



CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

December 2009

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



PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381

www.DallasClassicChevy.com
Est 1976

Current Membership -161

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – David Graves
214 738-5231 term expires 12/11

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 12/11

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

Board Member - Alan Strong
972 624-8836 term expires 12/11

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

Appointed Positions

Tech Advisor - Larry Rollow
972-960-1408

Tech Advisor - Don Andre
817 481 3468

Membership Chairman
Bill Preston
972 691-4968

Ladies Group Chairwoman
Vickie Penney
214 629 2043

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.

Saturday Morning, December 12th

DACC Wheelchair Ramp Building

As has been our tradition the past several years, our club members will assist the DallasRamps.org organization to build wheelchair ramps at the homes of those in need this Christmas season. This efforts includes all members and family members who can assist with building ramps under the direction of Team Leaders. What is required is your effort, a 3/8 chuck reversible drill, either corded or cordless (if you have one, if not please still come as there are normally extra tools). The meeting place is behind the Freed's Furniture Warehouse store at 4720 Simonton Road (N of LBJ near Midway), be there no later than 7:45AM, depart to the home to build the ramp at 8AM sharp. Normally the ramp is finished by 1PM.

MOST IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU NOTIFY OUR LARRY ROLLOW THAT YOU ARE COMING. He will organize our members into teams and he needs to know how many will be attending. Contact Larry at 972-960-1408. Larry can answer your questions and you can also check out the Dallas Ramps groups at their website at DallasRamps.org.

WATCH THE CLUB WEBSITE SHOULD WEATHER BE AN ISSUE!

Saturday Evening, December 12th

DACC CHRISTMAS PARTY

This Saturday evening, DACC will have our Christmas Party at the home of Larry and Jan Rollow, 6245 Preston Creek Dr, Dallas (North of LBJ off Preston Road). We will get underway at 6:30PM with plans for a pot luck dinner. Members are encouraged to bring their favorite dishes under the following guidelines -

If your last name begins with the letter A -G bring a entree, if your last name begins with H - N bring a side dish, and if your last name begins with a M - Z bring a dessert.

Also please bring a wrapped \$10-\$15 gift and that will be exchanged and swapped as we go through the process of gift exchange with the group (which can be very entertaining!).

Drive your Tri Five Chevy as there will be plenty of parking at Larry's home and who knows we may take a unscheduled tour of Christmas lights as we end the evening! Need directions or have questions contact Larry or Jan at 972-960-1408 and plan to join us this Saturday evening!

NEXT MONTH!

It's a Back to the 50's Weekend in January at Denton's Café Du Luxe

Club members David & Jana Carles have dedicated the weekend of January 9th as 'Back to the 50's Weekend' at their Café Du Luxe and will feature DACC Tri Five Chevys for Root Beer, Hot Dogs, Root Beer Floats, & Chill Dogs along with their excellent regular menu. Look for the staff to be styling with duck tails and poodle skirts!

At dusk, there will be a classic '50's Horror Movie' projected on the North side of the building, Drive In Theater Style!
Awards for Best 55, Best 56, Best 57, Best Tri-Five truck and Best Tri-Five Corvette.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR – SATURDAY
JANUARY 9th from 5-7PM**

www.CafeDuLuxe.com

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December's Feature Car
Geoff & Angela Clark's
1955 Fuel Injected Handyman Wagon
McKinney, Texas

FAMILY FUN CAR!



Photos by Chris Graves
 MaxCacklePhotos.com

The question was asked of when did I first love Tri-Fives? Well, let me think - given I was likely consummated in the back seat of a 1956 Two Door Post I'd have to say since inception. Further, the love of cars, Bow Ties to be exact, was an aspiration and trait carefully passed down from my car crazy parents. No, Dad was not part of the automotive industry but just a car nut that raced H Stock in the late 50s and early 60s. Our family often traded for cars several times during the year and as such ran up a total not many other people on the block understood – last count Mom and Dad have had one hundred forty seven cars in their lifetime, including seventy eight Corvettes.

Growing up with many great classic cars in the family did have a few fringe benefits. I never had to look far to find a car to impress that special date. I can't recall the names of girls I went to the prom but can tell you every car I drove. Like my senior prom I drove a 1962 Corvette, Tuxedo Black with Red interior, 327 with optional 340HP, four speed, and 4:56 posi-track rear end. Personal transportation while growing up included several muscle cars

including a 1972 Pontiac Grand Prix with 455 and 1969 Camaro in high school followed by a 1973 Camaro in college. Since I left home we've owned several Corvettes to include a 1968, 1989, and 2001.

Given my sons were starting to fight over "who rode with Dad in the Corvette" my wife declared we should get a family fun car. Well, this made some sense so I started pondering the idea of something other than a fiberglass car. The initial pick was to restore a 1961 GM car (Buick Invicta, Chevy Impala, or Pontiac Bonneville) – in other words, a bubble top. Low and slow would be the theme so equipped with the power of the internet off we went on our search. After doing research all over the nation for some time, I was starting to get discouraged. Finally my son asked me "Dad, what was your first car and what did it look like"? Well, the first car I had was a 1955 Bel Air, India Ivory and Harvest Gold exterior with Light/Dark Green interior, 265 V8 with 3 speed on the tree with chrome reverse wheels. I input the search information into eBay

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Geoff Clark's '55 Handyman Feature continued from page 2

to pull up 1955 cars and the first car to pop up was the Handyman.

We weren't looking originally for a station wagon...but what could epitomize a more fitting family hot rod? The more I showed my son the car the more I got excited. I finally decided to contact the owner and learn more about the car. The owner needed to free up some cash in order to buy some land in Missouri and so was motivated with a decent cash offer. My four year old was so excited about the new addition that he decided to fly up to St Louis with me to take delivery of the car. We ended up making a three day road trip on the return and stopped over in Branson to take in a show (you gotta see the Baldknobbers). Everywhere we went people would stop and question the car – "did they really make a two door station wagon?, did fuel injection get offered in 1955?, I remember having a 1955...". We really validated there are some great ole soles out on the road having talked to many people, posed for pictures with them, and just talked about cars with chrome. It was a great trip.

The research on this cars revealed that it was originally built in the Los Angeles factory and delivered Neptune Green, green interior, and six cylinder engine with manual three speed. The car spent most of its life in the LA area until it was restored by a hot rod shop in Riverside a few years ago. The restoration was very close to my plans that I had drawn up for the still elusive bubble top so I suppose it's another reason why we decided to move on this one. The paint is PPG PR-4 "Really Really Red" on a completely stock and



uncut body, frame, and floor. It's powered by GM Crate Ram Jet 350 complete with Hooker ceramic coated headers and three inch stainless steel exhaust. A TH350 with B&M shift kit along with 3:55 Strange Engineering gears with limited slip differential complete the power train. The stance is accomplished by two inch dropped spindles on the front, three inch lowering blocks on the back, and a set of Randy Coy's C-56 wheels (18x8 front, 20x9 back). Power steering and power disk brakes aid with drivability while engine and oil coolers help with reliability.

The Boys and I have had a great time with the car thus far and really enjoy hitting the local car shows. We traveled to Ark City KS in the car in September '09 to take part in The Last Run car show – over 800 cars showed up. Our plans for 2010 are to drive (trailers are for horses) to Detroit for the venerable Woodward Dream Cruise in August – over 30,000 cars anticipated.

Lastly, would like say how much we appreciate the folks in DACC. We've been part of the club for only a short while but will have to say honestly what a great group of people. It's what a club is supposed to be all about – folks and their love of cars.



**See more of Geoff's fantastic
station wagon at
[www.DallasClassicChevy.com!](http://www.DallasClassicChevy.com)**



2009 Classic Chevy Fall Foliage Tour Recap



Tri-five Chevys converged on the Comfort Inn in Poteau, OK on the weekend of October 23 -25, 2009 for the 16th Annual Fall Foliage Cruise. The Central Oklahoma Classic Chevy Club served as the host club for this year's event. Martha and Rodney Duerksen were event chairmen.

Friday at noon DACC members met at Huck's Catfish Restaurant in Denison to continue on to Poteau together. Bill & Diane Preston led the group that consisted of Don & Jo Andre, Diane & Jerry Bray, Sandra & Mike Reeves, BJ & Minnie Bucher. Melody & Larry Rogers drove directly from Tyler to Poteau and were waiting for us when we arrived.

Friday evening everyone went to dinner at Warehouse Willie's in old downtown Poteau. We enjoyed a private room, good food and plenty of visiting.

Saturday we left the hotel in two groups to follow a planned route to Mena, Arkansas. The day was clear and sunny and the trees cooperated with splashes of autumn colors all along the winding route. Our group caused a traffic jam in Heavener, OK as a train blocked our path. Not a problem... just another photo op!

The first group took a tour of Street & Performance given by owner, Mark Campbell. They manufacture and distribute a wide range of performance and aesthetic items used by some of the top custom builders of street rods across the country as well as do-it-yourself builders. Their parts are regularly featured in magazines.

The second group went to Lime Tree Restaurant in Mena, where we had a delicious buffet lunch. After lunch that group went to Street & Performance and the first group came to eat.

We all left Mena as one group headed west into the scenic Arkansas Ouachita Mountains. We went past the Queen Wilhelmina Lodge and enjoyed a grand view off the Talimena Scenic Byway in Oklahoma. At 4 p.m. we arrived back at the hotel in Poteau. Everyone had dinner on their own at various restaurants around Poteau and we gathered back at the hotel ballroom at 7pm.

Rodney Duerksen emceed the evening giving a brief history of this Annual event. The first cruise was in 1993 by the Dallas Area Classic Chevy Club to Jefferson, TX. The 1994 Cruise was documented in Classic Chevy World magazine and it was held at Queen Wilhelmina Lodge and attended by club members from Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Dallas. The third cruise was held at DeGray Lake, Arkansas and well remembered by many in attendance at this year's cruise. We all shared favorite memories from all the cruises. Most stories involved pranks and car breakdowns... or in Bob Plett's case, a collision with a deer.

There were 32 cars participating this year. The Missouri group was missing while they were working at the Mecum 57 Heaven car collection auction in Branson. They will host the 2010 Cruise October 22-24 at the Ramada Inn, 1700 W. Hwy. 76, Branson, phone 417-334-1000. Room rate is \$65 plus taxes. The rooms are blocked until Oct 7, 2010 for the Classic Chevy Club Fall Foliage. If you're thinking of attending, make your reservations now.

Be sure and check out all the photos on the club website and make plans to be a part of the 2010 Fall Foliage Tour!

Story & photos by Diane Preston



DACC ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

2009's Annual Meeting in Grapevine could not have been held on a better Fall evening as a packed house filled the Banquet Room at Cozymel's Mexican Grill. Elections found re-elected officers that consisted of David Graves/President, Larry Epperson/Secretary and Alan Strong/Board Member, all who will continue for another two years. The food was great, Josh Ottmann (www.OttmannDetailing.com) visited with us about proper detailing techniques and 4 Cozymel gift certificates were awarded to Dean Schmidt, Thomas Fowlkes, Alan Strong and Greg Hedum who all brought their cars and were drawn at random. Thanks to all who came out and be sure to read up on the minutes from the meeting that are posted on the club website's chat board under the 'Meeting Minutes' link.

New DACC Ladies Group Added for 2010!

DACC has a large membership and we hope members will participate in many of the club activities. In an effort to encourage participation of the ladies of our club, we added a new committee – the Ladies Group. Vickie Penney has been appointed to Chair this group. We hope to get more participation from the ladies in our club events and this group will encourage more involvement. The Ladies Group will plan at least one event for our 2010 Calendar and hope to have a charity auction/raffle during the holiday season in 2010. Please contact Vickie at Ladies@DallasClassicChevy.com or 214-629-2043 if you have any suggestions or ideas.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

854

Phillip & Mia Zaragoza
11309 Corral Hills Drive
Dallas, TX 75229
'55 2nd Series Pickup

855

Thomas & Terry Lynn Fowlkes
635 S Munson Road
Royse City, TX 75189
'55 Bel Air Sedan

856

Bryan & Heidi Greenfield
2627 Lake Forest Ct
Dallas, TX 75214
'56 210 2dr Sedan

857

Chad & Sara Knowles
806 Clearwater
Richardson, TX 75081
'55 4dr Sedan

Welcome Back!

754

Tom & Jordana McGee
868 Cambridge Dr
Plano, TX 75023
'55 Bel Air 4dr Sedan



The advertisement features the text "Reliable GM Parts" in a stylized font. "Reliable" and "Parts" are in red script, while "GM" is in white on a blue square background. Below the text are three images: a white pickup truck, a stack of money, and a laptop displaying a website. To the right is a red sports car.

www.ReliableGMParts.com

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www.DallasClassicChevy.com

PO Box 814642
Dallas, TX 75381

**DACC Ramp Build
AND
Christmas Party
Saturday December 12th**

Name
Address
City, State Zip

1st Class Mail

	<p>Wilson Auto Repair 3133 Saturn Rd. • Garland, TX 75041 972-926-0820 www.WilsonAuto.com</p>	<p>We love old cars! 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! Our Technicians are ASE Certified!</p>
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