

A STUDEBAKERPALOOZA HITS CALGARY



Series TGIF

Fred
Nelson

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They warned us it was coming. While snapping pictures at the regular Friday A&W cruise night, I was informed that next week it would be wall to wall Studebakers.

I showed up early the next Friday, and they weren't kidding. The following day at their car show there were several more I hadn't seen.

I had a couple Studebakers a few years back and they were kinda cool. And all these guys call me first thing when they need an appraisal... NOT! Well one guy does, and he's a friend, so we can say a few words about one of their models.

In the early 1960's the Studebaker Lark was a small car with a big (for the time) V8 engine, and

they would really move. You could call them a factory hotrod.

Later I had a '65 Lark, and it had a Chev 283 painted yellow, posing as a Studebaker Thunder-something-or-other. But it was hooked to a Borg-Warner 3-speed automatic (GM still swore by their new aluminum 2-speed Powerglide because it was light, cheap, and contained only 10 moving parts). This Lark was fairly lively, too, for the time.

Looking at these pictures, one might think this page is in black & white. A lot of the colors were actually pretty unexciting.

My favorite was the little red pickup with the Ford Ranger flareside box. The owner really aced it with this one.



Fred Nelson is an accredited Calgary auto appraiser who was kicked out of Clown College for being only moderately scary, but unfunny. He has no automotive journalistic credentials whatsoever but he just won't go away...



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