



CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

March 2005

Volume 29, Issue 3

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



PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381

www.DallasClassicChevy.com
founded 1976

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **President – David Graves**
214 738-5231 term expires 12/05
- **Vice Pres – Marvin Johnson**
214 352-9132 term expires 12/06
- **Treasurer – Dean Schmidt**
972 867-3255 term expires 12/06
- **Secretary – Greg Hedum**
972 539-9886 term expires 12/05
- **Board Member - Larry Rollow**
972 960-1408 term expires 12/06
- **Board Member - Bill Preston**
972 691-4968 term expires 12/05
- **Board Member - John Rush**
972 517-4247 term expires 12/06

Appointed Positions

- **Tech Advisor - Larry Rollow**
972-960-1408
- **Webmaster - Kevin Brown**
972 889-7233

1st Quarter Meeting / '55-'57 Chevy Show Saturday, March 12th at 2PM Reliable Chevrolet - Richardson

We will meet at Reliable Chevrolet in Richardson this Saturday at 2PM to welcome visitors to the club from Dallas, Ft Worth and all areas of North Texas. We will have an informal car show among the cars present at our meeting with 'Best' awards going to each year, truck and corvette. Reliable has meeting facilities that we can use and we will have a business meeting inside. This is our first function at our new sponsor's location so please plan to attend and support this effort! There will be many new 'old' cars to look at and new 'new' cars with new members attending and several old members showing off their recently finished cars, so don't miss it! Reliable Chevrolet is easy to find on Central Expressway at Arapaho in Richardson. Hot dogs and cold drinks will be provided by Reliable!!! Check the club website in case of rainy weather.



DACC is in the news!

If you missed it, try to grab last Saturday's **Dallas Morning News** and check out the front page of the Automotive section. There you will see a great picture of Dean Schmidt's '57, John Rush's '56, Lewis Reynold's '55 and Bill Preston's '57 Vette and a story about this coming Saturday's event at Reliable. Also, in the weekend **Guide** next Friday in the Dallas Morning News, there will be a mention with photos about the Saturday event. Finally, **KLUV Oldies 98.7** will be on the air live from noon to 2 PM on Saturday at our event! Come early, there will be lot's going on!



Reliable Chevrolet Offers DACC Members Discounts!

As part of their support to the DACC, Reliable will offer the following discounts for members of the club -

- 1) **Fleet pricing** on any new or used vehicle (can not be a high demand / low supply vehicle). Sales Manager Jeff Power is your contact.
- 2) **Parts will be cost plus 25%, crate motors and large ticket items, cost plus 10%** Parts Manager Jerry Lewis is your contact. Note that high performance parts and special order parts are non returnable.

Jeff Power states that Reliable is very excited about being a part of the club and he wants our members to feel like a part of the Reliable family. By offering such generous discounts, that goal is accomplished! THANK YOU Reliable Chevrolet!!!!

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MEMBER'S PRIDE

Joe and Jennifer Gaikoski
1956 Convertible
Carrollton, TX



I HAVE YOUR CAR!!

When I was 19 years old I owned this 1956 Chevy Convertible. I put in a 1960 corvette 283 cubic inch engine with new heads and carburetors along with traction bars and floor shifted 3-speed transmission. As a young man I had a lot of fun with this car. I turned my best quarter mile time of 14.96 and 96 mph with my hot rod convertible. I had to sell it when I reached 22 due to being laid off from my job. For years I have wished many times that I had this car back!



In 2003, about three months before going on a vacation trip to Niagara Falls, I told my wife Jennifer that I wished I had kept this car in a barn. We went on vacation in June 2003 and stopped in Ohio on our way to Niagara Falls and I picked up a magazine that said Ohio Classic Cars for sale. I saw this car as I have seen others from time to time and I noticed that this car was expensive and had a dual carburetor 265 cubic inch engine, new paint and chrome. I thought I would call.

The car was at a classic car shop in Painsville, Ohio about 50 miles from my old home in Akron, Ohio. I asked the man to tell me about the car and he said he pulled a 1960 corvette motor from it and welded the hole in the floor because it had a 3 or 4 speed floor shift in it. I told

him I did that to a '56 Chevy and it seemed to shock him. I asked if there was some weld marks on the frame about 18-24" ahead of the tires and he said yes. Then he said, "I have your car" and I replied, "Yes, you do!"

In October of 2003, I took possession of my Chevy - again. One of the most distinctive things about my convertible today is the two four barrel intake with the famous batwing air cleaner. This car I now have in my garage, minus my G.T.O. (sold for down payment).



**Look for more photos
of this month's
feature car on our
website**



Dallas Autorama - Big Time in Big D!

Wow... this event turned out great for our club and we were exposed to more eyeballs during one weekend than in recent memory. Not only did we have a super display of '55 Chevys, which may be the first '55 Chevy celebration of the Golden Anniversary of this model in the world, but we had several other members with their cars scattered all over Market Hall showing. Then to top it off, **Channel 8's morning news program** did multiple segments throughout their TV program on Friday morning of the show, showing our '55 Chevys, talking to the owners of these '55 Chevys and giving DACC exposure it has never had before! This video should be on the club website for viewing. This was a great event for the club and those that contributed need to be recognized and thanked as this was definitely a team effort that produced big results. Kevin Brown headed up getting everyone entered and in place and put a great display together, Dean Schmidt single handedly assembled and painted for the club a group of stanchions for the club that we will be able to use for years to come, Greg Hedum reproduced and enlarged several '55 advertisements and our new club sponsor Reliable Chevrolet and Sales Manager Jeff Power financially supported this great lineup of our seven top notch '55 Chevys. Those in the 50th Birthday of the 1955 Chevy display were Ron Davis, Greg Hedum, Sharkey Nelson, Lewis Reynolds, Jeff Smith, Steve Pratt and our club brother from the Houston Classic Chevy Club Sonny Poteet. Also displaying their cars were Dean Schmidt ('57 Chevy), Larry Rollow ('57 Chevy AND teardrop travel trailer), John Rush ('56 Chevy) and Bill Preston ('56 Nomad) who was in the Super Chevy Magazine display. In Saturday's Dallas Morning News, Terry Fox wrote a nice article about the small block chevy and it's impact that appeared on the front page of the business section that quoted David Graves, mentioned our club and even John Rush's '56 was visible in the color photograph related to the story. Those members that worked the club booth during the weekend spoke to **many** visitors and handed out flyers for our March 12th meeting at Reliable. The weekend was a undeniable success. Thanks to all who contributed and made it possible. Next year..... the 50th Birthday of the '56 Chevy!!!!

WELCOME TO DACC

The newest members to join the club

685
Joseph and Betty Helton
470 Mosswood
Highland Village, TX 75077
'57 210 Chevy Sedan
'57 Cameo

687
Kenneth and Sue Taylor
3438 S State Highway 78
Bonham, TX 75418
'55 Bel Air hardtop

686
Dennis and Laurie Gormley
6408 Cooper Place
Plano, TX 75093
'55 Sedan Pro Street

688
Alan and Jodi Strong
4528 Ridgepointe Dr.
The Colony, TX 75056
'57 150 Sedan



THIS AND THAT

The swap meet and weekly car show season is upon us, and you will be kept up to date with all the happenings in the area with the weekly DACC email !! Make sure you are on the club email list by sending your email address to info@DallasClassicChevy.com and hats off to John Rush Photography for sponsoring this program for the club!

DACC is considering hosting a new open car show in July, to be held annually at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine, Dean Schmidt is heading up the effort and we should know more soon!

New DACC logo shirts are now available for \$35 each and includes embroidering your first name on the shirt, in a variety of colors and also men's and women's styles, check them out at the March Meeting! Also we have club hats, additional car decals and more!



2005 - Golden Anniversary of the '55 Chevy!!

Brief History and misc facts

Part One

The '55 Chevy is unique and collectable for many reasons. It was then during the late 40's and early 50's that the automotive design world was prime for innovation. By 1953, America's automotive buyers were looking for cars with fins. The early tail fins were styled after World War II propeller planes. The jet age was upon us by the mid 50's and the rear fins on the new models looked more like the streamlined tails of the latest jet fighters. The 1955 Chevy was the first of the GM cars to sport jet age fins that were small, streamlined and clean. The front of the cars had a 'forward lean' to their design. This forward lean could be seen in the headlight styling and forward grill angle of this new Chevy. The 1955 Chevy front end had the feeling of speed and was styled to look like a jet intake. Responsible for this unique styling was Clare MacKichan, who headed the GM Chevy Design Studio that developed the '55 Chevy styling. The '55 Chevy was instant success and lead the way for the next three years of milestone Chevy design. The '56 and '57 Chevys became cars sought after when they were new and collectible at time went by.

One of the biggest features that the '55 Chevy offered was the new small block V8 engine, which is the basis of today's Chevrolet powerplant. This gave the new '55 Chevy something that no other car had, a fast and powerful engine that complimented the innovative styling of the car itself. This 265 cubic inch V8 engine was 40 pounds lighter and 30 per cent more powerful than the Blue Flame 235 cubic inch 6 cylinder engine being offered. With the Carter four-barrel carburetor, this V8 produced 180 horsepower.

As for offerings of models, there was a One-Fifty, Two-Ten, and Bel Air. The One-Fifty was the least expensive, with minimal chrome features and comforts. The One-Fifty had no side trim or bright moldings around the windshield. Only a small Chevrolet script on the front fender



was featured. The Two-Ten series was a step up from the One-Fifty model. On this model, designers added a smart, horizontal sweep spear molding with a slash molding that angled up to the dip at the beltline on the quarter panel. This model also featured windshield and rear moldings along with side window sill moldings. Inside the Two-Ten was carpeted floors and offered better seat coverings. The Bel Air model was the premiere series for '55 Chevys. This Bel Air featured premium seat coverings, carpet and featured additional interior and exterior trim. Also offered were Convertible models, station wagons and the legendary Nomad station wagon.

Other significant features of the '55 Chevy is the frame. One of the goals for Chevrolet in '55 was to reduce weight. This new '55 frame was the same 115 inch wheelbase but was 18 percent lighter and twice as stiff as the '54 frame. Also for the first time, 12 volt batteries were used, replacing the 6 volt systems.

Many options could be purchased as part of a '55 Chevy when new. These included electric wiper motor, an optional oil filter (standard engines did not come with one), power steering and brakes, continental kit

spare tire, wonderbar radio, windshield washers, seat belts among other items.

Over 1.7 million '55 Chevys were produced. Chevrolet did a great job of taking a car that lacked personality and turning it into a head turner with movie star looks and race car performance. The '55 Convertible in Gypsy Red and India Ivory two tone paint paced the 1955 Indianapolis 500 and the new V8 engine set many NASCAR records beating many higher priced V8 powered cars. The drag strips became proving grounds for hopped up '55 Chevys and soon would dominate the quarter mile. It was on November 23, 1954 that Chevrolet produced it's 50 millionth car, a 1955 Chevrolet!



Chevrolet's *red-hot* hill-flatteners!



Dallas Area Classic Chevys 2005 Schedule of Events

February 11-13 * Dallas Autorama,
Market Hall - Dallas, TX

March 4-6 * Ft Worth Rod and
Custom Show, Will Rogers
Complex, Ft Worth, TX

**March 12 Saturday 2PM *
DACC Membership
Meeting, 1st Quarter Meeting
and 55-57 Chevy Show at
Reliable Chevrolet,
Richardson, TX**

**April 10 Sunday * DACC Drag
Racing, Tx Muscle Car Club
Challenge, Texas Motorplex, Ennis,
TX - gates open 8AM, \$30 per
entrant, spectators \$12 - more info at**

www.tmccc.org

**May 1 Sunday * DACC Spring
Cruise, Dr Pepper Tour, Dublin, TX**

**May 13-15 * Lone Star XXIV Classic
Chevy Convention, Victoria, TX**

**June 12 Sunday * DACC Dyno
Challenge and 2nd Quarter Meeting,
Velocity Performance, Carrollton, TX**

**July 10 Sunday * DACC Summer
Cruise, Pelican's Landing at Lake
Texoma, meet with the Ok City Classic
Chevy Club**

**August 20 Saturday * DACC Show
Event, Christian Classic Cruisers,
Haltom City**

**September 17 Saturday * DACC 3rd
Quarter Meeting and Classic Chevy
Show, Reliable Chevrolet, Richardson**

**October 8 Saturday Night * DACC
Drive In Movie Night, Brazos Drive
In, Granbury**

**October 21-23 Fri-Sun * 12th Classic
Chevy Fall Foliage Tour, Wagoner,
OK hosted by CCC of Okla**

**November 13 Sunday * DACC 4th
Quarter Meeting and Annual
Elections, TBD**

**December 11 Saturday Night *
DACC Christmas Party, Dean and
Audrey Schmidt's home in Plano**

April DACC Event

*DACC Drag Racing!
Texas Motorplex
Hwy 287, Ennis, Texas*

The Dallas Area Classic Chevys will have a drag racing event on **Sunday April 10th** at the Texas Motorplex in Ennis. We will participate in the Texas Muscle Car Club Challenge event schedule that day and everyone is invited to race their Classic Chevy! We will have a brief 'How to Race' meeting, run time trials and then run handicap eliminations. The slowest car in the bunch could win this thing with the handicaps! So come out and have some fun with us at this event! Get more info at www.tmccc.org

MAY DACC SPRING CRUISE

On **May 1st Sunday** will be the DACC Spring Cruise to Dublin, TX and the oldest Dr Pepper bottling plant (that happens to be the only one that uses *real pure cane sugar*). We will meet at a location to be decided at 10:30 AM and leave promptly at 11 for Brownwood for lunch at Underwood's BBQ and then a stop in Dublin. We should be back to Dallas no later than 5:30.

Dallas Autorama and Ft Worth Rod and Custom Show Photo and Video Highlights

Can be seen on the club website. Lots of great cars and a great TV segment on the '55 Chevy Birthday by Channel 8's Mike Castellucci, 'The Why Guy' on Daybreak can all be seen at www.DallasClassicChevy.com

Membership Dues

Your membership renewal date is on your mailing label in the TOP RIGHT CORNER, listed by month and year. Please send your dues in to DACC, PO Box 814642, Dallas, TX 75381. \$25 per year. Your membership will be dropped if you fall 2 months delinquent, so don't hesitate and miss out on the fun this year that you can have with us in your Chevy!





PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381

Name
Address
City, State Zip

1st Class Mail

	<p>Stoked Out Specialties 777 Riding Club Rd. Rockwall, Texas 75087 972.772.0146 www.StokedOutSpecialties.com</p> <p>Sponsor of the Dallas Area Classic Chevys</p>	<p>We are located in Rockwall, Texas just east of Dallas. Our 18,000 square foot shop contains all the necessary facilities to produce the complete vehicle. Our staff not only focuses on the artistic aspects of a project, but the function, safety and serviceability as well. We are a full service shop, capable of helping you with everything from a complete build up to simply an upgrade or alteration on your current street or show car or truck. Please stop by and visit anytime and see what's in the shop!</p>
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<p>For ALL of your Chevrolet needs, stop and visit 'The North Texas Chevy Store'</p> <p>Reliable Chevrolet offers special pricing for DACC members and wants to help you find your New or Pre-Owned Vehicle!</p>		<p>RELIABLE CHEVROLET <i>The North Texas Chevy Store</i></p> <p>800 North Central Expressway Richardson, Texas 75080 972-952-1500 www.ReliableChev.com</p> <p>Sponsor of the Dallas Area Classic Chevys</p>
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