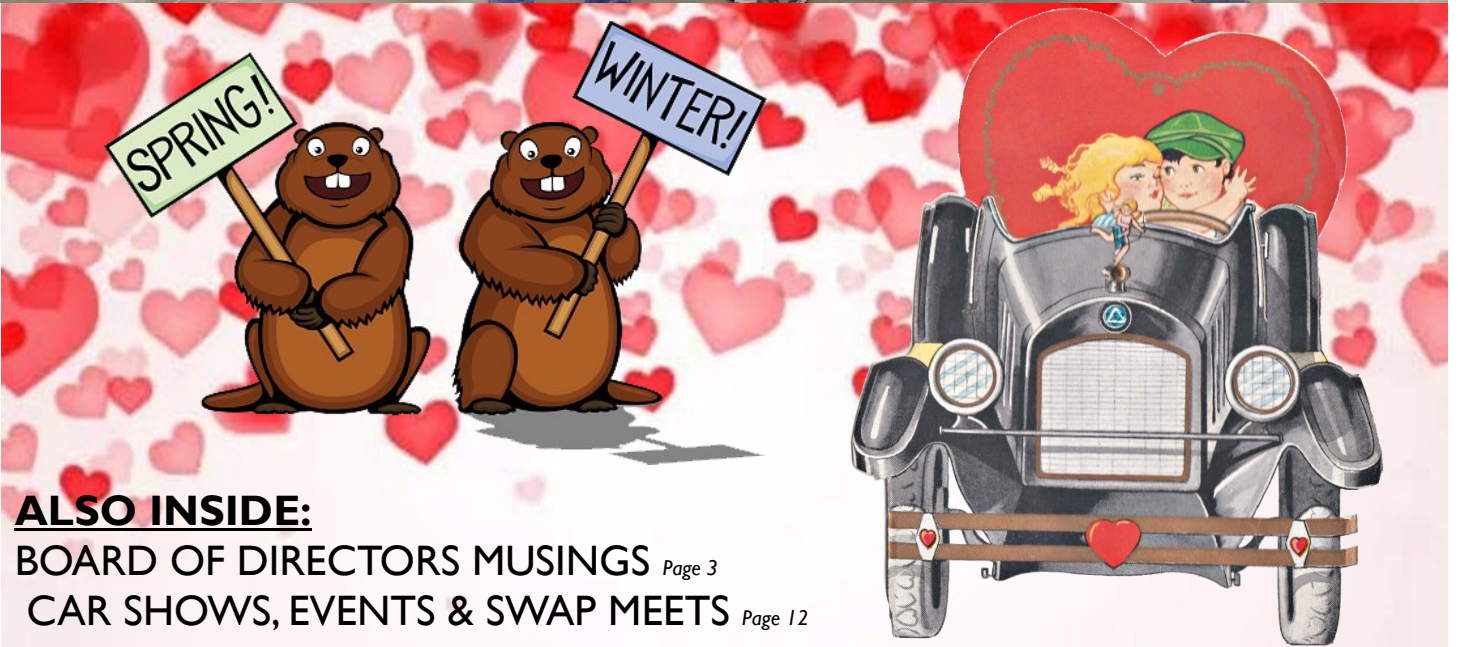


Mass Cruisers Auto Club

February 2025



John Buchanan S23 Ultra



ALSO INSIDE:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MUSINGS Page 3

CAR SHOWS, EVENTS & SWAP MEETS Page 12



Celebrating 34 Years of Cruisin'
Volume 34 Issue 2

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Or by email: HO350@comcast.net

2025 Monthly Business meetings are held in the Bass Pro Shops Conservation Room on the 3rd Tues. 6:30

DIRECTORY	Page 2
BOARD & EDITOR MUSINGS	Page 3
34TH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING	Page 4,5
MECUM KISSIMMEE 2025	Page 6,7
BIG E SWAP MEET	Page 7,8
ABE'S GARAGE CAR CRAFT	Page 9
FACTORY FIVE VISIT	Page 10
SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS	Page 11
FEBRUARY EVENTS PAGE	Page 12

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Board Musings

By Rich Armando



As always John Buchanan did an outstanding job of arranging our January annual business meeting. Once again Choice Catering supplied delicious food with plenty left over for members to use the to go containers, assuring no food was wasted. Thanks John. When dinner was over the meeting was called to order so that we could take care of a few things. Rick White had volunteered to be on the board of directors. Knowing that there already was a full slate John Griffin said he would let Rick take his spot as he wouldn't want to interfere with any member from stepping up who wanted to be involved with running the club as new ideas and enthusiasm is always needed and welcomed. One vote was cast and your board was elected for another two years. Thank you for the time you have spent on the board John. He has assured us even though he is no longer on the board and is involved with several other clubs, he will continue in his present position of being in charge of the food pantry. Another piece of business that needed to be taken care of was getting the approval to sign up a company to build a complete new modern web site for the club. After a presentation and some questions and answers it was moved to a vote that was unanimously accepted that Dennis, Kevin and myself sign up one of the 3 companies we had interviewed that would best serve the club. Thank you Dennis and Kevin for the hours that you have put in, getting us to this point of the selection process. Since the end of this meeting we have signed an agreement with Southcoast Marketing Group from Mattapoisett to build our site. We have been told it should take around 6-8 weeks before the new site is launched.

Bruce Berry and Rick Lawlor have both completed 25 continuous years as members of the Mass Cruisers. They were acknowledged for this achievement with a presentation made by Diane Thornton. Diane had framed a citation which she designed and made up along with an etched glass tumbler with the club logo for each of them. During these years both men have logged a lot of hours in helping make this club what it is today. Thanks for your time gentlemen.

All of this was followed up with our 2024 cruiser of the year presentation. Dennis DiBiasio who was the 2023 recipient made his choice known. To what really should not have been a surprise his choice was Bob Hines. Bob works tirelessly as cruise night director, serves on the board and also is willing to help anywhere else he is needed within the club. After he received the plaque with the name of all of the past recipients and the traditional cash gift he now has to start the difficult task of selecting the person who will be the 2025 cruiser of the year. Could that be you? Congratulation Bob.

Closing out the meeting Bob and I passed out this year's club thank you gifts to the members in attendance who has put time in working our cruise nights.

Keep an eye out in the next several weeks for information on the clubs participation in this year's World on Wheels the weekend of March 21, 22, and 23. It will be basically set up and run similar to last year. A sign up sheet will be sent to everyone shortly.

At our February 18th meeting we will continue with our pizza and guest speaker series. Club member Hector Bucio who owns an automobile detailing business will talk about ceramic coating a car and his latest service, Waxoyl undercoating corrosion protection for your vehicles, I hope to see you all there.

Editor's Musing

By John Buchanan EDITORIAL



February not only brings Groundhog Day into our cultural ritual but its also when I make sure all my long distance weekend car events are marked off on the new year's calendar and any required advanced registrations, like the February 1 rush for the limited 1,500 Adirondack Nationals limited spots at Lake George, N.Y. on September 4-7 are made <https://adirondacknationals.com>. Then double check to be sure those 2025 rolled-over hotel reservations are also booked. We also have the Sept. 12-14 Old Orchard Beach Car Show in Maine. Registering for the car show is not the problem here, it can be done as late as the day of the show but it's booking your room to stay at the Edgewater our Mass Cruisers Club hotel HQ. [The Edgewater | Old Orchard Beach Maine, Waterfront Inn](#) Repeat club member attendees can book at the Edgewater for the following year upon the previous year's room checkout.

Be sure to check all the major weekend show event websites for their registration timelines and, in some cases, hotel bookings that can sometimes vary year to year. An example was what happened last year at the Syracuse Nationals when they lost their host hotel to New York's migrant emergency housing crises. Remember, it's never to late to go CRUIZN so call one of our experienced club members if you have an event question about one of the **RED** * events listed on our newsletter monthly events calendar page.



Cruisin' at the speed of fun

34th Annual Business Meeting

by John Buchanan



Our official 34th Annual Business Meeting, as tradition and our Mass Cruisers By-Laws requires, was held on Tuesday January 21 in the Bass Pro Shops Conservation Room with more than 40 members and guests in attendance. Starting off with a delicious hot buffet from Choice Catering in Bellingham at 5:30 PM, the official business meeting was called to order around 6:30 PM with necessary voting on a couple of important items, election of the seven 2025 Board of Directors, Rich Armando, Bob Hines, Steve Huntington, John Sturniolo, Kevin Rushlow (whose flight home from Florida Sunday was weather canceled), Diane Thornton & Rick White who replaced 2024 Board Member John Griffin. The other major item on the business agenda was to approve funding for to hire one of the three website development companies the committee of Rich Armando, Kevin Rushlow and Dennis DiBiasio will choose to rebuild and provide ongoing maintenance and technical support to webmaster Dennis DiBiasio and our masscruisers.com website on an ongoing basis. We welcomed new member Bob Anzalone, and returning former members Zeke & Rose Sawayer who were among the official member attendance at this meeting. We also look forward to another exciting year at Patriot Place in 2025 when we can share our hobby with fellow club members and the thousands of enthusiasts that regularly attend our Bass Pro Shops cruises. The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

continued on Page 5



Our 34th Annual Business Meeting was held in the Bass Pro Shops Conservation Room on Tuesday January 21. As always, with a hot buffet is served by Choice Foods Catering service from Bellingham. Led by Rich Armando (above), the Club's 2025 Board of Directors was voted on as well as introducing new members in attendance,





Cruisin' at the speed of fun 34th Annual Business Meeting

Continued from Page 4



Following the business portion of the annual January meeting, the 2023 Cruiser of the Year Award honoree Dennis DiBiasio presented his 2024 honoree selection, Bob Hines. Bob, who for three years hosted Saturday morning coffee workshop sessions for club members to work on their cars at his former Roberts Automotive shop in Attleboro and following in his retirement took on the responsibility to become the reigning Bass Pro Shops Cruise Director for our club was truly deserving of this honor. Congratulations Bob, it is a well deserved recognition for all that you have done and continue to do for the Mass Cruisers. Also recognized with 25 Year member custom made recognition awards by Diane Thornton, were Bruce Berry and Rick Lawlor. They were also presented with club logo etched tumbler glasses. And, in continuing fashion, Cruise Director Bob Hines and Club Board Chair Rich Armando presented club mono-grammed Sherpa Blanket thank-you gifts to all the club member cruise volunteers that help make our Bass Pro Shops cruises the success it has become.



(above) 2023 Mass Cruiser of the Year Dennis DiBiasio presents Bob Hines the 2024 Mass Cruiser of the year plaque and an engraved plate with Bob's name is added to the club's recognition wall plaque.



(above) Board Chairman Rick Lawlor and Bass Pro Shops cruise director Bob Hines display the club logo mono-grammed sherpa blanket thank you gift that was passed out to club members that volunteered their time at our Bass Pro Shops cruises.



(right) Diane Thornton presents club members Rick Lawlor & Bruce Berry with the custom 25 year recognition awards she created along with a club logo etched 25 year glass memento.



(above) Bruce & Rick are shown chilling out together in Bruce's Millis man-cave garage.

Congratulations



Cruisin' at the speed of fun MECUM Kissimmee 2025

by Fred Tierney



The goal for this year's 2025 Mecum Auction held at the Osceola Heritage Park in Kissimmee, Florida, was 4,500 vehicles to cross the block to maintain its reputation as the "World's Largest Collector Car Auction" and, by all reports, there were 4,400 consignments for this year's January 7–18 auction making it the King of the collector car auctions. Every car imaginable from a George Barris/Dean Jeffries built 1953 Oldsmobile Custom Convertible, a.k.a. "AZTEC", that was a featured Chip Foose barn find on his YouTube channel to a 1966 Ford GT40 MkI Road Car that was the top seller at \$6,300,000. I saw some very good buys that were shown earlier in the auction. My favorite buy of the auction was a 2018 BMW 430i Series Convertible that was sold for \$17,000 on Tuesday.

One of the features at Mecum which allows reserve prices on many cars that were not sold during their one minute of fame on the auction block is to move them to the "bid goes on" areas where cars like the Barris Olds which was a no sale at \$75,000 while I was there was finally reported later sold at \$325,000. One local car I was able to track down was Jerry Richmond's 1932 Auburn Boattail Speedster that was included with the Larry Spellman (North Country Auctions) 24 car collection consignment. The Auburn did go on the block Saturday afternoon, a prime auction time, and found a new owner for \$297,000. In addition to being a great auction to experience with the huge number of high quality vehicles consigned to this auction, it is truly a great car show to see these vehicles up close and in some cases get to talk with their owners. I am sure to make it again next year.



(ABOVE) Barris/Jeffries built, Foose restored 1953 Olds Custom Convertible SOLD @ \$325,000.



My favorite buy: 2018 BMX 430i SOLD @ \$17,000

BELOW: Jerry Richmond's restored 1932 Auburn Boattail Speedster SOLD @ \$297,000.





Big E Annual Auto Parts Swap & Sell

by John Buchanan



Well, the only thing to look forward to again this year during the NFL divisional playoff weekend was the Annual Auto Parts Swap & Sell at the Big E Better Living Center in West Springfield, held on Saturday January 18 and Abe's Garage monthly January 19 Sunday afternoon. Despite the 1 1/2 hr. drive each way to the Big E, \$35 for gas & MA Pike tolls, \$5 Big E parking and \$15 Swap Meet entrance fees, I really enjoy window shopping this event more than possibly sitting at home watching T.V. or in a movie theater munching on popcorn. I did see a couple of tantalizing collector cars for sale, a 1941 Ford Business Coupe and a pretty 1955 Oldsmobile 88 two-door sedan. I am always on the hunt for those formerly free service station maps to fill out my map collection showing the different U.S. Route 6 & 20 alignment changes that took place from their creation with the Interstate Highway act of 1926. I found a 1960 Chevron Map of Long Beach CA that I've been looking for the past 10 years that could help end the debate of where U.S. Route 6 officially ended. Of course, having a correct year vintage road map in the glove box of your collector car is always a nice addition to have and I did also find a nice 1938 SOCONY MA-CT-RI

route map, a duplicate to add in my collection. Anyone have a 1938 car in need of a vintage era Southern New England road map for their glove box? I've got a duplicate now. Next time I won't forget to bring my map inventory list.

Continued on Page 8



(above) 1939 Dodge 3/4 Ton Delivery Truck
 (right) 1970 GTO rolling chassis & body -\$16K
 (below left) 1941 Ford Coupe—\$24.5K
 (below right) 1955 Olds 88 -\$49,995, WOW!

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COMING SOON



Cruisin' at the speed of fun Big E Annual Auto Parts Swap & Sell

Continued from Page 7



I always find interesting stuff at the Big E Swap to tempt my wallet, whether it's one of these reproduction \$40 Chevy banners to hang on the garage wall or my favorite this year, a welded art piston & crank with an old fashioned analog clock face to replace the flashing digital clock on my office desk that I neglect to reset after a power failure.

I'm going to order one off their website. Another cool display is the reproduction 1885 Daimler motorcycles and engines that retired craftsman Bill Eggers displays at the meet each year. Check out his website to see some of his interesting reproductions. Williameggersmotorcycles.com



Reproduction mancave banners



Flathead? or OHV?

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1867 Roper Steam Cycle B



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I'm gonna' get one of these clocks



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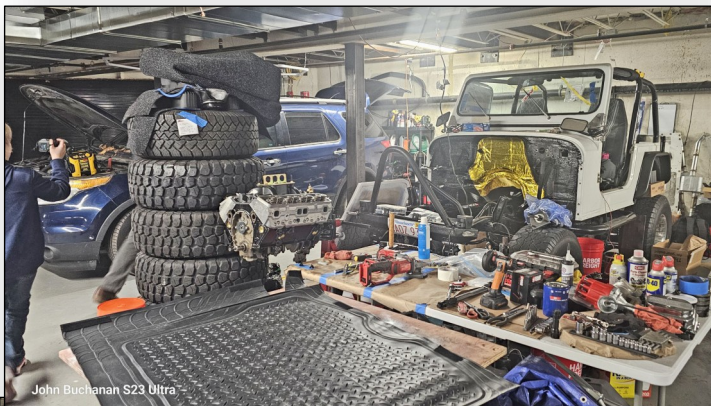
Abe's Garage January 19 Monthly Car Craft

by John Buchanan



It was last January 2024 when our Mass Cruisers Car Club members attended the monthly Car Craft coffee open-house at Abe's Garage in Brockton when I brought my then, 11 year old great-grandson Brad, with me for his first cars & coffee experience. Abe's is also one of our Bass Pro Shops cruise major sponsors and brothers Ted & Ben Resnikoff, owners of Abe's Garage, open up their facility during the off-cruising and car show season on the third Sunday afternoon each month so their customers, who use this unique storage facility to build their own dream projects, can display and share their project progress with other auto enthusiasts.

Brad is now 12 years old and was not only looking forward to the free coffee and donuts at Abe's following attending the Sunday morning church service, but he was armed with his Kodak PIXPRO Digital Camera ready to explore and take pictures and videos of his favorite cars. And that he did. When I tracked him down, he was lurking around the lower garage level sneaking pictures of a 1986 Jeep CJ-7 project build that owner Jason was working on. It is a complete total frame-off restoration with a performance rebuild of the 350 V8 that came with it when he bought it. 1986 was the final year of the Civilian Jeep series of open bodied 4 x 4 offroad CJ's that evolved from the legendary WW-II Jeep. And Brad fell in love with this CJ-7 project asking Jason questions while making his first video interview which I uploaded to his own OneDrive folder that he can access. We'll be back for the next Sunday February 16 Car Craft coffee.



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ANNUAL FACTORY FIVE JANUARY VISIT

by John Buchanan



During the winter months Fred Tierney and I try to make as many personal visits to our Bass Pro Cruise sponsors as we can. Where we are both retired, sponsor weekday operating hours are best when we haven't got our own personal business to take care of. My annual stop to see Dave Smith at his Factory Five factory operations and showroom in Wareham was particularly note worthy this year. This is the 30th Anniversary year of the beginning of his iconic Mk kit series that put Factory 5 on the map and allowed enthusiasts to build their own personalized versions of them. As I drove into the 5 Tow Road parking area on Monday January 6, there were three of the new XTF EXTREME Trucks parked alongside a Ford F-150 that could soon to be transformed into another XTF Racing Truck as well as a Connecticut customer with his Factory Five Type 65 Coupe winter project kit ready to be trailered back home. And inside the showroom, a "bakers dozen" of their full range of finished kit built models to drool over.

To top off the visit, Dave brought me into their R&D lab to see the latest kit project, an Mk5 Roadster that celebrates Factory Five's 30th Anniversary of the iconic Mk replica cobra series that used donor Mustangs. The Mk5 was to be revealed at a special showing on January 18 so I didn't take pictures of it.

This latest MK design iteration not only looks more European style to me with its removable carbon fiber top and, there are so many design improvements over the previous MK designs including fitting a body size in the driver's seat as large as 203 cm. weighing in at more that 21 stone that has an old time former '60's era sports car owner like me from wondering if he should give this Mk5 project build a shot before checking out. An Mk5 or the XTF? Either project is very tempting.



size in the driver's seat as large as 203 cm. weighing in at more that 21 stone that has an old time former '60's era sports car owner like me from wondering if he should give this Mk5 project build a shot before checking out. An Mk5 or the XTF? Either project is very tempting.

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CAR SHOWS, SWAP MEETS & EVENTS

By John Buchanan

FEBRUARY 2025 and Beyond Car Shows & Events Page

Events of interest that MASS CRUISERS Club members regularly support and attend are **asterisked ***

We use <https://massautoclubs.org/maynard-area-event-listing> to build a localized list; use it for more listings beyond this are

NOTE: This list of shows & events is our best effort to keep you informed; check with event organizers to be sure they are still ON.

- *FEB 16,,BROCKTON,,ABE'S GARAGE MONTHLY CAR CRAFT COFFEE,DONUTS, CARS & MEET PEOPLE BUILDING 'EM,,300 N. MONTELLO ST.,,1-4 PM
- FEB 22,,STOW,,BATTLE OF IWO JIMA REMEMBERED,,COLLINGS MUSEUM BARTON RD.,,collingsfoundation.org,,978 562-9182
- FEB 23,,HANSON,,CRANBERRY FLYWHEELS ICE BREAKR ANTIQUE ENGINE SHO FERRY SUNOCO STATION rt58,,JACK,,781-974-2531
- *MAR 2,,NORFOLK,,MODEL A CLUB MARCOM FLEA MKT,,7:30-11,,HOLMES TRANSP CO,,22 MYRTLE ST.,,DEAN,,508 285-3211
- *MAR 8,,WESTFORD,,THE CARBS HOST THIS YEAR'S GATHERING OF CLUBS,,WESTFORD REGENCY 219 LITTLETON RD.,,5PM,,ON FACEBOOK
- MAR 9,,EVERYWHERE,,DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS AT 2AM,,TURN THE CLOCKS FORWARD,,,,,,,,,,,,,978 555-1212
- *MAR 16,,BROCKTON,,ABE'S GARAGE MONTHLY CAR CRAFT COFFEE,DONUTS, CARS & MEET PEOPLE BUILDING 'EM,,300 N. MONTELLO ST.,,1-4 PM
- *MAR 21-23,,FOXBORO,,WORLD ON WHEELS SHOWCASE/HOME & OUTDOOR LIVING SHOW AT THE GILLETTE FIELD HOUSE,,BOB,,617 346-3997
- *APR 6,,STAFFORD CT,,TY-RODS ANNUAL SPRING SWAP MEET @ SPEEDWAY,,RAIN/SHINE,,staffordspeedway.com,,860 684-2783
- APR 12-13,,BROOKLYN CT,,BROOKLYN FAIRGROUNDS SWAP MEET,,RT 169,,BUY/SELL/GIVE AWAY,,DAVE 860 942-1129
- APR 21,,LEXINGTON,,COLON CANCER AWARENESS BENEFIT CAR SHOW,,LEXINGTON ELKS,,959 WALTHAM ST 12-5PM \$40 DONATION
- *APR 27,,FITCHBURG,,FORD V-8 CLUB-53RD ANN WINGS & WHEELS,,FITCHBURG AIRPORT,,8-1,,BRIAN,,978 263-7256
- MAR 23,,MAYNARD,,WINTER BLAHS AUTO PARTS SWAP'N SELL,,MAYNARD ELKS ON RT 62,,7:30-11:30,,CRAIG,,508 561-3977
- *MAY 3,,SEEKONK,,ANNUAL SHOW & GO CAR SHOW & BURNOUT DRAGS @ SPEEDWAY,,8AM ENTRY,,seekonkspeedway.com,,508 336-9959
- *MAY 11,,IN THE USA,,IT'S MOTHER'S DAY,,AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS,,THE NEW ALL WHEELS ASSOC. FLEA MARKET & SWAP MEET BEGINS WHERE THE OLD GREAT WOODS/ COMCAST-XFINITY CENTER AT THE BERKLEY AMVETS ON RTE. 79 OFF RTE 140—STAY TUNED...

2025 MASS CRUISERS ENGINE TECH/VOKE H.S. BUILD-OFF COMPETITION MARCH 22-23 at the GILLETTE STADIUM FIELD HOUSE



2025 SHOW & GO CAR SHOW & BURNOUT DRAGS at SEEKONK SPEEDWAY SATURDAY MAY 3 from 8 AM—1 PM

SEEKONK Speedway
SINCE 1946

The Classic Car Show and Go is a FREE for fans event on the last day of practice before opening day for our NASCAR divisions.

The MASS Cruisers and Crusin Bruce Palmer make this an early season Car Show favorite for many in Southern New England.

SHOW & GO
SEEKONK SPEEDWAY
CAR SHOW & Burnout Drags

Join us at Patriot Place on Historic U.S. Route 1 in Foxborough, MA
New England's Premier Cruise Nights • Every Other **THURSDAY** at 4:00 PM until DUSK

April 17 thru October 16, 2025

APRIL 17 MAY 1, 15 & 29 JUNE 12 & 26 JULY 10 & 24 AUGUST 7 & 21 *SEPTEMBER 4 & 18 *OCTOBER 2 & 16

SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

CRUISE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH GILLETTE STADIUM EVENT CONFLICTS AND *PATRIOTS THURSDAY NIGHT HOME GAMES