



MINNESOTA'S '64 - '72 CHEVELLE AND EL CAMINO CLUB

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2010

Welcome to another cold northern winter. We're midway through our mandatory break already, and hopefully some progress has been made for those who have repairs or upgrades planned. I have heard projects ranging all the way from just some minor tuning to complete engine swaps. I bet Stan is still busy outfitting that new shop too. Seems like in this hobby there's always something that changes every year. The same thing happens with our club.

As we continue to gain new members and become well known across the upper Midwest, I wanted to reflect back at where we have come since 2002:

Originally, a group of Minnesota members from another website called Team Chevelle decided to meet face to face. That initial group of 15-20 people had no formal plan other than hanging out, grilling some food, and sharing what they had in common-the Chevelle.



Over the next few months, they created the club and started to hold meetings. These meetings were held in garages, parking lots, and anywhere else that was convenient. It wasn't formal or business-like, it was still just hanging out with new friends and helping them with their cars. It was the start of something bigger.

The next few years had brought in enough new members that formal meetings needed to be planned, newsletters were produced, and club member shirts were created, but the club still revolved around its core cause: helping each other repair, restore, or modify their cars.



The nice thing about being a member of a club like ours is that you're bound to find someone who can help out. There's a good chance that if you get stuck on a project, or have a question about how an assembly goes back together, someone else has already been there and can lend a hand or at least guide you through. The picture at left was not an officer's meeting, it was just a couple guys helping Ian out.



The warmer weather also brings the driving season. For years now, we have been a host club at the North St. Paul cruise. The weekend cruises are a great way to hang out with club members and relax. They're also great places to show off our club's membership.

Many of our early members have achieved their goals of restoration or modification. This brought a new aspect to the club: planned cruises and a need to show them off and enjoy them on the road.



Cruises to Elmer's and a fun run to Rhinelander got the club out for a couple long weekends of over the road fun. Several members also have been part of HOT ROD magazine's Power Tour.

Over the past 8 years, our club has been home to well over 150 different members from several states. You can usually find several club members at each of the local weekend cruise nights, plus we are now known at the Car Craft show for "Chevelle Row."



Our club has grown to the point that we can offer a little of everything to share with each other. There's no doubt that when Chevrolet executives were approving the designs and specifications of the Chevelle over the years, drag racing did not get overlooked. What they might not have ever predicted is the desire to make these cars handle in more than a straight line. This summer, we hope to have both a club day at one of the drag strips, and expose more curious members to autocross events, plus continue to plan local and longer distance road trips.

Over the past few months, our club has adjusted again. We have transferred the club's forum section to a more user friendly host. We will continue work to expand the list of local vendors, and note those who offer club member discounts. We also will be making some changes to the main website in January with updates and further expansion of areas.



Club members help each other out when a spare hand is needed, a special tool needs to be borrowed, or just another brain to pick. The club meetings are a great place to make those connections and share our knowledge, even take care of a project right there whether it be a carburetor rebuild or body removal!

I hope everyone can be proud to wear a club logo shirt, display a club decal, and use a club calendar.

My goal for the upcoming year is to include as many members in as many things as possible. I welcome any ideas for topics, events, or whatever is on your mind. Let's all make this club an even better place to be a part of for 2010!

Bryan Flattem
Northstar Chevelle Club President 2010



**Feb meeting
2/13/09 noon at
Corvette Specialties**