



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

March, 2025

Happy St Patrick's Day!!

Director's Message:

We had a wonderful turnout at our February meeting which included a handful of new members! It was extremely refreshing to see that so many of you brought out your Buicks as well. The time spent before and after the meeting discussing our cars defines what a car club is all about and it was enjoyable to see so many restaurant patrons soaking in the fun as well. Thanks to Sam for showing up early to help me secure parking spaces to get as many of our cars together as possible. We will do the same thing for our next meeting and I have requested the front room as an alternative space which should result in a quieter environment. I am grateful for the wonderful support I have received as I get up to speed on running the club and I welcome any comments/suggestions for improvements.

Thank you,

Jeff



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

Our March Meeting will be on Saturday, March 15 at 11:00 am at Polly's Pies Restaurant & Bakery, 2660 N. Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705.

You're Invited our 13th Annual OCC/BCA Reunion

*When: Wednesday
April 16, 2025*

Time: 11:00 a.m. -

*Place: Mr. D's Diner, Bakery & Bar
126 Yorba Linda Blvd.
Placentia, CA 92870*

Hope you can make it and bring your car. 🚗



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

Our February meeting was at Polly's Pies in Santa Ana, 17 attending and 8 cars, we had a great turnout.





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





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



*Thanks to Alan Clark for taking these pics @ the So Cal Chapter
POCI car show - Fullerton Airport- Saturday, February 1, 2025*





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



Patricia and I wanted to share a wonderful adventure we had on our Cruise holiday to Australia and rental car drive from Sidney to Melbourne where we planned a day to meet Vlad and Maria, their 2 teenagers and their 1933 BUICK which Vlad allowed me to drive

(on the left side of the road 😊)

**The story of Australian
1933 Buick Series 50**



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



Story written by *Vlad Vereshchagin*

Interestingly, having been paying a reasonable amount of attention in the primary school history classes, there wasn't much I factually didn't know about the so called "interwar" period. We had the Titanic of course, electric lights and popularization of radio, the miracle of the Ford's Tin Lizzie, the 19th amendment and the unprecedented Great Depression, and then the countless other significant events that happened during the period and shaped the core foundations of the century in almost every aspect of our lives.

However, as I was going down the rabbit whole of my pre-war history exploration, I realized that I completely missed the emotional part of this period, which until that moment remained completely monochromatic for me. Yet, the more I was reading about it - the more it was starting to present itself in a new pallet of colours, the colours I didn't fully appreciate until the day.

One thing I didn't appreciate at all was how advanced the American automotive industry became during this interwar period, in fact reaching its peak by 1930.

This, naturally, was a reflection of a spectacular engineering development and the technological and manufacturing progress, made during this very short period of time. During this period, cars of every new model year appeared to be remarkably different and substantially advanced from the past year, that would be destined to become obsolete at an instant, as soon as the new year clocked in. The competitive forces, raging more fiercely than ever during the 1920th and 1930th, ruthlessly kept pushing the technical innovation, demanding it to conquer new commercial and engineering heights every single day.

These discoveries made me look at this fairly modest Series 50 Buick through a completely different lens. Now I was seeing not just a veteran vehicle, but a pinnacle of automotive engineering design of



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

its era, wrapped in the best of elegance and style that could possibly be offered to an astute American consumer of 1933.

I also started looking at this car as a statement of Buick's resilience and perseverance, holding strongly against the terrible impacts of the Great Depression, that severely challenged Buick's and even the entire GM's existence.



With this little history excursion, I was completely sold and ended up bidding decisively on this car. Interestingly I bought it for more than double the initial estimated guide. Clearly, I happened to be not the only one who appreciated this car's significance.

Adding to the above, this particular car was also interesting, because notability being a RHD vehicle, it was the one that solidified the establishment of the local Holden company - an important outpost of GM in the Australasia back in the day.

This vehicle was a Holden bodied car built on one of 150 imported Buick chassis, albeit the body was essentially a licensed copy of the Fisher unit with minor modifications.

Unfortunately, I don't have the full history of the car's ownership. The engine and frame numbers point towards the very end of the 1933 production year run, but I'm yet to find out who was the first owner of the car and the circumstances around the initial purchase, which must have been pretty significant! I'm very hopeful I will be able to get to the bottom of this mystery one day.

What I know, though, is that after a run of about 30 years, the car was parked in a remote section of a huge cattle farm in the western part of the New South Wales of Australia and left there. It was then re-discovered about 20 years later in 1985 by a new farm owner, who figured it might have some value, therefore deciding to pick up all bits they could find and sell it.

The body didn't have a lot of rust, thanks to a very hot and dry climate up there, however all wooden frame items were eaten away by white ants. It took 6 years to the brave person that purchased it to restore it from the ground up, including re-making of all new woodwork. After the restoration, the new owner kept the car until 2010, when it changed hands once more, before I was lucky to acquire it in 2023.



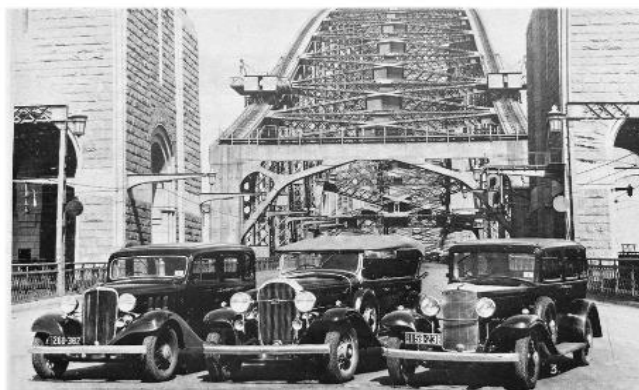
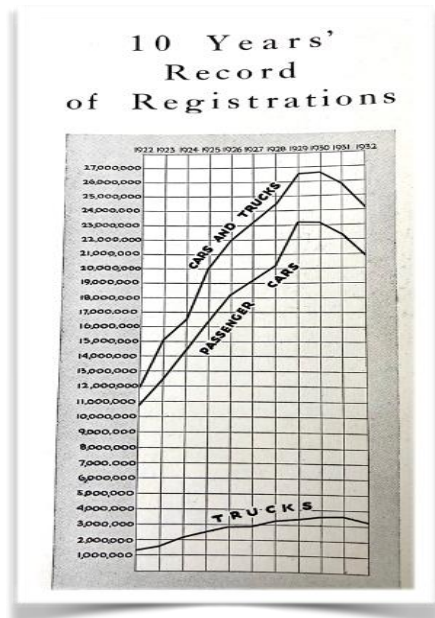
Orange County Chapter Buick Club of America **The Buick Running Board**

The car owner I have purchased it from, stopped driving it about 10 years prior. It was yet again left to stand still and hardly ever moved, although at least it wasn't exposed to the elements anymore. When I bought it, it still presented in good cosmetic condition however mechanically it required a significant re-commission.

To do that, I have replaced all ignition items and re-tuned it; replaced the manifold gasket and resurface the manifold that wasn't true, leaning and leaking badly; replaced one of the damaged rear drive shafts and tidied up the rear diff and the torque tube; reconditioned all four mechanical brakes; replaced all wheel bearings and the steering linkages; re-turned the carby and fixed the faulty gauges - and the car started running really well, probably better than ever!

Driving this car is an absolutely unique experience. It is hard to compare it to anything else. I also have couple of other classics from the 50th and 60th, but none of them gives such a unique and mesmerizing time-travel illusion, as this car. Thinking now that it is not too far off it's 100th birthday, is giving me goosebumps and is truly mind boggling.

From being just an entry level middle - class family sedan in 1933, by 2025 it has evolved into an engineering statement, a piece of art and an important historic artefact with a remarkable legacy behind it. Definitely more than just a car.



On the Sydney Harbor Bridge in 1933, Left a 1933 Chevrolet Sedan, 1932 Buick Phaeton and right 33 Vauxhall 26.3 hp model. Only 131 of these Buick Phaetons were built in USA and 15 for export. This one is uncertain whether Fisher or Holden bodied.



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



102
(bhr) BUICK 1933 Series 50. Straight 8, model 57, only 150 built for export. 6 wire wheels, complete body, an old lady who needs love! Ph. (02) 455 1586 \$2,500

I never had a particular interest in the pre-war period cars. It might have something to do with the fact that being born in the former Soviet Union, for me growing up as a kid the “modern history” really started only after the World War II, when cars became a bit more accessible and actually seen on roads by the general public.

The pre-war cars for me always had a strong association with black and white silent movies, gramophones and imperialistic cartoons featuring long Bugatti sedans and the grim looking uncle Sam hovering in the background.

This was until I came across this Buick 1933 at a local auction by an Australian Insurance company specializing in classic and vintage cars.

There was just something unusual about the posture of this Buick, which somehow appeared to be representative of the pre-war motoring elegance to me. It was distinctively unique and irresistibly attractive, as it also had a bit of that old-school “gangster” look. This was enough to spark my interest, and I started reading more about the history of Buick, GM, the entire pre-war period and its cars.



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



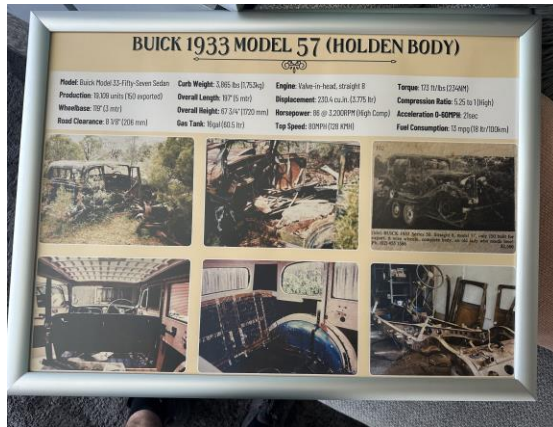


Orange County Chapter Buick Club of America **The Buick Running Board**





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



Pictures of classic antiques in New Zealand

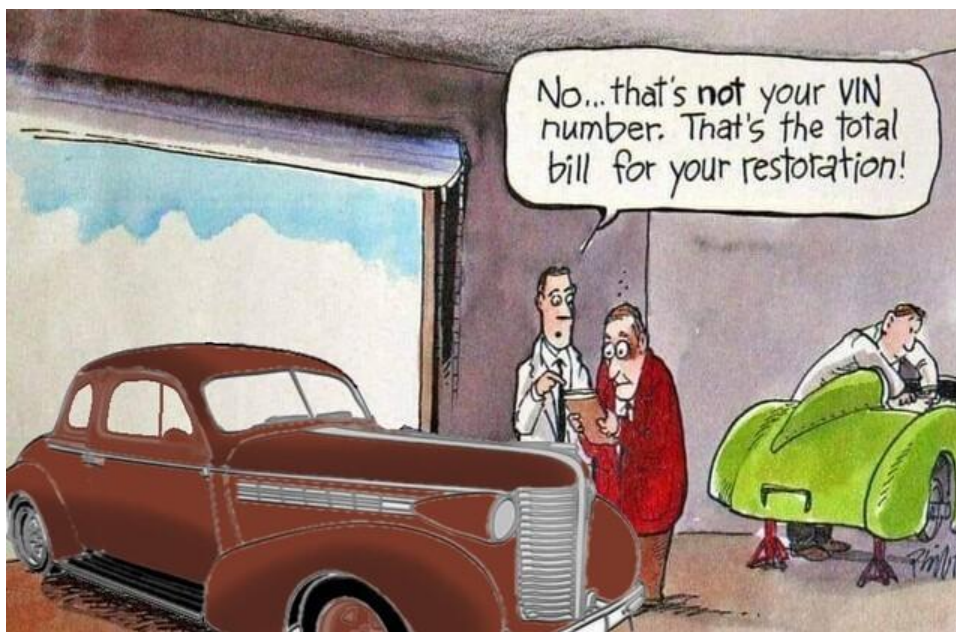




Orange County Chapter Buick Club of America **The Buick Running Board**



Joke Corner:





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



February **Patricia Winters** 2-1

Robert Figuero 2-2

Fred Rawlings. 2-4

Jeff Shugarman. 2-19

March **Michele Minery** 3-24



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

Orange County Chapter 2023 Officers

Director: Bruce Borneman (310) 467-2333

bruce@bornemannla.com

Assistant Director: Robert Figueroa

bomberorobt@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Alan Clark (310) 459-1289

awc13@earthlink.net

Secretary: Irene Martinez (410) 299-4134

Onefifigirl46.im@gmail.com

Newsletter: Robert Winters (714) 397-2809

natdash1@yahoo.com

Membership: Larry Minery (714) 639-1137

wildcatminery@socal.rr.com

Historian: MSGR. Doug Cook (714) 488-1664

msgr.dcook@rcbo.org

Please stay current with yearly membership dues...

Dues due January 2025, but can be paid any month prior !

Its greatly appreciated and helps club sponsor events and activities.



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

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER, BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Membership Registration – Required Information

Name: _____ New or Renewal (circle one)

Address: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Email: _____

National BCA Membership Number: _____

For insurance purposes, all members of the Orange County Chapter must be members of the national organization, the Buick Club of America. Chapter members are entitled to participate in all chapter activities and vote on all initiatives. Annual dues of \$20 include newsletter email communication. Please make checks payable to Orange County Chapter, BCA.

Optional Information

Spouse Name: _____

Birthdate(s) for you and spouse: _____

Ownership of a Buick or Opel is not required. If you own car(s), please list below:

Year _____ Model # _____ Model Name _____ Body Type _____

Year _____ Model # _____ Model Name _____ Body Type _____

Year _____ Model # _____ Model Name _____ Body Type _____

Year _____ Model # _____ Model Name _____ Body Type _____

Signature

Date

Please return this form with payment to:

Alan Clark, Treasurer
OCCBCA
PO Box 11238
Newport Beach, CA 92658