

President's Message April 2006

Happy Spring to all my fellow Chevelle lovers. The weather is looking better each week and I'm sure most of you are getting itchy to start driving, cruising, fixing, showing, and enjoying your classics. I know we have several members who do truly drive their classics year round, but most of us park 'em for the winter months. Drivers and show cars alike each need some special attention come early spring. Penny wise and dollar foolish as the saying goes, would be appropriate if you didn't spend some time and a few bucks giving your special ride a good once over before taking your maiden voyage of 2006. Here are some tips:

Before you even open the doors and move the car out of the garage give the bottom side a good look. Check the garage floor and adjacent area for evidence of any leaking fluids. Fuel, oil, transmission fluid/oil, power steering, brake fluids, coolant, battery acid, grease, gear lube, etc. Remember be thorough, the car has been sitting and you should be able to determine with a good certainty where the fluid/stain is coming from.

If your not using a battery tender, put your battery on a slow charge and wait to fire the engine until the battery is fully charged. While your waiting... open the hood, check all fluids and give it a good look for leaks and stains as well. Do a thorough physical and visual inspection of all hoses, belts, ignition wires, and under hood electrical/accessory wiring. Check the tightness of your intake and exhaust manifolds, thermostat housing, hose clamps, and belt tensioning pivot and tightening points. These items do have a tendency of loosening over time and an annual check is not overkill.

If any deficiency or problem is noted, correct the problem as you go. Fire your engine and let it reach operating temperature. Run the heat for several minutes to help remove the moist air in your interior left from winter storage as well as circulate your coolant. If you have air-conditioning you can run that for several minutes as well to eliminate dampness and check the operating condition.

Once the vehicle is fully warmed shut it down and change any and all fluids you plan to, immediately. Experts claim warm fluids hold contaminants in

suspension, so draining oil, coolant; etc while still warm will give you the best results for removing contaminants from your vehicle.

Give your brakes and suspension a good inspection and make any necessary adjustments, repairs, and lubricate as needed. Check the tires for signs of uneven wear and defects. Check pressure and don't forget the spare.

Take it for a spin, slow at first. Make several turns and do some stop and goes. Keep the radio off so you can listen for any noises that shouldn't be present. Once you're thoroughly confident...drop the hammer and hold on. Enjoy the classic car season and we'll see 'ya on the road.

Long Island Chevelles TV: *"Bringing the hobbyist back to the hobby"*

Long Island Chevelles will be hosting a weekly $\frac{1}{2}$ hour TV Show on Cablevision Channel 20. The show will cover club activities, events, and projects. We will also produce tech segments to help others learn the basics of the hobby. Long Island Chevelles TV will air its first episode on Friday April 7, 2006 at 12AM (Thursday Night at Mid-night) running episodes weekly through September.

Long Island Chevelles is actively seeking high school volunteers for this TV Production Project. Volunteers will be involved in all aspects of producing a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour weekly TV show. The show will run on Cablevision Channel 20 from April to September. Applicants should have some casual experience in digital video editing. Applicants can be involved in the production, filming, and creative aspects of the show but must be available to edit the raw footage at a minimum. Volunteers may apply individually, as a small group, or as a class project. Volunteers involved in this project may be eligible for community service time. (Check local school guidelines). Interested applicants should contact Long Island Chevelles President Rob Mirabile at 917-379-0366.

Long Island Chevelles, project On-A-Budget.

2006 will launch Project On-A-Budget. This project will have a monthly detailed feature on the club website, along with a tech segment on Long

Island Chevelles TV. Designed to bring the hobbyist back to the hobby, Project On-A-Budget will demonstrate how a resto/mod Chevelle can be completed by the average do-it-yourselfer. The project will run for an estimated 12-15 months with articles, photos, and balance sheets showing how you can have a great Chevelle without the assistance of a Wall Street investor. Upon completion project On-A-Budget will be on display at events on the National, regional, and local levels.

Club News:

The season opener will once again be the Garden City Easter Parade. The parade is held on Easter Sunday, April 16 2006. The cars start to gather at about 9:30 AM. The parade kicks off around 1PM but the three hours before the parade is where the action is. Anywhere from 400-600 classics and collectibles grace the staging area with a display of some rare and exotic cars that you'll only see once a year at this event. The parade itself is short and most folks are on their way home by no later than 1:30. Club members will receive an e-mail a few days prior to the event with a time and meeting place.

The launch of our new website is anticipated by the end of April. Our current site has already received national recognition for its established source of news and entertainment. This new site will once again put Long Island Chevelles on the forefront of the hobby. While the final touches are being put onto the new website, the old reliable Long Island Chevelles site is constantly being updated with news, information, and event listings. Check the site regularly as within the next week we'll have a full listing of events for the 2006-year including many local shows and cruises as well as some out of town trips.

Club Clothing: 'T' shirts are available in gray only with a 3-color Long Island Chevelles Logo. Adult and Child sizes available. Adult women's stretch-tanks are also available in S, M, L. Jackets are also available with embroidered club logos and names. Members interested in purchasing any club clothing should contact Clothing Chairman [Joe Dombal](#). Sweatshirts and Baseball hats are now in stock and will be made available at the Garden City Easter Parade. Quantities are limited and they will be sold on a first come first serve basis. We will re-order when supplies get low.

Feature Car: In the coming months with the launch of our new website we will be running a Feature Car Article. Two cars per year will be chosen as the Feature Car and it will get a full magazine style article on the new website. To nominate your car as a Feature Car [send in a paragraph or two](#) telling us why you should be worthy of the Long Island Chevelles Feature. The history of your resto/mods should be included as well as personal info that makes your car special. Don't forget to include some before, during, and after photos.

Anyone who needs more information on the out of town trips Like [Chevell~abration](#) or the [Can-Am Northern Gathering](#) can click on either event or call the club at 516-385-8316 for travel/hotel assistance as well as general information about these events.

Keep Spreading The Word...

Long Island Chevelles the fastest growing club in the Tri-State Area.

Regards,

Rob Mirabile #001
