

FAST TIMES

CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER BUICK GSCA

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

912-244-0577



Benny Galvan's 1987 Grand National

My interest in Buick's started in 1983. My Mother had just received for the first time her drivers license. I was very happy for her as she had wanted it for a long time but at the same time thought, we still only have one car which my dad uses it for work and gets home late. She will never be able to take us anywhere in the car. Well, she definitely thru a curve ball at us when as we were playing ball in the middle of the street, we hear this cool sounding car. We move out the way to let it pass by and noticed my mom driving it. Holy Cow!!! That's mom I yelled. My brother Martin and I both ran to where my mom parked, smiled and gave her a big hug. I asked her who's car it was which she replied, it's hers. The car looked stunning... Lucky Mom.

I loved all the details of the car including the emblems 3.8 liter Turbo and Ttype. Right away I had to see whats under the hood. When I popped the hood, I had no clue what I was looking at. It looked different then engines Ive seen in the past. It had a unique carburetor

cover that was chrome with the V6 logo. Time for a spin. Mom takes us for a ride and let me tell you, what a ride. The car felt really fast and had a unique sound. Inside it had a special gauge with a set of colorful lights that would light up as you floored it. While driving, the sound the Turbo made had us thinking the cops were behind us. Everybody would turn to look at the car as it passed by. It was a great feeling.

After Driving it in H.S., having fun racing the mustang guys, and the Toyota Supra club, My brother and I came across a now dear friend who had a 1984 T-type. One day, while talking about cars he says, you guys should ride in a grand national. Its wicked fast. I thought, Ya right. How fast could it be. So curious me drags my brother to the dealer to see it and just fell in love with it. This 1987 Buick Grand National Black car was sick. We could not stop smiling thinking what a bad ass car.

Continued on page 3

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 automobile 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:

Membership Chairman
Chicagoland Chapter GSCA
4010 Raymond Ave
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 Ave; 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

- Sep 7 – Route 66 Car Show – Berwyn, IL (Oak Pk & Ogden)
- Sep 8 - CCGSCA Race #5 Byron Dragway & BOP
- Sep 6, 7 & 8 – Buick Race Day Rain Date – Norwalk, OH
- Sep 15 - Cantigny Foundation car show – Wheaton, IL
- Sep 28 - CCGSCA Race 6 (Saturday) at Byron Dragway
- Sep 28 – Turbo Buick Gathering at BW3 – Hoffman Estates
- Sep 29 – Marquardt BOPC Car Show – Barrington, IL
- Sep 29 – Riverside Car Show (Centennial Plaza & Guthrie Pk)
- Oct 1 – Cruise at Downers Grove – 75th & Lemont
- Oct 12 – BOP Race – Cordova Dragway
- Oct 13 – Lyons Club Car Show & Swap Meet Rt 6 Morris
- Oct 16-19 – GS Nationals – Bowling Green, KY
- Nov 3 – Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov 10 – CCGSCA Meeting at Darien Park District

2013

- Jan 1 – Hangover Fest XIII – Cordova Dragway
- Feb 23 – BOPC Swap Meet – Kane County Fair Grounds

Continued from Page 1 The dealer guy was cool, although we were young he took us for a test drive. He drove (Bummer). I think he just like driving the car. When we got in the car he whips out a \$100 bill and says. If you can grab this bill that I'm placing on the dash during the launch its yours. I'm thinking , I got this.... Well he launches the car, pins me to the seat, and when its all over all I got was laughed at by him and my brother. After a wicked ride like that I didn't care. All I cared about was getting that car.

In 1989 my brother Martin saved enough to get one. I was happy for him and enjoyed all the attention we got riding around.

Then 1990 or 91 comes around and the path to me getting one started. While driving in Chicago around Elston and Addison Mr. Prasad in his GN happened to line up next to us at a light and seemed to want to race. We were a little nervous as we never raced another GN, but curious to what the outcome would be. Both cars took off hard but in the end we got ahead of him. Prasad asked us to pull over to see if we had extra mods under the hood. After Showing him what we had I started a conversion telling him about my 1983 T-type and how I wanted a GN but could not afford one. That's when he suggested to change some parts to make mine look like a GN. So I did. He sold me some parts and now all I needed was to Paint it Black.

Six months later still cruising my 1983 T-type which I forgot to mention my mom gave me as a graduation present, I painted it black. Now, guys didn't want to race me thinking it was a real GN. After a few more years and changes to the car, I sold it and finally got my GN around 1994.

Thru the years my brother and I have purchased a few GN's. But we finally decided to only stick with two. His Baby is the Original one he bought, While my current baby has been with me 10 years.

My road to having a Show Car started with this car which was in Excellent original shape. But after all these years, it needed a makeover. My years of hunting down parts came to a stop and In Dec 2011, I was ready to go all the way bringing this car back to show quality representing the Buick GN community.

I set a goal to meet. Make the 2013 World of Wheels and get our car lots of exposure. It was a tight schedule with a crazy ride to get there. Friends encouraged me but in the back of their mind thought, Benny is crazy!!!! He will never make the deadline.

Well I did make it. Here is how It all came together.

I started by taking the car apart then it got a, full frame off restoration. Frame stripped and protected, undercarriage protected, New Suspension, Brakes. If you can imagine it, it got it. I even had custom Braces made to reinforce the frame. My GN advisor over at Turbofarm, Mr. Prasad helped me a lot as we talked everyday sharing Ideas and discussed parts. We went over selection of parts and discussed the pros and cons to them. We even discussed paint shops which I regret not taking his advise the first time.

Off to a paint shop which after 2 months of waiting, a nightmare of a paint job, and loss of money, I ended up taking my car to Castanedas body shop where Prasad had suggested. The owner Gilberto has 3 GN's which made me feel better that he knew our cars. After speaking with him and seeing some of his work, I was excited and couldn't wait to see my car finished. When the car was finally done I was impressed. It looked sharp. So I thought new Paint deserves new interior. Glen at Highwaystars came thru with my new interior which he had to order the headrest for me and delivered on time. What a scare, time wise. Motor wise, I went to Integrity automotive to go over my motor and install my new GN1 Heads. While that was getting done, I took lots of parts to LOKO, a powder coating shop to get done. They also came thru especially with my downpipe. It's time to put things together including installing random parts, trans, etc and get the fresh motor started before taking it to sound performance. I took off the fenders and front end to make installation of the new Proefi system wiring quicker. Now its time to start the fresh motor. For that I thank Jason JazJamz for helping break in the motor and fix a few bugs. After Larry at Sound Performance does his magic, My Brother Martin, Prasad, and I get to hear my car running, for the first time since installing the new Proefi system and running on E85. What an accomplishment and happy moment.

Back to Gilbert's it was to put the front end back and fix some details. His team really came through allowing us more time then expected to take It back to my friends garage to put the final parts and touch ups on the car. I will never forget this moment as my close friends and family stepped up to the plate to meet the deadline.

Worried about not making the deadline, I took extra days off work and was up from morning to early morning 7am to 2 am with friends doing the final details. Remember my dear mom who started all this? Well she got involved cleaning and polished my Tires, Rims, and intercooler pipes. Can you imagine that.



Well Mar 28, time to get the car to the Rosemont convention center by 9pm. My Buddy Ronny took that day off work to give my car the final Wax Job. As 5pm rolls around and friends and family stops by to give a hand. Fuel is removed, last minute parts installed, then I

get a call that the enclosed trailer broke down. Oh brother. Oh well we will go get the open trailer and take it on that. 8pm rolls around and the car is still not on the trailer. But its time. I get in the car and start it, then moved it about 5 feet and it dies. We added more gas, Thank God the car started. Finally getting it on the trailer and strapping it down. It's about 8:30, Here is where extra thanks goes to my Brother in Law Rick. I drove and he gave me excellent directions. Being the first time in this show, directions to get it there were not so clear to us.

We finally make it with 10 minutes to deadline. We get the car off the trailer and it starts to drizzle. Great.... I start the car, get it in thru the garage door and this man greeted us with a smile. I thought great all this craziness is over when suddenly he says, you have 7 minutes to get the car in your spot and leave. Sweating and nervous I was able to get the car there and park it. We tried to clean it since it got all wet but he was not kidding he kicked us out.

The 2013 World of Wheels event was a success. The car received a lot of compliments including those from the Judges. It brought back memories to some people who were great-full to see the car. Painters complimented the paint job. While others were at awe with the Engine bay and the power the car now produces. During all this I lost my voice talking to so many people. While we won a respectable Second place, having many people come up to me and say (Best of Show) is Priceless. To Everyone that in one way or another helped me, Thank you. To My Dear Wife Thanks for being so supportive.

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

Director's Garage

Loyd Bonecutter

Well it is September and I am just starting the newsletter. Thanks for the support of the chapter, I have enough material to fill the pages and then some it appears.

The Turbo Buick Picnic at Busse Woods put on by Benny and folks at Turbo Farm were well attended, with 42 fantastic Turbo Regals lined up. Plus 22 TR owners sans cars were there. This apparently freaked the Park District Police who showed a lot of love throughout the event. Am looking forward to next year's event.

Hopefully many of you made it to a local Father's Day car show. Frank Jackowiak and I attended the Lyon's show. This show was still impressive, though a bit smaller than years past. This was the year to bring out the GS 455.

Our inaugural Fourth of July Car Show at Sleepy Hollow was quite a success. The weather was decent, if not slightly warm, and many of the folks from the Countryside area made the trek to this show after all. Our hosts from Sleepy Hollow could not have been friendlier. There was shade for the BCA meeting and for Midnight Mike to offer his tunes and announcements.

Will definitely try to improve future attendance at this car show if the good folks from Sleepy Hollow will have us again.

The Jimmy's Transmission Car Show is always the last Saturday of July (28th this year). Unfortunately I missed this and the all Buick Rizza Car Show the following Sunday (29th) due to a family Reunion that I have not attended in years.

More important I missed CCGSCA Race 4 that offered carnage for Buick racers in the form of broken spider gears and a major crash of a beautiful red 1969 GS at the big end of the track. Dana fixed DaWagon with spare parts made available and Pete Van Tholen came through with minor injuries, but the 1969 GS did not fair so well. This past week Pete brought home another complete 1969 red GS race car and will be racing at our next event.



A few of us caravanned to the BPG Nationals on August 1st to be at the Block Party held at the host hotel in Newark. They accommodated us by closing the street like many neighborhood block parties. There were a lot of fantastic cars exhibited. The racing Friday was very good on a perfect day. Unfortunately it rained overnight Friday and into Saturday morning. With the track's tendency to weep water onto the surface, after a storm the remainder of the event was cancelled, although the day turned out nice. I would like to thank Sean Ryder for arranging a Charity Race to help sponsor the Shari Bonecutter Midwest Buick Challenge, but rounding up that figure to Gold Level Sponsorship. The BPG does support their members.

On August 10th, there were again too many choices as Joe at the Parts Place had his car show, there was a big cruise at Morris and the BCA had a show at Woody Buick in Naperville. I took the GS to the Woody show. There was one other GS and a GN at the show. Our chapter should resume support of the Buick Car Shows offered by the local BCA chapter.

The August 10th Drive Inn night brought perfect weather. A great follow on from the earlier car show was the pre-theater meal at Augustino's, with the picture show. Two good movies ELYSIUM and 2 GUNS were showing, that drew us in. Glad I borrowed a hoodie as it got chilly by the end of the second movie. The GS ran great.

What can I say about the Shari Bonecutter Midwest Buick Challenge. The weather was perfect, the track hooked decent, the sponsors really came through, there were lots of spectators, with the car count slightly down again. We really owe a lot of thanks to the crew who came through to put on a great event on for our members and regional Buick racers. Here are the winners:

Race	1st Place	2nd Place
TSM	Tim Lemay	Walt Judy
THS	David Day	Mike Schwab
BCO	Mike Zaffino	Daryl Sigourney
BuO	Dave Kolecki	Russ Ciesiloka
Q16	Keith Egan	Dan Weiland
B2 (Tie)	Dana Andrews	Ann McNew
B1 (Tie)	Roberta Vasilow	Kenny Miller

As always please be sure to express our thanks to the sponsors when you call them for goods and/or services. Without them we would not have payout money for our racers.

I cannot say enough about the support of our members. We have pulled together and continued many of our traditional events, without a key member who held our Chapter together. Thank you

I see that I have probably rambled on enough for this issue. Hang in there with us, there are still a lot of car things to do, until fall's inclement weather and salt on the roads takes our cars of summer off the street.

Please be sure to use your CCGSCA discount at one of the Insurance Agencies advertised in this newsletter.

Membership Dribblings by Beth Andrews
Wow, September already? Where has the summer gone? I hope everyone has gotten out and enjoyed themselves so far.

Let's see now, what has been going on since our last newsletter.

Race #2, which was our Samantha Rix Memorial Race at Byron. We had 18 cars and nice cool temps. Paul Brilie pretty much won everything except for perfect reaction time and Perry Carlini came in 2nd, poor Perry, the announcer won't let him get away from his football days. Here's a shocker... Joe Garcia was the 1st one at the track!!!! I know, can you all believe it? He must have stayed up all night (haha). Joe also now has to check the tower for bombs (no worries it's just a joke, but I think the tower guy has taken a liking to picking on the Buick guys)

Race #3 was at Union Grove, a great racing day. We had shade in the pits and a nice breeze. No one from the club broke, so that in itself makes for a good day. A few cars had gremlins to work out and I think they did get worked out by the middle of the day.

July 4th car Show was moved to a new venue, Sabatino Park, in Sleepy Hollow, IL and in my opinion it was a success, so I think we have found a new home for this event. We had a good turnout of cars and raised over \$300 for the Illinois Torch Run, next year will be better.

Race #4 was also at Union Grove. It was also Mopar fest, if any of you have wondered if the other car brands are having lower turnouts at their events, I can tell you yes, just by the look of the pits that day at the track. The club raced later in the day which was OK with everyone since they hoped for even cooler temps. Some chick in a beige station wagon (yes I said Beige.. see I'm getting a sense of humor about it haha) broke her rear end gears, which put her back on the trailer even before racing officially started. Guess we found the weak link. We also had a major scare at the track, our very own Pete Van Tholen and his beautiful red GS had some sort of mechanical malfunction or the brakes locked up during a run against Bill Grupp. Pete crossed over into Bill's lane, they made no contact with each other, but Pete met the

concrete wall up close and personal. Thank God Pete is OK, he had some cuts, bumps & bruises. We cannot say the same for the Red GS (RIP Red GS). Hopefully Pete can find another car and salvage what he can off the red one. We can replace cars, we cannot replace people, I am very glad you are OK Pete.

August 1 - 3 took us to the BPG Nats in Hebron Ohio. We had a great time there even with Saturday being cancelled due to Mother Nature decided the race track needed to be watered. Saturday was the last day of the event and basically the main race day. So we all packed up and took a leisurely drive home. It was great to see friends we had not seen in a while.

August 23 - 26 was our Shari Bonecutter Midwest Buick Challenge. Well we did it everyone, we managed to pull the event off and I think very successfully, considering our girl Shari was not with us physically, she was with us in spirit and in our memories. I think she would have been proud of all of us, pulling together to make the event work. Car count was off this year and we do have some ideas to try and get that up next year. As usual the hotel parking lot was packed with people enjoying the after racing atmosphere, though we did move to the side lot instead of clogging up the front of the hotel. Lots of laughter was had and maybe a few adult beverages were drunk also. Hmmmm I wonder if we should put a curfew on those of us that have to work the tent the next day... I don't think the birds were out yet, but dang close hahaha. (Editor note: maybe we should)

We had two racers who had perfect reaction times, Dan Weiland and Keith Egan. Congratulations . . .

A HUGE Thank you to our sponsors, without your support and donations we would not be able to pay what we do to our races. To the racers and spectators, a big thank you, without you all we could not have an event. Last but not least, to all of you who gave up your weekend and worked the event. We can't do what we do without you either. In fact nothing would get done without you, our volunteers, you know who you are and I appreciate each of you.

I think that is it for now, I'm probably forgetting something, I usually do.

Beth

Joe Garcia Race Coordinator

There were some pivotal changes at our September 8th race at Byron. The standings remain so close in the top 10 that any number of changes could take place. Dan Weiland who was on a roll looks like a deer in headlights staring at that number 1 spot in the standings. But Paul Brellie who is a champion in his own right isn't going to just roll over. Dan Weiland will have to bring his best to the track on September 28th because Paul plans on defending his first place standing to the end.....So look out.

Then there is Dan Rocco quietly taking aim at both Dan and Paul. A past champion himself, Dan knows exactly what he has to do to sneak past those two adversaries in front of him.

But Dan not only has to look ahead, he better keep an eye on who's behind him. Perry Carlini and Keith Egan are both top notch racers who can cut through the field like a hot knife through butter when they are on their game. And then there's that guy with the Apollo who is getting his trans worked by Mike Zaffino. Mike is secretly putting a tune into the Apollo's trans so it will run major consistent times just like Mike's 68 GS. And don't count Pete VanTholen out just because he made an improper left turn at the last race. Once Pete and Mike Zaffino sorts out his transmission on the beautiful new GS he will be there competing..

September 8th Race Results Summary

Rich George----- Winner
 Jay Westberg----Runner-Up
 Dan Rocco----- Top Qualifier .000
 Bill Grupp----- Best Reaction Time .006
 Paul Brellie----- Run on Dial-in

Season Racing Points Standings

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) 260 Paul Brellie | 11) 145 Scott Pitts |
| 2) 228 Dan Weiland | 12) 137 Keith Egan |
| 3) 227 Dan Rocco | 13) 135 Steve Pitts |
| 4) 215 Perry Carlini | 14) 095 Loyd Bonecutter |
| 5) 191 Joe Garcia | 15) 105 Dennis Butt |
| 6) 179 Bill Grupp | 16) 100 Dave Smith |
| 7) 170 Pete Van Tholen | 17) 095 Cindi Murray |
| 8) 163 Rich George | 18) 068 Bob Hoffman |
| 9) 160 Mike Zaffino | 19) 065 Carl Creque |
| 10) 155 Brian Henrickson | 20) 065 Gary Pote |

Top 5 Qualifiers

.000 Dan Rocco-----10 points
 .030 Hoffman-----8 points
 .041 Jay Westberg--- 6 points
 .049 Paul Brellie----- 4 points
 .064 Joe Garcia----- 2 points

Best Reaction Time

Bill Grupp -- .006 (10 points)

Run On Dial-In

Paul Brellie -- 12.08/12.08 (10 points)

This is the time of the year to think about renewing the GSCA and BPG membership

Classifieds

HRpartsNstuff rear sway bar for Turbo Regal - \$325.00 available from Joe Garcia 630-915-5639

All new 1-18 scale models still unopened in the original boxes.

- Peachtree GMP 1986 White Buick Regal T-Type, limited edition 1 of 5004 part number 8002 \$90
- Peachtree GMP 1986 Buick Gran National part number 8004 \$90
- American Muscle 1970 GS Stage 1, 4 speed with white interior, \$45
- Collector's Guild 1970 GS Stage 1, Fire red with white top and interior, 4 speed, \$35

Additional things from the trailer recently sold

- RJS black SFI racing jacket, Large, good condition \$25
- Stroud black SFI racing pants, Large, new..\$30
- Pair Impact mid top racing shoes. Black, size 9.5, new \$60.
- 4 gallons Shell Rotella 15w-40 oil. \$10/gallon, all 4 for \$35.

All plus shipping and insurance Tom 815-687-6622

Meeting, Technical Session
Sunday; November 10, 2013; @ 10:00 am
Darien Park District
7301 Fairview
Darien, IL 60561

We are having a general meeting to get our Members together to discuss what we want to do next year and just enjoy the day. If it is dry and warm we encourage getting your performance Buick out one last time.



Directions:

- From I-294 (Tri-State) take I-55 South (Southbound I-294 has a toll at exit)
- Continue past exits for county line road and Route 83 Kingery Highway (4.8 miles)
- Take the Cass Avenue Exit northbound (4.8 miles)
- Take Cass Avenue North to 75th Street (little over a mile)
- Turn left (west) on 75th Street
- Take 75th Street to Fairview (little less than a mile)
- Turn right (north) on Fairview
- The Darien Park District Building at 7301 will be to the right.

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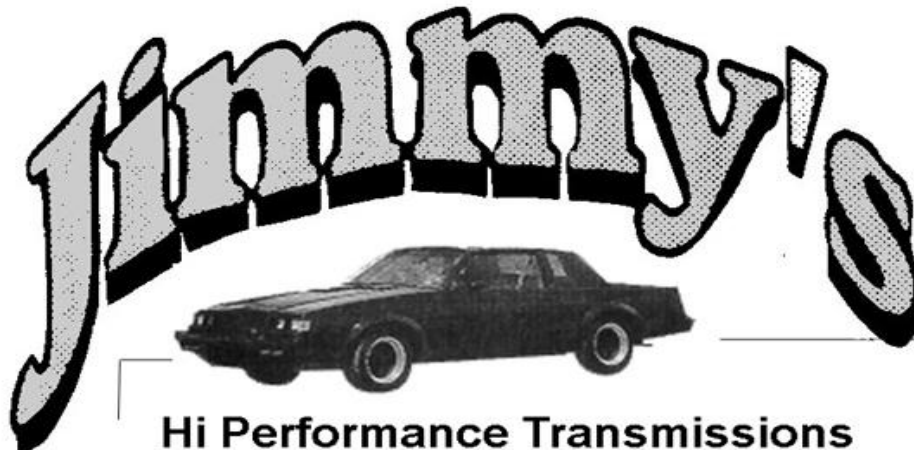
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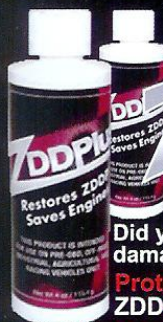
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