



# BRICKYARD BULLETIN



VOL. 47, ISSUE 5, A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDY CHAPTER OF THE STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB, MAY, 2020

Hoping this newsletter finds all Indy Chapter members staying well and at home during this unusual time in our lives. Thank you to Jeff & Kathy Westcott for planning the April club event that had to be canceled, perhaps it can be rescheduled for later this year. I am hoping that the Orphan Car Drags will be able to go on as scheduled May 23, and that local club meetings will resume soon. The Bacon family Studebaker Luau is tentatively planned for July 25th. As of now the International Meet in Chattanooga Tn, Aug 5-8th is still on schedule to take place.

The first IMS Cars and Coffee of the season had to be canceled last Saturday but they turned it into a virtual car show and Facebook and Instagram were filled with pictures of peoples pride and joys just waiting for the day when the real car shows can start up again. Looking forward to when we will again get together to show off our cars and enjoy the friendships we share. Hope to see everyone SOON!

Nancy Bacon  
Indy Chapter President

## Spring Maintenance Reminders

By Malcolm Berry

1. Check the underneath side of your car for any leaks, such as brake fluid, oil (that can be engine oil, transmission oil or rear end oil), gas leaking or antifreeze. This includes heater core, heater hose, and radiator for leaks. If any of the hoses or belts appears to be cracked or dried out, replace them. That's better than having them break while you are driving somewhere.

2. If you haven't done this since last year, change your engine oil, filter and grease your car.

3. Make sure you have the proper level of transmission oil, rear end oil and brake fluid in the master cylinder. The radiator should have the proper level and the right mixture of antifreeze to protect against freezing and boiling over.

4. Brake systems accumulate moisture over a period of time. If they haven't been bled in the last few years, it will eventually cause rust in your master and wheel cylinders.

5. One other thing that is often over looked is your tires. Even if they look ok and are over 10 years old, you should consider replacing them.

6. Don't forget to replace your windshield wipers. A clear windshield makes driving in bad weather safer.





Dear Supporters,

We are writing today with a brief update on behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of the Studebaker National Museum. It is our hope this message finds you and your families in good health during these difficult times. As you are likely aware, the Museum is in the middle of an unprecedented closure. We continue to monitor conditions daily, but expect to remain closed for the foreseeable future based upon guidance from the State of Indiana. We look forward to the day that we can announce plans to welcome you back to the Museum.

In the meantime, our staff is hard at work ensuring that the Collection is secure, and we have a robust schedule of programs to serve you once visitors return. We continue to release new digital content across our social media channels to provide remote access to our Collection and the Studebaker legacy. Take a moment to connect with Studebaker history via a *From the Archives* video, or even tour *Birds of a Feather: Studebaker Hawks* on our blog. Below you will find a link to many of these new resources.

Even as we are closed to the public, a number of Museum resources, including the Museum Store, Production Orders, and Archives research are all still available through our website. Without admissions revenue, we are more dependent than ever on your support of these resources. If you are able, please consider supporting the Museum through a donation.

We wish you good health and wellness and look forward to welcoming you back as soon as we can.

Sincerely,

Patrick Slebonick

Susan Lusted  
Fri 4/10/2020 9:19 AM

Good morning all,  
I have received word that this meet has been cancelled. Please make sure that your members are aware of this. I have left the listing so that people will be able to contact regarding cancelling hotel reservations.

**2020 NORTHEAST ZONE MEET**  
**Sponsored by the Tri- Spokes Chapter/SDC**  
**June 19-21, 2020**

**I will post cancellations via e-mail as soon as I receive info. For those who do not receive e-mails, call me at 317-353-8287 or 317-966-9817 for updates.**

Many of you remember **Dale McPhearson**, a longtime SDC member who we lost in 2018. Dale was quite a writer. Here is one of his stories from February, 1996. I hope you enjoy. Thanks to Diane Elmore for bringing his stories to my attention.

## LARK PARKER: SHINE RUNNER

by: Dale McPhearson

It was the third day of the Studebaker International Meet; Lark Parker sat in the straight-back hotel chair waiting for the Avanti parts demonstration to begin. He didn't have an Avanti, but he hoped the others at the sub-floor box installation seminar would assume he did. In fact, he had driven there in his 1958 Scotsman station wagon but no one seemed interested in discussing it with him.

Lark noticed how much the sub-floor boxes (the speaker called them hog troughs) looked like fuel tanks and he wondered whether they could be modified to hold liquid. The old time moonshine runners could really have used those tanks to carry corn liquor. His attention wandered.....

.....Deep in Harlan County Kentucky the 39 Champion coupe pitched and swayed up the old logging path. The modified trough tanks were full of the finest dew produced in the state. Lark Parker was starting his last moonshine delivery. As he pulled onto the blacktop the alcohol injected Avanti engine smoothed to a steady throb. He felt secure with the power waiting under his foot, knowing it could handle any of the Fed's government issued cars.

What Lark didn't know was that the Feds had seized Junior Johnson's high powered Pontiac. The car had been transported to Harlan County for the sole purpose of chasing him down.

The Lark Parker legend had become too large for the Feds to tolerate and they were determined to arrest this backwoods businessman.

"Just let them revenuers try and stop me tonight." thought Parker. He could still feel the confidence derived from the lovely Daytona's farewell kiss.

She was a beautiful sight standing there with his loyal dog Speedster beside her Daddy's still. Her misted brown eyes had spoken to him through the steam above the cooking corn mash. "I love you, Lark Parker, you marvelous

moonshining Studebaker stud."

Lark's eyesight, honed to perfection by years of out-of-season hunting, caught a flicker of moonlight bouncing off a car bumper. Not sure of its source, he adjusted the rearview mirror and eased the shifter back into third gear. He was poised to accelerate if indeed there was a lurking threat.

He glanced to see if the Martin D19 was propped securely against the passenger seat. He took good care of the guitar. His uncle, Colonel Tom Parker, had given it to him while trying to persuade him to record at Sun Records in Memphis.

The Colonel had a stage name that he wanted Lark to use. "Elvis Parker" or something like that.

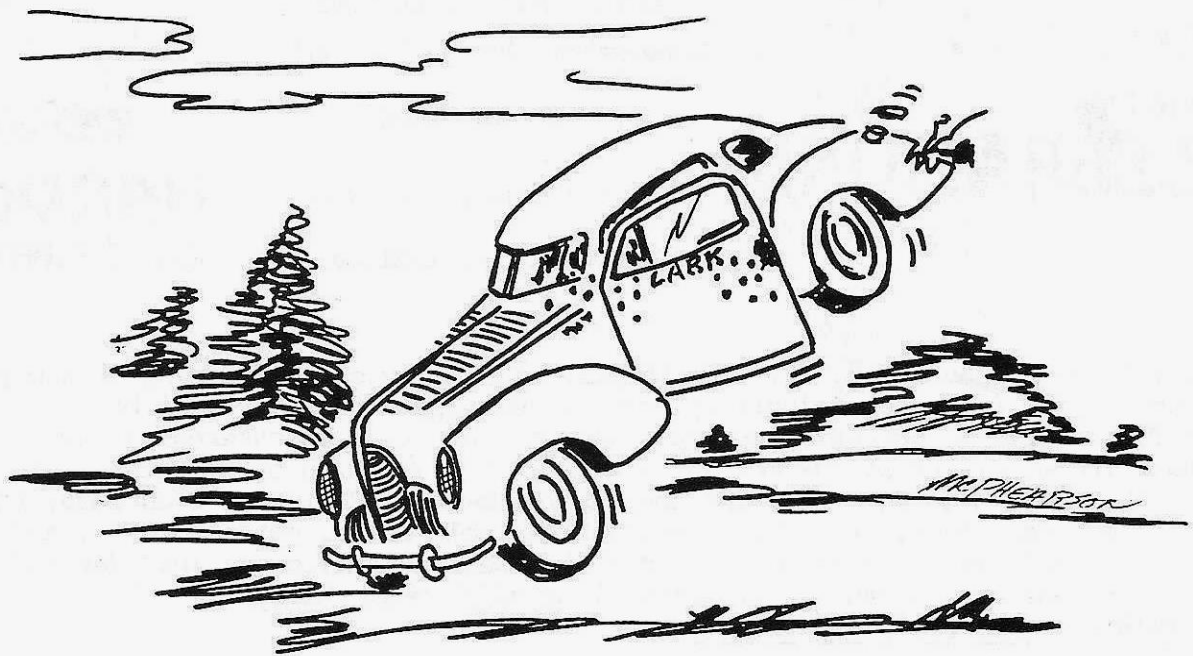
Lark was again considering this offer when the thought was interrupted by another flash in the rear view mirror. This time a shotgun barrel was clearly the source.

Superior mental and physical abilities had prevailed in the Parker strain for generations. It had ensured his success as a Navy Seal, and now the ex-Navy commando was being challenged to use his quick reflexes and intense training to survive a moonlight ambush.

The second flash tripped his hair-trigger reflexes into action. Punching the Champion's accelerator to the floor, Lark was pinned back into the seat by the G-force of acceleration. The rear tires clawed at the asphalt and the louvered nose of the car rose in response.

He was surprised by the Studebaker's increased power until he remembered the reason; he had modified the fuel lines for the alcohol injected engine. "Accelerator to the floor" caused fuel to be drawn directly from the moonshine tanks. With amusement Lark noted that this high octane beverage had sent more than one Kentuckian tearing down the road at an unstoppable pace.

The headlights of Junior Johnson's captured Pontiac blazed behind him. Then a shotgun blast into his coupe's trunk encouraged him to keep dishing the dew to the V8.



The music from the Studebaker engine smoothed his adrenalin rush as the Pontiac was already starting to lose ground. The government car chasing him was running a lot better than the others before; Lark wondered if they had found a better mechanic.

The Studebaker's high speed run was violently interrupted by an ambush shotgun blast. The shooter had been waiting in ambush for Parker's car. At point blank range, the double-ought buckshot bounced the rear of the coupe a foot sideways.

As usual, the shooter had misjudged the Champion's speed. Aiming at the left front wheel, he had only succeeded in blowing the taillight out of the rear fender.

Lark was very, very annoyed by his opponent's repeated mistake. He had become accustomed to running these shotgun gauntlets and finishing with the back of the coupe "swiss cheesed", but his stockpile of spare trunk lids was getting low.

Lark's engine started missing -- "This is ridiculous," he thought. "How can buckshot in the trunk cause my motor to act up?" His engine speed dropped, then it would take hold and run again, only to reach a certain point and drop off again.

The lights of Junior's Pontiac began to close on him.

"Think fast, Parker!" He berated himself. "There's a reason this engine is running slow."

His mind raced through the possibilities; he realized the only thing in the trunk area that could affect power was the rear lights. "The wiring must be partially shorted and reducing the voltage -- at high revs my ignition starts failing," he analyzed.

As he reached to kill the lights, another ambusher released a double barrel buckshot load. At his reduced speed, this gunner's aim was more accurate. One load tore the steering wheel from his hands. The second demolished the door lock on the driver's side.

The impact on the steering wheel caused the Studebaker to swerve right and the damaged door swung open as the car started to roll.

Lark could feel his body hurtling thru the air and he landed on his left side.....

....."Are you alright?" "What happened?" asked the seminar participants as they picked Lark off the hotel floor.

"I dunno," said Lark. "I think this chair is rickety. I'm OK, lets just get on with the demonstration. No harm done."

"Say, I'm sweating, is it hot in here?"

DM



**57<sup>th</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL MEET  
September 8-11  
2021**



*The  
Ultimate  
Road Trip*



**INDY**

**Indianapolis  
Indiana**



## Invitation from the Indiana Landmarks

SDC member and Indiana Landmarks member Sue Kennedy invited the club to an upcoming South Bend tour hosted by Indiana Landmarks. Especially interesting to SDC members would be a tour of the Studebaker Plant on Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

### **2020 Indiana Automotive South Bend Tour Friday and Saturday, June 26 & 27, 2020**

**Aloft Hotel, 111 N. Main Street, South Bend, Indiana 46601:** Make your room reservation before May 26, 2020. \$129 per night plus tax. 574-288-8000 and mention Mini Hotel Code - ILJ

**Friday 1 PM:** Tour the private collection of Jack Boyd Smith, Jr, 1805 W. Lusher Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana. Parking is the Gaska Tape parking lot directly across the street. Plan on departing by 2:30 PM. Sorry, you may not take any photos here.

**Friday 3:30 PM:** Tour LaVine Restorations at 1349 Beech Road, Nappanee, IN.

**Friday 5:30 PM:** Reception at Indiana Landmarks office, Kizer house, 801 West Washington St.(corner of West Washington and Charles Martin Sr. Drive/Chapin Street), South Bend, IN 46601 574-232-4534

**Friday Evening:** Dinner on your own

**Saturday 9 AM:** Tour the former Studebaker Plant: 635 S Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601 Park in the lot to the south of this address.

**Saturday 11:00 AM:** Tour St. Paul's Memorial United Methodist Church, 1001 West Colfax Avenue, South Bend, IN 46616

**Saturday 12 Noon:** Lunch at the carriage house at Copshaholm—Oliver Mansion. Park at the Studebaker Museum, 201 Chapin Street, South Bend, Indiana

**Saturday after lunch:** Guided tours of the Studebaker Museum and the Oliver Mansion-- Copshaholm. Admission to the History Museum is included.

**Saturday dinner:** On your own.

**Tickets** on line: \$90 for Indiana Landmarks/Indiana Automotive Members, \$100 non members

<https://www.indianalandmarks.org/event/southbendtour20/>

or by calling 317-639-4534



# READY...SET...GO



After weeks of social distancing and “sheltering at home”, have you finished any projects that you have been putting off for ages? *I did finish a closet/shoe organization project that I have literally been postponing for years!* Have you learned anything new? *I had to learn how to use Zoom so I could virtually attend a Library Board meeting. I was pretty proud of my non-technical 75-year old brain, when I was able to successfully log into the meeting!* As we endure this quarantine, I’m wondering what each of us will miss the most. Will we see any silver linings? Will we, as a country, learn anything? And I hope that we all find deeper faith and know that we are in His hands!

Now, are you ready for a little diversion? Time yourself and see if you can find the zero in ONE minute.

**You got ONE minute to find the number zero. GO!!!**



# Upcoming Events

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> – Annual Studebaker Nationals and Orphan Car Drags** held at Brown County Dragway in Bean Blossom, Indiana. 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 so you will enjoy the visit. Racing will be Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> so bring your car to race, or not, and come to beautiful Brown County and enjoy the day with us. Gate opens at 8:00 a.m. There is a snack bar at the track.

The night before the race, **Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 5:30 p.m.** we usually would meet at the **Sugar Creek BBQ restaurant** <https://www.yelp.com/biz/sugar-creek-barbecue-co-nashville> at 4359 E. State Road 46 Nashville for dinner before an open house and dessert at the Poe's home at 5192 St. Rd. 46 E., Nashville. For more information about this event call Richard Poe at 812-988-2008, or roserichpoe@att.net. Personal Note: You do not want to miss Rose's delicious pies!

*But this year that's all going to be up in the air since things change so much day to day. We are not sure yet, so we will try to update everyone just before the events. If you have any questions please call or email us.*



## Mark Your Calendar:

**May 1-2** – The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Studebaker Indiana Swap Meet, Open Car & Truck Show and Car Corral at the St Joseph County 4H Fairgrounds South Bend, IN is **CANCELLED**.

**Wednesday, June 3 – Airstream Factory Tour** located in Jackson Center, Ohio hosted by Mike Baker. We will meet at **9:00 a.m. at Mikes Avanti Restoration shop in Greenfield** for coffee and donuts. We'll leave at 9:45 a.m. in a caravan to Airstream. We will be driving on I-70 for a distance. Lunch is at noon and the factory tour from 2 – 4 p.m.



**Saturday, July 11 - 1:00 p.m. - Dave and Stephanie Limpus** have invited our members to a cookout and car show at their house at 3880 S. 900 E., Carthage, In. This is about a 45 minute drive from downtown Indianapolis. There's plenty of parking. Call Dave at 317-501-8371 if you have any questions.

**Saturday, July 25 – 1:00 p.m. - Bacon's Annual Luau.** Joe Bacon will again provide the meat. Bring a favorite dish and eating utensils.



**August 5 thru 8, 2020** – Studebaker International in Chattanooga, Tennessee

**Sunday, November ? – 1:00 p.m. - Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon and Chapter Business meeting** at Mike Baker's Avanti Restoration & Service shop 4193 E US40, Greenfield, IN. 317-498-2288.

**Saturday, December 12, 2020 - 1:00PM. Christmas Dinner and Party** at The Green Street Pub, 911 N. Green St., Brownsburg, Ind. Once again, we have some fast, fun games in mind, no gift exchange, and you can order off the menu

**September 8 thru 11, 2021** – Studebaker International in Indianapolis, Indiana



# The Brickyard Bulletin

## Published by the Indy Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

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

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### Indy Chapter Officers

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

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

Secretary: Sandy Fox, 7956 Oak Hill Dr., Plainfield, IN 46268, at [bsfox@att.net](mailto:bsfox@att.net) or 317-839-4361

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

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

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

#### In addition

Web Designer: Jeff Westcott at [www.indychaptersdc.org](http://www.indychaptersdc.org)

Facebook: Larry Hopkins at Studebakers in Indy or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/634984973222050/>

### National Directors

President: Peter Bishop - [petergthawk@yahoo.com](mailto:petergthawk@yahoo.com)

Vice President: Dennis Foust - [studeguy54@gmail.com](mailto:studeguy54@gmail.com)

Secretary: Cindy Foust - [cfoust1966@gmail.com](mailto:cfoust1966@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Jane Stinson - [jestinson@aol.com](mailto:jestinson@aol.com)

Past President: Tom Curtis - [tomnancurtis@aol.com](mailto:tomnancurtis@aol.com)

### National Board of Directors

Crossroads Zone National Board Director: Bob Henning at [rhnn15090@aol.com](mailto:rhnn15090@aol.com)

Crossroad Zone Coordinator: Joanne Hamblin

Regional Manager Indiana: Bob Henning

### National SDC Membership

Regular membership dues in the National Studebaker Club are \$24.00 for new members 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:studebakerdriverclub.com).

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.

Updated November, 2019

# Brickyard Bulletin May, 2020



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

To:

