



Reatta Road



VOLUMN 21—ISSUE 3

PAGE 1

Fall 2017



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Anne Gibson



Hope everyone attending the BCA Nationals in Brookfield, WI had a safe and trouble-free trip home! If you were unable to make the journey to Brookfield, you missed another great national meet. There were 31 Reattas pre-registered for this event, all beautiful. The weather was great, with temperatures in the 80's. I am looking forward to Colorado next year and hope we have even more Reattas there.

Thanks to Jim Finn, our outgoing asst. director, we enjoyed another great rendezvous on Thursday evening. Having enjoyed many of these over the years planned by Jim, they have ranged from great to spectacular. I am sure Jim is thinking how much he will enjoy the next rendezvous, where all he has to do is attend. Congratulations to Marck Barker, our newly elected asst. director, he has a lot of planning to do for next year.

Welcome also to Jerry Richstein, newly elected secretary/treasurer. I know that both Marck and Jerry will be valuable assets to the division. Transition from Ed Farnell to Jerry will take place in the coming months. This is a complicated job and the most difficult and time-consuming position in the division, so it will take some time to complete.

There was a great turnout for the division meeting Saturday afternoon, it became standing room only. I guess BCA did not think that many Reattas would attend. I will be sure in requesting a time and place for next year that I request a larger room and hope we are able to fill it once again. It was wonderful to see many of you again and some new faces as well. Hopefully, even more members will be able to join us next year.

If you are looking for something to do this fall, please join the Southeast Region for their annual tour. This year the tour will be hosted by the Bama Chapter and will be based in the Anniston/Oxford, Alabama area. Included is a tour of Talladega Super Speedway, a must for any NASCAR fan. The tour will be Oct. 18-21. For more information, registration and hotel information contact John Cover (205-991-7106).

Included in this newsletter is ordering information for Reatta apparel from Lands End. The division has had several requests for apparel and this is the best option. There is a large variety of items available with either the sunburst design or the Reatta script. Register on their site and you will get emails with offers such as free shipping or free logo.

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Deadline for the next issue is Nov.1st



***Bob Popyk
Peterson
Award
Winner***

***Story on
Page 2.***

They Will Be Missed



Don Kinas Reatta Technical Advisor

Donald W. Kinas, Milwaukee's most likeable car salesman of over fifty years passed away on July 15, 2016. "I never had a bad day selling cars. I enjoyed every one of them."

Don was a 1955 graduate of Rufus King High School, Milwaukee. He entered the Naval Reserves in 1958 and served four years, receiving an honorable discharge in 1962. After his discharge, he began selling cars in Milwaukee at Lou Ehlers Buick, and then Rank & Son Buick. Don worked with his good friend, Ernie Von Schledorn, in Menomonee Falls for many years as General Manager before taking on a similar role with Bob Tolkman Buick. He retired from Eric Von Schledorn Buick/GMC/Chevrolet, Saukville, in 2015.

At age four, he could point out each make and model of any vehicle. His love of cars was contagious.

Don was a longtime member of the Buick Club of America and a pivotal reference for Reatta owners.

He and his family would make yearly cruises, driving his old cars across country to attend national auto shows. Don most enjoyed "puttzing" with his old cars, restoring them to "good as new" condition.

Nancy B Thompson Portland, CT

Nancy (Bielefield) Thompson, 84, of Portland, wife of the late Harold P. Thompson, passed away on Monday, January 30, 2017 at Middlesex Hospital. Born in Middletown, she was the daughter of the late Frederick, Jr. and Eunice (Brazos) Bielefield.

Nancy graduated Woodrow Wilson High School, Class of 1950, Morse College, and Hillyer College, both in Hartford. She worked for Robert B. Brainard Insurance Agency for fifteen years and was the bookkeeper and office manager at Middletown Plate Glass Company from 1980 to 2014.

Nancy was active in the Buick Club of America including the Yankee Chapter, Minuteman Chapter, Reatta Club and the Nutmeg Chapter.

Peterson Award

Bob Popyk

2017 Peterson Award Winner

The Peterson Award was established in 2005 to honor Bob Peterson, one of the three amigos, Bob Neumann, John Forette and Bob Peterson. These three Reatta lovers worked together in the mid 1990's to form the Reatta Division under the Buick Club of America. Bob Peterson was the guy who did the heavy lifting for years as Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. The Peterson Award was created to perpetuate the memory of Robert E. Peterson, who dedicated his talents and knowledge to make our Reatta Division a reality. It is presented to members who have gone beyond having a membership number and have performed outstanding service that benefits our organization and the preservation of Reattas.

This year the award was presented to Bob Popyk, who served as director from 2011 to 2013. Bob has been involved with Buick Motor Division as an outside marketing vendor since 1986. Bob got his first glimpse of a Reatta convertible in 1988 in a storage warehouse in Flint, MI. From that first sighting, Bob had to have one and he purchased his first of many Reattas in 1990 as soon as the convertible was offered to the public. Since joining the Division, Bob has been a great friend and avid supporter to the Reatta brand. At one point he worked with Hemmings to rethink their Reatta convertible values.

In 2005 long before he became director he hosted a supper at a local lakeside restaurant for all Reatta owners and spouses attending the BCA National at Batavia, NY. During that same day he arranged a private tour at the home/garage of a local Reatta owner who had amassed a huge collection of Reatta memorabilia.

As Director, Bob, using his own personal resources arranged to have printed an original designed Buick Reatta tee shirt featuring a black convertible on the back. He also resurrected the original black Buick Reatta license plate donating them to the Division to sell as regalia items. Actually, Anne Gibson is still selling the few remaining on eBay. Bob also had printed a very nice windshield card that said "Hey nice car" and on the reverse side had information about the benefits of joining the Reatta Division. Bob gave out stacks of these cards to members at the annual meetings and offered them by mail to any member wanting some. Bob also recreated one of the original Reatta sales instructional videos to DVD. While he admits that he cannot turn a wrench or diagnose a Reatta problem, Bob has surely demonstrated that he loves Reattas and has done more than most of us to promote the model. The officers, recognizing his efforts, felt that Bob was very deserving of the 2017 Peterson Award.

Spotlight On My Reatta

By Scott Studer

Bought this black 89 last year and our 13 year old son, Dawson, fell in love with it. Has 185k miles with nice grey interior, runs great but bad paint. Decided we've got a year to get it painted and he gets his license so he started sanding today. He's pretty determined to stick to his plan and budget so it's ready when he is.



Dawson
sanding the
Reatta



Cleaning up
the Reatta

The next item on Dawson's 89 is the ac/heat fan, has one speed, slow. The screen control works fine and seems to think the fan is speeding up but nothing more from the fan. Local GM guy helped us check it out and he thinks it needs a HVAC control module. Anyone have similar issues? Any help is really appreciated! Email is: Scott@palacemotosportsinc.com. Phone: 605-996-6282

Editor's Note: Let's help Dawson if we can. We will be following his progress in this newsletter.

Domenick Clemente Long Distance Driving Award

PreWar Long Distance Award

Howard Price's

1941 Super
Convertible,
Owings Mill, MD.



Post War Long Distance Award



David McAllister's 1967 Skylark, NB, Canada

Calendar of Events

Northeast Regional Meet

Clifton Park, New York Sept 29- Oct 1 2017

Three days: Friday, tour the Saratoga Auto Museum. Saturday, car show 9-3 with awards on the show field & banquet. Sunday, after-tour. Convenient to historical sites, entertainment, and shopping.

SE Region Tour

Anniston, AL Oct. 18-21, 2017

Sponsored by the Bama Buick Chapter based in the Anniston/Oxford. Included is a tour of the Talladega Superspeedway, a must for any NASCAR fan. For more information, registration and hotel information contact John Cover (205-991-7106).

5th Annual All-Buick Car Show

Mile High Chapter

Lone Tree, CO

Sunday, Sept. 10th

Held at AutoNation Buick GMC Park Meadows located at 8101 E. Parkway Drive, Lone Tree, CO 80124.

The show is from 10 -2 and will feature free food and drinks, music, door prize drawings for participating car owners, and popular vote award categories.

Show car parking starts at 8 AM. NO REGISTRATION FEE and all Buicks are welcome, regardless of year, model, or condition. Contact Dave Wojahn at DWojahn50@aol.com or 303-929-7753.

2018 Reatta Rendezvous

Marck Barker - Reatta Division Assistant Director

This will take place June 20, 2018 in the Denver, Colorado area. I am planning to do something a little different than our usual Rendezvous. I am working on a day-trip type tour to take us through a very scenic part of the country driving our wonderful Reattas. We will likely leave the host hotel around 10 AM on Thursday and be gone a majority of the day. I'm also planning to make this a modular tour so that if you don't want to tour all day, you can easily break off at any time and return back to the hotel if you wish.

That being said, if you'd like to take part in this wonderful tour through colorful Colorado, it is suggested that you do not register for any other BCA tours on Thursday. Consider coming in on Wednesday to have the opportunity to take part in those tours.

If you have comments or questions, feel free to email me any time at Marck@EastCoastReattaParts.com or call at 919.233.1973

We look forward to seeing you next summer in Denver!

Reatta Rendezvous

The Seven Seas Restaurant is on the beautiful Lake Nagawicka in Wisconsin We had a great time.





Life of the Buick Reatta:

A Life Well Lived

By Harv Grotrian

Dear Editor:

I'm delighted that you are willing to "pick up the reins" as our BCA--Reatta Division's newsletter editor. I always look forward to receiving the newsletter and have since I joined the BCA and the Reatta Division some years ago. Thanks much for all you do in this regard.

After rereading the "Birth of the Reatta" article in the last issue, I wondered if an information sheet which I prepared for a car show I attended last year might be of interest to you. (The show was held on grounds of Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti, Michigan.) In prepping my 1990 Reatta coupe (a honey of a car), I decided to pull together a number of facts from my files and print an information sheet for display with my car. Having then done so, I displayed the sheets on the inside of my windshield at this show. It was viewed and read by many. I believe that presenting the set of facts as I did--that is, in a lighthearted way--encouraged those with even a mild interest in the car to read through to the end. In a way, I allowed my Reatta to "speak for herself." I also believe that those reading the information and "checking out" my car left with a much, much better sense of what the Buick Reatta is (not was) and how the car came into production as well as where and how the Reattas were assembled.

Thinking that what I did last year (and will be using at car shows this summer and for as long as I have my Reatta...which will be a long, long time) might be of interest to you and our members, I've attached my fact sheets for your consideration. In a sense, these facts build on the facts contained in the "Birth of the Reatta" article.

We really do have fine cars, don't we. Thanks for including a picture of your '90 convertible in your first edited newsletter. It's a beauty!

Thanks again for editing Reatta Road. I look forward to meeting you and thanking you personally for what you do for us Reatta gals and guys.

Until... Harv



Harv Grotrian and his Reatta

I'm a Reatta (Re-at-ta) Built by Buick a Division of General Motors

- the Reatta was thought of as an "image or halo car" by the brass at Buick and, by extension, General Motors
- by the time the design was completed, tests were run, and final specs were determined, automotive experts in 5 countries (English being spoken as a second language in 3 of these countries) had shaped the Reatta*
- the prototype was built by the British vehicle engineering firm, Aston Martin Tickford
- the model was announced and shown for the first time at the Los Angeles auto show in January, 1988
- all Reattas were built in a 50-year-old former axel foundry and forging plant located in Lansing, Michigan

**Conceived at Buick headquarters in Flint, Michigan, with styling done in Warren, Michigan, USA; the prototype was built in England; sheet-metal dies were made in Japan; paint processes were completed in Portugal; prototype testing was conducted in Spain*

- the car was hand built by assembly teams, each team consisting of six assemblers--after each car was fully assembled, each member signed a "build sheet"
- the Reatta name can be traced to life on western ranches and the use of lariats by the ranch hands*
- all corners of the Reatta are rounded; the Reatta's drag coefficient is 0.34 which means the car is "slippery"
- the front wheels are powered by an ohv V-6, which produces 165 hp @ 4800 rpm
- 0 to 60 timing is 9.1seconds; top speed is 125 mph
- the Reatta's transmission is a 4-speed automatic with overdrive, controlled by a floor mounted shifter
- the convertible was added in 1990 with both coupes and convertibles being built again in 1991
- by the end of production in 1991, 21,751 Reattas had been produced over the four-year production run
- my Reatta coupe was assembled in 1990 by Mary, Douglas, Gregory, Mark, Sherman, and Carl

**Translation for lariat from English to Spanish in Mexico and the U.S. southwest is reata.*

CARS FOR SALE

1989 Reatta Coupe Red with gray interior. 83,000 miles, new tires and recent repaint. **\$5,000 OBO.** Call Barbara evenings and weekends **(336)503-8970.** (9/17)

1989 Red/tan - 25k original miles. Ice cold A/C, new tires on chrome 1991-style wheels, factory sunroof, new stereo with aux-in, rebuilt headlight motors, fully serviced and ready to drive anywhere **\$11,900** Located in NC Contact Marck at **919.233.1973** (9/17)

1989 Silver/burgundy - 52k original miles - fully loaded with 16-way power seat and factory sunroof. Rare color combo. New stereo with aux-in, rebuilt headlight motors, full fluid service, brand new tires **\$11,900** Located in NC Contact Marck at **919.233.1973** (9/17)

1989 White w/Burgundy Interior. Mileage:143,732. Original Arizona Vehicle (no road salt). No issues. Hand painted small cactus both sides bottom of doors. Computer Dash. Very Good condition. Only driven to car shows. Always Garaged. No Rust. If interested please call **517-507-9991.** Photos available upon request. Also available, factory promo. A mostly Arizona car now located in Charlotte, Michigan. (3/17)

1990 Convertible. Gunmetal Grey/Grey - 89k miles, New cloth top, 1991 wheels, rust free California car brand new A/C system. one of 37 produced in this color! Runs and drives great. **\$8,000 OBO** Located in NC Contact Marck at **919.233.1973** (9/17)

1990 Convertible. White/Burgundy Interior. 74,000 miles. Has all possible options. Excellent condition. **\$11,000.** Contact Bill @ **586-574-1137** or **586-383-1137.** Car in Michigan. William Smith, Warren, MI (9/17)

1990 Convertible. Red/tan top/tan interior. 44,600 miles. New Top, AC blows cold, 16 way seat. This car is clean inside & out, always garage stored. Contact Larry Peterson **316-655-9725** asking **\$12,000 O.R.O.** You may email: gpstubby@gmail.com if you want to see pictures. (9/17)

1990 Convertible. One of 117 with Burgundy w/ tan top and interior. 43,000 original miles., like new condition, Texas car always covered and garaged. Looks and runs great. Top in very good condition. Everything works and have original floor mats and owners package/manual. Beautiful car, nothing needed to drive and enjoy. **Price reduced to \$11,500.** Contact Vince: chinapuzz@aol.com or **361-271-7639.** (3/17)

1990 Convertible. Red/red/white, new top & repainted about 5 years ago. This is a rare color combination. 95,000 miles, **\$6,900.** For more information or to purchase contact John Cavanaugh, **941-350-2157** or john@cavanaughcompany.com. (3/17)

1990 Burgundy Coupe, Tan interior. Very nice condition. 71,000 miles. Unique dealer installed crown. No issues. Everything works. Receipts. AC converted. Headlight motors rebuilt. Photos available. **Price \$6,800.** For more information or to purchase, please contact Jim Walkuski at **330-990-0011** or email: jwalkuski@yahoo.com. (3/17)

1990 Convertible. Red/dove grey, newer black cloth top. New Pirelli tires and sharp after market wheels. Great looking and running car. 149,500 highway miles. **Asking \$5,800.** Will consider all reasonable offers. Car located in Owosso, Michigan. For more information or to purchase contact Robert Pospisil at **810-444-9292** or email: popatop149@aol.com. (3/17)

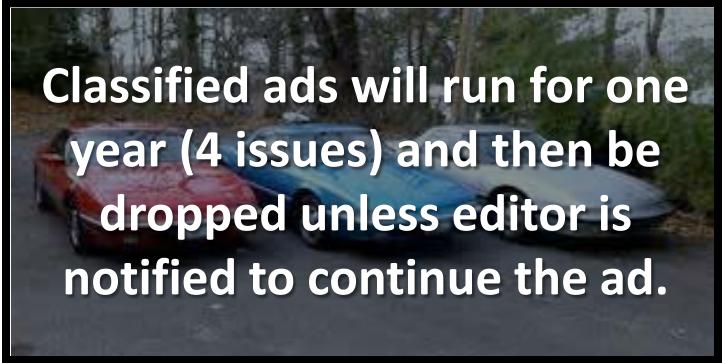
1990 Convertible. Silver/white top/grey interior. 100,000 miles. Showroom condition. 16 way seats. **Asking \$12,000.** Will deliver. For more information or to purchase, please call Jeanette Hall @ **810-869-4143.** (3/17)

1990 SILVER CONVERTIBLE. This is the one you want! This car is clean, clean, clean inside and out. The top is flawless, matching tires , hubs all intact, always garage stored. 34,479 miles. The gray interior is very nice. Please email kerry@millerproductsco.com for questions or pictures. **Asking \$13,000.** Kerry **515-205-7783** VIN 1G4EC33C4LB905463. (3/17)

1991 Coupe. Red w/tan interior. 105,700 miles. Car is in great condition. I am third owner. I have original sticker, signed craftsman log and owner's manual package. Car is located in St. Petersburg, Florida. **Price reduced \$7,900 to \$6,700.** For more information or to purchase contact Carrie at: carriesteve2@yahoo.com or phone **727-592-2403** (leave message). (3/17)

1991 Coupe, white w/tan interior. CD player. 37,000 miles, 399 point Gold Senior at 2015 Springfield Meet. **\$10,000.** For more info, photos or to purchase, please contact Herb Morris at **314-852-0272.** (3/17)

1991 Convertible, red/tan with Hartz cloth top. CD and 16 way seats. A little over 32K miles and in excellent condition. 394 point gold senior at BCA National Meet in Charlotte. **\$18,700.** Call Ed Farnell **803-360-6806** or email: eafarnell@gmail.com. (3/17)



**Classified ads will run for one
year (4 issues) and then be
dropped unless editor is
notified to continue the ad.**

"Reports have been recently received about a Reatta vendor, that items ordered and paid for, but not received and no replies to inquiries. As always BUYER BEWARE. If you need suggestions as to reputable Reatta vendors, contact one of the Reatta Board of Directors."

Largest selection of Reatta parts in the country. You name it we have it. Parts and technical support available. We ship world wide. Call or email with your needs. **Orders@EastCoastReattaParts.com 919-233-1973 (6/17)**

Reatta parts.....Large inventory..... Reasonable prices. **Contact Jim Finn at reattas60@gmail.com.** I am pleased to announce that I will be taking over the sale of sun visor clips from Kingsley. Available colors: GARNET RED, FLAME RED, SAPPHIRE BLUE, MEDIUM BEECHWOOD (SADDLE/ TAN). Don't forget to mention which color you want when ordering. Clips will fit either left or right sides. The price will remain the same. \$65 plus \$7 for USPS priority mail shipping. (3/17)

Lots of Reatta parts from 175 parts cars. Located in a salvage yard in Tucson, AZ. **Call Roger McCrone at 520-514-0838. (3/17)**

Original "Barney cranks" are still available. Steel replacement headlight bellcranks are \$40 ea. (\$35 ea. to BCA members). Kits that include bellcrank, rollers & up-stop instructions are \$45 (BCA members \$40). Rebuilt Reatta headlight motors, \$55 per side (exchange plus \$5 shipping) Plastic wing nuts and receptacles (to hold the cover in the rear of the engine compartment) \$2 each plus \$2 shipping. Rebuilt power antenna W/steel cord \$60 (+\$15 return shipping). Trunk lock cover repair kits \$9.50. Custom Reatta car covers and all other cars in 14 fabrics and several colors, also 7 sizes of motorcycle covers (call for prices on covers). **Call Barney @ 512-869-5114 for info or Reatta tech assistance. Barney Eaton, 20111 Deerfield Dr., Georgetown, TX 78633. (3/17)**

LAND'S END STORE FOR MEMORABILIA

<https://business.landsend.com/store/reatta>

STEP 1: Select a category to start shopping or use the search tool.

STEP 2: Click on the item until you see the ordering grid below. Choose color, size and quantity. Click : [APPLY LOGO](#).

STEP 3: Logo Application Page - Click on logo choice and logo location. Click: [APPLY LOGO](#) and then [ADD TO BAG](#) to view your shopping bag.

STEP 4: You may either continue shopping by clicking on [CONTINUE SHOPPING](#) and repeat steps 1-3 or click [PROCEED TO CHECKOUT](#) to checkout.

STEP 5: You may also use the "special notes" link to communicate special instructions about your order. To proceed to checkout, click: [START CHECKOUT](#).

STEP 6: If you are a returning customer, sign in with username and password. If you are a new customer, please create an account by clicking on [CREATE AN ACCOUNT](#). Fill in all fields and click: [CREATE AN ACCOUNT](#).

STEP 7: Complete shipping and billing information. Use a credit card to checkout and submit your order. (International shippers please call: 1-608-935-8172.)

If you have questions or changes regarding your order, please call **1-800-604-0071** or email gm@landsend.com and reference the online order number given when your order is submitted.

Reatta Division

Buick Club of America

Officers & Key Division Positions

WEB SITE ADDRESS:
www.reatta.org

DIRECTOR: Anne Gibson
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barney@texas.net



MEMBERS ONLY PASSWORD FOR THE
REATA DIVISION WEB SITE IS:

Buick3800 (CASE SENSITIVE).
PLEASE NOTE THIS WILL APPEAR HERE
IN EACH NEWSLETTER. CHECK EACH
NEWSLETTER FOR A NEW PASSWORD.
IT WILL CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME.

REATA DIVISION
Secretary/Treasurer
Jerry Richstein
4798 Grants Way NE
Marietta, GA 30066

MEMBERSHIP & DIVISION INFORMATION

Reatta Division memberships are \$10 per year. Membership is for a 12 month period.

Please note that a **pink** highlighter mark on the RDIV number on your mailing label means that your Reatta Division dues are either due or past due. In order to continue receiving the Reatta newsletter, your RDIV membership status needs to be current.

Please make checks payable to: **REATA DIVISION, BCA**

Send all dues payments and address changes (include your RDIV # on your check) to:
SECRETARY/TREASURER, JERRY RICHSTEIN, 4798 Grants Way NE, Marietta, GA 30066

NOTE: All Reatta Division members are required to be members of the national organization, Buick Club of America, of which we are an authorized division. Please note that a **blue** highlighter mark on your BCA number on your mailing label means that you are not a current member of the BCA. In order to continue receiving the Reatta Division newsletter, your BCA membership status needs to be current. The national organization can be contacted at: **BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA, PO BOX 360775, COLUMBUS, OH 43236, BY EMAIL AT: buickcluboffice@aol.com , phone 614-472-3939 or fax 614-472-3222.**

Please send all classified ads and newsletter submissions to: **NEWSLETTER EDITOR, Elizabeth Lane, 39 Cockle Hill Road, Salem, CT 06420 or email at: buffylane39@sbcglobal.net**