



HAMILTON CHAPTER STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB

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Studebaker Drivers Club, Hamilton Chapter

Minutes of monthly General Meeting, October 22nd, 2023

Held at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Mount Hope, ON

PRESIDENT Peter called the 10 AM meeting to order and asked if there were any guests. Yes! John Thompson brought a friend, Ginny.

Peter also read an email that he received from the Recording Secretary (below!). The gist of the email was that Roger, who is about to have surgery to correct a leaking heart valve, will be out of commission for several meetings and that this would be a good time to pass the secretarial "torch" to a new member who would consider the post. More about this later in the minutes.

RECORDING SECRETARY Roger, thanks to Sue and Pam, got out of reading the minutes to the last meeting by making and seconding a motion to accept them as already electronically distributed by Sue. Whew! Eight years as secretary and I only had to actually read the minutes a few times! And the membership got shorter meetings! Win-win! AND when they are electronically distributed, our members can peruse them at will, think about them, and comment if it is warranted. That's why it is done this way. And you didn't have to listen to Roger!

TREASURER Sue reported that not much happened! The September 1st bank balance was \$2,648.86. The Sept 30th balance was \$2,644.86. The difference: the \$4.00 monthly bank fee.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN Steve Porter says that the membership continues to stand at 66 and that we have 3 renewals already!

The province has come out with rules for not-for-profit clubs and organizations and we are supposed to have about one year's worth of operating expenses on hand in our treasury. We are close, but not there. It may require a small increase in dues to be in compliance - likely to \$25 per year (a quarter of a tank of gas!). More discussion later.

NEWSLETTER and MEDIA CHAIR Su says the newsletter will be out after the Xmas party - with pictures.

OLDE BUSINESS Peter says the Appleby Line show was good - and just missed the late rain. There were 3 Studes attending. Peter brought his 2R5 and wished he had a nickel for every time he heard "I didn't know Studebaker made trucks!".

The Sept. 2nd community BBQ at the plaque site was good also. There were 14 Studes attending this "early" DYSD event, including a debut of Steve Tournay's '64 Commander from the Ontario Chapter fundraising project.

NEW BIZZ Our own chapter Bullet-Tin newsletter, ably edited by Sue Lusted, won first prize in the bi-monthly category at the '23 Manitowoc Wisconsin SDC International Meet. Congratulations, Sue! Sue received the award from meet attendee and our vice-prez Steve Porter. Sue thanked all of our chapter members who contributed to the newsletter (Please keep contributing. This shows it makes a wonderful difference!!).

Dennis Kennedy and Sandra Cruz also drove to Manitowoc - in their newly-minted '63 GT Hawk. They are to be congratulated as well since they received a "first in class" award and got a score of 396

out of 400 in judging - the first time out!! Where do they go from here? Buy a Corvette? No, that would be a step backwards! (Just kidding, Sue and Larry and Barb!).

Bob Barrick says the Wisconsin meet was "good" in venue, location, restaurants, swap vendors and weather. BUT his fuel bill of \$500 for the trip has caused him to re-name the '65 Wagonaire "Miss Piggy"! George Christy had an accident with his beautiful '50 Landcruiser enroute. Details were not known, but we sure hope the impact was minimal and no one was hurt.

The Chapter's Christmas party will be Nov. 26th at King's Forest Golf Club, Hamilton, where it was held a few times in the recent past. Tickets (not subsidized this year) are still a reasonable \$42.00 per person - all in. Compare that to a restaurant Christmas turkey-with-trimmings entre, with coffee and dessert and taxes and tip! In an effort to avoid driving in the dark, festivities begin at 1pm. Dinner is at 2pm. Don't forget we have the awesome Penny-Saver and Silent Auction events as part of the fun too! By the way, the venue is wheel-chair accessible. Be sure to give your ticket funds to our treasurer by Nov. 19th - our next meeting. Another thing - please do NOT bring food donations for the Food Bank. The current wisdom is that they would like CASH or CHEQUE, because it is now ok for them to buy stock from grocers and doing this, along with fewer volunteers these days, allows them to distribute even more goods. Whew!

As reported above, our current finances are not in compliance with government guidelines for organizations like ours. We have been using our auctions and sales to fund our contributions to the Studebaker National Museum and donations to mostly local charity programs. It looks like a modest increase in dues - likely to just \$25 from 20 - would see our club fit the financial rules we are now to follow. This is still a very modest number. The Ontario Chapter has been at \$25.00 for a year or so already, as are the Edmonton and Atlantic Canada chapters. The U.S chapters are often the same (but the Rhode Island Chapter is going to \$35.00 after March 1st! Maybe they have something special the funds are used for). We would like our membership to think about this for a month - and then we will vote on it in November.

Bob Barrick says that the Northeast Zone Meet will be in Syracuse NY next year on August 14th. The meet was there a few years ago and it was very good - so it will be again! Save the date!

Barb Gibson says that donation items for the Penny Saver and Silent auctions should ideally be brought to the November general meeting. If you must bring them to the Xmas party, PLEASE bring them EARLY as there is prep involved - and the item sale price will benefit from being on view longer by more people! Penny Saver tickets will be \$5 for 25 tickets or 3 sheets for \$10.

Now to elections! No one came forward to spark an election for president and vice-president and Sue was the only candidate for treasurer. Roger resigned his recording secretary position and a call for nominations brought up the name of Sandra Cruzo - who quickly and assertively deflected the nomination to partner Dennis Kennedy - who kinda appeared to accept (yay!). And so, it seems that the "new" executive will be the same as previously, with the exception of "newbie" Dennis. (Thank you Dennis!). The actual vote, pending new nominations/changes, will take place at our November meeting.

The blind auction had lots of contributions and went very well with president Peter as auctioneer. Vice-president Steve was kept busy keeping track of the sales and cash, while former recording secretary Roger was a sort of "Vanna White", running around delivering the "wins", collecting the sales cash and making change for our chapter "customers" who didn't have to even get up to participate! THANK YOU to all our loyal and fine bidders who made it a success to the tune of \$477.00!! The funds go to the Studebaker National Museum to pay for our traditional annual "adoption" of the last Studebaker made at the Hamilton plant. More on that adoption fee later.

The meeting was formally adjourned before the auction started, by Donna Sommerville and Ted Calder. There was no 50/50 draw this meeting.

NEXT MEETING is at CWHM on November 19th.