

Dan Percifull “volunteered” to provide the history and pictures for this month’s car story for the newsletter.

This is the story about his 1955 Chevy Bel Aire!

WHO WANTS APRIL?

Well, I would have thought everyone would have seen all the pictures of my car that they could stand, but was told that a history was needed!

It all started back in 1965 when my wife gave me a dash clock and bezel out of a 1965 Chevy Bel-Aire for Christmas. As you can see, the rest of the car needed tender loving care.



It became a family project in the next few years, taking it all apart and finding places to store the body and other parts til I was ready for them. Hauling the frame all over the country for a little over a year, my son and I finally had a new rolling chassis with all the modifications made for our new model '55 Chevy.



Thank God I had a very good, long time family friend that owned a body shop in Hesperia. When we got started on the body, we found that the car had suffered a very hard life in it's earlier years. The body needed panels replaced and a lot of straightening. It was a very long process with them only working on it in their spare time. Actually, about 18 months, but the wait was worth it!

Finally, body and frame are again one car, and now the fun with the wiring, engine, glass and chrome, and upholstery! Every night I would go back in the house talking to myself and my wife would ask me what I had done!



Finally, after four years, the car was finished and ready for the road and fun! The whole family went down to San Diego for our first show, the *Over The Hill Gang at Mission Bay in 2001*. The weather was not the best and my son spent most of the day keeping the car dry. But, it was all worth it, and we won our first trophy at that show! The family was very happy to see their hard work rewarded. The car has been a lot of fun, has had some changes since that weekend, but brings back a lot of good memories and keeps providing a lot of fun!

*Thanks Dan, loved the story and the gas pump too!*