

SEPTEMBER 2023

A monthly newsletter for the FOOTHILL REGION of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America





DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

GEORGE T. EDWARDS, Foothill Region Director 2023

"HAPPY LABOR DAY!" We had a great August meeting. Jim and Sabrina Karras reported on the VCCA Central meet that they attended and told us about how they traveled around the town to see a lot of the different types of car collections and museums. For our November meeting we will be having an outing to the "Dogz and Carz" car show at the Diamond Bar "Wienerschnitzel" on Sunset Crossing Road from 11 to 1. Look for that information in a future edition of the Classic Clatter. Until then I look forward to seeing you all at Marie Callender's in Azusa for our monthly meeting on Saturday, September 2nd. I hope everyone is doing well.

Take care and be safe,

George Edwards, Director



Local Car Shows and Cruise-Ins in the San Gabriel Valley

September 1, 2023City of Fontana - 5:00 - 9:00 pm8353 Sierra Ave, Civic Center Campus, Fontana, CA

 September 3, 2023
 Legends Diner - 4:00 - 7:00 pm

 1155 Route 66, Glendora, CA

September 9, 2023

Rotolo Chevrolet - 5:00 - 8:00 pm 16666 South Highland Ave, Fontana, CA

September 30, 2023 Detail Garage Supplies - 8:00 - 11:00 am 1230 E. Washington, Ste. P12, Colton, CA



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Secrets of the '55-'57 Chevrolet Nomad

The Chevy Nomad shares remarkably little with the rest of the 1955-57 Chevy passenger-car line. Here's what makes it special.



The story of the Chevrolet Nomad rightly begins with a show car that made its debut at the General Motors Motorama at the Waldorf Astoria on January 26, 1954. The Motorama Nomad borrowed its front and rear styling from the Corvette two-seat sports car introduced the year before. But despite its tidy proportions, in truth the two-door station wagon was Chevy passenger-car sized with a 115-inch wheelbase.



While strictly a show car, a fiberglass-bodied glider with no engine or running gear, the Nomad was a sensation with the crowds at the Waldorf. Based on the enthusiastic response, a decision was quickly made to send the Nomad into production. To increase the sales potential and ease production issues, the sport wagon would be based on the standard Chevy full-size platform, despite one important obstacle. The official dealer introduction of the all-new 1955 Chevrolets was just nine months away in November of '54.

Due to the tight schedule, the Bel Air Nomad made it to the showrooms as a mid-year model with its official introduction on February 1, 1955, four months after the rest of the Chevrolet models. Above, three GM executives admire one of the first Nomads off the production line at the Atlanta, Georgia assembly plant.



Nomad bodies were constructed, trimmed, and painted at GM's Fisher Body Euclid Avenue plant just northeast of Cleveland, then shipped to various Chevrolet plants for final assembly. From the cowl back, the Nomad shared remarkably little sheet metal, glass, or trim with the rest of the '55 Chevy line, and the Euclid plant specialized in lowproduction jobs. Euclid also supplied the bodies for the Nomad's A-body Pontiac cousin, the Safari. Along with the exclusive, Nomad-only sheet metal, the luxury station wagon was fitted out with more chrome and stainless steel than had ever been seen on a Chevrolet production car. Bright metal adorned the unique front fender brow moldings, inner glass surrounds, headliner bows, folding rear seat and cargo floor, and tailgate rub rails.



The two-tone interior fabrics were unique to the Nomad as well, in pleated vinyl with a

waffle-pattern insert material, and the sliding rear side glass was exclusive, too. The '54 Nomad show car had wowed the Motorama crowds as a sporty and luxurious station waqon, and the production '55 Nomad was built to fit the part.

So: While the Nomad was built on a standard Chevolet passenger car chassis and equipped with Chevy's regular lineup of six-cylinder and V8 powertrains, with all this added finery it was a more costly car to build—and to buy. The list price for a V8 Nomad was \$2,571, which made it the priciest model in the Chevy lineup, considerably more expensive than even a Bel Air Convertible or a 9-passenger wagon.

Despite its late introduction, the Nomad put up reasonably good numbers in its first year with 8,386 produced. That proved to be the peak year. In 1956 (above) the volume slipped to 7,886 cars, and in 1957 (below) the total dropped again to 6,103. That was the end of the original three-year production run, but the Nomad name lived on at Chevrolet for decades as a trim designation on premium four-door wagons, passenger vans, and even a subcompact Vega wagon for a single year in 1976.





Article by MCG posted January 13, 2023 on https://www.macsmotorcitygarage.com/secrets-of-the-55-57-chevrolet-nomad/



In June of 1942, a worker at the Vega Aircraft Corporation plant inspects his already balding tires. He lives 10 miles from the factory. Courtesy Library of Congress.



In July 1942, drivers jockey into position to await a fill-up in Washington DC. The line-up of cars began to develop hours before the station opened. Courtesy Library of Congress.



A collection of mileage ration stamps and stickers for L.H. Williams' 1938 Chevrolet. The National WWII Museum, Gift of Paula Ussery, 2000.047.



A road sign near Manheim, Pennsylvania posts the new "Victory Speed"—35 miles per hour in November of 1942. Courtesy Library of Congress.

During WWII all efforts were made to ration and conserve resources and Chevrolet was at the forefront encouraging Americans to service and prolong the wear of their Chevys as long as possible Especially since production of new vehicles had halted during wartime Gas rationing reducing vehicle speeds and regular vehicle service were seen as patriotic acts and valued by all responsible American car owners at the time



Foothill Meeting Minutes - August 5, 2023

The August meeting was brought to order at 8:45 a.m. by Director, George Edwards. George welcomed everyone. Members present included Jim and Sabrina Karras, Steve Knickelbein, Dale Wallace, and Rosie Garcia; Ray Garcia was absent.

No correspondence to share.

Treasurer's Report was given by Sabrina Karras, treasurer. No income or expenses during the month of July. Motion to accept report was made, and approved.

Membership Report was given by Sabrina Karras. 16 current families for 2023.

Past Tours: Legends Cruise and Diner, July 2, from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Tours: Orange County Region Car Show, Sunday, October 8, 2023. Orange County Region tour to Nixon Library in mid-November 2023. San Fernando Region Car Show in November. Foothill and SoCal Regions joint Christmas Luncheon at Ray and Rosie Garcia's home on Saturday, December 2, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

The **November 4th** meeting will be at "**Dogz & Carz**" meet held at the Weinerschnitzel in Diamond Bar, from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Bring your Chevy and join all brands of cars in attendance! Address: 23300 Sunset Crossing Road, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

Old Business: none.

New Business: Possible All-Cal 2027 locations: Mission Inn, Riverside, or Perris area. VCCA National will be in late July 2026 (week before Sturgis), in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. Respectfully submitted by Rosie Garcia, 2023 Secretary



Meeting This Month! Saturday, September 2nd at 8:30 am Marie Callender's Restaurant

1175 E. Alosta Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702

Off the 210 Fwy - Grand Ave. exit on the corner of Historic Route 66/Alosta & Barranca Ave. on the north side of the street



FOOTHILL REGION HISTORY

First meeting was in 1977 and it was held at Jack Wall Chevrolet Jack Wall Chevrolet became Team Chevrolet and now is a lumber yard. In 1977 the region had 18 families.

SECRETARY

DIRECTOR

1977 Ray Waldbum 1978 Marvin Imm 1979 Bob Hassinger 1980 Bob Hassinger 1981 Dennis Fink 1982 Dennis Fink 1983 Jim Holt 1984 George Reeley 1985 Jean Fink 1986 Dick Dennis 1987 Dennis Murray 1988 Roger Felix 1989 Ernie Moffatt 1990 George Aust 1991 Dennis Murray 1992 Jean Fink 1993 Jean Fink 1994 Don Gardner 1995 Jean Fink 1996 Don Gardner 1997 Jean Fink 1998 Joe Zappen 1999 Bill Zappen 2000 Don Gardner 2001 George Edwards 2002 Tracy Gage 2003 Roger Bolton 2004 Paul Porner 2005 Bill Reese 2006 Bill Reese 2007 Bill Reese 2008 Bill Reese 2009 Bill Reese 2010 Alonso Guerrero 2011 Alonso Guerrero 2012 Alonso Guerrero 2013 Alonso Guerrero 2014 Alonso Guerrero 2015 Jean Fink 2016 Alonso Guerrero 2017 Alonso Guerrero 2018 Alonso Guerrero 2019 Alonso Guerrero 2020 George Edwards 2021 George Edwards 2022 George Edwards 2023 George Edwards

ASST. DIRECTOR Norm Lefmann Norm Lefmann Howard Kirkwood Howard Kirkwood Tom Stimson Jim Holt Jim Ferrier George Aust Roy Brookshire Glenn Ritter Al Bafford Curt Potter **Bob Hughes Dick Dennis** Don Gardner Ernie Moffatt Tracy Gage Tracy Gage Tracy Gage Ray Sorenson Tracy Gage Tracy Gage Tracy Gage Tracy Gage Tracy Gage

Tracy Gage Roger Bolton Paul Porner Porner/Felix Roger Felix Roger Felix

Betty Kirkwood Betty Kirkwood Betty Kirkwood Betty Kirkwood Jean Fink Jean Fink Ina Brookshire Jean Fink **Dennis Murray Dennis Murray** Jean Fink **Dennis Murray** Ken Kaufmann Mandy Emerson Jean Fink Jean Fink Rosie Garcia Rosie Garcia

TREASURER Mike Norton Ester Imm **Rita Jones** Ester Imm Steve Michaelson Sue Robertson Sue Robertson Sue Robertson Sue Robertson Ernie Moffatt Ernie Moffatt Lita Murray Curt Potter Curt Potter Art Label Art Label Art Label Roger Felix Sue Robertson Judy Mulé Sabrina Karras

How-Bett Kirkwood How-Bett Kirkwood Helen Holt Dennis Fink Dave Johnson Lita Murray George Aust Lita Murray George Aust Don Gardner Don Gardner Lita Murray Denise Zappen Don Gardner Joe Zappen George Aust Joe Zappen

TOUR DIRECTOR

Robert Jackson Don Gardner Victor Bracamontes Michael McCormack Bill Zappen George Edwards

Mike McNeill Mike McNeill Mike McNeill Steve Knickelbein Alonso Guerrero

Ray Garcia Ray Garcia

NEWSLETTER

How-Bett Kirkwood How-Bett Kirkwood How-Bett Kirkwood Jean Fink Helen Holt/Jean Fink Helen Holt/Jean Fink George Aust/Jean Fink Brookshire/Fink Glenn Ritter/Fink Jean Fink Ken Kaufmann/Fink Dennis & Jean Fink Sabrina Karras

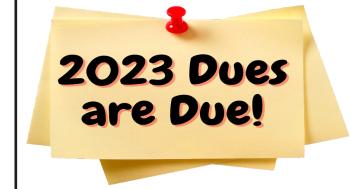
Sabrina Karras



2023 FOOTHILL REGION MEMBERSHIP

George & Jeanette Aust Al & Karen Bafford	(626) 963-7842 (626) 443-6907	austhaus1@gmail.com	Glendora El Monte
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Celine & Luis Zarza	(626) 602-6702	craftyzarza@aol.com	Chino

If your name is in **BOLD** than your dues are paid for 2023



Friendly Reminder! 2023 dues payments are past due!

DUES STILL ONLY \$15 Checks made payable to: FOOTHILL REGION VCCA

Mail check to: Foothill Region 829 E. Van Bibber Ave, Orange, CA 92866

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 REMINDER FOOTHILL MEETING
					City of Fontana Car Show 5-9 pm	
3 Since Car Show 4-7 pm	4 LABUR SEPTEMBER 4TH	5	6	7	8	9 Stole Chevrolet Car Show 5-8 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Jeanette Aust Birthday			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Carmine Palazzo Birthday						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 🗫
						Detail Garage Supplies Car Show 8-11am
					Ana Garcia Birthday	Jean Fink Birthday

OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 REMINDER FOOTHILL MEETING
8	9 HAPPY COLUMBUS	10 Julie Knickelbein Birthday	11	12	13	14 Rotolo Chevrolet Car Show 5-8 pm Ray & Ana Garcia Anniversary
15	16 Bill Zappen Birthday	17 George & Jeanette Aust Anniversary	18	19	20	21
22	23 Jim Karras Birthday	24	25	26	27	28 Detail Garage Supplies Car Show 8-11 am
29	30	31				



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name		Birthdate				
Spouse	Birth	ndate	teAnniversary			
Address						
City		State	Zip Coo	de		
Phone		Email				
Cell (Member)		Cell (Spouse)		<u></u>		
Are you a mer	nber of the National Vintage Chevrolet	t Club? 🗅 Yes 🗅 No				
If YES: Your membership number If NO: It is a prerequisite for becoming a member of a local region. Yearly dues for National Membership are listed below and are forwarded to the National Organization.						
Foothill Region DUES RENEWAL NEW NATIONAL DUES RENEWAL NEW Membership (Member, Spouse & Children) one vote\$40 per year When paying both dues to the Foothill Region, please write 2 checks: 1 for \$15 to Foothill Region and 1 for \$40 to VCCA National. Thank You. NOTE: FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES ALL REGION MEMBERS MUST JOIN NATIONAL IN ORDER TO JOIN THE REGION. REGION: All members receive a monthly region newsletter and participation in all our meetings, tours and events. NATIONAL: All new members receive a club badge, decal, membership card and the national magazine "Generator & Distributor." Members will be entitled to advertising in the club magazine and participation in all VCCA activities. Commercial advertising rates available. For more information or application visit: www.vcca.org The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation of vintage Chevrolets. Ownership of a Chevrolet IS NOT a prerequisite for active membership. If you presently own a Chevrolet please fill in below.						
YEAR	MODEL	BODY STYLE	CLY.	CONDITION		
Recruited by (VCCA member recruiting Optional)VCCA#						

FOR CLUB USE ONLY

Paid \$_____Check/Cash

Date Paid _____

Region Membership Number

Return complete form and mail with dues to: Foothill Region- Sabrina Karras

829 E Van Bibber Avenue, Orange, CA 92866

X_____

Applicant's Signature