



# Gateway Gazette

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Louis Chapter

## BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Volume XXV, No. 10

November 2005

### DISPLAY AT WALLY BERGER BUICK - OCTOBER 1, 2005

Photos by Steve Dodson

October 1st was a fine day for a trip to Alton, Illinois, and our members with older cars did especially well with traveling that day. Notice below the '30 model of Mike Marx (St. Charles), the '37 of Herb Morris (Arnold), the '29 of Carl Schmiehausen (Florissant) and the '37 of Jim Poole (Granite City). No one in this group trailered so they totaled quite a few miles that fine October Saturday. Pete Nathan had his '35 street rod there and of course Phil Berger had his '32 Buick there too. I can't remember a time when the '20's and '30's cars were such a good percentage of one of our displays. When you see these guys, tell

them how happy you are that they are out driving these old Buicks. I believe this was the first show to which Bill and Ginny Landers brought their recently acquired '62 Electra 225. I have since had a chance to drive this car and I can assure you that the drive was no hardship for Bill. The Electra drives like new. A man with a nice boattail Riviera stopped by to see if anyone wanted to buy his car for \$25,000. He was somewhat deflated when shown that *Old Cars Price Guide* had fewer zeros in the price. Thanks to Phil and Mary for hosting a fine day.

( More photos on page 3 )



#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 3rd  
December 11th

7:30 PM  
3:00 PM

Monthly Meeting at O'Leary's  
Holiday Party at C J Muggs

## DEGLMAN IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Our hectic weekend of October 1<sup>st</sup> has come and gone. We had 17 cars at Berger Buick on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15 cars at St. Charles for the Octoberfest on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks to Mary and Phil Berger for again being gracious hosts and for increasing our club's coffers with a donation of \$100.

### Number of events and attendance:

We have discussed the low attendance at some events and wondered if we are filling the calendar too full. Should we have fewer events and push hard for attendance at those? We understand that there are other car shows every weekend of the summer and fall. In this regard, the tour to the winery and Klondike Park on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October needs to be discussed. This was not a scheduled event, but at the August meeting many members asked us to repeat this tour we had in 2004. On October 16<sup>th</sup> only 5 cars and 8 members were at the starting point. We discussed going home but decided to go ahead to the park. More members straggled in and we ended with 7 cars and 13 members and it was an enjoyable afternoon despite the low turnout. Many of the people who pushed for this event were **no shows**. The low attendance was disappointing for Pete Nathan who made the arrangements and for the few fellow members who honored their commitment. In the future, if you are going to push for a club event, please feel committed to attend.

I frankly scratch my head as I consider why we have so many members who don't attend our club activities. Additionally I don't see any of them at local non-Buick car shows. Our annual calendar totals about 25 events and monthly meetings, many opportunities to attend. We have people who have been in the club for many years that we have never met nor seen their cars. If you are satisfied to just receive a monthly *Gazette*, that's okay, but it costs money to insure and maintain your vehicle(s) so why not enjoy them with other Buick enthusiasts? The active members would like to get to know you and see your cars. Okay, I'm off my soapbox.

### Upcoming events scheduled are:

- November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM, monthly meeting at O'Leary's on South Lindbergh
- December 11<sup>th</sup>, 3-6 PM, Holiday Party at C.J. Muggs in Webster Groves

At O'Leary's we will be discussing the location of our February meeting. At the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting we

will be voting to approve By-Laws that the Board of Directors revised at a September board meeting. The revisions are mostly to improve wording and to be inclusive of members' partners whom we have welcomed for years. If you have concerns, please talk to a board member about the changes or call John Waltz if you want a copy of the revised By-Laws.

### Things I have seen and heard:

- Steve Dodson's stained glass Buick signs are spectacular. Thanks, Steve.
- Bill and Ginny Landers are heading for Italy soon. Have a great time, Landers.
- Paul Meyer recently returned from Hershey with many stories.
- Sharon Morris had knee replacement surgery on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Everything went well and she is recuperating.
- Jerry Bossung is looking for a good '66 Electra hood ornament.
- Culus Jones is cleaning out his inventory of cars.
- The Cooper '53 Skylark has been sold.
- Bill Seibel still has his '83 Riviera convertible for sale.
- Ed and Nancy Keil can see the end of the tunnel on their new home construction.
- New member Rob Stegeman came to our October meeting without his '41 Roadmaster but passed out business cards with the '41 prominent on the very nice magnetic card.
- John Pegg assisted the club in purchasing a 10' x 10' canopy for future use.
- Marv Randolph brought Bob and Vi Huff to our October meeting. The Huffs were part of the club's founding members back in 1979 and it is always good to visit with them.
- We have just received dues for a new member, John Reitz. Welcome, John.

**Hank**

# DISPLAY AT WALLY BERGER BUICK - OCTOBER 1, 2005

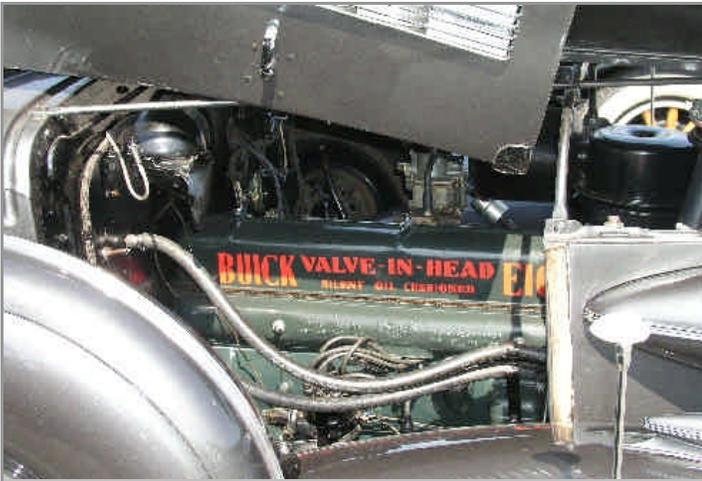
Photos by Steve Dodson



Mike Marx and Carl Schmiehausen make sure that Phil's hot dogs don't go uneaten.



Ten spokes in 1930 just like the 2006 Lucern on page 6.



The engine rebuild for Herb's '37 Special included an attractive finish.



Tell us, Phil, was there a golf course in Alton in 1932?



# FALL TOUR TO KLONDIKE STATE PARK

Sunday, October the 16th, was our scheduled "wine tour." No matter that many of our group don't drink wine and we were headed to a park, the Augusta area is wine country and so wine always comes to mind, at least for your editor. Well, I planned to go to church and catch up with the crew at Klondike just a few minutes late, but that was only a plan. Sunday morning just as I reached church my power steering went out on my late model car. I parked and raised the hood to discover the serpentine belt off and a plastic idler pulley broken. PLASTIC!!! After church some friends took me home to get another car and contact AAA.

I got a call from Hank. "We are at the parking lot ready to start. Are you coming?"

I answered, "Yes, but I'll be late." I had a small cooler ready and my recently repaired camera packed, so I headed back to meet the tow truck. By a little after noon the car was parked on the dealer's lot and the keys were slipped through

the door slot. I rushed the 40 miles or so, but arrived a couple hours late. There was still food on the table and a few were still eating. What a crew.

A few had been across the street to Montelle Winery for a bottle and everyone had food. The mood was as happy as the weather was fair. We had a beautiful day, a very nice shelter and tables and a row of clean Buicks in front of us. People stopped by to look at our cars and question us. And it seemed everyone was in a mood to enjoy the afternoon with friends and conversation. Paul Meyer had stories from Hershey. I think he convinced several of us to put that trip on our schedule for next year.

Thanks, Pete, for another outing to Augusta.

P.S. You probably won't be surprised to hear that the replacement idler pulley is steel.

John Waltz

## FOR SALE

**1952 Buick 4 door**  
Lots of mechanical work completed, original, needs restoration.  
**Walt Crawford (636) 825-3609**

**1960 LeSabre Black 4 door HT**  
90,XXX miles, not much needed. Asking \$3000.  
**Marv Randolph (314) 892-7839**

**1972 Riviera**  
65,XXX miles, new points and plugs, new battery, master cylinder rebuilt, A/C works  
**Ken Knight (618) 258-0287**

**1985 LeSabre 2 door**  
The car is straight, all there and running. Tape player and cruise control not working. Original paint shows age. Original brochures and sticker. 164,XXX miles Best Offer  
**Dennis Brown (816) 868-9987**

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**FALL TOUR TO KLONDIKE STATE PARK - OCTOBER 16, 2005**



## HOLDEN EFIJY CONCEPT CAR



Holden (General Motors) of Australia built the EFIJY show car “for the fun of it.” They say that it is a styling exercise to honor the 1953 Holden FJ above. It looks like the only external similarity is the front grille. There was no sedanette model, only the sedan, a special sedan with more features like two-tone paint (shown) and utility vehicles. It seems to me that they picked up Buick sedanette and boattail features and if this “hot rod” with a big V-8 crammed in it is somewhat compact as I expect, we could call it “Son of Blackhawk”. Since we know Holden can make a GTO for Pontiac, how about a LaCruise for Buick?

## SEEING DOUBLE

Is it me or are cars looking too much like each other? Maybe it is a requirement to get the aerodynamics needed for fuel economy, but I would like for a Buick to be distinctive.



2006 Buick Lucerne



2004 Maserati Quattroporte