



February 2026



President's Message

Seventeen members showed up at Streetside Classic Cars on a very windy Saturday morning. I enjoyed looking at what they had to offer for sale. The prices for most of the cars were pretty "eyebrow raising." It just makes me glad that I chose Studebaker as my hobby car. We can enjoy great looking, dependable cars at a reasonable price. As the swap meet registration forms begin to arrive, it reminds me of how close the International Meet really is. We have a huge task ahead of us, but with everyone's help, I know we can make it happen. I want to encourage you to register yourself and your car for the meet. Your car does not have to be show quality to register it for display only. Every year there are many more driver quality cars than perfectly restored ones.

It is our responsibility to furnish items for the International Meet auction. If you have something to donate for the auction, please contact Ray or me.

Please plan on making the trip to Waxahachie at next month's meeting. We are going to try one more time to take a photo of our cars by the courthouse. This photo will be the cover for the magazine. The shots we had from the previous event did not meet the minimum specifications for publication. We will be sending out more info in the coming weeks regarding the March 21 meeting.

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OFFICERS

President,

Eddie Ranne

972 741 2795

eranne@verizon.net

Vice President,

Ray Chartrand

817 919 6558

chartrain@gmail.com

Secretary,

Rick Watts

469 401 9165

rswatts47@gmail.com

Treasurer,

Leon Carpenter

817 948 8103

1301bac@att.net

Newsletter Editor/Writer

Ray Chartrand

817 919 6558

chartrain@gmail.com

Webmaster,

Nicholas Treaster

913 660 4631

Club Web Address:

<https://>

www.NTXSDC.com

Follow us on Facebook at North Texas Studebaker Drivers Club

Minutes of the North Texas Studebaker Drivers Club

February 21, 2026

Streetside Classics 5400 Sandshell Dr. Fort Worth, Texas

President Eddie Ranne called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the January meeting can be reviewed in the January Newsletter.

Fritz Poppe brought dash plaques of past meetings to show.

The Treasury report is good. 18 members have not paid their dues. If you get this newsletter please print the membership page and send it to Leon with your dues.

Ken made Ad packets to offer businesses the opportunity to place an Ad in our Meeting booklet. Take one and see if you can pull in some advertisement money. Also use the sponsorship form to get sponsors.

Ray awarded Ken Bruce a Don Garlits Drag Museum hat for selling advertisements.

Our March 21 meeting will be in Waxahachie again, drive your Studebakers so we can get a good photo to put on the cover of Turning Wheels. We want as many Studes as we can get. We have two months open for meetings so call Eddie so you can plan a meeting.

Eddie is planning one meeting at the Haas Moto Museum in Farmers Branch, date to be announced.

We are still looking for a golf cart or two to use during the international meeting.

Ray has large shirts, ball caps & coffee mugs for sale at pre event prices

Ray is trying to get Robert Swope of **Full Tilt Motorsports in Nashville Tn** to speak at the International meet.

He raced his 63 GT Hawk in the Hong Kong to Peking race last year
Look him up on you tube "The Studebaker Chronicles".

Ray is soliciting after market vendors to sell at our meeting.

The Antique Automobile Club will have a meeting in Waxahachie the week end before ours & will also attend our meet

Good Guys Swap meet is March 6&7. Pate is April 23 thru 25.

Meeting adjourned.

We went to eat at Rudy's Bar-B-Q

Attendance 16 Members, 1 guest, 5 Studebakers

Rick Watts, Fritz Poppe, Mike Dorn, Rick Saupp,
George Jensen, Kevin McKinney, Ryan & Mark Chambers,
Leon Carpenter and Bella, Ed Will,
Pat Potts (53' Commander)
Eddie Ranne (53' Coupe)
Ken Bruce (53' Commander),
Gary Meek (53' Commander)
Ray Chartrand (63' GT Hawk)

Guest: Bill Potts



A chilly & breezy day saw 5 Studebakers show up for our February meeting at Streetside Classics in Fort Worth



Notice how the cash strapped company cleverly kept a 10 year old design relevant

Gary Meek a charter member of 57 years certainly puts on the miles in his 53 Commander & goes out of his way to promote the club



Lunch at Rudy's BBQ appears to be Car Central !

Along with Studebakers

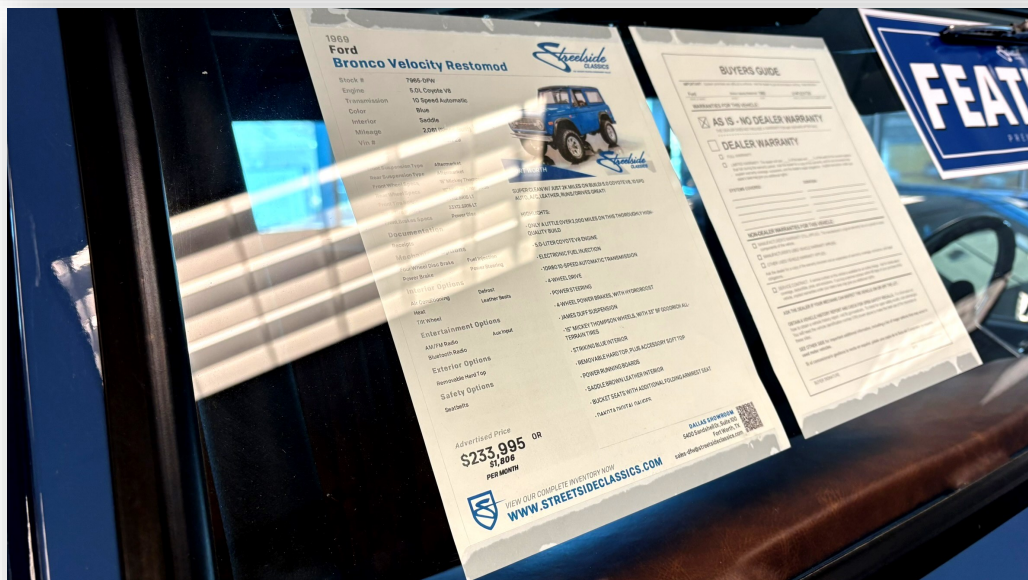
there were Corvette & Pantera Club members meeting here



Who doesn't like BBQ?



February meeting underway with President Eddie Ranne



Some of these prices like \$ 233,995 took my breath away

Finally on the road – Longtime member Pat Potts had his pride & joy a 327 Chevy powered 53 Commander out to proudly display. It's backed with a 4 speed, a rumpy, rumpy cam & a Ford 9 inch differential



The upholstery fabric in Pat's car is reminiscent of the hounds tooth in the 69 Camaro Z 28

Calling All Studebakers



Calling all Studebaker owners.....

This is literally a once in a lifetime opportunity to see your car featured on the cover of the nationally recognized *Turning Wheels* magazine, a publication of the Studebaker Drivers Club.

The above right photo was taken at our Drive Your Studebaker Day last September & although looking great to us, it didn't meet the stringent criteria of the editor for publication as a cover.

The city went to great lengths to block off one side of the very busy town square for our shoot. They had to be out there at 7:00 am to place traffic cones in each parking spot we required.

I guess lightening does strike twice. When I told the director at the convention bureau of our near miss, she agreed to once again arrange for a photo shoot on the town square—only bigger & better this time. We will have room for 14-15 cars on two sides of the square to allow for a vee shaped photo like on the left. Laurie, the director at the CVB will once again personally be out at 7:00 am on March 21 to place 15 traffic cones on the square for our shoot. We'd better not mess it up again!

This will probably be the last International meet most of us will ever see in Texas & certainly the only chance we'll ever have at such a fantastic photo shoot location.

So, drive, trailer or drag you car to the Waxahachie town square in front of the courthouse on Saturday March 21 at 9:30 am.

Know a friend who's not a club member but owns a Stude? Have them come along. I want those 15 slots filled & more if possible. We'll also shoot some video of a caravan to the host hotel or the BBQ joint we're using for the banquet for future promotional use.

Editor's Remarks

Wow, One more hurdle is overcome. After months of preparation & working late into the night, we finally have all the registration & event info for our International meet online.

It was ironic that we put so much effort into making a deadline that was then pushed back by weeks due to unfortunate tragedies with the editor of Turning Wheels . With the last minute push to get everything over on time, our submissions were riddled with errors. Thanks to Mark at Cornerstone & Cynthia Sale for catching typos & discrepancies. They will eventually work their way through the system & by September we'll be flawless!

I was adamant after all that work that I receive registration badge #1. I pre, pre, pre registered for the event

The registrar, Cornerstone stated that they have a rolling number system but that I would be first so I have number 6001—Yay!

Hotel reservations appear to be brisk from the queries that I've received and the GM Jami McKee at our host hotel The Residence Inn said she's handled all queries to date. Opening is currently slated for March 17. I asked her if she'd like to have a few Studebakers there for the event to which she emphatically replied yes. Our regular monthly meeting is on the 21st so let's try & get as many Studebakers to the hotel as possible. We'll be given a tour of the place & can hold our meeting there as well. I've reached out to my best pal at the Waxahachie tourist bureau for a suggestion to the location for another photo shoot. Our court house picture was the perfect locale but unfortunately didn't meet other requirements for the cover of Turning Wheels. We were given the opportunity to try it again so I will make sure the parameters are followed if we can find a suitable location.

Thank you to all who have supported our efforts to date. We look forward to continued revenue streams for advertising & sponsorships. We need to build up our coffers to secure deposits that basically will all become due at the same time such as bus rentals, banquets & ladies luncheon. We have to pay for this then be reimbursed. I have no intention of repeating the fiasco from last year's meet where organizers were personally out of pocket for \$\$\$.

I was in Daytona Beach Florida last week during speed week to visit with old friends who were our neighbors back in Montreal 35 years ago. At the rate people our age are "expiring" when they called & offered to meet up, we were on the next plane down.

Although a former over the top Nascar fan back in the days of Dale Earnhard, the last race we attended was 25 years ago when we saw him hit the wall. That took the wind out of my sails & I never attended a race after that. This year was the 25th year of his passing. RIP

While there, however I posted online that I was available to meet with any local clubs to explain more about our International Texas Meet. Being the Daytona 500 that weekend, I received zero response which was no big surprise. I will continue to promote the event everywhere I go including Ireland in May & at our local car shows.



Calendar of Events

Monthly meetings are typically held on the 3rd Saturday of the month with locations varying throughout the metroplex. Tire Kicking starts around 11:30 with lunch at noon & the meeting thereafter.

Many meetings offer informative presentations of interest to our members

Members are encouraged to host an event at one of their favorite locations

Jan 17 Keke's Breakfast Cafe 9613 Coit Rd Ste 108 Plano TX Plano Meet at 9:30 am

Feb 21 Streetside Classics Fort Worth

Decatur swap meet is February 19- 21

Good Guys is March 6-7

March 21 Residence Inn Waxahachie—visit the new opened Host Hotel for the meet

April Pate Swap meet at Texas Motor Speedway 18 April 23 thru 25

April Monthly meet TBD

May 16 TBD

June 20 TBD

We are hoping to have the entire years activities mapped out by the next issue

Studebaker International Meet 2026

The 62nd Annual SDC International Meet is being hosted by the North Texas Chapter of the SDC and will be held in Waxahachie Texas from September 23 to 26. The Antique Studebaker Club will also be joining us & will kick off the week with tours starting Sunday September 20

Although we are a closed event with registration required, we welcome the public to a meet & greet on Wednesday evening and an open house with general car show on Saturday the 26th.

Details including hotels etc. are now in the February newsletter & online at www.sdcmeet.com.



Merchandise

Available here is the trial run of merchandise I purchased for the '26 Meet

I'm offering these at cost. Once gone the price will be the official meet prices. I have 8 large tee shirts & 15 coffee mugs along with 9 ball caps. Current price is \$15 for tees, \$7.50 for mug & \$15 for ball caps. Meet prices will reflect current market trends i.e. higher

We'll take orders for different size tees & once enough of a given size is reached I'll order them. Sales will be payable upfront to Leon with details in the registration form & delivery will be in registration packets at the meet. Local purchases from current inventory will be made at monthly meetings. Email size & quantity to chartrain@gmail.com



Gildan® Everyday T-Shirt

Size: L

Color: Royal

Position: Front

Quantity: 10

\$15 pre sale \$20 later

\$25 for 2 xx & larger



\$15 presale \$20 later



\$7.5 presale \$10 later

The Studebaker Chronicles

If you like Studebakers & adventure then you have to follow Robert Swope & his 63 GT Hawk racing across China. He has produced a series titled the Studebaker Chronicles that are available on You Tube & you have to watch to believe. I've been in touch with the man & I am trying to have him & his car attend our meet. He will gladly come IF.... He's not tied up with another race. He's entered the same race this year but across Mongolia. The month is September but the date is not yet finalized. If it's early in the month he'll participate then come to our event. If it coincides with our date, well we'll keep you posted!

Here is the link to part 1 <https://YouTube/GdvJtQicweA?si=pyh8XoN5QywrXAA4>

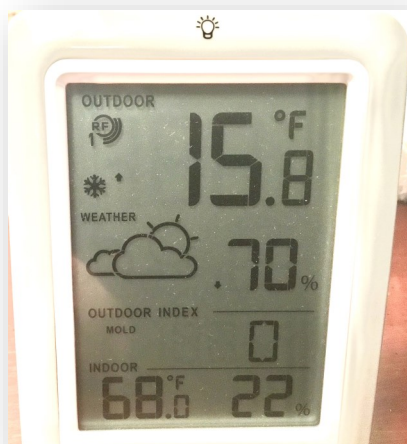
As Robert would say "Keep her between the ditches"



They're meant to be driven.....

Remember a really, really long time ago like 2 weeks, when it was 13 F with ice on the roads....

Well I wanted to see if Ruby would start & drive in those conditions. On a 15 degree morning with 20/50 oil, she barley cranked but fired up on the first try & as there was no one out on the roads, I took her for a "spin"



We were in for a major warm up from the earlier 13 F

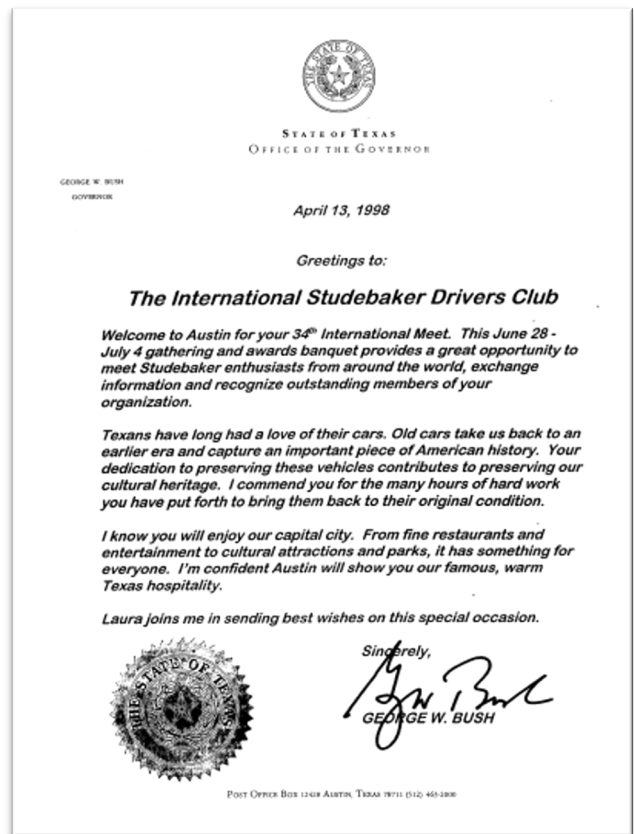
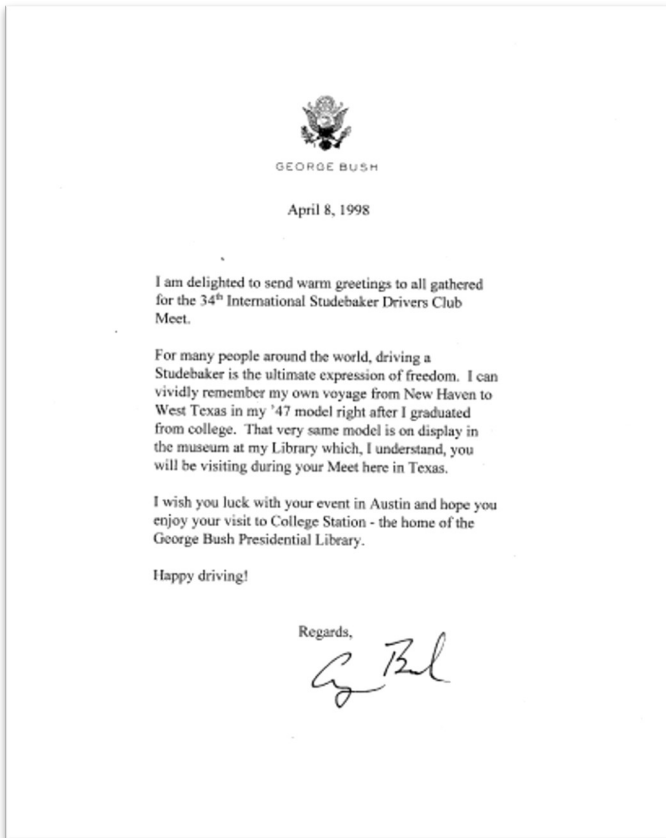


What looks like snow is several inches of ice!!!

Who Knew ?

Although totally new to me, hosting an International meet is something our club is familiar with. They hosted the 13th meet in Dallas in 1975 & then again in Austin in 1989. It's been 28 years since our last go round. If you can believe it, we still have active members in club from that very first meet some 51 years ago.

Herer's another interesting fact that will likely never be replicated. The 1989 meet had endorsements from a father & son team. Can you guess who? Why it was none other than the father George H W Bush President of the United Sates and his son George W Bush then acting governor of our fine state of Texas. As I said, you'll never see that combination again!



RIP Ed Iskenderian at 104—The cam father

Parts Needed

Ahoy!

I am looking for these parts if anyone can help

1955 Champion

2 door sedan

Wraparound windshield

I need the door panel lower chrome strips that go between the colors of vinyl.

2 long for the doors and 2 short for the rear panel

They are the same as the upper ones I already have

Tom Pecena

214 761 1968

tom@ahoycruisesdfw.com



Odds n Ends

Credit Peter Yuen

Electric fuel pumps installed in cars that never had them when they came from the factory should have a switch to shut off the fuel pump when the engine stops running. The switches may not be mandatory in some jurisdictions but it should be. Some parts jobbers may not stock such an item but worth asking anyway. They may bring one in from their supplier for you.”

The purpose of this switch is to shut the power off to the pump in the event of an accident and the engine stops running so that the pump will not keep running.

The switch is not a superfluous piece of equipment, it is a safety feature and a 1/8th inch male pipe thread. The actual diameter of the tapered thread is slightly more than 3/8th of an inch. A switch that will close with minimum of “5PSI should work fine.”

“You may need to use some fittings to connect the pressure switch to the Stude engine. On the right side of the Studebaker engine there is an oil gallery or channel that runs from the rear of the engine to the oil pressure relief valve towards the front of the engine. There are several oil plugs on the gallery. Remove the most convenient one to attach the pressure switch. The switch operates on oil pressure. With the engine running, there is enough oil pressure to maintain a closed circuit. To wire this switch into the system, refer to the literature that will come with the fuel pump.

.....

Wiring check on used cars – When purchasing a used vehicle, one of things to look at is the wiring to help determine if the car had been involved in a major fender bender. Caution flags should go up when you see the use of new wiring and splicing of wires or if the original wires had been tampered with in the engine compartment or the trunk area.

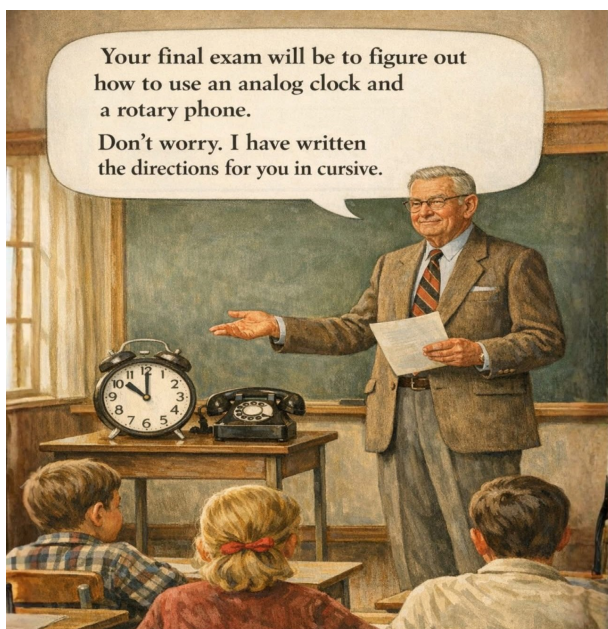
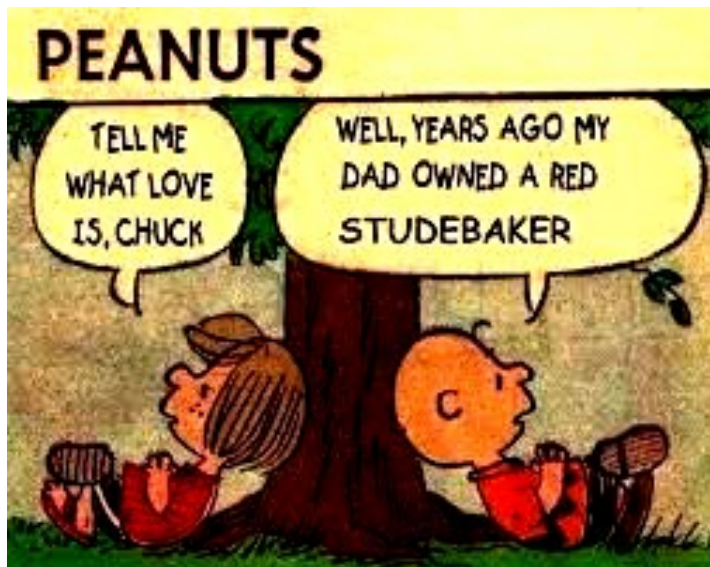
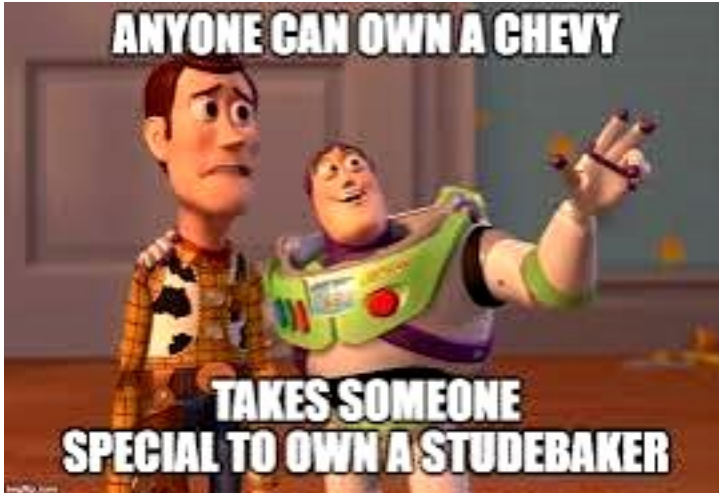
Examine the wiring closely, then check the warning lights on the instrument board to see if they are operational with the ignition switch turned on before the engine is started. You should see, (in cars so equipped)

- 1 - Engine or engine check warning light,
- 2 - Oil pressure light,
- 3 - Alternator or battery warning light,
- 4 - Temperature warning light.

CHECK OPERATION OF LIGHTS AND GAUGES WHEN THE ENGINE HAS BEEN STARTED.

Wiring check on cars that have been in a flood – Inspect under the dashboard and hood for brittle, discoloured wires or crumbling insulation. Look for corrosion, rust or mud on metal connectors, fuse boxes and inside of electrical components. There may be malfunction in lights, radio and erratic window operations due to the water exposure.

Humor — All things Studebaker



Service & Repair



The largest post-war Studebaker parts inventory in the Southwest!

We are lucky to have a large supplier of Studebaker parts located right in our back yard. Barry always has a large selection of new and used Studebaker parts along with a good stock of postwar body, trim, brake and mechanical parts. ***CUSTOM POLISH AND CHROME PLATING —** I sometimes forget that Barry also offers **Full service chrome, copper, nickel, and gold plating and polishing.**

Contact **Barry Hackney 281-787-6230 OR website at: www.Studebakersite.com.**

Mark's Repair & Service

12919 N. US Hwy 281, Lampasas, Texas 76550

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Boring, Valve Jobs, Crankshaft Grinding, Balancing
Studebaker Repair Specialist**



mfrank1962@att.net

Tel. 254-722-7757

Of course, long-time member **Mark Frank** has been rebuilding Studebaker engines and restoring Studebakers for years and I think is pretty well recognized as the best in Texas.

So we now have two possible sources that we can suggest members consider using when they ask for help.

It is a start at helping each other keep our Studebakers in good condition. Who do you use when you need that outside help? How about sharing that information with the rest of us?

Send me the contact information for your resource in whatever issue they specialize in. You can email it, snail mail it, or just pick up the phone and call me at 361-816-0375. **Studebaker folks are the best at helping each other. Lets do this thing!** **Nick Dynis**

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NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER
Studebaker Drivers Club
MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION



The North Texas Studebaker Drivers Club has my permission to use this info in their club directory

NAME: _____ **SPOUSE:** _____

ANNIVERSARIES (Day&Mon): HIS BIRTH _____ **HER BIRTH** _____ **WEDDING** _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

TELEPHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY BY: **U.S. Mail** **OR** **email**

PLEASE LIST YOUR STUDEBAKERS: (Owning a Studebaker is not a requirement)
 YEAR MODEL BODY STYLE

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

(Own more than 3? They're habit forming - just use the back)

We currently have over 60 members in our club. Average attendance at our meetings is 30. We meet on a monthly basis, typically on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Many of our meetings are held in conjunction with metroplex shows, tours or special events. Our meetings are fun, informative and very informal. We usually have a meal during the meeting for those who wish to eat. Our monthly newsletter is one of the very best, with interesting articles, color pictures of our members, Studebakers, current club news and items of interest.

We welcome you to our club where dues are \$20.00 per year.

Signature

Date

SDC Membership #

You must be a member of SDC to belong to a local club

<https://studebakerdriversclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SDC-Membership-Application.pdf>

Mail application along with dues payable by cash or check to :

Leon Carpenter 5711 Highgate Dr. Arlington Tx 76016-1532

Check made out to North Texas Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

Or Zelle at 817 948 8103