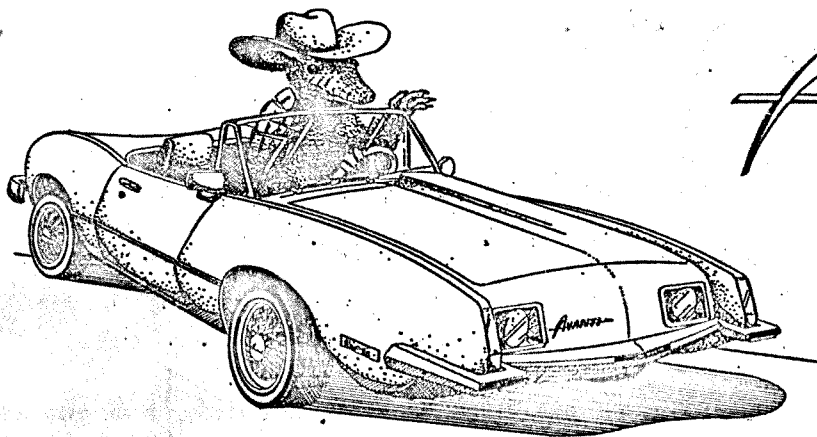




AVANTIDILLO

Volume 2 Number 11

November 16, 1986

FRED RETURNS!

It is now official - and legal! The Canadian authorities have dropped all charges against intrepid journalist Fred J. Fuzznoze, our own Latvian lunatic. He returned to his Alief townhouse on October 31th, a free man, only to discover that some tasteless clod had ripped off his 1969 Rambler Wagon, soaped his windows, and wrapped his dog in toilet paper. Anyway, Fred is back, and I won't have to do any more newsletters! Yeah! Take it away, F.F.

Thank you, Frank, for that nice lead-in, and thanks especially for covering the AvantiDillo during my unexpected absence.

Ok, enough of that stuff - there is much going on here in Avanti land, and I will try to fit as much of it as possible in this, my grand return issue. First story up is:

OUR LAST MEETING

There wasn't one. However, on October the third, fourth and fifth, Green Oaks Inn up in Fort Worth hosted the 21th Studebaker Drivers Club Texas Regional Meet. Yes, it rained much and often. However, there were some members in attendance. Miller and Jerri Walker took both their '63 and their '83 up there, but only cleaned up the '63 for the concourse. Matter of fact, they cleaned it at least forty-seven times between showers. Dave DeBoer showed up (minus Red Fred) and got to talk with the Walkers for a while. Sure, the Walkers brought home another trophy, but that is not the good story. The turquoise '63, you know, spends a goodly part of her life under a car cover in a garage. Miller takes a fair amount of ribbing about having such a wicked auto and not being able to really let her out. Well, the urge got to be too much, and Miller blew out the carbon on the way back. Also at least one head gasket. We still don't know how fast that baby will go. Miller wouldn't take his eyes off of the road long enough to scope out the speedometer, and the fellow in the GT Hawk refused to clock him above 130. After that exhibition, the remaining trip back to Houston was tame. They would drive for a few minutes, stop, wait for the '63 to cool back down, and take off again. Oh yea, did I say it was raining?

That is the correct word, and of course, the Avanti leaked. No problem, though. At least not when compared to the windshield wiper on the driver's side going out. Have you ever tried to drive an Avanti while looking out of the passenger side of the windshield?

OUR NEXT MEETING

There isn't one. However, November is AutoRama here in Houston, and you really ought to plan on attending. The total club entries have been cut back, so we have only two Avanti's in the show. They will be at one end or the other of the Studebaker exhibit, and both are worth seeing. Following is the combined lineup for the SDC/AOAI 1986 AutoRama display:

1963 Avanti powered GT Hawk
1958 Packard Hawk (rare auto)
1909 EMF Studebaker
1932 Studebaker coupe
1951 Bullet Nose
1962 Daytona Convertible
1963 Avanti
1987 Avanti

What? Is that a typo? No, there will be a beautiful red 1987 Avanti coupe, serial number 00002, present for all to see. Don't miss it. We always attract a lot of attention at this show and you should be a part of it. Besides the current production and restored classics, there are customs of all kinds, a large swap meet area, auction, and entertainment of all sorts. The doors of the AstroArena will open for the show on the 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th of November.

THE 1987 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Boy, have we ever out done ourselves this time! We have literally an entire club all to ourselves. There will be plenty of parking, a dance floor, no cover charge, a '50's and '60's D.J., and the drinks are very reasonable. Goodies will be catered in for us to snack on, and the music will not be so loud that you can't talk. Rumor even has it that Larry Towne of Avanti Motors will be there! Boy, talk about a perfect evening. I can't wait.

Woops, I almost forgot to tell you the particulars. Eight P.M. on Saturday, December the 20th. The place? Burgundy's, 11739 Wilcrest, just North of the southwest freeway (behind Capt'n Benny's). Be there or be square (octagonal?)

NEW MODEL FOR AVANTI MOTORS

You read it first here in the July issue of the 'Dillo. Now, it is official. In a press release dated November 6th, Michael Kelly, Chairman of New Avanti Motor Corp., announced that his firm plans to introduce a third model, a four-door automobile, in its 1988 model year.

Kelly made the announcement along with the news that the firm had just produced it's 30th vehicle since beginning production in early September. "It's kind of a milestone. Within two months we are up to the 30th unit," said Kelly. "We are on our way."

The firm now has 92 people on its payroll.

The four-door model will be introduced next September and will join two other Avanti models, the coupe and convertible.

"The four-door will maintain the same Raymond Loewy design, but it will be targeted to the executive as his business car and to the executives and professionals with families", Kelly said.

In most cases now, Kelly said, the Avanti automobile is a person's second or third car. By having a four-door model, Avanti hopes to fill the need for a family's "first car".

"It will be a Hand-built, limited-production car", said Kelly.

New Avanti Motor Corp. was established by Kelly this summer after he acquired the assets of a firm that had gone bankrupt.

The above article was supplied to the 'Dillo by the mother of our own Terry DeBaets. Mrs. DeBaets lives in South Bend and regularly supplies us with press clippings by way of founding father Terry. Thanks, Ma'am.

A little follow-up on that number of 30 Avanti's. Larry Towne allows as how number 37 went on the line on the seventh and - most importantly - each has an owner's name appended. Yes, they are selling at such a rate that it is difficult to build speculative units. All Right, Mike & Larry - keep it up.

THE AVANTI FAIRY

Sounds great, huh? You park your old Henry J in the driveway when you get home at nite, put your car keys under your pillow, and hit the rack. Sometime during your peaceful slumber, one of the wee people flits by and zots your derelict vehicle with his/her/its magic wand. The next morning you cruise to work in a brand new Avanti.

Nice, but not what this article is about. First a story. Many years ago, our friend Frank sold a computer system to the U of H College of Optometry. Today computers will fight you tooth and nail, but back then it was armed combat. Also, the computer usually won. The poor soul who had bought the computer (Doug) dragged himself home late one nite, squeezed a large martini, flopped down into his easy chair, and muttered (much like King Lear) about computers and their salesmen. His daughter tried to console him and after a while allowed that what he needed was a computer fairy. You know, like Tinkerbell, she said. When things aren't working right, the computer fairy would come along and wave away the problems with her magic wand. Doug thought about that a while and said to his daughter "Honey, Frank Letts is the computer fairy, and look what he got me into."

Well, Doug, Frank isn't really the computer fairy, and we have found out that he isn't the Avanti fairy either. However, we do require the services of an Avanti fairy. Member Harry Dixon over in Monroe, Louisiana, has a '72 Avanti and the windshield wipers are lethargic. (We journalists love large words) He is looking for a fix which will at least speed up the wipers, and preferably add a delay cycle. If any of you have an answer, please contact Frank or me, and we will publish your recommendations.

FOOT IN MOUTH DEPARTMENT

Member Allen Darnel has passed along a frustrating story dealing with the Texas personalized license plates. Allen, who came up with the bumper stickers "Eat, Drink and Remarry" and "Go Ahead - Buy an Avanti" wanted AVANTI, for the plates on his '84. He was turned down with probably the most knuckleheaded bureaucratic reasons ever heard. It seems that a gentleman in Kennedy by the name of Avant has plates reading AVANTI. The DPS actually believed that their computer doesn't know the difference between I and 1. You've got to be kidding, troopers! After that, they claimed that a patrolman chasing one or the other might pull over the wrong one. Right, gang. The odds of both Mr. Darnel and Mr. Avant becoming drunk and disorderly at the same time and in the same place are pretty darn slim.

UNCLASSIFIED

Steve Blake's first new Avanti. (That's the story.) Champagne over tan '74 with the Chevy 400 engine. Reasonable price, great looker. Contact Jack Davis at (713) 777-9408.

Show winning metallic blue over powder blue '63. Four speed, wires, pampered beauty. Contact George Ramsey at (713) 522-3806

One red '63 and one turquoise '63. Both automatic with air and power steering. Contact B.B. Holland at (409) 846-8455.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

Turns out, that is why we are having our annual Christmas party. Betcha didn't know. Anyway, if you are looking for "stuff" for a car nut friend (or yourself), get a catalogue from:

AutoMotif, Inc.
2968 Atlanta Road
Smyrna, Georgia 30080
(800) 367-1161

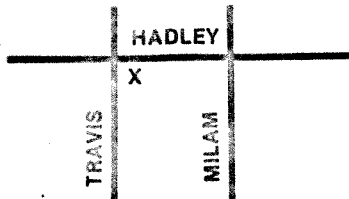
On page 13 of their fall/winter catalogue, find item # 6306. It is a perfect 1/43rd scale Avanti in pewter, for (gag) \$64. Lots of other neat stuff also.

AVANTI OWNERS GET DISCOUNTS AT SOUTHWEST AUTO CARE

The following ad was furnished by member Allen Darnel.

RICHARD J. Belski, Owner, will give Owner's discount

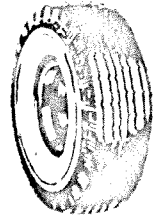
SOUTHWEST AUTO CARE



Located Downtown

2300 Travis at Hadley, Houston, Texas 77006

655-9125



- **FREE COURTESY CAR TO WORK** •
- **FREE PICKUP AND DELIVERY** •
- **MOBIL UNITS (3) FOR EMERGENCY AND ON SIGHT REPAIRS** •
- **COMPETITIVE LABOR RATES - DISCOUNTS ON PARTS AND LABOR FOR FLEET CUSTOMERS** •
- **HONEST - COURTEOUS - DEPENDABLE SERVICE** •

- STATE INSPECTION
- AIR CONDITIONING
- FUEL INJECTION
- ELECTRICAL REPAIRS

- TUNE-UPS
- ENGINES
- COMPUTERS
- BRAKES

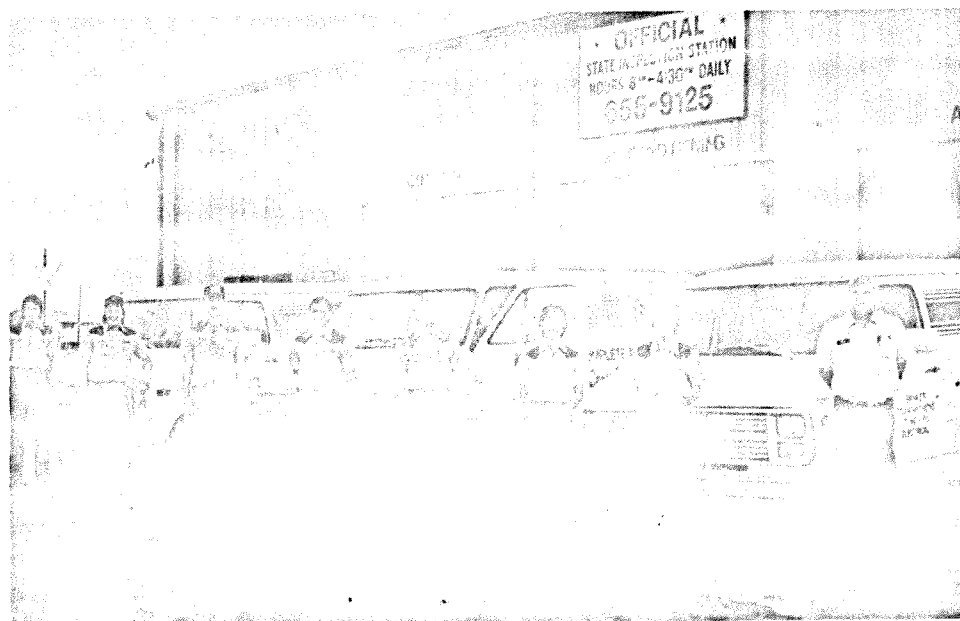
- F/E ALIGNMENT
- TRANSMISSIONS
- DIESELS
- STRUTS

- **FREE BRAKE CHECK AND EMISSIONS TEST**

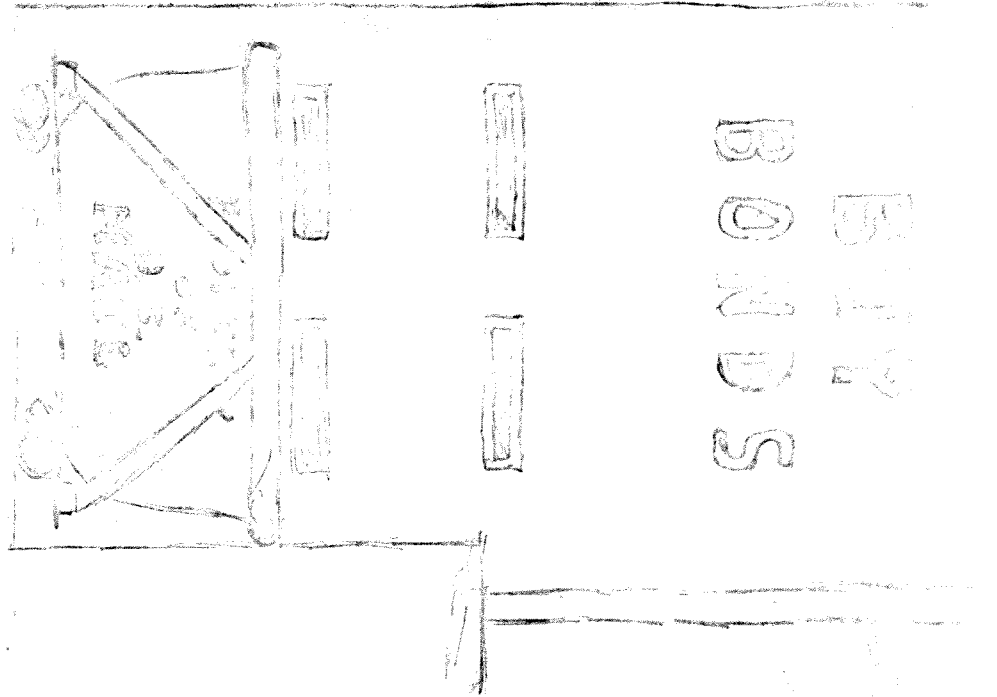
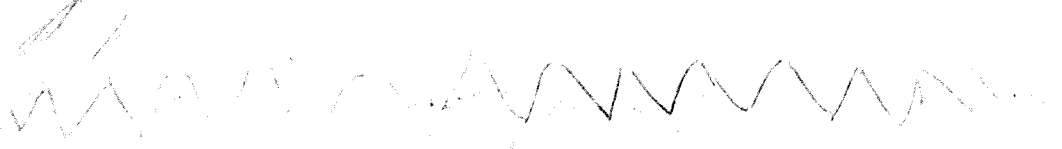
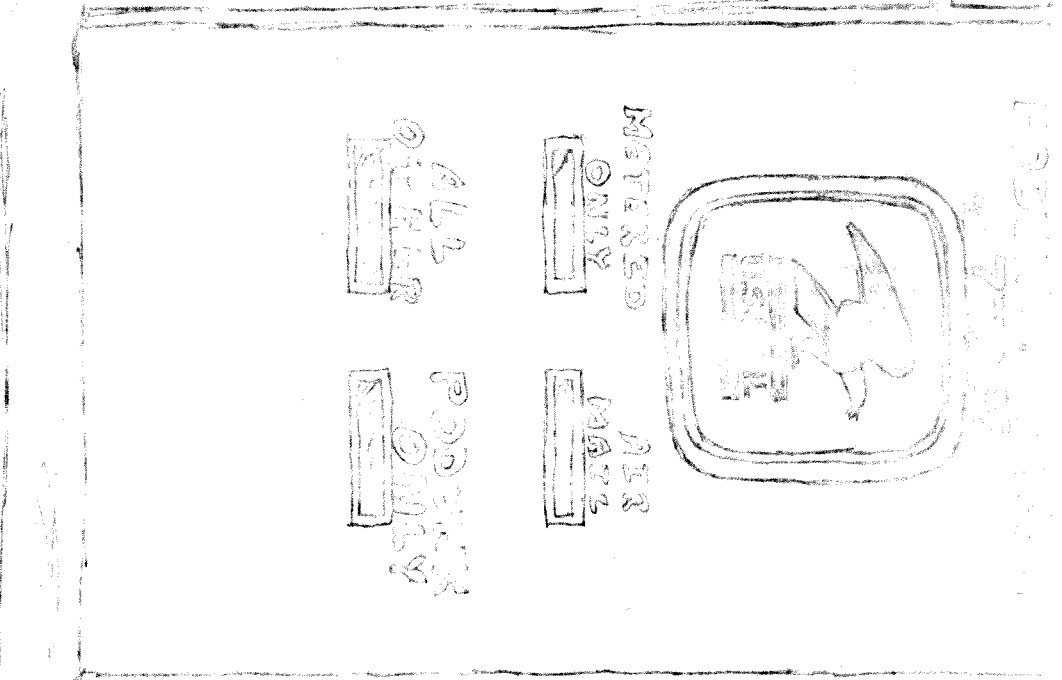
KELLY TIRES

- **ALL COMPUTERIZED AND REPAIR EQUIPMENT** •

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR



WE DO MORE THAN YOU EXPECT



THE OTHER SIDE
OF THE WALL

11-10

TEST REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE 'DILLO GROUP

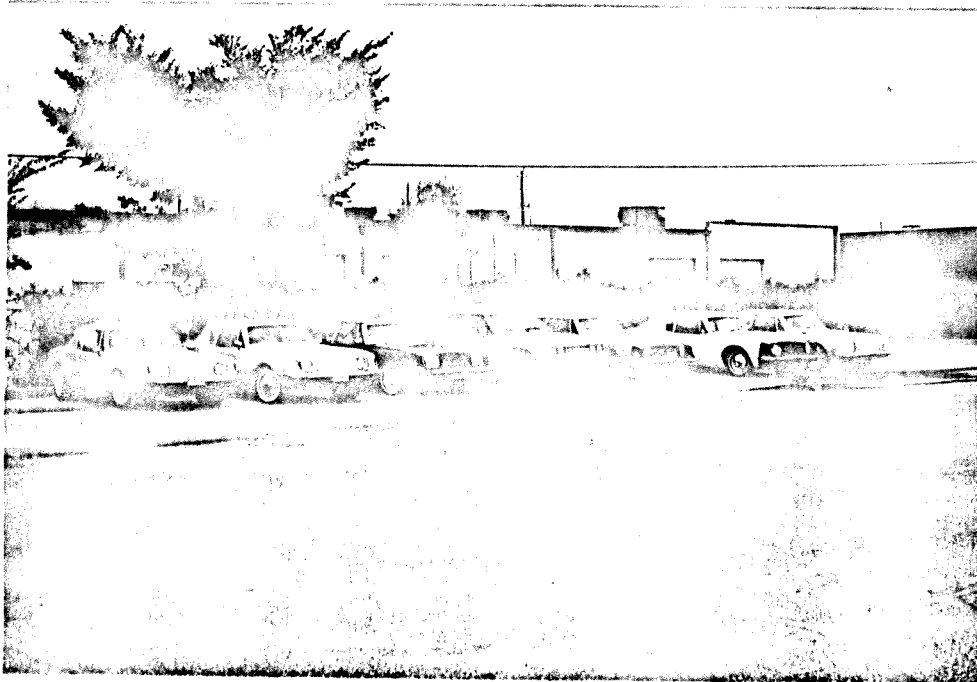
I'll bet that most of you thought that all you had to do to belong to the chapter was drive an Avanti. Well, that is just not enough. You gotta be swift also. The following quiz was designed by a former Volkswagon driver, and is required for all members.

1. What great songs can we expect to hear at this years Christmas party? (Refer to preceding cartoon)
 - a) Wait A Minute Mr. Postman
 - b) Little GTO
 - c) Return To Sender
 - d) Fugue In E Minor
 - e) Most of the above
2. What does the cartoon have to do with Avanti?
 - a) Studebaker still makes mail bags in Canada.
 - b) The mail cart has 15 inch wheels.
 - c) Raymond Loewy designed the logo and the car.
 - d) Nothing.
3. Who is Fred?
 - a) Famous journalist.
 - b) Canadian fugitive.
 - c) Renowned Doberman breeder.
 - d) Derelict
 - e) All of the above.
4. Our 1986 Christmas party will be held at:
 - a) Cooter's
 - b) Champagne's
 - c) Rick's
 - d) Burgundy's
 - e) Herman Park Zoo
5. Last years party was held at:
 - a) Peepers
 - b) Gilley's
 - c) Club DeVille
 - d) Studebakers
6. Since June of '62, what has been the most prevalent Avanti Color?
 - a) Red
 - b) White
 - c) Blue
 - d) Black
 - e) Gold
7. Why is a politician like an Avanti wiring harness?
 - a) Impossible to follow
 - b) Lots of connections
 - c) Always wired
 - d) Who cares

MORE.....

8. Avanti's are made in:
 - a) Italy
 - b) Detroit
 - c) Canada
 - d) South Bend
9. How is a high school reunion like a bad dream?
 - a) Who knows
 - b) You had to have been there
 - c) Who cares
 - d) What is this question doing here, anyway
10. Essay question: How is John Z. DeLorean Like Steve Blake?

Answers will be provided during the Christmas party, or in our January "nostalgia" issue. All who fail have to re-up for another year. Those who pass are allowed to join the Rambler club.



Left to right are:
Westling Walker Terrell Letts
Alcorn Bigelow Boyens

EMBEZZLERS CORNER

Date	Transaction	(+)	(-)	Balance Cleared
09-01-86	Ted Mason	25.00	.00	588.48x
09-01-86	Nat'l fee-Mason	.00	10.00	578.48x
09-06-86	Bob & Judy Hill	25.00	.00	603.48x
09-06-86	Nat'l fee-Hill	.00	10.00	593.48x Balanced
09-07-86	J.H. Keeling	15.00	.00	608.48x
09-20-86	Tony Buenaflor	15.00	.00	623.48x
10-02-86	Bill & Barbara Bigger	25.00	.00	648.48x Balanced
10-10-86	Bigger-Nat'l	.00	10.00	638.48
11-09-86	Postage, etc	.00	114.13	524.35

Submitted 11-10-86 and verified as correct,

H.F. Letts
acting treasurer

WHO DO

That's some kind of Jamacian magic, right? No, it is the monthly list of members who need to think about sending in their dues for the next twelve months. This month we have a busy list, so here goes.

November: Jack Davis
Alan & Abi Vizina
Don Jeffers

December: Barlow Soper

January: Jim & Denise Wall
Bill & Margarette Alcorn
Kent & Mary Bigelow
Dale Evans
Paul & Patti Revere
Miller & Jerri Walker
Bill Wilson
Frank & Karen Letts

ANON
Fred

AVANTI OWNERS ASSOCIATION Houston Area Chapter 1986 calendar

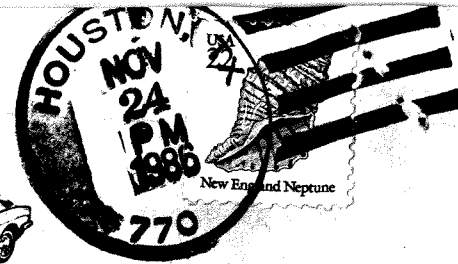
11-27-86 AutoRama at the 'Dome, thru the 30th.
12-20-86 AOAI Christmas Party

If you have any questions on events, suggestions or comments please contact Frank Letts at (713) 499-9467.



HOUSTON CHAPTER A.O.A.I.

13102 Naples Lane
Stafford, Texas 77477
(713) 499-9467



FIRST CLASS

85#4245

Weed Kay
6159 Meadow Lake
Houston, Texas

77057

AVANTI OWNERS ASSOCIATION

13102 Naples Lane
Stafford, Texas 77477

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NATIONAL DUES: \$10 per year

LOCAL DUES: \$15 per year

National membership is a requirement for local membership. If you are not a national member, send \$25 and the Houston Chapter will file both memberships for you.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Work Phone: (____) _____
Home Phone: (____) _____
Avanti # 1 _____ Avanti # 2 _____
Year: _____ Year: _____
Color: _____ Color: _____
VIN: _____ VIN: _____