

February 2014

Volume 14, Issue 2

Hawk Talks

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



Thanks for not putting
Johanna's car on it—I'd have
never heard the end of it...



BRIAN AND LINDA PRESENT FRANK SMITH WITH A THANK YOU GIFT FOR 4 YEARS SERVICE AS CHAPTER PRESIDENT

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President's Message February 2014
Pat Dilling, President

Our Studebaker year is off to a great start with our cars being displayed at the California Auto Museum. Thanks to the members who were willing to part company with their "baby" for a month, or take advantage of the free inside storage whichever fits. In February I am looking forward to seeing some of our cars at the Sacramento Autorama.



Elsewhere in the newsletter we will get a progress report on the upcoming Pacific Southwest Zone meet that we are hosting in May. I want to thank all of the folks that are helping with this. It is a major event and its success will reflect positively on our Chapter. If you haven't raised your hand to help please do so, many hands make light work.

I want to promote a money saving opportunity for our Chapter. I encourage as many people as are able to receive your monthly newsletter via email instead of printed and mailed copies. By doing this you will save our treasury over a dollar per month in printing and postage expense. Based on our current membership of 88, if just half of us do this, the savings amount to \$528 over a year's time. That is a scholarship for one of our beneficiaries or money we can use to fund other activities. This request is voluntary; if you do not have email, or still wish to have a hard copy you may certainly continue to receive the printed version. Please let Jon Stalaker, our award winning Newsletter editor, know if you are willing to use the email option.

Last year a group of members formed a work party to help work on another member's car. I want to encourage projects like this to continue. One of the benefits of belonging to a car club is the sharing of skills and knowledge of the members. I am going to start asking at meetings if anyone needs help getting a Studebaker on the road. Then perhaps members who are able can help either individually or as a group. Often, doing projects like this are an opportunity to learn new skills from our many knowledgeable members. We can take pictures and write stories about our projects and include them in our newsletters too. I suggest we start with smaller projects, so if you have a need, please don't be shy when I ask who needs a hand.

See you all soon,

Pat

Steering Wheel Swap
By: Jon Stalaker

A some of you may know, my Bullet nose is going through some upgrades as I had some problems with the original build. Wayne did such a great job on the truck that I decided to have him do the work.

I have never been happy with the custom steering wheel I installed so I bit the bullet (pun intended) and bought a custom 48 Packard wheel. That's it on the right. Just wait till you see the real thing. It's gorgeous but it wasn't cheap.



Forum Junkies

I found this on the SDC Forum. It's a 33 Rockne Hot Rod powered by an R2 Avanti motor. If you are unfamiliar with a Rockne, it was a more affordable model built by Studebaker in the early 30's. It was named after the famous football coach.



Unfortunately, Knute Rockne died in a plane crash before the first one was built. If you've seen the picture of Knute Rockne in front of the car that is his namesake, be advised that the picture was a fake. Who knew they were photo-shopping way back when....

Studebaker National Foundation Coin Raffle

By Chris Collins

The Studebaker National Foundation continues its fundraising efforts with a raffle that will benefit SNF programs including scholarships for students in auto related fields and support for museums with Studebakers in their collections.

Two prizes will be awarded at a drawing to take place at the International Studebaker Drivers Club Meet in Dover, Delaware, June 29-July 5, 2014. You need not be present to win.

The first prize is a set of commemorative silver Studebaker coins and a beautiful wooden display case. The set is complete through 2012, includes thirty five coins with .999 fine silver content and is valued at over \$2300.00.

The second prize is \$250.00 cash.

Tickets are \$10.00 each with only 1000 to be sold.

You help the Foundation with your generous donation when buying a ticket to win one of these valuable prizes. The raffle tickets are available from Chris Collins by sending her a self addressed, stamped envelope and a check made out to SNF with a note indicating the number of tickets X \$10.00 to 2410 W. Freeway Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

For additional information, please visit
<http://www.studebakernationalfoundation.org>
 or contact Chris at 602-995-5311 or ccollinsaz@cox.net



Studebaker Trivia (prepared by Jeff McClure)

- 1) The Studebaker Brother's Manufacturing Co. was officially founded in 1868. Which name is not one of the five original brothers? **Peter Everest, Clement, John Mohler, Henry, Everitt James, or Jacob Franklin.**
- 2) Which brother was President of Studebaker and given credit for leading the company from building horse-drawn vehicles to self-propelled ones?
- 3) Studebaker's first internal combustion car appeared in what year?
- 4) In 1926, Studebaker became the first auto manufacturer in the US to build their own outdoor proving grounds. This was made famous by the over 5000 trees planted that spelled STUDEBAKER when viewed from the air. What kind of trees were planted?
- 5) The Wall Street Crash of 1929 resulted in the subsequent closure of several auto manufactures. Studebaker limped along, but by 1933 the company was forced to reorganize under bankruptcy. What other major event occurred within the upper management of Studebaker in 1933?
- 6) TRUE or FALSE: Studebaker never suffered a union strike at their South Bend plant?
- 7) In 1956, Studebaker built a Commander two-door station wagon. Was the name of this car **Park Lane, Wagonmaster, Nomad, Brookwood or Parkview**?
- 8) Sadly in 1966, the last Studebaker rolled off the assemble line at the Hamilton, Canada plant. What kind of car was it?

Answers on Page 6

Studebakers Inside and Out at the California Automobile Museum

We typically display our club members cars at the museum's Car Club Cavalcade for the month of January. The new docent class begins in January and the Studebaker segment is typically presented in this month. This happens by design as I am able to coordinate this as a docent for the museum, Chapter contact for the Club, and instructor for the Studebaker segment of the Docent class. That is also why our monthly meeting in January is at the museum. If you didn't make it down to the museum to see the display, you are too late. At the time of this writing, we moved the cars out this morning.



I stated in last month's Hawk Talks that the museum agreed to move two of their Studebakers over to join our display. At the time of our meeting it had yet to be done but I spoke with Karen, the museum director and she told me she would follow up. When I gave the Studebaker class to the Docents, it still hadn't been done. I didn't bother to follow up as it would be removed in about 34 hours from that point.

All total, the Museum has 3 Studebakers on display (that includes the 58 Packard), 4 Studes in the CCC display and outside, I counted 6 more. The Vogt's have 2 Studebakers and both are out of commission so they brought their 57 T-Bird. I'll give them the coolest Brand-X award for that one. It was stunning. I hope you got a chance to check it out.



Thank you vice president Johna for filling in for our new President that couldn't make it due to a previous commitment to a "Blues Cruise". OK, Pat, you're forgiven for that one. As you can see from the cover picture in this month's newsletter, Brian and Linda presented Frank Smith with a cool blanket for his dedicated service as our chapter president for 4 years. It just doesn't seem like it's been that long. Thanks Frank for all your hard work.

Linda passed around some examples of the award plaques that will be given out at our zone meet. I've included some pictures—very nice. We discussed a few more zone meet issues and consumed another great Karel Staple buffet. Some looked around the museum and some of us hardcore football fans had to make it back in time to see the Broncos win the AFC championship. The Niners fans had plenty of time to get home for their game which was quite exciting up to the last play. (Sorry)

This month we meet at the Hof Brau. Always fun but as we continue to grow, it only get's chummier in that back room. Bring a Studebaker. We always draw a crowd at this one.

Jon Stalaker/Editor

KSC January Meeting Minutes

By: Darlene McClure/Secretary

Date: Sunday, January 19, 2014

Location: California Auto Museum Sacramento

Attendance: 38 Attendees, 10 Studebakers

Member Moments: Special Happy Birthday wishes to Andy Maas! Linda Bernard presented outgoing President Frank Smith with a token of our club's appreciation. Thank you Frank and enjoy your new Studebaker Driver's Club blanket!

With a sincere heart, we shared a moment of silence for the passing for three of our club member's mothers, may they rest in peace.

Vice Presidents report: Our club VP, Johna Peirce acted on behalf of our new President in his absence. If you have any raffle items for the Zone Meet, please be sure to give them to Steve Rainville at our next meeting. Vendors, Sponsors and additional raffle items are needed for the Zone Meet, please see Frank Smith. If you plan to attend the Zone meeting at Lions Gate on April 6th at 11:30, please contact Johna.

Treasurers report: The club checking account balance and expense paid outs were stated. Annual club membership fees are now due and payable, please see Johanna. We currently have a roster of 88 members! If you have a change of email, phone or address, please send the updated information to Johanna.

Misc. Announcements: Thanks to El Dorado County Fair for sharing their film on the Studebaker wheelbarrow races! Those interested in displaying their cars this summer at the El Dorado County Fair, stayed tuned for more information.

Tom Hosford took home \$40 in the 50/50 raffle and Jim Goodland won \$20. Congratulations to both!

CAM is having a Fundraiser on April 6th which will be a Spaghetti feed. Tickets will be available through CAM for \$10.00.

If you would like to donate some time in the Hospitality suite during the Zone Meet, please contact Johanna. Also, if you would like to contribute snacks or baked goods to the Hospitality suite, please let Johanna know so she can add you to the list of donors.

Our next club meeting will be at the Hof Brau on Watt Ave. in Sacramento hosted by George Newhouse.

Rules for Valve Cover Race to be held during the Zone Meet have been posted to our club website.

1st place, 2nd place and People's Choice trophies were approved for the Zone Meet.



She Has Done It Again.....

By Betty Knopf

Our club member Judith Starr has again donated one of her beautiful quilts to our education project. Judith designed and created this red, white and blue quilt that fits a queen or king bed. What skill and talent!

Tickets will be on sale for \$1.00 for one; \$5.00 for six; or \$10.00 for thirteen.

The raffle drawing will be at our zone meet. You do not need to be present to win.

On behalf of our club and the recipients of our education project, sincere thanks to Judith for this very generous and beautifully created gift.



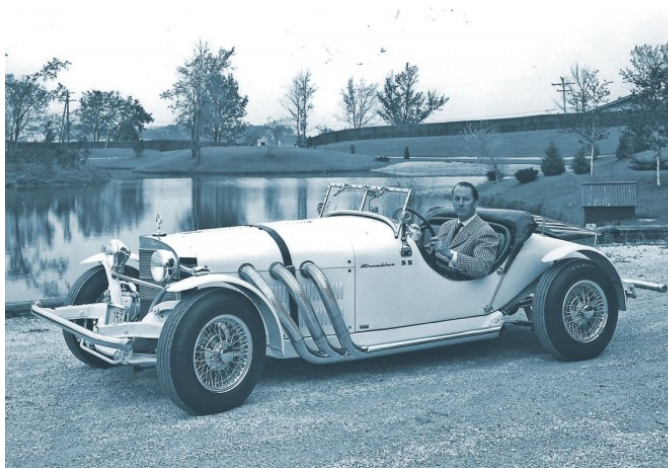
Studebaker Trivia Answers *(From Page 3):*

(source: Studebaker Museum)

- 1) Everitt James was not one of the brothers.
- 2) John Mohler, born in 1833.
- 3) 1904
- 4) Pine trees.
- 5) Albert Erskine, who served as president of Studebaker from 1915, committed suicide in 1933 due to the financial crisis.
- 6) False; there was a labor strike in 1962 which lasted for 38 days.
- 7) The two-door wagon was called "Parkview".
- 8) A 1966 Cruiser four-door sedan.

50 Year Anniversary for the Excalibur Motor Car

BY: Jon Stalnaker/Editor



Brooks Stevens sits in his Studebaker SS Concept car

In case you didn't know, the Excalibur Motor car was developed as a Studebaker concept vehicle. Studebaker designer Brooks Stevens was tasked to come up with exciting concept vehicles and his Studebaker SS was built as a reflection on Studebaker's association with Mercedes in the 50's. Also, his love of the classic motor cars of the 30's.

Built on a Lark Chassis with R2 Avanti power, this concept vehicle was completed in time for the New York Auto Show in 1964. It wasn't until the car arrived at the Auto Show that Stevens discovered that Studebaker was not going to be represented as they had already decided to end car production in the United States.

Brook Stevens' two sons took the idea, changed the name to Excalibur and achieved major success marketing and selling the cars as an independent company. Their idea took hold and Excalibur built and sold over 3000 cars and created a Neo-Classic genre that saw the likes of Zimmer, Clenet, and Stutz follow along.

By the time they decided to build the Excalibur, Studebaker had already ceased engine production so the Studebaker motor was replaced with a 327 Chevy. They continued to use Lark Chassis up until 1970 when they developed the Excalibur II model that had it's own chassis.

The Studebaker National Museum in South Bend has the original Studebaker SS concept car. Look for it when you tour the museum.

KSC CALENDER of Events 2014

Note: All underlined dates are monthly Karel Staple Chapter events.

Sunday, Feb 23rd - Social/Lunch at the Hof Brau - 2500 Watt Ave. Sacramento. Arrive at 11:00 am. Host: George Newhouse 916-485-3989 All are Welcome! This is a restaurant—don't bring food, bring money...

Sunday, March 16th – Granzella’s Restaurant & Nissan Hot Rod- 451 6th St., Williams, CA. Arrive at 11:00 am. Host: Steve Rainville 916-729-8569 & Pat Dilling.

Saturday, April 26th - Stockton-Grupe Park Joint Picnic with Sequoia Chapter and Avanti Club. Host: Lou Van Anne. Call: 209-473-4898 for more information

Sunday, May 4th: Fiesta Days Car Show in Fair Oaks

Sunday, May 16-18th – Pacific Southwest Zone Meet, Sacramento, CA

Sunday, June 8th – Rocklin – Hosts: Jeff & Darlene McClure.

Sunday, July 20th – Suisun City, Western Train Museum. Hosts: Jeff & Darlene McClure.

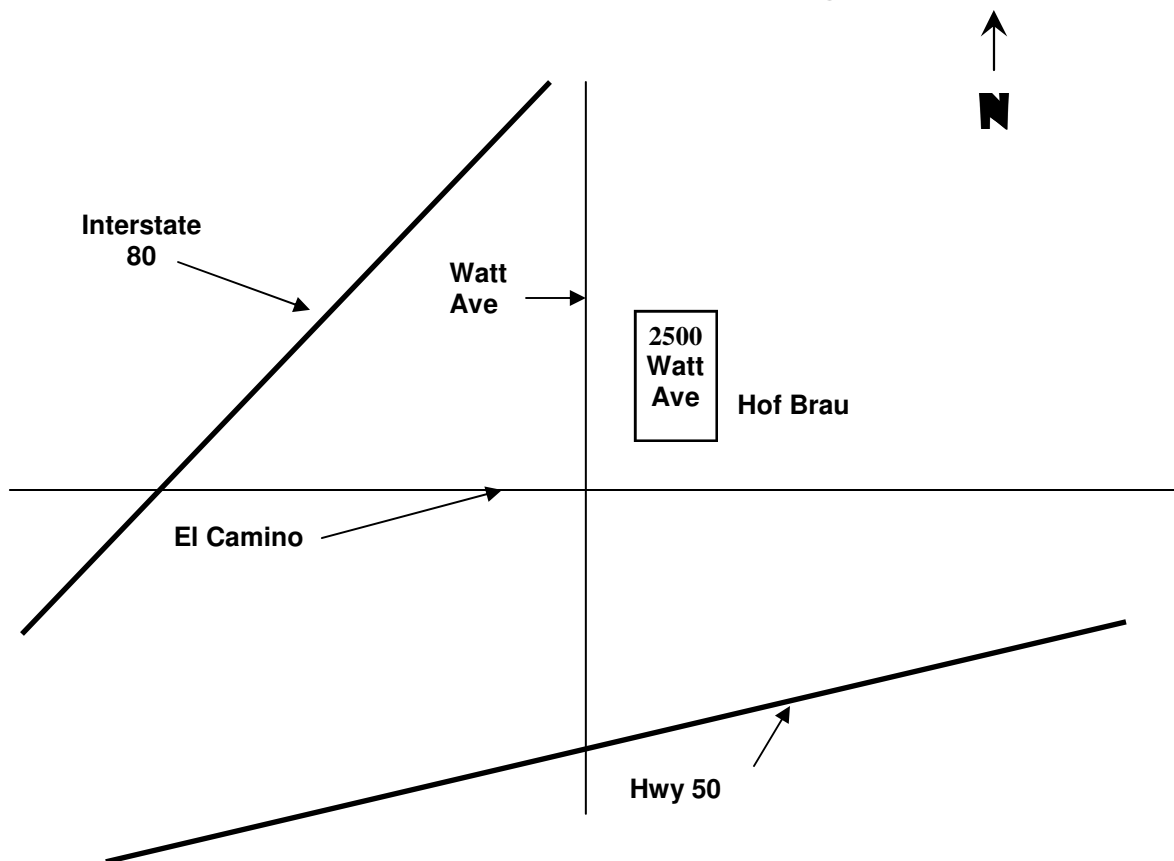
Sunday, August 24th – Napa social/potluck. 2140 Coronado Ave., Napa, CA. Arrive at 11:00 am. Hosts: Frank & Johanna Smith 707-255-5108. All are welcome!

Saturday, August 23rd – Napa Main Street Reunion Car Show, downtown Napa 9 to 3.

Saturday, September 14th – International Drive Your Studebaker Day. Join us for a fun run or do your own thing. Just drive your Studebaker today.

All of the above underlined dates are Club events. - editor

Directions to this Month’s Meeting



National SDC Application / Karel Staple Membership & Badge Application

National SDC Application

Karel Staple Chapter Application

For SDC National membership:
Please mail check or money order to:
Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1715
Maple Grove, MN 55311-7615

Includes monthly publication of
Turning Wheels Magazine

- First year membership w/periodicals class mail \$24.00
- Regular membership w/periodicals class mail \$31.00
- Regular membership w/ first class mail \$60.00
- Student/young adult (up to 22 years old) \$24.00
- SDC membership without Turning Wheels \$10.00

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(763)420-7829 fax (763) 420-7849
or email: sdc@cornerstonereg.com for more information.

Name: _____
Spouse: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ St: ___ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

If new member, source of referral:

Please list Studebakers, including
Year, make, body style on separate page.

All members of local chapters must be
members of the National Studebaker Drivers
Club SDC #: _____

Membership dues are \$20 Annually

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ St: ___ Zip: _____
Phone: () _____
Email: _____
Referred by: _____
Birthday (Mo) _____ Spouse: _____

YES, I would like my newsletter emailed to me
each month.

NO, I would not like my information to be
published on our roster.

Please list Studebaker (s) owned:

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
- | | | |
|------|-------|-----------|
| Year | Model | Body type |
|------|-------|-----------|

Name Badge Application:

Name: _____
(may be a nickname)

Spouse: _____

Name badges are \$8.00 each \$ _____
Membership fee: \$ 20.00
Total enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable to:

Karel Staple Chapter SDC
Mail to: Johanna Smith
2140 Coronado Ave
Napa, CA 94559
or call: 707-255-5108

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)

WOW

And HOW

It's the latest from Studebaker



September 1962

For Sale

Classic Truck—Needs work \$55,000
www.watchtoomuchBarretJackson.com



More Stuff for Sale

I have two parts cars available;

1953 Commander 4 door. Fenders, hood, doors, dash, trunk lid etc. Body is gone.

1954 champ 4 door. Still together. No engine, radiator. Otherwise, pretty complete.

Art.

lucky7@succeed.net
530 743-2942

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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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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.

www.Hawktalks.com

Visit us at:

For a look at the pictures in color

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