

Mansfield's welcome mat rolled up for now! OH - IO thanks YO - U!



Were you one of the 227 Studebaker owners who drove or trailered your Studebaker to Mansfield, Ohio for the 55th Studebaker Drivers Club International Meet? Were you one of the 1085 Studebaker Drivers Club members who drove, flew, hitch-hiked, caravanned, sailed, Amtraked, bussed or pulled your camper to OH-IO for our Buckeye hospitality? Did you smile for one of our photographers? Did you participate in one of the two driving tours, one of the four bus tours showcasing Ohio history, the ladies tea, one of the five Shawshank Prison guided tours, one of the two caravans to Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course to speed through the hairpin turns, 15 corners and straightaways of the 2.4 mile track? Or were you toe-tapping to the Tuesday evening Ribtickers band and licking buckeye ice cream sandwiches? Or was the Saturday farewell barbecue more to your liking??

Maybe we spotted you encircling the Richland County Fairgrounds retrieving your registration packet from our knowledgeable team, purchasing a meet souvenir, grabbing a chocolate mini-buckeye to tide you over until you made the 30-second walk to the hospitality room decked out in fall décor to savor bigger chocolate buckeyes, fruit, salty and sweet snacks all created or collected by our very hospitable hospitality team. Then you needed to walk off your devoured goodies so you continued around the grounds to the first of two vendor buildings, this one hosting 1908 electric Studebakers 'Tommy' and 'Peg'. Needing more Studebaker pieces and parts to satisfy your 'fix' you traveled on through the outside vendor sales tables and car corral with that Studebaker waiting and hoping you would take it home to love and to cherish, and then enjoyed more pieces and parts in the second vendor building all coordinated by our pieces and parts loving team.

No International Meet is complete without the watches, literature, memorabilia and toys, lots of toys, coordinated by wonderful, out-of-state volunteers, then you followed the signs to the Hartz building for seminars and Studebakers in the Movies, complete with popcorn (sorry no Good & Plenty nor Gobstoppers). At this point your snacks and popcorn were wearing off, so a stop in the Youth Hall cafeteria for hometown cooking by the fair board

ladies was a necessity, and of course, you were greeted by our prison-apron-clad smiling volunteers. You had one more stop to observe more than a dozen volunteer judges oohing, aaahing, and critiquing the cream of the crop Studebaker family vehicles before you returned to the rows and rows of Studebaker family vehicles for your time of oooooing and aaaahing.

THANK YOU *** THANK YOU *** THANK YOU

Mansfield and the Heart of Ohio chapter welcomed Studebaker folks from 43 states (and D.C.), five Canadian provinces, and two additional countries. The host Heart of Ohio chapter would like to thank all of you mentioned above for participating in our Meet and for the 76, and still counting, volunteers from all over North America. Thank you SDC board for believing in our Heart of Ohio team. Our planning team of Heart of Ohio members along with a few Tri-Staters, was enthusiastic, helpful and encouraging. The volunteers from the host chapter, Tri-State and Ohio Region greeted our guests at the gate on Extravaganza (concours), Saturday, plus the Pennsylvania team was instrumental in bringing 'Tommy' and 'Peg' to our fair city, and all were the reason YOU had a great time. Also, we couldn't have done it without our vendors, all 45-plus, from the States and Canada. The most challenging aspect of the meet were the people. The most rewarding aspect of the meet were the people.

Studebakers are Great, Studebaker People are the Greatest, and Heart of Ohio people are A-W-E-S-O-M-E!

*Many thanks. Dave Hamblin,
55th SDC Meet Chairman
Jim Thompson and JoAnne Hamblin,
55th SDC Meet Co-Chairmen*



Heart of Ohio Chapter Studebaker Drivers Club 'Prison Guards' celebrating their break-out of the Shawshank Prison/55th SDC International Meet held September 11 to 14, 2019 in Mansfield, Ohio. Taken Nov 2, 2019