



7th status: as you can see from the pictures, the body is off the frame! I ran threaded rods through holes drilled in the garage ceiling, attic floor, and the 2x6s I placed on the attic floor for additional support. I used ratchet straps and a rope hoist to raise the body. I then removed the rest of the wood from the bottom of the body (note: in the picture it is stacked on the floor beside the Malibu). I left the upper body wood and the front door post wood in the body for support while it is suspended. Before I raised the body, I removed the original wood from around the back and side windows. The previous owner had planned to leave this in place, but I'm glad I took it out, because I found surface rust. There is no pitting, so it should not present a problem. I've wire brushed the area around the side windows and treated it with rust converter paint, and will do the same around the back window. I finished sealing/painting the lower body wood, and will re-install it after I make sure I have removed all the surface rust from the body. After additional research, I learned that the intake/exhaust manifolds are supposed to be installed with studs on each end and bolts in the middle (my previous research was based on pictures of another '31 under restoration, but the '31 factory parts list is a more reliable source!). I ordered the studs and correct thick headed bolts and installed them. I received the used generator from Colorado and determined it was for a '28 Chevy, but the front plate was same as '31. I installed it on my generator, and now I finally have a fan belt that fits perfectly! I dyed it with black upholstery dye (it was a green fractional horsepower belt). It will be interesting to see how long the dye lasts. I received the correct generator cut-out today and will install soon. The wiring harness manufacturer is 8 weeks behind, so I ordered mine today. Tomorrow I plan to order steel patch panels for the lower left side of the body. For some reason it is rusted out in that area, but the right side did not.

