinner

Pre-paid dinner info upcoming from Kimberly Knight

...I am looking forward to another event-filled year with the largest and best Corvette Club in the Carolinas and another year of Life in the Fast Lane.

Thanks, *Gary*



The Social Spotlight

“Spring is the time of plans and projects.” Now that Spring is here, I hope you have many exciting plans and fun projects ahead. Queen City has many plans for the month of April.

From April 7 – 11th, a group of fellow Corvetter’s will caravan to Lexington, Kentucky to visit bourbon distilleries and the Keenland Horse Racing Track. Distilleries include Woodford Reserve, Makers Mark, Four Roses and Jim Beam. You can bet I will pick up some great bottles for our Holiday Party giveaway. The group is being led by a native Kentuckian, John Looney.

April 11th is our next opportunity to volunteer at FEED NC in Mooresville. I will not be in town for this event so John Boffemmyer will coordinate the event in my absence. Please contact me or John to volunteer.

April 12th is our QCCC business meeting at the American Legion Post 321 in Huntersville. The social starts at 3 pm with the meeting following at 4 pm. Coffee and light snacks will be provided. Please remember to bring your chairs!

April 24 – 26th is the annual National Corvette Museum Bash. Dick Gwilt is our NCM Ambassador and is leading the trip. Please check his Blast for more details.

April 28th is the next “Up Yonder” dinner at I Bambini in Mooresville. Please keep an eye out for a Blast with more information.

And finally, one of our biggest charities is hosting a night of unstoppable change! This year’s gala theme, “Spring into Motion” highlights the power of movement – bringing food, resources and hope to those in need. The date is Saturday, May 3rd from 5-10 pm at the FEED NC facility. You can purchase tickets for an unforgettable evening filled with delicious cuisine, inspiring stories and community impact. Please see the FEED NC website for more information and to purchase tickets.

Kimberly Knight

Social Director

AUTOMOTIVE DIRECTOR



Automotive Director's April Musings

Spring has sprung, fall has fell, did I forget my article last month? I'll never tell! Ok, so yes, I did. But you're going to get a good one this month. As I sit here writing this, I am looking over a huge pile of manilla envelopes that contain AutoFair credentials, trying to figure out an efficient way to lick them. I'm not sure how I'm going to do it yet, but I don't think licking is the most effective approach. If I had one of those Saint Barnyard Dogs, I could just wipe his chin with them. Anyway, if you're going to AutoFair, check your mailbox for a slightly damp envelope and then watch for a Blast or two as we get closer to the event for more instructions.

While on the subject of AutoFair, let me tell you what I learned at the credential pickup meeting. There are 994 cars from 55 clubs registered for the show. This means getting in and out will be a zoo if we don't get there early. Watch for a Blast about how early. There have been 4000 vendor spots sold and JEGS has taken over as the title sponsor of the Manufacturer's Midway. The Midway will be more automotive focused than it has been in recent years. I read that as less lawnmowers. JEGS is also providing goody bags to all participants and cash awards to show winners.

While I know we all love each other and like to sit together and gab, I encourage you to go to the displays, the AAAC meet out front and the Smith Heritage at 10/10ths. There is a lot more to AutoFair than just the cars around the track.

Moving on to the KY trip. I just looked at the weather forecast and it looks like we are going to have fairly mild weather...perfect for drinking and driving. Wait a minute! That didn't come out right. We have over 40 folks on this trip and lots of activities. If you are part of the group, watch for more Blasts with final details.

I want to thank Larry and Ron for organizing trips to DXDT, Billy Boat Exhaust, Champion Tire and Penske Racing. While on the surface these look like Automotive events, I did nothing. Keep it up boys!

Finally, I want to put a line in the water. This is my second year in this job, and I think it is time for new blood. If you would like to serve on the board in 2026 as Automotive Director, let me or another board member know. I will help you as Tim Fridley did me. You're never alone with QCCC.

Peace out and word to yo mama and em'

John Looney



MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

April

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS:

Total Membership	493
Total Families	276
Prospective Members	36
New Members Year to Date	18
Avg. Monthly Attendance 2025	156

NEW MEMBERS:

Doug & Sharon Lance

Sherrills Ford, NC

CORVETTE: 2019 Shadow Gray Coupe

Lars & Tiffany Larsson

Midland, NC

CORVETTE: 1959 Frost Blue Convertible

Cleo & Kuma Peruzzo

Hamptonville, NC

CORVETTE: 2007 Black Convertible

Jeff & Janet Scafetta

Mooresville, NC

CORVETTE: 2021 Torch Red Coupe

Please check your information that appears in the member directory to make sure it is current. If anything needs to change (address, phone number, email, currently owned Corvette, etc.) you can use the following link to update: https://queencitycorvette.com/?page_id=3521

You can now order replacement nameplates with "member since YYYY" added under your name. The price is \$10 per nameplate. You can use the following link: https://queencitycorvette.com/?_id=5209

If you need the password, please reach out to me or another board member.

Dan Brubaker

QCCC Membership Director



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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

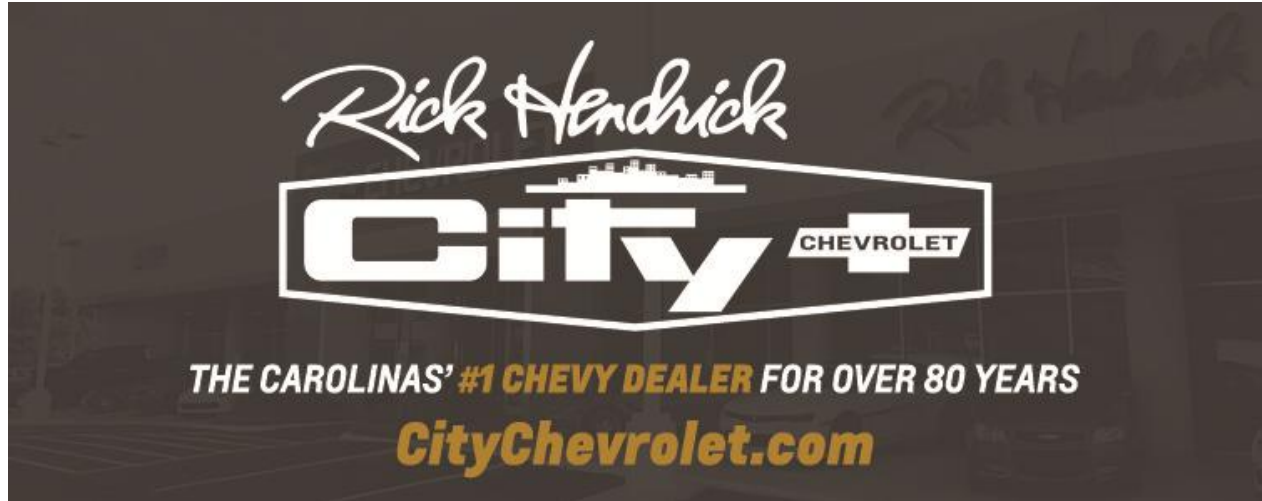
Rick Accurso
Inventory Manager & Corvette Specialist
704-566-7447
Rick.Accurso@hendrickauto.com

QCCC MEMBER SERVICE CONCIERGE

Saverio Longobardo
Service Advisor
704-566-7407
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Travis Grimm, Corvette Specialist
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QCCC CHARITY

April 2025



Please see Blasts for details regarding future volunteer opportunities for our charities.

March was a relatively quiet month for our Charity Committee. Our highlight for the month was providing an opportunity for one of our lesser known but definitely race-related charities to set up an informational display and pass out some get-acquainted freebies at our Annual Awards Banquet – all in keeping with its theme, “Chasing the Checkered Flag.” The Jeff Gordon Children’s Foundation raises much needed private funding for pediatric cancer research, which is the #1 cause of death by disease in children yet receives very little government sponsorship. One of their popular fundraising activities is their annual “Corvette for A Cure” lottery program. YOU can win Jeff Gordon’s ‘Personal’ Corvette! For a \$100 donation starting April 9 and running through April 23, you will receive 100 chances to win a stunning Corvette Stingray Convertible 3LT in Red Mist Metallic. The following link will take you there: www.CORVETTEFORACURE.org. Note the link won’t go active for the 2025 program until April 9. If you have any questions or issues with the link, call Sabrina Pinsky at the Foundation, 704-352-4044.

April is finally here – “Hello, Spring!” And a hearty “Thank You!” to all of our QCCC volunteers who donate work days to our major charities! This month we have a special two-fer treat for all those who want to Get Out And Get Active!

First up will be another Cook Day at FeedNC on Friday, April 11. See this month’s Social article for more information.

Just a week later on Saturday, April 19, we will be outdoors, working at the Wings of Eagles Ranch. We’ll be painting, gardening, planting flowers, putting up wall slats in the pavilion, and landscaping around their new cottages for therapeutic camps. All of this will help prepare them for their upcoming season of therapeutic horseback riding and other outdoor activities for special needs kids. Watch for a Blast announcing details of the event and the staging point for a group drive to the ranch.

Remember, if you miss a Blast for an event you’re anticipating (charity or otherwise), you can always refer back to your Newsletter for reminders. Copies of all of our newsletters are stored under the QCCC Archive+ tab on our web home page.

Warren Knight

Charity Committee

Jeff Gordon Foundation Display



Feed NC Building



**Jamie & Larry Planting
at Wings of Eagles**





Hello QCCC Members!

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

At our March business meeting, we randomly drew a lucky name from those in attendance celebrating birthdays. John Meadows was our winner, and he received a \$50 restaurant gift card. Congratulations, John!

Hope to see you at our April Meeting!

Until then, warmest regards,

Charlotte Brubaker
QCCC Secretary
(847)254-4966

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



April Birthdays

Bob Novak	4/1
Donna Peterman	4/1
Nancy Deschenes	4/2
Jack Ross	4/3
Teri Fridley	4/4
Mike Heavner	4/5
Matt Sergent	4/5
Christine Schmitt	4/7
Tom Wallace	4/7
Don Zimmer	4/7
Dotty Dail	4/9
Jo Graham	4/9
Steve Miller	4/9
Darryl Mansel	4/10
Mark Acerni	4/11
Kenneth Scally	4/11
Bill McLellan	4/12
Darrell Kirkley	4/15
Dale Ledbetter	4/15
Debby Nowlan	4/15
Tracy Alford	4/16
Rick Accurso	4/19
Kathleen Taddonio	4/19
Beverly Terry	4/19
Mitch McQueen	4/20
Cheryl Bitters	4/21
Susie Black	4/22
Laura Montemurro	4/22
Evan Selzer	4/22
Johnny Downs	4/23
Matthew Lovallo	4/23
John Nelson	4/23
Pam Tucker	4/24
Brian McIntyre	4/25
Jean White	4/25
Joe Candito	4/27
Paul DePascale	4/27
Don Lowe	4/27
Wade Stickels	4/27
Gary Treen	4/27
Jeff Richards	4/28
Dennie White	4/29
Bob Chichester	4/30
Sandra Csanyi	4/30

NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

NEWS AND UPDATES

Dick Gwilt – QCCC Ambassador to the NCM

April 2025



The NCM Bash event is set for April 24 – 26, 2025.

A Reminder Blast was just sent out with details about the trip.

It's not too late! If you want to join the 38 members that are attending, the hotel is holding our block of rooms open a few extra days for QCCC members to confirm a hotel reservation through Thursday April 3. Remember, you must register for the Bash separately at www.corvettemuseum.org.

Update news from the NCM is that they hired David Hill as their new President and CEO. For more information, click here:

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/national-corvette-museum-names-david-hill-as-ceo/>

Thanks to NCM Membership Director, Andrea Bateman working with me to confirm and send me an updated list of QCCC members who are current NCM members, along with the type of membership and expiration date. Just stop by our NCM table at the next meeting at the American Legion Post and we can give you an update on your membership status, and the date it expired, if necessary.

Also, remember, when you stop by our table and sign in for information on NCM Membership, you will be eligible for a free one-year Family Membership at our drawing during the meeting.

Last month's winner was Alton Loe - who has already joined the museum!

There are all levels of membership, but a good one is a Family Membership; one year for \$100. Add another FOUR years for \$250 – total of \$350 for 5 full years, saves you 1.5 years of annual dues.

QCCC Membership to the NCM as of March 2025:

Lifetime Members	69
Family Members	49
Individual Members	<u>20</u>
138 Total members = 28% of 485 QCCC Members	

Dick Gwilt,

NCM Ambassador

rgwilt@me.com

QCCC HISTORY

Going back to the sixties the biggest car event in Charlotte, not counting the World 600, was the annual International Show Car Association car show each February. This was a national organization of real show cars that went all over the country. Their members displayed full custom cars, you know, the ones on turn tables with mirrors underneath, chrome everything, angel hair coming out of the exhausts, and dummy engines (no fluid in these things). The shows were also open to a limited number of local car clubs and gear heads that had worthy street machines. In 1983 Charlotte's new Civic Center on East Trade Street was the location for the show. Previous shows were held in the old Coliseum (now Bojangles) which was smaller and considered obsolete. Ironically, the downtown Civic Center is now long gone and the old coliseum is still here. Anyway, QCCC was invited to participate. The local cars were displayed on the large second floor that required taking the cars, one by one, up and down this very snug freight elevator, which was very time consuming,

By the early eighties, QCCC had matured, the cars had changed and lots of members had come and gone. The average age had increased to the late thirties, but Clayton and Ruth Williams were the exception. They were in their late sixties, had grown children and even with their "advanced" age, were very active in the club. They had a new metallic red Corvette, and even though Clayton had some physical limitations, he kept the car in immaculate condition. At some point he had lost full use of his legs that required him to use crutches, but that didn't slow him down one bit.

By 1983 my involvement in the club had become very limited, but Melvin Pace gave me a call and said they needed a few more cars and asked me to bring my '64 Coupe to the show. I agreed as it gave me an excuse to clean it up. It took almost all day Thursday to get all of the cars upstairs and the displays set up. The show lasted the entire weekend, so when it ended on Sunday evening, we broke the displays and lined up to take turns going down the elevator,,,,,slowly. For the most part, everyone was patient and polite, waiting their turn. Clayton was next in line and as he awkwardly tried to position his car to go in the elevator, he accidentally hit the gas instead of the brake while in reverse and backed into this beautiful '63 Impala Super Sport, severely damaging the right front fender and bashing in his rear bumper. The young man who owned the Chevy came rolling out of his car ready to kill somebody. We all came running as Clayton struggled to get out of his car. Thankfully, we got there in time to restrain the young man and explain the situation. He finally cooled down and we got Clayton's car downstairs. I'm not sure Clayton ever quite got over this incident, and even though the cars were repaired, every time he looked at his car he saw it as damaged.

In all of my years with QCCC this is the only time I can recall a member being seriously threatened. And throughout our club's history there have been arguments, heated discussions, poor decisions, torn-up cars and bruised egos, but to my knowledge, no one ever got hurt.

Travis Meredith

*Historian
President 1972 & 1976*

Vintage QCCC

With the Vintage Gang:

Bill Cruthis, Darrell Kirkley, Bill Ingram & Travis Meredith

More "Adventures" from QCCC of Decades Past



“Charles in Charge”

One of the more colorful characters from the latter half of the 70’s decade was Charles Outlaw. He was built like a rock, just solid with arms bigger than my thighs. Charles was an electrician and owned his own company in the Monroe area. If that was not enough he was married to a doctor’s daughter. They built a huge house in the area where he was working. When I say huge, I mean really huge. He was partial to C-2’s and had a couple of them in the garage, I think a ‘65 and a ‘66.

Charles only had one flaw. He was a brittle diabetic and this was long before we had good drugs to help maintain his health. I had not gotten to know him as it seemed Monroe was a distant speck to the big city of Charlotte. QCCC planned one of the many beach trips in the fall of ‘77. Frequent beach trips seem to have gone the way of our youth, but it was possible back then to have as many as ten trips per year. When I checked the list, I noticed Charles was going with his wife, Vicky. We rented a big house with about 10 bedrooms and began our usual path to the ocean. The ladies had made enough food to feed twice the group size. Upon arrival we all called dibs on a bedroom and before much unloading happened it rushed to the beach. I had started a conversation with Charles and we were in discussion and did not jump in the water. Let me insert here that I am an easy target for 7-layer cookies: graham cracker crust, chocolate and peanut drops, pecans, a layer of some kind of filler, and coconut. What’s not to like about that. As we sat at the bar in conversation, Charles noticed a familiar Tupperware container. Inside were dozens of 7-layer cookies, enough for the whole group for the weekend. As we talked, we both dug in and before long you could see the bottom of the bowl. About this time, I asked him about it. He was almost defiant that he could whoop the disease as he had tackled most things in life. I did not pursue it further as I sensed his mind was made up. We had a great time that weekend and was happy to make another QCCC good friend.

Sadly, Charles succumbed to that dreaded disease, but he looked it in the eye and dared it to try to take him. Thus, the basket of supers sweet cookies. The last time I checked with Darrell, the Corvettes were still in the garage. They were tied up in court as Vicky had laid some claim on them. Charles had told Darrell he would give him one of them. However, word of mouth was not worth much then as today. Not much was known about diabetes, but I felt an admiration for Charles. He was a moose of a man and he just said to the disease, “you want a piece of me, bring it on.” So QCCC lost another member too soon. If I remember right, he wired the bar room so we could put a huge window a/c unit in. I say rest in peace, big fella. It was great to know ya.

A couple of notes:

- Some have inquired about last month’s article about Darrell Kirkley. Yes, that is about chapter six in the book that he and I wrote about the crazy life of a young Mr. Kirkley.
- With reference to our historian’s article last month regarding Vette Vues magazine, for two decades that was the Bible for most of us. It was a big honor to be selected to have your cars in the centerfold full color. It was a nationwide publication. In 1976 I took a flyer and sent him photos of my ‘74 brown coupe 454 and my split window coupe. I was just sure it was a winner. Turns out I made it to the back cover which was really a poor consolation prize. I don’t even remember what was in the centerfold. I still have the proofs and mock ups Mr. Prather returned to me plus about 3 copies of that month’s magazine.
- That was a great article by Travis and spot on!
- What a history QCCC has!

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 share them with us. That way they can be shared by all members!

How to share your photos: Please email Alton and let him know you have photos to share and the event where you took the photos. Also, give him the name and date of the event. He will send you a link where you can copy your photos. Once they are on this link, let Alton know and he will upload them to our website.

We could also use members to volunteer to take pictures during the events. If you are interested and want to do that, please contact Alton Loe via email: photo@queencitycorvette or give him a call (his number is in the club directory).

Thank you!

Alton Loe

QCCC Photography Coordinator

photo@queencitycorvette



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.

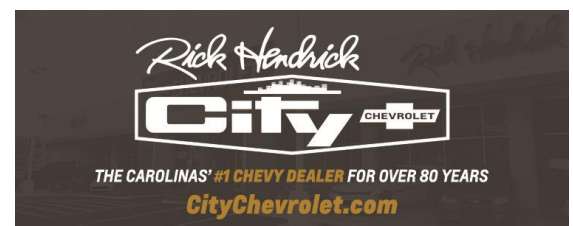
Queen City Corvette Club is an 'open' page for anyone on Facebook

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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