

## *He Really DOES Have a Convertible*

It's true. Bones and Candy Hanson really do have a 1963 Oldsmobile 98 convertible. Bones even drove it one day last month, although it was only to pull it out of the garage and then back in, never leaving the driveway.

"I don't want to get it dirty," Bones said.

He bought the car in the fall of 2004 from someone in Omaha. His sister's boss had acquired it through a Catholic charity auction, Bones relates. It was in pretty good shape then, and when that previous owner decided to sell it, Bones' sister put him in touch with Bones.

"He sent me a picture over the Internet and I bought it immediately," Bones said.

Although the car wasn't in bad shape, Bones decided it needed some sprucing up. One thing led to another until almost the entire car had been gone over.

While the car was not taken off the frame, it was torn apart as much as it could be without removing it from the frame. Everything up front was taken apart until there was nothing forward of the firewall. The motor was completely rebuilt and the entire engine bay is well detailed. The upholstery and convertible top are also new. The frame received fresh undercoating protection.

"Everything's brand new on it," Bones said. "Everything's been redone just the way it ought to be."

He had a lot of the work done at Wayne's Auto Body in Luverne, MN, and confessed that he did drive it to the shop.

"I got it driven over there and back, and that's about it," he said.

He also acquired the original spinner-style wheel covers for it, which were quite costly, he noted.

The car features a 374 c.i. engine with 4 barrel carburetor. It runs premium grade gasoline, although Bones said he has been told it can run on regular. It also has power windows, power brakes, power steering and automatic transmission.

The only thing left to do, Bones said, is to finish detailing the trunk, which he often uses for his excuse not to show the car. Having already done so much to it, he wants it perfect.

And yet, even before he finishes the car's restoration, he is making plans to sell it. He wasn't planning to sell it when he bought it, but with winter here, he has decided he cannot justify filling his garage with old cars to where there's no room for the other cars to avoid frost and snow.

"It'll look better in somebody else's garage. It's time to reduce inventory," he said.

While few have seen the car, because he rarely takes it out of the garage, he says some day he may bring it out to a cruise, after winter is over of course.

"I'm going to drive it once before I sell it," he said.

The car was made for cruising. The 98 being Oldsmobile's top of the line, it is a very large car. Bones noted it has a wonderful ride quality. "It floats" down the highway, he said.

If he does start driving it, he may change his mind about selling it. Maybe that's the real reason he doesn't drive it.

