



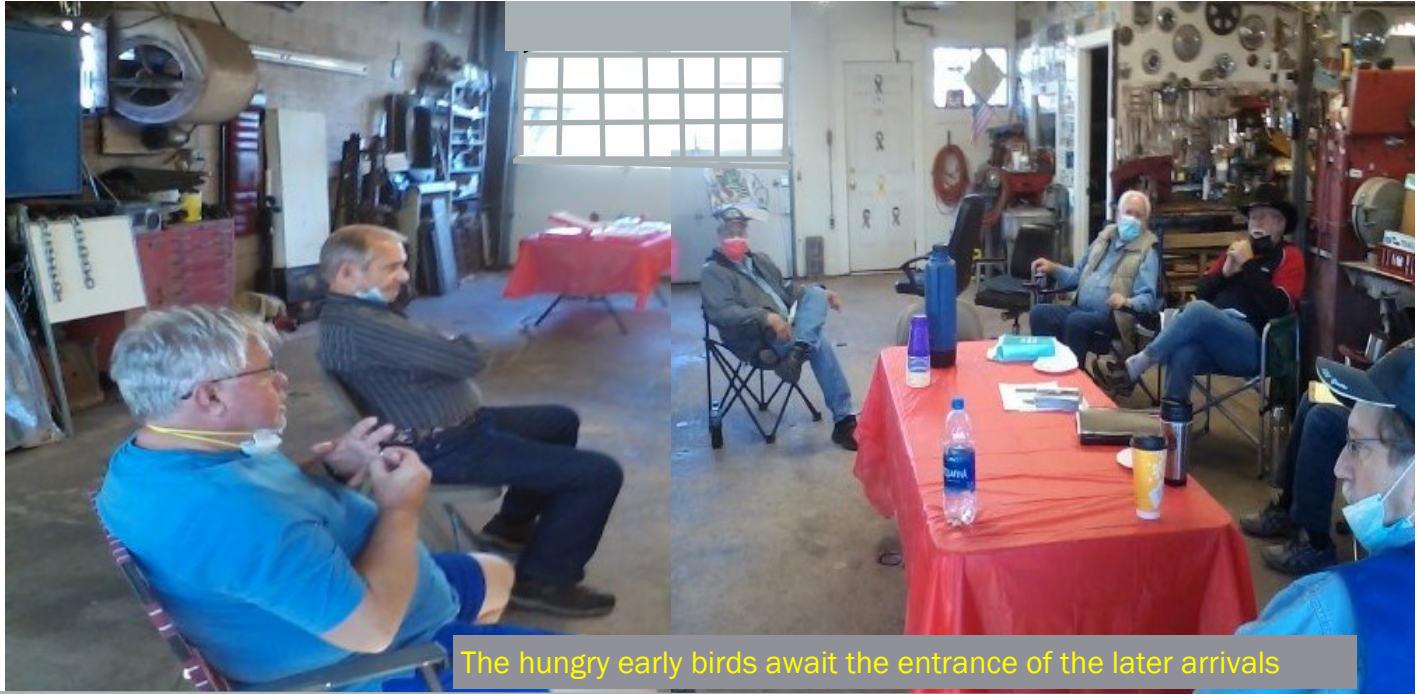
Stude Flyer

Serving the exceptionally au courant Studebaker enthusiasts of Central Oklahoma

Election of Club Officers Goes Smoothly

The Central Oklahoma Chapter of The Studebaker Drivers Club met 9:00 AM on Wednesday 18 November with the intended purpose of electing new officers for the coming year. The meeting took place in Elmer Davis's shop and Elmer had been gracious enough to

provide a varied and plentiful amount of doughnuts, cookies, coffee and soft drinks which, of course we attended to at once, not having eaten since 7:00AM. Then a great deal of time was devoted to various Studebaker topics, among them being the anticipated work on '55 sedan soon to be in the hands of Glenn Masopust. Thus a sleepy and sated group decided to make do with the slate of officers currently in place.



The hungry early birds await the entrance of the later arrivals

Besides discussing Glenn's '55 and better communications event sharing with other clubs, Peter brought up the possibility of using Zoom meetings to keep better in touch during this Pandemic Panic Era. Stude Pete wants to reiterate: "Don Sutherland and I had a meeting and a chat using ZOOM on our computers, as we practiced our limited Zoom talents (or lack there-

of). We are hoping to use [Zoom](#) as one way to remain connected with our Studebaker Club members. Please let us know if you are interested in developing a ZOOM contact with our Central Oklahoma Chapter." And since then Peter has been straining his retired brain with studying and practicing Zoom techniques and possibilities. So everyone get a fone or computer and **be ready to ZOOM!**



In this issue: Page 1 Doughnuts & coffee at the Hobby Shop
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 8..... ..Tour of Shawnee 9The Halls In Key West





COC Chapter Officers

Melvin McGee

President

405-789-7029

Clifton Hill

Vice President

405-214-8812

Elmer Davis

Treasurer

405-634-3033

Jeri-Alynn McGee

Secretary

405-789-7029

Peter Rodrigues

Tour Master

405-651-7717

Member's Page**January Birthdays**

Jeri-Alynn McGee

Natalie Sutherland

Elvis

Anniversaries**February Birthdays**

Mary Jones

Kelsey Roland

Anniversaries

Don & Jeri Cox

Note from your editor:

Members of the club, Ladies and gentlemen (and you, too, Throckmorton) Club fees for 2021 are due NOW, January 2021 and El Presidente has this to offer in way of enticement: **Pay in this month** and the fees for the year will be \$15 and **will include the spouse**, (spouse, Throckmorton, means wife in most cases, partner in some) **if no spouse, your favorite dog**. You will find it difficult to beat a deal like that, but to sweeten the deal it will also include free admission to all club meetings, BYOB.

.....More exciting information on page

My History With Cars, Especially Studebakers by Clifton Hill

Vice President, Central Oklahoma Chapter, Studebaker Drivers Club ...story begins page 4



We invite you to read the rather interesting nostalgic, yet brief history of a collector whose fascination with cars (he once owned a Fascination automobile!) began at the age of four years. Shown above on the left is a 1922 Studebaker which club member Ray Utter now owns and is featured in this story. Barely discernable in the old photo on the right is a 1923 Studebaker roadster. Driven by the author and accompanied by his then-three-year-old daughter Kathie, they are on their way to day care. Sometime later it was in a 1952 Jaguar..

We hope you enjoy a bit of a memory from 20 years back: the COC SDC "Stude Flyer" of [January 2001](#). Remember the snow and the howling winds as we drove to meetings over ice-covered roads, no heaters, no.....

A Happy New Year to all, hoping you all enjoyed a good, safe and merry Christmas and celebrated seriously for a Happy New Year. New beginnings, new ideas, new energy! Cheers to health, happiness, and prosperity **and NO face-hiding masks for 2021**

Hosted by Elmer Davis at Elmer's Hobby Shop, formerly Elmer's Body Shop, a number of members gathered at 9AM on Wednesday 18 November for a breakfast meeting and election of officers for the coming year. In attendance were Elmer Davis, of course, Clifton Hill, Don and Jeri Cox, Peter Rodrigues, Ken Sumwalt, Glenn Masopust, Mel McGee and Don Sutherland. Also there for that meeting as a guest was a friend of Elmer, Michael, whose last name I fail to remember. Elmer proved a very gracious host, serving, along with strong hot coffee and varied soft drinks, an elaborate array of probably eleventeen different flavors of Duncan Donuts, and about as many kinds of cookies. All we could possibly eat and then some. If you missed the meeting don't worry about any going to waste (although some might have gone to waist) 'cause I ate enough for both of us.

As for the new slate of officers, the good food and camaraderie led those of us still able to think coherently to feel inclined to decide by popular and overwhelming majority vote to allow the current slate to remain in place. With a cadre of officers now with so many years of experience and seniority next year's scheduling of interesting events, collections of dues and fees, reporting on meetings, attracting new members and bragging about our Studebakers should indeed make 2021 a great year for the Central Oklahoma Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the 2020 annual SDC Chili Dinner and The Christmas Party as well, due to observance of restrictions placed on life in general by the Wuhan Covid 19 Pandemic, but Jeri-Alynn and I did manage a wonderful Family Thanksgiving. Gathering all the family at our home on Thanksgiving Day, we enjoyed so much food we should possibly have taken a week to eat it, and had such a great visit with everyone there.

Then on Christmas Morning we shared a big breakfast cooked by our two daughters, Tina and Vanessa, at Tina's house, and that, too was a happy occasion. After the breakfast was over and we had cleaned up the dishes, and the dogs had cleaned up the floor, Tina and Vanessa played San-

ta Claus and passed out all the gifts, we sang some carols, played some games, told some jokes and then we all just passed out. All the Old Folks, at least.

A very special thing about this event was our granddaughter flying in from Pittsburgh where she is accomplishing her 16-month internship at [UPMC](#) the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, rated number one hospital in Pittsburgh. After all this food and excitement Jeri and I picked ourselves up and returned home to rest and digest, needless to say, not fixing anything for dinner.

That said, I hope everyone was able to enjoy time with their family as we did. We don't yet know what's in store for this year, partly because of the virus, but we believe good things may still be allowed to happen. They're beginning to make the vaccine available and I hope that continues to go well.

At the meeting in November Studie Pete announced that he will be attempting a rebuild of the front suspension on Don's Dutch Girl and has invited us out to his (Peter's) place to observe this delicate operation. When the time and date are chiseled in stone he will notify us by e-mail or Facebook or ZOOM or maybe all three. He assures good seats to this spectacle, not as simple an operation as you might suppose. To add to the excitement Don was heard to remind Peter that a \$100 dollar-per day penalty will be imposed for every hour the procedure exceeds the contracted time.

We will keep you informed on this and any other interesting possibilities that turn up. Stay tuned in, stay safe, stay masked-up and locked down and maintain that distant sociability.

As ever,



...Mel



ZOOM MEETINGS :

Everyone be alert to an invitation to a club Zoom meeting ! Studie Pete has been working on gathering information on and practicing with the Zoom app and will soon send invites.

Red 1938 BUICK Century sedan



Older bro Opa, younger bro Gary and Clifton.

Briefly let me give you a quick rundown of my history and interest in cars. The earliest memory is of my getting my father to start our 1938 Buick Century so that we could listen to the engine for any noises that shouldn't be there. I was all of four or five years old.

Later, when I was definitely about five, we moved from town (Shawnee) to an eight-acre acreage SW of Shawnee. This move was significant for my future interest in cars, for now we lived only a block or so from my Uncle Raymond Utter (my Mother's brother). He farmed, raised animals, and worked on cars. He was a real car guy and growing up I hung around him a lot. He was one of the early members (if not a founder) of the Sooner Horseless Carriage Club. He liked antique cars as well as the Classics and sports cars. In fact, he was the first Regional Executor of the Sports Car Club of America.

Growing up next to my uncle afforded me many opportunities to be around a lot of interesting collector cars. I remember a 1931 Cadillac Touring car, a 1940 Bentley convertible sedan, a 1953 Ferrari roadster, a 1935 Ford Convertible Sedan and numerous



XK120 Jaguar

TD MGs and XK120 Jaguars and a really nice 1931 Springfield Rolls Royce Derby Dual Cowl Phaeton (I did get to drive that car) and a four-cylinder Dodge and a couple of Studebakers. I always thought it impressive that Uncle Ray traded a very

rare 1950 all aluminum XK120 Jaguar for the 1931 Rolls-Royce but in retrospect I realize either car would have been, even then, in the \$200K to \$300K price range.

My earliest memory associated with a Studebaker was sitting in my uncle's 1922 Studebaker Touring car which he had purchased from the original owners in Shawnee in 1935. Now, when I was sitting in it and perhaps pretending to drive it, I was about ten years old and it had been resting for many years in a shed attached to the south side of the "big barn" and was keeping company with a 1928 Packard sedan. By the way, the Studebaker touring is now owned by my cousin Ray Utter Jr. and has been at some of our club activities.

When I was twelve, I learned to drive a [Massey-Harris](#) 44 tractor and farming for my uncle with this and an [Allis Chalmers](#) tractor for 50 cents an hour gave me funds to buy an antique car. When I was fourteen, I thought it was time to find something. My Uncle didn't want to sell the Studebaker touring. He did have the 1935 Ford for sale. I think it was \$150 but he wouldn't sell it to me because it had a bad engine. I think I should have persuaded him to sell it to me. When I think back on it, engines were probably \$15 and it was then and is now a desirable car. Anyway, my uncle knew of a car or two at a local salvage.



1928 Chevrolet Touring

They had a 1939 LaSalle and a 1928 Chevrolet touring. The LaSalle in my estimation looked too new so the 1928 Chevrolet touring became mine for the sum of \$50. and we hooked a chain to it and took it



1931 Dual Cowl Rolls-Royce (Springfield)
Clifton on the right, younger brother Gary on the left.



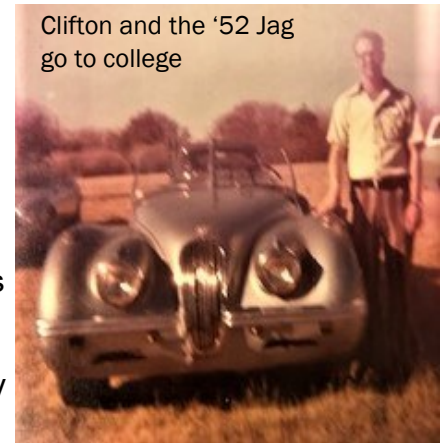
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Clifton Hill's "My History with Cars Especially Studebakers" *continues*

to my uncle's. What did I know about cars? I should have been suspicious that I might be taking on a real challenge when I noticed the wood framed body had some really bad wood and in fact someone had taken angle iron and welded it across the front doors so they wouldn't open. So entrance was by climbing over the angle iron. So much for how I got my first car. (I still have it.)

Now for Studebakers, I do remember looking at a 1920's Studebaker Coupe in the east part of Shawnee. However, it was missing the distributor and to this novice car guy that was a big obstacle and besides they wanted \$75. The car is still around the area today. I don't know if it has a distributor or not.

A few years later, when I was teaching US History at Shawnee High School, a nicely restored Studebaker Sport Type coupe titled as a 1923 became available and I was in the mood to have a nice antique car that I could drive. I really think the car was a little newer and was really what was called a duplex roadster. Anyway, I did something which, in hindsight, seems to be questionable wisdom. I traded the 1952 Jaguar roadster which I had driven to college for the Studebaker. I kept and drove that car for many years before selling it to my friend Larry Mitchell in Pawnee, Okla. By the way, I later traced the Jaguar down and bought it back and still have it.



Clifton and the '52 Jag go to college



1926 Big Six

My next Studebaker was a 1926 Big Six Roadster that I had for several years. The last time I saw it, it was part of the Gordon Pulliam collection.

Over the years I had several "project" Studebakers, including three bullet-nose cars (one was a convertible), a Scottsman, a Silver Hawk (which did run and drive) and a 1941 Coupe and one that stands out especially powerful in my memories. I didn't drive this one very long but a 1958 Packard Hawk was one of the finest and more powerful Hawks I've driven. That, too, might be a story for another time.

- As you may have gathered from my story so far, I've been collecting, working with, playing with, deeply loving and enjoying automobiles for most of my life, starting at fourteen on the "collecting" part, earlier on the loving and working with. You might call me a gear head - always had a passion for automobiles from

all over the world. Collecting everything from vintage and classic cars, to exotics and some of the



1958 Packard Hawk

rarest automobiles has been a hobby and passion of mine for the last 20 years. A professional collector will amass a collection in order to resell it. He hopes the items in his collection will increase in value. An amateur collector collects because the subject interests him. He may not care about the monetary value of the things he collects. There is some overlap between these two types of collectors. The professional may



Autos still in Clifton's museum, Shawnee

....continued on page 6

"My History With Cars" continued from page 5

have a personal interest in the subject of his collection, and the amateur may hope that his collection will increase in value. The difference between the two is what *primarily* motivates them. Love of the object is what motivates the amateur. I think I would say the two overlap for me. I have purchased with intent to sell and make some money, but for the most part I want to drive, repair, enjoy the vehicles, not for show.

A few years ago, my friend Allan Mortlock and I drove my Muntz Jet from Okla. to a Muntz owners meet in California and on the way we stopped at the former Harrah's Collection in Nevada. On display



Clifton's yellow 1954 Muntz Jet, Branson 2012

was a Studebaker Wagonaire with the sliding roof. I decided then that I might like to have one of those and low and behold when I got back to Oklahoma there was one advertised in the Oklahoma City area. I called about it and it had been sold, but the guy had two other Wagonaires plus a Cruiser. I must have had more money then, because I bought the package. One

Wagonaire was a gold one that I drove to the club picnic at the Rodrigues's.

The last Wagonaire I've owned came from the Gordon Pulliam collection. It is a green one that was also driven to the club picnic and to other activities. As far as I know it still belongs to Brian Woodard, another member of our club.

The only Studebakers currently at my place are a 1964 Cruiser with V8 engine and air conditioning and the 1954 Studebaker-based prototype sports car known as the Glasspar Ascot (subject of a future story?).

"Like to have" (but don't need) Studebakers would include an early 30's President, and maybe a Coupe Express, a GT Hawk with 4 speed and all the options and maybe another really nice

Wagonaire. Oh well, I think It's always good to have dreams. Enjoy!



Clifton



Studebaker-Powered
1954 Glasspar Ascot

The Mother of All Road Fests!



Oklahoma City and Tulsa June 2021

Due to Vice President Clifton Hill's quick action in advising us of the opportunity, in December of 2019 Club President Melvin McGee, Leland Laws and Don Sutherland drove their Studebakers to the State Capitol to share in the inaugural activities of Oklahoma Route 66 Commemorative Society at the State Capitol. (see "Stude Flyer" Vol 1 #51 Jan-Feb 2020)

The "Main Street of America", The "Mother Road", the road that became official in 1926 will be 100 Years Old in 2026 and a Rte 66 Centennial Commission Act was set in motion by the 115th Congress "to honor highway Route 66 on the occasion of its centennial an-

niversary."

Oklahoma, of the 8 states through which the famous road passed, has the most remaining miles accessible to today's motoring tourist and already enjoys a considerable amount of traffic along the I-40 corridor. In six years, America's Mother Road, Route 66, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. And with over sixty million members, the American Automobile Association, better known as AAA, has been serving Americans even longer. Since the beginning, Route 66 and AAA have been trusted traveling companions, and to celebrate their journey, AAA is creating the first ever... **AAA Route 66 Road Fest.**

In Tulsa June 18-19 2021 at the River Spirit Expo and in Oklahoma City June 25-26 at the Bennet Convention Center Use this link to learn more and watch a video:

Rte66VideoU-Toob
(Scroll down to the video)



Looking across the street from the Sutherland's house 0530 the morning of 1 Jan 2021



Clifton Hill Shawnee Special Tours

If ever you would feel a need to learn just about everything there is to know about the city of [Shawnee](#), OK you might check with Mr. Clifton Hill, Vice President of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of The Studebaker Drivers Club of the United States, 22-yr veteran of the Shawnee Fire Department, owner and curator of the Interesting Autos Museum of Shawnee, and the author of the fascinating article in this issue of The "Stude Flyer".

Mr. Hill recently called Don Sutherland to ask if Don wanted to come down to Shawnee and help him drive around a bit in Mr. Hill's 1930 Ford Model A Tudor. Mr. Sutherland was, of course, eager to accept such an invitation and 1:PM Monday 21 December the tour started at the Hill's residence on Harrison. Now, every car enthusiast in OK, TX, AR within 200 miles of the Shawnee area knows where the Knight's car shows are at the boy Scouts Park, and The Court House Square, and can direct you to Van's Pig Stand. But Clifton's tour covered a much more interesting area, showing Don the Old Santa Fe Depot and the new museum there, and the old Beard Cabin. A drive through the area where Clifton lived his first five years and what neighbor lived in each house and what car they owned, then by Jefferson Elementary on N. Louisa, where he attended kindergarten. Then, as they headed south and crossed E. Highland Don cast a longing gaze eastward toward Van's Pig Stand, but it was not to be, the Model A continued southward on Gordon Cooper Drive as Clifton told him of Gordon's childhood in Shawnee, crossed the North Canadian River and turned onto Hardesty Dr. As Clifton pointed to a hill in the distance as their destination, Hardesty took them through the beautiful bottomlands of the North Canadian, owned by the Indians as stories unfolded of Clifton's youthful days spent on a tractor in those fields,

working for his uncle. As the Model A turned into the driveway of a picturesque well-positioned property at the top of the hill Clifton stated that this was where he spent his days through high school and that he had bought the acreage from his parents and that his daughter and her husband now live there.

The A Model Ford was then headed back to Shawnee east on Hardesty Rd, north across the river and through an area where Clifton pointed out the house where a desperado had fought the Shawnee Police and lived through it. Then up Kickapoo St. and a drive through the beautiful campus of Oklahoma Baptist University, Clifton identifying buildings of interest and told an exciting story of a plane being intentionally crashed into the old administration building *while he and his sister and a cousin were in class there!* Clifton informs that OBU now includes the campus of St Gregory' College, which closed in 2017 due to financial difficulties, the Greens of Hobby Lobby purchased it, donated it to OBU.

Mr. Hill had built up enough courage by this time to ask Mr. Sutherland if he would like to drive the 'A' back to the house. Don accepted the challenge and Clifton spent the next few minutes gritting his teeth as Don ground the gears, rode the clutch and stretched the brake rods down the backroads to Clifton's house. And even this segment of the odyssey was informative of Shawnee history as they passed by the vast acreage on the north side of I-40 that was once a U.S. Naval Training Base during WWII, some old hangars and other buildings still there!

Maybe "ya had to have been there", and admittedly the Ford Model A was a vital factor, but the tour provided by Clifton Hill on that Monday was one of the best conducted, well informed, absolutely enjoyable tours the editor of the "Stude Flyer" newsletter has experienced.

Thankee, Clifton!

Donald Q Suda



International Finals Youth Rodeo in Shawnee



Shawnee City Hall, December 2016

Charles and Sue Hall: The Journey Continues

The Halls have temporarily settled in Livingston, TX, in need of a somewhat easier target at which providers of meds, licenses, etc. may aim. They did send some nice shots and some acidic comments of their sojourn in Key West, Florida. The scene that provides background for the title is an example.

Other than pictures, Charles also sent this note at the time:

Happy Saturday from Key West. Got here Wednesday. Not worth? the effort (my opinion).

This area is overpopulated, crowded, full of bars, and souvenir shops. Very little scenery. City beach was clean, but smelled of sewage. NAS beach was clean and no one there (nice). Temps mid 80s day mid 70s night. Breezy. Chickens run wild - something about good luck. Water is a pretty turquoise or sandy brown. I've not swum, yet. Dinner cruise had lots of loud music on ruined speakers so nothing could be understood. Night view from the boat wasn't great.

When asked if the Christmas lights had been removed from their Truck and RV Charles responded:

Yes, Sue made one door decoration and purchased one RV lighted item which were displayed. Those have been taken down and we're are trying to figure out storage for them

Our WX had been good, but will change today. We're expect heavy rains for the next 36 hours and then cold with overnight temps below freezing in Friday morning.

We move to Corpus Christi on Friday and it looks to have temps near freezing Saturday morning. After that, decent WX for a few. Here, the WX are far less accurate than the OK pros. Most WX offs in generalities. I guess it is because their forecast covers an area the size of OK. We get our forecast from Houston and Beaumont.

I hope this next year brings you good times, good health, and I hope the COVID issue becomes less of an issue.

Charles

Unless the situation changes drastically we have no idea what events may be cancelled or will proceed as planned. Therefore, we won't devote space to full details of any of those events we usually look forward to, but will provide links to information on some events and to some videos and other items you might enjoy viewing.' Such as

[Oklahoma Auto Show 2021](#)

[Oklahoma Car Shows](#) ([Rte 66 Cruisers site](#))
[Great Barn find](#) ([fun video](#))

[January 2001](#) (COC Newsletter 20 yrs ago)

[Memories 2010](#) (COC pics 10 yrs ago)

[COVID OPINIONS](#) (what many scientists are signing onto about the "lockdowns")

[Tulsa Auto Shows 2021](#)

[Shawnee Show](#)

The new year we are entering will bring many opportunities for shining, showing and driving our Studebakers and for helping others get through coming days of nothing but sunshine and ... dang! Send me something to write; tell me what you're doing, with pictures!.... *editor*



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First Class

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20
HAPPY
NEW
YEAR 21

Studebaker Drivers wishing you beautiful moments; Happy Memories