# The Gas Line

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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## **Board of Directors**

Paul Engberson Lewis Rounds Doug Schwartzenberger Yale Harker







## From the President's Corner:

Hello, and thanks to those who were able to attend our October meeting the Idaho Falls Library.

I was in California and did not attend but I am certain Bill did a great job running the meeting. Also, thanks for those who help clean up the Market Lake area on October 4, 2024.

Some of our members attended the cruise-in at the Nice Spot on October 5, 2024. On October 12, 2024, many of our members participated in the Rich Eagle Celebration cruise.

We had great weather, and enjoyed each other's company at the starting point, Yellowstone and Anderson, and took various creative routes to complete the tour of some of Rich's favorite places before enjoying a wonderful lunch and more conversation at the Eagle Home.

We were treated not only to a great lunch but also to all of Rich's creations both vehicles and many art pieces. I hope to see you at the November meeting.

Thanks for being members of our club.

Bob Thompson

#### CHAPTER EVENTS

Nov 9: Garage Tour Membership Drive

Dec 7: Christmas Party

See details in the meeting minutes section.

# MEETING TREATS

Nov Bob & Celine Dec Christmas Party

### NATIONAL EVENTS

**Nov 3-8** – 2024 National Western Tour, Tucson, AZ. Steve Partman. smpartman@outlook.com

Nov 17-22 – Part III Old Spanish Trail Regional Tour, St. George, UT To Santa Fe, NM. Steve Fitzgerald studebakersteve@bresnan.net

## Eastern Idaho VMCCA Newsletter

## EIVMCCA Meeting Minutes – 10-3-24

The meeting was held at the Idaho Falls Library. There were 21 members in attendance. Vice President Bill Beery conducted the meeting. A summary of the Tour to Spencer was read, and a treasurer's report was given by Joy Eagle.

## Mail

**College of Eastern Idaho (CEI) -** Thanked us for our donation to be used for scholarships to the automotive and diesel mechanics programs. **Food Bank** - Thanked us for our generous donations throughout the year.

## Old Business

## **Cruise to Spencer**

Fourteen members attended this cruise on old roads to Spencer for a burger and a short meeting. There were many birds and other critters to see along the drive and the company at lunch was great! A beautiful day for a fun event!

## **New Business**

## Membership Drive - Garage Tour - November 9th - Joy Eagle

We will be collecting club dues for 2025 at this event. The membership application this year will include the new option to receive the Bulb Horn digitally or delivered in hard copy; see the attached membership form.

*Garage Tour Agenda* - 9am, leaving by 9:30 am - Meet at the Indian at North Tourist Park at the corner of Yellowstone Hwy and Lincoln Rd. We will have a tour map available. We will tour to the garages of Lewis Rounds, John Walrath, Gary Schwartzenberger, and Doug Schwartzenberger.

At 11:00 to 1:30 - Membership Paperwork, and we will have a Harvest Vegetable/fruit dish competition, Order your own pizza lunch!

Nomination of Officers - We would like to have a couple of nominees for each job. Please consider running to keep our club moving and shaking! President -Vice President - Scott Skinner Secretary/Treasurer - Joy Eagle (until I move) Board of Directors - 4 required Mark Schwartzenberger

**EIVMCCA Christmas Party** - December 7th - 12 noon to 2pm Talking with North Highway Cafe - More Details to come. Joy, Celine, and Diane - We will have a decoration meeting before the event!

The meeting was adjourned.

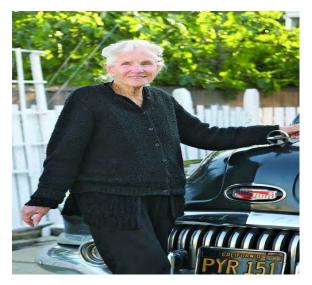
Thanks to Paul and Lona Engberson who provided yummy fall treats!

## Betsy the Buick – 1952 Super By Jeff Koch, Hemmings Classic Car Magazine

Many of us at Hemmings have developed a soft spot for original-owner cars. Problem is, many of them are tough for us to get to: We don't always travel in the same circles. And such is the story with Mary Louise Largey, now 90 and living in Glendale, California–in the house she's lived in since she was 4 years old.

After the war, the Largey family turned in their Packard and moved over to Buick–in part because "Lucy worked at Stansbury Buick in Burbank, and became friendly with Wanda, the daughter of the man who owned it. We wanted a new Buick in 1947, but they were just on order–we couldn't buy one from the showroom. So, we got one in 1948–a maroon one with standard shift. Mother didn't like that at all, so in 1949, they traded it in on another Buick, a green one. She was happy because she didn't have to hear the gears shift anymore. "Then some friends of mine put sugar in the gas tank; I don't know why." Mary Louise pauses, lost in memory. "I guess they weren't friends, really. But because of that, we ended up buying the '52 Buick, in May of that year."





For 1952, Buick was all about the status quo-they were very similar to the 1951 models, in both content and style. That was fine: Buick had been doing well since the war, placing 4th in overall sales for the year, and machines like this Series 50 were the reason. A total of 71,387 four-door Supers were built for 1952, and ran a 263-cu.in. straight-eight good for 128hp. The Largeys' model, quickly dubbed Betsy, was Terrace Green with a white top; the paint and chrome you see in these photographs is original.

"It was such a nice car, I loved it right away. It used to get good mileage ... once, my mother and I went to Palm Springs, I stayed under 50 MPH, and it got 16 MPG. But coming back, I opened it up, and I didn't get close to that. Of course I get very little now. I used to, if I was coming to a signal, put it into low-in case I had to really move. The Dynaflow is smooth, but if you want to move, you don't really move."

Mary Louise worked at the water and power company for 34 years, retiring in 1980. As the years marched on, some pieces for the Buick became harder to find. "It had a cracked exhaust manifold. I couldn't get one, so I went out to all the junkyards."

"I stopped driving in ... let's see, I got my heart done in 2003...what year is it now? 2009? Oh, probably 2005 or so, I stopped driving. I had another Buick, a 1990 model, and my optometrist told me that I was legally blind. He said that if I was hit at a stop sign and they found out I was legally blind, even though I'd been sitting there, they'd just sue me and sue me. I drove that car straight home and sold it within the week."

There remains the uncomfortable question of legacy. What does the future hold? "Well, I never got married; I'm an old maid. But I'm happy, got to do a lot of stuff. My nephews have never driven it. Well, one has never driven it; the other one drove it when he was out this way. I asked if we could take it to get gas, but he's used to driving a little car. My driveway backs out onto a main street, and you do not linger. He gave it the gas, but it doesn't have power steering or brakes, and so we darn near came up over the curb and into the wall."

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Send me your car photos for the website. http://www.eivmcca.org 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Ken Steiner Memorial Car Show: Sheridan, MT – September 14, 2024



