



### John Strampher's 1954

I purchased my 1954 in April 1999. I am the third owner of this Bermuda Green & Shoreline Beige Bel Air Sport Coupe with two-tone green interior. I wasn't even looking for one of these cars at the time, but thanks to Jim Farris for telling about it, I now own one. It is an unrestored car with 74,000 original miles. Since this car is a very nice unrestored original, I have no plans to restore it. They are only original once. I have a special fondness for 1954 Chevrolets, because both of my Grandmothers bought new ones, back in 1954.

The first car that I was allowed to drive was a 1954 Bel Air 2 door sedan, that belonged to one of my Grandmothers. One of my first cars, which I bought in 1966, when I was 16, was a 1954 Bel Air 2 door sedan. It was Surf Green & India Ivory, and had a Power-glide transmission. I paid \$50.00 for it.

Now, 1954 Bel Air Sport coupes are very rare and seldom seen. This car is one of 66,378 Bel Air Sport Coupes produced for 1954. Chevrolet produced almost twice as many Sport Coupes in 1953, and almost three times as many Sport Coupes in 1955. The weight of this car is 3,300 pounds. The base price when new was \$2,061.00. This car is equipped with the 115 Horse Power, 235 cubic inch 6 cylinder engine. It has the standard 3-speed transmission. The options include EZI tinted glass (\$29.60), Air Flow Heater & Defroster (\$74.75), Back-up Lamps (\$5.55), Under Dash Courtesy Lamps (\$2.75), Under-hood Lamp (\$2.25), Outside Rearview Mirror (\$3.15), Exhaust Extension (\$3.25), Fuse Junction Block, (\$1.75), Gasoline Filter (\$2.20). I have a Push Button Radio (\$ 79.85), to be installed at sometime in the future.

Some of the other options available for this car were the Power-glide Transmission with 125 Horse Power engine (\$178.00), Power Steering (\$135.00) Power Brakes (\$38.00), Power Front Windows & Power Seat together (\$86.00), Recirculating Heater & Defroster (\$40.50), Automatic Headlamp Control (\$44.25), and many other small items.

(This car will be on display at the February Meeting)