



CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

July 2010

Volume 34, Issue 7

NEWS OF '55, '56 AND '57 CHEVYS IN NORTH TEXAS AND BEYOND



PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381

www.DallasClassicChevy.com
Est 1976

Current Membership -163

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817 457-3967 term expires 12/10

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972-960-1408

Tech Advisor - Don Andre
817 481 3468

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972 691-4968

Ladies Group Chairwoman
Vickie Penney
214 629 2043

Membership Information

Dues are \$25 per year,
payable to

Dallas Area Classic Chevys,
mail to the club PO Box.

To determine your renewal date,
check your mailing label, the top
right corner is the month/yr your
membership expires.

DACC TRI FIVE CHEVYS TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY IN ARLINGTON!

The largest Independence Day Parade in Texas takes place in Arlington each year and this huge event is witnessed by hundreds of thousands of people who line the route and watch it on TV. This year the parade takes place on **SATURDAY July 3rd** beginning at 9AM. We have a few spots left if you would like to bring your Chevy out and be a part of this big event. **George Johnson is our coordinator and you need to let him know you want to be in the parade if you have not done so yet. Reach him NOW by calling 817 457-3967.**

WE NEED MORE CARS!



NEXT MONTH IN AUGUST

**IN RENO, NEVADA - HOT AUGUST NIGHTS IS THE PLACE
TO BE IN AUGUST, BUT IN NORTH TEXAS DACC DOES**

HOT TEXAS NIGHTS!

SATURDAY NIGHT AUGUST 21st

The annual car show in N Richland Hills is a DACC favorite, plan to join us for the 'Dinner Before The Show' at Joe's Pasta & Pizza, then take part in the car show hosted by the Christian Classic Cruisers each year!



DACC Feature Car

Tom & Jordana McGee
Plano, Texas



In September 1955 my Great Grandfather Vanny Summers walked into North State Chevrolet in Greensboro, North Carolina and bought a Glacier Blue 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air four door Sedan to take his family to Myrtle Beach and more importantly, tow his fishing boat. The sticker said \$2543.12, but he got a discount for paying cash and walked for \$2200. He drove the car on many trips to the beach and towing his fishing boat. No one remembers how big the boat was or how big the fish actually were that were caught but they do remember the boat had two motors, and we all know how important that is!

Vanny never washed his Chevy because he had a grandson that would do it for him. His grandson (and my Dad) Gerald McGee, liked to wash the car and it was a great way for Gerald to pay Vanny back

for breaking the rear window with a rock. Gerald loved the car and would pretend to drive it all day. As the years passed on eventually so did Vanny, and the car sat in a garage in front of a swordfish hanging on the wall that Vanny caught many years ago in the boat with two motors. Gerald would come by to see his grandmother and look at the car until one day Gerald decided he would drive it. After some hard work Gerald drove the car.

Eventually I was born and now Gerald had a son who he would pick up from school in the '55. It was my job to hold the antenna out the window, so we could all listen the radio. You see, Gerald did not want to drill a hole in the car for the antenna! In 1981 Gerald moved his family to Texas but had to leave the car behind so it sat in front of that big fish.



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Tri Five Chevy TECH HELP

Did you know that our club has two of the most knowledgeable minds in the Tri Five hobby? Don Andre and Larry Rollow have been there and done it in many areas of our Tri Five Chevys and there is a wealth of knowledge there, so remember if you ever need assistance whether it's a parts issue, how to do something, what should you do – anything, then contact either Don or Larry for assistance. They not only have a lot of hands on experience but are very willing to share and help you! Their contact information is on the front page of every newsletter. Here's just a sample of questions that you might have –

Question – On a '55-'57 car, how do I tell the difference between a 1 and 2 piece frame?

Answer – Look at the bottom of the main frame rail under the driver's door area. On 1-piece frames, the bottom of the frame will be perfectly smooth and flat. This frame is often but incorrectly called a 'California Frame'. The 1-piece design actually has nothing to do with California as it was used at all assembly plants in all parts of the United States. The 2-piece frame design has a rough weld seam right down the bottom center of the frame rail front to rear.

Question - I bought a '57 Chevy Bel Air 4 door hardtop from a guy several years ago that was a bare shell but he had all the parts in boxes. I'm trying to put the windshield in but it doesn't quite fit, the upper corners of the windshield don't curve towards the back as much as the car's roof does. There is about a 1/2 inch gap between the glass and the metal when the windshield is sitting in its place without the rubber seal on it and the gap only gets bigger when the seal is on the windshield. could i have the wrong windshield? Are 2 different windshields for a '57 Chevy?

Answer - The '57 Chevy 2dr hardtop, convertible, nomad, & 4dr hardtop all use the same windshield. The sedans and wagons use a different windshield. The '57 sedan and wagon windshields are 19 1/2" tall. The '57 Chevy 2dr hardtop, convertible, nomad, & 4dr hardtop windshields are only 18 5/8" tall.

Planning is well underway for the 2011 Lone Star '29' Tri Five Chevy Meet hosted by DACC next Memorial Day Weekend. BIG plans are being made and funding will be a key issue for the event as there will likely be more things we want than what we can pay for. If you have anything to offer the club in it's effort to make this the largest Lone Star yet, please contact David Graves at David@DallasClassicChevy.com. Perhaps you know someone in high places that might want to help by being a sponsor of the event. Perhaps you work for a company that has something that could be utilized for the event. We are open to ideas and suggestions on how to make this event the biggest yet! We are in need of a motor home to be used for security that we will have in the parking lot, golf carts are always handy, a killer sound system that can cover the entire parking lot is needed, the list is long. If you have anything or have contacts that might be of help, contact David! Watch the monthly newsletter and your weekly email for progress announcements as we get closer to next year's event!



2010 DACC DYNO CHALLENGE WON BY JOHN RUSH!

We had a good turnout of Tri Five Chevys at the Speedtek Performance Center in Haltom City in June for the 2010 DACC Dyno Challenge. Putting your car on the dyno provides so much information about horsepower curves, torque curves and air/fuel ratios and this opportunity to do it for less than half the normal cost brought out several members and their Chevys. No big blocks made the Challenge so it would come down to a small block that would take the top honors of Highest Horsepower. Each car had 3 pulls on the dyno and when the dust settled it was the '56 Chevy 210 Sedan of John Rush that took top honors. His 383 small block chevy cranked out a best of 302.75 HP with 365.08 ft/lbs of torque!



The complete rundown of 'Best' pulls on the dyno

Larry Epperson, Chevy P.U., 350 cid, T350 trans,
274.80 hp, 298 ft/lb torque

John Rush, 56 210 sedan, 383 cid, Tremec trans,
302.75 hp, 365.08 ft/lb torque

Marvin Cowden, 55 2d Bel Air sedan, 350 cid, auto 4
speed w/OD, 265.15 hp, 301.04 ft/lb torque

David Graves, 56 Vette, 350 cid, Tremec trans,
263.24 hp, 325.93 ft/lb torque

Greg Hedum, 55 2d Bel Air ht, 327 cid, Saginaw 4 spd,
198.14 hp, 294.82 ft/lb torque

Larry Epperson, 57 4d Bel Air ht, 350 cid, 700-R4
trans 231.00 hp, 284.11 ft/lb torque

Ralph Sandlin, 57 210 wagon, 350 cid, T400 trans,
219.10 hp, 266.93 ft/lb torque

Tom McGee Feature Car continued



In 1984 Gerald's grandmother died and he learned the car was to be sold. Gerald immediately drove back to North Carolina and towed the car back with his S10 Blazer (that had only one motor). Unfortunately the car sat and became a cat sanctuary for many years until Gerald found a man named Ray Trevathan, who helped bring the car back to showroom condition. (Note - Ray was one of DACC's original members and is sorely missed as he passed away in 2000). Gerard then gave the car to me on Father's Day, 1991.

I drove the car to high school and a few local shows. Eventually I was off to college, moved to Chicago and then California. The Ole '55 sat for many years in a garage under a cover. Eventually, I found my way back to Texas and soon picked the car up and put it in my garage. A month went by before I pulled the motor out and put in a new cam, heads and a little nitrous on the car. The car was back on the street receiving honks and thumbs up, but the story is not over. I have a three-year-old son, Mason that refers to the car as the 'vroom vroom' car and yells from the back "make it go!". Who knows, hopefully the car will be in the family for another fifty years!



Upcoming October DACC events!

It's July and it's hot outside! So think about the cooler air that we will have in October and remember it is our club's busiest month, mark your calendar and plan to have that Tri Five Chevy at these upcoming events this fall!

2010 FALL FOLIAGE TOUR

October 22-24, 2010

Ramada Inn
1700 W Hwy 76
Branson, MO 65616
Phone: 417-334-1000

DACC group trip coordinated by Bill & Diane Preston, call them for more info at 972-691-4968

50 rooms have been blocked for October 21-25, 2010 (dates are for early birds and those that might want to stay an extra day)

Cut off for room reservations is October 7, 2010

All rooms @ \$64.95++ for single & doubles

Group Name: Classic Chevy Club Fall Foliage

State Fair of Texas Tri Five Chevy Display

Saturday October 2nd 9AM to 6PM

DACC in the CLASSIC CORRAL

FREE ENTRY FOR YOU, FAMILY/FRIENDS TO THE STATE FAIR!

ALL TRI FIVES WELCOMED!

Contact **DAVID GRAVES** at David@DallasClassicChevy.com to be put on the list!

DRIVE IN MOVIE NIGHT CRUISE

Our annual cruise to Granbury and the Brazos Drive In, we leave at 2:45 PM in Arlington for the drive to Granbury, take in the square and Corvette Show, eat at BABES CHICKEN DINNER HOUSE and then hit the 'real deal' 50's era Brazos Drive In for the night's movie

SATURDAY OCTOBER 9th

OPEN TO ALL CARS, MAKES and CLUBS

Questions? Contact Greg Hedum at 972 539-9886

NOTHING LIKE SPENDING A COOL TEXAS EVENING UNDER THE STARS AT THE DRIVE IN WITH YOUR CHEVY!

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NEXT DACC EVENT
Arlington's July 4th Parade
Saturday July 3rd!

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