

eBay Misrepresentation

By Bob Schmeichel

Ron Roe always liked the looks of a 1956 Chevy Nomad station wagon, not only because it had only two doors, but the styling along with the trim set it apart from other cars in that era. One day in 2007, while skimming through eBay on the internet, Ron came across a '56 Nomad that was for sale. It seemed to look pretty good from the posted pictures and priced right from what Ron thought. The only thing was, it was across the country in Massachusetts and a little farther than Ron was willing to go to get it. With some help and a little encouragement, Ron was able to connect with a trucker who was willing to haul the Nomad back to this part of the country for a fair price. So the purchase of the Nomad was made over the phone, and Ron waited patiently for the delivery.



After about a week, the Nomad was delivered to Ron's home. Ron started giving it the once over right away while it was still on the car carrier trailer. After doing this, the one comment coming out of his mouth was, "You can hide a bunch of crap with primer in pictures." To his dismay, everything was rusty right down to and including the frame. Not wanting to become discouraged with what he had bought, the tear down and rebuild began. First on the agenda was to remove the entire floor in the body front to back and add crisscross bracing to help the body hold its shape. Next came a new rolling frame that Ron bolted new flooring with under bracing to. This led to the removal of the old frame and rolling the new frame with the bolted flooring under and mated to the body. Once the entire new floor was welded into place, other body pieces were removed and replaced. Both rear wheel wells as well as the lower half of each rear quarter were replaced bringing back the former solid feel of the body shell. After that came new door skins, front fenders and a new tailgate. After the majority of the body work was roughed in, Ron pulled the body off the frame and put it on a rotisserie to finish the body work and paint everything. Ron's wife, Karen, picked out the two colors used on newer cars to finish the car with. Ron installed a 350 crate engine with a 350 transmission as well as new air conditioning and heater, along with all the nice things new cars have. All new glass was added to the finishing picture. Jeff and Sue Mending finished out the inside of the car by doing the upholstery work with a gorgeous tan leather.

The entire process, even with all the countless details, took all of four years to accomplish to the end result, which looks pretty stunning today. Ron thanks his friend Terry Jellis for always being there when he needed a helping hand with the build. Other than wanting to change the transmission to an overdrive unit, Ron and Karen are immensely enjoying driving the '56 as well as the attention the car brings them when stopped some place.



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