

Cruisin' at the speed of fun

Mass Cruisers Auto Club

March 2024



NEW MASS CRUIISERS EVENT: World ON Wheels SHOWCASE Small Engine Build-Off page 4



Norfolk County
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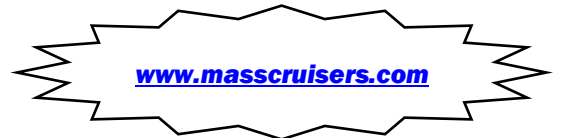


Celebrating 33 Years of Cruisin'
Volume 33 Issue 3

We're on the Web
www.masscruisers.com
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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 at 6:00 PM before club business is conducted.

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Board Musings

By Rich Armando



If you missed the February meeting, you missed a good one. Fred arranged for Jeff Oliveira who is a cruise night sponsor to be a guest speaker. Jeff is co-owner of Zoom Classics who introduces sellers to buyers of classic, hot rods or any other type of collector car out there. Jeff can handle everything involved with making a sale or purchase of one of these cars. He can do an appraisal on what he believes is a fair price based on condition. Then pictures are taken which are then posted on his web site. When a potential buyer calls, Jeff will set up a time and place to meet and hopefully make a deal. When an agreed price is reached Jeff's services doesn't stop there. He is capable of arranging transportation and even transferring money from the buyer to seller. It can truly be a one stop shopping experience. After hearing Jeff's presentation, if I was in the market for a car I would be comfortable dealing with Zoom Classics.

At this time I'm sure you all have heard of the club's participation in the World on Wheels show being held in conjunction with the home show inside the Gillette Stadium field house at Patriots Place. The Mass Cruisers will set up a display for the three day event, March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. This is a great opportunity for the club to promote itself beyond our bi weekly cruise night. We will have a chance to show the public that it's not all about cars, but all of the good the club does for others. We plan on promoting the amount of food and cash that was generated in the 2023 season for the 5 food pantries that we support. Also the public will be exposed to the scholarships that we handout to local regional schools and the Tools 4 Kids donation program that was started by Rick White. To cap off this weekend we will once again hold the small engine build off which was moth balled in 2020 when Covid hit. There will be 3 schools participating consisting of Blue Hills Regional, Norfolk Aggie and Southeastern Regional schools with each entering 4 teams. This will allow us to hold the competition on both Saturday and Sunday with each day allowing each school to enter 2 teams per day. With 6 engines being torn down and put back together in a timed format each day, the competition level should be intense. The 3 instructors have told me all of their students are excited about showing off their skills and competing for bragging rights as the top team.

At our March 19 monthly meeting major sponsor Evan Brastow, owner of Overland Filmworks, one of our Bass Pro Shops cruise major sponsors, will be our guest speaker. Plan on joining us for pizza at 6 PM and to listen to Evan's presentation. We will also be spending some time going over the upcoming cruise nights. Bob Hines and I will go over a few changes we would like to implement for this season.

It was good to have a chance to introduce new member Ed Goss who attended his first meeting. Also making the trek up from Plymouth to attend the meeting was Jeff Cohen. Hopefully they both enjoyed themselves and will be a regular at these monthly meetings and our bi-weekly cruise nights.



Sandy & Herb Williams—Mass Cruisers for 25 years

Editor's Musing

By John Buchanan



It isn't often car clubs get to recognize members that have stayed the course for 25 years, but I had the opportunity to drive down to Wareham and present Herb & Sandy Williams with their Mass Cruisers 25 year member recognition award at their Buzzards Bay retirement home. Herb is unable to attend our monthly meetings in Foxborough but he hopes to make to one of our Bass Pro Shops cruises with his son Dale this summer. Congratulations Herb on your club 25th anniversary.



World On Wheels Showcase Engine Build-Off

By John Buchanan



Everyone in our hobby was bummed out when the Boston World of Wheels lost their Seaport venue and were unable to come up with another suitable facility within the I-495 beltway. When the 2020 COVID shut-down hit, our own attempt to bring excitement to the hobby our small engine build-off competition between student teams from our local Technical Vocational High Schools was sidelined. Enter Castle Events. Using their experience with their successful New England Home Show series in smaller indoor venues, they wanted to try something different for the recreational vehicle and automotive hobbyists by sharing the Gillette Field House with them to try out a trial version called the World On Wheels for enthusiasts like us.

I stopped attending Home Shows many years ago, always buying the useless-appliance-of-the-year but, I am always buying useful stuff, I hope, for my cars. So this alternative W.O.W. sounded like a great idea, particularly because it was indoors and was happening before we get our cars out of winter storage and onto the road for those early April events. Our Mass Cruisers club also saw this as a great opportunity to pull those 208 cc Briggs & Stratton engines out of storage and fire them up for a renewed Engine Build-Off competition. Signing up for this year's event are Blue Hills Regional Technical High School out of Canton, Norfolk County Agricultural High School out of Walpole and Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School out of Easton, fielding four teams each for Saturday March 23 and Sunday March 24 competitions.

For those not familiar with an engine build-off competition, there is a great YouTube video created by Rich Taber and his RPM News Weekly of our 2018 build off [Mass Cruisers Engine Build-off 2018 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Continued on Page 5



ABOVE: John Sturniolo, Mark Lite & Rich Armando check the old engines used in our 2017, 18 & 19 events
RIGHT: Rich & Bob Hines working hard to get one of the stubborn engines to start and keep running.

World On Wheels Showcase

Continued from Page 4

Save \$2! - Register Now to Attend the **2024 World On Wheels Showcase**

A featured Event of the **2024 New England Home & Outdoor Living Show, Foxboro**

See The WOW Show and Home & Outdoor Living Show on the same ticket!

Purchase Tickets at: <https://www.newenglandhomeshows.com/home-show-foxboro/>



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Added Show Feature:

- Mass Cruisers Car Club "Small Engine Build-Off" – Saturday, March 22 and Sunday, March 23; Six Teams per day featuring 12 students highly skilled at engine repair, going head-to-head breaking down a Briggs & Stratton small engine – and putting it back together... in working condition. A fascinating glimpse into the amazing field of talented students coming out of today's vocational-tech and agricultural high schools!

While the small engine team was hard at work in Rich Armando's garage, Diane Thornton's W.O.W. club booth team went to work on setting up the booth backdrop in her garage only to discover it was too tall to fit inside so it had to be set up outside on the driveway.





8th Annual Gathering of the Clubs

By John Buchanan



This year's host for the 8th Annual Gathering of the Clubs, the Push Rods of Waltham MA, stepped it up a notch with a display of hot rods at the Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center front entrance and lobby area. There was over 300 attendees from 30 car clubs including some notable new clubs and first time attendees. A couple of the new clubs appear to be chapters of recent brand trends catering to individualistic car and bike owners, the OOGIES BOOGIES Car Club (does Nightmare Before Christmas ring a bell?) and the Weirdos, Freaks, Whackos & Creeps Anti-Social Club (there's a chapter in Ohio). Then there are the perennial long distance clubs, members from the GOONZ Car Club of Ireland, the TORQUERS from Montreal & the DEVILS on WHEELS from Templeton, Quebec. As always representatives from each club sign up to grab the mike to shout out their 2024 plans for hosting car shows and cruise nights, one of the original purposes for starting these gatherings eight years ago, to get support in attendance at their events by providing flyers as well as ensuring there will be a minimum of conflicting dates with one another's show dates. Yours truly confirmed our April 18 Bass Pro Shops Cruise and the May 4 Show & Go Car Show at Seekonk Speedway as well as the resurrected Technical/Vocational Small Engine Build-Off Competition at the new World On Wheels Showcase at Gillette Stadium on March 23 & 24. Interspersed with these introductions and announcements drawings for the winning Gathering entry tickets were announced.



Devils on Wheels litged table centerpiece

CONTINUED ON Page 7



8th Annual Gathering of the Clubs

CONTINUED FROM Page 6

Turning over of the HOST GAVEL from the 2024 PUSH RODS to the 2025 host CARBS Hot Rod Club out of Athol, MA, another hot rod club that was established back in 1957 era. And, after the formalities were completed by 9 PM, Dirty Walter and the Smelltones fired up their brand of lively funk Doo Wop music to kick off the dancing into the wee hours.



2025 Gathering of the Clubs Host



There's no confusion about who's in Westford this weekend.



Dirty Walter & the Smelltones



Over 300 hot rodders from 30 clubs attended this year



My turn at the microphone



Guest Speaker Jeff Oliveira

by John Buchanan



Our Tuesday February 20 our Guest Speaker Jeff Oliveira from Hanover, MA, co-partner of Zoom Classic Cars business is one of our Bass Pro Shops Cruise sponsors. We had a pretty good turnout of members, running out of pizza before the meeting started at 6:30.

Jeff, along with his New Jersey based partner Mike, provide a service that is uniquely tailored to each client's individual needs. No worries about having to go through posting your car for sale on the internet, taking pictures or videos, determining the market value, dealing with auction houses or arranging transportation. And, the costs including commissions are very reasonable for their services.

Several examples of sales handled recently by Jeff with our own club members and their cars were cited at the meeting. Prior to Don Cole's passing, when he could no longer continue driving and wife Ann needed to get help selling his latest project Volvo, Jeff was able to gather all the details from Don and find a buyer for the car. With my own situation, wanting to sell my 1931 Dodge Sedan RestoRod & matching pinball machine at auction, Jeff came to my home, took pictures and a video, documenting all the features and actual condition, established the sale price I wanted to get, then placed it on the AllCollectorCars.com auction site where it was sold in 10 days to a bidder from Houston Texas where the car was originally from back in the day. Fred Tierney also listed his 1966 Ford Thunderbird convertible with Jeff and, rather than placing it in the online ACC auction, Jeff contacted a potential local buyer who wanted to purchase a 1966 Thunderbird convertible that was on his **LOOKING FOR A SPECIFIC CAR LIST** and, after his inspection of the car, purchased it.

In addition to our own club member testimonies, Jeff relayed stories of other interesting and, in some cases, challenging sales internationally they have experienced. His Zoom Classic Cars venture isn't his primary job, but an extension of his interest and love of the collector car hobby and his desire to help other enthusiasts enjoy it as much as he does by helping them either find or sell their vehicles.

He maintains an active website of 36 available cars for sale from about 125 available listings that are in process. [Zoom Classic Cars|Classic and Future Classic Cars for Sale](#)

And, of course you can contact him by phone or email using the ad shown below. Thanks Jeff for helping make our first 2024 Guest Speaker meeting a success.



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Lady Cruisers Groundhog Day Gathering

by Diane Thornton



A gathering of friends certainly doesn't need a "theme," but some people just need a break from the winter blahs. The annual news awaited from Punxsutawney Phil looked like a good enough reason, so Groundhog Day was chosen to invite interested Lady Cruisers to Diane Thornton's house for an afternoon gathering. Also, it was a Friday and who doesn't like to kick off the weekend with some Groundhog Day fun.



Back row: Marie Armando, Barbara Nyborn, Jane Griffin, Diane Thornton, Maureen Fernald, Johanna Okerholm. Front: Diane Reizovic and Lorna Rabbitt.

There were some fairly accurate "hats" pinned during the game. Could there have been some peeking?

MEMBERS: If you have an idea for a gathering, remember that Diane can send out an email to our Mass Cruisers member email list for you if that will help.



Preparing for a game of "Pin the Hat on the Groundhog."

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Factory Five Racing Tour

by John Buchanan



When heading down to Wareham to deliver Herb & Sandy Williams 25 Year Recognition Award, I planned to stop in to see our Major Bass Pro Cruise sponsor Factory Five Racing owner Dave Smith. I do this to confirm their 2024 planned Factory Five Forum club cruise night August 8 date and to also catch up on their latest new product activities. Board member John Griffin, who had never toured the Factory Five facility, met me there around noon and we were treated to a very informative tour of the showroom and manufacturing operations by Travis Meade. And later we were able to sit down to talk with Dave Smith who was still recovering from his latest surgery on his leg. The following are a few pics that many of our members will enjoy, who having enjoyed getting Dave's personalized tours for each of the eight years we would stop at Factory Five on our weekend U.S. Route 6 Cruise from Seekonk to Provincetown.

John Griffin enjoying the showroom filled with Factory Five current kit models available for customers to be "built not bought".



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LEFT: Their full carbon bodied Concept F9R Supercar kit is still evolving with this latest version waiting for improved front body lines in the next iteration.



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CAR SHOWS, SWAP MEETS & EVENTS

By John Buchanan

MARCH/APRIL 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 <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.

- ***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 6-7,,THOMPSON CT,,OPENER,,SPEEDWAY ICEBREAKER RACES,,NASCAR & MORE,,<http://www.thompsonspeedway.com>,,860 923-2280**
- APR 7,,ATTLEBORO,,CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AWARENESS CAR SHOW,,HIGHLAND PARK,,104 MECHANIC ST,,9 AM,,rain date APR 28**
- APR 7,,EAST TAUNTON,,BLESSING OF THE JEEPS/SWAP,,NOON-6PM,,STAR DRIVE-IN,,MONTHLY SCJC SUNDAY MEETS START JUNE 2,3-6PM**
- ***APR 7,,PLYMOUTH,,REBELS AND RODS CRUISE 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 14,,DEDHAM,,ANTIQUE/COLLECTIBLE TOY SHOW,,DEDHAM HOLIDAY INN,,55 ARIADNE RD,,9-2:30,,WES,,978 465-3140**
- APR 14,,,,,E WEYMOUTH,,SPINDLES SPRING DUST OFF,,110 EAST ST,,10 AM—3PM**
- APR 15,,LEXINGTON,,MILITARY VEHICLES/ANNUAL PATRIOTS DAY/CELEBRATION PARADE,,3rd monday April,,,,,google it**
- ***APR 18,,(THURS),,,FOXBOROUGH,,BASS PRO SHOPS CRUISE SEASON @ PATRIOT PLACE STARTS...U.S. ROUTE 1,,www.masscruisers.com**
- APR 21,,LEXINGTON,,COLON CANCER AWARENESS BENEFIT CAR SHOW,,LEXINGTON ELKS,,959 WALTHAM ST 12-5PM \$40 DONATION**
- APR 21,,BRIDGEWATER,,MOPARS OF MASS ALL WHEELS MISSION 22 CAR SHOW,,BLACK HAT BREW WORKS,,25 SCOTLAND BLVD,,10 AM—2 PM**
- APR 21,,BRIDGEWATER,,SPRING CRUISE TO NH MOUNTAINS WITH BRISTOL CNTY PONY CLUB,,RT 24N SERVICE PLAZA at 8AM. ROLL OUT at 8:30 WITH STOPS @ NH WELCOME CENTER ROUTE 93N SALEM NH 9:15-9:30AM & HOOKSETT WELCOME CTR AROUND 10:15-10:30AM**
- APR 27,,SANBORNVILLE NH,,ANNUAL MODEL A GATHERING BEAN FARM 2253 LOVELL LAKE RD,,11-2,,last sat,,CARL,,603 534-1933**
- ***APR 28,,FITCHBURG,,FORD V-8 CLUB-52ND ANNUAL WINGS & WHEELS,,,,FITCHBURG AIRPORT,,8-1,,,,,BRIAN,,978 263-7256**
- ***MAY 4,,SEEKONK,,,,,ANNUAL SHOW & GO CAR SHOW AT THE SPEEDWAY,,8AM ENTRY,,seekonkspeedway.com,,508 336-9959**
- MAY 5,,AUBURN,,MASS FIREBIRDS SPRING CRUISE at HIGH OCTANE CLASSICS ,, 143 Washington St. (U.S. Rte. 20),,10 AM—5 PM**
- MAY 5,,SEEKONK,,,,,SEASON OPENER AT THE SPEEDWAY, CHECK IT OUT AT,,seekonkspeedway.com,,508 336-9959**
- MAY 5,,SALISBURY MA,,KINGPINS 19TH ANNUAL SEASON OPENER,,SALSBUY BEACH CTR,,72/OLDER RODS/CUSTOMS 10-5- RICH,,978 852-1264**
- MAY 10-12,,WESTERLY RI,,MISQUAMICUT SPRINGFEST CAR SHOW,,2DAYS 11-3PM,,257 ATLANTIC AVE,,AMANDA,,401 322-1026**
- MAY 11,,SHREWSBURY,,BUICK/CADDY/PONTIAC OLDS CLUB-AMERICA SHO,,HEBERTS CANDY MANSION RT20,,8-3,TED,,508 561-7613**
- MAY 11,,WEBSTER,,ANNUAL WICKED BIG CAR SHOW & BUSINESS EXPO @ MAPFRE INSURANCE,11 GORE RD,,10-2**
- ***MAY 11,,WILBRAHAM,,ANNUAL HILL CLIMB UP MONSON RD AND MONSON ACADEMY CAR SHOW,,wilbrahamhillclimb.org,,413 531-3991**
- MAY 12,,IN THE USA,,IT'S MOTHER'S DAY,,AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS,,BE NICE,,TAKE HER OUT,,OR DO THE DISHES**

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 18 thru October 17, 2024

APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST*	SEPTEMBER*	OCTOBER
18	2 & 16	13 & 27	11 & 25	8 & 22	5 & 19	3 & 17

Cruise dates are subject to change if a conflict occurs with Gillette Stadium events or

* Patriot's Thursday night home game dates

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