



Dixie Valve Chatter

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



Director's Message

Upcoming Events:

Classified Ads

Dixie Chapter History

400 Point Judging Explained: The Chassis

December 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

We do not have a meeting in December due to all the activities scheduled that are outside of the Dixie Chapter. But, we will be holding our annual "Holiday Party" on January 14 at Ippolito's Restaurant in Suwannee starting at 1 PM. This will be a catered meal with a cost of \$15 per person including tip and gratuity. We have a private room on the third floor complete with a cash bar serving up beer and wine. We also ask that you RSVP to Bill McGowen by January 3rd so we can give a headcount to the restaurant. We also will again have our infamous "Gift Exchange" that everyone always enjoys. We ask that men bring a gift for a man and ladies, bring a gift for another lady. Please keep the gift cost between 15.00 and \$20.00. We are also going to have a couple of door prizes to give away. We will give all the details again in the January newsletter and we will also send out a separate reminder email to everyone.

Here is wishing you and yours a Joyous Holiday season and I look forward to seeing everyone next year.

Don

Membership Renewal Time

By Jerry Richstein, Membership Chairman

Membership Renewal Notices will be mailed out this week. Those that have prepaid for 2018 or beyond do not need to pay any additional dues at this time. However, please return the Membership Form so we can verify that we have your correct address, phone number(s), email address, National BCA Number, etc.

Those that do owe dues at this time can pay for up to 3 years at \$20 per year. Past winners of the Meritorious Award pay just \$10 per year, and current Elected Chapter Officers don't pay Chapter dues while in office.

Sonomatic Sounds, an editorial

Hi folks,



In the fall of 1969, I accompanied my father to the Hines Auditorium in Boston for the annual International Auto Show. I still remember standing wide-eyed before a turntable that held a long, sleek two-tone blue jet-age machine called the Buick Century Cruiser. Wow, this Jetson like vehicle was from the same company that made my mom's station wagon! I went on for what seems like weeks talking about that incredible dream car with the really cool lights in back that changed colors as it changed speed, and wondering if this was the kind of car I would drive when I grew up. Fast forward to Christmas morn-ing 1969, where there was a small square box waiting for me under the tree. Ripping off the paper, I discovered that it was a Hasbro Amaze-a-matic Buick Century Cruiser! Santa hit a home run with that gift!, The car was battery operated and would run replicas of famous road courses by inserting the appropriate "computer cards", little strips of cardboard that guided the car's steering and direction. I wore out many sets of batteries watching my very own dream car scoot around the kitchen floor, but amazingly I did not wear out the car it self. It is still with me and is still in operating condition after all these years.

A reminder of a great outing with my dad, and a wonderful Christmas morning where I got to hold a dream in my hands. May you have a truly blessed season with family and friends. See you next year!

Happy Buicking,
Tom



Member News.

No member news this month

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***.

Quotable Quotations

Reflect on your present blessings,
of which every man has many;
not on your past misfortunes of
which all men have some.

Charles Dickens

The Timing Chain

- ◆ No meeting in December
- ◆ January 14, 2018: Dixie Chapter Christmas Party at Ippolitos' in Swanee
- ◆ February 11, 2018: Bowl-a-rama!
- ◆ May 12, 2018: Peach Blossom BOP&C. Hosted by Peach State Cadillac-LaSalle.
- ◆ 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



© Kandy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com
 "There's one Christmas carol that's suitable for my voice. The one where the dogs bark Jingle Bells."

From the "Sunshine Committee

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



December Birthdays

- 12/1 John Sincere
- 12/18 Janet Bass
- 12/18 Maynard Cash
- 12/18 Dave Gareau
- 12/20/52 John-Paul Glenkey
- 12/27/43 Patricia Lisenby
- 12/28 Ron Bergeron

December Anniversaries

- 12/18 Roy & Janet Bass
- 12/20/63 Paul & Penny VanNortwick
- 12/31 Skip & Jane Petsch

Dixie Chapter Holiday Party

There will be no meeting in December, so be sure to make plans to attend the annual Holiday party at Ippolito's in Suwanee. Address: 350 Town Center Suwanee, Georgia 30024. Phone 678-985-4377 or web <http://ippolitos.net>. The cost will be \$15.00 per person including gratuity. Please RSVP to Bill McGowen by January 3rd, mcgowenw@gmail.com or by phone, (404) 583-0709 Remember to bring a gift for the gift exchange, valued at \$15.00 to \$20.00. Men should bring a gift for a man, ladies should bring a gift for a lady. More details on this event will be included in the January **Valve Chatter**.

Car Quiz

In what year did Buick's famous Tri-Shield emblem first appear? What was the significance of the three shields? Answer on page 6.



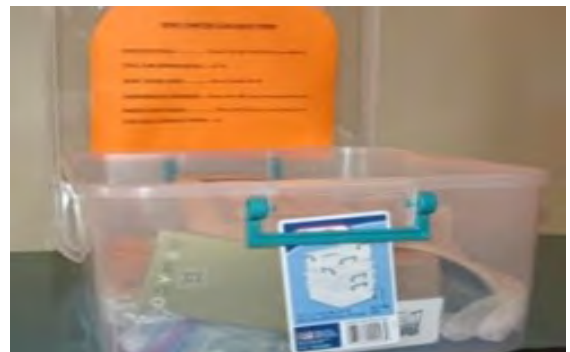
Are you changing your e-mail address?

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!!



Moments in Dixie Chapter History

By Bruce Kile, AKA Ole BCA 3013

With the successful response to the 1982 Peach Blossom B.O.P., and later that year with the discovery of arguably the best hotel location to hold a car show in the Metro Atlanta area, the Marriott Northwest, the Dixie Chapter members began to set their sights on a much larger endeavor: hosting a BCA national meet at that venue. With a treasury of approximately two thousand dollars and a 1982 membership of thirty three, we began the process of submitting our bid to host the 1984 or 1985 national meet.

Competing with two other chapters, the Dixie Chapter was ultimately awarded the 1984 meet. With that award came several firsts. We were the first chapter south of the Mason-Dixon Line to host a national meet and at four years old, we were the youngest chapter in the BCA to have been awarded the national meet. We were also the first and only national meet to have separate classes for trailered and driven cars. With the introduction of the 400 point judging system in 1989, the need for separate classes no longer exists.

Prior to the 1984 meet, two meets had been held in Ohio, one each in Minnesota, Illinois, and Pennsylvania, and seven held in Flint Michigan. No question about it, the 1984 meet not only opened The South to the BCA,, and introduced the South to the BCA, but also paved the way for chapters in other parts of the US to host national meets.

Next month will recall some of the fun outings and treasury enhancers of the early years.

Car Quiz Answer



1960 Buick LeSabre Estate Wagon

The Tri-Shield made its debut in the 1960 model year. It was a stylized version of David Dunbar Buick's family crest. Three shields were used to symbolize the three models of Buick that were available in 1960: The Electra, Invicta, and LeSabre.

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

BCA 400 Point Judging

Inclimate weather on meeting day in November forced the postponement of Bruce Kile's mini judging seminar. It is now scheduled for the March meeting, weather permitting. To pave the way for the seminar, Bruce is providing the four judging guidelines, to be published each month through the March issue. The first of which is the chassis guidelines, which is published below. published below. Thanks again to Bruce for sharing his judging expertise with us.

JUDGING THE CHASSIS

The judge should not crawl under the car when judging the chassis. Inspection of the undercarriage may be accomplished by kneeling at front, rear, and at strategic points along the sides of the car to perform the necessary observations. Flashlights and other aids are not to be used in the BCA judging process.

1. Bumpers / Guards

Check the condition of chrome, authenticity, finish and trim. Bumpers should show painted accents where required. No points should be deducted for year and model factory authorized bumperettes.

1928: First use of chrome plating.

2. Suspension / Steering

Check for correctness of steering gear, style of grease fittings or oil cups installed, excessive amount of lube and cleanliness. Springs and shocks must be authentic and no helper springs may be installed or removed. No points are to be deducted for original factory authorized towing package if available in year of manufacture. Check for proper grease fittings throughout;

1920: First use of Alemite pin-type, bayonet-lock grease fittings.

1923: First use of zerck push-type grease fittings. Late 1933: First use of ball-end grease fittings.

1946: First use of bolts with strength marks on head. Earlier years could have letters or numbers on head.

3. Transmission / Driveline

Check for excess oil and grease, leaks and finish of driveline parts. Check grease fittings for proper type and excess lube.

4. NonAuthentic Transmission / Driveline (Mandatory deduction)

Nonauthentic transmission/overdrive is a mandatory 4 point deduction.

5. Frame

Check for nonauthentic modifications, condition and correct paint color. Although not encouraged, no points will be deducted for appropriate type under coating applied to frame, floorpans and sheetmetal in a workmanlike fashion on cars of the era. Check for poor workmanship hidden by undercoating.

6. Fuel Tank

Correct size, style, appearance of finish, placement and absence of severe dents.

7. Brakes / Cables / Lines

Correct style brakes, drums, power booster and/or cables/rods. No points should be deducted for stainless steel brake lines. Check for proper routing.

1924: First front (4-wheel) brakes.

1936: First hydraulic brakes.

8. Exhaust System

Check for correct size, style of muffler, resonators, exhaust pipes, manifolds, heat risers, catalytic converters, and headers. No points are to be deducted for surface rust and modern high temperature coatings which protect the system. Points should be deducted for condition, nonauthentic cutouts and end tips.

9. Tires - Type

Check tires for correct type (radial/ bias-ply). Radial tires were first offered as an option in 1967 on all models. One point is deducted for each tire which was not a factory authorized option for model and year.

10. Tires - Size

Check tires for correct size and whitewall width for year and model. A non-authentic type tire must also receive a deduction for non-authentic tire size. If neither the standard nor alternate tire size is currently being reproduced, the next closest tire size up or down may be substituted without a deduction. A non-authentic tire size includes an obviously incorrect (more than 1/2-inch variation from factory) whitewall width. One point is deducted for each non-authentically sized tire.

11. Tires - Condition

Check tire tread pattern; tires should match in pairs. Spare tire need not match any pair of tires on car, but if two spares are carried, they must match. 1 or 2 points should be deducted for excessive wear, dirt, or damage. Non-authentic tires (type or size) are not judged for condition.

12. Tire Carrier and Cover

Check for correct hardware, covers and accessories for trunk, sidemount or rear spare tires.

13. Tire Valves / Stems / Caps / Covers

Check for correct type for year of manufacture; valves, caps and stem covers (early years). Points should be deducted for painted stems and weights. Hubcaps and wheelcovers must match and be correct for year and model.

1932: First rubber valve stems.

1951: First plastic valve caps.

14. NonAuthentic Wheels (Mandatory deduction)

Check for correct wheels and / or rims for year and model. On newer cars sport wheels may be on car, but spare may be original steel rim. Incorrect wheels result in a mandatory 10 point deduction.

15. Wheels / Trim

Check condition of wheels. Points should be deducted for cracks in wood wheels, pits in metal, particularly on snap rings and steel spokes, for excessive paint chips and spalls around the rims. Beauty rings, pin striping, etc. should be correct for year and model.

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



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.

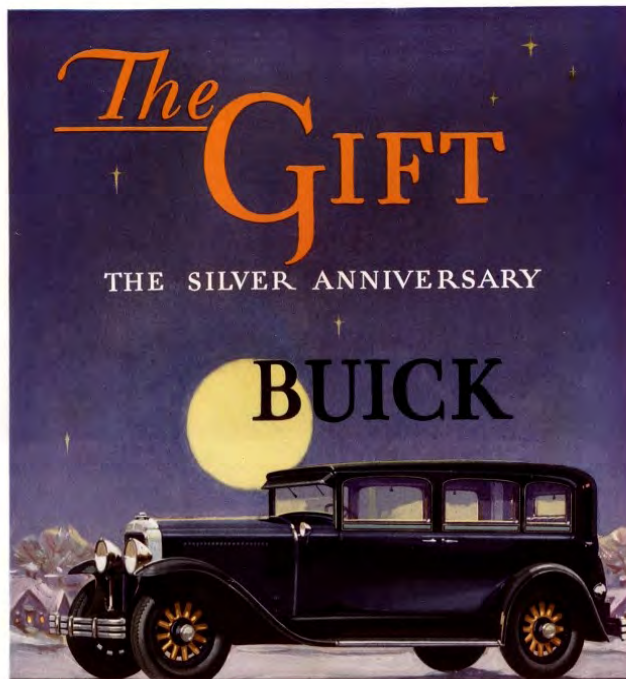
Need AC Delco parts? If you are in the need of genuine AC Delco parts such as batteries (including 6 volt) ignition parts etc., at discount pricing. We have established a "cash account" with Johnson Industries in Atlanta aka "J. I. Parts Express" <https://www.teamji.com/home/prodServ.htm>. Simply phone 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.



DECEMBER, 1928

COUNTRY LIFE

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THE GIFT SUPREME—the gift that combines thrilling happiness, practical convenience and healthful recreation—the gift that makes Christmas last for thousands of miles—is this finest and most fashionable of motor cars, the new Buick with Masterpiece Body by Fisher. Make your family genuinely happy on Christmas day. Give them a Buick!

WHEN BETTER AUTOMOBILES ARE BUILT . . . BUICK WILL BUILD THEM