



HEADLINER



Newsletter of the Late Great Chevys of Dallas & National Impala Association of North Texas

Don't Loose Your Cool

Spring is just around the corner and that means the start of car show season. Now is the time to take off that car cover and give the ole gal the once over.

What follows is a little basic and covers subjects we all know but are sometimes easily overlooked.

Engines are designed to run hot for excellent efficiency, but not to the extent that they overheat and damage components by overpressure or loss of coolant. Some say that overheating engines are the typical shortcomings of older cars and anyone who owns one will eventually be left stuck and steaming on the side of the road.

That's not necessarily the case. When these older cars came off the assembly line they didn't have an overheating problem, so they obviously have an adequate cooling system (This is mainly true, but many cars during their development were never tested in the summer heat in Arizona or a similar climate, as many are today). It's just that after decades

without regular maintenance or a complete overhaul, the car's parts, radiator, engine block, hoses, fans and belts have aged and may not be working as efficiently as they did when new.

If the temperature gauge on your car indicates that the engine is running a bit hotter than usual on short or long trips, don't wait too long to look into what the car is telling you. It doesn't mean you need to start tearing apart the car's cooling system, just series of tests and preventative maintenance might be the cure to keeping your classic cool.

Belts and Hoses

Replace any belts that are fraying, have cracks or slipping on water pumps and cooling fans. Do a thorough inspect of all hoses for cracks, swelling and signs of leakage. A good rule of thumb is to check the cars belts and hoses with every oil change and replace them every five years regardless of how many miles you put on the car.

(cool cont on next page)

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The Late Great Chevys of Dallas participated in the 51st Annual O'Reilly's sponsored Autorama in Dallas the weekend of February 18-21. Our club was well represented by 6 club members and all of them received awards for their cars. If you would like to see a local TV stations news report on the event, click on the following website <http://bit.ly/fq1ebD> ..

We are still looking for more suggestions for



field trips to various places of interest locally. Let me know if you have any places that would be of interest to our club members.

Now that the weather is starting to be warmer, get your cars in good running shape and come out and participate in our club activities. The next meeting will be next Sunday at Spring Creek Barbeque in Addison. Hope to see everyone there.

Joe



(cool continued)

The Radiator

Inspect the front of the radiator for excessive bugs and dirt - these can be removed with any garden hose with a pressure nozzle attached.

Look for any small leaks which would be apparent by the accumulation of white or green deposits anywhere on the tank or the tubes. These can easily be repaired by hot or cold welds which we recommend over adding radiator sealants which only eventually compound the problems. The problem with a sealant is that it can impede the flow of water in the radiator core and wear down water pump seals, reducing the efficiency.

If you haven't replaced the radiator cap washer for some time, do so. It's an inexpensive part but essential to proper pressurization of your cooling system.

To check for any blockages that may have developed inside, disconnect the lower hose of the radiator and run water through the top, the water should leave the radiator at the same rate as it enters. If it doesn't, very often just back flushing the radiator can open blocked cooling tubes. On older radiators this process may need to be repeated several times as back flushing can redistribute sediment throughout the radiator and cause huge problems as we found out on our E-Type Jaguar several years ago.

The Thermostat

A car's thermostat is what regulates the circulation of coolant through the car's cooling system - it stays in the closed position when the car is cold and opens as it heats up. As the thermostat ages it can fail and remain closed which will cause your car to get very hot...quickly. If your radiator, belts and hoses are in good repair and the car still overheats, replace the thermostat.

The Freeze Plugs

Freeze plugs are usually located on one or both sides of the engine block and are designed to protect it from freezing. But over time they can also be an area where water can leak from the cooling system and cause overheating. Worst yet is when they do go, it's always at the worst possible time.

Once you find where the freeze plugs are located on your particular engine, the tell-tale sign of weeping will be apparent. The ease or difficulty of replacing leaking plugs varies depending on their accessibility.

The Head Gasket

A blown or bad head gasket will cause coolant to leak from your cooling system and you'll find the evidence in your engine's oil or you can find oil in coolant. Either way, it's a mess and the engine will eventually overheat. Frequent checks of your fluids should help catch this problem before serious damage occurs.

Heater Core

Check the heater box for any signs of coolant weeping. Heater cores can easily rust from the inside out and rigging a heater bypass can resolve this problem quickly until you can locate a new heater core.

Check Timing and Adjust the Carburetor

The carburetor and engine's timing are not part of the cooling system, but when they aren't properly adjusted to the manufacturer's specifications, that can be a likely culprit to your overheating problems.

In Conclusion

These simple steps can be the difference between keeping you and your classic looking and running cool. Sitting by the side of the road with the hood up waiting for a tow truck – definitely not cool!



SCATTERSHOOTING



For those who are not familiar with SAN, The **SEMA Action Network** is a nationwide partnership of car clubs, and individual enthusiasts (like you) who work together to impact legislation that affects car and truck hobbyists of all kinds. By joining the SAN you will receive up-to-date alerts on hobby-related legislation in your state and across the country.

SAN Keeps You Current on Legislative Action in the States

Legislators around the country have been busy over the past month and, consequently, so has SEMA Action Network (SAN). SAN staff has plowed through thousands of bills and identified hundreds that may be of interest to member companies. The most pressing of these bills result in Action Alerts being shot out to SAN members and are highlighted in your monthly Driving Force.

Given limited print space however, SEMA has expanded this bill-tracking effort into an online compilation provided at no cost, 24/7, on the SAN website, www.semasan.com. Along the left-hand column of the SAN website you will find, in red underlined letters, the words "MY STATE." Simply find your state in the list, click once, and you are transported to a list of legislation in your area pertaining to the automotive hobby.

Some of the bills listed on the site will never progress past introduction; others will go on to become the laws of tomorrow. The period following a bill's introduction is critical to its success or failure. It is at this time, immediately following introduction, that SEMA aims to inform enthusiasts and encourage their participation in the legislative process through e-mails and phone calls to state representatives. Such correspondence has a proven and direct impact on the decisions of legislators.

I encourage you to visit www.semasan.com. The information on this site will provide you with the tools you need to help affect real change, protect the hobby from detrimental state laws and proactively support favorable ones.

UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

March 6	Club Meeting, Spring Creek BBQ, Addison
March 19	City of Palestine Car
March 5	Chick-Fil-A Monthly Car & Truck Show, Frisco, Tx (1:30 start)
March 12	Country Burger Car Show Murphy Tx
March 13	Trade Days Waxahachie
March 17-20	The 2011 Auto Show, Tarrant County Convention Center
March 17-20	Swap Meet Chickasha Oklahoma
March 18-20	Good Guys Rod and Custom Car Show, Texas Motor Speedway
March 19	Capital One Spring Classic Show Plano Tx
March 20	Twin Peaks Full Class Show & Bikini Car Wash, Plano Tx
April 2	Chick-Fil-A Spring Classic, Frisco, Tx
April 9	Late Great Chevys Morning Cruise
April 7-10	Dallas Auto Show



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2011

Spring Creek Barbecue, Addison, Texas

Joe Shea welcomed our guests to the meeting. They were the Shea's daughter, Robin, her husband, Mike Sandoval, and family, Joseph, Nathan and Kera from Round Rock, Texas.

Robin has worked on the Club web site recently to expand it's uses and to make the Club more accessible to other car enthusiasts with similar interests, as well as making them more accessible to us as potential members, advertisers, etc. She explained now the Club is on Twitter and Facebook, the latter of which you need to "Like" Late Great Chevys of Dallas. People can just go to our web site, lategreatchevys.org, to view pictures and information. They can register and upload pictures, share a photo gallery and list events on the calendar. A Pay Pal account has been set up that is secure where dues can be paid, T shirts can be bought or a charity donation could be made in the future.

Robin also knows someone who said they would design a new T-shirt for the Club for \$50. He could screen print them and sell them to up for about \$5. They normally retail for \$15.

Ernie Perkins has worked up a couple of events for the Club to do. The Dog Wood Trails Parade in Palestine will be March 19 at 10:00. He said there were one hundred twenty five Mustangs in the parade last year. The Lone Star Corvette Club will participate this year. LGCD will meet at the courthouse between 8:30 and 9:00. This is about a one hundred ten mile or two-hour drive.

The other activity destination is Pilot Point, TX to visit Sanderson C & C Restoration. Meet at 9:00 at the Wal Mart at Josey/Hwy. 423 and Hwy. 121. It is about a half hour drive from N. Dallas on Hwy. 377 N.

Jim Crossland said everything is all set for Autorama. There are six cars to be displayed along with Doorthy. Greg Romero is getting flyers printed. The cars will be moved in February 17.

Joe said we would talk about the cruise at the meeting next month.

Richard Caviness told about talking to his Australian friend on the Internet. His friend ordered some parts from the US. He said he bought four dipsticks and sold them for \$300 each!

Since there was no official trivia at the meeting, Sandy Shea asked a couple of questions about Ronald Reagan, who would have been one hundred years old this month. Jim Crossland won. Sorry, Jim. No prize.

Ernie Perkins won \$17 in the 50/50 raffle.

Joe noted there is a link for ads on our web site. The ads can be sold for \$150 for six months or \$250 per year. Joe said Greg had already sold four.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30.





Reminder!

Door prizes;

March
April

Donnie Anderson
Mike Tidwell



FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

Glenda Almand

Mike Tidwell

Ernie Perkins

Richard Caviness

Joe & Sandy Shea

Richard Bartow

Paul Edwards ('71 El Camino)

Rob & Linda Halencamp

Jim Crossland ('64 Impala SS)

Richard Caviness

Mike & Robyn Sandoval and family, Joseph,
Nathan and Kera



"Head count? Every time we try to count them, we all fall asleep!"



TREASURY REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE 2/01/2011			\$1159.45
INCOME			
Dues	\$80		
TOTAL INCOME		\$80	
EXPENSES			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$0		
ENDING BALANCE 10/31/2010			\$1239.45

PARTING SHOT

I was halfway through a meeting with a photocopy salesman, when he suddenly mentioned his wife and children, and how contented he was. I was puzzled, but let him continue.

It was only when I glanced down that I understood his reason for imparting this personal information:

The table leg against which I had been rubbing my itchy foot wasn't a table leg at all!



Classified Ads



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This area available for advertising



M O R N I N G Car Show



National Impala Association & Late Great Chevys
Present

Breakfast at Norma's



Where: Norma's Cafe & behind Legacy Texas Bank

When: 8:00-10:30AM – Second Saturday of the month (April-Oct)

Show dates: April 9, May 14, June 11 July 9, August 13, September 10 & October 8

Location: Northwest corner of Trinity Mills & the Dallas North Tollway

- ☆ **Cash Awards, not just another trophy**
- ☆ **Open to all makes of cars, trucks & cycles**
- ☆ **Top Car Judging**
- ☆ **50/50 Pot**
- ☆ **DJ with 60's & 70's Music**
- ☆ **Great Food**



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