



# CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

July 2006

Volume 30, Issue 7

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



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membership -113

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## DACC SUMMER CRUISE To Muenster, Texas

We will eat at  
'The Center'  
Restaurant  
In Muenster

Leave at Noon  
this SUNDAY  
from the Braums  
in Lewisville

The club is 'Cruising to Muenster, Texas' to enjoy a good meal at 'The Center Restaurant' this Sunday! This should be a great driving event to a unique Texas town with a German heritage. At Noon we will meet at the Braum's Ice Cream at Fox Avenue and Interstate 35E in Lewisville and from there drive up Interstate 35 to Gainesville and then west to Muenster. Plan to join us as we caravan our tri five chevys on yet another driving event to a unique day drive from the DFW metromess!

### COMING IN AUGUST

#### DACC at Christian Classic Cruisers 'HOT AUGUST NIGHTS SHOW' !

The monthly CCC Show normally sees several hundred cars of all makes and models. In August DACC plans to make the '55-'57 Chevys the dominate car at their August event! Plan to join us Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup> in Hurst, TX from 8PM to Midnight!! - complete details in next months 'Classic Heartbeat' newsletter!

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July's  
Member's Pride

Mark and Anita Lamkin  
Southlake, Texas



## 'Coming Home'

**Most of us dream** of the fond memories and the great cars that we had in our youth. We long to recapture those memorable times by finding and restoring a car similar to the one we loved so long ago. Who can forget the girl, and the car that meant so much to us way back then. This is such a story, but with a slightly different twist.

In 1967, I was an Infantry Company Commander living with my wife and college sweetheart Anita stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas. In those days, most young men had a few other things on their mind in addition to cars and girls. I got a call from my dad, who was working at Paul Swint Motors in Ft. Worth. He had a pretty clean '55 Chevy hardtop that

could be had for \$700. Well, Anita and I drove the car back to Ft. Hood and the story begins.

The 327 was nice, and a \$20 4-speed from the car of my platoon Sargent added a nice touch. He was about to have his car repossessed, and thought it would make no difference if it went back to the bank with a 3 speed - especially if I did all the work. In 1967 career Army sergeants had more to worry about than credit ratings.

By May of 1968 Uncle Sam was done with me, and I found Ft. Hood fading out of sight in my rear view mirror as we headed north on

I-35 in my '55 Chevy. Once back in Arlington, I added a two four barrel intake system and a 4:56 Posi rear end, but my wife thought it a little cumbersome to drive on her daily trek to work. I got an offer of \$1500 for the car, so I sadly took the deal. With gas at the outrageous price 32.9 cents a gallon, and Anita and I wanting to start a family, the little Bel Air needed a new home. I was even willing to take payments. I handed the gentleman the title with instructions to go to the county courthouse and transfer the title. Life moved on, and my little '55

**Continued on page 3**



was history, but always in my memory.

Fast forward twenty six years to March of 1994. I got a call and it was Richard Holland, the owner of Classic Parts in Arlington. He knew how much I loved those old 1955 Chevys, and he had one that he thought I might be interested in taking a look at. He noted it was a little rough, but I knew these models were starting to get a bit rare. My temperature was only luke warm, and after three days he called back. "Mark, you really need to come look at this car", said Richard. My response was "I've seen plenty of '55's, what's so special about this one?" I nearly dropped the phone when Richard asked, "Did you used to live at 600 West Hallmark in Killeen, Texas? He didn't just have a '55 Chevy, he had MY '55 Chevy. Seems as though the car had bounced around a little, making the local drag strips and such, but never changing the title into anyone else's name.

Well, I had no trouble with the title because I just changed it to my current address. Times and costs have changed over the years. The interior cost more than I paid for the car in 1967. I got a few bids on a 'frame-off', and then began to wear out my checkbook. A nitrous boosted 750 cfm carb on top of a ZZ4 crate 350 adds a little punch, and air conditioning makes it practical to drive my '55 in Texas. I took delivery of my completely restored 1955 Chevy hardtop on the morning of my 35<sup>th</sup> High School Reunion. And, yes, I did arrive at the reunion that evening with the same lady that I drove back from Ft. Hood on that warm day in May of 1968. I may have gained a few pounds and lost a little hair, but 37 years later, I have the same car and the same lovely wife.



1967 in Ft Hood, Texas



2006 in Southlake, Texas

## Welcome New Members

747  
Ron and Vicki Burdett  
4000 Ace Lane, #233  
Lewisville, TX 75067  
'57 4dr Wagon  
'57 4dr Sedan

748  
Mark and Pam Walker  
1512 Brentwood Trail  
Keller, TX 76248  
'55 210 2dr Sedan

079 (WELCOME BACK to the club!)  
Bennie and Margie Zimmerman  
4116 Creekdale Dr  
Dallas, TX 75229  
'55 Convertible  
'57 2 dr hardtop  
'57 Cameo

## DACC Celebrates 30 years! 1976 - 2006 It Happened in July in DACC History

... in 2001, DACC Treasurer Kirk Dibble unexpectedly passed away this month ...

... in 2000, Ray Trevathan, one of the original members of DACC and known nationally for his high quality restored '57 Chevys passed away ...

... In 1980, DACC is featured in the national Classic Chevy World magazine with club founder Greg Easley's '55 on the cover and 31 members cars featured inside ...

... In 1991, DACC is again featured in the Classic Chevy World magazine, with BJ Bucher's '57 on the cover and 39 member's cars featured inside ...

... in 1985, DACC plays host to the Classic Chevy National Convention at the Lincoln Hotel across from the Galleria, over 300 cars entered and Long Distance went to a '55 from Alaska! ...



## Lone Star XXIV Recap

*Continued from last month*

*We pick up on Saturday morning May 6<sup>th</sup> from this year's Lone Star event hosted by DACC*

Saturday found just a few last minute registrations and classifications for the Show-N-Shine judging competition that was to take place later that day. Lone Star major sponsor Painless Performance was on hand to do a seminar on wiring your tri five Chevy and Lance Packard did a great job discussing their products and addressing questions from the group of participants that turned out to listen and learn!

Soon after that, the highlight of the weekend – the Show-N-Shine Judging – was about to get underway. Cars were in place and parked in somewhat tight quarters but with the cooperation among all the participants we got them all in place and on display for the judges to do their thing! Again, with the leadership provided by Pete Swatasky, he organized the judges and handed out assignments to the teams. It was officially underway as the judges had 90 beautiful '55-'57 Chevys to judge using the well developed 1000 point judging method developed by the old Classic Chevy Club. Judging is strictly to determine where a car will place in a perfect world of 1000 points, not to determine 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places. One of the major strengths of this judging is that the competition is against the judge sheet and not against fellow car enthusiasts. Depending on where your car scores you may receive a Bronze, Silver, Gold or the highest Certificate Platinum. During the judging event, rain showers began to be a threat, and so while most of the judging was complete, some cars did not totally get judged. Regardless the judging committee awarded weighted averages to those parts of the judging that might not have been

actually judged due to the rain threat. The cars were moved across the street to the covered parking and yes, the rains did arrive eventually.

With a bit of a break and downtime after the Show-N-Shine, everyone took time to eat, visit and hangout until the Rock-N-Roll Dance. Originally scheduled to take place in the parking lot with the cars, the rain forced us to use our backup plan, which was to hold it inside one of the hotel ballrooms. The band Tandom2 provided the tunes all night and put on a great show! The door prizes that had been collected for the event were passed out via random drawing during breaks that evening and many people benefited from that! Prizes ranged from \$100 Gift Certificates from Classic Chevy International, SoftSeal, Dirty Joe's Chrome Shop to a complete wiring harness from Painless Performance and a Tri Five AC unit from Classic Auto Air! This ended what was a long and eventful day #2 on Lone Star XXIV!

Sunday on the schedule was the complimentary breakfast buffet (and what a breakfast it was!) along with the 'Awards Presentation'. A very committed and dedicated group of DACC members worked from the end of judging on Saturday evening to the very beginning of the Awards on Sunday to get the difficult task of judge sheet tallying completed. Along with the preparation of the Certificates and Plaques for each of the Highest Score of each class judged, there was a multimedia presentation put together to recognize each certificate winner as the awards were presented. This process literally kept a number of our members up all night to see it to the completion in time for the 8:30 AM awards on Sunday morning! Each table in the ballroom was decorated with very nicely prepared Tri Five Chevy cardboard centerpieces with the Lone Star XXIV logo and gave this the last scheduled event of Lone Star XXIV the feel of the first class

event that is was! With the schedule calling for a 8:30 – 10:30 window for breakfast and the awards, we quickly went through and dished out all of the certificates and awards and officially brought the 2006 Lone Star Classic Chevy Convention to a close!

This event sent a statement that the 'tri five' community is stronger than ever in the collector car hobby. In the past, all of the national 'conventions' were Tri Five only events and even some of the recent Lone Star events have varied from the 'Tri Five only' theme by allowing anybody to show up. While it is great to see all cars at events, there are many events that fill that role. Our Lone Star event began and was for many years a Tri Five Chevy only event – as it should be. This 2006 event goes down as perhaps the best Lone Star Convention ever in it's 24 years, and it was done with a dedicated group of '55-'57 Chevy enthusiasts hosting it and it was open to only '55-'57 Chevy cars, trucks and corvettes. This just proves that our 'Classic Chevys' are unique, special and deserve their own events and clubs, just as other special collector cars have. With Tri Five Chevy only events in places like Mississippi, Tennessee and Washington this year, only the Tri Five Chevy event Washington hosted by the Northwest Classic Chevy Club is larger than what we produced here in Texas. Hopefully this year's Lone Star event will once again re-establish this event as 'THE' event for tri five Chevys and again bring the community of '55-'57 Chevys together each and every year for years to come! And who knows, we may see Lone Star take the title as the largest Tri Five Chevy event in the world!

*Next year make your plans, Lone Star XXV is on May 3, 4, 5, 2007 hosted by the Central Texas Classic Chevy Club in Austin. More details as we get them!*



## DACC SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**July 9** - Sunday, DACC Summer Cruise to Muenster, Texas, we leave at Noon from the Braum's in Lewisville (located on the east side of I-35E at Fox Avenue)

**August 19** - Saturday, DACC Car Show Event, Christian Classic Cruisers, 8PM to midnight, N Richland Hills, Texas

**September 9** - Saturday, DACC Classic Chevy Show and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Meeting, 2PM - 4PM at Reliable Chevrolet in Richardson, Texas

**October 7** - Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Drive In Movie Night, Brazos Drive In Theatre, Granbury, Texas

**October 20-22** - Fall Foliage Tour, Branson, MO, Hotel is Quality Inn (417) 335-6776 \$65, info Wendell (417) 883-6541 or email avire@aol.com

**November 12** - Sunday, DACC Tech Session, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Meeting, 2PM, Stoked Out Specialties, Rockwall, Texas

**December 9** - Saturday, DACC Handicap Ramp Building Project

**December 9** - Saturday, DACC Christmas Party, Dean and Audrey Schmidt's, Plano, Texas

## RESULTS - DYNO CHALLENGE 2

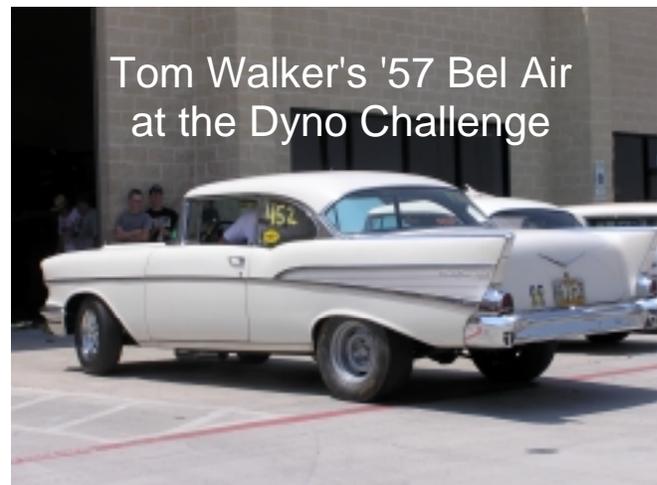
DACC held it's annual DYNO CHALLENGE at Speedtek in Haltom City last month and the results were interesting! A good turnout of members came out to see what they could do with their tri five Chevys and Charles Roppollo brought his Anglia drag racer and took the opportunity to dyno it also!

High horsepower car of the event was Tom Walker's '57 big block powered Bel Air at 349HP! Last year Tom brought his car but was unable to get a pull on the dyno as his magneto and the dyno computer would not talk to each other. Since then there have been some ignition changes made to his '57 and this year was able to successfully get his results.

As is usually the case, many expected their horsepower would be higher, but what reaches the rear wheels is less than what a engine dynos alone. Also this exercise tells you other information such as whether you are lean/rich, torque etc.

Here are the results of this year's Dyno Challenge

**Ken Burton, '56 Sedan - 229 HP**  
**Tom Walker, '57 Hardtop - 349 HP**  
**Jim Conkle, '55 Sedan - 159 HP**  
**Dennis Gormley - '55 Sedan - 277 HP**  
**Sharkey Nelson, '55 Hardtop - 305 HP**  
**Greg Hedum, '55 Hedum - 196 HP**  
**Charles Roppollo - Anglia drag racer - 226 HP**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

September 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday

**RELIABLE CHEVROLET '55, '56 and '57 Chevy Show!**

Arapaho and Central Expressway in Richardson - 2PM to 4PM





**DACC Summer Cruise**  
**Sunday July 9th to**  
**Muenster, Texas**

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City, State Zip

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