



Reatta Road



VOLUME 26—ISSUE 1

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Spring 2022



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Marck Barker



Spring is here in North Carolina! For me, it couldn't come fast enough. It's been a wet and cold winter here and I am looking forward to putting the top down on my Reatta this afternoon!

I recently picked up a red 1991 convertible with 3300 miles on it. The dealer it was delivered new to in 1991, drove it a few hundred miles and then put it up on blocks from 1991-2004. The dealer then drove it a couple of more years and put it back on blocks from 2006-2018. I've been going through it undoing damage from storage (fuel system, A/C system, all fluids etc), and she's just about ready to roll. It's all original down to the tires. I'm undecided on if I want to change them or not since it's such a time capsule.

I'm hoping to bring that 1991 convertible to the Charlotte Auto Fair in Charlotte, NC April 8th-10th. We should have a display of 15 Reattas there this year! If you're there for the show, stop by and say hello!

Our officer elections are coming up this year. If you remember, we changed the bylaws a couple years ago to create two-year terms for officers. So this year is our election year. Jerry, Elizabeth and I are willing to stay on if nobody else would like to step up for any of our positions, but we desperately need someone to step up for the Assistant Director position for 2022-2024. Your duties would largely be helping to plan the 2023 Rendezvous in Spokane, WA, and 2024 in Strongsville, OH. If you are interested, please contact the board

or the nominating committee. Their contact info is on page 7 of the newsletter.

As always, this newsletter is made great by YOU! If you have photos and/or stories of Reatta fun, please submit them to our newsletter editor Elizabeth Lane. Her info is also on page 7. We love to see people enjoying the Reattas!



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Deadline for the next issue is May 15, 2022

HOW I GOT MY REATTA

Linda Paul

In mid-2000, I was fortunate enough to learn about and meet “my new older brother” Fred Syrdal. Fred, his family and both kids were very involved in the Buick Club of America and I was invited to a local car show where I had the opportunity to meet my new niece and nephew. My nephew Paul was showing a 1990 Reatta Convertible, Claret red metallic with a tan top. I remember the vehicle because someone I worked with in 1990 had a Reatta coupe. I fell in love and commented if he ever decided to sell it to let me know.

A year later, my nephew contacted me and asked if I was still interested. Absolutely, I said, and we negotiated a price and she is now mine. Not only did I get new family members but a great automobile. The car came up from Texas and still has the inspection stickers on the windshield. She has been garaged since I bought her and has never seen a Minnesota winter or snowfall.

I have entered the car to numerous shows since and have received many awards. It is so much fun to drive and if at all possible, would love to keep it in the family.

Attract what you expect, Reflect what you desire, Become what you respect, And mirror what you admire.
Linda



Reatta picture taken in Dallas before it headed for MN

2022 Reatta Rendezvous

Friday June 24th 2022

7:00 PM

Sheraton Naperville Hotel

2022 BCA National Meet

We will have a presentation on the design and development of the Reatta from David McIntosh, the designer of the Reatta! David will also be offering prints of original Reatta concept sketches for sale and signing glove boxes.

After David's presentation and a Q&A, we will all drive to Culver's Frozen Custard near by for drooling over ice cream and Reattas. We will not be serving food at the presentation.

David S. McIntosh

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Dave McIntosh is a retired GM Designer with a career that spans over 40 years. A graduate of ArtCenter in Pasadena, David is one of the few designers that can say they worked on a project concept to production with the Buick Reatta.

- 1964 ArtCenter Graduate, BPA, Transportation Design
- 1964-2003 Asst. Chief Designer (1980), GM Design
- Advanced Design Studios (1988–91 Buick Reatta concept and production design; 1978 Pontiac Grand Prix Concept; 1970 Corvair Facelift Proposal; 1990 Saturn Coupe Preliminary Concept)
- 1991 Monte Carlo Show Car; 1995 Monte Carlo and Lumina
- 2000 Cadillac Catera (Opel, Germany)
- Speed Vision Corporate Strategy and Cadillac 15-Year Vision; Cadillac Cross-Over Concept

David McIntosh graduated ArtCenter with a Bachelor of Professional Arts degree, October 1964, and was hired by General Motors Design staff. He became an Assistant Chief Designer for Dave North's Advanced Design 2 Studio in 1980, where he designed the theme that became the Buick Reatta for 1988.



After retiring in August 2003, he later represented the League of Retired Automotive Designers from 2015 to 2019.

Reatta Meeting

The Annual Meeting, Treasurer's Report, elections of officers, minutes, etc., will take place at the BCA National Meet. Room Assignment is still to be decided.

Saturday, June 25th 2022 3:00 PM

Sheraton Naperville Hotel

2022 BCA National Meet

How I Got My Reatta

Chris Nicholls

I had always wanted one of these cars with the futuristic touch screen computer in it ever since I saw the Motorweek episode showing it. I remember it being an expensive car when they were talking about it. Didn't think too much about it after that but always had it in the back of my mind. Fast forward to a couple years ago, a red 89 with grey interior and only 68km (45k miles) were on it, absolutely mint, asking \$3000 cdn for it. I immediately called the guy and said I would take it. He informed me it was technically sold and the guy was going to pick it up on the weekend. I was kinda bummed out a bit and then sent him another message just to say "Hate to be 'that guy' and I know the car is technically sold but I really want to buy it. Since you still have the car and don't have the money for it yet, would you consider selling it to me right now? I have cash in hand and I will give you an extra \$500 over your asking price. I have wanted one since I was a kid and would love to have it"

I waited anxiously for his reply... and finally heard my phone ping... I actually took a couple minutes to look at the response to think and mentally prepare for it either way but I had a feeling that it would work out and he would do it so I took a deep breath and clicked on the message...Well the guy said no. He already committed to the other guy and he said for sure he would be back on the weekend to buy it but if it falls through I will let you know. My heart sank as I really felt that he would have taken the deal. I was pretty heartbroken for the rest of the day but was slowly getting over it when later that evening my phone beeped for a message. Opened it and it said "I talked to my girlfriend and she said that I should take the extra \$500 and sell it to you so if you still want it, it's yours!"

I was so excited I said "Yes, for sure. I can meet you anywhere!" So the seller said that he needed the car for a few extra days because he needed to use it to get around and find another vehicle. So I could pick it up later in the week. I e-transferred him half the money to lock in the deal and patiently waited the few days to meet up with him.

So the day finally came to meet up with him... at this point I still haven't seen the car yet and didn't know about the 88 and 89 only had the touch screen and the 90 and 91 didn't. So I pulled into the meeting spot and finally saw it for the first time. What a beauty. Spotless. Paint shiny as new flawless. He was showing me the outside of the car and I'm looking it over not paying too much attention to what he was saying (like he was still trying to sell me on it haha) so I asked "so does it have the touch screen?" And he replied "ah ya. The touch screen... it sure does!" And he opened the door and low and behold in all its 80's green screen glory... THE TOUCH SCREEN!

We both hopped in the car and he showed me the basics of the touch screen... I was in love. It was even cooler than I imagined once I saw the "GAGES" screen it was over. "I'll take it!"

He asked me "Don't you want to take it for a test drive or anything?"

"Well. I guess so. Is there anything wrong with it?" I said back.

(Cont'd on Page 7)

(Not Chris's Car)



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. 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 \$75 (+\$15 return shipping). Trunk lock cover repair kits \$15. 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 or email:** barneyeaton1@gmail.com. Barney Eaton, 20111 Deerfield Dr., Georgetown, TX 78633.

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.**

Nice Black used convertible top, good condition, has 1 tear the size of a nickel which has been covered with similar material, **\$100 plus shipping. Frank: (248) 593-6391**

Reatta Literature: over 125 pieces. **John Kilbane, North Royalton, Ohio. Call (440) 552-6932.**

VERY LARGE REATA MEMORIBILIA COLLECTION FOR SALE. This collection which was previously referenced in the Bugle December 2008 edition consists of over 750 individual items totaling over \$20,000.

The collection includes literature, posters, videos, illuminated signs, promo items, various magazines featuring Reatta and many very rare items some of which were acquired directly from the library at the Reatta Craft Centre in Lansing, Michigan. Many Reatta parts are also for sale.

There is a separate smaller collection of general Buick items available. The owner will be moving soon and will no longer have the four car Reatta Garage which currently houses this vast collection of interesting items. Offers for the entire collection will be considered.

A list and photos of the items and pricing may be requested by contacting **Charles Parry at (315) 383-0707 (call or text), or email: gm33@twcny.rr.com.**

Lots of Reatta parts from 175 parts cars. Located in a salvage yard in Tucson, AZ. **Call Roger McCrone at (520) 977-5463.**

Reatta parts.....21st year.....Large inventory at very reasonable prices. I also have exact reproductions of the convertible visor clips in all factory colors. Contact Jim Finn at reattas60@gmail.com

How I Got My Reatta

Tim Peterson

I first saw one from a coworker. I told him I've owned all the early 90 Buicks. Then he said Reatta, never heard of it before. This is 2002. I've wanted one ever since. Came close on buying some before but never pulled the trigger. Fast forward 15 years later, still want one and had a garage to keep one in. So the hunt was on, I wanted a black with red and touch screen 89. I found one 2 years later close by, like 4hr away. I was about to propose to my girlfriend and start a family so I had to do it soon. I went with a coworker who drove with me go get it. I never told my girlfriend what I was doing that day. It took forever but made it back home for a work boat party. Was close on not making it on board. Then guys at worked asked about the car. She was pissed, glad she didn't throw me off the boat. I still have the car today and my wife will never let me get rid of the car. Which I will not.

My other is a 91. I flew out to Detroit got the car and drove it back. I'm working on a motor swap.

Andy Holman

My wife got hers from her mother who is deceased. She worked for AC Delco and got the car brand new. 72000 original miles, Michigan car.

Grisell Nunez

I was looking for a car in a used car dealerships. I looked under a tree and see this little car and falls in love with it....when he ask me which car I want and I point to an abandoned Reatta under the tree, he was surprised but agree to sell...I gave him half of the money ...when I came back to pay him the rest he asked me that's not the car I sell you right....That car was stolen but after couple years I found another Reatta that I really love.

Jamie Lehman

I found my 1990 red convertible on Craigslist about 3 years ago. It wasn't a show car by any means, but it was a smoking hot deal. My intentions were to immediately sell it for a profit, but when I dropped the top for the first time, I fell in love with it.

CARS FOR SALE

1990 Convertible. Red/Tan top/Tan interior. Less than **50,000** miles. New Top, AC blows cold, 16 way seat. Car is clean inside & out, & always garage stored. Contact **Larry Peterson (316) 655-9725**. Asking **\$11,000 O.B.O.** Email: **gpstubby@gmail.com** for pictures. (9/20)

1990 Convertible, white/blue/white top. **99,000** miles. New suspension, brakes, tires, top, A/C converted, exterior/Interior 99%garaged. Pictures available, service records since owned. second owner. Drive anywhere. **Bob Oneil, (931) 854-6286** Email: **boneil88@twlakes.net** (5/20)

1990 Select 60 convertible, VIN 1G4EC33COLB904715, new vinyl top, good tires, battery, A.C., premium radio, all documentation, window sticker, **98,214** miles, located near Dayton, Ohio. Call **Jim at (937) 672-8568** or Email: **jimmyche43@gmail.com**. Pictures on request. Asking **\$20,000**. (9/20)

1990 Convertible: White/blue top/blue interior, 44,000 miles, no damage, older repaint. Runs great. Has recent brakes and top. Interior like new. Have original, refinished wheels and tires. A nice car for your collection. Upgraded wheels and tires **\$12,500. \$11,000** with original wheels. Call Ed at **(610) 366-0234** or cell **(484) 707-6146**. (9/20)

1990 convertible, red ,tan interior, 101,000 miles. Nice condition. The car is located in Fremont Michigan. Asking **\$5,500**. Contact **Preston at 213-924-4413** or email **cpkrom2@gmail.com**. (9/20)

1990 Convertible, White /white top/red interior, 7535 miles, \$22,000, purchased from a climate controlled collection, must sell our baby Reatta as our baby's car seat won't fit. **Bob Wessel, Valley Glen, CA 212-706-7683** (9/21)

1991 Convertible. 13,500 original miles. Black with Grey interior, 2nd owner, always garaged - hasn't seen rain or dark of night. All original parts \$18,500. Email: **mahooves@hotmail.com** for pictures and additional information or contact **Mark Hoover (765) 215-3978**. (12/20)

1991 Coupe, Polo Green, (only 21 built), tan interior with all options: Sunroof, CD Player, 16 way seats. Always garaged, covered. Driven in VT summers only. **75,340 miles**. Mechanically and cosmetically perfect. Age dictates sale, **\$10,000**. I have the service manual and compete records. Tel: **(802) 867-0307**. Off to Florida mid October Tel: **(772) 231-9384**. (9/20)

1991 Convertible. 25,500 miles. White/ white top/ blue leather interior. Always garaged, never driven in winter. In great shape and all electronics work including convertible top! No rust, no accidents. **\$15,000**. Located in E. Lansing, MI. Call Andrea at **517-881-4309**. (12/20)

1991 Coupe, Polo Green/ Tan Interior ,144,000 miles. Power antenna works, new brakes, new AC condenser, new exhaust, car runs at 100%. **\$4,995** email: **nelsond64@aol.com**, **Nelson Van Atta, Binghamton, N.Y. cell: 607-765-4300** (9/21)

1991 Limited Convertible, Arctic White with White top, and Red body side stripes. Red leather interior. 38,058 original miles. 3.8 liter V-6 engine. Excellent condition and well maintained. Always garaged and always in the south (purchased from Memphis dealer and relocated to Hilton Head, SC). Radio/ cassette/CD, retractable headlamp covers and antenna, A/C, electric seats and windows. 1991 Reatta Service Manual and convertible dust cover included. Only 305 made, but only 235 sold to the public. Pictures available upon request. **\$18,500 asking price. Contact owners, Sheila or Bob Buck. Phone: 843-686-5202** or Email: **sbuck0823@aol.com**

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

Next issue all ads with 2020 on them will be dropped.

How I Got My Reatta – Chris Nicholls

(Cont'd from page 4)

"Well the passenger window has some issues it only goes down part way, the A.C. kinda works but could use a servicing other than that it's all good", so he drove and proceeded down the highway to take it for a boot to show me how it rides. I was impressed. The ride was awesome. About 2 blocks into the drive I said again "I'll take it!"

So he wanted to take me for a longer test drive and show me how it handles but I said it wasn't necessary I will take it. So we turned around and did the paperwork and I gave him the rest of the money. I dropped him off in my other car as I went to get insurance and plates for the Reatta. Came back to it and did one more once over as I put the plates on it. I hadn't really looked at the car yet as all I saw was touch screen... it's actually a pretty cute looking mobile. Put the keys in the ignition and turned the pop up headlights on... and drove away into the sunset with the subtle glow of the green screen gages from the dash.

Well the car still has the faulty passenger window but I recharged the a.c. and just finished putting in a crazy sound system using an iPad as the source unit. Has 85km on it now and have had it for about 3 years. It gets as many gas station/parking lot comments if not more as my Grand National does.

For anyone that would like their story on how they got their Reatta in the Reatta Road, please send it to me: Buffylane39@sbcglobal.net



*Car owned
and photo
by Rob
Neighbour*

The Reatta Division has purchased hats for sale from Lands End: 3 colors are available: red, black and white (adjustable size) – all with the Sunburst Logo.

Also available white visor with "Reatta" in script.

All are \$15 each plus shipping for Reatta Division members (\$20 each non-members). Please contact Anne Gibson (agibson36@gmail.com or (336) 599-9589 to order.

CLUB HATS AND VISORS



Reatta Division Buick Club of America Officers & Key Division Positions

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www.reatta.org

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LAND'S END STORE FOR MEMORABILIA
<https://business.landsend.com/store/reatta>

MEMBERS ONLY PASSWORD FOR THE
REATA DIVISION WEB SITE IS:

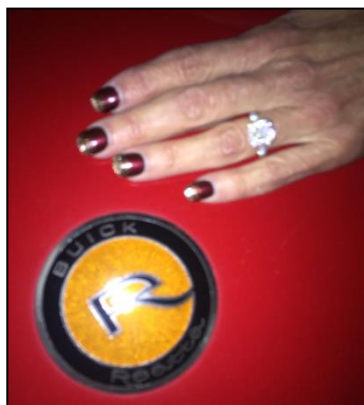
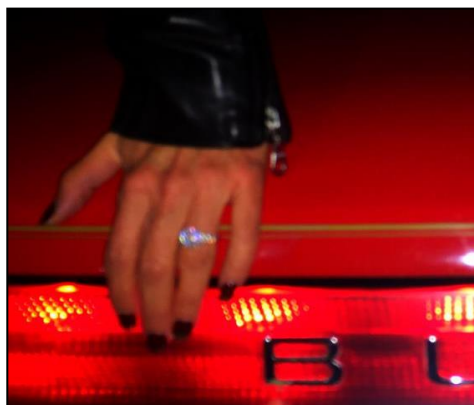
Buick3800 (CASE SENSITIVE).

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

THE NIGHT I PROPOSED TO LONI. BY PAUL GOMBERG

We were in Los Angeles with my Red & Tan 1989. The date was December 24, 2015. That night was to be the first full moon on Christmas Eve in 40 years. The weather was clear. We went to The Grove (outdoor mall) and drove up 5 levels to the roof of the parking structure. I pointed the front of the Reatta to the east. We listened to holiday music on the Reatta radio while enjoying a view of the full moon when I asked Loni to get married. We took a few pictures that involved our Reatta and the engagement ring. 6 years later we were married at the Graceland Wedding chapel in Las Vegas.

(Photos from Paul)



MEMBERSHIP & DIVISION INFORMATION

Reatta Division dues are still only \$10/year and can be paid for up to 3 years at a time. You can either mail a check payable to the Reatta Division to me via "snail mail", or you can pay online through PayPal. The PayPal account is: ReattaClub@gmail.com

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, % Cornerstone Registration, Ltd., PO Box 1715, Maple Grove, MN 55311-6715; PHONE: (763) 420-7829; FAX: (763) 420-7849; EMAIL: bca@cornerstonereg.com**

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