

# CAN-AM CHEVELLE CLUB NEWS

NOVEMBER, 2009

Well, the cruising season is pretty much over at this point for most of us. The weather is changing and with that will come snow and ice and with that the dreaded four-letter word S-A-L-T! For those that have some winter projects in mind, it helps to pass those cold, dark months because you can look forward to getting out and showing off your work next spring. However for those of you who are “done” with your car, it sure can be a long and lonely winter without being able to drive your “toy”. Mine goes in a car bag and I can’t even see it until spring. A gray “lump” is the best I can do for now. It is at this time of the year that I become slightly jealous of those who live in warmer climates and never have to deal with the aforementioned snow and “stuff”.

2009 has been pretty good to the Can-Am club. Membership is holding up fairly well. We gained some new members at both shows this year and that indicates that this club is filling a need for Chevelle nuts both in Canada and the US. Yes, we did lose a few folks but circumstances change all the time and hopefully we can get some of those people back in the future.

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Northern Chevelle Gathering took place in July, again on Grand Island. Turn-out was down some from previous years but the fun level was high. There were quite a few “first-timers” this year and they have sworn to be “next-timers” without question!

As is usually the case, folks started drifting in on Friday and by mid-afternoon the parking lot looked pretty good. There was quite a group that lined up to head down to Paddock Chevrolet for the annual “Super Cruise” and what a super cruise it was! Nothing but beautiful cars as far as the eye could see. You name it and it probably was there somewhere. Someone mentioned that there may have been 500 cars there but whatever the number, there were lots of them and they all looked great.

Saturday came and so did more cars and by noon, there were about 90 cars in the lot...Chevelles, Malibus, Beaumonts, El Caminos, SS’s, SD’s, big blocks, small blocks we had them all! And then...THE RAINS CAME. Once again, we were “blessed” with a rain storm and boy did it rain. We must have had close to an inch of rain in about two hours. There was a “river” running down the main driveway in the parking lot. While it was raining, folks were huddling under the big tent and we had a trivia contest, a name-that-tune contest and some just plain gab fests. People were truly making the best of a bad situation. Finally the rain quit around 2 o’clock and there was a scramble to wipe off the cars or to get them back out of their trailers so the judging could be completed.

Around 5 o’clock it was time to line up for the famous “island cruise” capably lead once again by Jim Kaiser. What a sight...as far as one could see a solid line of A bodies. This has turned out to be the highlight of the weekend for many show attendees and what could be better than cruising down the road in your favorite car with some of your best friends? I’m not sure about the total number of cars but it was over 60.

Sunday dawned and folks were leisurely getting packed up and checked out of the hotel. The awards presentation took place in one of the ballrooms. There were some door prizes given out and then the main awards were handed out. There were quite a few surprised looks on some faces when their name was called. And then....we were finished for another year. My thanks to all those members who helped in any way to make this show possible. Special thanks to Glenn Lever, show chair, for a job well done. The 8<sup>th</sup> annual show is being planned right now. Dates have been set: July 9-11 and again, it will be at the Holiday Inn on Grand Island. More details will be available soon. Watch the club website for more information.

There was quite a bit of discussion at the Grand Island show about having a show of some sort in Canada before the summer ended. There was no scheduled show at that moment. However, some determined club members said there WOULD be a show and they would make it happen....and they did! Thanks to the efforts of Steve Sutherland, Mike King, Gary Couckuyt, Tim and Ty Knoll, Dave Rose, and some others, a show was put together in about 6 weeks....simply amazing!

The show was held in Tillsonburg, Ont. over Labor Day weekend. It was a one-day, no pre-registration show and 115 cars showed up...unbelievable to say the least! Many of the local businesses offered support in different ways. There was a barbeque, raffles, and a 50/50 drawing as well. All of this support was in an effort to help out a charity called the Children's Wish Foundation. This organization does just that: grants "wishes" to needy children throughout Ontario. Because of the efforts of everyone involved, \$2,200 was raised and presented to the Foundation. Anne Boehm, regional representative for the Foundation was on hand for the presentation of funds and was VERY appreciative of everyone's hard work and dedication. Congratulations to all the Can-am folks involved in this wonderful project. Plans are in the works for another show this year on the same weekend. Watch the Can-Am website for further information as it becomes available.

## **WINTER STORAGE**

At this time of the year, many of us are forced to put our cars away for several months at a time. The storage locations vary from crude garages or sheds with dirt floors all the way to climate-controlled "rooms". I'm pretty sure that most of us have some sort of garage and with that comes several issues. From my point of view the two worst ones are moisture and "critters". Moisture can be controlled somewhat by putting some plastic down on the floor and running a small fan but in some cases, the fan idea isn't practical, especially if the garage is shared by a daily driver. The "critter" thing (primarily mice) can be a much more damaging issue. If you have ever had a mouse in your car for any length of time, you know what I mean....holes in upholstery, chewed wiring, the "stink" of body waste or all of the above. NOT NICE!!

I have experienced that problem and for the last couple of years, I have been using something that has helped to eliminate this hassle. I have a "car bag". It is simple to use and really works. Basically, it is just that...a bag that has a zipper all the way around it.

You unzip the bag and lay it out, drive your car onto one side, roll the windows down just a bit and your almost done. The final step is to place supplied bags of desiccant both in and under the car. I put some in the trunk, under the hood, and throughout the interior. Once that final step is complete, just zip the bag shut and it's goodbye car until spring. The packets of desiccant slowly but surely absorb the moisture inside the bag and after a bit, you have somewhat of a mini-climate controlled area inside the bag. No, it isn't warm but it is drier than the outer air. Also...NO MICE INSIDE!

There are several kinds of storage bags on the market and a little time on the internet should get you plenty of ideas. It works for me and I highly recommend it. You've got plenty of money already invested in your car, why take the chance. For just a small additional investment, you can rest easier in the off-season. I know nothing is fool-proof but my experience so far has been good. Good luck!

What would you like to see in the newsletter? I know there haven't been too many lately and I will try to "fix" that. There will be an attempt made to have a quarterly newsletter. I can't promise too much at this point in terms of content but let's see where this can go. You, the club members, at least deserve that. Please feel free to email me with any suggestions you might have: [dubec73@gmail.com](mailto:dubec73@gmail.com)

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