

The Driving Force



An Important Announcement from the Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors directed me at the National Tour in May, as editor of the Driving Force, to distribute our newsletter electronically. We asked in the last issue that you take the time to contact either Isabel Lenny or myself with your comments, regarding the change to electronic delivery. Would you like it? Or stay with mailed copy? Only a handful of you replied and most of those replies did not indicate their preference of delivery only informed us of email addresses. If we do not hear from you and you have email we will accept that you will receive the Driving Force by email. We do have 33 members who wish to receive it by regular mail.

Thank you to the members who did indicate their preference, it makes my job easier. Keith

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Ride along as the BDE roars ahead

WOODS, Ronald P. – of Davison, age 71, passed away June 6, 2015. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Kidney Foundation.

Ronald was born in Flint, MI on January 4, 1944, son of the late Ralph and Arlene (Crane) Woods. He married Gail Sage on May 10, 1979. Ronald retired from Buick as a designer. He was a member of the Buick Club of America, Buick Town Chapter, Buick Driving Enthusiast and Flint Folk Music Society. Ronald enjoyed playing guitar and banjo. He especially loved to sing to his grandchildren.



On Tuesday, July 14, 2015 the BCA and BDE lost another special person. Paul Meyer BDE #329, BCA #29574, Bridgeton, MO passed away. He had been fighting the big C for a long time and it finally claimed him. He was a former President of the BCA and served on the Board for a total of 13 years. Paul and Mary Ann enjoyed the After Tours and made them lots of fun. We especially enjoyed their company on the tour back from Bellevue, WA. and the good times back at their compound after another wild After Tour.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his widow, Mary Ann and to his family.

This picture was taken in 2007 on the After Tour at the Virginian Hotel.

July 23, 2015, BDE #41, BCA #13238 Charles Greenly of Longmont, Colorado, passed away after suffering with bone cancer . He was a GENTLEMAN of the highest order. Charles and Fran drove to our 2007 BDE Fall tour in Alliston and then drove to the eastern mountains so Fran could see the colors. She passed away shortly after. Chas drove to Corning in 2014 bringing along an old school pal for company.

Here he is in Abilene, Kansas at the fall tour with his “harem”, Paula Liska, Marie Beaton, Ann Bell and Judy Hess, all widows whose partners enjoyed the BDE to the fullest with their wives.



On July 26, Richard Haggan BDE #388 of Greely, Colorado, husband of Paulette passed away. He had a bad heart condition. They were on this years after tour as well as other BDE tours.

Rich and Paulette were on the 2014 after tour and treated us all to fresh peaches and cherries during the tour. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Paulette and their family.

This picture was taken in Virginia City, NV during the overnight stop there on the 2014 after tour.

Shifting gears with the Directors

Skip Petsch, , Senior Director

Hello everyone . The heat here in the sunny south is HOT. Temperatures are in the 90's. Humidity about the same. Jane and I look forward to the FL Tour in Oct. We will have all the info for the GA tour in May 2016. We are tying up all the loose ends now. We hope everyone will enjoy what we have put together. Can't wait to see the radio control cars some of you guys have. Are any of them BUICKS? That would be cool. Hope all is well in your neck of the woods. I'm still recuperating from back surgery; it's a slow go, but it was worth it. The wagon is still in progress.

Keep the rubber on the road and the shiny side up.
Skip Petsch , Sr Director

John Daily, Middle Director

Kathy & I have continued to work on our event for 2017. We have been to the Traverse City area again to flesh out the actual tour destinations & a proposed agenda for Monday thru Friday, including a formal ice cream stop & a winery tour. We have not contacted Haggerty yet for their actual date, but it has also been preliminarily written in. We have been looking for the lunch stops, which is always an issue due to the number of participants we have at each tour. We found a Polish restaurant/lodge that will only be open as of Friday due to the time of year. They will open for the summer, initially on the day before, for 2017. We drove some of the roads to begin the selection of proposed routes of travel. We spent two days doing this because it is a large area.

Good news. After negotiations with Shanty Creek, we have found a large enough room for our "hospitality room" that will allow us to bring in our own snacks. This has been a sticking point with them since our initial selection of rooming , & has taken three visits to resolve.

Frank Cwikla, Junior Director

Has been a busy summer. We are going on a trip to Croatia tomorrow and will be back on Sept 3. Hope by then we will be working on places to go in 2018 spring tour. So far it might be Chula Vista Resort in Wi. Dells or Voyager in Reedsburg. Will be trying to find places in all four directions, n, s, e, and w. See you in Florida in fall.

My email has changed to kaycwikla@gmail.com.

Frank Cwikla

Guy Greene, Chaplain - THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Today and everyday is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The end of August, who would believe this year, like so many others before it, has past so quickly. The older I get the faster time seems to pass. Life is truly short, and we need to make the most of everyday we have been given. I know I'm guilty of wasting a lot time, just doing nothing.

As you have seen in this edition, we have more obituaries for dear BDE members. We just ask the Good Lord to comfort the grieving families of those our club has lost recently. Father in heaven, let each one that knew and loved these individuals have fond memories and happy thoughts about the lives they lived.

We do need to keep in prayer our "crazy" country (world). The senseless killing of innocent individuals is just gone way too far. Laws are not going to change that for the most part, it is going to take mind, and heart changes. Our military members constantly need our prayers, for safety and for healing of those that have been wounded.

Our club is made up of so many fantastic folks from all walks of life and from all parts of the country. We are blessed to have each other as brothers and sisters, and must remember to take advantage of each moment we are able to spend time together. With that in mind, I for one am looking forward to our Fall Tour in the Orlando area. God be with each of you as you travel there to join in the fun and fellowship we always have together.

Isabel Lenny, Membership chair

The BDE membership renewal form is included in this newsletter. Dues are \$15 a year and payable by December 31st of this year for the year 2016. Please complete the renewal form, including your current email address printed clearly and make the check out to the BDE. The following members have already paid their dues for 2016:

Beal, Bell, Blizzard, Brantley, Brumbaugh, Cantrell, Colter, Cwikla, Eichelberger, Fritz, Duckett, Gehl, Geisler, Hall, Hineman, Hodges, Langdon, Meyer (Denny), Puff, Reuter, Sawdon, Schaedel, Scheib, Steffy, Tyyska, Volling, and Weber.

Our sympathies go to the families of the following BDE members: Ron Wood, Charles Greenly, and Richard Haggan. We also lost a former member, Paul Meyer.

Isabel Lenny
Membership chairman

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Al Eichelberger/Bill Schoening BDE #51 of Tuscon, Arizona

Steve Ledger BDE #419 of Island Lake, Illinois

Richard and Beverly Kowalik, BDE @238, 2193 Heritage Lane, New Brighton, MN 55112

LIFETIME MEMBERS

At the BDE National Tour on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, Katie and Bob Montgomery and Alice and John Westfall were honored with lifetime memberships in the BDE.

Following is a note from Katie and Bob:

Dear Fellow BDE Friends,

Bob and I feel so blessed to have received the Lifetime Membership.

The years we spent traveling with you, were some of the best times of our lives. We remember the feeling of family so vividly. We saw places we might NEVER have, if we had not been with you.

Thank you - God Bless!

Katie and Bob

As Wendy and I were unable to make it to the National Meet, I asked Derek Thille to write a story for our Canadian Club, it was so good I thought I would share it with the BDE.

2015 Buick Club of America National Meet, Springfield, MO By Derek Thille

This year's BCA National Meet was hard on MBCC members. Keith and Wendy Horsfall turned back due to illness, Bill McLaughlin decided not to drive his '29 as he usually does due to a lack of confidence in its brakes, Jesse Cahue had radiator leak issues and we left our '75 Electra in the hands of a small town Minnesota mechanic after overheating.

As usual, the meet is one of the biggest events of the year for Buick people. We arrived Tuesday, June 9 after arranging a rental car to get us to the Twin Cities and then borrowing a 1998 Riviera from a friend to attend the meet. The Ramada Oasis was a very nice facility for the meet. Meeting rooms in the hotel and convention center gave plenty of space for all the functions.

Suzanne and I left the teenagers at home this year as the boys were writing high school exams (one of the down sides to more southern locales for meets as the date tends to move earlier to avoid the high summer heat days). It was quite nice to get away just the two of us. Without minors along, we were able to take in the winery and brewery tour. There was some confusion over the tours, but the locations handled it in stride. The first stop was 7Cs Winery (<http://www.7cswinery.com/>) where they produce wine and mead from primarily Missouri grown fruit. It was a smaller tour group, so we were all able to get to the bar for the tasting of their products which varied from dry to dessert levels of sweetness. While some looked over the retail side of the operation, many of us took the opportunity to see the production area - nothing was in process at the time, but it was interesting to see the equipment and the scaling that has to occur beyond home winemaking hobby efforts. Many of us purchased at least some of their product, much of which is packaged in bags. This is a more environmentally sound package as lighter weight makes transport easier and the bags are recyclable. From there we bussed to Springfield Brewing Company (<http://www.springfieldbrewingco.com/>) for lunch and a tour of their facility. It was very impressive, not to mention tasty. Aside from being available on-site, the microbrew-

ery's product was available for sale locally in both bars and retail outlets. It was a learning experience to hear about the brewing of beer.

We spent some time going through both the indoor and outdoor swap meet areas. As temperature and humidity were higher than we were used to, strategically choosing when to venture to the outdoor swap area was considered wise... I'm not necessarily wise. There were a good number of vendors, I found a nice wheel center to replace one I've apparently lost, and Suzanne found some mementos to bring home. On Friday morning we wandered on our own to Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World. This is a very large store with many aquariums containing a variety of freshwater fish including some large alligator gar. There are quite a few sights to see in the area, but we didn't get around to much. Some of the locales are a ride through caverns, a Civil War battlefield, and the Route 66 Museum. I understand from some who went there that the display was presently about a history of racing.

Buick automobiles are what drew us to these clubs and events initially, but for quite some time, it has been more about the people and enjoying the company of others who have an interest in the old car hobby. This year I spent some time volunteering at the photo lane – this allowed the opportunity to chat with a number of owners as we lined up their cars for photos and gathered information to ensure they were properly identified. While I was doing this, Suzanne helped out at the front gate directing traffic – I'm sure this was chosen for the ability to drive a golf cart.

I spent a fair bit of time with pre-war folks this year.

Larry Schramm (from the Detroit area) was there with his 1915 Buick C-4 Commercial Car. He took me for a ride and when we spotted an ice cream drive-in, he decided we should get something to bring back to our wives. The turning radius didn't really allow for the drive through, so we stopped and walked up. The young folks were very appreciative of the truck and some were incredulous when Larry cranked it to start again.

While I'm not an aficionado of custom cars, I did chat with Bob Starzyk – he is replacing Keith Horsfall as head of the modified class of judging – and spent some time looking over the modified Buicks. The workmanship of these cars is incredible. I particularly liked a black and white 1953 convertible.

Saturday is reserved for the judging of the cars. I've participated in this for a number of years and continue to enjoy it. The level of the cars is to the point where most now generally receive an award. I really like the unrestored or archival cars. This year there was a 1916 touring car that has been in the same family since new. It is impressive to see original pre-war cars that are still on the road with primarily just maintenance after all these years.



One highlight of the meet was the presence of the 1953 Wildcat concept car. This car has a number of features that are extremely interesting, including "Rotostatic" front hub caps – these don't rotate with the wheel as there is an opening in the front to allow air flow for brake cooling. It was a bittersweet moment to see the Wildcat being loaded into a transport truck Saturday afternoon. It was impressive to hear and see this car moving under its own power (and attracting a crowd), but it was also signaling the end of the meet.

There was a large number of 1965 Gran Sport models at this year's meet to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Buick's foray into performance oriented cars. From personal experience, I know the 401 is a good engine in my 4000 lb Wildcat – imagining it in a smaller and lighter car makes one giggle with the sportiness that package imparts.

At the awards banquet, international attendees were recognized. We were surprised that, while others had registered, we were the only Canadians in attendance. That was quite unusual. The food was good, the company was good, and the ceremonies were relatively short, which our derrieres appreciated. This was a smaller meet than many years, but it was an enjoyable one.

Our drive home was a bit happier than the drive down. After getting a late start due to attending mass before leaving Springfield, we got to the Twin Cities later Sunday evening, swapped the Riviera for the rental car, and headed for our bed for the night. We wanted to get an early start on Monday, but it didn't quite work out that way. We drove the rental and the Electra's repairs were in order (new rad, hoses, thermostat). We returned the rental and transferred our stuff back to the Electra and headed home for the last 300 odd miles. It was a bit uncomfortable with the A/C not working, but there's nothing like the ride of a Buick...like driving an easy chair down the highway.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the people on the after tour who took the time to send me a daily report. It sounds like you had a great time, sorry we missed it. Keith and Wendy

“BDE After Tour” Sunday, June 14, 2015

This year the BCA National Meet was held in Springfield, MO. At 9am Sunday June 14th, 22 cars and 43 Buick enthusiasts gathered for the initial briefing at the start of the 2015 “BDE After Tour”. As the name implies, the “BDE After Tour” is a progressive driving tour that follows the conclusion of the BCA National Meet. Hosted by BDE members, Shar and Bruce Kile, this was the 21th consecutive year that they have planned and led this event. The title “BDE After Tour” distinguishes this tour, which is supported by the Buick Driving Enthusiast Division, from other tours planned and led by others.

At the morning briefing, Bruce introduced all present and reviewed good touring procedures. Then our caravan lined up with the oldest Buicks at the front. Our rides ranged from a 1940 Roadmaster to a 2011 Lacrosse. Our first stop was at the site of the Civil War battlefield at Wilson’s Creek nearby to Springfield. After viewing a film on the battle, and listening to a talk provided by a Park Ranger, some of our group made a loop of the battlefield while others looked at the exhibits in the visitor center.

Once our caravan had reformed, we headed to the small community of Nixa. In Nixa we enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Buckingham Smoke House. The Kiles are not only excellent at planning interesting sites to see on these tours, they also have a knack for finding great places to eat. Occasionally, ice cream is involved.

Once back in our Buicks, we drove fine rural roads to the outside of Mansfield, MO to visit the “Little House On The Prairie”. In the 1930s Laura Ingalls Wilder was writing her “Little House” series of children’s books. In 1974 the “Little House On The Prairie” was loosely adapted as a TV drama. We toured the home and the museum and learned more about the non-fictional Ingalls and Wilder families. Sadly, one of our group was shocked to learn that the book title was “Little HOUSE On The Prairie”, and NOT “Little HORSE On The Prairie”. Therapy was administered at the tour’s end.

Leaving the “Little House On The Prairie” compound, we drove to West Plains, MO where we spent the night resting up for Monday’s adventures.

Ed and Isabel Lenny



“BDE After Tour” Monday, June 15, 2015

The usual start to the day, a prayer by Bruce followed by “God Bless America”. Shar passed out dash plaques to each car. We drove a short distance to “Downtown Antiques” in West Plains, they opened early for us and we spent about an



hour there. We had a visit from a local Buick Hearse. Departing West Plains, we followed US 160 to

Doniphan for lunch about 75 miles. This was a scenic drive up and down rolling hills and lots of curves. Of course there was plenty of time for “CB Stories” There is no Cellular service in that area. Our lunch stop in Doniphan was at “Patsy’s Journeyman”. We had the choice of a nice buffet or could order from the menu.

After lunch we drove along 160 to 142 and arrived at the “Briggs and Stratton” small engine assembly

plant in Popular Bluff, MO. We were met by Pam Sullivan and Matt Johnson, who led us to their training room. Matt is their resource person and gave us basic about the company, which was formed in 1908. They build primarily small engines. Beside the warehouse they have 300,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space. After a tour we returned to the



training room for more questions. Parts are cast at the plant which has been in this location since 1989. There are 831 employees, which makes it the second largest employer in Popular Bluff. They have built over 75,000,000 engines here since 1989. Between October and June they build 13,600 engines per day. We could not take pictures in the plant.



De-

parting Briggs and Stratton, it was a short drive to the MOARK Regional Railroad Museum also in Popular Bluff. We had time to tour the museum and a very large model railroad set up which was running for us to see. We had about 50 miles to drive to our motel and arrived in Sikeston, MO.

Fran and Herb Pasch



Tuesday, June 16, 2015

We pulled out of Sikeston, Missouri around 8:30 a. m. with the oldest cars behind the Kiles and Blizzards tail gunning. Frank Cwikla (after working on his car most of the night) pulled over almost immediately after pulling out. The Blizzards pulled over with them. John Dale was all set to send his driver to pick up their car and tow it back to Charleston when Frank made a minor adjustment and Ole Blue was on the road again for the remainder of the tour. The Buntaines were also having some problems but with a minor adjustment caught up with us in a short time. The joys of our wonderful antique cars. We joked on the CB that we were running out of tail gunners. We followed the National Route from Sikeston, Missouri thru Cairo, Illinois crossing over the Ohio River to Wickliffe, Kentucky (3 states in less than a ½ hour of driv-



ing) Driving on a very narrow winding road we came across a hand written sign on the right side which said "CAUTION – Old Lady Crossing Road in 150 Ft." A small house on the right with the mailbox on the left. We decided she couldn't be too bad as she had a Buick in her driveway. We arrived in Paducah, Kentucky – known as the quilting capitol. We had 3 hours on our own – many went to the quilting museum. Others went to the Discovery Museum which gave the history of steam boating on the Rivers. The flood gate wall along the water front had murals depicting the steam boat era. We also found many great places to eat and stores to browse in. Then off to Metropolis, Illinois – home of SUPERMAN. Many of

us had our picture taken at the 15 foot statue of SUPERMAN before heading to Harrah's – a casino hotel. A few ladies had a ball playing the penny slots – won't mention any names of who got the most excited when they made a couple of cents before losing their \$1. You can play for hours if you bet a penny at a time. It was rumored that Joyce lost and John won so they came out even???? Others weren't telling if they won or lost. If you registered to play the slots, you were given a coupon for a free buffet that would have cost \$16.99. It was another wonderful day with our Buick Family.

I hope I have captured the highlights of the day.

Ellen



Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Hi Keith and Wendy. We hope that you both are doing well, now! We missed y'all! Here are our notes for Wednesday.

After our overnight at Harrah's Hotel and Casino in Superman's Metropolis, Il, we departed at 9 AM on our 150 mile touring to our motel at Robinson, Il. Our first stop was to see the 1926 Harrisburg National Historic Registry city hall on the square. We were impressed by their historic pictures in the hallways, two slatted steel jail holding cells in the basement, and extensive courtroom on the third floor and the overlooking gallery on the fourth floor.

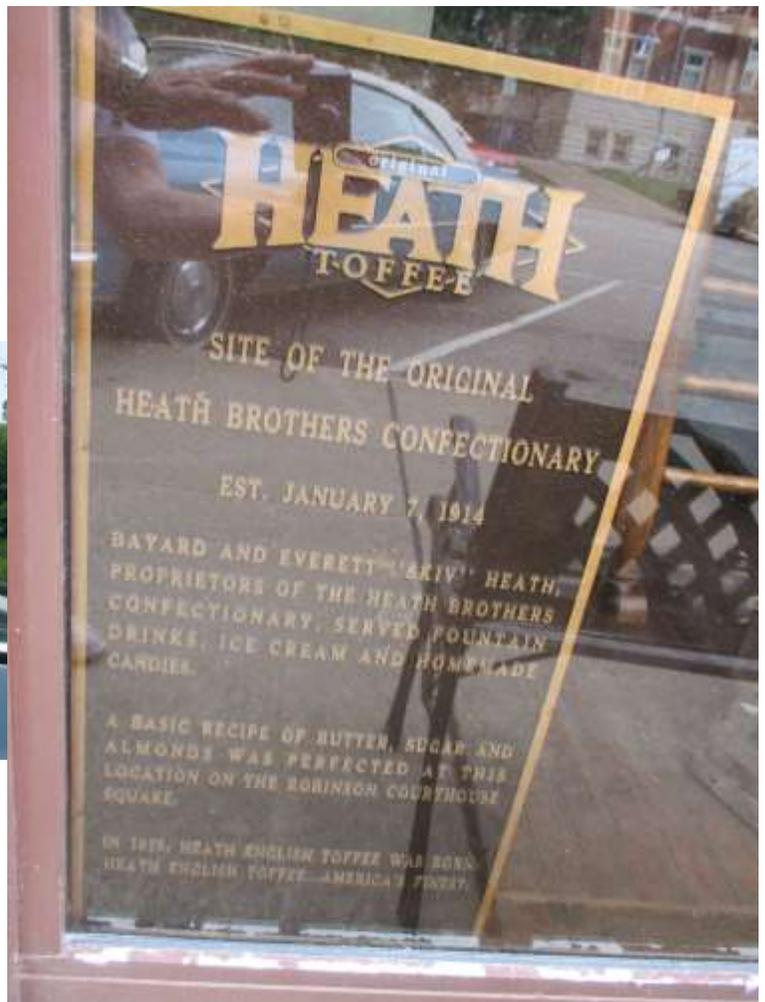
Our next stop was after 20 miles to Norris City at Lola's BBQ restaurant. Departing from Lola's, we headed on for 40 miles to Vincennes, Indiana. On this route, we slowly drove over the narrow one-lane circa 1897 'Wabash Cannonball Express' rail bridge, now floored and curbed by wooden rail ties. At Vincennes we visited the Indiana Military Museum. Vincennes is the namesake for the US Navy cruiser, Vincennes, a brave ship which was lost in combat in the Pacific, and which now rests with countless other ships on the floor of what is now known as 'Iron Bottom Sound', near to the battle of Guadalcanal. Among the displays were uniforms, equipment, weapons, aircraft, and vehicles from many eras. We were stunned to see a 1939 Cadillac, similar to the 1938 Cadillac in which General Patton was riding in 1945 Germany occupation duty when he was killed in a road accident.

Our next afternoon stop was Robinson, Illinois, which naturally included ice cream, candy, milkshakes, sundaes, and memorabilia at the HEATH Candy Museum. One especially charming artifact was a large copper mixing bowl in which was made the very first HEATH candy bar in 1914.

Our nearby motel stop was at the local Best Western Inn. After getting settled in our rooms, most of us walked next door to the Tuscany Grill, which had a nice room reserved for our Buick Club. Several of us were delighted to see a large deer grazing contentedly only about 30 yards from the rear of the restaurant.

And so, we came to the comfortable close of another satisfying day of Buick touring.

Jack and Pat Horvath



Coming events for Buick People
September 18-19, Leamington, Ontario, MBCC Fall Tour
October 18-23, Orlando, Florida- BDE Fall Tour
May 14-19, 2016 BDE National Tour—Callaway Gardens, Georgia
July 27 - 30, 2016, Allentown, Pennsylvania, BCA 50th Anniversary

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FOR SALE: Tires (4) P215/65R5 - DOT U95U 1CA 1213, made in December 2013—Tires have 3698 miles on them when the new tires were bought.—Could not find the receipt so assumed that the tires on the Reatta were 10 years old, my mistake, dealer did not tell me. Make decent offer for the 4 tires. John Cavanaugh



Enclosed is a few pictures of a '56 Roadmaster in Australia -right hand drive. Beautiful dash. .

John Cavanaugh
c



 <p>JOE TAUBITZ SWARTZ CREEK, MI BDE #1</p>	<p>B.D.E. NAME BADGES Beautiful burnished gold color with black type. Size: 1-1/2" x 3" Only \$8 each (includes shipping and handling) Indicate YOUR NAME, CITY, STATE and BDE # Send this form with your check payable to: BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS 2492 Lorrie Drive, Marietta, GA 30066-5720 Badge #2 (please print)</p>
<p>BADGE #1 (Please Print)</p> <p>YOUR NAME: _____</p> <p>CITY, STATE: _____</p> <p>BDE # _____</p> <p>Where would you like your badge(s) sent?</p> <p>YOUR NAME: _____</p> <p>YOUR ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>YOUR CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____</p>	<p>YOUR NAME: _____</p> <p>CITY, STATE: _____</p> <p>BDE # _____</p>

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Thursday June 18, by Bruce Kile

Thursday AM found us being able to sleep a little later so as to rest up for the farewell party that evening, (more on the party later). or maybe to allow time for any "last minute gift buying" once we arrived in Charleston. BTW, that's Charleston, Illinois, not S.C. or W.Va.

Our first stop was just 12 miles away in the town of "Oblong" at the Illinois Oil Fields Museum. Not only did we find this a most interesting venue, but our hosts were extremely accommodating. They supplied each couple with a little "goody packet" as well drinks & snacks. The very first indication We had of their gracious welcoming was a beautiful (professionally made) sign as we turned into the parking lot which read " Welcome Buick Car Club" & featured a gorgeous black 54 Skylark Convert. It seems the local Buick dealer had been given a "heads up" of our visit and had the sign made for us. He was also part of the welcoming staff. Well, since Jack & Judy Schram just happened to be driving their beautiful black 54 Special Convert there was an immediate "friendship" born, and most of Jack's time was spent in conversation & posing for pictures with his new friend, Jay Anderson.

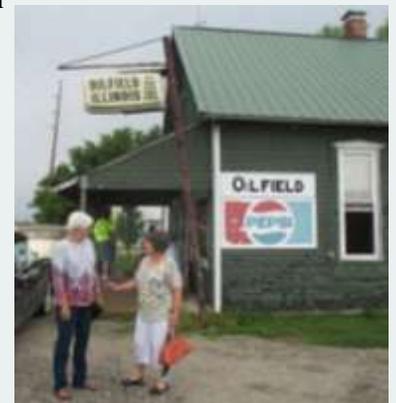


The friendship was cemented when the welcome sign was given to Jack. BTW, I understand that the sign has become a permanent part of Jack's garage décor.

The next stop on Thursday's tour was actually a "drive-by". Unusual sites (as well as sights) are not uncommon to folks on BDE tours, so it was only natural that we would need to drive thru the town of Casey just to see the "world's largest" wind chimes, knitting needle, rocking chair & golf tee. Sadly however, we missed the rocking chair & golf tee. It seems that the folks from the Guinness record book informed the city of Casey that the rocking chair was only the second largest, so the chair is in the shop being enlarged. As for the golf tee, well our tour leaders declared the tee "out of bounds", actually it was a little too far off the beaten path located at the local country club & time restraints prohibited our viewing. Next stop was lunch at the (famous?) "Oil Fields Restaurant". Your ole "Thursday reporter" is hoping someone has submitted pictures of this unique structure because trying to describe it with words just don't hack it. Suffice to say that the original building is (or was) an early 20th century one room school house. Full credit should be given to Joyce & John Williams for suggesting this place for today's lunch stop. Although we knew ahead of time that indoor seating for our entire group might present a bit of a challenge, we figured that the outdoor picnic tables (some under a canopy) could definitely provide enough seating for the (estimated) 50 folks in our group. What we didn't count on



was the Illinois "hurricane season" descending on Casey within 5 minutes of our arrival forcing all of us to seek immediate shelter inside. We also had not counted on our host "Martha", inviting several of the "locals" (in their rat rods) to come out to welcome us, which added to the "friendly atmosphere" inside. Fortunately the rain eventually subsided, the sun returned and the food was absolutely delicious....well at least I thought it was, but I missed the (home made) peach cobbler. After looking over each other's vehicles & wading through puddles, we were back in the cars for the short hop to Charleston. Having a couple hours to relax to swim in the hotel pool, check out some of the sites or browse the shops around Charleston before gathering at the famous "party barn" for our farewell party was welcomed. Speaking of the (famous) "Williams Party Barn", I believe this was our fourth such gathering



there. Of course our usual pizza party is replaced by burgers & chicken on the grill plus a huge selection of salads, side dishes & delicious desserts thanks to "chef John Dale". This year the Williams treated us to even more. A little band named, "Sight & Sound", 2 talented (older) musicians played the great music of the 50s & 60s while we ate & then later in the evening for dancing or just plain old listening. Nice touch, but please don't expect this every year. Following last year's tour a new "After Tour tradition" began & continued this year. We all drew names on Sunday at the beginning of the tour and were instructed to select a gift or

award, keeping it a secret of course, for that person to be presented along with a story or reason for the award. Wow, the stories we heard & the fun we had seems to make this aspect of the tour a real "keeper". The party & the 22nd After Tour closed with the usual hugs & fond goodbyes, already talking about "next year".



Edward Lenny sent this to me, I thought it was a great thing to pass along.

Ed, will you please send this to all the car folks. When we were at John and Joyce's, I talked to Larry Miller about getting rid of baked-on bugs. He told me to put a couple of dryer sheets in a spray bottle of water. Spray the bugs and then use an additional dryer sheet to wash them off. Works great, 3100 miles of bugs gone in 60 second (or so). See you down the road, Bobby I tried it and it works great, Keith