



'55 Chevy NASCAR!



'64 Chevy 409 Wagon

CLASSIC CHEVY

World's Best Resource For Restoring & Upgrading Your '55-'72

'57 Chevy Convertible

6 Year Quest

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**Check Out
My Toy!
Blown '55**
Pg 20



John Muniz
Pueblo, CO

YOU CAN DO IT!

▶ **Leaf Spring
Pocket Installation**

▶ **Custom Inside
Mirror Install**

▶ **Late Great
Convertible Top Redo**

March 2006 Key Code 1603
 US \$3.99 CANADA \$4.99

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It Has Potential



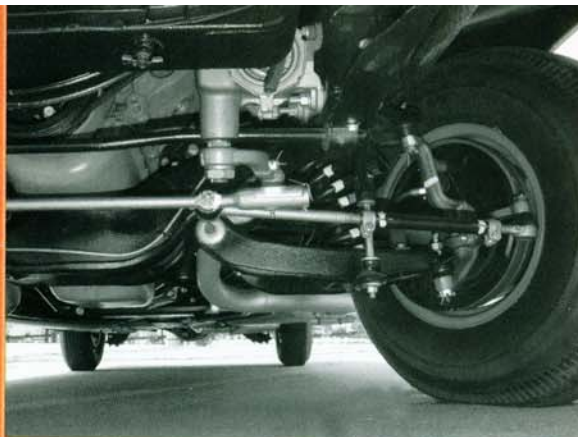
What do you do to occupy your time on those long Minnesota winter evenings? If you're Dave Mickelson you build high point show winning Late Great Chevys! Dave got interested in Chevy restoration when his close friend Jody Anderson hooked him up with a 1964 in need of attention. If you live in the mid-west and you are building a '64 you're sure to know "Mr.1964" Jody Anderson.

While working on his '64 Dave mentioned to Jody that he would really like to restore a 1962 big block Bel Air. He had been looking for the right '62 for almost two years. It wasn't long after that when Jody contacted Dave telling him he had located just the car he had been looking for. Jody made all the arrangements for the purchase and delivery of the car; it arrived in the twin city area in 1997. As Dave puts it, "the car was rough, but I could see real potential". At the time of delivery this North Carolina Bel Air had a 409 block, but was missing the heads and intake.

Over the next 2-1/2 years, Dave brought that hidden potential to light! The body was removed from the frame. New floor pans, trunk panels and rockers were installed. A four-door junkyard donor provided the needed front clip. Dave opted to keep the 409

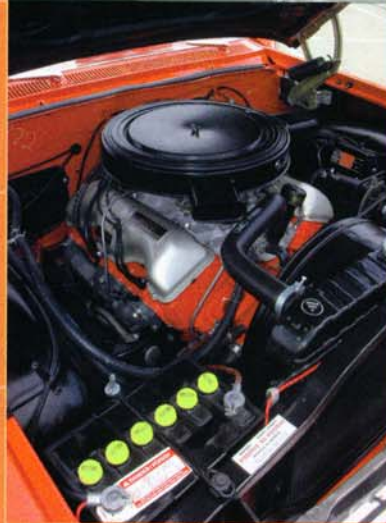
By Robert Snowden • Photography by Jim Knight





power plant as original as possible with stock lifters and 11:1 pistons. The goal was to keep this Bel Air numbers matching. When the new glass was installed it had to have the correct date codes. Dave was able to find an NOS exhaust system with GM part numbers still on the resonators! With the exception of exterior paint (by friend Kent Willms), Dave did the restoration of this Saint Louis built Bel Air himself!

The first showing of this car was at the 2001 Chevy/VetteFest in Chicago where the '62 received the highest award presented, the "Gold Spinner Award". In 2004 Dave joined other 409 owners in Kansas City for a gathering—no awards were presented at this event.



MEMBER'S PRIDE



In 2005 Dave loaded the '62 in its trailer and headed for the National Chevy Times Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Again the Bel Air took home a top award Gold certificate scoring 977 points. In 2006 you can expect to see this top flight Late Great Chevy at the International convention.

Just recently Dave told me to keep my eyes open for his latest project—a 1961 409 Biscayne. He hopes to have this car at the Minneapolis show this coming August as well as the '64. We can't wait to see these two cars sitting side by side!

