

Feature Vehicle - October, 2003

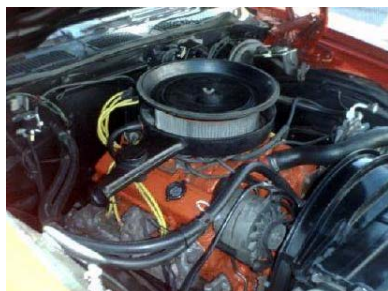
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Member # 7

71 Chevelle SS

In 1977 I had a gold with black stripes SS, with a 402 and 3.31 posi. But that was sold in 1980 when my daughter was born.

Fast forwarding to 1998, I was looking for a reliable transportation car for my now grown up daughter when I came across an ad for a 71 Chevelle in the local paper. Finding out the address was only three miles away, I went to take a look at it. Sporting a four speed and the original wheels I figured it couldn't be all bad. After a test drive and getting a "feel" for the car, the owner and I made a deal. I picked up the car after work the same week and the owner said "Oh, wait a minute, I think I have something that went with the car". He comes out of the house carrying the build sheet mounted in a ruff cut piece of cardboard wrapped in saran wrap!



The car had SS markings. The door panels and most of the other identifiers were there as well, but I was a little cynical because of the woodgrain Monte Carlo dash. I've actually got comments from people who think the woodgrain looks better than the black.

After checking the build sheet, I did verify it as a true SS. While checking to see what it ended up with for an engine, I found it was the original! I took it out for saving and a 69 year 350 CI / 300 HP rebuilt stock went in it's place. The motor is

now approaching 100,000 miles so I'm starting to think about what to put in it as a replacement... is that the "dark side" calling?

The last few years have been spent bringing it back to its former self - replacing the headliner, windshield, rebuilding the front end, replacing the weatherstripping and window felts. I hope to install the correct dash, restore the gauges and the AM-FM radio over the coming winter. The better half has also mentioned something about upgrading to power steering.

Glenda and I try to cruise as much as we can and occasionally like to take a run down the quarter mile with it.



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