# CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER BUICK GSCA

Summer 2013 Chapter of the **Gran Sport Club of America**; 625 Pine Point Circle; Valdosta, GA 31602



Ed Wolters 1971 GS 455

Ed Wolters is a charter member of the Harder's Gang, with the majority graduating from Timothy Christian in the early 1980s. When Brian Henricksen purchased the Harder's Garage in 1989, this group of old friends resumed their craft by tinkering with Buicks. Ed initially purchased his dream car with a big block and manual four speed in a 1970 Pontiac Grand Prix, which the group accepted a worthy of their attention. Ed babied this car and Brian kept it in top shape for Ed.

Fast forward to the GS Nationals in October 2011, Ed purchased a GS hat and sweatshirt at the Chicagoland Chapter and declared he would purchase a GS to go with the hat. As many of us know when you first start looking for a 40 year old car, there are a few to be found and many leave a lot to be desired, for the asking price. There were many Gran Sports looked at, with disappointing results. Finally a friend of Dan Rocco's said his brother Don might consider selling his GS. Don the previous owner purchased the 1971 GS 455 with automatic transmission at Volo in 1990. It was driven for a number of years when it was decided to have the engine and transmission rebuilt before dismantling the car for a repaint in 1996. The entire undercarriage was treated to cleaning and POR15 back to the gas tank. The car was also treated to a complete front end rebuild, stainless steel exhaust system, and new painless wiring harness for the engine bay. The red paint was stripped and car put into primer with dog house removed and new core support added. At this point the responsibilities of a young family and a Harley Davidson motorcycle drew Don's attention and the GS sat in the garage. Don's brother had begged for the GS to be completed a number of times over the years, and finally asked Dan Rocco to find a good home for it. So in when Ed announced his disgust with the GSs available to purchase, Dan told him of this available car. In February 2012 upon seeing the GS for the first time Ed was intimidated, as it seemed a lot of work needed to be done. Continued on page 3

912-244-0577

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:

Denise Plencner – Membership Chairman Chicagoland Chapter GSCA 3405 104<sup>th</sup> Street Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

#### **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 January, June will be your last newsletter. Obtain an application from the website or past issue, and mail to 3405 104th Street; Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158, along with a check for \$20 made out to "CCGSCA." Please don't let your membership lapse, for too long.

## Volunteers for the Chapter

Contact Bob Nunes if you are interested in helping our Chapter continue exchange ideas, gathering local car show and cruise night information or plan activities for our members. Fresh ideas are needed to keep the Club exciting. Distributing the work among many volunteers makes it easy for all. The tasks do not take much of your time, and you will always have plenty of help, while hopefully having fun.

### Upcoming Events

Jun 2 – Samantha Rix Memorial Race – Byron Dragway Jun 15 – Turbo Buick Picnic – Busse Woods-Elk Grove VIIge Jun 16 - Lyons Fathers Day Car Show – Lyons, IL (Fee) Jun 23 – CCGSCA Race 3 & BOP day at Great Lakes Dragway Jun 23 – BOPC-GS-GTO Car Show & Picnic–Blackberry Farm Jun 27 – CCGSCA Race 4 (Saturday) at Great Lakes Dragway Jul 4 – Car Show in Sleepy Hollow Jul 28 – Rizza Buick/Cadillac Car Show - Tinley Park, IL Aug 2-3 – BPG Nationals – National Trail Raceway Aug 3 – BCA Car Show at Woody Buick - Naperville, IL Aug 4 - Buick Show at Woody Buick GMC – Naperville, IL Aug 10 - Drive-In Movie Night – Cascade Drive Inn Aug 22-24 – Midwest Buick Challenge – Osceola Dragway Sep 8 - CCGSCA Race 5 & BOP day at Bryron Dragway Sep 9 – Buick Race Day Rain Date – Norwalk, OH Sep 28 - CCGSCA Race 6 (Saturday) at Bryron Dragway Oct 16-19 - GS Nationals - Bowling Green, KY

Page 3

Continued from Page 1 Only being able to see the front and one side as the car Ed was not convinced it was a good buy. Pete Van Tholen then brought in his friend Bob of Bob's Body Craft, who declared the GS very sound and a great purchase.



The next problem was transport of a non-running car in many pieces, so again Pete offered his services of an enclosed trailer to move the car and associated parts if purchased. The final concern was putting the jig saw puzzle of parts together of which Brian, Steve, Pete and Dan Rocco declared not to be a problem; they will all step in and help complete the car, as a team project.

So the decision was made and the car went straight from the garage it had sat in for the past 16 years to Bob's Body Craft on 47th Street in Brookfield. Ed declared he was in no hurry and Bob had a lot of insurance work arriving so it took a couple of months to paint and assemble the front fenders and hood on the car to the level of perfection Bob insisted on. Although the car seemed to have a good foundation for paint, Bob insisted on taking it back down to metal to be sure the primer would be compatible and support his paint. Being originally a vinyl top car, and Ed wanted the cleaner look of a painted top there were literally hours of work in making the rough looking top, smooth.

In the meantime the bright work was brought to Harder's and Ed's assignment was to start cleaning and polishing all the pieces. Often when a piece would really not clean up, out of Brian's inventory came a better part. One concern of Brian's was the state of the heater core and blower motor. These should be changed while the front end was disassembled. Thank goodness after the car was painted, but before assembly Pete visited the car as it was across the street from where he works, and noted the heater core was leaking. This provided the opportunity for these buried items to be changed out before the front end was assembled.



Two months later the Lime Mist GS was brought back to Harder's where the fun began. Brian had staged the bright work and every Saturday Ed had a project on the car to complete. Ed soon realized there was a lot of work being done during the week, between his project sessions, accelerating the pace to complete the car considerably. Ed gives a lot of credit to Brian, and Pete in particular and the rest of the Gang who lent a hand. In addition to assembly, maintenance of a car that had sat for 16 years had to be considered. The master cylinder and wheel cylinders received service with the brakes bled. The fuel system needed attention as the transmission and differential. Brian pulled a taillight wiring harness form his stash of parts to complete the wiring. All this work resulted in a car Brian declared road worthy by June.

Now the modifications started as Steve declared the Edelbrock carburetor has to go and here is an SP1 manifold to put Dan Rocco's Holly 850 carburetor on. Perry Carlini came up with an Auburn Posi unit and Brian had some 3.73 gears for the 3.08 open differential housing. The car seemed to operate a little warm so a TA Performance long neck water pump was added to aid the cooling. This winter saw a new alternator and mechanical gages as there seems to be a instrument panel wiring issue leading to erroneous readings.

As you can see this turned out to be a quite the beautiful addition to the Harder's Gang collection of cars. Ed now owns one great looking Gran Sport.

Thanks Ed and the Harder's Gang for restoring this car

#### Director's Garage

Loyd Bonecutter

Well spring has finally spring, we have gone from permafrost to a most welcome heat wave. I even broke down and turned on the central air conditioning on the second to last week of May.

Although chilly we pressed on with our spring activities. The February 23 & 24 Drag Race Expo February 24 BOPC Swap Meet brought out clear days for these much needed winter diversions. The March 10<sup>th</sup> Chili cook off meeting drew lots of great food to sample. A few members brought out their cars which was great to see. Brad Berger mentioned the winning recipe should be published in this newsletter, which is a great idea, but difficult to wrestle the recipes from the champions.

April 13 brought us much nicer weather for our Turbo Cliff Memorial Dyno Day. The pizza was fantastic and the day filled with a combination of great running Buicks and other interesting automobiles. Thanks to all who supported this great event.

Buick Race Day's show car Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> had the nicest weather so far in the year, that brought out plenty of great Buicks to the Arby's in Norwalk, with Roberta, Bill and Norma putting on a great show. Unfortunately the persistent rain the following day washed out the racing, which is rescheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup>. Roberta and Bill have a full weekend planned so come out for the weekend.

Bob Nunes and I, had a chance to attend the TurboBuick-dot-Com G-Body Nationals in Burlington, NC. This is a laid back event hosted by Shawn Grimm and Clint Atkins at Richard Clark's place in Burlington, NC and Piedmont Dragway. There is always a beehive of activity as cars are being dyno tuned, repaired, upgraded and broken again as raced at the nearby eighth mile Piedmont Dragway. Venders were well represented offering deals on replacement or upgrade parts. This is well worth the trip, when you have a chance.

Very sad to see the announcement Mike Prybell put on Facebook about Joe Cool's passing on May 4, 2013. J He was a great guy and loyal Buick enthusiast. There will be a memorial service for Joe on Friday June 14th at 4 pm at the Worth United Methodist Church at 7100 W. 112th St. in Worth.

Received an E-mail from Prasad that Benny Galvin is putting on a Turbo Buick Picnic at Busse Woods on June 15, 2013. This will be a bring your own food event, but the folks and Buicks will be fantastic. This is an event to attend if you are a Turbo Buick fan.

I've just realized the Samantha Rix Memorial Race is this weekend and this newsletter may not make it to the publisher with enough time for mail delivery before the race. There is on ad that was promised and an article or two that is not ready. I am hoping the newsletter will be available to pass out to the racers this weekend.

We welcome Joe Rivecco back after a couple of years of not renewing. It was great seeing John Hixon and Joe at our first Race at Route 66, on May 11th. After two years of trying for a race there Race Chairman Joe Garcia finally pulled one off with 21 Buicks attending in spite of threatening rains. This was fun and hope Route 66 will have us back.

Please note the ad for Dennis Parus, of Ride on Appraisers, that I omitted from the last newsletter. Dennis has been kind enough to speak at our last two Chili Cookoffs, and is offering a price break if a bunch of us get together this summer for a group appraisal session.

So far the weather has been on the cool side or raining for our events. Here is to a great season of Buick Motorsport events.

Please take a look at the expiration date on your mailing label. If it says 2012 this may be your last newsletter.

#### Membership Welcome

We would like to welcome the following new members into the club: Mike Hugh from Chicago who owns a 1968 GS400 and a 1972 GS Riviera; Chris Kober from Mundelein who owns a 1989 Turbo Trans AM; Gillbert Volling from Lake Villa who owns a 1964 Riviera, a

Denise's

1969 GS400, a 1983 Riviera and a 1986 GN; Bob Smith from Carpentersville who has a 1987 Regal Turbo T and finally, Francisco Torres from Oak Lawn who has a 1987 Regal Turbo. We look forward to seeing all of you, and your cars, at some of the upcoming events and races!

Please contact Bob Nunes if interested in helping the Chapter. New ideas and ways of doing things are welcome.

Membership Dribblings by Beth Andrews March 10th was our Meeting/ Chili Cook-Off. We had a good turnout, 50 people signed in I think there was closer to 60 though. We had 14 different chilies, 3 of which were gluten free and you would have never known except for the sign Linda made (Thanks Linda).	<ul> <li>1st place – Jack Fisher, he gets to keep the chef hat for a year and adorn it with a decoration of his choosing and received a \$50.00 gift card to Outback Steakhouse.</li> <li>2nd place went to Frank Jackowiak, he received a \$25.00 gift card to Panera bread Co.</li> </ul>		
Frank Jackowiak informed us the Local 150 Food Bank has closed. Without the food bank, the Local 150 our Fourth of July Car Show partner will no longer support the show. Therefore we have a new place for the 4th of July Car Show. Sabatino Park, 38 Thorobred Lane, Sleepy Hollow, IL.* Thanks to Bill Grupp. See the flier	<ul> <li>3rd place went to Barb Holda, she received a \$25.00 gift card to Cracker Barrel.</li> <li>Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who made chili.</li> <li>I would like to say a big THANK YOU to: Steve Kelly,</li> </ul>		
in this newsletter. Dennis Parus, of Ride on Appraisers spoke about how importance an appraisal is for our muscle cars, especially if something were to happen and you	<ul> <li>Barb Holda, Paul &amp; Linda Brelie, Bob Nunes, Dana Andrews, Denise Plencner &amp; Cindy Garcia. All of your help was and is appreciated tremendously.</li> <li>I would also like to thank Dave L. (Camper Dave) for bringing donuts to each tech session &amp; meeting, you're a good man for feeding us Dave.</li> </ul>		
needed to replace your car. Michael Baker, of Michael Baker Agency, Inc., spoke to us about the different insurances we can get on our			
muscle cars and that our race cars can be covered at a racer event, in the pits, staging lanes, return road, just not while racing on the track.	April 12th was our Spring Dyno Day, we had a good turnout, 56 people signed in. A couple of cars could not be dynode due to not place to strap them down (Non- Buicks). I know Loyd had fun on the dyno with his new		
Mike Philips of AMP, spoke on all the latest and greatest ways he can make your Buick go faster for you. Talking allot about bearing clearance and how to make sure you use the right oil. You have to have good pressure on start up, get oil to #8 (for you big blockers out there). Mike also made Dan Rocco a happy camper by delivering his engine Saturday (3/9).	toy an, 08 Trailblazer SS, it put out 369 HP. The crew at Sound Performance are great and we really enjoy having our dyno sessions there. I would like to send a HUGE Thank You to Melanie Mauser & Steve Kelly for going out and getting the lunch for everyone, it was very appreciated, also thank you for helping out. Thank you also goes to Barb Holda, Paul Brelie, Bob		
Our winners for the chili cook off were:	Nunes, Bill Grupp & Dana Andrews. If I have forgotten anyone, feel free to kick me when you see me next		
We need a turbo Regal for the next issue. Please let one of us know if you want your car in print			
Route 66 Dragway Joe Garcia Kudos to Route 66 for being a great host. They really could not have been nicer to us. They gave us unlimited time runs before qualifying. They stayed on schedule as promised and with the help of track personnel and members of our group things went pretty good considering the computer glitches. I have to agree Route 66 is a really nice facility.	up. Subsequent issues with the ladder were absorbed by our racers with mixed pairings, etc. All our guys really cooperated and went along with an alternate game plan to expedite the race. Thank you to all our racers for that. John Hixon helped out in more ways than one and I personally want to thank him also. John Hixon and the Rocco crew held a nice big pit area for all of us to park. Dave and Bob Nunes collected		
Tech was fast and fair to all of us. We did have issues with the ladder and the track's computer system but I'm not sure everybody knew that was going on. The computer went haywire with the ladders, but not only with us but with Top Sportsman also. The computer kept dropping names and incorrect pairings on the ladder. I spent WAY too much time in the tower than I needed. It took an hour to figure out the first round line	money, Cindy ran around to the racers asking questions and then relaying the information to me in the tower. Thank goodness for cell phones. Although things were hectic, I think we all had a good race day. Race #1 Results Summary: Rich George Winner John Hixon- Top Qualifier / Scott Pitts- Reaction Time Mike Zaffino Run on Dial-in 6.06/6.06		



Buicks Staging at Route 66

Our Members' Column Bob Nunes

I have been thinking of adding a new column to our newsletter but I am going to need your help. I would like it to be your stories of funny things that have happened to you or some one you know. I would especially like to hear from wives or girlfriends. It does not have to be about Buicks as that would restrict the column. So you see why I need your help. I only have so many stories. I will start with one and we will see how it goes. I would like to call it "Our Members' Column".

About five years ago my wife and I were at a car show at J.C. Whitney and they had an offer for anyone who brought a car, a discount on any parts purchased.

My wife had been complaining that she would get confused about what direction she would be going when driving. I decided to buy her a compass. I bought the best one they had. When I got home, it was late on a Saturday night so on Sunday I put the compass in and followed the instructions. It said to go into a parking lot where there would be plenty of room.'

Directions: Come to a complete stop facing N-S-E or W, (I was facing South). Push a button once and make two complete turns either left or right and stop facing

the same direction you started and then push the same button. I followed all the direction and the compass read NW. I wondered what I was doing wrong so for the next 2 hours I followed the directions, starting from every direction but every time I stopped the compass read NW.

Becoming frustrated, I went home and told Carol that I had bought a piece of junk. I tried it numerous times the next day and then I gave up.

I called J.C. Whitney and the young lady who answered asked if she could help me. I told her about the car show and that I purchased the compass and what a piece of junk it was. She was surprised as they had never had any complaints about this item. She told me to send it back and they would send me a new one.

A couple of days later I was taking my wife to the doctor but we were early so we stopped for breakfast. I parked in the lot facing east looking into the sun when I noticed a piece of plastic sticking up in the corner of the compass. I reached up and peeled it off the compass. The compass read East. The plastic film I pulled off read "NW protective cover".

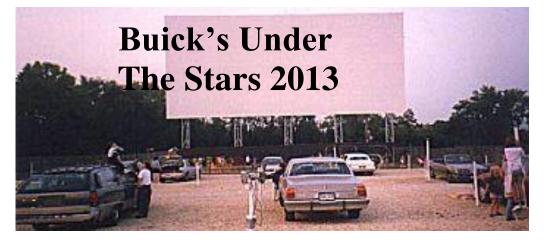
Thanks to Chris Gatch here is a list of cruises for the next few months. CCGSCA Cruise Night - Monday June 10<sup>th</sup> 5pm to 9 pm - 31<sup>st</sup> St. & Wolf Road, Westchester, IL Buick & Cadillac Cruise Night - Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm to 9:00pm - Downtown Frankfort, IL BOP Cruise Night - Monday June 24<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm to 9:00pm - Rookies; 1545 W. Main; St. Charles, IL BOP Cruise Night - Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm to 9:00pm - Rookies; 12220 Princeton Dr.; Huntley, IL BOP Cruise Night - Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>, 6pm to 9pm - First & Addison; Downtown Elmhurst (south of tracks) CCGSCA Cruise Night - Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup>, 6pm to 9pm - 17 East Burlington St., Downtown Riverside CCGSCA Cruise Night with BCA - Tuesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 6pm to 10pm - 17147 S. Oak Park Ave. Tinley Park, IL Brookfield Car Show - Sunday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 9am to 5pm - Grand Blvd., Maple Ave. & Broadway Ave; Brookfield, IL CCGSCA Cruise Night - Thursday August 6<sup>th</sup>, 6pm to 9pm - Toyota Park 7100 South Harlem Avenue, Bridgeview BOP Cruise Night - Thursday August 13<sup>th</sup>, 5pm to 9pm - Office Bar & Grill; 4901 Cal Sag Road, Crestwood, IL <u>CCGSCA Cruise Night -</u> Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 6pm to 9pm - 6906 Windsor Ave., Downtown Berwyn, IL



# Car Show / Picnic 100 S. Barnes Road, Aurora, IL 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - June 23

Car Show welcomes Buick, Buick Gran Sport, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, GTO, Cadillac Clubs and ALL MAKES 1993 and earlier! Vintage motorcycles and vintage trucks are welcome too. A \$10 fee includes the driver and 2 passenger's entrance into the park. Additional passengers in the car are \$4.50 each. Food is available at the summer kitchen.





Drive-In Movie Night Cascade Outdoor Theater Saturday August 10 7pm www.cascadedrivein.com

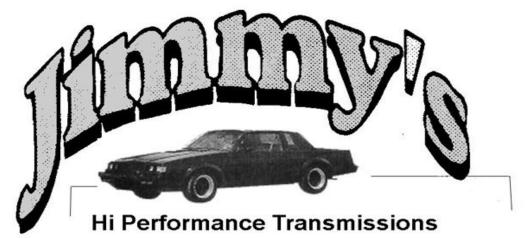
We plan on meeting at Augustino's Rock-N-Roll Deli around 5:30 which is located on the corner of Route 59 & North Avenue so that we can get a bite to eat drive in together around 7:00 or so with the show starting around 8:30pm.

1/2 mile east of Rt. 59 on North Avenue, West Chicago, IL \$9.00 per person / \$5.00 for Kids 5-11 Kids under 5 and pets are always free! I don't know what the double feature will be but I'm sure that you will have a great time! Plan on bringing a chair (because we like to sit out and talk) and your classic car to this event, as we will have the spots reserved in front for the show cars.

I hope to see you out there! For further information please contact Chris Gatch @ (312) 485-2983

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Busse Woods Forest Preserve / Ned Brown Preserve Grove # 1 Elk Grove Road north of Higgins Road Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Well the weather seems to be in our favor now. Its time to get our cars out, go cruising and enjoying them along side our other brothers and sisters. Grove 1 is north on Elk Grove Road off Higgins Rd near Arlington heights Rd. It is very accessible from the 290 or the 90 expressway.

Bring your car, friends, and your best stories. Please bring whatever you wish to eat and drink (no Liquor allowed in the forest preserve) or there is a Portillo's fairly close if you wish to get food there.

There are a few new GN owners planning to come and they have a few questions so we will try and get them answered.

There have been a few of us cruising together. I know there are more wanting to do so we will talk about that too, any questions please email, or call me.

Benny / (773) 251 8198 / Silverbulletgn@yahoo.com

Grove 1







We have changed the name of our event to the Shari Bonecutter MWBC, to honor Shari. This event was her baby, she worked hard to make it a great time for everyone who attended.

It's also our 16th year.

August 23 - 25 2013 Osceola Indiana Osceola Dragway ~ 56328 Ash Rd.

Classes to be run: THS, BCO, B1, B2, Ladies, Q8. Test & Tune also

Come on out, race your Buick and have fun as we raise our glasses to Shari after the race is done.



See John and Justin's shop at our January Meeting



# 23<sup>th</sup> Annual





# RESCHEDULED

## Summit Motorsports Park - Norwalk, Ohio

Friday, September 6 Time Trials - Qualifying Gates Open 5:00pm Time Trials 6:00pm - 11:00 pm Race or Watch: \$12, Child 6-12: \$5

Vendors and Swappers Welcome! More Racing – Regular Saturday Race Program September 7

 Gates open at 8 AM

 Time trials 9 AM Racing Starts at 7PM

 Super Pro C&D (7.00 – 11.99)\$30
 Pro C&D (8.00 – 13.99) No Delay Boxes,etc...\$30

 Sportsman C&D (12.00 – 19.99).....\$20
 Stock C&D.....\$15

 Adult ...\$15, Child 6-12...\$5, Child Under 6....FREE

Sunday, September 8

Summit Motorsports Park -- Norwalk, Ohio

(cash payouts and trophies will be awarded) Open to all BUICK Powered Vehicles Only!

"Quick 16" Program with Cash Payouts

(Quick 16 - Requested to Pre-enter)

Ladies and 2-Bracket Races, TSO, TSM, THS & 2nd Chance Race

Delay boxes allowed only in Quick 16.

#### GATES OPEN at 8:00 AM

(Pre-entry Closes August 213)

Race Pre-entry Race Day Entry 10x20 Vendor Space Spectators/Pit Crew Children 6-12 ust 213) \$30/Car & Driver \$50/Car & Driver \$30/Space \$15 each \$5 Each

- For More Information -

Roberta Vasilow (810) 655-8277 Michigan email: buickracer@comcast.net Bill Wills (330) 747-1029 Ohio email: skylarkwilly@aol.com

Hotels: Best Western - Norwalk 419-663-3501 All American Inn – Norwalk 419-663-1922

Booking Code: Buick Race Day Track questions - Please call 419-668-5555 Vendors and Swappers Welcome!



michael@michaelbakeragency.com

# Michael Baker

4230 C Westbrook Dr., Aurora, IL 60504 Phone (630) 820-8696 Fax (630) 820-8635 www.michaelbakeragency.com







July 4th Car Show

Formerly the Gorilla Days & Local 150 Food Bank July 4th Car Show.

Join us at our new location, Sabatino Park, 38 Thorobred Ln, Sleepy Hollow, IL.



Food, Games, Dunk Tank, Live Music, Beer Garden and other Entertainment throughout the afternoon at the Sleepy Hollow Fourth of July Festival.

The same crew that has run the car show for the past 19 years will be there again to greet you. The Chicagoland Chapter of the GSCA



FOR GENERAL INFORMATION CONTACT SEAN RYDER - gbsean@optonline.net