



# *The Side Draft*

**Volume 33, Issue 3**

**March 2026**

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

Welcome to the March edition of the Queen City NCRS Newsletter. This is the start of the show season. I hope you have just about all of the restoration projects finished on your collector cars, so they are ready to cruise. I have been working on my 1968 Z28, restoring many of the small components that are original with 58 years of wear and tear on them. The transmission is done with the motor being not far behind. I will break the new motor in by installing it in the subframe before I clean and detail it so as to make sure that everything is in working order before final detail. This process has always proven to save time and money should a problem arise. On my 1968 Corvette when I restored it I had a major engine failure after it was detailed and, in the frame, which was also detailed. Breaking all of that perfect paint on engine bolts and components was frustrating and time consuming, not to mention the cost. So now my motto is that everything is to be broken in before final detail.

Last month's meeting was held at RPUI in Lebanon, Ohio. Kyle Pfirman was kind enough to stay after hours to give those members in attendance a behind the scenes tour of their facility as well as to give an explanation of the large array of restoration parts which

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## ***March Meeting Information***

**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2026  
**Time:** 6:30 PM  
**Location:** Jaguar of Cincinnati (back building)  
9115B Blue Ash Road  
Blue Ash, OH 45242  
**Phone:** 513-791-1000  
**Website:** jaguarcincinnati.com

**Please remember to bring a chair and 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*

they produce. Since we were there last year, they have made a major investment in new equipment and personnel with 3D printing to expand the making of LS motor trim as well as brake and fuel line sets. They now stock over 6,000 separate lines for old and newer vehicles, including pickup trucks and Blazers. Everyone who took the tour was impressed with the organization and cleanliness of the plant. Other items which they are getting ready to launch are decals for 1970-1980 Trans Ams, Z28's, and SS Monte Carlos. Other cars are soon to follow, such as Chevelles and Novas, which will be available at a later date. RPUI was gracious enough to offer our members a discount of 15% with their next order. On your next order use promo code "QCCNCRS on both of their websites: <https://fpautoparts.com/> and <https://rpui.com/>. These two sites have a vast array of Corvette and Camaro restoration parts for our cars. The quality has always been excellent for fit and finish. They make and sell superior parts and always have. For this, I would like to ask our members to leave a feedback comment on the review link on their website at "Review RPUI. That is the least we could do for the hospitality they have shown us for many years, hosting our monthly meetings and now a 15% discount on products.

The last item of business, at last month's meeting held at RPUI a vote was taken for the amount to donate to the Shriners Hospital for Children. After our very successful bourbon raffle this year an amount of \$5,000.00 was unanimously approved with no detractors. At an upcoming meeting, probably in June or July, we will present the check to the Shriners. Thanks to all who made this possible by buying or selling the tickets. We truly have a great membership!

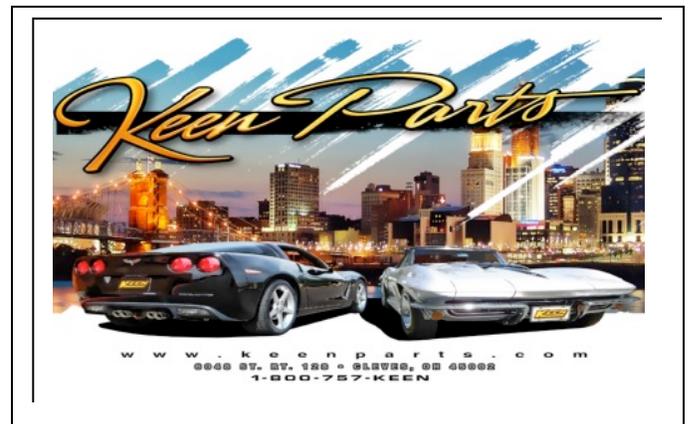
Next month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 6:30 PM at Jaguar of Cincinnati (back building), 9115B Blue Ash Road, Blue Ash, Ohio 45242. Hope to see all of you there and drive those Corvettes!

Save The Wave!

Tom

### **2026 QCNCRS OFFICERS**

- Chairman: Tom James (513) 377-8182  
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## ***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. The 1973 Corvette coupe was the first since 1967 to have a rear window which could not be removed. True or False.
2. What was the first year for AM/FM cassette systems? 1971, 1977 or 1979.
3. What year did front air dams and rear spoilers become standard equipment? 1979, 1980 or 1981.
4. Steel beams for greater side impact protection were introduced in 1970, 1973, or 1977 models.
5. What was the first year whitewall tires became optional? 1953, 1955, or 1956.
6. Cast aluminum wheels were available in 1971. True or False.



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



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

The Corvette C5 may have had a \$250 million budget, but its low sales volume still forced tight budget controls and the need for hand-me-down thinking. At first, the high cost of developing the new torque tube and rear transaxle seemed to be a deal breaker. However, when it was discovered that GM Powertrain was developing a new modular bell housing and transmission case for full-sized 4x4 pickup truck use, much of the design lessons and even certain components were adopted for Corvette use. Although the truck transmission project cost \$80 million, the Corvette group made use of its discoveries at a fraction of the cost.

Although production C5 Corvettes were the first Corvettes ever sold without spare tires or the spare-tire well to store them, early C5 design rendering dated from July 1992 show that provisions were made for a vertically stored mini spare tire to be placed directly behind the taillight panel. By the C5's January 1997 release date, run-flat tire technology made possible the total elimination of the bulky fifth wheel.

## ***From the editor..... Bill Hetzer***

Each year our chapter strives to achieve a Chapter Top Flight award. In order 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.



## **February QCNCRS Meeting Minutes**

...Kenn Bragg

February 17, 2026

RPUI (Trim Parts)

Tom James, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Tom thanked RPUI for hosting the meeting. Tom told us how in the last year RPUI has completely changed its operation; they now do vinyl decals for TA's and can create decals for anything you need. They also can build parts for any LS motor and now have 6000 bins for tubing. They also can bend tubing for anything.

Next, Tom talked about the upcoming National election for a new President for the NCRS. We should all be receiving an email to announce the election and the details of the election. Tom told us about the gentlemen running and the background of each.

Tom then discussed the US Bank CD account which is coming due. US Bank has offered us a .25% better rate to go to a two-year CD. A motion was made and seconded to do this and the motion passed without any objections.

Tom then brought up the donation to the Shriners from the raffle we held to raise money for the Shriners Children's Hospital. Tom suggested we donate \$5000 to the charity this year. The members voted to give them the \$5000 without any objections.

Jamie Schworer, Treasurer, gave us a complete line by line account of the finances for the month. A motion was made and seconded to except the report. The report was passed.

Terrie James, Membership Chairperson, discussed current membership numbers. We currently have 87 members; we lost one member but are holding steady on to members. Terrie also reported that four (4) members currently owe their 2026 chapter

## **February QCNCRS Meeting Minutes**

...Kenn Bragg (continued...)

dues and have been contacted.

Terrie then discussed a road tour for the Chapter this summer. She has contacted the Shriners of Southeastern Indiana to attend their summer grill outs but has not received a response. Terrie asked the members in attendance if they would be interested in a road tour to the Cincinnati Sign Museum followed by a luncheon at a local restaurant. Members concurred that this would be a fun event. Terrie will investigate further and give a report on her findings at the March meeting.

George Denman then discussed raffles for next year's charity donation. He suggested several alternatives and not just a whiskey raffle. These suggestions will be explored as possible events to raise money. George then suggested we go to Oxford and drive the 2.5-mile road course as a chapter event this summer. George will investigate this further.

Split-the-pot was pulled, and Tom James closed the meeting at 7:55 pm at which time Kyle of RPUI conducted a tour of the facility.

**QCNCRS February Meeting Photos**



**QCNCRS February Meeting Photos**



**QCNCRS February Meeting Photos**



**QCNCRS February Meeting Photos**



## Update on Tom's 1968 Z28 Camaro



The body before disassembly and acid dipping



The disassembly process



Parts after acid dipping

## 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:

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:tmjames7329@gmail.com).**

**Trivia Answers: 1. True. 2. 1979. 3. 1980. 4. 1973. 5. 1955. 6. False.**