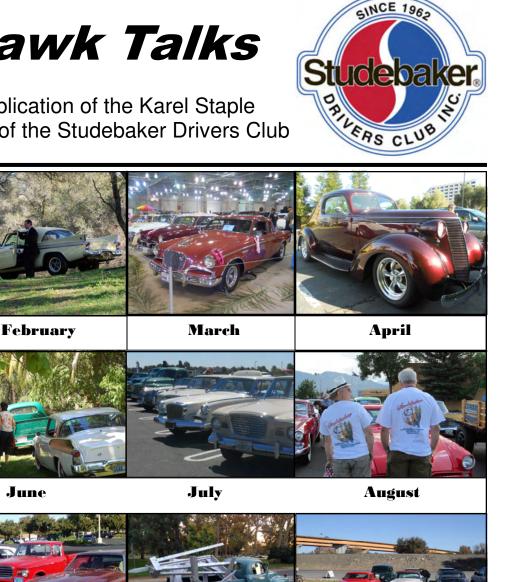
December 2013

Volume 13, Issue 12

January

Hawk Talks

A Publication of the Karel Staple Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club





September

October

November

December

2013-HIGHLIGHTS AND FAVORITES

Page 2... President's Message.... By Frank Smith. Plus November Meeting Minutes Page 3 and 4...Let's Hear it From the Young-uns....Chris Desbach and Sydney Hubbel Page 5...Tech Tip—Turner Brakes... by Pat Dilling Page 6...Autorama Sign Up?....By Johna Pierce Plus More on November meeting Page 7...Calendar of Events...Plus Directions to this month's Meeting in Olivehurst... Page 9...Wanted and For Sale

Presidents Message

By Frank Smith

We had a great time last month at the Elkhorn Grill in West Sac, which was a new location for the club. The weather was beautiful so we ate outside, the food was good and there were some old cars scattered around the property. Thanks to Rick & Johna for hosting this event!

If you missed the meeting, we elected officers for 2014. All the officers remained the same except for President and Pat Dilling will be taking over on Jan 1st. Congratulations, Pat! I know the club will be in good hands under your leadership.

Last weekend, Johanna attended the Napa Santa parade with her 64 GT Hawk. It was a nighttime parade and all the cars and floats were decorated with Christmas lights. She rode the parade as an "all girl" entry along with daughter Amanda, grandson Jaden, niece Jessie, and her girlfriend. Unfortunately, I had to work, so I couldn't go. She had the only Stude there and lots of people came up and asked questions or told stories about owning Studebakers. Surprisingly, Amanda would answer their questions with the years of acquired knowledge of being in a Studebaker owned family. Jaden, who is only 6 months old has already attended 2 cars shows, a parade and 2 club meetings. Let's try to keep getting our Studebakers out there and educating the public!

Sadly, this will be my last president's message. I have had a lot of fun being the president for the last four years, meeting new people and watching the club grow. I am turning the reins over to Pat and I know he will do a good job. Thank you to all the members for supporting me, the Karel Staple Chapter and SDC. We have come a long way.

Hope to see you at the Christmas party!

November Meeting Minutes

By Darlene McClure

<u>Date:</u> Sunday, November 17, 2013 <u>Location:</u> Elk Horn Grill in West Sacramento <u>Attendance:</u> 41 Attendees, 7 Studebakers

<u>New Member</u>: Donald Rauch took time to become a new member on his way to work! We look forward to seeing Donald at the next meeting and checking out his 23 Roadster.

Presidents report:

The Zone Meet date has been changed and confirmed for May 16th, 17th and 18th. The previous date was in conflict with Mother's Day. Mark your calendars!!

Officers were nominated, voted and appointed. We welcome Pat Dilling who will take his new position as our club President on January 1, 2014.

No new nominations were made and the following will continue to serve per the majority vote: Johna Pierce will continue as our Vice President; Johanna Smith was reelected to serve as our Treasurer; and Darlene McClure will continue as Secretary. Congratulations and thank you to all those newly appointed and continuing their service to our wonderful club. Jon Stalnaker will continue his effort as our editor and LaRee Brunelli will be assisting Jon with printing and mailing.

<u>Treasurers report:</u> The club checking account balance and expense paid outs were stated.

Misc. Announcements: Thanks to Phil and John from RPM photo art in Placerville for sharing their digital art with us.

Connect with them on the internet if you would like to place an order. The Turlock Swap Meet is looking for Vendors to participate on January

25th-26th.

Mike Schmitz took home \$40 in the 50/50 raffle and George Newhouse won \$20. Congratulations to both!

We are inviting the Packard Club to join us and according to the bylaws we should include them in our club activities.

Our December meeting is at Kate and Pat Dilling's home. Please bring folding chairs (not lawn chairs) as they have enough tables, but may need a few chairs. Pat is providing a ham so please use the alphabet to determine what to bring, appetizers, salad, sides, dessert and drinks. Also, bring 1 wrapped gift per person for the white elephant! d.

Welcome New Members!

Doug Hadley renewed his membership! Yuba City, CA 1962 & 63 GT Hawk 1954 Commander Regal HT

Donald Rauch Williams, CA ref by: Steve Rainville 1923 Stude Roadster





December 2013

Page 3

All About Champ Pick-ups

Story By: Chris Desbach

Originally published in the Home of the Champions, A publication of the Michiana Chapter/SDC

Throughout all the years, Studebaker was always very good at one thing: improvising to save money; more than ever in the '60s. In 1949 Studebaker came out with their all new 2R series pickups which remained in production until 1959. The 2R and 3R series of trucks were among the most successful pickup trucks of their day; noted for low cost of upkeep and their unbeatable ruggedness. But like any product, the consumer likes a fresh image every so often. For example, a 1949 Ford pickup looks completely different when compared to a 1959 pickup, and the same thing goes for a Chevy of the same years. A 1949 Studebaker pickup looks like a 1959 Studebaker pickup. Studebaker took notice of this problem and wanted to fix it without spending a whole lot of money on it. The "man with the plan" in charge of truck engineering at Studebaker was Otis Romine. He had the idea that they could save money on tooling by making the truck line look like the car



line, and management liked that idea because it was cheap. In early 1959, Otis and his team of engineers started out with a 1949 (well really it would have been a 1959, but there's basically no difference) truck chassis and a brand new Lark four door sedan body. The truck chassis was complete minus the cab, and somebody who was probably having a tough day in the office got to take out their frustrations by literally cutting the Lark body in half right behind the front doors. Once cut, the front half of the car was mounted onto the truck chassis as a cab and only one new piece of sheet metal had to be made as a back panel for the cab. The existing R series bed was carried over on this new truck for the time being, but what was created was the first Champ pickup prototype. Otis Romine saved Studebaker thousands of dollars by avoiding new body panels being created with the exception of the cab back panel. A little extra money was set aside for a new grille design just for Champ pickups that featured horizontal cross bars to give the front end a more rugged look.

For the model year 1960, Studebaker sold Champ pickups using the tried and true R series bed, but by midyear 1961 Studebaker began offering a new, bigger bed. Champ sales were good in '60, and Studebaker gave Otis Romine the green light to make the Champ even better with a new bed, but told him to do it as cheaply as possible. It just so happened that in 1961 Dodge was about to phase out their obsolete truck beds, so Otis went there and offered to buy the stamping dies. One of the funniest things I've ever read about Studebaker history was how the conversation went between Otis Romine and Dodge. It went something like this: "Hi, I'm here because I'm interested in purchasing your stamping dies for Dodge truck beds." The answer he got was: "Sure, we'll sell them. By the way, who are you?" Needless to say, he did explain who he was and where he came from and Studebaker ended up purchasing the dies used to make Dodge truck beds. Champ pickups were then offered with the new beds until the end of their production in model year 1964. All Champ models came with a choice of either the OHV 6, 259, or 289 engines. As for a transmission, you could either get a three speed or a Borg-Warner automatic.

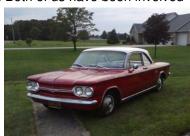
The Champ pickup had other features that put it ahead of its time in Studebaker fashion. It was the first truck that had car comfort, because the entire front end was a Lark. It was also the first truck to feature a sliding back window on late model Champs, which is something that wasn't picked up by other truck manufactures until much later. The Champ was the first true mid-size pickup, and the second mid-sized pickup was the 1987 Dodge Dakota built 27 years after the Champ was created. Studebaker was once again ahead of their time, but unfortunately the Champ wasn't enough to save Studebaker in the mid '60s. Maybe Studebaker was too far ahead of their time? We will never really know.

Continuing the Story from Chris Desbach on Page 3

One of my best friends, and newly inducted SDC member, Corey McIlroy is something like my twin. (Take a second and think about that. There are basically two of me in the area, Corey is just as Studebaker-nuts as I am. That's scary for even me to think about...) Corey, like me, is a little different from most twenty year olds. Why would he want a Camaro or Mustang when he could have a Champ pickup? Why? Because he loves South Bend history, and the Studebaker story about how the original Studebaker brothers came to South Bend and basically built an empire. We both feel like we are preserving history by maintaining and driving Studebakers.

Corey and I spend a lot of time hanging out and working together. When we're not doing something Studebaker related, we can be found at the Tamarack Auction (Getz Auction) in Goshen buying pieces of history to either keep or sell. Both of us have been involved

in the old car hobby since before we knew about each other, I just had Studebaker's first. I've had my small fleet for a while, and Corey's first car was a really nice **1964 Chevy Corvair.** I got to drive that car, and coming from a Studebaker guy I will be the first to say that the Corvair must have gave Studebaker a run for the



money in the early '60s. It's a compact car with a comfortable ride, and when you stand on the gas pedal it has a lot of power. I was impressed. As much as Corey loved the Corvair, he wanted to sell it to find a Studebaker. When I asked him what kind of Studebaker, he said he didn't really care but was leaning toward a truck. After I convinced him to join the SDC, and several months of looking through Auto Trader magazines and bidding on cars on Ebay, I convinced him to come to the Michiana Chapter picnic this year at the Studebaker Proving Ground. Among the vehicles that showed up that day was a gray '62 Champ owned by Mark and Terri Telloyan, and it was for sale. As they were ready to leave and were driving out, Corey flagged them down to inquire about the truck and took it for a short test drive, IN THE PROVING GROUND. I looked over the truck a little bit myself and told Corey that for the money, it was a good truck. A week later he bought it. The truck originally came from Arizona where it was



trom Arizona where it was used as a state highway truck. It was originally Omaha Orange and equipped with a 259 and automatic transmission. Today it's painted gray and somebody changed the seat, but the rest still appears to be original with very little rust. Corey plans on fixing up the truck to original condition, but not necessarily restore it. For right now he's just enjoying driving it and taking it to car shows.

Sydney answers the question – "Do You Even Know What a Studebaker Is?"



My granddaughter (and club member) Sydney sent me a note on facebook the other day. She said she was wearing her Studebaker T-shirt and was stopped by an old man in the store who asked her "do you even know what a Studebaker is?"

To which she proudly showed him pictures of her 65 Commander. Needless to say, he was impressed



I posted this on the SDC Forum and received sev-

eral responses. Some of my favorites:

Nox from Sweden and Holland says:

What a gal!!! She sure impress me BIG-time! More youngsters like her & the world will be quite some lovely place!

(If only my daughters would be like her... well at least Pixie said "That got to be the most beautiful car in the world!" when she saw a –57Golden Hawk once up on a time...)

And our own President elect Pat Dilling

Don't you just love it? Tell her great job for all of us!

Commander Eddie from Oregon says:

I occasionally encounter a youngster who knows what a Studebaker is. Not often though. But they ALWAYS tell me they love my car (or truck). Now if I could just get them excited about fixing one up and driving it. Tell you granddaughter to keep spreading the word.

52hawk from Illinois said:

I'd have loved to see the old man's face when she showed him the car! Great story! Reminds me of the day a 20-something years young guy [at Auto Zone] said "nice Studebaker!" I was shocked! Turned out he owned a '50 Champion.

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Page 5

Upgrading to a Dual Master Cylinder Tech Tip by Pat Dilling

Upgrading your brakes to a dual master cylinder system is one of the best safety upgrades we can make for our classic cars. A dual master cylinder separates the front and back brakes. This way, if you have a brake failure in either the front or back, the remaining system will still function and enable you to stop the car. In this article I will describe the installation for a frame mounted master cylinder that many of our Studebakers employed. I am working on a 1954 Conestoga Station Wagon, but the process will be similar for any car with a frame mounted system.

I chose to use a system already engineered by Jim Turner of Turner Brakes, (http://www.turnerbrake.com/). Jim's kit includes complete instructions, mounting brackets, necessary hardware and fittings, residual check valves and a proportioning valve. He will also provide a new master cylinder, or you can pick one up from your local parts dealer from a list of compatible units that Jim pro-



vides. Cost with the master cylinder is about \$240 plus shipping. The residual check valves are needed because the master cylinder is located below the wheel cylinders or calipers. The proportioning valve enables you to tune the rear brakes so they do not



lock prematurely on a hard stop. Tools need for this project include basic hand tools, a double flaring kit and possibly a simple tubing bender. You will also need some 3/16 brake line and fittings. Here is the original single master cylinder.

This kit was designed for a C/K

coupe or Hawk or similar 120.5 wheel base vehicle. Because my wagon is on a shorter 116.5 wheel base I had to modify a frame brace for clearance. Jim's instructions warned this may be necessary. As the saying goes, your mileage may vary. Here are a couple pictures of the master cylinder installed. I am also replacing my driver side floor so I cut out the old floor which made access easier. When I install the new floor panel I will include an access port and also reinforce the frame brace. Since I am converting to an automatic transmission I no longer need the hill holder, so it was removed. I will be happy to show you this project up close if you are coming to the Christmas party. Or feel free to stop by when you can.



Here are the check valves and new brake lines going front and rear. I installed all new brake lines.



December 2013

Page 6

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Signed If you are under 18 years of age, a p

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By Johna Pierce

It looks like they got the price down to \$50.00 for Autorama 2014!!!!

Since it is the same price as last year, I think it might be a good idea to have our Studebakers in the Club House & let people know about our Zone Meet!

That's the sign up sheet on this page.

November Meeting By: Johna Pierce

Here are some pictures of the Nov meeting. RPM Photo Art. John & Phil did a presentation & we are going to use them for our awards & dash plaques. We will also order a case of wine from them with our zone meet on the label for our raffle. The red International truck belongs to Darrell Hayes, he was a Karel Staple chapter member a few years back & he still owns some Studebakers. Doug had to lay down, so he felt right at home in our Brown GT Hawk (we bought from him)

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Page 7

KSC CALENDER of Events 2013

Sunday, Dec 8th – Annual Christmas Party. Olivehurst, 4074 Mary Ave. Arrive at 11:00 am for social/potluck. Call Pat Dilling for more information at 530-743-4176. Bring a white elephant gift to exchange.

Note: All **<u>underlined</u>** dates are monthly Karel Staple Chapter events.

All of the above <u>underlined</u> dates are Club events. - editor

About the Cover

This month's cover is a review of the 2013 club activities. It includes my personal favorite activities, stories, and Studebakers. **January** is Studebaker month at the California Auto Museum and it's always a great opportunity to show off our favorite marque. **February**'s picture was a photoshoot that Dean and I attended in our Studes. While I have many more pictures of my truck at this event, I really like this picture of Dean's car showing the model and the photographer. **March** was our display at the Autorama. We have another opportunity to participate next year. (see page 6) **April** was our meeting at Brookfields in Rancho. I just love this 37. It belongs to new member Dave Sanders of Woodland. The big story in **May** was donating this car to a high school shop class. **June**—I always enjoy driving up to Franz und Melba's house in Auburn. Carlene always comes home with a bunch of plants. **July** we visited the Black Bear Diner in Suisun. The manager went out of his way to make the event special. **August** Pictures from Colorado Springs. This picture made a great cover shot. **September** I try to avoid filling this newsletter with pictures of my Studebakers, however, the Napa car show was one of the highlights of my life as my truck was last year's Best of Show winner and was featured on the artwork of the event. **October** featured International Drive Your Studebaker activities. This picture came from our Stockton friends. **November** I always appreciate contributions to the newsletter. This was Jason Michaels little snippet about his truck. I really liked that short story. **December** another picture submitted of November's meeting at the Elkhorn Grill.

Our Pot Luck System only works when you follow the breakdown listed below. Sometimes, not even then.

Members with the last name starting with A thru G—Bring a Main Dish or appetizer Members with the last name starting with H thru M—Bring a Dessert Members with the last name starting with N thru Z—Bring a Salad

Directions to This Month's Meeting

Pat Dilling, President Elect

We will provide spiral cut ham and plates and utensils. We ask people to bring a couple of folding chairs if they have them. We may not need all of them as we have quite a few.

Directions: Our address is 4074 Mary Avenue, Olivehurst. Coming from North or South on Highway 70, take the McGowan Parkway exit and turn West. Mary Avenue is the second left. You can also take Highway 65 from Rose-ville. Still take McGowan Parkway and turn West. Once you cross Highway 70, Mary will be the second left. We are 4/10 of a mile down Mary on the right.

		McGowan Parkway	n Parkway	
It's a white elephant gift exchange <i>NOT</i> white underwear	4074	Mary Ave	Hwy 70	↑ N

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Page 8

National SDC Application / Karel Staple Membership & Badge Application

For SDC National membership:		All members of local chapters must be members of the National Studebaker Drivers Club SDC #:		
Please mail check or money order to:				
Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc. P.O. Box 1715 Maple Grove, MN 55311-7615		Membership dues are \$20 Annually Name:		
Maple Grove, MN 55511	-/013	Address:		
Includes monthly publication of Turning Wheels Magazine		City:St:		
First year membership		Email:		
w/periodicals class mail	\$24.00	Referred by:		
Regular membership		Birthday (Mo) Spou		
w/periodicals class mail	\$31.00			
Regular membership		YES, I would like my newsletter emailed to m		
w/ first class mail	\$60.00	each month.		
Student/young adult		NO, I would not like my inform published on our roster.	nation to be	
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Phone:		Total enclosed:	\$	
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A CONTRACTOR OF		Make check payable to:		
If new member, source of referral:		Karel Staple Chapter SDC		
	-	Mail to: Johanna Smith		
		2140 Coronado Av	e	
Please list Studebakers, including		Napa, CA 94559		
Please list Studebakers, in	cluding	Napa, CA 94559		

December 2013

For Sale

A member from the Sequoia chapter has a set of Speedster wire wheel covers he wants to sell.

Kirk Dobson San Ramon Ca. 925-277-2649 kdobson@dwassociates.com.

(12-13)

Good News from Goodmark

Goodmark recently announced the production of replacement quarter



panels for 1953-1961 Studebaker coupes. Pricing for the Goodmark quarter panels has yet to be an-

nounced. For more information, visit

GoodmarkIndustries.com.

Paid Advertising

Rates are \$20/yr for members \$25/yr for non-members

For Sale

Turning Wheels and Antique Studebaker magazines. Give me your wants. No charge. Pay shipping or will deliver to next meeting. 1970's to present. After zone meet all will be dumped. Also I have collection of National Geographics starting in 1912. Will sell collection complete or ? This offer will not be here long.

Art lucky7@succeed.net Please note my new Email address.

(12-13)

Free Old Turning Wheels

At the Williams meeting I offered free Wheels Magazines to the members. Darrell Brunelli wanted some boxes to make the place mats for the May zone meet. Across from them at the table another couple stated they would like a box also. I didn't get their names. I brought boxes of books to the Nov meeting but that couple didn't show up. I thought the unknown couple were friends of Darrell but they were not. If you are that couple, get in touch with me and I will bring a box to the Christmas party. Thanks,

Art. lucky7@succeed.net 530 730-5092





This Space Is Available For Your Business

Contact Johna Pierce to place your ad or business card

Ladyhawk64@comcast.net

NOTE:

Ads are free and run for two consecutive issues (space permitting) and, if you renew your ad, two additional issues.

To start, stop, change, or renew an ad, please contact the *Hawk Talk* editor.

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Karel Staple Chapter Officers

President -Frank Smith Napa, CA 94559 (707)255-5108 studelark@aol.com

Vice President -Johna Pierce Sacramento CA (916) 548-0340 Ladyhawk64@comcast.net

Treasurer -Johanna Smith Napa, CA 94559 (707)255-5108 <u>karelstaplesdc@yahoo.com</u>

Secretary -Darlene McClure Rocklin CA <u>darlenejeff@sbcglobal.net</u>

Senior Editor - Jon Stalnaker Sr. Dixon CA 95620 (707) 693-0211 <u>broncos@onramp113.org</u>

Webmaster - Jason Michaels - jason@jasonmichaels.com

National Officers

President - Carl Thomason 43306 Running Deer Dr Coarse Gold CA 93614 <u>thomason2@earthlink.net</u>

Vice President - Mimi Halgren 9350 El Tejado Rd La Mesa CA 91941 mimihalgren@hotmail.com

Secretary -Nita Ketchum PO Box 37 Ida AR 72456 <u>nlketchum@aol.com</u> Treasurer -Jane Stinson 5800 Stanley Rd Columbiaville MI 48421 jestinson@aol.com

Pacific Southwest Zone Officers

Member, Board of Directors -Colin Fort P.O. Box 939 Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA 92007 <u>colinfort@cox.net</u>. Zone Coordinator -Jon Carter 12270 N. 78th Place Scottsdale, AZ 85260 <u>carter.jonathan@mayo.edu</u>. Regional Manager -Frank Wenzel 551 E. Industrial Place Palm Springs CA 92264 <u>carbuffs@yahoo.com</u>

For insurance purposes and also to comply with SDC Bylaws governing chapters, all members of a local chapter must also be a member of the National Club. Don't forget to renew your National membership.

Visit us at: <u>Visit us at:</u> <u>www.Hawktalks.com</u>

For a look at the pictures in color

Hawk Talks Po Box I Box CA 95620-0001 Marel Staple Chapter