

#### Vol. 48, Issue 9, A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDY CHAPTER OF THE STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB, SEPTEMBER 2023

The month of August has been very busy with Studebaker events for Joe and me. We attended the Tri-State meet August 5th at Don Wendal's farm. His collection of antique Studebakers and other cars was pretty amazing. The large barn was also full of antique household items and farm equipment. We were treated to a great lunch of corn on the cob that they had picked that morning, smoked pork and beef plus burgers. Many desserts and a five gallon pail of homemade ice cream finished off a wonderful day! Indy members Howe & Charlotte Clark and Steve & Gloria Woodall also made the drive to enjoy this extra event.

The next Saturday, August 12th the Indy Chapter met at "The Suds" for an old fashioned 50's style drive in restaurant lunch complete with root beer floats. This was a social gathering with no business meeting, just fun!

The White River Yacht Club was hosting a fund raiser car show for Riley Hospital August 19th and had Roger Ward's 1962 winning race car out of IMS for the day. Rick Ward, Jr also brought his dad's Indy 500 trophy from winning the race. To complete the tribute display they were looking for a 1963 Studebaker Pace Car and a white 1963 Avanti like what was awarded to Roger Ward that year. Jeff Westcott brought his replica 1962 Pace Car and Mark Enlow brought his 1963 white Avanti. It was an amazing display and the first time in 60 years that the race winning car had been next to a Pace Car and Avanti! I was so glad that Indy Chapter members were able to help in making this display happen. A real surprise came when they announced our 1964 R2 GT Hawk as the winner of Chairman's Choice Award.

Many more fun events coming up in the next few months. Hope to see you there!

Nancy Bacon President, Indy Chapter

Tri-State Chapter Meet at Dave Wendal's Farm Saturday, August 5, 2023







The Woodall's and Clarks's with Joe Bacon at the Tri State Meet

## Lunch and a Cruise In at the Suds Saturday, August 12, 2023

Around fifteen SDC Indy members and their cars parked by the Suds on a warm, sunny Saturday. We visited and showed our cars which brought a lot of attention. We voted that no meeting be held. It was a great day.



## White River Yacht Club Classic Show Saturday, August 19, 2023

Each year for the past 5 years the White River Yacht Club hosts a Classic Boat and Car show as a fund raiser for the Riley Children's Foundation, donating \$34,000 in 2022. This year the festival honored Roger Ward a two time winner of the Indianapolis 500. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum brought out the 1962 winning race car, Jeff Westcott provided the 1962 Pace Car (replica) and Mark Enlow provided a 1963 Avanti similar to the Avanti presented to Roger for winning the race. This made Roger Ward the first Avanti owner.



After the race the pace cars were sent back to the dealer and lost to history. There are only a few photographs of the winning car and the pace car together. As far as we know the three cars haven't been in the same place in more than 60 years.

Roger's son Rick and his grandson were in attendance and provided the jumpsuit worn by Roger and were having a great time talking to people and having their pictures taken.

While 65 cars and boats had pre-registered, there were more than 140 cars and boars in attendance with Nancy



and Joe Bacon's 64 GT Hawk taking home the Chairman's Award for best car.



## Why Studebaker

Mark Enlow

I guess my Studebaker connection started when I was 10 or 11 years old. My Dad purchased a plain Jane base '62 Studebaker Lark for 75 bucks as a second car for my mom. I was always into cars and I immediately was intrigued by the little Lark. It seemed smaller than my dad's '66 Ford but the Lark had four doors and the Ford had two. I really liked the grill on the front end because it kind of reminded me of a Mercedes Benz. I would wash and shine up the little Lark and my mom called it her little limousine.

Well the Lark needed a set of rings. It began to use oil more frequently and unfortunately my dad didn't check the oil and fluids often enough and so the engine threw a rod and in those days an old oil burner with a bad motor was scrapped and it was hauled off to the junkyard. The Lark became a memory

I got a great job with USPS and finally purchased my own home. I really loved big Cadillacs at that time I had a '60 Coupe Deville and a '76 Eldorado convertible at the same time! I stored them at one of my customer's home on my mail route that had a three car garage. It was three sisters all in their nineties. I would plant a garden in exchange for car storage. The oldest sister Pearl lived to be 99 and passed within a week of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and she ran the affairs of the home. Lillian the youngest could still drive and go to the grocery for them. This worked out fine for a few years and the middle sister already had dementia and fell and got pneumonia and passed away shortly thereafter. Lillian's vision had become worse and some other neighbors witnessed her hitting a mailbox and then leaving the scene. The family was notified and was concerned about her living alone.

Lillian soon had two different caregivers living with her whom also liked using that garage. I really didn't get to know or liked the fact my cars would be exposed to different people all the time so I rented a storage space for the 1960 and even sold the convertible back to the family I had purchased it from 12 years earlier! I decided to sell the '60 because I was working a lot and never got to drive it. I was able to finally get central A/C woo hoo!!!

Fast forward about 15 years and my mom had passed away and my dad passed away 3 years later and I couldn't persuade my brothers to keep





the family farm. I decided to purchase my '63R2 Lark as a tribute to my mom and the fond memories of her and the little limousine. When we all found out about Darlene passing away I asked Nancy Bacon to inquire with her family about her Avanti. Neither her son nor daughter wanted to keep it but wanted to make sure her Avanti was going to someone whom would keep and enjoy. I have become the Avanti's new caretaker and yes Joe Bacon I have named her Darlene.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Darlene"

## Welcome New Members

Mike & Sue Kiefer 12108 Cave Creek Ct Noblesville, In. 46060

317-809-2920 suekiefer@earthlink.net



David Hackney & Barbara Osborn 605 Perry Lane West Lafayette, IN 47906 (765) 497-2207 Dave@fasinfamily.com

1951 Commander 4-door

## **Studebaker for Sale**

1959 Lark Regal, Hawaiian green with seafoam green interior,4 door, 259 v8 automatic, new coker tires, new battery, rebuilt engine at 70,007 miles.

Have only put approximately 5,000 new miles on, replaced front springs, new windshield, petronics electronic ignition, other improvements.

This car has factory undercoating, always garaged and well maintained, not a rust bucket, but a strong and solid survivor car.

Asking \$10,000 or Best Offer Located in Monticello, IN Contact Doug Katz <u>rockdaddykatz@gmail.com</u>



#### **Tech Tip Reminder**

By and Thanks to Diane Crooks, Editor, Kaw Valley Wheels Newsletter

When you are getting ready for a trip, you always check to be sure all the lights are working, check the tire air pressure, oil level, hoses, etc. But do be sure and check or change your air filter and fuel filter. These are two items that are often overlooked.

I recently read that a gentleman on a long trip was having troubles with loss of power going up hills in his Studebaker. He finally stopped and found that his air filter was very dirty and changed that and while at it changed his fuel filter. It made a world of difference. These items would be much easier to do at home rather than have to take the time while on a trip.

#### CAR CULTURE Aunt Bee's Last Studebaker

by Bob Palma 07/02/2023





Have you ever met anyone who didn't like *The Andy Griffith Show*? If so, did they seek counsel and treatment for their affliction? It would be warranted. The show aired from October 1960 through April 1968, a span of almost eight years that encompassed 249 half-hour episodes of life in the fictitious small town of Mayberry, North Carolina, loosely based on Andy Griffith's Mt. Airy, North Carolina, hometown. Andy Griffith played the role of widowed Sheriff Andy Taylor, assisted by his bumbling but well-intentioned deputy, Barney Fife, played by Don Knotts. Andy and his son Opie (played by a young Ron Howard) lived with Andy's Aunt Bee, played by actress Frances Bavier.

And speaking of Ms. Bavier, did you know she was a life-long Studebaker customer? She was!

Ms. Bavier passed away December 6, 1989 at her home in Siler City, North Carolina. At the time of her death, she still owned the last new Studebaker she ever bought, a 1966 Studebaker Daytona two-door Sports Sedan. Although it had deteriorated somewhat from not being driven as they both aged, the car exists today, having been purchased from her estate in 1990 by a Studebaker enthusiast.

"Aunt Bee's" 1966 Studebaker was a six-cylinder Daytona, identified as model 66S-F8 on this Retail Sale Card from The Studebaker National Museum. Before the 1981 model year standardized 17-digit Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs), vehicles had simple Serial Numbers. Note that Ms. Bavier's car carried Serial Number C131698. The car's Production Order indicates it was Algonquin Green with a black vinyl top, the same color combination as the 1966 Daytona Sports Sedan featured in the 1966 Studebaker full-line brochure. Her Daytona, however, had a black vinyl bucket seat interior, rather than the white vinyl interior in the brochure car.

Ms. Bavier's 1966 Daytona was built on October 18, 1965, but records indicate it remained unsold and in stock at Johnson Motor Sales in Santa Barbara, California, when Studebaker discontinued automobile production on March 17, 1966. (South Bend, Indiana, Studebaker production ended on December 31, 1963. The remaining production of model year 1964 automobiles and all 1965 and 1966 Studebakers were assembled in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.)

The Retail Sale Card indicates she bought the car from the largest Studebaker dealer on the west coast, Frost & French in Los Angeles. Unsubstantiated rumor has it that Frost & French went up and down the west coast buying leftover new Studebakers from smaller, marginal dealers after production ceased in Hamilton. The principals at Frost & French (including then-owner W. L. Bibens, who sold Ms. Bavier her Daytona) must have thought they had a good customer base who would want to buy one last new Studebaker now that passenger vehicle production was truly coming to an end.

Frances Bavier was one of those customers. She didn't buy her Daytona until June 14, 1966, almost three months after the last Studebaker had been built. It is known that she was driving a 1962 Studebaker Lark at the time, so she may have wanted to replace it, although she apparently did not trade it in.

Regardless, she knew Studebaker was out of business. In fact, in a November 6, 1972, letter to a Studebaker Drivers Club member in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, she testified, "I've driven Studebakers for 40 years —all kinds, all models — and no other car. Watching the pictures of the closing of the factory, I did indeed weep!"

Ms. Bavier, as Aunt Bee, may be seen driving her 1966 Studebaker Daytona in at least one *Mayberry R.F.D.* episode, the show that continued the Mayberry theme after *The Andy Griffith Show* ceased production. The episode entitled "The Mynah Bird" has extensive footage of her in the car... and since it is in color, the car's hues are apparent.

Frances Bavier's gravestone reads, "To live in the hearts of those left behind is not to die." Those are good thoughts for today. Regarding "Aunt Bee's" preferred automobiles, as the late Paul Harvey would say, "Now you know the rest of the story."

# **The Rolling Stonebaker**

Located in downtown Valparaiso, Indiana (at 54 Lafayette St.), this unique pizza place is a great place to get some of the best pizza you have ever tasted! As you can see from the

> menu, this place serves much more than the tried and true pepperoni or sausage pizza!

Baked in a real wood-fired oven, their pizzas are true gourmet delights. Plus they have some very interesting appetizers, salads and desserts.

LING Stonebaker

But the real thing that sets this pizza restaurant apart from all its competitors is the 1949 Studebaker Fire Truck that they have converted (complete with its own wood -fired oven) into a rolling catering service.

DIANE'S

Random Rombling

They cater weddings, open houses, conventions, festivals, etc. This extraordinary food service idea is very popular and bookings must be made well in advance.



Sure looks like a perfect eatery to enjoy a most nnnsnal pizza after a drive in your classic Studebaker!



Starters & Shared Plates

-Stoner Bites- Fresh dough bites tossed in garlic butter with parmesan cheese. ss -Crab Cakes- Jumbo lump crab cakes over oven-roasted spinach & drizzled with remoulade sauce. \$10 -Nana's Meatballs- Baked in our wood-fired oven with sugu and dollops of ricotta. sa -Holla Back Poppers- Jalapenos stuffed with cheese and wrapped with bacon. Baked in our wood-fired oven. so 🕗

#### Salads

-Stonebaker Salad- Field greens, toasted almonds, apricots, goat cheese, & house balsamic. \$7 @ -Arugula & Prosciutto Salad- Prosciutto, arugula, shaved parmesan, roasted tomatoes, lemon olive oil, & sea salt. 18 🥥 -Roughage- Shaved brussel sprouts, gala apples, toasted pecans, red onion, blue cheese, & maple mustard vinaigrette. sr 🥥

#### Wood Fired Pizza

(gluten free crust available for a \$3 charge) -The Purple Pig- Smoked pork shoulder, BBQ sauce, mozzarella, provolone, topped with a tangy purple slaw. \$10

-Italian Oucen- Red or white base, fresh basil, mozzarella, provolone, & olive oil. sa

-The Joker- Red sauce, Nduja (Italian chorizo), fresh jalapeno, pepperoni, mozz, provolone, & dollops of ricotta. \$12 -Choke-N-Shroom- Roasted garlic, ricotta, artichoke hearts, wood-roasted crimini mushrooms, mozzarella, provolone, & black truffle sea salt, \$10

-Get That Corn Outa My Face!- Wood roasted sweet corn, tomatillo lime aioli, fresh jalapeno, cojita cheese, cilantro, & chili salt. \$12

-The Potato Head- Roasted garlic, ricotta, wood-roasted red potatoes, mozzarella, provolone, red onion, sea salt, black pepper & thyme. so

-Your Mom Goes to College- Candy onion Jam, wood roasted brussel sprouts, wood roasted butternut squash, toasted pecans, mozz, provolone, brie, & balsamic reduction. \$12

-Pepperoni OR Italian Sausage- Red sauce, mozzarella, provolone, pepperoni or sausage, charred to perfection.ss -Veggie Marinara (Vegan...No Cheese)- Red Sauce, roasted garlic, sweet bell pepper, wood-roasted mushrooms, artichoke hearts, red onion, fresh basil, olive oil, sea salt, & black pepper. sto

-Cubano- Garlic mustard, pork shoulder, smoked ham, pickles, mozzarella, swiss, & secret sauce. \$12

-Eggman- Roasted garlic, ricotta, prosciutto di parma, mozzarella, provolone, wood-fired egg, arugula, olive oil, parmesan, & balsamic reduction. \$12

-Sticky Fingers- Roasted garlic, sweet and spicy bacon marmalade, wood-roasted tomatoes, mozzarella, provolone, arugula, & lemon olive oil. \$12 Dessert .

-Cannoli- Sweetened ricotta stuffed Italian pastry shells with pistachios. \$5 -Bread Pudding- Seasonal flavor served with Valpo Velvet Ice Cream. se -Dates- Stuffed with whipped honey goat cheese and sprinkled with cinnamon. \$7

Soft Drinks sz

Coke, Sprite, Sparkling Italian n Soda, Rootbeer, Cream Soda, Una weetened Tea, Boxed Water

## **Upcoming Events**

**Saturday, September 9** – **"Drive Your Studebaker Day" -** The IMS Museum is holding a "Cars & Coffee" gathering from 8AM to12 Noon on Saturday, September 9, 2023. We'd like a good showing of Studebakers this year. The Museum is open for browsing during the show. No entrance fee, enter at gate 2 known as the South Chute Tunnel on 16th street. Same entrance as the IMS Museum.

Afterwards we'll be gathering at Le Peep Intech Commons, 6335 Intech Commons Dr Suite A, Indianapolis, IN 46278 from 1PM to 3PM for a lunch and meeting (same as last year). There's plenty of parking and easy access to I-465 and I-65. Any questions please contact Jeff Westcott <u>westcott2@gmail.com</u> or 317-759-8895,

### **Mark Your Calendar**



September 12-16, 2023 - Studebaker International in Manitowoc and Two Rivers, WI, hosted by the Wisconsin Region Studebaker Drivers Club. Note: The ferry crossing Lake Michigan from Ludington to Manitowoc is out of service.

**Saturday, October 14 at 12:00 p.m.** – **Souper Saturday!** At the Jubilee Lodge #746 located at 39 S. Front Street, Whiteland, IN 46184. We'll have several crock pots of soup to choose from. Bring an item to go along with the soups, such as appetizers, sandwiches, finger foods, crackers, fruit, veggies, desserts. The lodge has a complete kitchen for us to use (sink, stove, fridge, etc.) and restrooms. We will provide plates, bowls, silverware, napkins and bottled water.

**Sunday, November 12 at 1:00 p.m. - 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Thanksgiving luncheon** at Mike Baker's Avanti Restoration & Service shop at 4193 E US40, Greenfield, IN, 46140. The Backer's will provide the meat, bring a side dish. RSVP <u>mikebaker@aoai.org</u> or 317-498-2288 by November 6.

Saturday, December 9 – Annual Christmas Luncheon at Green Street Station in Brownsburg.

**Saturday, March 16, 2024 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 with 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 at 317-862-2020

#### **National Directors**

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#### **National Board of Directors**

Crossroads Zone National Board Director: Bob Henning at <u>rhnn15090@aol.com</u> 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.

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

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To: