
STUDEBAKER Spotlight



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE LONG ISLAND
CHAPTER, SDC

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Cathy Sammon

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Visit us at: www.longisland-sdc.com

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 15th at 7:30 p.m.
Marjorie Post Community Room

Happy New Year!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



I want to wish everyone a very Happy and prosperous New Year!

Kevin Healion, President

ELECTION OF OFFICERS



Election of officers for the next 2-year term will take place at the January meeting. If you are interested in becoming an officer, please contact Kevin Healion (Kevin@CenturyTennis.com). All nominations are welcome, and past officers are always there to help!

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES



MEETING INFORMATION

Third Thursday of every month

7:30 p.m.

Community Room

Marjorie Post Park

Massapequa

New members welcome!

All members are reminded that this is the new 2015 membership year and dues for the year are now due. Dues are currently \$15.00 for the year. For new members joining after June, the dues are \$10.00

To date we have the following stats on paid-up members. If you've already paid for 2015, thank you!

Please renew now to retain your membership in the club!

STILL IN THE NEWS!



The article below came to me from Larry Swanson, who received it from both John Cohoe of the Manhattan Chapter and Yaron Fidler. It is a translation of an article about the 1964 Lark convertible that was used as the Israeli Presidential limousine. As noted below, the article is a reprint of an earlier article. Thanks to Yaron Fidler, John Cohoe, and Larry Swanson for passing this information along. Hope you enjoy it.

Cathy Sammon, Editor

(From John Cohoe)

The other day when Yaron sent this newspaper page to some of us, I asked him to send a rough translation of the Studebaker portion of the story. He wrote a story circa 1975 about the limo and Studebaker factory in Israel for *The Real World magazine*, which also appeared in *Turning Wheels*.

(From Yaron Fidler)

Here's my translation. I think my original story tells it like it was in much better and accurate details, but here goes:

In the Israeli newspaper **TURBO**, the **LOOKING BACK** section. As well, the name of the Israeli president was Zalman Shaazar. The original article was published in *Turning Wheels* in May 1975, Volume 7 Issue 5 - titled "Studebakering in the Holy Land".

The article starts with the 1950 Lincoln the presidents were riding in until 1964 when Kaiser Ilin produced the Lark.

The Studebaker portion is as follows:

Jumping 14 years ahead, the Kaiser Ilin factory in Haifa, where they were building the American Lark automobile since 1959, thought it would be appropriate for the national interest if the president of Israel will be riding in a car that is made in Israel. The standard Lark would be too small and was produced only as a 4 doors sedan, so they came up with a design of a 1964 Lark, cut and stretched to become a 4 doors convertible automobile.

It was based on the concept of a Lark Limousine that the company in Israel was thinking of producing for the local taxi companies, which at the time, for inter cities travels, were using 1950's Chrysler and De Soto stretched sedans with a jump seat in the back. That has never happened, but the idea for the Lark president's car was based on it. The doors opened suicide style. It had automatic transmission and heavy duty power brakes. The engine was an 8 cyl one. **(HERE I DISAGREE. I REMEMBER THE DESIGNER, MR. ZALMAN, TELLING ME IT WAS A 6 CYL. STUDEBAKER ENGINE, MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO WITH WHAT I KNOW).**

The paint was black with blue leather interior. The carpets were light blue. The rear seats had head rests, something new in Israel for the time. A refrigerated bar and a shelf for books was built into the rear compartment. The first drive was at the 1964 Israel's Independence Day parade.

It was just about the last time the car was used as a formal ride for the president. Quite a few parts broke down, and to fix them took longer than anticipated, being that it was a one of a kind. The '64 stood at the garage for another 2 years, and was sold in 1967, and resold a few times, without any one realizing the value of such a car, a one of a kind. If this car was alive today, it will be worth quite a lot to certain collectors. Eventually a junk yard outside of Tel Aviv bought it and cut it apart, selling whatever

parts they could to local Lark drivers. That was the end of the most interesting car ever built in Israel.

I am attaching two images, on the bottom. (Editor's note: only parade photo included here). One of the '64 in 4 B/W photos. The other is the only known, by me, image of the Israeli president riding the Lark, in May of 1964 at the Israeli Independence Day Parade in Ber Sheeba, Israel. I was there and I remember it well. President Shazar is the bald headed one in the rear seat.

Still there in the press after all these years. An article about early cars used by presidents of Israel. The Lincoln is the main story, but after that one came the Lark. Nice to see it's still remembered, and the image is one of the ones I used in my story in *Turning Wheels* from 1975.



SOMETHING NEW – LINKS FROM LARRY

So it's a new year, and I thought I'd try something new to provide more Studebaker-related information to Chapter members. This new "Links" section is intended to resolve something that's been bothering me for a while – my receipt of interesting Studebaker news that I didn't pass on to our members.

Since I became editor, I would periodically receive e-mails from Larry Swanson, former editor of the "What's Happening" section in *Turning Wheels*. These were generally articles of interest or interesting Studebaker-related information. Many were items

that have been published elsewhere, and therefore copyright restrictions meant I couldn't really repeat them in the Spotlight, so the information really didn't get much further than me. This year I finally came up with the idea of providing a link to the information in the Spotlight. Since the majority of our recipients receive the Spotlight electronically, they would then be able to go to the link and view the article or information. I've included a recent item here, and will go back through my old e-mails and find some of the others and include them over time.

So, every so often, look for a "Links from Larry" item in the Spotlight. It's sure to provide something of interest. The first link is provided below. For those who receive the Spotlight in hard copy, you can still get to the information, but you'll have to type the link into your browser, and every character counts, so type carefully!

Cathy Sammon, Editor

Larry's note: "Cool story about last Avanti built"

<http://mobile.nytimes.com/2014/12/20/automobiles/the-note-in-the-trunk-of-the-last-studebaker-avanti.html?src=me&r=3&referrer>

NOTE FROM NYS REGIONAL MGR



Happy Studebaker New Year !!!

In April I will become the Director of the Northeast Zone. As such I will probably have to vacate the office of NYS Regional Manager. Please canvas your membership to see if someone would be willing to take over that responsibility. I cannot appoint anybody but I can pass on the information.

I have enjoyed representing your Chapters and have tried to keep in touch with them. I will still do that as best I can along with the rest of the members in the Northeast Zone.

I will consider this to be quite an honor. I want to thank Gary Ash for all that he has done to help me when I needed guidance.

Peter Bishop, NYS Regional Manager

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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