



The Side Draft

Volume 33, Issue 4

April 2026

Chairman's Message..... Tom James

Here we are, ready for the car show season. The weather is turning warmer and the nights are longer. I hope everyone has their rides up and ready to cruise. I took several of mine out for a maiden voyage and was surprised, nothing has crept up over the winter that needs attention.

Last month's meeting was held at Jaguar of Cincinnati. Chris Rockenfield was our host and did a fantastic job making everyone feel at home. There were plenty of classic cars on display in the front of their shop which faces Cross County Highway. Also, thanks to Ed Neyra for the use of his facility.

Last month the Cavalcade of Customs Auto Show returned to the newly renovated First Financial Convention Center in Downtown Cincinnati. Our own Skip Polowy and George Denman had their Corvettes on display and were awarded a first and second place for their efforts. As well, Jamie Schworer won second place in the Classic Division for her Silver Cloud Rolls Royce. Nice work

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April Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Tom's Garage
282 S. Miami
Cleves, OH 45002

Phone: 513-377-8182

Come and see the progress on Tom's latest project. Please remember to bring a chair and drive your Corvette!

QCNCRS Website Information

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

Webmaster: George Denman 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

to all. Skip gave us a rundown of how the weekend went. From start to finish it sounds like all in attendance enjoyed the show.

Last month also was the election of officers for the Board of Directors of the NCRS. Three people were running for President. Mike Ingram, who is the longstanding President, defeated Vice President Tony Stein as well as Bill Braun in a close vote for the position. The Board has nine (9) members, and they are the only group who can vote for the presidency. My feelings, as well as many other members, feel that the membership should have a say in the direction of the organization. For now, it looks like nothing will change. Tony Stein had some new ideas when he was Vice President, but he has resigned the VP spot and apparently has resigned his Regional Director position for the Texas Chapter as well. The NCRS needs some new blood before it goes under. Our Chapter has held consistent with membership, but the National is losing membership at a rate of 8% to 10% per year.

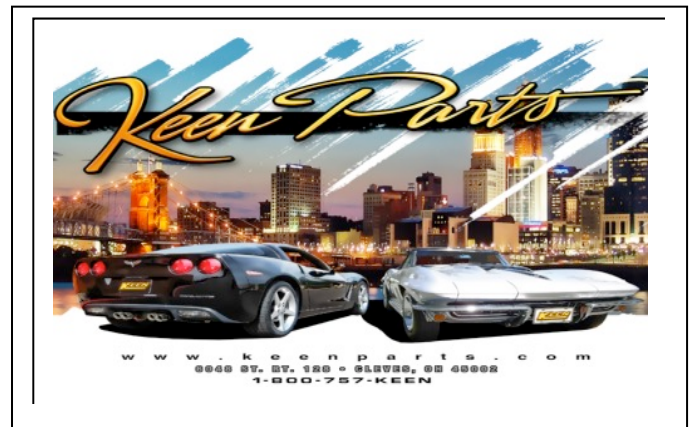
A road trip to the American Sign Museum was discussed at the last meeting followed by lunch to be held at Camp Washington Chili. Terrie James has done some investigation as to a date and cost for the day. Details are to be finalized at the April meeting which will be held at my garage, 282 S Miami, Cleves, Ohio 45002 on April 21st.

Lastly, a vote was taken for the Shriners Hospital for Children donation this year and \$5,000.00 was agreed upon with matching funds of \$500.00 from the National for a grand total of \$5,500.00 to be donated. We will present the matching funds check at the April meeting to Bethany Deines, Senior Director of Philanthropy for Shriners and our Shriners Representative. Great work guys and gals for a great bourbon raffle to donate to this worthy cause.

Save The Wave!
Tom

2026 QCNCRS OFFICERS

- Chairman: Tom James (513) 377-8182
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toyvett1@fuse.net
- V. Chairman: Chris Rockenfield (513) 602-8819
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Newsletter Advertising Rates

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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 was Signet red offered as an exterior color option? 1956, 1958, or 1962.
2. The side mount exhaust system was not available in 1969. True or False.
3. Dual sun visors became standard in 1963. True or False.
4. What was the first year for 454 cu in engines? 1970, 1971 or 1972.
5. 1972 was the first year of the LT-1 small block engine. True or False.
6. When was a low restriction “off-road” exhaust first offered as a Corvette option? 1957, 1963 or 1965.



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



Fun Facts Tom James

As if Corvette drivers were not already targeted by cops looking for easy ticket bait, the C6 front fascia was the first designed without an obvious place to mount a front license plate. The problem was that many states, including Corvette-loving California, required a front plate. In contrast, from 1953 to 2004 Corvette grilles and fascia designs always included provision for the standardized 12 x 6-inch state-issued vehicle license plate.

In the name of streamlining and aesthetics, C6 designers eliminated the C4 and C5 body colored front bumper plug as did the 1997-2004 C5s V49 \$15.00 front license plate mounting kit. Clearly Chevrolet was hoping that law enforcement would turn a blind eye to this minor vehicle engine code infraction. Law enforcement generally ignored absent front license plates but were free to use its absence as probable cause for stops that may or may not have led to other infractions. Interestingly, the totally redesigned 2014 C7 restored provisions for a front license plate as well as the optional front mounting bracket (reassigned RPO VK3).

From the editor..... Bill Hetzer

Each year our chapter strives to achieve a Chapter Top Flight award. To accomplish this, we must meet a list of requirements set for all chapters by the NCRS. One of these key requirements is to publish technical articles in our newsletter. We need a total of at least six articles per year. I know that many of you are working on your cars. Whether doing a minor repair, or a major restoration, we need pictures and the how you did it.

Please work with me and I will help you write the article. How to take something apart is as important as to how to put the replacement or restored part back on. You can take the pictures with your phone and together we can write the article, even if you just give me the key steps that you took to do the work.



March QCNCRS Meeting Minutes

...Kenn Bragg

March 17, 2026

Jaguar of Cincinnati

Tom James, Chairman, started the meeting at 7:21 PM. Tom first thanked the members in attendance. Tom talked then about the Cavalcade of Customs show held in downtown Cincinnati the previous weekend. Several of our members submitted cars which placed for awards.

Skip Polowy spoke on the venue for this year's Cavalcade of Customs show. The event was downsized from previous years with many very beautiful high-end cars at the show. George Deman received a second-place award and Skip received first place for 63 to 67 sport cars division. Jamie Schworer received an award for her 1964 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud.

Tom James then reminded the Club about National elections for a new President for the National organization. He answered questions about what he knew regarding the candidates. He said to contact our representative, Andy Goodman, as to whom you prefer for the President position. Only nine (9) people get to vote on the position. He also stated that you could go online to the National website and read more about the election.

Chris Rockenfield, Vice Chairman, asked about when the Club will be holding another bourbon raffle. Chris has had many requests about doing another one. We will most likely hold another raffle sometime this summer; more information to follow. We had a great response from the first one.

Tom James then mentioned that Keith Eve had had major neck surgery and was happy to see him at the meeting. He wished Keith a speedy recovery so he could get back to his golf game.

Tom James then reminded the club that the Pigeon Forge Corvette Expo in Sevierville, Tennessee,

March QCNCRS Meeting Minutes

...Kenn Bragg (continued...)

was this coming up this weekend. Tom and several club members will be going to the Expo. Tom then said the Louisville Swap Meet was also this coming weekend. There are usually 800 to 1000 vendors at this meet.

Jamie Schworer, Treasurer, then gave us a line-by-line update on the Club finances for the month. A motion was made to accept the report and was seconded. The report was passed without exception.

Terrie James, Membership Chairperson, told us that unfortunately we lost four (4) members in March. We currently have 83 members. Terrie also discussed an upcoming road tour to the American Sign Museum. She will investigate this further and report her findings at the next meeting.

Skip Polowy told the Club that the website for the QCNCRS judging event is now on the National website. Last year we had eight (8) cars judged and are hoping to have eight (8) again this year. Next Skip told us that the Heart of Ohio Chapter is having an NCRS judging event on Saturday, April 25, 2006. He asked if we had anyone interest in helping judge the event to contact their Chapter through their website or to contact Skip directly for further information.

Split-the-pot was drawn, and Tom James closed the meeting at 8:23 pm.

QCNCRS March Meeting Photos



QCNCRS March Meeting Photos



QCNCRS March Meeting Photos



QCNCRS March Meeting Photos



OPEN CLASS JUDGING

by Roy Sinor NCRS#60998

What if your Corvette has been modified and does not meet the NCRS Flight Judging Standard? NCRS's newest awards program accommodates the owners of *all* 1953 to 2026 Corvettes in an Open Class in which the cars are judged on their condition and operation. Even "re-engineered Corvettes" with, or without body modifications, are eligible for judging. The National Corvette Restorers Society (NCRS) has begun this new program of Open Class judging.

The NCRS, famous for its meticulous Flight Judging process has expanded its judging offerings to include a new category of Corvettes. This new Open Class judging is offered for both Stock appearing and Custom 1953 to 2026 Corvettes, born as a Corvette, with an original VIN Tag (or state issued replacement), and have a title/vehicle registration that states the car is a Corvette (i.e. no kit cars).

NCRS Open Class Award® Judging

What is involved in Open Class judging and how does it work?

Open Class judging is similar to flight judging in that there are 5 teams of judges who evaluate the car in Operations, Interior, Exterior, Chassis and Mechanical. However, unlike Flight Judging, the teams are not concerned with *originality*. They are concerned with the function of the systems—in the case of Operations—and the Fit/Finish and completeness in all the other categories.

Stock Division

What constitutes a Stock or Custom Corvette for Open Class judging purposes?

A Stock Corvette is one with the doors, hood and trunk closed, (excluding wheels & tires if no body or chassis modifications were required for fitment), including paint color (provided it appears to be a stock color or scheme), if the car basically appears like a production Corvette. From outward appearance of the car body appears to be stock or as it came from the factory. It can have show-quality chrome and paint, a different motor than was originally in the car (but no computer controls). The key in this class is whether the car looks like it might be stock.



Custom Division

Custom Corvettes includes all other Corvettes.

These can have flared fenders, custom paint such as flames pinstripes or other custom touches. This Custom Class opens the field for a wide variety of Corvettes that were not previously considered candidates for Flight judging. Open Class judging is an exciting new concept within the NCRS and is an exciting new way to open the field for a new generation of Corvette fanatics.



Open Class Awards®

Open Class cars successfully achieving a score of 94.0 points or above in the Stock Division achieve an Emerald Award. Those achieving between 85.0 and 93.9 achieve the Ruby Award.

Upcoming Events

QUEEN CITY NCRS CHAPTER EVENTS:

- *September 26, 2026 – Annual Club Picnic, Horsepower Farm, Middletown, OH*
- *October 10, 2026 - QCNCRS Chapter Judging Meet, Kelsey Chevrolet, Greendale, IN*

NCRS NATIONAL EVENTS:

- *April 16-18, 2026 - Show Me Regional, Springfield, MO*
- *May 15-16 – Oklahoma Chapter, Tulsa, OK*
- *June 4-6, 2026 – Pittsburgh Tri-State Regional, Altoona, PA*
- *July 26-30, 2026 - NCRS National Convention, Charleston, SC*
- *September 17-19 – Intermountain Regional, Spokane, WA*
- *October 21-23, 2026 – Texas Regional, Frisco, TX*

CAR SHOWS AND SWAP MEETS:

April 16-18, 2026

Spring Rod Run 2026, LeConte Center, 2986 Teaster Lane, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

April 22-26, 2026

Spring Carlisle, Carlisle Fairgrounds, 1000 Bryn Mawr Road, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

April 23-24, 2026

Spring Carlisle Collector Auction, Carlisle Expo Center, 100 K St., Carlisle, Pennsylvania

April 25, 2026

Cars And Courage Car Show/Green Township VFW Post 10380, 6375 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM.

August 27-29

Corvettes at Carlisle, Carlisle, PA

More Ohio local events: <https://www.olderide.com/events/state/ohio>

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 or 513-300-6411



QUEEN CITY CHAPTER 2026 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.

Trivia Answers: 1. 1958. 2. False. 3. True. 4. 1970. 5. False. 6. 1963.