



Al and Deb Martenz's GS at Beach Bend

Al Martinez bought his first Buick Grand National in 1987. He also became a GSCA member that same year. Since then, he has been a true Buick die-hard person all the way. Between him and his wife, Debbie, they now own 3 Buick GS's.

Al and Debbie met several years ago, and as love would have it, they married. When they first met, Al had his 1970 GS 455. The beast wasn't running because Al had taken his engine out. He was rebuilding the engine, and changing the combination. When Debbie first saw this GS 455, she fell in love with it. After they were married, the first Buick that they bought together was a 1967 GS 400, black on black, that they still own. This is their cruise nights and occasional night out on the town weekend car. The '67 GS is an all-stock vehicle. Al did have in mind to tweak it up a little, maybe just to kind of give it a little rumble. But after discussing it with Debbie, they both agreed to leave it as it is for now.

Now Debbie had wanted her own 70 GS that she could take to the track, race and have a little fun in. Deb said she thinks it would be awesome to get her GS running

fast enough where she would be able to race side by side with Al! Debbie has always had an interest in certain things automotive. As a young lady, she wanted to learn how to ride a motorcycle and to work on cars. She went to auto tech school and finished with flying colors. This has contributed to her working and Al working on cars together. She bought her first bike in 1976, and then in 1988 she bought a Kawasaki ZL 1000. These days, she no longer has her motorcycle, but still has the license. You never know when it will come in handy! She is hoping to one day get a 1200 Sportster Harley Davidson.

Al and Debbie try to make as many events as possible. Before they met, Debbie was a stay at home person. But since she met and married Al, she's been introduced to the world of Buicks and Buick events. She feels as if it was a breath of fresh air! She's never seen so many good looking and fast running cars all at one event. And now there's no stopping her. She just had her 1970 GS 455 newly painted – media blasted, a teal blue with ghost flames. It has a Stage II scoop, and a roll cage.

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**Please volunteer to become a Chapter Officer we need your help.**

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>

### 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 is up in June, 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

Contact Bob Nunes if you are interested in helping our Chapter continue our pursuit of Buick Motorsport activities for our members. It is very important to have fresh ideas introduced into the operation of the Club. Plus we need help to distribute the work so no volunteers get burned out. The tasks are easy generally fun and you will always have plenty of help.

### Upcoming Events

- June 9 Hondos Cruise & Eat In / Lake Como, WI
- June 17 Drive-In Movie Night at Cascade Drive In
- June 24 UPS Car Show, Hodgkins, IL
- June 30 2<sup>nd</sup> Race in CCGSCA Drag Race Series
- July 4, 2007 – Car Show in Woodridge, IL
- July 15 3<sup>rd</sup> Race in CCGSCA Drag Race Series
- Aug 4 BCA Loren Car Show
- Aug 5 Arthritis Car Show, Burr Ridge, IL
- Aug 3-5 BPG Buick Horsepower Nationals, Hebron Ohio
- Aug 18 4<sup>th</sup> Race in CCGSCA Drag Race Series
- Aug 22-25 BCA Hearthland Regional, Brookfield, WI
- Sep 7-9 Midwest Buick Challenge, Osceola, IN
- Oct 13 Buick-Olds-Pontiac Race, Cordova Dragway
- Oct 21 5<sup>th</sup> Race in CCGSCA Drag Race Series

Cover car Continued - The motor is a 455, of course. They are doing the finishing touches to it, and it should be up and running by the end of the summer.



Al took runner-up in this year's GSE class at the Nationals in Bowling Green! This was a little bit of a challenge because Al had to make a few modifications

to the car to fit the class. The car has to be all steel, no fiberglass. He had to steal seats from Deb's car, as he had race buckets. The car had to be street legal, also. To prove this, all the participants were led through the streets of Bowling Green – that must have been quite a parade! I wish I had seen it! To date, Al's best is 10.80 at 122 mph. But you know there's more to come....

Al and Deb are also the owners of a GM authorized apparel business called Exclusively Buick. They have done some awesome jackets with Buick logos – embroidered, not silk-screened. They have some really cool tee shirts and caps for sale – you might want to check out their website at [www.exclusivelybuick.co](http://www.exclusivelybuick.co)

If your address label indicates June 2007, it is time to renew

#### Directors Garage – Loyd Bonecutter

Cannot believe the GS Nationals have come and are a pleasant memory, with credit card bills to pay. The GS Nationals week is the longest vacation Shari and I take, although we do manage to get to a lot of Buick events in the course of the summer.

Chapter events this winter went quite well even with the Moose deciding we could no longer hold our Chilli Challenge on the premises. Really appreciated the 5 day notice. With many of our member's service providers deciding ChicagolandBuick.org sends spam, we can no longer send mass E-mails as a friendly reminder of a meeting or sudden change in plans. Thanks to Johnny Gribble and Dana and Liam who patiently waited at the Moose for members who did not get the word on the change for redirecting them to the Franklin Park Community Center. What a great place it turned out to be for our event. The February Meeting at John Spina's was excellent as always with John and Jimmy letting us know about the great things going on for our Buicks. Mike Phillips at the Chilli cook off helped our members who are considering updating their engines onto may tips and tricks that are very helpful.

As always the BOPC Swap Meet on March 25 was great. Nothing screamed buy me, but it quite warm and a great chance to catch up with folks we only see there or in the summer at car shows.

As Steve Kelly had invited us to the April 15<sup>th</sup> (whew already mailed in the taxes) WPC Show & Swap at Larry Roesch in Elmhurst we gave it a shot. Weather was great and the turn out was fantastic. The swap

meet was fun, but again nothing jumped out and said buy me. When you see this advertised in next year's newsletter, make it a point to come out. The April 21<sup>st</sup> Dyno day saw little carnage, with lots of great runs. Since Dennis sold the Stage engine producing 1040 HP there were no huge numbers, but quite a few respectable runs. Steve Pitts Jr destroyed the brakes, trying to build boost with the rear brakes on the dyno rollers. Excitement for the day. Steve Pitts Sr. had trouble with a distributor (yes an old fashioned distributor with wires coming out for each cylinder) install so missed the session. Steve Else in a recently acquired Turbo Trans Am laid down a 318HP & 350 torque pull. The original Paul brought out his Titian truck which surprised us all (255 HP 313 torque). Should be hard to beat when he starts hauling the GN to the various events. Rich Fitzmaurice was king of the hill with 446 HP & 446 torque from the beautiful gold GSX. Bill Grupp put on quite a show (345 HP & 367 torque) with the fresh Wagon Rick built engine. Gary Pote came out of hibernation and laid down a great 313 HP & 369 Torque with is 1967 GS with the 455. Finally Goe Garcia with his low mileage GN laid down a great 338 HP & 370 torque. Finally Dave Leonhart's nearly stock 1987 GN pulled 285 HP & 333 torque.

Samatha Rix's Memorial Race was the following Sunday. Joe Garcia and Paul DuBois did an excellent job of running the race. Would like to thank Tom and Carol for the great gift for the quickest overall combination of reaction time and closest to the ET. Rich George walked away with the reward.

**With the page nearly filled I see it is time to close.**

**Membership Scribbling**

Shari Bonecutter

Hi Everyone! It's hard to believe that June is almost here. I wish the weather was a little more co-operative. It will happen, I know. You just get a little impatient with the temperatures and the rain.

**Past Activities** - We had the chili contest, Technical Session and March meeting at the Franklin Park Recreational Center on March 11. We were supposed to be at the River Grove Moose Lodge - never again! They called and cancelled on us a week before - said it wasn't a family activity. Like playing poker and drinking is, huh? Needless to say we're done with that place. We had a pretty good turn out at the Rec Center. I want to thank Bob Nunes, Sr. for getting this place for us. He really came through at the last minute! We had 12 chilis turn up, with various stages of heat (spice) and ingredients. The winner of this year's traveling trophy is the **Sauce King** of Chicago himself, Frank Jackowiac. Guess what the secret ingredient was in his chili? Deb Martinez came in second and Paul Dubois came in third. Mike Phillips (and his wife Paula) from AMP came up from Philpot, KY to conduct a tech session. He did a pretty good job of questions and answers, I thought. I want to thank them for making the trip - it's always good to see them. I also need to thank Beth, Paul, Bob Sr. and Bob Jr. for setting things up. Also thanks to Mark for his humongous zip strips - we couldn't do this without them. And of course thanks go to all the chili contestants - I hope you all had as much fun as I did.

The April meeting/Dyno Day was held at ATR in Joliet. We had 14 cars put on the dyno, which was big fun, as far as I'm concerned! The King of the Hill that day turned out to be Rich Fitzmaurice's 1970 GS 455. It did 446 HP with 446 torque. We also held a business meeting while we all munched on pizza and drank soda. The day turned out to be a beautiful day, so it was almost like racing! Big thanks to Al and his crew for hosting us again.

A week later was the Samantha Rix Memorial Race at Byron, IL. First of all, we would like to thanks Tom and Carol Rix for their donation of a GSX diecast that will be given to Rich George for having the best collection of times in one run. The weather turned out to be wonderful - Sam did her magic for us! We had a nice turn out. Thanks for Paul Dubois for running the race, and for Joe Garcia for being the race chairman. The results are posted on our website - [chicagolandbuick.org](http://chicagolandbuick.org)

May 4<sup>th</sup> brought a new venue for us, a tour of the BP facility in Warrenville, IL. I didn't attend, but I heard it was pretty darned good for those that did. Bob Bezingue did a write up for the BCA newsletter, which we're going to borrow for ours. I know Loyd enjoyed it. Big thanks to Rich George for arranging this event, and following through with it.

**Member news** - Well, we did have another addition to the Buick family. Baby-wise, that is. On March 11, Dennis and Dana Butt welcomed Nathan Christopher! Nathan was 6 pounds 6 ounces and 18.5 inches long. All are doing well, although Dennis had to come to Bowling Green to get an 8-hour stretch of sleep! You know you're getting older when you look more forward to that than to partying!

**More new members** - the adult kind! Welcome to Raymond Schordie of Downers Grove, IL. Raymond doesn't have his dream car yet, but it's coming! John Samuel of Palatine has a 68 Skylark. The following have 1987 GN's: Dave Allen of Burr Ridge, Richard Diaz of Chicago, Eddie Mayr of Stickney, Mike Rampersaud of Joliet, and Michael Cobelli of Hanover Park. Maurice Ellis of South Holland has an '85 GN. Ajesh A. Parikh of Glenview has a '70 GS and Ed Phifer of Clinton, WI has a '72 GS. Welcome back to Harold Cox of Justice with an '84 T-Type and to Terry Grubich with a '70 GS 455. I hope you all get something good out of our club.

**License Plates** - I want to thank Paul Vilser for designing the plates. I also wanted to mention that we still have several sets of these for sale. This will be our last year for the plates. The State is changing the rules as we speak, and we feel that the integrity of the plates will change too much. (not enough room for the design) Also they will probably be in charge of distributing them next year, and you don't want them to do that. It's been a 12-year run, I think, and a fun one, too. It's always been cool to pick out the IL club members at Bowling Green or Salem. But I guess all good things have to come to an end. If you still want a set, please contact me at 708-485-8477.

**GSCA Nats at Bowling Green** - As always, Loyd and I had a blast!! The weather held for the most part. We had rain Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning. It stopped while we were at breakfast, and a cool front (alright, maybe cold) moved in. It's not often that we have to wear jackets down there! The rest of the week was sunny and breezy. You couldn't ask for better, I think!

You always hear about attendance being down but I certainly saw all the people I look forward to seeing, and the cars, too. I guess it's what you want to make of it.

I want to thank all of our club members that helped judge the car show for yet another year. This year Chris Gatch couldn't make it, so Steve Ledge and Steve Kelly stepped to the plate. Paul Vilser did a wonderful job with designing the judging pin. The Carolinas Chapter took care of registrations and getting folks into their classes, and some of the Indiana Chapter helped with the tallying and being a runner, as I was. It went smooth, as usual. We had a few members win trophies: John Lebetzki won first in the GS Hardtop class; Brad Berger won third in the GS convertible class; Clarence Harding took first in GS Street Machine; Paul Castle took first in GNX; and Srecko Nocakovic took first in Non-GS/GN Buick Powered. Congrats to all of you!

As far as racing, I've seen no official results posted yet. I do know that Walt Judy qualified for TSM by doing a 9.889 at 136.75 mph. His best to date is 9.844. You saw he and Keith Egan doing a lot of thrashing on his car that week! Walt was out in the first round, but the car is still together! So we'll see him at some other events, I'm sure.

I also know about Al Martinez finishing up as runner-up in the GSE class. That was so cool! I think that the amazing wheel-stand was done by Mike Zaffino, who then hurt the oil pan coming down. But I've not had this confirmed yet. Rod Hendrickson also did a new record - 7.480, which was the fastest of the event. Junior from the Outlaws made the Big Gun Shoot-Out formed by Lawrence Conley - he did an 8.601. Congrats to everyone! And I will hopefully get more results.

We still have some tee-shirts left from Bowling Green, all of them size L or XL, for \$15 a shirt. We have hats available, too - same price. If you're coming to an event, let me know ahead of time if you want a shirt. I will have them at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July car show, and the Midwest Challenge, if need be.

**Midwest Buick Challenge** - We're really promoting the heck out of this event this year. This is the tenth year for it! We moved it from US 41 in Morocco, IN to Osceola Dragway in Osceola, IN. Why, you might ask? Because US 41 has no concept of customer service and we've finally had it. When a track closes down for 90 minutes for lunch - that sucks. It also started test and tune late, and closed us down earlier than advertised for Saturday. We won't even go into not racing at all on Sunday. We've heard more stories about how they treat the customer, too, and we're done. Soooooo - while Osceola might be a little farther away - 50 miles, we've been told - we've also heard good things about how they work together with people. That's the way it should be.

The dates are September 7-9, 2007. We're hoping to get a few host hotels together in Elkhart or Mishawaka, because there is no camping at the track and we'll need extra parking. We're going to try to get a Friday night cruise night together for those that don't want to go to the track, at a drive inn known for their ice cream. There are also plenty of restaurants and bars in the area, too.

Saturday is the day we have the track. We're going to have TSO and TSM races that day, along with a Gambler's race and a Ladies race. Plus plenty of test and tune. Sunday is the actual race day for bracket racing - 2 brackets, by the way - and a Quick 16 or whatever. We've already been in touch with sponsors at Bowling Green, and a lot of them are enthused. Oh - and did I mention free vending spots and swap spaces? And some neat prizes for the car show? Like I said, we want to make this a great event for it's 10<sup>th</sup> year!

So in closing, I hope to see you at some of the events on Chris' schedule. I'm looking forward to the cruise to Hondo's at Lake Como, WI and the Drive Inn night. I'm also looking forward to the races - this should be a fun summer!

Everyone take care and stay safe!

Please be sure to remove you Chicagoland GSCA plates on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The State is getting weird about these plates when expired on our cars. Has to do with the toll road revenues of course. Please do not get caught with an expired Gorilla Day or GSCA plate on your car.

**CCGSCA 2007 Racing Series Events (underlined are CCGSCA race series)**June 30th - CCGSCA Race #2, Great Lakes Dragway (Saturday Night)(Cookout)July 15th - CCGSCA Race #3, Byron Dragway (MegaBux Race)(Cookout)August 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> - BPG Buick Horsepower Nationals, Hebron OhioAugust 18<sup>th</sup> - CCGSCA Race #4, Great Lakes Dragway(Saturday Night)(Cookout)September 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> - Midwest Buick Challenge, Osceola Dragway, IndianaOctober 13<sup>th</sup> - BuickOldsPontiac, Cordova Dragway, Cordova IllinoisOctober 21<sup>st</sup> - CCGSCA Race #5, Byron Dragway - Final**CCGSCA Cruise/Car Show Schedule 2007**

Here you go Buick Boys &amp; Girls! Another year is here to have fun at car shows and cruise nights!

**CCGSCA Cruise Night #1**

Monday June 4th, 5pm to 9pm

@ Dominick's Shopping Plaza on the corner of 31st St. &amp; Wolf Road, Westchester

Food, Fun &amp; Burnouts!

**BOP Cruise Night Downtown Mt. Prospect**

Saturday June 9th, 6pm to 9pm

@ Metra Parking Lot on the corner of Rt. 83 &amp; N.W. Highway

<http://www.mpdma.org/bluesmobile.html>**Club Picnic (sorta)**

Saturday June 9th

Hondo's Bar &amp; Grill - 11am til?

W3860 Lake Shore Drive Lake Como, Wisconsin

They will be serving dinner to purchase @ 4pm

**Drive-In Movie Night**

Cascade Outdoor Theater

Saturday June 16th

We will plan to meet at Augustino's Deli on the corner of Rt. 59 &amp; Rt.64 @ 5:30pm then cruise tp drive in together around 7pm

<http://www.cascadedrivein.com/index.html>**Lyons Fathers Day Car Show**

Sunday June 17th, 8am to 3:30pm

Ogden Avenue &amp; Joliet Road, Lyons, IL

Registration fee required

**Buick Cruise Night Downtown Lockport**

Monday June 18th, 6:30pm to 9:30pm

State &amp; 9th Street, Lockport

<http://www.rallycruises.com>**BOP Cruise Night Downtown Elmhurst**

Wednesday June 20th, 7pm to 9pm

Charter One Bank Parking Lot

First &amp; Addison, Just South of the Tracks

<http://www.elmhurstcitycentre.com/sp/coolcars.html>**CCGSCA Cruise Night #2**

Tuesday June 26th, 5pm to 9pm

@ Wendy's on the corner of 79th St. &amp; Harlem Avenue,

**Bridgeview****Woodridge Gorilla Days**

Wednesday, July 4th, 10am to 4pm

Wilton Industries, I-355 &amp; 75th Street, Woodridge, IL

<http://www.july4thcarshow.com>**Augustino's Rock-N-Roll Deli BOP Cruise Night**

Tuesday July 10th, Time 5pm-9pm

Route 59 @ Route 64, West Chicago, IL 60185

<http://www.doublekproductions.com>**Braconi's Pizza BOP Cruise Night**

Wednesday July 11th, Time 5pm-9pm

@ Cross Creek Shopping Center, Naperville

Off Ogden Ave. between Mill St. &amp; River Road

<http://www.doublekproductions.com>**CCGSCA Cruise Night #3**

Thursday July 12th, 5pm to 9pm

Burlington Avenue, Downtown Riverside IL.

<http://www.showcaseclassics.com>**Franklin Park Car Show**

Friday July 27th, 6pm to 9pm

Downtown Franklin Park

Registration Fee Required

**Rookies Buick Cruise Night**

Monday July 30th, Time 5pm-9pm

2 Blocks East of Randall Road on West Main (Rt. 64), St. Charles, IL 60174

<http://www.doublekproductions.com>**BPG Buick Horsepower Nationals**

August 3rd thru 5th

National Trail Raceway, Hebron, Ohio

<http://www.buickperformancegroup.com/>**Loren Buick**

Free show hosted by the BCA

Saturday August 4th, 8am to 3pm

1620 Waukegan Road, Glenview, IL 60025

**Arthritis Foundation 4th Annual Car Show**

Sunday August 5th, 9am-3pm

Burr Ridge, IL

Registration Fee Required

