



# The Canadian Avanti



**Annie & Jim Hinsperger.**

**Jim says, "we managed a fifth place out of a hundred Studebakers in Minneapolis MN."**

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**T**HE CANADIAN AVANTI IS PUBLISHED quarterly by the Canadian Avanti Owners Association (CAOA), a chapter of the Avanti Owners Association International (AOAI).

*The Canadian Avanti Owners Association is a non-profit organization committed to preserving the history of the Avanti automobile. We currently have +40 members located in all provinces across Canada. We are a Chapter of the Avanti Owners Association International Inc. Our group strives to promote the research and study of the*

*Avanti and the companies that have produced it over the years. We wish to share our knowledge with others and encourage the acquisition, preservation, restoration, and maintenance of all Avantis produced by Studebaker and successor companies. Our Canadian Chapter also promotes fellowship and camaraderie by publishing a newsletter quarterly, participating in local CAOAs or Studebaker Drivers Club events and our general meetings held quarterly at various members' homes. Ownership of an Avanti (Studebaker or successor) is not required.*

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# A Message from the President

by Steve Wohleber

WELL ANOTHER CRUISE season has come to an end for most of us, but it looks like there were many Avanti sightings across the land over the past few months, as well as a number of forays to various events south of the border. It was great to see Dave Simonson and Pete Barber and their cars featured in the latest issue of Old Autos. As we all know, the success of any cruise night, weekend show or cruise is participation. Not just owners of the vehicles involved, but spectators as well. We often ask friends or neighbors along for the ride, which they always enjoy and surprisingly often become interested in the whole old car phenomena. The music, food, vendors, and especially conversations with owners of cars, they or their families once owned, and the chance to reminisce and share their own stories and anecdotes. I've often been asked about other shows in the area that they would attend...and if we'd like to join them! So, next time you're off

to an event, ask someone along. Give those rear seats, that look as tho they've never been used, a chance to earn their keep. Our next meeting will take place Nov. 29, the day after the SDC Hamilton Christmas Party. Location to be announced. Also, the executive is once

to the finish line first. I finally managed to have the doors installed last week. So we are both set now for the onslaught of the coming season.

As closing remarks, I'll include my usual rant: Canadian Tire had one of those super duper blockbuster sales

of a Stanley wrench/socket and everything else you never thought you'd ever need sets, retail \$399, on sale for \$99, with case, drawers, you name it. I figured, well, new garage, might be nice to have one set of everything in one place for a change. Picked one up without even looking



Barb & Steve Wohleber beside their '89 Avanti

again considering offering the Avanti calendar along with membership renewal, so keep in touch with our website for the latest announcements in early December.

Mike Emmerich and I have both been busy this summer with new garage construction and although Mike was held up considerably over the various permits, approvals, inspections etc. he seemed to have gotten

at the box. It sat around for a few months before the building had a workbench etc. so I only recently opened the box. Surprise! First off, all of the gazillion pieces were in separate little sealed plastic bags which can only be opened with a lethal device of some sort. I only cut myself once. Then I find that everything is finished in the latest decorator

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**A Message from the President  
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craze...tools?...they call "Black Chrome." Now, try to read the size on a 5/32 socket black on black. To make it even more challenging, on the larger sockets the sizes are heat stamped, or painted on. Already some of that has worn off and I haven't even used them yet. The drawers are bright yellow with the sizes stamped the same colour and almost impossible to read without a flashlight. Some long winter afternoon, I'll go over those with a black marker. Oh, and did I mention that the drawers have no back catch? Which means that the first time

you pull one open...well, you can figure that out for yourself. And then the final challenge. I mean, haven't we all dropped a wrench or socket down into the engine bay, or some other out of the way place, and waited for that reassuring sound of it hitting the floor? When it doesn't, it's the distraction and fun of searching for the errant item, but at least when that item is Shiny chrome, you've got a chance, but drop something black somewhere between the motor and the frame, or wherever...and figure, that's your afternoon. I once found a small socket laying on the down side of a pulley just

waiting to get sucked in by the belt. Who comes up with these bright ideas? Probably someone who has never used a wrench, or doesn't even know what one is. Oh well, it does look spiffy in my new space, and I gathered up all of my good, used "chrome" tools and threw them helter skelter in an old tackle box for when I need them. Life goes on.

So, I hope all of you had a great summer and fall, and look forward to your news and plans for the coming year. Cheers, and all the best,

*Steve*

Steve

## *British Columbia: Avanti Gathering* 06-06-2015

Submitted on behalf of Dwayne Jacobson

**T**HIS IS AN INVITE FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT members of the Avanti-Studebaker Facebook to join.

We had 6 Avanti gathered yesterday in South Surrey and will be doing more gatherings in the future. If you have a suggestion for a gathering please forward it and I will assist if need be in getting the word out as well as help.

Each attending was given the 2015 Avanti Calendar. Pete Yuen made a wooden silhouette shape of an Avanti that had in the middle a Heart and on

each side a place to insert a photo. This was given to Jeannie and Gary Koo who traveled from their home in Sorrento, BC. Great time for all.

If you are not members of the CAO (Canadian Avanti Owners Association) please contact Larry Gibson - Director of Membership - [larryanarb.gibson@sympatico.ca](mailto:larryanarb.gibson@sympatico.ca)

The Web site for CAO is: [www.canadianavanti.ca](http://www.canadianavanti.ca)  
CAOC is a Chapter of the Avanti Owners Association International Inc (<http://www.aoui.org>)  
It's worth it. Their magazine is first class.

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**British Columbia: Avanti Gathering continued from page 4**

Early in 2015 Dwayne Jacobson of White Rock, B.C. contacted CAO A requesting any information we might have in our archives regarding contact information of other Avanti owners in B.C.

In the past there were several CAO A members spread across B.C. and he was aware of several Avanti owners in the Vancouver area and contemplated holding a social event to bring them together. A search of the CAO A archives provided contact information on about 25 Avanti owners, but much of the information was up to ten years old. Not overly useful but it was a starting point.

Dwayne passed the contact information to a few close Avanti owner friends to see if they could help update the list. One, Pete Yuen a very long term SDC member, took on the task in a determined manner, volunteering countless hours over a two month period, attempting to update everyone on the list. As you can imagine it was quite a task; cars get sold, people move, some are passed on to family member. Others are destroyed or

abandoned, while at the same time new cars and owners are discovered that had not previously been on the list. Many Thanks Pete.

With new list of 35 confirmed Avanti owners, spread across the province, including some on Vancouver Island, Dwayne formalized plans, picked a date and extended invitations to everyone.



*Brian Cave of Merrit, B.C.*

June 6th Dwayne reports: "The weather was superb. Mid morning Glen Ishii of North Vancouver in his Black Avanti, Pete Yuen of Vancouver in his Tangerine Avanti, Gary and Jeanie Koo of Sorrento, BC (400 Kms from South Surrey) in their Dee Red Avanti, Brian Cave of Merritt BC (243 Kms in his Golden Avanti, and Sharon and I of White Rock in our Black Avanti met at a South Surrey Restaurant for a Waffle Breakfast.

We then headed over to a friends' acreage to meet up with Rolyn and Dan Porritt of Coquitlam in their slightly customized Orange/Tangerine Avanti (gift from her Dad, Dale Pennock). Later Alyn Edwards joined them in his 1950's pickup as his newly purchased Avanti encountered mechanical problems.



*Gary Koo and his lady friend, Jeannie.*

It was the first time for many to meet face to face, and after getting acquainted, and viewing each others' cars, we formed a line and headed off through the centre of White Rock, before turning on to Marine Drive to cruise the Beach Area and Restaurant Row. We drew plenty of attention and many "thumbs up" approvals.

We then went back to the property of Flow Schwab, where everyone socialized and enjoyed a Gourmet Burger BBQ. 2015 Avanti Calendars were distributed to everyone, and Door Prize "Gift Cards" provided by CAO A were awarded to Pete Yuen and Host Flow Schwab. Pete Yuen made a special wood plaque, with a silhouette shape of an Avanti, with two heart shaped picture frames. This special gift was awarded to Jeannie and Gary Koo, who had travelled the furthest distance. The evening was capped off with discussions for a future Avanti Gathering, which is sure to grow, as everyone spreads the word about their great experience."



# Maple Leaf Tour Overview

by Steve Wohleber

**S**tudebakers left, Studebakers right. 22 altogether. A perfect weekend and a well designed and organized tour courtesy of SDC Ontario Chapter.



Great driving through beautiful countryside around Peterborough, with lakes, rivers, hills, farms and picturesque villages. A very informative visit to Petroglyphs Provincial Park and some fun and many enticements at East of Eden Antiques.

Details of the Maple Leaf Tour continue below

## The Maple Leaf Tour

by Verne Brinsmead

**I**T'S DONE! Another Maple Leaf Tour has come and gone. Eldon has assured me that we set a new record with twenty three Studebaker-built vehicles registered. No wonder we were both worn out!

A small group of us began with a Friday afternoon visit to the Conservation Centre run by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, where we were given a live guided tour by a very well informed young lady. She finished with a fascinating David Attenborough nature film in the theatre, one of the many that they run regularly. Despite a navigational error (mine) we

enjoyed a two hour visit before the next group came in at 5 p.m.

As it was Homecoming Weekend (Regatta Weekend - Trent University has no football team), the city was on wheels with crowded restaurants and hotels booked solid. The Quality Inn was full of rowing teams but provided impressive service despite an amazing 96 check-ins on Friday. There wasn't even a hitch providing a hot breakfast for this crowd. Saturday arrived cool and windy but with no rain so we had a very pleasant drive to the Petroglyphs Park. Regrettably, we only had time for the glyphs themselves, but

Meals and venues were great with lots of prizes, stories from our summer exploits and engaging camaraderie as always. Hawks, Larks, Daytonas, two Avanti, three trucks, Presidents and a Land Cruiser. Quite a few CAO A members there as well. Thanks to SDC for all the hard work behind the scenes to make these tours so seamless and enjoyable.



our guide/interpreter was the park's Chief Ranger who has First Nations blood. He knows the Wendat language and provided an excellent tour from the perspective of the native peoples. The Wendat Confederacy (the Hurons to us white men) was a large and complex nation with an estimated population of thirty to forty thousand souls between the Canadian Shield and Lake Ontario when Canada was "discovered".

From the park, we hopped up to Honey's Diner just east of Big Cedar for lunch. As this is a small family-run roadside diner, we

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### The Maple Leaf Tour continued from page 6

had pre ordered our lunches but added quite significantly to the order about 10 a.m. by telephone. Despite the change they seated and fed 44 people in jig time while also serving the walk-in trade in the front dining room. I had the fish'n'chips which is a bargain at \$6.99 but I got rave reviews from the folks who tried the shepherds pie.

Saturday afternoon included a visit to East of Eden, a fairly large antique market with a collection of old (unrestored) trucks which the owner has picked up in the Prairie

Provinces. Interest ranged from passion to "ho-hum" so it was perhaps not the best venue for some of our number. We wound up the afternoon with a leisurely drive "the back way" along the Otonabee River to Peterborough through Burleigh Falls and Lakefield. The bonus was a chance to slow down and watch the rowing teams on the water as we passed through the University. A very detailed route map was in the info kit so I think the folks who returned early were able to follow the turns.

The day ended with a very good dinner at The Pizza Factory. No, we didn't have pizza. It is

actually Greek and has been a mainstay of Peterborough's restaurant scene for over 30 years. Peter, Anna and the staff handled us very well despite being absolutely mobbed in the "public" dining room. By 9 p.m. it was still so crowded and noisy that we retired to the hotel breakfast room for our door prizes.

I think we all had a good time and the whole weekend went very smoothly. A larger than expected turnout on a very busy weekend went off without a hitch. See you next year!

## Sandpoint (Idaho)

by Ted Dirksen

IAN TYSON'S SONG "SPRING TIME IN ALBERTA" - came true April 25th this year just when we thought we were done with snow. My little Lark was caught outside overnight. It spent the week at the mechanics for a complete go over to make sure it is safe and capable for our up coming drive to Sandpoint Idaho for "Back to the 50's" event. (May long weekend) Needed to make sure the mighty 6 cyl would climb the mountain highways from Alberta's Crowsnest Pass in to Fernie and Cranbrook BC. Also to make sure it could stop on the same mountain roads. So after a new brake booster and rear wheel cylinders she is ready to go. Sandpoint is a fantastic weekend with top notch entertainment, this year Frankie Avalon and the Dixie Cups as well as a night of impersonators (Elvis - Jerry Lee and Richie Valens) the Friday evening parade, Saturday downtown show and of course the very American tailgate parties that happen at almost every hotel used by show participants. Our American hosts are always very welcoming and really appreciate Canadian participants and cars. My estimate is approx 1/2 the cars are Canadian, mostly Alberta and BC. We have made friends from Washington, Idaho and Montana states and always look forward to our annual fellowship.



Have attended this show with our Avanti and Hawk and this is the 1st year with the Lark. There is almost no more beautiful drive than the "Cowboy Highway" south of Calgary to the crowsnest. Winding two lane highway skirting the rocky Mountain Foothills and the Cowboy ranchland. Home of Ian Tyson.

This trip we will be joined by Ken and Willie Simms in their Beautiful 64 Daytona Supercharged convertible as well as 3 other couples with various classic cars.

## Arnstein Show 10-13-2015

Submitted by Steve Wohleber

ON AUGUST 19TH, Barb and Dave Moxham, Barb and Steve Wohleber and Dave's brother Larry attended a farmers market and car show in Arnstein Ontario. A small town in Northern Ontario. About 15 to 20 cars were in attendance as well as a very impressive market with lots of local produce, homemade goodies and crafts. A lovely day, two Avanti and a nice crowd of old car folks. We hope to make this an annual outing.



## Copper Cliff 10-13-2015

Submitted by Steve Wohleber

BARB AND I also attended the annual Copper Cliff show hosted by Sudbury Classic Cruisers. We have attended for four years now and the venue in Copper Cliff Park, music and prizes make for a great day. A sharp '49 Land Cruiser made it's first appearance this year after a thorough restoration.





# Upcoming Events

## Chapter Events

### Meetings for 2015:

November 29: . . . . . Winter meeting/elections, details TBA.

As in previous years, CAOAA will attempt to tie a meeting to an event. We are always looking for suggestions and/or meeting places, so send in your thoughts to Steve Wohleber or Mike Emmerich.

### AOAI Events

June 26 - July 2, 2016 . . . 52nd Annual Studebaker Drivers Club International Meet Warwick, Rhode Island. This will also be an AOAI meet. See <http://www.sdcmeet.com/> for details.

### SDC Events

Nov 28: . . . . . Hamilton Chapter Christmas Party – details to be provided.

**Have an event you would like to add? Please contact Mike Emmerich with the details...**

## Drive Your Studebaker Day

Submitted by Larry Gibson



*Photo one is at Cayuga Road Course and photo two is arrival at Picton motel near Shannonville track. Travelled more than 1100 miles with car & trailer, plus another 400 with car in my trailer. All in 8 days.*



## 1st River Day Show & Shine

Norman Searle



*Since my hoist sort of packed it in earlier this spring I have not been too busy improving the Avanti but I did enter it in the 1st River Day Show & Shine in my home town of Devon, Alberta. It took 1st place in the "classics" category, which was the main class. It was a cool and gloomy day but the rains held off until judging was over. The blue Lark in the picture is my 'daily driver' and people were amazed to find out both cars were actually 1963 Studebakers.*

