

George Beyer wrote:

After acquiring our Comuta Car in 2005, I turned the brake drums, relined the brake shoes, and reconditioned the braking system. All has worked perfectly since that time. However, the parking brake has never been adequate to hold the car on any surface with any more than a very slight slope.

Hi George,

When you had your shoes relined, was that done by an automotive shop or a golf cart shop? When I bought my first Comuta-Car in 1980 I had a lot of teething pains with the brakes. After I had owned the car for a year, I had the brakes re-lined by an automotive brake shop and all of my problems went away.

I recall a post that suggested moving the attach point on the lever that equalizes and actuates the rear parking brakes. I did not do that, but am curious as to the placement of the new holes.

I'm sure the original posters will point you in the right direction here. While studying my parking brake system, I noted that as the brake was applied, the equalizer arm pivot action pulled the cable sideways so it no longer lined up with the cable conduit. See the pictures below. In the Before picture, as the arm pivots, the cable attach hole moves more to the right of the cable conduit. In the After picture pulling the cable causes the hole where the cable attaches to the arm to move outward and better align with the cable conduit.

Before

After



I would recommend that you go back to the beginning and take the following steps:

1. Adjust your rear hydraulic brake shoes by first tightening them until the wheel cannot be turned, then loosen them until the wheel can just be turned. They will loosen up with wear as you drive the first mile or so.
2. Pull the parking brake on 3 clicks, then tighten the parking brake up until the wheels will not turn. Release the parking brake and make sure the wheels turn as freely as they did at the end of step 1.

Drive the car for about 10 miles, release the parking brake (on the level) and give it the old one finger push test.

I will upload this email to the files section.

Have a great day!

Stu Updike
Bedford, Texas
1982 Comuta-Car
1980 Electrek