



11<sup>th</sup> status: Tommy has now installed all the patch panels in the lower body, and has removed the incorrect steel roof. This will allow the body to be properly aligned. Apparently rotten structural wood had allowed the body to sag before the steel roof was installed, and the steel roof was keeping everything lopsided. I've ordered the proper wood framework pieces for the upper body and will paint and install it when it arrives. We removed the cowl from the body, and Tommy has patched one of the windshield posts. That was fun to watch, because he used lead as filler. There are very few body men who even know how to run lead now.





I trailed the chassis down to his shop, and after backing it off the trailer, I drove it to the end of his driveway and back (close to a mile). It performed very well; I had it in high gear most of the way. The rest of the body (minus the cowl) has been re-installed on the chassis, so that everything can be properly aligned. With considerable effort and lots of trimming of wood pieces, the structural wood was re-installed in the rear of the body. The sheet metal around the trunk opening was then nailed to the wood. Finding the right nails in local hardware stores was a challenge, and I ended up cutting some in half because they were too long. Since then I have ordered the proper nails, and will use about 800 of them! Tommy sandblasted and primed the trunk hinges, and we aligned and installed the trunk lid. To accomplish this Tommy was on the outside lining up the trunk lid, and I was inside the body drilling holes and screwing the hinges into the wooden framework.

I picked up the chrome in Adamsville a few weeks ago. When I arrived, the grill shell had a bad place on one side. I showed it to the proprietor, and he said he would re-plate it. He suggested I go to lunch, and when I returned, it looked great. All the chrome he did is beautiful. There are still a few more small pieces to be plated, but all the large ones are done. In the last few days I've spent a lot of time stripping paint. All 4 fenders, the splash aprons and gas tank cover are now stripped and ready to be blasted. Unfortunately, that's just a drop in the bucket as far as the stripping goes. I will soon strip paint off the outside of the doors and treat the minor rust on the inside. I just received new patch panels for the door bottoms.