



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

September 2023

Director's Message

By: Robert Winters

Hello OCCBCA members, we had another active month with a nice Buick event, Luncheon, Classic Car show and progress on the Winters family 34 Buick series 68C.

Several members were able to go to our Buick event hosted by Don and Ann Long for a tour of their lovely property with several amazing cars, Western Theme buildings with a Saloon, Barber Shop, Blacksmith. Hoosegow and rumor has it an upstairs' brothel being guarded by an active bee's nest.



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They have a gift shop that looks similar to the set of the Waltons (no John Boy sighting) and an old fashioned restaurant where Ann served the guests dishes of ice cream. It was a wonderful tour that we are planning with Don and Ann for members that were unable to attend!

Thanks to Don and Ann for hosting and to Dennis Griffin for arranging the event along with a great group of Ford Roadsters attendees.

Our monthly luncheon was well attended with a few "muscle" cars in attendance.





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Dana Point Classic Car show.
Attended by L-R Terri Hadley, Ken Brody, Ryan Hadley





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Quick update on our Buick. Richard Delgado and myself were able to re-install the rebuilt generator, distributor, starter/solenoid, water pump and oil cooler plus readjust the mechanical brakes. Looking to have the Buick our next meeting



Next Buick meeting Saturday September 16th @ 11:00 AM

Address: Streamliner Lounge and Cafe 186 N Atchinson St. Orange, CA 92866





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Members Corner Message

By: Ken Brody

Let's see oh a Buick story. Going back to childhood days in central Wisconsin

Well at the age of about 14 (1958) my Uncle Ray purchased a 1955 Buick Roadmaster 4 door sedan in that really nice dark green with a complementing interior. The thing that got me about the Buick was the way you had to start it with the starter actuation with throttle pedal pushed to the floor. When I got a ride in it she rode really comfortable.

My parents had owned a Yellow Cab Co. from 1946 to 1954 and the fleet was all 6 cylinder 3 on the tree Plymouths. That was in Wisconsin Rapids WI. my hometown.

In 1970 MY boss who hired me at Snap -on tools in Kenosha WI drove a 1967 or 68 Buick 225 the duce and a quarter. It was a huge car when viewed from the side.

In November 1971 I one upped the boss and head of engineering who drove a 1968 Mark III . I purchased a 1970 Lincoln 2 dr ht in light brown with a saddle interior. Drove her a little over 100,000 miles and moved to California in 1976. Friend in San Jose just had to have the Lincoln, so he got it for \$ 1200 with 140,000 miles on it.

So, in May of 1986 I got laid off from Ladish Pacific. It was the Friday I purchased a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton Chevrolet window van to become a



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mobile restoration man. My thought was I would last till possibly Aug or Sept to get the axe. I was wrong.

I had an architect and doctor client along with others thru referrals and managed to continue making all the payments to keep alive. It currently is a 37 year run and my son has not worked for anyone else since he graduated from high school in 1990.

Fortunately, my clients had real collections of cars. In The collections we cared for there were 5 great Buicks. A 1948 Yellow Roadmaster convertible, 1953 Buick Red Skylark convertible, 1955 Buick Roadmaster Convertible with white top.. Then there was the 1941 Buick Roadmaster (76C ?) 4 door convertible in green that ran and drove from Silverado Canyon to The Orange warehouse. The next day it had one flat tire and no brakes. That convertible embarked on a long restoration due to the owner's finance fluctuation. We finally completed the car in 2013 from start in 1995. Showed it at Lacy Park and parted with it shortly after. Oh yes had a 1940 Buick Limited in the collection at one time and I still have the current location of that Buick. So, these are the Buicks I have touched over the years.

Oops memory says I missed one. About 2018 I had sent some cars to Toy Store in Redlands for him to sell on consignment. In the process he had a 1949 Buick yellow convertible that was the Rainman car.



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Well not the one they drove in the movie, the sound stage car that was used to get all the sound effects in the movie, door shutting etc. It was sold to a gentleman in Germany and he wanted the Buick to be totally functional before it shipped. Well, got it delivered to my location and after inspection realized it had no rear $\frac{1}{4}$ window mechanism at all. I was a little concerned, how would one find the entire window lift mechanism for a 1949 Buick convertible in 2018? Well fortune smiled on me after about a week I located a new old stock set for both sides in Ohio on Ebay, boy did I order them quickly and they were the correct units and they worked great after installation. The top mechanism needed attention and it cooperated and after a few weeks it was ready to ship to Germany and away it went.

We took a 1972 Buick GS stage I in trade for another happening and sold it on eBay for a fair price about 2014 or so and I think the Orange County owner still has the car. Another gold colored 1972 Buick GS is owned by the son of the original buyer (his Dad) and we need to help him get the brake lines redone for the disc



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brakes his dad insisted to install before he passed earlier this year.

And the low mileage 1940 Roadmaster coupe is still in storage at present. The owner lives in New York & London and maybe if I work on it he could drive it Thanksgiving time this year.

Well that seems to be an assortment of Buicks that I have touched in my lifetime. My 1st car at age 19 was a 1955 Chrysler New Yorker cause it was only \$ 200 and I needed transportation to my first job in Milwaukee Wi at AC Spark Plug Delco Electronics in sept 1963. So you can see where my Chrysler connection began. I still have the Hemi engine from the 1955 New Yorker.

There you have a mini autobiography from Ken Brody

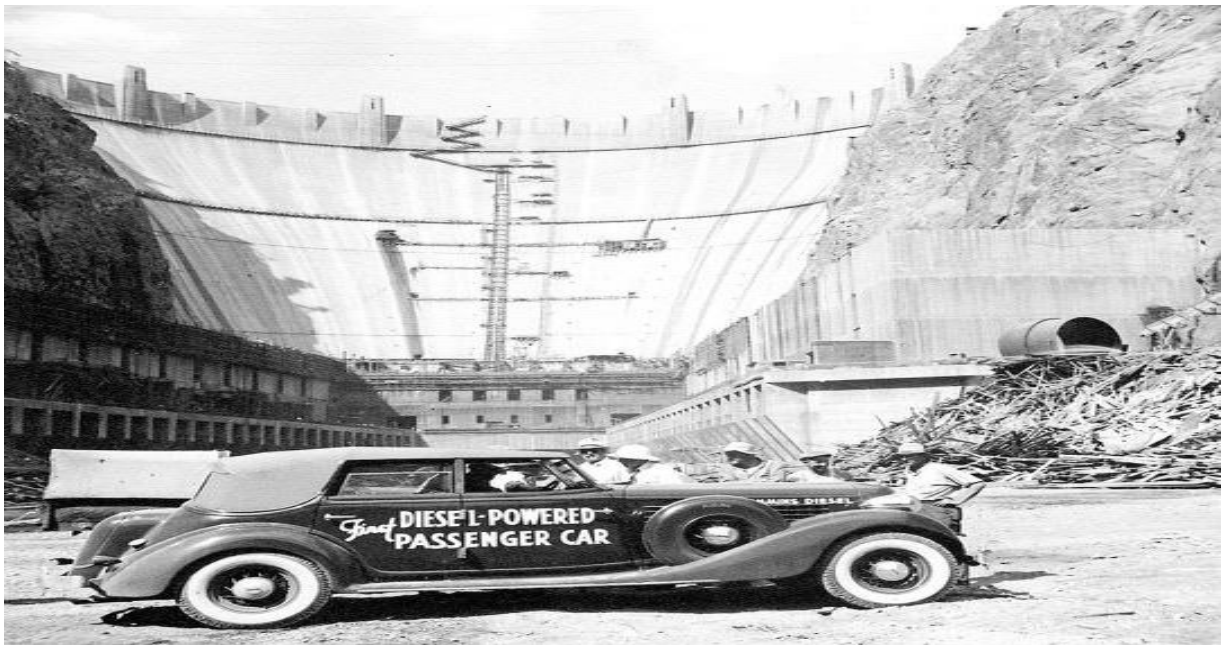
Buick Facts: Buick is a division of the American automobile manufacturer General Motors (GM). Started by automotive pioneer David Dunbar Buick in 1899, it was among the first American marques of automobiles, and was the company that established General Motors in 1908. Before the establishment of General Motors, GM founder William C. Durant had served as Buick's general manager and major investor. With the demise of Oldsmobile in 2004, Buick became the oldest surviving American carmaker.





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In the North American market, Buick is a premium automobile brand, selling luxury vehicles positioned above GM's mainstream brands, while priced below the flagship luxury Cadillac division. Buick's current target demographic according to The Detroit News is "a successful executive with family."



After securing its market position in the late 1930s, when junior companion brand Marquette and Cadillac junior brand LaSalle were discontinued, Buick was positioned as an upscale luxury car below the Cadillac. During this same time period, many manufacturers were introducing V8 engines in their high-end models, while Buick used a straight-8 for all models starting in 1931. The first Buick V8 was introduced in 1953, then in 1962, the Buick V6 was introduced for the compact Special model. Buick engines, with few exceptions, have always used overhead valves which the company pioneered in the 1904 Buick Model B.

In 2017, Buick sold more than 1.4 million vehicles worldwide, a record for the brand. Buick's largest market is Mainland China, which accounts for 80% of its sales. Buicks are also sold in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. U.S. market share in 2022 was 1.2%, down by nearly half of its market share in 2000.



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Judy Griffin. 9/7
Dave Powers 9/15
Jim Gilliland. 9/20
Larry Mustaller. 9/21

- Please email us to update your Birthday !

Jokey corner:

Who are the highest paid generals in the military?

General Motors, General Electric and General Dynamics

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wildcatminery@socal.rr.com

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Msgr.dcook@rcbo.org

Please stay current with yearly membership dues...

Its greatly appreciated and helps club sponsor events and activities.



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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. Newsletters via USPS are available for a \$5 premium. Please make checks payable to Orange County Chapter, BCA.

Optional Information

Spouse Name: _____

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