

# The ECHO

Newsletter of the  
Grand Canyon State Chapter  
Studebaker Drivers Club

Volume 35 Issue 1

January 2007

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## ARIZONA WINTER STUDEBAKER CELEBRATION

Saturday, January 20, 2007

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Arizona Golf Resort and Conference Center  
425 S. Power Road, Mesa

Southeast corner of Power & Broadway Rds.  
Enter from Broadway

10:00 AM Swap Meet, Car Show & People's Choice Judging

12:00 Noon Awards Banquet & Program

1:30 PM "Getting More Performance Out of Your Studebaker Engine"  
&  
Scrapbooking Seminars (See page 6 for more information.)

2:00 PM Studebaker National Foundation Board Meeting

Richard Dormois, Host

480-827-8178

1938studeman@earthlink.net



## Editorially Speaking

Our meeting on the 20th is a wonderful opportunity for members to bring their Studebaker out for other members to see and enjoy. In an article reprinted on page 9 from the New Zealand chapter's newsletter, the author makes the point that Studebaker owners have a responsibility to use and maintain their vehicles. Besides driving their Studebakers, members can share their enthusiasm with other people not as familiar with the vehicle to help create interest so Studebakers will be around for many more generations. You can share your appreciation of your Studebaker by driving it as often as possible to Chapter events, to all-make car shows and to cruise nights. Have information about your car and the club with you when you go to a car show. Carry back issues of the *ECHO* or copies of the SDC brochure to give to interested people. You can call or e-mail me for back issues and brochures.

I hope to see many of you on the 20th. Happy New Year to all.

Chris



## CELEBRATE!



### January Birthdays

1	Delores Shurtz	13	Ron Crowe
2	Anna Riedel	17	Bill Brooks
4	Don Robertson	18	Aileen Ten Eyck
5	Nora Gooch	24	Michalene Graham
6	Lenka Hospodka	28	Bill Simmons
9	Carol Lee	29	Frieda Vindedahl
12	Hugh McDowell	30	Evelyn Verrill
		31	Sherry Watson

### January Anniversaries

9	Gary & Bea Graham
9	Bob & Lisa Trenter
25	Fred & Nora Gooch
31	Chris & Rachel Eastburn

Check out the Chapter website  
at <http://www.grandcanyonsdc.com> to view *The ECHO*.

*The ECHO* is the official newsletter of the Grand Canyon State Chapter, SDC and is published 11 times per year. Contributions are welcome and encouraged. Please submit articles, tech tips, etc. by the 20th of the month preceding publication. Other newsletters are welcome to use any material with proper credit given.

## GRAND CANYON STATE CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD 2007

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2010 International Meet Chairman: Larry Vahe

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Regional Manager/Ariz.	Chris Collins	2410 W. Freeway Ln., Phoenix, AZ 85021	602-995-5311
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### SDC National Officers 2006/2007

President	Ed Reynolds	97 N 150 W Greenfield, IN 46140	<a href="mailto:edr@studebaker-intl.com">edr@studebaker-intl.com</a>
Vice President	Richard Dormois	P.O. Box 30103, Mesa, AZ 85275	<a href="mailto:1938studeman@earthlink.net">1938studeman@earthlink.net</a>
Secretary	Jan Lockmon	9417 W. Cedar Hill Circle S, Sun City, AZ 85351	<a href="mailto:lockmon@cox.net">lockmon@cox.net</a>
Treasurer	Brian Millette	3434 Anthem Way Ste 118 PM 267, Anthem, AZ 85086	<a href="mailto:abmillette@cox.net">abmillette@cox.net</a>

# President's Message

To one and all I hope you have a Happy New Year and enjoyed the holidays! I trust you are now ready for a new year of Studebaker driving and having fun meeting friends at the many events planned for this year. Last year had many good meetings and we hope this year will be equally exciting.

The December meeting saw us gather for the Holiday Party, which was a great success. Many of you came out to enjoy a great meal prepared by Honey Bear's at Lorilee and John Kroulik's home. Lorilee immediately reserved next year's Holiday Party as she has found it provides John an incentive to clean up the yard and garage! In following tradition our very own Richard Dormois ran the auction, selling everything down to the bare walls! Biding was especially heavy on the Toto license plate, which was odd since only one member has a truck named "Toto".

Among the activities was the introduction of new officers and a big 'thank you' to the outgoing slate of officers. Scott Grainger was presented with a gift certificate to the Black Angus along with a card signed by all thanking him for a job well done in '06. Thanks, Scott! Your new slate of officers is vaguely reminiscent of the last one, with a few changes. In no particular order your new officers/board is: Larry Vahe, President, Denny Lockmon, VP, Richard Dormois, Sec. and Chuck Collins, Treas. The board is made up of Steve Fein, Bill Lynch and Ron Crowe. We also saluted the Member of the Year, which in this case went to Dennis Lynde and Linda Sarr. Congratulations!

This year's monthly meetings and outings are being put together and coordinated by Denny Lockmon. We still need hosts for February (tentatively planned at the Maricopa Live Steamers train museum), May, September and October. If you have any ideas for meeting places or would like to host a meeting please see Denny, or any other board member. Like last year we will start the year in grand fashion with Claudia Robinette and Richard Dormois hosting the meet/mini-swap meet at the Arizona Golf Resort in Mesa starting at 10 AM, January 20, 2007. As of this writing we will have members from 11 western states along with Nebraska and Kansas. This meet promises to eclipse last years meet when we had about 45 cars and close to 100 people attending the luncheon. Details on this, and other upcoming events, are found elsewhere in your award-winning *Echo*. On behalf of me and the new officers, we look forward to having a wonderful year driving our Studebakers!

**Larry Vahe**

Order your Chapter name badge by contacting Chris Collins at 602-995-311 or [chuckstude@juno.com](mailto:chuckstude@juno.com). The price of each badge is \$4.00.

## Welcome New Members

Greg & Eliza Avery  
736 E. Pepper Place  
Mesa, AZ 85203  
480-835-8888  
[avcodentallab@cox.net](mailto:avcodentallab@cox.net)  
1953 Champion Regal Starlight Coupe

Gary & Suzanne Smith  
15604 Mustang Dr.  
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268  
480-560-5900  
[aquahills@aol.com](mailto:aquahills@aol.com)  
1956 Champion, 1962 Lark

Terry & Carol Stines  
1010 W. Claremont St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85013  
602-265-4837  
[stines4@cox.net](mailto:stines4@cox.net)  
1924 Light Six Coupe  
1928 1/2 Commander Coupe (original)  
1931 President 4 Seasons Roadster  
1932 President Sedan

## Roster Updates

### New Address

Larry Vahe  
1291 Tanglewood Rd.  
Prescott, AZ 86305  
480-694-3899  
[58pkhawk@cableone.net](mailto:58pkhawk@cableone.net)

### New Phone Number

Lou Fencil 928-485-8958

### New E-mail Address

Willard & Ruth Pike [elgin32@msn.com](mailto:elgin32@msn.com)

## Condolences

The Chapter members send their deepest sympathy to **Ruth Kappus** on Hezzy's passing December 13th.

The Chapter also sends its deepest condolences to **David and Terry Ker** who lost their son, Brian, on December 12th.

Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

# A GOOD FRIEND REMEMBERED

by Richard Dormois

On December 13, 2006, the Studebaker Drivers Club and the Grand Canyon State Chapter lost someone very special when Hezzy Kappus died of pneumonia while recovering from back surgery. At 83, Hezzy was still very active in a number of military, classic car and musical organizations as well as civic clubs in Wisconsin. I had the privilege of attending the services for Hezzy at his birthplace, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. I guess I shouldn't have been surprised at the more than two hundred that overflowed the viewing parlor at Evergreen Mortuary, as well as the huge array of flowers and photographs. Every ante room was also filled with mourners. The packed worship center at Saint Olaf's Catholic Church was a testament to this very special man who had lived in the community all his life and made many friends. Hezzy and Ruth spent recent winters in Arizona and became a part of our Studebaker Family here in the Phoenix area. They touched some of us more than others. Chris and Chuck had known Hezzy for over three decades having rented from him in the early years of their marriage. Deanna, Larry Vahe and Larry Swanson played with him in the Studebaker band. My association was primarily about Studebakers. It seemed we were always building something similar at the same time and trading parts and me receiving guidance. First a 1960 Lark, then a 1938 Coupe Express and at the time he passed, we were each building a late thirties, two ton cabover Studebaker truck. I will always cherish the memory of visits to their home, filled with love, on the beach in Altoona. It was at their home in Sun City, where I was first asked to consider being vice president of the Studebaker Drivers Club.



At a very cold, windy, military, graveside service, attended by several hundred, at Forest Hill Cemetery, Father Brian Konopa quipped to Hezzy for the last time. "Here you are Hezzy, about eight feet from the street where you can see the cars go by." A twenty one gun salute shattered the silence in the old Eau Claire neighborhood and the bugle sang taps as the procession of Studebakers and other classics drove back to St. Olaf's where a rousing polka band, less tuba, entertained those who gathered for a meal in the church hall. Hezzy is survived by his wife Ruth, eight children, twenty two grand children, twenty one great grandchildren and many friends.

## Members of the Year

Dennis Lynde and Linda Saar were honored at the Holiday Party as the Members of the Year for 2006. This very active couple joined the SDC and our Chapter in December, 2002 with their first Studebaker, a 1955 Champion 2 door sedan. Since then they have acquired a very nice 1963 GT Hawk and, recently, a R series pickup, although along the way the sedan was sold.

You will see Dennis and Linda at almost every Chapter event and meeting and they have graciously hosted a couple of meetings in the past two years. In addition, Dennis is serving on the 2010 International Meet Committee and Linda has volunteered as the Chapter's webmaster.

To commemorate the honor given them, they were presented with a silver coin featuring an R series pickup.

Congratulations, Dennis and Linda!

## Scott Grainger honored by SDC

During the International Meet awards banquet in Omaha, it was announced Scott Grainger was the 2006 recipient of the Harold E. Churchill award. SDC presents this honor to the person who has contributed the

best non-paid article to *Turning Wheels* during the year. Scott's contribution was the story of his adventure procuring and bringing home Toto, a 1946 M16 grain truck. The story was first featured in the *ECHO* and then in the August, 2005 *Turning Wheels*.

Congratulations to Scott for this honor.

## New Officers & Board Elected

Congratulations to the new officers and board elected in November for 2007. Their positions and names are listed on page 2. The board will meet for the first time on January 14th and is interested in hearing from the members about events they would like held during the year. In addition to suggestions for activities, volunteers are needed to either serve as a meeting host or act as tourmaster for an event. Contact any officer or board member with your ideas and to volunteer.

A sincere thanks to the 2006 officers and board who worked hard throughout the year to serve the Chapter.

*Studebaker*

## GRAND CANYON STATE CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS

- JANUARY 8** ARIZONA AUTOMOBILE HOBBYIST COUNCIL (AAHC) MEETING, 7:30 PM AT DON SANDERSON FORD, 5300 NW GRAND AVE, GLENDALE. INFO: GEORGE WOODS 480-473-0946. ANY MEMBER IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.
- JANUARY 13** 9TH ANNUAL MOTORSPORTS DAY, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM AT ARIZONA COMMUNITY CHURCH, 9325 S RURAL RD AT KNOX RD. NO ENTRY FEE. GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES. TO REGISTER CONTACT DEANNA MANLEY AT 480-981-8886/HPDLMANEY@MSN.COM BY JANUARY 6TH AND SHE WILL RESERVE SPACES FOR STUDEBAKERS. PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE GOODY BAG AND FREE LUNCH.
- JANUARY 14** BOARD MEETING AT COLLINS HOME, 2410 W. FREEWAY LN, PHOENIX. 1:00 PM. FOR INFO CONTACT CHRIS OR CHUCK AT 602-995-5311 OR CHUCKSTUDE@JUNO.COM.
- JANUARY 20** WINTER STUDEBAKER CELEBRATION AT ARIZONA GOLF RESORT, POWER & BROADWAY RDS., MESA. 10:00 AM CAR SHOW, SWAP MEET AND PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTING. \$12.00 PER PERSON LUNCH AT NOON WITH AWARDS, TECH SESSION AND SCRAPBOOKING SEMINAR FOLLOWING. MORE INFO: RICHARD AT 480-827-8178 OR 1938STUDEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET. SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE DETAILS.
- JANUARY 21** SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER HOSTS ITS ANNUAL BANQUET AT TANQUE VERDE GUEST RANCH. EXIT SPEEDWAY RD., GO EAST UNTIL SPEEDWAY ENDS. EAT AT 11:30, ARRIVE EARLIER TO VISIT. \$18.00 PER PERSON. SEND CHECK MADE OUT TO SAC TO CHUCK STANFORD, 830 E. HALCYON RD, TUCSON 85719. STUDEBAKER RELATED ITEMS WELCOME FOR THE AUCTION. FOR MORE INFO CONTACT CHUCK AT 520-888-1563.
- FEBRUARY 10** 59TH ANNUAL GOLD RUSH DAYS PARADE, WICKENBURG. STUDEBAKERS WILL MEET TO CARAVAN AND PARTICIPATE IN PARADE. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WHEN AND WHERE TO MEET IN NEXT ISSUE OR CONTACT AN OFFICER/BOARD MEMBER.
- FEBRUARY ?** CHAPTER MEETING TBA
- MARCH 24** ALL-ARIZONA STUDEBAKER GATHERING AT THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE WING MUSEUM AT FALCON FIELD, MCKELLIPS & GREENFIELD RDS IN MESA. START THINKING OF A FUN AWARD TO CREATE AND PRESENT FOR THE FUN JUDGING. MORE DETAILS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OR CALL THE EDITOR FOR FURTHER INFO.
- MARCH 25** ANNUAL VALLEY OF THE SUN KIWANIS BBQ & CAR SHOW. DETAILS NEXT MONTH.
- JUNE 18-23** SDC 43RD INTERNATIONAL MEET IN SOUTH BEND, INDIANA. "WELCOME HOME" HOSTED BY THE STUDEBAKER NATIONAL MUSEUM. ONLINE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION AT [HTTP://WWW.STUDEBAKERDRIVERSCLUB.COM](http://www.studebakerriversclub.com)
- SEPTEMBER 14-16** PACIFIC SOUTHWEST ZONE MEET HOSTED BY THE SAN JOAQUIM CHAPTER IN SELMA, CALIF. "STUDEBAKER HEAVEN IN 2007"



*Take your Stude out to one of the Valley's cruise nights!  
Check here for one near you - <http://cruisinarizona.com/cruisenites.html>*



## TECH SESSION WITH GEORGE GEZELIUS

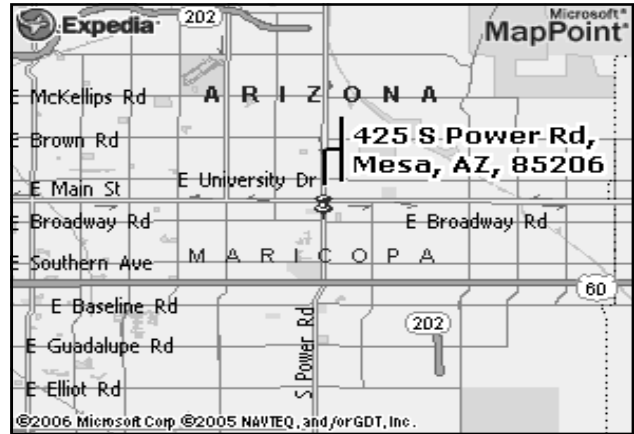
By Richard Dormois

On Saturday, January 20, 2007, after lunch at the Arizona Golf Resort, chapter member George Gezelius, ably assisted by Dick Eichof, will conduct a hands on lecture on "Improving Your Performance".....Actually, he will talk about getting more out of your Studebaker six cylinder engine and offer tips on repairing and extending the life of the popular power plant, by inexpensive means. George qualifies as a professional in the field by virtue of his auto shop teaching career of three decades at Westwood High School in Mesa and having rebuilt many motors in his home shops in Arizona and Washington. The offering will take place, with ample seating, under the canopy adjacent to our car show in the parking lot.



As George is entertaining those interested in Studebaker engines, Lorilee Kroulik will offer a class on Scrapbooking in the Pavilion Dining Room at the conclusion of the luncheon in the same room. We look forward to a fine gathering, as we have enjoyed in previous years, at the Golf Resort. Interest has been expressed from eleven states and British Columbia, thus far. There is still time to sponsor a People's Choice Award by sending a check for \$25.00 to the Right Impression, 319 Chestnut, Kimball, Nebraska 69145.

### Map to the Arizona Golf Resort, 425 S. Power Rd.



### LOOKING AHEAD - March Madness

Mark Saturday, March 24th on your calendar for the annual All-Arizona Studebaker Gathering to be held for the second time at the Commemorative Air Force Wing Museum at Falcon Field in Mesa. The museum is the home of the B-17 Sentimental Journey, the WW II aircraft famous for its Studebaker engines.

The event will be held from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm and will feature fun judging with fun awards. Members are invited to sponsor a fun judging class (such as "Best Working Clock") and then create an award to present to the winner. There'll also be dash plaques for all participants and a raffle. More to come next month.

## January 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 AAHC Meeting	9	10	11	12	13 Motorsports Day
14 Board Meeting	15	16	17	18	19	20 Meeting
21 SAC Banquet	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		Questions? Call Chris at 602-995-5311	



## Holiday Party

Once again, the spacious garage in the Kroulik's backyard was transformed from purely functional to a festive party room. The Chapter's annual holiday party, December 2nd, helped members get in the spirit of the season with lights, a tree and beautifully set dinner tables. This year members were treated to a delicious dinner catered by Honey Bear's of barbecue ribs and chicken with the fixings, all courtesy of the Chapter treasury. Everyone brought a dessert and there were many cakes, pies, brownies and cookies to enjoy.

After the meal, Scott opened the program by asking everyone to introduce themselves, then thanked John and Lorilee for hosting the party. Birthdays and anniversaries being celebrated in December were noted followed by introduction of the 2007 officers and board members. Then, he made the Member of the Year presentation honoring Dennis Lynde and Linda Saar. This was followed by a very successful auction which brought in \$948.00 thanks to the persuasive and entertaining auctioneering by Richard Dormois.

Larry Vahe presented Scott with a card and gift from the members in thanks for his service as Chapter president in 2006 and Denny Lockmon also honored Scott with the announcement he was the winner of the Harold E. Churchill award. The Studebaker drivers prize was awarded and won by John Kroulik who also won the 50/50 drawing of \$66.00.

Attending were Gary & Sandie Keating (1964 Lark Daytona convertible), Larry Vahe (1955 Speedster), Malcolm Stinson, Jr, Jan Stanton, Steve & Paulette Fein and 4 guests (1966 Cruiser), George Gezelius (1951 Champion), Pres & Terry Connolly (1957 Silver Hawk), Bill & Dolores Lynch, Mike, Lisa, Josh & Ben Lynch, William, Maryanne, Gwen & Domenica Eastburn, Ron & Vicky Crowe (1964 GT Hawk), Chuck & Chris Collins (1966 Cruiser), John, Lorilee & Kolton Kroulik (1963 GT Hawk), Florence Kroulik, Ralph Robbin (1948 Land Cruiser), Paul Grainger & guest, Kevin, Anita & Sara MacFadden, Scott & Barbara Grainger, John & Annie Kemper, George & Carol Van Zee & guest, Charley Haverstick & Judy Burger (1962 Champ), Dennis Lynde & Linda Saar (1963 GT Hawk), Chris & Rachel Eastburn (1963 Lark), Bill, Peggy, Michell & Patrick Eastburn, Ed & Lynda Caviar (1964 GT Hawk), Harold & Deanna Manley, Brian & Aleta Millette, Denny & Jan Lockmon, Ike & Virginia Quigley, Walt & Kitty Jazwinski (1963 Avanti).

Thank you to the table hosts/hostess for the festive table settings - Aleta Millette, Anita MacFadden, Claudia Robinette, Steve & Paulette Fein, Linda Saar, Barbara Grainger, Chris Collins, Deanna Manley, Maryanne Eastburn, Ron & Vicky Crowe, Peggy Eastburn and Michell Eastburn (drink table).

A special thanks to John and Lorilee Kroulik, our hosts, for opening their garage to us again.

## Studebaker Wagon in Fort Huachuca Museum

Text and Photo by Scott Grainger

I visited the Fort Huachuca Historical Museum in Sierra Vista, AZ this month on a holiday with a friend. I knew that there had been a Studebaker Wagon there years ago as I had seen it when I was stationed there and done some Studebaker things in the 1976 200th Anniversary Parade in town. I found the wagon, which wasn't too difficult as it now resides inside in the Annex of the museum as part of a very nice display of an old west street scene.

The wagon has been restored since I saw it last. The canvas top looks brand new along with the Studebaker logo on the back of it.

Editor's note: More photos of the wagon and museum are included in the online version of the January ECHO.



## Ted Harbit to be Honored

Ted Harbit of Chicken Hawk fame will be honored along with six others by the National Hot Rod Association at the fifth annual National Hot Rod Reunion in Hebron, Ohio, outside of Columbus. The event is June 15, 16 and 17.

The Chicken Hawk, a Commander Starlight Coupe, was found by Ted in a field near Anderson, Ind. in 1961. He paid \$30.00 for the car. Since then, Harbit and the Chicken Hawk have won 11 stock-car National Hot Rod Association drag-racing championships and he has been racing for about 50 years in cars he's restored himself. Harbit, a retired teacher, said, "I feel very honored to be selected as an honoree knowing there are literally hundreds of worthy racers out there."

## Something under the tree for the desert dwellers

We find some good news to start off the new year. *The Arizona Republic* reports that on December 13, the EPA approved a collector-car exemption bill that was signed by Governor Janet Napolitano in April 2005, then submitted to the EPA for hearings and study.

Starting on March 1, "collectible cars and trucks" in Maricopa and Pima counties will be excused from emissions testing, providing they're "bona fide show cars or hobbyist items that carry collector-car insurance, which limits annual mileage and restricts use." The specifics of those policies vary, but usually allow between 1,000 and 2,000 miles a year of driving.

Local collectors and clubs originally proposed the regulation, and we think Arizona's definition of an old car under this rule is the most generous in the nation, with a 15-year rolling limit. Anyone importing a car under 25 years old into the U.S. from abroad will still have to comply with federal emissions regulations.

According to *The Republic*, the EPA submitted a proposed rule to the Federal Register for 30 days of public comment; as of this writing, we were unable to find it on the FR Web site.

By David Traver Adolphus Reprinted from the 12/28/2006 edition of the *Hemmings e-Weekly Newsletter*.

## The Toy Studebaker Collectors Club

Interested in Studebaker models and toys? You can join the Toy Studebaker Collectors Club to keep up with what's new and what's collectible. Send \$10.00 for one year's dues to Gary Sanders, 216 N. 36th St., Nixa, MO 65714. You'll receive a newsletter each quarter packed with interesting information about the fun hobby of collecting Studebaker models.



## STUDEBAKER IN PRINT

One of the best Studebaker books available that quotes extensively from Board Meeting minutes from the mid 1950s on is Donald Critchlow's excellent *Studebaker: The Life and Death of an American Corporation*. (Indiana University Press, 1996). This book is a fascinating "must read" for anyone interested in the history of the corporation. Styling, model year sales information etc. is lacking in this book but on purpose. Mr. Critchlow focused more on the corporate side of things. The book really reads like an exciting novel and I would recommend it to anyone interested in the corporate side of Studebaker. It discusses in detail why Studebaker did what it did, and examines, like the Board did, various avenues that could have been taken by the Corporation at the many crossroads Studebaker found itself approaching during the postwar period. In all too many instances the Board, to borrow a phrase from Yogi Berra, "came to the fork in the road and took it."

I believe I purchased my copy from the Studebaker National Museum and have re-read it several times.

Reviewed by Studedude1961 on the Studebaker news

## Web Sites of Interest

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5Oe1-q0mJs> 1996 SDC International Meet in Long Beach

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4hKxN\\_sSyU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4hKxN_sSyU) Very cool 5 minute video of the 2006 La Carrera Panamericana Road Race. Includes lots of Studebaker footage.

<http://www.panamrace.com/2006results.html> See the results of the race here.

[http://find.mapmuse.com/interest/car\\_museums](http://find.mapmuse.com/interest/car_museums) Link to a Automotive Museums map. (Thanks to Mary McConnell for this info.)

Google now has patent search  
<http://www.google.com/patents> - Some interesting Studebaker ones:

Body construction patent from 1926  
<http://www.google.com/patents?vid=USPAT1692543&id=FBtOAAAEEBAJ&pg=PA4&dq=studebaker+corporation#PPA4,M1>

Shifting mechanism from 1938  
<http://www.google.com/patents?vid=USPAT2180579&id=pCIFAAAEEBAJ&pg=PP1&dq=studebaker+corporation>



## STUDEBAKER: OUR MARQUE - OUR RESPONSIBILITY

By Kimball Thomson

Total Studebaker passenger car production in the 37 years from 1930-1966 was just 3.4 million vehicles with 1950 being the biggest production year at 343,000 cars. Compare these numbers to the statistics below:

- ◆ Chevrolet built 4.8 million cars in the three years of 1955, 1956 and 1957. The rarest of these was the Nomad wagon of which 22,375 were built. Studebaker built just 14,789 GT Hawks in three model years - and the Nomad is rare???
- ◆ Ford built 1.7 million Model As in 1930 and 1931.
- ◆ 1.8 million Mustangs were built in 1965 and 1966.
- ◆ Between 1959 and 1966, Rambler built 2.9 million vehicles. In the same years Studebaker produced 556,00 Larks and Cruisers.

The point? Our cars are rare and as time progresses we begin to stand out from the crowd of other classic American models, many of which are more popular today to collectors. To own a Mustang or '55-'57 Chev 20 years ago in New Zealand was unusual and these cars had a real "wow" factor. Today any gathering of American iron has so many of these models that they begin to lose their point of difference.

We now have that "wow" factor in our cars. What is it? Who made it? Is it a Ford engine? The Studes sound different and certainly the style has stood the test of time creating more and more discussion as time moves on. Perhaps the most popular Studebaker in New Zealand is the 1963 Lark 4 door sedan. Only 40,113 of these cars were built and based on 1961 and 1962 numbers, it can be assumed that less than half of these cars were built with a V8 engine. That is less cars than the "rare" Nomad!! Just 28 Studes were registered in NZ in 1963 up until June, and 93 Lark CKD units came in around the middle of the year which were assembled and sold as '63 and '64 models. By comparison Ford was assembling 336 compact Fairlanes per year during this period!

We have a responsibility to show our cars off at every available opportunity. The more interest we garner the more people will begin to want to own a Stude and the future of the brand will be assured.

Do you currently have an enthusiastic "next" owner for your car/s? Do you know what will happen to your car/s when you are no longer here?

Please don't just leave your cars in a will that makes them just a part of your estate. Determine in advance the people you want to continue the heritage of the marque and be specific. There are a lot of young people who would love to own and cherish a Studebaker, but the cars are beyond their financial reach given the ease with which a modern car can be purchased on low deposit.

The Nationals is a great occasion to get the cars on the roads of New Zealand - as is every organized meet. The Top Of The South Spring run has become another wonderful opportunity to travel, as is the Tauranga

meeting. We do, however, need something on a regular basis in the lower part of the South Island - the most beautiful part of the country - and maybe the Autumn season provides an opportunity for an annual meeting (taking Easter into account). This Easter in Masterton is a great opportunity to get your car out on the road - have you registered yet?

The cost of fuel increases does make a difference to how far we may be prepared to travel, but when put into perspective the cost of taking the Studebaker anywhere is probably only 25-30% more than a modern brand X and this is a part of the cost of the responsibility we have undertaken. Our cars must be kept fully roadworthy. We need to take them on the roads on a regular basis, not just special occasions. An outing once a week or fortnight needs to be on our agenda to maintain the exposure and public interest.

No one sees or knows about them when they are parked up in a garage or waiting to be trailered to an event. Give thought to having an information sheet to sit on a seat which can be read through the window. This could even have the club's e-mail address on it for people who want to take their interest a little further.

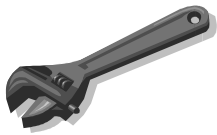
We have bought the cars we love for many different reasons - family history, loved them as a youngster, they look different, they are unique, no one else has one, stands out from the crowd. Whatever the reason of ownership we ensure that the same enthusiasm and interest passes on to another generation and then another generation. The low build numbers mean that the supply of roadworthy or restorable cars is not infinite.

By using our cars we also use the parts required to maintain them. This in turn helps keep the businesses of those people who have committed themselves to the on-going supply of parts for us in a viable financial position. If we don't use the cars, we don't buy the parts, so the suppliers will vanish and then parts will become expensive and very difficult to source.

Our cars are still appreciating in value. We are supported by an excellent supply of parts which are relatively cheap, so compared to any modern brand X which is suffering depreciation of around 25% per year, the cost of owning a Studebaker is very low.

We cannot be selfish, we must accept the responsibility we have undertaken by making the purchase of our Studebaker - keep it fully roadworthy, use it, expose it and help build enthusiasm for the brand especially amongst those people who have never even heard the name before.

Reprinted from *The Distributor*, newsletter of the New Zealand Chapter, Richard Freeman, editor. The author is the recipient of the "Best Article in a Chapter Newsletter Award" presented by the SDC Chapter Publications Committee at the International SDC Meet in Omaha.



## Technical Information

### Two Handy Products for Your Shop

#### Thanks, Mr Loctite

Every once in a while, you come across a product that lives up to its advertisement hype. Glued a split door seal yesterday and used Loctite Superglue Extra Gel; it worked perfectly. Easy to apply, no mess or drops on the carpet, and the split seal went together superbly and stayed together. Quite a change from the messy normal superglue.

Hank on the SDC Forum

#### A Pen with 300 Uses

The old reliable toolbox-in-a-can now comes in a form that's even easier to tote.

WD-40 Co. recently introduced the WD-40 No-Mess Pen, a pocket-size applicator that resembles a highlighter. It allows for precise application of the lubricant-cleaner, and its small size makes it convenient for keeping in a kitchen drawer or other handy place.

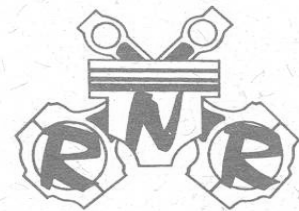
Wondering what to use it for? Check out the company's 300 uses on its web site, [www.wd40.com](http://www.wd40.com).

The WD-40 No-Mess Pen can be found at retailers nationwide and has a suggested retail price of \$2.99 for a single pen and \$4.99 for a two-pack.

*A Knight Ridder Newspapers feature.*



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**FOR SALE - STUDEBAKER CARS, TRUCKS AND PARTS - WANTED**

**TO PLACE OR CANCEL AN AD:** Please contact Chuck Collins by phone at 602-995-5311 or e-mail [Chuckstude@juno.com](mailto:Chuckstude@juno.com) or write 2410 W. Freeway Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85021-4135.

Ads for members are free. Business card ads are \$25 per year. Ads not updated every 3 issues will be dropped.

**STUDEBAKERS FOR SALE**

**1963 Avanti.** Excellent condition. Rebuilt Power Train-R1; auto; TT; Factory A/C; PS; PDB; New interior. Drive anywhere. \$21,500. Walt Jazwinski 623-934-3371 or [wjazwin@hotmail.com](mailto:wjazwin@hotmail.com) (3)

**1952 1/2T 2R5 Pickup.** Professional frame off restoration. Completely rebuilt mechanically w/289, T-86 trans w/od, Vintage AC, Dolphin gauges, 15" aluminum wheels & much more. \$15,000 OBO Gary Horner, Show Low 928-537-2024 (3)

**1962 GT Hawk.** Automatic, power steering, power brakes. Red ext., black int. Excellent condition. \$19,500. Roy Rice, Mesa 480-248-7828 (3)

**1963 GT Hawk.** 73+K miles. Driver. Interior needs repair. Good body. Need to replace windshield. \$5000. Dave Corey Sun City West 623-544-7758 (2)

**1973 Avanti II.** Rebuilt 350, 700R AT, New exhaust system w/Flow Master mufflers. Turner brakes installed. 7" wide 15" Mag 500 wheels. Good AC. Bronze exterior. \$14,000. Don Bjelke 480-203-4109

**1963 GT Hawk, 1963 Avanti, 1956 Golden Hawk, 1958 Silver Hawk** in various conditions. Call for info: Tom Barker Kingman 928-757-7010 (1)

**1962 1/2 T Champ pickup.** V-8, 3 spd w/od. Starts and runs good but needs some TLC. \$1,800 OBO. Charley Haverstick 602-717-1778 (0)

*Help Keep America Beautiful,  
Drive a Studebaker!*

**STUDEBAKER PARTS FOR SALE**

**1956-57 automatic transmission,** rebuilt w/new torque converter, \$650.00. **289 1962 engine,** not full flow, turns over, condition unknown. Good for rebuilding, \$500. **T86 used three speed w/od transmission** from 1962 GT Hawk, \$250.00. **4 spd transmission** from a 1962 car w/bell housing. Has original Stude shifter, weak second gear. All parts included to repair it, \$600. Chuck Collins 602-995-5311 or [cstude1@cox.net](mailto:cstude1@cox.net) 3

**Drivers side rear fender & passenger side door** for 1953-55 C body Champion. The door is complete with door handle and window crank. David Cupples Tucson 520-822-5553 or [roameoace@netzero.net](mailto:roameoace@netzero.net) (0)

**Champion engine** in Phoenix. Chris Wilson 928-567-6684 (2)

**MISC. FOR SALE**

**Gravely Garden Tractor.** Gravely was a subsidiary of Studebaker. There is a Studebaker ID plate on tractor. Not running. Needs battery & chain for starter. Has attachments. \$300 OBO or trade. Fred Gooch Tucson 520-883-7418 (2)

**"Operator's Guide for 2R Series Studebaker Trucks"** used but very serviceable, \$6. Book--**"Studebaker, the Post War Years"**, by Richard M. Langworth, very good condition, 195 pages, \$14. Book--**"Automobile Quarterly", Studebaker's 115 Years**, 335 pages, 281 pages devoted to Studebaker, most other pages are about Bugatti, new book, excellent condition, \$14. Book--**"American Cars"** by Leon Mandel, 448 pages, new condition, a book for lovers of all old American cars,

Studebaker, also, size 10" X 12", a heavy book, about 5 lbs., \$15. **Studebaker dealers' show room pictures,** one of aerial view of Proving Ground. Another is of factories in South Bend and other assembly plants in USA and Canada. These are originals from a former Studebaker dealer in Bemidji, Minn. They measure 29 1/2" X 39". Good condition. \$75.00 Each. Buyer is to pay shipping costs. Contact: Glen Torske 520-495-4166 or [rtorske@cox.net](mailto:rtorske@cox.net), or 6031 S. Galiuro Dr., Tucson, AZ 85706-4778. (0)

**Studebaker Toy Treasures,** Jim Geary's Studebaker toys and models book. \$39.95 of which \$5.00 goes to the Chapter. To get a copy contact Chris Collins at 602-995-5311

**STUDEBAKER CARS/PARTS WANTED**

**Need nice clean gas tank** for 1956 Power Hawk, also a good tank for a '53 C/K. Need to be useable without extra repair. Lew Danurdand 520-743-0451 or [lldandurand@msn.com](mailto:lldandurand@msn.com)

**Wanted: 9 1/8" V8 clutch disk cores. Will pay \$10 each for rebuildable cores.** Chuck Collins 602-995-5311 or [cstude1@cox.net](mailto:cstude1@cox.net) (1)

**Gift Memberships**

A gift SDC membership for a friend, family member or the new owner of the Studebaker you just sold are available by contacting Cornerstone Registration at 763-420-7829. First time memberships are just \$19.95.

You can also gift a school library with a subscription to *Turning Wheels* for \$19.95.



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# The *ECHO*

Newsletter of the Grand Canyon State Chapter, SDC  
P.O. Box 37464  
Phoenix, AZ 85069-7464



To:

\_\_\_\_\_ Your 2007 Chapter dues are paid.  
Thank You!

\_\_\_\_\_ Your 2007 Chapter dues are due.  
Please send your dues today.

**Reminder**  
Call Deanna at 480-981-8886 by the 6th to  
reserve a place at Motorsports Day.  
*Drive Your Studebaker!*

## GRAND CANYON STATE CHAPTER STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All memberships are for one year beginning on January 1. Chapter dues are \$18.00 per year, prorated at \$1.50 per month if joining during the year. Your dues include 11 issues of the award winning ECHO, a Chapter roster, membership in the Arizona Automobile Hobbyist Council and the best club activities throughout the year.

Membership in the Studebaker Drivers Club is compulsory in order to be a member of the Grand Canyon State Chapter of SDC, Inc. If you are not a member of SDC, add \$27.50 (\$19.95 for new members, 1st year only) to your Chapter dues, which the treasurer will remit for you. Any questions can be directed to the address below or to Chris Collins at 602-995-5311. Please make check payable to the Grand Canyon State Chapter, SDC and send with this form to: GCSC Treasurer, P. O. Box 37464 Phoenix, AZ 85069-7464

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ # of Children \_\_\_\_\_

(Under 18 years of age)

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(May be found on address label of *Turning Wheels*.)

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# Fort Huachuca Historical Museum in Sierra Vista, AZ

Photos by Scott Grainger

