

Symphony Decorators' Show House Antique Car Show

By Jerry Gordon

On May 24th, another lovely spring day in the Baltimore suburbs, the Chesapeake Region was on hand for the second straight year to display our cars during the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Decorators' Show House. The BSO Show House is an elegant annual fundraising event that attracts a dozen or more area interior decorating firms to showcase their talent in rehabilitating an area mansion. It's a different site each year, and each property presents a unique logistics challenge. This year because of very limited spectator parking, there was a shuttle bus provided for the public and our cars were parked on the lower front lawn just off the main access road. But the backdrop of the mansion's grounds and the bucolic Ruxton neighborhood was a great setting for our cars.

Paula and Gary Ruby brought their newly acquired 1941 Buick Super club coupe. It's a pleasure to see a really nice, totally original car like the Buick. Gary found the car through a small ad at the Glen Burnie cruise-in that he attends. Gary is the fourth owner of this 67-year old car with only 25,000

miles on the odometer. One of the amazing features of the car is the original paint, which is so excellent that you would swear that the car must have been repainted at some time. The interior and chrome are just as nice. Powered by the Buick straight 8, this car is fitted with dual carbs, a feature that was offered for only two years. One thing that Gary has done to the Buick is to have the gas tank restored. Gary plans to enter this car in the HPOF class at Hershey. The day's only mishap occurred when the Ruby's came around a bend in the narrow two-lane road and hit a slight pothole, which dislodged one of their vintage NOS hubcaps. It didn't turn up after an immediate search, but later it was found near the light rail tracks.

Robert Natale also brought a Buick to the Decorators' Show House – his 1965 Riviera. This Buick was originally purchased by Bob in February 1966 as a used car with 10,000 miles on it. After several years as a daily driver, he retired the car when he bought a new 1973 Riviera. The 1965 has been garage stored all these years. Bob had

some bodywork done and it was repainted in 1984. He also had some chrome re-done and has detailed the engine compartment. The result is a very nice car. Bob also kept the 1973 Riviera, when he retired it. On a whim, he took it to Hershey a couple of years ago where it won a First Junior.

The Sponsor's Choice Trophy was selected by Chuck Booth, who decided that Hudson power was the best of the day, and Lynn and John Horn were delighted. A special thanks to Neal Haynie for helping us get this car show on the schedule again in 2008.

Participating in the show were: April Roscoe & Ray Adler, 1968 Dodge; Helen & Jerry Gordon, 1964 Lincoln; Paul Habicht, 1959 Cadillac; Dean Hansen, 1973 Pinzgauer; Joan & Neal Haynie, 1969 Thunderbird; Lynn & John Horn, 1953 Hudson; Michael Natale, 1965 Corvair; Robert Natale, 1965 Buick; Jamie & Allen Pogach, 1970 Oldsmobile; Jerry Ross, 1954 Kaiser; Paula & Gary Ruby, 1941 Buick; and Ted Schneider, 1983 Oldsmobile.



Shown clockwise from the top left: Bob Natale's 1965 Buick Riviera; Gary & Paula Ruby; the Ruby's 1941 Buick Special; the Horn's 1953 Hudson; Lynn & John Horn; and Roland Run, the 32nd Decorators' Show House

