



# Brickyard Bulletin



Vol. 35 Issue 4 A Monthly Publication of *The Indy Chapter of The Studebaker Drivers Club* April 2010



## Jeff's Truck Set Your Sights on Memories

*By Richard Poe*

**W**ay back in the early 1980s we bought a 1951 ½ ton Studebaker pickup. We restored the truck and used it as daily driver and truck, hauling loads of dirt and gravel, just as it was built for. Fast forward to the 1990s, after we moved to Wisconsin. We had the truck stored in Indiana and our son Jeff was getting close to High School graduation so we thought this truck would be a great graduation gift. I made the trip to Indiana and brought the truck back so Jeff and I could restore it.

Once we got our truck in the garage, I could see we had a lot of work ahead. Jeff was ready to go,

but winter was coming, so I talked him into waiting until spring.

As it turned out, we should have gone ahead as



Jeff wanted because we worked through the next winter anyway and still didn't get it done before the International SDC Meet in South Bend. We didn't

expect to win any awards, but hoped to enjoy the fruits of our labors behind the wheel in the place it all started.

We did a lot of work on the old truck, stripped all the paint, cut out all the rust, took off everything we could and tried to improve on a great truck design. We had to remove six or eight inches of the doors and about 12 inches in the cab corners and part of the floor. We welded up some seams and replaced more than a square foot of left front fender that was damaged.

Both front fenders were replaced with rust free fenders, and I was able to get a hood that was in good shape and only required small amounts of



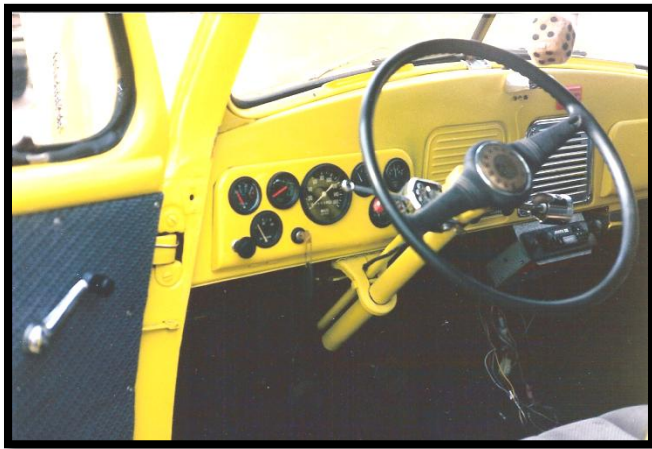
cutting and welding. We had more work than we had anticipated with all the dents in the roof and the back of the cab caused by its years of service as a truck.

The bed sides also received the cut and weld treatment to a great degree. We customized the end of the bed to close it off and shape it to fit the new bumper and give it a clean look. A friend made the tailgate. It is smooth with script to match the ones on the sides of the hood. The tailgate is held closed by two slide bolts on the inside. When open, it is held up with cables.



The bumper is the one Jeff and his buddy got at the junkyard from a '74

Malibu Classic Wagon. I felt we would not be able to make it work as it was too big and would need to be cut into five pieces. But Jeff was right again. We cut out more than 16 inches, welded up all the holes and mounted it to the frame after cutting and shaping it. The bumper looks great thanks to Jeff's imagination.



The holes in the bed for the stakes were then filled, and we made a bed cover that is black and hinged in the middle. Black carpet lines the bed and tailgate. The rear fenders were a nightmare and required a lot of welding. They should have been replaced, but we could not find any. The front bumper is a shortened '67 Camaro on cut off frame rails. We did all the metal work ourselves.

The engine had already been bored and rebuilt, so we just cleaned it up and mounted two stock carbs on a Weiand manifold. We then added a split



exhaust with dual two inch pipes and glass packs. The crackle was so loud we had to pack the three

inch by about two foot stainless tips, giving us four



glass packs. Still, it would rattle the windows in our house when Jeff pulled in.

In the future we hope to install an electronic ignition and perhaps other speed equipment. The transmission has been changed to a five speed unit. The rear end is out of a '61 or '62 Champ. The instrument panel is custom made with seven gauges, including a 160 mph speedometer. It has the "ah-ooga" type of horn. It also has been converted to 12 volts.

Next, we painted the truck PPG Lemon Ice (bright yellow) and installed tinted glass. Jeff got some gray bucket seats from a Mercury and we installed them. Rose covered the visors and door panels in gray and black.

The truck had been attacking the streets of Janesville, Wisconsin and now Whiteland, Indiana. The Wisconsin plates proclaimed "Flat HD6". There are still some things to do, but that has not stopped Jeff from enjoying his truck.

If you see this truck running around Indiana, don't expect it to be show quality impeccable. This is an undertaking Jeff and I did as father and son. We share an interest in Studebakers, and when I bought the truck years ago Jeff was little but he still wanted to help. So it made a good father/son project. The truck was a lot more work than we expected, but we were able to give it to Jeff as a graduation gift. Jeff and Stephanie used the truck in their wedding and now that they are parents the truck will someday be their son's truck. Jeff has plans that he and Parker will redo the truck and someday it will be Parker's to enjoy.



Now when we go to car shows or see someone else's car, we can appreciate it in another way. It is not just about perfection. If you have enough money, you can have the perfect car. ***But we've got the memories, and that's forever.*** We can appreciate all Studebakers. There is not just one way of doing it. So, think about the work and memories that went into it and *leave the criticism to the judge.*



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## ***The Champion That Would Not Go Down***

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**Tom & Bernie Morris**

**Today we look around and see all these nicely kept Studes, but now let's go back to 1962.** My wife had just learned to drive the 61 Lark so we needed a second car. A friend of mine was being transferred so he had a car for sale.

This car was a 51 Champion that had been owned by many people including Ohio State students. It had not seen tender loving care in many years. It had a 3 speed with overdrive and on our test drive at 40mph, he stomped on the gas. The engine picked up speed, but we did not go any faster. I remember his words to this day "I guess that was not a good demonstration." I went ahead and bought it for \$50.

After driving it back and forth to work, which was 7 miles, I began to notice that every piece of the drive train had something wrong. You would go down the road at 50mph and the engine rattled, the transmission sang and the rear end wailed. I was afraid that if I fixed any one thing, it would just destroy the rest.

One day, the inner fender on the driver's side fell off. That was neat because I could watch the wear on the front tire. Another time the package shelf by the rear window decided to get up and leave. That was okay because now I could get things out the truck from inside the car.

In the winter time, you could not get the car stuck. You could pop the clutch on ice and it would come right out without spinning. I drove this car for 12 months without spending a dime except for gas and oil until one day as I pulled in front of my house the brake pedal went to the floor, happily my angel waited until then.

Obviously, the master cylinder died but I thought I better check the rest of the system. There were pin hole leaks on the lines so I thought I better look further. On pulling the front wheels, I discovered that both front brake drums had pieces missing. There were at least 3 inch gaps in the drums, but strange enough it didn't pull when you came to a stop. Since the fender rust was beginning to loosen the fenders, I thought it was time to trade. I ended up buying a 58 President, but that is a whole other story. Strange as it may seem, 3 months later I saw the 51 going down the street. Hope they fixed the brakes, because **that Champion was not about to give up.**

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## ***Secretaries' report***

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February 28th the **Indy Chapter** met at **Studebaker International** for the monthly meeting and annual auction. A great pitch in lunch was enjoyed by over 50 members and guests in attendance. **President Chuck Kern** called the meeting to order. **Sharon Krueger**, the Crossroads Zone Coordinator and her husband **Dave** were visiting our chapter meeting.

**Tom Flynn** reported that there was \$4163.65 in the treasury as of February, and that the \$400.00 donation to the **Studebaker Museum** had been sent.



**Chuck** reported that **Mary Jo Kern** had prepared the by-laws in the computer so they could be printed out for distribution to members or emailed to members.

It was noted that we have received membership renewal from only 60% of our past year members. Discussion followed as to how to notify members before stopping their newsletter and membership. It was decided to include everyone thru the April newsletter, with a \$5.00 late fee being added after that. There was additional discussion as to how to build our club membership thru personal contact by a membership committee, phone calls, or mailing to national members who are not local chapter members. No action was taken.

The 50/50 drawing had \$165.00. **Angie Griffith** won the pot!

The meeting was adjourned and the annual auction began. **Bob Palma** was the head auctioneer assisted by **Dale**

**Mc Phearson**, and **Jim Turner**. It is always fun with these guys running the auction and getting top dollar from the donated items.

Respectfully submitted,

**Nancy Bacon, Secretary**

## *From the President*

### **Hello Cowboys and Cowgirls,**

Well, it's looking more and more like it's time to saddle up, and get our Studes ready to roll. I'm going to have to hurry up and get my drivers door back on. I've had it off to replace the door hinge pins and repair the sluggish power windows.

As usual, a great time was had at the auction, thanks **Ed and Heidi**. The blunder I made at the meeting about the lady that was very sick with cancer bothered me. So sad to tell you all that **Pat Hopkins** passed away March 7. I went to the viewing yesterday, March 10. **Larry Hopkins** thanked everyone for sending flowers from the club. She fought this terrible disease for nearly ten years. Larry told me she really got a kick out of winning the 50/50 at the Christmas party.

I would like to thank **Tom Flynn** and **Richard Poe** for getting a lot of dues collected, I was becoming concerned. Also the article about **Lost Studes in Brown County** was very nicely done, thanks to **Jim Roberts** and **Richard Poe**. I would like some of the other members to write something for **The Bulletin**. Once you get started I think you will enjoy it, I know I did.

I would also like to thank all of you for making my job a little more enjoyable. I was really dreading it when I first started, but you all have made me feel like family. God bless all of you.

*Your fellow Stude Cowboy, Chuck*



IN MEMORY OF  
Patricia Hopkins  
January 20, 1947  
To  
March 7, 2010

**Patricia A Hopkins**, 63, passed away Sunday, March 7, 2010. She was a resident of Indianapolis.

Over the years, Patricia was an active band mom for Southport High School, Girl Scout leader, active with 4-H as a leader, Perry Township board member, and junior leader sponsor. She was also a member of Jobs Daughters and the Studebaker Drivers Club. She was employed for 30 years at Arvin Industries, retiring in 2004.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 5635 W. 96th St., Ste. 100, Indianapolis, IN 46278, or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 941 E. 86th Street, Ste. 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240-1842. Online condolences may be sent to the Hopkins family at [www.wilsonstpierre.com](http://www.wilsonstpierre.com).

Sympathies go to Patricia's husband, Larry, and family from the entire *Indy Chapter* of the *Studebaker Drivers Club*.



February 3, 2010

Indy Chapter – Studebaker Drivers Club  
4531 South County Road 500 East  
Plainfield, IN 46168

Dear Indy Chapter SDC:

On behalf of the Studebaker National Museum Board of Trustees and staff I want to gratefully acknowledge your recent generous donation of \$400 to the Annual Fund in memory of those who have passed from the Indy Chapter. We are most grateful for your generosity in these times of economic uncertainty which continues to affect the museum.

Your gift to the 2009 Annual Fund supports the museum's public programs, special exhibitions, and collection care. We are dependent on gifts from corporation, foundations, and individual to continue to provide vital income needed to meet operating expenses in the galleries and behind the scenes. Most importantly, your support allows us to allocate funds where they are needed most.

Thank you so much for contributing your tax deductible gift to the important work of the museum as it continues to preserve the Studebaker heritage for future generations.

Your gift to the Annual Fund is separate from your membership and we truly appreciate your support in both areas.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and the museum staff, I extend to you our profound gratitude for everything you do to advance our mission, "to honor and perpetuate the legacy of the rich industrial heritage...through the display, interpretation, conservation, and preservation of Studebaker vehicles, archives and other objects to enrich present and future generations".

Yours truly,

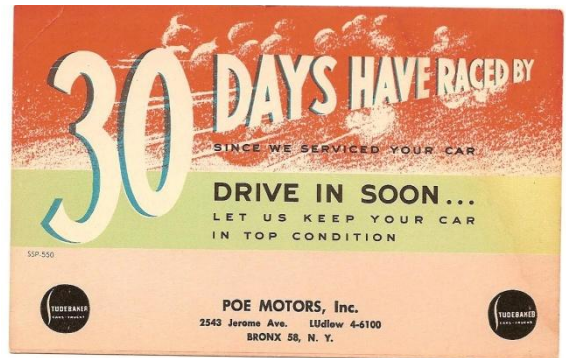
Rebecca J. Bonham  
Executive Director

**P.S. This letter serves as your receipt for tax purposes. No goods or services are provided in consideration of your gift. Gifts to the Annual Fund are fully tax-deductible.**

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# Ask Buddy



**"Buddy's busted Knuckle Garage"** will appear in **The Brickyard Bulletin** from time to time to answer technical questions. He may have an opinion or two. If I were you I would not put too much if any faith, in his expertise. *He is for entertainment only.*

**HEY BUDDY,**

I was on the internet the other day reading about Studebakers and some guy posted something about going to the **FLAPS** and getting oil? I have no idea what a **FLAPS** is? I always thought **FLAPS** were things you had on your car back in the day to keep mud from getting on your fender? What does that have to do with oil? Maybe it has something to do with the **ZDDP** someone said I need in my oil? I'm embarrassed to ask because it seemed everyone else apparently knew what he was talking about but me, even the **CASO's** knew, whoever they are and I don't want to look stupid, hopefully it's not too late!

**EMBARRASSED IN GNAWBONE, AND AFRAID TO ASK**

**Dear, Embarrassed in Gnawbone, and afraid to ask,**

I had an **EP** (Embarrassingly Parallel) experience to yours when you ask this question because I didn't know either!! So I got to thinking, not always a good thing, who **MSU** (Makes Stuff Up), like this and how do I understand **WYTA** (What You are Talking About?) Why not use **SWAG** (Stuff We All Get) to **MYP** (Make Your Point) when we write an email on the **PIE** (Public Internet and Email) or visit a **WS** (Web Site)? **IANA** (I Am Not Afraid) to ask, well ask **ask.com** that is! If you go to **ask.com** and type in **FLAPS** it will tell you it means **Friendly Local Auto Parts Store**, or **Favorite Local Auto Parts Store**, or **Force Level Automated Planning System**, but I don't think he meant the last one so pick one of the first two and you got the **FA** (Final Answer) to your question. As far as **CASO** goes I let you figure that out for yourself, but it's specially meant for some Studebaker owners but **ISSYGTI** (I'm So Sure You Get The Idea). It wasn't my idea so don't blame me! **FWIW** (For What It's Worth) that's your answer.

**Buddy**

# Indy Chapter Upcoming Events

**April 17th, 1:00 PM, President Chuck Kern and First Lady Linda are our hosts for a picnic at their lakeside home at 4194 E West Point Ct, Martinsville, IN. Please bring a covered dish and your place setting. Rain date April 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**FROM MARTINSVILLE TAKE IN- 252 E TURN @ LENARD RD. THERE IS A SIGN SAYING PAINTED HILLS AND A BIG CHURCH. GO TO THE FIRST GATE & TURN LEFT THEN GO TO THE NO OUTLET & TURN RIGHT , AND THEN WE LIVE THE FIRST ROAD ON THE RIGHT. I'LL PUT SIGNS UP.**

- **May 7 and 8 Michiana Chapter** will hold **Studebaker Indiana Open Swap Meet**, car show, and car corral at St. Joseph County Fairgrounds.
- **May 29 Richard & Rose Poe** will again host the third annual **Studebaker Drag Race** held in **Bean Blossom, IN**. Drag race is May 29, details in future **Brickyard Bulletins**.
- **May 30<sup>th</sup>-June 5<sup>th</sup> 46th SDC International meet**. Hosted by the **Grand Canyon State Chapter**. Glendale, Arizona.
- **June, Charles and Becky Griffith**, date and location to follow.
- **July**. As of now, July is still open. Contact **Raymond Reeves** if you would like to arrange a meeting.
- **July 16-17<sup>th</sup> 2010 Crossroads Zone Meet** hosted by **Heart of Ohio SDC Chapter**  
Join us for... Valve Cover Racing, Swap Meet, Food Vendors, Games for kids of all ages, Door Prizes, Concours with People's Choice Awards, Banquet, Tours of Chillicothe, the Outdoor Drama Tecumseh!!
- **August 14, 1:00. Our hosts for August are Steven McNutt and Julie Edwards**. More information will be available at a later date.
- **August 28<sup>th</sup> Summit Racing Studebaker/Packard Cruise-in /Rally**. 11:00-8:30, at Summit Racing 1200 Southeast Avenue Tallmadge, OH Exit 29 I-76 East. **Free!! Don Morgan** (330) 882-3235 or [dmorgan828@yahoo.com](mailto:dmorgan828@yahoo.com)
- **September's** meeting will be hosted by **Joe and Nancy Bacon**.
- **October's** hosts will be **Bob and Chris Parker**.
- **November's** meeting will be at Studebaker International with **Ed and Heidi Renolds**.
- **December's** hosts will be **Joe and Nancy Bacon** for the Christmas get together.

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# Chapter Members Win Chili Cook-off

**Jim and Carol Roberts** of Nashville, won “**Best Non Traditional**” category in the Brown County Chili Cook-off February 26. Their special recipe, “**The defense never rests**”, includes among other things, sausage, pepperoni, and fennel. They made up the recipe with friends and associates, Andy and Nancy Szakaly, working for several days and not finishing until 4:25 p.m. the day of the competition.

A field of twelve competitors vied for a trophy and giant cardboard check. Tasters from the community paid \$2 to sample as many chili varieties as they wished, and picked their favorites by voting with quarters.

**CONGRATULATIONS to Jim and Carol!!!**

Avanti Restoration &  
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**Mike Baker** is now doing Avanti and other Studebaker restorations in his shop in Greenfield, IN. You can call **Mike Baker** to schedule an appointment.

“Specialize in routine maintenance to complete frame off restorations”

## Studebaker/Orphan Drag Race

**May 29, 2010**

Brown County Dragway, an 1/8<sup>th</sup> mile drag strip in Bean Blossom, Indiana.

Mark your calendar!

*All skill and performance levels are welcome and encouraged to attend.*



Studebakers/Orphans, stock or not, have some fun, and earn some bragging rights! Racers and spectators welcome! Bring your

Studebaker/Orphan racer or not and travel back in time and experience drag racing as a racer or just come see Studebakers and other orphans race each other and have some fun in a unique setting. If you missed last year you missed a great time, *do not make that mistake again!* Reserved pit area for race cars so we can all pit together right down next to the track. We will meet for dinner at “The Holy Cow” in Nashville, IN, at 5:30 Friday evening May 28<sup>th</sup>. For more information call **Richard & Rose Poe** 812-988-2008 or email

**[roserichpoe@att.net](mailto:roserichpoe@att.net)**

Local web site <http://browncounty.com/index.cfm>

Race videos: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQqz6jV8yRE> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gs115E-bQPs>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PlcTGO-n-sg&feature=related>

**Attending or participating in drag racing events is entirely at your own risk.**



## The Brickyard Bulletin

Published by the Indy Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club.

The **Brickyard Bulletin** is published monthly. **The deadline for each issue is the 15<sup>th</sup> 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

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Editors: **Richard and Rose Poe**

The Studebaker Drivers club is an organization dedicated to the preservation of vehicles produced at any time in the history of the Studebaker Corporation. Anyone owning a Studebaker, Erskine, Rockne, Flanders or EMF, or anyone interested in such vehicles is invited to join S.D.C. and the INDY Chapter. Members enjoy sharing information, history, fellowship and driving. S.D.C. bylaws require all chapter members to be members of the National S.D.C.

### INDY CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: **Chuck Kern**, 4194 E West Point Ct. Martinsville, IN 46151, E-mail: [studechuck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:studechuck@sbcglobal.net) 765-349-1520

Vice President: **Charlie Griffith**, 1526 Hunter Road S, Indianapolis, IN 46239, E-mail: [chazwork@msn.com](mailto:chazwork@msn.com) 317-353-8287

Secretary: **Nancy Bacon** 1701 E Lawrence Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227 E-mail: [NancyJB1701@aol.com](mailto:NancyJB1701@aol.com) 317-440-2786

Treasurer: **Tom Flynn**, 4531 S CR 500 E, Plainfield, IN 46168, E-mail: [tom\\_and\\_trudy@yahoo.com](mailto:tom_and_trudy@yahoo.com) 317 837 5671

Activities: **Raymond Reeves** 8125 W 650, West Point, IN 47992 (No E-mail) 765-572-2423

Editors: **Richard & Rose Poe** 5192 State Road 46E Nashville, IN 47448 [roserichpoe@att.net](mailto:roserichpoe@att.net) 812-988-2008

### National Officers

President: Mimi Halgren [mimihalgren@aol.com](mailto:mimihalgren@aol.com) Vice Pres: R. Dormois [1938studeman@earthlink.net](mailto:1938studeman@earthlink.net)

Secretary: Nita Ketchum [niketchum@aol.com](mailto:niketchum@aol.com) Treasurer: Jane Stinson [jestinson@aol.com](mailto:jestinson@aol.com)

### National Board of Directors

Crossroads: Tom Curtis [tomnancurtis@aol.com](mailto:tomnancurtis@aol.com) Crossroads Zone Coordinator: Sharon Krueger [thepaintlady@comcast.net](mailto:thepaintlady@comcast.net)

Regional Manager Indiana: Bob Henning, [rhenn15090@aol.com](mailto:rhenn15090@aol.com)

### NATIONAL SDC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Regular membership dues in the **National Studebaker Club** are **\$19.95 For New Members 1<sup>st</sup> year only**. Renewals are \$27.50 per year, which includes 12 monthly issues of **Turning Wheels**, the National SDC Magazine. (Other memberships are available.)

Mail application and check to:

**The Studebaker Drivers Club**

**P O Box 1743**

**Maple Grove, MN 55311-7615**

**Or call 763-420-7829 and use Visa or MasterCard**

Or Email [mark@cornerstonereg.com](mailto:mark@cornerstonereg.com) for information.

Name _____ Spouse _____	List your Studebakers (add another sheet if needed)		
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City _____ State _____ E-mail _____	_____	_____	_____
Zip _____ PH (____) _____ Birth date _____	_____	_____	_____

### INDY CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**National SDC membership is a prerequisite.** Renewal INDY Chapter dues are \$18.00. Renewals payable January each year (after March a \$5.00 late fee will be added.)

Mail application and check to:

**Tom Flynn**

**4531 S CR 500 East**

**Plainfield, IN 46168**

Name _____ Spouse _____	List your Studebakers (add another sheet if needed)		
Address _____	Year _____	Model _____	Body Style _____
City _____ State _____ E-mail _____	_____	_____	_____
Zip _____ PH (____) _____ Birth date _____	_____	_____	_____

# Brickyard Bulletin April 2010



**Indy Chapter SDC**  
**Richard & Rose Poe, Editors**  
**5192 State Road 46E**  
**Nashville, IN 47448**



**To**