



January 2010

NORTH TEXAS WHEEL

Newsletter of the Studebaker Drivers' Club of North Texas

**January Meeting
Saturday, January 16th
Tire-Kicking at 3:00 PM, Eat at 4:00 PM
Golden Corral, HI 121, The Colony**

December Meeting Notes

There were 18 members and guests and 3 Studebakers present. After some socializing and an excellent meal, President Dale Truitt called the meeting to order. First order was to thank Genevieve and Gary Meeks for hosting the meeting and party. Also thanks to all who brought side dishes and deserts. Introductions were made. President Dale Truitt also thanked the officers of 2009- V pres. Ed Will, Sec. Gayle MacLeod, Treas. Van Holmes, Newsletter editor Rod Barclay, Webmaster John Caldwell and Sergeant at arms Harry Porter. There was some discussion on the calendar for 2010.

The nomination committee presented candidates for the 2010 officers.

- President –Mike Griffin
- V-Pres. – Kent Greenly
- Sec.— Gayle MacLeod
- Treas. –Van Holmes
- Webmaster- John Caldwell
- Newsletter- Rod Barclay
- Sergeant of Arms- Harry Porter

Bob MacLeod made a motion to accept the slate as presented by committee. Seconded by Nick Harper and passed by all.

Old Business from November meeting: discussion of encouraging new members to renew and getting older members to participate. Suggestions, participate in more shows, encourage more clubs, and meet in other locations (rotating loca-

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President's Podium

Hello to all members out there in the North Texas Studedom (Kingdom)!

I'm looking forward to serving as president of this soon to be very active club. The straw poll at the Christmas party/meet told me that most all present wanted more activity, shows and tours this up coming year and I agree!

So with EVERYONE'S help, I'm asking for information on any car show or activity in your area for a meet of tour. Ideally, at least 3 months in advance so we can get it in the Turning Wheels.

I'll start off by having our February meet at the Sweetheart's and Orphans event in Weatherford. More details to follow. Due to the short notice look at club site for updates.

This is our chance (Stude's) to show those Hudson people, and all other car clubs, just what we are made of!!! Let's turn this into a real Studebaker Drivers Club. And get those NEW members.

Sincerely,
Your New Prez, *Mike*



Rod Gayle Van John Mike

2009 SDC North Texas Club Meeting Schedule

Month	Date	Tire kicking	Meeting	Location
January	Saturday 16th	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	Golden Corral, The Colony
February	Saturday 27th	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	Weatherford, TX.
March	Sunday 21st	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	TBA*
April	Saturday 17th	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	TBA*
May	Sunday 16th	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	TBA*
June	Saturday 19th	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	TBA*
July	Saturday 17th	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	TBA*
August	Saturday 21st	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	TBA*
September	Sunday 19th	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	TBA*
October	Sunday 17th	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	TBA*
November	Saturday 20th	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	TBA*
December	Sunday 12th			TBA*

* = Subject To change. Check next month.

An Exciting new Year — Editor's Thoughts

During the December meeting, Dale Truitt outlined a new vision for this chapter: We need to get the word out—that the Studebaker Drivers Club in North Texas is alive and kicking, with growth and involvement on our minds, and wind in our- hair (those of us who still have some). Mike Griffin, our new president is determined to pick up the gauntlet that Dale dropped at his feet and sally forth, Excalibur flashing in his hand, TarantaRa!!

(Sorry about that—got carried away!)

As Gayle covered in the December meeting notes, The new focus is on active participation in area shows and car activities, tours and cruises, maybe combined with other Orphan Car clubs. We are going to try rotating meeting sites in other Metro areas North, South, East and West. We will be closer to you at times throughout the year, and also be meeting on selected Sundays, except for the hot summer months. We hope more members will plan to attend and not feel so left out.

Hence all the 'TBA's in the schedule above. During the up-coming meeting I will suggest meeting sites—Restaurants that have good exposed parking, closed, or closable meeting rooms. If any member has a suggestion for a meeting site, by all means let us know and we can throw it in the pile, and maybe fill in a few of the slots.

In order to make this vision work, we will need individual members, or small teams, to take an area and run with it, research possibilities, do the work, outline a plan, check availabilities, review possible conflicts, etc; then make a presentation to the Chapter. Pick your area of interest, talk it up with your buddies, tell Mike or Kent that you are willing to serve, and we can get going. Areas are: Shows and Meets, Liaison with other Clubs, Programs for meetings, Media representative, SDC contact, Membership, Youth outreach, etc. Some of these areas can be combined, and others may already be under an officer's prevue, but an extra hand is always welcome.

Looking forward to a rewarding year of fun and activity and increased membership.

Rod

ONE MAN BODY-OFF SIDWAYS !

During the restoration of my 1953 Champion Hard-Top, we came to the parting of the ways so to speak – separating the body from the chassis. Let me set the stage:

The Stude shares a 30'x30' shop with my 1953 MG TD. ('53 was a very good year!)

Both are in line with the 20' double door, with the extra 10' on the Stude side. My intent was to place the body in that space by the simplest, least expensive way-and by myself.

I could then move the chassis out onto the apron outside the door to sand-blast etc.

With my 2 ton hoist (Cherry Picker) the body could be lifted vertically onto a oil drum-wood beam arrangement; but how to move it over without another pair of oil drums? Also at that height it would be hard to reach the top when it came time for body work and priming.

After much head scratching, muttering and pacing, and a final "I have it!- I think?" the following scheme was born:- Concrete blocks, 4x4's and furniture moving pads!

I took four 8 ft. 4x4 beams and cut a 6 inch lap joint on one end of each. Talk about hard going! Even with a 'Sawsall' and a new timber blade, sawing down the grain was the hardest part of the whole project. Bolted together, I would then have two 16' 4x4 beams to place cross-wise under the body, which has half-inch deep weld flanges on each side, pointing down, where the floor pans meet the inner rocker panels.

I selected plastic slippery moving pads with molded rims designed to fit furniture casters, and cut 2 slits at 180 deg. in the rim wide enough to fit tightly onto the weld lip.

After removing all the body bolts, I was able to lift the rear end off the chassis frame and insert one of the wood beams, repeating that process in the front. The pads were pressed into the weld joints while the body was clear of the beams. The lap joints were oriented vertically on the passenger side, pointing to the 10 ft. space.

Next came the concrete blocks. Supporting the 4x4 beams with two blocks in the rear would lift the body clear of the frame, but the front was a different matter. I wanted the engine to stay in

place during the separation, so I needed to strip all excess parts off the head. Even then it took an extra block so the front 'horns' would clear the engine. (OK! I could have let air out of the tires! Actually what I did was roll the chassis forward a



smidgin.) So, I had 8' beams centered on the car, blocks under the beams on either side, and a third set of blocks supporting the other pair of beams,



now bolted to the first pair through the sides. The body did slide nicely on the 4 inch (3-1/2") wide beam if I pushed hard enough, but it took a



lot of dancing around to keep lined up. Finally, I got wise and drilled a hole in the waist-high steel frame channel of the shop wall and borrowed my

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When you sign up with Hagerty, you get a magazine that covers the collector car world.

Recently it featured an article by Bob Sass titled “How to drive like the Mad Men; Top 10 Cars of the ‘Mad Men’ Era”

For the uninitiated, like me, this refers to an AMC Cable series set in the early ‘60s, an era of quality products and cutting-edge design.

The top Ten were:

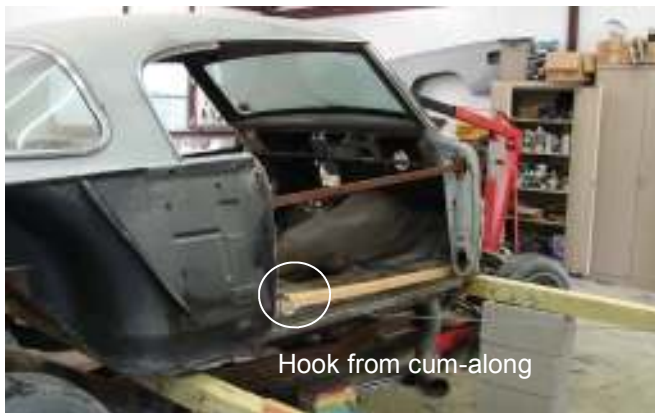
- 1963 Buick Riviera
- 1963 Corvette Sting Ray
- 1961-63 Ford Thunderbird
- 1961-63 Lincoln Continental
- 1963 Chrysler 300G
- 1963 Studebaker Avanti**
- 1962-63 Cadillac Coupe-de-Ville
- 1962-64 Studebaker GT Hawk**
- 1963 Buick Electra 225
- 1963 Ford Galaxie XL Convertible

We Have 2 out of the top 10!

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son-in-law’s ‘cum- along’.

It was easier to apply a few strokes, then check alignment, jog the body over if necessary, and work a few more strokes, etc. I found there was a



‘sweet spot’ for the hook on the 2x4 spanning the door opening that kept the pads more or less on the beams. Next time, 6x4 beams laid flat!

When the body reached its target location, and no engine parts were found clinging to the body, or visa-versa, the extra blocks were removed from the front and the beams separated.

It turns out that the excess beam on either side of the body makes a dandy support for a 2x12 plank to stand on when I sand the roof. With plenty of space around the chassis, removing the engine and transmission became easy and they now sit



patiently in front of the body.

I don’t claim to have invented this method of separating body from chassis, but for my circumstances it fit the bill – about \$55 total. And I did it all myself.

Rod Barclay

Cars and parts for Sale

Noted on Craigs List for Dallas:
Six Studebakers, from a 1928 Erskine ,restored,
to a 1960 Hawk. Prices range from\$1250 to a
mere \$45,000! Anyway—Take a look.

DUES! DUES! DUES! DUES!

Sorry if we are repeating ourselves, but it is get-
ting that time of year where our treasurer starts
waving his little tin box under your nose and rub-
bing his thumb and index finger together, smiling
benignly. Yes! The annual \$15 bargain dues, per-
son or the whole family, need to be paid by Dec.
31st, 2009. Remember, if not paid by February,
he stamps your forehead 'Past Due' and you don't
get this fabulous publication.

MEMBER'S CORNER

We are sad to hear that Gary Boehm, member
since 2002, has developed cancer and had to sell
his 1950 Champion Convertible. There is a picture
in the 2006 Calendar of this yellow and red beauty.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Gary.

Remember folks— This is the place to find out
how our fellow Stude and Avanti members are do-
ing, good or bad, weal or woe! Just call or e-mail
Rod.

December Notes (Ctd.)

(Continued from page 1)

tions has more benefits no matter how far you
have to drive).

Keep up to date on issues concerning the car
hobby by reading news from the Antique Auto
Lobby organizations, a yahoo group or an E-mail
group. Use new technology to the limit.

After some discussion the meeting was ad-
journed and there was a gift exchange.

Gayle

December Attendees

Name	Member	City	Car
Rod Barclay	m	Argyle	x
John Caldwell	m	Dallas	x
Charles Chambers	m	Ft. Worth	x
Leighton Floyd	m	Denison	x
Nick & Anne Harper	m	Dallas	x
Mike Griffin	m	Rockwall	x
Jack Lockhart	m	Hurst	x
Bob & Anne Lowry	m	Dallas	x
Sam & Helen McIntyre	m	Farmers Branch	x
Bob MacLeod	m	Carrollton	63 Cruiser
Gayle MacLeod	m	Carrollton	
Gary Meek	m	Dallas	x
Genevieve Meek	m	Dallas	
Harry Porter	m	Van Alstyne	x
Richard Rollin	m	Red Oak	x
Dale Truitt	m	Commerce	62 Lark
Alice Truitt	m	Commerce	
Ed Will	m	Plano	x

Ex- President's podium



At the December party, Dale set the tone for the
coming year. Grow—Baby — Grow! 5

As I said before, Here's a man who talks
the talk and walks the walk! He has taken upon
himself to concentrate on reaching out to the very
remote members, like in East Texas, bring them
into the fold and then encourage them to form their
own Chapter—it only takes three! Let's support him
in his effort.

When and where was the last car show you went
to? Zone Meet don't count!

NTSDC Officers for 2009

President – Mike Griffin
(972) 771-9400

Vice President—Kent Greenlee
(817) 265-1108

Secretary – Gayle MacLeod
(972) 394-6590

Treasurer – Van Holmes
Membership Inquiries to:
1215 Shawnee Trail, Carrollton, TX 75007
(214) 454-3605
van.holmes@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor– Rod Barclay
dalsource@verizon.net
(940) 464-4027

Web Master – John Caldwell
Club Website:
Http://clubs.hemmings.com/clubsites/notxscd/

Sargent-at Arms – Harry Porter
(903) 744-2090

Upcoming Automotive Events

- **Jan 30-31** DFW Swap Meet, La Grange Field,
600 N. Main, Ft. Worth. 254-751-7958
- **Feb 19-21** O’Rielly Autorama, Dallas Market Hall
- **Feb 26-28** 35th annual WCAAC Swap Meet
Decatur
- **Feb 27,28** Sweethearts and Orphans Meet,
Weatherford, TX.
- **Every Third Saturday** Christian Cruisers Car
Meet. Hwy 26 & Precinct Line Rd., Hurst 5-9 PM

Check your local newsletters, etc. and bring the details
to the next meeting, so the club members know.

For additional event listings and great links, visit
www.hemmings.com www.hotrodhappenings.com or
www.taillightking.com

See You at the Golden Corral

Studebaker Driver's Club
North Texas Wheel
c/o 826 Indian Trail
Argyle, TX 76226

