

May 2020

Volume 20, Issue 5

# ***Hawk Talks***

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



## **CRUISE TIME IN DIXON**

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## President's Message

By Johna Pierce/President

I hope all of our members & their families are doing well & staying safe in these trying times.

If you haven't already heard, we have cancelled our next meeting for May at Mel France's home.

As the COVID-19 crisis evolves, the Karel Staple Chapter of the SDC will continue to follow all state, county and federal government guidance and directives.

Our priority is to protect the health and safety of all our members, during this crisis.

I hope to see you all in June!

**Johna**

*As it should be... Thanks Johna—Editor*



## Have You Done Anything Fun During This Lockdown?

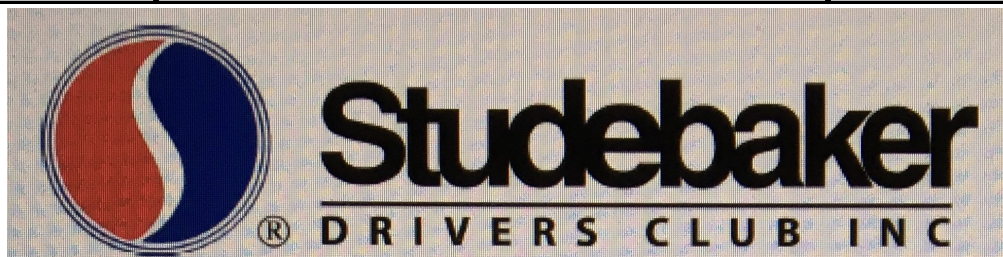
By: Jon Stalnaker

I had an opportunity to lead a Cool Car Cruise around the City of Dixon during our Shelter in Place period. It was a posted suggestion by a friend's son and I called him to volunteer my help. We were hoping to get 15 to 20 cars but it exploded into 50. Didn't ask permission from the City or the Police to do it because we thought it would be a small thing that we could do and still maintain appropriate social distancing. I joked that it's always easier to get forgiveness than permission anyway.

The following business day, I got a call from our City Manager. While he recognized the tremendous outpouring of support expressed by Dixon citizens, he asked me nicely not to do it again until the lockdown could be rescinded. We got our forgiveness but not permission to do it again for a while.







**May 3, 2020**

## **Notice of Cancellation of the 56th International Meet of The Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc.**

SDC and the Chapters of the Southeast Zone have been following the spread of the Covid-19 virus and its implications worldwide since the break-out, and the effect the virus is having on planning for the scheduled 56th International Meet of the club. We could never have suggested this would be happening in our world at the turn of year 2020, and have since come to the hard conclusion that SDC and the 56th International Meet Committee can no longer move forward with planning for the meet.

In light of the Covid-19 virus outbreak, large manufacturers in Chattanooga such as Volkswagen have furloughed all their manufacturing staff in the wake of the virus. Thinking logically about the situation, experts are saying that, once the quarantine is lifted, the virus could return, and we don't want a single member of SDC put at risk.

CDC guidelines state that "The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed. COVID-19 spreads from person to person, and can be spread by those who are infected but aren't displaying symptoms. Adults and those with underlying chronic medical conditions should take extra precautions. The CDC also recommends use of non-medical, cloth-based face coverings in public settings. In addition, the CDC recommends no one participate in gatherings of 10 or more people.

Further considerations are that, currently, Canadians are not allowed into the U.S. and this ruling will not even be reviewed until the end of May. Further, the U.S. is not allowing anyone from the UK and most of Europe to enter either.

It goes without saying that our membership is aging and many, with chronic conditions, are more susceptible to disease, and the safety of SDC's membership and compliance with state and federal public-health restrictions and guidelines are foremost on our minds. The safety of our members is paramount. We have NO intention of putting our membership at risk.

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of SDC on May 3, the decision was made to discontinue planning for and conducting the 56th International Meet. This move is supported by the Executive Committee and the members of the Southeast Chapter of SDC who have been planning for the meet. This decision was not made lightly, but with considerable input from the Chattanooga Meet Planning Committee, the SDC International Meet Committee and the SDC Executive Committee with the full support of the SDC Board of Directors.

For the above stated reasons, planning for the 56th International Meet of the Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc. has been suspended, and the 56th International Meet is hereby cancelled.

### ***Please follow the below-listed guidelines regarding the meet:***

1. If you are Pre-registered for the meet before 05/03/2020, SDC will be handling the cancellation of your registration and a refund, IN FULL of your Registration \$\$\$ will be handled by us. Registrations received after 05/03/2020 will be returned to the sender.
2. 2. As a Registrant for the meet, you should a. Cancel your hotel/motel room reservation b. Cancel any flight reservation you may have made c. Cancel your rental car reservation
3. 3. As a Vendor for the meet, you should: a. Cancel your hotel/motel room reservation b. Cancel your flight reservation if you have made one c. Cancel any rental car reservation d. SDC's Vendor Coordinator, Milt Yoder will be in contact with you to handle cancellation of your vendor space reservation e. Your registration fees will be refunded by check, issued by Allan Dias, Meet Treasurer, and sent to your registration address.
4. 4. As a SPONSOR for the meet: a. Meet Chairman Wayne Lee, Meet Treasurer Allan Dias, or a member of the 56th International Meet committee will be in contact with you concerning your sponsorship dollars
5. 5. As a TROPHY SPONSOR for the meet: a. You will receive reimbursement for Trophy Sponsorships unused,

## Lefty's Coffee Cup

By: Anthony Trujillo

As I sit here having my morning coffee I'm reminded of the man who first taught me how to do body work. But this isn't about him, it's about his coffee cup, but first a little back story. At the time I was 19, living in Oakland and had a 46 Dodge and a 63 Rambler which was my daily driver. Lefty was a guy in the neighborhood who had quite the adventurous past in So-cal working on cars, racing cars, had a Corvette shop, and did many things and had many talents, but some bad deals lead to losing his arm to a shot gun blast. I knew the guy because he was always down the street doing all sorts of work for a family I knew around the corner. For a guy with one arm...this guy had talent! Still did engine replacements, tranny work, handyman work, and would somehow manage to climb a ladder with a window and install it...yes he took many risks but was always determined. We had talked about my 46 Dodge and doing the body work and he wanted to teach me, one day he asked me if I was off work the next day and I said yes, called my job at Safeway and quit so I could learn, plus I hated the job anyhow. But again....this is about coffee.



When he showed up he asked me to put a pot of coffee on. The coffee cup he used was ours, and for the time that he was there, he would only use the same coffee cup. He had special instructions for this coffee cup, the one rule, you don't wash it. Lefty liked his coffee cup "seasoned" as he called it. He would drink his coffee, black, throughout the day with refills and when he was done, you could rinse it and that was it. When you were making a fresh pot, he wanted what he called the "nitro" cup which was the first cup of coffee you could pour before the coffee pot filled up. This he said contained the most caffeine. For weeks this was how it was. Early mornings, to late evening, spraying and sanding and more sanding, coffee cup after coffee cup, with no care as to what particles were flying around and landing in his coffee. Those were some good nostalgic times for me, out there in the driveway learning to do body work before working in an actual shop, and there's something about Lefty and his seasoned coffee cup that makes it even more so. He was sort of the thing of legends, and he lived a sort of life that matched that. Every now and then I still think of it. I once tried thinking of lyrics to make a song about it, except I'm no song writer. At the time I paid him in beer. we would go to the liquor store after working, he would grab the beer and I would pay, and for some reason the store didn't care that I still looked 14. Later on he quit drinking, and credited my influence for that, so I heard.

Anyways, you guys enjoy your morning, enjoy your coffee, and make sure you wash the dang cup.....

Permission is granted to other SDC publications to use material originating in this newsletter. We ask only that proper credit be given to the *Hawk Talks* and to the respective contributor or author.

**The Grand Canyon State Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club is pleased to announce the 2020 Pacific Southwest Zone Meet to be held on October 9, 10, and 11, 2020 in Phoenix, Arizona. (Maybe)**

As an incentive to get you to register before September 1, 2020, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$100.00 prize. For registration forms, please check out our website at [www.hawktalks.com](http://www.hawktalks.com).

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in October, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Vahe, Meet Chairman at (480) 694-3899 or [58pkhawk@cableone.net](mailto:58pkhawk@cableone.net). **We haven't cancelled yet but still could.**

## Another Studebaker Story

By: Betty Knopf

Recently my former school secretary sent me an email from Palm Springs. She and her husband enjoy yearly trips to this beautiful area. Knowing that Perry and I have Studebakers, she included in her email pictures of a beautiful Avanti she saw in her condo area. The Avanti she found looked to be an original Avanti in an original color. I was reminded that Avanti cars actually have a connection with Palm Springs and now a possible new connection.



I responded to this email with some information to further "the Studebaker legacy" such as Palm Springs was the birthplace of the Avanti design. An independent consultant named Raymond Lowey who is known for designing such things as the Coke bottle, Shell oil clamshell logo, the Postal Service logo, and the paint scheme of Air Force One, to name but a few. Lowey put together a team of three designers and put them up in a home in Palm Springs and it was there that the advanced design of this Studebaker flagship was created.



There is also a separate Avanti Club of America that often comes to Studebaker meetings and events. Avantis were introduced and advertised on the television program "Mister Ed." Later on, Avantis developed a "problematic" history when they were built by other independent companies that included some financial and criminal problems through the 2000s. I also reminded my former secretary that No, we don't have an Avanti. Perry is working hard to completely restore a '50 business coupe. We are past the stage of acquiring.....maybe!

In the last few weeks an artist called Shag announced he is making a new print that includes a cartoon characterized Avanti. He has a gallery in Palm Springs and L A that sells his tiki-themed art with a 50s and 60s influence. Shag's works are very mid-century, use bold colors, and are filled with humor. One print with the Avanti is titled "Welcome to Palm Springs". It features a happy couple in sunglasses driving a red Studebaker Avanti convertible. Shag has actually used Avantis in other art pieces too. To compliment his art pieces, there are also beautiful handbags, pillows and stationery with this theme. If you have a slow day while you are "sheltering at home" you can find his gallery and collections online. <http://www.joshagle.com/welcome-to-palm-springs/>

For legal reasons a copy of the artwork cannot be published. Here is a photo of his storefront in Palm Springs.

**Smiles-Betty Knopf**



## MAY 2020 ADVERTISEMENTS

### CARS, PARTS, SERVICES

#### Cars For Sale

These are all pickup trucks. All run and are currently licensed and driven.

*Still locked up but call me if you want any of this stuff...*

1949 - \$15,000, 1949 with 4 speed - \$22,500, 1951 - \$27,500, 1952 - \$19,900, 1953 - \$19,900, 1954 - \$19,900,

1955 flatbed - \$19,900, 1956 long bed - \$17,900, 1957 long bed - \$28,000, 1957 - \$18,000, and 1958 - \$19,900.

Contact Larry Jones 530-933-3941 or email lwj1@yahoo.com

1960 Lark VIII - \$17,500. Contact Larry Jones 530-933-3941 or email lwj1@yahoo.com

1954 Studebaker Commander 2-door coupe. Excellent original upholstery and nice straight body. Paint is in great condition and may be original. V8 232 cu. in., automatic transmission, power steering. Aftermarket air conditioner added for comfort but can be easily removed for original configuration. From the estate of long time classic car enthusiast. Car is available for inspection and test drive. Family is motivated to sell. Photos available. \$20,000. Contact dduncanoc@gmail.com



#### Parts for Sale

Pre-1962 259 V8 engine \$150 Contact Joe Burch 916-645-9491

Parting out 1949 Champion 4 door Contact David Falls 916-410-7435

NOS (New Old Stock) Hood Prop for 59-61 Lark or 60-64 Champ Pickup - \$10 Contact Dean Sumpter 916-753-6003 or carvin9755@gmail.com

#### Parts Wanted

Need clock and radio for 1954 Commander Coupe Contact Jim Goodland 707-718-6787

Still need Toilet paper

### ***Paid Advertising***

*Rates are \$20/year for members  
\$25/year for non-members*



### **Memory Quilts by Rodney**

greinerrodney@gmail.com

(916) 761-1856

#### **Studebaker R & R**

Specializing in C Cab Pickups

www.studebakervendors.com/studebaker-r-r

**Larry & Patricia Jones**

lwj1@yahoo.com

1592 Eric Court  
Yuba City, CA 95993

530-933-3941

## Karel Staple Chapter CALENDAR 2020

**Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, I have deleted the meetings that I know are cancelled. The ones still listed could also get cancelled, so be prepared for that to happen. Keeping your health and that of your loved ones is far more important right now. Please follow all suggested guidelines as we move through this situation as a planet united against this virus.**

Sunday June 14th Elks Lodge in Carmichael—Steve Rainville Host

Sunday July 19th Cenario's Pizza in Dixon—Jim Goodland/Marianne MacDonald hosts

More to come    stay tuned

## What's Else is Happening?? - **Maybe**

By Pat Dilling

**Great shows and events to show off your Studebaker! Do the miles and get the smiles! But only when it's safe to do so.....**

**Only left two events on here that I don't KNOW are cancelled but they very well may be. Please call before going to anything Until we know that we are in the clear...**

**May 16** – Townsman Car Show, Loomis Train Depot, Horseshoe Bar and Taylor Rd, Loomis 916-316-9001

**June 6** – Downtown Lincoln Car Show, Rods & Relics, 916-408-1950

To find weekly Cars & Coffee and Cruise Nights check here: <https://norcalcarculture.com/>

## Directions to This Month's Meeting



## HUNKER DOWN

**WITH THE ONES YOU LOVE AND  
STAY HOME WHERE YOU ARE SAFE!**

**FEEL FREE TO TAKE YOUR  
STUDEBAKER TO THE GROCERY  
STORE IF YOU LIKE.**







## Tech Tips

by: Studebaker Mike

*Thank you Malcolm for this month's tech tip...*



## Tech Tip on Vapor Lock

By: Malcolm Stinson

There is always talk as to how to fix vapor lock. Well let's take a look at how & why it happens and how to overcome the problem forever. I have done this on several cars over the last several years. Let's look first as to why it does vapor lock. The old gas that was available back when your old car was new had a much higher boiling point. The stuff we are using today will boil at 130°. Now look at where the fuel pump is on so many of the cars, right, sandwiched between a hot radiator and a hot engine. With an engine running around 180°. It doesn't stand a chance on not vapor locking.

Now here is how to fix this problem. First, install an electric fuel pump. Electric fuel pumps are pushers, so mount the electric fuel pump as close to the gas tank as you can. Remove your old fuel pump and at any parts store you can purchase a fuel cover to block the hole. Next, purchase an in line fuel filter, one that has a 1/4" outlet on the side. Mount this filter in line as close to the carburetor as you can. Rerun the gas line on to the fire wall. Bring it up and bend it (there are tubing benders) so that it enters the inlet side of the fuel filter, and connect the outlet side to the carburetor. Now here is how you will no longer have vapor lock. From the 1/4" outlet connection of the fuel filter, run a 1/4" copper line, (you can use rubber hose at the connections) all the way back to the filler tube of the gas tank. Anywhere you can, drill a hole and tap it 1/8" NPT. Install a fitting in this hole that will let you use a 1/4" rubber hose to connect the 1/4" copper tubing to this fitting.

Now, here is how it works, the stuff we buy today as gasoline is pumped to the carburetor, any excess fuel is sent back to the gas tank, therefore not staying in the hot area long enough to even get hot, let alone boil causing vapor lock.

If I can help anyone with this, please e-mail me at

[swstudebaker@live.com](mailto:swstudebaker@live.com)



**Works so much better than this**

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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.  
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For a look at the pictures in color

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