



A DIVISION OF THE BCA

The Snow has melted - get that Buick Out & Have Fun Issue!

The Driving Force

Driving, Touring & Just Having Fun!



A Publication of the Buick Driving Enthusiasts
Division of the Buick Club of America
Summer 2018



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SAVE THE DATE

MAY 13 - 16, 2019

**2019 BDE NATIONAL TOUR
KANSAS CITY AREA**



**2018
BDE
FALL
TOUR**

September 30 - October 4

Registration Correction:

Deadline for Tour Registration
is August 24

Registration Form in this Issue



Spring sprung into Summer at the 2018 Buick Driving Enthusiast's National Driving Tour in Reedsburg, Wisconsin thanks to the teamwork of Frank Cwikla, Joyce Lukemeyer and Gil Volling! More than 60 BDE members from nine states toured America's Dairyland in 35 Buicks ranging from the 30's through the

90's. Trains and planes, cows, potatoes, cheese, circus memorabilia and an eclectic house were all on the agenda.

Oh yes, and eating . . . the other interpretation of the E in BDE. You can't travel on an empty stomach!

And no one wore Wisconsin flip-flops!



Messages

FROM OUR SENIOR DIRECTOR - RICH GIBBS - BDE #144

Oh no! It appears that our Senior Director has gone missing. Rumor has it that he is actually doing fun things with his Buick. And that has to be more fun than writing a message anyway. Hmmm - wonder if the Editor could get away with that. Catch you next issue Rich!



AND OUR MID DIRECTOR - CHARLIE STEFFY - BDE #374

Greetings to our faithful BDE'rs!

A big Thank You to Frank Cwikla and Gil Volling and Joyce Lukemeyer for a superb 2018 National Tour! It was my first trip to Wisconsin and boy was it fun! And educational! Cheese, the circus and oh WOW that House on the Rock! And have you ever been on better Antique Car Touring Roads anywhere? Thank you to this team that made this tour a success!



This summer is shaping up to be a busy one. Many of you made it safely to the BCA National Meet last month. I am eagerly awaiting Pete Phillips' meet issue of The Buick Bugle to read all about it. As for me and my trusty Buicks, the Electra T Type is ready for the Fall Tour in Virginia. The Riviera is going on an AACA tour later this year. And, if the schedule works out, the trusty 1919 H 45 touring will once again be driven to the AACA Fall Meet in Hershey. I do hope I can get the starter generator brushes replaced in time!

We still need someone to step up for the Fall Tours 2019 and 2020. They are not as daunting as a national Tour and there are all sorts of helpers in our club to make the job even easier. Step up. Host a tour. See how much fun it really is! See you all down the road in Virginia this fall!

Charlie Steffy

AND OUR NEWLY ELECTED JUNIOR DIRECTOR -ROBERTA VASILOW - BDE #17

Hi there, BDE friends!



Just like Charlie challenged us to ponder the junior director position in the Spring Driving Force, that's exactly what I did one day. So by 2021 I will be off the BOD of the BCA and ready to plan the best National BDE tour ever, it may even include some drag racing so stay tuned.

As always let me know if there is anything I can help you with, from Buick parts, history, troubleshooting problems or whatever, always glad to help! Hope to see you all in VA!

Go fast with class, safely. . .
Roberta

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON - ISABEL LENNY - BDE #222

As I write this message, Ed and I have just returned from the BCA National Meet in Lone Tree, Colorado. We had a wonderful time, especially seeing some friends.



We then went on the "After Tour" which ended in Atchison, Kansas. As always, Shar and Bruce put together a wonderful tour. Upon our return home, the temperature stayed well into the 90's for over a week, and manage to kill some of my flowers.

Sad news: Unfortunately, the BDE lost one of its longtime members on July 3rd. Chet Gaines, BDE #162, lost his long battle with cancer. He will be missed. Another of our members, Renee and Lewis Cohen, BDE #240, of Connecticut, lost their son Jared in May. We extend our sympathies to these two families. We also extend our best wishes to Diane Miles, BDE #378, of Waverly, Pennsylvania for a quick recovery from her illness.

Hope to see you on the Virginia Fall Tour September 30th - October 4th.

Regards,
Isabel

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Rick and Lori Schick. BDE #431, 1707 Princess Circle, Naperville, IL 60564-7130
Home phone: 630.904.1950 Cell phone: 630.207.5157 Email: Buickman@wideopenwest.com



Words of gratitude go out to both Guy Greene and Judy Brushaber. Guy served as our Co-Chaplain for many years, but has decided to resign the position do to health issues. Thank you Guy, for all you have done. We hope to see you at future events. (See Guy's message on Page 13). Kudos to Judy for stepping up to the plate for this position. Welcome!

Such a large issue this time . . . both the 2018 National Driving Tour and the After Tour are featured in this edition. Plus we've added some articles we hope will be of interest to our BDE members. Thanks to all the contributors!

"Spring into Summer in Wisconsin" was totally amazing. Thank you Frank, Gil and Joyce for such a great tour. All your hard work and planning really paid off! I had a fantastic time and I'm sure everyone who attended also did. Such a diverse selection of tours and places to eat! The cows and potatoes were interesting to a city kid like me, but THAT house . . . they had me at "Bolero". And the carousel - WOW! I could have spent 2 days there checking it all out. As for the 'Adult Grilled Cheese Sandwich' - I'm still trying to duplicate that at home!

Have you registered for the BDE 2018 Fall Tour - The American Heritage Tour in Woodbridge, Virginia yet? The corrected deadline to register is August 24 and a registration form is included in this newsletter. Hope to see you there. Dennis and Ed have an awesome tour planned, especially for you history buffs.

Something to think about - how do we attract new members? Perhaps recruiting a friend from the BCA who likes to drive his Buick? Or encourage someone who has a Buick, but does not belong to either club? Maybe if you meet a person with a Buick at a local car show or cruise? Tell them about us and how much fun we have. We always appreciate new members. BDE membership applications can be found on our website - bde.buickclub.org Why not print out a few just to have on hand?

Special thanks to all our contributors to this issue: **Jim Beal, Connie Brumbaugh, Ellen Cavanaugh, Rich Gibbs, Guy Greene, Keith Horsfall, Jack & Pat Horvath, Bruce Kile, Isabel Lenny, Denny Manner, Inez Norgard, Fran Pasch, Dennis Snell, Charlie Steffy, Mike Stemen, Roberta Vasilow, Larry Wilson** and anyone I may have missed. Please keep those articles and photos coming - they are welcomed and appreciated. Let's keep the ball rolling and do a great newsletter together! Send your "stuff" to - Kliska@cfl.rr.com or by mail to Paula Liska, 1424 Dogwood Court, Kissimmee, FL 34744

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. Be advised, it will be in black & white, not color.

Paula Liska BCA #6397, BDE #2 - Kliska@cfl.rr.com 407.873.7262 or via snail mail (address above).

BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS - ELECTED OFFICERS 2017-18

Senior Director:	Rich Gibbs	1150 NW Sunset Lane, Topeka, KS 66618	785.230.6794	tripleturn@cox.net
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			407.261.9318	chas1963@hotmail.com
Co-Director:	Roberta Vasilow	6186 Torrey Road, Flint, MI 48507	810.655.8277	buickracer@comcast.net
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	Isabel Lenny	1008 S Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA 18103		
Chairperson:			610.434.2430	lugnuts36@icloud.com
Chaplain:	Judy Brushaber	11265 Windy Lane, Fenton, MI 48430	810.629.4950	judybrush@hotmail.com
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**Monday, May 14
Mid-Continent
Railway Museum
New Freedom, Wisconsin**
The Mid-Continent Railway Museum's collection emphasizes the preservation of railroad items operated in the upper Midwest from the period of 1880-1916, what the organization refers to as the "Golden Age of Railroadng."



All Aboard!

The museum consists of static displays as well as a 7-mile round trip ride aboard preserved railroad cars.





Monday, May 14 - Circus World Museum - Baraboo, Wisconsin

Circus World Museum is located in Baraboo, Wisconsin, because Baraboo was home to the Ringling Brothers. The Ringling Brothers Circus began their first tour there as a circus in 1884. The large museum complex is devoted to circus-related history featuring circus artifacts and exhibits



The BDE is like a traveling circus... we're always on the go!





Tuesday, May 15 Experimental Aircraft Association Museum Oshgosh, Wisconsin

The EAA Aviation Museum is dedicated to the preservation and display of historic and experimental aircraft as well as antiques, classics, and warbirds. Its collection displays more than 200 aircraft and 20,000 artifacts.



A rare collection of more than 30 pieces of nose art from actual World War II combat aircraft were on display at the EAA Aviation Museum.

Wednesday, May 16 - House on the Rock - Spring Green, Wisconsin

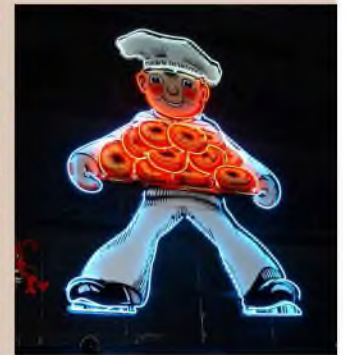
Bizarre, eclectic, kitschy . . . the magic of imagination and re-creation!
"Built on top of a huge monolith, the House on the Rock reveals the spirit of its builder, Alex Jordan Jr., to be as single-minded and eccentric as Frank Lloyd Wright's, but in substance almost absurdly opposed."



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"They had me at 'Bolero'!"



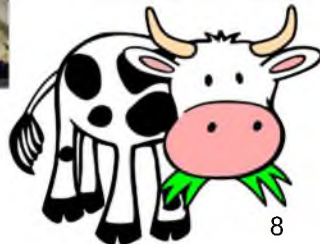
NEW CHESTER DAIRY

Thursday, May 17 - New Chester Dairy Farm - Grand Marsh, Wisconsin



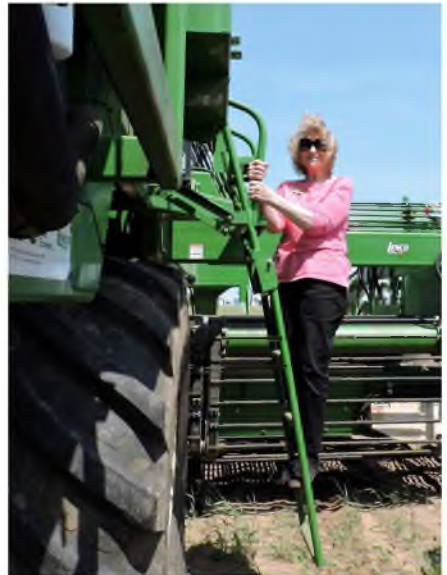
One thing you notice right away about the cows on the New Chester Dairy's 80-stall milking carousel: There's no "poop shield" under them. Bill Harke, director of public affairs for New Chester Dairy, said few cows "drop their alfalfa" during their 8.5-minute ride on the carousel — where most of the cows are milked three times a day, on a carousel that runs around the clock except for a two-hour period when it's shut down for maintenance.

- Lyn Jerde,
Portage Daily Register





Thursday, May 17
Bula-Gieringer Farms -
Coloma, Wisconsin
Bula-Gieringer Farms is one of the largest potato and vegetable operations in Wisconsin. The farm raises over 8,700 acres of potatoes, green beans, peas, corn, soybeans and sweet potatoes.





Just some of our
Beautiful, Beautiful
10 Buicks on Tour!

Friendship, Fellowship & Fun That's the BDE!



The morning Participant's Meeting wouldn't be the same without our human flagpole!



^

Frank & Michael getting ready to lead the tour.

<Touring is fun!

And we let these clowns have responsible positions in the club?

v



Eating - the "E" in BDE



It's fun to go to someone's house when they not home!



There's something chessey going on here!

Parking Lot Racing Assoc. since we don't drag race on tour.



v



Charlie



Belva, Inez & Shar



Silent Auction



Twinsies?



MODEL OF 'THE THING' HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL HISTORY

By Barb Pert Templeton for 'The Voice' Malcomb/St. Clair Counties, Michigan
 Photo courtesy of Ruth Kloppinger Suwalkowski (Memphis Historical Society)

Michigan's first self-propelled vehicle on record was built in Memphis in 1884 by John and Thomas Clegg and it has been referred to as "The Thing" ever since. A historic marker near the machine shop where the father and son built the vehicle, which ran under the power of a single-cylinder steam engine with a boiler in the rear, is in place at Bordman Road and Cedar Street.

Amid its notoriety, one thing about "The Thing" is missing: There are no photographs of the unique vehicle, as any references to the car were destroyed in a house fire at Thomas Clegg's home in 1929.

But not having a photo or drawing in reference to the car did not stop Memphis residents **LARRY and EVELYN WILSON (BDE #43)** from commissioning a model of "The Thing" and donating it to the Memphis Historical Society.



Larry Wilson strikes a pose with the model he donated to the Memphis Historical Society

"One picture is worth 1,000 words, but we didn't have that luxury," said Larry Wilson, who also serves on the Memphis City Council. He commissioned Richard Hess, of Emmett, to build a replica of the Clegg car. Without a photo or sketch, the local artist had to rely on Wilson's research to complete the task. "Richard Hess was able, by his artistic ability, to build a reasonable facsimile; although, it may not be completely accurate of the 'Cleggmobile,'" Wilson said. "Some called it a 'locomobile steamer.' Others called it 'The Contraption' or 'The Thing.'" "It will be interesting to see how accurate or inaccurate this model will be if a picture or an accurate sketch ever shows up," he added.

A longtime classic car enthusiast, Wilson has owned various vehicles over the years, including a 1911 Buick Touring, a red 1953 Skylark Convertible, a 1993 Riviera and, perhaps his favorite, a 1930 Phaeton, an open touring car. "I've loaned my cars out for things over the years, and the 1930 car was used at the 1986 Super Bowl," Wilson said. "Roger Staubach rode in the back seat."

The "Cleggmobile" also has an interesting history. Its first test run was in the spring of 1885 to Emmett. The round trip covered 14 miles. In all, Thomas Clegg made 30 test runs totaling 500 miles and was the first to drive a self-propelled car in Michigan. The car was dismantled two years later. The engine was sold to George M. Granger, of Port Huron, to use in his creamery. The Cleggs made one other car in 1886 that was comprised of brass weighing 2,800 pounds. Cash problems prevented them from continuing their experiment, Wilson said.

Memphis Historical Society member Ruth Koppinger Suwalkowski said the group appreciates the unique addition to the memorabilia featured in its collection. "It is an amazing addition for the history of Memphis," she said. "We can't thank Larry and his wife enough for their thoughtfulness, generosity and overall love for Memphis."

It's nice to know that BDE'ers are always willing to help another member when there is a car issue!



Meanwhile in the parking lot: Bruce Kile changed his spark plug wires on Sunday night and replaced his rear brakes Monday night!
 Gotta keep those Buicks on tour.

"Lack of pre-trip maintenance by a 'rookie' tour participant?"

NOTES FROM MEMBERS

Hi Everyone,

Just want to express how much We enjoy time spent with our fellow BDEs. It always makes for great memories. The last day we opted to do our thing which meant a stop at the local quilt shop which was very enlightening. Then a trip to the casino as our fearless leader managed to omit it on our return trip from the air museum. Maybe he was thinking he would save me a few bucks. Little did he know the quilt shop was my down fall, that definitely cost me more. Also want to thank my a secret someone for the special gift. Thanks to all who work hard to make these events special.

Jackie and Jim Beal, BDE #268

Dear BDE Friends,

Thank you for the many nice thoughts on the card from the BDE National. I am doing fine, got my license back on April 20, no lasting effects from the stroke. The bladder cancer seems to be under control too. Wendy did a lot of driving for a while and I am so glad to be back in the driver's seat. Currently Wendy is having some joint pain and is waiting to see a rheumatologist, soon we hope. We will not be joining you all in Virginia this fall, hopefully we can get back on track next year, we really miss our time with you guys.

With much love and thanks for caring,
Keith and Wendy Horsfall, BDE #80

Dear BDE Friends,

26 Apr 18

I'm not sure as to what I'm doing, but I'm sure it is not Politically Correct.

I talked with Joyce (Lukemeyer) in April, and told her I had to cancel for the Wisconsin May tour. My health is not good at all. I know I'm junior in age to some of you, and you are going strong and being healthy. Guess I just didn't take better care of myself many years ago. The trip to Wisconsin would be a four day drive up and back, and that is just cutting things to close time wise. Upon getting back home I would only have one day before going in for pre-op for my eye surgery.

There is a new wrinkle with my face. As some of you know I've had issues with the nervous system, and now it seems to have attacked my face. Thinking I had a tooth problem, I went for a root canal, which turned into three. The Endodontist said that I did need the root canals done, but she did not think that was my problem. Long story as short as possible, I have been having severe attacks on the left side of my face. I have never had such pain. She, the Endodontist, said she thought I had Facial Neuralgia. This is sometimes referred to as Tic douloureux. I have been in touch with my Neurology Department at the VA and I guess I have testing and Dr. visits for this the next few weeks (probably into the middle or more of May).

Next subject for this letter, my resignation as BDE Chaplin. Because of my health both past and future, I don't feel I'm properly carrying out my duties as Chaplin. I very much enjoyed the times I could pray with the entire group at different tours, but I have and probably will miss tours because of my health. I have prayed about this move, and I'm comfortable with the decision to resign the position.

One more thing – if you want to get in touch - 12815 Sand Holly, San Antonio, TX 78253, 210-674-2817, and email (until Yahoo irritates me even more than normal), guy_greene@yahoo.com, be sure the "e" is on the end of greene.

I hope you all know how much I love the BDE (everyone involved) and how much you folks meant to Barb. We/I never had a bad tour, and both of us always looked forward to the next tour. I still do and darn it I can't always make them. I am going to sign up for Virginia but can't promise I can make that or others in the future. I do what the Good Lord allows me to do. Oh yes, sometimes I do more than He allows, but we will not go into that. God Bless you all. He loves you and so do I.

Most Sincerely,
Guy Green, BDE #386

UPDATE FROM ELLEN

Hello Everybody,

I have received so many calls, cards, e-mail, etc. that I wanted to tell everybody what is happening.

Most of you know that I went through stage 1C ovarian cancer in 2016. It was a big surprise and I went through 6 chemo treatments. I was dealing with lots of side effects on the right side but all my markers were good. In late 2017, my ct scan showed two tumors - one on the colon and the other on the bladder. This sent me for a pet scan and biopsy which confirmed that the cancer had recurred. My Sarasota oncologist sent me to Moffitt after my gynecologist oncologist said no surgery due to location. I went to Moffitt on the 27th of April. They discussed a clinical trial for ovarian cancer that I would probably qualify for but Moffitt is about 1 ½ hours each way. We discovered that the same trial was being held in Sarasota – 15 minutes from our house. I had my first treatment today starting at 8:30 and not getting home until 3:30. I am pretty wiped out – mainly fatigued. I slept late afternoon and then had a light bite with John downstairs.

I will be given the 7 hour treatment every 4 weeks into October and will go weekly for about 2 hours for the clinical trial drug.

Thank you for all your prayers and concerns during this difficult time. We need to get rid of the demon as I have many more years of travelling with the Buick Club, watching the grandchildren grow up, playing my violin, and duplicate bridge. John says he is my Uber driver. He is a wonderful caregiver.

Love to all, **Ellen Cavanaugh, BDE #7**

A NOTE FROM FRAN PASCH - BDE # 257

Sad news to report. BDE member **Jim Butt, BDE #361**, passed away Sunday, June 3, 2018. He was also a member of our local chapter. He was cremated. A memorial will be set for a later date. We went to see him in hospice on Saturday. I had asked him if I could bring him anything and he asked to see the pics from the May tour as he would liked to have been able to attend. His obituary follows.

James D Butt, age 86 of Okemos, MI passed away June 3, 2018. He was born Nov. 13, 1931 in Detroit, MI to George & Marion Butt. A Memorial service will be held at a later date. In Lieu of flowers. contributions can be made to the R.E.OLDS Transportation Museum in Lansing, Michigan.

BDE MEMBER PASSES AWAY

It is with great sadness that we share that **Chet Gaines, BDE #162** has passed away. Excerpts from his obituary:

"Chester Robert Gaines - Feb. 5, 1937 – July 3, 2018

"Chester Robert Gaines, 81, Tyrone, died Tuesday morning at his residence surrounded by his family after a lengthy illness.

He was born in Elizabeth, N.J., son of the late Chester and Alwilda (Keller) Gaines. On Aug. 12, 1959, he married Gloria (Brantner) Gaines at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, Tyrone. Surviving are his wife, with whom he shared 58 years of marriage; four daughters, 15 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a sister, and his "forever" friend, Coco.

He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Bellwood, Tipton Volunteer Fire Department, Buick Antique Car Club, Blair County Antique Car Club and the Knights of Columbus.

Chester truly lived for his family. He loved spending quality time with his children and grandchildren and sharing his stories with them. He also enjoyed building and flying miniature airplanes. He will be remembered for his love of his antique cars."

Cards may be sent 122 Cherry Ave, Tyrone, PA 16686.

Editor's note:Chet and Peachy were part of the so named "Pennsylvania Posse" - a group of BDE members who traveled together from that state to the various BDE tours. Always laughing and having a good time. I received what turned out to be my last email from Chet on June 8. "Yeah, been gone for a long time. Doing all kinds of tests, operations, new meds, pain on the 1 to 10 scale would be a 6 - 8. Keep sending out the communications, makes me feel better than all the other scam stuff they push on me! All my prayers to you! And remember, "No rain, no rainbow" Love, Chet" Everytime it rains I look for that rainbow and think of you, Chet!

(Left: Chet and his daughter, Robin, won the Altoona Mirror's LookAlike Contest. What a great memory!)



RETURNING TO VIETNAM - March 31 - April 9, 2018

By JACK HORVATH - BDE #373



In the fall of 2017, I became aware that one of our trucker friends from the annual Vietnam trucker reunion, was planning to take a few us back there. Pat was also interested in seeing what was available to see from my two tours there fifty years ago. Four couples began the planning with Rob, our experienced guide. He had done this three times in the past, so it was easy to make our arrangements. He set up three medium busses to do local touring in Saigon, Qui Nhon, and Pleiku. The first part of our trip was the 13 hour Korean Air travel from home to Inchon, and then five hours flight from Inchon to Saigon.



After our evening arrival on Korean Air at the former Tonsanut Airfield in Saigon, we settled into our city center hotel. The next morning we headed out to see city square with the historic Catholic Cathedral of our Lady, the 100 year-old city post office, and the museum of American military equipment/weaponry/aircraft. Our final stop was the beautifully refurbished gated American Embassy, complete with massive meeting rooms, landing platform on the roof, two displayed enemy tanks, tennis courts, and excellent landscaping. The city traffic was complex, with huge numbers of motorbikes, cars, busses, trucks, and a Starbucks.



We began our next day with a Vietnam Air flight to the former Phu Cat Airfield near Qui Nhon. Our hotel was beautifully situated on the beachfront, about a mile from the port location. We visited a huge megamart retail store, complete with a Kentucky Fried Chicken! The next day we visited the local port area which was important to us because it was the source of all the supplies which we had previously hauled to An Khe and Pleiku. Now the port has container cranes overhead, local fishing operations, and a shipyard which builds classic fishing boats. In the nearby Phu Tai valley where we had lived in our truck company base camps, we climbed 284 steps to see a historic Hindu temple. We were able to find the same Catholic Church on Highway One which I had remembered, it was a few hundred yards away from my 64th truck company area.



(Above) The historic hindu temple a few miles from our 64th company area in the Phu Tai Valley on Route One. There is a similar etching on the opposite wall saying 359th TC. Both of our companies were nearby in 1966-67.

(Right) My escort 'Pat Mobile' jeep at the 64th orderly room in 1966.



On the morning of our fifth day, we said farewell to Qui Nhon, and headed west on our storied one hundred mile long Highway 19 towards Pleiku, the twisting An Khe Pass, the city of An Khe, and the winding Mang Yang Pass. Since the start of this highway from Highway One has been moved about two miles to the north of its previous location, we sadly were not able to see our 54th Truck Battalion base camp known as Camp Addison in the Cha Rang Valley. We were able to stop and take pictures in the middle of the Devil's Hairpin, the vicious, steep, switchback curve in the center of the An Khe Pass. We were also able to stop and take pictures in the area of the An Khe Pass where his guntruck, named Brutus, was fighting in an ambush, and Larry Dahl earned a posthumous Medal of Honor. Instead of our remembered huge potholes, off road bypasses, and 35 one-way temporary bridges, the highway has been widened, straightened, repaved, and regraded, throughout its length. The Vietnamese Army has taken over the major military areas of Camp Radcliff in An Khe and Camp Hallway in Pleiku. Wherever they have taken over an American military area, the location now features a large and imposing decorated gate.



(Above) Two Million Miles of Bad Roads!

We were interested to realize that our very nice modern hotel in Pleiku was situated on one side of a wonderfully landscaped traffic triangle at the westbound end of our Highway 19 and the familiar north-south Highway 14. We were able to go down to the large lake which was just north of Camp Wilson, our 124th Battalion location in the past. We continued our visits by seeing an impressive local Buddhist temple area which is continuing in a twenty year building program. We later toured Highway 14 north to Kontum to see the hundred year old Catholic Church, a rubber plantation, farms growing tea and coffee, and to have lunch at a Montagnard Indian village where they prepared a pork, chicken and soup barbeque and picnic for us. We travelled on northwards to see the extensive concrete airfield runway at the Dak To battle area, about twelve miles from the Laos-Cambodian border, and to see the nearby town which currently features a new east-west road which is now named the Ho Chi Minh Highway. On Sunday we were able to attend Catholic Mass at the local church which was just across the street from our hotel.



On our seventh and final day, we gathered up our baggage and prepared to depart. We flew on a Vietnam Air flight out of the former Pleiku air base on our way back to the Tonsanut Air Base in Saigon. We had our supper at the airport Burger King, and boarded our Korean Air five hour flight for Inchon. The thirteen hour final flight brought us home once again to our familiar Atlanta Airport. It all had been a very rewarding visit.

(Left) Pat and Jack under the current highway sign for the Ho Chi Minh Trail. This was a North Vietnamese Army supply pathway under a triple canopy of jungle trees.

THE 24th ANNUAL ORIGINAL AFTER TOUR HOSTED BY MEMBERS of the BDE

By Bruce Kile - BDE #11

Photos by Bruce Kile, Inez Norgard - BDE #284 and Mike Stemen - BDE #119

On Sunday AM, June 16th, following the usual briefings, introductions & distribution of tour packets, the 24th After Tour departed from the site of the BCA National Meet in Lone Tree, Colo. Our caravan consisted of 14 Buicks, 1934 to 2017, & 1 GMC Denali pulling a trailer housing a "fresh" 70 Wildcat. Because the tour is hosted by members of the BDE & the "E" in BDE has become better known for "eating", our first destination was lunch. Our choice of locations for our first (of many) meals together was certainly not your typical restaurant. We would be dining in an airplane, a fully intact KC-97 tanker to be exact, located on the outskirts of Colorado Springs near Schriever AFB. Following lunch we had the opportunity to check out the cockpit, controls & the "business end" of the plane's refueling apparatus before the caravan headed up U.S. 24. to our next stop, "Cadillac Jack's", billed as the "largest antique shop west of the Mississippi". Sunday night's lodging was in Limon, Colorado.



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Margaret Minis, Shar Kile and Rich Gibbs with our banner prior to 'Take Off' on Sunday morning

We began the week visiting the first of several unique and interesting museums. These included a railroad museum, toy museum, a museum of telephony, military museum, and the Sternburg Museum of Natural History on the campus of Hayes State



(Left) Frank Cwikla and Diana Lindsey at the Buffalo Bill Memorial



University. We also visited the "Cathedral of the Plains" - St. Fidelis in Victoria, Kansas.



Probably one of the most bazaar places we visited was "The Garden of Eden" in Lucas, Kansas. "Bizarre" does not even begin to describe this place. Those of you who were on the BDE Fall tour in Abilene in 2010 will definitely remember it. Those who wonder just how "bizarre" it is, might wish to go to www.garden-of-eden-lucas-kansas.com which might give you better idea.



Lucas is the Grassroots Art Capital of Kansas. Famous for its folk art, among all of the most unusual art you will ever see is "The Garden of Eden" begun in 1907 by Civil War Veteran S.P. Dinsmoor. The public restrooms in town, "Grassroots Center Bowl Plaza" are in a huge toilet bowl with a cement roll of toilet paper on the lawn!





We arrived in Abilene in the early afternoon Wednesday, which enabled us to visit the Eisenhower Museum/Library and boyhood home as well as the Greyhound (as in canine, not buses) Hall of Fame. If you love animals (especially dogs) you won't want to go across Kansas without stopping for a visit. With the exception of about 70 miles on I-70, our tour route followed state & federal highways for the 700+ miles,

approximately 50% of that was (old) U.S. 40 a/k/a "The Victory Highway". As with most all of the BDE tours, especially the After Tour, visiting unusual & "off the beaten path" places has become our mantra. Another good example might be, "Skeezix's Toy Museum just west of Goff, a private collection housed in a small restored barn behind a residence. Admission is free & only by appointment. If you enjoy antique & collectible toys this might be one of the best kept secrets on the "Kansas Great White Way". Then there was the old restored Chrysler Dealership and adjacent Texaco station in Wetmore, Kansas which houses the private collection of Bob and June Carson. Here again we found this to be another of those "treasures" that will not be advertised in your Triple A book or listed among the "top 10 places to visit while driving across the U.S."



(Above) Skeezix from Gasoline Alley

(Right) Some of the oldest cars at the restored Texaco Station



(Left) The Dickson County Heritage Center has a carousel built by C.W. Parker, largest manufacturer in the world of amusement devices, established in 1892. Instead of being mounted on a pole, the horses are mounted on a rocking mechanism on the 50 foot platform. Some of the BDE'ers took a ride!



(Left) Memory Time: Fran Pasch drove a John Deere B Model as a kid!



(Above) Jack King and Bob Buntane by a turn of the century "final ride" at the Dickson County Heritage Center

The tour concluded with a two night stay in Atchison, Kansas (childhood home of Amelia Earhart) and our traditional "awards banquet" (pizza party) Friday night. Of course there were awards and gifts for everyone, with much reminiscing plus lots of laughs.

Participants on the 24th Annual After Tour:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Jan & Frank Blizzard | 85 Riviera Convertible (Jasper, GA) |
| Sandy & Bob Buntaine | 47 Super Sedan (Alvarado, TX) |
| Frank Cwikla | 40 Limited Sedan (Friendship, WI) |
| Rich Gibbs | 62 Electra 4 Door Hardtop (Topeka, KS) |
| Sue & Paul Haist | Rode with Sawdon's (Bellevue, MI) |
| Shar & Bruce Kile | 03 Regal GS (Marietta, GA) |
| Colleen & Jack King | 90 Reatta Convertible (Clarksville, TN) |
| Isabel & Ed Lenny | 17 Cascada Convertible (Allentown, PA) |
| Diana Lindsey & Marie Collier-Rode with Cwikla | (Panama City, FL) |
| Belva & Sid Meyer | 91 Reatta Convertible (Auburn, IN) |
| Margaret & Bobby Minis | 34 Cpe. (Savannah, GA) |
| Inez & Bruce Norgard | 16 LaCrosse (Metamora, IL) |
| Fran & Herb Pasch | 94 Roadmaster Wagon (Alma, MI) |
| Jeanne & Bob Sawdon | 92 Roadmaster Wagon (Williamston, MI) |
| Mike Stemen | 68 Elect. Convertible (Grahamsville, NY) |
| Joyce & John Williams | GMC Denali (Charleston, IL) |



(Above) "Circling the Wagons"



(Right) The After Tour also visited Walter P. Chrysler's boyhood home in Ellis, Kansas



Plans are now underway for the 25th Annual (and maybe final) After Tour. Call or email Bruce or Shar Kile, BDE #11 (numbers and address on Page 2) if you want your name on the list.

There will be a 25 car limit.

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.



FOR SALE: 1993 Buick Riviera. Purchased from Sloan Museum with only 30 miles. Only 4555 made and this is the last model for 1993 with vehicle number ending in 4555. Shows names of factory workers on engine. White Diamond exterior, light beige interior. All options. Current milage is 20,352 mostly on BDE tours. Never driven in winter. Asking \$12,900. Call **LARRY WILSON**, BDE #43 - 586.655.8152



FOR SALE: 1940 Buick Special Sport Coupe. Older repaint - factory "permanent red". Original grey interior. 1200 miles on rebuilt engine. New chrome, windshield and starter. Everything works except fuel gauge and radio. Asking \$19,500 Please contact: **BILL BRESSMER** - BDE #412 905.634.8780



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 EMAIL: **buickpts@comcast.com**
 WEB: **www.bellbuickparts.com**

FOR SALE:

Four '71 Riviera "turbine" wheel covers. Very good Driver condition. \$120 + Shipping

Five '71 Riviera steel wheels, excellent condition. Dry storage since 2000. Good inch whites mounted are free when you pick up wheels. \$200

Two '68 Electra wheel covers, very good condition. \$80

Call **MIKE STEMEN**, BDE #119 - 845.985.7094 or rock144rock@hughes.net

USO VOLUNTEERS HONORED ON MEMORIAL DAY

Jack and Pat Horvath - BDE #373 were honored for their 20 years of USO volunteering at the Atlanta Braves Military Appreciation game on Memorial Day.

Pat was also interviewed in a five minute TV news story about volunteering at the USO on the Fourth of July.

Below are the links to the interviews and field presentation:

We are proud to have Jack and Pat as members of the BDE!
Check out their story on Page 15, too.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/buzh67iytdi1uek/USO%20Interview%202018-05-28.mp4?dl=0>

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/exz1gvx7o3wqqz3/Suntrust%20Braves%20Country%20Community%20Hero%205-28%20Horvath.mp4?dl=0>

<https://www.11alive.com/mobile/article/news/hartsfield-jackson-uso-honors-military-and-celebrates-patriotic-july-4/85-570682780>



Jack and Pat Horvath being honored at Sun Trust Park in Atlanta

RATHER THAN BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS, WE SHOULD BE CALLED THE BUICK DRIVING AND EATING CLUB!



Don't think Charlie is going to share his potato chips!



From potato chips at the potato farm to ice cream sandwiches at the New Chester Dairy, plus all those lunch stops while on tours - BDE members are WAY SERIOUS about eating!



(Below) Just a few examples of some of the food consumed during the BDE National Tour in Wisconsin. Yes, that's the adult grilled cheese far right.

So this brings us to the possibility of a new feature in The Driving Force from time to time - restaurant recommendations! Where do you like to eat? This could be local, or someplace you have discovered while traveling. If it was good, why not share with your fellow BDE'ers. One rule - no national chains!



I'll kick it off with a cool little place Ann, Roberta and I found while traveling to Wisconsin in 2017 for the BCA National Meet. About 16 miles south of I-80 in Diamond, Illinois, we discovered **The Whistle Stop Cafe** at 2080 E Division Street. Not fancy, decent food, fair prices and friendly staff in a multi-generational family atmosphere. \$ - \$\$

Closer to home, and believe me we do have a variety of restaurants in Kissimmee Florida, is **The All Italian Market & Ristorante**, 1261 W Osceola Parkway. It's a little difficult to find, in fact we discovered it when there were no parking spaces for Bahama Breeze. An amazing hidden treasure with good Italian food. Specialty store for imported groceries, to-go deli food and a cozy cafe serving Italian dishes & wine. \$\$\$

Of course, taste is in the mouth of the consumer. What I like you may not. Just a couple of suggestions to consider while traveling. So what are your favorite discoveries?

BTW - dill pickle soup . . . tried it . . . hated it. J's Pub and Grille, across the street from the Viking Hotel in Reedsburg had some good things to eat, but . . . Maybe it's a Midwestern thing. Happy eating everyone!



Buick Driving Enthusiasts
Driving - Eating -
and just having fun!

(Left) John Dale found a cool place to hang out while touring the Dickson County Heritage Center/ Museum of Independent Telephony

(Right) Talk about some hard core Euchre players. The power went out at the Fossil Creek Inn, Russell, KS, but the BDE inventive card players found a new use for a smart phone flash light and water bottle. The game must go on!



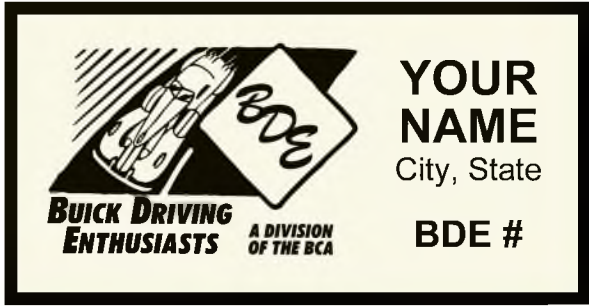
This is what was hiding in the trailer behind the GMC Denali - John Dale Williams 'fresh' 1970 Wildcat!



Looks like some hitchhikers have crawled into Cary and Lynn Crutchfield's "LST RYDE" - their Buick hearse.



A beautiful shot of Frank Cwikla's '40 Limited Sedan



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 Only \$8 each - including shipping and handling
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BADGE #1 (Please print)

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CITY, STATE _____

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 Where would you like your badges sent?

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ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

BADGE #2 (Please print)

NAME _____

CITY, STATE _____

BDE # _____

PIN BACK MAGNET BACK (Circle choice)

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

This could be fun! Who's that in the GSX a couple of years ago?

East Coast Buick Regionals



All Buick Years, All Buick Makes, Anything Buick Powered!

Friday, September 14, 2018 • Saturday, September 15, 2018
Cecil County Dragway • 1916 Theodore Rd. • Rising Sun, Maryland



Friday 9/14: Gates open at 9:00 AM

Test & Tune day for all makes/models
 \$75 per car with driver
 Big Gamblers Race open to all!

Saturday 9/15: Gates open at 9:00 AM

All Buick Race Day — \$35 per car with driver!
 Test & Tune in AM, eliminations in mid-afternoon
 Car Show: \$25 (no rain date)
 All Buick powered display show at the track —
 presented by MAGNA

No Pre-Registration • All NHRA rules apply • Race cars MUST be Buick powered
 Free Vending • Swap Meet on Friday & Saturday • Spectators: \$10 Friday • \$10 Saturday • Kids 12 and under FREE both days!
 Top 30 Winners & Top 10 "Best of the Best" awards • For more information: www.magnabuick.com or www.tristategclub.com

**BDE 2018 FALL TOUR
THE AMERICAN HERITAGE TOUR - WOODBRIDGE, VA
Sunday, September 30 to Thursday, October 4**

Name: _____ Spouse or Guest _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

BCA Number: _____ BDE Number: _____

Buick Year: _____ Model: _____ Color: _____ 1st BDE Tour? Yes No Trailer parking? Yes No
(This info helps us arrange the tour groups. Please notify us if you change cars prior to tour)

HOTEL FEE \$93 PLUS TAX PER NIGHT
HOTEL INFORMATION WILL BE SENT WHEN REGISTRATION IS RECEIVED

REGISTRATION LIMITED TO FIRST 40 BUICKS

Registration Fee (member & spouse) includes dash plaque/hospitality	\$30.00	\$ _____
Registration Fee (member only) includes dash plaque/hospitality	\$20.00	\$ _____
Additional guests @ \$10.00 each (hospitality only)	\$10.00	\$ _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Sunday, September 30 **Registration 5 pm - 10 pm** **Hospitality Room at Hotel**

Monday, October 1 - George Washington's home at Mt. Vernon, sit down lunch at Mt. Vernon Inn

Admission to Mt. Vernon and Lunch (Beverage and Cherry Pie Included) - \$45 per person

Lunch choices:	Pulled Pork Barbecue Sandwich	_____ x \$45 = \$ _____
	Grilled Chicken Sandwich with Tavern Chips	_____ x \$45 = \$ _____
	Tavern Cobb Salad	_____ x \$45 = \$ _____
		Total = \$ _____

Tuesday, October 2 - Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum, Dulles Airport

Note: There is a \$15 per car parking fee, so members may want to double up to reduce out of pocket costs. Members will be responsible to pay for parking on their own at the museum. Lunch is on your own. There is a McDonald's inside museum, but no other restaurant on site. Members can leave the museum, go to lunch elsewhere, then return to museum for more touring if so desired.

Wednesday, October 3 - Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

The site of four major Civil War battlefields. Between Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, The Wilderness, and Spotsylvania, this is the bloodiest landscape in North America. Self-guided driving tours are permitted. Afterward, visit nearby downtown Fredericksburg for lunch on your own and then spend time exploring its 40 block historic district. Fredericksburg is a vibrant community that boasts a rich history, an eclectic mix of art galleries, restaurants, and antique shops. The Washington Ferry Farm, George Washington's boyhood home, and Chatham Manor are close by.

Thursday, October 4 - National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico, Virginia

Boxed lunch in the Mess Hall (includes sandwich/wrap, bag of chips, fruit, cookie & beverage) - \$16 per person

Lunch choices:	Roast Turkey Sandwich	_____ x \$16 = \$ _____
	Virginia Ham & Swiss	_____ x \$16 = \$ _____
	Grilled Veggie, Cheese & Hummus Wrap	_____ x \$16 = \$ _____
		Total = \$ _____

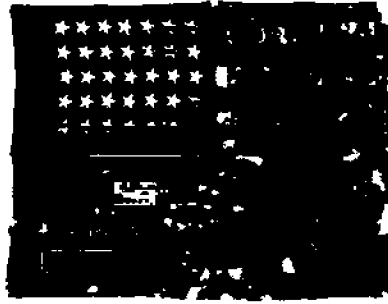
Return to hotel to relax for banquet in evening

Evening: Closing Banquet (BYOB) - Entree, salad, starch, veggie, rolls, dessert, coffee, tea \$ 45 per person

Banquet Choice:	Bistro Filet Medallions (beef)	_____ x \$45 = \$ _____
	Grilled Salmon Filet	_____ x \$45 = \$ _____
		Total = \$ _____

A couple doing all is \$242.00
A single doing all is \$126.00

Grand Total = \$ _____



**All Cars in Caravan Must Be Buicks
A CB Radio and Fire Extinguisher are Mandatory to Tour with the BDE**

Tour Participation Certification - BDE Requirement

I CERTIFY THAT THE BUICK I WILL USE ON THIS TOUR IS COVERED BY AT LEAST THE MINIMUM BODILY AND PROPERTY LIABILITY INSURANCE REQUIRED BY THE STATE OR PROVINCE IN WHICH IT IS REGISTERED.

MY INSURANCE COMPANY IS _____ POLICY # _____

I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT IF FOR ANY REASON MY BUICK IS UNABLE TO BE DRIVEN ON THIS TOUR, I WILL RIDE IN ANOTHER BUICK. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE TOUR HOST WILL HELP ME SECURE A RIDE FOR MYSELF AND MY PASSENGERS, IF NECESSARY.

I AGREE NOT TO HOLD THE BUICK DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS, AND ANY OF ITS OFFICERS, CHAIRPERSONS, AND MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST OR STOLEN PROPERTY, BODILY INJURY, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.

ALL PARTICIPATING VEHICLES MUST BE PROPERLY INSURED AND LICENSED.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "Buick Driving Enthusiasts" AND Mail to:

Registration Chair: Isabel Lenny, 1008 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, Pa. 18103
Phone: 610-597-3525 Email: dimples1960@icloud.com

Contact info: Dennis Snell, 4340 Eisenhower Dr., Bethlehem, Pa 18020
Phone: 610-392-1831 Email: ddsnell@ptd.net

Or Ed Lenny, 1008 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, Pa. 18103
Phone: 610-751-7700 Email: lugnuts36@icloud.com

Deadline For Receipt of Your Registration Is August 24, 2018

REFUNDS, FOR ANY REASON, FOR ANY EVENT, WILL DEPEND ON THE DATE OF CANCELLATION
PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU REQUIRE

HANDICAPPED PARKING _____ SPECIAL DIET _____

CELEBRATING A SPECIAL EVENT DURING TOUR _____

MAKE A COPY OF THIS REGISTRATION FOR YOUR RECORDS