In 2016 the BCA will be celebrating



Allentown, PA July 27-30, 2016

Join us for the 2016 BCA 50th Anniversary Celebration in Allentown, PA

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!

(details and registration form available at www.buickclub.org and Bugle mail wrap)

## Buick Club of America 1966-2016

# 50 years?

n early 1966, a Buick lover by the name of Greg Fallowfield, later shortened to Greg Field, was a member of the Pittsburgh, PA based Buick Car Club of America (BCCA). Greg was lobbying to be allowed to start a chapter of the BCCA in California, but was not getting much cooperation from the head of the club. Greg's frustration with the BCCA leader led to him sitting down with five other Buick lovers in the Southern California area to discuss forming a Buick Club of California. The six men put together a short one-page newsletter called the *Buick Bugle*, and on April 10, 1966, began distributing it to other persons interested in the Buick automobile. By the second meeting, held on May 8, 1966, Greg had attracted a total of 17 members, counting himself. The group was

working towards a car show that would be held in September, and used that as an advertising ploy to attract new members. Word got out to Buick lovers in adjoining states and more members became part of Greg's small organization. At the third meeting in June, Greg renamed the group the Buick Club of America, and so began what we all enjoy today.

That first car show held in the Los Angeles area, evolved into an annual event, but was only promoted as the Los Angeles Chapter Show and swap meet. It took the leadership of Terry Dunham (BCA #217), who was known and loved by all who met him, to begin planning and organizing the first Buick Club of America national meet. With cooperation from the Public Relations Department at Buick Motor Division, Terry and a group of volunteers planned the first BCA national meet in the only location



The top photo is a copy of the very first *Buick Bugle*. Bottom photo shows a gathering of early BCA members at Greg Field's house celebrating the 35th anniversary of the Buick Club of America in 2001. The men in the back row are (left to right): Russell Aves BCA #14, (unidentified), Lloyd Paschal BCA #2, Greg Field BCA #1, Marvin Lewis BCA #4 and Leonard Hayes BCA #5. Front row on left is Leona Aves (Russ's wife) and (unidentified).

worthy of such a first — Flint, Michigan, where the Buick automobile began. A notice for the meet first appeared in the February 1971 *Buick Bugle* announcing that the BCA National Meet would be held August 7-8, 1971. The show was a resounding success, as there were 115 Buicks on display and over 5,000 people attended the event. Terry Dunham and Larry Gustin (BCA #6310) later co-wrote the highly-respected book, *The Buick: A Complete History.* 

The Buick Club of America's membership went on to a peak of approximately 9,800 members by the 100th anniversary of the Buick automobile in 2003 and currently stands at approximately 7,200 members. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Buick Club of America, we all must acknowledge and give thanks to those early members who committed their time, energy and personal dollars to make the BCA the success it has become. ◆

# Mark Your Calendar: July 27-30, 2016

Allentown, Pennsylvania is the location of the 2016 BCA 50th Anniversary Celebration. This area of the country has many places to explore, and there are also several official BCA tours planned. Of course, you can always just take your Buick out for a drive on Pennsylvania roads, which is about the best fun there is! This special anniversary event is a unique opportunity for members to celebrate BCA's 50 years, have fun with old and new friends, and

to enjoy an enormous assortment of beautiful Buicks from all decades.

Our host for the 50th Anniversary Celebration, Mr. Nicola Bulgari, has been a BCA member for all of its 50 years, since 1966 (BCA member #178). Though his home is in Italy, Bulgari has assembled one of the world's largest collections of antique and vintage automobiles in Allentown, PA. In celebration of the club's 50th anniversary, BCA members are the invited guests of Mr.. Bulgari to visit and tour his Celebration of the American Motorcar Complex in Allentown.



Bulgari has been an avid Buick fan since his early childhood in Europe. The monetary worth of a car plays no role in what he chooses to collect or restore and each vehicle is significant in its own way. We thank Mr. Bulgari for his hospitality, generosity and the rare opportunity to enjoy his collection of cars while we gather to celebrate. If you see him in Allentown, please thank Mr. Bulgari for the many favors he has done for the Buick Club of America, the Alfred P. Sloan Museum and the Buick Gallery in Flint, Michigan.

I fell in love with the Buicks. To me they were a symbol of America. They had glamorous styling, personality, power and responsiveness. They are luxurious without being ostentatious and offer the quality normally associated with far more expensive import cars.

# 50th Anniversary Celebration

# Tours and Other Activities

On the next several pages a summary of tours and activities will be described. There are four official BCA tours and a "cruise-in" planned for our Allentown 50th Celebration. Three all-day tours (#1, #2, #3) are offered each day on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 27-29. Travel buses and a catered lunch are provided on all three tours. Saturday, July 30 is a morning-only tour (#4). Lunch is on your own at the Farmers Market in downtown Allentown. This shorter tour day allows members time in the afternoon to enjoy the beautiful Buicks on display at the Bulgari Celebration of the American Motorcar Complex. All tours and the Thursday "Cruise-in" are subject to availability and first come/first serve basis. Registration forms are available at www.buickclub.org and on the *Bugle* mail wrap. Register early to secure your place.

#### TOUR 1

Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA)

Museum and Library Research Center
in Hershey, PA

Wednesday-Friday, July 27-29 9:00 am-4:30 pm (\$40)

# ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA (AACA):

Take the bus with us and travel 74 miles to Hershey, PA for a day at this fabulous museum and library. Tour the AACA Museum's special exhibits and permanent collection which includes 75-100 classic cars and trucks spanning over a century of American motoring. There are original

and restored vintage vehicles on display in elaborate scenes that bring the history of the automobile to life. See the original Hershey's Chocolate Co. Kissmobile, a 12-foot tall, 26-foot long custom-made vehicle resembling three Hershey's Kisses. Your kids and grandkids will want to take part in the Museum's interactive activities geared toward a younger generation. Be sure to also visit the separate AACA Library Research Center which houses, among many other items, the

Buick Heritage Alliance's (BHA) physical research archive of literature, manuals, bulletins and photographs. Set aside this day to explore the AACA Library and Museum (where lunch will be provided) and experience a journey of discovery and enjoyment for the whole family.



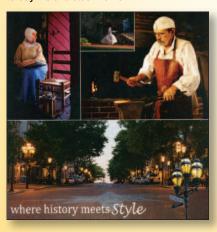
# TOUR 2

#### C.F. Martin Guitar Company, Historic Bethlehem and America On Wheels

Wednesday-Friday, July 27-29 8:00 am-4:00 pm (\$45)

#### **HISTORIC BETHLEHEM, PA:**

Only ten miles from Allentown is the historic city of Bethlehem. Here we see three centuries of the history and culture of Bethlehem from its founding as a Moravian community in 1741 to the 21st century. At the Moravian Museum the group will discover how the city's first settlers built a prosperous economy filled with crafts and trade. Wellmaintained buildings and sites, and rare collections that are available through exhibits and research will allow you to experience the oldest structures in Bethlehem, You will also learn about the rise and fall of Bethlehem Steel — with an understanding of how blast furnaces worked and a glimpse into the dayto-day life of a steel worker.



#### MARTIN GUITAR COMPANY: To own

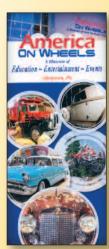
a Martin guitar is to own one of the finest musical instruments in the world. It is also a stunning piece of artwork. The C.F. Martin Guitar Company has been continuously family owned and operated for six generations. Currently headed by Christian Frederick Martin IV, the company has been handed down five times since it was first started by German immigrant Christian Frederick Martin, Sr. in 1833. Take a tour of the factory and visit the museum with its display of quitars celebrating Martin's 183-year history.



## AMERICA ON WHEELS ANTIQUE AUTO MUSEUM:

This large museum educates, entertains and offers

new ways of looking at the history of transportation technology. Explore the many areas of the museum, including the permanent displays, special exhibits, restoration shop, and more. Lunch will be a catered meal in the Museum's Hubcap Cafe. which is an original 1950s 23-foot soda fountain with aluminum bar stools, cafe tables and a jukebox cranking out the "oldies". There is something for everyone at this museum. Don't miss it!



# TOUR 3

#### Independence Hall, Liberty Bell Center and Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum in Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday-Friday, July 27-29 9:00 am-5:00 pm (\$58)

#### INDEPENDENCE HALL:

Philadelphia is only 64 miles from Allentown and is the home of Independence Hall, primarily known as the location where both the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution were debated and adopted. The building is part of the Independence National Historical Park and is listed as a World Heritage Site. Visit this historical building with its many interesting rooms, artifacts and artwork depicting America's early days. Also see the LIBERTY BELL with its distinctive crack, on display across the street in the Liberty Bell Center. While at the Center, explore the facts and myths surrounding the Bell. X-rays give an insider's view of the

Bell's crack and inner-workings. Enjoy short films tracing how

abolitionists, suffragists and other groups adopted the Bell as a symbol of freedom.

#### SIMEONE FOUNDATION AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM: Do you love sports

cars? This is a unique opportunity to visit one of the world's greatest collections of racing sports cars.

Assembled over 50 years by renowned neurosurgeon Dr. Frederick Simeone, the Museum contains over 65 historically significant cars including Ferrari, Alfa Romeo, Bugatti, Mercedes, Jaguar, Bentley,

Porsche, Aston Martin, Corvette and more. There is always something new and exciting happening at this museum which includes a permanent collection and special exhibits. Marvel at the cars, enjoy a catered lunch at the Museum and take time to browse the gift shop!



## BGA Graise-in

#### **"Buick Club Day" at Dorney Amusement Park & Wildwater Kingdom**

Thursday, July 28 5:00 pm (\$47)

Dorney Amusement Park is actually two great parks in one. You will have access to a wide array of rides and family attractions that are fun for all ages. And as a BCA member you will have access to what every car club needs:
FREE PARKING! An "All-You-Can-Eat" picnic buffet will be served at 6:00 pm with a special gift for all who attend. Afterwards you can cool off at Wildwater Kingdom which is the largest waterpark in the Northeast with over 30 water slides and raft rides, two giant wave pools and two tubing rivers!



# Lehigh Valley Covered Bridges

Of the more than 200 covered bridges still standing in Pennsylvania, seven excellent examples of these treasures are in the Lehigh Valley. A tour of the **Lehigh Valley Covered Bridges** offers you the opportunity to journey back in time to a quieter, more idyllic way of life. The BCA is working on providing BCA group tours, but there is also a self-guided tour, approximately 50 miles long, that starts in downtown Allentown at 7th and Hamilton Streets. Whether on a group or self-guided tour, plan to spend several hours for a leisurely drive, which will allow time for taking photos and enjoying the scenic



beauty surrounding the bridges. A number of inviting spots are accessible along the way for picnicking. Visit www.DiscoverLehighValley.com and head to the "Discover" tab. From there, find the "Free brochures" link to download a PDF of a full-color brochure with map, directions, photos and a description and history of each of the seven bridges. Or call 610-882-9200 to have a brochure mailed to you. Watch for detailed information about BCA group tours in the *Bugle* and at www.buickclub.org.

## TOUR 4

# Clover Hill Vineyards & Winery, Josh Early Candies and Allentown Farmer's Market

Saturday, July 30 9:00 am-3:00 pm (\$30)

CLOVER HILL WINERY: Located in Lehigh Valley, Clover Hill Winery is a small family-owned business, which produces 75,000 gallons of wine annually, including red, white, blush and fruit wines. Enjoy the tasting area and gorgeous vineyard grounds. And don't forget to take home a bottle or more!

JOSH EARLY CANDIES: The history began in the early 1900s when J. Mark Early, also known as Josh, and his partner sold wholesale candy in Reading, PA. Five generations later, the candy store is still owned and operated by the Early family. Candy makers use the same recipes that were develoed in the early 1900s. Whether you take home several gift boxes or sample only a few pieces, you are sure to taste some truly fine assorted chocolates and candies

#### **ALLENTOWN FARMER'S**

available in this candy store!

MARKET: One of Lehigh Valley's favorite weekend places to visit is the outstanding Farmer's Market located in the Allentown Fairgrounds (open Thursday-Saturday). It's a must-go place for "foodies" and well worth working your schedule around. Want something for lunch? Easy! Take your pick: fresh fruits and vegetables, local honey, deli items, Amish baked delicacies, yummy pierogis, traditional Pennsylvania Dutch and German goodies, BBQ, Mediterrean/Greek salads and meats, Italian pizza and cannoli, Vietnamese fare and much more! Come hungry and experience this market for yourself.





# BCA Special Events in Celebration of



(registration form available at www.buickclub.org and Bugle mail wrap)

# Buick Heritage Alliance Gala

Friday, July 29 • 6:00 pm-10:00 pm Holiday Inn Center/Lehigh Valley • \$50 per person



The Buick Heritage Alliance (BHA) promotes historical research and the dissemination of information concerning the origin and development of the Buick automobile and the individuals who contributed to it. Register to attend the BHA Gala and help support this non-profit organization with a fun night of dinner, awards and entertainment.

6:00 pm-10:00 pm Cash Bar

6:00 pm-9:00 pm Silent Action

6:30 pm-7:30 pm Dinner (your choice of beef, chicken or fish)

7:30 pm-8:00 pm Awards Program

8:00 pm-10:00 pm Entertainment

# Showing of Beautiful Buicks

# Saturday, July 30 • 9:00 am-3:00 pm • Free for BCA members Bulgari Celebration of the American Motorcar Complex

(Entrance fee for non-members to be donated to America On Wheels: \$5 adult/\$2 kids & military) BCA members are the invited guests of Nicoli Bulgari for a special day of viewing both his collection of cars and our own Beautiful BCA Buicks. There will be no formal judging, but THERE WILL BE INFORMAL JUDGING to pick "Best of Show" by decades, as well as other awards. The awards will be presented at the BCA Celebration Banquet held on Saturday night.

# BCA 50th Celebration Banquet

Saturday, July 30 • 6:00 pm-10:00 pm Agri-Plex at Allentown Fairgrounds • \$35 per person Buich

6:00 pm-6:30 pm Social Time (cash bar) 6:30 pm-10:00 pm Dinner and Special Awards

# More Fun "Things To Do" in Allentown

#### Got some free time? Check out these interesting places to visit:

Da Vinci Science Center, 3145 Hamilton Blvd. Bypass, 484-664-1002, Mon-Sat 10-5
Mack Truck Historical Museum, 2402 Lehigh Parkway South, 610-351-8999, MWF 10-4
Haines Mill Museum (old grain mill), 3600 Haines Mill Road, 610-435-4664
Allentown Art Museum, 31 North Fifth St., 610-432-4333, Wed-Sat 11-4, Thurs 11-8, Sun noon-4
Martin Art Gallery, Muhlenberg College, 484-664-3467, Tues-Sat, noon-8 pm
Merchants Square Model Train Exhibit, 1901 S. 12th St., 610-797-7743, Fri-Sun on the hour
Allentown Fish Hatchery, 2901 Fish Hatchery Road, 610-437-7656
Coca-Cola Baseball Park, 1050 IronPigs Way, 610-841-7447



## Transportation Tips and More...

Whether you are driving your own Buick to Allentown or renting a car, helpful Allentown maps will be provided for download at www.buickclub.org. The BCA will also provide detailed directions to the Bulgari Complex.

Additional transportation options while in Allentown are still being worked out, but the plan is to have a central location where cars can be parked and shuttle service provided to the Bulgari Complex. Watch for information in the *Bugle* and at www.buickclub.org.

Also watch for Allentown restaurant suggestions and discount coupons to be posted on the BCA website during the coming year. Go to www.buickclub.org to keep updated with any new information about this very special 2016 BCA 50th anniversary celebration!

Where to Stay in Allentown

#### **Host Hotel Information**

The four-star Renaissance Hotel located in downtown Allentown opened its doors in January 2015. The hotel surrounds the facade of the historic art deco Dime Savings and Trust building (circa 1921), which now serves as the hotel's entrance and lobby. With locally inspired artwork throughout, the hotel is home to the Dime Restaurant and Bar, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. For reduced group rates, be sure to mention you are with the BCA when you make your reservation.

Renaissance Allentown Hotel 12 North Seventh Street Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101 484-273-4000 www.renaissanceallentown.com

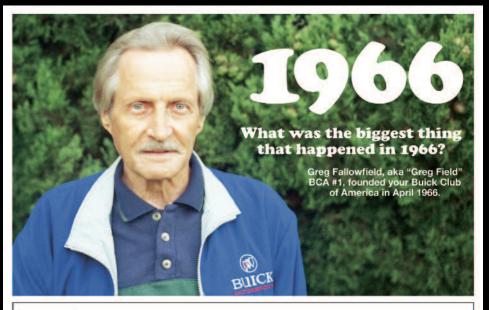
\$179 for Standard Guestrooms \$259 for Executive King Suites



#### **Alternative Hotels**

Below is a list of a few hotels in the Allentown area that are convenient to the Bulgari Complex. Be sure to mention you are with the BCA when you make your reservation. For a more complete list of hotels, with detailed information about each one, please refer to www.buickclub.org.

PROPERTY	MILES TO COMPLEX	PHONE	KING/DBL	SUITE
Best Western Plus Lehigh Valley	5.7 miles	610-866-5800	\$99.00	n/a
Courtyard Allentown Airport	2.6 miles	610-317-6200	\$144.00	n/a
Fairfield Inn & Suites	2.6 miles	610-867-8681	\$119.00	n/a
Holiday Inn Center City	2.6 miles	610-433-2221	\$114.00	\$114.00
Holiday Inn Center/Lehigh Valley .	11.2 miles	610-391-1000	\$129.00	\$139.00
Holiday Inn Express/Allentown	8.6 miles	610-530-5545	\$99.00	\$109.00
Holiday Inn Express/Suites	8.1 miles	610-838-6110	\$119.00	\$139.00
Holiday Inn Express Airport	4.4 miles	610-882-2255	\$130.00	\$140.00
Homewood Suites Airport	3.6 miles	610-264-7500	n/a	\$149.00
Ramada Whitehall/Allentown	2.6 miles	610-439-1037	\$104.99	\$154.99
Residence Inn Airport	2.6 miles	610-317-2662	n/a	\$149.00
Wingate Allentown	10.2 miles	610-366-1600	\$109.00	n/a



#### Other events that took place in 1966

- New safety standards were established by the U.S. government via the Motor Vehicle Safety Act, which regulated all new cars built beginning with the 1968 model year
- The Beatles played Shea Stadium in New York to 45,000 fans
- The minimum wage is raised to \$1.60 per hour
- The Freedom of Information Act is signed by U.S. President Lyndon B.
- Texas Western defeats Kentucky for the NCAA men's basketball championship
- Miniskirts were introduced to the fashion scene worldwide
- "Star Trek" on NBC and "The Munsters" on CBS are the biggest TV bits
- are the biggest TV hits

  Frank Sinatra wins a
  Grammy for "Strangers

in the Night"

- Average life expectancy increases to 70.2 years
- The 13 millionth Buick was produced in September
- A new 1966 Buick sold for \$2,348 to \$4,615
- The advertising tagline was "Wouldn't You Really Rather Have a Buick?"



#### 1966 Buick lineup

Special Special Deluxe Skylark Skylark Gran Sport Sport Wagon LeSabre Wildcat Electra 225 Riviera

#### **JOIN US** for the 50th Anniversary Celebration in Allentown, Pa., July 27–30, 2016



