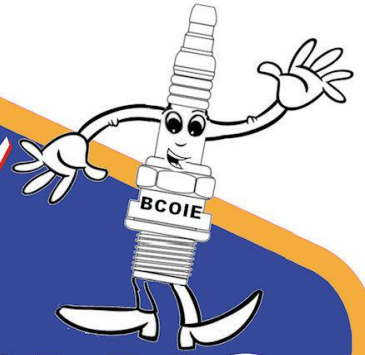


April 2024

Studebaker

SPARKPLUG

The Official Newsletter of



Beach Cities Orange Inland Empire



Studebaker Drivers Club



50th Anniversary Meet

THE LARGEST

**STUDEBAKER
MEET IN THE WEST!**



Register Today!!!



BCOIE Chapter

Beach Cities • Orange • Inland Empire

Chapter Information

The BCOIE Chapter Meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of each month at Coco's Restaurant, 1250 E. Imperial Highway, Brea, CA ~ Time is 4:30pm

For additional information please contact any chapter officer or check the calendar of events in each newsletter or on our website.

Dues: Chapter dues are \$20.00 annually. Dues are payable January 1st of each year.

Please mail your dues promptly to: **Debbie Stockey – Membership**
17410 Golden Maple Lane
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Newsletter Information

The Studebaker Sparkplug is the official publication of the BCOIE Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc. For ads or classifieds contact the editor listed below.

BCOIE Chapter Officers

Elected	President	Sam Wheeler	909-957-3175	wheelersam@verizon.net
	Vice President	Rosiland Metzker	714-315-8292	roldstudes@earthlink.net
	Secretary	Dee Gruver	562-946-2249	cwgruverconst@aol.com
	Treasure/Membership	Debbie Stockey	714-524-7965	debizoo@aol.com
Appointed	Sunshine Coordinator	Dee Gruver	562-949-2249	cwgruverconst@aol.com
	Webmaster/Facebook	Dan Scott	818-558-1791	dansct@sbcglobal.net
	Newsletter Editor	“ “	“	“ “

Pacific Southwest Zone Officers

Elected	Director	Ed Smith	602-290-1045	edcollects@gmail.com
	Coordinator	Dan Scott	818-558-1791	dansct@sbcglobal.net
Appointed	Regional Mgr. So. Cal.	Gene Nagle	858-335-3183	studieV8@gmail.com

SDC Website: www.studebakerdriversclub.com

BCOIE Website: www.studebakersocal.com

BCOIE Facebook: fb.me/BCOIESOCAL



President's Message Sam Wheeler



I regret to inform our members, if you haven't already heard, we lost a long-time member, Kent Vandenberg, earlier this year. A GOOD friend to some. He will be missed.

(See Page 7 for details of Kent's Celebration of Life)

On another note, Spring is finally here! Spring cleaning of your Studebaker is recommended. La Palma meet is now 2 1/2 months away. I was informed we only have 20 cars pre-registered.

You can print our registration forms from our website.

Looking forward to meeting new friends and spending time with old friends. See you soon.

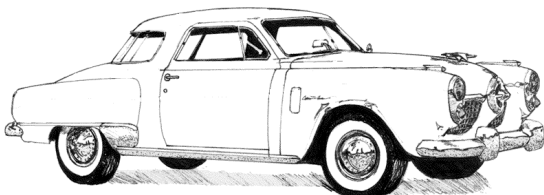
Meeting Minutes BCOIE Chapter



Meeting minutes for BCOIEC Chapter – March 10, 2024
The following members were in attendance: John & Rosiland Metzker, Jack & Fay Weber, Dennis & Joanie Elmore, Paul & Jan Massmann, Jeanne Ertel, Don Eades, Juan & Rebeca Lopez, Jack & Debbie Stockey, Don & Jeri Cox, David Weiss, and Bud & Dee Gruver.

Vice President Rosiland Metzker called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. and welcomed all members especially our newest members.

SECRETARY - Dee Gruver reported that the February minutes were printed in the March 1 newsletter. A motion to approve as printed was made by Don Eades, seconded by Jeanne Ertel. Motion approved.



TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP - Debbie Stockey reported the current financial information. Membership report shows 28 paid members to date. Motion to accept report as given was made by John Metzker, seconded by Bud Gruver. Motion approved.

VICE PRESIDENT - Rosiland Metzker reported that the LA Chapter will be hosting their annual car show on April 21, all clubs are invited. Future club events will be listed in the next newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS: Plans for La Palma are going well. The club will use generators for electrical power rather than using park electrical power. A request was made for raffle items. The club will be investing money in prizes as follows: \$200.00 for grand prize drawing, \$195.00 for pre-registered drawings, additional \$200 for auction items. Motion to approve proposed expenditures was made by Fay Weber, seconded by Bud Gruver. Motion approved.

A sign-up sheet will be available at the next meeting for those who wish to help toward the cost of plaques. Donors will be acknowledged in the printed program in the registration packet.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bud Gruver, seconded by John Metzker. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Gruver
Secretary





From the desk of the editor...

Dan Scott

It was in the dead of winter of 1976, late January or early February, I was looking for my second Studebaker. At the time, I was driving a 1965 Chrysler Newport...biggest regret of my car buying days. I had sold my Wagonaire in October of 1975 and was looking for a replacement, yes, the Studebaker bug had already bitten me. My love for Studebakers would affect me for the rest of my life.

I would scan the classifieds every Sunday for old Studebakers. Long before the Internet, we relied on the classified section of the newspaper, especially the Sunday paper. One Sunday I saw a listing for a 1956 Studebaker Champion, 4 door sedan. I was interested because I was born in 1956. I believe they were asking around \$500.00, a fair price back then. I asked my dad if he wanted to go with me to check it out. He agreed and we took a drive to the east side of Milwaukee.

We arrived and were shown the car. I immediately noticed one problem, the car was a 1955, definitely not a '56. The owner was the son of the car's original owner who had recently passed away. He didn't know much about the car. The car had the typical rust to the front fenders, common with Studebakers. There were dents on every door and fender and the rear bumper was bent in at one end and the right rear taillight and fender were damaged. The interior was pretty worn. The car had not been started in a while, but I was still interested. I offered him \$300. He refused without hesitation. I gave him my telephone number and left.

A couple of weeks had past and I had not found another car when I received a phone call from the owner of the '55. He asked if I was still interested in the car and that he'd accept my offer of \$300.00. I told him that if the car was able to start and run when I arrived, I'd make another offer.

Again, my dad gave me a ride over there. The car started up and ran as smoothly as a new car. No smoke, just smooth and quiet. I checked the interior, closer this time and noticed there were old vinyl seat covers on the front and back seats with several tears. I reached through the tears and noticed the original seats were flawless, just like new. I kept that fact quiet and pointed out all the flaws in the car before offering the guy \$100.00 cash. He balked at first, then accepted my offer after I threatened to leave. There wasn't much of a market for 4 door sedans with a flat head six-



cylinder engine, especially ones in the shape this one was in. We did the paperwork and I drove the car home, failing brakes and all. My dad had been around cars all his life, so he cautioned me to drive slow and follow him. He told me to bump into his car if I couldn't stop and he'd slow us both down. The last thing I wanted to do was hit my dad's car and fortunately I didn't have to, we all made it home in one peace. Out in the daylight the car looked even worse. What did I get myself into should have been my first thought, but I saw potential and a challenge... or, I just didn't know any better. Now the real work would start. With an old wood burning stove to heat the garage, I started my first restoration. The first thing I did was

remove the raggedy seat covers to expose the original seats in almost perfect condition. The top of the car was painted a darker shade of blue and with some elbow grease and time looked as good as new. The rest of the car would require a lot of work. I had some old Studebaker parts that were going to be thrown away from Daum Motors (formerly

Burnham Motors) where I worked and bought my first Studebaker. Jerry Daum, the owner once sponsored my dad's race car back when his dealership sold Studebakers. I used those parts to trade for some of the parts I needed. NOS (new old stock) front (2) and one rear fender, a taillight, ect. I had the rear bumper straightened and re-chromed. With my dad and brother's help, things started to take shape.

I had previously done body work on my other Studebaker where I learned the right and wrong way to do things. On this car, I tried to always do things the right way. Rather than fix rusted or dented parts with bondo, I'd replace the parts with NOS parts. The new parts were surprisingly readily available and fairly inexpensive. Other than the obvious, the car was very solid with less than 40,000 original miles. The original spare tire was still in the trunk.

With the bodywork near completion, it was time to start thinking about paint. I learned a valuable lesson with my first Studebaker on that subject. Get it done by a professional. My dad's friend offered to paint my 1965 Wagonaire in our garage and it looked like it, an amateur job, dull and uneven. I didn't want or better yet, couldn't afford a show car finish, but I wanted it to look like a new car. I searched around and found a body shop within my price range. I was to remove all the chrome and stainless steel and sand the car down, then transport it to him.



Assembly was fairly easy and before long I had the car back on the road. Driving it around town and parking it would always draw a crowd. I wasn't into the car show scene back then, so I never had it judged, but I did enjoy showing it off.

In the fall of 1976, I decided to put it up for sale. I loved the car, but it was too nice to use as a daily driver, especially though a Wisconsin winter and didn't have the cash or space to keep a classic. The first guy (Keith Kichefski, who has since passed) who came over was an acquaintance from the Studebaker Drivers Club in Wisconsin, who had written an article for their monthly newsletter about my dad's career driving a Studebaker powered midget race car.



He took one look and bought it for \$1,100.00, a fair price at the time. I'm sure I could have gotten more had I held out longer, but I wanted it to go to a Studebaker lover who would care for it as much as I would. I picked the right guy, as he owned the car until at least 2014 when I almost bought it back. I was visiting family in Milwaukee (2014) when I checked it out and considered buying it. He had detailed the small stuff that I never got to and brought the car up to a first-place car in Studebaker judged

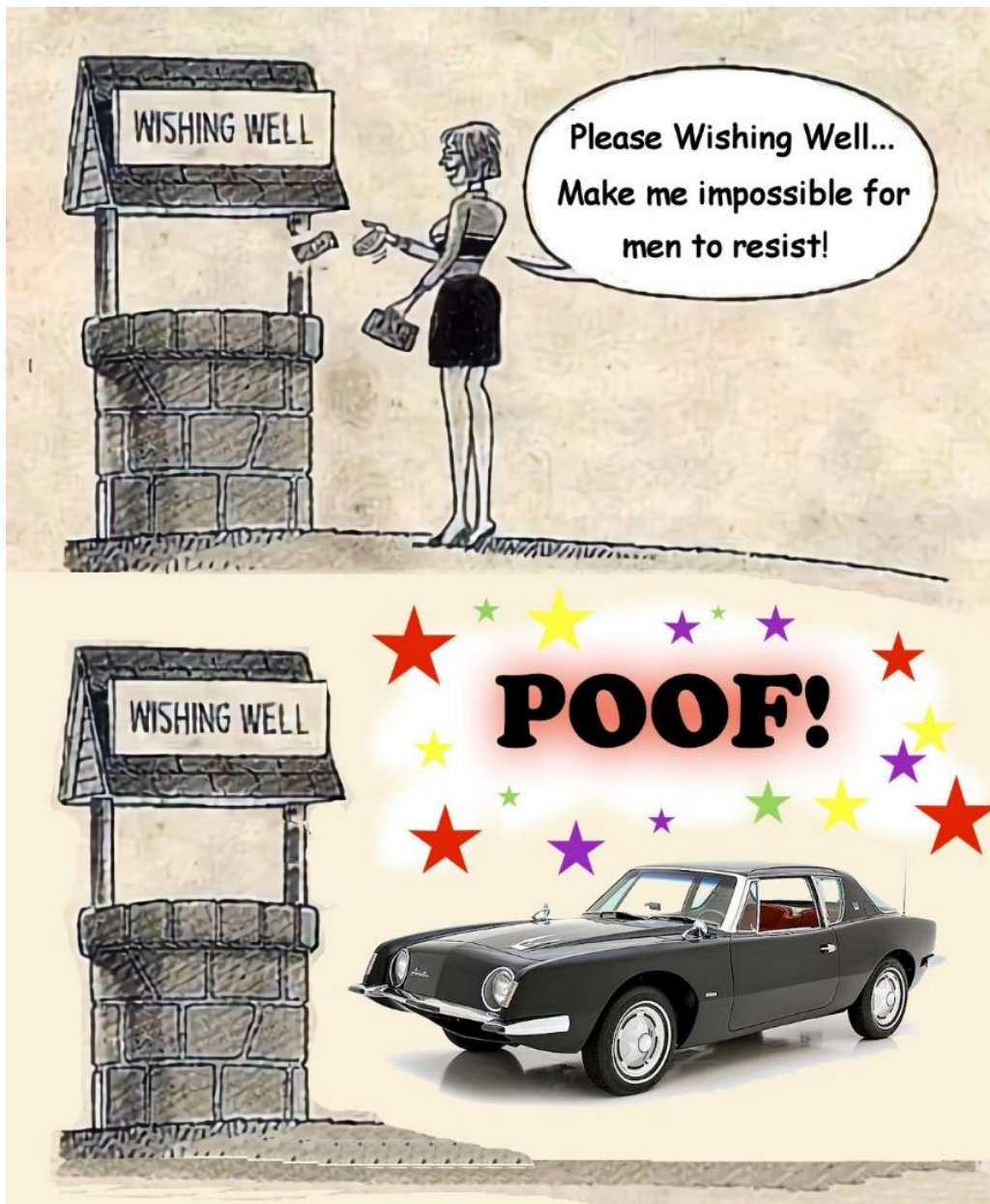
events. He was asking \$10,000.00 which was a good price for a four-door sedan. I thought about driving the car on Los Angeles freeways with that 6-cylinder engine and passed. Besides I wanted a sportier car, like a Hawk.

I will always be proud of the work I did on that car and grateful for the help from my dad and brothers. Knowing that I saved that '55 from a date with the junk yard is a great feeling of accomplishment.

***** For those of you at the 2023 International Studebaker Meet in Manitowoc, you might have seen my old '55 Champion on display. It still looks great after all these years.**

I'm patiently waiting for stories from you. If you don't have time to write a story, call me and I'll put it into words and share it in the next newsletter. If you don't like these stories, that's okay too, just let me know. Your silence means you approve.

Cheers, Dan 🍷





Kent Vandenberg

June 17, 1955 - January 18, 2024

Thanks to the Lincoln & Continental Owners Club (LCOC) for this tribute. The BCOIE Chapter extends our deepest sympathies.

Life partner Frank Wenzel, close family and friends paid tribute to our late LCOC member Kent Vandenberg at a warm celebration of life event March 23 held at the Prescott Collection garage, Palm Springs. Surrounded by people and things he loved, Kent's life well lived was praised by his closest friends and family. He passed away at age 68 earlier this year.

Dozens of attendees were on hand for the upbeat event. The tone was set early as guests were immediately greeted by Frank and offered a cold lemonade or ice tea upon entry. One of Kent's favorites, a beautiful 1929 Lincoln touring car festooned with photos of Kent, was the centerpiece of the room. Admirers gathered around the car during the social hour before the start of the program. A Constellation aircraft model and TV fire also were part of the backdrop.

Frank began the proceedings by thanking his hosts Jeff Stork and Brad Prescott and welcoming everyone. He lovingly summarized the life he had shared with Kent and touched on his kindness, sense of humor and his many interests— aerospace engineering, cooking, flying, collecting classic cars, and ham radio operation.

LCOC members fondly recalled the 2022 Western National Meet, where Kent and Frank hosted the first event, a reception at their amazing Palm Springs home, though they were most noted for their Studebaker collection. We sincerely thank both Frank and Kent for their friendship and participation over the years and send condolences and kind wishes to Frank and all their family and friends for their loss.



39th Annual
Classic
STUDEBAKER
Car Show



People's Choice and Long Distance Awards

Sunday, April 21, 2024
9am - 2pm



8876 Corbin Ave.
Northridge, CA

Download Registration Form at: www.studebakersla.com



“Big Boy” and the gang from the Los Angeles Chapter invite you to join them for their 39th Annual Classic Studebaker Car Show on Sunday, April 21st.

Registration forms are available on their website.

www.studebakersla.com



The History of Studebaker



Presented by the
BCOIE Chapter of the
Studebaker Drivers Club



Different by Design

The History of Studebaker video is posted on You Tube and available through your BCOIE Website.

If you're planning to do any community service presentations on Studebaker and would like a copy, contact me through the website.

To view the video/slideshow, click on the link below.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDKRM LHgH5Q



From the Home of
the Golden Hawks ...



Studebaker Golden Hawk



America's First Family-Size Sports Car ...
with All the Fun of Sports Car Performance!

If you've looked forward to the moment when you and your family together could enjoy the satisfying pleasure of sports car ownership ... then this is your next automobile! For this is the Golden Hawk ... the popular new type of car in America ... and the only sports type car that provides ample room for all the family. The 1958 Golden Hawk is everything you'd expect of a true sports car ... from the powerful acceleration of its supercharged 275 h.p. V-8 engine to its exterior styling and faultlessly appointed interior in a concept from the Continent. But the Golden Hawk story doesn't end with its tremendous power and striking Continental appearance. There are dozens of safety and comfort features, too, to complete this all-new picture of automotive efficiency. They include oversized finned drum brakes with 172.4 sq. in. of lining area ... mechanical superiorities in steering design and shock control ... even such important plus-value features as special acoustical ceilings to cushion harsh traffic sounds. Yes, for a family car ... for a sports car ... and for a combination of both ... the Studebaker 1958 Golden Hawk is the one automobile that brings the fun back to motoring.

The Variable Speed Centrifugal Jet-Stream Supercharger



teams with the power-packed Sweepstakes 289 V-8 engine to deliver flashing acceleration when you need it ... at no sacrifice of Studebaker's V-8 economy mileage during normal driving conditions. This unique combination provides top efficiency at all times plus exceptional performance per pound, by highest industry standards. Powerplant includes dual exhausts; oil filter; new, more efficient plasticized paper air cleaner, and high capacity fuel pump as standard equipment.

Featured Vendors



Each month I'll try to feature one or more vendors from our website. These vendors have all been used and/or recommended by members. The quality of their work is something each of us have to decide, this is only meant as a directory to help you with your car. Remember, always ask questions and when feasible, get things in writing.



H n S Specialties & High Performance

All Vintage & Race cars & Imports welcome
Mercedes Benz, BMW, Chevys, etc.. Brakes, Oil Change, Transmission Service
Custom engine building and modifications, Blower motors, Drag Motors, Restorations
* Studebakers Welcome *

12490 Magnolia Ave Suite 1 Riverside, Ca 92503 Phone: 909-414-5739
Email: hotrodsneedspeed@gmail.com Cell: 951-941-4484

H n S Specialties & High Performance is an engine builder and machine shop. They do high quality work at reasonable prices. They'll also build to your specs. While they specialize in Chevy, Fords and Mopar, the owner is more than willing to rebuild your Studebaker engine, V8 or Six. **No website, call Ryan at (909-414-5739) or email: hotrodsneedspeed@gmail.com** Located in Riverside and Menifee, CA



Polishing Service & (619) 295-0496
Copper - Nickel - Chrome Cell: (619) 301-4660
Stainless & Aluminum Plating

PACIFIC PLATING

11316 Woodside Ave N, Ste G Steve Ruiz
Santee, CA 92071 PacificPlating@cox.net

Pacific Plating is a metal polishing and re-chroming company located in Santee, California. As you know, most re-chroming shops in California have closed due to state regulations. This one is no exception, their re-chroming is done in Mexico at a shop owned by the owner of this company. They personally transport your parts to Mexico and back. This place was highly recommended by members of the San Diego County Chapter. <http://pacificplatingsd.com/>

If you'd like to share a vendor that you've used, please let me know so I can add it to the website.



La Palma
**CAR SHOW &
PARTS EXCHANGE**

SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024

Our 50th Anniversary Car Show promises to be the best ever.

NEW FOR 2024 will be some of the following.

Everyone Pre-Registered will receive:

- 50th Anniversary Commemorative Mug
- Commemorative Plaque
- Dash Plaque

New this year:

- No Judging, Awards (one per division), will be based on a People's Choice system. Car owners and spectators will vote on their favorite car per division.
- Bigger and better Raffle
- Live Auction with parts and memorabilia
- Commemorative T-Shirts and Caps (For Sale at Event)
- Special Drawing for Pre-Registrants



Pre-Register
TODAY!!!

WWW.STUDEBAKERSOCAL.COM



La Palma

CAR SHOW & PARTS EXCHANGE

Sunday, May 26, 2024

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

1st Car: Year _____ Make _____ Model _____ Div. # _____

2nd Car: Year _____ Make _____ Model _____ Div. # _____

*** Please include phone number and Email ***

Division - 1 - Pre-War	Car #1 @ \$30.00	\$ _____
Division - 2 - Early Post War, Sedans & Wagons 1947 – 1958	Car #2 @ \$30.00	\$ _____
Division - 3 - Lark Types 1959 – 1966	Parts Exchange @ \$30.00	\$ _____
Division - 4 - Coupes (C Body) & Hardtops (K Body) 1952 – 1961	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:	\$ _____
Division - 5 - G.T. Hawks 1962 – 1964	People's Choice Awards for Each Division	
Division - 6A - Avanti (Studebaker) 1963 & 1964	50th Anniversary T-Shirts on sale @ event	
Division - 6B - Avanti (All Others)	*** LATE FEE ***	
Division - 7 - Trucks 1902 – 1964	After May 15, 2024 or Day of Show, Add \$10	
Division - 8 - Non-Stock – Studebaker Powered – All Years	Make Check Payable to: <u>BCOIE-SDC Chapter</u>	
Division - 9 - Non-Stock – Non-Studebaker Powered – All Years		

Questions? Please contact: **Don Cox** (951) 529-0873 or **Dan Scott** (818) 558-1791

Include completed form & payment and mail to:

BCOIE-SDC La Palma Car Show - 17410 Golden Maple Lane - Yorba Linda, CA 92886



Please Read & Sign Below:

In consideration of acceptance to the La Palma Studebaker Car Show, the undersigned hereby fully and unconditionally agrees to release the City of Anaheim and BCOIE-SDC from any liability that may arise from the **May 26, 2024** event, to release all officials jointly and separately from any and all liability and that the undersigned has read this statement, maintains valid auto liability insurance and will abide with these conditions. **All entries must have a fire extinguisher for safety purposes.**

I acknowledge that I, the undersigned, am over 18 yrs. of age.

Signature _____ Date _____

Cash or Check# _____ Amount _____ Received by: _____ Registration # (s) _____

BCOIE Chapter membership is due (\$20.00 per year)

Print & Complete the membership form (click link below) and mail or Email to the address indicated:

[https://www.studebakersocal.com/BCOIE%20Membership%20Form Updated%202023.pdf](https://www.studebakersocal.com/BCOIE%20Membership%20Form%20Updated%202023.pdf)

Make Check (payable to: BCOIE Chapter)

Debbie Stockey
c/o BCOIE Membership
17410 Golden Maple Lane
Yorba Linda, CA 92886
Email Address: debizoo@aol.com



1962 Auto Show

1962 Chicago Auto Show

