

Wheels: Ken of Vandalia writes, “I hope you can give me a hint as to what is wrong with my 1997 Buick LeSabre Ltd. Anytime I try to operate the heater, the air-conditioning compressor runs no matter what settings I use on the climate control system. A small amount of slightly warm air comes out of one of the under-dash outlets, and very cold air comes from the other. The passenger’s control has no affect whatsoever. I disconnected the air-conditioning compressor, which results in very little change. Engine temperature is normal. I have heard that an electronic module controls this function. If this is true, I would like to know which one and where it is located.”

Halderman: I asked Steve Ash, the department chair of the Automotive Department at Sinclair Community College, to answer this question and here is his reply: “My thinking on this is that the blend door motor is no longer working. The door is stuck in one position. The control head could be the problem as well causing the door not being commanded to move. If it is an auto climate control, hooking a Tech 2 scan tool should show some codes or some data on the HVAC system. The air-conditioning compressor typically runs all the time anyway if it is auto climate. When very cold outside, a sensor will keep the compressor from running until the engine gets to a certain temperature. If the air does not come out the right vents, then my guess would be a control head problem. Check further to be sure.” Thanks Steve.

