



CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

December 2010

Volume 34, Issue 12

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



www.DallasClassicChevy.com

PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381
Est 1976

Current Membership -167

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – David Graves
214 738-5231 term expires 12/11

Vice Pres – Greg Hedum
972 539-9886 term expires 12/10

Treasurer – Dean Schmidt
972 867-3255 term expires 12/10

Secretary – Larry Epperson
214 349-8439 term expires 12/11

Board Member - Dan Bunch
972 270-0461 term expires 12/10

Board Member - Alan Strong
972 624-8836 term expires 12/11

Board Member – George Johnson
817 457-3967 term expires 12/10

Appointed Positions

Tech Advisor - Larry Rollow
972-960-1408

Tech Advisor - Don Andre
817 481 3468

Membership Chairman
Bill Preston
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 WHEELCHAIR RAMP BUILDING THIS SATURDAY MORNING!

Professional carpenters not needed! ALL FAMILY MEMBERS WELCOMED TO HELP!

As our club has done for several years now each December, we again will be building wheelchair ramps at homes of those in need working with the Dallas Ramps organization. DACC's Greg Hedum is heading up our effort this year and HE NEEDS TO KNOW WHO WILL BE ATTENDING so that teams can be put together properly. ANYONE can help with this effort and if you have a 3/8 corded or cordless drill please bring that along with some gloves. You will assist in putting pre-made modules together under the direction of a team leader. This is a great opportunity to contribute to a very worthy cause at this special time of the year. We meet at 7:30AM at the back of the Freed's Furniture warehouse located at 4720 Simonton Road (near LBJ and Midway). We will load and depart from there at 8AM sharp to the work locations.

Normally we are done by no later than 1PM.

PLEASE NOTIFY GREG HEDUM IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND!

Call Greg at (972) 539-9886 to get on the list or if you have questions.

DACC CHRISTMAS PARTY THIS SATURDAY EVENING!

POT LUCK DINNER/DESSERTS AND WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE!

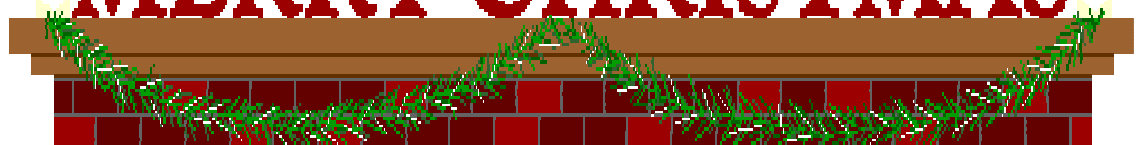
Saturday evening at 6 PM is the time for this year's Christmas Party, and a special THANKS goes to the Rollow's for offering up their home for our event. Larry and Jan live at 6245 Preston Creek Drive in Dallas just north of LBJ off of Preston Road. Bring your favorite dish using these guidelines -

**If your last name begins with the letter A -G bring an entree,
if your last name begins with H - N bring a side dish,
and if your last name begins with a M - Z bring a dessert.**

ALSO – bring a wrapped \$10 -\$15 gift that will be exchanged and swapped as we go through an eventful gift exchange with the group!

Have questions? Contact Larry or Jan Rollow at 972 960-1408

MERRY CHRISTMAS



BABY DOLL

Terry and Pamela Hitch's

'57 Nomad

Southlake, Texas



My interest in Nomads began in the late 60s when I was in the US Air Force, stationed at Langley Air Force Base in Newport News, Virginia. A friend was already a collector already having a '55 and a '57 and he would say "Hitch, you need to get a Nomad, they will be worth a lot someday." I never forgot that advice and never lost my interest in Nomads, but it did take me until May of 2008 to finally attain a precious Nomad.

First, as indicated by the VIN # VC57L206265 this Nomad was the last, or one of the very last (Tri Five) Nomad's to come off the LA assemble line in August of 1957. It spent its life in Southern California until it was purchased from a classic car dealer in Ramona, California in late July of 2000 by Charlie Hermansen. Charlie had it shipped to his home in Bend, Oregon and immediately recognized that it needed a complete body off frame

restoration. He chose American Automotive in Bend to perform a rotisserie restoration. Charlie began the restoration in Sept. 2000 and wrote the first two large checks. Unfortunately, Charlie very suddenly passed on in December of 2000 and the project was delayed until February of 2001 when Charlie's wife Linda and son Todd restarted the job. Lynda continued to fund the project in honor of Charlie, and Todd took over the management of the restoration working day to day with American Automotive. The Nomad was taken completely apart and put on a rotisserie. In November of 2005 the beautiful Tropical Turquoise Nomad was finished better than when it came off the assemble line in LA in August of 1957. Linda appropriately named this beautiful Nomad "Baby Doll."

*Terry Hitch Feature Car
Continued on Page 4*



2010 FALL FOLIAGE TOUR

story by Diane Preston



The Springfield Classic Chevy Club hosted the Fall Foliage Cruise this year in Branson, Missouri. There were 50 couples from five states attending the event. Most were driving their Classic Chevys. Counting the kids there were 104 people at the Saturday evening party. There were 14 new couples who had never attended the Fall Foliage Cruise before. At the Ramada Inn we had an entire building and parking lot to ourselves in this picturesque setting on Branson's main drag, Highway 76.

We left Flower Mound to drive to Branson on Friday morning and arrived about 3 pm without a drop of rain or mechanical problem all the way. BJ and Mini Butcher had driven on Thursday to stop and enjoy the sights and spend the night in Eureka Springs. Lots of people had gone up a day early to enjoy the shows and attractions at Branson. At 4 pm everyone took off for dinner together at McFarland's (see footnote 1). This is a great restaurant that can handle HUGE groups from bus tours, etc. We visited with old friends and met some new people too.

Friday evening we all went to see a show at the Dick Clark Theater, which was adjacent to our hotel. It was a fun program featuring legends in Rock & Roll. The current show featured impersonations of: George Strait, Marilyn Monroe, The Temptations, The Blues Brothers and Elvis.

Saturday morning all the cars lined up for the scenic cruise that had been planned through the Ozarks. Not trusting our Nomad (see footnote 1), we rode with BJ and Mini in their black '57 2-door sedan and had fun visiting and enjoying the scenery. We went south out of Branson, down the back roads of Arkansas through Blue Eye,

Berryville and Alpena, with a great lunch stop at Shoney's and some shopping time in Harrison. Then the tour headed back toward Branson through Olvey, Harmon, Pyatt, Snow, Lead Hill and Omaha, Arkansas on another scenic route. Most of the cars were back at the hotel before it started raining.

There were no set dinner plans for the group, so we were free to enjoy all that Branson had to offer. Bill and I happened to have family in town, so we had dinner with them and enjoyed a family birthday with ten relatives.

The whole Chevy group filled the hotel party room at 8 pm for snacks, announcements, visiting, gift exchange and games. This is a great time to enjoy a spirited game of Mexican Train, Chicken Foot, Poker or FARKLE!!! BJ and Mini are BIG Farkle fans and are gradually getting more and more of us hooked every year!

Sunday morning everyone took their time having breakfast at the hotel, loading their cars, and saying their farewells around the parking lot. A few stayed until 1pm working on our Nomad (see footnote 2). Springfield members, Don and Loneta Sunderland from Rockaway Beach, let us use their garage with a lift to repair the Nomad. BJ Butcher (DACC) and Larry Myers from Oklahoma City stayed on to help with the repair. Larry followed us back to Tulsa where we spent Sunday night with our son. We drove on into Dallas Monday morning without a hitch.

Thanks to Jan and Wendell Royster and Angie and Vern Vire of the Springfield Club for organizing a great weekend event.

Next year this event will be October 21-23, 2011. It will be hosted by the Classic Chevy of Oklahoma from Tulsa at the Fairfield Inn, 2107 S.E. Washington Blvd., Bartlesville, OK so make plans now to be a part of this great event!

Footnote 1 - Ethanol Gas and Your Carburetor!!!

We've had problems with the "NEW" gas in our Classic Chevys before. During this trip to Branson we had BIG problems. The accelerator on our Edelbrock 650 stuck wide open several times on the way to dinner Friday night. Bill suspected broken motor mounts, but that didn't seem evident. With the air cleaner removed the carburetor was splashing out fuel. The local Missouri Chevy guys testified that they had LOTS of problems with gunk building up, and their carburetor parts being corroded by the water in the Ethanol fuel. Saturday morning Bill, Wendell Royster, Larry Myers, BJ Butcher and several of the other Chevy guys got up early and took our carburetor apart, cleaned the black gunk out of it, and polished the metering rods that had become etched. They did this all in the parking lot on the tail gate of Wendell's Cameo Pickup.

This was a REAL eye opener! Our gas mileage had fallen several miles per gallon in recent years, and it was obvious why.

We got two more miles to the gallon coming home from Branson,



Terry Hitch Feature Car Continued from Page 2

Fast forward to April of 2008, I had just retired from Eastman Kodak after 34 years of corporate life and lots of corporate travel and at last able to put together a serious effort to find a Nomad. While surfing through eBay and the Nomad listings there was "Baby Doll" in all her glory and only 2,050 miles since the every nut and bolt restoration. Of course, I knew that this was my Nomad and the bidding and negotiations began and finished in May of 2008. This great piece of rolling automotive art was delivered to its new home in Southlake, Texas in early June of 2008. Linda included lots of restoration pictures and a bundle of restoration receipts was tied up in a pink and white ribbon.

Since then, this unique Nomad has been to many car shows and many special occasion events. With still only a little over 3,000 miles since it's restoration, its better than new. On October 3, 2010 "Baby Doll" won the "Good Guys Pick" award at the Good Guy Lone Star Nationals. This was a humbling honor!



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www.DallasClassicChevy.com

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at David@DallasClassicChevy.com or 214 738-5231

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ELECTION RESULTS!

Last month at the DACC Annual Meeting, several Board positions were up for election. Several signed up for another term and one new face joined the group that runs the club.

Dan Bunch elected to step aside and in his place a new face joined the 7 member Board of Directors of DACC. Marvin Cowden of Grand Prairie joins the board and his enthusiasm is sure to rub off on others! And special thanks to Dan for serving on the board the past several years.

Also, Greg Hedum from Flower Mound is back as VP as is Dean Schmidt of Plano as Treasurer and Board member George Johnson from Arlington.



MARVIN COWDEN JOINS DACC BOARD

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

880
Randy & Mary Riddle
5711 Pinnacle Circle
Sachse, TX 75048
2-'57 Chevy cars
1-'57 Chevy 1 1/2 ton truck

881
David & Joann Hudson
PO Box 541864
Grand Prairie, TX 75054
'55 2 dr Bel Air Hardtop

882
Hank & Melanie Crosby
4551 Donegal Drive
Frisco, TX 75034
'55 2 dr Bel Air Hardtop

Fall Foliage Tour Continued from Page 3



than we'd been getting. Bill says he'll be taking the carburetor apart and cleaning it every year or two going forward. It had been on for six years and we've put 40,000 miles on it.

(NOTE – Check your March 2009 DACC Heartbeat Newsletter for more details about fuel issues from a Tech Story that appeared in that issue – find it on the club website under the 'Newsletters' link)

Footnote 2 - Motor Mount Strikes !!!

When leaving the Ramada Inn in Branson on Friday night, we were on a hill, turning left into traffic and the broken motor mount(s) caused us to accelerate out into traffic. It took all the braking power the Nomad had (4-wheel power discs) to control it, before Bill could get the automatic transmission into neutral.

After rebuilding the carburetor, thinking that was the problem (see footnote 1), we quickly realized that the acceleration problem wasn't fixed. All 30 mechanics on hand agreed that it was most likely the motor mounts. BJ Butcher went to get the new transmission and left-side engine mount for us Saturday night. Springfield members, Don and Loneta Sunderland from nearby Rockaway Beach, let us use their garage with a lift to repair the Nomad. BJ Butcher (DACC) and Larry Myers from Oklahoma City stayed on to help with the repair. Bill carefully drove the Nomad to the garage, trying not to accelerate too radically. Bill, Wendell, BJ and Larry Myers spent the morning putting in the new mounts, after returning to O'Reilly's for the CORRECT sized ones. At 1 pm Sunday, Wendell and Jan headed home to Springfield, BJ and Mini headed south toward Little Rock and I-30, and Larry and Annette followed us down I-44 to Tulsa where we stopped for the night at our son's.

Another bonus of all the experienced mechanics' eyes checking out the Nomad was that BJ noticed that the lower control arm bushings were also worn out. So that's on the list of things to do to the Nomad before the next long trip to the Nomad Convention in Dayton, Ohio next year. One of the great things about these trips is that if something goes wrong, there are lots of experienced Classic owners on hand to share their knowledge, tools and talent! Thanks everyone!!!

MAKE PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR'S CLASSIC CHEVY FALL FOLIAGE TOUR

*Hosted by the Classic Chevy Club of Tulsa Okla
October 14-16 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma
Fairfield Inn - \$71 per night
Hotel 918 331-2100*



2011 LONE STAR 2011 CLASSIC CHEVY CONVENTION

The Biggest Tri-Five Chevy Show in Texas!

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2011

MAY 27, 28, 29

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FEATURING:

LONE STAR CLASSIC CHEVY CONVENTION

"Drag Races" - "Show - N - Shine" - "Drive-In Movie Night" - "Indy 500 Watching Party" - "Swap Meet" - "Tours" and More!

The DACC hosted 29th Annual Lone Star Classic Chevy Convention planning is well underway and we will be looking for YOU to help run this event. We will be expecting over 225 '55-'57 Chevys in town for this huge Tri Five Chevy event next May. The FULL 3 day weekend event will feature the most aggressive calendar and fun filled weekend ever for a Lone Star Convention and frankly the best bang for the buck ever for any classic car event.

Our dedicated Lone Star Committee heads are key to making this happen and many of them have been working hard to get their particular area of responsibility planned out. With that they have been identifying areas where they will need help, and next month look for details where you can assist. We want to 'spread the work out' so that no one has to work all the time and everyone can enjoy the weekend event. By donating a few hours of your time during the weekend will make this load less for others so they can enjoy the event.

Funding is another key to the success of the event. To date we have signed up Painless Wiring, Wilson Auto Repair, Authentic Automotive, Reliable Chevrolet and the Irving Convention and Visitors Bureau as event sponsors. We are seeking more companies to partner with so if you can assist with our efforts to obtain sponsors, please contact David Graves. There are also advertising opportunities in the event 'Program' that helps generate cash for the event so if you have a business that would like to advertise, again contact David.

For all the details on the Lone Star '29' event – be sure to check the website for the event at



www.LoneStarChevvs.com

WRENCHES

(Wacky Retirees Enjoying Neat Chevys, Hot rods, Engines & Stuff)

DACC MEMBERS HELPING DACC MEMBERS WITH THEIR TRI FIVE CHEVY PROJECTS!
GET ON THE LIST IF YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR '55,'56 or '57 CHEVY

Bill Preston (972 691-4968) and Don Andre (817 481-3468) are the contact points for the DACC WRENCHES program. If you need help with your Tri Five Chevy, contact Bill or Don and they will get you on the schedule for help. Please give 2-4 weeks notice if possible so that the WRENCHES can be organized for your project.

Work sessions are at the car owner's garage or at a volunteer's garage. AND you don't have to be retired to participate!

And if you don't think you have any skills for a scheduled project, then plan to come along and help anyhow, that is how you can learn!

Our club is extremely fortunate to have the knowledge and talent that we have. There is literally a powerhouse of know how about Tri Five Chevys that is known nationally in our club and this WRENCHES program is our effort to put it to work for the benefit of our members!

Recently club member John Yoby needed assistance with his '55 Chevy project. Here is his note of thanks for getting the body and frame back together again!

My thanks goes out to all the members that showed up to help set the body to the frame on my '55 Chevy. Having the help of the club members is an invaluable tool and once again I have to say "Thanks Guys"!

The effort went well after removing the rear wheels from the frame to slid it under the body. It was a snap until it was time to reinstall the wheels. At that time I learned what it means to have a tubbed ride if you want to use big wheels and lower you car. Using 215/70's on 8" Corvette wheels with 3" lowering blocks just won't work. You can put the wheels on then put the lowering blocks on. But if you have a flat you better hope you brought some seal-a-wheel and hope it works because to change the tire the blocks have to come off first! Well I did put the 3" blocks on and it looks good sitting in the garage, no nails in there! And for the third time "THANKS GUYS"!!!!!!!

John Yoby



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