

Put On the Back Burner

Bob Van Noort has got to be one of the most persistent people we know when it comes to building a vehicle. While he and his wife, Ellen, have been club members for more than four years, Bob has been gathering parts to have a unique pickup to cruise to events as well as our Wednesday cruises. All this time, his enthusiasm and direction have never swayed beyond his 1962 Chevy short-box truck.

Then one Saturday at a family gathering, a sister-in-law's brother informed Bob of a reasonably priced street rod for sale in nearby Hartford. Apparently the owner had lost interest in the street rod because he was into muscle cars and wanted to finish a Chevelle he had. With everyone gathering interest about this car as the brother spoke, Bob, Roger, and the brother decided to go look at it that afternoon.

Upon arrival, they all found a truly nice-looking 1949 Buick Special. The car was super-straight with an eye-catching, new two-tone paint job along with recently updated interior upholstery completed by Marty in Del Rapids. Underneath the car was pretty traditional with a 350 Chevy engine and transmission mated to a newer 9" rearend. The classic Truespoke wheels are turned by power steering and stopped with power brakes, and the inside of the car is kept cool with air conditioning. After looking and kind of drooling over the car, Bob, Roger, and the brother decided to go eat at a nearby restaurant and discuss the car. During the lunch discussion, the excitement mounted when Bob's brother Roger told him, "Bob, if you don't buy the car, I will." Another relative at the table made the same comment almost at the same time. No pressure here, right!! However, Bob did prevail and decided to buy the car because he recognized the value of having such a nice-looking driver.

Even though Bob and Ellen have had the car only a month, they are both really enjoying it and are happy having something special to drive; after all they have done without for the last four years. Bob has only a couple small things he wants to do to the car. One is getting the original clock working and also maybe installing a tilt column. So, now with their new car in place, the truck will be put on the back



burner until that desire flares up again. Hopefully not another four years...

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