



Dixie Valve Chatter

Official newsletter of the Dixie Chapter of the Buick Club of America



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Upcoming Events

Classified Ads

Member News

Dixie Chapter History

Extensive Southeastern Regional Coverage!

November 2017

www.buickclub.org/dixie



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The Dixie Chapter is one of over 60 Chapters of the Buick Club of America, "a non-profit membership corporation dedicated to the preservation and restoration of those vehicles built by the Buick Motor Division of General Motors Corporation".

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For Photos and Upcoming Events: Check us out on Facebook, "Dixie Chapter of the Buick Club of America", and on the Web at www.dixie.buickclub.org

Director's Message



Don McClair

Our November 12th meeting will be held at Fuddruckers at 3000 Windy Hill Rd. in Marietta. This is sort of behind the Marriott at Windy Hill and I-75. We will have a private room starting at 12:30. Following our meeting, weather permitting, Bruce Kile is going to conduct a judging seminar based on the BCA 400 point scoring system. Bruce has the status of BCA Senior Master Judge and has attended over 30 judging seminars. If you are considering having your car judged at a future BCA National, this is a great opportunity to have it gone over and see if there is something that could use a little extra attention. Something as simple as incorrect radiator hose clamps can take off points at a National. So again, weather permitting, drive your classic Buick.

We will not hold a meeting in December and will again have our Holiday Party in January. Our February meeting will be our annual "Bowl-a-Rama", and if your bowling experience is like mine, please come out anyway as we always have a great time and fellowship.

See you at Fuddruckers!

Don



Bowl-A-Rama!!

February 11, 2018

Save the date!



Sonomatic Sounds, an editorial



Hi folks,

I hope that this issue of the *Dixie Valve Chatter* finds you well. I am sorry that I have not been able to attend the past couple of chapter events. Life has a way of dictating one's activities, but I certainly do intend to be at Fuddruckers on the 12th. I am looking forward to Bruce Kile's explanation of the 400 point judging system used by the BCA. Be sure to take note of this issue's Timing Chain, as there are a number of activities coming up that are sure to be of interest. As always, roll out that beautiful Buick for chapter events and meetings and wear your name tag.

In the meantime, enjoy this issue of the *Dixie Valve Chatter*. It has been a pleasure to put it together and I thank all of those who submitted articles and photos. Remember to drop me a line if you have member news, a story or photos that would be of interest .

Happy Buicking,

Tom

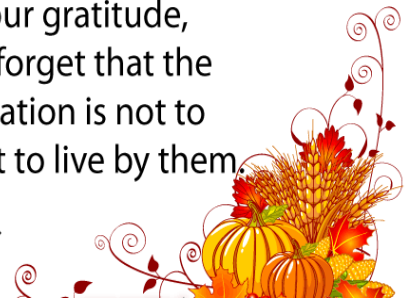
Veterans Day



Quotable Quotations

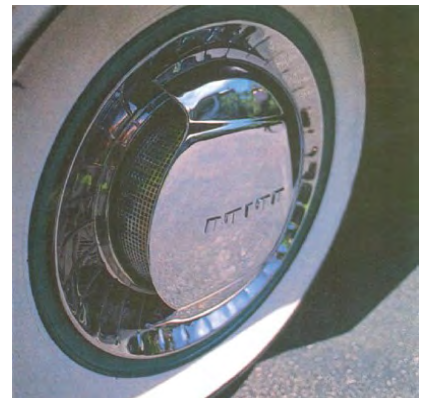
As we express our gratitude,
we must never forget that the
highest appreciation is not to
utter words, but to live by them.

- John Fitzgerald Kennedy.



Car Quiz! Answer on page 13

The front wheel covers on this Motorama Show Car from the 1950s were known as "Rotostatic" The cap centers were specially weighted and remained stationary while the car was in motion and the vents provided cooling to the car's brakes. Which show car featured these wheel covers? The answer is on Page 9.

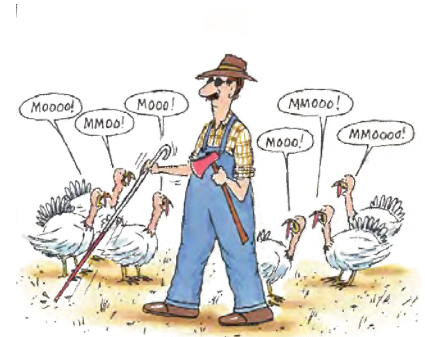


Rotostatic front wheel cover

The Timing Chain

- ◆ November 12, 2017: Chapter meeting at Fuddruckers on Windy Hill Road
- ◆ No meeting in December
- ◆ January 14, 2018: Dixie Chapter Christmas Party at Ippolitos' in Swanee
- ◆ February 11, 2018: Bowl-a-rama!
- ◆ Peach Blossom BOP&C.: Hosted by Peach State Cadillac-LaSalle. Date TBA
- ◆ June 19-23, 2018: BCA National Meet. Denver, CO www.buickclub.org
- ◆ More activities are in the works! Stay tuned for details!

Grit in the Gearbox



From the "Sunshine Committee": Martel Gibson, our S.E. Regional director, is recovering from a quadruple by-pass. Please keep Martel in your thoughts and prayers.

If you know of a member who is ill, injured, recovering, or just in need of a special thought and bit of hope sent their way, please let Jean Richstein know about them as soon as possible. She is making certain that cards and well wishes are sent from the Dixie Chapter BCA. To enable Jean to share the Club's thoughts and concerns in a timely manner, please be sure to keep her well informed. grayfoxconsulting@gmail.com



November Birthdays

11/9	Susie Grant
11/9	Lee Hurdelbrink
11/13	James Thomas, Jr.
11/26	Stephanie Meeboer
11/28/42	Jan Blizzard



November Anniversaries

11/8	Gus & Rita Valeri
11/10/12	Rich & Kathleen Fink
11/11	John & Kevin Link

November Meeting Preview

Come on out for the regular monthly chapter meeting at Fuddruckers, 3000 Windy Hill Road in Marietta on Sunday November 12th. We'll gather for lunch in the private dining room at 12:30. Following the meeting, weather permitting, we will conduct a "mini judging seminar" "Preparing Your Car for Judging, BCA Style", using the BCA 400 point system as we judge a 70s vintage Buick. The seminar will be led by BCA senior master judge Bruce Kile. If the weather is rainy or cold, there will be an inside discussion of the BCA 400 point judging system. As always, you are encouraged to wear your colorful and stylish Dixie Chapter name tag, and let's fill the parking lot with our beautiful Buicks!



Buick's 1970 Opel GT

You've been waiting for the spectacular, right?
 A 1.1 liter engine is standard and a 1.9 liter option is available.
 Four on the floor is standard, of course. A fully automatic 3-speed transmission is also available.
 Add these standard features. Transistorized radio and antenna. Tach. Ammeter. 0.1 mile odometer. Electric clock. Sculptured bucket seats. Concealed headlamps that flip out with a slight push of a lever. Radial ply tires. Even twin chrome-plated tailpipe extensions.
 If that doesn't light your fire, maybe Buick's 1970 GS 455 will.

Buick's 1970 GS 455 with Stage I Option Package

How big do you like your engines? 455 cu. in., perhaps? 455 cu. in. It is. With a high-lift cam. With a four-barrel carb that breathes through real air scoops. With a low backpressure dual exhaust system. High speed valve train. Positive traction axle. You can count on 360 horsepower, 510 pounds/feet of torque. Count on performance to go with the looks. GS 455 has both. And every Buick-Opel dealer has both the GS 455 and Buick's Opel GT.
 Start off 1970 right. Let Buick light your fire.

Two of the light-your-fire cars from Buick.

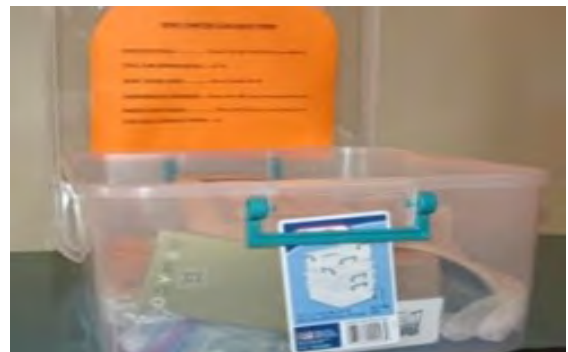
Are you changing your e-mail address?

If you have a **NEW** e-mail address, please notify Jerry Richstein at jerry.richstein@gmail.com so you can continue to receive the *Dixie Valve Chatter* via e-mail

Club Sales

The club "store" is now open for business at all business meetings. Some of the items available are cloth BCA jacket patches, static cling BCA window decals, keepsake ornaments (featuring various *Buick* models), and *Buick* playing cards. Call Bruce Kile for pricing or questions (770) 977- 7924.

New Items! Playing cards, Patches, and Decals!!



2017 Southeast Regional Meet Re-cap

Article and photos by Glenn Novak

This year was the 27th Annual Southeast Regional BCA Meet and it was hosted by the Bama Chapter. Entitled "Sweet Home Alabama," our event was held in historic Oxford, Alabama.

We had 16 Buicks on the tour this year and the weather was great the whole time. John Cover was the Tour Director and was assisted by his friend, Anne. The Kiles assisted them by running the tour ahead of time to see how it all might work out in terms of times and directions.

Dixie Chapter members on tour included the following: Jack Horvath, Shar and Bruce Kile, Debbie and Glenn Novak, Jean and Jerry Richstein, James Thomas, and JD Westfall.

On our first day, Wednesday, October 18th, we drove west from Oxford for a visit to Ron Moore's private car collection. Ron is in the oil business and over many years has assembled a wonderful collection of vehicles, mostly full classics which have won multiple awards in AACA and CCCA competition. After coffee and donuts and an overview by Ron, our group wandered around and viewed Packards, Cadillacs, Lincolns, a Pierce-Arrow and others. After lunch at the Irondale Café (the basis of the movie *Fried Green Tomatoes*), most members went to the Barber Motorsports



Jerry Richstein admires a mid-30's Cadillac convertible sedan at the Ron Moore Classic Car Museum in Birmingham

Museum Tour to see the motorcycle collection, while others had the option of a local outlet mall, or anything else of personal interest in the area.



Robert "Paddlefoot" Wales met our group in the main atrium area of the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in Talladega and later shared his racing recollections with us at lunch

On Thursday morning we toured the famous Talladega race track and museum. The museum is very large and is just full of interesting race cars from different eras, along with much related racing memorabilia. After a bus trip around the track area, we enjoyed a nostalgic and humorous talk by race car legend Robert (“Paddlefoot”) Wales followed by a BBQ lunch in the museum library.



View of the Talladega Speedway straightaway and grandstands from our tour bus

Following our speedway adventure, our group went on back into Oxford to see the beautiful Performing Arts Center and its 1400 seat theatre. The current art exhibit up on the gallery walls seemed tailor-made for car fans: “The Hubcap as Art.” Right next door was an ice cream parlor where many in our group sat down with refreshments before shopping.

Friday was more of an outdoor kind of day as we drove out into the country a bit and made our way up into Cheaha State Park, the highest point in Alabama. After strolling through both a CCC museum and Indian artifact museum, our group took a long lunch break and enjoyed the hot buffet choices at the state park restaurant. The tables are right up at the large windows overlooking the mountains and valleys, and the views on this pretty day were just fantastic.



Second Time Around: The Hubcap as Art was the title of this special display at the Oxford Performing Arts Center



Part of our tour group at a scenic overlook on the way up to the top of Cheaha State Park

After lunch we made the drive to Fiddlers Green, a different kind of Southern mansion. Designed, built and currently occupied by a young family, the home has new infrastructure but the design and appearance is right out of the Civil War. Sitting on about 30 acres, the home has period decorations. They often do weddings out back, and the grounds allow for a full-scale Civil War battle re-enactment.

The Berman Museum in Anniston was our first stop on Saturday, October 21st, our final day. Founded by a married couple who were in military intelligence during WWII and actually had spied on each other, this fascinating museum is a modern and rather large facility with a definite leaning toward wars and weaponry. The exhibits related to fascist Italy and Nazi Germany are excellent, as are the many Allied artifacts from both world wars. There are also collections of some very weird spy paraphernalia similar to things seen in James Bond films.

The Church of St. Michael and All Angels in Anniston was our final tour stop. It was The Saturday evening closing banquet at the hotel wrapped up this year’s event. Everyone had a great time and the work and planning of the Bama Chapter, particularly John Cover and Anne, is greatly appreciated. There is an awful lot of time and effort (and frustration) that goes into putting one of these tours together. A job well-done—thank you.



Prior to leaving the car museum, Bobby and Margaret Minis put the top down on their 1941 Roadmaster convertible, while Debbie Novak looks on wistfully



This battle-scarred old Mercury is just one of many race cars on display inside the galleries of the International Motorsports Hall of Fame



Buicks old, new and in-between are lined up at the overlook pull-over at Cheaha State Park

Southeastern Regional Photographs



The Buick caravan moves slowly up the hill at Cheaha through trees that were just getting ready to bring forth Fall color. Bob O'Neil's 1940 Special is a pleasing sight in the rearview mirror



A happy tour group made it up to the highest point in Alabama and stands in front of the CCC museum and tower at Cheaha State Park



Bob and Sandy Buntaine drove their 1969 Sportwagon from Texas for this year's meet

Southeastern Regional Photographs



Tour members chat with the curator of the Indian artifact museum at Cheaha State Park



Our tour begins to approach its end as we gather in the Pearl Harbor display room to listen to our very knowledgeable docent at the Berman Museum in Anniston



Arriving at Fiddler's Green antebellum homeplace re-creation where we enjoyed an informative and leisurely tour of every room and also the grounds



The final stop on our 2017 tour was The Church of St. Michael and All Angels. Heavy stone blocks form the elaborate archways outside the sanctuary of this historic church.



On the porch of the Fiddler's Green mansion, waiting for Scarlett and Rhett

Moments in Dixie Chapter History

By Bruce Kile, AKA Ole BCA 3013

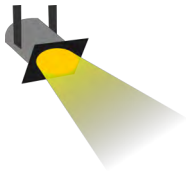
If memory still serves me, I believe the Dixie Chapter membership nearly doubled to twenty as we entered our second year. Most of our new members in those early years were recruited at car shows. Keep in mind this was primarily Ford and Chevy country back then, so there weren't a lot of "us". But, we were enthusiastic and very supportive of each other.

Speaking of car shows, the first "B.O.P." show was held on the square in Marietta as a joint effort with the Georgia Chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club, International in the spring of 1981. The number 30 comes to mind as the total entries in that first show. Needless to say, the vast majority of the cars those first few shows were Buicks and Pontiacs. The local P.O.C.I. Chapter dissolved in about 1982, but was soon succeeded by the South Eastern G.T.O. Association, who later partnered with us, alternating the hosting of the show and representing the "P" part of B.O.P. That happened in about 1986. After 3 or 4 years of including Oldsmobiles and encouraging formation of a local chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America, the Dixie Oldsmobile Club finally became a reality around 1984. It had emerged as a result of our Peach Blossom B.O.P. The inclusion of Cadillacs came many years later.

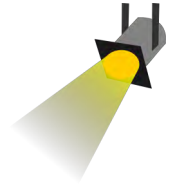
Anyway, following that first one day car show on the square in 1981, the event moved to the Ramada Hotel at Delk Rd and I-75 as a 2-day show the next year. By holding the show at a hotel and advertising it as a two day event, with a hospitality room, swap meet and awards banquet, we encouraged out of towners. And boy did we get out of towners! We had cars, mostly Buicks from as far north as Michigan and Ohio. Many came from Florida, Tennessee, Alabama and the Carolinas. In only our second year we attracted nearly 100 cars. Needless to say, we were delighted by the response and support we received, especially from BCA members both locally and nationally. The Dixie Chapter had indeed brought attention to the "B's the "O"s and the "P's in formerly Ford & Chevy country. We knew the *Peach Blossom B.O.P* was a keeper!

(next month.....hosting the first BCA National Meet in the South)





Member News



Jack Horvath attended the Vietnam Truckers' reunion last month in Central California, and provided us with these pictures.

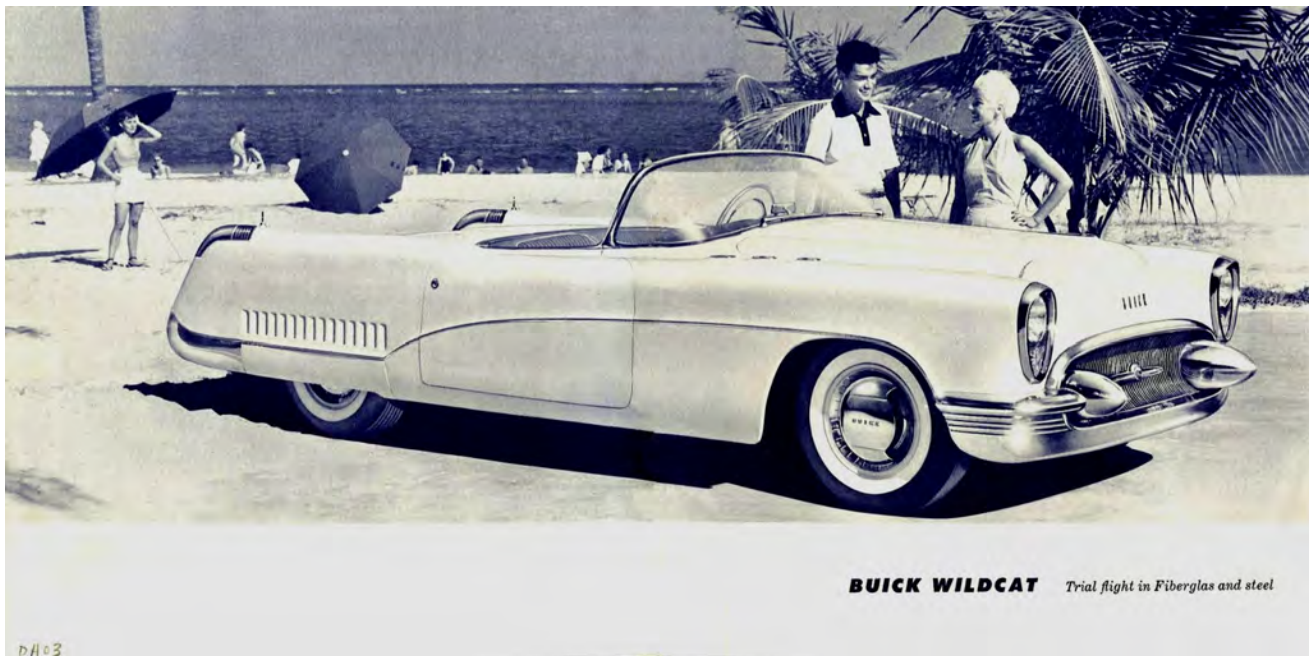


[Twomillionmilesfobadroad](#)



NOTE: If you know of members winning awards or touring to interesting places, or have an idea for an article of interest to our members, please let **Tom Lynde** know at least two weeks before the end of the month to enable inclusion in the next **Dixie Valve Chatter**.

Car Quiz Answer



The Wildcat I was Buick's first fiberglass bodied show car. It was built for the 1953 General Motors Motorama. The Wildcat I featured a 322 ci Nailhead V/8, Panoramic windshield, flush mounted tail lights, cooling louvers over the rear wheels., and the Rotostatic front wheel covers.

Unlike many Motorama cars, it was a fully functioning automobile. Also unlike many Motorama cars, the Wildcat I was not destroyed when its show duties were done. It still exists in the hands of a private collector.



If you have Buick trivia or an interesting Buick story you would like to share in the **Valve Chatter**, please send it to Tom Lynde, DVC Editor at lynde2375@charter.net

Deals on Wheels

Buick Parts for sale.

Three 1932 Buick 18" wood wheels for 50 series. \$50.00 each. 1938 Buick front seat, no bottom cushion, \$25.00. Several 1957 Special parts. Call 706-865-4185.

Raymond Collins. B.C.A 474

For Sale: 1971 Buick Skylark Custom Convertible. See pictures at: <http://buybuickskylark.com/>

Entertaining offers. Kip Meeboer, 770-924-0474 or email at

kmeeboer@mindspring.com



Car for Sale from non-member.

1982 Mint Condition 2dr Buick Rivera Convertible \$ 8,000 Open to offers. 32,931 Miles. This Buick is White with Red Leather Interior. 5.0 L V8 Engine Automatic. In very Good Condition Even Garaged Kept for its entire life. Very straight rust free car. All original, even the tires. If interested please call 828-247-1767 or bennettclassics@bellsouth.net



Do you have a Buick or "car stuff" for sale?

All Dixie Chapter members can advertise "For Sale" cars, parts, and car related "stuff" for up to 6 months, or longer if requested.

In addition, non-members can advertise their cars and parts for up to 3 months, space permitting, if they have items that may be of interest to our members. This is as a courtesy to the sellers, and as a service for our members.

Please send your ads to Tom at least one week before the end of the month to ensure that your ad is included in the next **Dixie Valve Chatter**.

Need AC Delco parts? If you are in the need of genuine AC Delco parts such as batteries (including 6 volt) ignition parts etc., at discount pricing. We have established a "cash account" with Johnson Industries in Atlanta aka "J. I. Parts Express" <https://www.teamji.com/home/prodServ.htm>. Simply phone the call center at (770) 448-3896 and tell them that you are with the Buick Club account #47225, and place your order. You will also need to tell them which of the 8 distribution warehouses you would like to pick it up & pay at. Distribution centers are in Woodstock, Marietta, Norcross, Emery, Snellville, Turner Field, Roswell, & Columbus. A "cash account" does include Visa/MasterCard. If you have any questions call **Bruce Kile** (770) 977-7924.

