

EDITORIAL



We did it! Not counting the Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Races, last year's Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals beyond a doubt provided the best Studebaker exposure to the high-performance masses since late 1963! Approximately 20,000 muscle car enthusiasts attended over the two days the event was held last November, where there were a total of ten Studebaker cars, in addition to one modified 2R5 truck on display. Thanks to Ed & Cyndi George who took care of the Studebaker entry at MCACN, we had a total of seven Avantis on display, including some rather significant ones that played an important role in Studebaker's early 1960's high-performance history. Strategic placement of the cars in nearly all the display areas ensured close to every category of the show was well covered with at least one Studebaker, including the late Ron Hall's 200mph record breaker Avanti in the lobby, and our first ever Studebaker entry in the popular 'barn finds' section. A word of thanks must also go out to the Studebaker National Museum, the Avanti Owners Association International, and all the owners who took the time to prepare and enter their cars for this show. Brad Bez's mechanical and detailing efforts paid off when John Batka's white Avanti R4 Tribute car won a Gold Award at MCACN, the first Studebaker to earn such an award at this show. Of importance to Jet Thrust News readers, Nelson Bove's award winning 'Hot Rod Magazine' R3 Daytona two door hardtop was once again on display, as was Eric De Rosa's Rose Mist 1963 Custom 2 door sedan, and our 'new' barn-find entry. If there was only one slight disappointment, we were unable to locate a restored R-powered '63 Lark Skytop for the 'Muscle Cars With Factory Sunroofs' special theme section this time around. With special thanks to Tim Costello and Ed George, we were able to arrange the above group photo of nearly all the Studebaker attendees at last year's MCACN above. Hats off to all who attended and gave their full support to this great show!

The International Meet in South Bend is now just over a month away, and we hope to meet in person as many Jet Thrust Studebaker owners and interested ones as possible. As in 2012, our unofficial meeting place will be the Comfort Inn & Suites on Highway 31 South. A good number of SDC members who own these cars are lodging at the this hotel, and will once again arrange a 'Parking Lot Social' for all who wish to attend. See you there!!