

The Dixie Valve Chatter

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Director's Message

By: Bob Stone

Post fall regional tour greetings!

I just got back from a very fun regional tour in Danville, VA. I did not arrive until Thursday night but enjoyed our tour of sections of the Blue Ridge Parkway, and a very picturesque old water powered mill. On Saturday we toured, and drove our cars on the track at the Virginia International Raceway. They had some SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) races for us to enjoy also. After all that fun and exercise, we were ready for the great buffet at the banquet that night! That is a great part of our country to explore and meet fellow Buick Club members - got to see some great Buick's too.

Next falls regional tour is in the Ocala Florida area with the exact date in late October, or early November - the date is to be determined.

This months meeting is in Marietta at a fantastic Mexican restaurant. See page two for time and directions. See you at the meeting, salsa is on me!

Happy Motoring!

Bob Stone, BCA#37843

Quotable Quote

My cooking is so bad my kids thought Thanksgiving was to commemorate Pearl Harbor.

Phyllis Diller

Buicks on the trail during the Southeastern Regional



Fewer images can be more captivating than a row of gorgeous Buicks, gathered on the Blue Ridge Parkway amid early fall colors. 14 Dixie Chapter members made the tour. See more photos of the SE Regional Meet in Danville, VA. on page 3.

Winterize your Classic Car

Recently I read an Internet article on "Dick's Classic Cars" Web page, written by Andrew Holliday on the how to properly prepare a classic car for winter storage. Here we differ slightly from his directions, recognizing our cars will not be put in storage until spring, but may be driven occasionally. His comments were directed to those living in a colder climate than we experience here in the south. Never the less, many will apply in our climate zone as well. Most are "common sense" suggestions, but are well worth reviewing.

Check the Antifreeze/Coolant. Make sure the type you are using is sufficient for the climate you live in. Check the levels regularly; however always check when the engine is cold. You will get a more accurate reading, but also opening a hot radiator is an extremely dangerous thing to do.

Check your tires. You need good tread if you do venture out in bad weather. A change in temperature will make all sorts of parts on your car expand and contract. This includes the air in your tires. Ensure that they are inflated to the correct PSI (pounds per square inch) for your vehicle; this will not only help with traction but will extend the life of your tires. Also remember that the rubber your tires are made from will also contract. Check old tires for cracking and replace if necessary.

Belts and hoses are also likely to expand and contract as the temperature changes. Check them over and change any that show signs of wearing or cracking.

Add a gas treatment. Over time water vapor can build up in your gas lines and will freeze when the temperature drops, blocking your fuel lines. A can of fuel treatment early on will remove the moisture and prevent this from happening. See Winter P 2

The Timing Chain

November 13, Regular Monthly Meeting. 12:30 pm for lunch; 1:30 pm meeting. Held at Los Bravos Mexican Restaurant, 1360 Powers Ferry Rd. Marietta. GA. Private meeting rooms are not available, but there is a separate areas we can use. Order off lunch menu, separate checks. Park in front, or at a closed Spa. The area in front of restaurant could be limited. The best suggestion is the one in the rear, on the left, that opens to the rear patio. Check their Web, or phone 770-916-1776.

<http://www.losbravosmexicanrestaurant.net/>
Directions (According to Bing Maps)
www.bing.com/maps

From I-285 take I-75 North toward Smyrna. (Exit 20)

Turn right onto Windy Hill RD SE (Exit 260) Go 0.6 mi

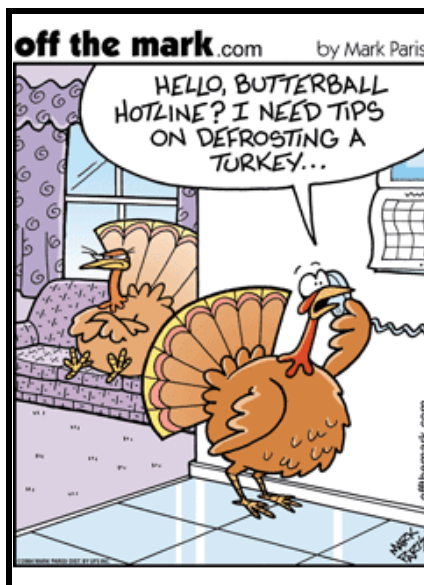
Turn left onto Powers Ferry Rd. Go 0.9 mi.

Arrive at 1360 Powers Ferry Rd

December No Meeting

January 14, 2012. Annual Holiday party. Held at St. Catherine's Episcopal Church. Details and directions later.

February 12, 2012. Annual Bowl-A-Rama. Details and directions later.



Winter From Page 1

Check the condition of your battery. A hard to start engine can be impossible to start with an old battery, so replace if necessary

Check your spark plugs. Corroded, oxidized or badly aligned spark plugs can also make it impossible to start the car in the morning.

Clean or replace your wiper blades. There are many brands of snow blades available that are designed not to stick to the windshield. Not all will work with older cars however, so at the very least, clean the ones you have with an alcohol based cleaner. Also check your washer fluid level and keep it topped up. Make sure to use a washer fluid that has some antifreeze in it.

Stock your car with some essential and emergency items. flashlight, ice scraper, first aid kit, reflective triangle, jumper cables, and a blanket and other warm items in case you break down without the engine running and need to keep warm.

Wash and dry your car regularly. The salt on the roads will wreak havoc on your bodywork and before you know it that cancer of all cars, rust, will be well and truly set in. So give it a good clean, underside included, as often as possible.

Check all fluids regularly; older cars and older gaskets have a habit of springing leaks throughout the winter months. It's easier to top up the fluid than replace a major part that has seized up. If you find a constant leak, get it fixed or fix it yourself.

Apply a good wax early on. A good wax applied in several layers will help keep that "all original bodywork" you paid so much extra for, in great shape come sun, snow, rain or shine.

Drive defensively. Just because you know you don't have anti-lock brakes and traction control doesn't mean everybody else does.

Drive with others in mind and try to think ahead. Remember you can't think for the idiot in front of or behind you, but you can try and get out of the way if they come skidding towards you! □

November Birthdays

11/9	Susie Grant
11/9	Lee Hurdelbrink
11/13	James Thomas, Jr.
11/26	Stephanie Meeboer

November Anniversaries

11/8	Gus & Rita Valeri
11/11	John & Kevin Link

New V6 Engine for the 2012 Buick LaCrosse

According to reports out of Detroit, GM has a new engine for the 2012 Buick LaCrosse. The engine will be a more powerful and fuel-efficient version of its direct-injected 3.6L V-6 engine.

The lighter-weight aluminum alloy V-6 is more powerful than its predecessor partly because of its new cylinder head design, which has a revised intake port design that enhances airflow to the combustion chambers. Larger-diameter intake valves in the heads and new, longer-duration intake camshafts help provide the engine's boost in horsepower.



By using larger valves and holding them open longer, more air is pulled into the combustion chamber, for more powerful combustion. Often, the tradeoff for greater power is greater fuel consumption, but engineers optimized the fuel system for the engine's performance parameters.

The engine retains direct fuel injection, enabling greater combustion efficiency, but uses a new fuel pump and a new, isolated fuel rail. □

From <http://www.media.gm.com/>

Southeastern Regional Photos

Photos: *Bob Stone*



Photos are: On the Blue Ridge Parkway; the Virginia International Raceway; and the Banquet.

Deals For Wheels

Parts For Sale

Extra parts from the restoration of a 1972 GS. Too numerous to list. If interested Contact Chris Crocker NAPA Merchandise Center, 3100 Windy Hill Road, Atlanta, Ga. 30339. Office: 770-850-2496 or chris.Crocker@genpt.com. If you are interested in seeing a very fuzzy video of the parts (no audio), contact Cliff Dillingham cliffdillingham@att.net

For Sale

1990 Buick Reatta Convertible 35,000 miles, white / white top / burgundy interior –Shown at BOP-new headlight arms-Beautiful car \$14,000

Parts For Sale

- Double Pumper 4BBL Holley Carburetor – came off my '69 Riviera--not pretty but works fine \$35.00
- Complete MSD Ignition System –removed from my '69 Riviera—works great \$125.00 (have MSD Distributor and coil for 430 engine as well)

Contact John Link linkltrs@bellsouth.net or 404-578-8973

For Sale (New Ad)

Buick Engines For Sale.

455 – 1973. Includes block, heads, stock intake & exhaust manifolds & valve covers. \$400 or reasonable offer.

430 – 1968-69. Complete with intake & exhaust manifolds, distributor, fuel pump, air pump, starter, Rochester carb, valve covers and more. \$400 or reasonable offer.

Nailhead – Believed to be a 1953. Block, heads, valve covers, timing cover, flywheel. Make offer.

Turbo 400 Transmission. Make offer. All need to be rebuilt.

Contact Paula Liska (BC A #6396, BDE #2) at kliska@cfl.rr.com or call 407-873-7262. Located in Central Florida



For Sale

1960 Buick Trailer Hitch made by Draw-Tite (my family sold and installed this brand of hitches during the late 1950's to the early 1970's). It is a class I rated, chrome plated hitch. Asking \$150 plus sales tax (if sold to a Georgia resident), and shipping if wanted. Contact Joe Poole, Jr 770-597-5992 Cell or info@fergusonpoolemarine.com

The Dixie Chapter is one of over 60 chapters of the Buick Club of America; a nonprofit organization dedicated to the restoration and preservation of automobiles built by the Buick Motor Division of the General Motors Corporation.

The Dixie Valve Chatter, DVC is the official publication of the Dixie Chapter.

The year 2011 Dixie Chapter Officers are:

Director	Bob Stone	412 Lima Court	Woodstock GA	30188	770-480-4179	rstone60@msn.com
Assist. Director	Ron Bergeron	3350 Turtle Lake Club Dr	Marietta, GA	30067	770-951-1411	ronbron@att.net
Secretary	Rich Fink	9102 Kettle Overlook	Villa Rica, GA	30180	770-459-4098	richfink@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jerry Richstein	4798 Grants Way	Marietta, GA	30066	770-924-4779	jerry.richstein@juno.com
“DVC” Editor	Cliff Dillingham	3870 Sardis Church Rd	Buford, GA	30519	770-271-2759	cliffdillingham@att.net
Membership Chair.	Jerry Richstein	4798 Grants Way	Marietta, Ga.	30066	770-924-4779	jerry.richstein@juno.com
Historian	John Sincere	229 Pirkle Leake Road	Dawsonville, GA	30534	706-216-4389	sincerej@windstream.net
Club Sales	Jack Horvath	2748 Peppermint Dr	Tucker, GA	30084	770-934-0127	pjhorvath@bellsouth.net