



# BRICKYARD BULLETIN



VOL. 48, ISSUE 1, A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDY CHAPTER OF THE STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB, JANUARY 2023

The Indy Chapter lost a very dear friend and member this month. **Darlene Williams** has loved Studebakers most of her life, joining SDC in 1970. She use to cruise the Southside of Indy in her Lark like so many of us did. She was a member of the Indy Chapter in the 80's before she moved to Michigan for work. When she retired she moved back to Greenwood, In where she had grown up and joined our chapter again. When planning for the 57th International Meet began she wanted to be a part of making the meet a success and volunteered to be the meet co-chairperson. February of 2020 she learned she had stage 4 lung cancer and would not be able to continue that job but she still wanted to be part of the meet. The black & white checkered vest that we had made for volunteers to wear were similar to the ones the club had for the meet in 1986, she felt they should have pockets, fondly referred to as Darlene pockets. Her treatments and health allowed her to attend and help at the 57th International Meet. Her doctors had told her to live her life and she gave it her best, even purchasing the car she had always wanted for her 65th birthday, a 1963 Avanti! Darlene was able to take her Avanti to the 58th International Meet in South Bend in May and was very proud of the 1st place trophy it got. She passed away December 17, 2022 and will be missed by all who knew her.

The Indy Chapter New Year begins with many fun events already planned for club meetings. If you have a suggestion for a place to have a meeting or would like to host a meeting, let myself or Becky know. Our January lunch will be at El Azabache Mexican Restaurant, January 8th 1pm. Chips, salsa, Margaritas, need I say more! The 59th International Meet will be in Manitowoc, Wi, Sept 12-16, 2023. If you are planning on attending it is not to early to book your hotel. The information on the meet headquarters came out on the SDC Forum site early in December and rooms are filling fast. Call 920-682-6000, Holiday Inn, Manitowc, mention the SDC rate \$109.99. See page 7. Have a Safe, Healthy & Happy New Year and hope to see everyone soon.

Nancy Bacon  
President, Indy Chapter

## Christmas Luncheon Saturday, December 10, 2022

Forty three SDC members gathered at the Green Street Pub December 10, 2022 for our annual Christmas Luncheon. It was a great lunch, great service and really good company. Before the meeting we had the 50/50 drawing and Bob Parker won \$73.00.

President Nancy Bacon opened the meeting thanking Sandy Fox and Diane Elmore for hosting the luncheon. Diane announced we will be meeting again at Green Street Pub next year, December 9. Nancy then introduced our newest member, Matthew McKenney, a twenty year old car enthusiast.

Nancy updated Darlene William's battle with cancer. She is home under hospice care. Nancy saw Darlene a few days ago and said she doing well. A visit or card would be appreciated. Bob Palma was asked if he had an update with his cancer battle and he announced "I'm still alive" to great applause. Bob and Cari won the Grand Prize at the Studebaker International Museums 2022 Car Raffle. Details are on page 6. Congrats you two!



Treasurer Tom Flynn reported that as of November 21 the club had \$15,012.94 and 56 paid memberships. Nancy added that if you haven't sent your renewal, *get er done*.



Charlie Griffith (R) with our newest member, Matthew McKenney

Mike Baker proposed that we make a three year renewal available at a slight discount. He said a club he belongs to uses this method to great success. He added no refund for any reason. This would be less work mailing the renewals, the Treasurer and save money. There was interest by club members and we will work on it for 2024. We discussed not having officer elections at the November Thanksgiving Lunch. Nancy informed us that any of these changes in the by-laws can only be introduced in October and voted on in November. We agreed to make a change to the by-laws in October to accommodate these potential changes.

Diane Elmore shared a great story about her grandson. Go to page 6 to read the story.

Nancy reported that the host hotel, Holiday Inn, at the 2023 Studebaker International meet in Manitowoc, Wisconsin is taking early reservations. It hasn't been officially announced but she found it in *Studebaker Addicts*. Be aware, the post has the wrong phone number. Correct information is on page 7.

I reported that next month's meeting is at El Azabache Mexican Restaurant in Southern Plaza and I am working with Howe Clark and Steve Woodall for February. Steve works at the John Force Racing Organization and we are hoping to set up a tour of the facility. I have made reservations for lunch at the Locale (formerly Pit Stop) after the tour. See page 8 for details.



I informed the club that all my printing is done at my church and would like a donation be made of \$500.00. Approved. The

church is close to closing and we need to think about where to print the *Brickyard* in the future. Currently I print twenty five copies in color at the cost of .60 cents per newsletter. Doing some research I found that Staples cost would be \$6.62 color, \$2.00 black and white per newsletter, Office Max is \$9.06 color, \$1.80 black and white per newsletter. Ideas are welcome.



Dave O'Neal motioned we adjourn, Mike Baker seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Becky Griffith



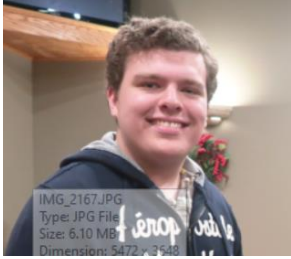
Following the meeting we had a rousing game of Car Bingo.

### New For 2023

A new section has being added to the *Brickyard*. Beginning with the January issue I've asked members to tell me "Why Studebaker?" What's with the love of this car? January issue contributor is Howe Clark. See his article on page 4. Hope you enjoy.

# Welcome New Member

Matthew McKinney  
7110 E US 40  
Greenfield IN 46140  
317-935-2495  
mattyj2015@icloud.com



Close Interesting 1952 Sunset Strip video

BP Bob Palma <bobcaripalma@hotmail.com>



We've all seen several, of these, but I don't remember having seen this one.

Only a handful of 1952 model cars are present because it was shot in 1952, but the demographics of the area certainly suggest a disproportionate number of Buicks and Cadillacs...and, surprisingly, Studebakers! The Hudson guys will spot at least three step-downs parked along the curb, although there are probably more. I would like to have seen more **Packards** in the area...Earl C. Anthony must've been off the ball!

Many convertibles, too...this is southern California, you know. Since they wouldn't have rusted away down there, you have to wonder where they all are now...

Ten minutes of interesting street scenes, for sure...and nicely focused, too. Enjoy.

<https://youtu.be/YM5A4TamTzo>



Diane Wilmarth Elmore

December 4 at 6:41 AM · 🌐



Look what happened yesterday! We took our 1950 Studebaker back home to Veedersburg to participate in the annual Christmas Parade! We had a blast being one of the 80 parade units and left the old burg with smiles on our faces. But can you imagine the shock and joy we felt last night when we saw the parade winners posted on Facebook? Thanks to the judges and the VRA for awarding us the wonderful hometown honor!



# Why Studebaker? My Life

By Howe Clark

Photos by Howe Clark unless noted

On July 14, 1950 dad brought home a three month old Studebaker with 5,000 miles on it. Since I was a daddy's boy I started from the beginning to help maintain the car. As time past it was my job to do routine maintenance. No one has put a wrench on the oil pan drain plug but me in the last sixty years. Early on I knew I wanted to restore my beloved car back to new. Dad was an excellent mechanic and taught me well, so well, I made a living from his lessons. But dad wasn't a paint and body guy.



My first Studebaker adopted July 14, 1950 and still owned.

So in my early teens I started to learn to do paint and body work. My mentor was an older man that had a body shop behind his house in our neighborhood. The older man was only 17 years my senior, but remember, I was a teenager and he was over 30 years old! This was the beginning of a friendship that lasted over fifty years. The man was affectionately known as Uncle Stanley by not only me but in later years by Bob Palma.

So by my 16<sup>th</sup> summer (1959) I completed my first restoration on my '50. Naturally this is the car I learned to drive on. Well, sorta. There was the Studebaker Special #22, Briggs & Stratton powered sidewalk racer dad built for me. I drove this car around our neighborhood several summers. Surprising what

you can do if you don't act stupid. Being 16 took my driving test in my '50 and never looked forward to another landmark birthday, well, maybe Medicare.



My 2<sup>nd</sup> Studebaker, my first '53. Owned from June 1961 to June, 1966.



work. Fair enough, but mom had a boss that was paranoid about turning in the end of the week report with an error. So mom always was late on Friday night with a teenager's car. Solution was the '53 Commander, I could borrow it anytime. Just replace gas, have car back before four a.m. with their morning paper. And as far as doing body work on the car, anything goes as long as the spare tire is safe and secure in trunk. So after a nose and semi-deck job and rust repair I was ready to try my hand at painting. November 4, 1960 after school was the day. Things didn't go so well and it was a while before I tried painting again. But I was bit by the auto body trade.

Well now that my '50 is done, what am I to do now? Easy, go next door and get the neighbor's 1953 Commander Starliner. My '50 was mine unless my parents needed to go somewhere like

work. Fair enough, but mom had a boss that was paranoid about turning in the end of the week report with an error. So mom always was late on Friday night with a teenager's car. Solution was the '53 Commander, I could borrow it anytime. Just replace gas, have car back before four a.m. with their morning paper. And as far as doing body work on the car, anything goes as long as the spare tire is safe and secure in trunk. So after a nose and semi-deck job and rust repair I was ready to try my hand at painting. November 4, 1960 after school was the day. Things didn't go so well and it was a while before I tried painting again. But I was bit by the auto body trade.

Finished up high school with my senior paper on the history of the Studebaker Corporation. J.M. Studebaker was always a hero figure to me. Still remember in 1952 when my grandmother Clark gave me the Studebaker booklet "100 Years on the Road". I guess grandmother got a copy because grandfather worked for Packard

during WWI. Reading about J.M., the craftsmen and engineers made a big impression on a nine year boy. I wanted to be a craftsman, parents wanted an engineer and I wanted to be like J.M. So what did we get, no craftsman, just a hack, no engineer, can't even spell engineer, too rough to ever be like J.M. But over the years I wish I had become a better "metal man".



A Tom Lawlis photo with his 1957 Golden Hawk behind the Avanti

Back at high school, I drove my '50 the night of graduation. Through the subsequent years the first "restoration" was needing a redo. A proper body off frame was done by me. I drove the "50 to my 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion in 2011.

A week after high school graduation the '53 next door became



Charlottes forever 1962 Lark purchased May 7, 1996.

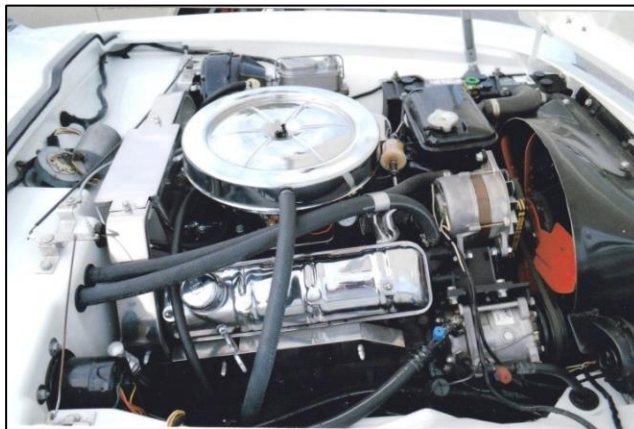
my second Studebaker. Except for a time in 1967, I've always owned at least two Studebakers and as many as ten. A longtime companion to the "50 is my \$1400.00 Avanti purchased in January, 1971. The '62 Lark purchased May 7, 1996. I've owned three Larks in my life, all were black, all V-8's with manual transmissions. '53 Commanders Starliner, I've had six, only my first I don't know, it's where abouts, my second is alive and well on the east coast. The remaining four are in my garage. Three are for sale if anyone is interested in a western car project.



Picture of the interior of 1964 Avanti  
Photo by Tom Lawlis

I have one last project to complete before I "give it up". Even I am not sure what I mean by that. It is a '57 Golden Hawk, which is the first of the Golden Hawk 400 show cars.

My Studebaker life has been increasing joyfully and increased my numbers three fold since meeting my dear wife Charlotte who shares my love for Studebakers. The little '62 Lark is her forever car which she plans on keeping to the end. I am her husband, not sure if she plans on keeping me to the end!



Picture of engine of 1964 Avanti  
Photo by Tom Lawlis

## Bob and Cari Palma are Grand Prize Winners!

I just got a call from **Studebaker National Museum Director Pat Slebonick** to say Cari and I won this year's new-car raffle Grand Prize: Our choice of one of four brand-new cars! *Man, we could use some good news around here after all this week's cancer nonsense!*

Our 1 (one) chance in 23 paid off. Here's how it came down:

I had said publicly that if I sold my four 1964 Daytonas for the \$32,000 asking price (which I did), I would donate 10% of it to **The Studebaker National Museum**. The Daytona's buyer, Ron Whiteford, is on the museum's Board of Directors and thought that was a generous offer, so he readily bought the four cars....although I'm sure he would have bought them anyway.

After he paid for the Daytonas, I called the museum and asked: **Does it make any difference to the museum if I write them a check for \$3,200 and get a charitable tax deduction OR if I buy \$3,200 worth of raffle tickets (not a charitable tax deduction; I knew that going in) and buy that many (96 @ 3 for \$100) raffle tickets and take our chances winning a prize?** They assured me it made no difference to them because they would get the full \$3,200 no matter what, so I bought 96 additional tickets for \$3,200. I had already bought 3 tickets for \$100 earlier in the fall, so that brought our total to **99** tickets.

They sold only 2,300 tickets, so if you round off 99 to **100** and drop the two zeros from each number, we had 1 chance in 23. **BINGO!**

*(And lest anyone think there were any shenanigans involved, the drawing was conducted publicly under the auspices of Indiana's gaming laws, so there was "no way" they could have rigged it in my and Cari's favor. 🤔)*

It's been a good week after all! 🍷🍷🍷 **BP**

### From Diane Elmore:

Our oldest grandson, David, is working at Kroger while attending college. He works in the Clicklist Department, where he organizes, bags, and delivers the groceries outside to the waiting cars.

When people arrive to collect their orders, he sees the name come up on a screen. Recently he saw the name "D. Studebaker" appear on his screen. When he approached the car to deliver the grocery order, he knocked on the window and asked the driver, "So? Do you have one?"

The guy said, "Have one what?" David replied, "A Studebaker!" And then Mr. Studebaker said, "What's a Studebaker?"

David was happy to tell the gentleman all about Studebaker history and then he proceeded to load the groceries into the car's trunk. When he was finished, he returned to the car window and Mr. Studebaker told him, "Thanks, Buddy, I'm on eBay right now looking for a Studebaker to buy!"



Hotel Options for Studebaker Drivers Club's 59th International Meet – Manitowoc

All hotels are pet-friendly.

<p><b>HOST HOTEL:</b>          Holiday Inn          4601 Calumet Avenue          Manitowoc, WI 54220          (920) 682-<del>8388</del>              6000          \$109.99 plus tax/night (200 rooms)</p>	<p>920-682-6000</p>
<p>Harbortown Inn          4004 Calumet Ave.          Manitowoc, WI 54220          (920) 684-7841            \$129.99 plus tax/night (28 rooms)</p>	<p>Includes handmade breakfast, 24 hour coffee &amp; tea station, game room, exercise room, and business center. Close to shopping.</p>
<p>AmericInn          5020 Hecker Rd          Manitowoc, WI 54220          (920) 320-1306            \$149.99 plus tax/night (60 rooms)</p>	<p>On the shores of Lake Michigan, close to beaches, water parks and the Lake Michigan car ferry</p>
<p>Quality Inn          2200 S. 44<sup>th</sup> St.          Manitowoc, WI 54220          (920) 683-0220            \$129.00 plus tax/night (25) – double (queen)</p>	
<p>Cobblestone Hotel and Suites          1407 16<sup>th</sup> St.          Two Rivers, WI 54241          (20) 553-3632            \$99.00 plus tax/night (6)          \$104.00 plus tax/night (7) – suites</p>	
<p>EconoLodge          908 Washington St.          Manitowoc, WI 54220</p>	



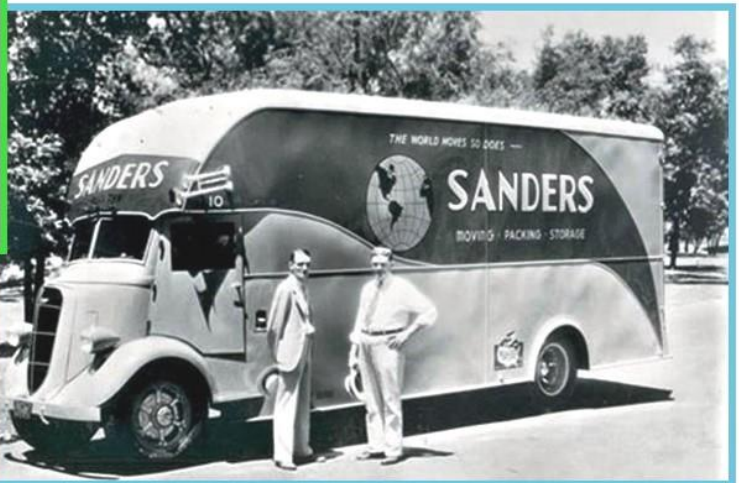
# After the Holidays, It's Back to Work

2023 is here! It's a brand new year, but would you like to enter a time machine, pick a year, and travel back in time for a day? Would you go back to 1776 and be part of our country's fight for independence? Or would you pick another time and country...maybe Israel when Jesus walked the earth? Perhaps you would just like to revisit the years of your youth? I know it would truly be a priceless gift if I could go back to the time I was growing up in the small Indiana town of Veedersburg. I would love to take a walk around my hometown and see Studebaker trucks once again rumbling down our streets and carrying out their various business activities.

But, unfortunately, time machines are still only included in Science Fiction stories and the only method of time travel is through our memories and our precious photographs. I read a quote one time that said, "God gave us memories so that we might have roses in winter." That is so true, but maybe we should add another sentence for the senior citizens among us. "But God created photographs to help OLD brains remember."

So this month, let's enjoy a very small sampling of available pictures of the hard-working Studebaker commercial vehicles that once traveled our roads and highways. Thanks to the tireless efforts of automotive

historians, we have proof...in black and white...of Studebaker's tremendous contributions to America and the world at large. Sadly, automobiles were cherished and restored, but commercial trucks were worked until they turned to rust and dust. **THANK GOD FOR PICTURES!**





# Upcoming Events

**Sunday, January 8 – 1:00 p.m.** – Lunch at EL Azabache Mexican Restaurant at Southern Plaza, 4200 S East St Ste 11, Indianapolis, IN 46227, (317) 791-1533

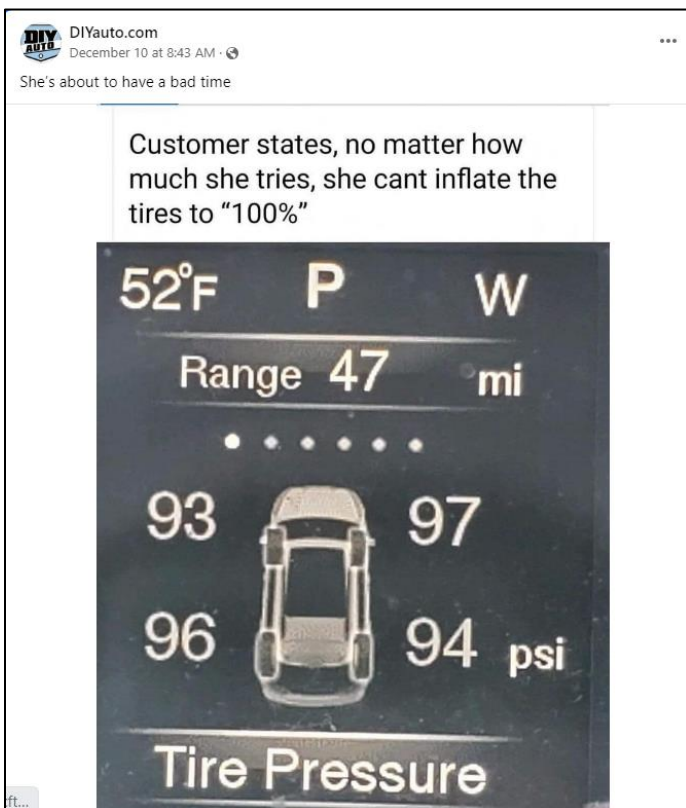
**Mark Your Calendar:**



**Saturday, February 18 Starting at 11:00 a.m.** – Steve Woodall has invited the club to a guided tour of the John Force Racing Facility and Museum in Brownsburg. I will have more information in the February issue. After our tour we will head on over to Locale (formerly the Pit Stop) for lunch at 1:00 p.m. The tour will be approximately 1 ½ hours. For those who may find it a difficult walk, you are welcome to join us at the restaurant. John Force Racing is located at 498 Southpoint Cir, Brownsburg, IN 46112 and Locale is located at 932 E Main St, Brownsburg, IN 46112 about a three minute drive from the racing facility.

**Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.** - Larry and Sue Kennedy will host a joint Winter Meet with the Indy Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club and the Southern Indiana/Kentucky Chapter of the Hudson Club. This joint meet will be held at the Franklin Township Civic League, 8822 Southeastern Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46239 (located two houses beyond the Ordinary in downtown Wanamaker). Hosts will provide a meat dish, water, coffee and iced tea. Bring your place settings and a dish or dessert to share. This facility is handicapped accessible and has a handicapped restroom, but no kitchen facilities. There are lots of electrical outlets for crockpots and plenty of parking spaces. If you have questions, contact Larry Kennedy 317-862-2020.

**September 12-16, 2023 - Studebaker International** in Manitowoc and Two Rivers, WI, hosted by the Wisconsin Region Studebaker Drivers Club.



## National Directors

President: Dennis Foust - [studequy54@gmail.com](mailto:studequy54@gmail.com)  
Vice President: Don Jones  
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: Dave Hamblin  
Regional Manager Indiana: Bob Henning

## National SDC Membership

Regular membership dues in the National Studebaker Club are \$29.00 for new members 1<sup>st</sup> year only. Renewals are \$36.00 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 January, 2023

## 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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January