



# *The Side Draft*

**Volume 30, Issue 11**

**November 2023**

## ***Chairman's Message..... Tom James***

It's November and winter is knocking at our door. We have had great weather so far to finish out the car cruise season; now it's time for our classics to get that much needed repair so we are ready for spring cruising.

I have three (3) projects to start on, from minor repairs to finishing my 3-year project restoration. My Chevelle is coming down the home stretch with hopes of having it done for the Chapter Meeting in April at my building for its big debut. This one took a little longer than usual, but with COVID in the middle I guess that is understandable. Stay tuned for future updates.

Last month our meeting was held at Cincinnati Gasket & Industrial Glass. Thanks to Scott Read. Scott has been an employee of theirs for a total of eight (8) years. He is the go-to-guy when a piece of equipment needs attention ASAP. Thanks, Scott, for the great tour. We all really learned a lot about gaskets and the process to design and deliver a quality product.

Continued on Page 2

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- 1 Chairman's Message, Website info**
- 2 2023 QCNCRS Officers**
- 3 Fun Facts, Advertising Rates, Trivia**
- 5 October QCNCRS Meeting Minutes**
- 6 October Meeting Photos**
- 7 October Judging Meet Photos**
- 9 Tech Article: Convertible Spring Replace**
- 14 Upcoming Events**
- 15 March 2024 Swap Meet Flyer**
- 17 QCNCRS Club Shirt Ordering**
- 18 QCNCRS Membership Form**

## ***November Meeting Information***

**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Kathy Plummer's Garage  
866 E. Columbia Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

**Phone:** 513-535-9335

**Kathy always has a delicious spread of food, especially the desserts. You don't want to miss this one!**

**We will once again be collecting for Toys-For-Tots at this meeting. Please bring unwrapped toys for children between the ages of 1 and 18 years to be donated for this worthy cause.**

**Please remember to bring a chair and remember to drive your Corvette!**

## ***QCNCRS Website Information***

<https://qc.ncrs.org/>

**Webmaster:** George Denman [gc@ncrs.org](mailto:gc@ncrs.org)

## ***NOTICE!***

### ***Newsletter Deadlines***

**The deadline for getting information, into the newsletter is the 2nd of each month. If it isn't here, we will publish without you.**

***Chairman's message – continued***

We will be collecting toys for the Toys-For-Tots campaign until our Chapter Christmas party in early December. If you are planning on coming to the November monthly meeting at Kathy Plummer's house, please remember to bring a new unwrapped toy to help us fill the boxes for the children of underprivileged families which will be collected by the Marine Corps at the Horsepower Farm in December.

The next event on the horizon is our annual Christmas party which will be held at Aston Oaks Country Club on December 3<sup>rd</sup> between the hours of 5:00 and 9:00 PM. Once again, we will be charging \$50.00 for a member and their spouse or guest which includes dinner for two (2) and your 2024 Chapter dues. I hope we have a good crowd like last year to enjoy looking back over 2023 and to see what is up and coming for the new year ahead.

Our Swap Meet is fast approaching and will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at Kelsey Chevrolet. We have the raffle tickets printed and ready to go. Last year we had a great year selling tickets, but it was a close call to make our quota with a great push on the last day from the Shriners of Southeastern Indiana at the swap meet. This year, if possible, we need each and every member to sell \$50.00 worth of tickets. We have nearly 100 members so do the math; that is \$5,000.00 just from the membership to be donated to the Shriners Hospital for Children. We saw what a difference it makes for the people who so desperately need their help. I am sure our members will come through once again as they always do.

Our next meeting will be held on November 21, 2023 at Kathy Plummer's Garage, 866 E. Columbia Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215 at 6:30 PM. Don't forget to drive your Corvette; there is plenty of parking.

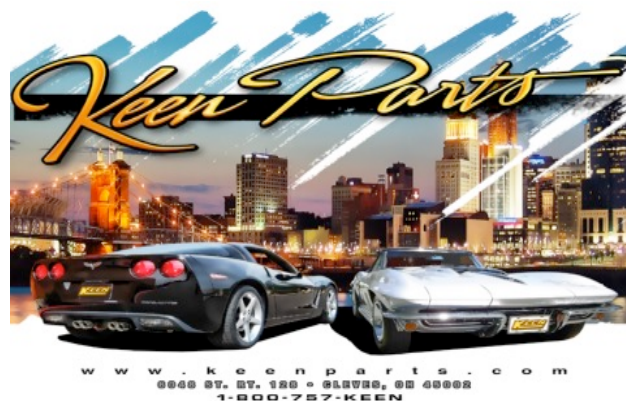
Enough from me. See everyone at Kathy's.

Save The Wave!

Tom

**2023 QCNCRS OFFICERS**

- Chairman: Tom James (513) 377-8182  
7329 Southpointe Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45233  
[toyvett1@fuse.net](mailto:toyvett1@fuse.net)
- V. Chairman: Chris Rockenfield (513) 602-8819  
4344 Orchard Lane  
Cincinnati, OH 45236  
[vettechris1971@gmail.com](mailto:vettechris1971@gmail.com)
- Judging: John Ballard (502) 426-2184  
10102 Kimblewick Drive  
Louisville, KY 40223-2184  
[john.ballard@burgesspigment.com](mailto:john.ballard@burgesspigment.com)
- Secretary: Tom Smith (513) 583-5034  
7335 Haverhill Lane  
Maineville, OH 45039  
[tmsinfinity@yahoo.com](mailto:tmsinfinity@yahoo.com)
- Treasurer: Barb Hilbert (513) 738-1493  
3663 Layhigh Road  
Hamilton, OH 45013-9509  
[g.hilbert@zoomtown.com](mailto:g.hilbert@zoomtown.com)
- Membership: Terrie James (513) 300-6411  
7329 Southpointe Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45233  
[tmjames7329@gmail.com](mailto:tmjames7329@gmail.com)
- Historian: Joe Eyl (513) 896-9563  
5851 Allison Avenue  
Fairfield Township, OH 45011  
[joeyl@aol.com](mailto:joeyl@aol.com)
- Editor: Bill Hetzer (512) 563-0984  
3295 County Road 206  
Lampasas, TX 76550  
[hetzer@wireborne.com](mailto:hetzer@wireborne.com)



## **Fun Facts ..... Tom James**

The 1957 Corvettes equipped with the RPO 579E option provided an exception to the goofy tachometer placement of pre-1958. This option was an all-out competition package featuring the Rochester fuel-injected 283 and a mechanically driven tachometer strapped atop the steering column directly in front of the driver. This tach's 8,000 rpm face hinted at the potent 283's true capability. The standard (and useless) tachometer was deleted. Filling the empty hole was the same circular Corvette nose and deck lid emblem used on 1957 Vettes. Only 43 legitimate RPO 579E Corvettes were built (the option cost \$726.30), most of which were sadly raced into the ground.

Although the external details are seemingly identical, 1957 Corvette bodies differed significantly from 1956 bodies due to stamped metal reinforcement panels and braces added inside the doors, beneath the cowl, and atop the rocker panels. Given equal treatment, storage, and use, a 1956 body exhibited more stress cracks than a 1957 or later body due to its lack of these bonded reinforcements.

## **Newsletter Advertising Rates**

### Business Card – 2x3.5

\$25.00 / month or \$275.00 / year

### Quarter Page

\$40.00 / month or \$350.00 / year

### Half Page

\$75.00 / month or \$600.00 / year

### Full Page

\$150.00 / month or \$1,200.00 / year

### Sponsor

\$500.00 / year with direct website link

**QCNCRS Corvette related classified “wanted and parts for sale” are free; however, they cannot be carried over to the next issue unless requested before the issue deadline.**

### **TERRIE'S CORVETTE TRIVIA** Ans. on Last Page

1. What year did Corvette come out with a pair of lift-off panels? 1968, 1959 or 1971.
2. The unique Air Injector Reactor (A.I.R.) was an optional accessory in 1967. True or False.
3. The 1969 Corvette 427 cu. In. hood was two-tone and striped. True or False.
4. Full cut pile carpeting and ersatz wood trim were part of the deluxe interior package offered in 1970. True or False.
5. The wheels of the 1984 Corvette cannot be rotated. True or False.
6. GM fitted special vehicle identification plates on the 1982 Collector's Edition. True or False.



## **October QCNCRS Meeting Minutes**

**..... Tom Smith**

Date: October 17, 2023

Location: Cincinnati Gasket and Glass

Tom James, Chairman, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking Scott Read for having us here at Cincinnati Gasket and Glass. Scott is their go to guy for machine repair around the place.

On Saturday we had our judging meet. We had 5 cars total and judged 4. We also received some sad news as well; John Ballard has stepped down as our judging chair. He did give us everything we need to continue on, and we thank him for all his years of service as our judging chair, and other chapters Chairman. Good luck with everything John.

We did not give out all the judging sheets and ribbons on Saturday, so let us announce the results now. Congratulations to Skip Poloway for receiving a Top Flight award for his 1967 Corvette in the modified class with a score of 97. Great job Skip. Another one of our members, Joe Eyl, received Top Flight in the modified stock class as well with a score of 97.3. Jerry Hilbert brought his 1998 Gold convertible Corvette and received a Top Flight award.

Tom next thanked the judges for coming on Saturday and participating. He also thanked the body shop manager, Nick Taylor, of Kelsey Chevrolet for coming in at 5:30AM to open up the facility. We would also like to thank the tabulators for their hard work. Kelsey is building an addition on the back lot and has offered that area for us to use at the swap meet or judging meet next year. We can't thank Kelsey Chevrolet enough for all they do for us and the local community. Please patronize them if you are in need of a new or used car.

Tom informed us that John Wagoner was a savior at the chapter meet. John printed all the forms and certificates; want to give a big shout out to him. Thank you, John.

## **October QCNCRS Meeting Minutes**

**..... Tom Smith (continued...)**

We received a lot of good comments about the Chapter Meet. The 1953 corvette scored a 99 out of 100. The owner mentioned he had it up to Bloomington IN earlier this year, but at this event he learned so much more about the car; 'it seemed like every nut and bolt has a marking or stamp on it'.

Tom posed a question of the membership present, who will be willing to step up and be our Judging Chairman. It is a big blow to a lot chapters, and the national NCRS organization that John Ballard had to step down. He did an incredible amount of work for the NCRS organization as a whole.

Tom asked if there was any new business a member had which they wanted to mention. Steve Barrett reminded everyone to bring a new wrapped toy for the Toys-For-Tots drive. He will take the boxes that we fill to the Horsepower Farm in December for their Marine Corps Toys-For-Tots Christmas drive. So please bring a new unwrapped toy for a child between 1 and 18-years-of-age.

Barb Hilbert Treasurer, went over the financial report from September and a motion was passed to accept it.

Terrie James, Membership Chair, reminded everyone that next year's picnic will be held September 20, 2024 at the Horsepower Farm in Middletown, Ohio. Also, please be aware that the Christmas party will be held on December 3, 2023 at Aston Oaks Country Club from 5-9PM. Please send your check to Barb Hilbert. Reminders will be sent out with further information as well as Barb's address.

Chris Rockenfield, Vice Chairperson, had nothing new to report.

Split-the-pot was drawn and the meeting was adjourned.

A tour of facility was given by Scott.

Thanks to Scott and the establishment for having us.



**Visit our Facebook page!**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.qc.ncrs.org/>

**QCNCRS October Meeting Photos**



**QCNCRS October Meeting Photos**





**QCNCRS October Meeting Photos**



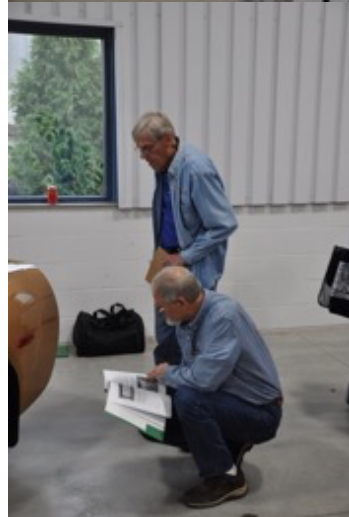
**QCNCRS October Meeting Photos**



**QCNCRS Judging Meet Photos**



**QCNCRS Judging Meet Photos**





**QCNCRS Judging Meet Photos**



**QCNCRS Judging Meet Photos**





## Technical article

### 1963-1975 Corvette Convertible Deck Lid Hinge Spring Replacement

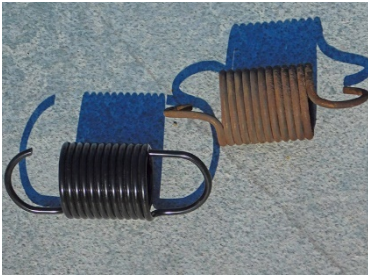
*Corvettemagazine.com, July 21, 2023, by John Pfanstiehl*

**Submitted by: Terrie James**

Do you suffer from droopy lids? Does your deck lid hang so low after being raised, you need to push it up to store the top? After being stretched for 50-60 years, these springs are often weak and need to be replaced. [Zip Corvette](#) has the answer: new springs, e-coated and made in the USA.

Follow along to see removal and installation of these springs. The service manual shows a procedure that requires a special GM tool but we'll show you how to replace these springs without that tool and provide additional important tips.

While you're there, inspect the springs, cables, bushings, and bumpers of the deck lid. Also look at the rear carpet install (plugs) and/or dome light components. And if body mount replacement is in the future, note that it is much easier to access the rear bolt when the spring is removed.



Step 1

01: Zip Corvette's [1963-1975 Corvette Convertible Deck Lid Hinge Spring](#) is not only much better looking than the old spring, it is much stronger. Replacing both springs brought the deck lid up as high as it was designed to be when new.



Step 2

02: The spring is stretched when the deck lid is in the closed (down) position. When the coils are separated, shims can be inserted between them. Then, when the deck lid is raised, the expanded spring can be removed.



Step 3

03: The plastic shims found at home improvement stores worked well for this purpose. Break the strips apart, and then break the thicker end into a length just longer than the diameter of the spring.



Step 4

04: Chamfering the thinner end makes insertion in between the coils easier. Rounding the shim's corners reduces interference when removing the spring.



Step 5

05: If you are small and very flexible, the shims can be inserted when the deck lid is closed. If this method is used, it helps to remove the seats.



Step 6

06: Access is a little better if the lid is partially opened. It can be held in this position with a clamp on lower bow of the top.



Step 7



07: For most people, the easiest way to get to the springs is to remove the four bolts that attach the deck lid. Note the gaps between the lid and the upper panel before removal.



Step 8

08: Next, mark the position of the hinge on the deck lid with tape, scribing or using a marker around the bolts' washers.



Step 9

09: Access is greatly improved for inserting the shims between the spring coils when the deck lid is removed.



Step 10

10: Press the hinge all the way down with one hand and insert the shims with the other hand. Shims can be inserted from the front into the lower portion of the spring. The shims need to be inserted from the side into the upper end of the spring.



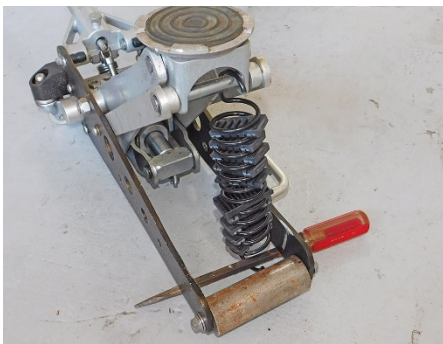
Step 11

11: Allow the hinge to move to its up-position to remove the old spring. Tip: It is not obvious but the portion of the hinge that attaches to the upper end of the spring now can be moved up and down.



Step 12

12: The spring can easily be stretched with a floor jack. Another method is to use extended jaws of a large vice. The springs are about 5-3/4-inches when not stretched. Inserting shims between the coils until the spring is 8-inches long is more than sufficient.



Step 13

13: Use the jack to stretch the old springs to remove the shims. Then stretch the new spring. For easier removal, position shims in the lower section of the spring so that they will face forward, and position the upper shims facing more inward.



Step 14

14: Install the new spring. The spring's upper end was set into the rear most notch of the hinge. Push the hinge down and remove the shims.



Step 15



15: Apply contact cement if needed to hold the carpet in place. Reinstall the deck lid, check the gaps, adjusted if needed — the job is done.



Step 16

16: The new springs from Zip Products now hold the deck lid fully up; no more sagging lids. Note the towel used to protect the paint when the deck lid was removed and reinstalled.



Step 17

17: The convertible top can now be raised and lowered without using a shoulder to push the deck lid up and out of the way. I should've replaced these springs 20 years ago!

Source: Zip Corvette Parts

8067 Fast Lane | Mechanicsville, VA 23111 | (800) 962-9632

## Upcoming Events

### QUEEN CITY NCRS CHAPTER EVENTS:

- *November 4<sup>th</sup> - Toys-For-Tots, 8:00 AM-12:00 noon, Horsepower Farm, 2227 Trinity Drive*
- *November 21<sup>st</sup> - Queen City NCRS Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Kathy Plummer's Garage, 866 E. Columbia Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215*
- *December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Chapter Christmas Party, 5:00 PM-9:00 PM, Aston Oaks Country Club, 1 Aston Oaks Drive, North Bend, Ohio 45052*
- *March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Queen City NCRS Indoor Swap Meet And Car Show, 8:00 AM-2:00 PM, Kelsey Chevrolet, 1105 E. Eads Parkway, Greendale, Indiana 47025*

### NCRS NATIONAL EVENTS:

- *January 18 - 20, 2024 - Florida 45th Winter Regional, Melbourne, FL*
- *March 14-18, 2024 - NCRS National Judging Retreat, Texas*
- *April 11-13, 2024 – SCC Regional, Las Vegas, NV*
- *May 2-4, 2024, Heartland Regional, Cedar Rapids, IA*
- *May 31-June 1, 2024, New England Regional, Marlborough, MA*
- *August 4 - 8, 2024 - NCRS National Convention, Hampton, VA*
- *September 7-11, 2025 - NCRS National, South Pointe Casino, Las Vegas, NV*

### CAR SHOWS AND SWAP MEETS: *(Stuff for Car Guy's and Gal's)*

- *November 4, 2023 - Toys-For-Tots, 8:00 AM-12:00 noon, Horsepower Farm, 2227 Trinity Drive.*
- *November 18 & 19 – MCACN, Rosemont, IL.*
- *More Ohio local events: <https://www.olderide.com/events/state/ohio>*





# INDOOR SWAP MEET AND CAR EXPO



## **WHEN:**

**Sunday, March 17, 2024  
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

## **WHERE:**

**Kelsey Chevrolet  
1105 E. Eads Parkway  
Greendale (Lawrenceburg), IN 47025**



**GATE ADMISSION: \$5.00**

**Proudly donating  
over \$80,000 from  
this event to:**



**HOSTED BY:  
Queen City Chapter Of  
The National Corvette  
Restorers Society**

**WHAT TO KNOW:  
Swap spaces sold  
out the last 13 years!  
Many classic GM  
parts.  
Food, split-the-pot,  
major award; all on-  
site at this event.**

**COME VEND WITH US:  
\$25.00 for 100 sq/ft  
space but you must  
register in advance.**

**HOW TO REGISTER:  
Registration form on the  
reverse side.**

**Call Tom James at  
513-377-8182 for more  
information.**

**E-mail completed forms:  
[tmjames@fuse.net](mailto:tmjames@fuse.net)**

Vending Space(s) [100 sq ft.] \_\_\_\_\_ (quantity) X \$25.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Indoor Car Corral: \_\_\_\_\_ (number of cars for sale) X \$50.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Outdoor Car Corral: \_\_\_\_\_ (number of cars for sale) X \$25.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE AND ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Tom James with the Queen City NCRS with any questions at 513-377-8182 or e-mail [twj@fuse.net](mailto:twj@fuse.net).

Completed registrations should be mailed to 7329 Southpointe Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45233. Checks should be made payable to "QCNCRS".

Registration confirmations will be sent to the above e-mail address with further event details.

## QCNCRS Club Shirt Ordering



**Pricing and shirt options are changing.**

**For information on Club Shirt pricing, colors and sizing as well as to place an order please contact Terrie James at [tmjames7329@gmail.com](mailto:tmjames7329@gmail.com) or 513-300-6411**





## QUEEN CITY CHAPTER 2023 CHAPTER REGISTRATION FORM

**Annual Chapter Dues \$20.00**

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

*You must be an active member of NCRS to join a chapter.*

**National NCRS Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Options for membership renewal:

1. Renew Queen City Chapter Membership online at:  
<https://www.ncrs.org/forums/register/chapter-membership.php>
2. Complete the above form and send payment of \$20.00 (payable to QCNCRS) to: Terrie James, 7329 Southpointe Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45233.

**Questions, please call Terrie James at 513-300-6411 or email at [tmjames7329@gmail.com](mailto:tmjames7329@gmail.com).**

**Trivia Answers: 1. 1968. 2. True. 3. True. 4. True. 5. True. 6. True.**