

JANUARY

THE

2022

MOTORVATOR

FORT SMITH ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB

Welcome to the renewing of the newsletter. This first issue has automotive information to intrigue and arouse the interest of all antique car buffs. Our goals are the utilization and preservation of the antique automobile. We anticipate the articles may help better your needs as a car enthusiast.

"December Christmas Time Parades"

Some of our car club members met at Roland Oklahoma, December the 11th for the noon Christmas Parade.

First place winners-Carl & Valorie Albertson

Third place winners-Bob & Susan Hoover



More photos at Roland



Thought we had a picture of Dane Warnock's car at Roland (sorry)

Lunch at El Celaya at Roland



We stopped by the Fort Smith Museum to view our display room



Then the Fort Smith Parade



We also had a wonderful Christmas Dinner in December with good food and great games



This is a story about a fascinating man who lived in Gore Oklahoma by the name of Steven Conrad. I met him years ago through my trade of auto glass. Mr. Steve not only farmed 4000 acres around the Love's service station near the Muskogee Turnpike and the I-40 intersection, he was also an avid collector of big block muscle, matching numbers, Cameros and Chevelles. I understand he had two large buildings full of rebuildable cars. His restorations were to perfection, down to the stickers and bolts of his cars. He invited our car club to view his restoration shop a few years ago. Here are a few photos of his shop while we were there.

The first car he restored for himself is this 1969 Mustang Mach I with a 428 Cobra Jet engine. (Made my mouth water)



There were many Chevelles in his shop. A few complete ready to sale. Perry Jones and Ed Vann sat in one. We finally got up the nerve to ask the cost, it was \$100.000. On the next page are some photos of what we had the privilege of viewing.



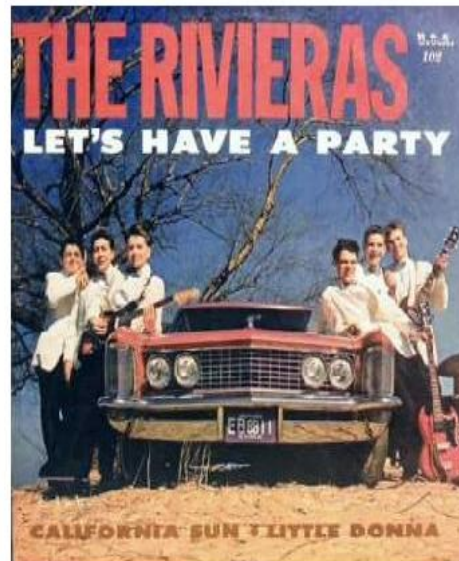
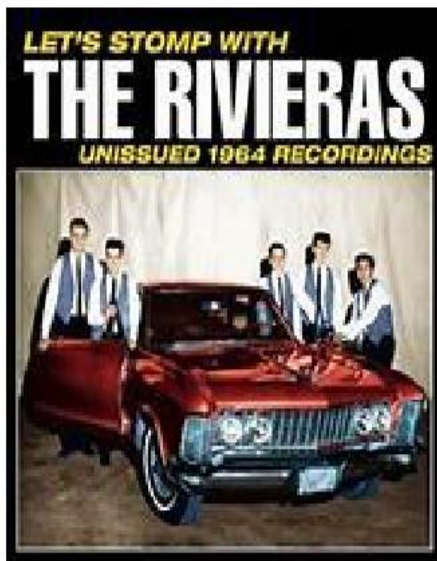
Steve Conrad is standing between Dale Johnson and Jerry Boyd



Steve Conrad passed away last August with covid

I have many other articles I want to share with you. Our car club has so much we can do. The only way it will happen is if you are an active part. Help in making our love for the old automobiles a place in history. Plan to see you at the January Meeting. That's Thursday, January 20th 7:00 at Creekmore Park Building.

One Last Note For Now



Found an article about the Buick Riviera. It was truly a fine car by any measure. In the early 60's, cars were becoming a bigger part of our lives. It was called the "Golden Age of Radio" during this time. AM radio and cars were a large part of our existence. The Frat Rock movement of the early 60's produced many bands including one that loved General Motor's Buick Riviera. The group of teenagers that made up the band was from Studebaker's hometown of South Bend, IN. All the original members attended South Bend Central High School. This high school was noted for being a powerhouse in basketball. The college basketball coach whose team won 88 straight games at UCLA once coached at the Central High. His name, John Wooden. Now back to the Rivieras. The group had twenty songs that were considered hits. Their best hit was the song "California Sun". It was followed by "Let's Dance". Some of the band's original members quit soon after "California Sun" rose in the charts. The band lasted two years with the new members. The British invasion also helped end the band's run at success. The Buick Rivieras produced from 1963-65 appear to be the most desirable to collect. The second generation ran from 1966-70. The entire run of Rivieras ran from 1963-1999. There were eight generations of Rivieras. It's been about twenty-two years since the last Riviera was built and about fifty-seven years since the "Rivieras" played songs. Modern technology provides us with many ways to listen to these songs. And create an environment where we can see one of the finest cars Buick manufactured.