

Gateway Gazette

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Louis Chapter

BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Volume XXVII, No.9 September 2008

Member Spotlight



Spotlight on Aaron Ford



This month's "Member Spotlight" focuses on Aaron Ford. Aaron owns a significant selection of Buicks: A 1939 Buick Special with only

49,000 miles, a 1937 Special, and a 1939 Century Coupe. In addition to Buicks, Aaron has several very rare cars such as a 1936 Reo (which was the last production year for Reo), a 1938 Hupmobile, a 1940 Lincoln Zephyr, a 1935 Chrysler Imperial Air Flow, two identical 1937 Lincoln Zephyrs, and a 1937 Gram Cavalier. The senior car in his collection is a 1914 Ford Model T. When asked which was his favorite car, he said all of them. They are like children; you can't call one a favorite over another. (Aaron is a true car nut, but a nice one!)

Aaron has been a member of our club for 25 years or more; he is not sure just what year he joined. While he never did hold an office, he was and still is an active member. Aaron said the club used to buy old Buicks, fix them up and raffle them off to raise money for the club. He said he located the first raffle car in Arnold, MO, a 1952 Buick 4 dr. He said the club members would come over to his house and they would work on the car and fix it up then raffle it off. The club did two more cars--a 1956 4-door and a Riviera boat-tail.

Aaron has been in the old car hobby ever since he was 14 years old. He would ride around on his bicycle, find old cars, buy them with money he earned from his newspaper route, and sell them for a profit. He still has the first "keeper" old car he ever bought, a 1948 Chrysler Windsor

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Next Meeting – October 2
SHRINER'S HOSPITAL, 2001 S. Lindbergh Blvd

Director's Message

Hi All,

Past Events:

Well, we again had a small group gather at Bandanna's and head over to Belleville for the drive-in movies. Amazingly, we broke with the 2008 rain tradition and had a good evening. Barb & I took in the cartoon movies and several others watched the Batman flick. Lots of cars and good folks to visit with.

Wheels in motion went well again this year. The club contributed \$303 to the Children's Cancer Society. Thanks to all those that came and helped make it a success.

Wagner Buick was a great time this year! It looked like rain but the rain never came! Wagner served up a great day with hot dogs and a DJ playing CDs. Several clubs were in attendance and we all gathered in the shade by the dealership at tables for hot dogs and good talk. Those who missed this missed a really great day.

OUR BIG EVENT IN OCTOBER IS ON OCTOBER 5th!

Don't miss it. Kunz Plantation for our 30th Anniversary Party! 11:30 – ? Bring a dish to share.

You may want to check out **Gateway Classic Cars** before the party at 5401 Collinsville Rd, Fairmont City, IL 62201 Tel. **618-271-3000**

If you want to go over in a group, come to the meeting Thursday October 2 or contact me.

Next Meeting Oct 2nd at Shriner's Children's Hospital!

Other upcoming events you may be interested in:

Join Bruce Kunz Saturday, October 4th, 2008 for the Route 66 Festival on the old Chain of Rocks Bridge.

<http://www.confluencegreenway.org/route66festival.php>

Also on Oct 4th :

Celebrate the Hill 2nd Annual Car Show * The Coachmen's Fabulous Fifties

∞ **SHOW TIMES: Saturday 9 am to 3 pm**

•**REGISTRATION: 9 am to 12 noon**

∞ **AWARDS: Presented 3:00 pm**

•**Best of Show 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place**

Come out and support the Community

FUN•FOOD•MUSIC•PRIZES

Don Brown Chevrolet

At the Entrance to the Hill

Quality Buick Cadillac GMC Pontiac is hosting a BBQ and display 10 -3 in Alton,

Meeting Minutes, September 4, 2008

Location: The September meeting was held on September 4, 2008 at Fenton Bar & Grill.

The club meeting was facilitated by Bob Brasses, Director.

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

Pete Nathan, Club Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report.

Past 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

(Continued on page 3)

Member Spotlight (Continued)

Club Coupe, purchased before he could legally drive. He said he took it for a drive the first day he was licensed.

Another of Aaron's hobbies is antique radios, of which he has a very large collection. He also has a very extensive collection of Pre World II car literature.

Aaron and Rhonda have been married for 38 years. Aaron is a retired schoolteacher and alumni of the Normandy School District where he taught Industrial Arts for 25 years.

Contributed by Steve Dodson

Meeting Minutes, September 4, 2008(Cont')

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 7 | Wheels in Motion Show – Westport Plaza |
| Sept. 13 | Wagner Buick Show, Belleville |
| Sept 28 | St. Charles Octoberfest Show (Meet at Bass Pro 9:00) |
| Oct. 2 | Meeting at Shriners Hospital |
| Oct. 4 | Route 66 Festival on the old Chain of Rocks Bridge |
| Oct. 4 | Don Brown Chevrolet show |
| Oct. 4 | BBQ and display, Quality Buick, etc., 1620 E. Homer Adams Pky, Alton, IL |
| Oct. 5 | Kunz Plantation, Club's 30 th Anniversary |
| Oct. 12 | Manor Grove Homecoming Show, 711 S. Kirkwood Rd, Need 20-25 Cars |
| Oct. 18 | Crowne Valley Winery Tour |
| Oct. 19 | MOT Fall Color Caravan |
| Nov. 1 | Bob Huff's for picnic and tour |

Old Business

Our October meeting will be held at The Shriner's Hospital, 2001 S. Lindbergh Blvd. Please arrive by 6 pm. The agenda will include a tour of the hospital, dinner (cost will be nominal), and then our regular

meeting. A meeting room has been reserved for us.

Note that the picnic and celebration of the Club's 30th Anniversary at the Kunz Plantation is Sunday, October 5th (not the 4th as previously published). Ed Keil will procure the meat and drinks as usual, including a cake. Everyone should bring a dish to share (salad, vegetable, desert, etc.) Ed also has 21 shirts (Tees and polos, all in XL) left over from our 2004 Heartland Regional Show. These will be awarded at this meeting

Steve Dodson is still looking for Buicks for the October 12 show at Manor Grove. Call or e-mail Steve if you can attend. Our club will receive a donation for our participation.

It was suggested that we visit a winery in Hermann on October 18th rather than St. Genevieve. Former member Bob Kroenig is in a nursing home there and we could pay him a visit while there.

The GM plant in Wentzville is doing tours again, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 11 am, 1 pm and 4:30 pm. We will discuss a possible 4:30 tour on the second Thursday of November or December at the next meeting.

We received a letter of Thanks from the Museum of Transport for holding the all-Buick show there in June. They had a total of 418 visitors that day. In the future, they would like us to combine with another club to achieve a larger number of cars. The Oldsmobile club was mentioned as a possibility.

New Business

"Member of the Year Award" in honor of John Waltz. Need Nominees

Members Ill

Next Regular Meeting:

October Meeting – Shriners Hospital, October 2nd, 6:00 pm.

No 50-50 drawing

Minutes by Editor.

Other Upcoming Events

30th Anniversary Celebration.

This year we will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the founding of our chapter of the BCA in conjunction with our annual picnic and meeting at the Kunz Plantation at 11:00 am on Sunday, October 5th. Don't forget this is potluck, so bring a dish to share.

Manor Grove Homecoming Display

We have been invited to display our Buicks at the Manor Grove Homecoming on Sunday, October 12. The event will run from 1 to 3 pm, but the cars are asked to arrive at 12 noon. This year's theme is "the 50s" and people are encouraged to dress for the 50's, but it isn't necessary.

For our participation, the club will receive a donation. Also, last year, the home held an appreciation BBQ for everyone who participated in the show.

Please let Steve Dodson know if you plan to attend so he can provide a list to the organizers. His cell phone is 314-607-1688, and his home phone is 314-846-5588.

MOT Mystery Caravan

The Museum of Transportation's Mystery Caravan – Fall Color Tour will be held on Sunday, 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 19th, 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 12:00 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 website at www.museumoftransport.org. Contact Molly Butterworth or Beth Rothermich (314) 615-8668 at the Museum for questions or more information.

Picnic and Car Collection Tour at Bob Huffs

On Saturday, November 1st, the club has been invited to hold a picnic and tour Bob Huff and his son's car collection in East Carondolet, IL. Bob will provide hot dogs and the club will provide chili. Additional details will be worked at the next club meeting.

The location is 1461 Imbs Station Road, 62240. Take I 255 to exit 9, Dupo, then south on old highway 3 for 1 mile to Imbs Station Road. Turn left and go 1.5 miles to 1461. Bob and his son, Kevin will have balloons on the front gate.

Free Car to a Member Who Will Restore It

The owner of a 1961 LeSabre 4-door post car in Benton City, MO will give the car to any club member who will restore it. Bob Brasses saw the car and reports it is poor condition. It has power steering, power brakes, but no A/C. The hood, front fenders and trunk lid have some rust through, but the rear quarters seem to be solid. The engine turns over by hand.

The current owner is the original owner and drove the car until he suffered a stroke in 2002. The car will need to be trailered from Benton City, about 10 miles

(Continued on page 5)

Free Car (Continued)

east of Mexico, MO. Bob says the first club member to commit to getting the car and restoring it can have it. See photos below.



2008 Calendar

September

28 9:00 am St. Charles Octoberfest, meet at Bass Pro Shop

October

2 6:00 pm Meeting at Shriner's Hospital
2001 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
4 10:00 am Quality Buick Show & BBQ,
1620 E. Homer Adams Parkway
Alton, IL
4 ?? Route 66 Festival on the old
Chain of Rocks Bridge
4 9:00 am Don Brown Chevrolet Show
5 11:30 pm Picnic and Meeting at Kunz
Plantation
18 ?? Cruise to Crowne Winery?
19 10:30am Museum of Transport
Mystery Caravan and Fall
Color Tour to Washington,
MO

November

1 ?? Picnic and tour of car
collection at Bob Hoff's
6 7:30 pm Regular Monthly Meeting

December

7? 3:00 pm Holiday Party and Meeting

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The Plantation House and
Bruce and Kathy Kunz
Welcome
The Gateway Chapter Buick Club

October 5th

Sunday afternoon picnic and club meeting

The club will provide burgers, brats and sodas. Please bring a side dish: salad, vegetable or dessert. Try to arrive between 11:30 and noon. We will plan to start the buffet at about 12:30.

Drive Your Buick

The Plantation is just 10 minutes from the arch.

BRING A KITE !

There is always a wind blowing on the prairie.

VISIT . . .

Gateway Classic Cars,
Cahokia Mounds,
Horseshoe Lake State Park
(a nice, short cruise)

1910 Buick Radiator Needed

Bill Bicknell reports that Han Peter Nielsen of



Denmark is desperately seeking a replacement 1910 radiator as his original was ruined by a radiator shop. The radiator is pictured here. If anyone can help, please contact Bill Bicknell.



Museum of Transportation Fall Color Caravan October 19, 2008

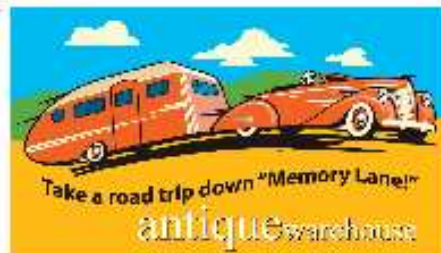
Join fellow car enthusiasts on October 19, 2008, for a scenic fall caravan from the Museum of Transportation along Routes 100 and T to historic Washington, Missouri, where you will enjoy reserved off-street parking and display as well as an old-fashioned all-you-can-eat pork sausage dinner and craft show at St. Francis Borgia Middle School, driver's guide, and a dash plaque for each car—all for only \$10 per person.

- 10:30 AM Arrive at Museum of Transportation for display—receive lunch tickets and driver's guide
- 11:30 AM Pre-1930 cars depart Museum for Washington
- 11:45 AM 1930-1955 cars depart Museum for Washington
- 12:00 PM 1955 and later cars depart for Washington
- Afternoon Pork sausage dinner, craft show, car display, and touring and shopping in Washington

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For more information, visit www.museumoftransport.org or call (314) 615-8MOT

Name _____

Car Club Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Car Year—Make—Model _____

My vehicle will have a total of

_____ occupants
(including the driver)
at \$10 each for a total of

\$ _____

Please make checks payable to Museum of Transportation

Mail by October 10, 2008, to:
Museum of Transportation
Attn: Therese
3015 Barrett Station Road
St. Louis, MO 63122

By signing below, I have read and understood the Museum of Transportation, St. Louis County, the Transport Museum Association, and the event sponsors can not be held liable for any damages or injuries that may occur during this event. I also authorize, for future promotion, the use of any photograph of myself, my passengers, and my vehicle that may be taken during this event.

Signature _____

Event will occur rain or shine—no refunds. Reserved off-street parking in Washington is limited to the first 50 vehicles to register. Please mail registration by October 10, 2008.

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
Asst. Director:	Adam Martin (314) 713-1262	1212 Cloverbrook St. Charles, MO 63304	adamm@buickpartsdirectory.com
Treasurer:	Pete Nathan (314) 966-0461	#1 Huntleigh Trails Lane St. Louis, MO 63131	phnauto@aol.com
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