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# STUDEBAKER Spotlight



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE LONG ISLAND  
CHAPTER, SDC

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Volume 8, Issue 7 – July 2015

## Current Officers 2015

### President

Kevin Healion

[Kevin@CenturyTennis.com](mailto:Kevin@CenturyTennis.com)

### Vice President

Tom Portesy

[Grandhawk54@yahoo.com](mailto:Grandhawk54@yahoo.com)

### Secretary

Roger Price

5 Lindron Ave, Smithtown, NY (631) 724-1382

### Treasurer

Frank Sammon

105 Ridge Ave, No. Great River, (631) 348-7681

### Membership Secretary

Frank Sammon

105 Ridge Ave, No. Great River, (631) 348-7681

### Newsletter Editor

Cathy Sammon

[glesam@optonline.net](mailto:glesam@optonline.net)

Visit us at: [www.longisland-sdc.com](http://www.longisland-sdc.com)

## Next Meeting:

**Thursday, July 16th at 7:30 p.m.  
Marjorie Post Community Room**

## JUNE MEETING RECAP



The meeting opened at 8:16 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. In Rogers's absence, I read the minutes of the last meeting. They were accepted by Tom Portesy and seconded by Bob Andreocci.

With Frank Sammon not in attendance this evening, the Treasurers report was postponed until the next meeting.

Old Business: None

New Business

Our show is only ten days away.

President Kevin Healion reported that all the award plaques are ready for our show, and that sponsor tags will be made next week. The plaques are similar to last year, with a space for the recipient to put a photo onto it. Kevin asked that if there are any additional sponsors, to please get the information to him as soon as possible. We have two \$100 sponsors, Century Tennis and Atlantic Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep.

Edward Jones Financial sponsored a trophy plus contributed a nice logo cooler we will award as part of our 50/50. Roger also has some large bottles of detailer we can use a 50/50 prizes.

Other sponsors include Good Shepard Auto, Steve's Auto Body, Any-Part Automotive, AKA Automotive, All Systems Brake, and Bonanno & Sons Auto Collision.

## MEETING INFORMATION

**Third Thursday of every month**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Community Room**

**Marjorie Post Park**

**Massapequa**

**New members welcome!**

We have about nine pre-registrants for orphans other than club members. The Corvair Club and the Verrazano Chapter plan to attend.

I will try to contact last year's non club member registrants to remind them of the upcoming event. In other news, there is a Father's Day car show at the Merrick train station and an annual show the day before at Auto Mat in Hicksville.

We are looking for any ideas for a summer or fall run. In the past we have done rides to Martha Clara Vineyards, Cooperage Inn restaurant in Baiting Hollow, and Long Island Steamers. Suggestions are welcome.

Our picnic is scheduled for September 19 at Belmont Lake State Park

Tom believes that the Sayville event has been moved out until the second week of August.

Tom picked up all the interior parts for his Studillac from his daughters house and then drove a shop in West Virginia to get the headliner, door panels, seats and more done for a great price of about \$2000. He is excited because the work is promised to be completed in six to eight weeks. He will keep us updated on progress.

Tom also related a story about an experience Henry has had with Studebaker International. After spending about \$1000, he asked to use a \$20 discount coupon that had just recently expired. They refused. Henry will not deal with them any longer.

Carl asked to make a presentation on a car he is representing, which is the '62 Daytona, which the owners had brought flyers to our last meeting. Carl says he has driven the car and it is in very good condition, but needing some work. He presently has it advertised on eBay with a reserve of \$6999. Call Carl if interested.

The 50/50 was won by Mitch, who donated it back to the club.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Howard Naval on behalf of Roger Price, Secretary.

## TECH TIPS



### Leak Down Test

Leak Down Test – by Dennis Haynes (Taken from the Studebaker Drivers Club Website Bob Johnson's website) Reprinted from December 2009 BCIEC Sparkplug

We already use a compression test to determine an engine's condition. The problem with this test is that there are too many variables. It can only be used to check engine condition by comparing cylinders to EACH other or a past norm. Variables such as cam profile, engine cranking speed, etc., will affect the readings.

A leak down tester uses air from a compressor and measures the rate at which it leaks through the engine. This is done by with the engine not running, and the beauty of this is that it can find the source of the leakage by listening for the escaped air. Internal leakage is found by air bubbles in the cooling system. Tools needed are a leakdown tester, and an air compressor. The tester is available for about \$60.00. Compressor should be at least 2 hp and deliver 90 psi.

#### Procedure:

Remove spark plugs. Set engine to TDC #1. Calibrate test gauge per the instructions. Lock engine so it cannot turn. Connect hose to spark plug hole. Connect pressurized gauge to hose connection. Read leakage. If looking for coolant leaks and nothing obvious shows up, bypass gauge and connect shop air direct to cylinder. Open radiator cap before this. If coolant sprays out, you have a head problem. Do same test on rest of cylinders. Remember to set TDC of EACH piston for compression stroke.

This test is also great for air cooled head leaks and valve problems. Note that all engines will have some leakage past the rings. Always do full pressure test when you suspect a problem. Make sure engine is SECURED with full pressure test. If on a stand, it will spin violently. With gauge connected, you can rock crankshaft to see if leakage changes. If so, this is a sign that the ring lands are wearing; new engines will also do this until the rings are seated.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **LI Chapter Barbecue.** To be held on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at Belmont Lake State Park, starting at 9 a.m.

Section below contributed by member Peter Yuen and provided for SDC Editors to use. Thanks Peter!

## Odds "N" Ends

Car components break down with age and usage. Recently, an SDC Member visited with me. He told me of having a wheel cracking around the outermost part of the recessed dished area of the wheel around the bolt holes. My friend pointed out the area on the dish which is about an inch outward from the center and between the bolt holes, there is a buttress embossed into the dish. This embossment is about an inch in width. On a wheel mounted on a '63 Lark parked on my driveway, we noticed that there was cracked paint on the buttress and rust where the cracked paint was. It was suggested to me that there must have been flexing to have caused the paint to crack due to metal fatigue and the wheel will no doubt crack.

In having worked around machinery for all of my working years, I fully agreed with the observation that my friend had made. In his case, he said that he heard a squeaking noise while he was driving and thought that the wheel was coming off. He stopped and checked. . . . It was fortunate that he did as the wheel on his Stude was soon going to detach itself from the car. There are other places that would be better than sitting in a car that is going 60 miles per hour and having the wheel and the car going in different directions at the same time. The object is to have the car and all of its' components traveling together in unison if you wish to arrive at your destination safely.

Take a few minutes to pry the hubcaps off and look at the wheels on your Studebaker. If there is any sign of cracked paint on the dished area as previously mentioned, then consider that wheel as a strong candidate for failure and replacement is needed.

*Please note: The parts catalog lists a different wheel for disc brake equipped cars, part # 15558827 . For cars with drum brakes, the wheel is part #1558828. The difference is with the greater amount of offset for the cars with disc braking system so that there is clearance between the wheel and the brake calipers.*

Metal fatigue, if present can be heard elsewhere on your Studebaker as well. If an unusual squeak is heard coming from the engine compartment when the motor is operating, shut off the ignition immediately and check the fan. **DO NOT GET INTO THE ENGINE COMPARTMENT WHILE THE MOTOR IS RUNNING. You do not want to see a piece of the fan coming at you in the area between your eyes and knowing that you cannot duck fast enough to avoid getting hit.**

If ever a person gets hit on the head with a piece of the fan, it would give them a headache that ASPIRIN and EXCEDRIN cannot relieve.

Due to age, the Studebakers in use today should have a periodical check of the fan, starting now! Look for cracks around the rivets. Grab a hold of a fan blade and gently see if it will flex at the rivet. Do this on all of the blades. Be sure not to bend any of the blades. A bent fan blade will cause it to pull more or less air than the others that are not bent and may result in vibration while in operation.

Most Studebakers used a 4 blade fan, some with the rivets close to the outer edges of the blade. **The other type used has been riveted in the center of the blade. This type of fan blade is more prone to metal fatigue and they do fail.**

**Love** is a force more formidable than any other. It is invisible - - It cannot be measured, yet it is powerful enough to transform you into a moment, and offer you more joy than any material possession could.

**Live simply.  
Love generously.  
Care deeply.  
Speak kindly.**

# LONG ISLAND CHAPTER STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday (Mo/Day):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**SPOUSE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday (Mo/Day):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Anniversary (Mo/Day):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDEBAKERS OWNED:**

YEAR	MODEL	BODY STYLE

**To join or renew your membership, mail completed membership form, with membership fee payable to "LI Chapter SDC" to Frank Sammon, 105 Ridge Avenue, No. Great River, NY 11722-3430**

**DUES: Annual Dues are \$15.00. New members joining January – June: \$15.00, after July \$10.00.**

**NOTE: YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE SDC TO JOIN A LOCAL CHAPTER.**



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