

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER, THE LONE STAR CHAPTER, BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

FOURTH QUARTER 2024

VOLUME 44, NUMBER 4



GET THE LATEST AT [WWW . BUICKCLUB . ORG / LONESTAR](http://WWW.BUICKCLUB.ORG/LONESTAR)

Hello Buick Fans...

Well, I was looking for something the other day, and as so often happens, I found something better. In this case it was a stack of olde pictures. They brought back memories, some about good times, some about good folks. I thought that maybe I should share a few.

Let's start with Jerry Wood. Those of you who can't place him, his reflection on our cover car should jog your memory. One day we were wandering through a car corral when Jerry spotted a car he always wanted. His wife mentioned that since he already had a hundred of the damned things, maybe he could pass on this one. A couple of years later I stumbled across a *Houston Living* magazine and there was Jerry standing by a row of one each of the first 20 years of Corvettes. When confronted with his oversight, he confessed that his real passion was Italian sports cars, and that his were all pristine but they were all mechanically junk so he couldn't keep them running.

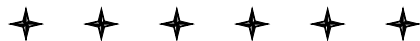


Congratulations to Paul Gomburg. During his annual trophy hunt at the National meet, he earned Senior Preservation 1st award with his 1983 Riviera, scoring 386/400 points. He also snagged first place in the Post War Long Distance Driven class. For posterity I should mention our first Opel, a 1969 Kadett, earned Archival/unrestored with 381/400 points.

For a while we operated a general store: gifts for all occasions. Chapter hats, caps, shirts, jackets and the like.



Our main attraction was the famous “Pickers Poster” which for awhile was available suitably autographed. All we have left are some T-shirts we can’t give away and some 25th Anniversary Bluebonnet Tour CD’s. The holidays are upon us.



A quick reminder of future national meets.

2025	July 23-26	Concord, North Carolina
2026	Aug 19-22	Albany, New York
2027	TBA	TBA



Two shows coming up are the Tomball Lions Club and the Clear Lake Yacht Club. Both events are in the spring and both have limited reservations so check their websites real soon.



Here we are on the square in Dime Box, not to be confused with Old Dime Box which is just down the road.



2026 is the centennial for Route 66. I'm so excited. I've already planned our newsletter for a road trip across the panhandle. It looks like there's already a lot of activity in anticipation of a horde of tourists. Some of the buildings look like they've been resto-fitted from the post I-40 era, but who really cares. They'll just add to the fun.

For several years, the Fords of the Fifties Club hosted an Old Car Picnic at the San Jacinto Monument. It was on the Saturday closest to March 15th and they never got rained out.



That's not to say that every day was ideal. The photo on the left was taken on what turned out to be the coldest day of the winter. The smartest of the bunch were hiding in their cars. The right photo was taken a few years later on a warmer than usual spring day. Note that we had moved our camp around to the point, and an abundance of T-shirts. This should be proof positive for deniers of global warming and its effects on all our lives.



This is Trailer Two on its way to the paint shop. Most folks would use a pickup truck but we didn't have one.

Dave Corbin (Fort Worth) turned his trailer into a rolling billboard to advertise their upcoming meet. David Anderson (Austin) was good enough to hide the trailer's rusty wheels.



Dave's billboard worked! Not only did we get there, we even got the dates right.

Only in America can a guy working at McDonalds become President of the United States in less than a month.



After however many years of entering the Autorama we finally rotated around to the front row. Open the doors and there we were. Of course, we didn't know that until we got there Wednesday. So it was just dumb luck that we showed up with



six of our nicest cars, including Lee Brown's 1913 Touring Car. Lee had partnered with some friends to buy a trailer, and when we got ready to leave Sunday night one of the other guys was using it. Well, as they used to say, without a horse,

you're afoot. So Lee drove it home straight through town. We decided that was the first time in 80 years that a car like that had been on city streets. History in the making.



The BCA added a new judging class for future classics, namely the Regal Tour X and the Cascada. Starting at the 2025 national, cars that are from five to eleven model years old can be entered. The 400 point judging format will apply.



The Blackhawk was a show car built by Buick. Starting with a 1939 convertible, they added a big block drive train (suitably



tweaked, of course) and a white leather interior from a Corvette. They also used trim pieces of lower quality so good parts would be available for serious restorers. And, as you can imagine, it runs as good as it looks.

For years the hangout for car guys was Princes (fit for a king) Hamburger joint on South Main. On any given Saturday night there might have been 50 cars full of folks to meet up with. Unfortunately, the food was horrible, and if you wanted a coke



you had to wake up the retirees behind the counter. Not to worry: there was a McDonalds right across the street. Metro wanted the property for a new maintenance facility so our meeting place had to go. On closing night there was a line of folks (who had never eaten there in their life) from here to there to get one final burger. The manager sent someone out at 10:00 pm to get more patties. And for us, we got to add one more eatery to our list that locked the doors behind us.

Those of you who watch cable news have seen certain politicians blaming each other for losing the recent election. Some excuses are outlandish; most are funny. But it's really very simple. Trump won because he got the most votes.



The rise in pick-up sales in the mid-fifties spurred Buick to build a concept vehicle. While it got a lot of attention, there



wasn't much interest in buying one so Buick stayed with cars.



As I've said many times before, this is my favorite newsletter. It's where I get to wish you all the happiest of the holiday season. Remember, our season runs from our wedding anniversary on Hallowe'en to Smurf's birthday on January 31st, so if you keep to our schedule, you'll have plenty to do.

Meanwhile, keep your Buicks shiny side up.

Rod



THE LONE STAR CHAPTER
of the
Buick Club of America

Is a non-profit social organization dedicated to doing as little as possible and having as much fun as we can. BCA mem-ship required.

Director
Assistant Director
Secretary / Editor
Treasurer
Membership Coordinator
Webmaster
Director Emeritus

Rod Seastream
Mike Glaz
Jim McGee
Rick Frank
Tom Cravey
Willie Pittman
Cecil Miles

rseastre@aol.com
mbglaz@gmail.com
jamesmcgee@mac.com
rickfrank455@gmail.com
713-688-8293
wpittman@satx.rr.com
RIP, Cec