

# CLASSIC HEARTBEAT

September 2012

TEXAS' LARGEST AND MOST ACTIVE CAR CLUB EXCLUSIVELY FOR '55, '56 AND '57  
CHEVY CARS, TRUCKS AND CORVETTES – CHEVROLET'S GOLDEN ERA!

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PO Box 814642  
Dallas, TX 75381

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

Current Membership - 162

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## 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.

## FALL CLASSIC CHEVY SHOW

### THIS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>

from 10AM to 1PM at RELIABLE CHEVROLET!

NO FEES - NO JUDGING - FREE HOT DOGS AND  
DRINKS - GREAT MUSIC - EXCLUSIVE '55-'57 Chevy  
car, truck and Corvettes ONLY!.

SPECIAL FAVORITE PICKS by our club sponsors!

If it's a '55-'57 Chevy - this is the place to be!



Reliable Chevrolet is in  
Richardson at Central

Expressway at the Arapaho  
exit. This is open to all '55-  
'57 Chevys, show, race,  
projects, traditionals, drivers -  
ALL invited!



**DACC FEATURE CAR****JIM & JANNA LEINART'S****'55 210 SEDAN****SHERMAN, TEXAS****The Goose**

It has a tremendous racing history. It was bought new by Bill Alexander who lived in Sherman. While I didn't know Bill I knew the car and saw it race countless times. If there was a race anywhere, Bill was there.

It was born as a Glacier Blue/Skyline Blue '55. He started racing it immediately and took it off the streets to make a full race car in 1956. I understand he bought an older Olds to tow it with and with the blue paint job it became the Blue Goose. It was stout and was raced with a 265/283/301/327 and a four speed. It had various blue paint jobs over the years done mostly by the Crump Brothers who were some of the best in the area back then.

In the 80's Bill had health and money problems. His brother Don Alexander decided to redo the car and it was tubed and in went a big block (427) and a Powerglide. Paint was changed from blue to red and it

became the "Goose Gone Red". About that time I met Don but never actually met Bill but had seen him at the races tons of times.

Soon after Bill died and the car just sat. I loved the car and ended up buying the engine out of it about 1993. Then in about 2005 was able to buy the car. It needed a restoration again and so to do it right I ask for pictures of it as the Blue Goose. Don told me he had none. I am not sure if that was true or if he did not want me to restore it as the Blue Goose. So I painted it white and it became just "The Goose."

The restoration was done my myself and Greg Easley who founded the DACC and I also had a good friend Terry Hindsley as my tuner.

The engine is a vintage 427, L-88 aluminum heads that were done by Valley Head Service in California. It has a Lunati roller, Dart intake and Dominator. The rear end is

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Feature Car Continued from Page 2

a Dana 60, four link and a Powerglide.

The best time is a 10.03 at 130. While I have not had a ton of racing success I have had fun! I did win B/Hot Rod class at the Texas Thaw a couple of years ago and the Shoe Box shootout at Super Chevy. I got some nice ink in the September 2010 issue of Super Chevy Magazine.

On the door is Poops Garage in Leonard. This is in reference to when I was in high school. We started a car club called the "Stockers". Poop was a mechanic and he agreed to be our sponsor. We met every Monday night at his shop and he taught us about cars, engines etc. Several of the club members raced at Green Valley Raceway. So many years later, Poops Garage still lives on!

I got the Tri Five and drag racing bug before I could drive. When I was 17 I got a black and white '55 hardtop with a 265 4 barrel, overdrive 4:11 rear end, factory a/c and power steering. Immediately I took off the a/c and p/s since it took horsepower away from the rear wheels. I bought a \$10 Duntov cam and wow it ran great with that! My first trophy was at the Caddo Mills strip at the airport (North Texas Timing Association) in C stock. By then I was hooked for life! I raced at the Scorpion in McKinney, a track in Whitesboro, I-20 Raceway in Tyler and Green Valley. This first '55 was my daily driver and my college car.

A buddy of mine raced a '55 150, then he got a '57 150. We did a body off restoration at my house on the '57 back in 1968 when that was not real common. We painted the frame with a brush! I still have a picture of the frame sitting in the driveway.

Then I got a '67 Camaro, stripped off everything and then I got a '69 302 from a wrecking yard. I raced the Camaro probably from 1970 to 1973 and had pretty good success with it. I had a partner Billy McWhirter (who now has a red/white Bel Air). Together we won the IHRA Longhorn Nationals at Dallas International Motor Speedway in 1972 in the Stock Optional class and set an IHRA record. We raced the car there several times and also at Green Valley with pretty good success and won King of the Valley where all the class winners compete against each other. This car was known as Vitamin-Z as it



## BLUE GOOSE

The drag is where 83 Alexander's wild goose goes



If 83 Alexander were small, over 80 years of age, taught school and lived in Pasadena, he could sell his vintage '55 Chevy in his mother's "Little old school teacher from Pasadena" words for well over four-milage car, driven only on the weekends, a quarter-mile at a time." While Alexander is none of the above, he can't buy a '55 Chevy for less than \$10k of '55, and it has been used ever since as a drag racer. The Goose has gone all the way from a G-Stocker to an H-Stocker, with something like 33 national wins and a best of 10-91-121 behind it. Yet the Goose wears a '55-pan, hoodline and all, with the exception of a few black four-link rear suspension and a 1960s-style '55 302 motor. So when does the candy blue, light blue and pearl blue Goose go? By logging 48,000 miles towing. It goes everywhere!

Photo: Chevrolet '55 Coupe, 83 Alexander, Leonard, Texas

## February 1976 Hot Rod Magazine (above) Today's Goose (below)



was painted orange.

Then I sold the car in '73 and started on another Camaro, this one a '68 and built it with a 302. It was Captain Gumball and lettered by Dirty of Dallas. About that time is when I met Greg Easley and he brain washed me so I got more into car shows than racing. I showed the Gumball at the Autorama in Market Hall in about 1977. Ended up selling it for \$2500, wow that sounds crazy now!. Boy what a bad mistake.

Then I bought a '65 Corvette and restored it over about a 7 year period. It was also painted by Greg.

Around 1995 I wanted a '55 and bought a car that Greg did the paint work on. That car I still own and made it as a Del Ray with original interior. I have taken this '55 on 10 Power Tours so far. It was the DACC Feature Car in April 2012. Then I got the Goose, and then the Gypsy Red '55 built in the gasser style that was a total restoration and was a DACC Feature Car in October 2011.

I do love '55 Chevys and I do enjoy driving them!

BE SURE AND CHECK OUT THE ADDITIONAL PHOTOS ON THE CLUB WEBSITE FOR SOME GREAT OLD PHOTOS OF JIM LEINART'S 'GOOSE'!



## HOT TEXAS NIGHTS CAR SHOW BECOMES WET TEXAS NIGHTS, THEN PLEASANT TEXAS NIGHTS CAR SHOW

Over a period of two weekends last month, DACC took part in various parts of our 'Dinner Before The Show and Hot Texas Nights Car Show' event. The original scheduled day for this event had rain hit, but that didn't stop a hungry group of DACC members from participating in the 'Dinner Before The Show' on the first weekend. Rain postponed the show to the following Saturday night and that night yet another group of DACC members showed up to display their '55-'57 Chevys at the Hot Texas Nights show in N Richland Hills with temperatures in the 80's (Far from the normal HOT 99 + temps this time of the year!). It might have taken two weekends to get it in, but in the end we did it all and everyone had a great time! THANKS to all who came out to support our effort!



## DACC DRAG RACING!

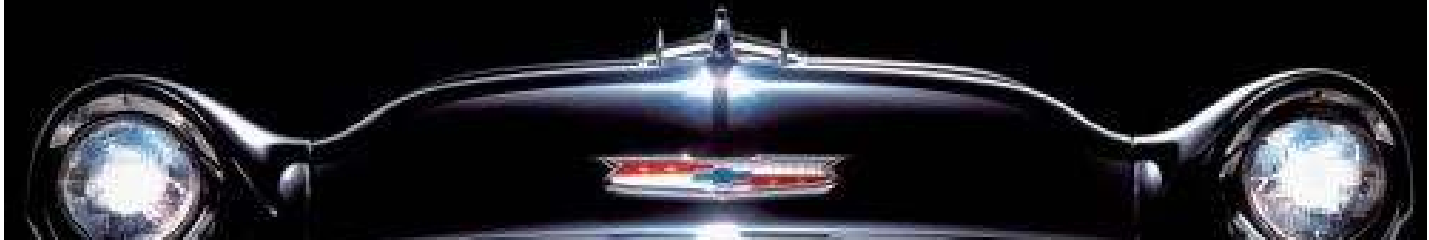
The Texas Muscle Car Club Challenge Drag Racing Series fires back up this coming weekend for the fall with the first of five races in September and October! Plan to join Team 'DC' and as always everyone welcomed to race, classes for all cars! Info at [www.TMCCC.org](http://www.TMCCC.org) and watch the club chat board for more details!

### FALL RACE SCHEDULE

Sept 9 – Texas Motorplex – Ennis  
 Sept 16 – North Star Dragway – Denton  
 Sept 30 – Redline Raceway – Royce City  
 October 14 – North Star Dragway – Denton  
 October 28 – Texas Raceway – Kennedale



Will people ever line the street to look at what you drove?



# October A BUSY Month For DACC Members!

## October 6<sup>th</sup>! DACC '55-'57 CHEVY DISPLAY AT THE STATE FAIR OF TEXAS!

We have a limited number of spaces this year so don't delay if you would like to display at the Fair all day on Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> behind stanchions! Free tickets to the fair! Contact David Graves at [David@DallasClassicChevy.com](mailto:David@DallasClassicChevy.com) to get in the lineup! **DON'T DELAY!**



## October 13<sup>th</sup>! 13<sup>th</sup> Annual DACC DRIVE IN MOVIE NIGHT!

Join us for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual DRIVE IN MOVIE CRUISE to Granbury at the Brazos Drive In, we will have dinner at Babe's Chicken Dinner House in Granbury before heading over to the historic Brazos Drive In. More details in the weekly email, next month's newsletter or contact Greg Hedum at 972 539-9886.



## October 26-28<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Foliage Tour!

This year the Fall Tour heads to the Fayetteville, Arkansas area so expect this to be a great driving tour! '55-'57 enthusiast from all over the area attend this annual tour. Details on the club website under the 'Calendar' section or contact Bill & Diane Preston who will be organizing a caravan from DFW at 972 691-4968.



PLAN TO JOIN DACC MEMBERS AT ONE OR ALL OF THESE GREAT FALL EVENTS!



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**FALL '55-'57 CHEVY SHOW!  
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