



# The Porthole



November/December 2019

## NEWSLETTER OF THE MASON-DIXON CHAPTER OF THE BCA

### UPCOMING EVENTS -- MARK YOUR CALENDER

Mason-Dixon chapter items are in red

### 2019

**Sunday November 24 - Chapter meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Hoss's Restaurant, Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA  
Come for dinner first then meeting.

**Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> Mason-Dixon Christmas Party** to be held at the Brownstone at Middletown PA.  
(See details elsewhere in this Porthole.)

### 2020

**Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> - Mason-Dixon Chapter Membership Meeting 3:00 at C&D Grill and Bar Route 30 Near Cross Keys.** Come for dinner first then meeting.

**Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> - SUNDAE AT THE MOVIES.....**Join us (YACC) for our 38th annual Sundae at the Movies, with old-time car films, car-toons and comedies. Make your own ice cream sundaes with all the topping. Dover UCC Church, 45 W. Canal Rd, Dover. From York, take Rt. 74 N., go to the square in Dover, turn left, church is across from high school. Starts at 2pm.

**March 1st – Final day to pay your 2020 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 1st, 2020** - Hamburg, PA - AACA Ontelaunee Regions Swap Meet/Car Corral. Hamburg Field House, Pine St. Hamburg, PA. Contact: Lester Manwiller - 610-944-8619; [lhedgehog1@aol.com](mailto:lhedgehog1@aol.com)

**March 7th Saturday** - Mason-Dixon Gas and oil collectors show at Fredrick MD. Fairgrounds doors open at 8:00 AM. Possible driving tour so meeting place to be determined.

**March 20-21th – 30<sup>th</sup>** Annual Antique Automobile Pre-War Swap Meet - Chickasha, OK, Grady county fairgrounds, Chickasha, OK. The largest pre-war swap meet in the USA.

**Sunday, March 22nd** - Mason-Dixon Chapter Membership Meeting. 3 p.m., Hoss' Restaurant, Mechanicsburg, PA. Come for dinner first then meeting.

**May 17<sup>th</sup>** - Brass at Berks Flea Market & Gathering for the week's tour. Morgantown PA.

**Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>** - Mason-Dixon Chapter Membership Meeting 3:00 at C&D Grill and Bar Route 30 Near Cross Keys. Come for dinner first then meeting. June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 HERSHEY PA

Mason-Dixon Chapter and Freysinger Buick/GMC will host their 12th annual Buick Show at the AACA Museum 161 Museum Drive Hershey, Pa. Peer judging with 6 Buick Classes, 3 classes for other makes modified and truck classes. Best of Show-Buick, Best of Show-other makes, Long Distance, Oldest Car. Dash plaques to the first 75 entries. Registration 8:30-10:30. Show 9-3. Registration \$15. Registration includes 1 free admission to the AACA Museum. Contact, Larry DiBarry 717-263-3804, [dibarjo@hotmail.com](mailto:dibarjo@hotmail.com) or Dick Beckley 717-395-7128. [dbeckley@epix.net](mailto:dbeckley@epix.net)

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**July 15-18 – BCA National Meet**, host hotel is Holiday Inn in Strongsville, Ohio (Cleveland area), Hosted by the Northeast Ohio Chapter.

**Friday July 17 - Buick Heritage Alliance** Annual Awards Banquet at Michaud's Catering and Event Center, 16808 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio. (1 mile from the BCA 2020 Annual Meet. Host Hotel). 5-10 pm. Buffet Dinner with a Cash Bar. West Peterson, Editor-In-Chief of the AACA will be our guest speaker. \$50 a person; \$90 a couple. For additional information, contact Jeff Brashares at [Jeff.Brashares@sunteckttts.com](mailto:Jeff.Brashares@sunteckttts.com).

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

**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](mailto:hocusfocus@verizon.net) or via snail mail at 1285 Christensen Rd., York, Pa. 17402.

## Directors Message

The second week of October tells me it is time to put together the next Porthole message. We just returned from the Rockville Md. car show and a fine day it was with many Buick buddies in attendance. 175 mile round trip and the 1937 did nicely on the trip. I wish I could include more photos but my camera SD card has become corrupted. I can view most of the photos but cannot copy or paste them.

Still warm weather but still not getting too far on mechanical and paint work for the 1925 master "Remley"



Getting things done on "Remley." New SS water tube. With the rebuilt Speedometer and oil pressure unit "Beulah" now has a full complement of correct gages.

Hershey was a great experience this year with no tornadoes or torrential down pours. Just great seasonal weather. We had plenty of "Buick buddy" visits at our flea market spaces on the chocolate field. The car show on Saturday was a bit iffy with a bit of sprinkles.

Hopefully the fall will provide some time for us to come together as a group. (See the notice of our Christmas party at the Brownstone on December 8<sup>th</sup>.)

Pete Rambis and I will be working on a project with the AACA museum that has had a 1926 Buick model 51 Brougham donated in partially restored condition. Scheduling has been an issue. The concept is for the Museum to set up a work in progress display. More on that as we get further involved. I thank Richard Sills for getting us involved.

We are glad to report that John Kuchtiak has had a successful surgery and is recuperating well. Still prayers and good wishes for his continued health renewal.

A thanks to Chris Calabrese for submitting an article on his car (Why I am a Buick guy/gal variety). So I will forego the meat loaf recipe this issue.

I will hope to see you at the November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting at Hoss' at Mechanicsburg. Also the Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party.

Hope to see you soon:

**I spoke to John Kuchtiak and he is recovering from his surgery. Prayers for his speedy recovery.**



Halloween greetings from Mike and Mari Crookham from Front Royal Va.



It is that time of year. Mike poses the question. How many bodies will fit into a trunk of a 1966 Electra???

Two other Buick-related items from Richard Sills

- The AACA Museum also owns a very unusual 1937 Buick – it is a carved-side hearse, that car was used by a funeral director in a small town upstate. I have seen very few of these over the years. The ones I have seen have been Cadillacs or LaSalles; this is the first Buick. The '37 is in very good original condition, and would be interesting to display next year when we have our Mason-Dixon car show.



Not the one at the Museum, but one under restoration back in 2012 when my 1937 was at the same shop.

2. I selected a spot for the Mason-Dixon Chapter brick. It will be placed right above a brick that honors the Freysinger dealership. There is ample room around it for club members to buy personal bricks, if they wish to do so. Eventually, the areas that are now blank will be filled in with bricks bearing names, so if any club members want to buy bricks and have them placed close to the Chapter's brick, it's best to act sooner rather than later.

Richard

## Hershey report by Larry DiBarry

Although the weather was fine I did miss seeing some of our Mason-Dixon friends. Dick Beckley has been sidelined by a knee problem. Heal well Dick!!...I missed him and His Imperial which was to be shown. When my son Alex and I were driving in early Wednesday morning we were pacing along Bugle editor Pete Phillips as soon as we entered the chocolate field. Visitors to our space at C4M44 and 45 came from as far away as Brazil, the Netherlands, Austria, Australia and New Zealand. Buick buddies with the Pre-War group included Brian Heil (the group's new director), Larry Schramm, Dean Tryon editor of the 1915-1915 Buick newsletter group, Wayne Funk and too many for me to remember. We could not stay all the time since we needed to trod the pavement for Buick needs. I always thought that after 4 days of walking I may have done 15 miles. Former BCA secretary John DeFiore said that he wore a digital pedometer and registered more like 25 miles!

We found a few treasures but the high point for us is the "Show" of the R/M auction Thursday and Friday evenings. Just to observe the R/M staff moving and staging the collector cars for the auction was a delight.

Observers commenting "will this wonderful car that might be expected to get a \$300,000 bid actually start?" Many do but some don't as the one night a museum collection was sold and many could not be started.



Son Alex with his favorite a 1922 Marmon Roadster. Mine a 1910 Rambler. Friend Dave Blaufarb's favorite. 1933 Plymouth Convertible Coupe.

At Saturday's car show I caught Mr. Bulgari (center) discussing David Landow's 1931 Roadster. Below



Dave Blaufarb, Son Alex and Larry Schramm at Larry's HPOF space for his 1915 Buick Truck. Alex behind the wheel. We missed the 1:00 pm champagne toast that Charlie Steffey had at his 1919 Buick H-45 to celebrate his centennial award for the car.



# MASON-DIXON BUICK CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Date: Sunday December 8th 2019 Time: 3:00 social time. Dinner at 4:00.

Place: Brownstone Cafe' 1 North Union Street Middletown PA.

This is a good opportunity to share some Christmas cheer with fellow enthusiasts. This is to include any interested B.O.O.M and CLC members as they have repeatedly invited us to their activities. We had a great time last year!

All may order from the menu.

RSVP by Dec. 1st. Karen Beckley 717-938-4975 [dbeckley@epix.net](mailto:dbeckley@epix.net)  
Larry DIBarry 717-263-3804 [dibarjo@hotmail.com](mailto:dibarjo@hotmail.com)

## Link to their menu

[https://www.bing.com/local?](https://www.bing.com/local?lid=YN749x12891180&id=YN749x12891180&q=Brownstone+Cafe+Middletown+PA&name=Brownstone+Cafe&cp=40.19524~-76.73146&qpvt=brownstone+restaurant+menu)

[lid=YN749x12891180&id=YN749x12891180&q=Brownstone+Cafe+Middletown+PA&name=Brownstone+Cafe&cp=40.19524~-76.73146&qpvt=brownstone+restaurant+menu](https://www.bing.com/local?lid=YN749x12891180&id=YN749x12891180&q=Brownstone+Cafe+Middletown+PA&name=Brownstone+Cafe&cp=40.19524~-76.73146&qpvt=brownstone+restaurant+menu)

**Directions from, North and West.** Route 283 S, Middletown exit right onto North Union Street. Follow south into town at the corner of North Union and West Emaus Streets.

**From, East and South.** Route 283 N, make right onto exit for route 441, left on to Toll House Road, continue under 283, turn right onto to Harrisburg Pike (route 441) continue to Middletown when this becomes East Main Street, turn right onto North Union Street continue until the Brownstone and the big Green Clock is seen on the Right at the corner of North Union and West Emaus Street.



## How I became a *Buick* guy.....

I fell in love with A body's in high school, in the late 1990s. A guy I worked with got a 1969 Chevelle for like 900 bucks (as you could back then) and I thought it was really cool. I ended up getting my own 1969 Chevelle in about 2009 while I was living in SoCal and serving in the Army.



I tore it all apart with the help of my former father in law. I put a nice sum of money into it. The car got back onto the road, but unfortunately it was the wrong time in my life. I ended up selling it, at a hefty loss. I bought another car or two in between, and then when my ex-wife and I split, I simplified my life for a while. I spent some time in the Middle East, and I came home and started thinking about what I really wanted to do in terms of a car. I decided part of the reason my last car was not a good financial investment was that it was a non-numbers match car. It costs every bit as much to restore a non-numbers car as it does a numbers car. But one is worth significantly more when its all said and done. Numbers match Chevelles cost a lot of money. I attribute this mostly to demographics, meaning kids wrecked them all. Additionally, they had baby big blocks in them, so everyone yanked that 396, and put a 454 or 502 in there. As a result, you just don't see them at reasonable prices despite a ton of them having been made.

Enter the Buick GS. They're often labeled "the doctor's hotrod" if one is polite, or an "old mans car " if one is not. They're A body's all the same to me. They don't get a lot of respect, mostly because people aren't informed. Additionally being a Buick and far more money, young guys didn't buy them and trash them like Chevelles. As a result, they tend to be cheaper today. I set out looking for a 1970 to 1972 GS with basically two requirements. It needed to be a 455, and it had to be numbers match. I talked to a lot of people, and looked at a few cars. Through V8Buick, I stumbled upon an ad that Chris Pollak had shared for a documented numbers match, 1970 GS Stage 1



The car was worked by John Osborne. The ad was over a year old when I found it, but it was still active. I called the guy, and ended up seeing it. He was a little older, and simplifying his life too. Initially when no deal was to be made, I walked away figuring the right car would come along. The gentleman called me back two weeks later, and offered me the car for pretty close to my price. The rest is history. I never set out looking for a Stage 1, but I ended up with one with a fair amount of pedigree. Even if I sell this one, I don't think I'll go back to a Chevy. Buick's are just nicer in general, and its generally the only Buick at most shows. Sometimes it is nice to be different.

Chris Calabrese

## **FROM RICHARD SILLS.....**

I attended the Radnor Hunt Concours on Sunday September 8. Buick and Porsche were the two featured marques. This write-up is just a glimpse of the Buicks present, but does not do justice to all the great Buicks there. You may want to look at the Radnor Hunt website ([www.radnorhuntconcours.org](http://www.radnorhuntconcours.org)) to see if there are other pictures or information that we can use in the newsletter.

I entered my 1960 Electra 225 convertible, and was honored to win the Thorncroft Award, presented by the charity that is benefitted by the concours. Other award winners in the Buick category included a Lido Lavender 1959 Electra 2-door hardtop owned by Hank Hallowell of Hershey, and a Surf Green 1964 Riviera owned by a gentleman from New York. Lido Lavender is



a correct factory color for the '59 Buick, and it makes the car easy to notice!

Parked next to me was a 1962 Invicta Custom convertible, with the bucket seats and short armrest/console between the seats. 1962 was the third and final year for the Invicta Custom, which is a seldom-seen sub-model of the Invicta series.

Another notable car was a 1975 Century Indy Pace Car Edition coupe with the Buick "Free Spirit" logo. This was like new, with about 3,000 miles. After looking over the car, I noticed it had Iowa license plates, and then saw that the owner was Alan Oldfield, who until recently was the National President of BCA. I had communicated with Alan several times by telephone and e-mail, but never met him in person. I introduced myself and enjoyed talking with him.

Other interesting later model Buicks included Paul and Lynn Gawel's aqua 1970 Skylark GS convertible, a Saturn Tellow 1970 GSX, a very unusual 1973 Century Colonnade coupe with a Stage 1 engine and 4-speed manual transmission, and a 1967 Skylark Sport Wagon with tinted glass roof panels owned by Stan Sipko, Curator of the AACA Museum.

There were many early Buicks, but because of the way the cars were arranged, I did not get to spend as much time looking at them. (Sorry, Larry!) One highly memorable display consisted of four 1934 Buicks, all different body styles, but each one like new. They were presented by Nicola Bulgari's NB Center for American Automotive Heritage in Allentown, PA. It was the closest thing any of us will ever see to being transported back to 1934 and visiting a Buick showroom.

Exhibiting fashionable new colors for 1941 were a Sienna Rust Super convertible sedan and a Sequoia Cream Roadmaster convertible coupe. Both colors were mid-year introductions. Lou Mandich, proprietor of the Last Chance Garage in Unionville, PA, exhibited a 1917 Buick touring car and a 1937 Roadmaster convertible sedan, both of which appeared to be unrestored originals.

There were many other great cars on the show field, as well as extensive displays of motorcycles, pedal cars, and various "automobilia". Two remarkable motorcycles were Crockers, a 1936 and a 1939 model. This was an American brand with which I was previously unfamiliar. I learned that both motorcycles had been acquired by the same owner this year at two different Mecum auctions, for a combined price of over \$1.5 million.

Next year's Radnor Hunt Concours will be held on Sunday September 13, 2020. Even though Buick won't be the featured marque next year, I would recommend this show to anyone who loves old cars and/or motorcycles.

# 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

## Wanted

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

## For Sale

1971 455 CID Engine with (2) cylinder heads. (2) valve covers. Intake manifold. (1) 4 BBL Carb. (1) Air cleaner from a 1971 GS. \$600 for All. Fred White 717-767-8903

## For Sale

*I have a 1970 Buick Wildcat, all original and stock, located in Ocean City, NJ. Considering selling to right buyer. Car needs body work due to rust, but has decent interior and 455-4 engine. would need to be towed. Here's a video that shows all ...[https://youtu.be/aESicCtP\\_GM](https://youtu.be/aESicCtP_GM)*

*If you know anyone who is interested, please let me know - Jerry 646-267-2014*

## 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 Dynaflow, 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

**1991 Riviera**, Claret Red Metallic with matching leather interior and factory gold pinstripes. Only 25,613 actual miles; one owner from 1991 through September 2018. Garage kept and meticulously maintained since new. Equipment includes wire wheel covers, opera lamps in rear sail panels, reclining bucket seats and center console, digital dash cluster with analog instruments, tilt wheel, cruise control, seek-scan AM-FM stereo radio with cassette player, and full power equipment including windows, locks, seats, antenna, mirrors, and automatic trunk release. Completely original inside and out. "Like new" is not an exaggeration. Fully serviced with latest PA safety and emission inspection. Original owner's books and sales brochures. Ready for show or touring. \$11,500. Paul Sevag, 610-496-4246



# 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](mailto:dibarjo@hotmail.com)    Phone 717-263-3804

Tim Spigelmyer, Assistant Director    [tlspu@aol.com](mailto:tlspu@aol.com)    Phone 717-514-5728