

# The Dixie Valve Chatter

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AUGUST, 2009

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## Director's Message

*By: Bob Stone*

Happy Summer every one!

Hope every one had a great July and are looking forward to the next club meeting. A bunch of us are going to the Galaxy Diner on 8/1 for their cruise in. It is from 4 to 7PM, and looks to be a lot of fun. Our next meeting is a Norm's on 8/9 and all the regulars seem to like this place a lot! Look for details and directions in this Valve Chatter.

At the September Picnic at the Steger's we will be selling a collection of old Bugle magazines from the 80's and a have a donation of 10 BOP&C T-shirts from various years, and one shirt from the 1994 BCA national that was hosted by us in Atlanta. All the shirts are size XL and are in great condition. You have to come to the picnic and bring your best side dish in order be eligible to purchase a shirt. All money from these sales will go into our treasury.

If you know some one who has a BUICK or just likes old BUICKS, invite them to a meeting or an outing to see if they would like to join our chapter and the national club. We will be starting a membership drive and details will follow.

Stay Cool!

*Bob # 37843*

## BCA National & After Tour



Photo used with permission - <http://buickclub.org/>

Above, Bruce & Shar Kile in their 1962 Electra, "Laverne", lead the "After Tour" as they snake through the Colorado mountains following the 2009 BCA National in Colorado Springs. Read more about the meet and driving tour in Bruce's article this page.

## 2009 National

*By: Bruce Kile*

Hi Dixie Buick Folks & anyone else interested in "Buick stuff"

We had a fun time at the BCA Nationals in Colo. Springs and a week long "After Tour". Arrived home Monday (13th) afternoon. Our trusty ole "Laverne" (62 Electra) never missed a beat as we traveled a total of 4,456 miles. Only complaint we heard was from our grandson Austin to turn off the A/C. There were a total of 242 Buicks registered for the show, but only 84 (or so) were judged under the 400-point system.

The others were either in the "Driven Class", the "Archival Class" (for cars totally original) or in "Display" where no awards or recognition is given. Laverne was awarded her "driven class grill badge". It goes nicely with her (previously awarded) "Archival badge". Personally I was honored to receive my Senior Master judge pin. I think there are only 6 of us in the BCA to hold that title. It was also my pleasure to have been asked to be the M.C. for the awards banquet. Believe it or not I did manage to keep the program rolling and had the entire thing over by about 9:30. If you go in on the

**See National Page 2**

## The Timing Chain

**August 1, Saturday, A Cruise-In.** Sponsored by and held at Galaxy Diner, 3320 Henderson Mill Road, Chamblee, GA 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Open to all Makes & Model cars. Door Prizes & Awards. No entry fee. The club voted to make this a club event.

**August 9. Regular Monthly Meeting.** Held at Norm's Steak & Seafood (sign outside says Olde Mill Steakhouse), 2089 Savoy Dr., Dunwoody, GA. Savoy Dr. is an I-285 access road between N. Peachtree Rd., and N. Shallowford Rd. Lunch at 12:30, meeting at 1:30. 770-455-0900.

**September 20, Sunday. 1:00PM Annual Dixie Chapter Picnic.** Held at the home of **Mike & Jan Steger.** Bringing a dish, the meat will be provided. We split the dishes by your last initial. If your last name starts with:

- A – D bring dessert/sweet
- E – H bring bread/rolls/biscuits
- I – L bring vegetable
- M – P bring vegetable
- Q – S bring ice tea (sweet and un-sweet)
- T – Z bring paper products (plates, napkins, drink cups, forks/knives/spoons). **Directions & Map Page 5**

**October 11 (tentative). Regular Monthly Meeting.** Held at *Then & Now Auto Restorations* in Marietta, GA. Details will be provided later.

### National - From Page 1

BCA website [www.buickclub.org](http://www.buickclub.org) and click on 2009 National photographs you can get a small sampling of a few of the "show cars". With this being the 50th anniversary of the 59, the 59 Division turned out in force and was given a little special attention.

Our BCA (& BDE) Webmaster, Roberta Vasilow, accompanied us on our 15th annual After Tour, so you can click on each day of the tour and get some idea of the fun time we had on the tour. BTW many of the cars pictured at the show were from the "Modified Div", which would not have been part of the 400-point system either. There are 3 categories of modified cars, "Radical", "Moderate", & "Subtle". All modified cars are required to be Buick powered and like

**Get Well Soon**  
*Get well wishes are extended to Paul VanNortwick who is at home recovering from a serious auto accident. Penny advises that with therapy he is slowly recovering*

**And To**  
*Cody Fink's half-brother, Chris Johnson who was seriously injured in Iraq when the Hummer in which he was riding was hit by a road-side bomb. His is hospitalized in Iraq. His condition is unknown at this time other than he is paralyzed from the neck down.*

**And To**  
*Hersel Goff who is home recovering from gall bladder surgery.*  
*Our thoughts and prayers are with them, their families, and caregivers.*

all cars entered in the show must carry a fire extinguisher and pass the safety check. Although our "Laverne" was the sole car from the Dixie Chapter, the chapter was represented by Jack & Pat Horvath, John Sincere, Roy & Sharon Newby as well as Shar, our grandson Austin and yours truly. Oh there might have been someone else from the chapter but we never saw them. Other "Georgians" were Bobby & Margaret Minis from Savannah who drove their 41 Roadmaster Convert and were with us on the After Tour. Bobby is the senior director of the BDE Div. Austin was part of the junior judging program and assisted in the classes I was working with. Its' always nice to see the cars, hit the swap meet and attend the (many) meetings, but the best part is those "reunions" with our many Buick friends from all over this great country.

Next year's BCA National will be in Ames, Iowa July 27-31. 2011 was awarded to the Minuteman Chapter and will be held in Danvers, Mass once again. It appears likely that 2012 will be in Charlotte, N.C. since they were bidding for 2011 and failed to get it. Oh, our "neighbor" (& good friend) Brian DePouli of Charlotte

## August Birthdays

- 8/9 Ernie Grant
- 8/10 Shar Kile
- 8/17 Cliff Dillingham
- 8/17 Ed Leysath
- 8/20 Terry Bird
- 8/20/60 Bob Stone

## August Anniversaries

- 8/3 Charlie & Jeanene Adams
- 8/3 Jerry & Jean Richstein
- 8/4 Danny & Maureen Bryant
- 8/8 Doug & Deena Huber

was not only seated on the BCA board he was elected (as I predicted) to the position of BCA - VP. The new BCA president is Rick Young of Iowa.

Oh, forgot to mention the wonderful reunion we had in "Laverne's" (former) hometown, Laverne, Okla. We met members of the original owner's family and got lots of history of "her". The local newspaper even took our picture in front of the (closed up) gas station where she was serviced. Our entire tour group had a great lunch served by the "city officials" in the community center and everyone was awarded "Laverne Oil Capital of N.W. Oklahoma" license tags.

See ya soon  
 Peace & God Bless  
 Bruce & Shar Kile

**Grit In The Gearbox**

**PLUGGERS**

**BUICKS**  
6/29

Write to Pluggers  
P. O. Box 23047  
Henrico, VA  
23242

Email: [pluggersmail@aol.com](mailto:pluggersmail@aol.com)

Thanks to  
**D. Ainsworth**  
Spruce Pine, NC



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The pluggers stimulus package doesn't cost billions.

## The Adventure of a 1950 Buick Jetback Sedanet

**Jack Horvath sent us an account of his and Pat's adventure on the After Tour following the 2008 BCA National in Flint, MI. Allstate owns the phrase "YOU ARE IN GOOD HANDS WITH ALLSTATE", but this points out that "YOU ARE IN GREAT HANDS WITH BUICK PEOPLE".**

It was a dark and stormy night.

Well, actually, Pat and I were with the Buick Driving Enthusiasts on the After Tour from the 2008 BCA National Convention. This terrific tour had covered about 500 miles from Flint, and the tour was approaching John and Joyce Williams' home in Charleston, Illinois. John and Joyce were soon to be hosting the dandy final activity, the tour party. A few miles from their home, our venerable 1950, 4-door Jetback began a loud grating noise; it sounded as though the fan was hitting the radiator. After an immediate stop, we found that the noise was not the fan hitting the radiator, the noise was caused by the disintegrating pieces of the harmonic balancer hitting the radiator. Now, very few folks have any inside knowledge about a harmonic balancer, but we



**Harmonic balancer installed in Illinois**

soon became experts concerning this important assembly on the front of the engine, near the fan belt pulley. John Williams quickly brought along his rescue trailer, we loaded her up, and we were off to the party. John kindly kept the Jetback for about 8 weeks while he ordered up a replacement harmonic balancer and did a great deal of important work on her. Pat and I were sad to leave our Jetback, but we were glad to be able to ride home to Atlanta with Bruce and Shar Kile and their grandson, Austin, in their beloved Buick, "Laverne".

Later, Bruce and I returned to Charleston with his pickup truck, the one with the Park Avenue logo on it, to drive the Jetback the some 600 miles down to Atlanta. Aha, hold on, not so fast there. After a midmorning departure from Charleston, we soon discovered that the Jetback's rings were shot. Without putting out a bit of smoke she was using 3 quarts of oil every 65 miles. We stopped at what seemed to be every auto supply store between Charleston and Atlanta buying up their 40-weight oil and Lucas motor honey and dumping it into our classic car. When I sighed and finally shut her down in our garage around midnight, it was time to uncross my cramped fingers and take some deep breaths.



**Back home, engine removed for re-build**

My search for an engine re-builder led me to an enthusiastic matured fellow who made his reputation driving and building dragsters, Digger Don Dixon of Norcross, and his talented mechanic, Nick Tassan. On November 14<sup>th</sup> Nick and I delivered the big straight 8 engine to Don's garage. As you may know, everyone who sees this iron for the first time is awestruck by the impressive size of the engine. After the complete re-build, Nick brought the engine back to our Tucker ga-



**Engine rebuild complete, and detailed**

rage on March 15th. We have gotten the Jetback tuned up since we reinstalled the engine, but at the moment we are working on a chronic overheating problem. We are going up the ladder of causes and cures, and I will be sending out the news when this concern is another closed chapter of our 50 Jetback adventure epic.

*Jack Horvath # 42276*

Photos: Joyce Williams, Jack & Pat Horvath

## Deals For Wheels

### For Sale

CB radios, antennas, slide mounts, transmission hump mounts, extension speakers and accessories. New replacement microphones for many sets. Will test your CB for proper operation.

**For all you tourers!** In addition to my usual radios, I have several deluxe CB radios including:

- . **Cobra 40X** with chrome face and new deluxe mike. Like new!
- . **Johnson 123** with GM logo. Mint!
- . **Kraco** with woodtone face. New in box!
- . **Midland 13-830** "top view". Like new!
- . **Cobra** with instant weather channels. Like new!
- . **4 Midland "hide away"** radios. All controls on mike sized handset; main unit can be hidden under seat, under dash, or even in trunk with included optional extra long cord. New in box!

**Have splitters** so you can use your car antenna for your CB. Be ready for tours! Call or e-mail and I will be glad to talk and send you pictures of any or all radios. **Contact Roddy Pearce 404-371-1999 or roddypearce@mindspring.com**

### For Sale

**1979 Buick Riviera** 350 v8 automatic ps, pwr 4-wheels disc brakes, air, pw, pdl, runs good, need to sell immediately \$2,200. Want 70 Buick skylark. **Contact Bruce C. Publicover 770-926-0467, or bj79riv@comcast.net**

### For Sale

**1969 LeSabre 4 door parts car** . Good running gear \$400.00. Selling for non member. **Contact Roddy Pearce 404-371-1999 or email roddypearce@mindspring.com.**

### For Sale

**1956 Ford Thunderbird** Black with black and white interior. Both hardtop and convertible top, both black. Thunderbird 292 V8 engine with three-speed transmission. Power seats and power brakes. Incomplete restoration (some assembly required) with all body work complete. Front end rebuilt, new correct Firestone tires Asking \$20,000 obo. **Contact Doug Huber at 404-252-2433, or DHuber4853@aol.com**

### For Sale

**1993 Buick Roadmaster Station Wagon**. One owner, complete maintenance records. New a/c, alternator, radiator, water pump, universal joints. 5.7 Lt V8. Heavy duty trailer towing package. 172k miles. \$3,000 or best offer. **Contact Red Newhouser 404-683-2091 or rednewhouser@mindspring.com**

### For Sale

**1967 Dealer Showroom AM-FM Radio and Eight Track Display Console**. Excellent condition with working radio plus NOS eight track tape player and eight track tapes. \$600 for all. Operates off ac and has all wiring and instructions. Getting rid of all my Buick and other car line memorabilia. If interested come see what I have.

**Also Literature**; 3 file cabinets categorized by year beginning with 1924 with owners manuals, model catalogs, factory information and other literature, thru 1990. Most is Buick but there is some Chevrolet, Pontiac, Olds, Cadillac and GMC. **Contact Jene Van Arnem 423-344-4706 or jvva@bellsouth.net.**

### Club Store Items For Sale

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>
BCA Logo Patch	\$2.00
BCA Logo Decal	\$0.75
Buick Trash Bag	\$0.50
Dixie Chapter Button/Pin	\$0.50
Large number of Dashboard Plaques from prior years - from 1984 to 2001.	

**To purchase contact Jack Horvath: 770-934-0127 or pjhorvath@bellsouth.net**

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.

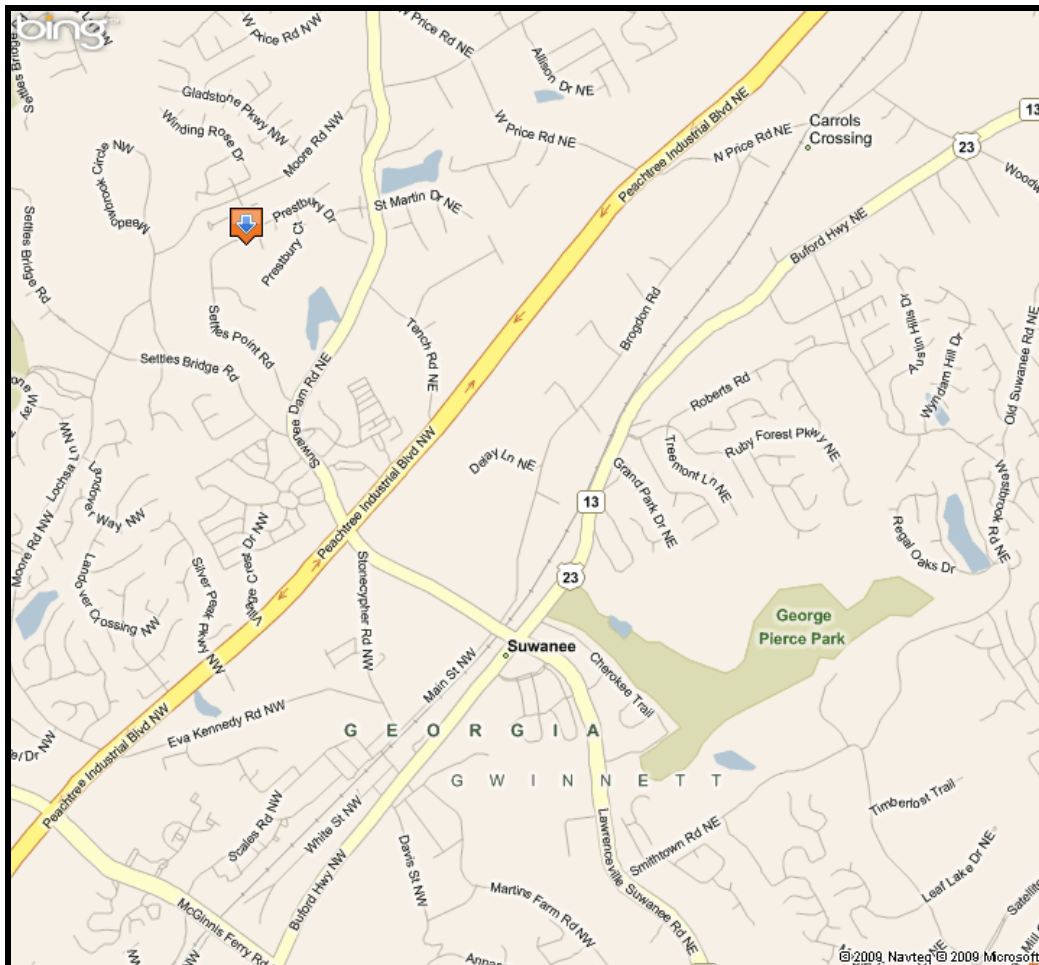
The year 2009 Dixie Chapter Officers are:

Director	Bob Stone	412 Lima Court	Woodstock GA	30188	770-928-4025	rstone60@msn.com
Assist. Director	Ron Bergeron	3350 Turtle Lake Club Dr	Marietta, GA	30067	770-951-1411	ronbron@earthlink.net
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"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

## Location of the club picnic

4895 Settles Point Road  
Suwanee, GA 30024  
770-831-5943

September 20, 2009  
1:00 PM



### Directions:

**I-85 North of Perimeter** go north to Suwanee exit. Turn left. You are on Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road heading west. Lawrenceville-Suwanee will turn in to Suwanee Dam. After you cross over Peachtree Industrial Blvd, you will pass 1 traffic light (Settles Bridge Road) and take next left on to Settles Point Road. Follow it until it dead ends. Our house is the two story brick on the right with a 1970 green Skylark convertible on the front lawn

### **From Georgia 400, exit GA 20.**

Head east on Hwy 20 until you reach Suwanee Dam. Take a right on Suwanee Dam and drive until you see Settles Point Road on your right. *(If you arrive at Peachtree Industrial Blvd you missed it, turn around)* Follow Settles Point Road until it dead ends. Our house is the two story brick on the right with a 1970 green Skylark convertible on the front lawn. If you get turned around or lost, please call me at **(770) 831-5943** and we will help.