

NORTHERN OHIO CHEVELLES



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UPCOMING Meetings

From the Editor—Mark Meldrum

This is the 5th year we have put the Cleveland Autorama display together. So, for you new members, I thought it would be appropriate to give you some history and perspective on our display. I have a lot of passion for this project and have put countless hours and used up way more favors than I ever deserve to help put this display together. I drive my brother and nephew nuts with all the sign work, copies of flyers, and labor that they put into this display each year for free. Ed and I know more than anyone how much it cost to get your car ready for Autorama as this show has always provided a deadline for major improvements to our cars. Our cars were no where near the quality in 2005 that they are now.

It all started with 3 of us taking our cars down to the Cleveland Convention Center in the middle of the winter. Our planning meeting consisted of Prez Ed, former Prez JP, and I having breakfast at Bob Evans and using hot wheels to simulate the display. The club did not have a bank account and about 12 members. Cleveland had one of its worst snow storms ever and we ended up getting hotel rooms' downtown. It was so cold that the trailer doors froze shut and we had a heck of a time getting the cars home through a snow storm. We did not have enough cars to qualify for the club award but we did have the honor of being at the entrance to the show on the upper level. The three of us paid for everything...

The second year, the club still did not have a bank account and we put seven cars into the display with a theme of an outdoor Chevelle show. We used my tent and a projector I borrowed from work, our flooring was left over roofing tarpaper from all of us, I paid for the electric (over \$100) out of my own pocket, Mike Ely welded up some crude stanchions and painted them - we took 1st place \$750 - this was the first "real money" the club had and we started a bank account. Everyone paid there own way in...

The third year we put eleven cars into the show. We created a Chevelle assembly line on one side and a Chevelle Show on the other. It was like putting two separate dis-



Convention Center Cleveland Autorama 2005



ANDRE STEPHENS



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NOCC—Autorama History