

Dixie Valve Chatter

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



November Meeting Pictures !

Upcoming Events !

Deals on Wheels!

December 2024

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



Happy Holidays to the Dixie BCA Members,

I hope you had a great Thanksgiving. With the cold weather upon us, it is time we tuck our beautiful Buicks to bed. There are probably as many winterizing procedures as members in our club. Besides the usual topping off the fluids, airing the tires, cleaning battery terminals, this is the time to tackle those nagging concerns like rebuilding carburetors, brake jobs, upholstery, etc. Yup, I have three winter jobs.

I keep Stabil in my gas year round which keeps the alcohol from separating out. Keep the gas tank full. Yes, we have that debate between ethanol vs non ethanol gas. I will always remember a lively discussion between two Buick owners, a corn farmer John Westfall, and the famous Buick engine engineer Denny Manner!

If you keep a battery maintainer on your sleeping Buick, then when we get warm weather, fire up the Buick for a cruise to the Dairy Queen.

If you have winterizing tips to add, send them to Tom Lynde to post in the Valve Chatter newsletter.

Don't forget the Dixie BCA Holiday Party at Ippolito's in Suwannee January 12th. More details in this newsletter.

Have a Merry Christ Child Birthday,
J D

Quotable Quotations



Grit in the Gearbox



Sonomatic Sounds

Tom Lynde, DVC Editor



Hey Everyone,

Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah! The merriest time of the year is upon us and I pray for all of you a happy and blessed holiday season. There will be no chapter meeting this month, but the After the Holidays Party will be here before you know it. Details are in this issue. By the looks of things, the first quarter of 2025 is going to be a busy one for the Dixie Chapter, be sure to consult with the Timing Chain page and mark your calendars so that you do not miss anything. Talks are on-going concerning the BOPC and hopefully we will have something definitive to announce soon.

In the meantime, enjoy the holidays with family and friends and take time for the things you enjoy. Maybe get a jump on the fix-up, clean-up, and detail projects on your Buick to get ready for a busy Spring, show season, tours and BCA Nationals. They will all be here before you know it.

In the meantime:

Happy Buicking!

Tom

BCA 46614

Membership Renewal Time

By Jerry Richstein, Membership Chairman

Membership Renewal Notices will be mailed out this week. Those that have prepaid for 2025 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.



MEMBER NEWS



New Buick Facebook Page. Please note corrected page name.

If you are on **Facebook**, be sure to check out and join a new Buick group created by Lamar Brown. It is called **Buick Motor Cars** and highlights Buick cars from 1904 to 1960. There are a lot of good people already on board and great photos and stories about our favorite cars!

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/MrXcMdif8ALCbDLR/?mibextid=adz07l>

And while you are enjoying the December *Bugle*, read the latest article from “Mr. Earl”: *Merry Christmas from Buick Motor Cars Garage.*

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 ensure inclusion in the next ***Dixie Valve Chatter***.



Get your free Dixie Chapter name tag! It is what the best dressed DC/BCA members are wearing this year. Available with either magnetic or pin back, these stylish tags boast the attractive Dixie Chapter logo and your name and BCA number. To get yours you need to contact Shar Kile at 770-977-7924 or sbkile58@aol.com . There is no charge for your first name tag, if you receive it at a chapter meeting or



A car restorers starter kit

AFTER THE HOLIDAYS PARTY!

The annual Dixie Chapter After The Holidays Party will be held 1:00 PM, Sunday January 12, 2025 at Ippolito's, 350 Town Center Avenue in Suwanee. Please come and enjoy a great meal and fun, post-holiday cheer! We will be ordering from the menu, and this year the event will be Dutch treat, with each attendee paying for his or her meal and drinks. As is the custom, there will be a rousing gift exchange after lunch. Men are encouraged to bring a men's gift and ladies are asked to bring a ladies gift, about \$20.00 each. No gag gifts, please. The restaurant is saving the downstairs dining room for us and there is plenty of parking out back, so do drive your Buick. Please RSVP to J.D. Westfall, 913-638-7849 pharmboyjd@gmail.com. See you there!!



Thanks to Mike and Cindy Collins for all of their hospitality and opening their remarkable collections to us in November for our monthly chapter meeting. Lots of important business was discussed and a good time was had by all. There will be no meeting in December, but plan to come to the After the Holidays Party in January!



November Chapter Meeting



DCBCA Member Jack Moody won the drawing for a copy of *Seventy Years of Buick*.





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 Email: sbkile58@aol.com.



Editor's note. As winter approaches, many will be putting their collector cars to bed for the season. It is important that the car going into hibernation be properly maintained. This is an article from Buick authority Denny Manner concerning good maintenance practices for collector cars, for any season. Submitted by Bruce Kile.

TECHNICAL TIPS by DENNY MANNER

The following recommendations are based on my experience designing and developing engines for Buick/GM during the 60's, 70's, 80's, into the mid 90's and having Buick collector cars for almost 30 years.

CHANGE OIL ANNUALLY assuming you drive your car and if you store the car change the oil prior to storage so you remove the dirty oil. If you choose to use synthetic oil – remember that synthetic oil gets dirty too and the additives deplete – so change it. Use factory recommended (read your owners manual) oil viscosity assuming you have a stock engine and or rebuilt to service specifications. The engines were designed, developed and durability tested with these oils and should be fine for collector car usage.

USE GM ENGINE OIL SUPPLEMENT (E.O.S.) GM part no. 1052367 in pre 1986 Buick engines. Flat lifters (pre 1986) and aluminum rocker arms (pre 1973) in our Buick collector car engines operate with very thin oil films and require zinc additive in the oil for wear protection. Unfortunately today's oil designed for modern engines with roller lifters and roller rocker arms have lower quantities of anti-wear zinc additive. I recommend using a pint of E.O.S. (basically a zinc additive) with each oil change but don't overfill the crankcase. E.O.S. is also an excellent prelube to use during engine assembly of camshaft, lifters and rocker arm assemblies. Some of today's oils have adequate levels of zinc, generally racing oils and oil certified for both diesel and gasoline engines – I choose to include a pint of E.O.S. with each oil change and be assured of wear protection.

USE ADEQUATE OCTANE FUEL TO AVOID DETONATION. 1971 and later engines were all designed for lower octane unleaded fuel and will operate fine on today's unleaded fuel. Pre 1971 engines were designed for 94 – 98 octane leaded fuel. Unleaded fuel has many benefits to engines: Reduces hard carbon deposits in the combustions chambers, eliminates gray residue in the oil pan, longer oil life, significantly longer spark plug life and eliminates deposit build up on the valve seats causing burnt valves. The only concern with using today's unleaded fuels in our pre 1971 engines is adequate octane to avoid spark knock or preignition which can damage pistons and head gaskets in high compression engines of the late 50's, 60's and 1970 models. Spark knock usually occurs under heavy or full throttle power. Many of these engines will operate satisfactorily on 94 or lower available octane. Evaluate different brands for best results. If persistent spark knock still exists try retarding the spark timing 4 – 6 degrees. Make sure your distributor mechanical and vacuum advance mechanisms are working properly. If necessary and when available I add a few gallons of 110 octane racing fuel to each tank. As a last resort I would use an octane booster. If you are going to race the car use high octane racing fuel. I have also heard that colder heat range spark plugs have helped reduce spark knock.

VALVE SEAT INSERTS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR COLLECTOR CAR USAGE in our pre 1971 engines with use of unleaded fuel. Yes – 1971 and later engines use exhaust valve seat inserts or induction hardened seats to prevent valve recession when the engines are operated at high rpm and very heavy loads for long periods of time. Under these extreme conditions such as sustained high speeds, or extended low gear operation (high rpm) trailer towing up mountains, high exhaust valve temperatures combined with valve spring dynamics can cause the exhaust valve to micro weld to the softer cast iron and gradually erode the valve seating surface away. We simply do not operate our collector cars this way. Please don't cut up good Buick heads for inserts unnecessarily. An easy way to check for exhaust valve seat recession is to remove the rocker arm assemblies and lay a straight edge across the valve tips. Inlet valves do not recede into the seats. If the exhaust seats are recessed (the lifter travel will usually accommodate up to about .060 inch) now is the time to install an insert and renew the valve seat.

USE LOW SILICATE (green) COOLANT OR pink DEX-COOL. DEX-COOL (pink) coolant GM PART NO. 12346290 is used in GM vehicles since 1996. It is longer life, safer for the environment and enhances water pump life. Many of us have used DEX-COOL in our pre-1996 collector cars for many years with satisfactory results. However DEX-COOL is not claimed to provide longer life when used in a vehicle that has previously operated with green coolant. Apparently there is a residue left on the water jacket surfaces from green coolant even after flushing that negates the longer life ability of DEX-COOL. For those that

still use green coolant I recommend you use Low silicate coolant which also reduces water pump seal leakage that can result in water pump bearing failures. Low silicate green coolant is recommended and available for diesel engines and I've seen it also marketed under PERMAZONE brand name by MOBIL-EXON. Continue to use DEX-COOL in 1996 and newer engines. Remember that pink and green coolants are not compatible so very thoroughly flush your system when switching coolants. I also use distilled water rather than tap water mixed with the coolant.

ALWAYS ADD 2-3 PELLETS TO YOUR COOLING SYSTEM when changing coolant or at reassembly. They are excellent to stop small seepage leaks, do not harm the heater core or radiator and enhance water pump seal life. You can use up to 5 in your cooling system. GM 5 PKT. PART NO. 12378254

I USE DELCO MAINTENANCE FREE BATTERIES. We drive, tour and show our cars so reliability is very important. During storage I don't disconnect or remove the batteries but trickle charge them once a month. They require no maintenance and usually last us about 10 years. Delco batteries of the original size qualify for judging without demerits in the BCA 400 point system. You don't lose points for not having the "original" battery top configuration.

PREPARATION FOR SEASONAL STORAGE. I change oil, grease and service the collector car and then drive the car for 10-20 miles at freeway speeds to thoroughly heat the engine, transmission, axle and "dry out" the exhaust system and park it hot. Good friend Joe Taubitz recommends spraying chassis, underbody, corroded areas and electrical connections liberally with WD-40. I don't start the engine during storage. You can raise the coolant temperature by running the engine but the oil stays cold and water and contaminants from combustion leaks down contaminating the oil and puts corrosive water in the exhaust system. If you start the engine, take it out on the highway and thoroughly warm it up.

I'VE CURED POSITRACTION REAR AXLE CHATTER WITH SYNTHETIC LUBE. Our 66 Riviera developed heavy snapping, chatter of the positraction rear axle after long hot highway runs when exiting on freeway off ramps. We carefully removed all of the old lube and replaced with synthetic and eliminated the chatter.

This has worked for us for many years - hope it helps you.

The annual **Bowl-a-rama** is coming March 9th! Make plans to attend this fun club outing. The time and details will be announced soon!



Original Keepsake Buick Holiday Ornaments
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CHAPTERS:
 Write for discount case pricing.

Pre-Production Image - Not-to-Size
 A Buick Driving Enthusiasts Division Project

You can buy these beautiful ornaments from the club store at the monthly chapter meetings.

AUTOMOTIVE TRIVIA

In December 1963, which storied automaker (not Buick) ceased production in South Bend, Indiana and moved all production to Canada, where it soldiered on for a few more years before ceasing production altogether?



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

The Parts Authority Auto Parts Stores offer members of the Buick Club/Dixie Chapter a discount on all auto parts, not just A.C Delco items. There are 9 "full service" stores in metro Atlanta and 1 in Columbus and nationally in 22 states. Check the website <http://www.partsauthority.com> for the store nearest you. To take advantage of great savings simply phone the call center (770) 448-3896, and tell them you are a member of the Buick Club, account #47225 . They will give you availability and price of the item you need and if the store of your choice has it in stock. Otherwise it will be sent immediately to that location. If you have any questions call Bruce Kile (770) 977-7924

Car of the Month



Drive your Buick to chapter events and it may be Car of the Month!

On the Collector's Shelf (Or Tree?)

To the delight of Buick and muscle car fans, Hallmark commemorated the 40th anniversary of the 1984 Buick Grand National by issuing this beautiful Keepsake Ornament! Stage one up on your Christmas Tree this year!



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.

Mile Markers

Celebrating Life's Events



ANNIVERSARIES

- 12/06 Jack & Norma Moody
- 12/18 Roy & Janet Bass
- 12/20/63 Paul & Penny VanNortwick



BIRTHDAYS

- 12/10 Jack Moody
- 12/18 Janet Bass
- 12/18 Dave Gareau
- 12/23 Carol Cartus
- 12/24 Alan Ziglin
- 12/27/43 Patricia Lisenby
- 12/28 Ron Bergeron
- 12/28 Chuck Dalton

Come join us on Facebook!

Do you need replacement wheels or hubcaps?

Bianca at Hubcaps.com and OriginalWheels.com offers car club members a discount on the factory hubcaps and wheels that they show on their websites. They currently have over one million hubcaps and rims in inventory so they may have what you need. You would need to call them at 800-826-5880 for the discount as they do not have the ability to discount online orders. Just tell them that you are from the Dixie Chapter of the Buick Club.



The Timing Chain

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 12, 2025

After the Holidays Party, 1:00 PM at Ippolito's 350 Town Center Ave in Suwanee. Fun, fellowship, gift exchange and order from the menu, Dutch treat.

Make plans to attend!

February 16, 2025

Chapter meeting via Zoom

March 9, 2025

The Dixie Chapter annual Bowl-arama. Time and details to be announced.

BCA and Chapter Events

DECEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

www.free-printable-calendar.com

April 13, 2025

Chapter meeting and outing. Details forthcoming!

May 4-9, 2025

Natchez, Mississippi: BDE National Tour: *Buicks Among the Magnolias*. For registration information contact Bruce and Shar Kile 678-642-6672. sbkile58@aol.com.

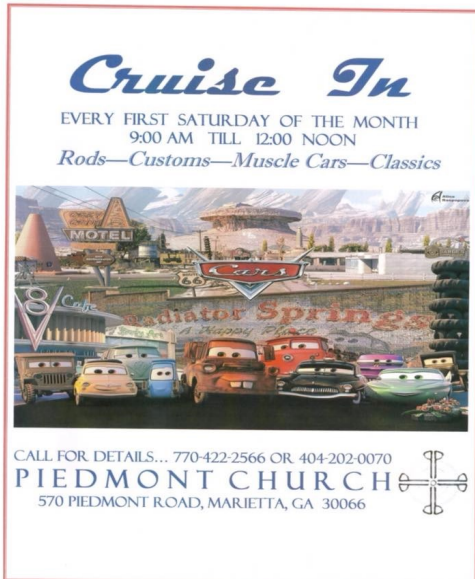
July 23-26, 2025

Buick Club of America Annual Meet. Concord, North Carolina.

Non-Chapter Events

August 19-22, 2026

Buick Club of America Annual Meet. Albany, New York



Please send notices of upcoming events to DVC editor Tom Lynde at lynde2375@charter.net

Automotive Trivia Answer

December 9, 1963 The last American made Studebaker rolled off the assembly line in South Bend, Indiana. All auto production was shifted to Canada, where Studebakers continued to be built into the 1967 model year.



B

Do you know some interesting trivia? Share it with *The Valve Chatter* !

Join the conversations! Participate in the forums on the Buick Club of America website. www.buickclub.org

Don't miss out! Make your hotel reservations and register for the Buick Club of America Nationals in Concord, North Carolina NOW!

July 23—26, 2025

[BCA Meet - Registration \(cornerstonereg.com\)](http://cornerstonereg.com) **On Line Registration**

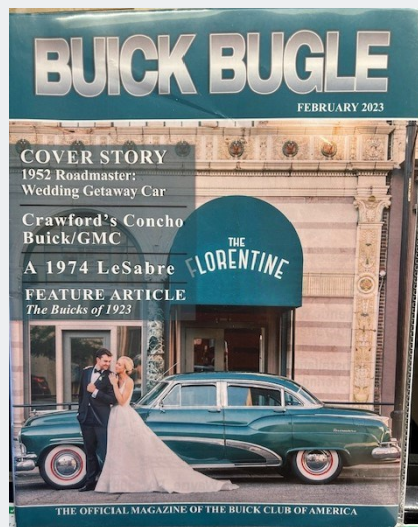
2025MEET.BUICKCLUB.ORG



Deals on Wheels



1952 Roadmaster 72R, Bugle Cover Car Feb 2023, Recent Rebuilt Dynaflo, new (correct) battery, new ignition parts, re-cored radiator, new belts/hoses, upgraded to front disc brakes, new (Diamond Back) tires. And much more. Asking \$13,000, Bill Cartus BCA #52152, (770) 624-3767 or bcartus@yahoo.com



FOR FREE to any Dixie Chapter member. 1 good (used) AC Delco Alternator. Fits all 2002-04 Buick Regal & Century, 2002-05 Chev Impala, Lumina & Monte Carlo & (quite likely) several other GMs. Also have super charger & A/C-water pump belt tensioners with under 2K miles on them, great for spare, also free to a Chapter member. Call Bruce (678) 662-6072 sbkile58@aol.com

Car for Sale: 1975 Lesabre Convertible. 5.7/350. Great runner. Rebuilt motor and transmission. Newer top, dual exhaust added. Very clean underside. New tires. Shows 15K miles. Insured 26K. \$19,500. Elise, BCA 8516. 706-216-4389. Photos: sincere-johnf@gmail.com.

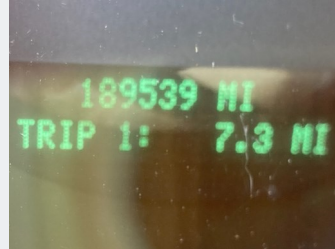




Deals on Wheels



Car for Sale: 2004 Buick Lesabre Custom. A/C needs repair. Great fixer-upper, runs good. Very presentable. \$2250. Jeff. 404-538-7623



Buick Parts For Sale: 1965-72 Skylark, factory chrome 14X6. Also used with later models. \$20.each with tri-shield center caps, \$15 each w/o center cap. Wheel weight is 20#. Eight available. Delivery possible in Georgia.

Lee Hurdelbrink, 545 Timber Valley Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30342. Call or text:404-702-3350. atlantablh@aol.com



Do you have a Buick or "Car Stuff" for sale?

All Dixie Chapter members can advertise for sale cars and car related stuff for up to six months, longer if requested. In addition, non members can advertise cars and parts for up to three months, space permitting. This is a courtesy to the sellers and a service to our members.

BOOK YOUR ROOM NOW FOR THE 2025 BCA NATIONALS IN CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA !!

This information was sent to us from the Tarheel Chapter BCA, the host chapter for the 2025 National meet.

The Embassy Suites Concord is open for booking for our 2025 Buick National Meet July 23rd-26th.

You can book using the link below or by calling 704 455 8200 and using "The Buick Club of America" room block.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/thebuickclubofamerica2025/>

If not booking for the whole week, you can use the "Edit Stay" feature to change the dates to the desired dates.

One last thing I will add is that we do not have the entire hotel available to us for this meet, so if you want to be at the host hotel instead of one of the many near-by hotels, please book your room ASAP.

Nationals 2025 Hospitality Room

The Dixie Chapter BCA has been tapped to host the BCA National Meet Hospitality Room at the Host Hotel, the Embassy Inn and Suites in Concord, North Carolina. Our chapter will be monetarily compensated for our service in the room and all of the money from the BCA will go to us unless members from other chapters are required to help fill the shifts. In that case the money will be split with other participating chapters. This is a great opportunity of the DCBCA to earn some money and have a great time with other National's attendees.

If you are planning on attending the meet, please contact Bruce and Shar Kile (**sbkile58@aol.com**) or **(770)977-7924** to volunteer or for more information.

