



CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

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

October 2009

Volume 33, Issue 10



PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381
www.DallasClassicChevy.com
Est 1976

Current Membership - 158

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – David Graves
214 738-5231 term expires 12/09

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 12/09

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

Board Member - Alan Strong
972 624-8836 term expires 12/09

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

Appointed Positions

Tech Advisor - Larry Rollow
972-960-1408

Tech Advisor - Marvin Johnson
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.

3 BIG EVENTS IN OCTOBER!

**SUNDAY
October 4th**
*DACC Tri Five
Chevy Display at
the 'Classic Car
Corral' at the
State Fair of
Texas!*

Bring your '55-'57 Chevy to the '09 State Fair 'Classic Corral', a special display area on the fair grounds for classic cars (only club members allowed inside the corral!) Free admission to the fair for you and your family/friends, park your car in the corral at 8AM and pick it up at 6PM, stay at the fair all day, hang out in the corral and visit with fairgoers about our Tri Five Chevys or drop your car off and return that evening. Our second year (last year we had almost 20 cars on display!). Sign up by contacting David Graves 214 738-5231 HURRY !!!

**SATURDAY
October 10th**
*DACC's 10th
Annual Drive In
Movie Night at the
Brazos Drive In!*
OPEN TO ALL MAKES OF
CARS AND ALL CLUBS!

We will meet in Arlington at I-20 and Park Springs (west of the Parks Mall) at the Park-N-Ride parking lot at 2:45, leave from there at 3:15 to caravan to Granbury with a stop on the town square to check out the many shops and admire the Corvette show that the Brazos River Corvette Club will be holding, then we will plan to eat at Babe's Chicken Dinner House at 5:30 followed by a evening at the area's only authentic 50's era drive in movie theatre. Check your club email that week for what movie will be showing. More info - Greg Hedum at 972 539-9886

**Weekend
Oct 23-25**
*16th Annual Fall
Foliage Tour to
Oklahoma's
Kiamichi
Mountains*

Hosted by the Central Okla Classic Chevy Club, DACC members will caravan to Poteau, Okla early on Friday, Saturday will cruise through the Kiamichi Mountains, tour points of interest including Street & Performance, Inc. in Mena, AR, where there are also lots of antique shops, and finish up the day with a party back at the hotel in Poteau. Get your room at the Days Inn in Poteau now by calling 918-647-3510 (room rate \$70, tell them Chevy Club), for more info contact Bill or Diane Preston at 972-691-4968 cdiane1957@aol.com

NEXT MONTH DACC ANNUAL MEETING

Tech Session including Question and Answer time on car detailing/paint care from Josh Ottmann of Ottmann Detailing, Officer Elections, Favorite Pick Car Show in the parking lot and FOOD!

Saturday November 14th 6-8PM
Cozymel's Mexican Grill - Grapevine

Inside Highlights

DACC October Feature Car	2
Reliable Show Recap	3
DACC Drag Racing	3
New Members	3
Other Car Feature	4



Why has it taken me this long?



Mark & Debi Baker Fairview, TX

I have always loved the look of a '55 Chevy as far back as I can remember. Why it has taken me this long to own one I really do not know. Since 1999 I have owned a total of seven collector cars starting with four that I do not have anymore, a 1937 Plymouth business coupe, 1933 Ford Vickey, 1932 Ford Hi Boy (national show winner) and a 1937 Ford truck (Australian Ute) to the three that I now own, 1937 Ford Cabriolet, 1967 Ford Eleanor Mustang (one of the 11 original ones from the movie) to my red 1955 Chevy. I guess you can say that I saved the best for last!

Buying the '55 Chevy started out being a possible trade. For almost a year I had my sights on one of my best buddies '55 Chevy, Doug Pederson's Bel Air Hardtop who also belongs to Dallas Area Classic Chevy Club. I had put my 1937 Ford truck up for sale and with that sale I was to buy Doug's '55! A gentleman by the name of George Huxhold from Wisconsin saw my ad and called to see about a possible trade of a '55 Chevy for my truck but after talking to him the numbers did not work so I blew him off. He did send me a large number of pictures before that and I was very

interested in the car. I let it sit about two weeks and then George called me again to see if we could come to a fair price to just buy his '55. I asked him to send pictures of every corner of the car, from underneath to door jams etc to me, which in turn I sent to my body man (Wade Faustman of Wade's Custom Rods). He also sent me the builders name so that I could ask questions which I turned that info over to Wade also. After looking at all the pictures and speaking to the builder of the 55, Wade came back to me and told me that he felt that George had about \$62,000 into the car and was impressed with the build and told me that if I could get the car for \$45,000 it would be a steal. He was asking \$58,000 and I offered \$40,000 and we finally settled on \$46,000. My buddy Pete and I met him in Kansas City on 6/23/08 with my trailer. I drove the car and looked at every angle, then made the deal and off we went.

The '55 was a two owner car, now a three owner. The first owner from Florida, owned the

Continued on Page 5



Fall Classic Chevy Show (take two)

Each year our club hosts two Tri Five Chevy Shows at Reliable Chevrolet, one in the Fall and one in the Spring. Last Fall, Hurricane Ike saw that we did not have the show, this last Spring wet conditions leading right up to the hour kept attendance down and now this Fall we get rained out! BUT that wasn't enough as we rescheduled the show for the following weekend and after a week of rain, Saturday dawned warm and sunny and the Tri Fives came out in force and we never missed a lick, in spite of all the setbacks. 50 Tri Five Chevys came out for the Fall Classic Chevy Show with many new faces and cars in attendance. Our club sponsors ALL were on hand and made selections for the Favorites. Dan Bunch was spinning the oldies and got everyone in the right frame of mind to be enjoying all the beautiful '55-'57 Chevys. Thanks to the following for 'working' the show – Dan Bunch, Vickie Penny, Bill and Diane Preston, George Johnson, Larry and Dianne Epperson and Alan Strong. Congrats to the Favorite Picks that were passed out, that included

Favorite '55 Chevy by Reliable Chevrolet
Terry Box of McKinney

Favorite '56 Chevy by Reliable Chevrolet
Bill Preston of Flower Mound

Favorite '57 Chevy by Reliable Chevrolet
Joe Ortega of Grand Prairie

Favorite Truck
Phillip Zaragoza of Dallas

Favorite Corvette
Tom Parsons of Mustang (as in Oklahoma!)

Favorite Tri Five Chevy by
Heritage Insurance
Don Clark of McKinney

Favorite Tri Five Chevy by
Wilson Auto Repair
Carl Mitcham of Colleyville

Be sure and check out all the photos from Diane Preston, David Graves and Chris Graves on the club website and go ahead and mark your calendar for next SPRING when we will host the Spring Classic Chevy Show on March 13th which we will be pushing to get 100 Tri Fives crammed into Reliable Chevrolet for the largest Spring show yet!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

848

Gary Morris
2029 Briarcliff Rd
Lewisville, TX 75067
'55 3100 2nd Series PU

849

Kelly & Marci Lindig
2027 Sage Valley Dr
Richardson, TX 75080
Looking for a Tri Five!

850

Jim Lewis
4613 Copper Mountain
Richardson, TX 75082
'57 210

851

Joey Truelove
406 Hilltop Lane
Wylie, TX 75098
'56 Bel Air 2dr Hdtp

852

Geoff & Angela Clark
1205 Woodhaven Dr
McKinney, TX 75070
'55 150 Handyman Wagon

853

Dustin & Leslie Dominie
3408 Tina Street
Sachse, TX 75048
'55 Bel Air 2dr Hdtp

Wanna Race?

Well if so, the final three TMCCC races are on tap this month all in a row beginning with October 18th at Texas Raceway in Kennedale, then October 25th at Northstar Dragway in Denton and the make up rain date race at the big track the Texas Motorplex in Ennis on November 1st – THAT'S THREE WEEKENDS IN A ROW! DACC will be in force at these events to get more info at www.TMCCC.org and check our chat board for any last minute news and plan to race or support the Tri Five racers! AND you don't have to have a Tri Five to be a part of this deal so bring whatever you have and LET'S RACE!



Many club members have 'Other Cars' besides their beloved Tri Five Classic Chevys and occasionally we like to feature one of those 'Other Cars'. Here is the story of a very special '66 Lemans built by Dad Bill for daughter Amy, with a lot of help from DACC members

Bill Preston had built a 1966 Lemans convertible for our daughter, Amy, to drive during college at Southwestern OSU. It held fun memories and she frequently commented it would be fun to have it back again.

In November 2005 Amy's husband, Mark, agreed to fund a project to do just that and we set out on a search for another 1966 Lemans convertible to restore as a surprise for Amy's 40th birthday. Searching on the internet turned up plenty of old cars for us to choose from... and we looked at a lot of frogs. They always sounded better than they actually were. We flew to Austin to see a car that Bill said he wouldn't live long enough to make a decent car out of. There was one in Atlanta that sold really fast, but we couldn't go check that one out because Southwest Airlines didn't fly to Atlanta. (Amy works at SWA, so we fly free.) We flew to Houston to see one that looked good, but it was going to be a LOT of work. We flew to Los Angeles to see a one-owner 1967 that was still being driven daily. It needed a lot, of course, but we thought it was our car. This was on a Saturday and we couldn't do the deal until Monday, so we put two new tires on it to get it ready and planned to sight-see Sunday, then start the drive back to Texas on Monday. Bill lay awake Saturday night building the car in his head. He decided the one in Houston was a better car, wasn't going to take any more work, and cost less than this California car. So we got back on the plane and came home without a car.

Bill and Neal Bellamy drove to Houston to get the car Bill selected and all its "parts". The car was partially disassembled and had its original 326 engine and transmission. It was equipped with factory air, power steering and brakes. The floor pans were rusted through, but overall the rust was minimal due to years of storage in an El Paso yard, where the previous owner found it. It had its original yellow paint covered with well-baked, highly-oxidized maroon paint.

Bill and Neal started taking the car apart. Bill sand blasted the small parts that came off, primed them and stored them to the attic or shed. Don Andre fabricated body braces to stiffen the convertible while off the frame. Chad Reynolds repaired the floor pans, windshield cowl and fire wall and had the body sand blasted. The Dallas Area Classic Chevy Club guys showed up to take the body off the frame using Don Andre's rotisserie, Don Clark's body jacks, Maxie Taylor's engine hoist and Robbie Hayes' dollies. The whole restoration continued this way with lots of help from members of the Classic Chevy Club, Corvette Club, neighbors and Mark and Amy's friends.

Larry Rollow and other Chevy Club guys tried to fit the LS-1 engine and transmission that Bill had already bought onto the frame. It just wasn't going to work in this A-body car without a LOT more modification than Bill wanted to do... New plan! The engine he selected is a 350 c.i., fuel-injected LT-1 with



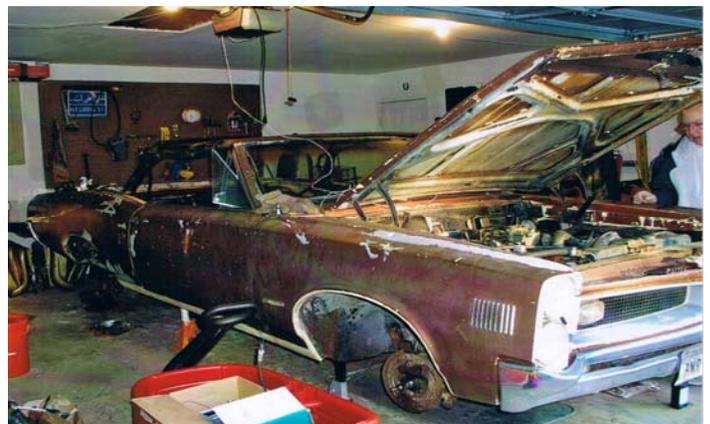
'Other Car' Feature
The Preston's
1966 Pontiac Lemans
'For Amy'

cast iron heads and roller cam from a 1995 Caprice. He had it completely remanufactured and bored +.40. The transmission is a 4L60E from the same car. The front-runner system uses all stock LT-1 accessory brackets. The wiring harness is by Fuel Injection Specialists. Bill detailed the engine with Pontiac blue paint and brushed aluminum parts. The rear end is a stock 273 rear end with drum brakes, rear sway bar and air shocks. It has power front disc brakes with 11" rotors, 1967 Chevelle close-ratio high-performance power steering, and 1 1/4" front sway bar.

Bill protected the bare metal with acid-etch primer and did months of body work. He coated the body's undercarriage, interior and trunk compartment with Lizard Skin, a sound deadener and heat shield.

I'll interject here that Amy's 40th Birthday had come and gone. We gift wrapped the restored steering wheel and gave her a scrapbook showing the progress on the car. After two years Chuck Rader, Don Andre, Tom Entekin and Larry Rollow helped Bill put the body back on the frame! Then there were more months of body work, wiring, installing dash components, and endless other details. Finally in May of 2008 Amy got to start the

Continued on page 5



Mark Baker's '55 Chevy Feature Car Continued



car since it was new and sold the car to George six years ago. It was a four year build and the only thing that George kept was the body. The build includes the following, paint (bright Porsche red), interior (ultra leather with a one off back seat), engine replaced (ZZ4 with 365 horse power), 700r transmission, 605 power steering, Ididit steering column, rebuilt front end, sway bars front and rear, Aluminum cross-flow radiator, Dakota Digital dash, Foose nitrous wheels (chrome) 18 & 20's, BF Goodrich G force tires, Vintage air, all new wiring, ultra leather interior and matching trunk, new bumpers front and rear, new grill along with an engine shroud to cover the fan and wiring in the engine compartment, plus a great looking air cleaner cover with air brushed '55 hood ornament emblem. Most of the engine compartment has been chromed out. New exhaust system with dual exhausts and Magna Flow mufflers was put in for that muscle car sound. I bought the car at the end of June 2008 with only 2,900 miles on the car and after the trip to Houston for the '09 Lone Star Classic Chevy Convention I now have over 5,900 miles on her. It is a great driving car, very comfortable with a great sounding stereo!

[MORE PHOTOS AT DALLASCLASSICCHEVY.COM](http://DALLASCLASSICCHEVY.COM)

Bill Preston's 'Other Car' Feature Continued

car for the first time!

Then off to the paint booth at Don Andre's house, where Bill and Don painted the Lemans with PPG DBC 9700 Black base coat and Concept DCU 2002 clear coat. The fenders, doors, trunk and hood were painted off the car and reassembled back at Bill's garage.

The interior floor is covered with Dynamat for additional heat and sound protection. The dash is retrofitted with Haneline gauges and Classic Auto Air Conditioning. Tom Entrekin helped Bill install the "pre-fitted" black carpet and the rest of the stock Parchment-colored interior. Shawn Cook upholstered the 1996 Chrysler Sebring Convertible seats by modifying the stock seat covers. He constructed the original-looking back seat out of dense foam, discarding the original spring system. He also put the black top on the convertible top frame Bill had rebuilt back in 2007.

Don Clark gave us American Torque Thrust Centerline Wheels. To clear the wheel wells we used 17x8 rear and 16x7 front Firestone tires. Greg and Nick Hedum helped Bill color sand the car and Josh Ottmann spent four days doing the final rub out and polish.

Appropriately the Lemans' first car show was the Southwest Airlines 10th Annual Show at the SWA headquarters building where Amy works. All her friends and co-workers finally got to see the Lemans. On Amy's 42nd birthday October 7, 2008 the Lemans went to live at Amy's house. It comes back occasionally for "adjustments", because it is covered by a lifetime (Bill's) warranty.

Do you have a 'OTHER CAR'? We would love to here your story – contact David Graves at David@DallasClassicChevy.com to submit your story and photos!

	<h2>Wilson Auto Repair</h2> <p>3133 Saturn Rd. • Garland, TX 75041</p> <h1>972-926-0820</h1> <p>www.WilsonAuto.com</p>	<p>We love old cars!</p> <p>Whether it's a repair or a complete engine swap, if you need work done on your Classic Chevy, CALL Barry Wilson to discuss your project! AND we will fix that late model car also!</p> <p>Our Technicians are ASE Certified!</p>
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