



December 2024
Volume 4 Issue, 12



Merry Christmas

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President's Message

As I write this note, I'm in Raleigh, N.C., helping my twins with updates to the house they purchased recently. I had hoped to visit the local SDC chapter meeting while I'm here, but missed their Christmas luncheon by one day. The chapter here is similar in size to the North Texas Chapter. I hope to make contact with their president and encourage them to attend the International meet in Denton. I appreciate Ray and Gary visiting the Cental Texas chapter meeting to deliver the Christmas bears. I'm sure communication with other chapters will be important for a successful 2026 International Meet. The mild winter months is an excellent time to be making needed repairs to those Studebakers. I hope to get mine back on the road soon. Hope to see everyone at the January meet.

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Editor's Comments



The grand kids aged 4 & 7 have arrived for 2 weeks so I publish now or never.

As I sit writing year end letters to friends & classmates of 60 years, I realize that I along with many of you are in for a reality check. I just verified & the average lifespan as of today in the US is 74.8 for a male & 80.2 for a female.

We're not only past our best buy date but also our expiry date! R W Thornton beat many of us by a good margin.

The reason I mention this is I, like many of you I am a pack rat of sorts saving a leftover this or discarded that figuring that it'll come in handy someday. There will be fewer & fewer "somedays" going forward. I for one don't want to leave the burden to my wife & kids to sort through the "stuff" that I've been saving that has now become useless & a burden for them to dispose of.

My wife has already started paring her extensive & expensive collection of China, crystal & silverware as our kids have zero interest in this "stuff"

What I'm alluding to in a roundabout way is several members have cars that are dismantled for various reasons be they, mechanical, electrical or paint & bodywork.

We've all seen 3 year paint jobs, multi year engine builds & the list goes on.

If you have a drivable or near drivable Studebaker or any vehicle then drive it & show up at meetings, informal drives etc.

Thinking that you'd better make it perfect or tear into that electrical system may result in you & your car never hitting the road again. Just look at the life expectancy stats again. A running car is also always worth more than one that has been disassembled to repair where only you know where the parts are & where they go.

If you have a half dozen projects that you'll eventually get around to—you won't & it'll only be a burden to those you leave behind.

If the guy in Vice Grip garage can resurrect & drive a car that's been sitting in the woods for 50 years then you can patch your ride & use it to enjoy & share with your fellow enthusiasts no matter what condition it's in. We are the Studebaker **Drivers** Club.,

Don't forget it & I hope to see many more of you on the road next year.

Visit to Central Texas Christmas Party



Pictured L to R are

Ray Chartrand, Larry Brooks & Gary Meek

It was a long dreary rain soaked drive to the Central Texas Christmas Party where we delivered approximately 60 bears. They estimate in total to have collected 300 for their annual donation to the Highway Patrol which they've done for over a decade.

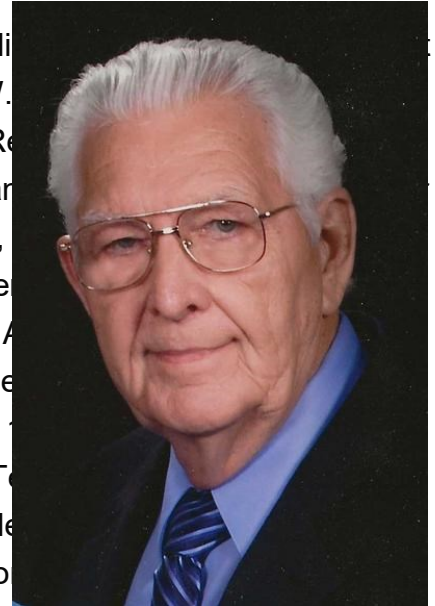
I had a chance to present our plans for the 2026 International meet & they agreed to endorse & assist us in any way they can. One possibility is having them provide goody bags to registered attendees.



This is a part of our contribution to Central. Thank you all for your donations.

RIP

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Robert Willis Dill, of Fort Worth, on December 16, 2024, two days after his 91st birthday. R.W. was born December 16, 1933, in Dirgin, Texas, to Willis Thurman "W.T." and Alma Lenora (Reese) Dill. A proud Texan, R.W. graduated from Snyder High School in 1952, and earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Arts from North Texas State College in 1956, and a Master of Science degree from Oklahoma State University in 1960. His commitment to education led him to earning a Doctor of Education degree in 1971 from the University of Arkansas. A proud alumnus of Kappa Sigma fraternity since 1955, he exemplified leadership, scholarship, and brotherhood throughout his life. From 1963 to 1993, he served as a professor at North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas) in the Department of Industrial Technology, where he impacted the lives of countless students. R.W. was known for his quick wit, imparting his wisdom and advice often with a touch of humor or telling a good joke. He had a particular fondness for Studebakers, which spoke to his appreciation for quality craftsmanship and classic design.



R.W. is survived by his wife, Shirley, and their four children: Darby Binder of Denton, Texas; Julie Sevier and husband Steve of Oak Point, Texas; Danica Knight and husband Kevin of Fort Worth, Texas; and Marcella Dill and husband Greg of Oil City, Pennsylvania. He also leaves behind a large and loving extended family, including 10 grandchildren: Heidi Binder, Ryan Binder, Levi Mitchell and wife Danielle, Brett Sevier, Torie Sevier, Lorelle Dunn and husband Justin, Collin Knight, Coleman Dill, Morgan Dill, and Drayton Dill. R.W. was also blessed with eight great-grandchildren.

R.W. was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Linda (Thornton) Sisson. He will be remembered for his steadfast love of country, his family, and his sense of humor.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, December 22, 2024 from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM at his and Shirley's home at 5909 Wedgmont Circle North, Fort Worth, Texas, 76133.



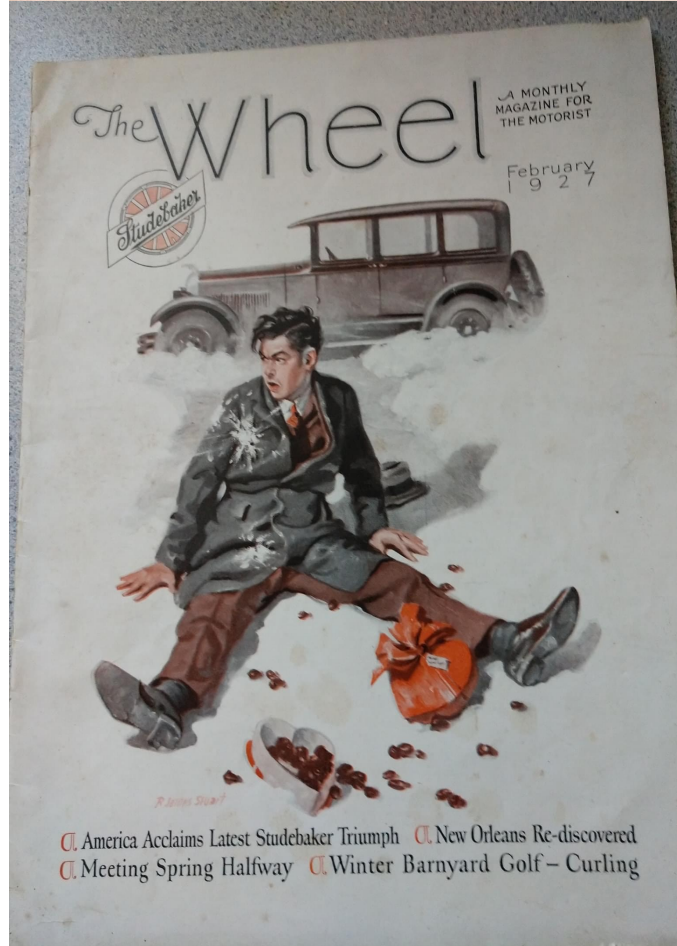
Volume 1, Number 4

November, December, 1971



Merry Christmas

Thank you to all the editors who have gone before me. Your efforts & diligence persist over 50 years later



☐ America Acclaims Latest Studebaker Triumph ☐ New Orleans Re-discovered
 ☐ Meeting Spring Halfway ☐ Winter Barnyard Golf - Curling



BULLETIN

Vol III No. II

December, 1971



Greetings and best wishes

POPULAR SCIENCE

Sept. 1949

25¢

Monthly



**Studebaker's
New Aero Nose**

PAGE 98

Roy Proctor

Buyer Beware

It's a sad state of affairs when there are more crooks than good people selling on social media.

To be safe, unless you know the sender then don't deal with them in any way, especially by sending any personal information.

Several sites have been found to be fraudulent yet they keep appearing regardless.

Do your due diligence

2:24 PM Thu Nov 21

73%

< browne auto salvage

All Posts People Groups Photos Videos Pages Places Events Marketplace

Here's my another interesting inventory of STUDEBAKER AND PACKARD PARTS available in great condition let us know what ever parts you're looking for even if it's not posted on our site, we still have a bunch of parts available we'll ship if need be.

Contact Browne Auto Salvage
or send us a message on messenger
*Location/ sunset Tx... See more



Santa Claus

Santa Claus—otherwise known as Saint Nicholas or Kris Kringle—has a long history steeped in Christmas traditions. Today, he is thought of mainly as the jolly man in red who brings toys to good girls and boys on Christmas Eve, but his story stretches all the way back to the 3rd century, when Saint Nicholas walked the earth and became the patron saint of children. Find out more about the history of Santa Claus from his earliest origins to the shopping mall Santas of today, and discover how two New Yorkers—Clement Clark Moore and Thomas Nast—were major influences on the Santa Claus millions of children wait for each Christmas Eve.

Santa Claus Around the World

Eighteenth-century America's Santa Claus was not the only St. Nicholas-inspired gift-giver to make an appearance at Christmastime. There are similar figures and Christmas traditions around the world. Christkind or Kris Kringle was believed to deliver presents to well-behaved Swiss and German children. Meaning "Christ child," Christkind is an angel-like figure often accompanied by St. Nicholas on his holiday missions. In Scandinavia, a jolly elf named Jultomten was thought to deliver gifts in a sleigh drawn by goats. English legend explains that Father Christmas visits each home on Christmas Eve to fill children's stockings with holiday treats. Père Noël is responsible for filling the shoes of French children. In Italy, there is a story of a woman called La Befana, a kindly witch who rides a broomstick down the chimneys of Italian homes to deliver toys into the stockings of lucky children. In the United States, Santa Claus is often depicted as flying from his home to home on Christmas Eve to deliver toys to children. He flies on his magic sleigh led by his reindeer: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, and the most famous reindeer of all, Rudolph. Santa enters each home through the chimney, which is why empty Christmas stockings—once empty socks, now often dedicated stockings made for the occasion—are "hung by the Chimney with care, in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there," as Clement Clarke Moore wrote in his famous poem. Stockings can be filled with candy canes and other treats or small toys.

Submitted by another Studebaker Club chapter

THE MAN WHO TRIED TO SAVE STUDEBAKER: SHERWOOD H. EGBERT



In 1961, 40 year-old Sherwood Egbert took on an impossible task: saving Studebaker.

Sherwood Harry Egbert (1920-1969) had one of the shorter tenures as chief executive in Studebaker history—less than three years—but in that time he made a major impact on the company. In his aggressive efforts to revive the struggling car brand, his initiatives included the introduction of disc brakes, superchargers, a redesigned Lark, the Wagonaire, the Gran Turismo Hawk, and the Avanti. None of these bold moves, together or separately, were enough to keep the automaker in business, as it turned out. But realistically, that was never in the cards. Egbert had arrived too late.



Sherwood Egbert (left) with Raymond Loewy, 1963 Avanti introduction

In truth, when the Studebaker-Packard Corporation's board of directors chose Egbert to run the company in January of 1961, saving the Studebaker car brand was not on the top of their task list. Rather, he was directed to streamline operations and diversify the company through acquisitions to limit its exposure in the auto industry. And that he did, acquiring STP Oil Treatment, Franklin Refrigeration, and Paxton Products, among others. As the board saw it, with less than a 2 percent market share the prospects for Studebaker in the car business were dismal at best.

Egbert didn't see it that way, as soon he was throwing both arms around the automotive operations. A major in the U.S. Marines in World War II, at six feet, four inches he was a dynamic presence: According to *Time* magazine, the 40 year-old was known as "Mr. Go-Go-Go" in his previous job running the McCulloch Corporation. One of his first tasks was to visit 1,300 Studebaker dealers personally where, as a fully rated pilot, Egbert took the right seat in Studebaker's corporate aircraft.



Indianapolis Motor Speedway owner Tony Hulman (left) and Sherwood Egbert with the 1962 Indy 500 pace car, a Lark Daytona Convertible.

With no hope of resuscitating the dead Packard brand, the company's name was shortened to the Studebaker Corporation. To reinvigorate Studebaker's aging product line, Egbert engaged his friend, industrial designer Brooks Stevens, to upsize and restyle the 1962 Lark and to repackage the Hawk as the striking Gran Turismo Hawk. From Raymond Loewy and Associates, Egbert commissioned a radically styled fiberglass GT called the Avanti, designed in just five weeks in a bungalow in Palm Springs and rushed into production for 1963. Superchargers by Paxton (another Studebaker division) were available across the board in '63, along with disc brakes by Bendix, a neighboring South Bend company.

While all these developments were exciting at the time and so memorable today, they failed to reverse the automaker's rapid decline. Sales fell another 22 percent in '63 and the company reported a loss of nearly \$17 million. Egbert, who'd been diagnosed with stomach cancer a year earlier and had undergone several operations, stepped down on November 24, 1963. Just 26 days later, the board shut down vehicle production in South Bend, though assembly continued on a limited basis in Canada through March of 1966. Despite his serious illness, Egbert outlived Studebaker as a carmaker, passing away on July 30, 1969. He was 49 years old.

1963 Studebaker Lark, Gran Turismo Hawk, and Wagonaire



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 18 South Arlington Location TBA Host Ray Chartrand

Can you guess what these objects have in common?



They all keep fasteners from unfastening—unless desired!

Most bolted connections at some point in their lives will probably have to be unfastened—SOME MANY TIMES OVER.

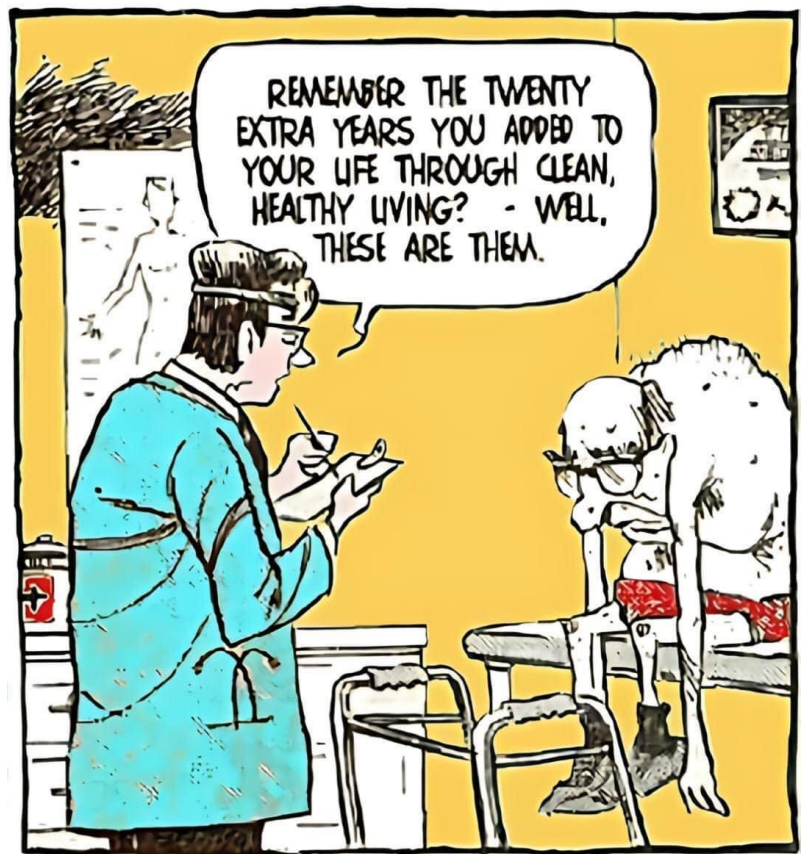
But there's a big difference between a voluntary & involuntary separation of fasteners (think wheel lugs)

Some fasteners may need assurance that they won't come undone—think Loctite & safety wire.

Each has its own specific reason for being chosen.



**Did some
financial planning
and it looks like I can
retire at 62 and live
comfortably for
eleven
minutes.**



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.**

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12919 N. US Hwy 281, Lampasas, Texas 76550

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Studebaker Repair Specialist



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!**

Since 1991, our goal is to be the premier source providing you with the parts, expertise and information required to restore and maintain your British and Domestic exotic vintage vehicle(s) to the highest level of authenticity and originality.

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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