



# CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

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

June 2007

Volume 31, Issue 6



PO Box 814642  
Dallas, TX 75381

[www.DallasClassicChevy.com](http://www.DallasClassicChevy.com)  
Membership -137

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President – David Graves**  
214 738-5231 term expires 12/07

**Vice Pres – Marvin Johnson**  
214 352-9132 term expires 12/08

**Treasurer – Dean Schmidt**  
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**Secretary – Greg Hedum**  
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**Board Member - Dan Bunch**  
972 270-0461 term expires 12/08

**Board Member - Bill Preston**  
972 691-4968 term expires 12/07

**Board Member - John Rush**  
972 517-4247 term expires 12/08

### Appointed Positions

**Tech Advisor - Larry Rollow**  
972-960-1408

**Tech Advisor - Marvin Johnson**  
214 352-9132

**Membership Chairman**  
Bill Preston  
972 691-4968



## Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> DACC Tech Meeting!

BBQ lunch provided by  
Wilson Auto Repair!  
STARTS AT 11:30AM

**This coming Saturday, Barry Wilson will host the club for a tech session and BBQ lunch beginning at 11:30AM Saturday at the Wilson Auto Repair shop located at 3133 Saturn Road in Garland (just off LBJ Freeway). There will be a discussion on electrical diagnosis and repair along with how to diagnose a charging system and how to find 'key off' draws. Also the plan is to have a demo on carburetors and a open discussion on anything you might have a question on. This will be a**

**great chance to learn and get lunch on top of that! Make plans to join us this Saturday at Wilson Auto Repair in Garland!**

## HEALTH UPDATE on two club members

**As many of you know already from the club email updates each week, we have two members who have found themselves dealing with serious health issues in the last month. Doyle Irick is dealing with a very serious cancer threat and has immediately began treatments to fight this. Our Vice President Marvin Johnson suffered a stroke upon returning from Lone Star XXV and is now in Baylor Rehab in an effort to regain speech and strength. Please keep these two members and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they battle these health issues. We all want to see Doyle back behind the wheel of his '57 Cameo pickup and Marvin wheeling his '55 Bel Air just as soon as they can!**

## Inside Highlights

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**DACC welcomes**  
**CHROME**  
**Specialty**  
**Insurance**  
**as a new club sponsor!**

**Abraham George to be the DACC contact for this top rated specialty car insurance program!**



The Dallas Area Classic Chevys are proud to announce that the American National Property and Casualty Insurance Company's 'CHROME' insurance program is the latest sponsor to join the list of sponsoring companies of the club. The 'CHROME' program offers a number of advantages to insuring your collectible car, whether it is a **Classic, Hot Rod, Replica, Original, Modified or Exotic!** American National has been in business for OVER 100 YEARS and on top of that it is a Texas based company! Abraham George is our local contact for learning about this great program and expect to see him at upcoming events where you can visit with him about what 'CHROME' can offer you in protection for your '55 - '57 Chevy!

- Local American National Agent to provide personal service.
- Agreed/Stated Value coverage for total losses.
- Liberal mileage limits – Up to 10,000 / yr.
- \$500 spare parts coverage.
- One policy for all CHROME vehicles.
- No limitations on paint.
- Youthful drivers not excluded.
- Rating plan for drivers with tickets / accidents.
- Coverage for cars under construction (under specialty Non-CHROME).
- Rental reimbursement included.
- Flat Bed towing (where available)
- Common Cause of Loss Deductible

**Abraham George**  
**Abraham Financials**  
**3010 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1200**  
**Dallas, Texas 75234**

Mr. George is anxious to visit with you about the advantages this program offers along with the other services of American National. **In fact he has a special introductory offer for DACC members ONLY!** Mr. George would like to provide you with a Detailed Financial Review which will outline a great depth of details about your financial goals and dreams and what are the options you have to achieve them. This kind of review usually cost from \$750 to \$3000 per client from a financial planner depending on the depth of the review. Because of this reason, most people would not or cannot afford to have it done. But for DACC members, Mr George will do this at no charge. There is a time limit on this offer of 90 days. **Contact Abraham George today at 972 919-6117** to get this introductory offer scheduled and to learn more about the CHROME Insurance program!

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*Jim accepting his Award from DACC's Dean Schmidt at the Lone Star XXV Banquet in Austin*

## June Feature Car

Jim and Jean Sellstrom's '55 Unrestored Bel Air Sedan  
Austin, Texas

*The DACC 'Club Choice' Award receipt at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Lone Star Classic Chevy Convention*

Our car's original owner, my father, lived 64 years on a the ancestral farm which was located just across the highway from the Marriott Hotel site of the Lone Star XXV Convention in Round Rock. It felt like bringing the car back home again when we came to this event.

This 1955 Chevy Bel Air was bought new, by my father, from Henna Motor Company in Round Rock, Tx. on Oct. 1, 1955. The dealer gave him a matching coral and gray colored Papermate pen to use when he "signed the deal".

The dealer also gave him a yardstick advertising the 1956 Chevrolets - as it was so late in the year, the new 1956's were coming out - and, the dealer was out of the 1955 yard sticks. We have both the Papermate pen, the yardstick and, even the Original spare tire to display.

After my father bought his 1955 Chevy, I decided to buy a new Red and White 1956 "Delray" Chevrolet coupe. My wife and I just loved that car! Our son was in the Navy, and he drove it to Norfolk, Va. in 1972; returning from Vietnam in 1974, to find our 1956 had been stolen!

In August 1971, my mother wanted a new car - a 1971 Oldsmobile Cutlass - the car dealer offered them

\$400.00 trade-in on the 1955 Chevy. Well, I paid my Dad that amount and bought the car! At that time it had 33,000 miles on it. We drove it for a little over a year - and put another 11,000 miles on it. As we were having relatives coming from Sweden in July 1972 - we bought a 1972 Chevrolet with A/C to help keep them cool! In 1972 we took the 1955 back to the home place and stored it in a barn until 1986. During the time it was

stored, I started it often, but did not drive it much. So, the brakes "stuck" - but, I redid them. In May of 1986 we replaced the floor mat in the trunk. In 1988 I put on 4 new white walled tires -replacing the 2 black tires and the 2 whitewalls which my father used on it! I wash it using VERY little water - keeping it as dry as possible and it is always covered in the garage. I have polished it often, protecting it's original paint. After we started driving the car again - the gas gauge had stuck at half full - but, now it is working correctly. I have done very little to the car - only what was necessary - which has been very little.

We joined the Central Texas Classic Chevy Club in April, 1987, and, we have enjoyed going with them to many car shows and on "cruises". Our 1955 Chevy had 53,754 miles on it when it was displayed at Lone Star XXV. Our

*Continued on Page 4*



car won 1st place in the Unrestored 1955 Chevy class, as there are so few remaining. However, I think it is well deserving of the honor. At Lone Star IX, July 5-7, 1991 our car scored 937 points.

An interesting thing happened recently - I wanted to be sure our car would start when we went to Lone Star XXV. Although it was still working, I removed the Delco battery and took it in to buy another one. It looked so nice and new, the Delco dealer was very surprised to find that the CODE NUMBER showed it had been made in 1987 ....20 years ago for a 60 month battery! AMAZING!! I usually do not keep the battery connected - until I plan to drive it, and that must have saved it for so many years.

I also have another old car that I enjoy. From 1945-46 I served in Germany with the Army of Occupation as a "Peace Keeper" with the U S Constabulary. Upon returning home, I bought my first car in 1946 - a 1930 Model A Ford with a rumble seat, which was the only car I could find at that time. I still have this car 61 years later. I worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone Co - for 39 years and have been retired 20 years. In 1949, I bought a maroon colored 1947 Chevrolet 5 passenger coupe, as I was sort of embarrassed to drive Jean around in a 1930 Ford!

Jean and I have been married for 58 years, and are very proud to have 3 children, and 6 grand children. We like to travel - Jean has gone 6 times to Sweden, me 3 times - we have relatives there. The

Western USA is often our favorite travel destination. I like to work on my other old cars: 1954 - 5 window pickup (bought in 1960); and, 1976 Chevrolet pickup I bought new; Jean's 1987 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, which she wants to replace with a new 2007 model car - but, this is still a good car!!! I also have a 1995 Chevy pickup, we like to drive it when we travel. When I want something else to work on, I have my 3 FARMALL tractors: 1938 'F-12', 1948 'Cub', and 1949 'C'; plus, a 1937 General Purpose John Deere. Good thing we live on 3 acres just outside Austin City Limits - since both Jean and I collect many things! Jean is a "Texas and Swedish history buff" and has translated many books and other papers. She is also very interested in sewing and Swedish folk dresses.

We have always loved the 1955, 1956 and 1957 Classic Chevy's especially, as there is something unique and very special about the colors, and the designs of these beautiful cars. They are also so recognizable - today's cars all look the same!! Of course, we have always been very "true" supporters of GM cars. (Except for my old Ford!) In 1949, I bought a maroon colored 1947 Chevrolet 5 passenger coupe, as I was sort of embarrassed to drive Jean around in a 1930 Ford!

Again, thanks for recognizing our car as your club's Favorite '55, '56 and '57 Chevy at Lone Star XXV. *Jim and Jean Sellstrom*

## LONE STAR XXV RECAP

*There just isn't enough room to properly discuss the great event that was Lone Star XXV in this month's newsletter. Look for a complete story in next month's newsletter from the event in Austin.*

### HERE IS A QUICK RUN DOWN OF THE SHOW-N-SHINE WINNERS FROM DACC AT LONE STAR XXV

Marvin Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Modified '55 Hardtop  
Mike Reeves, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Custom '55 Hardtop  
Bill Preston, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Custom '56 Sedan  
George Johnson, 1<sup>st</sup>, Custom '56 Nomad  
David Graves, 1<sup>st</sup>, '56 Corvette  
Chuck Rader, 1<sup>st</sup>, Contemporary '57 Hardtop  
Dan Bunch, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Custom '57 Sedan  
John Rush, '56 Non-Judged Driver's Class Award



**Lone Star Photos are up on the club website NOW!**

[www.DallasClassicChevy.com](http://www.DallasClassicChevy.com)

## NEXT MONTH

**JULY 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
DACC SUMMER CRUISE to  
Bridgeport, TX and  
'Yesterday's Diner' !**

**Put Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup> on your calendar to join the club as we drive over to Bridgeport and visit the unique diner that is 'Yesterday's Diner'! Complete details in next month's newsletter!**



## DACC's Club Choice Award for Lone Star XXV

Each year at Lone Star, tradition has it that the Classic Chevy Clubs represented at the event present a 'club choice' Award. This year our club elected to give our 'Club Choice Award' to Jim and Jean Sellstrom of Austin (this month's Feature Car). They were at the event all weekend helping run the show and spoke to many of the visitors to the event about their unique '55 Chevy. The following was received from the Sellstrom's addressed to all the members of the Dallas Area Classic Chevs.

Dear Dallas Classic Chevy Club Members,

Jim and I wish to thank you all most sincerely for the honor of your bestowing your Club Award at the Lone Star XXV, on our Unrestored - Original 1955 Coral and Shadow Gray "Bel Air" Chevy in Round Rock, Texas this weekend - May 4-6, 2007. The trophy is most attractive, and we are genuinely appreciative of your club's "selection".

At the Lone Star this year, it seemed more people were interested in our Unrestored car than ever before... likely because these "unique" unrestored cars are getting more and more rare and are seen less and less at Car Shows. Several people went over our car with a "fine toothed" comb - looking at EVERY detail, it seemed...one fellow acted like it was some sort of "genuine art object"!!

We enjoyed having all you fine folks from the Dallas/Ft Worth area at the Lone Star XXV Car Show. You all are a very friendly and a most gracious group of car lovers. It was lots of fun

talking to you nice people. We hope that you all had an enjoyable couple of days in Round Rock, Texas and returned safely to your homes.

Hopefully, we will meet you again at some car show in the future .. however, as Jim is now 80 years - and, I am soon 77 years of age... we might not be showing our car so many more times...it is LOTS of work, as you well know.

Once more, please accept our thanks for your club's selection of our 1955 "BelAir" to receive your Club trophy at Lone Star XXV. Both of us were very pleased and, we will treasure it always. This is only our 2nd Club Award, the first one was at a Lone Star in Victoria, Texas from the San Antonio Classic Chevy Club.

Many thanks!!  
Jim and Jim Sellstrom  
Austin, Texas

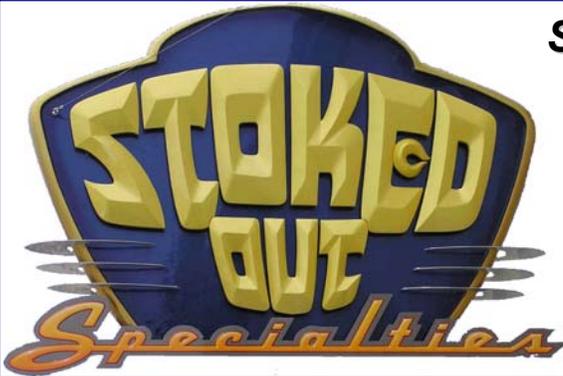
## Your Membership Renewal

**Get your dues paid if you are due ASAP! Dues are only \$25 per year, and you can make your check out to DACC and mail to the club at**  
**DACC**  
**PO Box 814642**  
**Dallas, TX 75381**  
**BETTER YET - make that check for \$50 and you will be good to go for two years!**

## NOTICE

### RELIABLE CHEVROLET DACC GM PARTS PROGRAM

Our club get's several special DACC only discounts from Reliable Chevrolet, whether it's a new or used vehicle to GM Parts. Please note that these discounts and programs are for the use of current DACC members only. For example, it requires your presence to purchase GM parts from the Reliable Chevrolet Parts Dept. Your name will be checked against the membership roster. Please respect these program policies! See Parts Manager Wesley Walker for any parts needs you may have!



## Stoked Out Specialties

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972.772.0146

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**Be sure to mention you are a DACC member to get your discount !!**

Contact Sales Manager Jeff Power at Reliable for the special DACC member's deal on a new or used Chevy!

Need parts? Need Service? Get the DACC 'deal' on all parts and service from your Chevrolet friend  
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PO Box 814642  
Dallas, TX 75381

**Tech Meeting  
Wilson Auto Repair  
Saturday June 9th**

Name  
Address  
City, State Zip

**1<sup>st</sup> Class Mail**

# WILSON AUTO REPAIR

3133 Saturn Road  
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*Hear Barry Wilson on 105.3 FM every Saturday morning from 8 - 9 on the 'Motor Men' radio hour!*



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