



Gateway Gazette

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Louis Chapter

BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Volume XXVII, No.7 July 2008

Museum of Transport All-Buick Show

The St. Louis County Museum of Transport, in conjunction with our chapter held an all-Buick show at the MOT on June 29. The threat of rain as well as some actual showers held the attendance down to 23 cars—including both members and non-members. Despite the lower than expected numbers, those present seemed to enjoy looking at cars they hadn't seen before and talking to their owners (when they weren't dodging raindrops). At least one attendee, Justin Falker, decided to join our club. Welcome Justin.

Our chapter had decided to charge a \$5 registration fee with all the proceeds going to charity. The MOT received \$60 from this fee and \$60 was set aside for this year's chapter charity, the Shriner's Children's hospital. Due to the cool and rainy weather and the resulting low spectator turnout, only \$37.77 was collected from sno-cone distribution. This amount is also to go to the Shriner's Children's hospital. Thanks very much to Artic Ice for providing the blocks of ice used for the sno-cones, and thanks to John Pegg for arranging the ice donation.

Molly Butterworth and her staff at the MOT were

asked to select their three favorite cars which were presented trophies. Winners were John Pegg with his '69 Wildcat, Paul Meyer with "Mimi", and Pete Nathan with his "Swet 35".

Next year, we may attempt to team with another club or marque to increase interest and thus attendance.



Line of Buicks at the MOT Show

Text and photos by editor. More pictures on page 5.

**Next Meeting – August 7
FENTON BAR & GRILL, 701 RUDDER ROAD**

Director's Message

Hi All,

Just got in from the Smithton Parade. It was a long hot afternoon. We were one of the last groups to go. So we waited from 4 till 5:15 before we finally started moving. They had a good line of people around the parade route who seemed to enjoy seeing the cars. The club had five brave folks turn out for the parade. We did get a \$200 donation for the club, and I did enjoy the time as we had a chance to see some other cars and visit with their owners.

I hope those of you who made it to Flint had a good time. Unfortunately due to matters beyond my control, I was unable to make it. In short, money, Daughter's wedding plan changes and work.

Next month we have the Regional in Topeka, KS on the 20th through the 24th. Should be a good time and quite a bit closer to home.

If you have NOT PAID YOUR DUES please do so now. They are over due and I need to report a head count to the national. Also we are in the midst of putting together a new roster and if you want to be included, let's get your dues in. When you send in or pay your dues please pass along any updates for the roster.

Last, if you haven't gotten a Gateway chapter 30th anniversary dash plaque, ask me and I'll give you one.

Please fill out and return the Membership Information Form and return it to Pete Nathan (snail and e-mail addresses on the back page of the Gazette)

Happy Buicking

Bob

Meeting Minutes, July 3, 2008

Location: The July 2008 meeting was held on Thursday, July 3, at Fenton Bar & Grill. Roughly, 30 members and no guests attended.

The Club meeting was facilitated by Bob Brasses, Director.

Minutes from the June 2008 meeting were accepted as printed in the *Gateway Gazette*.

Pete Nathan was present to give the Treasurer's Report.

Past Events

- June 7 Behlmann Show with Pontiac Club
- June 7 Bobby's Custard
- June 14 Father's Day Car Show, Hazelwood Baptist Church
- June 22 Lunch/dinner trip to Maystown, IL. Trip will be rescheduled. Jeff Watkins planning event.
- June 29 Museum of Transportation Show (23 cars attended)

Upcoming Events

- July 14-16 Pre-tour to Flint, MI. See Pete Nathan.
- July 16-20 National Buick Show – Flint, MI
- Aug. 1-3 BPG Horsepower Nationals – Hebron, OH
- Aug. 21-24 Heartland Regional Show – Topeka, KS
- Aug 24 Champagne Urbana Show
- Sept. 7 Wheels in Motion Show – Westport Plaza
- Sept. 14 Wagner Buick Show, Belleville
- Oct. 2 Meeting at Shriners' Hospital
- Oct. 5? Kunz Plantation
- Oct. 12 Manor Grove Homecoming Show (20-25 cars needed)
- Oct. 18 Crowne Valley Winery Tour

Old Business

None.

New Business

"Member of the Year Award" in honor of John Waltz
Nominees needed.

Members Ill

Gail Simon has had neck surgery
Aaron Ford was contemplating foot surgery

(Continued on page 3)

Meeting Minutes, July 3, 2008 (continued)

Next Regular Meeting:

August 7 – Fenton Bar & Grill at 7:30 p.m.

There was no 50-50 drawing.

VA Home Show –Steve Dodson

Several members of our club and members of the Horseless Carriage Club displayed their cars at the VA Home in North St. Louis County, on July 20th.

The Veterans appreciated the efforts of the car owners and selected their favorite cars. Our Dave Smith's "Herbie" took 3rd place.



Gateway Member's and Other Cars at the VA Home

Pre-BCA National Show Tour

Although the number of participants had dwindled and the time frame shortened, the 7 intrepid club members who ventured on the "pre-tour" had a great time.

After driving to Dayton, Ohio in the morning, the crew visited the Packard Museum after a late lunch. Housed in a former successful Packard dealership building, the museum had a number of interesting cars. There was a prototype Packard Hawk convertible (a Studebaker in Packard dress), several Packard racecars, and the World War II Liberty aircraft engine re-engineered by Packard for mass-production from a British design.

In addition, the museum-owned collection was augmented by three fabulous 1920s V-16 touring cars on loan from a Texas collector: a Packard, a Cadillac, and a Lincoln.

Besides the complete cars, the museum had two floors mostly devoted to Packard parts and several cars awaiting restoration. The staff was very friendly and took us on tours among the huge stocks of parts and other areas. And as seen in the accompanying photo, they took the group's picture in a classy open Packard.



Pre-National Tour Participants in a Nice Packard

(Continued on page 4)

Pre-BCA National Show Tour(Continued)



The Packard Hawk Prototype

The following day was spent at the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air force Base in Dayton. If you are at all interested in military aircraft and their history going back to the days of the Wright brothers and going forward to the F-114 Stealth Fighter, the B-2 Stealth Bomber and ICBMs, you must see this.

The group traveled to Flint on the following day and stopped for lunch in an interesting place called Pete's Garage. Inside, several booths were made from car seats placed inside cars of the 50's. In addition to the great atmosphere the food was very good.



Lunch at Pete's Garage

Will Buick Build This Car?

A number of Buicks from brass cars to the Invicta concept car pictured below were displayed in a large tent at the Flint Cultural Center during the 2008 BCA National Show. This stunning car is not a near look-a-like for many other cars on the road as is the case with the Lucerne. From the sleek sides without door handles to the low greenhouse, this car generated a lot of buzz at the National Show. If Buick could build this car at typical Buick prices, it could tremendously increase their sales.



The Invicta Concept Car at Flint

Note: Text and photos for this article and the Pre-BCA National Tour by the editor.

Keep **Steve Dodson** in your thoughts and prayers. He was hospitalized with blood clots which formed in his legs and moved to his lungs. He is now home and recovering nicely.

2008 Calendar

August

1-3 BPG Horsepower Nationals,
Hebron, OH
7 7:30 pm Regular Monthly Meeting
21-24 Heartland Regional Show,
Topeka, KS
24 Champagne-Urbana Show

September

4 7:30 pm Regular Monthly Meeting
7 10:00 am Wheels In Motion Show
West Port Plaza
14 11:00 am Wagner Buick Display,
Belleville, IL
28 ?? St. Charles Octoberfest

October

2 ?? Meeting at Shriner's Hospital
5 ?? Picnic and Meeting at
Kunz Plantation
12 ?? Manor Grove Homecoming
Show
18 ?? Cruise to Crowne Winery,
St. Genevieve

November

6 7:30 pm Regular Monthly Meeting

December

?? 3:00 pm Holiday Party and Meeting

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More MOT Show Photos



Note: If you receive the Gazette by regular mail and your address is marked with a blue hi-liter, this will be your last issue unless you pay your dues right away.

The *GATEWAY GAZETTE* is a monthly newsletter, free to paid members of the St. Louis Gateway Chapter of the Buick Club of America. Articles, technical information, For Sale and Want Ads, photos, restoration sagas and coming events are welcomed, but must be submitted by the next-to-last Thursday of the month to assure inclusion in the next issue.

Our membership year runs from May 1 to April 30. Membership is renewable on May 1. Members joining between January 1 and April 30 are paid up through the next April. Dues are \$15 per year for the local chapter. Contact Pete Nathan, Treasurer. See address below. Current dues for the national club are \$35 per year, payable to: Buick Club of America, P.O. Box 360775, Columbus, OH 43236-0775.

The Gateway Chapter meets monthly on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and guests are welcome to attend. During the summer months, June through October, we meet at Chuck-A-Burger Drive-in, 9025 St. Charles Rock Road, just west of I-170. During the winter months, November through April, we move indoors at various restaurants around St. Louis.

For more information, our local mailing addresses are as follows:

Director:	Bob Brasses (636) 343-1507	911 Woodway Circle Fenton, MO 63026	bbrasses@earthlink.net
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