



September 2013

The Buick Club of the Redwoods

PO Box 1027

Rohnert Park, CA 94927

www.buickcluboftheredwoods.com

Founded 1998

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday night of every month at Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, in the Safeway Shopping Center, Santa Rosa.

(Corner of Marlow and Guerneville Roads.)

Meetings start at 7:00; social time starts at 6:30. Stay after the meeting to socialize too!

Officers

Director: Keith Brumbley keithb1964@hotmail.com

Assistant Director: David Yoast

Secretary: Rebecca Kisling girlnmetro@msn.com

Treasurer: Rich Kahnberg 1185home@prodigy.net

Assistant Treasurer: Connie Lightell conniedee@aol.com

Photographer and Webmaster: Terry Eggleston
terenzio@sonic.net

Newsletter Editors: Keith Brumbley and Rebecca Kisling
buickclubredwoods@hotmail.com

The Nailhead News

Director's Message ~ September 2013

So I think I have told you before I get a lot of calls from people either looking for parts for Buicks or wanting to know what a car is worth. The best tool around to find that information is the Internet. You could spend a lifetime finding information about any car ever built or any number of websites to find that elusive part to finish a restoration. The trickiest question I get is: What is my car worth? Without seeing a car in person it's hard to tell what the value of a car is. Is it rare or built in low numbers? Probably not. Does it have sentimental value? Probably. The best website I have found that addresses collector car values is the Hagerty Insurance site. www.hagerty.com They insure collector cars based on an agreed value so they have an interest in knowing what all sorts of old cars are going for. You just go to the website and type in what you have and based on condition (from junkyard to showroom) and they can show you what past examples have sold for. Pretty handy tool if you need to know "What's my car worth?"

Keith Brumbley

Director



Minutes 8-14-13

Members present: David Yoast, Rebecca Kisling, Rich and April Kahnberg, Don and Lois Brooner, Mike Lightell, Stan Sollid, and Terry Eggleston.

Guests: None.

Treasurer: Rich reported on the bank balance.

Minutes: Approved.

Newsletter: The newsletter is now available on our club website under Members Only. Just enter the password and you can read and/or print it.

If anyone has photos of outings, or would like to write an article for the newsletter, please email them to Keith and Rebecca.

Website: Always something new on the website, so take a minute to check it out.

Check out the website for news on upcoming events.

Merchandise: We have club t-shirts available for \$15 and sweatshirts for \$25.

We sold two pins.

Old Business:

Our next club outing is August 24th. We will go on a picnic at Lake Sonoma. Please check your evite for all the details.

Terry has received some information about the club logo license plate frames and toppers. He showed us photos of some samples. We agreed we liked the metal license plate frames best. Terry will do some more research and report back to us. Stan will email a better resolution logo to Terry so he can show the vendors what we need.

Stan and Gail are back from Hot August Nights. Don and Lois attended also, but without showing a car. Stan said there were 6000 cars entered this year.

Members who attended the Penngrove car show reported a good time. The club was able to park together and use the EZ ups. David suggested the club make a donation of \$50 to the Penngrove Social Firemen to support their cause and help make park improvements. David noted that most of our members did not purchase the chicken bbq, which is how the firemen raise their funds. The motion was approved. Rich will send out the donation check.

A motion was made and approved to purchase a gift card of \$50 for Jeff and Bruce as a small thank you for the wonderful bbq they had for us in Guerneville. Suggestions were made as to the type of gift card. Safeway was the one we decided on.

Rich and April along with Don and Lois had a nice time at the Fortuna car show. Don and Lois won 1st place in the stock 1955-59 class. Lucky Lois also won \$1549 on a slot machine at Bear River casino!

There was a discussion about the upcoming progressive dinner. We will meet at Kmart and caravan together to the first house. Bring your Buick, as Terry will be taking a group shot at Don and Lois's house! We'll have appetizers at Don and Lois's house, main course at Rich and April's and dessert at Terry's.

Please make sure to RSVP when you receive your evite to club events. If for some reason you can't respond on the evite site, please email your response to Rebecca at girlnetro@msn.com A lot of effort is put into planning an outing (or two) for every month of the year, and we would appreciate your reply.

New Business:

Keith is not able to be here tonight. He is visiting a friend in Michigan.

There was a discussion about the upcoming car show in Pinole. There will be a special award for Best Buick, if enough Buicks show up. After the car show, we will travel a couple miles to Gene and Linda's house for a bbq.

Terry reported his VW is back on the road! He is happy there are no leaks this time.

Rich discussed the upcoming club calendar. There are 15 members interested in having their car in the calendar, so we will make a 15 month calendar to accommodate them all. Members should email high resolution photos of their car (no people!) with a nice background to Rich. Stan will do some touch up photo shopping as necessary. Terry is available to take photos of member's cars if they don't have a decent one.

Stan, Terry and Rich will meet next Tuesday at Mary's Pizza to further discuss the calendar project.

Mike reported that Bill Costello bought a new car. It's a 2009 Jaguar.

Rich said he sold his 1957 Corvette to a friend. He is now rearranging his garage and setting up his table saw in the empty space.

David informed those who didn't know that Rebecca's mother passed away. He made a motion to send a donation of \$100 to Forgotten Felines of Sonoma County in her memory. Motion was passed. Rich will send out the donation.

Upcoming Events:

***Please note: If you know of a car show, cruise in or swap meet, please pass the info on to our editors so the rest of the club can benefit. If you don't see it listed here, we don't know about it!**

Club Outings:

August 24th (Saturday) is a picnic at Lake Sonoma, followed by a visit to Coppola winery to see a 1948 Tucker.

September 8th (Sunday) is our club progressive dinner. We will visit three members' homes in Santa Rosa for appetizers, main course and dessert.

October 12th (Saturday) is a trip to Sonoma. We will visit Ed and Cynthia at their brand new home; take a trip to the Sonoma Airport to view the vintage aircraft and then lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Car Shows:

September 21st (Saturday) is the Billetproof Nor-Cal car show at the Contra Costa Fairgrounds in Antioch. 1964 and older. www.billetproof.com

September 22nd (Sunday) is the Pinole Fall Festival and Custom Car Show in Fernandez Park, Pinole. All cars, trucks, motorcycles and imports welcome.

October 13th (Sunday) is the 7th Annual Education Foundation Sonoma Mountain car show at Rogers Plaza in Rohnert Park. www.efcrp.org

July 23rd-26th, **2014** is the 42nd Annual BCA National Meet in Portland, Oregon. www.buickclub.org

Cruise Ins:

Friday nights (May –September) 5-8 PM at Big Boys Buns and Burgers, Larkfield Shopping Center, Santa Rosa.

2nd Saturday of the month (May-October) 2-5 PM at Straw Hat Pizza, 919 Golf Course Dr, Rohnert Park.

Last Sunday of the month (May- October) 12 Noon-3 PM at Fourth and Sea, 4th and C Streets, Petaluma.

Swap Meets:

Adjourned: 8:00 PM.

Raffle: 50/50 of \$15 won by April.

BCR Outing August 2013

We met at our regular meeting spot in the Kmart parking lot in Santa Rosa. While waiting for everyone to arrive, we had several people driving by to check out the cars. Even one potential member who has a Reatta!

Attending were Rich and April with Neo, their 1966 Riviera, Terry with his 1960 VW named Red Baron, David and Rebecca with Pearl, their 1957 Special, Gene and Linda with their 1955 Special, and Jeff and Bruce with their 1970 Skylark.

After everyone arrived, we caravanned up to Lake Sonoma. The recreation area was closed for the weekend due to a scouting event. The scout leaders graciously allowed us to have our picnic away from the activities.

We had a nice picnic lunch and everyone brought items to share. The weather was good and we enjoyed relaxing and chatting with our friends. For dessert, we were lucky to eat the World's Best Carrot Cake made for us by Linda! It was so yummy.

We had our club photographer, Terry, on hand to take some nice photos of our cars. What did we ever do without him? We are grateful for his skill and talent.

After the picnic and photo session, some of us went a little farther north to Francis Ford Coppola's winery to take a look at the Tucker he has on display. It was a very nice day shared with a great group of people.

Photos by: Terry Eggleston and Rebecca Kisling.



A dinosaur stopped by Kmart on the way to Burning Man. She liked our Buicks!













Hot August Nights 2013: The Cream of the Crop

As all of you know, Stan and Gail have a beautiful 1949 Buick Roadmaster named Liz. They took her up to Reno for Hot August Nights. She was chosen to be a finalist for the very first Barrett Jackson award at HAN. She was one of 45 cars chosen to compete for the top five. This was the cream of the crop among the 6000 cars that attended. Liz came away with the biggest and prettiest ribbon we've ever seen! Stan and Gail are very proud of her. Congratulations to all three of you!





The World's Only Buick-Powered Buick Funny Car

Hot Rod Homecoming 2013

By Elana Scherr

Hot Rod Magazine March 2013

There are some unusual racecars here. Twin engine machines, rally Mercurys, and diesel-powered muscle cars are all rather rare sightings, but the Skylark funny car owned by John Lipori of Marina, California is one of those “Wait, what?!” moments as you pass it in the aisle.

John says the car was built by his father, Jerry Lipori, in Brooklyn back in 1967. Papa Lipori's partner Steve, owned a Buick dealership, and, this being the rise of the funny car madness, the guys thought a Buick flopper would be just the ticket to boost sales. The mold was made off a complete Skylark from the dealer show floor, you can even see the part numbers in the turn signal lights. Normally, a body would be smoothed and filled before a mold is made, so the little details like an imprint of the front of the car inside the fiberglass body make this very unique. As a former moldmaker, I can only say, wow that must have been a heck of a job to get out of the mold.

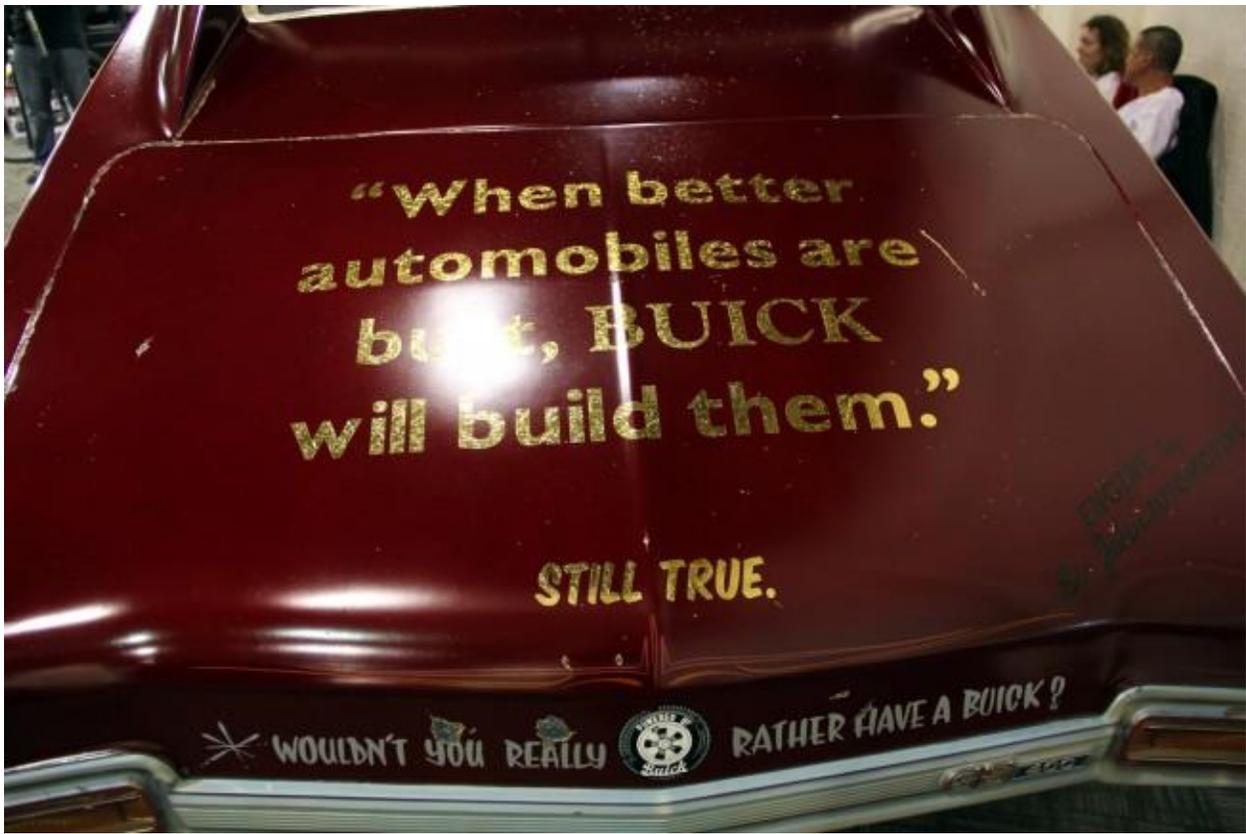
Still, they did it, and made two bodies. One was hemi powered and eventually crashed, but this one survived. Even more surprising, its Buick big-block powered. The engine is a blown Buick 430, and with lots of custom internals, it ran a best of 7.91 @ 191 mph.

Besides being cool and strange, the dealers group car is a really good example of exactly how big drag racing was in the late '60's, and how independent teams spring up all over the country racing the cars that were important to them.

For more info on the Ingénue, go to Jerry's site: Buickfunnycar.com or grab your back issues of Hot Rod and look for the August 2010 story on the car.







Bill Smith's Museum of American Speed

By Wayne Metz

Speedy Bill Smith started selling parts from his pick up truck in 1938, going from town to town. He manufactured speed parts, then got into his truck and went and sold them. Today, he has several buildings in Lincoln where he still manufactures parts and sells them on the inter net. He also has a Museum that is 3 stories high filled with all kinds of cars, race cars, pedal cars, collector cars plus taxi cabs, lunch pails and other memorabilia.

It is a pleasure to view his collection and is very impressive. I believe his collection in the museum covers about 300,000 sq feet, much bigger than the Black Hawk Museum. He has another one or two buildings containing cars and memorabilia, some restored, others being restored.

If you ever get to Lincoln, put Speedy Bill Smith's Museum in your Bucket List.





Bill's Flagship Pedal Car. Enclosed in glass.



Buick pedal car





Gail with some of Bill Smith's 4500 pedal cars





Speedy Bill found this fancy pedal car in the attic of an estate sale. It is in very good condition. The next picture is of the little boy who owned it in the 1920's. He came into Bill's museum, saw the car, and came back with a picture of him with his pedal car from many years ago.



1914 Buick Cycle Car

www.conceptcarz.com

This experimental vehicle was designed for Buick by Walter L. Marr and built in 1914 in Flint, Michigan. It has a 4-cylinder side-valve engine mounted on a 100-inch wheelbase frame which utilizes elliptic springs front and rear.

The car was given to Walter Marr after Buick decided it was too costly to produce and would not be a production vehicle. It remained in the family, being passed down to son Walter D. Marr, who restored the car in 1946, and then given to his grandson, Richard Marr.

A Generational Ride

www.maryannesantiz.com

Heads turn when Richard Marr occasionally drives his unique automobile through his Ocala Palms neighborhood. The 1914 cycle car is more than just a collectible, though. It's all about keeping family history alive.

At a recent classic car show in The Villages, the crowd around a small two-seat auto was so deep that it was nearly impossible to find the owner, Richard Marr. His derby hat and warm smile gave him away as he climbed behind the wheel of a 1914 Buick "light" car designed by his late grandfather, Walter L. Marr, who was the chief engineer for Buick from 1904 to 1918.

From a distance, the narrow vehicle looked like an elongated golf cart. Up close, however, bystanders knew the tan convertible was something really special. The one-of-a-kind car is a priceless heirloom to the Marr family.

"My grandfather designed it as an experimental cycle—or light—car for Buick," says Richard. "He drew the original plan on a napkin around 1912, with details that were unbelievable. It looked like a finished drawing."

Intended for the European market where the streets were narrow, the cycle car has a 100-inch wheel base and weighs only 600 pounds. In the early 20th century, it was not unusual for cars to get stuck in buggy tracks. Two people could easily pick up the cycle car and move it to solid ground. The lone passenger seat was directly behind the driver, and that may have been its undoing as automotive manufacturers were moving toward mass production.

“Buick decided not to continue building the car because it was more economical to build a four-passenger car than a two-seater,” explains Richard. “The car, which Buick called ‘Walter’s Baby’, was returned to my grandfather.”

The car had many firsts, according to Richard. It was the first to have a curved radiator, a slip transmission, an electric starter, and a very unique telescoping steering wheel.

“I would not be able to get in and out of the car if the steering wheel didn’t move in and out,” says Richard. “General Motors brought those steering wheels back briefly in the 1960s.”

The car eventually was passed down to Richard’s father, Walter D. Marr, who restored it in 1946. Richard remembers riding in the car as a youngster and as a young man. He also has fond memories of his grandfather.

“When he would pick me up, I’d pull his goatee and he’d stick out his tongue,” Richard remembers with a smile. “He was very soft-spoken and very loving to all his grandchildren.”

Along with eventually inheriting the car from his father, Richard also is the keeper of many of the family memories and legends about his grandfather, who partnered with David Dunbar Buick at the turn of the 20th century to build valve-in-head engines. Their engine design was considered superior to the conventional L-or T-head engines of the time.

Buick’s Amazing Engineer, a 2007 book by the late noted automotive historian Bev Kimes, describes Walter Marr as a brilliant and innovative engineer whose “contributions made the Buick one of America’s most desirable automobiles in the early part of the 20th century.”

Even before he became Buick's chief engineer, Walter Marr was a tinkerer. His grandson still has a carburetor built by the W.L. Marr Company in 1902. Walter Marr also created the Marr Auto-Car Company in 1903-04. A Friday, the 13th, fire wiped out the Marr-Auto Car factory but one car survived. Years later, the Ford Museum acquired the unusual auto, believing it to be a Ford. However, as they started the restoration they realized it was a Marr-Auto Car. The vehicle eventually came back into the family and a cousin of Richard's now owns it.

"When my grandfather had an idea- whether it was a car, plane, or a part- he would sketch what he wanted it to look like on a piece of paper and then give it to his draftsman," says Richard. "He was a perfectionist, too. Every detail had to be just right."

Although the Marrs originally hailed from Michigan, Richard describes his grandfather as a "true Southern gentleman." Illness forced Walter Marr to retire to a warmer climate and he chose Signal Mountain, near Chattanooga. His custom-built home, 'Marrcrest,' has stayed in the family since the elder Marr's death in 1941. Richard says it was not unusual for the Buick Corporation to ship cars down to him when they couldn't figure out what was wrong.

"Today, he'd be called a consultant," says Sue Marr, who has been married to Richard for 54 years. The couple grew up in automotive families, and her grandfather actually worked for Walter Marr at Buick.

"Cars are the thread that runs through our family," she said.

Indeed that thread will continue as the antique car will stay in the family for quite awhile. The couple's youngest son, Peter, is next in line to get it. According to his parents, Peter inherited his great-grandfather's engineering talent and keeps the car running smoothly.

But for now, Richard and Sue still enjoy driving the diminutive automobile in Ocala Palms' Christmas and July 4th parades. Although they participated in GM's 100th anniversary parade in 2008 in Flint, the Marrs usually stick to classic car shows closer to home.

"I trust the car, but I don't trust other drivers," says Richard, whose regular means of transportation is still a Buick.

A former corporate yacht captain and horse trainer, Richard spends much of his time in his home woodworking shop. He is a noted wood turner whose unique pieces sell around the country. Although his medium is wood as opposed to metal, Sue says her husband shows the same attention to detail and perfection that his grandfather did.

“Those traits didn’t fall far from the tree,” she says with a smile.



Walter L. Marr



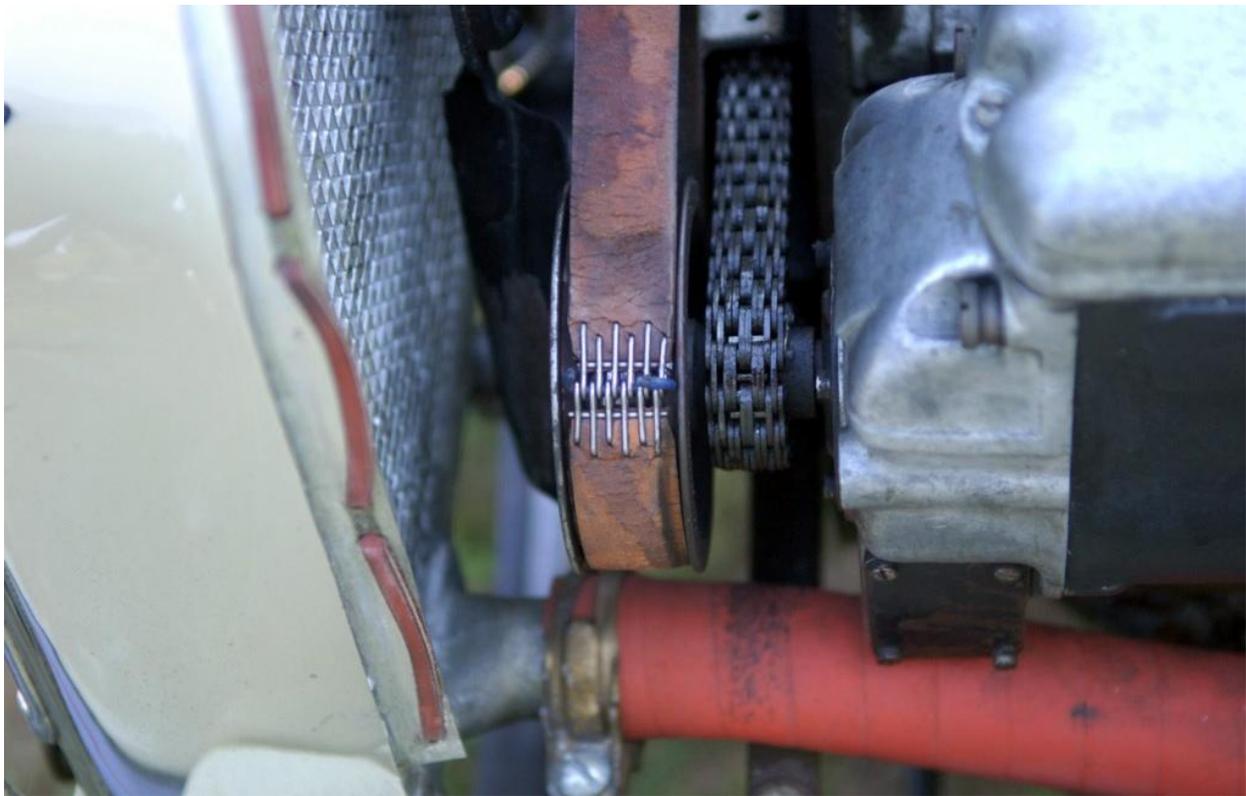
Richard Marr













Al Capone's Car

Submitted by Terry Eggleston

Hours after Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the Secret Service found themselves in a bind. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was to give his infamy speech to Congress the next day, and although the trip from the White House to Capitol Hill was short, agents weren't sure how to transport him safely. At the time, Federal Law prohibited buying any cars that cost more than \$750, so they would have to get clearance from Congress to do that, and nobody had time for that.

One of the Secret Service members, however, discovered that the US Treasury had seized the bulletproof car that mobster Al Capone owned when he was sent to jail in 1931. They cleaned it, made sure it was running fine and had it ready for the President the day after.

And run properly it did. Capone's car was a sight to behold. It had been painted black and green so as to look identical to Chicago's police cars at the time. It also had a specially installed siren and flashing lights hidden behind the grille, along with a police scanner radio. To top it off, the gangster's 1928 Cadillac 341A Town Sedan had 3,000 pounds of armor and inch-thick bulletproof windows. Mechanics are said to have cleaned and checked each feature of the Caddy well into the night of December 7th, to make sure that it would run properly the next day for the Commander in Chief.

The car was sold at an auction price of \$341,000 in 2012.



Car Spotter

Cars seen around Sonoma County





Membership Profile ~ none

We have no member profile this month. We still have a few members that we haven't had the opportunity to profile yet. If you are on this short list, please consider letting us feature you and your car in this section. It is a great way to let members get to know you a little better.





Buick Club of the Redwoods, a Chapter of the *Buick Club of America*, would like to extend an invitation to you to attend our next monthly meeting. We are a group of Buick owners and lovers, interested in the preservation and enjoyment of Buicks through the ages.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 PM.

We meet in one of the private rooms at Round Table Pizza located in the Safeway Shopping Center, 1791 Marlow Road, Santa Rosa, CA. (Corner of Marlow and Guerneville Roads).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BCA# _____ Exp. _____
(Please Print)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email address(es) to receive Chapter Newsletter and Chapter event information _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell(s) _____ Other _____

List any Buicks owned. Include year, model, body style and any nickname.

Other car club affiliations and vehicles _____

Optional: Birthday(s) or Anniversary _____

Please make your \$15.00 membership check payable to: Buick Club of the Redwoods.
Mail to: Buick Club of the Redwoods, P.O. Box 1027, Rohnert Park, CA 94927-1027

-----Please do not write below this line-----

Date paid _____ Amount _____ Check # _____ Date Club Patch Given _____



BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Application for Membership

BCA Website
www.BuickClub.org

The Buick Club of America is a non-profit membership corporation dedicated to the preservation and restoration of those vehicles built by Buick Motor Division of General Motors Corporation. BCA membership (includes spouse and minor children only) offers you the following:

- Monthly issue of *The Buick Bugle* published by the BCA.
- Advertising privilege in *The Buick Bugle* for Buick-related items.
- Participation in all club events and opportunity to join local chapters and divisions.
- Membership card, and as a new member, one BCA decal. (Additional decals can be purchased from San Gabriel Valley Chapter.)

BCA MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULE

Membership is on an annual basis beginning with the month following receipt of application. Membership is available in increments as follows:

	1 year	2 year	3 year
USA Periodical Class	\$50.00	\$95.00	\$130.00
USA First Class	\$70.00	\$130.00	\$200.00
Can. & Mexico Periodical	\$68.00	\$131.00	\$194.00
Can. & Mexico Priority	\$93.00	\$181.00	\$269.00
International Surface	\$68.00	\$131.00	\$194.00
International Air Mail	\$98.00	\$191.00	\$284.00
E-Membership	\$35.00		

(E-Membership is an online Bugle only; no hard copy — email required)

Without right of transfer or survivorships. Dues are non-refundable.

All foreign countries note: Membership dues and all other financial transactions with the BCA must be a bank draft, drawn on a U.S.A. bank and payable in U.S.A. currency, MasterCard, VISA or Discover charge cards. Make all checks payable to The Buick Club of America. The U.S.A. annual membership is \$50.00.

Name: _____

Spouse (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
(include zip + 4 digit)

Country: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Check here if you do not want your phone number printed in the roster.

E-mail Address: _____

Sponsoring Member: _____ (not required)

New or Renewal: BCA # _____
(If you are a renewing member, please include your current mailing label.)

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check/Money Order # _____

Visa Mastercard Discover

Date Processed: _____

Expire Date: _____

1st Class Surface Air

The information entered on this application will appear in the Buick Club of America Roster when printed. If you prefer to have your information withheld from the Roster, place a mark in this box.

Buicks Currently Owned (Buick Ownership is not a pre-requisite for membership in the BCA)

Year	Model Number or Type	Body Style (4 dr./2 dr.)	Vehicle ID Number (VIN Number on Registration)

Check or Money Order made payable to Buick Club of America. Foreign country applicants must use bank draft, money order drawn on USA bank and payable in USA currency.) OR

Mastercard Visa Discover **(Check One)** Amount _____
_____/_____/_____ \$ _____

Credit Card expiration date Month/Year. Must have this information to process.

Print full name on credit card if different than name on application (____)

Authorized Signature _____ Daytime Phone Number _____

Return Applications to:
Buick Club of America
P.O. Box 360775
Columbus, Ohio 43236-0775

E-mail:
buickcluboffice@aol.com

Questions?
Call (614) 472-3939
Fax (614) 472-3222

Classifieds

For Sale: We have a limited number of Buick Club of the Redwoods t-shirts and sweatshirts available for sale. They are white with a full size club logo on the front. T-shirts are \$15 and sweatshirts are \$25. Shop early for best selection.

For Sale: 1933 LaSalle 345C Town Coupe.

Beautiful rare classic matching numbers car. V8. All around good condition. Two tone navy & black paint, good headliner, original upholstery, chrome, & wood trim dash. Tires like new. Spoke wheels, sidemounts. Built-in trunk, luggage rack. Extra parts. Driven weekly. Offered at \$48,500.

Ed Petersen, Sonoma. (707) 935-8979, e-mail: edncyn@att.net for additional photos or information.



If anyone has anything to put in the classifieds, please email the info to buickclubredwoods@hotmail.com



"In less enlightened times, the best way to impress women was to own a hot car. But women wised up and realized it was better to buy their own hot cars so they wouldn't have to ride around with jerks."

< Scott Adams >