



## Beth's Grocery Gettin'/Drag Racin' Wagon

I have been into cars since I was little. I would hand my dad tools in the back yard while he tuned up his old GMC pickup, and my Uncle, a Dairy farmer, used to take me to the Tractor Pulls. When I grew up (yeah right – maybe got older?) I worked at Fel-Pro Inc., in the Dyno Lab, blowing up Ford five point nothings - talk about a fun job.

Was a Chevy girl (sorry... so sorry), but this wagon converted me completely to Buicks. From the first day I saw it online I knew I MUST have it, and about a month and a half later I did. I need to say a big thank you to Kurt "Wolfgang" Peterson of N.C. for creating the SportWagon GS, now lovingly known as "Da Wagon".

Dana, my husband, bought the car for me in Sept. 2003 as an early birthday present. Within the first 2 weeks of owning her we were at the races. Early plans were to have the body gone over & have fresh paint applied. Then came the Fresh Air Finale at Byron, when I broke her. We did make it home, the damage ending up being chunks of piston #6 bouncing around inside the 455 . .

not pretty! So the body work was set aside, as we searched for & priced engine builders.

We ended up sending her on a little "vacation" at the end of November 2003 to Jim Weise at Tri-Shield Performance in Anoka MN. We were going to have him do a simple rebuild, but we came to our senses.

Some of the upgrades are: TA Performance Stage 1 SE Aluminum Heads, TA Performance SP-1 polished intake manifold, "Car Craft" hydraulic cam with .525 lift and 231/234 duration and 110 degrees between lobe centers, TA Performance headers, Competition Cams Pro-Magnum hydraulic lifters, Hybrid adjustable pushrods, Doctor Gas 3" X pipe. The crank was ground .010, Speed Pro Forged Pistons, Billet mechanical fuel pump and a 9.5" fixed pitch converter with 2700-3000 rpm stall. I'm very happy with the results of the rebuild; if you saw me grinning like an idiot at Salem, Morocco or Byron, you now know why.

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Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the GS Club of America, the Chicagoland Chapter of the GSCA, or any of the officers of these automotive enthusiast clubs.

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### Membership Policy & Dues

The Chicagoland Chapter of the Buick GSCA is open to all Buick enthusiasts and owners of Buick powered cars. Membership is \$20 per year, and includes a quarterly newsletter and much more. Apply online at the chapter web site or send dues with check made out to **CCGSCA** with membership form to:

Shari Bonecutter – Membership Chairman  
Chicagoland Chapter GSCA  
4010 Raymond Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513-1846

### Chapter Web Page

<http://www.chicagolandbuick.org>

Webkeeper - Loyd Bonecutter 708-485-8477

Please check the chapter web site for the latest information.

### Member's Change of Address

Chicagoland members who move are requested to notify our membership chairman before the next newsletter mailing. We do not want you to miss a single edition of your newsletter. Please notify us of e-mail address changes as soon as you change providers.

### Membership Renewal

Please check the label on your newsletter. If your membership was up in January, this will be your last newsletter. Obtain an application from the website or past issue, and mail to 4010 Raymond Avenue, Brookfield, IL 60513, along with a check for \$20 made out to "CCGSCA." Please don't let your membership lapse!

### Volunteers for the Chapter

Note the various functions needed to operate this Chapter. Contact Bob Nunes if you are interested in helping our Chapter continue our pursuit of excellent Buick Motorsport activities for our members. It is very important to have fresh ideas introduced into the operation of the Club.

### Upcoming Events

Dec 11	Christmas Party @ Moose in River Grove
Jan 9	January Meeting at Caspers
Jan 28, 29 & 30	World of Wheels in McCormick Place
Feb 13	February Meeting at Mr Beef & Pizza
Mar 13	March Meeting at ANS in Melrose Park
Apr ??	Samatha Rix Memorial Race
Apr 3	BOPC Swap Meet at Bridgeview Sports Dome
Apr 16	Spring Dyno Session
May 1	Buick Race Day in Norwalk, OH
May ??	BCA Dust-off at Knautz
May 17-21	GSCA Nationals in Bowling Green, KY
Jun ??	BCA Woody Car Show
July 4	Woodridge Police and CCGSCA Car Show

To date my best time has been at Great Lakes with a 12.212@110.11mph! Bonus... The track announcer called it a Buick GS wagon; he said "there was nothing like watching a wagon take a trip down the track & this Buick is really nice..... wow 12.21@110" "she better be careful or we'll have to put a cage in it" I thought that was kind of cool! With more practice, maybe I'll actually get past the first round of eliminations. It's just a great Buick to drive. Whether cruising or racing, I just love my wagon.

I'm honored to be a small part of the Buick Community, and feel as though you all have welcomed us with open arms. Dana & I have never met such wonderful people. We have made some great friends and look forward to making more. You have helped us, encouraged us and just plain had fun with us, and I thank you all for that.

Oh Yeah..... Real Women Drive/Race Buicks

Beth Andrews  
CCGSCA #217

### **GS Nationals Car Show** *Chris Gatch*

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual GS Nationals car show is right around the corner and we are looking for volunteers to help judge once again! If you going to be in the Kentucky area for that week then grab the family and come on out to help judge the greatest Buick show on earth! Where else can you see Buicks from across the county this up close and personal? So you say that you have never judged before... Well don't worry, you don't have to be an expert but just rather have a love for cars and the willingness to help out! The judging is based on a points system and everything will be spelled out and easy fill out. All you have to do is judge your class consistently. A really cool way to see these cars closely is to judge them! Also, you will get a premium for your work – no telling at this time, but it's usually pretty neat! If you have any further questions about this event you can contact me at (773) 776-4794 or email me at [CGATCH@PORTER-ATH.COM](mailto:CGATCH@PORTER-ATH.COM) and I will get back to you with your answers as soon as possible. Hope to see you there!

### **Directors Garage** *Loyd Bonecutter*

Well after a quick summer and fall season, winter has arrived with vengeance. What a wonderful season it was for motorsport activities. Although we did not participate in many cruises, the selection of car shows and drag racing events this year were second to none. It was great seeing quite a few new members out at many of the events. I am proud of the way many members make new participants feel at home. It is sometimes difficult going to an event where you do not know anyone. I have found our mutual love of these cars is enough to overcome our inherent natural shyness.

We welcome feedback on the motorsport activities that we provide for our members. We have not expanded the cruises, car shows nor drag racing events, as participation at the events we added in past years was light. We are going to add an additional drag racing event this year, and a race committee to organize and spread the work out a little. If you have any ideas for activities please let us know.

Our participation at the BCA car shows has helped keep participating dealers continue offering there facilities for Buick shows. At the August Loren Buick our Gran Sports and Turbo Regals amounted to nearly a forth of the entrants at the show. Turbo Regals were

the featured car and our members came out to support the chapter.

It is the time of year for those who want to participate in the Chapter to set forward and let one of the volunteers know you want in. Bob Nunes, Rich George Bob Ward, Bob Hill, and Brian Campbell will gladly explain what the various positions entail and how you would be a welcome addition to our Club. As the Club is heading into our eleventh year, a new outlook may be very important.

As many of you know our web site was hacked twice and the bulletin board was taken down. Although our Internet Service Provider who hosted the site was not the cheapest, their service in restoring the site left a lot to be desired. Hopefully our new provider will work out better. When moving the site there were a couple of glitches that were fixed within minutes.

The Bulletin Board we now enjoy was one feature that came with the web space. It have been very reliable and hopefully our members have had little difficulty using it. It seems to be moving spare parts as only one member sent any for sale items to Shari nor I.

Have a happy holiday season.

**Cruise News***Chris Gatch*

Hello everyone!

Well the end of another year is already upon us. This was a fun and exciting year that was filled with many events and cruises. I just want to thank everyone that attended one or more of our events. It takes a lot of work to organize some of these events and we had pretty good club participation at a lot of the events. I am looking forward to even more participation next year.

The mid summer show at Loren Buick in Glenview was well attended this year by the over 30 turbo cars that were in attendance. The Turbo Buick's were the featured car and let me tell you that they came out in style! We had the first three rows covered with these monsters of muscle! Congratulations to Wayne Bachar, Paul Brelie and Erik & Roxanne Weinberg for winning awards in the over packed turbo & GS class. It was tough but the cream of the crop rose to the tip! Mike Mullen took a trophy in the Riviera class, and Steve Pitts won in the modified class with his pro-street GN! It was a great day with great food and great friends so what else could anyone ask for at this show!

Well our second annual Cascade Drive-In night was a wash out! I don't know if Mother Nature just does not want us to show up there with our Buicks or what? Last year it was frigid cold and now the monsoons rolled in on our scheduled day. A few of us still met out there and went out for a nice dinner and a good time out even though O.P. was upset that we didn't get the chance to see Alien vs. Predator. At this dinner we decided to reschedule this event for later in the year but once again the day that we were going to go they were calling for snow! Well I guess for next year we might start in May and just work our way through the summer for a nice day! Thanks again for all the couples who came out and enjoyed the fine dinner and beverages that evening! Hopefully next year we can do this on nice evening! Like they say the third times a charm!

September & October brought about a few shows & cruises as well. The Midwest Challenge was well attended by all and the show attendance seemed to be up a little from last year. I would like to congratulate all of the winners and every one that participated. I'm sorry that I do not have all of the winners but my computer crashed and I lost all of my information so here are the winners that I can remember.

Gran Sport Class

1st – Harle Cordill;

2nd - Shari Bonecutter

General Buick 1st - Tim Duggan

Buick Powered/Modified Class

1st - Tom & Debbie Jenkins;

2nd – Chris & Anna Gatch

Turbo Regal – 1st - Steve Dickerson

Congrats to all and hope to see everyone there next year!

The final show of the year was Marquardt. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this show but I hear that there were quite a few winners from our club that won awards. Congratulations to Don Hens, Paul Brelie and Loyd Bonecutter who all won awards in their respective classes. I'm sure that there were more club members that won so if I didn't mention your name I am sorry but congratulations! I heard that the show attendance was down a little from last year but we still had a strong showing of our club members as usual! Thanks to all for coming and congratulations again go out to anyone that I may have forgotten.

The final cruise of the year was at Mickey's Gyros and just as in years past it was cold! There were a few club members that braved the cool weather that night to help close out the season. Thanks to everyone that showed.

With the end of the year coming about that means only thing...planning next year's schedule. I am already planning on having some of the same events again next year and am in the works for a few more. Remember that our first show will be the World of Wheels which will celebrate our 11th year as a club together! If you are not showing your car at this year's event then come on down to McCormick Place and help support the members that will be in attendance. I would also like some input from our club members to what they would like us to do as a club next year. If anyone has any shows that they know of and would like to get them down on the clubs activities calendar please let me know well ahead of time so that we can work it in.

Well I think that everyone is probably already working on their cars for next year because it's right around the corner and before you know it we will be racing and cruzin all over again! Well I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and hope to see everyone again next year Going Fast With Class!

**Membership Scribbling** *Shari Bonecutter*

Hi, everyone! I'm writing this the day before thanksgiving, and winter is here! I'm watching the temperature fall, and waiting to see if it's going to snow. What a way to celebrate Thanksgiving!

Our cars are tucked in for the season, which is always a sad thing. How about your cars – do you have any good winter projects going? I think this is the first year in the past 2 that an engine is not coming out of something! But it's early – I might be mistaken.

So let's see – since the last newsletter, we had the Midwest Challenge. This event was a great one, once again, and the weather was perfect. I was going to complain about all of you that didn't attend and missed a great time. I was going to point out that there was money to be won at both the car show and the racing, and that most of it went to folks from out of state. But instead I'm going to thank those of you that did show up and seemed to enjoy yourselves. The car count for the show went up a little bit, which was great! And we had more lady racers out on Saturday testing and tuning than ever before. The TSM race was held Saturday, and congrats go to Dave England on his win there. Also, congrats go to Donna Campbell – the first woman to try TSM! You go, girl! Sunday was the bracket racing, and we had a ton of helpers with this part of the weekend. The bracket winners were: Bracket 1 – Jim Fitsmaurice (1971 GSX); Bracket 2 – Rob Ross (1971 GS); Bracket 3 – Ken Stasiak (1970 GS 350); Quick-6 Turbo – Dennis Butt (GN powered Mustang); Super 8 – Dennis Halladay (1968 GS). Dennis Halladay also won king of the hill, if I recall correctly. So it looks like the big blocks cleaned up this year! Chris will cover the car show winners in his article.

I want to thank the Indiana Chapter for running the car show – they did a great job, as usual. Our own volunteers put in a lot of work for the whole event, too. Tent helpers – Barb Holda, Mary Ferrari, Marilyn Bachar, and Wayne Smith – you guys are greatly appreciated! The following helped keep the racing run smoothly on Sunday – Wayne Bachar, Paul Brelie, Bryan Campbell, Mike Davenport, Rich George, Mark Holda, and Wayne Smith. You don't know how much we appreciated your help – the track even commented on how smoothly everything went. We will keep this in mind for next year, and maybe even help with the TSM race. I know Scott could use the help.

October was our fall dyno day at ANS. This is always fun – sitting around sniffing car exhaust and race gas!

What a day! Mary Ferrari and Paul Brelie helped keep things moving there. Thanks, you guys!

We had our last race of the season on October 24<sup>th</sup> at Byron. This could also be dubbed “the race that wouldn't end.” There were so many cars out that day that we had a hard time getting in the gate, much less getting our practice runs in. It's always like this at the end of season, though. Everyone wants just one more race... Anyway, there were also a few breakdowns (not ours) so we ended up with folks racing just after dark! This was kind of exciting with no track lights – just the glow of the scoreboard! Loyd will post the points final in here somewhere, I'm sure. But a big thank you goes out to all that participated and came out to watch! It's great to see you all!

November was our alignment seminar at Hubcaps in Schiller Park. Small attendance, but that's o.k. We bought pizza for everyone and had a good time. I want to thank our speaker, Bill Meisner. The guys all said that they learned a lot.

So now we're into our winter season. You've all been reminded to death about the Christmas party December 11<sup>th</sup>. I still have not had that big of a response, but I still have a few weeks. January 9<sup>th</sup> will be a tech session at Casper's in Mundelein. We're not sure of the other speakers we'll have there, but it's always good. February 13<sup>th</sup> will be at Mr. Beef & Pizza in Mt. Prospect. We're going to have a Drag Racing 101 seminar. March 13<sup>th</sup> will be our usual Chili Contest at ANS in Melrose Park. Our featured speakers will again be Paul Ferry from HRPartsNstuff in Atwater, OH and Mike Phillips from AMP in Owensboro, KY. A little something for everyone at this event. Please feel free to bring a crock-pot of your favorite chili and compete for the traveling award, along with some real prizes. Or feel free to just come and eat and judge. This one is always a good time!

**Members News**

Welcome back to Larry Calef, Galva, IL; David Falstad, Lindenhurst, IL; and Larry Ford, Hobart, IN. And welcome to the following new members: Frank Rex, Chicago, IL; Odell Cantrell, Pendleton, IN; Jon Montgomery, Lebanon, IN; Mike & Cindy Devenport, Terre Haute, IN; Mike Schwab, Hamilton, OH; Dennis Halladay, Reed City, MI; Nick Storino, Chicago, IL; Eddie Tomlin, Berwyn, IL. Thanks for joining!

Our Buick world has suffered a loss. Larry Miller of the Carolinas Chapter passed away Saturday, 11/20, after battling brain cancer. Larry and his wife Karen have been in charge of the logistics of the car show at the GSCA nationals for several years. He also has been quite the collector of Buicks. He'd always been quite friendly, and very informative. He will be missed.

We've had some future racers born since the last newsletter. On August 8, Caden Matthew came into this world for Kellie and Chris DeMik weighing in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces. And on September 11, Michael

Thomas Analitis was born to Tom and Debbie, weighing in at 4 pounds 11 ounces. All mothers are reported as doing fine. Thanks for the update!

And last but not least, on October 2, Mark Holda and Barbara Pedrak tied the knot. Big congratulations go to you two!

So in closing, I want to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season! And if there are ever any suggestions you want to make, or if you want to update me on your life, please email me at [sharib@chicagolandbuick.org](mailto:sharib@chicagolandbuick.org).

**Classifieds**

'69 GS Grill and Chrome Bar GS Emblem - \$200 or best offer.

'70-72 GM Driver-side Fender - \$500. firm.

Contact Johnny Gribble – 815-282-8217

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CCGSCA sweatshirts – grey or black in adult sizes - \$20

Will have available at January meeting if pre-ordered (or Christmas party)

[sharib@chicagolandbuick.org](mailto:sharib@chicagolandbuick.org) or 708-485-8477

**Mark your calendars for these important Buick events**

BCA National Meet – Batavia, NY	July 6-10, 2005
BPG Nationals – Salem, OH	August 10-14
BCA Heartland Regional – Chicagoland	August 17-21
Midwest Challenge – Morocco, IN	September 16-18

**World of Wheels**

*Chris Gatch*

We are looking for a few good cars! World of Wheels is right around the corner and we are looking for members who are willing to display their Buick this year at our display. We had a fantastic display last year and we are hoping to make it even better this year! World of Wheels is being held this year at McCormick Place East January 28th-30th. I have had many people ask me and express interest in this show and now is your chance to step forward and show off your Buick. If you are interested please contact me as soon as possible since we must register for club participation by November 25th.

The officers of the CCGSCA wished you a happy holiday season and new years.