



BRICKYARD BULLETIN



VOL. 42, ISSUE 3 A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDY CHAPTER OF THE STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB, MARCH, 2015

Our President, Chuck Kern, is on an extended vacation in Florida for the next few months, ergo, our very able Vice President, Dan Taylor, will be filling in.



From Our Vice President



COLD-COLD-COLD !! So cold that no one drove their Studebaker to our meeting at Don Pablo's hosted by Nancy and Joe Bacon on February 15th. But this news will warm you up a little: Bob Fox volunteered and was unanimously approved to be our clubs next Secretary !!! Thanks Bob (and Sandy, too!!). The officers will be meet in the near future (if President Chuck Kern decides to leave sunny Florida and join us again) to discuss and make recommendations to the membership on what information to place in both a club directory and the website that Jeff Westcott has started.

We now turn our attention to one of the "funnest" meetings we have each year - the meet and auction at Ed and Heidi Reynolds' Studebaker International business just west of Greenfield. Always a great time there !! See below for details.

Indy Chapter of the Studebaker Drive Club

Minutes

Sunday, February 15, 2015

Place: Don Pablos, Greenwood

Host: Joe and Nancy Bacon

Attendance: 28

VP Dan Taylor called meeting to order @1:27 pm.

Dan's Comments

- Thanks to Nancy & Joe Bacon for setting up the meeting.
- Thanks to Charlie Griffith for running the January meeting.
- He reported President Chuck is planning on returning to Indiana March 8.
- To-date no response has been received from the Indianapolis Colts to have Linebacker, Andy Studebaker, address one of our meetings. Dan is following up on this request.



Acting president Dan Taylor (L)
with 50/50 winner Tom Lawlis

Officer Reports:

Activities Update Charlie Griffith:

- 3/1 Pitch-In & auction @ Studebaker International
- 4/18-19 Overnight trip to Jungle Jim's @ Fairfield, OH, Sandy & Bob Fox
- 5/2-3 Annual meet, show, swap meet @ St Joe Co Fairgrounds, South Bend, IN
- 5/22-23 Orphan Car drags @ Beanblossom, IN,
Rose & Richard Poe
- 6/14 Pitch-In @ Becky & Charlie Griffith's house
- 6/26-27 Zone Meet Chillicothe, OH
- 8/16-22 Studebaker National Convention @ St Louis, MO
- 10/17 Carefree Clubhouse, Greenwood, Dan & Karen Taylor
- 12/2 Christmas Party @ Murphy's Steak House – North, Marvin & Berniece Snider



There was no New Business:

Old Business:

- Indy Chapter should sponsor a trophy or trophies for the National Convention. Dan will follow-up with the officers.
- Dan said the content of the Web Site and the Directory will be reviewed by the officers. They will determine what to include and what to leave out.

- Larry Hopkins reported, for those of you on Facebook, to check out Studebakers In Indy he has put together.

50/50: Tom Lawlis won \$42.

Meeting Adjourned @ 1:45 pm:
1st by Andy Swartz, 2nd by Joe Bacon.

Note to President Chuck – 18 minute meeting!

Submitted by Bob Fox



A Few Announcements



New secretary, Bob Fox,
in the middle



New contributing
columnist, Diane Elmore

As Dan mentioned, we have a new secretary. Bob Fox has volunteered to fill the spot so no more begging and pleading from your editor. Thanks Bob.

Member, Diane Elmore, having recently retired from the library is feeling the need to write and has graciously volunteered to write a monthly column. Enjoy the first installment of *Diane's Random Ramblings* on page 7.

Studebakers in Indy

I created this group page to show the world the kinds of Studebakers we have in Indy. I have met so many people at car shows and cruise-ins that have made statements to the effect of never seeing any Studebakers around Indy. This showcases our automobiles to anyone that is searching Facebook for anything Studebaker. We have a lot of beautiful Studebakers in our club and it is fun to let people see them. I have one member from South America, another from Gainesville, Florida, and one from North Manchester, Indiana. Last week I had a man from Sullivan, Indiana see it and ask for information about joining the Indy Chapter. I gave him the necessary information and hope he joins our club. It is also my hope that others in Central Indiana will see it and join our club.

To find it on Facebook, in the bar at the top of the page where you see a magnifying glass, type "Studebakers in Indy" and hit the enter key. It will take you to this group. To join the group, click at the top of the page on "Join". I will get a message and add the person. Anybody that is a member in this group can add someone without me having to add the person. I invite everyone in our club to join this group. When I add pictures of our cars, you will be notified on Facebook. I try to take pictures at our meetings and trips so I can add photos to this group. Any of the members can add pictures to this group, so if you have several to add, you can create an album in the photos.



Larry with his 1962 Studebaker Hawk GT (Gran Turismo)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/634984973222050/>

Larry Hopkins

Let's Help Him Out

My name is Alex Cantu, and I am looking for a Studebaker for a sendoff at our wedding, May 16th, 2015. Studebaker's have long been a part of my family as my Grandpa used to drive one when he was younger, and consequently has not stopped talking about it since.

I'm trying to find the year, but a model with a bullet nose would be ideal!

Any ideas of folks that would drive us out in one would be fantastic we are opening to paying directly or donating to the club

If you're interested, Alex info is: (317) 713 2114
acantu@SummitRealtyGroup.co



Remember, daylight savings begins Sunday, March 8

Completing the Set

by Bob Palma

People who collect anything often have a subset goal. In Studebaker-land, for example, Indy Chapter member Howe Clark has set out to accumulate the world's largest collection of restored and unrestored 1953 Studebaker Commander Starliners...and has probably done just that.

1964 was not only Studebaker's last year of South Bend production, but many regard the 1964 "Lark" line to be the most attractive of all 1959-1966 "Larks." The Daytona series was the top of the line...with more than one body style, since the Cruiser was only a 4-door sedan. So, I sort of backed into the idea of having all four 1964 Studebaker Daytonas (convertible, sedan, hardtop, and Wagonaire) in the same color. My quest to complete that set began in 2002. Well, actually, I didn't know it, but it began in September 1977.

Cari and I had been married a little over a year. We were DINKS, which my children tell me is an acronym for **D**ouble **I**ncome, **N**o **K**ids. And since we liked to drive around back roads and eat out, it was natural after work one Friday in early September 1977, to take some back roads from Brownsburg to Mooresville and eat at Gray Brothers Cafeteria.

Our random wanderings found us driving down the east side of little Cartersburg, west of Plainfield. We passed a side street and Cari leaned over and whispered in my ear those luscious, romantic words every young buck wants to hear, "*Wasn't that a Studebaker for sale on that street back there?*"



Station Wagon still on the trailer, "just back from Texas"

February 2, 2013

factory 4-speed in it.

I would have bought it regardless of color; I have no particular fondness for Astra White ...but its popularity in 1964 would make what became a lifetime search a lot easier.

The next summer (1978), I took a bad fall water-skiing and spent two weeks in traction in what is now Hendricks Regional Health in Danville, re-orienting a couple discs in my lower back. The attending orthopedic surgeon was honest enough about back surgery that he said I should not consider surgery until later in life if the pain became unbearable. In the interim, he prescribed continuing muscle relaxants "as needed" to ward off periodic, annoying pain. Thankfully, they have rarely been needed.

But that pain is exacerbated by driving a car with a manual transmission for any length of time, so it became a little uncomfortable to drive the 4-speed Daytona on tours or trips.

Fast-forward through 25 children-financing years to a summertime 2002 Indy Chapter SDC Meet in Warren IN, hosted by our friends Daryl Lahr and Sam Roberts. I drove the Daytona hardtop to the meet and casually mentioned to Sam that I'd like to find a nice-driving Studebaker with a V8 and Flightomatic for tours and such, that driving the stick-shift Daytona didn't do my back any good due to the angle at which pressure is applied to one's lower back when depressing a clutch.

Sam reminded me that my *Co-Operator* Advisor Earle Haley had recently passed away and had willed his Astra White 1964 Daytona 4-door sedan to his [Earle's] son George in Troy, Michigan. Sam had been in touch with George and was of the opinion that George needed the money more than he needed the Daytona. Sam suggested I call George and see if he might want to sell it. I did.

So, on what had to be the hottest weekend in August 2002, Cari and I pulled the car trailer to Troy one Friday and came home with the Daytona on it the next day. I probably could have driven it back, but why own a car trailer if you aren't going to use it? That proved to be a good idea because the Daytona's Prestolite alternator took a dump on my test drive in Troy, so it was easier to drive it onto the trailer on battery only and come home.

As with the hardtop, I would have bought Earle's former Daytona sedan regardless of color...but when I got home, I started thinking: "*Gee, I've got two of the four 1964 Daytona models in the same color; wouldn't it be cool to have all four of them in the same color?*" I decided to go for it, but no cheating. I don't like color changes anyway and would not buy a color-changed Daytona for this collection, nor would I change the color of one once I bought it. If I was going to have all four 1964 Daytonas in Astra White, they would have to be Astra White on the production order, and they are.

This presented a challenge because when I researched 1964 Daytona convertible production in the July 1986 *Turning Wheels*, I determined that Studebaker made only 99 Astra White 1964 Daytona convertibles in South Bend. That meant not only would I join the hordes of people looking for one of Studebaker's most collectible postwar cars, but I would have to find one of the 99 factory Astra White ones! Ugh.

Enter The Studebaker Drivers Club internet forum. Through the forum, I came to know a wonderful SDCer a few years younger than me, the late Leonard Shepherd Jr. of Richmond, Virginia. Leonard was only the third owner of a fairly original, never-rusted, Astra White 1964 Daytona convertible that had been delivered new at Coggins Motors in nearby Charlottesville VA.

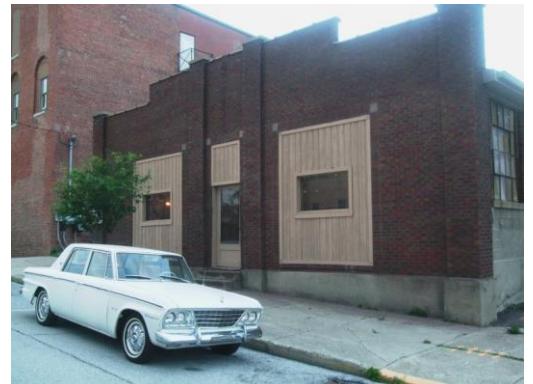
Leonard did not bring the Daytona to the 2007 SDC National Meet in South Bend. Rather, he brought his 1952 Commander 2-door sedan. That's when I met him for the first time and we hit it right off; he was truly a nice guy. In the course of the week, I explained that I was looking for an Astra White 1964 Daytona convertible in about the condition of his and asked that if he ever decided to sell it, would he please give me "first dibs." He assured me he would, adding, "*If my remodeling business doesn't pick up in the next month or two, I'll be calling you.*"

Apparently, it didn't pick up; Leonard called about two months later. So, on Cari's fall break from teaching school in early October 2002, we hooked up the trailer to my Dakota Quad Cab and went to Richmond VA to pick up the convertible. It worked out well because the trip was essentially paid for by another SDCer in Richmond who had found a circa 1903 horse-drawn Studebaker buggy for sale up in Lebanon IN. He paid me to pick up the buggy for him in Lebanon and deliver it to Richmond when we went over to get the convertible, a win/win situation all the way around.

Three Astra White 1964 Daytonas down and one to go: An Astra White 1964 Daytona Wagonaire. The exact number of Astra White Daytona Wagonaires is unknown. However, based on the percent of convertibles that were Astra White and the number of Daytona Wagonaires built, I figure Studebaker built around 400 Astra White 1964 Daytona Wagonaires. So the good news was that I had a larger initial pool from which to hope to find one. The bad news was that we know station wagons lead a harder life than convertibles, so a higher percentage of them would likely be "gone" by now.

Acquiring my Astra White 1964 Daytona Wagonaire would prove to be the most bizarre acquisition in the set, a true "believe it or not story" involving a good friend in *Finland*, of all places, one Pekka Polvinen.

Pekka and I came to know each other through SDC and The Pure Stock Musclecar Drags. We had exchanged e-mails for a year or two and finally got to meet each other in 2011, when he was able to come to the 'states and attend The Drags with us. Late in 2012, Pekka and I were exchanging e-mails about something else when he casually mentioned that he had just bought, under the radar, a 1964 Daytona Wagonaire in south Texas from an SDC friend he knew from a previous transaction. Naturally, I e-mailed back and asked him what color it was. When he replied it was Astra White and gave me the Serial Number for verification, I about had a cow...or something more manageable.



Sedan in front of the former Studebaker dealership in Danville IN.

I e-mailed back and kiddingly told him he was killing me, that I had been on the hunt for an Astra White 1964 Daytona Wagonaire to complete my set of four 1964 Astra White Daytonas. He said he had been looking, too, but not necessarily for Astra White. In fact, he said he would prefer Strato Blue or Laguna Blue to go with his own Strato Blue 1964 Daytona convertible.



All four cars together at home on the front lawn and in the garage

Then, out of the clear blue several days later, I got another e-mail from him saying he realized how much I had been looking for an Astra White 1964 Daytona Wagonaire and his job was a little shaky and he might be changing jobs as a result...and since he hadn't yet made shipping arrangements from the port of Houston to Finland, would I like to have the Wagonaire and he'd keep looking for a blue one? He told me what he paid for it and sent photos. The car and price were fine with me, so after making sure he was cool with all that, I took him up on his offer. He e-mailed the seller in Eddy TX and told him I would be buying the car and go ahead and assign the title to me, let me pick it up, and Pekka and I would square up later, in that Pekka had already paid him for it in full.

At the end of January 2013, I was able to lure Howe Clark from his amorous adventures with Charlotte by telling him we had a no-rust Studebaker to pick up in south Texas, a sure-fire way to divert Howe's attention from carnal matters if there ever was one. He enthusiastically scrambled out of bed "as advertised" for such an adventure and climbed into my truck for a bonsai three-day, 2,100-mile round trip 100+ miles south of Dallas to pick up the Wagonaire in the dead of winter. I was pleased with what it was and picked up the title and Wagonaire with no money changing hands! We got back safely, dodging some really bad winter weather by one day.

Then "the rest of the story" unfolded, as unbelievable as it is. I had the appropriate Police Inspection of the Wagonaire's Serial Number and turned in the Texas title. In a couple days, I duly received my fresh, new Indiana title for the Wagonaire in my and Cari's name. But at that point, with the car in my shop and new title in hand, I had not paid anybody anything for it!

I e-mailed Pekka and asked for his bank information so I could wire him the money. He said, "*'Tell you what, Bob; hold off on that, would you? I'm looking at some other cars in the 'states and if I buy one, I'd just as soon you'd send the United States Dollars where I tell you to send them so I don't have to pay the exchange rate from Dollars to Euros and then back to Dollars.'*"

Of course that was OK with me; after all, he was taking all the risk! I had the Wagonaire and fresh new title in my possession, so I gave all the pertinent information to Cari and told her, "*If anything happens to me, here's how much we owe this guy in Finland for the Wagonaire. Please be sure he gets it.*"

A couple months went by and Pekka kept me in the loop as to cars he was looking at. One was up in Lafayette and I went to look at it for him. I'm glad I did because when he saw the detailed pictures I sent him, he about had a heart attack and was really happy to have had my inspection.

But after three months and no "buys," I asked if I could please just send him the money for my '64, that I was uneasy having his money even though he trusted me with it. He admitted his prospects were dimming, so he sent along all the international bank information. I finally wired the money to his account in Finland *after I had owned the Wagonaire about three months* without as much as a handshake, although there were e-mails that I am sure could have been used to verify who owed who what.

So, while none of my Astra White 1964 Daytonas are especially nice cars, I'm happy to have completed the full set. They are all drivable, stored in a nice facility, and kept operable. They are probably the only such set in the country...or at least I haven't encountered anyone else who is equally nuts.



Confessions of a Thinkaholic



After looking around the crowded room, I nervously stood and softly uttered, "Hello, my name is Diane and I'm a Thinkaholic." Almost immediately, the people sitting around me broke into enthusiastic applause. Then they started chanting: "Welcome to your first TA meeting." "Thinkaholics Rock!" and "Don't be afraid. Embrace your random thoughts!" I closed my eyes and felt the group's acceptance wash over me. **BRRING!! BRRING!!** Suddenly, it sounded like all the cell phones in the room were ringing at the same time. I opened my eyes and looked around. But, strangely, I didn't glimpse a room full of cheering people...I just saw my own bedroom! Then, as my head cleared, I reached over beside my bed and silenced the ringing alarm clock. Whew! Now that was a dream for the record books!

Until I had that dream, I hadn't realized I had apparently been suffering some nagging doubts about my unique thought patterns. Obviously, I had been subconsciously worried about how my thoughts tended to jump from subject to subject. Was it normal to have so many random thoughts, questions and ideas? To answer this burning question, I went immediately to the Internet and clicked on Wikipedia (the font of all knowledge) There I found this definition for **random** (or lateral) **thinking**: *Solving problems through an indirect and creative approach, using reasoning that is not immediately obvious and involving ideas that may not be obtainable by using only traditional step-by-step logic. Instead of using "vertical" logic (the classic method for problem solving: working out the solution step-by-step from the given data) random (lateral) thinking uses "horizontal" imagination (having a thousand ideas but being unconcerned with the detailed implementation of them).*

What a relief to know that random thinking was a real thing and that I wasn't the only person experiencing this thought process. (Why else would there be a definition in Wikipedia?) So, armed with this knowledge, I decided to launch a monthly column in the Brickyard Bulletin. This column would be an outlet for some of my crazy thoughts, weird questions and inventive ideas. Plus, writing all this down would be a great relief to Dave, who is constantly asking, "What in the world are you talking about, Diane?" So, let's start this series of columns with:

MIRROR SHORTAGE STRIKES AMERICA

I think I have uncovered a tragic misfortune that is affecting thousands and thousands of people in the good old U.S.A. Everywhere...across the entire nation...there are people leaving their homes with nary a glance to see what they look like. Why? Using "horizontal logic" and a little randomness, I've come to a conclusion. Obviously, there must be an extreme shortage of mirrors in our country. Why else would we see people wearing PAJAMAS in public?

Sadly, this mirror shortage is very visible to those of us who must endure meeting and interacting with the mirrorless population. In just one week, I've encountered the following examples:

- Five young men with sagging britches and visible underwear.
- Six people wearing jeans full of holes along with grubby shirts. The worst part was they were not dressed to work in the yard or paint the bathroom. No, they were going out to eat a nice meal in a restaurant.
- Two pregnant women encased in outfits of Lycra stretch pants and tops which showcased their basketball bellies and protruding belly buttons.
- Uncountable men who each proudly sported a shock of unkempt hair that looked like he had just endured an extreme electrical jolt...and ALL these men were on TV!!!

Ironically, this mirror crisis is non-discriminatory...striking every race, the rich & poor, and both male & female. You may ask, "What can we do?" Well, they say acknowledging a problem is the first step to solving the problem. So now that we've uncovered this basic need, let's join together in forming a Non-profit Foundation to address the needs of so many of our fellow citizens. I'm sure we can find grants and funding. Good grief...if they fund studies on the migration patterns of snails and whether women's leggings are really pants, I'm sure there's a dollar or two available for our cause. Therefore, I have decided to name our new organization: **MOTHER (Mirrors Offer Tremendous Helpful Exact Reflections)**.

If you are interested in joining in the fight to rid America of this tragic scarcity of mirrors, please join **MOTHER** today. With everyone working together, we can make a difference...because we all know that...Mother knows best!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 1 – 1:00 PM - Pitch-in Lunch and Auction at Studebaker International in Greenfield. The address is 97 N 150 W, Greenfield. Ed and Heidi Reynolds will provide ham and rolls for sandwiches. Bring a favorite dish and table service.

Bring an item for the auction. This could be a Studebaker related item, automotive related, or something fun. This is a great fund raiser for the Club and makes for a fun afternoon.

FOXES' TRIP TO JUNGLE JIM'S

On **Saturday, April 18**, Bob & Sandy Fox will lead a tour to Fairfield, Ohio and **Jungle Jim's** (a grocery extraordinaire – meaning if they don't have it, you don't need it!) Be sure to bring a cooler.



We will leave the **McDonald's** at Brookville Rd & I 465 (it is on Brookville Crossing) at 9:00 a.m. We are planning on being at **LaRosa's Restaurant** in Fairfield, OH for lunch at noon (approximately 94 miles). After lunch we will proceed to **Jungle Jim's**, which is basically across the street. We are planning on being there around 2 hours, but since this is an overnight trip, you could stay as long as you want. There are a lot of other shopping areas and restaurants in the area. You might want to scout something good out as you will be on your own for dinner. There is a Bass Pro Shop across the street and the Tri County Mall is about 2 miles away by interstate.

If you decide you want to go but don't want to spend the night, that's fine. If you prefer you could meet us at **LaRosa's**, 5130 Camelot Dr. We will be staying at a **Quality Inn & Suites** which is about 3 miles from the area that **Jungle Jim's** is in. You will need to make your own reservations by March 18 to get this rate. The rate is: \$69.00 + tax \$11.21 = \$80.21. All rooms have a microwave & fridge. The phone number is: 513-825-9600. Please mention the Studebaker Driver's Club. **Please be sure to let Bob & Sandy know you are planning on going, no later than April 15th.** Email: bsfox@att.net or 317-839-4361 (you can leave a message). We will return to the Indy area by early Sunday afternoon.

Mark these dates on your calendar:



May 1 & 2 - 34th Annual Studebaker Indiana Swap Meet, Open Car & Truck Show and Car Corral at St. Joseph County 4H Fairgrounds, South Bend

May 22 – 23 –The annual **Studebaker Nationals and Orphan Car Drags** held in Bean Blossom, Indiana. This is getting more popular each year. All performance and skill levels welcome. Nashville, Indiana, is about 40 miles South of Indianapolis and is a popular vacation destination with entertainment, shopping, camping, and motels close by. Racing will be Saturday the 23th so bring your car to race, or not, and come to beautiful Brown County and enjoy the day with us. There's a snack bar at the track, or bring your own picnic lunch. Also, the night before the race, Friday the 22th, we meet at a local restaurant in Nashville at 5:30pm for dinner before an open house at our home for desserts. See more information about this event on line or call Richard Poe at 812-988-2008, or roserichpoe@att.net

June 14 – Pitch-in picnic at the Griffiths

June 26-27 - Crossroads Zone Meet in Chillicothe, Ohio – more info in upcoming Bulletins

August 16 – 22 - Studebaker International in St. Louis

October 17 – 1:00 pm – Pitch-in at the Carefree Clubhouse, 1202 Leisure Lane, (corner of Leisure Lane and County Line Road), Greenwood, IN 46142 hosted by Dan Taylor

December 12 – Christmas Lunch

Note: There are no Indy SDC meetings scheduled for July, August September and November

The Brickyard Bulletin

Published by the Indy Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

Editor: Becky Griffith

The Brickyard Bulletin is published monthly. The deadline for summations is the 15th of the previous month.

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National SDC Membership

Regular membership dues in the National Studebaker Club are \$24.00 for new members 1st year only. Renewals are \$31.00 per year, which includes 12 monthly issues of *Turning Wheels*, the National SDC Magazine. (Other memberships are available.) Application is available upon request or e-mail studebakerdriverclub.com.

Indy Chapter Membership

National SDC membership is a prerequisite. Renewal INDY Chapter dues are \$18.00. Renewals are payable January each year. After March a \$5.00 late fee will be added. Application is available upon request.



Brickyard Bulletin March, 2015



Joe and Nancy Bacons 18856 Golden Hawk

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