
STUDEBAKER Spotlight



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Next Meeting:

**Thursday, February 18th at 7:30 p.m.
Marjorie Post Park Community Room**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

In the midst of all the current controversy regarding the Toyota recall, knowing full well it is only one of the many in the past to strike at just about all of the automotive leaders, I can feel a renewed appreciation for the straightforward mechanical engineering the cars of decades ago represent. Sitting behind the wheel of my '51 recently, even though it was parked in my garage, cold and not started, I felt the bond between driver and driving machine that no amount of electronic control systems could ever offer me. Yes, they can be aggravating and quirky enough, but something can be said for the feel of the steering wheel making me an active participant in the experience and the feel of a brake pedal which lets me decide how to stop rather than a computer chip doing it for me. And, oh yeah, when I open the hood, I actually see an engine and not a plastic shroud covering just about everything. Oh well, maybe it's a sign of age, but I have a hard time imagining someone sitting in my Honda Accord fifty years from now feeling that same type of appreciation.

A quick note of thanks to Dave Evans for his help in getting our meeting room at Marjorie Post Park reserved each month for 2010 and our prolific story teller, Kevin Healion for another great article this month. I'm going to miss seeing that '38 beauty around here.

MEETING INFORMATION

Third Thursday of every month

7:30 p.m.

Community Room

Marjorie Post Park

Massapequa

New members welcome!

Howard Naval
President, LI Chapter

JANUARY MEETING RECAP

Howard, our President, opened the meeting with a warm "Happy New Year" to all.

Frank, our treasurer, announced that dues were payable tonight, and began collecting them.

Howard discussed our Christmas party; its success; the \$10-per-person admittance fee and its universal appeal.

Frank, our treasurer, reviewed club's financial status; stated that our balance was \$918.69. His report was accepted by Tom Portesy, and seconded by Ralph Langenbach.

Howard reviewed trophy situation; brought up possibility of a new supplier; discussion opened to cover possibility of clocks/mugs/plaques with photos as options to trophies. No decisions were made regarding this topic.

Our upcoming show was discussed; date was finalized to be June 13th, which would not conflict with Old Westbury show; rain date will be June 27th. The topic of the definition of "Orphans" (as the word relates to automobiles) was discussed at length. The addition of an "American Classics" category was discussed. No decisions were made regarding these topics. Howard reviewed the flyer layout and wording for our show. A decision was made to add the phrase "25 years old or older" to the flyer. References to identifying this show as our "Twenty-fifth Anniversary" or Silver Anniversary" show were broached; no decision was made regarding this topic.

Carl Carilli mentioned that a website existed which listed virtually every upcoming car show; he volunteered that he would research its parameters and report his findings at our next meeting. Howard discussed the advertising/announcement modes for our show, which include listings in Hemming's Motor News, Old Cars Weekly, Turning Wheels, and Newsday.com.

The permit requirements and renewal status for our meeting room was reviewed by Howard. We will continue to meet at this location.

Howard reviewed the date, time, and location of the Presidents' Council meeting: February 21st, 10:30 AM, VFW Hall in Hicksville.

Cap-a-Radiator in Farmingdale was mentioned as the location objective for a cruise to occur on February 6th. It was suggested that more details would be available at [Caparadiator@hotmail](mailto:Caparadiator@hotmail.com) or www.ClassicRadiator.com.

"Goody" bag contents for our show were discussed; we are receiving some give-outs from National; it was established (re-affirmed) that bags could contain non-auto-related items.

Carl Carilli stated that he had followed-up on his research for an alternate meeting location (the Brentwood Public Library); he has established that the members of our club do not meet the constituent-residency requirement of the library.

The Verrazano Studebaker Club was discussed; their members are apparently reaching out to our club, including a desire to participate in our events. Suggestions were made by our members to follow-up by contacting leaders of that club.

Carl Carilli talked briefly about the status of his GT Hawk, which is "status-quo" due to his (and the world's) challenging financial situations. He elaborated on his strong feelings for "his baby" and how he felt our cars were "works of art".

Ralph won the 50/50 (\$13 was split).

Carl Carilli
For Roger Price

EMPTY GARAGE SYNDROME



By Kevin Healion

Maybe you know the feeling; not many do. It's when you sell an old favorite ride and the old garage has an empty space in it. All of a sudden you have a lot more free time. Your wife sees you doing more around the house or maybe just getting in more TV time. You might show a little more interest food shopping or even gardening, "whoow." I know: scary and depressing, right, but these symptoms are real.

You visit your garage, or as some loved ones call it, “the cave,” only to find a lot more room in it. You can only sweep the floor so many times, clean your tools and arrange them in just the right way. You miss those times when there was a reason to go there. You stare at the bottles of polishing compound, waxes and chrome polish and all of sudden wonder why there were so many different brands.

It’s called “*Empty Garage Syndrome*” and it affects one in ten antique car collectors. The reasons for an empty garage vary, but the effects can be devastating. Some are forced to sell due to economic misfortune, some are just tired of the old ride, and some have just thrown in the towel.

“*Empty Garage Syndrome*,” more commonly known as *EGS*, is a real disease, but very treatable. The treatments available can help those who have been forced to sell one prized possession or for those just seeking a new beginning, in a new, what we call “project car.” Unfortunately, there is little help for those who have just given up on the whole idea, actually years of therapy may be required to turn those poor souls around.

I, myself, have been diagnosed with this affliction. I recently sold my 1938 Studebaker Club sedan which was part of my life for over 23 years.



The satisfaction of rebuilding, from the ground up, was rewarding to say the least. Once the painstaking restoration was complete, I would spend most of my time pampering, prepping and parading the gem at shows, events and just Sunday drives with my wifey-poo, Laura.

My reason’s for selling the gem are a combination of financial pressure, which stems from those little interferences such as college and home improvements, and the seeking or psychological need for a new beginning as discussed previously, “project car,” If I have lost any of you so far ... too bad.

I have begun treatment of my disease, *EGS*. These steps are not proven, but I know they have helped many of my closest cohorts. I take a dose of Newsday Classified, Collectable section, once every morning and a monthly maintenance program of Hemming’s Motor News. So far, the therapy is working for me, and I feel that I am on the road to recovery. It is hard, but I take one day at a time.

I have heard that a more intense program is available to those seeking a faster recovery and filling that empty spot sooner. In addition to the aforementioned prescriptions, it is recommended that eavesdropping on conversations in regard to classic auto sales and E-bay sniping can sooth the affects of *EGS* although it requires a keen ear and fast fingers to be successful.

All kidding aside, the faster I am cured, the less gardening I will have to do!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **LI Chapter SDC Reunion Sunday Car Show.** Sunday, June 13, 2010 at Marjorie Post Park in Massapequa.



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, North Great River, NY 11722-3430.

DUES: Join January – June \$15.00; July – December \$10.00

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



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