

Bowtie Buzz

Memphis Classic
Chevy Club

June 2020 Edition | www.memphisclassicchevys.com



The Gradual Re-Opening Edition:

- * Tri-Five Nationals Postponed
- * More Chevy Songbook
- * Chevy Trivia
- * Future Chevys
- * Historical Chevys



The Purpose of the MCCC shall be to promote, foster, and encourage all activities toward the collection, restoration, preservation, and appreciation of all Chevrolets produced from 1955-1972, and to better facilitate the exchange of information and ideas regarding these automobiles.

MEETING & CRUISE IN

- Meetings are held at ~~The Brunswick Kitchen, 5197 Brunswick Rd, Arlington, TN 38002~~. Next Meeting: June 15th, 7:00 pm **June meeting location changed to Wally Hatchet's 6439 Summer Ave, Memphis, TN 38134.**
- MCCC Cruise-in every Thursday (weather permitting), at Ty's Smokehouse, 7174 Stage Rd #101, Bartlett, TN 38133. **Cruise-ins are back in action!**

CLUB NEWS

Well, things are starting to loosen up a bit, but the Coronavirus Pandemic has still got a grip on large public gatherings and many of our favored car-oriented activities are either cancelled or postponed until well into the future. Back on the schedule are the Thursday night cruise-ins at [Ty's Smokehouse](#), and [Memphis International Raceway](#) has swung back into action as of June. The club is currently unable to conduct our monthly meetings at The Brunswick Kitchen due to the requirements of social distancing that are presently in effect, so the June meeting is being held at [Wally Hatchet's](#) at 6439 Summer Avenue. Several club members have organized drive-by cruises and other "stay-in-car" activities to keep our members engaged with our hobby.

Don't Forget:

Take Care of Yourself: Please note that a majority of the club's membership very likely falls into the [Higher Risk Category for Severe Illness](#) per the CDC. Please take care of yourself, and stay well. We want to see all of our members and friends at a car show or club outing as soon as possible. That means keeping ourselves well, and ready to go back outside where the fun with Classic Chevys usually takes place. Until then, let's polish our classics and stay ready to roll down that long and winding road.

In Memoriam:



It is with much regret that we must report the passing of MCCC club member Sonny Leem. Sonny fell ill earlier this year, and due to the pandemic, not very many among our membership were aware of his condition. Some of our fellow MCCC members organized a 'drive-by' salute to Sonny's home on June 6th, and Nancy reports he enjoyed seeing the parade cruise by his window, and recognized who was behind the wheel of many of the classic cars that paid him a visit. Sadly he passed away the following morning. Funeral services were held June 10th at Family Funeral Care, 4925 Summer Avenue with several club members in attendance. Read Sonny's obituary and take note of the numerous activities he and Nancy pursued throughout the years, representing a life lived to the fullest. [Obituary for James "Sonny" Leem.](#)

Cancelled or Rescheduled:

[The NSRA Street Rod Nationals](#), [The NHRA/Holley Hot Rod Reunion](#), and [The Goodguys Nashville Nationals](#) are now all taking place throughout the month of August. [Super Chevy](#) has a new date and returns to [Memphis International Raceway](#) on September 25th-27th. Unfortunately, the [Danchuck Tri-Five Nationals](#) has been officially postponed until 2021. So, despite a continuously changing calendar of events, it looks like there may be some activities to get your Chevy groove on during the summer months after-all. However, it's probably still advisable to consider everything "tentative" during these unpredictable times. So consider going to the trouble of checking with the promoter or the venue before hitting the road for any out-of-town events, and double check the local stuff too. Dennis Elliot, our dedicated Events Coordinator, will keep us abreast of any potential changes to anticipated club activities. Most MCCC events are currently postponed, but not off the calendar as of yet. So let's all try to keep a finger on the pulse of the upcoming events, as there's considerable change afoot in this year's activities due to the pandemic.

Club Activities:

Drive-by Parades: While we wait for things to reopen, the club has been approached about providing some impromptu parade laps in our vintage Chevys to help celebrate special occasions for some of our fans. So the club now has a few special birthday parties chalked up as events that allow the members to enjoy driving their classic Chevys, and maintain some personal interaction at a "safe" distance. Some of our membership went on a lunch and movie outing to Bolivar TN during the past month. These mostly in-car activities appear to be a fun way to keep the wheels turning on that classic Chevy, under fairly controlled conditions, while we await the return of car shows and other more "normal" summertime action. Denis Elliot, our dedicated Events Coordinator, will keep us abreast of any potential changes to anticipated club activities. Most MCCC events are currently postponed, but not completely off the calendar as of yet. So let's all try to keep a finger on the pulse of the upcoming events, as there's considerable change afoot in this year's activities due to the pandemic.



Chevy Trivia:



The Chevy Song of The Month... [Chevy Van](#) by Sammy Johns. Again, it's about more than the Chevy, and it is a Van of all things... but it does kind of tie good times to a Chevy reference that's hard to miss. This one turns the dial on the wayback machine all the way to 1975, when AM radios were standard equipment, and bell bottoms were all the rage. It's 45 years old now, and the van craze of the 1970's has long since passed, but it still should make you smile for nostalgia's sake. The song has also been faithfully covered by country music stalwarts [Waylon Jennings](#), and [Sammy Kershaw](#).

2020 MCCC ELECTED OFFICERS

(Note: Officer's Meeting is the 1st Monday of Each Month)

Jack Mabry, President	901-351-0808	belair55dream@yahoo.com
Danny Ford, Vice President	901-337-1957	abelairman57@gmail.com
Cindy Hubbard, Secretary	901-438-5368	clhubbard1956@gmail.com
Louis Kimery, Communications Director	901-488-0856	lkkphoto@gmail.com
Buddy Bonner, Technical Director	901-786-8743	gbonner1@southwest.tn.edu
Teri Hodnett, Membership Director	901-304-9320	thodnett1955@yahoo.net
Cookie Bonner, Treasurer	901-619-6983	gbonner792@att.net
Denis Elliot, Events Coordinator	901-487-3024	cwwdelliott@bellsouth.net
Ajay Cohen, Web Master	901-626-5160	ajaycohen@gmail.com



Find us on
Facebook

The **Memphis Classic Chevys** Facebook page currently has **1,015 followers**. That's right, we've got over 1,000 rabid Chevy enthusiasts Following the MCCC on Facebook. This is a public Facebook group so any MCCC member or other verifiable automotive enthusiast can request to join the group here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/memphisclassicchevys/>

Chevy Impala Trivia:

Did you Know?

- * The first Chevrolet Impala was built as the top tier Chevrolet model in 1958.
- * The 1958 Impala also brought an all new engine to the Chevy line-up, the 348 cubic inch 'W' big block engine.
- * The high performance Super Sport option first became available in 1960 on the Impala.
- * The Beach Boys immortalized the virtues of drag racing a "four-speed, dual-quad, posi-traction 409" when the newer, larger displacement 'W' motor became available in the 1961 Impalas and other full-size Chevys.
- * The Impala eventually became the "base" model full-size Chevrolet and was discontinued as a nameplate in 1985. The Caprice nameplate was then used on all "base" model full-size Chevrolets starting in 1986. Upscale full-size Chevys were branded as a Caprice Classic, or a Caprice Classic Brougham.
- * The Impala SS reappeared in 1994 as a high performance option on the newly redesigned Caprice four door sedan body style, and would eventually supplant the use of the Caprice nameplate on everything except special order Police cars.
- * Originally conceived of as a premium two-door hardtop and convertible, the Impala line would eventually encompass A full range of body styles when four-door sedans and station wagons were added to the mix.
- * The last Chevrolet Impala was built on February 27th, 2020 at GM's Detroit-Hamtramck plant in Michigan, thus ending over 60 years of full-size Chevrolets, and one of the most storied nameplates in Chevy history.





The Future of Chevrolet (and Other American Cars):

Just in case you missed it, The Impala is no longer after sixty plus years of building full-size Chevys. In fact, when the Impala checked out, so did the idea of a full size Chevy, regardless of what nameplate it carried. Small cars like the Cruze and the Sonic are already pushing up daisies, and the Camaro seems to be a dead man walking, without any updates planned beyond the pending expiration date on it's 'best-before 2023' label. Then there's the midsize Malibu, rumored to be on borrowed time and staring into the abyss, with a drop-dead date of 2024.

So it seems that your classic Chevy may become even more classic, as Chevrolet follows Ford's lead in transitioning into a company that sells trucks, and truck-like SUV's with all of one cool car (total) in it's line-up. The recently updated Corvette for Chevy, and the enduring Mustang for the Ford aficionados.

There is talk that both companies plan to introduce a bunch of electric vehicles in the not too-distant future, but what they might look like, or perform like, is pretty much up in the air as the Bow-Tie brigade is holding those cards pretty close their corporate vest. It's also been at least three years since the all-electrons Bolt appeared on showroom floors, so the next round of electrification is pretty much anybody's guess.

Meanwhile the cats over at the Dodge and Chrysler stores have given up on small cars all together, but are still selling a collection of authentic rear-drive, V8 powered cars, that can scare up a good burnout on demand even though they are all about twelve years old in the design and technology departments. Should the engineers at FCAU (Fiat Chrysler Automobiles) ever get the green light to try something new, we may find it to be the future of automobiles, or just another retread of what came before, but we'll likely never grow tired of the classics we've stashed away in our garages for future use. So keep pampering those relics of the past, because it doesn't appear that anyone's going to make any more of them anytime soon.





UPCOMING EVENTS

- [American E-Kart Championships/Car Show](#) - Autobahn Speedway - March 21st, 2020.
- [Super Chevy Show](#) - Memphis International Raceway - September 24th-26th, 2020.*
- [28th Annual Bunny Run](#) - Jackson Fairgrounds Park - April 17th-18th, 2020.
- [MCCC Fun Run](#) - Buckhead Creek Recreation Complex - May 17th, 2020. [Postponed.](#)
- [Full Throttle Car Show](#) - Full Throttle Sloonshine Distillery - Trimble TN - June 6th, 2020.
- [Goodguys 15th Nashville Nationals](#) - August 28th - 30th, LP Field, Nashville TN.*
- [Holley National Hot Rod Reunion](#) - August 20th - 22nd, 2020 - Beech Bend Raceway, Bowling Green KY.*
- [51st Annual Street Rod Nationals](#) - August 6th - 9th - Louisville KY.
- [The Danchuk Tri-Five Nationals](#) - August 13th-15th, 2020 - Beech Bend Raceway, Bowling Green KY. [Postponed until August 12-14, 2021.](#)
- [Delta River Cruisin' 2020](#) - Sam's Town Casino - Tunica MS - September 18th-20th, 2020.
- [Bartlett Festival Car Show](#) - Freeman Park - September 26th, 2020.
- [MCCC Fall Festival Car & Bike Show](#) - Faith Baptist Church, October 17th.
- [Memphis Rodders Reunion](#) - November 19th, 2020 - Agricenter International.

* [Rescheduled Date](#)

Chevys Through the Looking Glass of History:



Above: The late Glen Frey of the Eagles asks a 55 Chevy to hold his beer while he basks in the Southern California sun (circa 1970's). Below: Memphis' own Union Chevrolet in the late 1950's.



Swap Meet:



PS: I'm still holding space in this newsletter for your Buy-Sell-Trade items. Please considering sharing what you want to get rid of and also what you want to find. It could benefit another Chevy enthusiast. Please send photos and text of what you've got for buy-sell or trade to your [faithful newsletter editor](#).



Behold... a restored 1959 Corvette road racer makes like a slot car around the confines of a vintage race course. Note the lack of a "real" windshield, no bumpers and headlight covers. This is twisty bits driving at the purist level while taking command of a classic Chevy sports car on steroids. Should you feel a need to get into yesteryear sports car racing, check out the [Sportscar Vintage Racing Association](#) for insight into their special brand of road racing.

Cafe Cruise In
JUNE 28TH
1:30PM - 3:30PM



LOCATION VODOO CAFE:
2780 Bartlett Blvd.
Bartlett, TN 38134

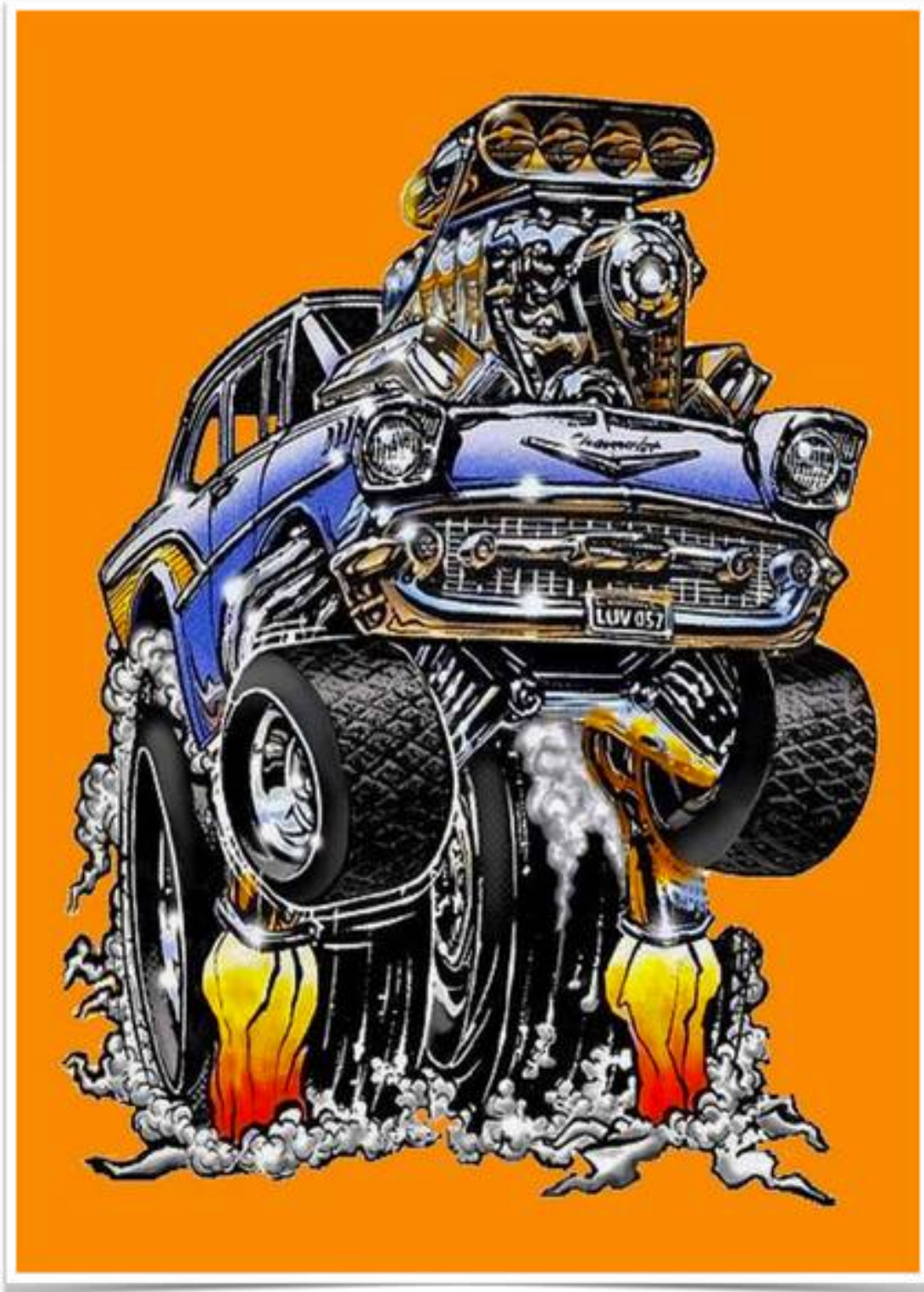
FAMILY FRIENDLY!

ALL MAKES & MODELS WELCOME PLEASE NO BURNOUTS, REWING, ETC.

Hey look at this... something to do with your classic Chevy. Cafe Voodoo Cafe on June 28th, and don't forget the Return of Super Chevy September 25th - 27th.



**EXPERIENCE
THE ORIGINAL**



So until July my fellow Chevy Citizens. May your induction blow strong, and your rubber burn free, as the spirit of Classic Chevys follows us throughout the coming summer months.