

THE BOWTIE BULLETIN
The Official Newsletter Of the
PIEDMONT CLASSIC CHEVY CLUB
Summer 2026 Edition

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Ken & Chrissy Hunter's 1968 Camaro SS



Photos submitted by Chrissy Hunter

A Special Message from John DeYoung

Hi Everyone. I hope you are enjoying the hot summer heat. It's been so hot to work in my shop, except during the morning hours.

I was able to take part in the presentation of our donation to Hilltop Home. The staff was so appreciative of our donation.

There are lots of car shows as well as cruise ins coming up. I'm looking forward to seeing you out and about.

Your PCCC VP, John.

CLUB INFO

2026 Club Officers

President - **David Smith**
dmsmith57@outlook.com

Vice President - **John DeYoung**
fuzzy59@nc.rr.com

Secretary - **Ron Fournier**
rbfournier@hotmail.com

Treasurer - **Tom Doherty**
tdoherty@mpcllp.com

Send your PCCC Dues payment to:

Tom Doherty
4008 Ridgebrook Bluffs;
Raleigh, NC 27603
Make check out to PCCC
Annual dues are \$40

PCCC Monthly Meetings are at **Carolina BBQ** located at **733 US-70 Garner 27529**.
Meetings are going to be **every 4th Monday at 7PM** (530 PM if you plan to eat)

PCCC APPAREL

Contact Ann Byerly @ **919.302.0165** or for
complete ordering details and prices send her
an email at **pcccapparel@gmail.com**

Standard Club Shirt [\$10] Long Sleeve [\$15]

Polo Shirts [\$26]

Pink Ladies V-Neck [\$18]

Sport Tee's (Dri-Fit) Short Sleeve [\$14]; Long Sleeve [\$19]

Hats (All Styles) [\$18]

Ladies Jacket "Clique" (Blue Only) [\$56]

Ladies Jacket "Port Auth" (Blue or Black) [\$56]

Men's Jacket Traditional (Blue Only) [\$65]

Men's Jacket Hard Shell (Black Only) [\$70]

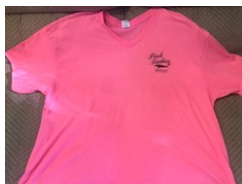
Magnetic Engraved Name Badges [\$12]



Standard Club T-Shirt with paid dues



Standard Name Badge



Pink Ladies V-Neck



Pink Ladies Name Badge

Our Donation Presentation To Hilltop Home



On July 8th Hilltop Home was presented with a check for \$12,000. Members attending were given a tour of the facility. Gary and Ann Byerly's granddaughter, Cheyann Hudson wrote a book on autism and it was published, she presented the first copy of her book to Hilltop. She signed that copy. It was the first time that anyone had ever written a book and donated it to Hilltop Home. Our donation will be used for a therapy pool for the children. We will present a second check in November or December and I hope we can get more members to come and visit with us to see the good that Hilltop does and see first hand how our donations are utilized.

Thank you, David M Smith
President Piedmont Classic Chevy Club

Hilltop Home is a private, nonprofit, Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) with a capacity to support 22 children who have severe to profound developmental disabilities and are medically fragile. We provide a comprehensive habilitative program that includes individualized medical, therapeutic, and developmental/ educational services in an intimate, homelike residential setting. The program is designed to assist children with multiple disabilities and medical fragility to reach their fullest potential.

<https://hilltophome.org/>

Brian & Cindy Zielinski
Louisburg, NC

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Milo & Suzanne Leach
Fuquay -Varina, NC

Roy Jackson
Fuquay-Varina, NC

Andy & Cindy Sencenich
Willow Springs, NC

Cherokee Rod Run. show dates October 16-17.

Travel on Thursday October 15, head home Sunday October 18.

Read the full details by going to :

CherokeeRodders.com & search Cherokee Rod Run 2026 for all the details.



12 rooms booked at the Newfound Lodge on the River, 1192 Tsalali Blvd, Cherokee, NC. Phone is 828-497-2746 (speak to DAS). Rate is \$399 for 3 night, including taxes. 3.5% charge using a credit card. You do not have to pay in advance, rooms are reserved under PCCC. 10 rooms on the ground floor, 2 upstairs. All rooms have 2 queen beds, walkout deck on rear overlooking the Oconuluftee River. Coffee makers in each room, various food options close by. This hotel is approximately 1 mile from the event site and close to restaurants and shopping.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to join us this year.

Dave Peedin 919.612.6998

Hey Everyone, Much needed essentials are needed at Hilltop Home.

They have setup a wish list through Amazon for things that are needed. Please take a minute to check it out. Go to hilltophome.org, click on **DONATIONS** and scroll down to **Amazon Wish List**.

There are many items that are inexpensive and are much needed.

Most items are less than a car part. Thanks for taking a minute to check this out!

Pat Smith

The PCCC Photo Directory will be emailed out to PCCC Membership periodically as new members join and new photos are submitted.

Tom Doherty will also continue to send out the Member Directory in Excel Format.

Submit any changes or edits for your info to Julian Gandolfo.

New photos for the directory can be sent to Julian at jcg2684@gmail.com

Member Birthdays in July & August

Janie Sweat
Suzi Wagner
Diane Burgess
Paul Berber
Mike Roth
Barb McGloin
John Martin
Mark Wheeler
Rick Mangrum

Sue Newmann
Cheryl Hoffman
Dwayne Brown
Kelly Brown
Eileen Fournier
Pat Smith
Chrissy Hunter
Bob Grannan
Scott Rose

Larry Schadle
Curt Lee
Peggy Barnes
Brian Anzak
Karen Callaghan
Betty Bunn
Andrew Odins



Meet Henry Van Pala

I was born in 1952 in Queens, NY, grew up in Queens and my first job was in a local body shop called Winnfield Collision, They advertised "We tow around the World." They had contracts to pick up wrecked cars on the major highways.

I started working there at age 16 and by age 18 I was an accomplished body man, having learned as a metal man, not just a bondo person.

I got interested in the Corvette in 1970 when a doctor bought his son a 1969 Black Corvette Coupe, It was a 427/435 HP with M22 and 4:11 posi rear and factory side pipes.

His son was racing the car on the Cross Bronx Expressway with the roof panel off and him not wearing a seat belt. He went off the road and flipped the car on its roof and his head hit the ground and broke his neck killing him instantly.

We towed the car into the shop. The nose was cracked all the way across and the left windshield post was down with Windshield cracked.. I talked the owner into buying the salvage from the doctor at the time for \$300 dollars and I took out a book on how to fix fiberglass boats. We never had a wrecked Corvette in our shop. I jacked the windshield post up , put in new W/S and fixed the whole nose including the cracked hood and painted the car. We made a good buck selling to Joel Rosen out at Baldwin Long Island at Baldwin Chevrolet. I so impressed Joel Rosen "Motion get it guys," he sent us a lot of Corvette's for me to fix.

To avoid the draft, I enrolled in 1970 at St. John's University in Queens and graduated in 1974 with a degree in Pharmacy.

My mother died at age 53 of small bowel cancer and my father at age 59 of Prostate Cancer and the only way I could pay for my education was fixing the total that Winnfield Collision bought and I fixed on weekends and vacations and made way more money than any other job.

In fact I continued to fix cars on vacations even to avoid the draft and the Vietnam war, I went to Michigan State College of Human Medicine and graduated in 1980 with a MD in Medicine. I trained at Yale University for 3 years in Internal Medicine and 2 more years to become a Board Certified Internist and Gastroenterologist. I've been married to my wife Debbie since 1985. Met her at Yale while I was in training. She is an RN.

We have two wonderful children; our son is Duke trained doctor of Nurse Practitioner working in the practice with me and my wife, the RN runs the practice. Our daughter is Lawyer, and we have two grandchildren, both wonderful girls and son's wife pregnant with another girl. Girls are great!

I came to NC in 1985 to set up the Gastroenterology department at the Kernodle Clinic.

While at the Kernodle Clinic , I saw an ad for a Body shop for sale at 908 Capital Blvd. I bought the shop and put my wife's brother in to run it for me. He made such a mess of running the shop that in 1990 I took a break from Medicine full time to take over the shop. I called it AutoShape Inc., 908 Capital Blvd, Raleigh, NC (look it up). I worked one day a week to keep my medical license and the rest of the time my wife, an RN, but great business person and I ran the shop. We won every award from the insurance companies as the top shop in NC.



Even though I am an expert collision repair and paint person having fixed personally and painted thousands of cars from 1990 to 2011 when the widening of Capital Blvd closed my shop by eminent domain and almost bankrupted me. Eminent Domain is short for we screw the landowner big, big time.

As far as classic cars go, my hobby at AutoShape was frame off Rotisserie restoration of GM muscle and Ford muscle. I can not tell you how many 55 and 57 Chevys I did, 1965 to 1970 G.T.O's, Chevelles, Buicks, Mustangs etc. dozens, at least 2-3 a year.

Meet Henry Van Pala

When the city put me out of business and almost bankrupted me. I scraped up enough money to put a down payment on a Medical Clinic at 1631 Midtown Place, I called it North Hills Internal and Integrative Medicine, at 1631 Midtown Place, Unit 101 Raleigh, NC 27609 Phone 919 977 1675.

I have been practicing full time medicine since 2011 , joined by my son Henry Mathew, a Duke trained doctor of Nurse Practice. Dr. Kenneth Fortier, Board Certified Ob/Gyn specialist , and the practice is run by my wife Debbie, RN.

In my simple 2200 square foot house in Garner on one acre of land , I have a small 2 car garage. I have bolted plates to the ceiling beams and can lift a body off the frame. I have a compressor, welder and all my tools and for paint. I have an Amazon blow up spray booth that I blow up in the backyard, I paint and then deflate the booth and put it in my storage shed with my lawn mower.

I have done several frame off restorations in that simple 2 car garage. My latest is the car I am driving now.

I bought a basket case 1972 Corvette Convertible from Michigan which was totally worn out with a non original small block, automatic plain jane car.



I stripped everything out of the car, wiring harness, gauges etc. and threw everything away. Lifted the body off the frame and wheeled the chassis out into the driveway and with my engine host. Pulled the motor, trans, drive shaft, brakes, suspension, radiator and took everything to Garner salvage and sold the steel.

The frame had not one speck of rust, Garaged the entire time. Painted it and installed VanSteel Coil over suspension front and rear. Wilwood brakes, everything new. I had the rear end sent to Zep and rebuilt with 3.70 posi traction.

I bought from Mars Swap the World a 2022 Camaro SS 6.2 LT-1 motor, that they took the cam out of and got rid of the cylinder deactivation and installed a new oil pan. I reprogramed the factory computer and sold a 4 core aluminum radiator with electric fans and a new gas tank with an electric fuel pump. All I had to do was connect my painless wiring ignition wires and the battery leads and it started up. I installed a Holly front runner system with vintage air, hydroboost. Dakota digital gauges. Detroit speed electric headlights and windshield wiper. I Mated to brand new Tremec T56 6 speed transmission, modified the trans tunnel. I installed a big block hood and painted the stripes on and used decal for LT-1 and painted the car black.



Everything is new. The only things I did not do were; a convertible top, Tommy Garner- auto Interiors and Tops, Dyno tune and alignment and charged AC and fix bunch of miscellaneous stuff at Barndon Rooker, Velocity Motorworks, he is amazing.

So that is a short summary of a crazy life of someone who has turned wrenches, done the body and paint and welding for over 48 years.

Story written by Henry Van Pala, Photos by Jeff Hopp

Cool Trivia, Submitted by Bob Wagner

What makes a 1955 Chevrolet engine block totally different from all 1956-and-up Chevy V8 engine blocks?

No provision for full flow oil filter on block

In the 1980s, the US government limited speedometers to what maximum speed?

85 mph

Which car sold more than one million units in 1965, setting a record?

Chevrolet Impala This 1965 milestone, driven by a popular redesign and strong post-war economic conditions, remains the highest annual sales figure for a single automobile model in North American history.

What car was sold as the last American convertible and became an instant collector's item?

1976 Cadillac Eldorado

What two current American luxury brands were basically started by the same person, Henry Leland?

Cadillac and Lincoln

Ralph Teetor was a blind mechanical engineer who created this car feature:

Cruise Control

The WW2 Jeep was made by 2 different car companies, can you name them?

Willys and Ford

What car was reportedly designed on the back of a Northwest Airlines air sickness bag and released on April Fool's Day, 1970?

The 1970 Gremlin (AMC)

What car company introduced the first electric sunroof?

Cadillac in 1969

Studebaker made two sporty models before they went out of business. One was the well-known Avanti, which lived on beyond them. What was the other one?

The Gran Turismo & Hawk

In wind tunnel tests it was determined that the 69 Dodge Daytona's and the 70 Plymouth Superbird's rear spoiler worked slightly better if lowered. Why did they keep it so tall?

To clear the trunk lid when it was open.

What Chevrolet muscle car had a factory installed 302 cid motor, during its first generation?

Z-28 Camaro SCCA Trans Am racing rules required no more than 305 cid motors for any factory T/A racecar. The factory's street production variant had to displace no more than 305cid, also. Chevy made this motor only for the '67 '68 & '69 Z-28's to meet the homologation requirements of the time.

Which Chrysler model rivaled the Mustang and was launched weeks before?

Plymouth Barracuda

What common car feature was once outlawed in multiple states?

Radio

Are electric cars a new invention?

No, in 1900 38% of cars were electric.

Trivia Comment

A driver who regularly commutes in rush-hour traffic wastes an average of 99 gallons of gasoline a year due to the traffic and spends over 42 hours a year stuck in traffic.

Contact Jeff Hopp to submit items for sale
(**NO PHOTOS**) or change or delete existing ads at
jhopp55@att.net
Contact PCCC member for details

Stuff For Sale

Items For Sale

Our Home on 9 acres with 3 outbuildings,
including a paint booth, downdraft type,
and a car lift Approx. **[\$825,000]**
1955 Chevy Nomad ,283 [\$50,000]
1957 T-Bird [\$30,000]
1933 Chevy Eagle Master [\$20,000]

Contact Floyd & Peggy Barnes @
919.557.0401 or 919.753.3884

Classic 55-57 Chevrolet Used Parts

1957 a set of 4door hardtop doors stripped and metal
patched \$100
55-57 2Door Hardtop glass w/frames all 4 pieces **[\$50]**
55-57 2 Door hardtop windshield **[\$50]**
56-57 4 Door Hardtop rear window **[\$25]**
55-57 Many pieces of stainless trim **[\$10-\$30/piece]**
Ask about other 55-57 parts

Contact Denny Oestreich @ 919.846.8163

Complete 1957 Chevrolet rear end housing third
member axles and brakes ready to install. 3:36
open, not Posi traction. Casting #3276899 was used
in '57 to '64 passenger cars without posi traction.
[\$550] delivered, **[\$500]** you pick up.
[4] Cragar uni lug wheels for sale, 2 are 15 X 6, and
2 are 15 X 8. with all lug nuts. **[\$500.00 for all]**
Contact Dan Glover @ 919-656-0053

350 turbo Hydramatic transmission great
condition **[\$300]**; Set of Chevy Vortex SB
heads, new valve job, w/ Howard springs
[\$250]

Contact Tim Howard @ 919.880.6673

Front wheel disc brake set-up, rotors,
calipers, power booster, double master
cylinder. Parts came off my 1971 Olds

Cutlass **[FREE]**

Contact Ted Korab @ 919.616.0427

Parts for 1970 Chevelle

1970-72 Chevelle Original Dash Pad **[\$75]**;
1970 Chevelle tail light lenses **[\$40 for both]**;
68-72 Chevelle Fuel Tank Door/License Plate
Mount **[\$10]**;
Original 1970 Chevelle Grill with Stainless Trim **[\$75]**;
"350" emblems (R&L) for 70 Chevelle **[\$40]**;
Trunk Emblem for 70 Chevelle **[\$30]**;
Grill Emblem for 70 Chevelle **[\$15]**
Contact Jeff Hopp @ 919-665-9318

Brand new complete antenna assembly
for a 1955 Chevrolet (still in the
package) **[\$80]**

Contact Tony Sica @ 516.443.5479

New pair of rear brake wheel cylinders.
15/16" bore fits 73-77 Malibu and many
other 70s GM cars (not station wagons)
[\$20 for the pair]

Contact Pat Gaglione @ 919-280-8350

Stuff For Sale

Contact Jeff Hopp to submit items for sale
(**NO PHOTOS**) or change or delete existing ads at
jhopp55@att.net
Contact PCCC member for details

1966 Malibu wagon, factory 396 factory four speed.
Ordered with heavy duty trailer package. Appraised at
\$55,000 Best reasonable offer.
20 foot Feather lite car trailer [**\$8,000 obo**]
Contact [David Smith](#) for details @ 919.518.3779

Big Block Long Tube Headers
[**\$75**]
Contact [Ray Bader](#) @
919.418.0977

1983 to 1988 Monte Carlo SS Front Nose
[**\$225.00**]
Contact [Sammy Barnette](#) @ 919.291.3653

14x 8 aluminum slot wheels with 3"
backspacing. Unilug, will fit Mopar, Ford,
Chevy. Lug nuts and spacers go with them,
great condition. [**\$100 for the pair**]
Contact [Don Torockio](#)
@ Home 919-557-0526
or Cell 412 445-0969

2014-2015 GMC Sierra INTELLILINK IO6
Navigation Radio UPGRADE.
Originally \$900.00. [**\$450.00**]
Contact [Rob Andersen](#) @ 919.749.1454

4 early ('68 or before) plain marked
"Mustang" full 15-inch wheel covers.
[**\$5 each or another fair offer**]
Contact [Stan Williams](#) @ 919.675.9489

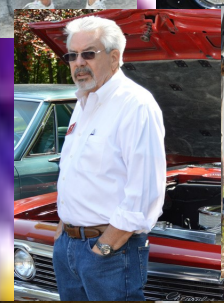
Original 1956 A arms and center shaft with all new
bushings that have been professionally sandblasted
and painted silver. [**\$125**] for the set.
Over 50 items for 1970 Roadrunner, interior parts,
bucket seats, dash and numerous other items.
1969 Camaro interior parts, new interior door
panels, recovered bucket seats in gray suede.
Contact [Rick Mangrum](#) @ 919.255.8663 for
details and prices.

Out & About PCCC Photography



Photos By Jeff Hopp & Lee Caplan

Out & About PCCC Photography



Photos By
Les Shelton
Jeff Hopp
Lee Caplan