



The Canadian Avanti

Official Newsletter for the Canadian Avanti Owners Association

October 2022

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President's Message

Well, it's been a wonderful season now that the Covid restrictions are in the past. We have taken full advantage of getting back to normal as much as possible, clocking over 1800 miles in our 89. Tours, cruise nights, visits to other members, fall drives, shows etc. Unfortunately, our 63 has been down for the season with a few minor mechanical issues, but hope to have those addressed for next year. Having one of the first Avantis, 1404 and one of the last 27 of the original coupes it's interesting to compare the two from both a design and performance perspective. I like the hunkered down look of the 89 with the wider wheels, lower profile tires, aero rockers, blacked out trim, leather interior, wood trim, comfortable seats and more than comfortable highway manners including AC, and the quiet (2000rpm @ 70 mph) 305/ 700R transmission with overdrive. However, I really wouldn't consider it a high-performance car. Still hard to believe getting MPG in the high 30's from a car from the late 80's when my 2015 Honda Accord 4 cyl. delivers much the same. My only design comment regards the front bumper. I think it should have been tweaked to replicate the profile of the original with indent past the leading edges and across the centre rather than straight across. Also, as to the interior, what? no glove box or cup holders? What was J J thinking? Oh well, who am I to say.



The 63 however with the rake, chrome trim and leaner overall look including the dash/interior is just so beautiful, and the performance is crazy off the line, even as an R1. And who can deny that adrenalin rush when you tromp it and that 4bbl. unrestricted V8 opens up! Wow. Of course, being from an earlier time it is interesting that originally designed as a top-of-the-line luxury GT, the ergonomics, cheesy seats, gear shift that can burn your hand over a long haul, and overall road noise (3500 rpm @ 70 mph) and mufflers under the seats with no insulation makes a long drive rather challenging, if not exhausting. It's definitely a "hot" car in more ways than one. Nonetheless, as classic cars go, the 63 is my favourite.



Steve's and Barb's 63 Avanti



The Ron Hall Avanti

On to other topics, the 2023 calendars are now available, and as per the last two years, \$20.00 will get you membership and a calendar, shipping included. What with postage and US exchange rates these days, we make nothing on the calendars but with some limited reserves and a few hundred dollars membership fees we can still sponsor the Ron Hall Avanti at the Studebaker National Museum and contribute \$100. to the Annual International meet.

Once AGAIN...where are the Canadian Avantis? C'mon I know Canadians are generally meek and deferential, but hey, your car is special and no reason you shouldn't flaunt it! Send your photo to Lew Schucart at editor@aoai.org

So, I hope many of you have also been able to attend numerous events and enjoy your ride over the summer and we are always looking for stories, reports, and tips you might have to offer. Remember this is your club and we are always interested in your input. Also, for recent new members please go on to our web site and submit a photo of your car through the link. Any changes to your contact information is also essential to keep us up to date.

So that's all for now, get your membership in to receive your 2023 calendar and enjoy those last rides of the season. All the best as always,

Steve

Editor's Message

I hope everyone's summer 2022 was great! For myself there isn't yet the normalcy of pre-pandemic living, but there was still much joy to be had!

This past summer I drove a collectable automobile almost any day the sun was shining. I was even fortunate to take one for a multi-day trip across my home province for visiting a neighbouring province. And if I wasn't driving a collectable automobile, it was because I was riding a motorbike. Yes, lots of joy to be had for newly retirement me!

What's Your Craziess Vehicle???

I really enjoy seeing new things and meeting new people, and our collectible vehicles are an excellent means for providing that opportunity. Whether I meet someone who has one or multiple collectable vehicles, whether their collection is pristine or not, if the owner is happy to meet with or show me than I am genuinely joyful for the experience.

Likewise, while driving about I am happy to meet anyone liking to see what it is that I have. Sometimes that may delay me, but I am always happy to share even if its just for a few minutes before I continue on my way. The resulting smiles are welcomed and cherished.

If your craziness is currently owning one or multiple collector vehicles and should you like to share yours with the rest of the membership, please do by sending me your info and I would look forward to featuring that in a future newsletter. And if you currently don't own a collector vehicle but have a previous experience or story, please feel free to send that too I'd be glad to share.

To begin (possibly a new/future newsletter column), here's my own 'What's Your Craziess Vehicle'.

Currently for vehicular pleasure, I own seventeen classic/modern-classic automobiles, thirteen motorbikes, and a motorboat. Of these I have a collection named 'First Year, Last Year, and Only Year, Vehicle Collection' because ten of my warmer season daily driven vehicles fit that description. Additionally, twenty-one vehicles comprise this named collection, and seventeen are presently insured and registered for driving fun on summertime roads – I'll include a separate attachment to this newsletter if you would like to read more about my 'First Year, Last Year, and Only Year, Vehicle Collection'. Absolute craziness and funniness for my joyous retirement!



Nathan (my youngest son 19yrs young) returning home with my 1963 Studebaker Avanti after taking it himself to a local car show this summer.



My long-time Lil' buddy collectable vehicle co-enthusiast/navigator grew up and has left home, he recently enlisted with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) as a non-commissioned Infanteer on September 8, 2022 after a lengthy application (2yr) process. The morning of his enrollment we had no idea of Queen Elizabeth's II health until after Nathan's oath ceremony, shortly after we heard news of her passing. Had her passing been announced before Nathan's pledge of allegiance, the CAF would have had to delay. Nathan was the first of fourteen, his enrollment group being the very last of the CAF to pledge allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II just minutes before announcement of her passing.

Peace and grease,
Shawn Brockhoff
Bonnyville AB

Canadian Avanti Owners Association, Chapter Officers and Support Personnel



The Canadian Avanti Owners Association (CAOA) is a non-profit organization committed to preserving the history of the Avanti automobile. We are a Chapter of the Avanti Owners Association International www.aoai.org. 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 CAO 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. Should you have any questions for the CAO please contact any of the following:

CAOA Chapter Officers or Support Personnel

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Winter Storage Preparation

Regrettably it's that time of year for most of us to consider winterization. The following I provided several years ago thanks to the Atlantic Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club (SDC). And last October I provided another excellent similar summary by Jim Pepper via the SDC forum, you might like to review that (The Canadian Avanti newsletter) too.

- Put about 10lbs extra pressure in the tires to minimize the flat spot from long storage, though don't exceed the manufacture's maximum inflation pressure. Some recommend raising the vehicle and storing with the wheels off the ground. This is likely good for extended storage but, not really necessary for 4 to 6 months.
- Replace oil and install a new filter if the engine takes one. Warm up the engine to circulate the oil well. Old oil is full of nasty acids that form as a by-product of combustion. Best not to leave them in the engine bearings, journals, etc. for an extended period of time when they can eat the bearing metals.
- Replace the antifreeze if you didn't do it last year. Antifreeze contains water pump lubricants and anti-corrosion inhibitors. These additives are only good for a couple of years. With our old cars which sit for long periods, the anti-corrosion inhibitors are important. If you don't want to change all the antifreeze every two years, you can drain the rad only and replace it every year which will replace most of the antifreeze and it is easier than draining the block.
- The brakes should be bled at least every two years. The fall is a good time to do it so that any moisture in the system does not have a chance to eat into the metal over the winter. This isn't necessary for silicone fluids but is critical for the old Dot 3 fluid. Inexpensive bleeder kits are available from Princess Auto for under \$5. With these you can bleed the system easily without help - should take less than an hour at most.
- This is a good time to put some vinyl/rubber dressing on the door, trunk and hood seals.
- Add fuel stabilizer to your fuel. Best to add this to the tank and then put in 10 or more liters of fresh fuel to mix it up. For those who are using ethanol gas it would be best to drain the gas tank and run the system dry. Fuel additives only keep this type of gas good for about 90 days. Newer longer-term additives may well be coming out soon. An alternative is to use high test for your last couple of fill ups to clear out the ethanol so you can use regular stabilizer.
- Remove any parts that might be stolen during storage and put in the trunk or other safe spot.
- Unhook your battery and if possible remove it and keep in a cool dry place (not directly on cement). It is also a good idea to check that the battery is fully charged - either in the car or removed.
- If your car is stored in an unheated location, it is a good idea to coat the bumpers and other exterior chrome with a rust inhibitor like Rust Check, Fluid Film, etc.
- If the car is on cement, it is a good idea to provide a barrier so that the cold of the cement doesn't cause condensation to form on the car's under carriage when the temperature takes a sudden



jump as it so often does. A layer of cardboard, old carpet, wood, etc. under the car will do the trick.

- Mice - Plug all holes into the cabin and trunk. Dryer sheets in the openings works well. Put the sun visors down. If a mouse does get in, they like to get between the visor and headliner - mice can jump surprising heights and from the dash to the sun visor is not a problem for them. From there they chew into the headliner.
- A car cover will not only keep dust off the car but it will also help to moderate rapid upward changes in temperature which will reduce condensation.
- If you are inclined this is a good time to grease the chassis as well.

With this done, antifreeze and oil/ filter changed and brakes bled you will be ready to hit the road on the first nice day of spring.

Storage Rodent Mitigation

Being vigilant for keeping rodents out of our collectable autos. Further to a comment above regarding the use of dryer sheets, for myself, I grate Irish Spring bar soap into my trunk and interior areas (though I have heard from others mice have fed on their Irish Spring usings), and I may also place in addition a mouse trap in each of my stored vehicles. I also use mousetraps inside areas of my shop and garage (fortunately Alberta hasn't any rats and I hear it's only one of two places in the world that doesn't, the other being Antarctica).

Though here's another method to consider for mouse abatement, the use of Peppermint, which I recently read the following article on the internet [A Surprising Hack to Keep Mice Away For Good \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com) written by Kiersten Hickman on October 12, 2022, at the following website: <http://www.familyhandyman.com/>

It's pretty clear that having mice in your home is not a pleasant experience. Even if they seem innocent, mice can create dangerous conditions in your home. However, getting rid of mice doesn't necessarily mean buying a slew of mousetraps and cheese. Mice can be easily avoided around your household by simply adding the scent of peppermint in corners where they congregate. Yes, that's right, peppermint.

How to Use Peppermint to Keep Mice Away

Although natural remedies aren't always the answer when getting rid of pests (like using cucumbers to get rid of cockroaches, along with many other methods that don't kill cockroaches), peppermint offers a successful natural remedy that works when trying to repel mice. This has to do with the nature of mice, which rely mostly on their sense of smell instead of their vision. Mice have incredibly weak vision but a strong, keen sense of smell. Which makes sense as to why mice typically go for a large chunk of stinky cheese, right?

Peppermint obviously has a strong scent, one that mice dislike. According to Victor Pest, peppermint contains very potent menthol compounds that irritate their nasal cavities. A whiff of peppermint certainly does keep them away.

Grow Peppermint Plants for Mice

Now, you can use two ways to incorporate the smell of peppermint into your home. The first is growing peppermint plants and leaving them around the house. The smell deters them from entering or roaming around in the first place.

Spray Peppermint Oil for Mice

If you don't fancy a home full of peppermint plants, then you might prefer using peppermint oil instead. Spray the essential oil in different areas of your home that mice can access. If you're trying to catch the mice, strategically spray the peppermint oil in places that don't have a mousetrap. In theory, this should lead them to wherever you have placed it.

Garage Storage Ideas

I also read on the internet the following article regarding garage storage ideas, maybe there's one or a few you'd like to consider doing/making for your own use. (Many of the excerpts have a hyperlink with building instruction for the particular idea.)

Here's the article, [24 Affordable DIY Garage Storage Projects | Family Handyman](http://www.familyhandyman.com/24-affordable-diy-garage-storage-projects-family-handyman) written by Jenny Stanley on October 5, 2022 also at the following website: <http://www.familyhandyman.com/>

You don't need a lot of extra space (or a lot of extra cash) to build these simple DIY garage storage projects.

DIY Garage Storage for Cords and Hoses - This one-hour project provides a simple way to hang up a variety of things such as extension cords, rope or air hoses, and it keeps them away from your workspace. A [simple cord rack](#) keeps them tangle-free and accessible.



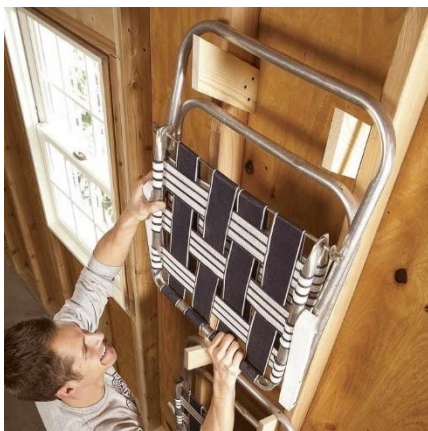


Folding Mobile Workbench - Want a mobile workbench with a sizable work area that folds up to only 7 in. thick? The materials to [make the folding workbench](#) shown here cost about \$100 at home centers. Or, build it any size that suits your home shop by adjusting the frame sizes to accommodate the folding parts.

Repurpose a Pallet for DIY Garage Storage - Long-handled yard and garden tools can be difficult to store. All you need for this pallet organization hack is a pallet, a couple of screws and a drill. And if you don't have any pallets lying around, they are easy to get for free. This is a quick one-hour project and after you're done, your tools will be organized and easy to reach. It's a cheap DIY garage storage idea.



You could easily attach this pallet to a fence, shed or to the exposed wall studs in your garage. No matter what you choose, you'll want to make sure that your screws are long enough to go through both your pallet and the wall you are attaching it to. We drilled two screws into the pallet, one into each exposed wall stud. You won't need a ton of screws or nails because the pallet isn't all that heavy. Now you have a quick and (potentially) free way to store your lawn tools!



DIY Wall Brackets from Scrap Wood - Here's how to store your lawn and folding chairs so they're out of your way with some wooden garage shelves. Take two pieces of 1x4 lumber (any scrap lumber will do) and create some simple, cheap and useful brackets on the wall. Cut each board 7-3/4 in. long with a 30-degree angle on both ends. Fasten pairs of these brackets with three 2-in. screws to the side of the exposed wall studs, directly across from each other, and you've got a perfect place to hang your chairs.

Lockable Garage Storage Cabinet - There are a lot of dangerous tools and products around the home that kids can get into, especially in your workshop and garage. This [lockable storage cabinet](#) gives you a safe place to store chemicals, paint, pest control products, sharp tools and other potentially dangerous objects. The cabinet could be painted or stained and used in the house as an extra pantry, cleaning supplies closet or hobby center.



Affordable DIY Garage Storage Shelves - These simple DIY garage shelves can be built in less than a day for less than \$300. A [customized garage storage wall](#) keeps all your supplies neatly organized in one place.

Overhead DIY Garage Storage System - Tuck medium and lightweight stuff onto shelves suspended from the ceiling. The wooden [overhead garage storage](#) shelves are designed to fit into that unused space above the garage doors (you need 16 in. of clearance to fit a shelf and standard 12-1/2 in. high plastic bins). However, you can adjust the shelf height and put them anywhere. The only limitation is weight. We designed this 4 x 6-ft. shelf to hold about 160 lbs., a load that typical ceiling framing can safely support.



Yard Tool Organizer - Create a simple long-handled [tool hanger](#) out of two 1x4s. On the first one, drill a series of 2-in. holes along the edge of the board. The trick is to center each hole about 1 in. from the edge. That leaves a 1-1/2-in. slot in the front that you can slip the handles through. Space the holes to accommodate whatever it is you're hanging. Screw that board to another 1x4 for the back and add 45-degree brackets to keep it from sagging. If you wish, pound nails into the vertical board to hang even more stuff. No more tripping over yard tools!



Fold-Up Workbench - Every good workshop (even if it's just a sliver of your garage) needs a quality [workbench with ample storage](#). Begin this space-saving starter workbench in the morning, and you'll be using it to work on projects by the evening!

Hang-it-All Hooks - Those plastic hooks that plumbers use to support pipes make convenient hangers for just about anything. They're strong, cheap and come in a range of sizes. Find them in the plumbing aisle at home centers and hardware stores for a cheap storage idea.



Sliding Pegboard Storage System - This project takes workshop storage to a whole new level, employing both sides of seven pieces of pegboard, all housed inside a compact box. This [pegboard storage system](#) is a compact solution for all your hand tools.

Lattice Rack - Plastic lattice works well for storing long lengths of miscellaneous pipe, trim, flashing and conduit. It's a cheap DIY garage storage solution to create some wooden garage shelves. Just cut matching pieces, then screw 2x4 cleats to the ceiling and screw the lattice to the wall studs and cleats. Now you can quickly find those oddball leftovers instead of going to the hardware store and buying yet another piece.



Wheelbarrow Rack - Hang your wheelbarrow on the garage wall to free up floor space. Center a 2-ft. 1x4 across two studs, 2 ft. above the floor. Tack it into place, then drive 3-in. screws through metal mending plates and the 1x4, into the studs. Leave about 3/4 in. of the plate sticking above the 1x4 to catch the rim. Rest the wheelbarrow on the 1x4 as shown, and mark the studs 1 in. above the wheelbarrow bucket. Drill pilot holes and screw ceiling hooks into the studs. Twist the hooks so they catch on the wheelbarrow lip and hold it in place.

Stacked Recycling Tower - Five plastic containers, six 2x2s and screws, and one hour's work are all it takes to put together this space-saving recycling storage rack. Our frame fits containers that have a top that measures 14-1/2 in. x 10 in. and are 15 in. tall. Our containers were made by Rubbermaid. If you use different-size containers, adjust the distance between the uprights so the 2x2s will catch the lip of the container. Then adjust the spacing of the horizontal rungs for a snug fit when the container is angled as shown. Start by cutting the 2x2s to length according to the illustration. Then mark the position of the rungs on the uprights. Drill two 5/32-in. holes through the uprights at each crosspiece position. Drill from the outside to the inside and angle the holes inward slightly to prevent the screws from breaking out the side of the rungs. Drive 2-1/2-in. screws through the uprights into the rungs. Assemble the front and back frames. Then connect them with the side crosspieces.

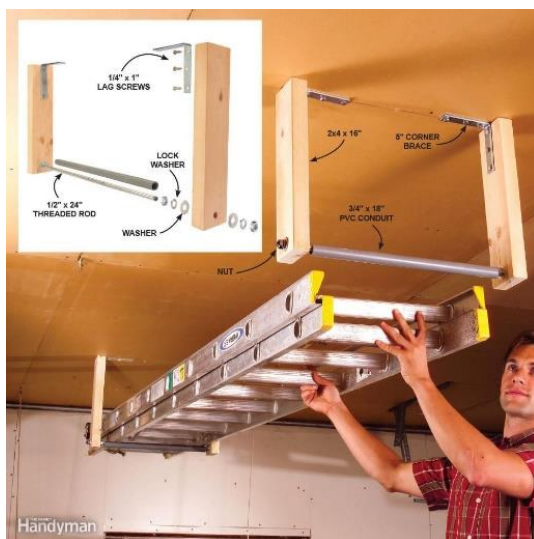
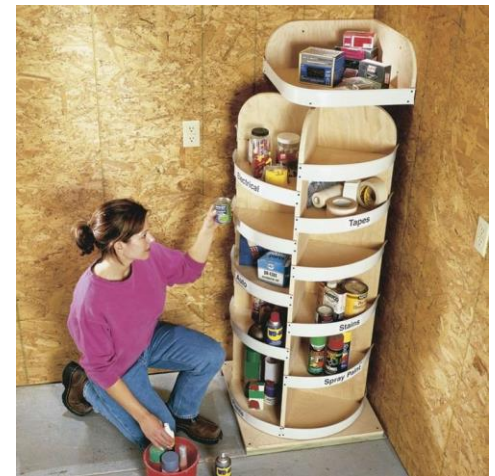


Cord and Hose Hooks - Hanging electrical cords and hoses on thin hooks or nails can cause kinks and damage the sheathing and wires. Use pieces of 3-in. ABS plastic plumbing pipe to make simple, inexpensive hangers. Screw 3-in. end caps to a 2x6 with two 1-5/8-in. screws. Fender washers under the screw heads keep them from pulling through the plastic. Then cement on 8-in. lengths of end-capped pipe. These “hooks” are very strong. You can build attractive storage for your garden hose, too.



DIY Garage Storage Wall - For just a few hundred dollars you can re-create this [storage system](#) yourself in one weekend. This project covers about 16 ft. of wall space and offers a multitude of ways to organize your garage.

Rotating Corner Shelves - These shelves put a garage corner to maximum storage use. They spin on two lazy Susans, one on the bottom and one at the top (under the top shelf). They can't tip because the top shelf is screwed to the wall.



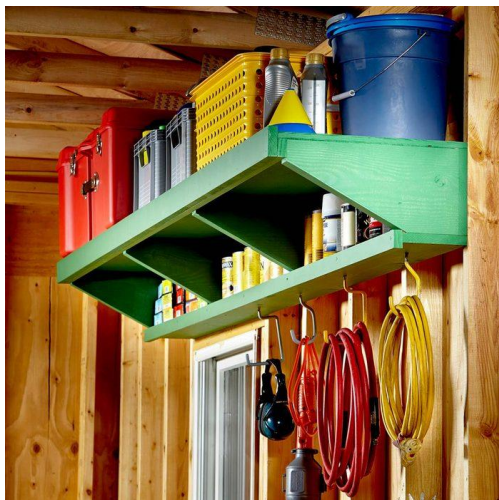
Keep Ladders Out of the Way - Hang ladders from the ceiling so they don't hog prime storage space. The rollers on this carriage let you easily slide in one end of the ladder, then the other. The materials are all inexpensive. Fasten the corner braces to ceiling joists with two-inch lag screws. Secure the ladder with an elastic cord so it can't roll out and fall.

Pegboard Wall - In just two hours you can install a pegboard on a garage or workshop wall to create versatile, space-saving storage. Add a bin underneath and you'll have a spot for all the odds and ends that cause clutter.



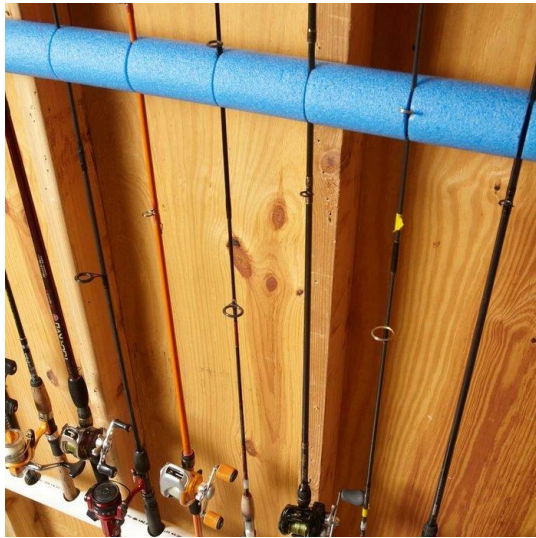
Make a Pallet Dolly for Toting Big Tools - I had a truckload of lumber to transport from the truck down a long hallway to my shop, and I wasn't looking forward to carrying it all by myself, an armload at a time. That's when I noticed a pallet leaning up against the wall and had an idea. I don't own a pallet jack, but I did have a set of swiveling casters! After adding some reinforcement blocking to the pallet, I installed a 4-in. caster at each corner. It worked perfectly for hauling my entire load of lumber in one trip. I've since kept my pallet dolly and use it frequently as my multipurpose heavy-stuff mover. — Keith Jones

Old Hose Tool Holders - Cut an old hose into 7-in. pieces, slit them, and nail them to the wall to make good holders for handled tools in the garage.



Double-Duty Garage Storage Shelf - Floor space in most garages is hard to come by—so the best place to find storage space for garage shelves is overhead. You can make your own [DIY shelves for the garage](#) easily—go double-decker for twice the storage capacity.

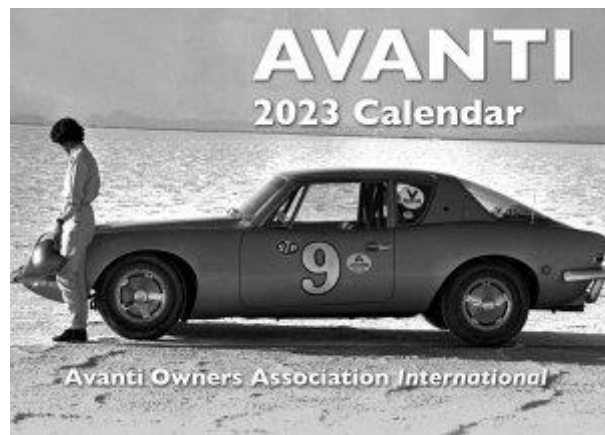
Garden/Garage Tool Caddy - I had some leftover wood and plastic lattice from a fence I was building. Rather than toss the scraps, I decided to use them to build a caddy to organize my garden shovels, hoes and brooms. I installed casters, so it scoots easily into a corner of my garage. Works great! — Philip J. Gruber



Pool Noodle Fishing Rod Storage - Fishing rods can be tricky to keep organized. If yours tend to get tangled, try this DIY garage storage solution with a pool noodle and PVC pipe. It keeps fishing rods neatly lined up and ready to go. This slender project is the perfect storage idea for small garages.

CAOA Annual Dues and an Avanti Owners Association International Calendar

As Steve mentions earlier, the current renewal of the CAO A membership for 2023 of \$20 will get you again a new Avanti Owners Association International calendar (including shipping and handling). Please send your monies to Dave Moxham (CAOA Treasurer) for this great deal again.



Classifieds

- ❖ "Hello: I am an octogenarian living in Niagara Ontario. I am considering what might be my last car to enjoy driving and have decided that I'd like to find an early Avanti with 4-speed, supercharger, in very good drivable condition. Please no projects". Paul has been driving collector cars for 60 years now and can be contacted at: pmonty10634@gmail.com
- ❖ Norm McWaters in Belleville Ontario is a collector of Studebaker memorabilia looking for dealer calendars, brochures, parts books, manuals, dealer name tags, hood ornaments etc. He can be contacted at (613)968 4400.

Avanti's Web

Canadian Avanti Owners Association (CAOA) <http://canadianavanti.ca/>

Avanti Owners Association International (AOAI) <https://aoai.org/>

Membership Forms for the CAO and the AOAI

If you have enjoyed reading this newsletter and currently aren't a member of the CAO please consider joining us. Should you have any questions or like further information please contact me anytime. My contact info (as earlier in this newsletter for Shawn) is phone calls or texts (780)812-5452, or email sb58regent@outlook.com. Likewise, a membership form for the CAO can be accessed at <http://canadianavanti.ca/membership.html>, and the website for the Avanti Owners Association International (AOAI) is <http://www.aoai.org/index.php>. Neither membership requires ownership of an Avanti (Studebaker or successor). Please take care & thank you for reading 😊

