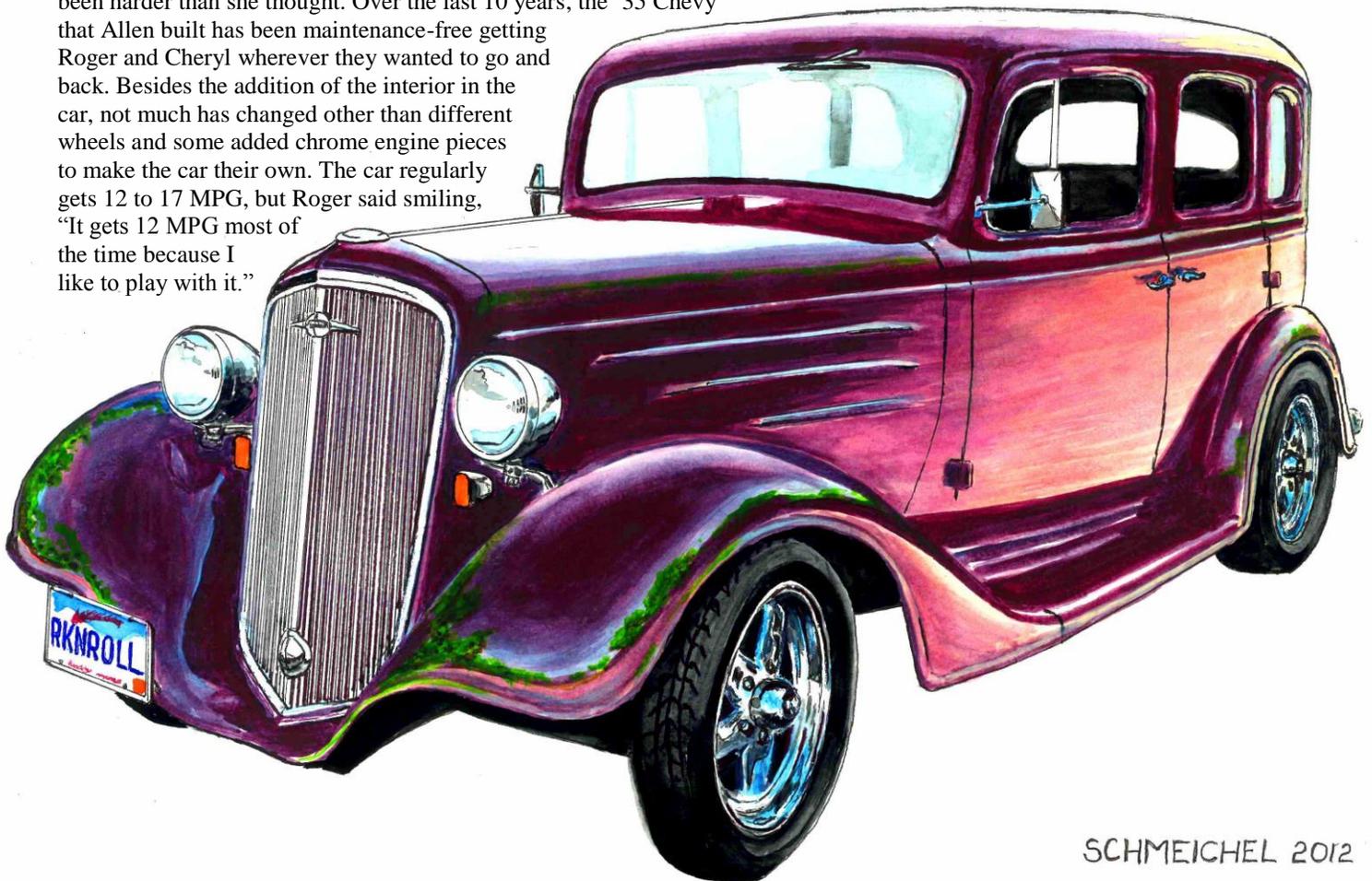


Brotherly Love

By Bob Schmeichel

Roger Van Noort told me he got hooked on street rods the first time he met me and put gas in my '32 Ford sedan 36 years ago while working at a gas station on Minnesota Avenue. I never realized my presence and car had such a profound affect on a person. After that Roger yearned for quite a few years to have some sort of old car that others would admire. There is an irony that carries even up to today. Roger will be the first to admit that he does not have very much in-depth mechanical ability, which limited what he could do then and now. Time seemed to slip by with working then 15 years ago his thoughts got heavier into building something and with all the help from his brothers, a 1941 Chevy street rod pickup was achieved. Roger was in his glory for quite a few years after that having all the fun he expected along with the admiration that came with the old pickup. Later years with getting married and starting to have grand children, he realized that the truck was becoming rather limited for room to haul everyone around in. Needing something with four seats, Roger noticed a 1935 four-door sedan Chevy that Allen Alby had built and was driving at the time. Roger said he has always had the very highest regard for Allen's building ability when it came to making an old car nice looking, proven and road worthy. Although the interior wasn't finished yet, it had everything else that Roger was wanting in an old car. One day in the fall Roger told Allen if he ever decided to sell it, he wanted first chance to buy it. Allen laughed as he always did saying his cars were always for sale and it was left at that.

The following spring going into the next summer with Roger hesitating, he put a for-sale sign on the pickup. Part way through the summer upon returning from the Back to the '50s event in St. Paul, a couple followed them home after seeing the for-sale sign while driving the same direction. They made an offer for more than Roger thought he could get for the pickup, which sealed the deal. With the pickup gone, Roger called Allen that same night and bought the '35 Chevy. Cheryl was excited about how fast it all happened and wanted to finish the interior in their new car, since she is in the upholstery business. I have heard Roger say since that endeavor was finished that she wasn't doing any more upholstery jobs in cars. I guess it must have been harder than she thought. Over the last 10 years, the '35 Chevy that Allen built has been maintenance-free getting Roger and Cheryl wherever they wanted to go and back. Besides the addition of the interior in the car, not much has changed other than different wheels and some added chrome engine pieces to make the car their own. The car regularly gets 12 to 17 MPG, but Roger said smiling, "It gets 12 MPG most of the time because I like to play with it."



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