



Gateway Gazette

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Louis Chapter

BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Volume XXVII, No.8 August 2008

Member Spotlight



Spotlight on Ed Keil



This month's "Member Spotlight" focuses on Ed Keil. He currently owns a 1972 Buick Riviera 2dr Sedan and a 1972 Chevy El Camino SS. Ed has been in the old car hobby for at least 31 years and has had several old cars during that time. When asked which was his favorite car ever, he said a 1967 Chevy Corvette. Ed owned this 1967 Vet for 26 years, and when asked why it was his favorite, besides owning it for 26 years, he said it was such a rush to drive. This Vet was one of only 850 built that year with a 427 CI engine that developed 435 HP.

Ed has been a member of the Gateway Buick Club for 17 years, joining in July 1991. Ed was secretary of the Club for five years. And as most of you know, Ed is quite the detail man in our Club. If you want to know something about the history of the Club or anything about the Club's by-laws, you ask Ed. Ed did help put together and later revise the current Club bylaws. He has served the Club in many capacities, including having been a board member for several years. Ed helped organize and worked on all three of the large Buick car shows that we have hosted and has served on countless committees. If we had a Club full of Ed's, there would be nothing this Club couldn't do. Thanks Ed for all you do and have done!

Besides his old cars, Ed likes genealogy. He has traced his German family history back to the 1600's, eleven generations. Ed was active in the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts of America and

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**Next Meeting – September 4
FENTON BAR & GRILL, 701 RUDDER ROAD**

Director's Message

Hi All,

Past Events:

On August 3rd, Culus Jones, Barb and myself headed out to Washington, MO, to do a parade. We had the privilege to transport the Grand Marshals. This year the parade honored WWII veterans in coordination with Honor Flight, which is a group that helps WWII veterans travel to Washington, DC to see the WWII Memorial. The vets were well received and I heard a lot of applause for them. Many thanks were shouted, signs of thanks displayed, many salutes and thumbs up from the crowd. The veterans truly enjoyed the experience and many were amazed at the appreciation expressed along the parade route.

The veteran I had in my car served in the Navy in the Pacific. Upon completing the parade the veteran said thanks for the driving him in the parade. I immediately replied "No, thank you for all you did to make sure this day could happen! What a great day!

We just returned from the Heartland Regional held August 21 – 24. From our Club, Bill and Ginny Landers, Paul and Mary Ann Meyer, Mike Marx and Barb and myself attended.

This year, there were two days of touring and a one-day car show. On Thursday, the early tour was a trip to the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, which includes a 1000-plus acre ranch with a large stone ranch home. Hopefully, Bill got some photos as my camera was setting on my desk back in St. Louis.

After lunch at the Hayes House, a historic restaurant and tavern dating back to 1857, we caravanned to a decommissioned missile base, which had been turned into a home. This was quite an experience. The place was massive and was turned into a home and a HUGE workshop. Our host and homeowner was very entertaining. I can't even begin to explain the place without pictures. Ask me at the next meeting, and I'll give you my thoughts on the visit.

A true highlight of Thursday was seeing over 20 Buicks cruising through the countryside. The group consisted of cars from 1930 (Mike Marx) to the

1980s. What a sight! Hope everyone gets a chance to go on a tour like that!

The Friday morning tour was a short drive to the Kansas state capital, which included a nice stair climb! We hiked up 296 steps to the outside of the very top of the dome. This was the highest spot in Topeka and you could see about 40 miles. The view outside was great, but of equal interest for me was the construction of the dome itself. The dome you see on the inside is not the dome you see on the outside. There are actually two domes: the one you see from inside the building is used to funnel hot air up into the second dome, which you see from the outside.

Later that day we had a tour of a private car and toy collection.

Saturday we had a peer judged show the banquet. Paul and Bill both brought home awards.

Upcoming events you may be interested in:

NOSTALGIC SKY VIEW DRIVE-IN CAR CRUISE HOSTED BY LAKER'S CAR CLUB Saturday, August 30, 2008, from 6pm – dusk.

First 200 participants will receive a **commemorative SKYVIEW THEATRE DASH PLAQUE. FREE ADMITTANCE to each driver of Classic, Custom or Street Rod.** 50's and 60's D.J. Music. Attendance Prizes. 50/50 Drawing. If you've never been to a Drive-in Cruise, you need to attend this fun night at the movies with so many others. Don't forget to bring along your FM portable or use your car radio. Some of the 200+ participants from last years' cruise! [View](#) here. For info call: (618) 233-4400. Located at 5700 North Belt West.

12TH ANNUAL WALTER F. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL OLD CARS AGAINST CANCER WHEELS IN MOTION DAY

Sunday September 7, 2008, from 9am – 4pm

Try to get there by 10!

[Westport Plaza](#)

Westport Plaza Dr.

St. Louis, Missouri 63146

The Club makes sno-cones and the donations we receive go to the National Children's Cancer Society, Inc.

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Member Spotlight (Continued)

served as Assistant Scout Leader for several years.

Ed has been and still is involved with civic work within the City of Florissant. He has volunteered his services in making videos for the Florissant Fire Department about the history of the fire department and the firemen that make up this group. Also, Ed has helped with landmark properties in Florissant, getting together the history of some of the old buildings.

Ed graduated from Rolla, MO, earning a BS degree in chemical engineering. He worked as a chemical engineer for McDonald Douglas for 35 years. His assignments included propulsion systems and aeronautical structural testing.

Ed and Nancy have been married for 54 years and have six children – five boys and one daughter (now you know why he was in the Boy Scouts); 16 grandchildren and one great grandchild. Ed was drafted into the Army and served from 1953 to 1955. He did most of his enlistment at Ft. Benning, GA, where he trained officers in field communication. Thanks Ed for your service to our country!

Contributed by Steve Dodson

Director's Message (Continued)

All proceeds benefit children in their fight with cancer (National Children's Cancer Society, Inc.). Great entertainment! Brats - Burgers – Drinks!! No alcoholic beverages allowed!!!

Car registration: \$15.00 per car at event. First 150 cars receive a commemorative dash plaque.

Happy Buicking!

Bob

Meeting Minutes, August 7, 2008

Location: The August 2008 meeting was held on

Thursday, Aug. 7, 2008, at Fenton Bar & Grill. Roughly 27 members attended and no guests were present.

The Club meeting was facilitated by Bob Brasses, Director.

Minutes from the July 2008 meeting were accepted as printed in the *Gateway Gazette*.

Pete Nathan was not present to give the Treasurer's Report.

Past Events

Jul. 12-16 Pre-Tour
Jul. 16-20 National Buick Show – Flint, MI
Aug. 1-3 BPG Horsepower Nationals – Hebron, OH

Upcoming Events

Aug. 21-24 Heartland Regional Show – Topeka, KS
Aug. 24 Champagne Urbana Show
Aug. 28 Model T Club event
Aug. 30 Skyview Drive-In, Belleville
Sept. 7 Wheels in Motion Show – Westport Plaza
Sept. 13 Wagner Buick Show, Belleville
Sept. 28 St. Charles Oktoberfest Show (Meet at Bass Pro – 9am)
Oct. 2 Meeting at Shriners Hospital
Oct. 4 Kunz Plantation
Oct. 12 Manor Grove Homecoming Show – Need 20-25 cars
Oct. 18 Crowne Valley Winery Tour

Old Business

Sold 14 Belt Buckles at the Nationals.

New Business

“Member of the Year Award” in honor of John Waltz. Need nominees.

Would like volunteer for Activity Chairman.

Passed out caravan rules of the road.
(Continued on page 4)

Meeting Minutes, August 7, 2008 (Continued)

Next Regular Meeting:

September Meeting – Fenton Bar & Grill, September 4, 2008, at 7:30 pm.

Other Upcoming Events

Quality Buick Show

Quality Buick, Cadillac, GMC, Pontiac in Alton, IL, is having a car show and BBQ to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Last year Quality added the Buick franchise formerly held by Phil Berger. Our Club has been invited to help them celebrate.

MOT Mystery Caravan

The Museum of Transportation is pleased to announce plans are underway for this year's Mystery Caravan – Fall Color Tour to be held on October 19, 2008.

Participants in this year's Fall Color Tour will assemble at the Museum of Transportation at 10:30 am on Sunday, October 19, 2008, where Museum visitors will have the opportunity to view the variety of antique, classic, vintage, and sports cars and trucks participating in the tour. Vehicles will then depart between 11:30 am and 12 noon – oldest vehicles leaving first – to drive a relaxed, scenic, non-interstate route from the Museum to the historic riverfront town of Washington, Missouri. The first 50 registrants of the caravan will enjoy reserved, off-street parking in the heart of downtown Washington. While Museum staff remains in the reserved lot with the cars, drivers and passengers will enjoy an all-you-can-eat sausage dinner and Fall Craft Fair at St. Francis Borgia Parish and shopping and sightseeing in downtown Washington.

Registration for this year's event is \$10 per person, which includes the sausage dinner, a dash plaque for each car and a driver's guide for each car. Registrations must be mailed by October 10, 2008. This year's event is graciously sponsored by NuWay and the Antique Warehouse and is open to all car clubs and owners.

The flyer/registration form is available on the Museum's Web site at www.museumoftransport.org. We hope to see you for the 2008 Museum of Transportation Mystery Caravan – Fall Color Tour.

Please do not hesitate to contact Molly Butterworth or Beth Rothermich of the Museum for questions or more information at (314) 615-8MOT or (314) 615-8668

More from the Heartland Regional

Although the Regional show was very well organized and had very interesting tours, attendance was low. The host, Mid-America Chapter received 65 registrations with about 120 people and 86 attending the banquet. Only 12 to 14 registrations had been received prior to the National in Flint. High gasoline costs and the late date may have been factors as many schools have started and students and teachers couldn't make it. BCA rules and a late National show dictated the late Regional date.

In his column, Bob talked about the visit to the Kansas State Capital on Thursday morning as part of the Heartland Regional. He didn't mention that immediately following the capital tour, we crossed the street to the First Presbyterian Church for a tour of their beautiful Tiffany stained glass windows. Most church stained windows use a lot of painting on top of glass to attain the fine details, but Tiffany's windows use paint only on the human features. All other aspects of the scenes on the windows use texture and color mixing within the glass to achieve the detail. Each piece of glass seems to have been custom made for the particular part of the scene it depicts. This was the highlight of the tours for me.

Rich Gibbs, of the Mid-America Chapter was accessing a European-based Web site devoted to 1959 Buicks when he saw a picture of a 1962 convertible with certain features that made it familiar. He compared the picture to some he had previously taken of Hank Deglman's 1962 and confirmed it was the same car. The picture on the Web site was taken at a car show in Denmark, but the car is now owned by someone from Sweden after being purchased from Hyman in St. Louis.

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More from the Heartland Regional (Cont.)

Next years Regional show will be held in Appleton, WI, near Green Bay on August 13-15, 2009, hosted by the Dairyland Chapter. Of course, one of the tours will include a visit to the Green Bay Packer's Hall of Fame Museum and Lambeau Field stadium. Another tour will feature their National Railroad Museum. They also plan to schedule a tour that will appeal to women, such as a rose garden, etc. The event will held at the Holiday Inn Select in Appleton, with a room rate of \$98.

Jim Yeager, who has been Regional secretary since the Heartland Region was started will continue and Steve Ledger was re-elected Heartland Director.

If the normal rotation is followed, the 2010 Regional show will be hosted by the Rock Valley Chapter of southern Wisconsin. However, the Iowa Hawkeye Chapter may take that slot.

A new, larger Regional trailer, used to haul all the signs and other gear needed to put on a regional show was purchased last year. The Heartland Region logo was painted on, and the trailer was transferred to Topeka for this year's show.

Editor

2008 Calendar

September

4	7:30 pm	Regular Monthly Meeting
7	10:00 am	Wheels In Motion Show West Port Plaza
13	11:00 am	Wagner Show, Belleville, IL
28	9:00 am	St. Charles Octoberfest, meet at Bass Pro Shop

October

2	??	Meeting at Shriner's Hospital Lindbergh Blvd.
4	??	Picnic and Meeting at Kunz Plantation
4	??	Quality Buick Show & BBQ Alton
18	??	Cruise to Crowne Winery
19	10:30am	Museum of Transport Mystery Caravan and Fall Color Tour to Washington, MO

November

6	7:30 pm	Regular Monthly Meeting
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December

??	3:00 pm	Holiday Party and Meeting
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The *GATEWAY GAZETTE* is a monthly newsletter, free to paid members of the St. Louis Gateway Chapter of the Buick Club of America. Articles, technical information, For Sale and Want Ads, photos, restoration sagas and coming events are welcomed, but must be submitted by the next-to-last Thursday of the month to assure inclusion in the next issue.

Our membership year runs from May 1 to April 30. Membership is renewable on May 1. Members joining between January 1 and April 30 are paid up through the next April. Dues are \$15 per year for the local chapter. Contact Pete Nathan, Treasurer. See address below. Current dues for the national Club are \$35 per year, payable to: Buick Club of America, P.O. Box 360775, Columbus, OH 43236-0775.

The Gateway Chapter meets monthly on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and guests are welcome to attend. During the summer months, June through October, we meet at Chuck-A-Burger Drive-in, 9025 St. Charles Rock Road, just west of I-170. During the winter months, November through April, we move indoors at various restaurants around St. Louis.

For more information, our local mailing addresses are as follows:

Director:	Bob Brasses (636) 343-1507	911 Woodway Circle Fenton, MO 63026	bbrasses@earthlink.net
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