



# Gateway Gazette

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Louis Chapter

## BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Volume XXV, No. 2

March 2005

### PERSONAL PROFILE - JIM & ROSALEE HUDSON

New Members June 2004

Back in April of 2002 we were driving to Colorado to meet our children and grandchildren, who were flying there for a week of skiing. When Rosalee and I go on a trip anywhere that we will be driving, we always try to allow several extra days to be able to stop at as many antique shops as we can. This was also the case on this trip to Colorado.

About 60 miles into the state of Kansas (which happens to be the state where I was born) in the middle of nowhere, we saw a sign "ANTIQUES - NEXT EXIT". Even though we did not see a city or town, we felt we must check it out. After driving two or

three miles, we came to Paxico, Kansas, a town that consisted of probably a half dozen antique shops, a couple of houses, a garage and service station. As we walked up the street, there between two of the shops were several old cars, one of which was this 1959 LeSabre, a blue 4-door hardtop. Of course we had to look at the cars, and when I saw the \$5000 sign on the Buick window, I told Rosalee, "I'm going to buy this car." She said, "No, no, you're not - just forget it."

We walked to the next shop where we met this very

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 3  
March 19  
March 27

Monthly Meeting at O'Leary's  
Spring Tune-up & Ladies Luncheon  
HCCM Easter Show

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As you read this, February will be drawing to a close and March will soon be here. That means Spring is just around the corner and we'll soon start car shows and other old-car activities. We'll kick off this year with the "Spring Tune-Up" at Paul Meyer's place on St. Charles Rock Road and the Ladies Luncheon at Brio Tuscan Grille in Frontenac, Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. The Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri's Easter Show will follow on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, those of us with cars newer than 1980 won't be able to bring our cars again this year, but we can still attend and enjoy all the great cars and socialize with club members and other car buffs.

Hank has finished his article on financial history and a club budget. With it you may judge what might be prudent in terms of charitable giving from the club's funds. With that as background, we can probably have the charitable giving discussion at our March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at O'Leary's. If you have an interest in that topic, be sure to attend. Or, even if the topic is not at the top of your "hot-button" list, come on out for any reason you can think of.

We decided at our last meeting that the 1969 Sportwagon would be sold by closed bids "as is", although I hear some club members worked at cleaning it up some. See page 6 for more information on this car.

Initial nominations for club officers were announced by Ed Keil, Chairman of the Election Committee. There will be one more opportunity to nominate someone (including yourself) for any of the club offices at our March meeting. If there are additional nominations for any office, a paper ballot will be prepared and printed in the *Gazette* for official voting by (or at) the April meeting. If there are no additional nominations, the slate prepared by the nominating committee can be declared elected by a majority of the members present at the March meeting. *(DETAIL!!! We need a quorum, 26 individuals, at the March meeting to be able to vote on officers. This is better attendance than we have been getting recently at O'Leary's. Call your chapter buddy and make sure he comes with you to the March meeting. Ed)* The new officers will begin officiating the first of May.

Pete Nathan has again organized a winery cruise—this time to Grafton, Illinois, with dinner to follow at a historic hotel across the Illinois River by ferry. Then on to Bill & Maggie Wester's "mansion" for an after dinner drink and great views of the countryside. Be

## ELECTION PROCESS FOR 2005

Nominations for officers who will guide our chapter from May 2005 to May 2007 have been secured by the Election Committee and were announced at our February meeting.

Director:	Hank Deglman
Assistant Director:	Carl Schmiehausen
Treasurer:	Pete Nathan
Secretary:	Herb Morris (incumbent)

There were no other nominations from the membership at the February meeting, but a call will be made at the March meeting for further nominations. If there are none then nominations will be officially closed and a vote can be taken to elect the unopposed candidates. Our by-laws call for the necessity for a quorum for this vote. A quorum is one-third of our membership (household) units. Currently we have 78 households, so 26 individuals have to be present to proceed. A motion will be called to elect the unopposed candidates. If the motion passes unanimously the election is complete. If there is a "no" response then a simple majority of yes votes by hand-count is necessary to elect the officers.

If there are additional nominations made at our March meeting, then voting will be by ballot for all offices (opposed or unopposed). Ballots will be issued for each adult member of each household. The Election Committee prepares the ballot and it is issued in the April newsletter. Ballots can be mailed or brought to the April meeting for count. The newsletter will be mailed out with sufficient time allotted for return mail to the Election Committee Chairman, Ed Keil. The quorum rule applies as above, so 26 individuals have to cast a vote by ballot either through the mail or at the April chapter meeting for the election to be valid. The Election Committee counts the ballots and announces the winner(s) at the April meeting.

sure to reserve April 16<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for a great time. Another change to the club calendar was made at our last meeting. We decided to have the BBQ at the Schmiehausen's on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> and hold the July meeting in conjunction with the BBQ rather than have a separate meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> as previously planned.

Hope to see you and your Buicks soon.

**Bill**

## PERSONAL PROFILE - JIM & ROSALEE HUDSON

*(Continued from page 1)*

alert old man in his 90's, moving around in a motorized chair. After talking with him a while, we became aware that he owned this whole little area, including the Buick. He said he had kept the Buick in a barn for the last 25 years and had just taken it out the day before to try and sell it. He said he would sell it to me for \$2500. It was an omen; I knew that car was meant for me. But Rosalee said, "It's impossible. We're on our way to Colorado for a week, so there's no way, just forget it." The old man spoke up, "If you want the car and are planning to drive it back to St. Louis, while you're in Colorado I'll have the car checked over and have it ready, along with the paperwork, when you come back through." I said, "You've got a deal." I paid him and we started on our way. Even though we had a great vacation in Colorado, I could hardly wait for that week to end so I could get back and pick up my car.

When we arrived to pick up the car, to my amazement the old man had the car washed, had it greased and changed the oil, replaced the muffler and put on four new tires along with a new spare tire in the trunk, all at no extra charge. Everything including the paperwork was ready. It was unbelievable! We were soon on our way home, me driving my Buick and my wife following in our other car. I felt I was on Cloud 9 as I drove down the highway getting the "thumbs up" sign from everyone I passed.

The Buick was all original, light blue with no rust. It looked perfect inside and out except one dent in the driver's door. The body shop said the old paint would be hard to match so I had the car repainted the original color but with a white top and trunk. Beautiful!

*By Jim Hudson with editing by Rosalee*

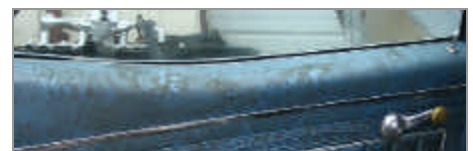


### Your Editor Meets the Hudsons

Chris and I were seated at a table with Jim and Rosalee at the Regional Banquet in August and had a delightful conversation with them. When they described their recent purchase of the '59 Buick, I said, "I must get that story in our newsletter." So, six months later, I called and they had the story for me in just three days and invited me to visit them.

Watch making and jewelry is a family business with the Hudsons. Jim's father was a watchmaker and Jim learned from him and also got into retail jewelry. Jim retired in 2003 after having a stroke, so Jim's son now runs Jim's Pawn and Jewelry stores in Granite City and Edwardsville,. Jim and Rosalee have recently moved to a brand new house in O'Fallon, Missouri, where I visited with them last week. Jim and Rosalee have enjoyed traveling internationally and, more extensively, in the United States. Jim's interest in old vehicles is not new but has moved from pickups to cars. He had a show quality '46 Chevy pickup that he sold in the mid 90's when he was short on garage space. He had kept the '46 about 15 years. Before that it was a '51 Chevy 5-window pickup.

## FOR SALE — 1969 BUICK SPORTWAGON



### 1969 Buick Sportwagon

The Gateway Chapter is trying to save this Buick from the crusher. We are selling it for Chapter member Gabe Callol who will give the proceeds to charity. Sealed bids will be taken and then opened at the April 7th meeting. High bidder will be notified. However, if there are equal high bids or other problems, the Chapter BOD will decide on an equitable solution.

Can be seen at:

Spectra Painting  
13573 St. Charles Rock Rd  
(1.3 miles west of I-270)

This collectible Buick was purchased new by Gabe. It has been kept stock and is complete. Used parts have been kept and spare parts including matching vinyl material have been purchased. Additionally there are factory manuals and brochures. Everything goes with the car.

Condition: Body damage at the left rear panel. Some rust, especially lower panels. Some rust at the upper windows, but likely still very repairable. (It doesn't appear to be leaking at these upper windows.) High mileage 350 Buick engine (230, XXX miles) starts easily and runs well considering the mileage.

The interior of this car has mold throughout. The extent of this mold led us to believe that the carpet, headliner and possibly other interior parts could not be adequately cleaned in place. So this appears to be a parts car or a major restoration.

Bids can be sent to:

Bill Landers  
2564 Shorewood Dr  
Florissant, MO 63031  
314 921-5015

Or given to:

Paul Meyer  
Spectra Painting