



Art by John Boneatutter

Arriving at South Bend on the Sunday afternoon before the meet, I drove into the Holiday Inn parking lot and was greeted by the sight of at least half a dozen Studebakers already there. Two 1964 Daytona convertibles! This was going to be some meet! It hadn't even started and here were two rare Studes already in attendance. The main part of the meet didn't really start until Tuesday, since Monday was devoted entirely to the annual Board of Directors meeting.

The Board started at 9 A.M. and worked all day with only a break for lunch. A club of this size has quite a lot of business to discuss and only one meeting a year to discuss it. Minutes were taken by a court reporter, and will be printed in TURNING WHEELS when they are ready.



For the parts vendors, Tuesday began very very early. The Swap Meet lasted three days and was busy every time I went through it. The host Michiana Chapter arranged to have it inside an open six story high parking garage, IN THE SHADE. This turned out to be greatly appreciated by all when the temperature began climbing to record highs during the meet week. A total of 91 vendors registered for 138 spaces, taking up the third, fourth, and fifth levels, and a few up on the sixth - in the sun. Goodies for sale began with caps from California commemorating the Meet, to a complete 1952 chrome grille (beautiful), to a new 20th anniversary model 1983 Avanti. I think the sticker price on it was \$35,000, but that was before sales tax. I bought the \$2.50 cap....



On Tuesday morning the City of South Bend held the dedication of the Museum housing the Studebaker Historical Vehicle Collection, at least temporarily (and hopefully permanently), in the former Freeman-Spicer Building. It began with a parade of the dignitaries in Studebakers to the site of the ceremony, a stage in the





street in front of the Museum. S.D.C. President George Krem was one of the dignitaries invited to speak. He donated a bound volume of TURNING WHEELS from S.D.C. to the Museum. Representatives of McGraw-Edison donated articles of Studebaker memorabilia to the City for display in the Museum, including some in solid gold. After the speeches we each received a piece of the ribbon from the ribbon cutting ceremony officially opening the Museum. A reception followed inside,



Five Dedication Photos by Stu Chapman



giving us our first look at the Studebaker Historical Vehicle Collection. Local TV and newspaper coverage was widespread. Stu Chapman took this photo showing Carroll Studebaker being interviewed by Channel 16.

Later that afternoon the chapter newsletter editors tore themselves away from the swap meet to attend the Editors Meeting. Rich Holcomb, the new Chairman of the Chapter Publications Committee, presided over the



well attended meeting. Beside the business at hand, many old friendships were renewed, and new acquaintances made.

Tuesday evening the General Membership Meeting filled the Holiday Inn meeting room with about three hundred S.D.C.ers. The complete minutes of the meeting are included on another page so we won't cover it further here. Immediately following was the national auction. You had to be there to believe it, but take my word for it, this is one party you won't want to miss at Florida '84.



Credit for all the fun goes to Don Noska and his sidekick Ed Reynolds. If Don isn't an auctioneer for a living, he is missing his true calling. Thanks, too, to all the S.D.C.ers who donated the goodies that were auctioned off.

Wednesday was the second day of the Swap Meet, and was Tour Day featuring lunch at Tippecanoe Place and a tour of historic South Bend. This reporter missed the tour, but 265 S.D.C.ers took it. We heard such good reports about Tippecanoe Place that we went there for supper that same evening.

Wednesday afternoon marked the very first time an Autocross has been held at a National Meet, and it was such a success that I predict it won't be the last time. A complete report with the results is printed on another page.

Back at the Holiday Inn, the Chapter Presidents got together for about an hour and a half to exchange ideas. The meeting was only scheduled for an hour but things were going well so it just continued.



Wednesday evening was theater night. A total of 488 S.D.C.ers attended a theatrical presentation at Century Center. Later that evening the TURNING WHEELS Editors got

together and discussed projects for the coming year. You will see part of the results next month in a special issue to mark the twentieth anniversary of the closing of the factories in South Bend. The Editors also judged the informal photo contest. The winning pictures by Daryl Ostheller and Telfer J. Wegg will be printed on the covers sometime in the future.

Thursday was the big day of the Concours. It started with a breakfast for the judges, a small reward for a long hot day of work. The City of South Bend closed several streets and roped off a portion of the downtown to make a large area of parking lots and grass available for the Concours. Both the Club and the climate set records. According to newspaper reports, the temperature hit a record 102°, and 1065 Studebakers were counted in the concours



Studebaker turnout sets record

Despite the 100-degree heat, the huge Studebaker homecoming in downtown South Bend set a record — the 1,065 Studebaker cars, trucks and wagons comprised the largest show of Studebaker vehicles in history.

The sprawling *Concours d'Elegance* on Thursday included 19th Century wagons, along with cars from the early 1900s to the last 1966 Canadian-made Larks, all preserved in like-new condition.

The 19th International Meet of the Studebaker Drivers Club concludes with a parade at 9 a.m. Saturday along Lafayette Blvd. from Jefferson to Sample.

At least 200 old Studebakers are expected for the parade.

area. 430 vehicles were registered for the judging, and 331 were actually judged. To be judged the owner had to be near his car to start the engine when the judges arrived, and several became so interested in walking around to see the other vehicles that they did not get back to their own car in time to have it judged. The heat also took its toll,



several went into the nearby buildings for a cool drink. We photographed as many Studebakers on the field as possible (some had started to leave before we finished), and have pictured them all in this issue. The ones that were judged have their point total (out of a theoretical 200 points), and the ones displayed but not judged have a * instead of points. It's hard to realize how perfect a car has to be to get 195 points until you look at a nice car that only received 140. This must have been the largest number of Studebakers parked in one area since the factory closed twenty years ago.





Thursday evening was Fun Night at the Century Center. It started with a free look at Discovery Hall, then downstairs where live music was provided for dancing. During the breaks in the music many door prizes were given away. The dance area overlooked the river, with a pretty walkway out to an island for a view of the falls. The highlight of the evening was a series of about a dozen cakes each beautifully decorated with a different Studebaker in full color. I have never seen so many pictures taken of cakes! We will show you a couple here, but you really needed to see them in full color to appreciate the artistry that had gone into them. Six hundred eighty four of us attended, and we managed to eat the entire twelve cakes. (It was easy, they were good!) The fun was still going on when we left about



11:30. It had been a long day.

A very special event occurred Friday morning, not officially a part of the meet, a marriage. S.D.C.er Winston Grafton and his bride were married in the Studebaker Museum by South Bend Mayor Roger O. Parent. Mayor Parent then presented the newlyweds the key to the City.



On Friday morning it was finally over for the swap meet vendors, many of whom had been open for most of three days. Today was the literature vendors' turn to work - at the Literature Swap. From a small beginning not very many years ago, this event has grown to 45 vendors. Some of them wheeled in several tons of shop manuals and parts books, while others sold all sorts of Studebaker memorabilia and special items. Several authors were selling their own books, a great chance to have your copy personally autographed. The room was filled most of the day, almost all the S.D.C.ers in town must have stopped by. The Model Studebaker show was set up in an adjoining room.



In the afternoon the crowd thinned out as the Technical Seminar got under way in the next room. A standing room only audience listened as former Studebaker employees Bob Andrews, Bob Bourke, Hugh Bush, E. T. Reynolds, and Otis Romine talked about their experiences with Studebaker. We made a tape recording but not everything is audible. Does anyone else have a better copy?

Friday night was the last big function, the Awards Banquet. 960 tickets were sold in addition to six invited guests. Guest of Honor was Mrs. Harold E. Churchill. On display was Mr. Churchill's personal Wagonaire. Mrs. Churchill donated it to the Museum, and the Michiana Chapter members had restored it to like new condition.

Many awards were given out at the banquet, including trophies to the winners of the Concours as listed with the pictures in the first section of this magazine.



President George Krem presented a special award to Fred K. Fox for the "Literature In Review" column which Fred has contributed every month since the first one in October 1977. The Publication Committee gave out the annual chapter newsletter awards, and the winners of the Minnie Barnes and Harold E. Churchill Awards were announced. The Minnie Barnes Award for humanitarian and community service was won by the Keystone Region Chapter. An unanticipated highlight occurred



when Churchill Award Committee members E. T. Reynolds and Fred K. Fox asked Mrs. Churchill to present the award to the 1983 winner Henry DeSair.

Saturday morning we checked out of our motels and then had a day of loosely scheduled activities starting with a parade of Studebakers through downtown South Bend to Avanti Motors. Tours were given at Avanti and at Allied Stamping, both industries in



former Studebaker factory buildings. In between was Newman & Altman's building, where many of us spent most of the morning. When we finally tired of all the parts, or, more likely, ran out of money and trunk space to take them home, we drove out Route 2 to the former Studebaker Proving Ground, now the Bendix Proving Grounds. Bendix kindly opened the grounds to us, and let us drive around the test track. What a great way to end a great meet!



We certainly thank Allied, Avanti, and Bendix for welcoming us to their facilities, and Mayor Roger O. Parent and the City of South Bend for their hospitality during the entire meet week. Most of all, we thank Cindy Brown and the Michiana Chapter for showing us all such a great time. 816 families registered for the meet, and we have no idea how many more came on Thursday just to view the Concours. This meet set many records and will be a hard act to follow! See you all at Florida '84!

**1983 SDC
PUBLICATION
CONTEST
WINNERS**

Chapter Publications Committee
STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB, INC.

MONTHLY PUBLICATION



TIM RUNDQUIST, Editor

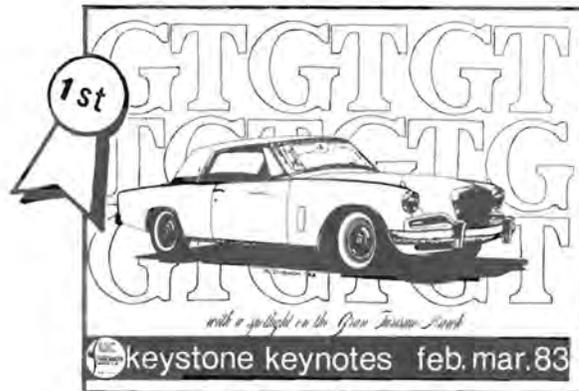


RICH & PHYLLIS HOLCOMB, Editors

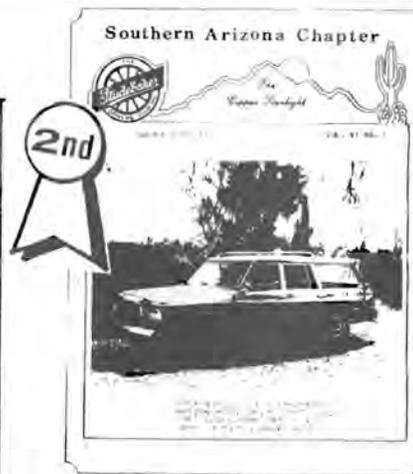


DENNIS & CHAROLETTE RICHARDSON, Editors

**BI-MONTHLY
PUBLICATION**



MIKE MARGERUM, Editor



BRUCE PRAHAR, Editor



SHIRLEY VAN DELL, Editor



MIKE & GAIL LESLIE, Editor

**GOLDEN
HAWK
AWARD**



GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
MINUTES 1983

President George Krem called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. President Krem made the following announcements:

- Wedding of Winston Grafton
- Australian telegram
- The passing of C.P. Smith,
- M. Studebaker, and
- G. Saros's mother

Mr. Nimtze, President of SMI, was introduced to award proclamation for SDC week to George Krem.

The following topics were discussed with the general membership:

- Roster printing for next spring
- Pricing the outdated roster at \$2
- Approved budget for articles to TW

The following appointments were announced:

- Editor-Larry Swanson
- Feature Editor-Fred Fox
- Ad Editor-Max Corkins
- Membership Secretary-Shelly Harrison
- TW Printer-Good Printers

Discussion followed concerning a minimum dues increase of \$1 to pay for Fred Fox's salary request of \$9000 per year.

The 1983-84 National Officers were introduced.

- Vice President-Skip Lackie
- Treasurer-Colin Fort
- Secretary-Cindy Brown
- President-George Krem

The following reports were given:

- Treasurer-Colin Fort
- Annual report will appear in Sept. '83 issue of TW
- Approximate income-\$121,000
- Approximate expenses-\$110,000
- Increased club insurance to \$1,000,000
- Vice-President-Skip Lackie
- Correspondence received
- Breakdown of advertising budget expenses
- Explanation of deadline for elections



Editor-Larry Swanson
Introduced contributing editors
Announced the approved budget for professional articles

No committee chairmen were present to give reports.

All past Presidents were introduced.

President Krem thanked: Gust Saros for his fine contributions to SDC; Linda McKeown as past Secretary and for the policy manual work; and Max Corkins for his influence in persuading the City fathers to progress with the Museum.

The minutes of the 1982 General Business Meeting were approved as printed in the May '83 issue of TW.

Discussion concerning the Studebaker Museum followed. It was noted that the City has gone on record testifying to the permanency of the display, but not the location. Ken Holste was then introduced as the chairman of a fund drive, yet to be named, to be used as an encouraging gesture for the City to purchase a building for a permanent display of Studebakers.

The floor was then opened to a general question and answer session.

The Board of Directors was introduced.

A short presentation was given for the '84 National Meet to be held in the Orlando area. The Ozark Trails Chapter presented and received the bid for the '85 National to be located in Springfield, Missouri. Chapters from the Vancouver, B.C., Canada and Indianapolis areas announced their intentions to bid for the 1986 National Meet.

The meeting was adjourned.



Part of the Ozark Trails Chapter's 1985 Meet Presentation.



The Auction followed the General Business Meeting. Auctioneer Don Noska entertained everyone while raising money for SDC.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. McKeown-Sinclair
Linda S. McKeown-Sinclair
Secretary