

**Buick Club of America
General Membership Meeting Minutes
2000 BCA National Meet
Richmond, VA
July 6, 2000**

The meeting was called to order at 7:39PM by Vice-President Leets in the absence of President Jeff Brashares.

In attendance were BCA Board members Bill Schoening, Pete Phillips, Cecil Don, Ken Liska, Roberta Vasilow, and Jack Jones.

Vice-President Leets welcomed all BCA members and introduced the Board and other dignitaries present.

Chapter Coordinator Judy Leets announced a Chapter Directors meeting would take place at 10am, July 7, 2000. She also announced and explained a new membership incentive program which would be starting immediately.

A big round of applause was given to outgoing BCA President Roberta Vasilow, as well as outgoing Director and Past President Al Eichelberger. Incoming Director Phillips was also recognized.

Wray Kniffen spoke about the BCA presence at Hershey and thanked all who have helped him. He also appealed to Chapters for donations to purchase signs, refreshments, and other supplies.

Roy Wager, BCAMAF President, announced the BCA MAF meeting would take place at 1pm, July 7, 2000.

Director, and Technical Advisor Chairman Bill Schoening spoke about the Tech Advisors program and the continued need for additional advisors.

Bruce Kile, National Tour Director and BDE Tour host, also spoke and announced the post National Meet Tour would depart the facility at 9am, July 9, 2000.

Bob Neumann, Reatta Division Director, announced a meeting at 10am, July 7, 2000.

Questions and Comments from the Audience

Chris Breeze inquired whether the membership drive was for Chapter members, or any BCA member. Judy Leets advised it was open to all BCA members.

Bill Sorenson of Pennsylvania questioned the high cost of hotel rooms, etc. at National meets. VP Leets and others explained the difficulty of finding suitable quarters with the capabilities and requirements needed to host a National Meet at a "budget" price.

Dave Ginsburg of California suggested some info in The Bugle regarding legislative threats to the old car hobby.

Roberta Vasilow reminded the audience of the racing to take place July 7, 2000 at the Virginia Motor Sports Park in Petersburg.

Charlie Dart, Alabama, asked everyone to be sure and thank BMD for bringing their wonderful concept cars to the Meet.

Dave Robinson, Niagara Frontier Chapter, reminded all who were planning on attending the 2001 National Meet to make their hotel reservations ASAP.

Discussion on the BCA Roster

Bob Leets addressed the high cost of producing the bi-annual BCA Roster and pointed out that this item is, in fact, a "supplement" to The Bugle and not, in any way, a part of a members' annual dues. The cost to produce the Roster is between \$23,000 and \$27,000 for 10,000 copies, plus mailing.

Due to the extreme need for the Board to reduce expenses, it was asked of the audience if they would be will to pay up to \$10 for a copy of the Roster. A large portion of the audience agreed they would be willing to do this.

Several suggested making the Roster available via the BCA WebSite so that members could download with a password.

Others suggested creating a place on the BCA application and renewal form(s) with a check-off point to indicate interest in a purchase of the Roster.

Ed Ingram suggested selling advertising in the Roster to offset costs.

Bruce Kile felt the Roster had become "too large and too elaborate" and could easily be downsized to save on costs.

Bill Henderson stated he would like to see the Roster published yearly, as the Chapters make good use of it.

John Ball was in favor of paying a fair price, as is done in the AACA.

It was suggested a tear-out postcard be inserted in The Bugle to poll the membership on the Roster. VP Leets pointed out that this would be cost prohibitive.

Several suggested putting a clip-out coupon on a page within The Bugle that members could return with their vote.

Dave Robinson pointed out that many States offer reduced rates on car insurance if a member of an old car club, therefore the cost of the Roster becomes insignificant.

Chris Breeze wanted to know if this was a fund maker, or if the BCA was just trying to "break even". Leets said this was not a fund raiser.

Jim Moeller suggested making the Roster in loose leaf form so that pages could be added for new members each month. He also requested Leets make the audience aware of the dues increase passed by the Board July 5, 2000/

Craig Bober, BOOM Chapter Director, said his Chapter members "get little from the BCA" and felt the loss of the Roster, or an extra cost would result in more lost members. He also felt all members should be polled. Craig also asked about using the National Meet(s) as fund raisers.

VP Leets announced a \$5 per year dues increase for all BCA members, effective October 1, 2000. He also pointed out once again that the \$10 charge for the BCA Roster "was not in stone", and the Board would be taking all ideas and suggestions to heart and deciding the best way to handle the situation without losing money.

New Buick Bugle Editor Robert Snowden, and Sales Manager Dick Taylor of Baker Press, Orlando, FL, were introduced and asked to speak to the membership.

Dick Taylor informed the audience of the background and experience of Baker Press and expressed his desire for a long term relationship.

Robert Snowden thanked Chuck Koch for his cooperation in the transition of Bugle Editorship and promised the membership a quality publication with fresh ideas and concepts.

He also invited the BCA Board and all members to tour the Baker Press facilities in Orlando, FL on Friday, October 20, 2000.

Ken Liska presented a calendar/poster created by Baker Press and polled the audience on their interest and how much they would be willing to pay for such an item. At least 50% of the audience were willing to pay at least \$7 if made available.

2000 BCA National Meet Chairman Phil Strassner informed the audience that some cars on the show field had to be moved immediately following the meeting due to a significant loss of available parking created by the General Electric office building adjacent to the host hotel refusing to allow any Buick Club related parking in their lot(s). Phil said extra parking was now available at a nearby high school lot, and that all non-show vehicles would have to be moved immediately.

It was also mentioned that the pre-qualification check had been eliminated via vote of the Board in February 2000 due to suggestion from Mac Blair.

MacBlair announced he had over 110 judges signed up and available for the Meet. The Judges seminar would be at 2pm July 7th, and the Judges breakfast would be at 7am July 8th, just prior to the show.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 10pm

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Leets, BCA #17041
BCA Secretary, 1999-2000