

# CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

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

August 2009  
Volume 33, Issue 8



PO Box 814642  
Dallas, TX 75381  
[www.DallasClassicChevy.com](http://www.DallasClassicChevy.com)  
Est 1976  
Current Membership -148

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

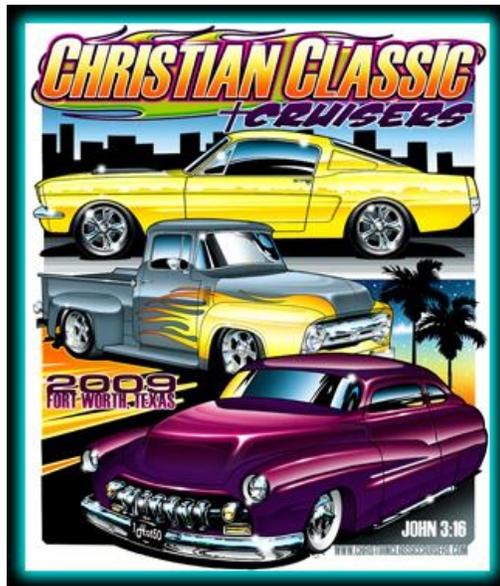
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972-960-1408  
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214 352-9132  
**Tech Advisor** - Don Andre  
817 481 3468  
**Membership Chairman**  
Bill Preston  
972 691-4968

## 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.

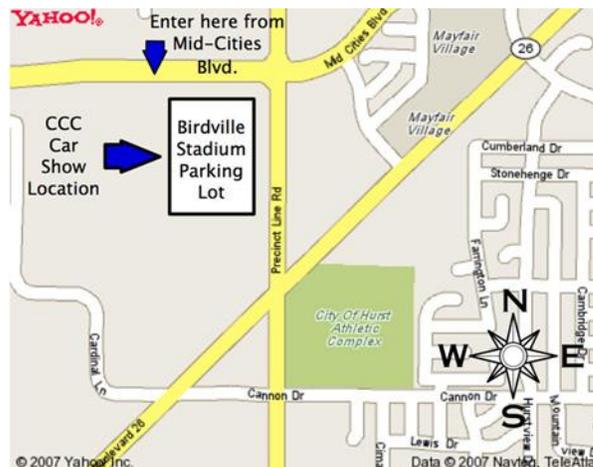


## HOT TEXAS NIGHTS CAR SHOW

**THIS SATURDAY EVENING**  
**AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup> 7PM to 11PM**

At the Birdville ISD Stadium Parking Lot  
Hwy 26 and Precinct Line Rd in  
N Richland Hills

Join us early at 5:30PM at the  
'Dinner Before the Show'  
**at Joe's Pasta-N-Pizza!**



**Joe's Pasta-N-Pizza has a new location! Just a few blocks from the show location!**  
**3809 Colleyville Blvd (Hwy 26)**  
(also known as Grapevine Hwy)  
**THIS IS ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE OLD LOCATION!**

After we eat we will caravan over to the Birdville Stadium for the show and park all the Tri Fives together from the club.

If you can't make it to Joe's for dinner then make it to the show by 7:30! Call Bill Preston (405) 412-0502 to let him know you are coming and we will save you a spot!

## NEXT MONTH! Fall Classic Chevy Show Reliable Chevrolet Saturday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> 10AM – 1PM **NEW TIME!**

ALL TRI FIVE CHEVYS WELCOMED!  
NO JUDGING! – NO ENTRY FEE!  
*Favorite Picks Only!*

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## DACC TAKES AWARD AT LARGEST 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY PARADE IN TEXAS!



DACC entered the Arlington 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade last month along with several other classic car clubs of all makes and models.

This huge event had over 150 entries and was witnessed by 50,000 on the streets of Arlington and followed live on cable tv along with a live webcast by thousands of others! Thanks to George Johnson, our club was able to secure a spot in this huge event. Showing pride in America on it's birthday and showing off classic American cars just seem like a natural. Although July in Texas is warm, the morning parade got underway just in time to avoid the majority of the heat. Our efforts were rewarded with the 'Best Classic Car Club Display' award that was selected by the Grand Marshall Texas Rangers Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan. Be sure to check out the photos from this event online at our club website [www.DallasClassicChevy.com](http://www.DallasClassicChevy.com).



*Dan Bunch likes Parades and you should TOO! Here is his spin on parades including the recent July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade in Arlington -*

### *Everybody Loves a Parade*

When was the last parade you saw? Did you enjoy watching the floats, bands, marching groups, horses and other elements of the parade including the classic or antique cars. Next question; when was the last parade that you were a part of?

Over the past several years I've volunteered and been a part of five parades. Two on Memorial Days, two on 4<sup>th</sup> of Julys and one for a high school home coming game. And in all five I drove my classic '57. And yes, it was hot, even the one in September for the home coming. But worth it.

The last parade was on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Arlington. The parade was well organized with a huge staging area and a well mapped out route of approximately 2 and ½ miles. Since it was July 4<sup>th</sup> we decorated our cars with American flags; red, white and blue streamers and bows. I believe there were over 170 entries which included several classic car clubs. The parade got underway at 9:00 but we didn't actually get into the parade until almost 10:00 but were back at the staging area before 11:00. At different points in the parade were announcers identifying the various entries as they approached their viewing area. It was neat to hear them announce "our next entry is from Dallas Area Classic Chevy Club" then extolling some facts about our club. And as you may now know we took first place in the Classic Car category.

Are there any negatives to being in a parade especially with a classic car? The only one I can think of is you can't see the rest of the parade. All you see is just the entry in front of you and a few others at the turns. "But Dan, what about the car overheating" you may ask. It can be a concern but there a ways to limit overheating. Make sure your cooling system is clean, full of coolant and well ventilated. Add or install an electric cooling fan. Mine is set up so I can disconnect the air conditioning compressor and still run the fan, Also there are battery operated fans which can be used either inside the car to cool the riders or outside to help cool the radiator. With a little ingenuity and some duct or masking tape you can force more air into the cooling system. I did and who's gonna see it.

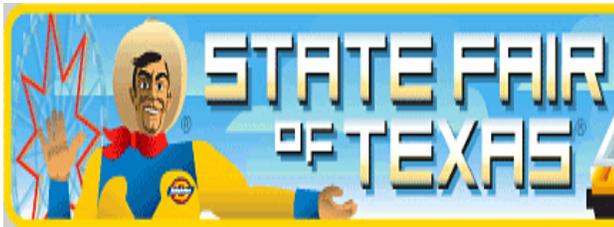
Are parades worth the effort? **Absolutely!** A chance to not only show off your classic car to hundreds of people but to be a part of a long time American tradition. If you've never driven you classic in a parade and the opportunity arises, **do it.** You'll be glad you did.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

846  
Charles & Margaret Kozlovsky  
105 Yorkshire Ct  
Waxahachie, TX 75165  
1957 Chevy Bel Air 2dr Sedan

847  
Lanny & Patricia Humiston  
2839 Timber Court  
Grand Prairie, TX 75052  
1957 Chevy Bel Air 2dr



## DACC at the '09 Texas State Fair of Texas Classic Corral

**Sunday October 4th – SIGN UP NOW!**

Our club has been invited to return this year to display our '55-'57 Chevys at this year's Texas State Fair of Texas. Our display day is Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to display, this is an all day commitment that begins at 8:30am and ends at 6pm.

You will be provided passes for the Fair to use and extra passes for your family or friends that may want to come to the Fair (on our display day only). You may also bring your car, leave it and return that evening to pick it up. The cars will be in a protected fenced area and no fair visitors will be allowed in the area to touch the cars. The cars will be displayed in a 'corral' and easily viewed from the fence. Club members will be on site throughout the day. Displaying with us on the same day will be the North Texas Jeep Club and the North Texas Harley Owners Group – so expect our Tri Fives to be the centerpiece of the Classic Corral on October 4<sup>th</sup> – BUT WE NEED YOU TO BRING YOUR CAR! !

Last year we had nearly 20 Tri Five Chevys in our display and we would love to top that number this year!

This is NOT a 'Show Car' event, any and all Tri Fives can display. If you would like to get on the list to display, contact David Graves to get added at [David@DallasClassicChevy.com](mailto:David@DallasClassicChevy.com) or 214 738-5231.

## Can You Help?

It has always been a strength of our club that we have such a large group of members that offer and volunteer their time and services to make DACC what it is. As we continue to grow, we continue to lean on you the member for help making our club the best it can be.

In the past we have utilized member's graphics services, construction services, mechanical services and the list could go on and on. We want to again tap into this asset of our club's as we move forward.

As we move into the next couple of years, our club will be planning and setting the stage for the Lone Star Classic Chevy Convention to be hosted by DACC in 2011. Believe it or not – we are already putting efforts into that event! David Graves and Jim Conkle have been visiting possible host hotels locations and have a goal of having the date and location chosen by the end of 2009 or early 2010. Many of you attended and worked the '06 Lone Star Convention that we hosted in Irving – which has to go down as the best received and largest car count event in almost 30 years of Lone Star Conventions. It was a monumental effort from the entire membership of this club that made this event such a success. It is our goal to meet and exceed those efforts with the 2011 event – a tall task but one we wish to attain.

How can you help? Well if you have skills to lend, if you have a business that can help us, if you have time you can donate – we need your support! It may be decorating skills, it may be public relations skills, it may be mechanical skills or it may be organizational skills – who knows. **But if you have something to offer the club whether it is for the convention or for support of the club in general**, please don't hesitate to contact DACC President David Graves at [David@DallasClassicChevy.com](mailto:David@DallasClassicChevy.com) to offer up whatever you may have. It is the support and contributions of all members that make our club the best car club in Texas!



# DACC Feature Car

Marvin and Linda Cowden  
Grand Prairie, TX



I worked as a computer programmer manager for 35 years and retired from MBNA in June of 2004. My hobbies are hot rods, spending time with my grand daughter, fishing, and rock climbing. My previous cars were a '23 T-bucket and a '54 Cadillac.

My father bought a new '55 Bel Air Chevy and totaled it in 1958 on a trip to my grandparents but we all got out unscratched. It was his love for that car that inspired me to find one for resurrection and relive some fond memories of a simpler time.

I purchased my '55 on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1996. It came

with a ragged out interior (the seats were covered with an old beach towel, bare metal everywhere else), a tired old 283 with 4 speed and the stock rear axle. My first change was the custom interior done by BJ's Upholstery in Grand Prairie. Then came the sound system installed by myself with help from my son. The paint was pretty good but I had the trunk lid and right front fender repainted. After several attempts at having a decent power plant, I decided to build one the right way by buying and modifying a crate 1998 Vortec motor, put in an automatic transmission and stronger rear end behind it. Then the power

*Continued on Page 5*



Marvin Cowden's Feature Car  
Continued from page 4

steering and brakes were added, new radiator and cooling fans, and most recently the Painless Wire kit.

I'm proud to say I've done most all the modifications and fabrication (with the exception of paint, upholstery, and balancing of engine internals). After all, that's what the hobby is all about, isn't it?

We've taken numerous trips within one hundred miles, but I'm look forward to going on longer treks - like driving all of Route 66, going to Bonneville Speed Week (tops my bucket list), etc.

As a kid I used to hang around Don Breithaupt's house (he held the B/Altered national record in the late 50s in a '32 coupe with a supercharged SBC) and I bugged the hell out of him. It was a beautiful car, well engineered, sparked the racing flame in me that burns today. I'd love to drag race (not the pro marketing hype as seen on TV but the nostalgia stuff) but every time I mention it around family, I get "the look". I spent all my time as a teenager at Green Valley Raceway, watching Vance Hunt and Bobby Langley go at it. I met Vance three years ago, and built the motor that powers his restored '57 Cameo that he used to tow his top fuel slingshot to the Indy Nationals. I've raced go karts, motocross, and bicycles but I still yearn to get involved in drag racing.



My car as of today:

1955 Chevy Bel Air 2 door Sedan

Engine - 1998 Vortec 350 crate motor, modified heads, Comp Cam, GM roller rockers, approx 410 h/p, balancing and head work by Arlington Machine, polished, assembled, and tuned by myself.

Transmission - 700-R4 by Phoenix Transmission Products

Rear Axle - GM Posi 10 bolt 3.23 ratio

Misc. - Blaupunkt Radio/CD, w/500 watt amp in trunk

Interior designed by owner, performed by BJ's Interiors of Grand Prairie  
Aluminum Radiator w/twin puller cooling fans

Painless Wiring

500 power steering box from CPP

Power disk brakes

Planned Changes - 1 piece bumpers



# Wilson Auto Repair

3133 Saturn Rd, Garland Tx 75041

972-271-3579

www.WilsonAuto.com





www.DallasClassicChevy.com

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N Richland Hills  
THIS SATURDAY NIGHT!

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**CHEVY SHOW**  
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