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# STUDEBAKER Spotlight



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE LONG ISLAND  
CHAPTER, SDC

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## 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, Sept. 17th at 7:30 p.m.  
Marjorie Post Community Room

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



We are getting close to our show on September 13<sup>th</sup> "Reunion Sunday." This will be a rain or shine show and I am pleading with the Rain Gods to help us out.

As always, I look forward to our special show with great anticipation. It is a rare show that really honors those special automobile makes and models that, in one way or another, disappeared from the marketplace and roadways of America. If it were not for the devoted collector and restorer of the some of these fine automobiles of the past, their history would be lost.

It is always interesting to me how there is always a story behind the cars we collect and the reasons why we become so attached to them. Stories like, "My father owned the same car when I was a kid and he let me drive it" or "I drove this car in High school" or "I just fell in love with lines."

These stories are just as much fun to listen to as how and where we found our dream car. That is the best reason for our "Reunion Sunday." We just like to talk about our cars and listen to others about theirs.

One of the greatest feelings I know is when someone, maybe older, that is just there as a spectator, comes up to your car and begins his tale of when he owned that same car. His eyes light up and there is an excitement that is transmitted though his memories. There is a glimpse of real history from a

## MEETING INFORMATION

Third Thursday of every month

7:30 p.m.

Community Room

Marjorie Post Park

Massapequa

New members welcome!

real owner with his great memories or even his troubles with the same car. It always ends up in a nice laugh. It is just a good feeling.

We have a special show that I know all of you know. Let's have some fun on Our Day. Hope to see you all there and tell your friends to stop by!

Kevin J. Healion, President  
Long Island Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

## **AUGUST MEETING RECAP**



Our meeting opened with the salute to the flag at 8:12 P.M. Secretary Roger Price read the July meeting recap. It was accepted by Frank Sammon, and seconded by Lanning Baron.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Frank Sammon reviewed expenses and income since our July meeting. Checking expenses included July newsletter, August newsletter and refreshments. Checking income included car show sponsor checks, car show sponsor cash, car show registrations, dues, June and July 50/50 (50/50 winnings were donated back to the treasury), refreshments, and bank interest.

There was no activity in the savings account. (For specific information regarding income and expenses, please contact either Frank or Roger.) The Treasurer's Report was accepted by Howard Naval, and seconded by Bob Andreocci.

### MEMBERSHIP:

Frank and Cathy reported that we now have 24 paid-up members.

### REUNION SUNDAY:

President Kevin Healion stated that we are all set for the September 13th Reunion Sunday. Our sponsors have supported us well. Kevin stated that he will bring a hero sandwich to the show. Verazzano Chapter and Corvair Club have been invited.

I stated that we should have a number of cars from the VCR attending our show.

Kevin will be bringing the "We Invented Cool" banner.

### CLUB PICNIC:

Our annual club picnic will again be at Belmont Lake State Park on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Since there will also be a large group for an Alzheimer's Walk starting at 9 A.M., it behooves us to arrive very early at the park to secure our picnic space and parking spots for our Studebakers. I mentioned that I'll call Tom Portesy to inform him of this development.

### CAR STUFF:

Kevin reported that he has progressed well in the restoration of his '53 Starlight Coupe. There was no rust anywhere on the car. It had been garaged since 1959. It's painted black with the original red interior, and it looks great. Kevin also has a good Stude V-8 to install. It will look like the 232 cu. In. engine.

Bob Andreocci needs some help to diagnose running problems in his '65 Daytona. Kevin offered to help.

### FUTURE EVENTS:

Aside from our Reunion Sunday and the club picnic, I brought flyers for the Smithtown Heritage Country Fair to distribute to our members. I asked Cathy to help publicize it in our newsletter.

50/50 was won by Lanning Baron, who donated his winnings back to the club.

Our meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roger Price, Recording Secretary

## **HELP WANTED INEXPERIENCE AND INEPTITUDE A PLUS!**

By Peter Lee

OOF!... OUCH!... DAMMIT - NOW I'M BLEEDING! HELP!!! I am mechanically challenged. Back in my college days I had a new 1957 Plymouth Savoy four-door sedan. It was mostly serviced at shops, but sometimes I would attempt to do some "simple" repair myself. The fact that I lacked the tools, mechanical ability, experience, or self-knowledge to do these tasks was of no concern. My previous project, disassembling a

Sturmey-Archer gear set off my red English racer bicycle, resulted in me taking it to a shop with the parts in a coffee can. I think it was Martinson's. In any case, I soon realized that automobile repair was not my strong suit. After that, I limited my car maintenance tasks to washing and, as Mr. Miyagi told Daniel in *The Karate Kid*, "Wax car on, wax car off." This fit my skillset perfectly, resulting in a nice shiny car, whichever one I drove at the time.

About ten years ago I finally had the wherewithal to purchase a longtime-desired collector car, and Kevin H. was the proverbial "go-to guy." I knew him for many years and had seen his handiwork in restoring two Studebakers; a 1938 Commander coupe and a 1951 Commander V8 sedan. I visited his shop near my home on Long Island where he was working on a 1956 Sky Hawk. Knowing his skill and trusting him implicitly, we made a deal on the spot. He had been doing a complete body-off-frame restoration and I would have to wait another 18 months until it was done.

Not being content at just flipping pages on a calendar, I'd stop by his shop from time to time to check on his progress. I really wanted to have some kind of hand in restoring the car, yet I really couldn't do anything which required skill, so Kevin handed me some sandpaper and a mask and got me going sanding the plastic filler. "O goody" I declared -I can do that!" So I sanded, and sanded and sanded until my poor skinny little arms ached. Over and over I sanded and felt for uneven surfaces. Over and over Kevin would show me the flaws. After a long time of doing it with not much success, Kevin, in his infinite wisdom said "You know, Peter, you don't have to do this." He finished the area I was working on and in minutes it was ice-smooth. Later on he let me use the paint sprayer, but only with primer. Sure enough, the car turned out to be beautiful, the product of a true craftsman.

Since then, I've only let highly-skilled mechanics and body men work on my Studie, although once I did manage to replace a busted taillight lens myself. It's not a #1-level car, or a 20-footer either, but a perfect # 3 driver in which I can enjoy cruising the back roads of the Hamptons every day, if I want. No bad language needed, except at all the terrible drivers here during the summer, and no bleeding or scraping

my precious piano-player hands. Now there's something I **can** do!

## FOR SALE

**FOR SALE:** Two (2) 1963 Studebaker Cruiser's each have a 289 cu. engine. One-automatic; one-stick. Many new parts on both (too many to list), as you can see in the pictures that are located in the Gallery section of the LI Chapter Website. Proper documents, title and numbers match. Shop and parts manuals, both run. Buy one, Restore one. Buy both, Restore both. \$10,000 for both. Contact either, Bob (585)-721-6865 or Dave (585)-356-1622. E-mail to [pullybl@frontiernet.net](mailto:pullybl@frontiernet.net) Thank you, Dave

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Frank was weeding out some files recently, and came across some old issues of the Spotlight. The tip below was noted in the September 1983 issue. I thought a trip down memory lane would be fun for everyone to see.



**AUTO HINTS**

**FLUORESCENT CHECKS SPARK.** If you touch the end of a fluorescent lamp to a spark plug, it will flash in time with the firing, and irregularities can be detected more easily than by screwdriver shorting. A lamp with a burned-out filament will work as well as a good one. Hold the tube by the glass.—LEONARD L. ALLEN.

# REUNION SUNDAY

## STUDEBAKER AND ORPHAN CAR SHOW



At MARJORIE POST PARK MASSAPEQUA  
Unqua Rd  
Between Sunrise Hwy & Merrick Rd  
2015

September 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-3:00pm

**LAST CHANCE**

**RAIN or SHINE**

1<sup>st</sup> place awards for Studebaker classes  
1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards for orphan makes  
*Also Specialty Trophies*

FOR INFO CONTACT: BOB: 631 834 6785 [randreoc@optonline.net](mailto:randreoc@optonline.net)

OR

ROGER: 631 724 1382 [raprice22@aim.com](mailto:raprice22@aim.com)

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### Car registration application

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \$15 BEFORE SHOW; \$20 DAY OF SHOW

CHECKS MADE OUT TO: STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB

Send check to: Frank Sammon, 105 Ridge Ave., North Great River, NY 11722

Smithtown Historical Society

# HERITAGE COUNTRY FAIR

September 20, 2015

10 am to 5pm

Dedication of the Bradley L. Harris Room  
Island Long Riders Cowboy Mounted Shooting Demonstration  
Traditional Dancing & Music

Atlantic Base Ball Club Historic House Tours

Antique Cars & Trucks Old Fashion Crafts Demonstrations

Children's Games Pony Rides

Civil War Encampment Pumpkin Painting

Petland Show & Farm Animals Revolutionary War Encampment

Food & Beverages Spinning & Weaving

Hay Rides Woodworking



Admission: \$5 Adults/\$3 Children 12 and under  
*FREE for all Smithtown Historical Society Members*

For Information, Call (631) 265-6768

(Parking available at 222 Middle Country Road)

# 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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