



**IN THIS ISSUE**

**Messages & New Members**  
Pages 2 - 3

**2020 BDE National Driving Tour**  
Pages 4 - 6

**Officers & Elected Officials**  
Page 6

**Notes from Members**  
Page 7

**Passings**  
Page 8

**And Yet Another Message**  
Page 9

**Dad's Old Chevy Truck**  
Pages 10 - 11

**In Case You Missed It**  
Pages 12 - 13

**Swap & Announcements**  
Page 14

**Buicks on the Bricks**  
Page 15

**Fall Tour Update**  
Pages 16 - 17

**Good Times - Great Memories**  
Pages 18 - 19

**BDE Items for Sale**  
Page 20

**Buick Driving Enthusiasts  
Fall Tour  
Huntsville, Alabama  
September 28 - October 1**

Dear BDE'rs,

I never thought I would be sending this type of message, but the way things are, and seeing what the BCA and ROA have done, we have no choice but to cancel the 2020 BDE National Meet in Gettysburg. I really thought this Corona Virus would be long gone by the time our meet rolled around but there are just too many unknowns and too many factors that could jeopardize our health and safety. No one tour is worth that kind of risk.



Shar will be refunding your registrations. Please be sure you cancel your hotel reservations. I really wanted to see everyone and enjoy a week of fun and fellowship and cars and food! I had everything lined up and was going to start making final confirmations with head counts on May 1st. Fear not tho, at some point we will be touring Gettysburg PA and the surrounding area. But we will do it when we can be safe.

Thank you all for your willingness to bring your Buicks out for a week of fun. The Fall Tour is shaping up for September 27-October 1 in Huntsville Alabama We will be holding a Membership Meeting at that Fall Tour, as well as passing the gavel to our new Senior Director and welcoming in our new Junior Director.

If you would like, I can send you the first 32 pages of my farewell speech that I was going to give at the closing banquet in Gettysburg. However, it just won't be the same without the cannon fire and bugle accompaniment!

But seriously, y'all stay safe! This will be over soon and our Buicks will be on the road again!

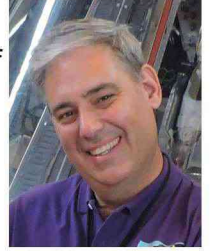
See you down the road!

Charlie Steffy - BDE #374  
Senior Director and Almost Tour Leader

# Messages

## FROM OUR SENIOR DIRECTOR - CHARLIE STEFFY - BDE #374

Greetings Fellow Frustrated BDE'rs!



Who could have ever imagined the world turned upside down. I myself have stopped watching the news. Every day the story changes and I am at the point of frustration trying to figure out who or what to believe. But that being said, I am so fortunate to have such a large group of friends to chat with on social media, the telephone and even the old fashioned letter and postcard! The time "stuck at home" does not seem so bad with good friends around. You all are like family and together we will get through this.

I want to thank you all for your support and words of encouragement regarding the 2020 National Tour that wasn't. I enjoy setting up tours and I thank you, our wonderful members, for the opportunity to share parts of this great country with you. We will visit the Gettysburg area at some point in our touring. All of the places restaurants and the hotel are eager to have us back.

To the First Time Tourers that had registered for Gettysburg, please do not get discouraged. Trust me when I say this group is a fun group and you will remember these tours for years! And you will be coming back for more!

It is hard to imagine that the first tour I hosted was 8 years ago! It seems like yesterday! I have made so many good friends in this club and the fact that our membership is growing and our tour schedule is full reinforces the greatness of you, the awesome members of the BDE! This lockdown/social distancing/quarantine or whatever the word is cannot and will not last much longer. And we will be together again, driving out Buicks, laughing at the shenanigans, eating too much and enjoying life to the fullest. I have been told the cars bring us together but the people keep us coming back. How true with the Buick Driving Enthusiasts!

To you, the members of this great car club, I wish you health and happiness, a full tank of (cheap!) gas, smooth roads and miles of smiles. Bless you all and stay safe and healthy!

See you Down the Road!  
Charlie Steffy

## OUR MID-DIRECTOR - ROBERTA VASILOW - BDE #17

Anyone remember the song "See you in September" from 1966, coincidentally the same year the Buick Club of America was formed! Some 19 years later, our friends that liked to say "Buicks were met to be driven" petitioned the BCA Board of Directors to create the first Division of the Buick Club of America and rest is history!



Unfortunately our world has changed in the last couple months, and for the first time ever, the BDE National Tour has been cancelled. We need to thank and compliment the work that Charlie Steffy put into the plan for this event and hope we can make it a tour in the coming future. The BCA National 2020 has also been cancelled and is rescheduled to July 7-10, 2021, with the previously scheduled BCA National 2021 planned for Concord, NC is still on for June 30-July 3, 2021. Some wonder how can two Nationals be held in one year, but anything can happen in this goofy world. Plan to attend either or both.

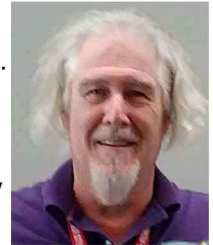
So as I plan my tour for 2021, I'm thinking of doing it in June, the week of 14th, with folks being able to stay over in FLINT for the weekend with the Sloan Museum Auto Fair on Saturday and Sunday at Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad and maybe tour some other cool stuff in Michigan or Ohio on the way to the BCA National Meet in Strongsville., OH, or visit friends, or go home for Father's Day and come back out to Strongsville for the BCA National Meet. Just some ideas, nothing set up yet as most places are unavailable to confirm any plans.

So if you are getting really bored and haven't gone out to the garage where you should be and so should I, park yourself in front of the computer, Ipad, tablet, whatever you use to go on the internet, google "buick" you will find all kinds of stuff, from restorations, forums, cars for sale, racing, movies with Buicks and even the BDE Facebook page!

STAY SAFE, love to all,  
Roberta

**AND OUR JUNIOR DIRECTOR - JERRY RICHSTEIN - BDE #398**

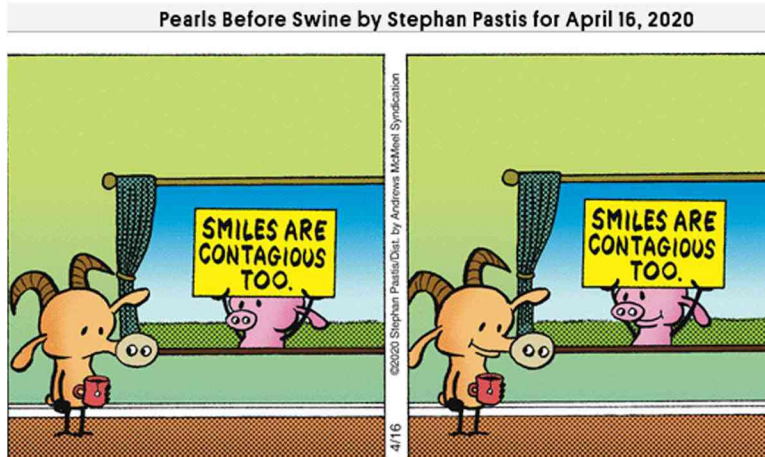
I hope that you are all staying healthy & happy, and not running out of T. P. or other necessities. I'm trying to conserve razor blades and have vowed to not shave until the pandemic is over.



I don't have much to say except for the obvious. I miss everyone, and hate that all of the clubs are canceling car shows and tours all over including the BCA National & "after tour". I especially hate that our 2020 National Tour in Gettysburg had to be canceled and would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlie for all his hard work and service to the BDE. I'm glad that Charlie will reschedule the Gettysburg tour at some future date.

I'm hoping that the Back to the Bricks event doesn't get canceled, and that I'll get to see many of you there. If not there, perhaps we'll see everyone at our Fall Tour in Huntsville.

Until we are all able to get together again, virtual hugs to everyone!



Love & Peace,  
Jerry

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON - ISABEL LENNY - BDE #222**

Ed and I hope everyone is well despite the Covid 19 taking its toll on so many people.



We are doing well and have managed to spend our time doing several projects around the house. We are disappointed that the Gettysburg tour had to be cancelled. We will miss seeing all our BDE friends in Gettysburg.

I am including the annual membership report in this message since it could not be presented at the annual business meeting in Gettysburg.

"As of this writing, the BDE membership is 217. 120 members were acquired during our \$5 membership campaign. We also acquired one new member who was not part of the \$5 campaign. Eleven members did not renew for 2020. Sadly, 6 of our members passed away since our last annual meeting.

I am no longer staying on as membership chairperson. I have held this position for 10 years and feel it is time to let someone else take over. Maryann Snell is the new membership chairperson. Her address is 4340 Eisenhower Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18020. Her cellphone number is 610-390-7072 and her email address is: Tddsnull@ptd.net. From now on dues should be sent to Mary Ann's address. Congratulations, Mary Ann. You will do a super job.

It has been a pleasure for me to have held this position for these past several years. Thanks to Ed for all his computer skills.

Isabel

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER:**  
Mark Porcaro. BDE #558  
9498 Upper Little Creek Road  
Bangor, PA 18013  
610-554-3134  
Email: carcarral52@hotmail.com

# You Had to See It to Believe It!

By Charlie Steffy - BDE #374

Well folks, for the first time in BDE history we had to cancel a tour. However, thanks to some old photos from our clever and efficient Editor, here is how the 2020 National Tour SHOULD have been! So here we go ... off on our imaginary BDE National Tour 2020! Enjoy!

The virtual 2020 BDE National Tour started off quite well. Those who arrived early were greeted by the efficient hotel staff who were more than willing to assist our club members with luggage and a speedy check in.



Our tour started bright and early Monday morning with stops at the Harley Davidson assembly plant in York, followed by lunch and then a tour of an amazing collection of restored milk trucks. The BDE crew was given a special Behind the Scenes Tour at the HD factory and included the chance to see a rare, one of a kind Harley Davidson automobile. Trying to capture the success of Honda and Suzuki who had successfully bridged from motorcycles to automobiles, Harley Davidson introduced this vehicle in 1942.



Timing could not have been worse as the US government shut down all automobile manufacturing just three days after this automobile launched. While successfully converting to military motorcycle war production, the automobile division was labeled a complete loss. All except this lone survivor were scrapped.

After a nice lunch and a lot of "what If" discussion on the failed Harley car we proceeded to the Jay Crist collection. Jay has an amazing collection of restored milk trucks and was eager to answer questions. First question out of the crowd was "I know what milk is for! Where can I get ice cream?" This caused a small stampede to the local dairy bar across the street. But Shar and Joyce said it was well worth it!



Day two started out a bit cloudy. But fear not! Our BDE Weather Girls worked their magic and there was sun by 10 am!

After a nice drive up to Harrisburg PA we made our first stop at the National Civil War Museum. Most of the group were quite well behaved and listened intently as we learned all about the events leading up to the War Between the States and each battle



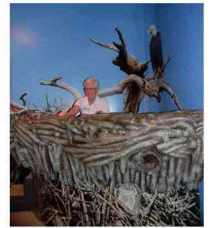
that occurred. Most of us behaved. But there is always that one...

Lucky for us Darrell Brumbaugh only grabbed a rifle, not the musket box with more shells and black powder. His one shot ricocheted off two display cases and lodged in the front door.

Unfortunately, our polite doorman, former Director Rich Gibbs, was standing by the door ready to assist with an orderly exit to our cars. Darrell's shot grazed Rich's knee but caused no permanent damage.



We left the National Civil War Museum and made a short drive across the mighty Susquehanna River to our lunch stop. Duke's Riverside offers great food and a delightful view of the river looking back across to the State Capitol. While most of us chose to dine in the private second floor dining room overlooking the river, Wendy Horsfall wanted a fresh air view. She pooh poohed our warnings and climbed out onto the roof. We all watched in amazement as a bald eagle swooped down from out of nowhere and plucked poor Wendy right off the roof and plopped her in its nest.



Seizing an opportunity for a midnight snack, Bruce Kile, in one fell swoop, packed up Wendy's lunch and headed for his car. He was heard saying "Well, she can't eat it now!"

Keith tried for several minutes to rescue poor Wendy, but being the diligent BDE tourer, had to leave her as Group Two was heading out of the parking lot and on to our next stop. He did leave word with the restaurant staff to have Wendy delivered back to the hotel. She made it two days later, just in time for the closing banquet.

(Continued on Page 5)

# See It to Believe It!

(Continued from Page 4)

Our next stop on Tuesday was the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing, a fine collection of racing cars and memorabilia collected over the last few decades.

Although dirt track racing is not my thing, the sheer volume of memorabilia and the incredible documentation of this particular sport is well worth a visit. I know several of our members are fascinated with things that go Vroom Vroom. To me, a stock Buick is fast enough. But not for some of our members. Here we see a crew offering all sorts of advice on how to get a few more horsepower out of this Fireball 8. Supercharge it? Dual quads? Turbo? Dual turbo? If you see a yellow flash on the next BDE tour you will know this pit crew knew what they were talking about!



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But when you already own the fastest production car of its day, anything else just falls short. Sorry Mike, that is not faster than your GNX!



Back to the hotel for a good rest and another fun filled day Wednesday! We started with a nice scenic drive to the Antietam Battlefield, the bloodiest battle in the Civil War. Our Park Ranger kept us spellbound as he described the battle in full detail. Troop movements, strategy, casualty counts. His presentation was incredible. We all enjoyed it immensely. Well, all except poor JD Westfall. He was last seen in the parking lot mumbling "I



was born in OH but I live in GA now so do I root for the North or the South?"

was born in OH but I live in GA now so do I root for the North or the South?"

After our lunch stop the comment was made "What about Ice cream?" Without missing a beat Bruce and Inez Norgard chimed in "we had delicious ice cream on the Snell's tour in Fredericksburg VA! And we are already in Maryland so ...." Well, it was obvious lactose intolerance and Buick ownership are mutually exclusive. We all headed off to Fredericksburg VA for another serving of Carl's world famous custard.



Our second stop for the day was delayed as we hit rush hour traffic on I-95 coming back from this ice cream run in Virginia, but fear not! Don Bowman is the quintessential Southern Gentleman and kept his collection open until after midnight for us to ooh and aaaah over his magnificent motorcars. By the way, he is a BCA member and several of his cars are award winning Buicks! Always in Recruiting Mode, our Number One New Member Getter John Dale Williams tried his hardest to sign up a new member. Alas, to no avail.



That night, back at the hotel was our annual Membership Meeting.

Yours truly gets to retire and our Directors move up a notch on the ladder. And that brings us to the search for a new Junior Director. With the whole Covid-19 mess and all, we were a bit short on nominations. Director Jerry Richstein was seen working the



crowd as I conducted the rest of the business of the club. As a footnote, Jerry was as successful as John Dale in his recruiting! But seriously, we DO have a new Junior Director. Hint...he really likes animals!

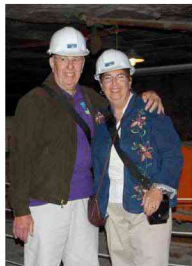
Day Four! Hallelujah! The shortest drive in BDE History! One could have literally walked from the hotel to the Visitors Center faster than driving and parking. But...we are the Buick DRIVING Enthusiasts so we drove. This might have been a mistake because your Tourmaster was putting the finishing touches on this tour during layovers on my trip back from Saudi Arabia and Egypt. And I inadvertently mixed up the files and printed my Arabic for Beginners instead of the Day Four Driving Directions. This caused a slight panic in the parking lot but it was soon straightened out and we made it the 200 yards from the hotel to the Visitors Center without further incident.



# See It to Believe It!

(Continued from Page 5)

We viewed a great film on the Battle of Gettysburg, narrated by Morgan Freeman, followed by a viewing of the newly restored Cyclorama. Then it was off to the Eisenhower Farm for a guided tour. The final afternoon was on your own for relaxing, shopping or one more shot of history. We all know Ed Lenny is



a great Civil War buff so he and Isabel set off for the extra special underground tour of all of the 1,328 monuments, markers and memorials on the battlefield. (And yes, that is the real number!) Not being satisfied with just reading them on the surface, Ed wanted to see how each one was anchored.

Isabel was last heard muttering "Granite and cement ED! \$#!%\$&\*^ Granite and cement!" If there is an award for patience and understanding, Isabel would win it!

We all (hopefully) enjoyed the week of touring and fellowship and the occasional shenanigans. Now it was time to say See You Down the Road at our Farewell Banquet. I thought to myself "Phew, we made it!" Well, not quite. Either my instructions were in Arabic or someone misread them but I said the banquet WAS a seafood meal. Not DRESS AS a seafood meal. Ya know, at this point I just had to shrug my shoulders and say "Robertaaaaaaaaaaaaa!"



We had to cut expenses on this tour but I still think things turned out well. Here is our Fabulous Editor enjoying her lobster dinner. After that, I had the honor of announcing the club's decision to award Paula's hard work with a very special gift. What?



You expected more???



So there you have it folks! That would have been (sort of) the 2020 BDE National Tour had we been in a Covid-19 Free World. We WILL do this tour for real at some point down the road. But for now we have the Fall Tour in Huntsville AL the end of September and a fun filled 2021 National Tour in Michigan next Spring. A big thank you the subjects in these candid photos from tours past. You all make this club such a special group! In the meantime, stay safe and healthy and we will see you down the road!



Charlie and Paula

## BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS - ELECTED OFFICERS

**Senior Director: Charlie Steffy** 103 Larkspur Lane, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

407.261.9318 chas1963@hotmail.com

**Co-Director: Roberta Vasilow** 6186 Torrey Road, Flint, MI 48507

810.655.8277 buickracer@comcast.net

**Co-Director: Jerry Richstein** 4798 Grants Way, Marietta, GA 30066

404.769.6071 jerry.richstein@gmail.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@comcast.net

## BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS - APPOINTED POSITIONS

**Membership Chairperson: Mary Ann Snell** 4340 Eisenhower Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18020

510.390.7072 ddsnell@ptd.net

**Chaplain: Judy Brushaber** 11315 Windy Ridge Trail, Fenton, MI 48430

810.629.4950 judybrush@hotmail.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

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**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

*A Note from Linda -*



"I would like to thank the many members of the BDE who have very kindly sent me cards and emails of encouragement in this difficult time for me. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated and are indeed a comfort knowing that I have many BDE friends who take the time to think about me."

Thank you. **Linda Hall (BDE #227)**

*And from Guy Greene (BDE #386)-*

Dear Family/Friends,

(April 6) Tim and I spent last Thursday morning at the (Ear, Nose, and Throat) Clinic at the VA Hospital. Long story short, they will be removing cancer by taking a goodly portion of the floor of my mouth, as deep as possible without going into the jaw, the left side and a few inches down my neck to remove some lymph nodes. They moved the surgery up to the 7th, tomorrow. I don't have a time yet as they are doing everything via phone because of COVID 19. That to me is easier anyhow. I will have to stay overnight one night, and family/friends are not allowed in the hospital until time to pick me up, and maybe then they will just take me out curbside where Tim or Suzie will pick me up.



I'm not asking you for prayers, but just kind of took it for granted I would get some. I truly am not anxious about this at all. I figure it is going to be what it is going to be, and worrying and being anxious don't change a thing. I know God will be with me tomorrow, as he has been for 73 years. I know He knows the outcome and all I ask of Him is to give me strength physically and mentally to see this through. Have a good one, and hope some of us can get together sooner rather than later. Some of you are just too far away to get together.

I'm not sure if it is "cabin fever", but a bit of it goes a long way. I get out to walk Belle each morning, and of course sit on the back patio for a Toddy and a cigar. Tuesday evening, you could call Tim or Suzie for more info. Tim - 210 887 5103, Suzie - 210 363 3782.

God Loves You and So Do I,

From Your Friend, Uncle, Brother, Brother-in-Law, "Grandpa G", Cousin, Guy or anything else you call me. And I've been called so much worse.

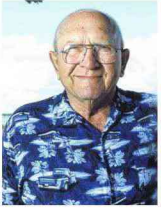
(From Bruce Kile - April 8) I spoke to Guy's son Tim earlier. Guy is home resting comfortably(?) despite what sounds like some very extensive surgery. Of course the prognosis at this point is uncertain. He will have much difficulty speaking for the next few days because of an "igloo like cover" over the "hole" at the base of his tongue. According to Tim, they will be removing the "igloo" which will enable him to speak more intelligibly. I found myself cringing at Tim's description of the procedure. Certainly get well cards & (maybe) emails will be welcomed. Tim says he doubts his dad will be on the computer for a few days, but (on the other hand) nothing his dad does surprises him.

Peace, BK

*And from Guy - April 18)* . . . Needless to say, we are all disappointed that we have to cancel (*the BDE National Tour*). But that is the sign of the times right now. I wasn't sure that I was going to be able to make the tour, but didn't want to say anything until my son Tim and I meet with the Doc. next Thu. I'm doing a lot better, and can even now eat very soft food.

*The BDE wishes Guy a prompt and complete recovery. It would be great if you could email guy or send him a card. His email is [guy-greene@yahoo.com](mailto:guy-greene@yahoo.com) and address: 12711 Sand Holly, San Antonio TX 78253*

## It is with great sadness the we announce the passing of these BDE members



**JOHN WESTFALL (BDE # 92)** - John "Big Bad John" L. Westfall, 90, of North Lewisburg, passed away Tuesday, February 25, 2020 in his home. He was born May 25, 1929 in North Lewisburg, the son of Ralph B. and Mary Margaret (Moore) Westfall.

John was a 1947 graduate of Bellefontaine High School. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Woodstock Church, where he was involved with the restoration of the old church. He enjoyed restoring old cars, as well as driving them.

As for sports, John liked watching fastpitch softball, Ohio State football, and Cincinnati Reds baseball. He also enjoyed pretty wood, pretty rocks, pretty cattle, pretty cars, and pretty women. He



was a member of the Buick Club of America, the Buick Driving Enthusiasts, the Buicks Our Way, and the Champaign Cruisers. John was a volunteer fireman in North Lewisburg and played on the firemen's softball team. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1999 and played varsity football for Ohio Wesleyan University from 1948-1950. John was a member of the Triad Board of Education where he was an Honorary Booster in 1982. He belonged to the Woodstock Lions Club where he received a Distinguished Service Award in 1982. John was also a member of the Federal Land Bank Board of Directors, and the Civic Club of North Lewisburg as a "founder of the present ball field and park." His main goal in life was to enjoy his family and live on his own time. He is survived by his daughters, Sherri Lynn (Robert) Crowder of North Lewisburg and Dori Ann (Jack) Harshbarger of DeGraff; sons, **JD (Roxanne) Westfall** of Atlanta, GA, Karl Leonard (Nancy) Westfall of Racine, WI, and Bart Allen Westfall of Little Rock, AR; 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. John is preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, Alice A. Westfall.



**BOBBIE CUTTER** - Roberta May Cutter, Swartz Creek, MI, age 86, died Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Roberta was born on November 1, 1933 in Owosso the daughter of Franklin and Eva (Lindberg) Worthington. She graduated from Owosso High School, class of

1951. Roberta married Delbert Cutter on October 3, 1952 in Owosso. She was a homemaker raising three children. Roberta was a member of the National and Regional Buick Club of America and Antique Auto Collectors Association. Roberta was active with the Swartz Creek Senior Center. In her free time, she enjoyed playing cards and puzzles. She was preceded in death by her husband, Delbert Cutter. Roberta is survived by 3 children, six grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 4 siblings.

**WRAY B. KNIFFIN** - On Friday, February 28, 2020, age 76. Predeceased by his wife, Anne; father, Claude; brother, Ronald. He leaves his life partner, Anne Leckenby, his mother, two daughters, and two grandchildren, Wray enjoyed antique cars, especially Buicks. He and Anne traveled many times to judge at AACA National Shows. Wray was a Commissioned Officer in the US Navy and a member of Cottrell Warner Post #942 American Legion in Webster. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to [buickheritagealliance.org](http://buickheritagealliance.org) or address at Buick Heritage Alliance, 13425 Bell Rd. Marysville, OH 40304, Attn: Angie Brashares, Office Manager.



**Roger L. Barrett - BDE #456 -**

*Roger T. Barrett shared this news on BCA Forum:* "My father Roger passed away in late February at 85. He owned his roadster since 1952 and began restoring it in about 1960. He bought his BCA

membership from Greg Fallowfield at the Long Beach swap meet at the very beginning. We got his car finished up last year. Many of you may have seen it in Oklahoma. It was the trip of a lifetime for him and he couldn't be more proud of seeing his car at a BCA show. Thank you everyone. Having his car there was awesome for him. On March 2, his grandson drove the car with myself in the co pilot seat and we picked dad up at the funeral home. We got him in a box that fit perfectly in the golf bag door and took him home with a stop at the local pub we frequented while he lived. He would have expected no less. When they realized who was there the veterans stood and honored him as we placed him on the bar and hoisted one in his memory.



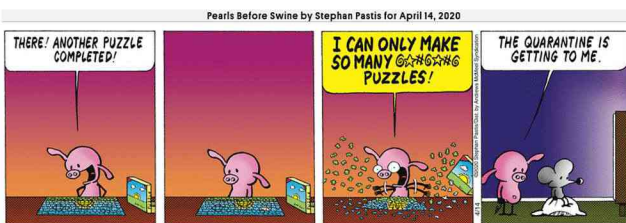
# And Yet Another Message



WOW! 2020 has certainly roared into our lives, and not in a good way. Our worlds have been turned upside-down and, I seriously doubt if things will ever be the same. But with time, patience and good sense, we will overcome the challenges to make it right again.

In these times of face masks, gloves, social distancing, sheltering-at-home and curfews, perhaps we have learned to appreciate our families, friends and the good times more. We have had the disappointments of learning of the cancellation of our Buick events. But the BCA National in Strongsville, Ohio has been rescheduled for 2021. And there is a second BCA National in Charlotte, North Carolina in 2021 also. Imagine that! Two BCA Nats in one year! There is good news to be heard about that. Word has it that there might be an After Tour following Strongsville, and the hospitality room in Charlotte will be terrific! And Gettysburg may be gone, but not forgotten. We will be doing the fun things Charlie had planned at sometime in the future. If that isn't enough, the BDE Fall Tour is scheduled for September 27 - October 1, 2020 in Huntsville, Alabama. Plus plans are underway for our 2021 BDE National in Flint, Michigan. So stay positive and keep those Buicks shined up and running smoothly so we can start touring again.

A big shout-out goes to Isabel Lenny, our Membership Chairperson for the past 10 years! Can you imagine that? And then she rose to the challenge we we added 120 new members as a result of our membership campaign! There are not enough thank yous we can send to Isabel for all her hard work. And more good news. We have a new Membership Chairperson on board. Thank you Mary Ann Snell for stepping up. Please see Isabel's message for Mary Ann's information.



So what have you all been doing to retain your sanity in these trying times? I've heard that some members have been doing puzzles. Another member is playing with his new bulldozer. Of course there are those who are wrenching on their Buicks and/or polishing them to a higher shine. And for some, just waiting for that perfect day to drop the top!

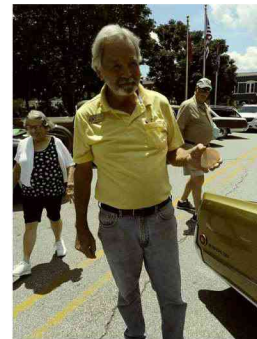
Unfortunately this edition of the newsletter will only be sent to those on the email roster. Commercial printers are not on the essential services list at this time and producing them on my personal printer is not economically sound. We will try to get them sent when our world returns to some normalcy. Sorry for this inconvenience.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this issue of The Driving Force - **Ann Bell, Roger Barrett, Linda Hall, Guy Greene, Bruce Kile, Dave Langdon, Isabel Lenny, Denny Manner, Bob Miles, Shannon Olson, Pete Phillips, Jerry Richstein, Charlie Steffy, Roberta Vasilow, JD Westfall** and those who I may have accidentally missed.

If you have something you would like to share, something to sell or buy - just email me at [Kliska@cfl.rr.com](mailto:Kliska@cfl.rr.com) or via snail mail - 1424 Dogwood Court, Kissimmee FL 34744. Without our members help we wouldn't have a newsletter!

Stay safe! Stay sensible! Stay positive!  
Paula

## Flashback Funnies After Tour - Bentonville, Arkansas - June 2019



## Dad's Old Chevy Truck

A Tribute to their father, Bob Miles (BDE #378) for Father's Day 2013

written by John and Jim Miles

June 16, 2013  
Happy Father's Day  
From John and Jim

In the summer of 1968, I was 12 years old and my Father, Bob Miles, was 37. We lived in a rural area of Western New York, the Town of Lewiston, right on edge of Lake Ontario. As I recall, my Dad and I were on one of many old car excursions. We drove no more than 5 miles down the Ridge Road to look at a 1928 Chevrolet truck that had been



The Miles children having fun with the remains of the '28 Chev.



converted many years ago into a farm truck and was now in repose. All that was left of the Chevy was its cowl, fenders, radiator shell, frame, and running gear. Basically, a frame clad in a wooden flat bed that the farmer would use to haul the pecks of fruit from the fruit orchards that surrounded us to his roadside stand. The truck had not moved since the '50's, we were told.

Bob was not a man concerned with impossibilities, so after stopping at the farmhouse to pay for the truck, our recovery of the old truck began. I was given an old coffee can to dredge water from a nearby creek and told to keep to keep some water in the bullet-holed radiator. We had a can of gasoline usually used for the lawnmower and a bicycle pump to inflate the huge old flat tires. Dad turned the 6V engine over with some cables and the 12-volt battery of our rescue car, checking the truck's vital signs. Within a few minutes of tinkering, a "grab that wire and see if there's any spark" shock test for me on the old plug wires - he 'taught' each of his sons that trick. The truck fired up and we drove it sputtering and leaking to the front porch of the old farm house. The Chevy cost \$10.00! I can still remember the shock on the woman's face as she watched us drive away in the old wooden rig.

My Dad was hooked on old cars from an earlier era when his dad, Chet Miles, scrapped many cars, trucks, and other metal at his auto repair shop and scrap yard, much used for the war effort. This yard later became Miles Foundry and Miles Auto Parts in Clarks Summit, PA. The Foundry building still stands and Miles Auto Parts is still in business today, being managed by Bob's next younger brother, Tom Miles, 81. Bob knows every detail, every subtle nuance, and many obscure details of many of the cars that have been rolling down our roads for the last century because of his experience of cutting many of them up to support the war effort. His friends often use his knowledge when restoring their own cars.

Dad was a very successful businessman in the 70's and with 6 kids and a desire for a more rewarding and prosperous lifestyle, the old car hobby was a way for Bob to create a second income.

A subscription to Hemming's magazine was a logical follow up to our entry into the old car arena. They were brown and wrapped in what looked like grocery bags to me. We drove the old wooden '28 Chevy around our farm home, hauling wood trimmings, rocks, and just going for a ride. Dad had it listed in Hemming's as a parts car and proceeded to sell it piece by piece until it was not

## Dad's Old Chevy Truck *(continued)*

recognizable, but still driveable! By the time he finally sold the remains of the truck he had made close to \$1000.00 from the \$10.00 initial investment.

In his search for old cars, we made many excursions around the Northeast. A very nice 1932 Packard was bought for \$500.00 from a garage in Attica, NY. A 1934 Cadillac V-16 dual cowl phaeton was acquired from a collector in Southern NY. This 3-ton beast was towed home with a 1949 Chevy pick up on a stock car trailer. I was there too and still can't decide who was driving who through the hills and valleys of Western NY that night, my Dad or the 6000-pound Caddy on the now fractured old trailer.

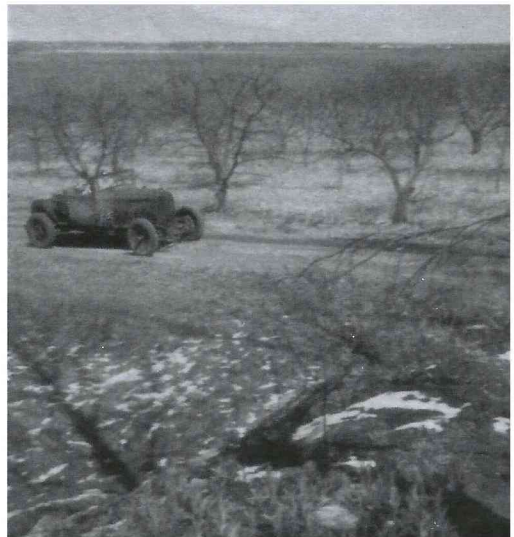
This is just one of many such adventures that my Father, brother and I shared. Going to get cars always involved a cigar, usually burning before dawn. There was always the grease, snow, mud, or rain ground in or smeared all over everything we wore. The homestretch involved being towed home, freezing or sweating in a car full of mice or bees with the occasional blow out of one of the old cracked and worn tires. Keep in mind, as kids, we were 'driving' these old things as the cars pulling them were usually lighter than our 'new car'. This is how we learned our hand signals and, also, most of our swear words.

My brother John, who was 6 years my junior, was a participant in many of our old car adventures, and we still have much to discuss as we meet Dad at the Fall Meet at Hershey every year! Imagine! My Dad has been going to Hershey since 1968! Even the old cars were not old yet.

Many cars were bought, fixed to running condition, driven by us on the farm roads surrounding our home, and then sold for a neat profit of a few hundred dollars each. There were Dodges, Packards, Cadillacs, Plymouths, Hupmobiles, Buicks, Pontiacs, Chevys, Hudsons, Lasalles, Oldsmobiles, Mercuries, even a Maxwell just like Jack Benny's. As Bob bought old cars, fixed them into running condition and sold them, he developed a desire to keep and restore a few. So he did, even winning a junior award for his 1942 Buick Roadmaster at the AACA Fall Meet.

Bob is 82 now, and on the last 2 trips to Hershey, he has sold a car. He once sold nearly all of his cars and said there would be 'No More!' Then, within a few weeks, Bob went out and bought a '48 Plymouth, a Buick convertible and now a very nice 1934 Dodge rumble seat coupe. You will see him driving around in one or the other at Hershey, Macungie, or any of the summer meets in and around Scranton, PA.

Thanks to our Dad, Bob Miles, my brother and I and our friends and relatives are carrying on the old car tradition, and we are having fun just driving the old iron!



***In Case You Missed It . . .***  
 Thank you to Bugle Editor & Author, Pete Phillips for his permission to reprint.  
 Thank you to Bugle Art Director Shannon Olson for her assistance.

**A Collector/Restorer of 1942 Buicks**

Bob Miles of Waverly, Pennsylvania is the 1942 Technical Advisor for the BCA. When he saw the light green '42 Roadmaster Sedanet in the DeYoung auction article in the Bugle's September issue, he gathered up some of his photos of that car and some of the other 1942 Buicks he has owned and restored.

The green '42 model 76-S is one of only 2,471 built in that war-shortened year. Bob says he saw it advertised in 1990 for \$350 in Old Cars Weekly in the "Kenny's Clunkers" section. It was in a junkyard in Montana where it had been used as a "field car" (used in the junkyard's back field to carry tools, fetch parts, etc.). It had bullet holes in the body and the hood had been used as someone's sled. Bob bought the car, spending an additional \$1,200 to have it transported from Montana to Buffalo, New York where he lived at the time. He had lots of 1947 Buick parts, including a good 320 engine, but as any '42 restorer soon finds out, there are many parts unique to the 1942 Buicks, even though you think everything is interchangeable with the 1946-48 Buicks - it's not!

For example, the parking lights are different on the '42s - slightly smaller diameter with four hash marks that look like fins in the glass lens, and unique chrome moldings that extend around the front corner of the fenders. Bob tried to use a 1947 Roadmaster hood on the '42, but the hood brace underneath is in a different location and hits the engine. The hood pulls for 1942 are different, with the series name on each one, and little black ribs in the hood pull bezels.

The dual stainless steel strips on the lower sides of a '42 Buick are concave in shape and unique to the '42. The rear bumper's cross-bar above the license plate is different from the 1946-48 Buicks, which have a circular series emblem/name. The 1942 emblem or series name is oblong. Bob says the heater controls for 1942 are unique, and the little chain they are attached to under the dashboard is always broken.



*Left to right: Unrestored 1942 Roadmaster Sedanet with original paint was found in a Montana salvage yard for \$350. The Montana car's interior was there but quite worn. 1942 Roadmasters have wood-grained dashboards and door garnish moldings.*

So, back to the restoration of this '42 Roadmaster Sedanet. Bob did all of the restoration in his barn behind the house, except for the upholstery and the chrome plating. Chrome was sent to Qual-Chrome in Erie, Pennsylvania. The body was pulled off of the chassis and put on a homemade rotisserie.



*Left to right: Interior view prior to restoration. Newly restored Roadmaster Sedanet interior. New paint and everything back in place except rear bumper. (Continued on Page 13)*

## In Case You Missed It - Continued from Page 12

Bob found a parts car for the '42 Sedanet in a salvage yard in Maine. It had been pushed around in the yard for years because no one wanted 1942 parts, and everything on the outside of the car was rusty and dented. But under the hood, everything was perfect and untouched. All Roadmasters, Centurys, and Limiteds in 1942 have the compound carburetor set-up from the factory on the 320 straight eight. So Bob completed the restoration, and it was so nice that his children urged him to take it to the big car show in Hershey, Pennsylvania to show it and have it judged.

It was at this meet that BCA member and collector Del DeYoung saw the car and wanted it. The sale was made, but after DeYoung died, Bob Miles says he lost track of the Roadmaster. It did not turn up again until the sale of DeYoung's estate cars at the Mecum Auction in Indianapolis, which was reported on in the September Buick Bugle.

The gray sedan with the dark blue roof is a 1942 Roadmaster sedan, model 71. It came out of St. Regis Falls, New York, up near the Canadian border in northern New York in 1968. The late Lewis Jenkins of North Carolina did some of the restoration on this car. Once again, the 1942 four-door sedan bodies are somewhat different from the 1946-1948 Buick bodies. The '46-'48 four-door sedans have a front fender extension or filler panel between the front and rear doors, whereas the 1942s lack this filler panel.



*Left to right: 1942 Roadmaster four-door sedan was found in St. Regis Falls in northern New York.*

*The 1942 Roadmaster was at the 2016 BCA National Meet in Allentown, Pennsylvania.*

*The 1942 Buicks have white or ivory steering wheels with "banjo-type" spokes, ivory gear shift knob and ivory radio buttons.*



*Above: The 1942 Super convertible found in Houston, Texas with duct tape for side moldings and what looks like 1961 LeSabre wheel covers.*

The black 1942 Super convertible was found in Houston, Texas. A Mexican-American guy had it there, with duct tape in place of the concave stainless side moldings, and plywood and shag carpets on the floors. Bob sold the Super to Lewis Jenkins, and Jenkins found a parts car for it in a field near Greenville, North Carolina.

The car has been restored and one of our members in Washington, D.C. owns it now. 2,454 Super convertibles were built for the short 1942 model year, which is more than you might expect. Only three are known in the Buick Club today. The 1942 Supers came with the 248 engine with two carburetors. Bob says his family had a 1942 Super during World War Two. During the war years, and shortly afterwards, you could buy a complete 248 engine, including all of its accessories, for \$300 from your local Buick dealer, to replace the 1942 and earlier engines.



*Bob Miles' 1942 Roadmaster after its completed restoration.*

# Swap Space

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 3 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.



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The 2020 Buick Club of America in Strongsville, Ohio has been cancelled. It is rescheduled for June 30 - July 3, 2021.

"The After Tour" for 2020 has also been postponed to 2021 following the BCA National in Strongsville.

Any questions, call the Kiles  
770.977.7924 or email  
sbkile58@aol.com



### Attention Quilt Lovers and Buick Memorabilia Collectors

This commemorative 100th Buick Anniversary quilt was to be featured at the annual silent auction held at the 2020 Buick Driving Enthusiasts National Tour in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Due to the cancellation of that tour, it will be the highlight of the silent auction at the 2021 BDE National Tour in Flint, Michigan.

### BUICKS ON THE BRICKS SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020 W. WATER STREET FLINT, MICHIGAN

The Buicktown Chapter BCA invites you to our 8th year hosting vintage  
"Buicks on the Bricks."

Features include  
Billy Durant's Factory One,  
his Office Building,  
displays and programs about  
Buick history, technology  
and performance at the birthplace of GM!

This **FREE** show is open to  
Buicks 25 years-old or older.  
The entry gate to Water Street is located  
off N. Grand Traverse Avenue.  
This event is only one part of  
the Back to the Bricks  
huge week-long celebration.

See the poster  
on page 15.

For more details go to  
[backtothebricks.org/buick-party](http://backtothebricks.org/buick-party)  
or [buicksonthebricks.com](http://buicksonthebricks.com)  
Contacts: Al Jones - [ajones/163@gmail.com](mailto:ajones/163@gmail.com) or  
Margaret Streeter - [toomaroo@yahoo.com](mailto:toomaroo@yahoo.com)

# “Buicks on the Bricks”

PART OF THE ANNUAL FLINT, MICHIGAN

## “BACK TO THE BRICKS” CAR SHOW

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**GENERAL MOTORS FACTORY ONE**

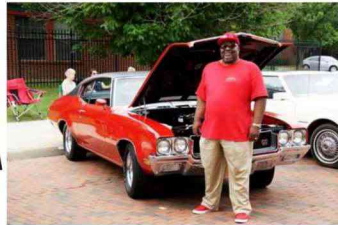
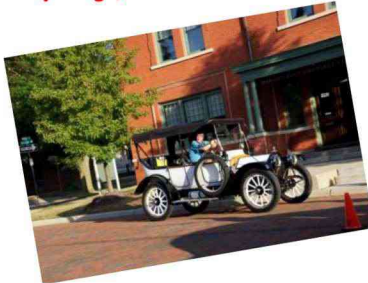
**DURANT-DORT CARRIAGE COMPANY OFFICE BUILDING**

**AUGUST 15, 2020 – GATE OPENS AT 6:00 am**  
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Open To All **Buick** Show Cars, Barn Finds, Modified & Works In Progress

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  - Genesee County Historical Society Gift Shop With Many Unique Items
- **VIEW SPECIAL EXHIBITS & VIDEO'S IN GM FACTORY ONE OPEN HOUSE**
  - Visit Kettering University Industrial History Archives
  - See Billy Durant's "Flint Road Cart" The Vehicle That Started It All
  - On Display, A Buick Production Built J-65 Jet Engine & Much More



For additional information visit:

[www.backtothebricks.org/buick-party/](http://www.backtothebricks.org/buick-party/)  
[www.buicksonthebricks.com](http://www.buicksonthebricks.com)

DISPLAY CARS USE W. WATER ST. ENTRANCE OFF GRAND TRAVERSE, NORTH OF THE BRIDGE  
For more information contact: AL JONES 810-625-2713 OR DAVE LANGDON 810-636-2676

*Editor's Note: In order to facilitate John's planning, please send him an email to [coverj@asme.org](mailto:coverj@asme.org) and let him know if you think you might be coming. Thanks!*

## BDE Fall Tour

Normally the Registration for the Fall BDE tour would be handed out at the BDE National Tour. You might have noticed this is not a normal year. What I am submitting is a preliminary Fall Tour Outline that gives an idea what is being planned; however, until Alabama is further opened it is not possible to check all the venues and restaurants for at least another month.

I have checked the motel and they are fully open and have maintained 70% occupancy throughout the spring. I have checked many of the venues, including those that are not open yet, and found they are waiting to find out what they need to do before they can open, what percentage occupancy they will be permitted and when. The restaurants are all closed and they do not have any idea whether they will open and under what circumstances.

The Preliminary Fall Outline is our best guess at this time. We plan to keep updating this once Alabama provides the rules to the vendors as to what is permissible. We may need to move some venues to different days and/or drop some and add others to make a full schedule based on the venue's hours and available restaurants. We beg your tolerance is this very unusual year.

We would appreciate it if you would let us know (based on today's forecasting) whether you might be planning to come. This would help if we could give the vendors an idea of how many people we might expect. We might be able to work with some of the establishments to open on an off day if we have sufficient people. Just drop me an email at [coverj@asme.org](mailto:coverj@asme.org) and let me know if you think you might be coming.

### Preliminary Outline

#### **Motel** Approximately \$100/night

Continental Hot Breakfast - In-house Restaurant and Bar - Free Shuttle to and from local restaurants – Free Wi-Fi - Refrigerator – Microwave – Free Hospitality Room – Gym – Banquet Room – Reserved Parking

#### **Monday September 28, 2020**

**Helen Keller** <https://www.helenkellerbirthplace.org> 256-383-4066 Tuscumbia, AL

Cottage family home – log cabin – water pump – ice house – kitchen - Gift Shop – DVD Lion's Club walk – Miracle Worker – "Story of My Life" autobiography – Original Furniture and Artifacts

**Rattlesnake Saloon Lunch** <https://www.rattlesnakesaloon.net> Tuscumbia, AL

Very unique – rustic - live entertainment – front veranda that looks like mouth of cave – good atmosphere – good food

**Alabama Music Hall of Fame** <https://www.alamhof.org> Tuscumbia, AL

Paraphernalia of Alabama entertainers from all types of music, including Hank William's Cadillac and Happy Hal Burn's 1961 Pontiac

**Cooks Museum of Natural History** <https://www.cookmuseum.org> Decatur, AL

Exhibits on zoology, geology, and paleontology and natural art from desert to outer space many interesting sites, including saltwater aquarium – live and mounted animals – birds displayed insects – rocks – replicas of the inside of a beaver dam and the inside of a tree and more

**Kaleidoscoops Ice Cream** <https://www.kalscoops.com/> Decatur, AL

44 different flavors of ice cream desserts.

(Continued on Page 17)



**BDE Fall Tour**  
(Continued from Page 17)

**Tuesday September 29, 2020**

**Jack Daniels Distillery** <https://www.jackdaniels.com> Lynchburg, TN  
Guided tour of history, processing, and tastings (optional)

**Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House** - Lunch <https://restaurantguru.com/Miss-Mary-Bobos-Boarding-House-Lynchburg-Tennessee> Lynchburg, TN  
Renowned buffet restaurant

**Fayetteville Antiques and Specialty Shops** [www.fayettevilletnantiquemall.com](http://www.fayettevilletnantiquemall.com) Fayetteville, AL  
Located in a fully restored historical building on the north side of the picturesque Fayetteville Square. You may easily treasure hunt for a full day in downtown Fayetteville, a town of antique shops and malls.

**Wednesday September 30, 2020**

**Alabama Veterans Museum** [www.alabamaveteransmuseum.com](http://www.alabamaveteransmuseum.com) Athens Alabama  
Military history with large exhibit center with many displays of actual uniforms, photos, weapons, letters and more from the Revolutionary War to present time. Guided tours by local veterans will provide first-hand stories and experiences about our nation's wars.

**Crockett's Mill Restaurant** - Lunch  
<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/restaurant/david-crockett> Lawrenceburg, AL  
A relaxed atmosphere and home-style cooking keep diners coming back for favorites like Backwoods Chicken, Bulls-eye Pasta and Pan-seared Rib-eye. Beautiful view overlooking lake

**Amish Heritage Museum** <https://amishheritagewelcomecenter.com/events>  
Many crafts, including leather and wood, of about sixty Amish vendors – Horse-drawn wagon rides to different homes where they sell items they either made or grown – Amish farmhouse and cabins restored to original, with period furniture and artifacts

**Thursday October 1, 2020**

**Huntsville Space and Rocket Center** <https://www.huntsville.org/rocket-city/us-space-rocket-center/>  
Huntsville, AL  
Largest space museum in the world – Re-live the space race of man on the moon – IMAX theater Saturn Five Rocket – Apollo 16 Capsule – Moon Rock – Hands-on space travel simulators – Guided tour in the Davidson Center – Redstone Arsenal – and more

**Lunch** – Space Center

**Banquet**

**Friday October 2, 2020 (Optional)**

**Berman Museum of Natural History** <https://www.familydaysout.com/attractions-usa/berman-museum>  
Anniston, Al

Berman Museum is home to more than 6,000 artifacts, offering a unique opportunity to view ancient treasures and objects from all over the world (plus over 1,000 pieces in their Asian Art collection) ! History comes to life right in front of your very eyes! You can discover the history of the exploration and colonization of the American West, with artifacts and weapons.

If you missed the Fall 2017 tour and would like to go there, or for those who want a second look, we will set up a trip on Friday morning for those who are interested.



**BDE Fall Tour 2000  
St Augustine, FL**



**BDE Fall Tour 2002  
Duncansville, PA**



**BDE Fall Tour 2004  
West Chester, PA**



**BDE Fall Tour 2009  
Winston-Salem, NC**



**BDE Fall Tour 2010  
Abilene, KS**



**BDE Fall Tour 2012  
Tallahassee, FL**



**BDE Fall Tour 2015  
Orlando, FL**



**BDE Fall Tour 2016  
East Peoria, IL**



**BDE Fall Tour 2018  
Woodbridge, VA**

Good Times!

Great Memories!



**BDE Fall Tour 2016  
Cartersville, GA**



**BDE National 1999  
Camp BDE - Mount Eagle, TN**



**BDE National 2003  
Helen, GA**



**BDE National 2004  
Grand Rapids, MI**



**BDE National 2005  
Sedona, AZ**



**BDE National 2011  
Columbus, OH**



**BDE National 2012  
Tallahassee, FL**



**BDE National 2014  
Corning, NY**



**BDE National 2015  
Outer Banks, NC**



**BDE National 2016  
Pine Mountain, GA**



Good Times!



**BDE National 2017  
Traverse City, MI**



**BDE National 2018  
Reedsburg, WI**

Great Memories!



**BDE National 2019  
Kansas City, MO**



**BDE After Tour 2017**



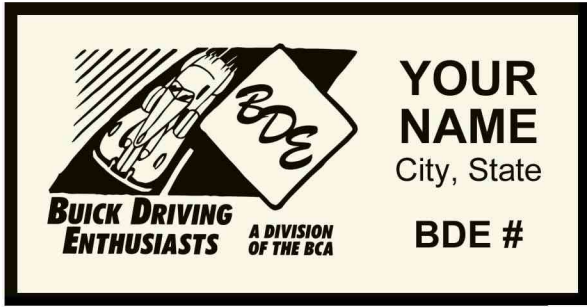
**BDE After Tour 2017**



**BDE After Tour 2019**



**BDE After Tour 2019**



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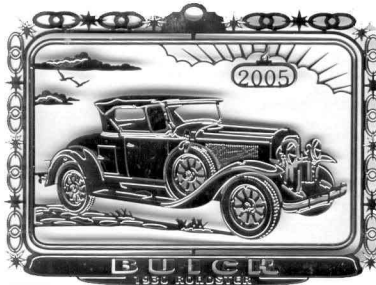
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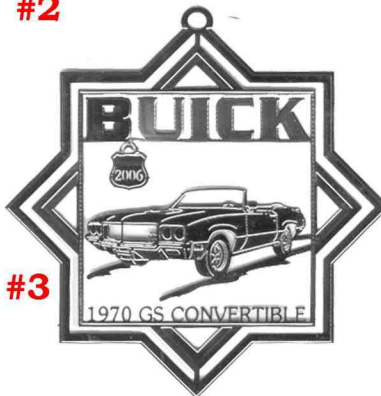
Indicate which ornament (# and car) you want and quantity.  
Send your name & address with check or money order made payable to:  
**BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS**  
2492 Lorrie Drive  
Marietta GA 30066-5720



#2



#5



#3



#6



#1



#4



#7