



# Yesterday's Chevrolet San Fernando Valley Region



EDITOR: Steve Rosenberg

November 2020

[www.sfvregionvcca.com](http://www.sfvregionvcca.com)

**NO regular Meeting in November as well as NO car show 😊** ..... Please dig in and hopefully our lives will soon return to normal. We will be virtual again this month and return on line 11/5 Be safe!!!! Detail how to join in will be sent to membership in a separate email ..... Please join us for this “get-together”. Don’t be shocked if you see many of us guys with more facial hair than 8 months ago ..... It’s been a long time and I know I miss you all!

You will see lots of humor in this month’s newsletter. I think we all need to smile and laugh a bit more.

**El Camino Issue** ..... A few weeks ago, I decided to take the El Camino out to exercise. Connected the battery disconnect switch, opened the car door the dome light was on. Key in the ignition, turned, NADA. The dome lights on I’m getting power. I tried the headlights, directional, NADA. I could hear the A/C heat fan going. I tried the radio and it worked

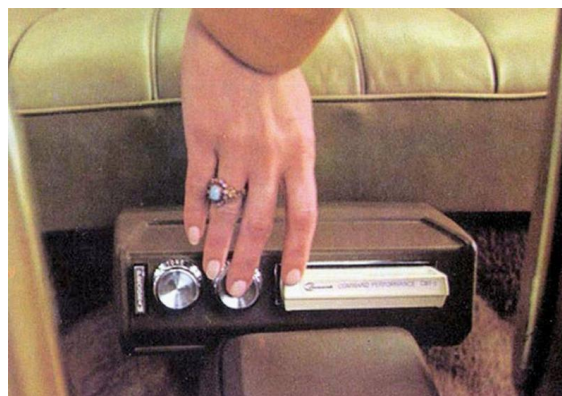
I have two battery chargers, one with testing capacity. I first figured the battery was low so I attached the simple charger at 2 amps. It stayed in the not charging zone. Attached the better machine. It did its thing for a bit the indicated FULL.. I found evidence I had a visit from long-tailed vermin. Just a little evidence. Figured the sucker chewed some wires. Jacked the car up. Put jack stands under and looked at the ground below the car, nothing, not even drips 😊 I was ready to put it on eBay with a buy as/is 😊

THEN I went back in my years of car knowledge. A bad battery could make you think a car was ready for the junk yard. I took my Hyundai and jumper cables out of the garage. You can’t get a good jumper cable connect from most newer cars as the battery is not under the hood. I used the pos & neg posts that they have under the Hyundai hood and tried it. The headlights came on. Hit the starter switch. Turned over slow.

So, it will light the dome light, radio & fan seem to work but not even turn over with a jump. **Dead/Flat** battery. I guess my trickle charger also died. Found my receipt for my A/C Delco battery. It was 37 months old. Went on line to A/C Delco, that battery has a 42-month free replacement. Went to my local A/C Delco dealer & did the exchange. Installed it & the engine lite up just like it should.

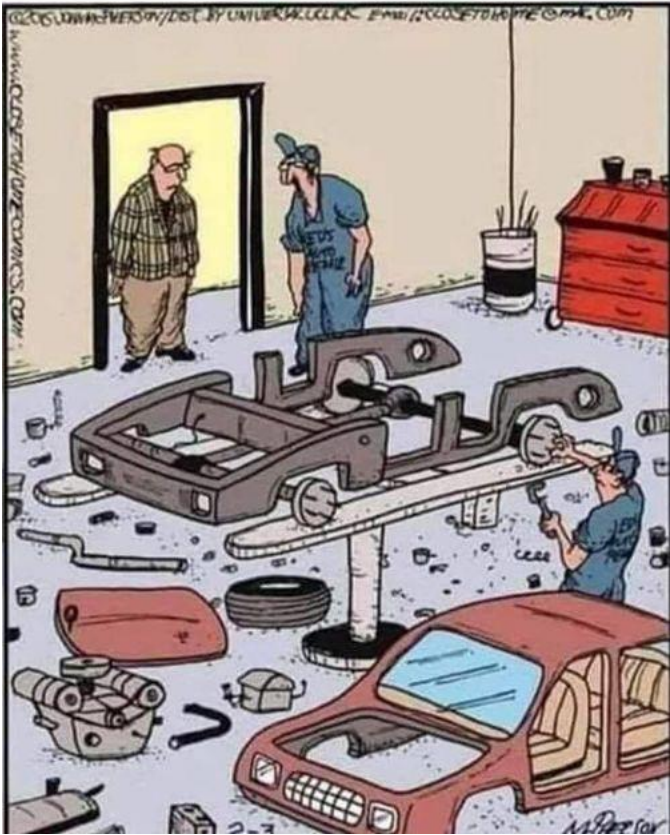
So, before you list your car on eBay for sale as/is take a known good battery and place it in the troubled car and see if that was the issue.

I have ordered a new top of the line trickle charger. Sorry guys, the Elky is not for sale 😊



Ok, what is that? I installed one in my new 1975 Chrysler Cordoba with Corinthian leather

Turns out it was a marble in the ashtray 🤔🤔



## Chevrolet Trivia

What was the first year that wire wheels were standard equipment on light duty Chevrolet trucks?

Look for the answer at the bottom of this newsletter

## VCCA Anniversary Meet Postponed Until 2022

Due to the pandemic, VCCA is postponing the 60th Anniversary Meet (originally planned for July 18-23, 2021 in Bowling Green, KY) to Sunday, July 31 - August 5, 2022 in Bowling Green.

We appreciate the enthusiastic interest shown by members, demonstrated by all the available blocked hotel rooms being reserved. If you reserved a room using the "VCCA2021" code, your reservation will be automatically canceled. If you did not use the code, please

cancel it yourself. The same host hotel and rates will apply in 2022, and next year instructions for re-booking will be issued.

This decision, while disappointing for everyone, was made in the interest of the health of our members, and increasing the odds that by 2022 a truly blockbuster meet will be possible. We made this decision early enough to disrupt your plans as little as possible, and thank you for your loyalty and patience!

Further details will be in the December 2020 G&D.

My doctor said now that I'm older I need to install a bar in the shower



Remember when your car radio was detachable and your hub caps were stolen?

## Tech item from Duane Diez

For all those car guys with early straight front axle cars and trucks, I have a simple way to make it easy to steer and tract straight as an arrow at freeway speed.

The cure for better steering control is more caster. On straight axle vehicle there is no adjustment for caster. So I took a page from my old 4x4 days and used the same wedge shaped shims the 4 wheelers use to adjust the driveshaft angle on their front differential.

I searched on line for 1.75" wide shims, they are kind of hard to find, most shims nowadays are 2" or 2.5" wide, because later model leaf springs are wider then the early springs. I found them at, NostalgiaSid, ([www.droppedaxles.com](http://www.droppedaxles.com), email: [sid@droppedaxles.com](mailto:sid@droppedaxles.com).)

Since I couldn't find any information on how much caster I needed, I installed a pair of 1.75" wide by 2.5-degree shims. After a road test, I decided I could do better, so I replaced them with 4.5-degree shims. That did the trick!

If anyone would like to try this, make sure the thick part of the shim is facing the rear of the vehicle, so the axle tilts back. Think of the front forks on a bicycle, how they are pitched forward. (If the axle sits on top of the leaf Spring, face the thick part of the shim towards the front of the vehicle)

Just a side note,  
While I was under my truck, I figured I might as well straighten out my steering wheel.  
If you leave the front wheels on the ground and turn the drag link, the wheels can't turn because of the weight of the vehicle, so the steering wheel will turn instead of the wheels. If you can have someone sit in the vehicle, they can tell you when the wheel is straight.



Larry Sorrentino's '29 on it's way to completion

**A wife, being the romantic sort, sent her husband a text: "If you are sleeping, send me your dreams. If you are laughing, send me your smile. If you are eating, send me a bite. If you are drinking send me a sip. If you are crying, send me your tears. I love you!" The husband, typically non-romantic, replied: "I am on the toilet. Please advise."**

## Car Tip #36

Before an oil change, drain out all the old oil by giving the car a good firm squeeze.



## Chevrolet Trivia Answer

Chevrolet first offered wire wheels as standard equipment on light duty trucks in 1932. The wheel was 18" as was used in passenger cars in that year.

***Next Meeting @ park***

***Too be determined when all is normal again***

***Balboa Park***

*17015 Burbank Blvd., Encino, CA 91316  
7:30 – 9:00 PM*