



BRICKYARD BULLETIN



VOL. 43, ISSUE 6 A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDY CHAPTER OF THE STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB, JUNE, 2016

The Indy Chapter was well represented at the 35th annual Spring Meet at South Bend. I won't name names that way I won't leave anyone out but there were as many Indy members there as at any local get together! After a long winter we were all ready to get out with our cars or go shopping at the swap meet for our cars. Joe & I arrived on Thursday, May 5th so we would get first chance on any parts for our GT we might find. Ted & Mary Ann Harbit's booth was the place to stop in for a visit and break from all the swap meet shopping. Friday Ed Reynolds hosted a Cruise In & Pizza Party at Studebaker International that was a big hit. Downtown South Bend has a 1st Friday event and also featured lots of Studebaker's downtown. Saturday was a beautiful day for the car show and final day for the swap meet. A great meet as always in South Bend!



Dale McPherson 1953
hubcap belt buckle

We welcome ALL Studebaker enthusiasts.

See you soon at an
Indy Chapter function.

Nancy Bacon

Hope to see everyone at the next few summer events we have planned. Our efforts in both personal contacts via the Brickyard Bulletin and in Turning Wheels are showing results. We are having new potential members at each of our previous meetings this year. If this is your first newsletter.... join us at a meeting, we want to hear your story of Studebaker ownership. If you have received a newsletter for a few months, what's holding you back?

Free pizza party at
Studebaker
International really
brings a crowd in!



Ted Harbit 82nd Birthday,
R2 sugar cookie



2016 Studebaker National Museum Hall of Champions Banquet

by Bob Palma

Our Indy Chapter SDC voted to donate \$1,000 to The Studebaker National Museum's General Operating Fund to honor Museum Director Rebecca Bonham's retirement. Indy Chapter members attending our Studebaker International meeting March 2016 will recall the unanimous vote to support the museum in this way. Cari and I planned to attend the 2016 Hall of Champions dinner anyway, so it was agreed that I would present the check on the Chapter's behalf during the evening's festivities.

Well, gulp, that was *before* I knew the tickets were (yes, this is no joke) **\$200** apiece! Hey, it *is* the museum's biggest annual fund raiser, you know. Having thus made that commitment, we decided it would be fun to get dressed up and attend such a fancy affair at least once. I'm glad we did. (At least the receipt indicates that \$130 of each ticket is a tax-deductible donation for which no goods or services were tendered.)



The annual Studebaker National Museum Hall of Champions dinner is a Big Deal. The museum is closed a couple days before the dinner so most of the vehicles can be moved out of the main gallery; the one at street level behind and to the south of the big turntable out front. Nice tables and chairs are set up for dinner attendees. Business attire or better is expected and everyone looked very nice. (Cari sported a new outfit and looked so good that I didn't submit a photo for Becky to use in *The Brickyard Bulletin* lest it be pirated for the cover of *Vogue* magazine and our Indy Chapter would have to sue *Vogue* for copyright infringement, so you'll have to take my word for it.)

The tables were glamorous, with centerpieces designed by the museum's resident display stylist / arranger, Don Filley. Don is a talented man who is responsible for the attractive displays around the museum's vehicles, which you've surely noticed when you've visited the museum.

One benefit of the ticket tariff was the open bar during happy hour. Cari suggested we bring some money for drinks and I said, "*Are you kidding? At \$200 a pop, I hope happy hour is just that!*" And it was, but of course we left the bartenders a tip each time we "visited" one of their kiosks. Nice folks. A choice of wine was offered with the meal and those glasses were kept full all evening by an attentive staff; also very nice.

The meal itself was an excellent, tender filet, served after a tasty salad and accompanied by roasted asparagus and delicious potato compote. The catering was also good; everyone was served promptly and the food was hot, with enough wait staff that everyone was served within maybe a six-minute period, max. Andy Beckman reports attendance holding steady at about 400 people per year, so they know what to expect and do a great job accommodating everyone.

Our Indy Chapter SDC was earmarked for a short presentation after Andy Beckman "roasted" Becky Bonham, all in good fun. Andy prepared the material himself, reflecting the obvious fun time he has had working with Becky Bonham. One suspects he will miss his good friend, as will all of us.

At the appointed time, Andy called me to the podium. On our Indy Chapter's behalf, I thanked Becky Bonham for all she had accomplished to further Studebaker's ongoing South Bend legacy. She was visibly moved when I announced our Chapter's \$1,000 gift and presented her the check, but quickly regained her composure for these photos. (And she only had the check for a split second; I noticed it was in **Andy Beckman's** hand by the time I got back to our table!)



We were leaving on a week's vacation early Friday morning, April 22, so we had to drive home from South Bend right after the dinner Thursday evening, April 21. The new limited-access U.S.



31 sections from South Bend to Plymouth *and* around Kokomo *and* north of Indianapolis from I-465 to 236th Street made the drive much easier and were greatly appreciated, getting us home right at midnight. If you haven't made the trip to South Bend for a while, you are in for a treat. Just watch your speed, especially at the Indianapolis end from I-465 north to 236th Street; it is heavily patrolled and an enormous source of income for Carmel.

Suffice to say The Studebaker National Museum greatly appreciated our Indy Chapter SDC's thoughtful donation to honor Becky Bonham's retirement. I was honored to have been able to make the presentation on our behalf. I'm sure it will be put to good use. **BP**

2016 STUDEBAKER NATIONAL DRAGS

By Richard Poe

The Studebaker Drags for 2016 are now over and we had a big turnout again this year at The Brown County Dragway. Attendees at this year's race came from as far west as California, and New York and New Jersey in the east!

If you missed it thinking it would rain, you were wrong, it was just a little warm, but not a drop fell from the skies.

I guess I should start on Thursday and at the first activity of this year's event; a trip to John Force Racings fantastic racing shop

in Brownsburg, Indiana.(R) The Force race team is one of the biggest teams in the NHRA with four race teams, three Funny Cars and one Top fuel Dragster.

When our tour guide Steve found out we're



a Studebaker group, he insisted that he take us through the shop since he's a Studebaker owner himself! We got the deluxe treatment, all 22 of us! Giving tours isn't Steve's job, but the Studebaker camaraderie compelled him to do this one for us. All the teams were there getting the cars ready for the next event race. I think they had seven semi trucks, all parked inside! Steve answered all of our questions, and we answered his. The man himself, John Force, came out and greeted us for pictures and spent some time with our group. We all had a great time thanks to the John Force team. I think another trip back to his shop maybe in the future.

It's always fun to see the Studebakers show up around Nashville during the week of the race. Friday we all met at the Seasons Lodge for dinner. Forty-two were in attendance at the dinner, and after that we headed to our home for desserts and Studebaker talk.

Saturday is race day, well it's not really a race in the sense that we have competition where we declare a winner, but a chance to make a few passes with your car. This is an opportunity to add more interesting memories of your Studebaker ownership or maybe just make a pass against friends or even a legend like Ted Harbit.

We always have a great group and make new friends every year, sharing our stories at the track on a nice day in May.

See you next year!

Richard and Rose Poe



Photo by Rose Poe



Ed Picard and his wife drove their 1964 Cruiser all the way from New Jersey.



Rick Donahue from Jamesville, WI 1979 Avanti



Johnny Thiel 1963 Avanti



Johnny Thiel of Vandelia, IL (L) and Gene Little from Creal Springs, IL. Gene has a 1961 Hawk.



Neil and Robin Loughlin from Ortonville, Michigan with their 1964 Daytona



Andy Swartz 1962 Lark



Chuck Kern's 1962 Ol' Yeller Champ



Chuck scouting for potential new members with our "We Invented Cool" sign.

News About Our Members

An update on two members:

Larry Hopkins got his prosthetic lower leg, has gone thru physical therapy and on May 5th drove his car for the first time since July 4th! Congrats Larry. Be sure to follow Larry on his Facebook page for great pictures of all sorts of cars.

Angie Griffith went home on May 26 after being in physical therapy or the hospital since the middle of April. She's not driving yet, but soon.



Larry at the Season's Lodge May 27 with his 1962 Gran Turismo

Cars for Sale

My father, Jerome Thiessen, passed away in January and his estate is selling his 1964 Studebaker Avanti street rod. I forwarded the Craigslist ad to you. Please pass the ad to any Studebaker or Avanti club members who you think may be interested in buying it. It is a very fun car to drive. Unfortunately I don't have a good place to keep it. All serious offers will be considered. Buyer must pick up the car (delivery is not included).

The car is located at Baraboo, Wisconsin (about one hour drive North of Madison, Wisconsin). Dad was a lifelong Studebaker and street rod enthusiast and an excellent mechanic.

<http://madison.craigslist.org/cto/5571885638.html>

Curt Thiessen
CurtTh@aol.com

If anyone in the club is interested in this 1963 Avanti, it is priced at \$24,600 and they can call Julie at 317-469-3672 on her cell phone.



I have a 1962 4-door that I would like to sell. We purchased the unit two years ago as a restore project, but due to a family illness will never happen. The car is rough with all of the trim stripped off including the bumpers. I am sure it would make someone a good project that has the time and energy.

I can supply pictures. Since purchased have kept it inside out of the weather. For more information, contact me at ruscc@macsfire.com

Russ Campbell
Litchfield, Illinois





WORRY, INC.

Let's listen in on a 1953 conversation between Diane and her Mom: "Mom, I've decided that I want to marry an older man, just like Marion Marlowe on the Arthur Godfrey Show," said a 3rd-grade Diane. Her Mom replied, "Oh, honey, that's not a very good idea. If your husband was 20 years older than you, he most likely would die way before you and leave you alone with children to raise." So, as the years went by and I grew up, I could see the wisdom of her words. BUT...the lure of a man who was mature, steady, dependable, wise and solid as a rock remained in my heart. Then, when I was 16, I met that older man...DAVE ELMORE! (Somehow, even though his birth certificate stated that he was born just two years before me, he possessed the aura of a MUCH older person.)

BREAKING NEWS: Dave Elmore was NEVER young! Yes, by some freak of nature, Dave was born OLD. As proof, I submit this picture showing a 1-year old Dave learning to walk. Isn't he a cute little old fellow?



When Dave and I got married, we assumed our individual responsibilities. Among many things, I was in charge of cooking, cleaning, bookkeeping, and any vegetable/flower gardening. Dave took on the house maintenance and/or repairs, mowing, ALL things vehicular and...WORRYING. Because Dave had developed his WORRY skills in elementary school and, over the years, gone on to fine-tune his natural-born abilities in the art of worry, this division of marital responsibilities has worked well for over 50 years.



Thanks to Dave's professional worrying skills, I'm happy to report that the Elmores own not one, but TWO emergency generators. We also have tons of battery operated lamps, a gas cooking range, and a back-up wood-fired furnace that is hooked up to our house heating vent system. In the winter, we maintain a pantry of canned goods, plenty of sidewalk salt, and Dave has a full-sized plow mounted on the front of the Jeep...thus keeping our VERY LONG driveway plowed, along with the driveways of our neighbors.

So, I say without hesitation, "I absolutely LOVE being married to an older man! I truly believe that because he has undertaken all the Elmore worries, my life expectancy has been extended by a good 10 years!" (Yes, I have gray hair, but it's not from worrying...I inherited it from my Mom, who started getting gray when she was 19.)

Since we're both retired, we've often talked about possible ways to supplement our "fixed income". Recently, I was thinking about the wonderful benefits that I have reaped, over the years, by having Dave do all my worrying for me. So, our new business idea was born! Now, by joining WORRY, INC., you will be able to hire Dave to do ALL your worrying for you. You may wonder about the cost? Don't worry...Dave will do that for you. Now with WORRY, INC, you will be able to sleep peacefully, throw away your anxiety pills and add years to your life! For full details, see Dave's new business card below:



WORRY, INC.

No more pacing the floor! It's now possible to enjoy an anxiety-free lifestyle. Call **Old Dave** and let him do all your worrying for you.

CALL TODAY! Ask about the Family Discount plan!

1-317-745-5616

Old Dave is certified by the Wilmarth Institute of Worry.

Upcoming Events

June 12 – 12:00 – 3:00 Nancy Bacon's "friends" at Don Pablos are inviting us back for a lunch meeting Sunday, June 12. They have offered to have a \$8.99 per person Taco Bar with soft drinks. Tax & tip NOT included. Margaritas or anything else from the menu can be purchased separately. They are also going to have some of their employees pick cars & award prizes for "Don Pablos Peoples Choice" cars so we hope for a good turnout of cars. **You are welcome to invite other car show friends that might like to join us with their other brand cars**, for a mini parking lot car display. Don Pablos is located at 8150 Us 31 S, Indianapolis, IN

We need a head count. Plan to arrive around noon, 1:00 lunch and more fun after that winding up around 3:00. Call Nancy Bacon at 317-440-2786 or e-mail her at nancyjb1701@aol.com.

June 18 – The AOA Indiana Chapter has invited our club to the French Lick/West Baden resorts on Saturday June 18. It will be a one day event but people can book a room at the resorts if they want to. Meals, tours, photos of your cars on the grounds of the resorts. Yes you can gamble if you want to. The caravan will **leave the McDonald's at I-65 and Main Street in Greenwood at 8:30 a.m.**

June 26 – July 2 – 52nd Annual Studebaker Drivers Club International Meet in Warwick, Rhode Island.

Mark these dates on your calendar:



July 14 – 17 the 2016 - North Central Zone Studebaker Meet in Casper, Wyoming. I received an e-mail about this and I'm passing it on. Anyone interested, contact me at becinin@msn.com for an application.

July 16 - Joe and Nancy Bacon are hosting a Luau at their home. It will be a hog roast **pitch –in at 1pm**. They have their annual luau that same day & the Indy SDC lunch will flow into the annual back yard bash which goes into the evening. Indy members are welcome to stay as long as they would like as the "luau" is usually late afternoon into evening affair. (One set up & cleanup for them!)



August 14 at 1:00 – Lunch at Logan's Roadhouse in Greenwood on County Line Road.

September 10 – Pitch-in picnic at Charlie and Becky Griffith and possible short tour around Indianapolis for *Drive Your Studebaker Day*. More to come.

September 16 – 17 - Studebakers at Dunkirk, NY Swap Meet. I will post more information closer to the date or if anyone is interested I do have a flyer I can send.

October – OPEN. If you have an idea for a meeting on a beautiful Fall day, contact Charlie Griffith at chazwork@msn.com or call at 317-353-8287.

November 6 – Pitch-in at Ed Reynolds

The Brickyard Bulletin

Published by the Indy Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

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

We hereby give permission to other S.D.C. chapters to use information from the newsletter when proper credit is given. *"Reprinted or Reproduced from the Indy Chapter, Brickyard Bulletin."*

Indy Chapter Officers

President: Nancy Bacon, 1701E. Lawrence Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46227 at nancyjb1701@aol.com or 317-783-4721

V. President: Diane Elmore 699 S Co Rd 400 E, Avon, IN 46123 at delmore@hotmail.com or 317-745-5616

Secretary: Bob Fox, 7956 Oak Hill Dr., Plainfield, IN 46268, at bsfox@att.net or 317-839-4361

Treasurer: Tom Flynn, 4531 S CR 500 E, Plainfield, IN 46168, at tom_and_trudy@yahoo.com or 317-837-5671

Activities: Charlie Griffith, 1526 S. Hunter Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46239, at chazwork@msn.com or 317-353-8287

Membership: Dale McPhearson, 700 N Clay St, Frankfort, IN 46041, at shiny1@comcast.net or 765-654-5446

Editor: Becky Griffith, 1526 S. Hunter Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46239, at becinin@msn.com or 317-353-8287

In addition

Web Designer: Jeff Westcott at www.indychaptersdc.org

Facebook: Larry Hopkins at larrydeanhopkins@att.net

National Officers

President: Tom Curtis at tomnancurtis@aol.com

V. President: Don Cox at don@yahoo.com

Secretary: Nita Ketchum at niketchum@aol.com

Treasurer: Jane Stinson at jestinson@aol.com

National Board of Directors

Crossroads Zone National Board Director: Bob Henning at rhnn15090@aol.com

Crossroads Zone Coordinator: Joanne Hamblin

Regional Manager Indiana: Bob Henning

Updated 01/01/2016

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

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 June, 2016



Ted Harbit with his 1963 "Super" Lark on his 1961 truck

Indy Chapter SDC
Becky Griffith, Editor
1526 S. Hunter Rd
Indianapolis, IN 46239

To:

