

# Northstar Chevelle Club

May-June 2008

www.northstarchevelles.com



## White & Black 1971 Malibu



### Original Options

- Black bench seat interior.
- Column shift, TH350 auto transmission.
- 10 bolt standard rear axle.
- Air Conditioning.

### Current Features

- 1967 Chevelle 325HP 396 BBC.
- 4 speed Saginaw transmission.
- White paint with black stripes.
- 16 inch Chevy S10 Extreme wheels.
- SS badges and equipment.

### STAN SHINKER - Rosemount, MN

I grew up in Northeast Nebraska near the South Dakota border in the 60's/70's and lived mostly in small towns of 1200 people or less. My wife Tina, daughter Mallory, and son Erik, and I live in Rosemount, MN. I'm currently the Sourcing Commodity Manager-Engines for the Toro Company. In other words, I'm responsible for buying all the engines for the Toro products. Everything from 6.5 hp single cylinders to 3 cylinder diesels putting out over 85 hp. It still amazes me that all those years reading Hot Rod and Car Craft engine articles actually pertain to my professional life! I guess it's the circle of life. I have to say that I can hold my own with most engineers in technical meetings with engine manufacturers. After all, all engines do the same thing; Suck (Induction), Squeeze (Compression), Bang (Combustion), & Blow (Exhaust) (not politically correct, but the layman's version of what an engine does)! It doesn't hurt having taken apart and reassembling a couple of engines too.

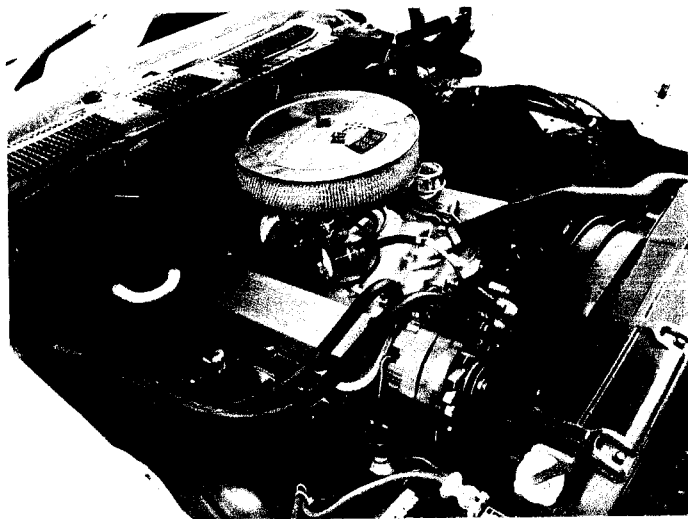


Back in my teenage driving years. My first car was a '71 Chevelle Malibu with a 307/TH350 that my buddies and I tinkered with. We had the usual stuff; headers, 4 barrel carb and intake, rims & tires, added bucket seats, etc. Then I got a wild hair, sold the Chevelle to a buddy, and bought a '67 Camaro that the local garage mechanic/dirt track racer put in a built 327 (13:1 compression!) The Camaro had a 4 speed and 4:11 gears. Man, did that thing haul, but it wasn't practical driving to college 100 miles at a time. Just watch that gas gauge go down at 60 mph and 4K RPM! So, Dad thought it made more sense to drive a '72 Monte Carlo and the Camaro was sold to another gas jockey that turned it into a full blown drag car. It's one of those "wish I still had it..." cars.

Then the usual life factors kicked in; marriage, mortgage, kids, etc. Until about 10 years ago, when I wanted to buy another Chevelle but they were too expensive (relative to living costs at that time...) so we settled for an '88 Camaro with T-Tops. It was a fun car, but just not a Chevelle. I eventually found a '72 Chevelle Malibu that needed a new engine and some interior work for a reasonable price. The seller was at the 'life factors' stage, so I got it for a good price. We kept that Chevelle for a few years and sold it for another '72 Chevelle SS clone that was in much nicer condition and had most of the goodies; bucket seats, console, 12 bolt rear, etc. That car was so nice that I was worrying about every nick and rock chip that happened when we drove it.

*Continued...*

## Continued... 1971 Malibu



That just wasn't fun for me since we like to put 3000 miles on in the summer. So, we traded it for the '71 Chevelle SS clone we have had now for about a year and a half.

The '71 is what I consider a 'driver' or a 20 footer. It looks good from 20 feet away! I don't have to worry about any rock chips or dings, which is fine with me. The previous owner had replaced the rear quarter panels and door skins, and then gave it a basic white with black stripe paint job. When we bought the car, it was pretty much set up for the quarter mile; Weld Drag lite rims, 3000 rpm stall convertor, built TH350, and a 325 hp 396 motor from a '67 Chevelle that had been built up with good speed parts to put out over 400 hp.

Needless to say, I couldn't leave well enough alone. I bought a 4 speed setup from fellow club member Jim Roy, pedals and other conversion stuff off EBay, and proceeded to put together a trans conversion plan. I also had a terrible oil leak somewhere that was spraying on the exhaust, so that was priority 1. To take care of both issues, I pulled the engine/trans this spring and jumped into it. The oil leak turned out to be a cracked oil pan, so that was a relatively easy fix. The rest of the trans swap went relatively well other than having to figure out how the clutch linkage adjustments were made since I didn't have any experience. I've got things dialed in pretty good now, but I haven't done any major clutch dumps since the trans is a Saginaw and they've been known to grenade behind a big block! The Chevelle also has a small ring gear 10 bolt, so the next projects are installing the 12 bolt rear end I already have, and down the road putting in a 5 speed. This was also a factory AC car, and I have most of the parts, so that's on the list also. The fun never ends!



I've had the most fun with this particular Chevelle, so we plan on keeping it for awhile as there are plenty of things to do to it yet, as well as it is therapy and an outlet for me after the job and work at home is done. There's nothing like jumping in the Chevelle after a hard day, firing it up, and having your troubles fall away as you put on the miles, get the thumbs' up, and remembering the "good old days".

*By Stan Shinker*

## Upcoming Events

### JULY MEETING:

Car Craft Magazine Summer Nationals.  
July 25th-27th. 2008  
Minnesota State Fairgrounds.  
Meeting held at 1PM on Saturday the 26th.

*Because this is an event where its difficult to know exactly where we will end up parked. A few members are dishing out cell phone numbers for any members that wish to join us. Please see more details in the news section on the next page.*

### AUGUST MEETING

Anoka Saturday Night River Run Car Show.  
August 20th, 2008. 7PM.  
Downtown Anoka, MN.

*We plan to meet up before the show starts (around 3pm) and drive in together. Where/when we will be joining up (before the show) is one of the subjects we plan to discuss at the Car Craft meeting.*

SEPTEMBER MEETING/FALL FAMILY BBQ  
September 20th, 2008.

Club member John Sinna has agreed to host us in Sept. More details, address, time, etc, to be announced soon.

## Northstar Chevelle Club News By Chris Reid

Our next meeting will be held at the Car Craft Magazine summer nationals July 26th. At 1pm. The show is at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. We will be at the show all weekend. However, we do not know where we will park until likely Saturday morning. If you would like to park with us you will need to be at the fairgrounds very early Saturday morning because of the turnout of cars at the show. We are talking 5 or 6am or earlier. Some are even getting there at 3 am and sleeping in line in their cars, yes, there are a lot of people that show up that early just to get the best spots to park. You can also try calling some of us while your at the show. Club member, Rick Pochmara is leaving his cell number, 763-957-2706, our club president Brad Wilder will be there also, his number is 763-486-6518. My number is listed below. The exchanging of phone numbers is good so that we can keep in contact before the meeting at 1PM also. See you at the Fairgrounds.

The next planned meeting after this is August 16th. In downtown Anoka. They have a weekly Saturday night car show every weekend. We are looking to meet outside the area and drive into the show together. Which will be discussed in more detail at our meeting at Car Craft.

September will be our club family BBQ. Last year we held it at Weaver Lake Park in Maple Grove. This year club member John Sinna has agreed to host us at his home. More info on this and detailed plans will be announced soon.

Also. Congratulations to club member Kurt Tanaman and his wife Melissa. They welcomed their first child, Michael, back in March.

Finally, our sincere condolences and prayers go out to club member John Delke and his family. Johns father passed away at the end of May.

*Chris Reid 612-396-1045. Email: Chevelle396guy@msn.com*

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### Northstar Chevelle Club officer positions

President: Brad Wilder.

Vice-president: Derek Kiefer.

Secretary: Lori Mcaree.

Events Cordinator: Chris Reid, Rick Pochmara, John Sinna

Webmaster: John Enga.

Newsletter: Chris Reid.

### Club Merchandise For Sale

Northstar Chevelle club has t-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts and hats. All with the Northstar Chevelle Club logo on them. We also have license plates and baby onsies too.

T-shirts: \$10

Hats: \$10

Polo shirts: \$22

Sweatshirts: \$18

Window Decals: \$5

License Plates: Was \$10, still on clearance...\$5!!!!

Baby Onsies: \$15

Membership: \$25/year.

*To order, contact Dave Seitz (763)662-2336. Or Rick Pochmara (763)497-7169.*

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