



The Copper Starlight

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club

MAY/JUNE 2023

VOLUME 50, ISSUE III

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2023-2024 Officers:

- President - Ann Pearson
- VP/Tourmaster - Randy Goble
- Treasurer - Paul Storm
- Membership - Dee Northington
- Secretary - Marj Scooros
- Past President - Randy Goble
- Historian - Bruce Sandburg
- Newsletter Editors -
Larry & Dee Northington
- Webmaster - Marj Scooros



Website QR Code

Old Pueblo Trolley Museum

By Larry Northington

What a fun and interesting day. On March 18, fourteen members were given a private tour of the Old Pueblo Trolley Museum, and what a treat. The museum has dozens of historic buses and streetcars in various stages of restoration, and even some antique cars. And being a big kid at heart, I didn't hesitate climbing into one of the street car's conductor section, checking out the controls and ringing the bell. Most of the restored trolleys and buses had "before" pictures on display, and it is absolutely amazing how well the vehicles came out. Given our club's devotion to old cars, we can appreciate the work that the volunteers put into the restorations. The story on many of the vehicles there started with "found abandoned in an open field". One of the volunteers actually lives at the museum in a bus that has been converted to a motorhome. He says that he spends hours each day helping with the restorations and his personal hobby of making custom models of the buses. His models on display were beautiful. (See the picture below)

Following the tour, we all enjoyed a great lunch at Micha's Restaurant, which was a short distance from the museum. Micha's gave us a private room, and though their service was on the slow side, the food was excellent.

(See more pictures on Page 7)



Lou Fencil's '56 Power Hawk and Larry and Dee's '54 Commander



A fantastic tour



A 1911 trolley starting restoration



A custom made model of how the trolley will look when restored

Birthday Wishes**May**

- 1 Bruce Sandburg
- 3 Randy Goble
- 10 Don McGraw
- 11 Kenneth Keller
- 15 Bonnie McGraw
- 18 John Noble
- 26 Danuta Jakubowski

June

- 2 Lou Fencil
- 7 Steve Ault
- 8 Jim Nereau
- 12 Peggy Eastburn
- 17 Ron Williams
- 22 Donna Goble
- 26 Anne Magee
- 26 Mike Borens

**Anniversary Wishes****May**

- 20 Hugh & Cynthia Adam

June

- 1 Jeff Jones & Helen O'Brien
- 2 Lenny & Barbara Olsen
- 3 Jerry & June Kaiser
- 7 Chuck & Chris Collins

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Dear Studebaker Members:

We have had a fun-filled last two months thanks to our Vice-President and Tourmaster, Randy Goble. It was so much fun to visit Old Pueblo Trolley's Transit Museum. It was amazing how much work has gone into restoring the historic trolleys. The early trolleys were built with such precision and excellent craftsmanship. I can't believe so many of the individual cars were built with wood and have lasted so long. The surprise dinner at El Molinito's for our long-time member, Tourmaster and friend, John L. Lewis was a success. Not only was the secret safe and John was surprised, but there was a large turnout. John, we will miss you so much and you had better stay in touch!



Ann Pearson

On a personal note, I found a 1923 Studebaker pocket watch at the First Sunday Antique Fair at Medella Vina Ranch. I have been looking for a Studebaker pocket watch for some time and I am so thrilled! I have been asked to talk to the local watch club regarding the history of Studebaker watches. Several years ago, I included a history of the Studebaker Watch Co. in one of the newsletters.



We have several get-togethers coming up soon: Saturday, May 6, The Annual Breakfast in the Park at Agua Caliente Park; Thursday, May 25, lunch at KG's Westside Café; and Saturday, June 10, breakfast at Happy Rooster Cafe. Please consult the newsletter for times and details. I hope to see everyone there!

All the best,

Ann Pearson

From the Editors:

Our club Chapter had another great couple of months with a private tour of the Trolley Museum, and a fantastic dinner to say thanks and farewell to John L. Lewis. John was the first Chapter member that we met. He provided encouragement for us to get our Commander restored, and be active in the club. He leaves for South Dakota in a couple of weeks.



Larry and Dee Northington

Our '54 Commander is running pretty good. We try to drive it weekly, and we drove it to the museum in March.

We welcome suggestions, pictures and story submissions. Email is the best way to submit contributions, but even a hand written article would be great.

Thank you to Craig Harm and Steve Ault for the contributions, and to Donna Goble for proofreading.

*Dee and Larry Northington,
SAC/SDC Newsletter Editors
LD54Studebaker@gmail.com*

**A reminder, the deadline for publishing newsletter contributions is the 20th of the even numbered months.

**THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, AND
GET WELL WISHES**

Ken Keller
Mary Powell-McConnell
Jim Nereau
Rosalie Torske
Delores Shurtz
Larry Robinson

UPCOMING EVENTS AND STUDEBAKER HISTORY

Upcoming Mondays on:
May 15, June 19, and
July 17

Board Meeting: 11:30 a.m., Hungry Fox Restaurant, 4637 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ.
520-326-2835.
(3rd Monday of the month)

Saturday, May 6,
7:30 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast: Let's get together at Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E Roger Rd. at 7:30 a.m. Bring your own breakfast meat to share. Bring your own chairs. The Chapter supplies pancakes, eggs, coffee and utensils. Randy Goble will tend the grill. Any help cooking will be appreciated. Come on out with your Studebaker and have a great breakfast.

Thursday, May 25,
11:30 a.m.

Lunch at KG's Westside Café: 1951 W Grant Rd. Email dgrg0823@comcast.net by May 22, if you plan to attend.

Saturday, June 10,
8:00 a.m.

Breakfast and Garage Tours: We'll start with breakfast at Happy Rooster, 1114 S Sarnoff Dr and, and then Garage Tours to follow. Information will be given at the restaurant. Email dgrg0823@comcast.net by June 7, if you plan to attend or would like more information.

SAC/SDC Contact:

Randy Goble,
Vice-Pres / Tourmaster
520-749-4484 or
dgrg0823@comcast.net

***Notice: A reminder from that everyone should have an approved fire extinguisher displayed at your left front wheel during all meets. As required as of January 1, 2017, the SDC requires a minimum of a LU type 1-A:5B:C, but a 1-A:10-B:C would be much better for added protection.

To the right is an excerpt from an advertisement flyer from 1952 that Bruce Sandburg had in his collection.

Look for more excerpts on page 8, and the back page.

Studebaker's 100th Anniversary



In 1852 when Henry and Clem Studebaker opened up their little wagon shop, they could not foresee nor even dream that the sturdy wagons which they built would be the forerunner of the modern Studebaker automobile. • The 1952 Studebaker, with its pace-setting style and far advanced engineering is the only car that has a background of 100 years!



RECENT CHAPTER EVENTS

Surprise!

By Dee Northington



On April 13, 2023, the Southern Arizona Chapter held a surprise dinner for our John L. Lewis. And yes, John said he was surprised. Members came to show their friendship and to let him know that he will be missed.

We held the gathering at El Molinito Restaurant and occupied their outside party area. We feasted on the buffet of tacos, rice, beans, salsa and chips along with other dishes. Conversations swirled around the tables with talk of cars, events, and of course, John moving to South Dakota.

John has served the Studebaker Chapter as Vice President and Tour master for many years. He loves to visit with people and is always so upbeat. This naturally helped to grow the Chapter membership (including Larry and I). He has had a few Studebakers, his latest being a beautiful

white 1961 Hawk with blue trim. And yes, it even has air conditioning. Recently John decided to renovate a Volkswagen bus. It turned out amazing. He will continue with his love for Studebakers in South Dakota. He plans to continue his membership in our Chapter, so we can always keep in touch.

We had 37 who attended the gathering, and yes, a few drove their Studebakers. As always it was great to reminisce with everyone and of course, the gathering ended with cake! Yum.



MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS AND RECENT EVENTS**Members helping Members**

By Craig Harm

This past Thursday, Aaron Scott and I had a work party and did quite a bit of servicing on my 2R6. We changed out the gas tank, changed all the fluids (Oil, Diff, Trans) lubricated everything, repaired the fuel sending unit. Just had a great day of fellowship, Studebaker stories, got our hands dirty, and I learned a ton.



Note from the editor: Craig ended the email with "Not sure if it is of interest..." . All I can say is that I definitely thought it was of interest. I encourage all members to help each other, and contribute anything like this to our newsletter. Thank you Craig, and thank you Aaron.

Rodders Days Car Show

By Steve Ault (with additional info from the internet)

Tucson's Rodders Days car show is the oldest car show in Southern Arizona. This year it was held April 22 at the downtown campus of the Pima Community College. The show is a tribute to the history of hot rods in Tucson and the guys who built them. The event included two Studebakers: a 1963 Avanti owned by Keith Ambbs, and a 1953 street rod coupe owned by Gary Spies, both in our club. Nice weather, a great show and WONDERFUL tour of this trade college.



RECENT EVENTS AND A GREAT WEBSITE RECOMMENDATION

Arizona Studebaker Gathering Hosted by the Grand Canyon Chapter, SDC

By Larry Northington

The Arizona Studebaker Gathering was held at South Mountain Park/Preserve in Phoenix on March 4th. This was my first time attending a Studebaker event in Phoenix, and I wasn't disappointed. It was a beautiful day, and it seemed to be a really nice turnout with over 20 Studebakers at the event. Personally, I bummed, er, ah, caught a ride with Bruce Sandburg and Delores Shurtz (Thank you Bruce and Delores). We stopped for breakfast along the way, and chatting helped the drive seem to fly by. There was a nice variety of cars and trucks to see. I prefer cars to be kept original, however I found it fascinating to see the various degrees of modifications that were done, including a beautifully painted '53 Commander with a huge engine. It looked like it was ready for the drag strip. The oldest car was a 1924 Light 6 that was absolutely gorgeous.



Website Recommendation: Graham's Studebaker Blog

Graham is a former Editor of StudeNews for the Atlantic Canada Chapter. He has an excellent blog ongoing for his '66 Commander. The blog includes adding GT Hawk bucket seats, restoring the front suspension, brakes, and hopefully going on to a restoration of the complete front end. Lots and lots of pictures. The blog can be seen at www.kgworks.ca/

RECENT CHAPTER EVENTS

Old Pueblo Trolley Museum
(Continued from Page 1)



Three antique cars greeted us as we walked in.



So much to see



Checking out a 1946 Ford Transit Bus



The editors favorite — A 1925 J. G. Brill Co. Car built in Portugal



Inside the Beautifully Restored J. G. Brill Co. Car



The Controls for the Brill Co. Car
(It has identical controls at the opposite end)

HISTORIC AND FOR SALE

1952 Advertisement Excerpts (Continued from Page 3)

1868



A \$360,000 a year "giant"

Studebaker vehicles were nation-wide favorites by 1868. A factory employing 190 men produced 3,955 Studebakers that year—did a \$360,000 business. But this plant wasn't adequate. The brothers incorporated—expanded.

1889



Carriages for all the world

U. S. President Harrison—other celebrities—ordinary people—drove in Studebaker rigs now. On farms, in cities, over the roadways of the world, more and more hauling was being done in sturdy Studebaker wagons.

1852



They had \$68 and high hopes

That's how the Studebaker story began—two young blacksmiths, Henry and Clem Studebaker, with a yen to build wagons and \$68 in cash. They opened up shop in South Bend, Indiana, one February morning in 1852.

(Continued on the back page)

For Sale

1961 Hawk For Sale. This Hawk had a ground up restoration 10,000 miles ago. It has 77650 miles on it. Has the 289 cu. in. V/8, and the first year for the 4 speed transmission. It has a good set of Coker white wide side wall tires with about 6,000 miles on them. The car has the latest upgraded cold air conditioning. This is a great handling car. This Hawk has received numerous awards thru the years including at the Studebaker's National Convention in Nashville TN.

\$29,950. OBO. John L. Lewis Call anytime. 520-954-0904.





STUDEBAKER ADS ~ WANTED AND FOR SALE OR TRADE



Wanted: 1957- 1959 Silver Hawk. Contact Connie Olsen: 702-540-6218, house@go-olsen.com

Wanted: Dealership license plate frames, such as, Frost & French or Palm Springs Studebaker. Fred Gooch 520-883-7418, email nora.gooch@yahoo.com

For Sale: 1953 Studebaker Commander 232 CID engine long block. Bell housing, clutch disc, pressure plate and fly wheel are attached to the block and included. The bell housing fits a 3-speed manual transmission. This engine was a running engine when purchased some years ago. The engine turns over freely. The block serial No. is V263234. \$300.00. Call John Noble at 505-670-4180 or email: slow-bull1868@gmail.com

For Sale: 1921 Packard Single Six, 1923 Studebaker 2 door Special Six, 1927 Studebaker 4 door and lots of Hawk parts. For more information, call John Nuell, a friend of a member, 289-441-1545.

For Sale: '50 Champion 4 door. 49k miles. This car was in the process of being restored when health issues stopped progress. It is in primer. The engine runs. All chrome is original and in great condition. Restored carb, radiator, fuel tank, seats. New rubber for the hood, trunk and doors. Includes many extra parts from a donor car, including hood. Call Don Senn at 520-290-5623

For Sale: '54 Champion Coupe. has rebuilt Commander V8i engine, heavy duty OD transmission, master cylinder. New wiring, brake cylinders, and tires. All glass intact, all chrome trim intact. Needs upholstery, paint, minor body work. Asking \$4000 OBO. Call Chuck at 520-591-3652

For Sale: '54 Champion 4 door. Only one family owned. '62 Lark engine, otherwise all original. Carmine red top over Sandusky beige. Garaged over 65 yrs. Very good condition. \$10,000 and offers will be considered. Call 760-877-4377



For Beautiful Studebaker Steering Wheel Covers

Contact

Marj Scooros

marjsbaubles@yahoo.com

One for \$20.00, two or more \$15.00 each.

For orders, the diameter of the steering wheel is needed along with the year, model and color of the car.



For Sale: 1964 Studebaker Gran Turismo Hawk. Strato Blue with White Vinyl Sports Roof. Blue Vinyl Interior with A/C PS TT Power Shift AT. 74,760 miles. Final Assembly date on production order is 12/17/63 and sold 1/3/64 in Coral Gables, Florida. From estate - it just needs some storage related tinkering. \$18,000 or best offer.

Bruce Sandburg

520-586-0403



Note from the editor: *The South Bend plant ceased automobile production on December 20, 1963, so this Hawk was one of the last produced.*

For Sale: 1964 Studebaker Gran Turismo Hawk. 91K original miles, original am radio works fine, no air conditioning, excellent original perforated white headliner. Carpet and seats are like new. Has optional rear seat armrest and full tinted glass option. Recent awesome base coat clear coat for that sweet looking wet look. Numbers match in/out called Astro Ivory and blue cloth interior. Also, full black vinyl top in excellent condition, so very sharp 3-tone attractive colors! Good chrome on both bumpers. New headlight and tail light bezels. New weatherstripping and trunk mat. Original jacks, full working gauge package and even clock works. Stock 289 V8. Motor has original correct yellow valve covers. Very rare three speed power shift automatic and center console. Highway gears for cruising. New dual exhaust system and like new radial tires. Looks great and runs great, asking \$25,000.

Wayne

602-320-3771

wdawson@asuinc.com



Studebaker Radio Repair: Need your radio repaired or modernized? We have a new member that can do this. Roy is a treasure to our Chapter. He repairs Studebaker Radios, not as a business but helping the hobby. Contact him at:

Roy Yost

30 Clinton Street

Redwood City Ca 94062

Radiroy@pacbell.net

SPONSORS AND CRUISE NIGHTS

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Thanks to **Creative Printers**, for printing this newsletter. For all your printing needs, stop in at Creative Printers, 2729 E. Grant Road, Tucson, or call 520.881.6572. Thanks Randy Goble, SDC member.

Cruise Nights

Wednesdays: Every Wednesday (3-5PM) cars gather at Continental Plaza in Green Valley (exit63 off I19). Some winter afternoons up to 40 cars are there. No club, no rules, no board!! It's a little east of the Safeway parking area. Never know what shows up Wednesday!!!

Thursdays: Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburger weekly Cruise-In, 3725 West Orange Grove Rd., Marana, AZ, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., 520-989-0314. If you are wearing a Freddy's cap or shirt, you will receive a free ice cream.

Thursdays: Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburger weekly Cruise-In, 10205 East Old Vail Rd., Tucson, AZ, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., 520-647-9816.

Fridays: Freddy's Frozen Custard Cruise-In & Car Show, Free custard, 11143 N. Oracle Road, Oro Valley, AZ, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. plus, 520-989-0067. They also have a car show the last Saturday of every month from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. plus. It is hosted by Obsessions Car Club and trophies are awarded. There is no Friday show when there is a Saturday show of that week.

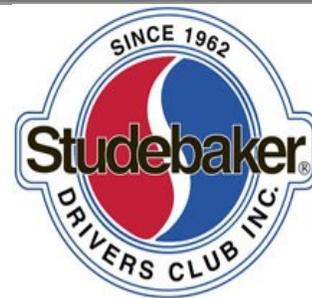
Little Anthony's website for future car shows: <https://www.littleanthonydiner.com/>

Speedway Antique Mall Cruise-In Nights, 5045 East Speedway Blvd., Tucson, Arizona: Cars usually start showing up at 4:30 p.m. Actual start time is 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Second Saturdays of the month.** Call Ray for information at 520-404-5090.

For more fun events go to: <https://carnuts.org/>, and in the state of AZ: <http://www.cruisinarizona.com/>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Southern Arizona Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, pride of owning and the joy of driving fine Studebakers; and to providing assistance on a local level to the National Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc. You DO NOT have to be a Studebaker owner to join; however, for insurance purposes, membership is required in the National Studebaker Drivers Club. SDC was founded in 1962 and has approximately 13,000 members worldwide. *Turning Wheels* is the monthly magazine of the SDC. *The Copper Starlight* is the Southern Arizona Chapter's official publication and is published every other month. Subscriptions are included in club membership dues.



How to become a Member: 1) Complete the membership application below. 2) Write a check or money order for \$15 for a full year, payable to Southern Arizona Chapter, SDC. This includes an e-mailed copy of *The Copper Starlight*. An additional charge of \$3.00 required for a mailed copy of the newsletter. 3) Enclose an additional \$29.00 if you are a new SDC member or the amount for one of the categories below if you are a returning member. 4) Mail to Membership Director:

Southern Arizona Chapter of
The Studebaker Drivers Club
PO Box 12913
Tucson, AZ 85732

Application Form Southern Arizona
Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club

National SDC Member#: _____
Expires: _____
You must be a member of SDC to join SAC. This application will not be accepted without your Studebaker Drivers Club National Number.

Name: _____
Spouse: _____
Other family members: _____

Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

email: _____
Birthdays: _____
Wedding anniversary: _____
If new member, referred by: _____
Studebakers owned: (Year/Model/Body Style & any comments) _____
I am willing to help my club in the following ways:
 Call people with club information
 Bring cookies or snacks
 Host a gathering
 Call me & I'll help
 Mail out newsletters
 Make arrangements for tour/location/meeting
 Other

Membership Application

Memberships are for 1 year and include 12 issues of *Turning Wheels*®. You can now join/renew for up to 5 years.

Membership in US	1 year	3 years	5 years
Regular Members w/periodicals:	..	Total	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> New Members 1st year only	\$29	na	na
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member renewal w/periodical class mail	\$36	\$99	\$161
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member renewal w/1st class mail	\$62	\$183	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Student & Young Adult Membership (To 22 yrs old)	\$29	\$87	\$145
<input type="checkbox"/> SDC Membership WITHOUT <i>Turning Wheels</i>	\$12	\$36	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Turning Wheels</i> subscription WITHOUT SDC membership (Libraries, etc.)	\$29	\$87	\$145

Membership in Canada	1 year	3 years	5 years
Regular Members w/periodicals:	..	Total	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> New Members 1st year only	\$46	na	na
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member renewal w/periodical class mail.....	\$52	\$144	\$236
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member renewal w/1st class mail	\$66	\$186	\$306

Overseas Membership	1 year	3 years	5 years
Overseas Members w/periodicals:	..	Total	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> New Members 1st year only	\$46	na	na
<input type="checkbox"/> Overseas Member renewal w/periodical class mail..	\$52	\$144	\$236
<input type="checkbox"/> Overseas Member renewal w/1st class mail	\$66	\$186	\$306

Other SDC Items

Donation to SDC Museum Fund\$ _____

Donation to SDC Restoration Fund.....\$ _____

Donation to National Museum Endowment Fund*\$ _____

Donation to Studebaker National Foundation*\$ _____

(*Tax deductible donation)

Membership Pin - (specify year-pin) Prices in *Turning Wheels*
(10,15,20,25,30,35,40,45,50 years) _____ years
Number of pins (1 or 2) _____ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:\$ _____

To join SDC, complete the application, send with check or money order in US funds to:

The Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1715, Maple Grove MN 55311-6715

Or use **VISA** or **Master Card**, call 763-420-7829,
or

Fax 763-420-7849 or **Email: sdc@cornerstonereg.com** for information. Or visit:
www.studebakerdrivesclub.com

Call or write with change of address.
 • **DO NOT** send ads with your membership;
 • **ALL** members of local SDC chapters must also be national SDC members.

Name (first) _____ (last) _____
 Spouse _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Birth date: _____
 E-mail: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> VISA	Card # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	Expiration _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Discover	Signature _____

If new member, source of referral: _____

If renewal, month due: _____

Member # _____

• Please list your Studebakers, including year, model, body style, serial numbers, on a separate page.



**THE COPPER STARLIGHT
OF THE SAC/SDC**
8935 S PLACITA PASTURA
VAIL, ARIZONA 85641

1902



First "horseless" Studebaker

Studebaker's first car was an electric, introduced in golden anniversary year, 1902. A notable early customer for one—Thomas A. Edison. That year, Studebaker had 2,500 employees—and sales reached 4 million dollars.

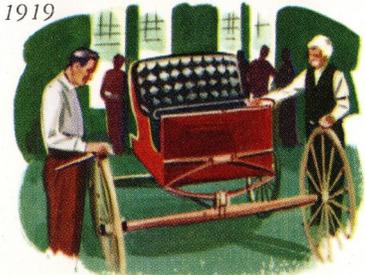
1911



From \$68 to this in 59 years

The hour of decision arrived in 1911. Studebaker erected and equipped huge factories for automobile production. The Studebaker Corporation with 8000 employees, 1500 dealers, \$23,000,000 in tangible assets was formed.

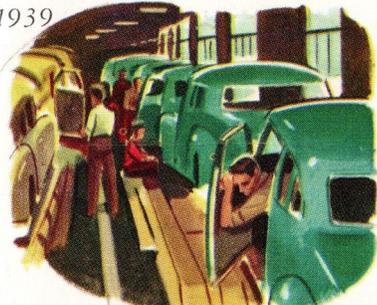
1919



End of the line and an era

Horse-drawn Studebakers were discontinued as vast new Studebaker car and truck plants opened up. Studebaker hit new highs in output—had the biggest percentage of increase in its industry from 1919 through 1923.

1939



Revolutionary low price car

Ever since 1926, Studebaker had been successfully eliminating car weight to increase operating economy. In 1939, a revolutionary new Studebaker—the amazingly thrifty Champion—invaded the lowest price field.

1942



Bomber engines! Military trucks!

World War II saw Studebaker busy building over 63,000 engines for the Flying Fortress—nearly 200,000 military trucks—some 15,000 tracked amphibious vehicles called Weasels, powered by Studebaker Champion engines.

1946



First by far with a postwar car

A daring change for the better in automobile styling was introduced—ready just nine months after World War II stopped. The car—the trim, sleek, "new look" Studebaker. All modern car design reflects its influence.