

The Dashboard

A publication of
The Central Oklahoma
Classic Chevy Club.
A not-for-profit corporation.
A chapter of
Bow Tie Chevys
and
Classic Chevy International.

Sept. 2000

New Mexico Sweep

By Keith Marang
COCCC Web Master



Photo by Keith Marang

Awards were won by all at the Albuquerque CCI convention. Showing of their plaques and certificates are Keith Marang and Sandra (left), Oklahoma CCI State Rep Mel Harris and his wife Rustyne (center). Jerry and Judy Webb round out the group at right.

I won first in my class (1956 Custom Trailered Senior) with 988 points and received a Platinum certificate. (I guess all that touch-up work I did helped!) I also won "Best Modified Interior-Trailered" of the show.

Mel and Rustyne's black 1956 Bel Air received a "Cruiser's Pick" award.

On the way out to Albuquerque, Sandra and I stopped at the "Cadillac Farm" just outside of Amarillo, Texas.

Inside

More
convention
coverage

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Jerry and Judy Webb, Keith Marang and friend Sandra, and Mel and Rustyne Harris attended the recent Classic Chevy International show in Albuquerque, N.M. All three came away winners at this indoor event held in Albuquerque's convention center and hosted by the Albuquerque Classic Chevy Club.

Jerry and Judy's black 1958 Impala garnered first in his class with 961 points and a received a Gold Certificate.

David Reeds rarin' to go as club's new president

By David Reeds
COCCC President

The August meeting was held at True and Sherry Osborn's house in Oklahoma City. We appreciated their letting us use their garage and home for our meeting.

There will be lots of things to discuss at the next meeting. Hope to see you all there.

We have many things we really need to get rolling on. Among these are the Christmas Party, The cruise to High Pointe and plans for next year's events.

Linda Bahr has volunteered to be the secretary for the 2000-2001 term and I have appointed her to that position.

Dinner cruise plans for September are still unknown as the Stookeys

are taking a trip to Yellowstone later this month.

Late Great Chevys of Oklahoma City will join CC Riders and the Oklahoma City Corvette Club in operating next year's Cruisin' OKC.

Come to the September meeting at A&W on 89th at South Western on Sunday, Sept. 9 for a really great time.

A wild ride in Colorado

► Myers escape injury in hair-raising accident triggered by blown tire

By Annette Myers
COCCC member

This year's trip to the Chevrolet Nomad Convention took on a life of it's own. As we had done in years past, we prepared the 1955 Nomad for the trip ahead of time. Larry changed the oil, greased the car and trailer, checked and packed the wheel bearings, checked his spare parts to take with him, checked the tool box for all the necessary tools, packed the trailer and took time to recheck everything.

We left Edmond, on Thursday, July 6, at 9:00 a.m. I took the first leg of the driving, as promised, and drove to Salina, Kan. Larry then took the wheel. He noticed a vibration in the car and looked for a place to get the wheels checked for balance. The Goodyear store couldn't get to us right away, so Larry thought we would head on down the road.

He noticed the vibration getting worse and pulled into Russell, Kan., and found a shop that could check the tires. After an hour there and getting the front wheels balanced, we were off again down I-70.

When we stopped for gas, the Nomad wouldn't start — dead bat-

See MYERS Page 4

By Don Bays

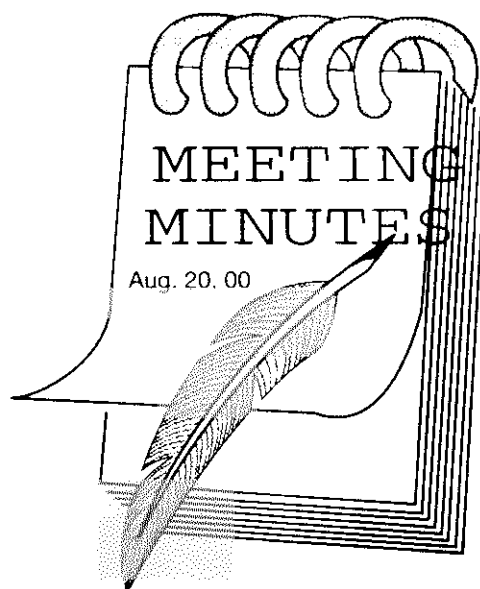
COCCC Secretary

Our August meeting was graciously hosted by Truc and Sherry Osborn on Sunday, 8/20/2000. They have a beautiful new home near our old friends Eddie & Rae Ketch and Bobbi & Smitty. It is filled with desirable antiques and collectibles and was a perfect setting for our annual officer elections.

First we sat down to lunch. Bill Chaffin cooked ribs and brisket and everyone brought side dishes.

Following lunch, we escaped the heat in Truc & Sherry's family room for our meeting. Bill was officially thanked for cooking. It was noted that Rodney & Martha Duerksen won the poker run prize and Mel & Rustyne Harris won the 50/50 pot at Mustang following our July dinner cruise at Lake Thunderbird. Congratulations!!!

► Outgoing President John Dragoo opened the serious business with some ballot changes. David Reeds' candidacy for president was to be treated as a write-in campaign only and Linda Bahr's name was restored to the ballot. Following this action, Linda withdrew her name from consideration. Rip Riley sent regrets that he needed to withdraw his name from any consideration. Jonnie Clemons asked that she be considered only as an interim secretary for 2-3 months until a permanent replacement is



named. The new president will be able to appoint a new secretary. This led to votes for the secretary not being counted. (**Editor's note:** Linda Bahr has generously volunteered to be the secretary and President David Reeds has appointed her to that position.) Ken Buchanan withdrew his name from the ballot for car show chairman. Martha Duerksen withdrew her name from consideration as president. John then asked for all ballots to be completed or changed if necessary and turned in to Tom Linn and Bill Chaffin for counting.

John reported that he negotiated 25 percent shares for our contributing clubs at Cruisin' OKC. We then OK'd a motion by Ken Buchanan to write checks for \$1,075 each to The CC Riders and The Oklahoma City Corvette Club.

► We had some music from a beautiful 1948 Wurlitzer juke box and a dance recital from the lovely Kathy Chaffin.

► Then the results came in:

President: David Reeds

Vice-President: John Dragoo

Co Second VPs: Rudy Escalera & Curtis Welch

Treasurer: Rustyne Harris

Car Show Chairman: Rodney Duerksen

Newsletter Editor: Charles Stookey

► David's first official action was to ask Jonnie Clemons to serve as interim secretary and she accepted (As noted previously, Linda Bahr has volunteered for that position.)

► David auctioned hat donated by Martha that raised money for charity. Rudy Escalera won the bidding at \$27 and gave the hat to Rustyne who had dropped out of the bidding shortly after I did. (Classy move, dude!)

► The meeting was adjourned.

I've enjoyed being your secretary this year and will try to provide you with some newsletter articles with less structure in the future.

Exhibit chronicles Great Depression migration

CLINTON — A traveling exhibit on the westward migration of Oklahomans during the Great Depression of the 1930s will be presented from through Oct. 25 at the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton.

The exhibit, "Going down the Road Feelin' Bad: Oklahoma and the Great Depression," will be available for viewing during regular museum hours and at regular admission fees, said Director Pat Smith, who manages the museum for the Oklahoma Historical Society.

"This traveling exhibit is especially appropriate for the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum," said Smith, "because so many of the Oklahomans who migrated west during the 1930s traveled on Route 66." The exhibit features 60 photos to tell the story of the families that moved from Oklahoma to California and Arizona during that period.

A team of Farm Security Administration photographers took the images of the migrants to draw attention to their plight, Smith said.

The photographers included Arthur

"This traveling exhibit is especially appropriate for the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum because so many of the Oklahomans who migrated west during the 1930s traveled on Route 66."

Pat Smith, museum director

Rothstein, Russell Lee and Dorothea Lange.

"Through their photograph records," Smith said, "they convinced the public that the migration was real and not the invention of John Steinbeck, who wrote 'The Grapes of Wrath.' Similar to Steinbeck's book, the photos were taken on and near Route 66." At that time, Route 66 was the fastest way to get to California and the only way for some.

The exhibit is sponsored locally by the Friends of the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum.

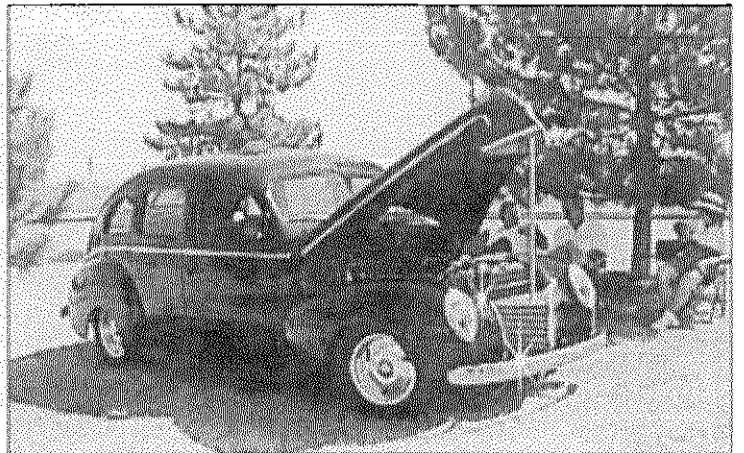
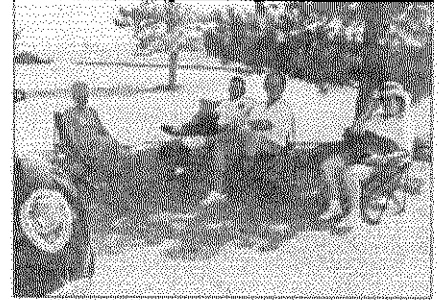
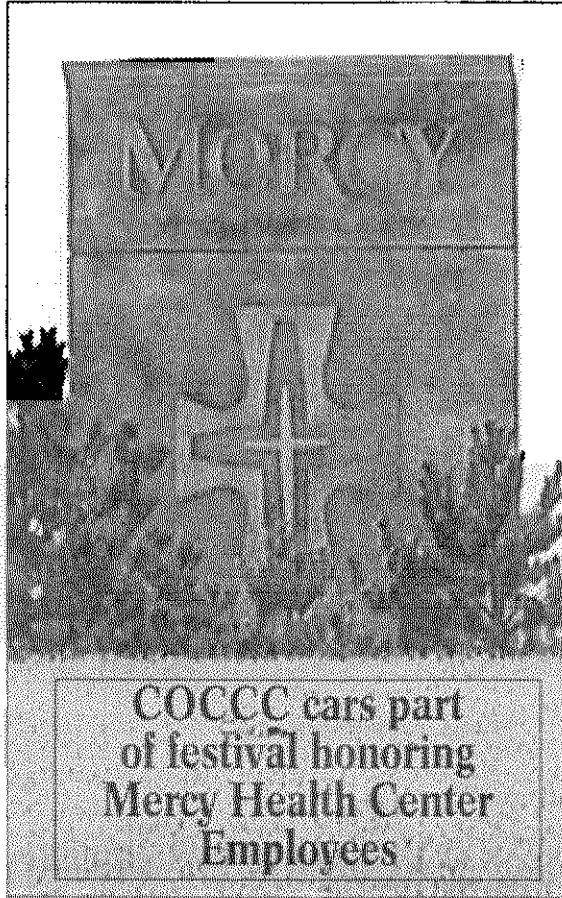
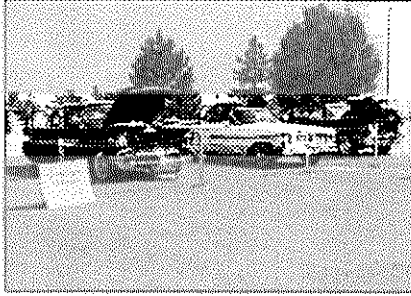
It is part of a traveling exhibit project of the Oklahoma Humanities Council and the Oklahoma Museums Association.

The project is funded with support from Sonic, American's Drive-in; the McCasland Foundation, the Union Pacific Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The exhibit can be viewed without charge in the "Wow!" reception room of the museum, said Smith.

The Oklahoma Route 66 Museum will be open during the fall, including September and October, Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Smith at (580) 323-7866 or via email at patism@ok-history.mus.ok.us.



Myers: Wild ride on a Colorado Interstate

Continued from Page 1

tery. We found someone to jump start the Nomad and proceeded on to Burlington, Colo., to spend the night.

Larry put the charger on the battery, but it didn't seem to want to take a charge.

In the morning, we headed into Aurora, Colo., and found a Sears store to check on the battery. Good battery, maybe alternator problem, bought new battery just in case, found repair shop for alternator, bought new alternator, same problem. Larry started stripping the wire harness to see if there was a bad wire somewhere — there was. The tickler wire was barely making a connection, replaced the wire and connector.

We were on the road again after five hours in Aurora. We headed up to I-25 and went north toward Cheyenne, Wyo.

Just about 16 miles south of Cheyenne, we heard the tire come apart. Larry was driving about 75 mph at the time and he started braking to slow the car down. We were in the outside lane of traffic, no one beside us, cars behind us, as we started the chain of events that did damage to the Nomad.

As the tire came apart, the rubber hit the inner fender panel, tearing it loose, hitting the goose neck of the gas tank, knocking the locking gas cap off, forcing the inner fender panel to the front of the left rear quarter.

Larry was in the inside lane by now holding onto the steering wheel and controlling the car keeping it from entering the median and crossing over to the opposing lanes of traffic. The Nomad seemed to be on the left two wheels and the trailer whipped around hitting first one quarter then the other, forcing us into a skid.

As we were skidding, we were dumping gas out onto the highway. I can remember holding onto the dash or armrest and asking the Lord to help us. We did have our seatbelts fastened.

We ended up doing a 180 degree turn, ending up facing the traffic coming at us.

A Dodge truck pulling a fifth wheel camper had been right behind us and they locked up their brakes getting stopped before hitting us. He was directly at our front bumper and we couldn't get the car off the road. He backed up some to let Larry pull the Nomad to the shoulder of the road. He was the only vehicle that stopped to ask us if we were okay or needed help.

Larry surveyed the damage and proceeded to empty the back of the Nomad to get to the spare tire. We carry a save-a-spare in the tire compartment of the Nomad. That tire wouldn't work on the car, so he took the

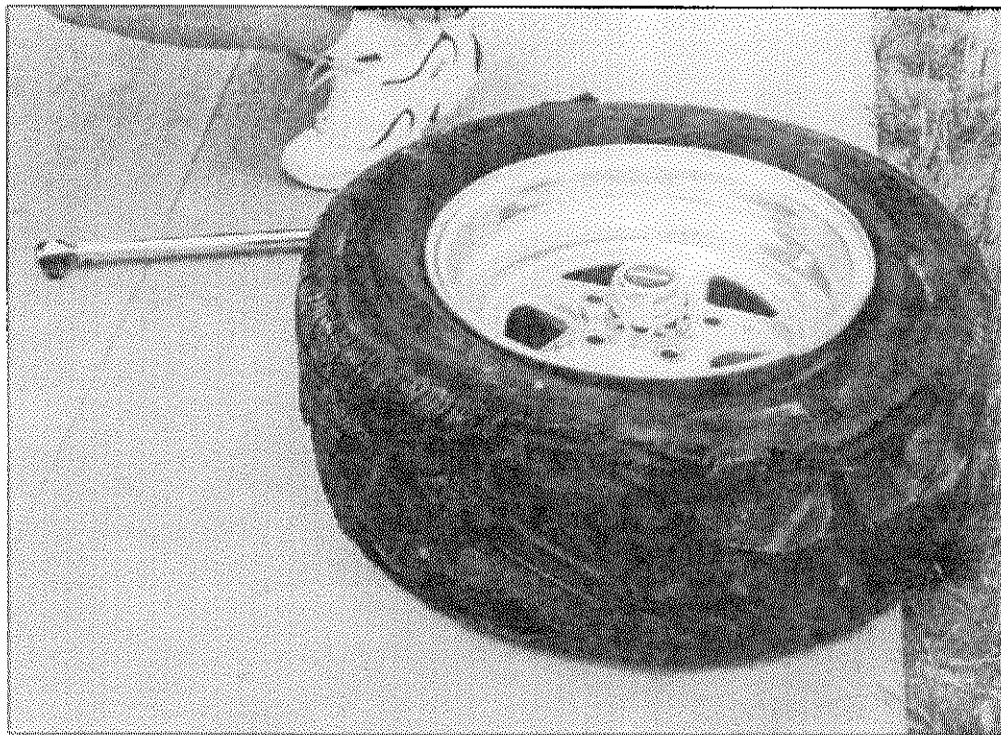


Photo by Annette Myers

This is the tire that caused the Myers to lose control of their 1955 Nomad on the way the National Nomad Convention.

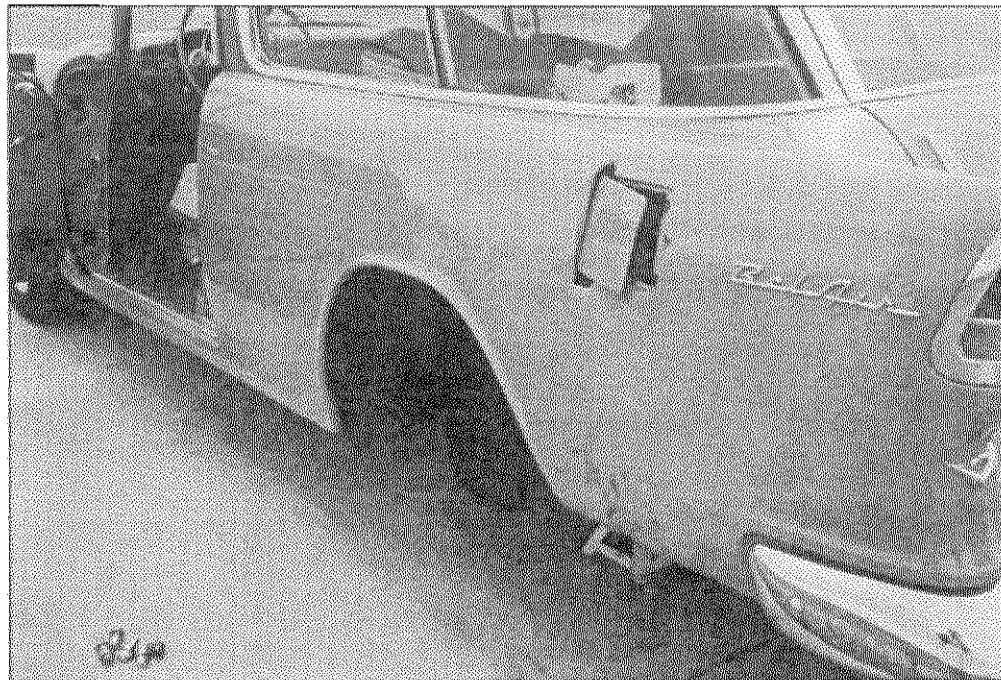


Photo by Annette Myers

This overall view shows some of the damage caused when the tire blew out.

tire off of the trailer (had been a Nomad tire before) and put it on the Nomad. He had to do a little body work on the inner fender panel before he could even get the tire on (he kicked the panel in place). The save-a-spare didn't fit the hole pattern of the trail-

er, so Larry had to file the holes out to make it fit.

We drove slowly into Cheyenne and stopped at the first station we came to,

See **NOMAD** Page 5

Nomad: Blown tire triggers hair-raising accident

Continued from Page 4

fueled up and asked directions to a tire shop that could help us find a replacement tire. They sent us to Sears. There were young men there that were very nice and helpful.

There were no tire stores in Cheyenne that had the size of tire we needed, they could get them from Denver in one or two days.

One man had a pair of used tires with similar tread pattern in the size we needed for the Nomad and Larry purchased them from him.

The other young man was able to pound the wheel and straighten it somewhat (it still was crooked).

They took off the trailer hitch to put it in the press to get it straightened some. A hammer to the rear bumper took care of the outward dent there, a little pounding to the gas cap got it where it would work temporarily (better than a rag).

By that time, I had decided that we just were not supposed to be at this year's convention and I called the hotel and canceled our reservations.

We headed back to Oklahoma on Saturday making I-25 the only interstate highway we would travel on. Taking the state and U S highways, we went



Photo by Annette Myers

Damage was extensive to the right rear when the trailer whipped around.

home at 60 mph, not knowing if we would have any more tire trouble with the bent rim. We

didn't have any more trouble during the rest of the trip.

We will be at the next year's

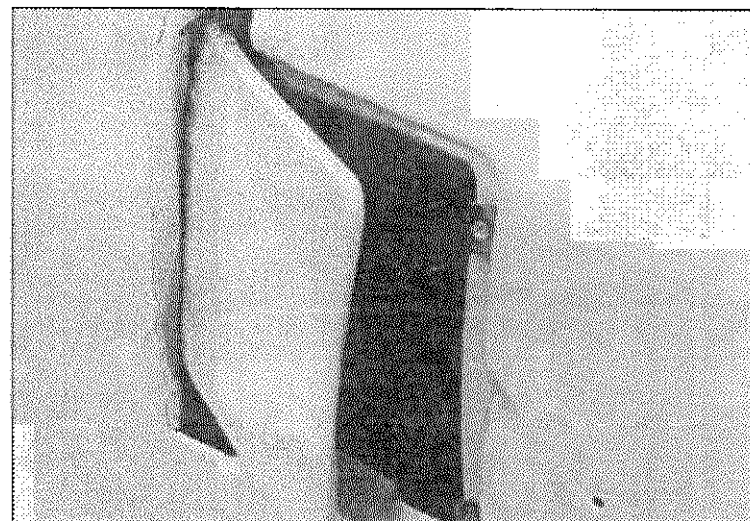
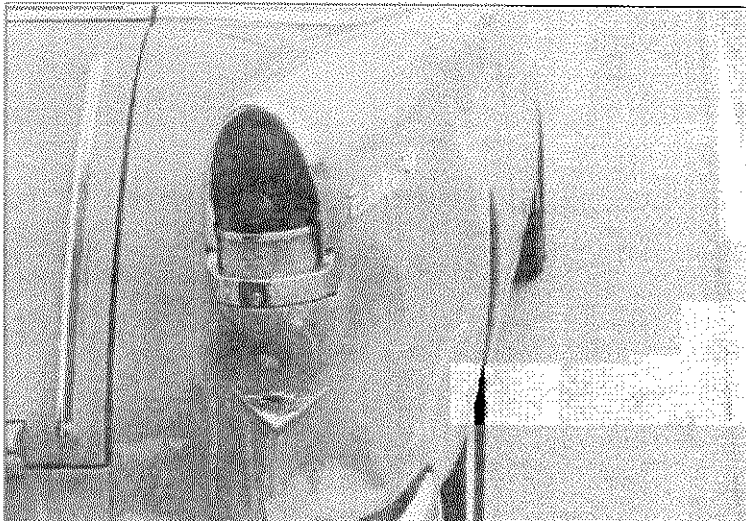
convention. We missed seeing all of our friends this year. Our son said that if we would have continued to Spokane, we might have been eligible for the hard luck award. We told him that we didn't want to chance having more trouble so we came on home.

The damage to the Nomad is somewhere around \$10,000. Check out some of that damage in the pictures.

The gas door was torn off, rolled the inner fender panel up, broke the locking gas cap, bent the rim, dented the bumper guard (newly re-chromed), dented right rear quarter panel, bent the frame, broke right rear tail light, housing & bezel, bent the bumper, put a dent over the passenger door (from bending the frame), bent the trailer hitch, crushed a place on the fiberglass trailer and bent the trailers tongue.

Many COCCC members said that we should have just stayed put in Cheyenne and some of them would have made the trip with a car hauler and picked us up. We have caring club members.

The best side of being home early, we were there for the birth of our newest granddaughter, Hannah, born on Wednesday, July 12.



Photos by Annette Myers

Photo at right is shows the right rear of the Myers Nomad with damage caused when the trailer whipped around. At left is the damage evident when the blown tire jerked the gas tank filler neck forward.

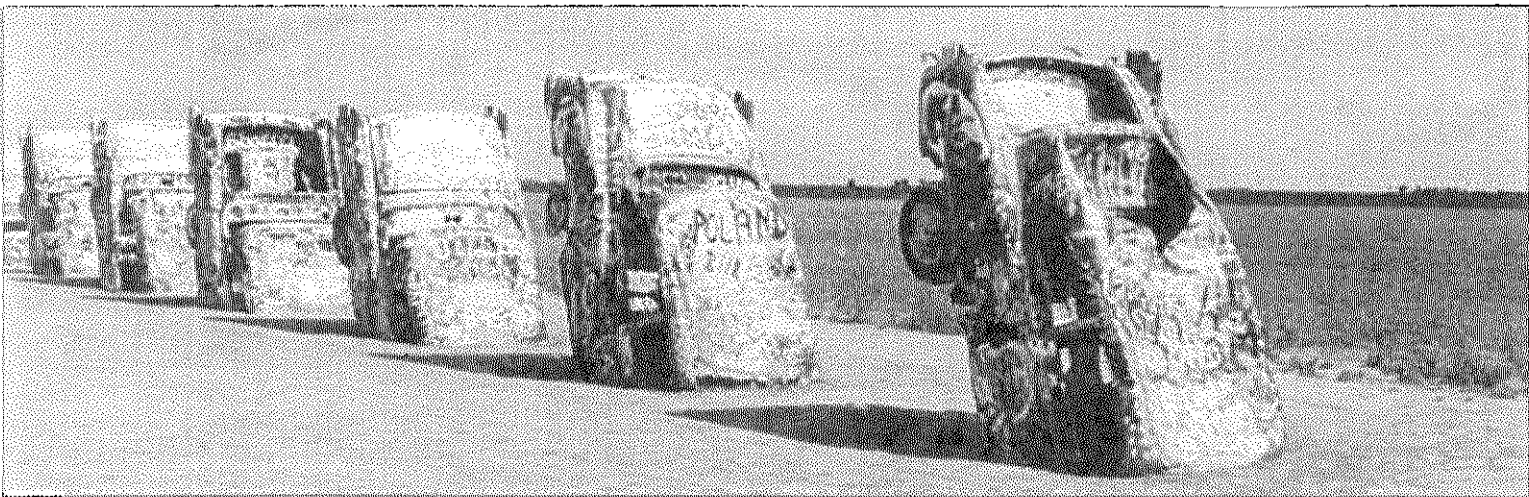


Photo by Keith Marang

Amarillo, Texas, is known worldwide for these cars buried in the ground just west of town.

Albuquerque CCI Convention 2000: The good, the bad and the ugly

By Mel and Rustyne Harris
CCI Oklahoma Rep

This will be an abbreviated version of our trip to the CCI Convention held August 25 through the 27 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Those attending from the COCCC were Jerry and Judy Webb with their '58, Keith Marang and his friend Sandra showing his '56, and both of us, our son Paul and our '56. We had not attended a convention in seven years and it looked like not much had changed. The host club, always glad to be in the spotlight and equally glad when the show is over and the pressure is off. Here are some of our thoughts.

The Good

1. An indoor show with air conditioning.
2. Keith's car received 988 points and a platinum certificate plus being awarded the best interior in the custom class.
3. The Webb's car scored 961 points and a gold certificate.
4. Our car was one of those chosen as cruisers pick.
5. Enjoyed meeting and talking with those from other clubs and other states.
6. Went to the Aquarium, Botanical Gardens and Olde Town. Jerry and Judy also



Photo by Keith Marang

The Harriss proudly display the cruiser's pick plaque their car won.

- took the tram ride and enjoyed a nice meal and view at the top of the mountain.
7. Good food at all the functions and an excellent band Saturday evening. Some of the ladies wore poodle skirts and some wore formals. Decorations also very elaborate.
8. Three cars were awarded 999 points at this convention and they were beautiful. There was a '55 Nomad (original restored), a '55 2dr. sedan (full custom) and a '57 2

- dr. hard top (full custom).
9. Most interesting was a car registered as a Tri-Five. It started as a '57 4dr. sedan and had been changed to a convertible. The front end was a '55, the side trim and interior was from a '56 and the rear was a '57. Pictures later.
10. On the return trip we spent the night in Amarillo so Rustyne could visit with some of her family.
11. All of us had a safe trip.
12. A special thanks to

Benny Sawyer and Mike James for loaning their trailers to us.

13. The Cadillac farm outside of Amarillo.

The Bad

1. The roads.
2. The traffic around the I-40 and I-25 junction in Albuquerque.
3. Being forced to turn the truck and trailer around in a very tight setting at the Chevy dealer parking lot.
4. Finding a rubber band in a glass of water at the hotel during breakfast one morning. Someone remarked that this was a "Snappy" drink.
5. Hotel room left unlocked by the cleaning staff.
6. Hotel charging \$7 per day for guests to park on their lot.
7. Damp towels in the room.

8. Keith was ill all weekend so he and Sandra missed out on some of the activities.

9. The Cadillac farm still outside of Amarillo.

The Ugly

1. Let's face it folks the scenery from here to there isn't the most beautiful in the world!
2. The Cadillac farm, with the cars still nose first in the ground, outside of Amarillo.

Lake restaurant hosts COCCC dinner cruise



Photo by Dick Bahr

Now be honest. If you were a restaurant owner and saw this crew headed your way wouldn't you rush to put up the closed sign.



Photos by Dick Bahr

Club members had a good time at the Clear Bay Cafe during the July dinner cruise.

Central Oklahoma



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Next meeting:

See you at A & W, 89th & S. Western, Oklahoma City. As is our practice, please drive your classic so we can have a mini car show. It's always enjoyable to watch people drive by and look at the cars

**Sunday, 2 p.m.
Sept. 10**

Important things to know

► Sept. 9th, Claremore, Okla., is the new location for the Bluegrass & Chili Festival and Car Show which is hosted by the Classic Chevy Club of Oklahoma Ltd. The location is the Expo Center in Claremore. There is an \$18 registration fee day of show, registration open 8-12. Top three in each class and specialty awards will be given. Judging is being done by the club. Anyone interested in going with Larry & Annette Myers, call 348-2502 by Thursday evening. They enjoy the movies on Friday evening so may not be home — leave a message. This is always a fun show our sister club sponsors.

► Agenda for the next meeting includes discussion of the club Christmas party and the party for the kids at High Pointe. We would like everyone's input and suggestions so we encourage you to attend.

► A special thank you to everyone who contributed pictures and articles for this issue of the Dashboard. It was a fun one to do.

