



# WILDCAT EXPRESS

September/October 2000  
Volume 9, Number 5

Affiliate Chapter of the Buick GS Club of America-625 Pine Point Circle, Valdosta, GA 31602 (912) 244-0577



Scott and Marie McIntyre announced the birth of their brand new baby boy, **Michael Brendon** on September 17th. The newest McIntyre apparently hit the ground feet first with a fightin' weight of 8 lbs., 10 oz. Mom and the baby are doing well, but Scott sounded kind of delirious (groggy?) on the phone when he announced the event. I wonder why...

The following was forwarded by Sheldon MacPherson, sent by Scott to some fellow Buick enthusiasts . . .

### LATEST STAGE 1 ADDITION

Hey gang, the latest addition to the Buick enthusiast family was born yesterday!!! My son, Michael Brendon McIntyre arrived at 2:33 p.m. Sunday and mother and son are doing well!!! The kicker is, I ordered 2 of the Buick Performance golf shirts in gray and wore one of them through the delivery-then when the nurse had his feet all inked up for his footprints, I got them on the front of the shirt! One day it will fit him when we go to the track in my skylark. His birth was the most incredible thing I have ever been through.

Scott McIntyre  
1972-455 skylark

## Table of Contents

September Meeting Minutes.....	2
Summer Events .....	2
The End of an Era - Pomona .....	3
Art Astor Tour .....	3
Welcome a New Member!.....	3
5th Annual Feed & Speed.....	4
A Thought from Gordon.....	4
Newsletters, Flyers and \$\$ .....	5
Calendar of Events.....	6
Classifieds .....	6
Keith Black Piston Update .....	7
Engine Compartment Detailing.....	8



One of our younger members, **Adam Dunn** has had two major surgeries in the past year. One to remove a cyst from his hip and another, four weeks later, to replace his hip. According to his Dad, **Terry**, Adam is now high tech with a titanium hip and is walking again and progressing well. The surgeries took place at UCLA and a world-renowned doctor perform the surgeries.

We wish him well and look forward to seeing him very soon!



## Minutes of Club Meeting

September 14, 2000

Michaelangelo's Pizza, San Dimas

**Call to order:** 7:22 p.m.

**Attendees:** Dan Peper, Chris Lee, Bruce and Karen Gallant, Sheldon MacPherson, Marv McQuown, Gordon Hanson, Jim Cail, Dan Gerber, Len Bentley, and Tom Jacot.

**Minutes from last meeting:** Gordon read minutes from 7/13/2000 meeting. Additions included recognition of Dan Gerber's providing photos of GS Nationals and Sam Davis winning the Concours Gold Award at same. Minutes approved as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jim Cail reported a balance of \$1,015.91. There were expenditures of \$230.00 for newsletters and \$200.00 for advertising. Approved as read.

**T-Shirt Report:** Marv McQuown reported the club had a good supply of both Tees and Golf shirts in stock.

**Events:** September – We were once again invited to Irwindale Raceway by the BGNRA for races, Buick car show and two days of the track to be held 9/16/2000.

October – Annual Speed and Geed at Pomona is off. We will have to find new venue. Rialto, Banning and LACR at Palmdale were discussed. Rialto is possible first choice. Dan will call to confirm or delete.

November – Open month but possibility of car show at Westminster or Boulevard Buick in Long Beach.

December 9<sup>th</sup> – Chris Lee and Allison to host Christmas Party and Car Show. They have room for about 15 cars. Tentative start time is 2:00 p.m.

**Old Business:** Club Decals – So Cal Gran Sports club decals are available for \$2.00 for small size and \$11.00 for large. We have sold 25 small ones and have orders for 13 large.

**New Business:** 2001 Club Officers/Election

Committee. The following four members have volunteered to call club members to seek nominees to fill vacant directors' positions for club year 2001. Dan Gerber, Tom Jacot, Dan Peper and Len Bentley.

Gordon asked for feedback from fellow members present on the possibility of having a joint Buick-Olds-Pontiac function sometime in the not-too-distant future. Response was largely positive – more information to follow.

**Raffle:** None held.

**Adjournment:** 8:54 p.m.

Gordon Hanson, Secretary

## SUMMER EVENTS

(July Barbeque, Car Show & Concert–July 22, 2000)

by Gordon Hanson

**Donna** and I really enjoyed having several of you good folks up to the Antelope Valley to share the day with us. We wish a few more could have made it, but we understand the time and distance

Those joining us included **Ruth** and **Sheldon MacPherson**, **Sam Dority**, **Len Bentley**, **Joel Gorski**, and friend **Keith** from Illinois, **Mike Curran** and a few personal friends whom we need to thank for helping Donna and me with many things. Speaking of Mike Curran, How many of you have seen a 1972 GSX? Mike's is beautiful, and he drove it all the way up to Lancaster from Yucaipa.

After we bench raced and ate, some of us went to my back, back yard and checked out the three GSs, one of which better be worked on soon! Sometime later, a few of us dropped by the car show at Rancho Vista in Palmdale, but no one stayed very long since it was HOT. In the evening, I went back over the Palmdale for the America concert – it was really good to hear a group live that was so much a part of our lives (depending on your age, of course!) in the seventies.

Thank you to all who came – we enjoyed it!

# The End of an Era POMONA STREET LEGAL DRAGS

by Dan Gerber

The September 9<sup>th</sup> & 10 weekend did indeed mark the end of an era: that was the last of the Pomona Street Legal Drags. That means no more 1/4 mile pedal-to-the-metal trips down world famous Parker Avenue.

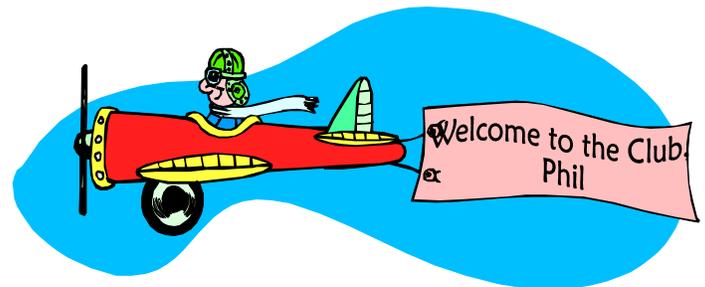
Surprisingly, the turnout of racers and spectators was pretty low for such a "historic" event. Our So Cal GS racers didn't seem to mind, though. It just made it that much easier for them to get a couple of extra runs in. Those extra runs may have contributed to some of our guys achieving their "personal best" runs at this particular drag strip. **Dan Pepper**, for instance, was able to break the 15-second barrier by flogging his '69 Skylark 350 to a traction-plagued 14.990. **Gary Giessen** "squeezed" a best ever run of 10.49 @ 127 mph in his '65 Skylark convertible. (Who says Buick 455's can't handle nitrous oxide?)

**Neal Steward** also turned a best ever time of 10.29 @ 133.57 mph in his '86 T-Type. I was amazed that a quiet, comfortable, stock appearing turbo-Regal that was driven from San Diego could perform like that. **Bruce Kent** (Mr. GS Eliminator), with the help of "Crew Chief" **Dave Benisek**, was able to lay down a series of mid-10 second runs to a best-of-the-day 10.50 @ 128 mph. Not quite as good as one of his past runs (a 10.45), but very close.

Now that Pomona's "off limits", what's next for the street legal racers? Well, if driving distance is not a problem, there are the 1/4-mile strips at Famosa Raceway (Bakersfield), LACR (Palmdale), Carlsbad and even way out in Las Vegas. Racing recently started up on 1/8th-mile "drag strips" at the Banning and Rialto airports. Also, Irwindale Speedway broke ground on a 1/8th-mile drag strip on August 12th. So, drag strips are, or will be, available for those who can adapt to the increased driving distances and/or shorter tracks. Can we do it? Only time will tell.



Our June 25th outing to Art Astor's car, antique telephone and classic radio collection with the Orange County Chapter of the Buick Club of America, was a huge success! The collection is so big that it occupies two large warehouses. We had a total of 60 people on the tour, of which 9 were from the So Cal Gran Sport Club. The rest were members and friends of our host club, the OCCBCA. There were \$259.00 collected in admission fees, which Mr. Astor gives to a charitable organization. The car collection was huge and impressive, but many of those present were very impressed with the classic radio and antique telephone collection. The telephone collection is considered the largest and most diverse collection in the U. S., if not the world. Everyone had a good time and for those who missed it, if you ever get the chance to see it, please do.



If all goes well, this month's Speed and Feed event will be a great place to welcome our newest club member, **Philip Alexander**. Phil is the proud owner of a hunter green 1972 GS350, that's equipped with a hood mounted tach and rallye steering and road wheels. Judging from that description, Phil's GS will be easy to recognize if he does decide to show it off at Rialto. When you see him, introduce yourself and be sure to let him know just how much we appreciate his membership.

## 5th ANNUAL SPEED & FEED

by Dan Gerber

It took a while, but we finally got our act together on this event. If you've been reading your calendars of events notices, following my e-mails or attending the meetings you know that we've been scrambling around trying to overcome a last minute track closure (Pomona) and our own planning flip-flops between the new drag strips at Banning and Rialto. Well, we finally settled on the Rialto Airport Raceway on Saturday, October 21st.

This location's a first for us, plus it's a brand new drag strip (I believe this event will be Rialto's third), so it'll be a learning experience for everyone. Not to worry, though. Judging from past Speed & Feed events, this one will be a roaring success. After all, we overcame scorching heat, crowded pits and long waits in the staging lanes at Pomona, so this should be a cake walk. Judging from reports on previous street legal drags at Rialto, the racer turnout should be fairly low. That means that we should have plenty of space to set up our club site. (Just in case the Pomona closure means a mass migration to this track, you still should plan on arriving as early as you can.) Also, the 1/8th-mile venue means the cars get on the track, race and get off the track in short order. In other words, there will be plenty of opportunities to do some drag racing. The weather in this location should be a little cooler than Pomona, too.

About noon the races are scheduled to be shut down for a lunch break. That's when we'll dig into all that great food we'll be bringing. That's also when we've scheduled our general membership meeting, election and raffles. The raffle will be better than ever, by the way. Not only do we have a lot of great prizes, but the usual great club member turnout means we'll have a ton of money for the 50-50 drawing. We'll also have business cards and club logo merchandise on hand (including the new decals), so it'll be a good

opportunity to stock up.

Bring your specialty pot luck dish for 8-10 people and a lawn chair or two. Also, if your dish needs to be chilled, bring it in the proper container with plenty of ice. Refrigeration facilities will be scarce, at best. By now, I should have called you to confirm your plans to attend and find out what dish your bringing. If I missed you, please call me at (714) 220-1189.

Traditionally, this event produces our largest turnout of the year. Some of us take this opportunity to see what our Buicks will do on the drag strip, and some of us use it to show off our Buicks in the pits. The rest of us? We just want to swap lies and enjoy someone else's cooking. So, come on out and join the fun!



### A THOUGHT FROM GORDON...

Concerning the two summer events I wrote about in this issue of the newsletter--there were times when I was a bit disappointed with the turnout and participation--but then I started thinking in another way. Southern California is a very busy place, and we are all busy people with different obligations, duties, constraints and preferences.

In hosting/plugging/attending our July and August events, I was fortunate in meeting several club members for the first time and enjoyed talking to them and sharing stories, thoughts and opinions. Instead of despairing over the number of folks who couldn't make an event, I now rejoice in those who do...

Respectfully,  
Gordon

# NEWSLETTERS, FLYERS AND \$\$\$

by Dan Gerber

**(Question)** Say, that last newsletter, with all those articles and color pictures about our club members was really great. Why aren't they all like that?

**(Answer)** It's a matter of time and money, mostly. For instance, I spent a couple days and about \$50.00 of my own money on photo processing and writing my share of the articles. The other club members also put a substantial amount of effort in their articles. Sam Dority, our editor, spent about 30 hours and some of her personal funds turning all those hand written, e-mailed, FAX'd, etc. notes she received into the July/August "Wildcat Express" master. I came along and spent another full day copying, collating, folding, stapling, addressing, stamping and mailing the finished products out to the membership. After all that, the club still had to cough up \$225.00 to cover printing (100 copies), mailing, etc. expenses.

We'll continue to publish color pages in future issues, but we're going to have to do it in a manner that requires less money and effort. Otherwise, we'll run out of \$\$\$ and volunteers very quickly.

**(Question)** OK, so what can we all do to make it easier and more affordable?

**(Answer)** In the future, we'll probably lay out only the front side of the first sheet in color. That will save us almost \$50.00. That's Sam's and my contribution. You folks can play a much larger part by reducing our workload. How? **Submit articles and photos!!!** You can FAX the articles (type written is best) directly to Sam at 714-996-6769 or you may put them on a disk and mail them to the club PO Box. Better yet, e-mail them to the club ([socalgs@aol.com](mailto:socalgs@aol.com)). Photos suitable for scanning or copying should also be mailed to the club address. What to write about? Anything to do with Buicks (especially your own), drag racing or restoration accomplishments, technical info or even personal stuff like marriages, births, graduation, first visit to Hooter's, and so on.

**(Question)** I notice we receive fliers for events that

are produced by other clubs. You know, stuff like Goodguys or BGNRA events. How much is that material costing us?

**(Answer)** Good question!... and one that I should have answered a long time ago (since I'm the one who spends most of that money). Here's the guidelines I follow: (1) If the other organization's event is also a scheduled So Cal GS event, our club pays the printing and mailing expenses. Examples include the BGNRA/So Cal GS Deer Park Winery car shows and the 1998 Goodguys "Hot Rod Happenin" event. (2) If we're invited to attend (and bolster) another club's event and it's not a scheduled So Cal GS event, either the promoter or I personally cover the expenses. Examples include this year's BGNRA "Hi-Tech Showdown" drag races and the Buick Club of America KIK-FM automobile and memorabilia museum tour. (3) If it's an event that I think our members may be interested in and it's not a So Cal GS event, either the promoter or I pay the expenses. Examples are the BGNRA Irwindale Speedway invitations and all of this year's Goodguys event fliers.

Simply put, So Cal GS only pays for scheduled So Cal GS events.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GRAN SPORTS

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### Race Coordinator

Bruce Kent 909 592-1897

### \*Activities Director

Dan Gerber 714 220-1189

### Secretary

Gordon Hanson 661 945-7130

### Treasurer

Jim Cail 909 947-5821

### Newsletter Editor

Sam Dority 714 572-6625



## Calendar of Events

### OCTOBER:

**14 & 15th** - Banning, CA - Stagecoach to Hot Rods Drag Race at the Banning Airport. 1/8th mile drags, Car show, Nighttime Top-Fuel Exhibition Runs. Visit <http://www.drag-city.com/banningdrags.htm>.

**21st** - Rialto, CA - **CLUB EVENT: 5th Annual Speed & Feed Drag Race/Potluck Picnic and General Member-ship Meeting, Rialto Airport Raceway, Linden Ave. Info: Dan Gerber (714) 220-1189 or Rialto Airport (909) 820-2622**

**22nd** - San Diego - Car Show, Sale & Swap at Qualcomm Stadium. 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Trophies, cash prizes, free refreshments for vendors. General admission \$5, kids free. Info & space reservations: (858) 484-9342 or [www.carsnet.com](http://www.carsnet.com)

**28th** - Irwindale - Race Night @ Irwindale Speedway. NASCAR Super Late Models 100, USF3 VW Formula 3, Speed Trucks, Legends Cars. For info, call (626) 358-1100 or visit [www.irwindalespeedway.com](http://www.irwindalespeedway.com)

**28 & 29th** - Las Vegas, NV - 1st Goodguys Las Vegas Fuel & Gas Finals at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Race cars, rods and customs thru '72. Drag races, show 'n shine and exhibits. Goodguys @ (925) 838-9876.

### NOVEMBER:

**1st - DEADLINE - To submit material for November/December "Wildcat Express". Send articles/photos to club address or e-mail to [socalgs@aol.com](mailto:socalgs@aol.com). For additional info call Dan Gerber (714) 220-1189**

**5th** - Long Beach - Hi-Performance Swap Meet & Car Show @ Veterans Stadium. Sellers spaces \$30, Show & Sell parking \$15, general admission \$7, sellers gates open @ 6:00 AM, general admission @ 6:30 AM. Info & space reservations: (800) 762-9785

**11th** - Irwindale - Race Night @ Irwindale Speedway. Winston West 250 Season Finale, Speed Trucks 100. For info, call (626) 358-1100 or visit [www.irwindalespeedway.com](http://www.irwindalespeedway.com)

**18th** - Irwindale - Race Night @ Irwindale Speedway. Speed Trucks 100, MSRA Pro 4 Modifieds, T.Q. Midgets, Legends Cars. For info, call (626) 358-1100 or visit [www.irwindalespeedway.com](http://www.irwindalespeedway.com)

**19th** - Anaheim - Hi-Performance Marketplace & Hot Rod Supershow at Edison Field. 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Sellers spaces \$30, Show car \$20, Show & Sell \$15. All include passenger is pre-reserved. General Admission \$5. Monster truck rides, trophies, cash prizes. Call (949) 251-1183 for info & space reservations.

**19th** - San Diego - Car Show, Sale & Swap at Qualcomm Stadium. 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Trophies, cash prizes, free refreshments for vendors. General admission \$5, kids free. Info & space reservations: (858) 484-9342 or [www.carsnet.com](http://www.carsnet.com)

**26th** - Long Beach - Hi-Performance Swap Meet & Car Show @ Veterans Stadium. Sellers spaces \$30, Show & Sell parking \$15, general admission \$7, sellers gates open @ 6:00 AM, general admission @ 6:30 AM. Info & space reservations: (800) 762-9785

### DECEMBER:

**1-3rd** - Anaheim - Thunder Road Races, Car Show & Auto Auction Extravaganza. Gates open 7:00 AM daily. Historic NASCAR, Indy,

Trans Am & vintage race cars thundering across the parking lot through the Big A sign and on to the streets of Anaheim. Major evening concert and auto auction. Call (714) 832-5292 or visit [www.thunderraces.com](http://www.thunderraces.com) for info.

**9th - CLUB EVENT: So Cal GS Christmas Party/Car Show at Chris Lee's house. Details, directions and maps will be mailed out in November. MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



### FOR SALE:

**'77 Buick Skyhawk V-6**, 4-speed, Ex Kenne-Bell record holder, very consistent bracket car. Runs 13.80 in 1/4. \$2500 obo

**Auburn posi unit** for a 12-bolt in excellent shape 4 series 30 spline. \$200  
Call Chris Lee at (909) 946-5595

**400-455 New Timing Covers** \$350.00 each. Two or more \$325.00 each. Get 'em while the supply lasts!  
**'70 Buick Sportwagon 350ci**, runs, rough vehicle. \$500.00 OBO.

**'71 Buick Sportwagon** on custom rotisserie-vehicle completely disassembled-rolling chassis only-body work 90% complete-rotisserie costs \$1,800.00. Sell all \$2,400.00 OBO.

**2000 Ford Excursion-V-10**, 4k miles, fully loaded. \$33,000.00 OBO.  
Call Tom Jacot at (714) 531-0313

**1970-72 Skylark/GS front split bench seat** with center arm rest, just recovered in stock pearl white roulet/madrid grain vinyl, complete with head rests, \$150.  
**Nate Wakefield** at (714) 840-9582 or <[natesbuicks@hotmail.com](mailto:natesbuicks@hotmail.com)>.

### WANTED

**1972 GS grill**, or plastic Skylark look-alike grill. Must be in good condition. Contact **Dan Gerber** at (562) 982-8026, weekdays or (714) 220-1189, evenings &

**KEITH BLACK  
PISTON UPDATE**

by Gordon Hanson

In mid-September, I spoke again to the folks at Keith Black hypereutectic pistons in Carson City, Nevada to try to find out additional information on their forthcoming Buick 455 piston.

Mark, one of the company's tech reps, told me the release of this piston application is just around the corner and shared some specs with me. The listing will be the KB357 – it will contain a 30 cc dish and be available in .030, .040 and .060 in oversized. The compression distance will be 2.010 in., which means that with a nominal deck cleanup on most blocks of .010 in., the tip of the piston will be at zero deck or very close, not -.030 which is often the case.

Compression ratio with a .040" thick head gasket and zero deck (.030 over) computed to 9.25 with a 75cc combustion chamber and about 9.9 with a 67cc chamber. This sounds just about right for high performance street use on pump gasoline. Availability of this piston should be somewhere around the end of October. It will be listed in their next catalog.



**HOPE YOU'LL  
BE AT THE  
5TH ANNUAL  
FEED & SPEED  
OR YOU'LL MISS A  
GREAT TIME AND  
WE'LL MISS YOU!!!**

**ATTENTION SCGS MEMBERS**

This Sir Speedy (card shown below) is the business that prints our newsletter for us. **They treat us very well.** If you have any work that they can do for you, please give them your business!

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## ENGINE COMPARTMENT DETAILING

Contributed by Atlanta Buick Specialties ([www.atlantabuick.com](http://www.atlantabuick.com))

The following information will help you keep you car's engine compartment looking fresh, new, and factory original.

<u>Component</u>	<u>Paint</u>	<u>Procedure</u>
Back of Hood	(1) DDL 9423 (2) Rustoleum Satin Black # 7777 (3) GM # 1052437	Depending upon the condition of the Hood, (1) scuff with red Scotchbrite pad; (2) sand with 320 Grit paper; or (3) bead blast. Wipe with a good wax and grease remover (PPG DX330). Wipe with a tack rag. Paint applying a light dust coat first; then heavier coats until fully covered.
Bolts	NAPA Flat Black # 602	Clean or bead blast and paint.
Brake Booster	Cadmium Plated	Send to plating shop.
Breather	(1) DDL 9423 (2) Rustoleum Satin Black # 7777 (3) GM # 1052437	Depending upon the condition of the breather, (1) scuff with red Scotchbrite pad; (2) sand with 320 Grit paper; or (3) bead blast. Wipe with a good wax and grease remover (PPG DX330). Wipe with a tack rag. Paint applying a light dust coat first; then heavier coats until fully covered.
Engine	Krylon paint # 2114 CARS engine enamel	
Exhaust Manifolds	Eastwood Stainless Steel Gray hi-temp paint	Bead or sand blast and paint.
Hood Hinges	Phosphate Plated NAPA Iron Cast Paint	Phosphate plating is factory correct but expensive. A good and cheaper substitute is to bead blast and paint with the NAPA paint.
Hood Latch	Cadmium Plated	Send to plating shop.
Inner Fenders	(1) DDL 9423 (2) Rustoleum Satin Black #7777 (3) GM # 1052437	Bead blast. Wipe down with a good wax and grease remover (PPG DX330). Paint applying a light dusting coat first; then heavier coats until fully covered.
Master Cylinder Lid	Cadmium Plated	Send to plating shop.
Power Steering Box	Seymour Pit Crew Cast Blast Duplicolor Cast Coat Aluminum	Paint the body of the box with Seymour Pit Crew Cast Blast can spray paint. Paint the cap and ends with Duplicolor Cast Coat Aluminum.
Power Steering Bracket	Plastikote or Krylon Cast Aluminum	Bead blast and paint
Rear Wheel Wells	3M Body Schutz	Undercoat rear fender wells with the Body Schutz.
Shocks	Rustoleum Enamel Smoke Gray #7786	Scuff with red Scotchbrite pad and paint.
Sway Bar	Seymour Stainless Steel # 16-054	Bead or sand blast and paint.