

THE RUNNING BOARD

APRIL 2026 • ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER
BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

AWAKENING THE TITAN

THE ENGINE REVIVAL SERIES
— PART 13 —

MILES & MEMORIES

INSIDE OC'S BEST
BUICK MOMENTS



VALDEMAR

THE SLEEPING GIANT AWAKES



THE RUNNING BOARD

Established 1970

April 2026

Orange County Chapter Buick Club of America

What's Under the Hood

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More than a newsletter. This is the story of the drive.

10:00 A.M. • Every Third Saturday • ALL WELCOME

Marie Callender's • 307 E. Katella Ave. • Orange, CA

A Note from the Editor

As **your editor**, it's an honor to be at the helm of our newly reimagined publication.

What lives within this club is something rare—a shared commitment not just to preserve these machines, but to keep them alive in motion.

This issue marks the beginning of a new chapter. Not just a redesign—but a step forward.

These Buicks are not relics. They are living expressions of design, engineering, and spirit.

They're meant to be driven. Experienced. Shared.

In these pages, you'll find the stories behind the metal—the hands, the decisions, the persistence, and the passion that carry these cars across decades.

This publication is a reflection of all of it.

OF YOU.

With gratitude,
Jessica



The Driver's Seat

Greetings Buick Enthusiasts,

I am truly pleased with the growth of our club since becoming your director 15 months ago. From a membership perspective, I'd like to warmly welcome our two newest members, Teresa Avina and Michael Peters. At this rate, we will be over 50 members strong in no time.

The continued expansion and variety of activities in our events calendar are creating more opportunities for members to connect beyond our monthly meetings. I encourage you to take a look at the calendar featured later in this edition of The Running Board.

Speaking of the Running Board—how much longer can Jessica keep outdoing herself with this continuously evolving newsletter? Please be sure to extend a warm thank you the next time you see her. In fact, all of our Board members deserve recognition for the time and effort they've invested in improving our club this year.

We also owe our Secretary, Tony Albin, a sincere thank you for stepping into the role of Golden West Regional Director of the BCA. This is not only great news for the organization as a whole, but will also bring increased visibility and opportunity to our Chapter over time.

Sam has worked tirelessly to build out our events calendar and has been an invaluable sounding board for me personally.

As Treasurer, Alan continues to ensure the club remains in strong financial standing and has graciously hosted our quarterly board meetings.

For those who were unable to attend our March meeting, our Historian, Msgr. Doug, is organizing a day to catalog decades' worth of Bugles in our library. A date will be announced soon for anyone interested in participating. In other news, our own Alan Clark and Robert Winters will be entering their Buicks in the AACA Western Spring & Grand Nationals Car Show at the Hilton Lake Las Vegas Resort & Spa, April 23–25. I've heard this is a fantastic event, and they would certainly appreciate local support if you happen to be in the Las Vegas area that weekend.

Finally, I'd like to mention the grand opening of the California Fire Museum, which took place on March 21. This is where Robert Frackelton's Buick-powered fire engine is now housed. The museum is located at 176 South Grand Street in Orange and is well worth a visit.

Warm regards,

Jeff Shugarman

Director

Buick Club of America – OC Chapter



EVENTS ATTENDED

MILES & MEMORIES



PISTONS & BRUNCH

MARCH 15, 2026



Chrome catching the sun.



Orange County perfection.



Riviera elegance.



Best of Club Winner.



Time to roll.



Ready for brunch.



OCBCA Featured Club of the Month





ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

March 14, 2026, Henderson, NV

The Winters driving their 1934 Buick Convertible Phaeton model 68C

Meeting Minutes

MARCH GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER – BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

The March OCCBCA meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. at Marie Callender's in Orange. Members completed the Pledge of Allegiance and sign-in upon arrival.

Attendance & Introductions

A total of 18 members and 5 guests were in attendance, including new members Kirk Wells and Michael Peters. Michael owns a 1962 Electra 225 and, now recently retired, is looking forward to dedicating more time to its restoration. Welcome, Mike!

From the Driver's Seat

Jeff announced that Tony Albin has stepped into the role of Golden West Regional Director. The shared vision is to strengthen collaboration among all five California chapters and work toward expanded Buick events throughout the region.

Recent highlights included the Nethercutt Museum outing and the Highway 39 event. Robert Winters proudly represented the club by driving his Buick in the Henderson, Nevada St. Patrick's Day Parade. Looking ahead, Robert Winters and Alan Clark will be entering their Buicks in the AACA event in Las Vegas, April 23–25.

The January meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Jeff also encouraged members to submit high-quality photos of their vehicles. Alan Clark generously offered to assist members in capturing professional-quality images.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Alan reported that the club remains financially strong, with a balance of approximately \$6,000.

Assistant Director Report

Sam shared several upcoming events:

- **April 3** – Main Street Garden Grove Friday Night Meet-Up (details to follow)
- **April 15** – BCA/OCA Reunion Luncheon, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Marie Callender's in Orange (organized by Irene Martinez)
- **April 25–26** – Floral Park Home Tour in Santa Ana
 - Club participation invited on Saturday
 - \$25 registration includes home tour, car viewing, and access to vendors
- **May 9** – Dennis Griffin's private tour of oil and automotive memorabilia, followed by a pizza gathering at 11:00 a.m.
- **June 6** – Cruisin' at the Beach Car Show, Edison High School, Huntington Beach
 - 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - \$35 registration
 - OCCBCA will host a dedicated **"Buick Corner"**

Magnet orders for chapter logo car badges are ongoing at \$20 per set.

Newsletter Report

Jessica shared that The Running Board is undergoing a major quality upgrade, with exciting enhancements debuting this month.

Members are encouraged to continue submitting photos via the Dropbox folder. Assistance is available from Jessica, Sam, Tony, and Juan.

Jessica is also preparing a set of interview questions for members and their vehicles to support feature stories in upcoming issues. Submission deadlines are typically:

- 10th of the month for written content
- 20th of the month for photos

Dino enthusiastically reminded everyone of how strong and special our chapter is, and encouraged members to share their business information so fellow members can support one another.

Membership Report

Ruthie continues to update the membership roster and welcome new members each month. Tony, Ruthie, and Fred are currently exploring options for member badges.

Club Notes

Larry presented a framed photo from the 2024 group picnic. Tony will bring it to the upcoming reunion luncheon for continued display.

Club apparel remains a popular topic, including custom Buick-themed shirts and member-specific designs. Jessica and Laura are available to assist.

Future plans for a Buick Bugle club gathering were introduced, with more details to follow.

Closing

BRAVEHEART!

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Albin

Secretary

Buick Club of America - OC Chapter

Minutes prepared: March 23, 2026



THE RUNNING BOARD

ON THE HORIZON



FLORAL PARK HOME & GARDEN TOUR

APRIL 25, 2026

DATES: APRIL 25, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM. - 4:00 PM

LOCATION: SANTA ANA

Meetup for Member to be arranged.

What to Expect:

- Tour beautiful historic homes & gardens
- Open to all classic cars
- Members invited to attend Saturday
- Community atmosphere

OCCBCA members are invited to be part of one of the area's most anticipated home tours—where classic cars, charming gardens, and great company come together.

THE RUNNING BOARD

ON THE HORIZON

OCCBCA EVENTS

April 3

Historic Main Street Car Show
Garden Grove, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

April 15

OCCBCA Reunion
Marie Callender's, 10:00 am

April 18

Club Meeting
Marie Callender's, 10:00 am

April 25

Floral Park Home & Garden Tour
Santa Ana, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

May 9

Petroliana Tour, Dennis' Garage
Santa Ana, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

THE RUNNING BOARD

ON THE HORIZON

OTHER EVENTS - NON-OCCBCA

Community & Regional Highlights

April 4

Irvine Cars & Coffee

SEGERSTROM SHELBY CENTER, 7:30 AM-9:30 AM

April 5

Sunday Funday - Anaheim

All-American Brewworks, 12:00 pm - 2 pm

April 3, 10
17 & 24

Historic Main Street Car Show

Garden Grove, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

April 4, 11,
18 & 25

Cars & Coffee Gardenwalk

Anaheim, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

April 23-25

AACA Western Spring Nationals & Show

Henderson (Lake Las Vegas), NV

April 7, 14,
21 & 28

Hot Rods Unlimited In & Out Cruise

Laguna Hills, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

MORE THAN METAL

Every car has a story.



1948 ROADMASTER SEDANETTE 76S

JESSICA CHANDLER

They say every dark cloud has a silver lining.

Sometimes... it comes with a dream car.

That's exactly how this all-original 1948 Buick Roadmaster Sedanette (Model 76S) came into my life.

After an accident totaled my Range Rover Autobiography, I suddenly found myself without the car I loved. Dino, in his infinite wisdom, told me to slow down and wait.

"The perfect one will show up."

So I did.

I realized what I really wanted wasn't just another car—it was something more. A classic I could drive daily and take to shows. Something that would make me smile every time I saw it... and fill my heart every time I drove it.

Months later, at the Pomona Swap Meet & Car Show... it happened.

I fell in love.

The kind of love you try to hide—but can't. The owner saw it immediately. Good thing I had my calm, grounded half with me.

After walking the show and seeing everything else, I came back. Took it for a drive.
Gave it a proper once-over.

Sure... there were "issues." But what do you expect from an original car pushing 80 years?

That cloudy day—June 22, 2025—was the beginning.

This California car had just two previous owners. The last, a Los Angeles collector, kept her among a private collection of over 70 vehicles in underground storage. There she remained—preserved in silence—until the day she found her way into our family.

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INSURANCE COVERAGE INCLUDES:
☒ FIRE AND THEFT & Comprehensive
☒ COLLISION — AMOUNT DEDUCTIBLE \$50.00
☒ PUBLIC LIABILITY — AMOUNT
☒ PROPERTY DAMAGE — AMOUNT None

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GROUP	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
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Telescopes		2.50
Auxiliary Grille Guard		35.00
Tail pipe extension		1.75
Underseal		25.00
		\$230.98

*Transportation Charge:
 Excise tax \$113.00
 Freight 302.00
 Delivery & Handling 50.00
 Gasoline 2.00
 \$467.00

PRICE OF CAR 1968.00
TRANSPORTATION CHARGE* 467.00
SALES TAX 67.41
License 29.00
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Insurance - 1 yr 116.00

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TOTAL CASH PRICE 2908.89
COST OF FINANCING (INCL. INSURANCE)
TOTAL TIME PRICE
SETTLEMENT:
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 CASH ON DELIVERY 2808.89
 USED CAR: TYPE SERIAL NO. MOTOR NO. PAYMENTS: 2908.89

ALWAYS SHOW SERIAL, MOTOR AND KEY NUMBER.

Original Bill of Sale – Long Beach Buick, June 28, 1948

Awakening the Titan

Not only have I learned about the mechanics of this machine...
I've wrenched on it myself.
(Good thing those skills are far superior to my cooking ones.)

From day one, the vision was clear:

Keep it as original as possible.

After all—*stock is the new custom.*

With the help of Stan Chavik of Hot Rod Chavik, a true Buick specialist, we addressed the critical safety issues:

- Leaking master and rear wheel cylinders
- Brake adjustments
- Distributor reconditioning
- Carburetor tuning
- Full chassis lubrication

The wiring harness, however, had a personality of its own.

Until a proper period-correct replacement arrives (and yes... finding one that doesn't look like a rainbow has been nearly impossible), I learned to work with liquid electrical tape to keep things safe and functional.

Bringing "Valdemar" Back to Life

The process has been equal parts education and resurrection. Here's what it took to wake her up:

1. Fuel tank overhaul with new sending unit
2. Fuel lines rebuilt to the pump
3. Carburetor tune-up
4. Engine oil change and full radiator flush (including replacing the original 80-year-old fan belt—yes, I kept it)
5. New spark plugs and wires
6. Distributor overhaul and new coil
7. New 6V battery and upgraded halogen headlights
8. Electrical system stabilized with liquid tape and proper wrapping
9. Gearbox fluid flush and refill
10. Rear differential serviced
11. Brake system restored (master and rear cylinders)
12. Tires set to proper PSI
13. Ongoing fuel treatment—yes... the infamous F-Bomb



Each step turned back the hands of time—awakening a sleeping giant of the road.

A Moment to Remember

March 15, 2026 became one of those days you don't forget.

That's when Valdemar took home Best of Club at the Pistons & Brunch event, where our Buick Club chapter was featured.

She's not perfect.
And honestly... that's part of her charm.

Because at the end of the day—she's not a trailer queen.

She's a driver.





AWAKENING THE TITAN

*The Engine Revival Series -
Lucky Number 13*

The Sleeping Giant

By Dino Changanagui

Member - Buick Club of America,
Orange County Chapter

This is considered a motorheads greatest secret.

Once you know it, you never go back.

Have you ever wondered about the quality of the fuel that you're putting in your engine?

If you could find a way to turn that fuel into a super fuel that your engine would love, would you consider using it?

What if you could make your engine run so clean that the smog check devices blow zero?

What if you could get back that new car engine performance (horsepower) without having to send your engine to the machine shop for head work - even if you have many, many thousands of miles on the odometer?

What if you could improve your gas mileage?

I discovered this secret over 20 years ago from a Veteran friend of mine and I've been running it in every one of my vehicles, hot rods, and motorcycles since and always the same result: improved gas mileage, more horsepower, smoking the technicians at the smog check station by blowing zero, less trips to the auto mechanic.



Let's start by calling them F-Bombs...

As the legend goes, the technology was developed by some egg-head chemists out of Utah. Originally a liquid fuel catalyst used in the aerospace industry to improve rocket performance, it found its way to race teams, marine applications and earth-moving equipment manufacturers. The Liquid formula was converted to a powder and then a tablet that was easily dropped into the fuel tank of your vehicle. (Gas or Diesel)

Why don't you know about it?

The eggheads made something so good that it threatened the oil and gas industry monopoly and because it would bring into question the quality of their product. They ran them out of town.

If you know any motorheads in the military, (particularly in the motor pool-the guys that work on the transport vehicles and gas- or diesel-powered engines that keep everything rolling) you might know of a product that they used as a “fuel stabilizer”. The adventures in the sands of the Middle East led to thinking of new and creative ways to store fuel- tankers, barrels, etc. were out so instead, they used giant pillows/bladders, that you civilians may never have heard of.

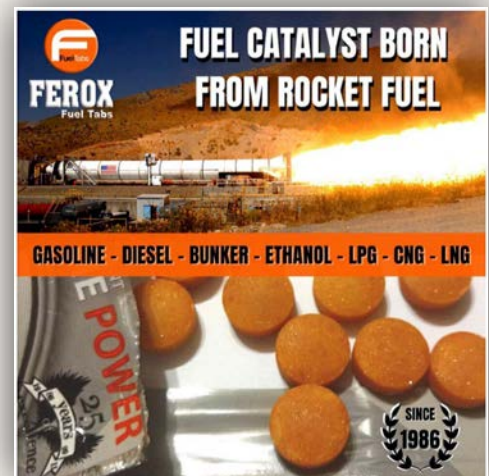
There are no gas stations in the desert. You bring what you’re gonna run in your vehicles. However, in extreme heat, the fuel has a tendency of separating or changing its chemical composition making it less effective as a fuel.

In come the eggheads from Utah that developed the fuel catalyst for rockets, who test it in the fuel bladders and find that it keeps the fuel from going off and stabilizes its potential.

As with many such things, it had a secondary benefit that was keenly observed by the motorheads- it would clean out the inside of your engine heads, removing all the carbon buildup and deposits off the combustion chamber and the valves.

This is Hot Rodders Gold.

Just like the gear-heads who brought back the technical know-how on supercharging and turbocharging aircraft engines, then applied that knowledge to their vehicles after World War II, this fuel stabilizer has been a secret, held close to the vest, for many in the know on how to clear the carbon deposits out of the internal combustion chamber of your engine without pulling off your heads, how to run lower grade fuel in your supercar without adverse effects, how to regain lost horsepower and wake up an “old and tired” engine and how to improve fuel mileage on a high mileage vehicle.



My gift to you, fellow gearheads and enthusiasts of leviathan-sized vehicles is the F-Bomb.

Ferox Fuel Tabs.

Half a tab does up to 15 gallons of fuel.

Split them in 2.

Put one half of a tab in the nozzle of the gas pump then fill up with your preferred flavor of fuel. (I always run 87.)

It will take up to 3 full tanks of gas to blow out the accumulated carbon buildup in your heads, which will show up as specks of black carbon coming out the tailpipe.

Once cleared, you will begin to notice a snappier response on the throttle that will push you back in your seat. Watch the gas mileage increase, too.

If you have a newer vehicle with a computer that calculates air to fuel ratios and makes adjustments on the fly through the fuel injection system, and you decide to give the F-Bombs a try, you will need to do a hard reset after running the tabs through 3 full fill-ups.

Disconnect the battery. Wait an hour. Reconnect the battery. Done.

To the owners of the Titans of the road...

Watch how much fun it is when your Leviathan smokes some Jack-Wagon pulling up to you at the light.

Dino

P.S.

This is the final installment (Lucky 13) of a series of articles I'm writing to help level up some of you newbies that don't have a hot rodders background or didn't pay attention during Auto Shop Class in high school.

As such, before you go mashing the accelerator pedal on the Leviathan with the intro of F-Bombs, let's make sure you have ticked the boxes on all the other maintenance issues so as to keep the Beast safe.



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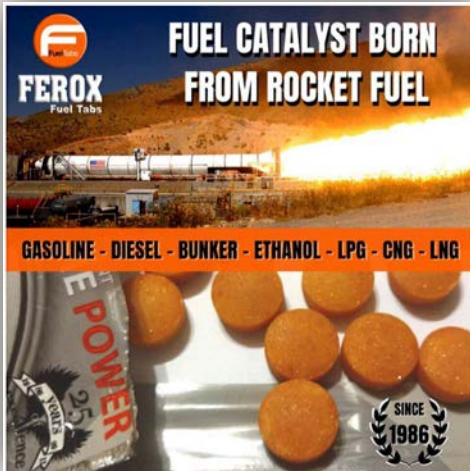
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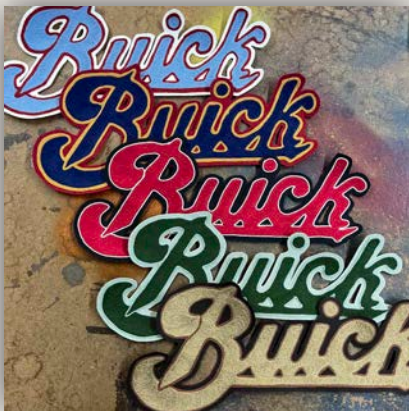
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The older, the better. Cosmetic condition is not important—functionality is key.

If you have any available, please reach out.
— Dino

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Frank Moyer
Owner

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GARAGE HUMOR



BIRTHDAYS

2 - Teresa Avina
3 - Tony Albin
22 - Norm Kredit
26 - Leonard Hayes

Origins & Legacy

Long before our chapter took shape, a small but passionate group of Buick enthusiasts laid the foundation for what would become a national movement. In 1963, the Buick Collectors Car Club of America was formed in Pennsylvania with just 120 members. By the end of that same year, the club had grown to 310 members, including 35 from California—a sign that something much bigger was already in motion.

Though the original organization dissolved by early 1966, its spirit didn't fade. A dedicated California chapter carried the momentum forward, reestablishing itself as the Buick Club for Californians. Not long after, the name evolved into what we know today as the Buick Club of America, opening the door to enthusiasts across the country and sparking the formation of chapters nationwide.

By 1968, the Southern California Region was officially established. Just a year later, in late 1969, 17 founding members from Orange County submitted their petition for chapter recognition.

On February 20, 1970, the Orange County Chapter was officially granted its charter.

A Legacy in Motion

Over the decades that followed, our chapter became deeply woven into the fabric of the national organization. Many of our members stepped into leadership roles within the BCA, helping guide its growth during some of its most formative years.

The first 40 years of the Orange County Chapter were marked by extraordinary activity and dedication. Our members showed up—time and time again—at Buick events across the country.

From local shows to West Coast Regionals and National Meets, Orange County was consistently represented. Even more, our chapter proudly hosted and co-hosted numerous events, helping shape the Buick community here in Southern California and beyond.

Still Driving Forward

What began with a handful of enthusiasts has become a lasting legacy—one built on shared passion, craftsmanship, and the unmistakable presence of Buick on the open road.

And the story isn't finished.

Monsignor Doug Cook

Historian

Buick Club of America - OC Chapter





BECOME A MEMBER

For those who know.

Membership in the Orange County Chapter of the Buick Club of America connects you with a community that values craftsmanship, history, and the stories behind every mile.

From local drives to national events, this is where Buick enthusiasts come together—not just to show their cars, but to share them.

Membership Includes:

- Monthly meetings and events
- Access to the national BCA network
- Newsletter features and member stories
- A community built on shared passion

Download your membership form: orangecounty.buickclub.org



Buick Club of America - Orange County Chapter is a chartered chapter of the Buick Club of America (BCA).

For membership in the OC Chapter, you must be a member of the Buick Club of America or have applied for membership.

For BCA Membership information visit buickclub.org

THE RUNNING BOARD

The People Behind the Chapter

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The Running Board

The Running Board is published monthly, on the last day of the previous month.

Contributions to the newsletter are welcomed and should be received by the 15th of the month.

Submissions:
jessica.chandler1@icloud.com

Crafted in collaboration with the unseen
hand of Aeth3r



Website: orangecounty.buickclub.org

Instagram: @buick_cluboc

Articles presented in The Running Board reflect the opinion of the authors, not necessarily the views of the editor or the club. The Running Board and its editor seek to publish accurate information but do not assume any liability or responsibility in the event of a claim of loss or damages resulting from publication.

More than metal
More than memory
This is the drive

