



Orange County Chapter Buick Club of America **The Buick Running Board**

June 2023

Director's Message

Things are heating up with car shows and other fun events this past month with lots of scheduled activities to follow.

Neil and Amber hosted a wonderful tour of their restoration shop followed by a pizza lunch for all members, picture from Irene are below. Thanks Neil and Amber.

I attended the "All GM" car show in Woodland Hills where Fred and Bruce had a section to sell parts and met several members of the Cadillac/ LaSalle club of SoCal along with the Director of LA County Buick Chapter. We are all trying to share what works and what needs updating for success of all local chapters. Jay Leno even attended this event.

I then attended a local Costco car show in Laguna Niguel where Dave, Lois and their granddaughter drove their 37 Buick.

Cheers
Robert Winters



Secretary Irene Martinez (410) 299-4134
Onefigirl46.im@gmail.com

Newsletter Cathy Simmons
Cathy.Simmons1767@gmail.com

Don't forget about the 50th Buick Club of America Nationals, July 12-15, 2023, hosted by the Inland Northwest BCA, Spokane, Washington. Several members will be driving up to attend. Have a great month of June.

We will be having our annual picnic on Saturday, June 10th at 10:00 am at Irvine Park, 1 Irvine Park Road, Orange, CA 92869.

Please invite your family and friends. Irvine Park has all kinds of activities, boat rides, train ride, bikes and zoo. Social hour beginning at 10 am and lunch at noon. When you enter the park keep to the right for about one quarter mile, you will see our club banner. There is plenty of parking provided for our Buicks and other parking nearby. If you have any trouble finding the picnic spot contact any of us Buick officers listed below. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, sodas and water. Please bring an appetizer to snack on before lunch, or a side dish or some sweet goodies for dessert.

Also BYOB Bring your old Buick.

Please RSVP Irene Martinez at 410-299-4134
Robert Winters - 714-397-2809
Sheridan (Sonny) Bishop III - 714-305-6474
Alan Clark - 310-486-7618

Thank you, Irene Martinez, Secretary Greetings Buick Club!

I was asked to tell my story, and happy to add to your reading and wrenching pleasure. I grew up in a car family, and helped my Dad as he worked on the family cars and a 41 Willys coupe he was building to drag race. There were hours together with him in the garage and under a car, swap meets, drag races and a lot of fun. I took to it all like a fish to water.

In high school I developed a fascination with anything mid-1950s from

Lee Wangerin 13th

Kerry Goral 16th

Scott Anderson 16th

MSGR. Doug Cook 26th

Judy Kincade 26th

Neil Thompson 29th



Want something in next month's
"The Buick Running Board" e-mail to
Cathy.Simmons1767@gmail.com.

GM, and would beg my mom to let me buy the latest old thing that I found for sale on the streets. She always said NO, until a Sunday drive on Easter afternoon in 1985 when I spotted a 54 Buick Special, the cheapest 2-dr sedan model, for sale in the neighborhood. It was a sweet little car, well preserved, and Mom relented. I knew nothing about Buicks specifically, but it fit the bill, and I have been stuck on them ever since the day I pulled into the seniors-only parking lot at Mater Dei High with the oldest - and thereby the coolest - car on campus.

Though I had little chance to do much with the Buick Club and shows in my college and grad school years, once that was behind me I got more involved, and am currently painting and re-assembling a 54 Super hardtop with the factory-correct AC, a rare and expensive option. I cobbled the system together from several parts cars as far afield as Arizona, Texas, Georgia and New York, and added it onto my car long after it left the factory with no such option. And sure enough, I could get it to work!

Another project, patiently waiting its turn, is a 1924 4-cylinder Buick roadster that I found on eBay but located just in Santa Ana. I have been able to gather a good bit of extra parts for the car, so I am hoping to turn it into two cars. First will be an all-Buick hotrod with a 1926 frame, the roadster body and a 425 Nailhead. The stock chassis and drivetrain will then become a bodyless run-about - if time and room allow someday. The Buick Club has occasioned great trips and events - regular meetups, projects to pitch in on, local and national reunions - and great friends of many years who've helped me along the way with parts, advice and encouragement. I'd like to thank Lamar Brown, Larry Minery, Fred Rawling, Steve Rostam, Paul Reiker, Willie "Old Tank" Pittman, and especially my friend Neil Matranga - who by the way hosted our last lunch meeting. It was dumb luck that got me to Buicks, but Dad often said that you meet the best people in the car hobby, and I have found it to be unfailingly true.

Happy wrenching to all, and thanks for the chance to speak with you here!

Msgr. Doug Cook,
BCA 17992

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Our Buick Tour to Neil and Amber's house and restoration shop was a great success. We had 19 people including the Matranga family. The blue car is Msgr. Doug's car which is coming along great and the others are his clients. Included

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are pictures of his garage with other cars. Their large patio where we had our meeting and lunch. Thank you to Neil and Amber for all their hospitality and everyone for the delicious donuts and pizza. We had a great time.

~Irene

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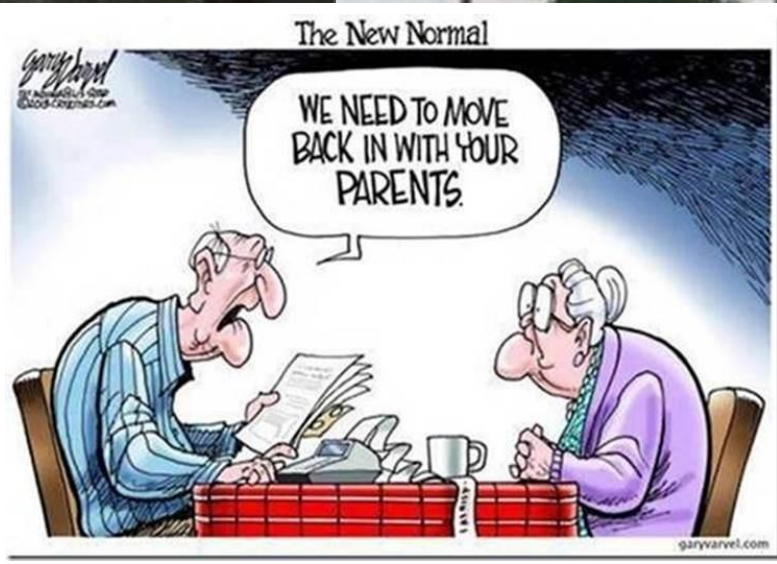
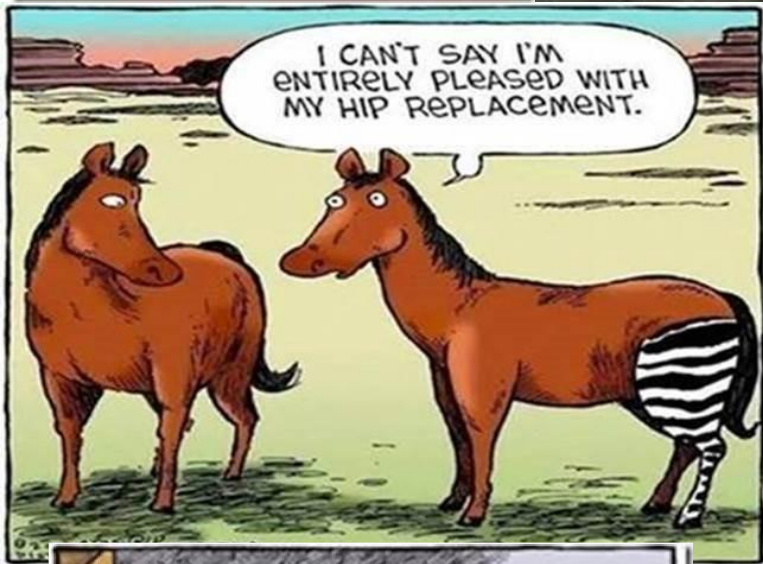


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~ Humor ~



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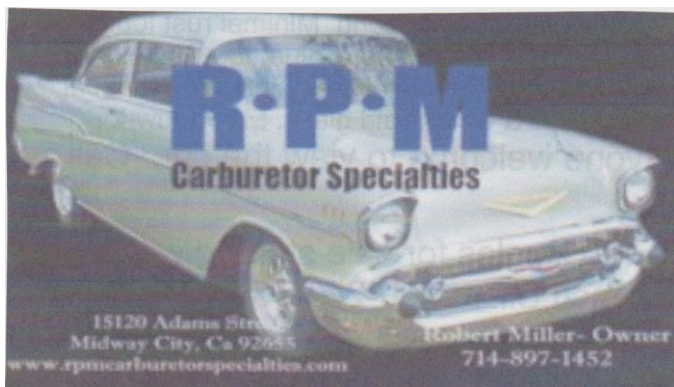
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