



The Porthole



January/February 2018

Newsletter of the Mason-Dixon Chapter of the BCA

UPCOMING EVENTS -- MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mason-Dixon chapter items are in red

2018

Sunday January 28 - 2018 Mason-Dixon Chapter Membership Meeting 3:00 at C&D Grill and Bar Route 30 Near Cross Keys. Come for dinner first then meeting.

Friday-Sunday February 9-11 – Atlantic City Car Corral, Flea Market & Auction – Atlantic City Convention Center.

Sunday February 25th 2018 - SUNDAE AT THE MOVIES....Join us for our 36th annual Sundae at the Movies, with old-time car films, car-toons and comedies. FREE to all members. We'll meet at the Dover UCC Church, 45 W Canal Road, Dover. From York, go north on Rt. 74, turn left at the square in Dover. Church is across from the high school. Come out and enjoy films shown by our own John & Hillary Hess. Afterward, make your own delicious sundaes topped with your choice of tasty sauces, fruit, nuts, whipped cream. Donations are welcome....50/50 drawing. This is a joint event with the York Antique Car Club.

March 1st – Final day to pay your 2018 Dues. Any member that fails to pay dues by this date will be dropped from the roster. See renewal form at the end of the newsletter.

March 3rd - Hamburg, Pa. Ontelaunee Region, Swap Meet/Car corral. Hamburg Field house.
March 16-17th - Antique Automobile Pre-War Swap Meet - Chickasha, OK, Grady county fairgrounds, Chickasha, OK. The largest pre-war swap meet in the USA.

Sunday, March 25th - Mason-Dixon Chapter Membership Meeting. 3 p.m., Hoss' Restaurant, Mechanicsburg, PA.

Wednesday-Sunday April 18-22 – Spring Carlisle

Thursday-Saturday April 19-21 – Spring Carlisle Auction

Wednesday May 2 – Sunday May 6 – Delaware Valley Region CCCA Eastern Grand Classic, to be held at Gateway Gettysburg, the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325. This is a great venue for an antique car event, minutes from the historic battlefield sites.

Support your Buick Club events! There are many car shows, but no others that focus specifically on our favorite marque.

Directors Message

Happy and Healthy 2018!

We hope all had a joy filled Christmas! Joan and I had all our children and grandchildren around us and all is well with the world. With the New Year promising temperatures in the single digits it has put a damper on getting out to the garage for any quality Buick time. So basement projects will have to do. Lucy, our 1937 is quietly sleeping in a garage 3 blocks away. Beulah, our 1925 Standard Touring is waiting for the return of her rebuilt engine. Lastly, Remley, our 1925 Master Touring is still questionable as to his ailment. (I think a bad rod.) With the Standard's parts spread out over the garage, basement and a machine shop in Cazanovia NY. I did not want to get into pulling apart the Master engine yet.

In retrospect 2017, for me, it started out a bit rocky with the torn rotator cuff. We had to miss the 1936-38 club tour in North Carolina. That surgery and recuperation putting me out of commission until our Freysinger show in June. Then learning that we will no longer have the show at the Mechanicsburg site. **Major disappointment! But then relief!** Freysinger's still wanted to sponsor the show but now at the AACA Museum on June 30th 2018. (The Bugle has us listed as June 30th 20118). Then in July the nearly 2,000 mile round trip to Brookfield WI. BCA Nationals causing strain on us and the 37. (200 + miles on only 7 cylinders on the return leg of the trip). With the 37 now in need of some mechanical attention we did not think it wise to take her to the BCA Regionals in September. October Hershey week was busy at our space in the Chocolate field. We signed up several new BCA members. Unfortunately none near enough to join Mason-Dixon. On October 31st our youngest son was married at Ashville NC. So we did do a southern trip (sans Buick) after all.



The year was finished off with our Christmas party on the 10th of December. More about that in “Past Happenings” in elsewhere in the Porthole

It is already promising to be a busy year ahead. Just a few road trips planned. Please see upcoming events on our calendar. We are hoping to attend the Chickasha Pre-War swap meet in March. I am still waiting for the Rural Heritage Museum in Maryland to set their calendar for their spring opening date to plan another tour as I had to cancel last year's tour. Our 10th Annual Mason-Dixon /Freysinger Show is set for June 30th. At our January 28th meeting at the C&D Grill Route 30 Cross Keys we need to start setting up volunteer positions. Dick Beckley has been instrumental in securing the continued sponsorship of Freysinger's at the AACA Museum site. Also we need to be making plans for the Denver Colorado Nationals June 19th-23rd.

Larry

Please Note....if you'd like to submit any information, articles, cars for sale...whatever....contact newsletter editor John Hess at (717) 757-7666 or via email at: hocusfocus@verizon.net or via snail mail at 1285 Christensen Rd., York, Pa. 17402.



The December links for the Boyertown Museum's monthly programs have now been posted online. Catch up now before new episodes for 2018 begin rolling out!

The Museum's long running *Wheels Along the Road* in December featured asbestos tires and some history on refrigerated trucks. Check it out by following this link! [Wheels Along the Road December 2017](#)

Our monthly program for Pottstown Community Television, *Motor Mouth*, was also "guest-less," but DanO and Kendra find plenty to talk about with parking lights and the Turin Charter. Also, a trip to McConnellsburg leads to a history lesson on the US Highway system. Watch here: [Motor Mouth December 2017](#)

Thank you for being a part of the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles



To Mason-Dixon Members:

As a BCA board member that represents your interest as well as those of the Pre War Division we have been embroiled in a situation since the AACA meet at Hershey. The issue is **chronological, all-together parking for pre-war cars**. This has been a discussion for the PWD 36-38 Club and at some of our M-D meetings. The desire to park as we suggest is to promote friendly exchange between BCA members of similar interests. (This is guaranteed in our BCA standard operating procedures). To engage the public to make sense of the progression and development of the Buick product line. All I have spoken to feel that it was a fine idea... That is except the national chief judge. I had a face to face meeting with him and 2 other members of the national meet committee at our tent at Hershey. I felt that we had reached an agreement that was acceptable to all parties. The email and personal phone calls exchange over the last several months on this topic has probably reached nearly 75 messages to respond to. Below is 2 of the latest I wish to share. These are sent also to other board members so there is no security issue. Below is what I sent to BCA President Alan Oldfield as a response to a change in wording to what was to go into the board minutes. Another glitch after we thought all was settled again.

Alan:

*As my take on this is what I discussed with you. Each time there was an agreement I would have with John he would add another stipulation. To me it was always about the PWD cars being able to park as outlined in our original request. (**This year's meet and future meets.**) I believe all along John has promoted a position of putting off a decision until things are too late. Again I thought that this was a done deal. Hence my reaction before Christmas and my "Grinch" comment. Of which Jack Welch came down on me for being "sophmoric, mean spirited and behaving childishly". I only wanted the man to stand by his agreement with me and the Pre War Division director instead of changing his mind. I am convinced that John intends to block all efforts for our wishes to be fulfilled. This has been a heated topic within the PWD, the 36-38 club and our regional chapters since the South Bend parking fiasco. We thought our prayers had finally been answered with the agreement John, Jack Welch, Bob Safrit and I reached at Hershey.*

Best regards and safe travels: Larry

Below is from Mark Shaw the Pre War Director stating more clearly our intent and reasoning.

I understand and fully agree with you. John Steed & I discussed this briefly yesterday morning. He told me that the Denver hotel has already breached their contract for their parking lot to be used for our show field. In any case,

the BCA Meet Committee must secure venues with enough parking for all participants. And, the parking layout must be done at least a week or two prior to the meet so the lot can be marked with signs etc. To address your concerns:

- ⌚ Weather Buicks are parked all-together or segregated into judging classes, the actual parking process takes same time and manpower. As agreed, PWD members will always assist other members to park chronologically. So you will always have more manpower to park the prewar section of the show field.
- ⌚ If the Meet Committee cannot find a venue with a contiguous parking lot to accommodate all participants (as was the case in Bellevue WA); that too will not be a problem. A split show field like Bellevue, was not an issue since both parking lots were used for multiple classes. South Bend was a different story.

The intent of the PWD is to eliminate segregated parking by judging class so members can compare Buicks side by side and socialize with all members; not just with those in the same judging class.

And just so you know, I previously suggested to the BOD that BCA members should be allowed to park in their various sub-groups (Prewar, BDE, Modified, Racing etc.) during the meet prior to judging day to socialize. Yesterday, I mentioned to John Steed as National Meet Chairman that the single event that got the most positive comments on the Buick forum and elsewhere was when everybody got to drive their Buicks to dinner and a street dance in the next little town during the Iowa meet. I think events like that would greatly enhance the BCA National Meet experience particularly if members were encouraged to fill their back seats and drive to at least one bus tour venue on Friday. Then, when they return, they could then park wherever needed for judging.

Mark Shaw Pre War Division Director

Hopefully this will be resolved for the benefit of the club. I will be glad to discuss with any Mason Dixon member. Larry DiBarry

Past Events

Mason-Dixon 2017 Christmas party

By Larry DiBarry

On Sunday December 10th we held our annual Christmas party at The Brownstone Café in Middletown. This was the second year we have had the party there as we had such a good time there last year. One suggestion was that we start earlier. So we met at 3:00 for social time and to eat at 4:00. We were not disappointed and we had 20 attendees to share the Yuletide festivities. Up from 14 at last year's event. The McClair's were in attendance as Barry was in the hospital for last year's event. Great to see him and Phyllis again.

The restaurant's accommodations and the menu was first rate. We had part of the upper floor with a view of the lower dining area. A school group came in to do some caroling, aided by your loud mouthed director. Our usual long distance driver (he drove his Electra) was Mike Crookham from Front Royal. Way to go Mike! We also had a new member signed up at the party invited by Peter Rambis. Tom Siemons from Enola who owns a 1941 Buick. Good thing Peter showed up as he won the holiday door prize. If you could not attend we hope to see you next year. A great evening with great people!



Karen and Barbra



Mike Crookham holding court with Barry and Phyllis Mc Clair.



The Hoffman's sharing secrets!



New Mason-Dixon member Tom Siemons.



Dick Beckley catching up with Pete Rambis.

Buick Club of America Minutes of Membership Meeting

**November 26, 2017
Hoss's Restaurant
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania**

1. Open & Welcome

Director Larry DiBarry called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., and welcomed the members. The following members attended this meeting:

Larry and Joan DiBarry
Chuck Hoffman
Richard Sills

2. Minutes of Prior Meeting

Richard Sills reviewed the minutes of the prior meeting on October 1, 2017, which were circulated previously by e-mail.

Motion made by Joan DiBarry, seconded by Chuck Hoffman: To accept the minutes of the October 1, 2017 meeting, as submitted. Passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

David Hare was not able to attend, but submitted the Treasurer's report for November by e-mail. In November, the Chapter deposited \$65.00, consisting entirely of membership dues. There were no expenses. The bank account balance as of the end of November 2017 was \$3,494.21.

Motion made by Richard Sills, seconded by Chuck Hoffman: To accept the Treasurer's Report, as submitted. Passed unanimously.

4. Membership Report

Larry said he believes the Chapter has 29 members per the latest count. He has responded to several requests for information about the Chapter.

There was a discussion of removing people from the membership roster if they do not renew their membership. We are still notifying people who are in arrears about the need to pay dues. The *Porthole* is carrying dues reminders, and the next issue will also include a reminder.

Larry said he regularly checks the list of new BCA members in the Bugle, and sends information about the Chapter to any new BCA member who lives within our territory.

5. National BCA

Larry spoke about his experience in calling people who have allowed their national BCA memberships to lapse. He and two other national Board members volunteered to call about 27 people each. The responses were varied. One former member was downsizing his hobby due to health interests, and another said he failed to renew due to an oversight. A couple of the people said they had sent in their dues very recently. Several of the phone numbers Larry called would not accept calls (e.g., because voicemail was full, or because there was a block on the phone number).

Larry has been talking with John Steed, the BCA national meet coordinator, about the possibility of holding the 2021 BCA national meet in Gettysburg. The enhanced involvement of the national Club in planning national meets, combined with the

use of a professional event planner, make it more feasible to hold a national meet in an area that does not have a large Chapter.

Richard mentioned that the Oldsmobile Club of America is holding its national meet at the Wyndham in Gettysburg in the summer of 2018. Attending that event would give us a good idea as to the advantages of that venue for holding a national car meet, as well as the touring events that are within reasonable driving distance.

6. Mason Dixon Chapter website

Larry has spoken to BCA webmaster Peter Gariepy in an effort to get the Chapter website functional and accessible. The BCA website has a heading marked "local clubs and divisions". The list of chapters is not entirely alphabetical, even as to the state listings. When Larry tried to access our Chapter's website at the meeting, he was able to do so, but the information about future events is missing, even though it has been sent to Peter. The most recent *Porthole* that shows up on the website is from last August.

7. Christmas Party

So far about 10 members have indicated that they are attending the Christmas party on Sunday December 10, 2017. Last year we had about 15 members attending, but we still have about 10 more days to respond.

8. Tenth Annual Car Show in 2018

The 2018 show is scheduled to be held at the AACA Museum, Inc. on Saturday June 30, 2018. We will have fewer awards in 2018, with six Buick classes and three classes for "other makes", plus classes for modified cars and trucks. The timing of the show may be adjusted so that it ends at 2 p.m. rather than at 3 p.m. Freysinger's will continue to sponsor our show by providing all the awards, reimbursing the Chapter for the portion of the registration fee that is payable to the AACA Museum, and paying the "flat fee" of \$80.00 charged by the Museum.

9. Possible Events for Next Year

Larry mentioned the possibility of visiting the Rural Heritage Museum on the date of their open house. This can be combined with a visit to a Franklin collection near Williamsport, MD. It would also be possible to tour the Antietam battlefield on the same day..

10. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 28, 2018, at 3:00 p.m., at the C&D Grill on Route 30, Cross Keys.

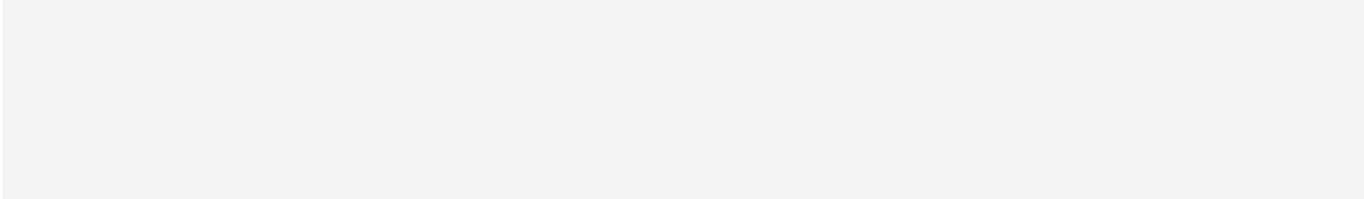
The meeting after that will be held on Sunday March 25, 2018, at 3:00 p.m., at Hoss's on Gettysburg Pike in Mechanicsburg.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Joan DiBarry, seconded by Chuck Hoffman: To adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard P. Sills, Secretary



Jack Frank's car now owned by another Jack.

During the 2017 Hershey meet I was surprised to find the 1937 40C once owned by deceased M-D member Jack Frank at a car brokers tent for sale. I do not remember the price that was being asked although it was much higher than the \$40,000 at his estate sale in April of 2016. When I invited the new owner at the auction to join the M-D club he was not interested. I asked him what were his plans for the car? He said *"I am going to wax it and look at it"*. Needless to say he got tired of waxing and looking. At our tent in the chocolate field at Hershey last a fellow BCA member introduced me to the new owner, BCA member Jack Hansen who lives near Indianapolis IN. The new owner Jack was in a quandary about how the car was going to be delivered to his home. The contracted carrier was waiting for a full trailer before delivery. Finally on the last week of December his contracted carrier dropped off the 37 in excellent condition. I am sure it is now going to a Buick Loving Home!



Jack Frank's 1937-40C at the Mason-Dixon 2011 Freysinger show.

For Sale

Parts For Sale

- Set of 1969 Electra tail lights. Used condition. \$50.00
 - 1969 Electra 4 dr. Rocker stainless. \$20.00
 - 1949 Buick radio with nice chrome grill. \$100.00
 - 1969 Le Sabre Convertible deck lid. \$50
 - 1937 series 40 headlight pods and misc. pieces from Jack Frank's estate.
- If someone needs it I may have it.

Larry DiBarry 717-263-3804

For Sale

1955 Buick Super Convertible *Submitted by Dick Beckley*

This car is a very nice AACA Senior car that has been owned by the owner since 1989 and they are the 3rd owners. I have personally known the Weidenmeyer's for many years as well as this car. Rodney died in early 2017 and his widow is 83 and needs to sell the car. It's a great driver and shows very well and I'd add it to my collection if my garage was not already full.

Description is as follows:

One of 21 registered and never trailered. All books go with the car.

322 CI nailhead, 236 HP

Cherokee Red/w red leather

Variable pitch Dynaflo, 0-60 in 11.2 seconds

800-15 Wide Whites with Kelsey-Hayes Wire Wheels

Asking \$55,000

Connie Weidenmeyer, 206 Lincoln Dr., Reading, PA 19606-3629 Phone: 610-372-0264

For Sale

Considering selling 2 of my convertibles due to health issues , is there any interest?

One is 64 Skylark conv. with all aluminum block 330 c.i. engine , Buick only made 600 cars with this engine in 1964 sold new at Mount joy Buick in Hanover I am the second owner . Needs total restoration . .

The second car is a well optioned 65 Skylark conv. that needs total restoration . Didn't think about prices . Was going to restore cars when I retired . Both cars have not run in 17 years .

Call if interested 717-632-5968 will consider offers . Thanks Gene Geiman

Wanted

old signs, automobilia, petroliana, old gas pumps, barber shop collectables, etc.
Contact Dick Beckley at dbeckley@epix.net , phone 717-395-7128. PO Box 128, Lewisberry, PA 17339.

Submitted by Richard Sills

WOW!!!!!! What's the deal with THIS car!! - editor

A one-owner 1965 Riviera Gran Sport sold yesterday at Barrett-Jackson for \$117,700 including the buyer's fee. It was a red car with a black vinyl roof and black interior. Here is the auction description:

Lot #496 - This matching numbers, one owner, 1965 Buick Riviera Gran Sport comes with all of its documentation from the day it was purchased, including gas log books with every gas fill up and mileage. The car was ordered with all available options including power vent window, AM/FM radio, rear defroster, rear folding arm rest, electronic cruise control, power antenna, air conditioning and heat, Guide-Matic power seat, 4-note horns, remote side mirror and trunk release, tissue dispenser, and power windows. It runs and drives well powered by an 8-cylinder 425hp engine and automatic transmission.

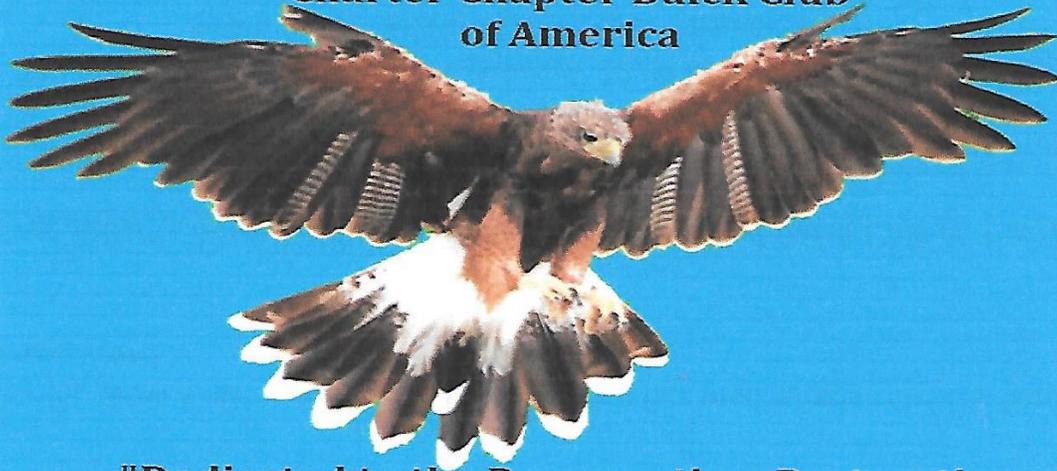


I've seen cars owned by Frank Sinatra, Elvis and Marilyn Monroe sell for this much....wonder what someone knew that no one else did - editor

"FREE SPIRIT"

CHAPTER OF PA

**Charter Chapter Buick Club
of America**



**"Dedicated to the Preservation, Restoration
and enjoyment of all automobiles
manufactured by the Buick Motor Car Co."**

CALLING ALL BUICK ENTHUSIASTS!!

NORTH EAST PENNSYLVANIA ALL BUICK REGIONAL

SEPTEMBER 20 - 21 - 22, 2018

PHIFER'S ICE DAMS, 880 MAIN RD., LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

Host: "FREE SPIRIT" CHAPTER, BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Hotels: Mention the CODE = "FREE SPIRIT"

HAMPTON INN, 877 Interchange Rd. Lehigh, Pa 18235 (0.5 mi)

610-377-3400

COUNTRY INN & STE. 1619 Interchange Rd. Lehigh, Pa (1 mi)

610-379-5066

BOOK ROOM(S) BEFORE AUGUST 20, 2018

Show & Tours = Thursday & Friday

Show w/ Peer Judging, Awards, & Informal Dinner = Saturday

Please visit our web site, www.buickfreespirit.org

Mason-Dixon Chapter of the Buick Club of America

Dues Reminder Notice!

Dues are \$10.00 per year
Must be a member of the BCA to be a member of Mason-Dixon

This is the only notice you will receive!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ BCA# _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Buicks owned: Please list year, model, body style, etc.

Dues are \$10 per year, due no later than March 1 of each calendar year. You must be a member of BCA national to be a member of our Chapter.

Mail check payable to Mason-Dixon Chapter BCA to:

David Hare
418 McCosh Street
Hanover, Pa. 17331

Meetings are bi-monthly, last Sunday of the month, 3PM
6 Newsletters, by e-mail or snail mail if no e-mail
Annual show
Other Events as planned

Contact:

Larry DiBarry, Director dibarjo@hotmail.com Phone 717-263-3804

Tim Spigelmyer, Assistant Director tlpsu@aol.com Phone 717-514-5728