



# The Copper Starlight

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the Studebaker Driver's Club

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

VOLUME 46, ISSUE VI

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## 2019–2020 Officers:

- President - Randy Goble
- VP/Tourmaster - John L. Lewis
- Treasurer - Chuck Stanford
- Acting Secretary - Donna Goble
- Past President - Maggie Wheeler
- Membership & Circulation - Chuck & Louise Stanford
- Historian - Fred Gooch
- Newsletter Editor - Ann Pearson
- Appointed Webmaster - Marj Scoros

## International Drive Your Studebaker Day and Membership Appreciation Day by Ann Pearson

On Saturday, September 14, 2019, we had a splendid ride down to Amado, Arizona to visit the Longhorn Grill and Saloon. John L. Lewis outdid himself with his planning this time. Recently, the Longhorn Grill and Saloon had re-opened after extensive remodeling. It was beautifully designed in a "miner's shack" motif. The restaurant has a steer skull façade and has been an attraction in Amado for many years. The Grill and Saloon is now owned by Greg and Amy Hansen. Greg is a U of A graduate. It has served as a backdrop in several films, including the 1995 Drew Barrymore movie "Boys on the Side" and the Martin Scorsese classic "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore" (1974). In the past, the restaurant has served as a western wear store, several restaurants and an event center. In addition to the ambience, the food was also very good. My burger and sweet potato fries were delicious. Most of all, it was fun to see good friends that we have not seen for awhile.



Gail and Steve Ault



Lou Fencil

The history was obtained from the article: **Longhorn Grill in Amado, south of Tucson, will soon see new life** by Gerald M. Gay Arizona Daily Star April 4, 2019.



A Happy Group!



Look who's in charge of the money!  
Chuck and Louise Stanford

(Continued on Page five)

**Birthday**

**Wishes**

**November**

- 2 Tim Stevens
- 3 Ken Keller II
- 6 Tom Ollar
- 22 Charles Kenney
- 25 Paulus Musters
- 29 Lowell Jensen

**December**

- 1 Gail Williams
- 2 Char Johnson
- 3 Bill Eastburn
- 4 Rosalie Torske
- 5 John L. Lewis
- 6 Janice Noble
- 6 Eric Witherspoon
- 8 Jeff Jones
- 13 Steve & Gail Ault
- 22 Joyce Mooney
- 25 Keith Muske
- 26 Darel Magee
- 28 Russ Ware
- 29 Pam Kenney

**Anniversary**

**Wishes**

**November**

- 15 Colin & Suzanne Fort

**December**

- 5 Don & Bonnie McGraw
- 12 Marj Scooros & Bart Weaver
- 13 Lance & Barbara Angerhofer
- 27 Craig & Jennifer Harm
- 27 Joe & Kathy McKee



**MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:**

These last few weeks in October have been enjoyable. The weather has cooled and marked an end to a summer which seemed to last forever. The holiday season has arrived with Halloween just here and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years to come. This is a time when our club members get together the most.

One of the greatest pleasures I have had as a member of our club aside from eating out is the knowledge shared between our members about what projects we are working on. Asking questions about changes to our cars from one year to the next. The custom touches we do to our vehicles, which one works well and which ones not so much. If you don't work on your own vehicle, asking for referrals on who does good work. Chances are if you're having a problem with something on your Studebaker, all you have to do is ask around at a get-together, and most likely the person next to you has had the same problem at some time.

In closing out my last President's letter for the year, I leave everyone with this thought, get out and enjoy everything life has to offer. Being in a Studebaker makes it even better.

Thanks,  
*Randy*



Randy Goble

**INTERESTING WEBSITES AND VIDEOS**

- SAC website: <http://soazsdc.org/>
- The Grand Canyon Chapter of the SDC: [www.grandcanyonsdc.com](http://www.grandcanyonsdc.com)
- Chapter email: [so.arizona.sdc@aol.com](mailto:so.arizona.sdc@aol.com)
- The Studebaker Museum [www.studebakermuseum.org/](http://www.studebakermuseum.org/)
- Classic Enterprises <https://tinyurl.com/y6jactlo>
- '53 Studebaker <https://tinyurl.com/y5bqyu3d>
- Clean your Engine <https://tinyurl.com/yxzwfzvy>
- Antique Automotive Club of America <https://tinyurl.com/y5ponoe6>
- GEAR HEAD TUESDAY – 1964: THE HAWK'S LAST FLIGHT <https://tinyurl.com/y6czbn8b>
- GEAR HEAD TUESDAY — George Krem's 64 Studebaker "Plain Brown Wrapper" <https://tinyurl.com/yxhllqem>
- Studebaker Today: <https://youtu.be/Vci57Zi2XsQ>
- The Wheels that Bond <https://tinyurl.com/y4kudd9w>
- Ninth Annual All Originals Car Show <https://tinyurl.com/y38sq3vm>
- 9th Annual All American Originals Car Show (2019) <https://tinyurl.com/y38sq3vm>

**From the Editor:**

Dear Members:

Happy Fall to all of you! Our Club has been having so much fun. I am so happy that I was able to go to lunch at the Longhorn Grill and Saloon for Drive your Studebaker Day and to Kappy's for lunch.

I had a most interesting two hour interview with William Frick, son of Bill Frick of Bill Frick Motors. I met William at the Canoa Ranch Car Show in February, 2019. The interview and history of Bill Frick Studillacs can be found on pages six and seven.

Thanks to June Kaiser and Donna Goble for proofreading. Thanks to Gail and Steve Ault, Robert Miles, Ann Pearson, and Gloria Schmetzer for writing articles and Jerry Kaiser for several contributions, one an old car receipt and for an interesting website. Photographs were provided by Steve and Gail Ault, William Frick, Ann Pearson, and Gloria Schmetzer.

*Ann Pearson, SAC/SDC Newsletter Editor*

\*\*A reminder, the deadline for publishing newsletter contributions is the 20th of the month.



Ann Pearson

**THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

- Bob Miles**
- Keith Muske**
- Bruce Sandburg**

## UPCOMING EVENTS/SOUTHERN AZ CHAPTER OTHER AUTO RELATED EVENTS

**Mondays, November 18 and December 16, 2019**

**Board Meetings:** 11:30 a.m., Hungry Fox Restaurant, 4637 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ. 520-326-2835.

**Saturday, November 2, 2019**

**Car Show at The Forum at Tucson:** 10:30 to 2:30 p.m., 2500 N. Rosemont Blvd., Tucson, AZ 520-319,4313. We have been asked to participate in a car show at The Forum. The Forum is north of the IHOP. The Forum is a care center, and the residents requested to the staff, that they wanted a car show in the Fall. The Forum will do the advertising. They will have some snacks and a food truck where you can purchase food as needed. All car clubs are welcome. Just show up with your car. If you have any questions, please contact John L. Lewis at [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net) or 520-954-0904.

**Thursday, November 21, 2019**

**Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Bubb's Grub:** 4:00 p.m., 16010 N. Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ, 520-825-6510. This year we have different plans for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Thanks much to Susan and Steven Gilsdorf for their hospitality the past seven to eight years. It was a pleasure to share your home through the years with all the outstanding Thanksgiving trimmings. Recently, we have heard that Bubb's Grub serves a turkey dinner every Thursday, so we looked into that and we will have this year's Thanksgiving Dinner there. The price per person is \$14.25, and they may still have an increase in price prior to November 21st. We are looking forward to a change this year, and a lot less work on everyone's part, and will just relax, and let someone else do the work. We will do a 50/50 drawing as usual, so drive your Studebaker, and the winner will take 100% of the pot home. Feel free to try a Thursday night Turkey Dinner at Bubb's Grub from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. prior to Thanksgiving. Please RSVP John L. Lewis at [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net) or 520-954-0904.

**Saturday November 23, 2019**

**Wayne's Toys/ Tucson Classic Car Museum:** 10:00 a.m., 990 S. Cherry Ave., Tucson, AZ, 520-207-5715. The Museum is just North of 22nd St. Admission is \$8.00 for seniors and veterans and general admission is \$10.00. They have two Studebakers, and other interesting cars, so lets get them Studebakers out, and show the public some beautiful cars. After the show, we will caravan to Micha's Restaurant at 2908 S. 4th. Ave., Tucson, 520-623-5307. We should be there by 11:45 a.m. for anyone that wants to meet us for lunch only. Please R.S.V.P. John L. Lewis for the show, and the meal [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net). Look forward to seeing you folks out for a little outing.

**Thursday, November 28, 2019**

**Thanksgiving**

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

**Grand Canyon State Chapter Holiday Party:** Set up at 11:00 a.m., dinner at noon., Lakeview United Methodist Church, 103rd Ave. and Thunderbird Rd., Sun City, AZ. Meat and fixings provided by the Chapter; side dishes and desserts by members. Annual auction to follow. Contact Peggy to volunteer to be a table host at 623-936-6116 [peggyeastburn@hotmail.com](mailto:peggyeastburn@hotmail.com) The SAC will have breakfast at the Cracker Barrel, 8400 N Cracker Barrel Rd, Tucson, AZ., 520-579-1845. Time to be determined.

**Sunday, December 15, 2019**

**Christmas Potluck:** 12:00 p.m., at the home of Gail and Steve Ault, 891 West Paseo Portrerro, Green Valley, AZ, 520-603-5342. If your name starts with A-M bring a dessert, and N-Z, bring a side dish.

**Saturday, December 21, 2019**

**The Gaslight Theater: "Secret Santa"** is playing, 3:00 p.m., the doors open at 2:30 p.m., 36 people are coming and 24 seats are still available. Adults, \$26.03, Seniors, Students, Military, \$23.86, children 2-12 years old \$15.16. Tickets need to be reserved by December 5, 2019. Please contact Chuck Stanford for reservations, 520-888-1563 or [cstanford2@cox.net](mailto:cstanford2@cox.net)

**Wednesday, December 25, 2019**

**Merry Christmas!**

**Saturday January 18, 2020**

**Grand Canyon Chapter Winter Gathering at the Martin Auto Museum:** info: Peggy at 623-936-6116 or [peggyeastburn@hotmail.com](mailto:peggyeastburn@hotmail.com)

**Sunday, January 19, 2020**

**The Southern Arizona Chapter's Annual Banquet, and Auction:** Tire kicking is from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30. Buffet lunch from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Auction and other activities in the Wranglers Roost until 3:00 p.m. Will be held at the Tanque Verde Ranch, 14301 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ, (end of East Speedway), 1-800-234-3863. Adults \$34.00 per person, children \$14.00 per person (ages 4 to 11). Activities include 50/50 cash drawing, people's choice car show awards, prize drawings, and auction conducted by Richard Dormois. Please bring an item or two for the auction. Make reservations and payment for lunch no later than January 15th. Mail reservation information, and payment to Chuck Stanford, Treasurer, SAC, P.O. Box 12913, Tucson, AZ 85732. Any questions, call Chuck at 520-888-1563 or e-mail at [cstanford2@cox.net](mailto:cstanford2@cox.net)

**Thursday, January 23, 2020**

**Luncheon at The Smokin Butts BBQ:** 11:30 a.m., 9940 E. Broadway Blvd. In the same parking lot as the Gaslight Theater, Tucson 85710, 329-3088. We have a number of our members that have eaten there and the food is great. Please R.S.V.P. John L. Lewis at [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net) if you plan to attend.

**Saturday, March 7, 2020**

**Studebaker March Gathering:** Calling all Studebakers, come one, come all. The Southern Arizona Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club will be hosting Studebaker March Gathering at Freddy's Frozen Custard/Steakburgers, located at 3725 W. Orange Grove Rd. Marana, AZ. in The Marana Marketplace located at Orange Grove and Thornydale Rd. Convenient access from the I-10 exit at Orange Grove. In addition to the cars and food, there is also shopping available. Start time will be 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Prizes for cars and raffle items will be available as well. Contact John L. Lewis for further information at [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net) or 520-954-0904. Bring your valve cover race car and compete to win a trophy. Please bring your own chairs.

**June 20 to 28, 2020**

**Hemmings Motor News Great Race:** San Antonio, TX to Greenville, SC. \$150,000 in prize money. A time-speed-endurance-rally for vintage cars 1974 and older. To enter, call: (800) 9897223 or email [jeff@greatrace.com](mailto:jeff@greatrace.com)



MEMBER CONTRIBUTION, TECH TIPS AND LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Badgers Invade the Hills  
By Steve and Gail Ault**

Day two of the Labor Day Event found SDC “Yellow Badgers” (the sightseeing group) enjoying sightseeing in Deadwood. Eighteen Studebakers and a few SOBs made the one hundred sixteen mile round trip. The group took a tour of Mt Moriah and the downtown district with a quick-witted, energetic guide and afterwards, enjoyed trolley access to other sights.

“Yellow Badgers” combined with “White Badgers” (not involved with the sightseeing group) on days one and three marveled at the lung capacity of the Chapter horn player and enjoyed The Hill City Band at the car show. We had great refreshments on Friday night in the fresh outdoors and exquisite weather for the Sunday car show. It was a whooping success with 45 show vehicles and a slew of onlookers (1321 ballots were received). Over 80 enthusiasts took in the awards banquet - a great buffet - with eleven states and two countries represented (Sterling and the Saskatchewan contingent of ten and Sri Lanka!!).

It’s been a few years since we’ve been in the Hills and the crowds amazed us. The area is a major destination for vacationing and the Stude Show added to the excitement. We’ve been attending Labor Day Events periodically for over 30 years and this was another outstanding event - great faces, great places; great cars, scenery, weather, and great seeing old friends!



Photo by Gail Ault

**Check Your Distributor Cap  
By Robert Miles**

So you just tuned up your Studebaker with new spark plugs, points and even went whole hog with new plug wires. You start the car waiting to hear the nice rumble of the V8, but instead you get a lumpy miss. You check the plug wires and see they are in the correct position and there is no cross fire. Scratching your head, you head into the house to get a beverage to sit and think what it could be.

Timing, check. Wires, plugs, points, check. Distributor, oops did not check. Taking a magnifying glass you unplug the cap and notice very tiny cracks in the distributor. Since electricity likes the path of least resistance, so the charge from the rotor is going out the crack(s).

Be sure when you get a new distributor cap it is for the right distributor. Delco, Delco Remy, Prestolite, Autolite are all distributors used on our Studebakers.

**Letter to the Editor**

Congratulations to Ann Pearson, Editor of The Copper Starlight upon winning Best of Division in the Bi-Monthly/Quarterly Internet Newsletter competition for 2018-2019! She has many duties outside of those of Editor, including being an equine veterinarian, equine rescue activities and a family and still produces an outstanding, award-winning newsletter! Thanks, Ann for all you do for SDC!



Photo by Gail Ault

**Ann Pearson**

**MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS, INTERESTING YOU TUBE VIDEO**



Dear Sir—  
 We're writing this letter to you today because we want to help you get your money out of your Model T.  
 It's still as good a car as it was the day the new Model A Ford was announced and there's no need to sacrifice it.  
 The Model T Ford is still used by more people than any other automobile. Eight million are in active service right now and many of them can be driven one, two, three and five years and even longer.  
 Bring your car to us and let us look it over. You'll be surprised to see how little it costs to put it in tip-top shape.  
 New fenders, for instance, cost from \$3.50 to \$5.00 each, with a labor charge of \$1.00 to \$2.50. Tuning up the motor and replacing commutator case, brush and vibrator points costs only \$1.00, with a small charge for material. Brake shoes can be installed and emergency brakes equalized for a labor charge of only \$1.25. A labor charge of \$4.00 to \$5.00 will cover the overhauling of the front axle, rebushing springs and spring perches, and straightening, aligning and adjusting wheels.  
 The labor charge for overhauling the average rear axle runs from \$5.75 to \$7.00. Grinding valves and cleaning carbon can be done for \$3.00 to \$4.00.  
 A set of four new pistons and rings cost only \$7.00. For a labor charge of \$20 to \$25.00 you can have your motor and transmission completely overhauled. Parts are extra.  
 Very truly yours,  
 Bottineau, N. Dak. C. R. GLEASON CO.

**Car Repair Receipt from Previous Copper Starlight Issue**

Submitted by Jerry Kaiser

**Interesting You Tube Video  
 From Susan Lusted  
 Turning Wheels Editor**

Here is a link to view a new documentary about the Studebaker Corporation. It is one hour long and tells the story of the last days of the Studebaker factory site. It includes views of the remaining buildings before demolition in 2006, interviews from former employees, current site developers, and the former mayor who was instrumental in the plan to reuse the site. It also has an update on South Bend's recovery from the closing in 1963, and its growth into the 21st century. Lou Sabo, photographer, and I, Vince Sipocz, who was editor, spent the last year and a half organizing photos, shooting new video, conducting interviews, and putting it all together. I think you'll enjoy this new look at Studebaker history, see its factories' lasting inspiration to the people of South Bend.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvKW931UMgM>

**International Drive Your Studebaker Day and  
 Membership Appreciation Day  
 Continued**

Twenty-two members and friends attended the luncheon. Members and cars driven included: Steve and Gail Ault, 1947 Studebaker; Lou Fencl, 1956 Transtar Pick-up; Randy and Donna Goble, 1956 Commander; Fred and Nora Gooch, Brand X; Lowell Jensen, 1951 Champion; John L. Lewis and Sue Aslin, 1959 Lark; Bruce and Gilda Eneboe, Brand X; Bob and Eileen Loshbough, 1961 Champ Pick-up; John and Jan Noble, 1953 Commander Coup; Robert and Casey Robert Noble, 1960 Champ Pick-up, (fellow Studebaker fans); Ann Pearson, Brand X; Marj Scooros, Brand X; and Chuck and Louise Stanford, Brand X.

Eileen Loshbough won the 50/50 for \$56.00. The raffle for the Studebaker throw donated by Rosalie Torske was won by Don and Bonnie McGraw and the raffle for the framed airplane picture with Avantis, also donated by Rosalie, was won by John L. Lewis. The Club made \$100.00 for the donated items. Thank you again Rosalie for your donations!

See photos below.



Fred and Nora Gooch



Bring on the Food!



**How the Frick Father and Son Team influenced automobile production in the United States by Ann Pearson**

Mr. William (Willie) Frick was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1916 as a U.S. Citizen. Willie's mother was a famous American opera singer in Europe and mostly sang in Germany. Willie's grandfather had a business in Germany. His younger sister, Marion, was born in the United States.

Willie had an interest in practical automobile engineering at an early age. He first visited a garage in 1930 when he was 14 and began working there doing odd jobs. Eventually, he became a Saturday apprentice. At 18, Willie swapped engines in a car to increase horsepower. Willie was a multi-talented man and was sought after by the U.S. Air Force during World War II while he was working for Republic Aviation as a riveter. Willie had extensive expertise with technical repair of fighter planes and engines and worked with the Air Force until 1945 when he was discharged. He was last stationed in New Guinea and returned home to his wife, five-year-old son, William, and two-year-old daughter, Susan.

William was born in Long Island, NY, in 1940. He had fond memories of his dad bringing two horses back from New Guinea at the end of his service in the Air Force. He wistfully remembered riding English with his dad around the lake in Hempstead Lake State Park, located in West Hempstead, NY, where the horses were boarded.

Due to incompatibility differences, Willie and his young wife became divorced. William moved to Hartford, CT with his mother and sister when he was still five years old. William's mom was a waitress for much of his young life. She is still living and is 96 years old. As a six-year-old, he moved back to Long Island to live with his dad.

Shortly after the war, Willie built a V-8 60 powered midget race car. He badly injured his arm and after that, had friends campaign his car behind the wheel.

When William moved back to Long Island to live with his dad, a family with three children, moved in for a short while and helped take care of him. Eventually, they moved out and his grandmother moved in to take care of William. Willie re-married a woman named Pat when William was 12 years old.

During the time William lived with his dad, he worked at Bill Frick Motors. When he was 8-9 years old, he worked every day and one-half day on Saturdays for \$5.00 per week.



Bill (Willie) Frick while stationed in the Air Force

**The Making of Fordillacs and Studillacs**

Bill Frick opened up his own business in Rockville Center, NY in 1949. Prior to building Studillacs, Bill built Fordillacs. He took a 160 horse power 331-cubic-inch four barrel Cadillac V-8 engine and replaced the flathead engine in a brand new Ford.

Frick started building the Studillacs in 1953 and continued through 1955. He used a hard top Studebaker Starliner Coupe fitted with an OHV 210-250 hp Cadillac V8 engine. The charge for the conversion was \$1,500.00 to \$1,795.00. A manual 3-speed and automatic were available. Others extras included: wire wheels, leather seats, and an electric tachometer. Top speeds could range from 125-130 mph and 0 to 60 in 8.5 seconds.

(Continued on the next page)

EXCLUSIVE U.S. DISTRIBUTORS  
KEEP SPORTS CARE  
EXCLUSIVE L.I. DEALER FOR ALLARD MOTOR CARS  
ORIGINATOR OF THE "STUDILLAC"  
CUSTOM CONVERSIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

**Bill Frick motors, inc.**

1000 Sunrise Highway • ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK • Rockville Centre 4411

Bill Frick Motors invite you to test-drive the new Studillac. This exclusive creation is capable of a top speed of 125 m.p.h. and an acceleration of 0 to 60 m.p.h. in 8.5 seconds.

Prices are as follows:

1953 Cadillac 210 HP engine, with dual exhaust system and Cadillac three-speed synchromesh manual transmission .....	\$1500.00
1953 Cadillac 210 HP engine with dual exhaust system and dual range hydraulic transmission .....	1795.00
Floor shift with manual transmission .....	250.00
Special leather top .....	450.00
Pleated leather dashboard .....	135.00
Wire wheels, bolt-on .....	318.00
Borrani wheels, knock-off type .....	630.00
Alternate 12 volt electrical system .....	200.00
Electric tachometer installed .....	70.00
Special 11 inch diameter brakes .....	350.00
Special 3.31 to 1 rear end ratio .....	250.00
Marchal Headlamps .....	21.60

**BILL FRICK MOTORS INC. proudly presents the STUDILLAC, combining the graceful continental styling of the new Studebaker Starliner with the power and performance of the new 210 h.p. CADILLAC engine.**

Specifications on the 5-passenger STUDILLAC:

Weight: 3,300 pounds	Top Speed: 125 M.P.H.
Height: 56 5/16 inches	Wheelbase: 120 1/2 inches

Performance: 0 to 60 M.P.H. in 8.7 seconds

**Car available with: Wire Wheels, Dual Range Hydraulic or Synchro-mesh Manual Transmission.**

For further details and demonstration

**BILL FRICK MOTORS, INC.**  
1000 Sunrise Highway, Rockville Centre, L.I., N.Y., Tel: RO 6-6100



Studebaker Starliner Coupe

**Cars Restyled by Bill Frick Motors**

- Jack Schleich's 1932 Ford 3-Window Coupe
- Thomas Campbell's 1949 Ford - Fordillac
- Briggs Cunningham's 1950 Fordillac
- Briggs Cunningham's 1953 Studillac
- Albert Ornellas' 1957

References: Wikipedia, Kustomrama, Traditional Rod and Kustom Encyclopedia and 'Studebaker with a Cadillac engine', by Wilbur Shaw and published in Popular Science, July, 1953, pps. 76,77, 'Dream Cars' by Fred Horsley, Trend Book No. 107. Photos courtesy of William Frick.

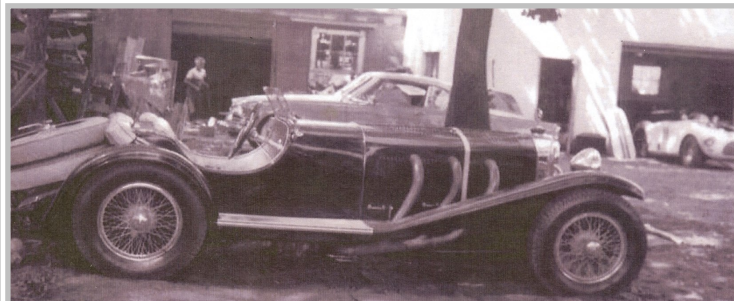
## THE FRICK DUO CONTINUED

William's dad, Willie was innovative and he was driven. He credited his drive to make a better car because of his early life in Germany, where having a car was such a wanted possession. At that time the German people had very little hope of owning a car and a lot of prestige was associated with anything involving cars. His auto repair shop at 1000 Sunrise Highway, Rockville Center, Long Island became very busy. He started building the Fordillac in 1949. The Fordillac was a Ford sedan body with a 331 cu. in. V-8 Cadillac engine. He built the Fordillacs from 1949 to 1950. A race driver named Briggs Cunningham bought a Fordillac. Willie was to have an extensive future with Briggs Cunningham. A total of 200 Fordillacs were produced before the change in the Ford body style. After the changed body style after 1950, Willie decided to discontinue building the Fordillacs. He then sought after a new style, the Studillac, using the 1953 Studebaker Starliner Coupe (see photo on page six) and the Cadillac engine as well. For two years in a row, two cars were produced per week totaling 200 cars. Three other mechanics were helping Willie and his dad during that time. The Studillac was produced from 1953-1954. In 1955, the Starliner was made with a more powerful engine than the Cadillac and Willie discontinued the Studillac production. Three 'Bill Frick Specials' (see photo of red car with a black top) were produced after ceasing production of the Studillac. The 'Bill Frick Special' was designed by Michelotti, and it featured a hand-made body by Vignale. Three 'Bill Frick Specials' were made, a prototype, a convertible, and a coupe. One of the Frick Specials was purchased by the Rockefellers.

During the time that William lived with his dad, history was made. In 1950, between producing the Fordillac and the Studillac, Willie was involved in the modification of two type 5 -061 Cadillacs for Briggs Cunningham, a multi-millionaire race car driver and backer. One of the two cars was



Bill (Willie) Frick and the Bill Frick Special, Reading, PA,  
May 16 1992



Young William Frick, seen in the background, working in his dad's shop.  
A Studebaker Hawk is in the background.

called the Le Monstre. The Le Monster had five carburetors! This car was rebodied by Bill (Willie) Frick's shop in Long Island, NY. The second Cadillac remained with a stock body and had adjustments to the intake system, shock absorbers, and brakes. The two cars were raced in the 1950 Le Mans car race in France. Willie was given the Sportsocar Mechanic of the Year in 1950 for his effort in racing the two Cadillacs at the Le Mans and again back in the States at Elkhart Lake and Watkins Glen that fall. Briggs Cunningham and Willie Frick were together in a partnership for a short time after the racing of the Cadillacs and Willie moved the business to Florida. Thirty-six Cunningham's were produced and Willie was involved in the production of 18 of those cars. After seven months, the partnership ended and Willie moved the business back to Long Island.

William had several different careers. When he was 16, he moved to California with his mother, joined the Navy after graduation, and began working in the Radar Division with aircraft carriers. His mom re-married a Texan, who was also interested in horses. Once again, William had horses! After leaving the Navy, William worked with TRW (an automotive and aerospace industrial firm) in Los Angeles for a short time, followed by being a sheriff's deputy in Thousand Oaks, CA, for four years.

Becoming a highway patrolman was next in line. William worked with the highway patrol for eight years. His last duty was in Lake Tahoe, CA, where he met his wife, Cathy. Cathy was working as a waitress. Come to find out, William had met Cathy's dad four years prior when he was working in West Los Angeles. Cathy's dad was a fireman. Hence, the next position taken was in the fire department.

William and Cathy have been married for 43 years. Cathy is also a lover of animals, such as horses and goats. Cathy had her own interesting history. She worked in the mines when she was 12-18 years old and made \$25.00 per day. She then went to California Polytechnic Institute. Cathy also worked in the movies with rolls as an extra in "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Mary Poppins". Cathy flew a kite in the Mary Poppins movie.

In 1964, The Campbell Ewald advertising agency heard about Willie's success with mounting cameras on cars (for the movie Grand Prix) and asked Willie to work with Chevrolet advertising. The Chevrolet Company had been wanting to drive a car on the water in the Venetian canals, in Venice, Italy. Within a few minutes, Willie figured out how to do just that while writing on a napkin! See "1963 Chevrolet Impala Commercial – Venice". The video is of a 1963 Chevy Impala driving on the water in Venice, Italy. Willie also drove the car in all of his commercials.

After William moved to California, he did not see his dad for a while. Willie was asked to do commercials with Chevrolet in California after his success in Venice. When he was in California, Willie asked his son, William for help with the commercials. Dad and son were back to work together again!

Another awe-inspiring commercial involved taking apart a Chevrolet and taking the parts up to the top of Pinnacle Peak in Monument Valley, Utah. When on the top of the peak, Willie re-assembled the car and hid in the trunk for the photo shoot. See "1964 Chevy Impala Commercial – HD BEST COLOR Utah – Castleton Tower aka Castle Rock".

All in all, the father and son duo contributed their expertise and innovation and, as a result, increased the progressivity of the automobile and airplane industry. Willie swapped engines in cars, was recruited by the Air Force to repair planes, built race cars, made commercials possible for Chevrolet and restored old airplanes. William worked in his dad's shop at an early age, worked in the Navy with aircraft carriers in the Radar Division, then worked with TRW for a short time and, worked alongside his dad while shooting commercials. Thank you Willie and William for providing the dedication to making our cars and airplanes work even better.



MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

The Studebaker Driver's Club International Meet in Mansfield, Ohio

by Gloria Schmetzer

September 11-14, 2019 was the Studebaker Driver's Club International Meet in Mansfield, Ohio. It was an extraordinary experience since this was a first for me. I knew it would be a great asset to have a mobility scooter and apparently there are none to be had in Mansfield. After contacting Denny Foust, SDC, he agreed to haul one scooter in from Pennsylvania for me. What a great time I had cruising, at rabbit speed, through hectares and acres of grounds and buildings, meeting SDC members and vendors, and checking prices.

Once finding parts, I could talk to the real Steve Allen of Studebaker Parts LLC, Michael and his mom of Myer's Parts and, best of all, Sharon and Russ Ware of Studebakerparts.com.

Pictures are some of the "souvenirs" I picked up. I shopped for two days, purchased items on the third day and rested on the seventh day. On one of my many consultations, Russ Ware was wise enough to remind me that Ohio was probably not the place to purchase sheet metal parts. Thanks Russ! So, I came home without a hood.

In the photos are some of my new Studebuddies. Starting on the left, is Flamingo Freddy, Sammy Suspenders and Smiling George, the dentist.

Our hotel turned out to be a giant Studebaker Man Cave, with all the hospitality one could hope for. There were great stories, refreshments and comradery with wonderful old cars and trucks all over the parking lot.



Photo by Gloria Schmetzer



Photo by Gloria Schmetzer

Lunch at Kappy's Restaurant

By Ann Pearson

On Thursday, October 10, 2019, twenty-one members and friends attended a luncheon at Kappy's Restaurant in Tucson, Arizona. The food was very good and the ambience was very welcoming. It is so nice to visit another new restaurant! Thank you John L. Lewis for arranging the luncheon! Ann Pearson invited Jerry Simmons of Simmons Auto Repair and Simmons Car Care Workshop, a talk radio program.

Members and friends in attendance with cars driven included:



Dan Enwright, 1950 Starlight; Lou Fencil, 1956 Transtar; Randy & Donna Goble, 1956 Commander; Michael E. Hodges, Brand X; John L. Lewis & Sue Aslin, 1950 Land Cruiser; Bob & Eileen Loshbough, Brand X; 1950 Land Cruiser; Darel Magee, Brand X; Don and Bonnie McGraw, 1963 Hawk; Ann Pearson and guest, Jerry Simmons, 1962 GT Hawk; Bruce Sandburg and Delores Schurtz, Brand X; Gloria Schmetzer & Alice de Buhr, Brand X; Marj Scooros, Morgan; and Chuck & Louise Stanford, Brand X.



Photo by Ann Pearson

L-R, Jerry Simmons, Lou Fencil, Don McGraw, Bonnie McGraw, Dan Enwright, Louise Stanford, Chuck Stanford and Marj Scooros



Photo by Ann Pearson

L-R, Michael Hodges, Alice de Buhr, Gloria Schmetzer, Donna Goble, Randy Goble, Darel Magee, Bob Loshbough, Eileen Loshbough, John L. Lewis, Sue Aslin, Delores Schurtz, and Bruce Sandburg





## STUDEBAKER ADS ~ WANTED AND FOR SALE OR TRADE



**Wanted:** For a 1951 Starlight Coupe: good steel grill bullet (50), good radio, wheel covers and spotlight. Call Lowell Jensen: 928-965-3104, [ljensentuna@gmail.com](mailto:ljensentuna@gmail.com)

**Wanted:** 1957- 1959 Silver Hawk wanted. Contact Connie Olsen: 702-540-6218, [house@go-olsen.com](mailto:house@go-olsen.com)

**SALE!!** SAC/SDC Men's Polo Shirts (two each small only) and Ladies' style in mint green and one in blue (seven large and seven small) polo shirts \$10.00 each. I will bring extra rosters and newsletters to all club events. Chapter name tags in either pin or magnetic type are \$10.87 for one or \$18.48 for two. Chuck Stanford at 520-888-1563 or [cstanford2@cox.net](mailto:cstanford2@cox.net)

**For Sale: Studebaker models:** beautiful '57 Studebaker Golden Hawk model in original box like new and a Studebaker transport truck, \$60.00 each. Call Joyce Mooney at 520-977-7864

**For Sale:** 1938 Commander State Sedan and 1960 Champ PU. Chuck Stanford 520-888-1563 or [cstanford2@cox.net](mailto:cstanford2@cox.net)

**For Sale:** '50 Commander Starlight coupe, good builder, '50 Champion, '51 Champion, '52 Commander, '51 Commander parts cars. Parts cars and builders price depends on condition. **Parts cars would consider free if you move!** Call Marilyn 520-237-1442.

### For Beautiful Studebaker Steering Wheel Covers

#### Contact

Marj Scooros

[marjsbaubles@yahoo.com](mailto:marjsbaubles@yahoo.com)

One for \$20.00, two or more \$15.00 each.

For orders, the diameter of the steering wheel is needed along with the year, model and color of the car.



\*\*\*Notice: John L. Lewis sent around a reminder that everyone should have an approved fire extinguisher displayed at your left front wheel during all meets in the future. As required as of January 1, 2017, the SDC requires a minimum of a LU type 1-A:5B:C, but a 1-A:10-B:C would be much better for added protection.



#### For Sale:

Champ truck grill painted good condition \$50.00  
 Truck T98 4 speed trans \$50.00  
 T85 3 speed OD trans from '59 truck  
 '50 Commander 6 245 \$100.00  
 '48 Commander 6 226 \$50.00  
 Stuck 232 V8 everything from starter to carb \$50.00  
 '61 Hawk hood good condition \$200.00  
 '56 Golden Hawk left side fiberglass fin \$75.00  
 GT Hawk headliner bows, very nice \$75.00 for full set  
 '56 1/2 ton Cab what you need.  
 Studebaker 1/2 ton brake drums \$50.00 each  
 Studebaker V8 Valley pans \$5.00 each  
 2R5 truck Champ 6 bellhousing \$40.00  
 '51 Commander left front door \$45.00  
 '51 Commander right rear door \$45.00  
 GT Hawk front bumper \$40.00  
 GT Hawk rear bumper \$40.00  
 '62 Lark grill \$40.00 very nice  
 Center link for power steering \$25.00  
 '53 sedan trunk lid \$40.00  
 '62 GT Hawk grill \$50.00  
 '62-'64 GT Hawk complete set good glass in chrome frames: wing windows side glass and back windshield  
 Hawk and coupe center pan for bucket seats and mounting for counsel \$40.00  
 '59-'60 Lark or '60-'64 Champ truck hood \$50.00  
 '59-'60 Lark trunk lid, \$35.00 good condition  
 '60-'64 Champ truck left door \$30.00  
 '62 Lark Station Wagon upper tailgate \$50.00  
 '62 GT Hawk rear valance that is between bumper and body \$40.00  
 '62 Lark rear quarters \$75.00 for both or \$40.00 each no rust  
 '63 Lark 4 door front doors \$50.00 each  
 '63 Lark rear doors for a Wagonaire or 4-dr sedan \$35.00 each  
 Lots of other parts, if you don't see what you want, call me. I may have it.  
 Large items for pick up, email for pictures. Call Jerry Kaiser at 520-979-0065 or email [studeblu@gmail.com](mailto:studeblu@gmail.com)

**For Sale:** 1950 Champion rear differential with 4:11 gears. Very low mileage. No brakes. \$125.00 John L. Lewis [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net) 520-954-0904

**For Sale:** 1955 Champion 3 speed transmission no overdrive. Suspect low miles. \$100.00 John L. Lewis [lewishoot@cox.net](mailto:lewishoot@cox.net) 520-954-0904

**For Sale:** 1921 Packard Single Six, 3 Studebaker 2 door Special Six, 1927 Studebaker 4 door and lots of Hawk parts. For more information, call John Nuell, a friend of a member, 289-441-1545.

#### For Sale:

1962 Studebaker Gran Turismo Hawk  
 Good condition, no rust and almost all original. The grill is from a '63 Hawk. The interior is in good shape.  
 289 cu. in., 4 barrel carburetor, newly rebuilt, TT, Twin Traction rear end, 4-speed factory shifter on the floor.  
 Newly installed upper control arm bushings. New steering tie rod. All glass in good condition. Body in good condition.  
 98,800 + miles. The car is ready for a good restoration or just use it for fun! driving around town. It is also very fast! I am asking \$12,000 as is cash.  
 Brian: 480-532-7983



## SPONSORS AND CRUISE NIGHTS

**AFR COLLISION and REFINISH CENTER**  
 Excellence guaranteed!  
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**StudebakerParts.com**  
 The Online Studebaker Parts Store  
  
 Russ & Sharon Ware  
 2700 E Magnolia Dr.  
 Gilbert, AZ 85298  
 P: 602-995-5311  
 F: 602-635-1921  
 russ@StudebakerParts.com

Thanks to *Creative Printers*, for printing this newsletter.  
 For all your printing needs, stop in at Creative Printers, 2729 E. Grant Road, Tucson,  
 or call 520.881.6572 Thanks Randy Goble, SDC member and printer.

For SAC Member recommended Sales and Services,  
 call our local sponsors first.

### Tucson Cruise Nights and Car Shows

**Mondays:** Freddy's, 7120 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Come hang out, show off your ride, and eat some good food and visit. Get a free custard when you bring out your ride. All makes and models are welcome. Info: [Chuck-603-8491](tel:603-8491), <http://www.cruisinarizona.com/cruisenites.htm>

**Wednesdays:** 8800 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ, in the old Safeway parking lot and behind the McDonalds, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

**Wednesday Night Cruise-In,** Cruise In at Hotrods Old Vail, 10500 East Old Vail Road, Tucson, AZ, 520-202-0987. Every Wednesday night beginning at 5 p.m. No fee, just cruise in and have a good time. All vehicle makes and models welcome.

**Thursdays:** Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburger weekly Cruise-In, 3725 West Orange Grove Rd., Marana, AZ, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 520-989-0314.

**Fridays:** Freddy's Frozen Custard Cruise-In & Car Show, Free custard, 11143 N. Oracle Road, Oro Valley, AZ, 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., 520-989-0067. They also have a car show the last Saturday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It is hosted by Obsessions Car Club and trophies are awarded. There is no Friday show when there is a Saturday show of that week.

Little Anthony's website for future car shows: <https://littleanthonydiner.com/car-shows>

Arizona Car Shows | AutoCarShow.Events <https://autocarshow.events/car-shows/united-states/arizona/>

For more fun events go to: <http://www.carnuts.org> And in the state of AZ: <http://www.cruisinarizona.com/>

Speedway Antique Mall Cruise-In Nights, 5045 East Speedway Blvd., Tucson, Arizona: Cars usually start showing up at 4:30 p.m. Actual start time is 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Second Saturdays** of the month in 2019, November 9 and December 14. Call Ray for information at 520-404-5090.

The Gaslight Music Hall in Oro Valley is hosting FREE EVENTS! Location: 13005 N. Oracle Rd, Oro Valley, AZ 85739 "At Rancho Visto-so". Classic car shows on up-coming **Saturdays:** November 16, 2019, December 14, 2019, and January 11, 2020, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please check the website for future dates, or email [heather.gaslight@gmail.com](mailto:heather.gaslight@gmail.com)

Cool Knights & Hot Cars, 2nd Annual Car Show, Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Saturday, November 16, 2019, 520-722-3582.



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Southern Arizona Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, pride of owning and the joy of driving fine Studebakers; and to providing assistance on a local level to the National Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc. You DO NOT have to be a Studebaker owner to join; however, for insurance purposes, membership is required in the National Studebaker Drivers Club. SDC was founded in 1962 and has approximately 13,000 members worldwide. *Turning Wheels* is the monthly magazine of the SDC. *The Copper Starlight* is the Southern Arizona Chapter's official publication and is published every other month. Subscriptions are included in club membership dues.



## Membership Application

### Studebaker Drivers Club

To join SDC complete application, send with \$24.00 check or money order in US Funds to:

The Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc  
 PO Box 1715  
 Maple Grove, MN 55311-6715

Or use VISA or MasterCard and call 763-420-7829 or Fax 763-420-7849 or e-mail: [sdc@cornerstonereg.com](mailto:sdc@cornerstonereg.com) for information. Call or write with change of address. Give 2 months notice. DO NOT Send ADS with your membership; but send ADS to Turning Wheels Editor. All members of local SDC chapters must also be national SDC members.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdates \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

VISA  Master Card

**Renewal on subsequent years is \$31.00**

**How to become a Member:** 1) Complete the membership application below. 2) Write a check or money order for \$15 for a full year, payable to Southern Arizona Chapter, SDC. This includes an e-mailed copy of The Copper Starlight. An additional charge of \$3.00 required for a mailed copy of the newsletter. 3) Enclose an additional \$24.00 if you are a new SDC member or \$31.00 if you are a returning member of SDC. 4) Mail to Membership Director:

Southern Arizona Chapter of  
 The Studebaker Drivers Club  
 PO Box 12913  
 Tucson, AZ 85732

Application Form Southern Arizona Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

National SDC Member # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

You must be a member of SDC to join SAC. This application will not be accepted without your Studebaker Drivers Club National Number.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Other family members: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdays: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

If new member, referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Studebakers owned: (Year/Model/Body Style & any comments) \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to help my club in the following ways:

- Call people with club information
- Bring cookies or snacks
- Host a gathering
- Call me & I'll help
- Mail out newsletters
- Other
- Make arrangements for tour/location/meeting place

