

Celebrating 33Years of Cruisin' WWW.masscruisers.com Volume 33 Issue 2



Cruisin' at the speed of fun

Contact us by snail mail: P.O. Box 217, Wrentham, MA 02093 Or by email: HO350@comcast.net



2024 Monthly Business meetings are usually held in the Bass Pro Shops Conservation Room on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM. Visitors, guests and those interested in joining the Mass Cruisers Auto Club are welcome to attend one of these monthly meetings before club business is conducted.

DIRECTORY	Page 2
BOARD MUSINGS	Page 3
FEB./MAR. EVENTS PAGE	Page 3
33 RD ANNUAL MEETING	Pages 4 & 5
KISSIMMEE 2024	Page 6
TOOLS 4 KIDS APPEAL	Page 7
BIG E SWAP & SELL	Pages 8 & 9
ABE'S GARAGE OPEN HOUSE	Pages 10 & 11
SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS	Page 12



Our Major Cruise Sponsors



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2024 Board Members Rich Armando (CHAIR) **Bob Hines Steve Huntington** John Griffin **Diane Thornton** John Sturniolo **Kevin Rushlow** Secretary: Open **Treasurer: Kevin Rushlow** Asst. Treasurer: Rich Armando **Board Emiratis: John Buchanan** Larry Nyborn Webmaster: Dennis DiBiasio Asst: John Griffin Managing Editor: John Buchanan Facebook: Steve Vining FB Admin: John Buchanan FB Admin: Sean Sullivan New Members: Lou Valentine Sats. at Arms: John Sturniolo **Charity Coordinator: Rick White** Joe Renaud Food Pantry: John Griffin **Steve Fernald Dennis DiBiasio** Mark Magno **By-Laws: Wayne Lestan** MAAC Rep: John Buchanan MAAC Alt.: Glenn Brayman **Cruise Director: Bob Hines** Asst. Director: Rich Armando **Cruise Trailer: Lorna Rabbitt Diane Thornton** Marie Armando Jean Waite Sponsors: John Buchanan **Fred Tierney** Club Events: Rich Armando **Photographers: Steve Vining** Sean Sullivan





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Cruisin' at the speed of fun Board Musings

By Rich Armando



The January annual business meeting was well attended even with inclement weather. As in the past there was plenty of food along with it being the same excellent quality that we have experienced from Choice Caterers in the past. The portion of our business meeting was opened and closed so we could socialize with fellow club members and spend some time with our sponsors. Several of our major sponsors were able attend as John B presented them with an appreciation plaque for their support of our Bass Pro Shops cruises at Patriot Place. After that Bob H and I passed out the thank you gifts to members in attendance who worked the 2023 Bass Pro Shops cruise nights.

Last but not least, John Griffin had the tuff task of naming the 2023 cruiser of the year. The welldeserved recipient was Dennis DiBiasio. Dennis's hard work along the food pantry line did not go unnoticed. He's there to set up and also to break down the cones and rope at the end of the night. His friendly banter and comments to the cruise car drivers is something to watch. Dennis has a way of prying some sort of donation out of most of the attendees who normally don't donate. Dennis, as assistant webmaster, also handles uploading the Mass Cruisers monthly newsletter on our website and maintains the file library. Thanks Dennis.

For our February 16 monthly meeting, Fred Tierney has arranged for Jeff Oliveira, co-owner of Zoom Classic Cars, to be the guest speaker right after we have pizza. Hopefully you will be able to attend. The board of directors is working on how the club will display itself at the World on Wheels Showcase being held inside the Gillette Stadium field house at Patriots Place the weekend of March 22, 23, and 24th. Look for an email with a signup sheet for members who would be willing to sit at our table promoting the club, talk about our hobby and what good the Mass Cruisers are doing for the local food pantries and area Technical/Vocational High Schools. Also, we will be hosting the small engine build off on Saturday and again on Sunday afternoon. At this time we have 4 teams from Blue Hills Regional and 4 teams from Norfolk Agricultural schools signed up so it should be very competitive. Club members will also be needed for this. Please think about what times you can commit to.

It's that time of year that John B. and Fred T. are busy knocking on doors to renew existing cruise sponsors and grooming new sponsors. They both put a lot of time into making it the success that we have had over the years. If you can help them or know of a potential sponsor, contact either one of them with that lead. Better yet maybe you could get all of the information and land a new sponsor. They both would appreciate your help.

While I'm on the subject of looking for help, John B could use a hand putting the monthly newsletter together. If you have expertise putting together a newsletter or would like to learn, please contact John. Besides working the cruise nights every other week, I hope everyone realizes just how much work that some members do month to month to make the club what it is. If you have some spare time and would be willing to be more involved with your club contact a board member to see where your help is needed. If you cannot work the cruise nights then maybe you can help doing various tasks from your home and tailored to fit your schedule.

In closing I would like to thank John Buchannan for organizing the January business meeting. With all of the other tasks that John does for the club he finds time to do more. Thanks John.

FEBRUARY/MARCH and a bit BEYOND 2024 Car Shows & Events Page

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

We use <u>https://massautoclubs.org/maynard-area-event-listing</u> 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 12,,,PARADISE NEVADA, LVIII SUPERBOWL (58), ALLEGIANT STADIUM,,,,BROADCAST ON CBS 6:30 PM EASTERN TIME FEB 18,,,,DAYTONA FL,,65TH ANNUAL DAYTONA 500 RACE,,THIS STARTS THE NASCAR SEASON,,,ON FOX AT 2PM,,386 253-7223 *FEB 24,,,WESTFORD,,ROADMAN CC GATHERING OF CLUBS,,WESTFORD REGENCY 219 LITTLETON RD,,,,6PM,,ON FACEBOOK FEB 25,,HANSON,,CRANBERRY FLYWHEELS ICE BREAKER ANTIQUE ENG SHOW,,FERRY SUNOCO STA. rt.58, JACK,781-974-2531 *MAR 3,,,,,NORFOLK,,,MODEL A CLUB MARCOM FLEA MKT,7:30-11, HOLMES TRANSP CO, 22 MYRTLE ST,,,,DEAN,,508 285-3211 MAR 10,,,,,EVERYWHERE,,DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS AT 2AM,,,TURN THE CLOCKS FORWARD

*MAR 22-24, FOXBOROUGH, WORLD ON WHEELS SHOWCASE, @ GILLETTE STADIUM FIELD HOUSE "BOB, 617 515-8602 *MAR 24, "MAYNARD," WINTER BLAHS AUTO PARTS SWAP'N SELL, MAYNARD ELKS ON RT 62, 7:30-11:30, CRAIG, 508 561-3977 *APR 7, PLYMOUTH, REBELS AND RODS SEASON OPENER, 7-10AM, EAST BAY GRILL 174 WATER ST, & EVERY SUNDAY AFTER THAT *APR 7, "STAFFORD CT, TY-RODS ANNUAL SPRING SWAP MEET @ SPEEDWAY, RAIN/SHINE, staffordspeedway.com, 860 684-2783 *APR 18, (THURS), "FOXBOROUGH, BASS PRO SHOPS CRUISE SEASON AT PATRIOT PLACE STARTS," www.masscruisers.com APR 27, "SANBORNVILLE NH, ANNUAL MODEL A GATHERING BEAN FARM 2253 LOVELL LAKE RD, 11-2, last sat, CARL, 603 534-1933 *MAY 4, "SEEKONK, "ANNUAL SHOW & GO CAR SHOW AT THE SPEEDWAY, "8AM ENTRY," seekonkspeedway.com, 508 336-9959

<u>Cruisers</u>

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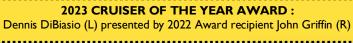
33rd Annual Business Meeting

By John Buchanan

The 1830 book "Paul Clifford" opened with this famous line, "It was a dark and stormy night ... and so it was on the eve of our 33rd Annual Business January 16 meeting at the Bass Pro Shops, when we had planned on filling the Conservation Room with 50 members and our Major Bass Pro Shops Cruise Sponsors. I didn't keep count but, lets just say, there was plenty of left over delicious food offerings Choice Catering of Belling-ham provided for the meeting for members to bring home with supplied take-out containers.

U.S. Route 1 northbound in Wrentham was also shut down at 5:30 due to a pedestrian fatality on the wet snow covered highway that left drivers, unfamiliar with area back roads, trying to figure out how to get back on track which impacted one of our sponsors, Peter Sacchetti coming up from Warwick, R.I.

Those who did make to the meeting, not only enjoyed the catered meal but, were able to witness presentations of club thank-you plaques to several of our Bass Pro Shops Cruise Major Sponsors, the announcement of the 2023 Cruiser of the Year recipient Dennis DiBiasio Sr. by 2022 Cruiser of the Year recipient John Griffin, and receive club thank-you gifts by Board Chairman Rich Armando and Cruise Director Bob Hines to the cruise night club member volunteers. While looking forward to our 33rd year of hosting another exciting year of events on our 2024 calendar including the opening Bass Pro Shops cruises at Patriot Place on Thursday April 16, Seekonk Speedway's opening season Classic Car Show & Go on Saturday May 4, we are excited to participate in a new event, the World On Wheels Showcase weekend on March 22–24 at the Gillette Stadium Socios.com Field House. We are looking for another banner year of fun with our cars. *Continued on Page 5*











MAJOR SPONSORS THANK YOU: ABOVE: OVERLAND FILMWORKS Evan Brastow

LEFT: ABE'S GARAGE - Ted Resnikoff

RIGHT: SACCHETTI CLASSIC INSURANCE—Peter Sacchetti







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33rd Annual Business Meeting continued from Page 4 Photos by Steve Vining

BASS PRO SHOPS CRUISE HQ TEAM at the Club Trailer: (L to R) Lorna Rabbitt, Marie Armando, Diane Thornton & Ann Hines













CRUISE MEDIA TEAM: John Buchanan (L) Steve Vining (R)





BASS PRO SHOPS CRUISE FRONT ENTRANCE TEAM: (L to R) Dennis DiBiasio, Catherine & Mark Magno, Steve Fernald (rear) & John Griffin

This year's Thank-Gift for club cruise night volunteers was an IGLOO 36-can duffle bag Coast Cooler with the embroidered Mass Cruisers logo on the gusseted front pocket

BASS PRO SHOPS CRUISE OPERATIONS TEAM MEMBERS: BACK ROW: Mike Rabbitt, Dave Reavill, Steve Huntington & Dave Thornton FRONT ROW: Kevin Rushlow, Larry Nyborn, John Sturniolo, Lou Valentine & John Ricker

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MECUM Kissimmee 2024

By Fred Tierney



Cruisers

My brother in-law and I attended this year's MECUM 25th Anniversary auction in Kissimmee, FL on the last Friday of the show that ran from January 2 to 14. Gates open at 8 a.m. auction starts at 9 a.m. Admission \$30.00 per day, 3 days \$75.00. Register to bid is \$200.00. Mecum is the largest Classic Car Auction in the world and the really BIG news out of this year's show was 4,383 vehicles, the most ever offered at a collector car suction, bringing in \$275 million, the 3rd consecutive year with over \$200 million+ results. Some of the great vehicles auctioned were a 1964 275GTB/LM Competizione Speciale Ferrari was not sold even with a high bid of \$23 million. A 1948 Tucker sold for \$1.87 million. A 1957 Mercury Pace Car Convertible sold for \$99 thousand. A 1967 Ferrari 275GTS/4 NART Spyder not sold during the auction but did finally go for \$23.5 million during The **Bid** Goes On Mecum after-auction feature.



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TOOLS 4 KIDS Appeal By Rick White



Page 7

I want to thank all the Bass Pro Shops cruisers who donated TOOLS 4 KIDS, our new Mass Cruisers program to collect functional automotive tools for graduating local area vocational, automotive students. Tools collected last season have been assessed, and assembled into sets. Different methods of distribution are being considered. In light of the Small engine build off we are conducting at World on Wheels, March 22-24, I offered some of the collected tools to the build off committee for prizes at their discretion. I feel that this may benefit both the participating kids and promote future participation in our builds. I also solicited input from our automotive vocational faculty on ideas for the best way to distribute the collected tools. Your thoughts and input are also welcomed. So, when you're doing your winter car tweaks, please keep a bucket handy and cull out the tools that are just cluttering up your tool box for the kids. They'll go into play quickly. Arrangements can be made to donate them off-season at most meetings. Just contact me. Help me fill in the socket sets with your 2nds,3rds or 4ths. Also, a dirty rusty tool is better than no tool.







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Monthly Crusin



Annual Auto Parts Swap & Sell at the Big E

By John Buchanan

When its too cold to do much on a January Saturday morning and the NFL divisional wild card playoffs aren't until late afternoon, minus the Patriots again this year, it's off to the Big E in West Springfield for the annual indoor Auto Parts Swap & Sell meet. The vendor spots were sold out this year for the first time since 2019 and I didn't really have a list of stuff I needed, but I do enjoy window shopping. There's always a nice selection of collector cars for sale to do some tire kicking if you're in the market. And then there's the usual tool, performance parts, detailing supplies, wall art, collector toys, literature and trick LED light-



Page 8



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Big E Auto Parts Swap & Sell continued from page 8

By John Buchanan

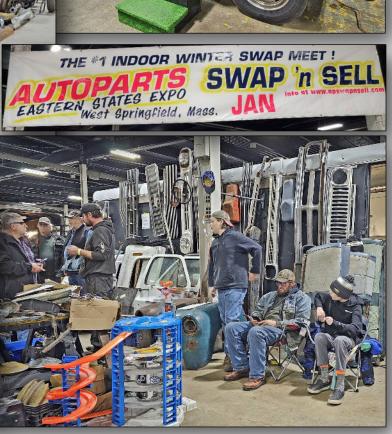
Of course there's the racing scene for both the big boys and youngsters too along with flyers for their 2024 racing season and advance registrations for 2024 car show events like the July 19-21 Syracuse Nationals. This year there also seemed to be more automotive used parts vendors than the past couple of years which is another sign overall activity in the hobby is back on the road to recovery.













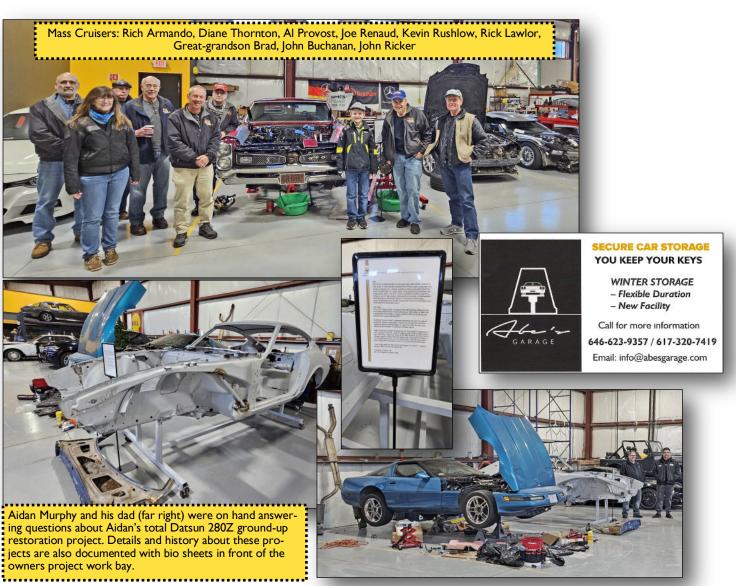
by John Buchanan

Realizing those weekly or monthly Cars & Coffee events that run from spring through autumn in our area have pretty much gone into winter hibernation, brothers Ted & Ben Resnikoff, one of our Major Bass Pro Shops Cruise sponsors, have opened their Abe's Garage, in Brockton www.abesgarage.com

for a monthly open house coffee for their clients to display their projects and be on hand to answer any questions about their cars and plans for them. Their ad appears on page 11 of our 2023 Bass Pro Shops Cruise Night Schedule booklet.

Eight of our Mass Cruisers members attended their Sunday January 21 open house that was held from noon to 4 PM and we weren't disappointed. Projects range from a full blown total tear down nut and bolt restoration and performance modification of a 1977 Datsun 280Z a 20 year old found wasting away in a Pennsylvania farm field to a refresh and rebuild of an owner's 1967 Pontiac GTO with the help of a couple of his close friends, and they are making progress to have it back on the road this coming spring. This trio also has a couple of other rebuild projects planned when the GTO is finished.

Abe's Garage is unique for our area in that they are providing a professional garage where you are the mechanic and in need of a better place to wrench on your car than your own cramped garage or outside under a tree in your backyard or driveway. It's been a year since I last visited the garage when Ted and Ben signed on to become one of our Bass Pro Shops Cruise sponsors and the garage this Sunday was filled with some great projects and stories behind each one. As Ted points out to them, their goal is to get their projects to the point where they can drive them into our Mass Cruisers bi-weekly Thursday cruises or the myriad of area car shows and cruise-in events that will start up in April.







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Abe's Garage Open House

by John Buchanan

Furthering my effort to pass the love of our hobby on to the next generation, I brought along my 11 year old great-grandson Brad to the Abe's Garage Open House. When our host Ted Resnikoff asked Brad what type of car is he's interested in, he answered, "A muscle car." Ted then brought him over to the 1967 Pontiac GTO project work bay and started going through the project's build photo book with him. When Brad saw the pictures, he asked if he could use my phone to take his own pictures of the car. A couple of the GTO pics shown here are ones taken by Brad. Later, after looking at all the projects, I asked Brad to pick out his favorite so I could take a picture of him standing next to it. He immediately went over to an





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