

THE RUNNING BOARD

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER, BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

SEPTEMBER 2026



THE RUNNING BOARD

Established 1970

September 2026

Orange County Chapter Buick Club of America

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Turn the page. The journey continues.

The Running Board is the volunteer-created, official monthly newsletter of the Orange County Chapter, Buick Club of America, and is not produced for commercial sale.

FROM THE RUNNING BOARD

A Note from the Editor

On Vacation



The Driver's Seat

Greetings Buick Enthusiasts,

Another month is in the books! I hope everyone has been able to keep cool and, despite the heat, has found time to keep your Buicks on the road.

Our chapter has seen continuous growth this year, and September is no different, with three new members joining us! As always, I am grateful for the incredible efforts of our entire Board, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make the Orange County Chapter one of the most talked-about chapters in the BCA.

We have been recognized for our growth, created additional awareness through multiple Bugle articles, and last but certainly not least, our newsletter, The Running Board, has been shared throughout the BCA network, creating even more visibility for our chapter. I have even received positive feedback about The Running Board from directors of other car clubs many times our size.

Jessica has done a great job, and I would like to encourage those of you who have not yet contributed the story behind your Buick to step forward so you and your car can be featured in a future edition.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to remind you that your Board has been busy working on the October 10th All Buick Car Show. We want this to be a positive experience for our members and the greater Buick community.

Registrations are steadily coming in, but with just over a month remaining until the show, many of our members have yet to sign up. We also need volunteers to help make the day run smoothly. Please reach out if you are willing to help. Your Board is doing the heavy lifting, so I promise there will still be plenty of time to enjoy the show while lending a hand.

Why did we decide to take on such a huge undertaking and put on an All Buick Car Show?

It has been roughly 20 years since our club sponsored a show like this. With the incredible growth we have experienced, we felt it was time to put this marquee event back on the calendar.

The visibility the show will create can only increase awareness of our club. As our chapter continues to grow, so will our calendar of events and the opportunities we can offer our members.

Finally, sponsoring this show gives us valuable experience and an opportunity to prove to the BCA that we are capable of hosting the **2029 Buick Nationals right here in our own backyard.**

Speaking of the Nationals, Bruce, Fred, and Rory are back from Albany, where they sat in on the in-person future Nationals planning meeting. I am excited to hear from them at our picnic on September 26th at Irvine Regional Park.

As mentioned in my last email, we will not hold our regular monthly meeting at Marie Callender's. Instead, we will have an informal meeting during the picnic.

This event and our other upcoming activities—including South OC Cars & Coffee in San Clemente on September 12th—are listed in The Running Board and on our website.

Thanks for being the best part of the OCCBCA, and see you soon.

See you soon,

Jeff Shugarman

Director

Buick Club of America – OC Chapter



A vintage Buick Wildcat is shown from a rear three-quarter view, driving on a winding coastal road. The car is dark-colored with chrome accents and a California license plate that reads "ROAD STORY". The background features a dramatic sunset over the ocean, with the sun low on the horizon and its light reflecting on the water. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. In the upper left corner, there is a graphic of a large American flag with stars and stripes. The entire image is framed by a decorative gold border with ornate corner pieces and a central star motif.

IT'S NEVER JUST ABOUT
THE DESTINATION...

IT'S ABOUT THE **PEOPLE**,
THE **STORIES**, AND THE
MEMORIES WE MAKE
ALONG THE **WAY.**

EVENTS ATTENDED

MILES & MEMORIES

HOT RODS & HAND GUNS

AUGUST 8, 2026



Jeff Shugarman, 1965 Buick Skylark Special



OCC CLUB MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2026

Msgr. Doug Clark: 1954 Super model 56R; Neil Matranga 2004 Buick
Tony & Laura Albin: 1939 Ford Deluxe; Tom Schay, 1941 Packard



Bill Salamandrakis: 1971 Skylark restomod
Jeff Shugarman, 1965 Buick Skylark Special



Brad Meyers: 1971 Grand Sport convertible
Les Iden: 1972 Electra 225 Custom



Newer club member: Teresa Avina, 1937 Limo L90



Larry Minery: 1965 Wildcat Convertible.



Tom Schay; 1941 Packard
Tony & Laura Albin: : 1939 Ford Deluxe

THE RUNNING BOARD

ON THE HORIZON



THE WORLD'S
LARGEST
WEEKLY CAR
SHOW



CARS & COFFEE

SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

LOCATION: THE OUTLETS
SAN CLEMENTE

Meetup for Members to be arranged.

What to Expect:

- Lots of cars,
- Starbucks is there for coffee

THE RUNNING BOARD

ON THE HORIZON

OCCBCA EVENTS

Sep 12

Cars & Coffee
San Clemente, 9:00 am

Sep 26

OCCBCA Annual Picnic
Irvine Regional Park, Irvine

Oct 10

Western Regional All Buick Car Show
Fullerton, 9:00 am

Oct 17

OCCBCA Club Meeting
Marie Callender's, Anaheim

AWAKENING THE TITAN

PART 8

USE IT OR LOSE IT



MOONEYEYES
SPEED SHOP

ATLAS
RADIATOR
— Since 1950 —

B U I C K E I G H T



Use It or Lose It

The radiator came out of the '48 Buick Roadmaster two weeks ago. A relatively easy exercise getting her out after being told by Pops at Gary's Radiator that she wasn't holding pressure, looked to be the original, was having some leakage issues and needed to be replaced or re-cored.

The quote to replace her was a mule kick to the guts.

We opted for Plan B, and Pops told us to go see his friends at Atlas Radiator in Santa Fe Springs to get her re-cored.

I knew I liked the place before I even drove up their driveway.

You pass the Moon Speed Shop on the way to Atlas, its about two blocks away. Of course, we had to stop an look at some eye candy, have our eardrums blown out while they were tuning a supercharged streamliner headed for the Bonneville Salt Flats, and check out the general awesomeness of Dean Moon's iconic speed shop.



Iconic Moon Eyes

If you like hot rods, going fat and the coolest speed equipment in the world, you must go!

As we pulled into the driveway of Atlas Radiator, you are immediately struck by the sight of a beautiful hand cart, covered in polished diamond plate, that looks like a streamliner crossed with a silver chariot. This is where you put your offerings to the god of cooling so your radiator can be resurrected and reborn to fight another day in Valhalla.

We were helped by Chris, whose family has been in this game since the '50s. He told us to come back in about four or five days. It ended up being pushed to about 10, but he had the decency to ask if we had a car show we needed it ready for. If so, he'd push it to the head of the line.



Chariot carrying the radiator

That's a company I want to do business with!

We picked up the radiator a couple of days ago, freshly rebuilt and ready to go. This weekend will be the install, me thinks.

Hopefully we get a break from the heat.

Which brings me to something seemingly unrelated.

In the last two days, I've had the opportunity to service the windows of a new client and an existing client. Both men seemed to be about the same age: retired, married, kids, beautiful houses and cars. Both were full of the same piss and vinegar—a cheeky sense of humor, driven to achieve greatness, with a few curse words thrown in occasionally when the wife was out of earshot to emphasize a point.



Atlas Radiator

But mainly, there was that sharpness in the eye, if you bothered to look.

The new client had multiple computer screens on his desk and was charting and plotting the markets, especially the precious metals sector. He was rather surprised when I could converse with him on the topic.

Little did he know I was a precious metals broker for 25 years before starting the window detailing company.

He definitely has his finger on the pulse of the market and is still fully engaged. Talking with him about the various influences affecting prices and his projections going forward was quite nostalgic for me. He was still calculating the odds and weighing the outcomes affected by global influences, just like I did—and still do.



Precious Metals

At the brokerage, we called it juggling 16 balls in the air, all at once, and never being caught off guard by some random “black swan” event.

The rooms were purposely cold—62 degrees—and the coffee strong to keep the brokers sharp and on point.

The second client had one computer screen, not plugged into anything in particular, and an exceptionally beautiful view out his window of the beaches of San Clemente.

We got to talking, and he shared photos of his family and some of his motorized toys—boats, RVs, off-road vehicles—along with pictures of himself water skiing on just his feet, building houses with his son and doing the things that had filled his life.

He'd had numerous operations on his back and hips from his injuries. He moved slowly but deliberately.

Although a bit battered and worse for wear, I didn't see a man who had lost his faculties (though his wife would argue that point). To me, he looked disengaged.

And BORED.

Dementia is such an ugly word, and when someone stops actively engaging that most important muscle—the mind—he can begin to resemble the person others believe him to be.

After spending 25 years on the phone, making millions of calls, spending countless hours talking with clients while managing investment portfolios and retirement accounts, certain life truths become evident:

A man who has led a life of work, responsibility and authority must maintain some level of mental engagement, even if it is in another field entirely, or risk losing that sharpness through boredom and disengagement.

USE IT OR LOSE IT!



1959-61 Moon Eyes Yellow Dragster

In an industry where brokers routinely make 100-plus calls per day, we saw it time and again: the engineer, executive or businessman who retired without a hobby, business, project or purpose to occupy his mind often seemed to decline remarkably quickly, regardless of how much money he had squirreled away in his retirement accounts. I have 25 years of engaging with people daily and I'm saying there is something to having a life outside of work that keeps people sharp and engaged.

Retirement from a job shouldn't mean retirement from life.

It is my humble opinion that vehicles are the same.

Run them hard till they break.

Fix what breaks.

Run them hard again till they don't break.

But most importantly—

RUN THEM.

Respectfully Yours,

— Dino

Public Relations

Buick Club of America – OC Chapter



GARAGE HUMOR

**Back when you would buy a new couch
and it came attached to a car**



BIRTHDAYS

7 - Judy Griffin
11 - Michael Ortiz
20 - Greg Dean
21 - Larry Mustaller
22 - Marty Supple
30 - Laura Albin

Meeting Minutes

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER – BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.
- Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the sign-in sheet was completed and the July meeting minutes were approved.

Attendance

- 22 members in attendance.
- New member Bill Salamandrakis joined us in his red 1971 restomod Skylark.
- Learned about the club through Art Fortin from the Gilroy area.
- Registered for the Western Regional All Buick Car Show.
- Available to help with social media postings.
- Teresa Avina, a member since our Highway 39 event, brought her 1937 Limo L90.
- Available to help with car show logistics and event creation.
- Photos of the cars can be found on the Buick Club of America Orange County Facebook page.
- We look forward to meeting new members Eric Minor and Rex McMillan soon. Sam met them both last week and signed them up on the spot. Just wait until you see their Buicks!

Director's Comments

- Jeff requested volunteers to help with the upcoming Buick Show.
- Members were reminded to add photos to the club Dropbox account.
- Traffic to the OC Buick website continues to increase steadily.
- Hot Rods and Handguns: 11 club members visited throughout the morning.

Assistant Director's Report

- August 19–22: BCA National Meet — Albany, New York
 - Rory, Fred and Bruce attending.
- September 12: Cars and Coffee drive-to event — San Clemente, 9:00–11:00 a.m.
- September 26: OCCBCA Club Picnic — Irvine Regional Park
Members are requested to sign up by email.
- October 10: Western Regional All Buick Car Show — Fullerton Airport.

Treasurer report

- Club remains financially sound with a balance of approximately \$5,200.
- Membership funds continue to come in.
- Payments associated with the Buick Show are going out.
- Show budget is currently in progress; details to follow.
- One annual dues payment and four Buick Show registrations completed, with funds mailed to the Treasurer.

Secretary Report

- Buick Show registrations continue to come in steadily.
- Registration available through Eventbrite or paper forms available at club events.
- BCA membership and a fire extinguisher are required for vehicle check-in.

Newsletter Report

- Submissions for The Running Board requested by the 15th of each month.
- Articles generally appear 30–60 days after submission.
- Looking for: Member stories, photos, advertisements, articles

Public Relations Report

- Dino continues contacting club and BCA members about the upcoming Buick Show.
- Helping members with resources and insights to get their Buicks back on the road.
- Buick enthusiasts have been pleasantly surprised to hear directly from the chapter.
- Members are noticing the Buick Show flyer in the Buick Bugle and expressing interest in the variety of events our chapter puts on.

Open Discussion

- Jeff reported an increase in fuel economy while using the fuel tabs advertised in The Running Board.
- Dino is using Atlas Radiator locally and will provide a review and possible recommendation.
- Tom thanked Jessica for his article in the latest issue of The Running Board.
- Teresa mentioned a charity car show her club holds in November as a possible addition to our event schedule.
- Doug updated the club on his 1954 Buick Super Model 56R, now sporting a new windshield and trim.
- Neil organizes a parts swap meet on the third Sunday of every month at the Buena Park Elks location.
- Tony Martinez arrived in his recently purchased 2015 Volkswagen Beetle Turbo with a six-speed manual transmission.
- Lots of car-related news from our members — take pictures and share them to Dropbox!

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.
- Minutes prepared by Tony on August 19, 2026.
- Attendance sheet included as an attachment.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Albin

Secretary

Buick Club of America,

OC Chapter



WESTERN REGIONAL

ALL BUICK CAR SHOW

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 10, 2026

9AM TO 2PM

FULLERTON
AIRPORT

4011 Commonwealth Ave
Fullerton, CA 92833



HOSTED BY
THE ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER
OF THE BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA
orangecounty.buickclub.org



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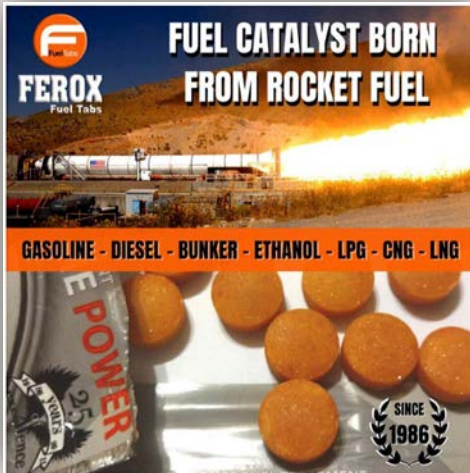
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The older, the better. Cosmetic condition is not important—functionality is key.

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

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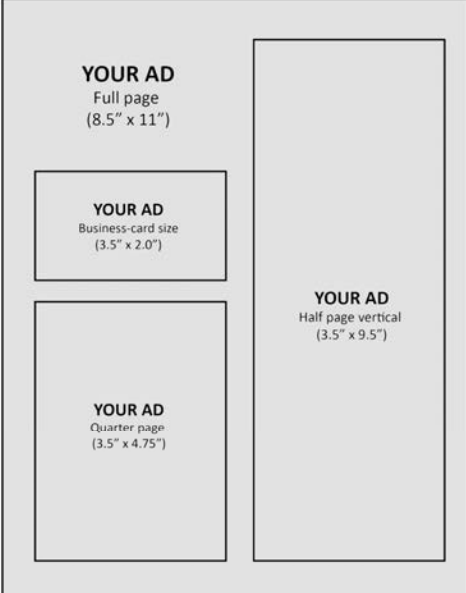
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ADVERTISE WITH THE RUNNING BOARD

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER, BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

ANNUAL ADVERTISING RATES

AD SIZE	ANNUAL RATE
 YOUR AD Full page (8.5" x 11") YOUR AD Business-card size (3.5" x 2.0") YOUR AD Quarter page (3.5" x 4.75") YOUR AD Half page vertical (3.5" x 9.5")	Business Card (1/8 PAGE) \$25 Quarter Page (1/4 PAGE) \$50 Half Page (1/2 PAGE) \$100 Full Page (FULL PAGE) \$200

Advertisements may be submitted in either portrait or landscape orientation, depending on the purchased ad size.

WHY ADVERTISE?

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Your Advertisement LIVES ON.

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QUESTIONS OR READY TO ADVERTISE?

Contact

JESSICA CHANDLER

EDITOR, THE RUNNING BOARD

✉ Jessica@OCBuickClub.com

☎ 858-361-1898





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 first day of the month.

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

Submissions:
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Crafted in collaboration with the unseen
hand of Aeth3r



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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.



WALLEY WORLD

**SORRY FOLKS!
WE'RE CLOSED.**

**Lou Glutz
motors**