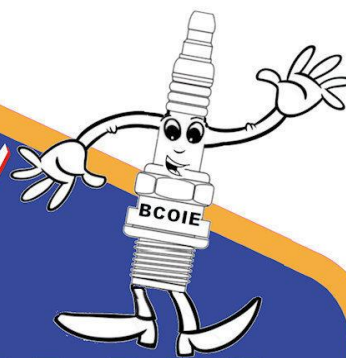


April 2025

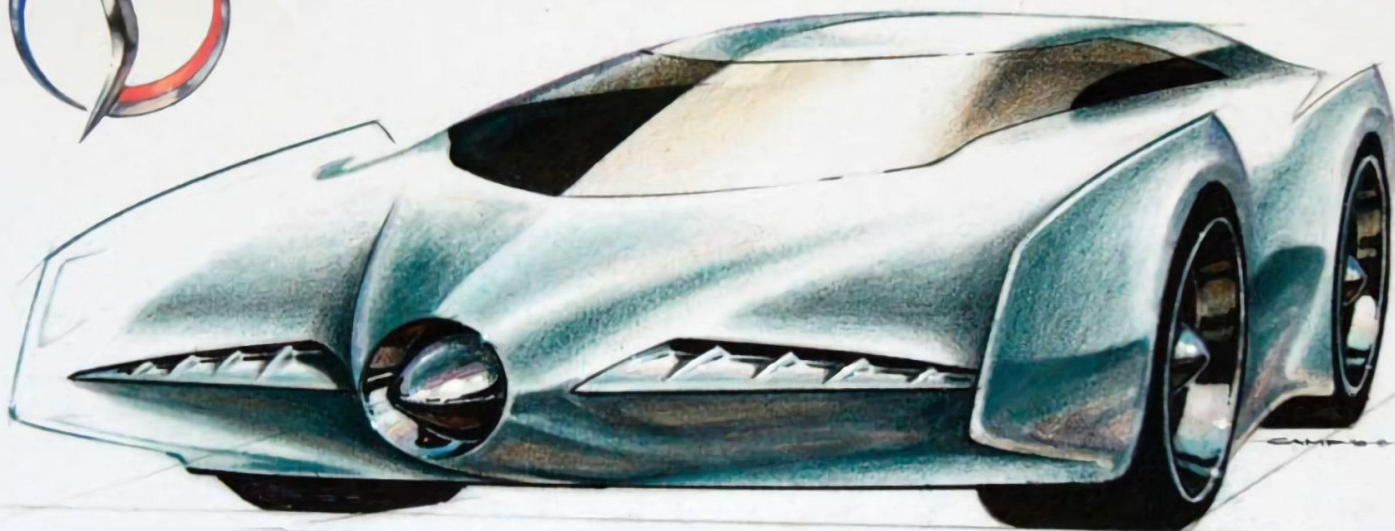
Studebaker

SPARKPLUG

The Official Newsletter of



STUDEBAKER is BACK!!!



2026 Model Unveiled in South Bend

See page 4 for details

Chapter Information

BCOIE Chapter Meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of each month at:
Polly's Pies 18132 Imperial Highway, Yorba Linda, CA 714-572-9679 ~ at 4:30 pm

***** Please bring cash for purchases to pay the chapter, so the chapter can pay the bill with one check. *****

For additional information please contact any chapter officer or check the calendar of events in each newsletter or on our website.

BCOIE Chapter membership is **\$20.00** per year, due January 1st. You *must* be a member of the National Studebaker Drivers Club prior to joining any Chapter. Please mail your dues promptly to:

Debbie Stockey – Membership
17410 Golden Maple Lane
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Newsletter Information - The Studebaker Sparkplug is the official publication of the BCOIE Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club, Inc. For ads or classifieds contact the editor listed below.

BCOIE Chapter Officers

Elected	President	Rosiland Metzker	714-315-8292	roldstudes@earthlink.net
	Vice President	Jonni Elmore	951-545-2664	elmorejonni@gmail.com
	Secretary / Sunshine	Dee Gruver	562-946-2249	cwgruverconst@aol.com
	Treasure / Membership	Debbie Stockey	714-524-7965	debizoo@aol.com
Appointed	Newsletter Editor / Webmaster	Dan Scott	818-558-1791	dansct@sbcglobal.net
	Facebook Administrator	Jim Studebaker	949-235-4707	jstudebaker5@gmail.com

Pacific Southwest Zone Officers

Elected	Zone Director	Ed Smith	602-290-1045	edcollects@gmail.com
	Zone Coordinator	Dan Scott	818-558-1791	dansct@sbcglobal.net
Appointed	Regional Manager - Calif. South	Catherine Chen	310-431-8179	CatherineLchen@gmail.com

SDC Website: <https://studebakerdriversclub.com/>

BCOIE Website: <https://www.studebakersocal.com/>

BCOIE Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BCOIESOCAL>

BCOIE Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/bcoiechapter/>

President's Message Rosiland Metzker



Hope your March was great, and this message finds everyone doing well. It is time to start working on your cars and getting them ready for the show season and going to events. There are so many places to take our cars to and share the Studebaker story and history.

La Palma will be on Sunday, September 28, 2025. There will be people choice awards in each division. The new build out of the park is coming along great. The weather has been cooperating and not too much rain.

Our Vice President, Jonni Elmore, will be communicating our 2025 calendar of events. Remember these events:

April 6 - Los Angeles Chapter Classic Car Show on and flyer are in the newsletter for it.

May 10 at 1:00 is our event at the Richard Nixon library and our own Jeanne Ertel will be leading our group as our docent. She has volunteered there for many years. We will have our meeting and dinner afterwards.

June 7-8 is the Huntington Beach Concours

Remember 2025 dues are due.

Have a great April and see you at the next meeting.

Respectively,
Rosiland

Meeting Minutes



Meeting minutes for BCOIEC Chapter – March 8, 2025

The following members were in attendance: Jack & Fay Weber, John & Rosiland Metzker, Bud & Dee Gruver, Sam Wheeler, Jack & Debbie Stockey, Dennis Elmore, Don Eades, Sandy Eades, Gary Gross & guest Gina Gross.

PRESIDENT Rosiland Metzker called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. President led members joined in the Pledge to the Flag. The President welcomed all members and guests.

SECRETARY Dee Gruver reported that the February minutes were printed in the March newsletter. Membership voted to approve minutes as printed. Dee reported that birthdays and anniversaries of members will be in newsletters. Please include that information on your renewal form if we do not already have it.

TREAS/MEMBERSHIP: Debbie Stockey reported the current financial information. The membership report shows 22 paid members to date. Please bring your 2025 membership up to date. Motion to accept the report as given was made and approved.

V-PRESIDENT Jonni Elmore. President Rosiland reported the following club events have been scheduled as follows: (**See page 10**). Information on future events will be reported when scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS: La Palma plans are progressing. The registration fee is set at \$40.00. A motion was made to include 2 “gift” raffle tickets in each registration packet. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dee Gruver, Secretary



From the desk of the editor
Dan Scott

La Palma will be here before we know it. While this has historically been the premiere Studebaker event west of the Mississippi, there is always room for improvement or heaven forbid, CHANGE! Any suggestions on what you'd like to see?

After talking to Don and Jeri Cox, we are looking for a **Disc Jockey Assistant**, to give Don more time to entertain and direct the show. Does anyone know of an outgoing young person (or not so young) willing to step up, help out and show off their talents behind the microphone? If you're interested, or know someone, let us know.



April's Fool pranks gone wrong

BMW has been doing April Fools' pranks longer than any other car manufacturer. One year, they decided to turn the tables and do a reverse April Fools' Day prank in New Zealand! For its 2015 April Fools campaign there, BMW ran a newspaper ad that said that the first person to come into a BMW dealership and "ask for Tom" could swap their old BMW for a brand new one, free of charge. Of course, most people thought it was just a joke. One person went to test it out, though, and ended up walking out of the dealership with a free new BMW!

While this one didn't backfire in the traditional sense of it not being funny or making the public annoyed, it did backfire in that everyone thought it was yet another joke. BMW wouldn't really give a free car away on April Fools' Day, right? How wrong those people were!



The Future of Classic Cars in 2025: *Preservation and Modern Technology*

The Future of Classic Cars in 2025: Preservation and Modern Technology

The allure of classic cars endures through the decades, not only as symbols of automotive heritage but also as cherished artifacts of our cultural and engineering achievements. As we venture into 2025, the landscape of classic car ownership and preservation is evolving, driven by advancements in technology and shifts in societal values. This blog explores the future of classic cars, speculating on how modern technology will play a pivotal role in their maintenance and restoration.

The Timeless Appeal of Classic Cars

Classic cars, such as the iconic 1964 Ford Mustang, embody a unique blend of history, craftsmanship, and nostalgia. Enthusiasts cherish these vehicles for their distinctive designs, mechanical simplicity, and the stories they tell. As we move forward, the passion for preserving and owning these automotive gems remains strong, albeit with new challenges and opportunities on the horizon.

The Role of Modern Technology in Restoration

- **Printing and Custom Fabrication:** One of the most significant advancements in classic car restoration is the use of 3D printing. This technology allows for the creation of precise replicas of hard-to-find or discontinued parts. From intricate trim pieces to entire body panels, 3D printing is revolutionizing the way restorers approach projects, making it easier to maintain the authenticity and functionality of vintage vehicles.
- **Digital Diagnostics and Tuning:** Modern diagnostic tools and software have become indispensable in the restoration process. These tools enable restorers to identify and address issues with pinpoint accuracy. Additionally, digital tuning solutions allow for the optimization of classic engines, ensuring they run more efficiently while retaining their original character.
- **Electric Conversion Kits:** As environmental concerns grow, the trend of converting classic cars to electric powertrains is gaining momentum. Electric conversion kits designed specifically for classic models offer a way to preserve the aesthetic and driving experience of vintage cars while reducing emissions and increasing reliability. This hybrid approach bridges the gap between heritage and sustainability.

Embracing New Technologies for Preservation

- **Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality:** VR and AR are becoming valuable tools in the restoration and preservation of classic cars. Virtual reality can create immersive experiences for enthusiasts, allowing them to explore and appreciate these vehicles in digital form. Augmented reality, on the other hand, aids restorers by providing interactive guides and overlays during the restoration process, ensuring precision and accuracy.
- **Blockchain for Provenance:** The use of blockchain technology to record the history and provenance of classic cars is an emerging trend. Blockchain provides a secure, immutable ledger that documents a vehicle's history, including ownership changes, restoration work, and maintenance records. This transparency enhances the value and trustworthiness of classic cars in the market.

- **Online Communities and Knowledge Sharing:** The internet continues to be a vital resource for classic car enthusiasts. Online forums, social media groups, and specialized websites facilitate the exchange of knowledge, advice, and resources. These digital communities foster a sense of camaraderie and support, making it easier for owners to tackle restoration projects and share their passion.

The Future of Classic Car Ownership

As we look to the future, the classic car community will continue to evolve, driven by a blend of tradition and innovation. Here are some key trends to watch:

- **Younger Enthusiasts:** The torch of classic car enthusiasm is being passed to a younger generation. Millennials and Gen Z are showing interest in vintage vehicles, often drawn to their unique designs and the hands-on experience of restoration. This shift ensures that the passion for classic cars will endure for years to come.
- **Sustainability and Conservation:** The move towards sustainable practices is influencing the classic car world. From eco-friendly restoration materials to electric conversions, owners are finding ways to preserve these vehicles responsibly. This trend aligns with broader environmental goals while allowing classic cars to continue their legacy.
- **Cultural and Economic Impact:** Classic cars will remain significant cultural artifacts and valuable investments. The economic impact of the classic car market, including auctions, restoration businesses, and related industries, will continue to thrive, supported by technological advancements and a growing global community.

Conclusion

The future of classic cars in 2025 is a blend of preservation and innovation. Modern technology is revolutionizing the way we restore, maintain, and appreciate these automotive treasures. As we embrace new tools and methods, the timeless appeal of classic cars will persist, inspiring generations of enthusiasts to come. Whether through digital diagnostics, 3D printing, or electric conversions, the fusion of old and new ensures that the legacy of classic cars remains vibrant and enduring.

As we steer into the future, the journey of preserving and enjoying classic cars will be as exciting and rewarding as the drive itself.

I hope this blog inspires and provides valuable insights! If you need any more details or have another topic in mind, feel free to let me know. Reprint from: **Classic Car America**



7 Best Classic Car Insurance Companies of 2025 – Forbes

Our analysis found that American Collectors, American Modern and Leland-West are the best classic car insurance companies. If you're the proud owner of a pristine antique, classic, vintage or modern classic car—or in the process of restoring a collector car—you'll want specialized classic car insurance to meet your unique needs.

American Collectors – 5.0

We're impressed by American Collectors' wide variety of flexible mileage plans. You can choose an unlimited mileage plan or from other flexible mileage plans ranging from 1,000 to 7,500 for pleasure use. American Collector also has many coverage offerings, including coverage for a race car while stored, trailered, and in a paddock or display area, as well as car show reimbursement that pays if you miss a show due to a car accident or mechanical breakdown.

Pros

- Pays up to \$250 per car for evacuation expenses to move your car due to an incoming disaster, such as a hurricane.
- The inflation guard feature automatically increases your agreed value limit by up to 6% annually.
- Allows alternative vehicle storage methods other than a fully enclosed, locked garage or structure, which most classic car insurers require.
- Has a partnership with USAA that gives USAA policyholders a 5% discount on classic car insurance.

Cons

- Spare parts coverage is low at only \$500, while some competitors offer \$2,000.

American Modern – 5.0

We found that American Modern has a wide selection of coverage for classic cars and multiple mileage plans—including one that lets you commute to work occasionally. We also like that it offers an inflation guard feature, so you're not caught underinsured.

Pros

- Has a wide variety of discounts, including one for insuring a large car collection.
- Covers a classic car that is in the process of being restored.
- Covers disaster relocation costs for your classic car.
- Partnered with Geico for classic car policies, allowing for a possible bundling discount if your standard car insurance policy is with Geico

Cons

- No online quotes for classic car insurance with American Modern.
- Has a higher-than-average level of complaints made about it to state insurance departments. Most complaints against American Modern are related to claims, including delays, unsatisfactory settlements and claim denials.

Leland-West – 5.0

We're impressed by Leland-West's robust lineup of add-on coverage options for classic cars, including a special plan for cars taken to the track. Its agreed-value coverage comes with an inflation guard feature to help prevent your vehicle from being underinsured. And beyond its standard mileage options, there's an add-on that allows for occasional commuting in your classic car.

Pros

- If you choose a restricted mileage program and don't use up your allowance, the miles will roll over to your next policy period.
- Relocation expense reimbursement is available for moving your collector car out of the path of a catastrophic event, such as a hurricane.
- Spare parts coverage of \$2,000 is included in a Leland-West policy.
- Has a zero deductible option.

Cons

- Drivers need at least nine years of driving experience, while other insurers only require five years.
- Does not offer many car insurance discounts.

Chubb – 4.5

We like that Chubb will repair your car with original equipment manufacturer (OEM) parts or pay for fabricated parts if OEM parts are unavailable. Chubb has no mileage limit but states that classic cars should only be used for hobby or occasional use.

Pros

- Covers your choice of repair shop, even if it means sending your car out of state or overseas for necessary repairs.
- No deductible when you have a total loss settlement.
- Offers spare parts coverage of \$1,500.
- Pays up to \$500 per car for disaster relocation expenses.

Cons

- No online classic car insurance quotes.
- Doesn't offer many discounts.
- No mention of inflation guard.

Hagerty – 4.5

We like Hagerty because it covers vehicles being restored and offers extra coverage and services with its "vehicles under construction" coverage. During a restoration, your car's value will be raised automatically by 10% a quarter—up to a maximum increase of \$25,000 per year. We also like that you can drive to work or do errands for up to five months a year as a seasonal driver. Getting an online classic car insurance quote with Hagerty is also a plus.

Pros

- Has alliances with Allstate, Nationwide and Progressive. See about a bundling discount if you have your standard car insurance or home policy with one of these insurers.
- Offers a motorsports advantage endorsement for race cars.

- Evacuation expense (disaster relocation) coverage is up to \$1,500 per item and a maximum total limit of \$10,000.
- Has a “cherished salvage” option that allows you to keep your totaled vehicle without the salvage value being deducted from your insurance payout.

Cons

- Spare parts coverage is low at only \$750, while some competitors offer \$2,000
- Hagerty has no fixed mileage limit but notes mileage of 3,500 is what is considered normal for collectible cars and 7,500 is on the high end, so may not be truly unlimited.
- Only a few discounts are available.

Condon Skelly – 4.0

We like that Condon Skelly provides a lay-up discount for not driving your car during the winter months of December through March, though this does not apply to restoration vehicles. Condon Skelly is also a top pick because it offers a variety of mileage plans—including unlimited miles—and provides coverage for a wide variety of vehicles.

Pros

- Mileage options of 2,500 up to 7,500 unless you choose unlimited miles, but must use the car for leisure use and not as a daily driver no matter the mileage plan.
- Offers coverage for unique vehicles, such as vintage tractors, military vehicles and fire trucks.

Cons

- Doesn't provide disaster relocation coverage or inflation guard.
- Only offers a few discounts.

Heacock Classic – 4.0

We like that Heacock Classic offers storage, transit and paddock insurance for race cars. It also has special discounts for extra vehicle security and membership into particular marque clubs. Additionally, it has great spare parts coverage and a decent number of coverage options.

Pros

- Restoration coverage works whether your classic car is in a shop or if you're restoring it yourself.
- Only one liability charge, no matter how many cars you have insured in your collection.
- Get \$2,000 of spare parts coverage and roadside assistance with flatbed towing as part of a Heacock classic car insurance policy.

Cons

- Flexible mileage plans, but the top limit is 6,000 annual miles, which is lower than what many competitors offer.
- No mention of disaster relocation coverage or inflation guard.

For additional information, see:

<https://www.forbes.com/advisor/car-insurance/best-classic-car-insurance/>

****** None of these companies are endorsed by the BCOIE or the SDC ******



BCOIE Calendar



Sunday, April 6th	40th Annual Los Angeles Meet 9-am - 2pm Bob's Big Boy, Northridge
Saturday, May 10th	Richard Nixon Library Tour, Yorba Linda – Chapter Meeting to follow at 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 8th	<u>Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance</u>
Saturday, June 14th	Chapter Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 13th	Members meeting and Our Annual Picnic, Yorba Regional Park. Further details to follow
September 13th	Members meeting @ 4:30pm "DRIVE YOUR STUDEBAKER!"
September 16 – 20th	The 61st Annual SDC International Meet - Washington County, Pennsylvania
September 28th	La Palma Car Show and Swap Meet, La Palma Park, Anaheim – 8:00am – 3:00pm
December 13th	Members meeting & "Our Annual Christmas Party!" @ 4:30pm 18132 Imperial Hwy. Yorba Linda

Happy Birthday & Anniversary to our April Members.

Enjoy your special day!!!

Birthdays

Don Eades	17
Dee Gruver	17
Michelle Everitt	21

Anniversaries

Marc & Marcie Rohrich	17
Harold & Thurza Rodgers	29
Sam & Cheryl Wheeler	30



May your day be as bright and shiny as a brand new Studebaker

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ *Cheers!!!* ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



★ *2025 Membership is Due* ★

Please submit your form and \$20 ASAP

★ ★ ★ *Don't delay!!!* ★ ★ ★

Membership Form available at:

[https://www.studebakersocal.com/BCOIE%20Membership%20Form Updated%202024.pdf](https://www.studebakersocal.com/BCOIE%20Membership%20Form%20Updated%202024.pdf)

Rated the #1 car show in Wine Country by completely unenthusiastic spouses who could't care less about cars... but love wine (red or white)!





Studebakers are Welcome!!!

THE MR. MAHALO VINTAGE CAR SHOW

At Somerset Winery



**When: 27 April 2025
Sunday 10AM-2PM**

**Where: Somerset Winery
37338 De Portola Rd, Temecula, CA 92592**

Register at: 808mrmahalo@gmail.com
\$30 Until April 1st / \$35 After April 1st

T-shirts and commemorative wine glasses for sale!



Los Angeles Chapter
Presents



Los Angeles Chapter
STUDEBAKER
Drivers Club


40th Annual
Classic

Bob's
Big Boy

STUDEBAKER
Car Show

Sunday, April 6, 2025 ~ 9 am - 2 pm
8876 Corbin Ave., Northridge, CA

Download Registration Forms at: www.studebakersla.com

51st Annual La Palma STUDEBAKER

Car Show & Swap Meet

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Registration Open

Click here for forms

Studebaker

From: Jim Studebaker,

Got the Daytona out for a local car show at the Dana Point Festival of the Whales. Beautiful SoCal weekend weather the share the car with so many other cars from other local clubs including Hot Rods Unlimited that welcomed my Studebaker into the club. Longer days, warmer weather on the way... *get those cars out!*



Did you know?

There are 27 Videos / Photo albums dating back to 2001 Old World Village Car Show on your BCOIE Website?

https://www.studebakersocal.com/BCOIE_Photos.htm



From Facebook, **Brian Kitchen** - Bought a 1960 Lark as a project two weeks ago. Last night at 1 a.m. somehow the ignition shorted and the car caught fire. Destroyed the interior and glass.



James Nesta - I came to the comments to mention this. There is brace right behind the “always hot” lug on the ignition switch. If the pot metal breaks the spring pushes it right into the brace, grounding it and making sparks. Not a good design at all. I have a battery disconnect. But I cut a chunk of a piece of foam pipe insulation and slipped it over the brace behind the switch as a backup plan.

Michael Hayes - Everyone with a Lark needs to get a chunk of foam pipe wrap and put it on that brace behind the ignition switch to prevent this from happening. Someone warned me about this problem when I bought my wagon 30 years ago. I always disconnect my battery when it's parked.

SAFETY FACT – This is new to me. I just added a Battery Master Disconnect Switch to my car.

Note from Editor: *In these weird times we live in, one never knows what will offend someone. I found this article interesting strictly as a Car Guy, it's not meant to be a political comment. Being a Studebaker Nut who understands the terms, "Love it or Hate it" and "Ugly is in the eye of the beholder", I thought you too might find the article interesting.*

Why Tesla's Cybertruck Is An American Icon

By: Brooke Brandtjen

With his Cybertruck, Elon Musk brings the virtues of the past into the present.

Since its initial release in 2023, Musk's Cybertruck has been widely criticized with the nonpartisan charge of being ugly. Admittedly, the trucks are a sight to behold. Clocking in at just under 19 feet long, the boxy beasts look like they came out of an 8-bit video game. They have a dystopian presence, touting a grey stainless-steel exterior that is cut by a single front headlight. They are massive, militaristic, and dauntless.

The Cybertruck looks much more like a tank than a 1955 Ford Thunderbird. Despite this, in 2025, these two cars are actually quite similar. While they are technological opposites, they are each cultural touchstones. Both represent new models meant to bring luxury to the masses. Both were inspired by previous lineages of vehicles, taking cues from pop culture of eras past. Both were proudly American made.

Quintessentially, a '25 Cybertruck and a '55 Thunderbird are the same. The 70 years between them only prove that Americans crave novelty. They are the products of a unique brand of ingenuity that plays with consumers' preconceived notions. The two vehicles are shiny and strange; they prompt kids to pull on their parents' sleeves, point, and yell, "Look!"

The American automotive industry has hit a creative wall. Although cars are safer than ever, they are monotonously designed, colored, and rolled out. Year after year, the models hardly change, making generations and brands virtually indistinguishable from one another. A bland sameness has swept through car companies, leaving innovation as a silly remnant from a more idealistic society. The drive to challenge industry norms has largely been quashed, and indifference has taken its place.

At their core, Americans are frontiersmen. The pioneers trudged westward through mountains, plains, and deserts until their drive toward progress stretched coast-to-coast. They settled the rainy northwest and the hot, muggy Gulf of America. Finally, when so much of the land had been conquered, the ambitious American spirit planted our nation's flag on the moon. Technology is a frontier, much like the Alaskan wilderness or the depths of the ocean. Technology calls for that same inventiveness that turned a railroad stop into Las Vegas or a trading post into Detroit.

Car companies have become complacent with their expectations. Their desire to create "the vehicle of tomorrow" has been traded for diminutive changes like heated steering wheels or varying paint colors. Midcentury America dreamed of an ambitious and imaginative society. The future was experimental; it was George Jetson and vacations on Mars.

Unfortunately, at some point, this trail-blazing attitude was repressed, stifled by radicals who pretended innovation was nothing more than capitalistic greed. On the contrary, capitalism encouraged batches of fresh, young thinkers to endeavor. It stirred up the flames of ingenuity. Musk's attitude toward technology is a revitalization of these previously stifled passions. He is attempting the unthinkable by bringing the virtues of the past into the present.

The Cybertruck is an oxymoron. It's clunky, but it rides smoothly. It's a car, but it's a computer. It's technologically advanced, but it's designed with childish simplicity. It's called ugly, but it received over a million reservations upon its initial release. Behind its stoic exterior lies traditional American curiosity.

continued...

When the 1955 Thunderbird was released, the public was enamored with how comfortable the vehicle was despite its low frame. The car was designed to marry a futuristic, tail-fin style with the quality and comfort consumers had come to expect.

Musk is carrying on this same ethos of perseverance. This new American pioneer drives not a covered wagon but a battery-powered pickup truck.



"Brakes are fine. You need new glasses."



51st Annual La Palma STUDEBAKER

Car Show & Swap Meet

Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025 ~ La Palma Park, Anaheim, CA

New Date, Newly Remodeled Park!

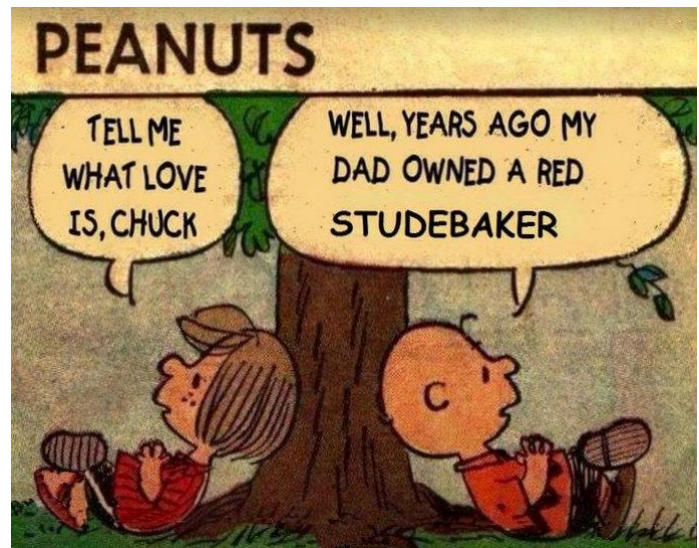





LA PALMA THE LARGEST
STUDEBAKER
 MEET IN THE WEST!



www.StudebakerSoCal.com



***** What was Richard Nixon's favorite car? Sorry, it wasn't a Studebaker, it was a 1950 Oldsmobile 98. Mark your calendar for the tour of his Library/Museum...**



~ May 10, 2025 ~

Richard Nixon Library Tour

18001 Yorba Linda Blvd., Yorba Linda



Tour Begins at: 1:00 p.m.

No reservations required, just show up and enjoy.

Question? Call Jonni Elmore @ 951-545-2664



TICKETS

Adults:	\$29.00
Senior (+62):	\$26.00
Ret. Military:	\$23.00

RICHARD *RN* NIXON
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Happy Studebakering