



Upstate Update

The Upstate New York Chapter News

DECEMBER 2022

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE *Tony D'Amelio* Director

Greetings fellow Buick Club members, and Happy Holidays! And speaking of the Holidays it's that time of the year for our annual Holiday Party, to be held on December 4th at 1PM at the 19th Hole café at Briar Creek golf course 2347 Pangburn Road in Rotterdam. Please RSVP to either Ken Malette (518)487-0996 or my self so we can get a head count. Same place as last year with the same menu, and the Cadillac will again be joining us and we will be doing a Yankee gift swap again this year with a gift cost of \$20.00. So come spend the afternoon with some good friends and some good food. You can pay the day of the event to make things easier,(\$10 per member)so just let us know your coming and I look forward to seeing you there. As always you can reach me with questions at (518)330-5450 So stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all soon! *Tony*

Chapter Leaders

Director:

Tony D'Amelio

Asst. Director:

Ed Allmond

Treasurer:

Ken Malette

Secretary: & Health and

Wellness committee:

Rosemary Malette

Membership :

Chris Timber

Newsletter:

John DeFiore

By the Way

Ongoing: Chapter Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month thereafter till Spring. Meeting time is 7:pm.

December 4th, 2022: Chapter Holiday Party: Briar Creek Golf Course. Pangburn Road, Rotterdam, NY 1PM start.

December 14th 7 PM: December meeting: At the Metro 7 Diner (where we used to meet before) on Rt 7 , Latham, NY. Recommend arrival at 6PM if you plan to eat there.

June 21, 2023 to June 24, 2023: The Northeast BCA Regional Meet 2023 will be held next summer at Morgantown, PA. at the Classic Auto Mall. The car show will be on Friday, June 22nd .



Arthur J D'Amelio

1930-2022

With much sadness we send our sincere condolences to Tony and Maria, and their families, on the passing of Tony's father.

May Arthur rest in peace!

Meet The Members:

The Guptil's Car

By: Shane and Rick Riccardi



Lifelong area residents, Rick and Davidson Motorcycles, Rick, who elementary school learned about the George told Rick about several shows that featured motorcycles alongside the cars. And it would be George, who by participation in a September Guptill's Cruise In, led to a chance viewing of what would become affectionately known as; "The Guptill's Car!

his son Shane got into Buicks by pure luck. While owning Harley was raised in the area of Colonie near the old Roessleville Ele-local car show scene from George Acker, a fellow Club member.

George told Rick about several shows that featured motorcycles alongside the cars. And it would be George, who by participation in a September Guptill's Cruise In, led to a chance viewing of what would become affectionately known as; "The Guptill's Car!



As seen at Guptils Cruise In

Rick, a graduate of the Colonie, NY Highschool class of 1975, met his wife Joyce a few years later in 1981. They married on October 28, 1984, and raised three children, Kaila, Shane, and Jess. The family settled on Wilson Street, which was just a few blocks from where Rick was raised. Rick worked for the Freihofer's Bakery for 30 years.

Shane graduated from the Colonie High School in 2008 and pursued a degree at Schenectady County Community College for the Culinary

Arts. He is currently employed by the New York State Department of Tax and Finance. But Shane has many memories of summer vacations at Lake George and Disney world.

So, what's this Guptill's car all about? Shane says: It all started when our friend, George Acker, who is a fellow club member, told Dad and I about how some of the car shows also do motorcycles. After Dad had acquired a second Harley Davidson, we decided to check out what all the fuss was about with these events. George was hooked for years prior to us, and we brought Dad's bikes to 2 shows, while I rode along in George's car. We had a good time at these shows and started to think about a car in the future. But after another friend, Fran, remarked that no kids my age will understand these old cars, I was, like, "we need a car"!



Since I was now employed, and Dad was retired, we agreed to go halfway on car. However, we did not yet know what we wanted, or where to look for it. One day I spotted a 1940 Buick on eBay. We looked at it with serious interest. It needed some help and would likely wind up a full-blown custom if we bought it. We mulled it over for a few weeks and then, suddenly, the September's Guptill's Cruise-In was upon us. During the cruise-in George was walking around when he saw this red Buick Riviera with a for sale sign, leaving the premises. George said his mouth dropped, and he started to go after the guy to get the information, but he was too late.

1st place award at Curtis Lumber



Then, a few days later George, being the car-a-holic he is, was searching eBay and the Guptill's car pops up.

George made the first call to see if it was still available and, then arrangements to go see it. George called us next, and we headed out to see what made George so excited. We were very impressed with the Riviera, and

the owner told us he had a list of eight more callers he put on hold after George's call. A few days later we had the Guptill's car in Dad's driveway. For a while it seemed everyone knew this as the Guptill's car. Still to this day we'll be at Leadfoot Lucy's Cruise-In, or some other car show, and people will ask, "Is this the car that was at Guptill's a



few years ago" and that's usually when our story starts.

The Guptill's car is a 1963 Buick Riviera has the numbers matching 401 cu in Nail-head engine, and its original transmission. Our plan is to bring it back to the way it



was, after finding out how rare the car is, and how difficult some parts are to obtain. We have done some work and added some updated stuff such as: a new exhaust, gas tank, water pump, and disc brakes in the front, but that's to make it safer to drive. It is still mostly original. We had such a nice start why not keep it that way, which is the hard part with these cars. It continues to be a work in progress as it needs an original radio, some floor pan work, and a new console with some related wiring. That plus I'd like to return it to the original Grenada Red. We want to be sure, however, that it does not become a full-blown custom.

In the 5yrs we've owned the Riviera we've had more good memories and a few bad ones. One particular bad memory was the wild ride at the Harbor



House Cruise-In in Clifton Park. Upon arrival, we lost the brakes just as we entered the downhill sloped parking lot. With Dad's driving skills and a lot of luck, we carved through the lot which was full of cars and people. We were very grateful no one was hurt, and we did not hit any cars, nor wreck the Guptill's car. Whew!



We did quite a few car shows when we first bought the Buick, but we've slowed down a bit since my father had some medical issues in late 2020. The Guptill's Car still makes appearances at Leadfoot Lucy's and certain car shows. To date, the Riviera has been awarded a few trophies. They are nice to get. But that's not what it's about for us. Hanging out with car buddies is what Dad and I really like about the hobby. Just having a good time, and seeing nice classics, and hanging with friends is what it's really all about.

However, since then I got the car bug, just like a lot of others seem to get. A few Buicks that Dad and I agree would be pretty cool to own include a 1963 Buick Riviera with the 425 engine (they made 2601), especially is it was all black. Also, a 1965 Riviera GS, and maybe a '71 Riviera. I would like a 1970 GSX in Apollo White because who wouldn't want the fastest muscle car of 1970? There are other cars out there I'd like to get my hands on, but we'll see what the future brings.





BEAVERWYCK ASSISTED LIVING CAR SHOW: Several of our members participated in a car show, on September 28th, for the staff and residents of the center. The many residents viewed the various cars from both outside and inside. It was so pleasant to see these folks smiling and interesting to hear their life stories. And the delicious snacks prepared for all participants were greatly appreciated too!



2022 AUHV CAR SHOW : The Automobilists of the Upper Hudson Valley (AUHV) is a long time established car club in the Albany area. As happens, there are members that participate in both our club and the AUHV. And for the past several years the AUHV has worked with Goldstein Buick to host an annual show. Through the

generosity of the Goldstein's the site and the lunch were provided to participants. In addition Ted Sweet took home one of the awards for the Dealership's picks. Congrats Ted!



HEALTH AND WELLNESS NEWS: Greetings friends: This function is to help spread the news affecting our members. If you want us to know about these things, e-mail your announcement to me. Thank you, Rosemary M.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS





I JUST LOVE THIS PICTURE by John De Fiore This young man brought his "Grave Digger" monster truck to Lead Foot Lucy's Cruise-In one week. His passion and pride

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