December 2015

Volume 15, Issue 12

# Hawk Talks

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



# AL'S PLACE IN LOCKE



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### Presidents Message by Pat Dilling



As I sit down to write the last President's message of my term, my thoughts go to what a great group of people our Karel Staple Chapter members are.

Our members are so caring and generous. You give your time helping fellow members on their projects; you support people in need collecting clothes and other donations; you support our country's service men and women collecting items for care packages; you continue to support automotive education by providing scholarships, donated cars and materials; you support our own members when tragedy or illness strikes. We are so much more than just a car club and I am proud to be with you.

One of my goals when you trusted me to take the helm was to promote the SDC and our chapter by getting our cars out to non-Studebaker events. We have become active participants at the John M. Studebaker Wheelbarrow Races; we have displayed our cars at the State Fair and most recently our cars were featured at the International Auto Show at Cal Expo. What these events have in common is they are not typical cars shows and our club, cars, and members have been visible to whole groups of people that would not normally see them. The results have been great publicity on television and print, new members and even discovery of some dormant Studebakers. Thank you for all the support you have given to these efforts. I hope these activities will continue and have told Steve I will be happy to work as a special events coordinator.

And one of the best things is while doing all these things, we have been having fun! Thank you for your confidence in me and your support during my tenure. The holidays are now approaching and however you



may celebrate them we wish you well. Kate and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy 2016.

## Secretary Report November 2016

By Linda Barnard



24 members with 2 Studebakers attended the meeting at Al's restaurant in Locke CA. Locke was an early Chinese settlement and retains the heritage to this day. A lot of history in this small town. Thanks to Darrel and LaRee Brunelli for hosting this meeting A proposal was brought up and

discussed that new members who join the club from July through September pay \$10.00 for that year. New members who join in October pay the full dues and will include the following year. The proposal was voted on and passed.

Johna Pierce talked about the Christmas tree trimming at the California Car Museum on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Members are needed to help set up the tree and to help run the event. There is a pot-luck dinner, it is requested that all members bring a main dish of the size that you would bring to a meeting. Try to arrive between 12:00 to 1:00 P.M. If you would like to help, or have questions call Johna Pierce.

Jon Stalnaker made a motion for the 2016 meeting schedule be passed as presented. Voted on and passed. We received a thank you note from the Tumbleweed chapter for our participation in the last southwest zone meet.

The white elephant gift exchange for the December meeting and Christmas party was discussed. Linda will be collecting the gifts and distributing the playing cards. Bring a gift, get a card if you want to participate. No gifts over \$20.00, no medical equipment, no empty bottles. Gifts should be in good taste. So There!

Steve Rainville will be spear heading the Autoramma if someone would be willing to help him. Entry fee is \$60.00 this year.

We were saddened by the news of lifetime member Bill Hollman passing away. Jon Stalnaker is doing a remembrance and would like anyone with information or stories to send them to him.

We voted to send \$350.00 to the American River College Auto Tech Program...Johna Pierce will be contacting them and setting up a presentation at one of our meetings.

The new Chapter Officers were voted in.:

President-Steve Rainville Vice President: Johna Pierce

Sec/Membership Chair-Linda Barnard

Treasurer- Lou Van Ann

Re-appointed newsletter editor- Brian Challender



It is almost time for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Party and Potluck Dinner on Sunday, November 29, 2015 (Sunday after Thanksgiving). As in past years, we plan to start decorating about 2:00pm with the Potluck beginning around 4:00pm. This year, the Ka-

rel Staple Studebaker Drivers Club & the Gold Country Street Rods will be helping to coordinate the Tree Trim and Potluck.

As an active California Auto Museum Club Member, you are invited to attend this festive event. Each car club provides their own tree. Due to fire code regulations, if you buy a fresh cut tree, it must be sprayed with a fire retardant and displayed with a tag showing the treatment has been done. Electrical lights may not be used on the trees. At the registration table, there will be a map showing the location of each club/group's tree, when you arrive on Sunday. Each club is encouraged to participate in the fun by bringing one or more door prizes. Raffle tickets will be sold to cover the Museum's actual costs and hopefully, some extra money will be raised for a special need at the Museum.

For the potluck, we suggest your membership bring a main dish. For example, main dishes, (casseroles, spaghetti, KFC, etc.), .You are not expected to bring a potluck dish large enough to feed all the car clubs, just a potluck dish like you bring to a regular meeting. Please remember the Museum will provide desserts, beverages, utensils and other paper products. We will also have a cash bar available for beer and wine for those interested.

is always a nice kick-off to the Holiday season. Please feel free to contact me directly at <u>Lady-hawk64@comcast.net</u> or (916) 442-5984 if you have any questions. Warmest Holiday Wishes, Johna Pierce

Karel Staple Studebaker Drivers Chapter VP

# Al's Place Restaurant In Locke California

Better known as "Al the Wop's", Al's place was constructed in 1915 by Lee Bing and three partners who ran a Chinese restaurant here in

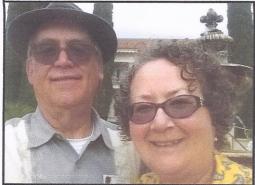


Locke. Then in 1934 Al Adami and an associate came up the river from Ryde to become the only non-Chinese business in town. Later Al purchased the building from Lee Bing and continued in the business until his death in 1961. Al had surprises in store for his patrons. Cutting off neckties (much too dressy for Al's), throwing money to the ceiling, and stirring the ladies' drinks with his fingers are just a few. Many stories linger on about his unusual antics.

Al's is famous for steak and pasta. This bar restaurant opens 7 days a week. Al's Place was the venue for our club's November meeting. Great little place with lots of room for our members. Set in the quaint little town of Locke. A great destination for a Studebaker day trip.

# Thirteen States in a Studebaker – Part 3 We Drove Through St Louie...Joplin Missouri...

Story By: Jon Stalnaker



The International meet is over and we find ourselves over 2000 miles from home with a car that has unknown electrical issues. The power door locks are not working and the car is draining the battery. I cannot lock the car and I have to disconnect the battery every night. But the car seems to be running fine and Mel has our back with his Avanti on a trailer. We wanted to return on Route 66 and while it is not the direct route home, it's really not that far out of the way. What the heck, with Mel and a Triple A card, we decided to go for it. I must admit that I was a little apprehensive so I put



on a strong face in order to not freak out Carlene. Besides, it was a bucket list item for me to drive through all the towns listed in the chorus of the "Get your Kicks on Route 66" song. It starts with St Louie

We had planned to take more time coming back but deep down inside, I just wanted to get home. Mel was totally flexible and kept telling us that he was good with anything we wanted to do. The only thing he told us he wanted to do was to check out antiques. We set out from St Louis thinking Oklahoma would be a first day destination goal. We stayed on Interstate 40 for a long while looking for signs for Rt 66 tourist attractions. We kept seeing signs for

"Fudge from Uranus" but I just couldn't get hooked by the advertising and we didn't exit for that one. I do wish I had taken pictures of the signs though. I was quite amused by it. The first thing we saw was an old gas station on the frontage road around Cuba Missouri. We took the next exit and doubled back looking for it. We found the old Route 66 road and stopped at a curio shop where the world's largest rocking chair was on display. Now you can buy Route 66 memorabilia almost anywhere but to me, it had to be purchased on the mother road or it just wasn't right. We looked around the store and bought some stuff. I found some dash magnets that had the Route 66 sign and each of the states on them. I bought the whole set but only placed them on the car after we had been in the designated state. We put Illinois and Missouri on the glove box and left the rest in the bag.



2016 CLUB DUES ARE
DUE NEXT MONTH!!!
PAYANYTIME 'TILL
FEBRUARY

### Thirteen States in a Studebaker continued

We got back into our cars and went back to try and find what we had seen from Hwy 40. We got to Cuba MO and found some neat buildings but we were now a distance from the highway and



really didn't want to spend too much time looking for what we had seen. We figured there would be plenty of places like that so we resumed our westward journey. It started to rain again and we got a little lost so we turned around and headed for the main highway again. We saw an antique store along the frontage road and decided to wait out the rain inside while Mel (and we) checked out the merchandise. I pointed out a cool caboose light to Mel and he brought it home. Make sure you look for it next time you visit Mel's Museum. After that, we got back on the Hwy and drove

through Joplin Missouri, the next town in the song. If you stay on Hwy 40 all the way to Oklahoma, you miss going through Kan-

sas and I wanted to get as many states as I could. The old Route 66 is a run down road that clips the south east corner of Kansas at Galena. And it was a run down road for sure. We had to drive over a questionable bridge to get into town but it

was well worth it.
They say Galena
Kansas is the
home of Gus Mater from the
"Cars" movie.
We got a picture
of Gus in Galena
murals in Cuba ar

ENERT PAIN →

of Gus in Galena to prove it. We saw big Route 66 murals in Cuba and here was another in Galena. As it turned out, Route 66 Murals were painted on



buildings all the way through. There wasn't much else to see there as the town looked deserted. We headed out of town for Oklahoma after taking more pictures.



We were doing just fine until we came to a roundabout in the roadway. The signage wasn't very clear as to which way to go so off we went in another wrong direction. I really didn't feel right about this but drove several miles before I decided we had better turn around.

Now Mel is pulling a trailer so looking for a safe turn around spot took even longer. We got back to the roundabout, chose the correct exit and made our way to Miami (Oklahoma that is). Now I could exaggerate our first day by saying we got lost and drove through Cuba and Miami to get to Oklahoma but I don't think anyone would believe that. It IS true though, well, kinda.

Miami (pronounced My-am-ah) Oklahoma is a really cool Route 66 town. They have a theater in town that was a popular stop in the heyday of the roadway. We spent the night there after our first day on Route 66 took us a mere 361 miles. We could have spent a whole day in this town. If I ever make it back there, I will. Deep down inside



I was still concerned about making it back and trying not to freak out about it. All in all, it was a fun day and there were no issues with the car. I put the Oklahoma magnet on the glovebox, disconnected the battery and we caught some shuteye.

I'll share day two next month. It was the shortest leg of the trip and we didn't even make it out of the state but it was a special leg of the trip for Carlene. You'll have to wait to find out why.

## Steve Rainville's 55/53 Coup

By Brian Challender

Hi all As some of you may know Steve Rainville and I have been doing a mechanical rebuild/upgrade on his 55 coupe.

After being rear-ended on interstate 5 returning from the multi club meet in Stockton in 2013, Steve had a lot of cosmetic work done, paint, new window glass in addition to the repairs that were do to the damage from the collision.

Steve had been accumulating a lot of parts to upgrade the car to make it more drivable.

In October 2014 we started by replacing all the brake lines and adding front disc brakes, replacing the original drum brakes. For safety reasons, we replaced the master cylinder with a dual chamber unit. Next we replaced the rear end with a Dana 44 TT and did the flanged axel up-grade. An anti-sway bar was added to the rear suspension to improve the satiability of the car on turns. I rebuilt the front suspension with all new pins and bushings in the control arms and king pins. The front is now held up with the moog coil springs used for the rear springs in Buicks. The steering was redone with a rebuilt steering box and new tie rod ends. The frame rails & underside were cleaned of 60 years of mud, grease,& yuk, and then painted. This did not go easily, with many setbacks making a seemingly straightforward job into a snaky progression. Steve and I called it "Doing The Studebaker Shuffle". It goes like this: you take two steps forward, one to the side and one step back.

The rusty floors in front had been repaired before by the previous owner but needed attention. I cut out the floors and welded in reproduction floor pans. Then disaster stuck! During the welding and grinding process the inside of the new glass was covered in pitting and would have to be replaced.

In late October and early November we were preparing the rebuilt 1963 289 full-flow engine. We did an internal engine and bearing inspection, cleaned the cooling passages in the engine block, and re-sealed the engine with new gaskets. This engine was going into the car to replace the tired 1955 engine. A rebuilt, Heavy duty 3 speed with overdrive with a floor shifter was mated to the engine with all new clutch components.

Late December was spent de-bugging the brakes and installing new heavy duty shocks. The shock mounts required modification in order to accommodate these shock absorbers. Continued next month.

#### **National SDC 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

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| <br>First year membership  |         |
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| w/periodicals class mail   | \$31.00 |
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| w/ first class mail        | \$60.00 |
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Please list Studebakers, including Year, make, body style on separate page.

If new member, source of referral:

#### **Karel Staple Chapter Application**

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

#### Membership dues are \$20 Annually

| Name:   |  |         | ×                    |  |  |  |
|---|--|---------|----------------------|--|--|--|
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| Email:  |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| Referred by:  |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| Birthday (Mo)   | Via a series and a | 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 S   |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| 3Year   | Model  | Во      | dy type              |  |  |  |
| Name Badge Name:  | Application  | n:      |                      |  |  |  |
| Chausai   | may be a n   | ckname) | )                    |  |  |  |
| Spouse.   |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| Name badges<br>Membership fo<br>Total er  | are \$8.00 ee:<br>nclosed:   | eacn    | \$<br>\$_20.00<br>\$ |  |  |  |
|   |  |         |                      |  |  |  |

#### Make check payable to:

#### **Karel Staple Chapter SDC**

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Linda Barnard

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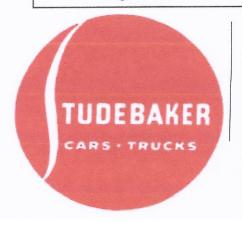
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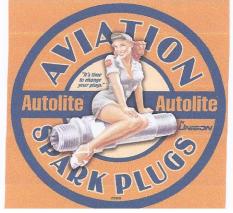
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2016 Karel Staple Calendar

Jan 24th- California Auto Museum- Host Jon Stalnaker Sr

Month of January - Studebakers in the Car Club Cavalcade at CAM

Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – Sam's Hof Brau – Host George Newhouse

March 20<sup>th</sup> – Host – Leon & Ronnie Cohen home -Roseville

April 16 – CCC Spring Fest Car Show

April 30<sup>th</sup> – All Clubs meeting at Grupe Park, Stockton – Host – Lou Van Anne May 1<sup>st</sup> - Fair Oaks Car show

May 6-7 – Gold Rush Car Show, Oroville

May 19<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup> - PSW Zone Meet - Atlantis Casino, Reno NV

June 19 - John M Studebaker Wheelbarrow Races, Placerville – Host Pat Dilling

June 25 - Burgiemen Car show, West Sacramento- Host Dean Sumpter

June 26<sup>th</sup> -Mel France home and museum -Yuba City

July 17th - Denny's in Newcastle - Host Betty & John Martin

Aug 21<sup>st</sup> – Host - Frank & Johanna Smith's home – Napa

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> – Drive your Studebaker Day - Angels Camp – Hosts- LaRee & Darrell Brunelli

Sept 24<sup>th</sup> - Ironestone Concourse, Murphy's

Oct 15 - CCC Oktoberfest Car Show and Toy Run

Oct 16<sup>th</sup> - Auction-Host Rick & Johna's Home, Sacramento

Oct 21-23 - International Auto show, Cal Expo - Host Pat Dilling

Nov 12th - Back 40 BBQ in Roseville - Host Johna Pierce

Dec 4th - Justin's Kitchen Yuba City (Christmas Party) - Host Mel France

#### **Directions to This Month's Meeting**

Ed & Laurie Sumner are hosting our annual Christmas Party & White Elephant gift exchange.

They will be serving up Turkey, Ham, and Lasagna.

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

Members with the last name starting with N thru Z— Bring a Dessert

Members with the last name starting with A thru G— Bring a Salad

Members with the last name starting with H thru M— Bring a Side Dish

Head east on 50 from Sacramento for about 35 miles

Exit on Ponderosa (exit 37)

Turn left at top of exit ramp and move to right lane.

Immediately after crossing over 50 there are 2 stoplights in 50 ft. At the second turn right on North

Shingle Rd. (The first is an off ramp from 50)

Continue on for about 4 miles, at the junction with Green Valley Rd. (stop light) go straight, you will be on Green Valley. This does not require a turn.

In a short distance you will pass over a new bridge.

About 1/4 mile after the bridge take the second right - Sleepy Hollow Dr.

Warning: The first right has a large sign that says Sleepy Hollow- it's the name of the development not the street. The second right is Sleepy Hollow Dr. There is a Caboose on the corner.

From Sleepy Hollow take the first left (about 1/4 mile) onto Deerwood Dr.

About 1/2 mile farther turn left into our driveway 5115 Deerwood. Cannot see the house from the street but mailbox is marked. The mailbox is on a dragon post.

The driveway looks narrow but opens to a circular drive near the house.

#### Karel Staple Chapter Officers

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Regional Manager, California-Frank Wenzel 551 E. Industrial Place Palm Springs CA 92264 carbuffs@yahoo.com

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.

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