

# Project 58

—Max Brockhouse

## Part Two

One of the many surprises I discovered with the restoration of my "Project Car" was the lack of an emergency brake lever and strut in the rear brake drums. (Part numbers 12 and 14 in Illustration #1.).

I thought this would be easy enough to solve. Right? Wrong!!! The parts have just been discontinued by General Motors. The parts man at the counter was not sure what years were the same as the ones I needed, either.

No problem. I just called Vette and Chevy friends. "What interchanges with a '58 'Vette?" Their replies ranged from both sides of the fence to... no one knows for sure.

Next, I checked some of the vendor catalogs to see if the parts were listed. Great! One had it listed and they also deal with used parts. Plus, they had a toll-free number.

Upon hearing my question, there was a slight chuckle on the other end of the line. It seems that I was the second person to ask about emergency brake parts that day. They were out of stock, and they, too, were not sure what would interchange with a '58.

At least I wasn't the only person looking for standard brake parts for a 'Vette!

I felt that surely the '56 - '57 Chevys would be the same. So, I asked another friend who has a hill-side full of 1956 through 1964 cars rusting away if I could check for brake parts.

Lo and behold, I found that the '53 - '62 Chevy cars are the same. The later years have a minor change in the bolt assembly (Part #9 in Illustration #1). The early style used a bolt and nut, later it was changed to a pin with a snap ring.

In 1963, the automatic self-adjusting brakes were introduced. They use an entirely different emergency brake system, which would not be correct for our straight-axle Corvettes.

I ended up using the lever and strut from a '56 Chevy to solve my emergency brake problem.

New spring kits may be ordered from Chevrolet. Each package will contain various sizes of pins, caps and springs. One kit will do one side, or wheel. Have the parts man order the kit to fix your needs.

## 1953 - 62 BENDIX REAR BRAKE PARTS (DUO SERVO)

1.	BODY, Part of 4.665 CYLINDER ASM	N.S.
2.	BOOT	4.670
3.	ROD	4.675
4.	PISTON, Part of 4.665 Kit	N.S.
5.	CUP	4.667
6.	WASHER, Lock	8.931
7.	NUT	8.915
8.	WASHER	5.056
9.	BOLT	5.158
10.	WASHER	5.158
11.	WASHER	8.932
12.	STRUT	5.150
13.	NUT	8.915
14.	LEVER	5.149
15.	SHOE	5.017
16.	SPRING	5.026
17.	PIN, Part of 5.043 PIN UNIT	N.S.
18.	SPRING, Part of 5.043 PIN UNIT	N.S.
19.	NUT	5.111
20.	SPRING	5.111
21.	COVER	5.117
22.	SCREW	5.110
23.	SOCKET	5.111
24.	SPRING	5.026
25.	SPRING	5.151
26.	SPRING	4.669
27.	PIN	5.055
28.	PLATE	5.045
29.	VALVE	4.666
30.	BOLT	8.900
31.	WASHER	8.931
32.	Use 4.669 Spring W/expander on 1956 thru 1962	N.S.

