



The Dashboard

A Publication of Central Oklahoma Classic Chevy Club

September 2009

Off to the Nomad Convention ...again.

It all started in July 2003 when we set out to drive our newly-restored 1956 Nomad 2,500 miles from Oklahoma City to Park City, Utah and back for the annual Chevrolet Nomad Association Convention... We had a wonderful time, met great people, made some special friends and saw some fantastic Nomads! Since then we've only missed one convention, for the birth of our granddaughter in 2008.

We flew to the convention at Boise, Idaho in the Western Region this year because we wanted to be back in Texas the day the convention ended... no time for that three- or four-day drive home. I don't know whether it's more stressful to worry whether the old car is going to break down, or worry whether we'll get stranded in an airport trying to fly on Southwest Airlines parent passes (that's WAY below stand by).

The Nomad convention schedule is the same every year. Arrive on Sunday ...or Saturday ...or Friday to see old friends and enjoy sight seeing. Cars are classified for the car show on Sunday evening and Monday morning. The classes are based on the degree of originality, number of modifications and whether the car is trailered. Monday you check out the swap meet and clean your car for the Tuesday morning judging. Wednesday there are sight-seeing tours arranged for the group. Thursday morning is the yearly membership meeting and that evening is the awards banquet.

The local organizers determine all of the special things that happen between the standard events at each convention. There are activities, crafts, tours and shuttles arranged for the wives who want to do something besides "talk cars" for a week. I've always intended to try some of those, but never seem to get out of the parking lot... even when we don't have to clean a car. Monday night has developed in to a major event with the emphasis on getting to know each other and making the new people feel welcome, with lots of ice-breaker activities. Our special treat that night was an "Idaho baked potato" with sour cream and chives... made completely out of ice cream. My two favorite things to eat are #1-Ice Cream and #2-Potatoes! So I was REALLY happy!

Monday night the judging director marks off the whole parking area with each car's number so the Nomads are grouped by class in the order they appear on the judging sheet. Tuesday the members make their choices in each class and for Best Custom and Best Original Type. Special judges determine Best Interior, Engine and Paint. Tuesday afternoon special arrangements had been made for our group to see a local family's car collection that wasn't yet open to the public. Tuesday night we loaded onto three buses and went to the Snake River Stampede for a professional rodeo... the bulls won.

They offered us six different types of sight-seeing tours on Wednesday and I wanted to do several of them, but we could only choose one. So Bill and I used our "we don't have to clean a car" time on Mon-

Monday to do an historic Boise trolley tour. We learned a lot about this area where Lewis and Clark, the Oregon Trail and finding gold and silver were important. We decided to take the day-long bus tour of the Sawtooth Mountains offered on Wednesday. Our fantastic tour guide was a retired geography professor from Boise State University, who also knew all about the geology and history of the area. Since we had passed up taking a white-water rafting trip that day, we substituted doing a "float trip" for six miles down the Boise River right through town on Thursday... Bill still thinks I was trying to kill him! I'm certainly glad we didn't do the white-water rafting.

Wednesday evening the whole group did a cruise-in to the local Red Robin which is owned by one of the local Nomad owners. Another local eatery suggested by the event planners was Donnie Mac's Trailer Park Cuisine. The food was good, but the decoration was really the unique part! On the driveway of this converted auto repair shop, the waiting area was surrounded by pink flamingos with avocado green sofas and assorted lawn chairs. There was a rusted out 41 Chevy in the middle of the restaurant that you could dine in. Most booths had auto bench seats on wheels and were separated by hanging plastic shower curtains. I could go on... but just don't go to Boise without checking it out.

Last event was the awards banquet. It's a chance to have a good time and see who was chosen for the class and special awards. The cars in some of the classes are so equal that any of them might have won. In the custom classes, especially, it's great to see the innovations and detail that the builders have put in the cars. We see some of the same cars at convention every year, no matter how far they have to drive. But usually there are lots of cars from the surrounding states that we've not seen. This year 371 people registered with 82 Nomads attending. Thirty states and four foreign countries were represented. Washington, California and Oregon had the most people there. Two couples had attended all 21 conventions.

Our hotel reservations are already made for the 2009 C.N.A. Convention in the Central Region at Rapid City, South Dakota. The 2010 convention at Dayton, Ohio in the Eastern Region is already in ink on our calendar.



At Donnie Mac's Trailer Park Cuisine



Replica of 1953 Waldorf Nomad

Road Trip to Stroud & Rock Café

Saturday, August 22, COCCC members met at Braum's at I-35 & 15th Street in Edmond for a road trip to meet with the members of Classic Chevy Club of OK Ltd. (Tulsa's club) at the Rock Café in Stroud. The Osborn's yellow Nomad was in the lead. He had a few classics behind him making for a traveling road show. We traveled on Rt. 66 and met quite a few motorcycles on the trip. It seems to me that they were out on a good day for a road trip also. The motorcycles beat us to the café and so as the CCC members from Tulsa finished up eating, the motorcyclists got to sit down to eat

Causing the COCCC members to have a wait of an hour. We decided as a group to go to eat BBQ at Dan's in Davenport, OK. Well, the Reeds & Emerson's took off and as Larry was coming back from Rt. 66 Restoration, the rest of the group heard of a place that was to have good BBQ in Stroud. So we split up and ate at 5 Star BBQ in Stroud. After our meal, we found the Tulsa group at the local park and we opened our lawn chairs and had a good visit.

Members attending and driving a classic were: Tracy Bugg, Jerry & Iris Emerson, Rudy & Gloria Escalera, Tom & Teresa Linn, Joe & Donna McIninch, Larry & Annette Myers, True & Sherry Osborn, Mike & Betty Rhoades. Members driving their other cars were: Mel & Rustyne Harris, Mark & Joan Houser, David & Linda Reeds.



Members enjoying our time at Stroud.

CRIPPLED, LAME AND LAZY

By
Mel Harris

Many of us over the years have worked in factories that produced either cars, tires, road building machinery, communications equipment and maybe even planes. (If I missed your industry I do apologize). Each facility has it's own jargon that would not be understood by the average citizen on the street. For example, read the title of this story again and I tell you how it was used at Dayton Tire. If you were part of management and did any supervising of the hourly workers, then before the shift started you had to check and see if anyone was going to be absent or tardy. Somehow, in one department, this became known as our Crippled, Lame and Lazy Report. It wasn't meant to be demeaning, only a way of letting us know what jobs would be vacant and needing to be filled.

Now you're probably asking why I'm writing about this subject in our newsletter. Well the reason is pretty simple. It's because the year of 2009 has seen a marked increase of Crippled and Lame in our club. Members have battled cancer, shoulder, back, kidney and knee surgeries, diabetes, bone marrow diseases and breathing problems. (You make up your own mind about who is Lazy). I guess this means we're all getting older and health issues are starting to plague the COCCC. Let's just say 2009 saw us decline and we can only hope 2010 will see all of us on the mend. May you have good health and if so, I'll keep your name off of the Crippled, Lame and Lazy List.

THANKS TULSA CLUB

A few weeks back, Terry Simpson, from the Tulsa Classic Chevy Club, invited our members to join them at the Rock Café in Stroud. On the 22nd of August, nine classic and two civilian cars containing a total of 20 people made the trip from Oklahoma City. Even though the weather conditions were great, the seating room in the restaurant was not. The Tulsa Club did get to eat there but we were forced to find our food at another establishment. Some were disappointed at this turn of events, however after consuming barbeque we joined our friends from Tulsa at the park in Stroud. Plenty of shade, nice temperatures, geese flying overhead and in the distance some cackling hens! LOL!! Maybe one of these days in the future the COCCC can plan an event and invite those from Tulsa to meet us for a meal.

Here are some things you don't want to forget. The first is the show in Claremore on the 12th of September. Next is our meeting on the 13th of September, to be held in Coits on NW 50th and Portland at 3 pm. The final memory jog is the show in Perkins on the 26th of September. I'm not sure how many of us Crippled, Lame and Lazy can attend these events but if you're healthy and have a good running classic go out and have some fun while you can!!!

BAKERS DOZEN

On the 29th of August, a dozen cars from our club made quite an appearance at the car show which was held in Duffner Park. It was hosted by the Village Lion Club and the weather couldn't have been any better. Especially considering two years ago when the heat was almost unbearable and then last year rain put a damper on everything. It was good to see 140 cars supporting the host club. Those from the COCCC attending were Rodney & Martha Duerksen, Larry Myers, Fred Hensley, True and Sherry Osborn, Phil McCown, Robert Bogardus, Tracy Bugg, Billy Overall, Mike and Betty Rhoades, Harold Parker, Joe McIninch, and Mel & Rustyne Harris.

There was plenty of competition for trophies and our club secured two. Both were awarded to cars manufactured in 1955. True and Sherry Osborn won with their Nomad and Fred Hensley with his convertible. From what I understand, Billy Overall won a set of tires and we saw Mike Rhoades hurrying back to his car with a pair of glass pack mufflers.

Now, one of the best prizes given away was a free cookout provided by the "Two Pats" duo. For the third straight year our club was the winner and faced some stiff competition. Another club had 11 cars registered and with "Honorary Member" Pat Harrington registering his 1955 Chevy with us, our final winning count was a Bakers Dozen. We'll discuss in an upcoming meeting as to when and where the consumption of free food will take place.

Thanks to all who participated.

A Word From the Editor:

This year has been a hard year for some of our car club members and one in particular. I would like to at this time make sure that this person knows how much he is appreciated by each member of Central OK Classic Chevy Club. His leadership has been outstanding even when he isn't feeling 100%. He still pushes on and stays with his position in this club. He could throw up his hands and say he's had enough and doesn't have the strength to lead us, but he doesn't. He just keeps on being our leader. He is not feeling well at this time and is in the hospital with pneumonia, but when I asked him for an article about the car show on the 29th, he came up with a good story. The way he has handled what has been dealt to him, has been so inspiring. His spirit has shined through it all. Mel, have faith, have strength, have courage. You will beat this.

Your friends in Central OK Classic Chevy Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 4, 2009 Cruise-In 4th Street, Ponca City, OK Al at 580-765-4335

September 5, 2009 Tri-City Cruise-In 6—9 pm

September 12, 2009 Western Day Stampede Open Car Show, Mustang, OK

September 12, 2009 Bluegrass & Chili Festival Car show, Claremore, OK. Hosted by Classic Chevy Club of OK, Ltd. Check with Rodney or Larry if you plan on going.

September 12, 2009 Guthrie Road Celebration, Guthrie, OK

September 13, 2009 COCCC monthly meeting at Coit's at 50th & Portland.

September 19, 2009 CC Riders Car Show, Riverwind Casino, Norman, OK.

September 19, 2009 Classic's In The Park, Hafer Park, Edmond. \$200 awarded to club with the most entrants.

September 26, 2009 Perkins Car Show (see Flyer attached)

October 4—11, 2009 Cruisin' The Coast. Mississippi Gulf Coast.

October 11, 2009 COCCC monthly meeting at Coit's at 50th & Portland.

November 8, 2009 COCCC monthly meeting at Coit's at 50th & Portland.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE OR OTHER SHOWS, PLEASE REFER TO YOUR COPY OF THE 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS PUBLISHED BY OKLAHOMA HOT ROD ASSOCIATION.



I pledge
allegiance to the flag of the United States of
America, and to the republic for which it
stands, one nation,
under God,
indivisible with liberty and justice for all.



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