

AVANTI Magazine

Issue 209 Winter/spring 2025

AVANTI Owners Association
International, Inc.

\$7.75 US; \$9.75 CAN; € 5.73

Free for AOA Members

Inside: Avanti Set to Visit Pennsylvania's Trolley Museum



ALSO:

Loewy-designed Food Truck

Ninth Annual Palm Springs Brunch

Stude Muscle Cars in Chicago

An Avanti Dealership under Blake Years

MCACN Show Brought Studebaker Muscle to the Masses

By John Hull
Contributing editor

Unless you are from some other planet you should know by now the Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals is the premiere show of its kind in the United States, likely even the world. MCACN offers its totally unique show and experience as it not only exhibits the best of the best in the muscle car world but also educates while delighting the senses with exhibits of one of a kind vehicles, world class restorations, and a special program that recognizes, celebrates, and honors those vehicles that are completely authentic and preserved.

The 2024 show observed the 15th anniversary of this muscle car extravaganza with more than 500 of the most jaw dropping, breath taking eye candy ever. My favorite portions of the show are the featured marques, automotive legends, and barn finds. Yes, those finds are still out there tucked away in barns and garages awaiting discovery.

For 13 of the show's 15 years, Ed George and his crew have scoured the Studebaker world in order to put together the Studebaker Legends class. Ed works to bring a fresh perspective to Studebaker and its contributions within the high performance world. It never ceases to amaze me the breadth of cars exhibited each year.

The Studebaker Legends class of 2024 consisted of:

Vehicle	Owner	Location
1933 Indy 500 race car	Studebaker National Museum	South Bend, Indiana
1957 Golden Hawk	Craig Pipers	Westmoreland, Penn.
1961 Hawk	Peter Wendt	Franklin, Wisconsin
1963 Avanti	Michael Baumet	Sandwich, Illinois
1963 Lark Convertible	Justin Laird	Napa, California
1963 Wagonaire	Steve & David Berry	Dayton, Ohio
1964 GT Hawk	Chuck Galauner	Elburn, Illinois

The Studebaker National Museum's Indy 500 racer was the highlight of the Stude Legends class. Of the four Studebaker factory entries—each featuring the new streamlined bodies—the #34 car driven by Tony Gulotta had finished highest, in seventh place in the 1933 Indy 500. With parent Studebaker declaring receivership just weeks before the 500, it was the last time a factory entered Studebaker would run at the Brickyard. That said, all but one of those Studebaker factory team cars is accounted for today. On display at this year's MCACN, it really demonstrated Studebaker's performance history and appeared ready to race again. This was living automotive history.

If your first love is Detroit muscle your senses will be overwhelmed. Detroit iron is always well represented at MCACN with featured marques and examples of offerings from the Big Three and independents. No matter your preferences, it should never be a question of should I attend this show? Rather it should be when is the next one? Here are the two days to save: November 22 and 23. You will not be disappointed. //



Above and right: Ed George, at center, presents an MCACN award to museum archivist Andrew Beckman, right, and Kyle Sater, SNM Curator.



1963 Lark convertible owned by Justin Laird of Napa, California.



1963 Lark Wagonaire from former member, the late Malcolm Berry. Shown by his sons, Steve and David Berry



1963 GT Hawk, owned by member Chuck Galauner of Elburn, Illinois.



1963 Avanti, owned by member Michael Baumet of Sandwich, Illinois.



1957 Golden Hawk, owned by member Craig Pipers, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania.



1961 Hawk owned by Peter Wendt of Franklin, Wisconsin.