

FAST TIMES **CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER BUICK GSCA**

Winter 2012

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

912-244-0577



Mike Wolf's 1969 GS 400

I bought the 1969 GS 400 red convertible in January 2011 from a dealer in Santa Monica California. I drove out there, saw it and instantly fell in love with it. They shipped it by trailer; (The trailer was used to ship high end Italian sports car) it was all by itself in that trailer.

I proceeded to look for replacement parts (mostly OEM) to spruce it up. I added Vintage Air, new front buckets, console, a 200R4 4 speed tranny and a new (from the block up) 455 motor. Got new bumpers and a few other minor replacement parts and although it was down for quite a while getting the engine put in, it was finally ready on Thursday Nov. 15th, a day before the Good Guys show. What a relief!

It is a very fast and smooth handling GS. It actually handles better than my old one.

I go to as many car shows as I can here in Arizona, and other Buick enthusiasts love it. I got a lot of thumbs up from other folks too. There are at least 5 drive-in shows in every Friday-Sat. nite and many shows and shine shows each week in Phoenix. I try to make at least one

a month in Phoenix and several here in Prescott. (100 miles from Phoenix)

There is only one other Skylark that I know about in Prescott, AZ and it's a 1967 but not a GS. I am the only GS in town.



Take care and keep on sending the newsletter. It brings back great memories of Chicago and the GS/GN club.

Mike Wolf

Before moving to Arizona from Chicagoland, Mike had a GS 400 very similar to this that he unfortunately sold. This is a very suitable replacement

Please volunteer to help our chapter to continue activities

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.

Chapter Volunteers

Director	~	Loyd Bonecutter	708-485-8477 loydb@chicagolandbuick.org
Co-Director / Gran Sport	~	Steve Russo	815-795-4737 s.russo@mchsi.com
Co-Director / Turbo Regal	~	Mark Holda	630-747-7652 M.Holda@comcast.net
Activities	~	Paul Brelie	224-484-8057 ELATED3@aol.com
Race Chairman		Joe Garcia	jrg3517@comcast.net
Treasurer	~	Bill Grupp	jackbot@yahoo.com
Secretary	~	Barb Holda	708-243-7280 Metaz_56@comcast.net
Membership	~	Shari Bonecutter	708-485-8477 sharib@chicagolandbuick.org
Graphic Artist	~	Paul Vilser Beth Andrews	paulvilser@sbcglobal.net draena710@gmail.com
Publisher	~	Loyd Bonecutter	708-485-8477 loydb@chicagolandbuick.org
Advertising	~	Beth Andrews	847-845-7342 draena710@gmail.com
4 th of July Show		Steve Russo	815-795-4737 STEVEGS1@aol.com
Midwest Challenge		Loyd Bonecutter	708-485-8477 loydb@chicagolandbuick.org
Cruise Chairman		Chris Gatch	773-776-4794 cgatch@comcast.net
Volunteers	~	Bob Nunes Rich George	630-310-6662 630-551-3120

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 January, June 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, 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

Jan 12 – Meeting at the Parts Place – Sycamore, IL
Jan 26 – Holiday Party at Countryside
Feb 3 – Meeting at Caspers Electronics - Lake Zurich, IL
Feb 23-24 – Race and Performance Expo Pheasant Run
Feb 24 – BOP Swap Meet – Kane County Fairgrounds
Mar 10 – Meeting & Chili Contest - Darien Recreation Cntr
Apr 12 – Dyno Session at Sound Performance
Apr 28-30 – Buick Race Day – Norwalk, OH
Jul 4 – Car Show
Aug 2-3 – BPG Nationals – National Trail Raceway
Aug 22-24 – Midwest Buick Challenge – Osceola Dragway
Oct 16-19 – GS Nationals – Bowling Green, KY

Director's Garage

Lloyd Bonecutter

Since Thanksgiving was a little earlier than normal this year, my queue to start this article was thrown off, so I am running late.

Our last meeting at Darien was an opportunity for many members to offer ideas on new directions. We had not set on a January nor April activity at that time, and were asking what folks wanted. It turned out recommendations for "The Parts Place" for January and a dyno session at "Sound Performance" were made to continue the course we have ventured before. It was decided to call the spring Dyno Session the Cliff Bryan Memorial Dyno Session. It was great seeing so many folks come out to express their opinion and devour pizza in nearly record time. We definitely ordered more Fireball pizza this time.

Our holiday party is near the end of January and works out well as many of us get very bored at that time of year making this a great time to kick our heals. The BOP swap meet is again earlier this coming year at the end of February. We had mentioned at the meeting that the Chapter could reserve a spot for our members who each just have a few things to sell, and share in the nominal cost. We hope folks with things to sell work out a presence and not just drop off things and go shopping, or this will not work out at all.

A couple of weeks after the swap meet is the Chili contest that I look forward to every year. Mike Phillips wants to enter a low fat Chicken based chili that he has been working on for quite some time. Of course there

have been some great white chili's entered in the past, and always look forward to tasting them. Frank Jackowiak the Sauce King is the defending champion, so start working on your creation.

April brings on the warmer weather and we are planning a dyno day on the 12th at Sound Performance. This will be our third year there with reasonable prices and the owner driving his own car that many of our members seem to appreciate. This has been a great time for those who come out just to watch and enjoy lunch, but more important to test your new combination.

In a word 2012 was "hot", yet there were long stretches of runs of great weather, to enjoy our performance Buicks. Having an air conditioned building to cool off in for the Fourth of July Car Show made it bearable. Our drag race season seemed to have bearable days to add to our enjoyment, plus we got in all six without any rain. Buick Race Day had great weather, with the BPG Nationals a little warm. The GS Nationals had the second year of cooler weather in October that made for some fantastic ETs but you needed to dress warm to stay outside all day. Car count for the car show was down, but there certainly a lot of folks like Shari and I who did not bring down a car. A lot of our Buick friends were there without cars as well to cut down on costs.

As you can tell we are continuing to plan opportunities for the performance Buick community and hope to see you out there in the near future.

Happy Holidays

Take a look at the Club Membership Discount Rally Insurance is offering, give Ellen or Lars a copy of your membership card when renewing your classic car insurance.

Membership Scribbling

Shari Bonecutter

Happy Holidays! It's only the middle of November, but winter is definitely here, so far! This past weekend, the temps were in the 60's and are now in the 20's-30's. But it wouldn't be the Chicago area if everything stayed the same, right?

So we have mostly had racing events since the last newsletter. Bill Grupp will take first place this year, congrats to you, Bill! There were a lot of broken cars, this year, that will be back in fine form for next year. I'm looking forward to an exciting 2013.

The B-O-P race in Cordova got rained out and therefore cancelled until next year. I was sorry to hear this, as it probably would have been a beautiful ride

there and back, with the fall colors. There's always next year!

Lloyd and I attended the GSCA Nats in Bowling Green, KY in October. Here's my take on this year's event: the car show was down in attendance – every year it goes down a little. There were as many racers as always, if not more than normal. The pits and the circle track were crowded, and boy, were there some fast cars! Because of the cooler temps, there were some awesome times set. I think a lot of folks left their cars home, as we did, but there was a lot of foot traffic. Vending was down. And it was cold, particularly after Wednesday night!

I want to thank Steve Kelly and Steve Ledger for their help at the tent, and with running the car show judging. You guys helped give Lloyd and I some breathing room!

Thanks to Roberta for refolding and re-arranging the sweat shirts. Thanks to John Csordas for the quilt! We had quite a few Chicagoland members help judge, and I want to thank you for giving up your Friday morning to help out. We really appreciate it!

Then in November, we had kind of a general meeting, no speaker. We had close to 40 of ya'll attend, along with 3 Turbo-Regals – the last nice 60+ degree day of the year, maybe! We discussed the upcoming year, and then had pizza from Home Run Inn for lunch. I want to thank Beth Andrews for her help in setting things up and later re-packing them. Could not do these meetings without you!

Member news: Congrats to Tom Rix on his retirement. I'm sure he'll find something or other to keep him busy.

This was written by John Schmidt, one of the racing leaders of our Buick Community, on September 25:

I am deeply saddened to report that Jimmy Dotson a.k.a. "THE UNDERDOG" passed away early this morning in his sleep. Jimmy's wife Joyce asked for our prayers for Jimmy in this most difficult time.

On a very personal note Jimmy was one of my closest Buick racing buddies. We shared our last racing weekend together at Cecil County Raceway, this past weekend. His spirits were very high and he was looking forward to spending his retirement days traveling and camping with his lovely wife Joyce along with racing his beloved Buick. The Buick Racing Community has lost a true Buick Guy and my dear friend.

God be with you Jimmy.

On my personal note, Jim has won the Quick 16 at the Midwest Buick Challenge several times. I didn't get to know him very well, as I was usually writing checks. But everyone else had great things to say about him. He wasn't at this year's MWBC, for whatever reason. But I know I will miss his smiling face.

Condolences to Brian Canella on his father's passing; Gary Plencner on his father's passing, also; and to Tom Mogler on his sister's passing. I know that all of you were in my thoughts and prayers.

Welcome to the following new members: Jason Arcillas, Chicago, IL; Gary Thomas, Moline, IL; Brad & Nikki Weber, Wayne, IL; Edward Linthicum, Chicago Heights, IL; Brad Linthicum, New Lenox, IL. And Welcome Back to Robert Bezingue, Carol Stream, IL. I hope you all will have a great time belonging to our club!

So you can see our schedule for 2013 on page 2, in the lower right-hand corner. The January meeting is a good place to break your cabin fever!

The Winter Party is the last Saturday in January, at the Park Place in Countryside, same as the last few years. PLEASE RSVP TO ME AT 708-485-8477 or email me at sharib@chicagolandbuick.org – I really-really need a head count. Please let me know by January 17, 2013. Also be sure to practice your paper airplane construction and/or throwing.

Sunday February 3, 2013 will be the tech session at Casper's in Mundelein. I know that Jimmy's transmission will be in attendance, along with some others that we've yet to line up. This is one of our bigger tech sessions; lunch will be served, and please bring your own chair!

Sunday, February 24, is the Buick-Olds-Pontiac Cadillac Swap Meet at Kane County Fairgrounds in St. Charles. We will have a table with the other chapters, so come on and say howdy, or even better – renew your membership! Please see flier elsewhere in the newsletter for times and directions.

Sunday, March 10 will be our traditional chili fest/tech session. A definite speaker will be Mike Phillips of AM&P from Owensboro, KY. A possible speaker might be Paul Ferry from HRPartsStuff – he's a definite maybe, lol! As for chili, please bring a crock-pot full of your favorite concoction to share with the group. We will provide extensions cords, soda, water, shredded cheese, sour cream, Fritos – I think that's it. The first place winner get possession of the traveling chef's hat trophy, to which you have to add something to personalize it before passing it on to next year's winner. There will also be a gift card from either a restaurant or someplace cool. There will actually be 5 gift cards awarded!

And Saturday, April 13, will be our Cliff Bryan Memorial Dyno Day. This will take place at Sound Performance, 554 N. York Road, Bensenville, IL 60101. 630-893-5002. We will have a sign-up sheet on our website after the first of the year. 2 pulls will once again be \$50. Lunch will be served, and we might try to have a club meeting during lunch, depending on how many show up for the dynos. You can also call me and I can put you on the schedule – 708-485-8477.

In closing, I want to wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season.

Please look at your mailing label to determine when your membership expires

Chicagoland Buick Racing Season Recap

Joe Garcia has done a great job planning and executing another fine racing season. We have about 26 members who had participated in one or more of the six races this year, and many more who came out to watch. There was one race at Byron where we had as many Buick racers as the remainder of the racers at the track. Talk about hot laps if you wanted to.

Joe's innovations make us concentrate on our reaction time as that establishes our position on the ladder, plus the top five qualifiers receive bonus points, that is key in determining the final winner. In bracket racing there are two key elements; one being the better reaction time and the other being closest to your dial in. Having us work on our reaction time has made us more competitive. There is still hope for beginners as the staging lights are staggered to allow a slower car to cross the finish line at the same time as the quicker car, with any difference being the reaction time.

This year the overall season winner came down to the final race as the top three contenders were within 88 points that is achievable in a single race with round

points and bonus points. All the top contenders had to make it to this race.

The racing season winners for 2012 (drum roll please) were:

Points / Driver	Points / Driver
358 - Bill Grupp	252 - Pete VanTholen
290 - Paul Brelie	196 - Rich George
266 - Keith Egan	184 - Joe Garcia

Bill took the lead and held on from Race #2 through the finals, with Keith hanging on in spite of not racing at Byron. Looks like many of us need to really work on our consistency.

In the meantime Joe has put his GN back to stock while fixing the head gasket that gave up the ghost on a quick 30 psi pass at mid season. It is for sale as he has purchased a certain beautiful Apollo/Skylark from Tom Rix to race next year.

The next time you see Joe, please extend your thanks for all he does for this Chapter.

Classifieds

For sale:

Driver's side rear floor pan - \$50

4 rims and tires for 442 Cutlass - 15" - \$250

350 Buick fan shroud - \$30

Mild Stage 1 Cam - needs lifters - \$25

2 Buick 15" Megs with tires (Dunlaps) - \$150 firm - need to be balanced

All above - call Johnny Gribble - 630-441-3089

Wanted to buy - Dash Tach for 70-72 - nice condition - call Johnny at 630-441-3089

'70 Custom Convertible - needs paint - 342 posi-400 trans - motor has 400 miles on it - \$14,000 or best offer - Call Marty - 815-519-1491

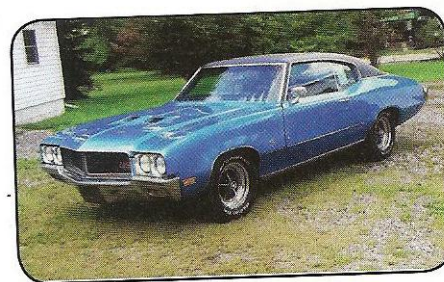
I am a new member to the club. My wife and I have a custom laser engraving business that is based out in Bloomingdale, IL. We specialize in custom personalization of gifts, plaques, awards and retirement etc. We have car related items such as bar mirrors, drinking glasses, aluminum water bottles all customized to each person! I thought you might mention us and our website to the membership. Midwestcustomengravers.com or email at Midwestcustomengravers@gmail.com.

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455, Turbo 400, 342 posi, air, Alabama car, same owner for over 30 years, many extras, numbers matching engine - NOW \$27,500. - (330) 747-1029 (Bill)

011012019



Meeting & Technical Session
Saturday; January 12, 2013 @ 9:00 am
Parts Place Inc
630 Enterprise Avenue
Dekalb, IL 60115
Phone #: 630-365-1800

Our initial meeting for 2013 will be at the Parts Place at their facility in Dekalb, IL. The Parts Place features OEM and reproduction parts for our Buicks from 1964 through 1987. We are going back this year as many who went last year asked to go back to see more of the incredible inventory.

There should be something for our V8 Buick owners as well as Turbo Regal owners. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Our regular business meeting will start at 10:00 am just before the technical session. Please bring lawn chairs. Yes, collect them out of the trunk of the GS or Turbo Regal.



Skylark

Directions to the Parts Place

Take I-88 to Peace Road Exit (mile marker 94)

- ⇒ * Take Peace Road north past the traffic light at Rte 38
- ⇒ * Turn Right (east) at Pleasant Street (next traffic light)
- ⇒ * Turn Left (North) on Enterprise Avenue
- ⇒ * The Parts Place is at the northeast corner of the intersection



If you want to sit, bring *lawn or folding chairs* to the Meeting and Technical Session.

<http://www.chicagolandbuick.org>

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CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER

BUICK GS CLUB OF AMERICA

MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE INVITED TO THE CCGSCA HOLIDAY PARTY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2012 at 6:00 PM

The CCGSCA party offers a chance to celebrate the post Christmas season with Chicagoland Buick Performance nuts! Please come out of the warm garage or house, brave the cold to join us. This catered event is always good and we have plenty to raffle off.

This year the party is at: **Park Place Of Countryside
6240 Joliet Rd**

The placemats will be flying ! **Countryside, IL**

This is just west of LaGrange Rd (State Route 12, 20 & 45) on Joliet Road. Very easy to get to and across the street from the William Tell Holiday Inn.

Cost is \$10.00 each for a member and the first guest. Additional guests are \$20.00 each. Admittance covers the meal. Beverages will be available for cash at the bar. To hold your spot please contact Shari at 708-485-8477 or sharib@chicagolandbuick.org by January 11th

Midnight Mike will be on hand with a fantastic selection of tunes.

Shari will gathering some more great door and raffle prizes that have become a tradition for our party making this one you should not miss. Be sure to mark this one down on your calendar

Directions from I-55 North or South bound

- Exit LaGrange Road North
- At Joliet Road turn left (west)
- 6240 Joliet Road is about a ¼ mile to the left

If you partake in adult beverages, please arrange a designated driver, or plan on staying across the street at one of these hotels.

Best Western Inn
6251 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525
1-708-354-5200

Holiday Inn/William Tell
6201 W. Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525
708-3544200

Have a safe and joyous holiday season.

Please be sure to review our web site for any last minute changes

<http://www.chicagolandbuick.org>

Lost - Park Place's Phone # is 708-588-1756



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Meeting & Technical Session
Sunday; February 3, 2012 @ 10:00 am
Casper's Electronics, Inc
1111 Rose Road
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
847.847.1544

Our second meeting for 2013 will be at Casper's Electronics in Mundelein, IL featuring John Spina, with Jimmy Hussion and a number of guest speakers to be announced.

There should be something for our V8 Buick owners as well as Turbo Regal owners. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Our regular business meeting will start at 11:00 am just before the technical session. Please bring lawn chairs. Yes, collect them out of the trunk of the GS or Turbo Regal where you had them for the last car show.

Casper's Electronics, Inc.
 1111 Rose Road
 Lake Zurich, IL 60047
 John Spina
 847-847-1544

Jimmy's Transmissions
 888 N. Tower Road
 Mundelein, IL 60060
 Jimmy Hussion
 847-949-9230



Skylark

Directions to Casper's Shop

From I-94 at Half Day Road Exit (mile marker 55.6) (2nd exit north of the Edens Spur)

- ⇒ * Take the Half Day Rd/IL-22 exit west (go 9.1 miles)
- ⇒ * Turn Right (North) at Telser Road (go 0.2 miles)
- ⇒ * Take the first right onto Rose Road (go 0.1 miles)
- ⇒ * 1111 Rose Road should appear on the right side of the road

Be sure to thank Jimmy and John and his crew for sharing their day with us.

If you want to sit bring *lawn or folding chairs*
to the Meeting and Technical Session.

Need help with directions 847-847-1544- <http://www.chicagolandbuick.org>



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