



Cars: A Couple's Affair

Everyone has hobbies, and usually they are an activity tackled alone, but for some couples, part of the fun is in working together.

That was the case for Jim Verhage of Trenton and his wife Rose, who restored their 1934 Chrysler Plymouth together over three months. The car was in good running condition when they got it, but there were some cosmetic details they weren't happy with.

"We called it the Raspberry. The guy's wife had picked the colour, and he painted everything. Even the chrome!" said Jim.

The paint wasn't the only thing that needed work. When the couples decided to tackle the inside, they ended up sewing most of the upholstery in their kitchen.

Their car, once finished, got to be part of a very special and interesting day. The Verhage's son got married, and had his wedding photos taken in the car, on Parliament Hill.

"A lot of people were watching and staring. Busloads of tourists came in to see the Parliament buildings, and they just thought it was great," said Rose.

And sometimes there is almost as much fun in the driving and the stories. This was the case for Conrad and Christine Peloquin of Madoc.

In the trunk of their 1957 Pontiac Star Chief Convertible, that they've owned and restored over 10 years, they carry two pictures of Christine's parents with their own Star Chief.

"They weren't interested in showing off the car. They

wanted to show off their matching jackets," said Conrad.

The couple travels to antique car shows and show and shine competitions all around Ontario and have another co-pilot to accompany them on the drive. Their puppy Sadie has taken a liking to riding with them.

"She sits on my lap. She loves it when the top's down, and she hates our everyday car," said Christine.

The Peloquins have worked for a while to find parts they like, and through it, have made some good friends, said Christine.

"Everybody works together because we all know what it's like."



Photos from top, left to right:

Conrad and Christine Peloquin's 1957 Pontiac Star Chief Convertible parked comfortably in their Madoc garage.

Jim and Rose Verhage's 1934 Chrysler Plymouth in their garage in Trenton.

Christine and Conrad Peloquin with their dog Sadie at the Loyalist Show and Shine at Loyalist College.

Sadie in the driver's seat of the 1957 Pontiac Star Chief Convertible in Madoc.

Jim and Rose Verhage pose with their 1934 Chrysler Plymouth in their garage in Trenton.

Jim and Rose Verhage pose with their 1934 Chrysler Plymouth at the Loyalist College Show and Shine at Loyalist College.

Photos and story by Marina Sanford