

MEMBER PROFILE

EARL AND LINDA'S 1956 Chevrolet

For many classic Chevy fans, the '56 model is the hands-down favorite of the 55-56-57 triumvirate. Long-time club members Earl and Linda just happen to have one of the nicest examples around! The story of how they came to be involved with the car hobby all started back in 1966, when Earl was spending a lot of his spare time drag-racing a '56 Chevy. Then, one fateful day in 1969, while he was working at a service station, Linda came cruising by on her '68 Yamaha Twinjet 100 motorcycle. They met, sparks flew and the rest is history! They wound up getting married and decided they needed to sell the '56 Chevy drag car and get something more 'family friendly'. As the years went by, Earl and Linda became the proud parents of two lovely children, for which that family car came in mighty handy.

As the children grew up and left home to start families of their own, the "car bug" bit Earl and Linda again. They spent the next four years looking around for a car to buy. One day, just for kicks, Earl dug out the old title card for his '56 Chevy drag car, called the Motor Vehicle office and asked them who the current owner was. Amazingly enough, they told him and he contacted the person, who



just happened to be interested in selling the car! So, he wasted no time in acquiring the car once again. He knows it's the original car, because the drive shaft hoop that he installed for drag racing was still on the car! Oh and remember when Earl and Linda first met? Well, Linda still owns that '68 Yamaha motorcycle!

When Earl originally owned the car, it was bright yellow with a gray interior. That has been updated with a snazzy two-tone

green and white paint job and a matching interior. It's a '56 210 model with a 327 engine, topped by a 4-barrel carb and headers. The original manual transmission was scrapped in favor of a 700R overdrive automatic and power disc brakes were added. In addition, Earl installed Vintage Air Conditioning, power steering, electric windshield wipers in place of the old vacuum ones, an am/fm radio, and American Racing Torque Thrust wheels.

In addition to club events, they get a great deal of enjoyment out of cruising to car shows and their car has been awarded several trophies over the years. They've also taken it on longer trips, such as an excursion to the Yellowstone Rod Run in 2009 at Yellowstone National Park.

