

CCCA Classic Car Trivia Night

The Spirit Region of the Classic Car Club of America hosted its second annual Trivia Night on February 24 at the Moohlah Shrine Center. The Gateway Buick Club was present in small numbers, but made a significant impact. Out of about 24 clubs present, we finished 3rd, only missing out on the winning prize by 2 questions. Interestingly enough, we were sitting next to the table who had won the previous year's event. We later found out that they were listening to our conversations and copied many of the answers they gleaned from their nefarious activity. Fortunately enough, they did not gain enough knowledge from us to have a competing score.

Present for the event, and representing the club, were Geoff and Angela Lockett, Ted and Mary Becker and Kristina Richards. We were to be joined by an additional couple, but a last minute commitment prevented them from joining in the festivities.

Questions were grouped into 8 separate rounds of 10 questions each. Most of the questions were automotive related, but other topics were: Foods, US Presidents and St Louis History. The other rounds were related to various eras of cars, both American and European.

Some examples of questions were:

- What 3 ingredients comprise the Southern cooking medley known as the "Trinity"? – Onions, Bell Peppers and Celery
- How much money did Ford lose on the Edsel? -- \$250,000,000
- What mass produced American car had the highest top speed? – Dodge Viper
- What was the first car to use the radio antenna in the windshield – 1965 Pontiac Gran Prix
- What was the first mass produced car with an automatic transmission? – 1949 Oldsmobile with a Hydramatic
- What presidential candidate in 1872 defeated the first woman on the election ballot? – US Grant
- What St Louis university sits on the grounds of a Civil War battlefield? – St Louis University

Embarrassingly enough, the only Buick question of the night was one we did not get. What special model 1984 Buick Century was dedicated to the Summer Olympics of 1984 held in Los Angeles? – The Buick Olympic (the following article provides the details on the special edition)

All in all, it was a very fun event and we all enjoyed ourselves. We all brought table snacks and generally gorged ourselves on the culinary delights. There were raffle prizes, 50/50 drawing and silent auctions. All proceeds went to various charitable endeavors. Geoff and Angela won the wine collection from the raffle and are donating it to the 2017 Shriner's Car Show.

Hopefully, we can have a better turnout next year to show off our automotive and Pop Culture wisdom. Everybody contributed and everyone had a very enjoyable evening. Put it on your calendar for next year and plan to attend. You won't be sorry you did.



1984 Buick Century Olympic Edition



Ask your dealer to show you what makes the Olympia Sedan Special.



The 1984 Buick Century Limited "Olympic" was created to honor the Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Buick presented 5 of these special edition cars to American Gold Medal winners such as: 4-medal Gymnastics Champion Mary Lou Retton and 2-medal Figure Skating Champion Roslyn Summer. Distinguishing features of the Olympic were: Olympic Gold Circles fender ornaments, Special aluminum cast wheels with special white Buick hub-caps, world's flags door handles, trunk baggage rack, and original Olympic circles embroidered seat upholstery.

The Olympic games of 1980 and 1984 were marred by political differences between the Soviet Union and the US. Boycotting the Moscow games of 1980 were the US and 65 other countries in protest of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Not to be outdone, the USSR (joined by other Eastern Bloc countries) boycotted the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles as a matter of retaliation. In that era, the games were heavily dominated by teams from the US and Eastern Bloc countries led by USSR. Since a significant element of competition was lacking in each of these games, they resulted in total dominance by the non-boycotting segment. In the 1980 Moscow Olympics, Russia and East Germany combined for over half of the total medal count.

So, we give three cheers to Buick for trying to add significance to the event. The cars were pretty unspectacular and did not draw wide appeal. Only a few remain today and their value is questionable. Various ads on Craigslist and eBay would indicate that the owners think they have

the value of a low mileage GNX. Unless the car was one presented to an Olympian, these cars have little market value.

Now you know “The rest of the story”.