

MINUTES
BCA Board of Directors Meeting
Decatur, Texas, February 23, 2002

Members present: Jeff Brashares; Jerry Bodden; Pete Phillips; Roberta Vasilow; Paul Meyer; Phil Strassner; Pat Brooks; Bill Schoening

Others present: Mac Blair, Chief of Judges Training; Mike and Nancy Book, BCA Office Managers; Joel Gauthier, BCA Accountant; Pat Riley, Buick Foundation President; Rick Schick, Chief Judge; Bill Stoneberg, Lone Star Chapter Director; Dale Sherman, North Texas Chapter Director; Cookie Strassner, Virginia Chapter Director; and others (see sign-up sheet)

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Jeff Brashares. Members and visitors were introduced. Roy Eaton, N. Texas Chapter, welcomed everyone. Joel Gauthier reported that Cecil Don became ill this week, otherwise Cecil had intended to come.

MINUTES. The minutes of the December 3, 2001 conference call were reviewed. MOTION by Schoening, seconded by Strassner, to approve the minutes as written. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Joel Gauthier presented the financial reports for September, October, November, and December 2001. He noted that the dues increase is beginning to show some results, with greater income and assets on hand, but the Board still needs to keep an eye on multi-year dues reserves. We presently have roughly a \$20,000 excess of revenue over expenses. Brashares added that last year at this time we were \$5000 in the hole. Gauthier stated that it costs \$34.60 per member to operate the club, of which \$21.20 is the cost of the Bugle. This means there is no cushion for the future, and we are operating at a break-even point. Vasilow questioned the \$28,000 accounting expense for October (Plante & Moran's fee for a year's worth of services, which just happens to be passed through and was reimbursed by Brashares that month). Brooks suggested that budget figures be regularly printed in the magazine. No official action was taken.

OFFICE REPORT. Mike Book reported that he is processing 90-100 new memberships each month, but that we are losing 100-125 existing members each month, whom apparently decide not to renew. A sample of the permanent membership card was passed around as Book explained the cost savings that will result in subsequent years if we do not send out annual membership cards. The present annual cost is \$3163. With a permanent card, the first year's cost will be \$7242, but subsequent years will cost an estimated \$400 per year, assuming 1200 new members per year. After much discussion about laminating, adding chapter and division affiliations to the card (too complicated and expensive), separate cards for single versus multi-year memberships, what the cards are used for (mainly to remember your BCA number), and how to know which members are current (will be on the magazine label or the national office will know), Brooks made a MOTION to proceed with the permanent card, but without lamination. This was

seconded by Bodden, who also suggested that the BCA website address be put on the card. All in favor.

Nancy Book described the numerous boxes of past correspondence and other documents that have been received from Val Ingram in California (15-plus years of copies of all correspondence, all original membership applications, monthly financial records). Pat Riley asked if there was anything worth saving for the Buick Foundation from a historical point of view. After much more discussion, Strassner made a MOTION that membership records, National Meet bids, and financial records be kept. This was seconded by Brooks, who amended the motion to preserve individual chapter applications/petitions, annual financial summaries only, and dispose of the membership applications. Strassner agreed to the amended motion, and all voted in favor.

Mike Book reported that the Club has an old pin-dot printer, and computer monitor which are old and just taking up space. After much discussion about whether the right computer was received from Val Ingram, the consensus was that it is the right one, and the old one should be disposed of or donated to charity. There was more discussion about the return of \$243 in petty cash, which Ed Ingram is holding due to funds he believes the Club owes him. Book noted that he has tried many times to collect the money and get phone calls returned, to no avail. Phillips suggested that the matter be dropped and just consider it a transition cost. MOTION by Strassner, seconded by Phillips, to drop the issue of the \$243 petty cash and the old computer, and go on. All voted in favor.

BUGLE REPORT. Brashares gave the report, noting that spelling and grammar mistakes are still present and receive a lot of comments. Baker Press is now in the process of contracting with a proof reader who does this for the AACA, and Baker will absorb the expense. Brashares noted that it is too late to try to rebid the magazine by June of this year when Baker's current contract expires. Phillips asked why Baker is just now beginning to do something about the errors and lack of proofreading, when we have been harping about this for a year. Rick Schick stated that the Chicagoland Chapter has difficulty sending faxes to Editor Bob Snowden, and asked that he get a dedicated fax phone line for this purpose. It was agreed that this should be done. No formal action was taken.

CHAPTER COORDINATOR'S REPORT. A written report from Judy Leets was read by Brashares. She reports that chapter inquiries have been received from Maine and from Souix Falls, South Dakota. A list of current chapter officers has been checked with current BCA dues lists, and some officers were found to be delinquent on their national membership.

REGIONAL COORDINATOR'S REPORT. Phil Strassner reported that he continues to receive chapter letters approving the realignment of the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern regions' boundary. This should be finalized in April.

INTERNET REPORT. Roberta Vasilow reported that the BCA website continues to be very active. A link to the BCA Board minutes has been added to the front page.

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR'S REPORT. Bill Schoening reported that there are no changes to the list of advisors, and all is going well. Schoening added that he would like for someone else to take over the Technical Coordinator's job soon. The BCA office will now take care of address changes in the listing. New advisors' information will be sent to the National Office by the Technical Coordinator. Mac Blair asked whether copies of the technical advisors' responses were being saved for use in making changes to the judging program or handbook. Rick Schick asked if it was possible to get a summary of the technical advisors' responses. Barney Eaton, Reatta Division advisor, noted that he gets 10 letters and responses per day, and this would be impractical to save them all. Schoening stated that advisor Ralph Crisp does a wonderful job by summarizing any responses that might result in changes to the judging handbook.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING AGENT. Brashares noted that a couple of responses were received for the club's "ad agent wanted" advertisement. He noted that Mike and Nancy Book, BCA Office Managers, had responded with an offer to handle the Bugle display ads for a 10% commission, which is what we were previously paying. It was noted that BCA member Frank Tarpey also responded, with some very direct comments and layout critique of the magazine. **MOTION** by Vasilow, seconded by Strassner, to accept the Book's offer to be the magazine's display advertising agent.. Motion passed, 7-1, with Phillips voting against, explaining that he likes Mr. Tarpey's suggestions.

JUDGING REPORT, Item 19, Ebay Truck Sales. Rick Schick reported that he has sold 36 of the Buick truck models on Ebay, for just over \$1000 in proceeds after expenses. 44 trucks are still left, but only 10 of these have no defects (such as a damaged box). Schick asked whether the Board wanted him to continue with the sales, which have slowed this year. Scotty Aurand, N. Texas Chapter, suggested giving them away as a "long distance" prize. Roy Faries, N. Texas Chapter, asked what the cost was to list them on Ebay (about \$3). After more discussion, it was decided to let Schick use his own judgment on whether to continue with the on-line sales.

Item 1, Buffalo Judging Recap. Schick reported that of the roughly 400 cars in attendance at the National Meet, 295 were judged. 277 were judged under the 400-point system and 18 modified cars were judged under the Street Rod Club's judging system. There were 35 archival cars, 40 new senior cars, and 31 classes. The greatest problem was with the 48 judges who signed up to judge, but did not show up to do so on Saturday morning. This caused much wasted time during the judges' breakfast, as teams were hastily formed, and many were short-handed. Nine appeals of the judging results were filed. Seven of these resulted in deductions being reversed, and five of these resulted in changes in the award received. David Corbin, N. Texas Chapter, noted that it is important to recognize those who appealed and got a change in their award, but who may not have been recognized properly earlier. Schick went over each of the appeals and noted that a couple of these are the same people who filed appeals in prior years. Some of these people appeal every deduction on their judging form. For example, Schick stated that he has spent at least 50 hours on Leonard Calanni's appeal regarding a 1980 Buick Century (condition, non-authentic wheels, non-authentic accessories, etc.) Phillips stated

that some people attach too much importance to winning a trophy. Schick replied that Mr. Calanni is asking that the Board expand the judging appeals to issues of condition and workmanship, and not limit them to items of authenticity as is done now. MOTION by Strassner, seconded by Phillips, that the owners' recourse appeals NOT be expanded to items of workmanship or condition. All in favor. Schick noted that some people who are unhappy with their judging results have been very persistent and unpleasant in their phone calls. At this point, Schick was thanked and applauded by the Board for his exhaustive efforts. On the issue of judging errors, Mac Blair asked if the entire judging sheet should be reviewed when an owner raises a challenge, or whether it should be limited just to the item the owner is appealing. Schick replied that he feels the judging form should be reviewed for basic errors such as arithmetic and the presence of mandatory deductions before the award decision is changed. Schoening agreed, stating that this is up to the Chief Judge, and we should not attempt to second-guess the Chief Judge. Schick agreed to put this in writing for future action. Brashares noted that the club has bent over backwards with some people, in an attempt to be fair.

Items 3 & 4, Awards inventory. Schick stated that the Kokomo meet will likely have greater attendance than Buffalo did, so more awards will be needed. There was much discussion about numbers needed, numbers in stock, whether owners prefer peer judging or 400-point judging, whether 400-point judging should be done at regional meets, modified car judging, vote swapping, and whether to establish a "driver" class with less rigorous judging. Brooks stated that we need to recognize the newer cars, the newer members, and the more people we can make happy with an award, the better off and healthier the BCA will be. Strassner disagreed, stating that many people have called him feeling that the awards process had been cheapened, with awards given out too freely. After much more discussion, it was agreed that 75 gold awards, 75 silver, and 60 bronze are needed for Kokomo. We have enough glass blocks and wood bases for the Senior awards. Grille emblems and backing plates were next discussed for the senior and archival awards. MOTION by Strassner, seconded by Meyer, to have the emblems made, approve the cost (up to \$6.20 each, for quantities of 100) for Kokomo. All voted in favor. After much more discussion, it was agreed that Mike Book would work on the annual date piece and Schoening would work on the grille mount piece. Discussion next turned to the Archival award plaques. Schick estimated that 30 will be needed for Kokomo, at a cost of \$33 per plaque plus \$4 shipping. Schick asked if a contract needed to be in place with Ken and Paula Liska, who are producing these. This led to a discussion over whether the national BCA or the host chapter should foot the bill for these awards at the national meet. It was noted that the host chapter pays the national organization for the gold, silver, and bronze award medallions, and that the host chapter, not the national BCA makes the money when a National Meet has a profit. MOTION by Strassner, seconded by Brooks, that the host chapter will be responsible for the archival award expense, but the national BCA will be responsible for the grille badge. All in favor. Strassner noted that we are creating a problem by asking chapters to pay for the award, but the national BCA pays for the senior preservation awards. After more discussion, Phillips made a MOTION to have the national BCA pay for the production of all national meet awards given under the 400-point judging (medallions, archival, senior preservation, grille badges), but the host chapter is to be billed for the cost of the awards

that they use. Roy Faries, N. Texas Chapter, stated that this will mean the price of registering a car at a National Meet will be more expensive, and the more costs that are put on the host chapter, the fewer chapters will be willing to host a meet. Joel Gauthier, Central Indiana Chapter, stated that they did not work this expense into the 2002 national meet budget. Phillips then amended the MOTION to take effect for the 2004 National Meet. Strassner amended his second, and all voted in favor. Vasilow suggested that the BCA Office Managers get with Ken and Paula Liska for this year's archival award certificates.

Item 5, Senior and Archival Award Records. Schick stated that Jim Terruso, Sr. has all of the records, but they are not yet updated for 2001 due to differences in Chris Deel's data, Schick's data, and the actual judging records of what was awarded. Chris Deel needs to get the data to Terruso before she relinquishes her job on March 31st. Bill Stoneberg, Lone Star Chapter, and Roy Faries, N. Texas Chapter, volunteered to look at the computer program problems and see what can be done to fix them.

Items 6 & 7, Judges Records and Judges Recognition Pins. Schick reported that Keith Bleakney decided it would be best to re-enter all data from the judges' experience cards, and is currently through the letter "L". He also provided a copy of Bleakney's report which included a sample of the output. There was some discussion of recognizing judges' length of service, and whether to delete or change the pins for first-time judges. There was general consensus that the system should be left as is.

Item 8, Owners Recourse Policy. Schick noted that our prior to the 2001 National Meet was to limit car owners' appeals to items of authenticity which are contradictory to information in the judging handbook. However, at the Buffalo Meet, Schick recommended, and Mac Blair and Jeff Brashares agreed, that we should allow ANY question of authenticity to be appealed, regardless of whether it is covered in the Handbook or not. Phillips made a MOTION to officially adopt the revised policy which Blair, Brashares, and Schick are already using. This was seconded by Bodden, and all voted in favor of allowing any authenticity appeal. Schick continued with his analysis of the pros and cons of the relatively new policy of allowing these types of National Meet judging appeals. The administration of this policy is very time-consuming, but sometimes true mistakes are corrected. Schick suggested that the owners' recourse policy be re-evaluated next year. but that it should be continued for Kokomo.

Item 9, Pre-qualification Check Exemptions for State-inspected Cars. Schick reported that some New York State cars with current state inspection stickers were exempted from the Buffalo National Meet's pre-qualification check, which was never authorized. The reasons for the pre-qualification check were restated, with Schick noting that it is not a safety inspection. It is a pre-judging check (fire extinguisher, banquet photos, driven onto field), as well as part of the judging process where points can be deducted (headlights, signals, horn). Bodden suggested that it would save time not to check the lights and signals if the states do it. No formal action was taken on this.

Item 10, Vehicle Judging Class Changes. Complaints were received over judging 1971 full-sized cars with the 1970 and earlier full-sized cars at Buffalo, and over the class splits of the Rivieras. Schick pointed out that there are 18 required classes, but it is up to the Head Judge to split the classes further, based on the number of cars in each class and the number of judges available. There was a consensus that we need to be flexible, but the final decision is the Head Judge's responsibility,

Item 11, Regular and Archival Judging of Same Car at Same Meet. Letters have been received from Gary Cockerill, who wants to be able to have his car judged under both the 400-point system and the Archival judging system, at one National Meet. After some discussion of the computer programming necessary to accommodate this, as well as judges' training, Phillips made a MOTION that this receive no further consideration, as this person seems primarily interested in how many trophies he can take home, which is not the purpose of the Buick Club. This was seconded by Schoening, and all voted in favor.

Item 12, Archival Judging Problems. Schick noted that the Archival judging has not been done properly, and too many cars are receiving the award that should not receive it. Deductions are being taken for condition, which is wrong. At least 25% of the Archival judged cars were judged incorrectly on this issue alone, at Buffalo. Schick added that he supports the program, but it has fundamental flaws. He proposes a select group of experienced judges to judge all "Class U" unrestored or Archival cars, as a compromise for the Kokomo meet, then have a committee evaluate this and make changes for 2004. Mac Blair stated that he does not agree with this, as 2-3 teams will be needed if there are 20-40 cars, the more knowledgeable judges are taken off of other judging teams, and hardly anyone is knowledgeable about all 90+ years of Buicks. Joel Gauthier suggested that the Archival judging be left as is for the Kokomo meet, and that more emphasis be put on the training of the judges. Pat Brooks suggested judging the archival cars at some time other than Saturday morning of the Meet, and then park these cars with the rest of the 400-point cars on Saturday. After more discussion, Schoening made a MOTION that the Chief Judge appoint a special team to judge all Archival cars at Kokomo. This was seconded by Strassner. Motion passed, 6-1 (Vasilow voting no). Gauthier noted that he disagrees with this concept. David Corbin, N. Texas Chapter, also stated that he disagrees, but will volunteer to serve on this team of judges.

Item 13, Special Ordered Paint and Trim. Schick stated that Buick sometimes used specially ordered paint and/or trim colors, which were not officially offered as an option on some models, and this has caused problems in judging. By "special order," Schick explained that he was referring to interiors and paint colors that were not shown as being standard or available options in the color and trim books, facts books, or regular manufacturer's literature. The practice is documented by long-time Buick salesmen and by families who special ordered the cars, but if we accept this as legitimate for any car, then it will be impossible to establish standards for judging authentic interiors and paint colors. Schick proposed that for the 2002 National Meet, special ordered colors and materials will be accepted only if the owner can prove that the specific car was originally ordered and equipped that way. Brooks made a MOTION that this rule be adopted for

judging. This was seconded by Strassner. Mac Blair stated that we should allow any color or material that was possible to be special ordered for any car (not limit it to the car at hand). Willis Bell, N. Texas Chapter, stated that the dealer would have to receive notification from the zone office that any special material or color would have been available. David Corbin spoke of a 1926 Doctors Coupe which was special ordered with upholstery to match the owner's wife's favorite coat. After more discussion, all voted in favor of the motion.

Item 14, Use of Metallic Paints. Schick reviewed a potential judging controversy over the size and unavailability of certain metal flake paints when an old car is repainted. He proposed that for the 2002 meet, no point deduction be taken for medium-sized paint flakes, when fine-sized paint flakes are no longer being produced. However, if large metal flakes are used instead of small or medium, a 10-point mandatory deduction must be taken. Phillips asked how judges would be expected to know the difference between small, medium and large flakes, and that if they were judging to this extent, then they might be "killing the car". After more discussion, no action was taken, and the item was postponed until the April Board meeting.

Item 15, No Judging at Flint 2003 Meet. Schick stated that he has received several complaints regarding the decision not to have a judged meet at Flint in 2003. He noted that this was not his decision, but the decision of the meet organizers and a previous Board. It was the consensus of those present that this decision has been made some time ago, and should not be changed now.

Item 16, National Awards at Regional Meets. Schick reviewed Greg Vair's letter which proposed a National Junior Award to be given out at regional meets, to accommodate those who cannot travel long distances to national meets. The same letter makes serious allegations of judging improprieties and favoritism shown to President Jeff Brashares' cars at the Buffalo meet, and charges that there are too many peer-judged regional meets. Vair claims the Las Vegas regional meet was cancelled due to no 400-point judging being done. Schoening replied that the Las Vegas meet was cancelled due to its conflict with Labor Day weekend, and not enough pre-registrations. Schick added that for a regional award to be called "National", there would need to be some national review and involvement with or sanctioning of the judges. It is hoped that regional awards given under the 400-point judging system would provide sufficient recognition for most members. He added that Brashares' cars finished 5th, 10th, and 12th out of a 12-car class in Buffalo, which hardly shows favoritism. Schick added that judging impropriety is not tolerated, and should be reported to the Head Judge and Chief Judge immediately, if and when it is observed—not several months later. Schick stated that he does not give anybody preferential treatment, and the integrity of the BCA's judging system is why he has gotten involved with it for so many years. Schick suggested that calling the proposed award a "Regional Junior" award would need no Board action, but if it is called a National award, it will need Board approval and national judging involvement. Pat Brooks stated that this could mean a new layer of administration and awards, which is not what we really need. Schoening mentioned the possibility of having an East Coast National Meet and a West Coast National Meet in the same year. Strassner suggested that

the idea be tabled. Brashares asked if anyone wanted to take on this task or make a motion. No formal action was taken.

Item 17, Recruitment of Judges. Schick reviewed the problem of no-show judges at the National Meet. Bodden suggested the recruitment and use of AACA judges for BCA national meets. Schick stated that the BCA is not the AACA, nor does it want to be. There was a lengthy discussion of the demands on judges' time at a national meet. Schick provided a letter from Scott Mich, which suggests that we hold judges training classes in different parts of the country at times other than the National Meet. Schick then presented his own list of suggested changes (reduce maximum car class size from 20 to 16; exempt the more experienced judges from judges' training every other year; update the experienced judges at the judges' breakfast; remove the judges training exemption if a judge does not show up at the judges' breakfast). After more discussion, Brashares asked Schick to write this up for formal action at the next Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: BUFFALO NATIONAL MEET. Strassner discussed his concern over the apparent over-charging and possible kick-backs for hotel rooms at the Buffalo meet (up to \$20 higher than those hotels usually charge). He proposed that if anyone does this at a future meet, that they would either lose the meet or forfeit all of their profits from the meet. After much discussion over how to enforce or even prove this, and how it differs from making a profit on a bus tour activity, no formal action was taken.

BCA FOUNDATION REPORT. Pat Riley, Foundation President, stated that a qualified repository is still needed. Bob Leets and Joe Taubitz met with Sloan Museum administrators, but they were non-committal and have little room. The University of Akron wants to maintain ownership of any items it accepts into a museum, and the Gilmore Museum, which might have space for a building, does not have funds. The next Foundation Board meeting will be in Kokomo.

2002 NATIONAL MEET. Joel Gauthier reviewed plans for the Kokomo meet. Over 200 hotel rooms are already reserved. There is room for up to 390-400 show cars at the site. Rick Schick stated that he expects 500 cars, due to 2003 not being a judged meet. Gauthier agreed to take this issue back to the meet planners.

BAKER PRESS CONTRACT EXTENSION. Brashares reported that Baker is willing to continue producing the Bugle at the same price. There is not enough time to re-bid this prior to the contract expiration in June. He suggested that the contract be extended by one year. MOTION by Strassner, seconded by Brooks, to extend the contract to June 2003. Motion passed, 7-1 (Phillips opposed). Brashares asked Phillips, Brooks, and Meyer to oversee the re-bidding of this contract for 2003.

NATIONAL OFFICE CONTRACT EXTENSION. Mike and Nancy Book were asked to leave the room. Brashares stated that their contract is also up for renewal. Nancy Eaton, Secretary/Treasurer of the Reatta Division, complimented the Books on their quick, efficient assistance. MOTION by Meyer, seconded by Schoening, that the National Office contract be renewed with Mike and Nancy Book for two years at the current price

(\$3000 per month, plus expense reimbursement for telephone, postage, travel, and basic printing supplies). Motion passed, all in favor. If additional responsibilities are added, Brooks stated that an addendum to the contract can be made.

LIFETIME BCA DUES. Vasilow reviewed the proposal to allow installment payment of lifetime dues, with a 10% markup for processing. She added that this needs to be approved by Joel Gauthier to see if it is financially viable. There was much discussion, pro and con, over the need for actuarial studies, long-term financial planning, and costs/benefits. Phillips restated his opposition, due to the administrative burden and complexity this requires. No formal action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS: MEMBERSHIP ROSTER FOR 2003. Brashares asked Vasilow to coordinate the preparation and printing of this with Mike and Nancy Book.

JUDGING HANDBOOK UPDATE. Rick Schick volunteered to update the current handbook with new rules and changes, provided it remains in its current format. Brashares added that it needs to be ready for printing by December of 2003. Bill Stoneberg, Lone Star Chapter, suggested putting the handbook on the BCA website. Brashares stated that a Judging Handbook Committee needs to be established and discussed at the next Board meeting.

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE. Brashares appointed Bob Leets and Bob Montgomery as the committee to contact all Board members in June for officer nominations in July. There are four people running for three Board slots this spring: Cecil Don; John Ball; Paul Meyer; and Al Eichelberger.

BUICK POSTAGE STAMP. Brashares stated that it is too late to propose a 100th anniversary Buick postage stamp, as this takes a minimum of three years to accomplish.

FOSSIL CARS WEBSITE ALLIANCE. A proposal from Fossilcars.com for a website link and free 90-days ads was briefly reviewed. It was the Board's consensus not to pursue an alliance with this website. Brashares will notify them. No formal action was taken.

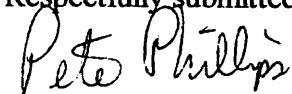
BUICK IMAGE ON BANK CHECKS. A suggestion from Warren Patterson that the BCA offer bank checks for sale with images of antique Buicks, was briefly discussed. Phillips suggested that Mr. Patterson be asked to present a formal proposal. No further action was taken.

LITERARY AWARD A proposed framed certificate was passed around for the three literary awards to be given for articles in the Bugle. The cost is \$94 apiece. MOTION by Brooks, seconded by Vasilow, to go with this award. All voted in favor. It was pointed out that this is not a budgeted expense this year. Brashares offered to donate the first year's cost of the awards. Brashares was asked to write a brief biography of Terry Dunham, as part of that literary award.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF BOARD MEMBERS. Bodden suggested that the e-mail address of each Board member be printed in the Bugle—not just the President's e-mail address. MOTION by Strassner, seconded by Meyer, to place these in the magazine. All in favor.

At this point, Roy Faries, N. Texas Chapter, thanked Roy Eaton for making the arrangements for today's Board meeting. Pat Brooks presented Eaton with a press poster from the recent Buick-sponsored South American Tour. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pete Phillips".

Pete Phillips, BCA #7338
Secretary