



BDE 2017
National Tour
Issue!

The Driving Force

Driving, Touring & Just Having Fun!

A Publication of the Buick Driving Enthusiasts
Division of the Buick Club of America
Spring -2017

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The Story of a Florida Car
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September will be here
before you know it . . .
have you registered for the
BDE Fall Tour?
See "Save the Date"
on Page 3.



Kudos to **John and Kathy Daily** (BDE #365) for the fantastic Cherry Blossoms and Lakes 2017 BDE National Tour in Traverse City, Michigan. Great tours, fabulous scenery and a good time had by all!

Thanks to our leaders - John Daily, **Dave Langdon** (BDE #136), **Roger Tyyska** (BDE #255) and tailgunners - **Bruce Kile** (BDE #11), **Ed Lenny** (BDE #222), **Darrell Brumbaugh** (BDE #143) and wannabee tailgunner **John Dale Williams** (BDE #210) - for getting us there and back safely each day. Not to be overlooked was our Hospitality Room hostess, **Shar Kile**, who can always be counted on! Also, the BDE members who are always there to help - what a great group of people.

We had members from Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Florida (yes, we were freezing), Georgia, Wisconsin, Alabama, Kansas, Maryland, North and South Carolina, Texas and Ontario, Canada.

There are lots of photos on pages 5 through 14!

Frank Cwikla (BDE #302) is our new Senior Director and **Charlie Steffy** (BDE #374) was elected as Junior Director. **Connie Brumbaugh** (BDE #143) was re-elected as Secretary. Our fabulous and hard-working Historian **Fran Pasch** (BDE #257) resigned after 10 years of service. Please see her message on the "Messages" pages. Thank you Fran for all those beautiful albums. But **Joyce Lukemeyer** (BDE #409) stepped up to the plate and will be our new Historian - thank you Joyce!



During the Board of Directors Meeting, changes were made to the By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures. These were voted on and passed by members at the Annual Membership Meeting. They appear on Page 19 in this issue of The Driving Force.

Messages

Hello from OUR MID DIRECTOR - RICH GIBBS - BDE #144

The National tour is over and the BCA National in Brookville, WI and the fall BDE tour in Lebanon, TN are upcoming. The Traverse City area was a great place for a tour and the scenery was outstanding. Whether you drive a vintage Buick or modern one, the important thing is you, the members are attending. It's just like an extended family reunion two times a year. Add in the BCA After Tour, that make the "hat trick!"



NEW CAR ORDER		
DEALER'S NAME	Hessinger Motor Co	
ADDRESS	312 E Main St	
DATE	12/15/1942	
PLEASE ENTER MY ORDER FOR ONE		
MAKE	Buick	
MODEL	42-41 Sedan	
FINANCIAL	1942 Buick Special 4-Door Sedan	
CASH DELIVERY PRICE	1266.00	
EXTRA EQUIPMENT		
TAX	12.00	
TOTAL DELIVERED PRICE	1278.00	
DEPOSIT ON ORDER	250.00	
USED CAR ALLOWANCE		
LESS BAL. DUE ON MY CAR		
CASH ON DELIVERY		
RECORD OF CAR TRADED IN		
MAKE	SALE	BALANCE DUE
BUICK	1942	192.00
FINANCE	CHARGE	
FRANCHISE	PROPERTY OF CONTRACT	192.00
TO BE PAID IN CASH PAYMENTS OF \$ 500.00		
BUYER'S SIGNATURE		
ADDRESS	PHONE	
ACCEPTED		SALESMAN

Folks ask me from time to time, "So, why all the Buicks?"

The following will explain the obsession: Ten days after Pearl Harbor, my grandfather, Fred Allen, purchased a new 1942 Buick Special 4-dr sedan. The document to the left is the original sales order for the car. My mother found the sales order going through my grandmother's files after she passed. My grandparents drove this car until 1952 when they purchased a 1952 Special 4-door sedan from the Buick dealer in Richmond, MO. After that, there was a '55 Special 4-door hardtop, '57 Roadmaster 4-door hardtop, and a '59 Electra 4-door hardtop (which I purchased from my grandfather in 1980). After that, the '59 was the travel car and a series of Chevrolet station wagons served as daily drivers. Later a 1972 LeSabre 4-door sedan became the primary daily driver. After that there was a '78 Olds Delta 88 Royale Diesel and finally an '85 Buick Skylark 4-door sedan. I'm still looking for photos of the '42.

And from our newest director - CHARLIE STEFFY - BDE #374

Greetings to my fellow BDE members! I am pleased to serve as your Junior Director. For those that have not met me on a tour yet, I have been a member of the BDE since the Lenny's great tour in the Lehigh Valley. One tour and I was hooked! I have hosted two fall tours, Lancaster, PA in 2012 and Orlando, FL in 2015 with the help and guidance of the amazing Paula Liska.



My interest in Buicks goes back two generations. My grandfather opened a Buick dealership in Lititz PA in 1927. Three years later he added Chevrolet and the rest is history. I have three Buicks right now. My Dad's 1919 H-45 touring that I inherited upon his passing in 1992, a 1982 Riviera convertible and my Mom's 1990 Electra T-Type. All three are on the road and I have toured in them all up and down the eastern half of the United States.

The 1919 is probably the Buick I am most attached to. My father purchased it in 1949 from the original owner. The photo shows the 1919 parked in front of her original home, Keller's Grocery Store on the main street in Elizabethtown, PA. For 30 years she was the grocery delivery vehicle for the Keller family. He paid \$200 for it and it was a part of the family even before there was a family! He and my Mom were married in 1954 and when my sister arrived in 1956 and I in 1963. We would load up the Buick and go for rides in the country and stop for ice cream! I fire the old girl up every October and drive her from Lititz to the AACA Fall Meet in Hershey. Some years it is a bit chilly or damp but that does not bother a devout Buick motorist and his passengers!



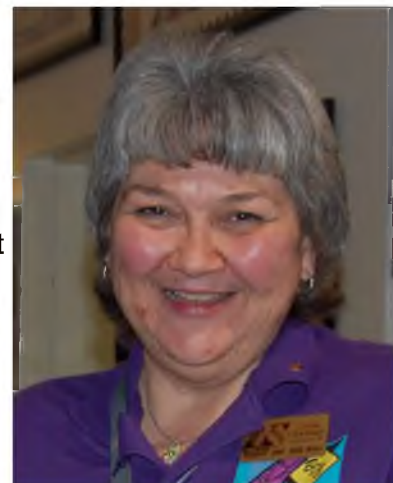
The BDE really brings out the best in people. The friendships we make in this club are priceless. The memories we make on the tours will last a lifetime. I am just doing my part to make sure the club keeps rolling along!

Charlie Steffy

More Messages

Secretary - Connie Brumbaugh - BDE#143

Greetings from your Secretary. Another National Tour is in the history book, and what a great time we had. Thanks to John and Kathy Daily for hosting us in the Traverse City area of Michigan. Also, I want to say thank you for voting to have me be your secretary for the next two years. The first two went by quickly, no doubt these will as well. One item that was not brought up at the meeting . . . we are in need of someone to host the Fall Tour 2018. That's next year folks, time to have a hotel reserved and plans underway. If you would like to host this event, please contact any of the Board members and we'll be happy to discuss it with you. We look forward to seeing a lot of you in TN in September. The Shenkles and Cavanaugh's are putting a lot of effort in to the "MCM" Tour, it should be an exciting time around Nashville. Have a great summer, keep those cars living up to our statement, Buicks were made to be driven!
Connie Brumbaugh - BDE#143



Membership Chairperson - Isabel Lenny - BDE #222



"Ed and I had a wonderful time at the BDE National Tour in Traverse City, Michigan. Thank you to John and Kathy Daily for arranging this tour.

At the general meeting, I reported that we had 120 members (2 more have renewed since I gave my report), 12 families did not renew for various reasons, and 1 resigned. We acquired 5 new members and five of our members have passed away since May of last year. We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of **Calvin Hugins, Jack Schram, Gail Woods, Gerald Gehl, and Kay Cwikla.**

Have a wonderful summer. Hope to see everyone in Nashville.

Isabel Lenny - Membership Chairperson

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER:

Bob O'Neil BDE # 426
8811 Old Baxter Road
Baxter, TN 38544
Email address: boneil88@twlakes.net

Save the Date!

**2017 Buick Driving Enthusiasts Fall Tour
"Music City Memories"
September 10 - 15, 2017 - Nashville, TN
Registration form online at
bde.buickclub.org**

BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS - ELECTED OFFICERS 2017

Senior Director:	Frank Cwikla	1909 Goodin Road, Friendship, WI 53934	608.547.9039	frankcwikla@gmail.com
Co-Director:	Rich Gibbs	1150 NW Sunset Lane, Topeka, KS 66618	785.230.6794	tripleturn@cox.net
Co-Director:	Charlie Steffy	103 Larkspur Lane, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701		
			407-261-9318	chas1963@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Connie Brumbaugh	145 Oak Lane, Williamsburg, PA	814.832.2108	broomie66@aol.com
Treasurer:	Shar Kile	2492 Lorrie Lane, Marietta, GA 30066	770.977.7924	sbkile@bellsouth.net

BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS - APPOINTED POSITIONS

Membership

Chairperson:	Isabel Lenny	1008 S Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA 18103	610.434.2430	lugnuts36@icloud.com
Chaplain:	Guy Greene	12815 Sand Holly, San Antonio, TX 78253	210.674.2817	guy_greene@yahoo.com
Co-Chaplin:	Darrell Brumbaugh	145 Oak Lane, Williamsburg, PA	814.832.2108	broomie66@aol.com
Club Sales:	Bruce & Shar Kile	2492 Lorrie Lane, Marietta, GA 30066	770.977.7924	sbkile@bellsouth.net
Historian:	Joyce Lukemeyer	24846 W. Morey Lane, Lake Villa, IL	847-341-2571	jclukemeyer@gmail.com
Editor:	Paula Liska	1424 Dogwood Court, Kissimmee, FL 34744	407.873.7262	kliska@cfl.rr.com
Webmaster:	Roberta Vasilow	6186 Torrey Road, Flint, MI 48507	810.655.8277	buickracer@comcast.net



And Even More Messages!

AND FROM OUR HISTORIAN - FRAN PASCH - BDE #257

I resigned my position as Historian to the Board of the BDE at the National Tour in May. I will complete an album for the 2017 National Tour. As I am having difficulty getting around like I used to, I needed a replacement. **Ed Lenny** had asked me to take over the Historian duties from **Joyce Williams** in the Fall of 2007 at the tour in Alliston, Ontario. I began my duties with the 2008 National Tour. I have thoroughly enjoyed the position and it has motivated me to meet new people as they joined our group.

I greatly appreciate the help I have received from various members. We missed two tours and I needed help, which I received. Many members sent me CDs or DVDs of the entire tour, part of it, or certain pictures I didn't have. This all helped me make the albums so great, a joint effort. Please be

considerate to our new Historian, **JOYCE LUKEMEYER** - BDE #409, as one person can only be in one place at a time. I have promised to help, so keep in mind an special pictures you might snap. My goal was for the albums to tell the BDE story in pictures and that everyone on tour would be able to find themselves in at least one picture.

Enjoy your Buick Beauties! - Fran

AGAIN ACTING AS TAIL GUNNER FOR THIS ISSUE - EDITOR, PAULA LISKA - BDE #2

"Cherry Blossoms and Lakes" - what a great tour! Although I was cold most of the time, I really enjoyed it. Thank you John and Kathy for a job well done. What never ceases to amaze me is how our BDE members are always there to help. Whether it is assisting someone with getting their Buick fixed, aiding Shar with the hospitality room, crewing with Bruce for the Silent Auction, making contributions to *The Driving Force* and more, our BDE members are great. Thank you, thank you!

Speaking of *The Driving Force*, I cannot believe the creativity of our contributors. Wow! Great articles and great photos. You all make my job so much easier.

Special thanks to all our contributors to this issue: **Ann Bell, Dick Boswell, Connie Brumbaugh, Ellen Cavanaugh, Rich Gibbs, Jack Horvath, Bruce Kile, Shar Kile, Isabel Lenny, Fran Pasch, Courtney Shenkle, Larry Splane, Charlie Steffy, Roberta Vasilow** and anyone I may have missed. Please keep those articles and photos coming!

Remember - This is **YOUR** newsletter, and contributions from **YOU**, our members are needed and appreciated. With your help we can do a great newsletter together! And besides, it keeps your already dazed and confused editor from going off the deep end!

Send your "stuff" to - kliska@cfl.rr.com

The Driving Force is distributed via email with a link to the newsletter, to help keep production costs down. However, if you would like yours mailed via USPS, please let me know.

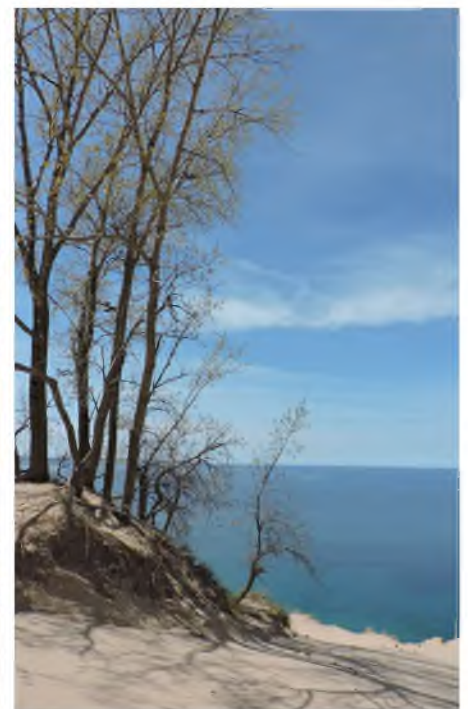
Thanks in advance,
Paula Liska BCA #6397, BDE #2 - Kliska@cfl.rr.com

"BDE - Buick Driving, Eating and Just Having Fun!"



Monday, May 15
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive
Near Empire, Michigan

The park is named after an Ojibwe legend of the sleeping bear. According to the legend, an enormous forest fire on the western shore of Lake Michigan drove a mother bear and her two cubs into the lake for shelter, determined to reach the opposite shore. After many miles of swimming, the two cubs lagged behind. When the mother bear reached the shore, she waited on the top of a high bluff. The exhausted cubs drowned in the lake, but the mother bear stayed and waited in hopes that her cubs would finally appear. Impressed by the mother bear's determination and faith, the Great Spirit created two islands (North and South Manitou islands) to commemorate the cubs, and the winds buried the sleeping bear under the sands of the dunes where she waits to this day. The "bear" was a small tree-covered knoll at the top edge of the bluff that, from the water, had the appearance of a sleeping bear.



Tuesday, May 16
Mission Point Lighthouse
Old Mission Peninsula
North of Traverse City, Michigan



Mission Point Light is a lighthouse located in the U.S. state of Michigan at the end of Old Mission Point, a peninsula jutting into Grand Traverse Bay 17 miles north of Traverse City. When it was built in 1870, it was an exact copy of the Mama Joda Light (now destroyed), which was built on the Detroit River in 1866.

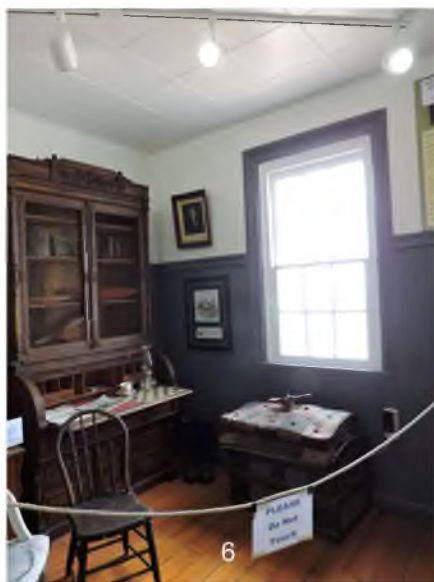
The foundation is natural and emplaced. The wooden structure is painted white with black trim. The square tower is attached to a dwelling. A fixed white Fifth Order Fresnel lens was installed. The building was only one and one half stories tall. However, its placement on a sand bank 14 feet above the lake's surface created a lens focal plane of 47 feet. It was visible from 13 miles at sea. For 67 years the light served to warn mariners about the shoals off the point.

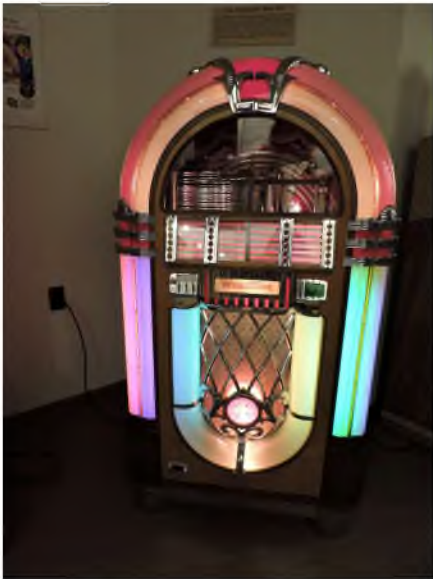


Have you ever wanted to be a lighthouse keeper? You can - live in Mission Point Lighthouse with our Lighthouse Keeper Program! Being a keeper for a week is a wonderfully unique volunteer opportunity in which you will stay in the actual lighthouse and share your time and talents. In the gift shop and on the property, you get to meet and talk to visitors from all over the world. Our keepers play a key role in helping to keep this treasured piece of Michigan maritime history alive.

For more info go to:

www.missionpointlighthouse.com/keeper-program.html





**Tuesday, May 16
Music House Museum
Traverse City, Michigan**

The Museum's unique collection of instruments provides guests with a walk through the history, artistry and engineering of automated music.

The collection spans from the late 18th century to 1950, going from simple music boxes to early recorded sound and radio. The guided tour showcases the beauty of the craftsmanship, the history of the era and the complexity of the engineering of the collection as well as allowing guests to hear many of the rare instruments on display actually play.

Our docent, Charlie, lead us on a 90 minute tour. His enthusiasm and knowledge were extraordinary, which made our visit even more enjoyable. The sights and sounds were so fantastic - we didn't want to leave!

Visit the BDE website
[Http://bde.buickclub.org](http://bde.buickclub.org)
for more photos of this fabulous museum.



**Tuesday, May 16
Chateau Chantal Winery -
Old Mission Peninsula
Traverse City, Michigan**



The Begin family, Robert, Nadine and daughter Marie-Chantal, opened the doors of friendly hospitality in 1993 upon the completion of a French style three room B&B, winery and vineyard estates.



Perhaps even more interesting than the magical story of winemaking is the history of the Chateau's founding couple, Robert and Nadine. Their fascinating tale begins with two previous careers of service to others. As a Catholic diocesan priest for 12 years, Robert worked in his home area of Detroit until a decision was made in 1972 to begin again as a businessman heading a construction business. Nadine had taken a similar path by entering the Felician Sisters in 1950. After earning her Master's Degree in Home Economics and teaching for 22 years, she too made a decision to seek a different life. Married in 1974, the couple followed Robert's dream of building a European style winery chateau. Upon completion and opening of the operation, it was clearly evident that the years spent in service to others had molded the Begin's into the perfect hosts.



Left - Marie-Chantal and John Cavanaugh at the Chateau Chantal Winery



CLASSIC HAGERTY INSURANCE

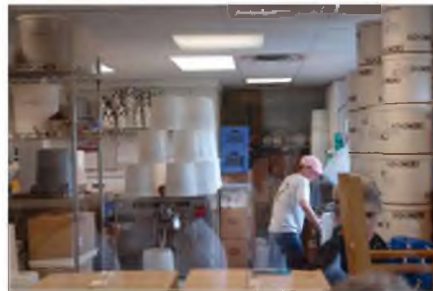
Wednesday, May 17
Hagerty Insurance
Traverse City, Michigan



Wednesday, May 17

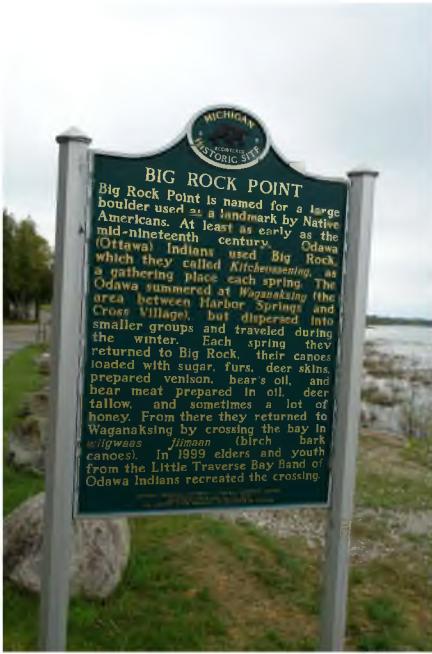
Moomers Ice Cream - Traverse City, Michigan

Moomers Homemade Ice Cream grew from a love for ice cream and an idea – an idea that kept emerging through Nancy Plummer’s daily life as a wife, mother of 4, and first-grade teacher. The idea was tossed around for three years and living on their dairy farm gave Moomers a natural location. The hope was to provide a unique premium product in a country atmosphere, to share the world of agriculture with others, employ local young adults, and provide a family oriented place to enjoy with family and friends. In April of 1998, the doors opened.



You never know when an old Buick is going to show up on a BDE tour . . . especially a 1926 Master Six Victoria Coupe.
It was great to meet the owner, Ron Kovacs and see his Buick!





Thursday, May 18
Big Rock Point Park - Charlevoix, Michigan
Tunnel of Trees - Harbor Springs, Michigan
Good Hart General Store - Good Hart, Michigan

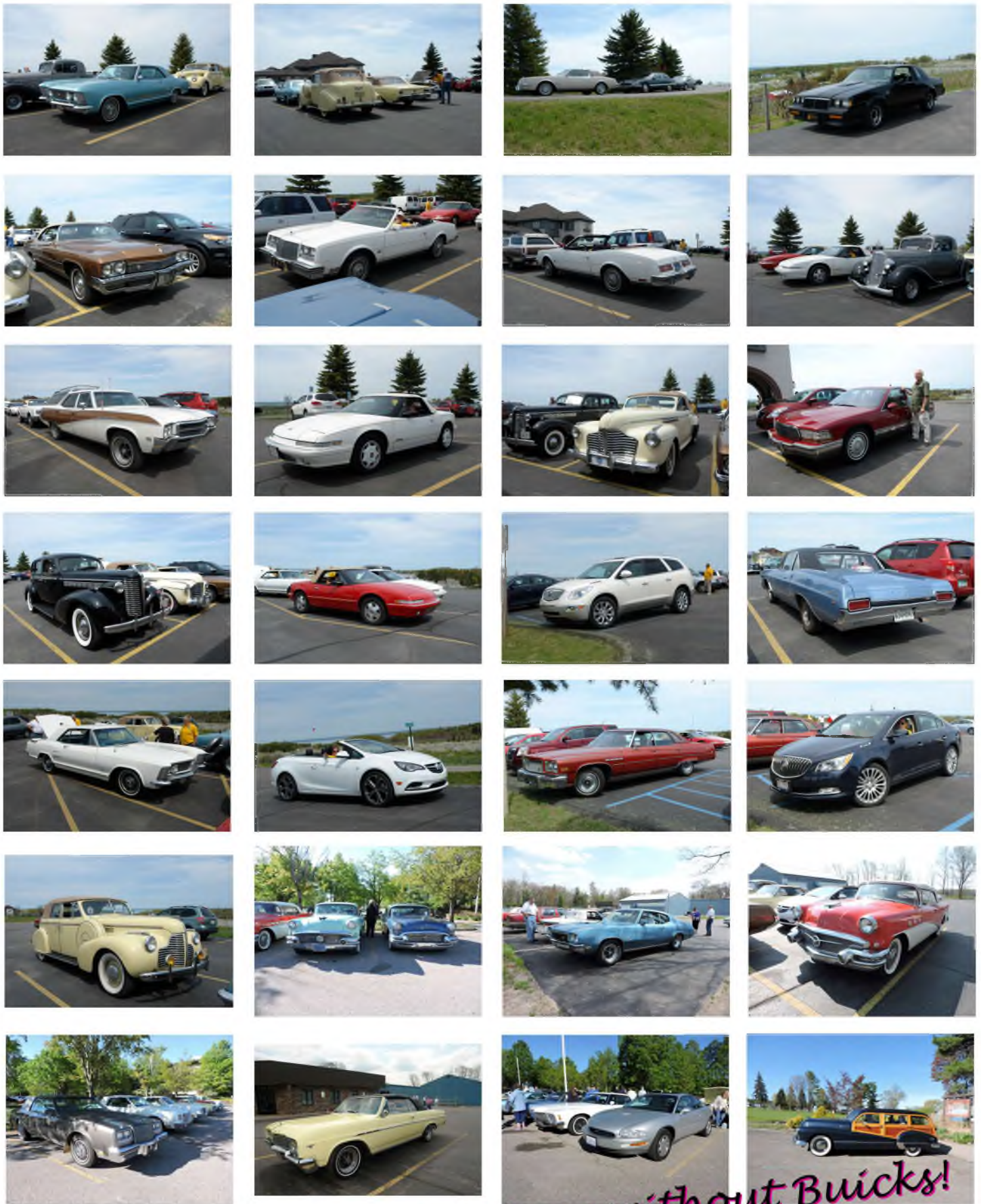


Friday, May 19 - Village at Grand Traverse Commons - Traverse City, Michigan



The Traverse City State Hospital, or Northern Michigan Asylum as it was also known, first opened in 1885 as an insane asylum treating thousands of patients for mental illnesses and later tuberculosis, typhoid, diphtheria, and polio. It is one of the largest historic renovation projects in North America. There's approximately one million square feet of building stock on 63 acres, and over one hundred and thirty years of medical and local history. It now a popular destination housing eateries, wineries and shops.





You can't have a BDE tour without Buicks!



It's not this cold in Florida, is it JOHN CAVANAUGH?



BDE members gather for announcements, a prayer and always a rousing rendition of "God Bless America"

but even more so without people!



"Doctor" DENNY MANNER diagnosis a Buick ailment in the parking lot



BOB BUNTANE all smiles at the banquet



Sid & Belva Meyers, Ann Bell and Roberta Vasilow at tasting Peninsula Cellars



SARAH SPENCER and JOYCE WILLIAMS commenting on the chill in Northern Michigan



Triplets Sven, Lars and Gunnar help with the Silent Auction (and they still dress alike)



Izzy Mae, Trixie & Bubbles work the Silent Auction as MARGARET & BOBBY MINIS look on



BDE members clad in bumblebee yellow shirts pack the room for the membership meeting



ED LENNY, KATHY DAILY and ISABEL LENNY smile for the camera at the banquet



Secretary CONNIE BRUMBAUGH and Historian FRAN PASCH share a moment at the banquet



Outgoing Director JOHN DAILY hands the gavel to new Senior Director FRANK CWIKLA

This and that!



Many of us BDE'ers drove past this and wondered what it was. Thanks to **COURTNEY SCHENKLE** we have pictures, and here is the answer:

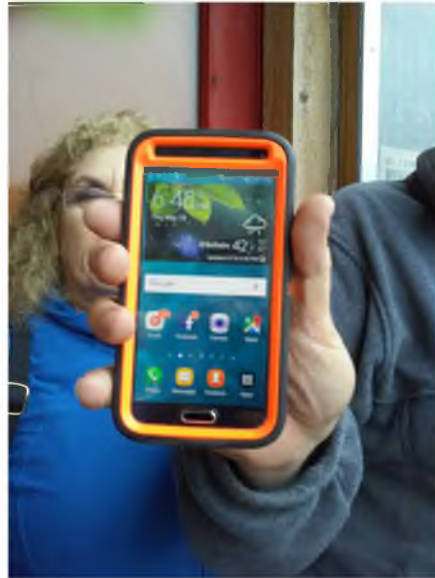
MI Local Hops is dedicated to being a part of the movement to re-vitalize the rich heritage of Michigan grown hops. In joint venture with Empire Hop Farms, which specializes in custom farming and trellis installations, MI Local Hops broke ground on its 200 acre hop farm located in Williamsburg, MI in May of 2015. The land had been an unused golf course that sat vacant for close to 7 years. It's located a mile down M-72 from Grand Traverse Resort and Lake Michigan and is 6 miles away from downtown Traverse City.



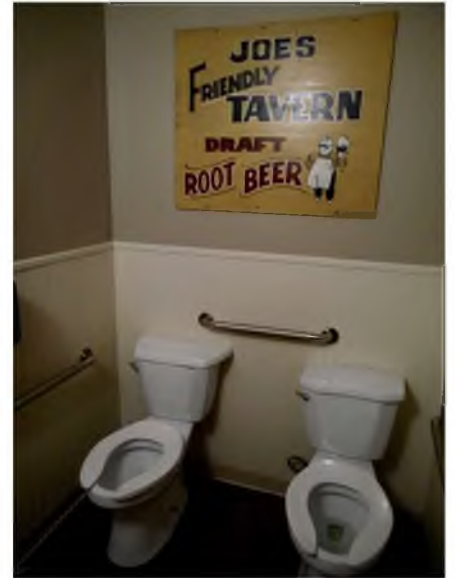
The farm has full processing, pelletizing, blending, and cold storage capabilities. In November of 2015 MI Local hops broke ground on its 30,000 square foot harvesting facility. This facility is currently capable of processing over 350,000 pounds of hops in a harvest season and is home to a WOLF 1000 hop picking machine as well as state of the art driers and conditioning systems.



What's a trip to Northern Michigan without cherries and cherry pie?



I don't care what you say - 42 degrees is downright chilly, especially in May!



Larry Splane had lunch at Joe's Friendly Tavern and thought it might be a bit too friendly.



Some of the "moovers" at Moomers Ice Cream



Check out the license plate on Bobby Minis' '41



A little rain didn't stop the BDE from visiting the Good Hart General Store

FULL CIRCLE
The Story of a Florida Car
Ann Bell - BDE #9

Who doesn't remember their first love and wonder where is she now? Oh, this isn't about a girl!

My friend and fellow BCA Member, Richard White, mentioned to me that he might be interested in selling his 1961 4 Door, 6 window model 62 Cadillac. This car has the original interior, exterior and very low mileage. Richard had done only regular maintenance to it for all the 27 years he owned it. The 1948 Buick Super Convertible and the 1985 Buick Riviera Convertible are the other cars that share garage space with the street autos and something had to go. He said he was so much better at buying cars than selling them and wanted to enlist my help to market the Cadillac.



A couple of weeks after listing the car for sale in Hemming Motor News, I received an email to contact Scott Coffey of Boca Raton, Florida as soon as possible about the car I had for sale. Upon talking with him, he stated he had been looking for a car exactly like the one Richard had for sale for a very long time, as his Grandfather had one like it and as a child and young man he loved riding in it. When Scott reached his teens he related that he had taken his driver's test in his Grandfather's 1961 Cadillac and passed the first time, proud of the fact that he had parallel parked with no problem. Each time he drove it, he would clean it, wax it and polish the shiny chrome. Scott enjoyed reading classifieds featuring 61's and viewing Caddy's for sale online.

Reminiscing and hoping to, one day, find a car that might come close to the family Cadillac that he remembered so well.

We made an appointment to meet a couple of days later in Sarasota so he could inspect and drive the car. We settled on a purchase price if all met with his approval.

On the appointed day, 3 generations of Coffeys arrived at my home where the Cadillac was garaged. The Grandfather's son, (Scott's Father), Grandson, (Scott), and Great-Grandson, (Scott's young son). When they saw the car, they could not believe their eyes . . . this was not a similar Cadillac, it WAS THE Cadillac that their Grandfather had purchased new in 1961! It seems the battery had exploded years ago and had left slight damage on the right side aluminum grill and there it was . . . the spots still there. As if this were not enough, the windshield still retained a decades old decal that Richard felt added class and history to the Caddy. It is the decal to the Boca community where the entire Coffey family still resides! They were so delighted to see the car in such fantastic condition after all of that time.



Scott's Father stated that 27 years ago, he sold the car to a friend of his who owned an auto dealership in Boca, as he had two children in college and needed tuition money. His friend sold the car to a dealer in Miami, where Richard bought the car. Scott used that tuition money to gain his law degree and forge a successful career, which enabled him to purchase back the beloved car of his Grandfather, his Father, and now his. He suggested that one day . . . maybe . . . his own son would be the proud owner of this piece of family history with an incredible story to tell.

Driving this 1947 Super Model 56C Around Town is like Having Your own Parade Every Day *Dick Boswell - BDE #113*

For about as long as I have been alive, it seems I have seen a prominent local banker, or his wife, driving around town in their 1947 Super convertible. It is all black with a white top. The upholstery is red leather with the tan pleated inserts. This car was always clean and shiny. They bought it new.



The Buick was a perfect parade car—in fact the owner pretty much always considered himself as “being” a parade. He often (whether in a parade or not) affixed flag holders on the two front fenders and attached good sized American flags to them. These flags flowed gently as he drove. They flowed “gently” because this gentleman always drove slowly - and only in good weather because nothing was going to rain on his parade. Likely, these flags were as old as the Buick. Somehow, these flowing flags well fitted the character of this car. Being fond of old cars generally, and Buicks in particular, I really liked this car. The owner and I became good friends and began trading Buick stories. He related to me the story from 1952 of how his wife had

ridden with a friend who had recently bought a new '52 Buick with power steering. She told him she wanted that installed on the '47. After some interesting, pressure exerting, visits with the very reluctant dealer, the power steering was installed on the '47. It worked well when installed - and does so to this today.

At about the same time, 16-inch tires were becoming hard to find, so he had the dealer install 15-inch rims with new tires and new '52 wheel covers. In all the years I watched this car parade around town, it always sported these 1952 wheel covers. They looked nice - but sure looked wrong.

I sort of lost track of the owner as he grew older. His wife passed away first and, as a widower, he became rather reclusive in his ways. The Buick was not seen roaming the streets. He, too, soon passed away. A couple of weeks after his death, I received a phone call from his family telling me that he had died. They also said that before he passed away, he had suggested that they might contact me as to the Buick. I was pleased and excited.



Soon afterwards I drove over to his fine home to meet with the family and look over the wonderful '47. We opened the creaky garage door to find the Buick resting peacefully. It was covered with very dusty cobwebs. He had not driven the car for some years as, his family reported, his abilities as a driver had gone down hill quite a lot in his later years. The only way to get him to stop driving, though, was for him to “lose the keys.” Various members of his family saw to it that this was done.

The hood was open on the battery side of the Buick exposing the once mighty eight covered with cobwebs and dust. The caps were off the battery. Perhaps he had been “working” on the battery at some time prior with the idea of going out on a “parade” once again. This was a sad thought—as one day we will all be piddling with our old cars hoping that this might be parade day once more. Such was not to be for the old owner and his '47 convertible.



Sitting next to the Buick in the garage was his 1964 Cadillac Coupe DeVille. It was in good shape also, but showed signs of being driven by an elderly driver who had “nudged” many things from time to time.

I negotiated a price on the Buick with the family and the executor of the estate. Shortly a friend and I went to claim my treasure. As is always my plan, I wanted it to look good for the trip home—some three miles!

(continued on next page)

(Parade - Continued from Previous Page)

The antifreeze and oil were both full and clean and the brakes were up. So, before trying to drive the car, we aired up the low tires, drained the old gas from the tank, and installed a fresh battery. With the addition of fresh gas, the trusty Straight 8 was running silently in short order. A thorough washing removed the large amount of dust and accumulated stuff. It was looking better and we decided it was okay to drive.

After arriving home I carefully buffed and then hand polished the black nitrocellulose lacquer. Such black lacquer surely does respond well to polishing! There were no dents or consequential scratches on the car, so it looked great. With the addition of a new set of wide white wall tires, (replacing the old triple white stripe bias ply tires) the Buick was looking lots more like its old refined self.



The removal of three sets of seat covers revealed really nice original leather. I had to match and replace the cloth insert on the front seat as it showed wear. The original owner had covered the front floor with carpet - too bad the original mat was not under it. He had also replaced the top sometime through the years.

In the ten years since we bought this car, we have enjoyed it a lot. It has proved to be in sound mechanical shape. The only work done was to rod out the radiator for improved cooling.

I know that my old friend would be pleased to know that the '47 Super is back on the road (when the sun shines). And perhaps is on its way to yet another parade?



*(Originally printed in the March 2000 Buick Bugle)
(Photos from article were originally black & white, and not all were able to be converted)*



Buicks, Duke and the LeSabre
Jack Horvath-BDE #373

On March 11 2017 Pat and I took our 1976 Buick LeSabre, with USO signs, to Social Circle, GA, to give assistance to the USO Mobile lounge at the General Mills campus. Our dog Duke and the LeSabre were interesting additions to the lunchtime program.

We served approximately 150 military veterans and support staff riders. This biking effort is special in that it assists wounded veterans to improve their physical and mental abilities.



Something to Sell? Swap? Buy?

Send your information and photos to Paula Liska, Editor - Kliska@cfl.rr.com

Ads run free for BDE members for 4 editions and photos will be included as space permits.

Be sure to include contact information in your ad. Ad may be edited due to space constraints.



Have you ever had a ride on a cloud?

The ride on a 1985 Buick Riviera comes pretty close with Factory equipped torsion bar suspension in the front, and Air Pillow suspension in the rear.

The original transmission offers four speeds through an oil coupling that continues to offer smoothness with each shift and reduced engine revolutions and the forth speed providing economy up to 26 miles per gallon!

This 1985 Riviera 44,000 miles has never been driven winters, has new tires, battery, and factory option wheels. It's a Great Long distance car with up to 26 mpg - it's a steal at \$7800. The owner loves the car but has turned too old to travel distances required by the hobby.

CLIFFORD HEROLD, BDE #45 - 119 Eastdale Drive Howell, MI 48843 517.546.2145.

FOR SALE: Cars from **JERRY GEHL's** (BDE # 345) estate. Greg and Sharon Gehl are selling the following cars:

- 1939 Roadmaster Convertible 81C - \$40,000
 - 1940 Century - \$10,000
 - 1942 Special 4-door - \$10,000
 - 1954 Roadmaster - \$8,000
 - 1976 Buick 225 Limited - \$3,500
 - 1991 Roadmaster 6-door - \$3,500
 - 1992 Roadmaster 6-door - \$3,500
 - 2 sets 1940 Sidemount covers
- All the prices are negotiable!

For more information please contact Sharon at 321.243.7099 or email at qbh1257@yahoo.com

FOR SALE: 1990 Buick Reatta Convertible - Red, red, white top. 95,000 miles, 3,000 on tires. Top replaced June 2008, repainted and correctly pin striped four years ago. Asking \$15,000. For more details please contact **JOHN CAVANAUGH**, BDE #7 at 941.350.2150 (cell) or 941.343.0016 (home) or john@cavanaughcompany.com



FOR SALE: 1970 LeSabre Custom 2 Dr hardtop, bamboo cream with white top (never vinyl). I am the second owner with full documentation. Full power, cruise control, factory air, 350-4, 58K miles. Too much more to list. Pictures available via email. If you want a turnkey car to show and go don't miss this one. You may have seen it at Allentown for BCA 50th or Lancaster PA BDE tour. Car located in northern Virginia, 10 miles from Dulles Int Airport. Fly in and drive it home. Asking price \$19,500 or best reasonable offer. **PAUL PUFF**, BDE #245. 703.263.7436 or puffrivconv@cox.net

BCA ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations are in order for our fellow BDE member **Roberta Vasilow** (BDE #17). She has been elected to the Buick Club of America (BCA) Board of Directors. Way to go Roberta!



Also Alan Oldfield (BDE #420) was re-elected to the BCA Board. Congratulations Alan!

Thank you, BDE members, for your support! It's great to have BDE representation on the board.

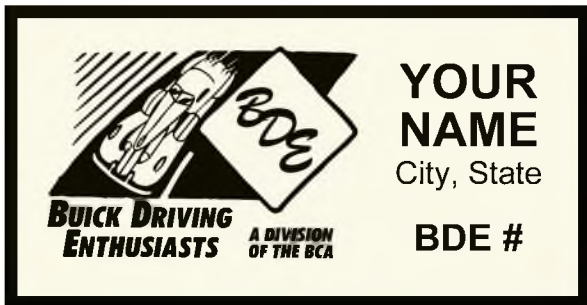


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Where would you like your badges sent?

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ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

----- CUT HERE -----

Buick Driving Enthusiasts Division of the Buick Club of America

BYLAWS

(Approved July 8, 1995 Revised May 16, 2017)

Article 5 Permanent Committees

There will be 2 co-chaplains, responsible for all religiously oriented activities at all BDE functions and for the consolation of any BDE members who are bereaved, in ill health or otherwise in need of moral support, that he/she is made aware of. The duties will include those of a Sunshine/Social chair. This position will be responsible for sending a card to a member when serious illness or the passing of a member occurs.*

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

PROCEDURE NUMBER 6

Subject: National and Fall Tour Requirements and Guidelines

(Adopted October 2001 - Revised May 2016)

28. (Adopted May 2016) The tour book should be a 3 ring binder so participants can add additional pages if they choose for photos and other memorabilia. In addition, a map (or maps) for each day of touring should be included with each of the routes highlighted.

*For clarification: **Guy Greene** and **Darrell Brumbaugh** are currently the co-chaplains since this revision took place. Guy will continue to send the cards as folks notify him. And Darrell (or Connie) will take care of sending out blanket emails once notified. The blanket email is so everyone can be informed of the same news and it won't get forwarded by so many people and possibly end up at a wrong destination! So when there is news to be shared, please let us know (broomie66@aol.com) and we will send it via email.

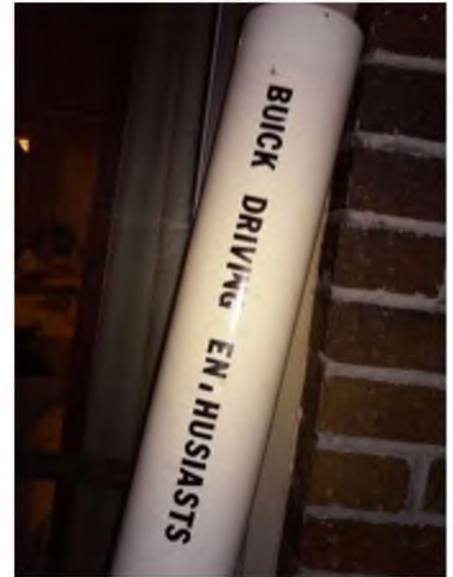
When emailing - please see the suggestion below to avoid any possible issues.



The BDE Banner Mystery



Left: Here is the original applied banner. The new silkscreened banner can be seen in the background.



Right: The original carrying case for the banner with the identifying vinyl lettering still intact. Found crumpled and torn at the bottom of the tube was the pattern for the banner!

The Buick Driving Enthusiasts (BDE) was the first division to be recognized by the Buick Club of America. Standardized banners were available to chapters, but it was determined that we wanted something more distinctive. So the BDE logo was designed by Ken Liska (BDE #2) and our first banner was created. It made of a taffeta/satin like material, applied on a background - so it had a subtle 3D appearance. It was displayed at all BCA National meets, along with the chapter banners, and also all BDE tours.

This is where the history gets a little fuzzy. It is believed that sometime after the 1999 BDE National Tour at the Smokehouse Inn in Monteagle, Tennessee, the banner fell into a black hole. When it was declared MIA, a new banner was created, this one being silkscreened. It is still in use as our official banner. At some point in time it was suggested that the old one had been found.

The plot thickens! At this year's BDE National Tour in Traverse City, Michigan, the original banner reappeared in the original PVC carrying tube. Thus the mystery! Where has it been? What was it doing? Did it live a secret life more exciting than being the official BDE banner? And why did it decide to come out of hiding after all these years?

Anyone who has a theory or answers to questions as to where, when, etc. please let us know. Your input is appreciated. All tipsters will be considered anonymous. We're just curious as to what the heck happened!

Editor's note: It might be fun if we do solve the mystery and could even lead to another Driving Force article.

Send your info to Kliska@cfl.rr.com or sbkile58@aol.com

