

A New Car, New Hobby and New Friends

Sam and Bonnie Britt have had their 1966 Chevy Nova for less than two years, but it has opened a new world for them.



This is their first launch into the world of old cars and hotrods, and they're loving it.

They have a cabin on Lake Brandt and found the old Nova while taking a drive around nearby Lake Madison. They saw the owner pulling the car out onto his driveway, and on a whim Sam hollered and asked if it was for sale. The guy said he was just positioning it to put a "for sale" sign on it, and a deal was quickly struck.

There was good reason why this car caught Sam's eye. His first car was a 1966 Nova, when he was in high school over 30 years ago. That car was powered by six cylinders.

Sam is also involved in drag racing, taking a very quick rail down the quarter-mile. Accustomed to quick starts, it's extra icing on the cake that Sam's Nova is equipped with a 325 hp 327 c.i. V-8 and a three-speed on the floor. The red-on-red hardtop was originally powered by a six cylinder car, like the first one he had. But he likes the latest one with more than twice the horsepower much better.

"It's surely been a fun car," Sam said.

While it is a lot quicker than the Nova of Sam's memories, it still has most of the original looks like his first car. In fact, the interior is all original, right down to the working AM radio in the dashboard.

And Sam and Bonnie are finding that cruising in an old car is opening a whole new world to them. They're liking it better than drag racing, especially since it enables Bonnie to be more of a participant. And they are making new friends, especially since they joined Great Plains Streetrodders.

It is very likely that in the future Sam and Bonnie will be seen a lot more often cruising the hotrod circuit rather than at the drag strips.



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