

The Great Southwest Classic Auto Show and Cruise In comes to Pelham

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The Great Southwest Classic Auto Show and Cruise-In rolled into Pelham on Friday, April 15 for a two-day event. The weather tried to play havoc on Friday night with unusually cool weather and a sprinkling of rain. In spite of the conditions, people from Pelham and the surrounding area came out to Freedom Park to enjoy themselves as they took in the classic cars and classic sounds from the Flint River Band.

The evening began on Friday night with a fish fry and music until 11 P.M. Live music filled the air in downtown Pelham as people flocked to see the beautifully restored cars and trucks. The event had over 61 entries of muscle cars, cus-

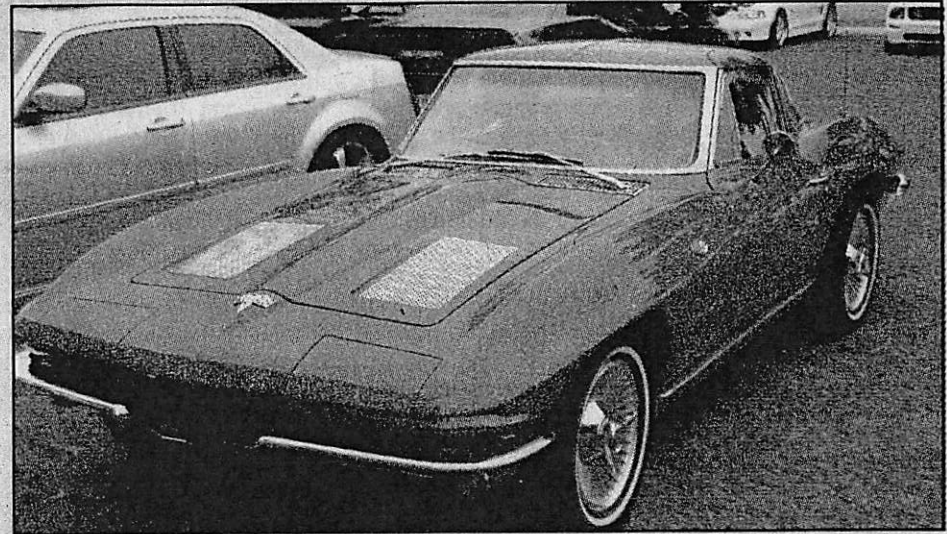


Photo By CARL STOKES

1963 red split-window Corvette owned by Thomas Hatcher

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tom, classic, classic muscle, hot rods and motorcycles. Friday had approximately 275 people coming to the event.

During Saturday's event, over 300 people came out again to enjoy Pulled Pork Barbeque and DJ Wes Daniel playing music for their enjoyment. Drawings were held in a 50/50 drawing to support Pelham Main Street. Cakes were auctioned, prizes handed out, and a great fun time was had as the weather cleared off and made for a great day for the Auto Show.

Todd McKenzie has been working with the Pelham Main Street program to bring the Auto Show to Pelham for the past few years. This is the second year of the Auto Show in Pelham. McKenzie has had gatherings of auto enthusiasts for the past several years at his business, Hot Rods and Hobbies in Pelham. McKenzie has had the business since 1984 and as an outpouring of the love he has of cars. His first restoration was his very own 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air. The desire for McKenzie now to

share his love of cars and things that move has developed into an auto show in the spring and in the fall of each year that will bring classic car owners and restorers to Pelham from the surrounding areas.

The entries from this weekend's show included people from as far as Perry, Savannah, Tallahassee, Dovalo, Gainesville, and Havana. McKenzie's philosophy is to welcome anyone who has a hot rod, classic, muscle car or motorcycle that they would like to show off to other people.