

THE RUNNING BOARD

Established 1970

February 2026 - Page 1

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

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The Running Board isn't just a newsletter – it's a snapshot of a community that values craftsmanship, history, and the joy of the drive.

**10:00 A.M.
EVERY THIRD
SATURDAY**

Marie Callender's
307 E. Katella Ave.
Orange 92867)



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FROM THE RUNNING BOARD

*Firing
things up
before we
hit the
road*

**JESSICA
CHANDLER,
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**



It's a new year and a fresh road ahead.

Welcome to the new Running Board, where chrome still shines and engines still tell stories.

February finds us right where we belong — in the driver's seat, surrounded by chrome, camaraderie, and stories that never stall.

This issue cruises through highlights from recent club gatherings, celebrates the Buicks that turned heads (and sparked conversations), and keeps you in the loop on what's coming up next. Whether you're wrenching in the garage, polishing for a show, or simply here to hang with friends, there's something in these pages for you.

So fasten your lap belts and fire up the Nailhead — it's time to roll into another edition of The Running Board.

*— Jessica Chandler,
Editor-in-Chief*

P.S. ALL submissions need to be received BY the 15th to be considered for publication the upcoming month.

6/22/25 - The day my story begins.



FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

*Thoughts,
plans & the
road ahead*

**JEFF
SHUGARMAN,
DIRECTOR**



Greetings, Buick Enthusiasts!

Thank you to everyone who attended our first meeting of 2026 — what a great way to kick off the year. Looking back at 2025, our club saw growth in both membership and events, and I received a great deal of positive feedback from many long-standing members regarding the direction of the club.

As you saw during the meeting presentations, your Board is working extremely hard to build on that momentum and continue creating events that appeal to all of our members. You may have also noticed a refreshed Running Board for the month of February. Next month, we'll feature an alternative design and begin testing additional club logo concepts. We'll be asking for member feedback on these designs at our March meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Director once again for 2026. With the help of our incredible Board, I'm confident our membership will continue to grow as we expand our presence within the greater car club community.

I'll see you on **January 31st at the POCI show.**

— Jeff

P.S. If you haven't yet sent photos of your Buick in a favorite or scenic setting, please do so. I'll be refreshing the Members page on our website and would love to include your car.

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**MILES
LOGGED &
MEMORIES
MADE**

*The
drives,
shows &
company*

January 17, 2026 Monthly Meeting



*Photos courtesy of
Jessica Chandler*

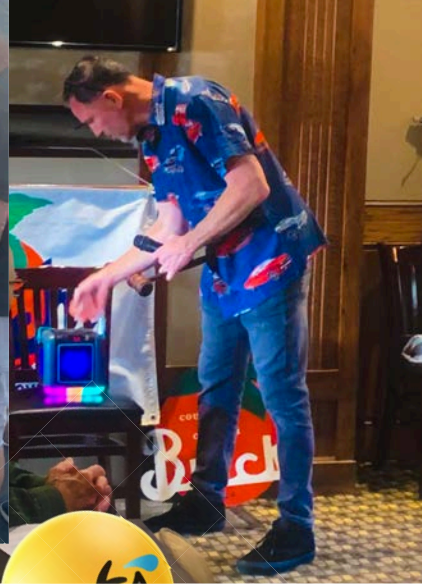
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**MILES
LOGGED &
MEMORIES
MADE**

*The
drives,
shows &
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January 17, 2026 Monthly Meeting



*Photos courtesy of
Jessica Chandler*

NOTES FROM THE GARAGE

The Nuts, Bolts and Big Decisions

**TONY
ALBIN
SECRETARY**



The January OCCBCA meeting rolled in right on time at Marie Callender's in Orange, with the meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m. and a great turnout to kick off the new year.

Attendance & Introductions

A total of **31 attendees** were present, including 26 members and 5 guests. Highlights included new member **Robert Frackelton**, who arrived in a 1929 American LaFrance firetruck powered by a Buick six-cylinder engine, and returning member, **Frank Grueter**, with his 1962 Skylark convertible. We also welcomed visitors **Dennis Griffin, Richard, Joe Digrado** (President of the Pontiac Club), and **Sarah Boo**, niece of Ruthie and Doug.

From the Driver's Seat

Director **Jeff** introduced new board members, including **Ruthie** (Membership) and **Jessica** (Newsletter Editor for *The Running Board*). Jeff also shared that **Lois** will be donating club literature at the conclusion of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer **Alan** reported the club remains financially strong, with a balance of approximately \$6,300.

Club Notes

- * The **Golden West Regional Director** position remains open.
- * **Tony A.** expressed interest in learning more about the role.
- * **Juan R.** continues to update the club's Instagram and welcomes member photos.
- * A **1963 Wildcat** may be available through Doug and Ruthie's neighbor — more details coming.
- * **Jessica** shared information about customized Buick apparel and can assist with orders.

Wrapping Up

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. wrapping up a productive and energetic start to the year.

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ON THE ROAD AHEAD

*Clear the
calendar
and warm
up the
engine -
there's
Buick time
ahead!*

Details will be shared as dates approach, so keep an eye out and bring a friend or two along.

Pro tip: Your Buick doesn't need to be perfect —just driven.

Nethercutt Collection Tour Saturday, February 21, 7:00 AM

Join us for a special visit to the Nethercutt Collection and Museum, organized by Alan. The morning includes a guided tour of the Collection (limited to 25 spots) followed by a box lunch.

ALL THE DETAILS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.

Why are you still reading? Turn the page!

Upcoming Events

March 15th Highway 39 Event Center.

March 21st OCCBCA Club meeting
10am, Marie Callendar's in Orange, CA.

April 15th OCCBCA reunion

April 25th /26th Floral Park Home Tour Santa Ana.
We are invited on Saturday. Show also runs Sunday.

June 6th Cruisin' at the Beach Car Show
Edison High School, Huntington Beach.

September 26th OCCBCA Annual Picnic Irvine
Regional Park

ON THE ROAD AHEAD

*Clear the
calendar
and warm
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ahead!*

A Morning with Automotive Royalty The Nethercutt Collection & Museum: Saturday, February 21, 2026

We're kicking off 2026 with OCCBCA's first tour of the year — a special visit to The Nethercutt Collection and Museum in Sylmar.

This experience includes a private, docent-led tour of The Nethercutt Collection, paired with time to explore The Nethercutt Museum at your own pace. It's a rare opportunity to get up close with one of the finest automotive collections in the world — and hear the stories behind the chrome.

What's Included

- Private docent-led tour of The Nethercutt Collection
- Self-guided access to The Nethercutt Museum
- Box lunch included
- Fellow Buicks and great company
- Docent tour limited to 25 people
- Ages 10+ only (no strollers or babes in arms)

Schedule at a Glance

- 7:00–7:30 AM — Depart Orange County (90–120 min drive) Arrival by 8:55 AM. Carpooling encouraged!!!
- 9:00 AM — Museum opens (self-guided viewing)
- 9:45 AM — Queue for Collection tour
- 10:00–11:00 AM — Docent-led Collection tour
- 11:05 AM — Lunch in the parking lot
- 12:00–12:30 PM — Depart Sylmar

Lunch Options

HoneyBaked Ham box lunch included:
(Guests with dietary restrictions may opt out)
Ham • Turkey • Vegetarian Salad
Water and soda provided by the club.

Cost & Registration \$35 per person (includes tour & lunch)
Your spot is confirmed when Alan Clark receives payment.

Sign Up

Name(s): _____

Lunch choice (circle): Ham • Turkey • Veg

Payment: \$ _____ Cash Check

MORE THAN METAL

*Because
every car
has a story.*

More Than Metal reminds us that the best stories aren't just about the cars — they're about the people who drive them. From lifelong enthusiasts to first-time owners, every story adds to the legacy.

*Want to be featured?
Bring your Buick,
share your story, and
we'll take it from
there.*

This month we're featuring: In Memorium, Dave Powers, and the 36, 37 & 38 Roadmasters

Remembering Dave Powers.

Many club members may not have known my husband, Dave Powers, but one thing everyone would have known immediately is that he loved Buicks. Before he passed away in 2024, Dave wrote about how that love began and the adventures it gave him over a lifetime.

Lori Powers



***Happiest
behind
the wheel.***

First Model A in
high school.



MORE THAN METAL

*Because
every car
has a story.*

Continued...

Here are his words:

“One day in 1972, I gave a student a ride home after school. Sitting in the driveway was a beautiful 1932 Buick coupe. I was impressed by the comfortable seat, and the speedometer went a lot faster than my Model A. I had to have that Buick! That was the beginning of my Buick ownership.

In 1976, the Buick Club needed a grassy area for a photo shoot celebrating Buick’s anniversary. I got permission from the school superintendent to use the field behind the auto shop where I taught auto mechanics. We assembled at 5:00 a.m. on a Saturday to take photos. I organized the event but didn’t get my own car into the picture — we were told to stop once the sun hit the perfect position. I missed the photo op!

In 1977, after the arrival of twin boys, I outgrew the Buick coupe and purchased a 1934 green ‘Pickle’ Special Sedan from fellow club member Mike Malone.



My real dream was a 1937 Roadmaster 80C. I found one in a museum on Long Island, flew to New York, bought it, and drove it home alone. Along the way I had brake trouble, fuel pump failure, and even spent a stormy night sleeping in the car. With help from a street rodder at 1:30 a.m., I installed an electric fuel pump. Crossing the Colorado mountains, overheating became an issue, so I rigged an oil-can ice cooler for the fuel line — it worked perfectly! I made it home in about a week, and that adventure began my Roadmaster 80C journey.

MORE THAN METAL

*Because
every car
has a story.*

Continued...

In 1989, our house burned down, severely damaging the 1937 Roadmaster in the garage. The fire melted glass, tires, fuel lines, and more — but the engine still turned over. I hot-wired it, got it running, and parked it in storage. Discouraged, I eventually sold it, but that led to acquiring seven more Roadmaster 80Cs in various states of disrepair. I still own two today.

Over the years, I expanded the collection beyond the 1937s, owning 1936–1938 Roadmaster 80Cs, a 1940 Century Sedan, a 1941 71C modified with 502 horsepower, and a 1954 Skylark — all convertibles. Now it is time to reduce the fleet. I can't drive and enjoy them as I once did, but it has been a pleasure owning and driving them.

I joined the Buick Club in 1976 as member #4088. I attended many National Buick Meets across the country and always appreciated the help, friendship, and support of our local Orange County Buick Chapter.”



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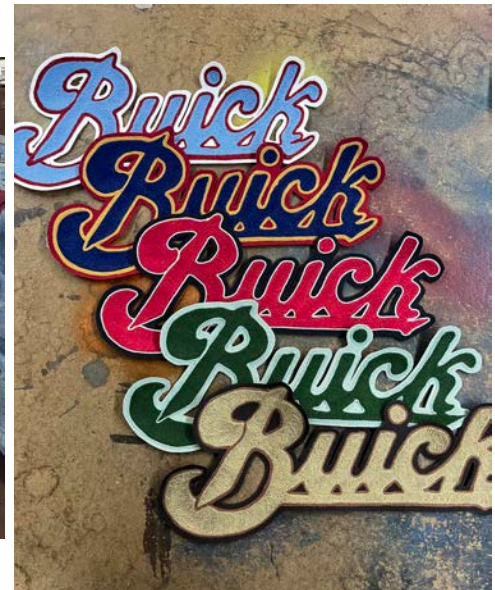
THE PARTS COUNTER

Buy it,
sell it,
trade it,
or talk
about it

Free

Empty for now!

For Sale



CUSTOM Chain-stitch shirts & patches. ANY design, size or color combo. Contact Jessica Chandler at 949-522-7827 or jessica.chandler1@icloud.com



Wanted

Empty for now!

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THE PARTS COUNTER

*Buy it,
sell it,
trade it,
or talk
about it*

USE CODE JC



Moyer's
AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
714.549.8131
Frank Moyer
Owner
2040 S. Grand Ave. • Santa Ana, CA 92705

714-330-4244
CODY VARONA

NAPA
ORANGE COUNTY AUTO PARTS
515 E. First St. Santa Ana, CA 92701
714-547-0711 Fax 714-547-0981
Largest Inventory - Unmatched Service

LAUGHING GAS

*High
Octane
Humor*



LAW OF MECHANICAL REPAIR

*After your hands become coated with grease,
your nose will begin to itch,
and you'll have to pee.*

BIRTHDAY BURNOUTS

*Another lap
around the
sun*

Patricia Winters: 2/1
Robert Figueroa: 2/2
Jessica Chandler: 2/3
Fred Rawling: 2/4
Juan Rendon: 2/15
Jeff Shugarman: 2/19

IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR

*Honoring
the road
already
traveled*

MONSIGNIOR
DOUG
COOK
HISTORIAN



S

History of the Orange County Chapter – The BCCA/BCA

In 1963 a group of Buick enthusiasts formed the Buick Collectors Car Club of America in Pennsylvania with 120 members and by the end of the year they numbered 310 (with 35 from California). By early 1966 the club had folded but a chapter of the BCCA in California forged ahead and renamed the club to the Buick Club for Californians. Shortly thereafter, the club became known as the Buick Club of America (BCA), primarily to include Buick Enthusiasts in other states with chapters forming throughout the country. The BCA created the Southern California Region in 1968 and in late 1969, 17 original members of the BCCA from Orange County filed for recognition as a chapter and on February 20, 1970 it was granted by the National Office. During the following two decades, a number of our members held BCA officer positions, a pivotal time for growth of the organization nationally.

The first 40 years for the Orange County Chapter of the BCA was a very busy time for our members. We had representation at almost every Buick car show both local and out of state, including West Coast Regional and National meets. The OC Chapter of the BCA hosted or co-hosted many of these local and regional events.

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**BECAUSE
MEMBERSHIP
HAS
IT'S
ADVANTAGES**

*Join for
the cars.
Stay
for the
people.*



S

**Use this handy-dandy form, or
click the link to download:**

https://orangecounty.buickclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/OC_BCA_Registration_Form.pdf

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER - BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA Membership Application & Renewal Form

Welcome to the Orange County Chapter of the Buick Club of America. Whether you're joining for the first time or renewing your membership, we're glad you're here.

MEMBER INFORMATION (REQUIRED)

Full Name: _____
Membership Type (check one): New Member Renewal
Street Address: _____
City / State / ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Alternate Phone (optional): _____
Email Address: _____
National BCA Membership Number (Required for chapter membership): _____

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

For insurance purposes, all Orange County Chapter members must also be members of the national Buick Club of America.

- Annual Chapter Dues: \$20
- Includes email newsletter communications and participation in chapter activities
- Members may vote on chapter initiatives

Payment Method:

- Check (payable to Orange County Chapter, BCA)
 Other: _____

OPTIONAL INFORMATION (We like knowing our people)

Spouse / Partner Name: _____
Birthdays (you and/or spouse): _____

YOUR BUICKS (OPTIONAL BUT FUN)

Buick ownership is not required to join. If you own one (or more), feel free to list them below.

Year: _____ Model: _____ Body Style: _____
Notes: _____
Year: _____ Model: _____ Body Style: _____
Notes: _____

AGREEMENT

I understand that participation in club activities is voluntary and agree to abide by the guidelines of the Buick Club of America and the Orange County Chapter.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

Alan Clark, Treasurer
Buick Club of America – Orange County Chapter
PO Box 11238
Newport Beach, CA 92658

OCCBCA 2026 Officers

Director: Jeff Shugarman
shugar410@gmail.com

Assistant Director: Sam Mandlin
crankshaftsam@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Alan Clark
awc13@earthlink.net

Secretary: Rod "Anthony" Albin
tony@apcbearings.com

Membership: Ruthie Truhn
ruthtruhn@gmail.com

Newsletter: Jessica Chandler
jessica.chandler1@icloud.com

Historian: Msgr. Doug Cook
msgr.dcook@rcbo.org

Website:
<https://orangecounty.buickclub.org>

Instagram:
https://www.instagram.com/buick_cluboc/

Newsletter

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. Please email them to Jessica Chandler at jessica.chandler1@icloud.com

About the Orange County Chapter of the Buick Club of America

The Orange County Chapter was chartered in February 1970 making it one of the oldest clubs in the BCA. Over the years our chapter has supported many Buick car shows both local and out of state, including National Meets since the BCA was founded.

Over the years the club has grown to include members throughout Southern California. Our activities include:

- Monthly meetings
- Social gatherings
- Group drives
- Regional events

For membership information visit our website:
<https://orangecounty.buickclub.org/membership/>



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
<https://www.buickclub.org>

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.