

Member Spotlight

Scott Keller

By Monica Ledwon

This month's Member Spotlight centers on Scott Keller. Quiet and unassuming, Scott is an aficionado on performance Buicks. He is also a walking compendium of this GM product's mechanical and design specs.



Scott was born in University City and later moved with his family to West St. Louis County. He graduated from Parkway Central and went on to attain a degree in Computer Science from Washington University. Currently he is working in IT for a pharmaceutical company.

As a youngster, he was forever surrounding himself with all things automotive. From Hot Wheels to Hot Rod magazines he was always interested in cars. Scott even had his own sketchbook of drawings he made of vehicles that struck his fancy.

Upon turning sixteen, he purchased his first car for beater usage, a 1958 bare bones Ford Custom 300. Later, he bought another '58 Custom 300 in rough shape to swap out the motor and cannibalize other parts from the car onto his.

While going to and from work one day, his attention was drawn a 1967 GS 340 Buick with sweeping C pillars, parked daily in a strip center. He knew it was a rare California package, only sold and marketed in that state. As fate would have it one day, a For Sale sign appeared on the GS's window. The owner wanted to let the car go in favor of a GTO so he and his wife could drive matching rides. Scott saw that the mismatched prefixes of the VIN on the door jamb versus the cowl patch verified the CA edition of the car. Finally, he was able to purchase this rare beauty after several months lag time in negotiations. And once again, he later found another '67 GS 340 without the California package, to use for body and maintenance upgrades on his own.

Scott is focused on performance Buick engines and a hobby of his is running the quarter mile at a track. For that sport, Scott found a 1987 T Type Regal in Hemmings Motor News. He then enhanced the engine by adding a chip to the main computer system of the car. For racing purposes he bought a separate set of tires and wheels for the rear. On the track, the T Type would run 14.6 seconds unmodified. After Scott's tweaking, this Buick ran 13.3 seconds on the third run. Bystanders swore he added Nitrous to his engine. And Scott came in second on this performance trial.

In the past Scott has been a member of the former GS Gateway Chapter of the BCA. Later he restarted and rebranded this club into the Performance Enthusiasts club which hosts all modified Buicks along with other models and held the office of President for some time.

As the old Wagner Buick dealership was holding a car show one weekend about 20 years ago, Scott took his T Type to cruise on by and picked up the Dealer's Choice Award. There, he met our club's officers at that time and joined the Gateway BCA to become a true follower of Buicks. Through the years his collection of has grown to include two blue '89 Reattas, a '96 Roadmaster Wagon in original condition and his daily driver of a supercharged 2001 Regal GS with modified exhaust.

Scott's current goal is to replace the '67 GS 340's interior to be the correct, original Skylark design. To find that specific fabric is his challenge. He is a faithful member at club events and always has a commentary to make at our meetings, akin to a real professor of Buicks.

