Mass Cruisers Auto Club

December 2026



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Celebrating 35 Years of Cruisin'
Volume 35 Issue 12

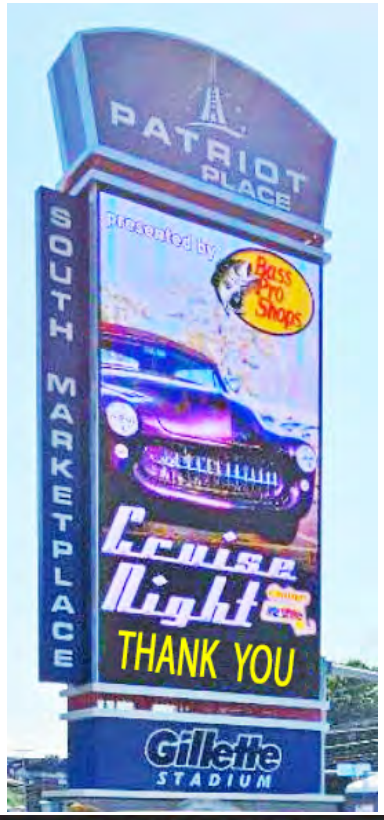
We're on the Web
www.masscruisers.com
Facebook and Instagram

2026 Monthly Business meetings are held in the Bass Pro Shops Conservation Room on the 3rd Tues. 6:30 PM

Contact us by snail mail:
P.O. Box 217,Wrentham, MA 02093
Or by email: info@masscruisers.com

www.masscruisers.com

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Board Member Musings

By Steve Huntington



Mass Cruisers Auto Club, doesn't hibernate for the Winter Season
Although our vehicles are hibernating in the garage or under cover, the Mass Cruisers car season isn't over. Cruise night season begins again in April 2027, which gives us five months to plan next year's activities and stay involved over the winter. Options include indoor swap meets, antique barns to explore, car collections and museums to visit, holiday festivals, club get-togethers for dining, visits to wineries and breweries, and garage wrenching and exploring other hobbies. If you have ideas for club events, please contact any board member. They would be glad to work with you to make it happen.
Also If you have any family members or friends interested in attending our functions or joining the club, we would welcome them as well.

Here are a few of the upcoming events:
January 16-17: Auto Parts Swap Meet in Springfield, MA Expo Better Living Center
February 20: the Gathering of the Clubs in Milford, MA Double Tree Hilton
March 7th: Marcom Parts Swap Meet in Norfolk, MA at the Holmes Transportation Bus Garage





Join us for the 11th Annual Gathering of the Northeast Hot Rod Clubs hosted by the Cherry Bombs Car Club.
$20 per person. Tickets will be sold at the door. Doors open at 6 pm.

Date & Location Sat, 20 Feb 2027 • 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM
Doubletree by Hilton Boston Milford 11 Beaver St, Milford, Mass.





MARCOM Swap meet / Winter Flea Market

- **Timing & Location: March 7, 2027 from 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM**
- **Holmes Transportation Company, 22 Myrtle Street, Norfolk, MA**

Wright's Farm Restaurant Annual Gathering of Clubs

by John Buchanan



The first Sunday in November, the traditional time of the year when we turn the clock's back one hour and the sunsets now happen around 4:30 PM, is also when most New England collector car clubs have ended their Car Show and Cruise Night hosted events. That's also when many of the area car clubs head for the Wright;s Farm Restaurant in Harrisville, R.I. for another celebratory cruise season ending feast of their famous family-style all-you-can-eat oven roasted chicken dinner, with salad, fries, pasta & rolls, of course, topped off with their iconic chocolate chicken imaged ice cream roll and coffee.
Most of our own Mass Cruisers club members that attend gather at the Wrentham American Legion Post parking lot on Route 1 to cruise together over the back roads to join the Gathering of Clubs in Wright's back parking lot where their Carriage Room seating can accommodate 500 diners at once. It was perfect weather for this year's cruise and the food is always a treat that is followed by many of our ladies taking advantage of 20% discount coupons found at our place settings to do some early Christmas gift shopping or bring home their homemade gourmet butter and cream fudge.



Our Mass Cruisers club members cars are parked above with Glenn Brayman's blue 1931 Model A Victoria Street Rod (below) providing a nice comparative contrast parked next to a stock Model A Sedan















Although there are many other clubs like our own Mass Cruisers at this year's Gathering, Ford Model A regional Clubs featuring many of their popular 1928-1931 styles are dominant

NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER - CHRIS DONOVAN

by John Buchanan

Kicking off our Fall/Winter monthly meeting guest speaker series on Tuesday November 17 was Chris Sullivan the Tire Quality Administrator for Sullivan Tire. It's also when pizza is provided at 6:00 PM ahead of the 6:30 PM meeting start. Having pizza available ahead of these off-season fall and winter meetings seems to help boost attendance when car shows & cruise nights have ended.

Chris is actively involved in addressing tire safety and regulatory issues on behalf of Sullivan Tire at the national level through the Tire Industry Association. Chris also consults on accident investigations where questions of tire, wheel, installation and service failures are suspected. Recently he is working with manufacturers of calibrated power torque tools. Lug nut torque and re-mounting of tires on wheels was one area we needed to be re-educated, particularly with the newer cars. As an example, the 12 mm studs used on smaller passenger cars require 70-80 ft. lbs. of torque, not the 100-150 ft. lbs. we practiced on our old 50's & 60's classic cars and trucks. Additionally, making sure the mating wheel hub face is clean and free of debris particularly any galvanic corrosion resulting from aluminum wheel to steel wheel hub interfaces. Chris also noted other imteresting issues coming up with today's new tire technology including the delamination of open cell urethane foam used inside EV & Hybrid tires to reduce road noise in the cabins of these quiet running vehicles. Also, he emphasised the importance of re-torqueing lug nuts after 50-100 miles to check for loosening. Thanks Chris for an informative expert and engaging presentation. Because Chris also lives in Foxboro you will often see him at our Bass Pro Shops cruises where you can take advantage of his expertise.

He has recently been

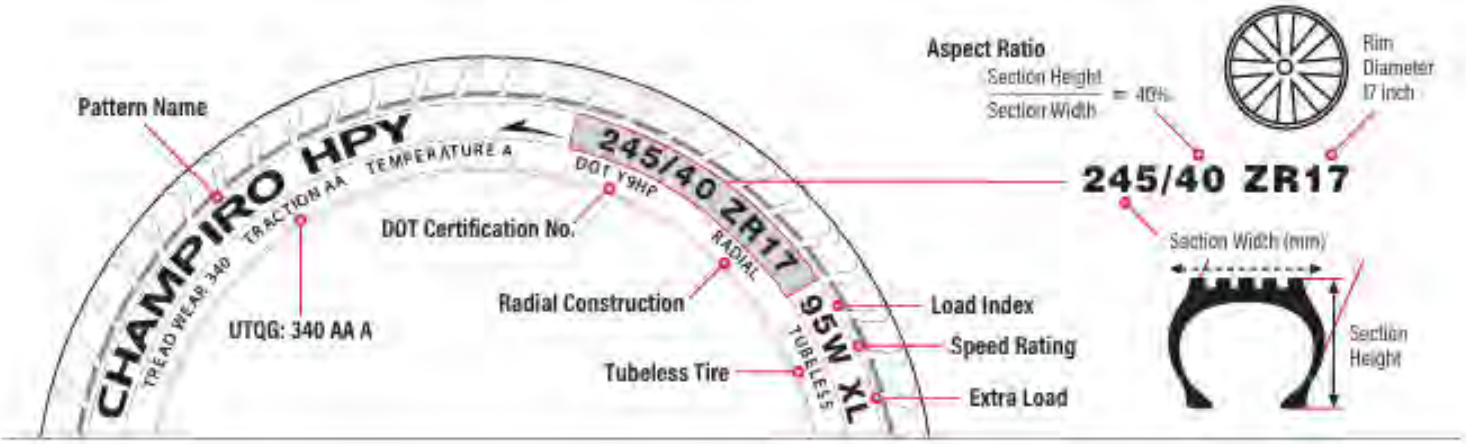






Chris Donovan (right) provided tire pressure & depth gages as well as the latest tire safety pass-out sheets to everyone. Original founding club member Lou Valentine, showning off the gauges.

CHRIS DONOVAN
Tire Quality Administrator
SULLIVAN TIRE
t: 508.408.0640
chris.donovan@sullivantire.com
151 Charles F Colton Rd., Taunton, MA 02780
sullivantire.com



Before fitting, it is essential to check the different markings to ensure that the tire meets the maximum load and speed possibilities and/or the regulations in force.

SAFETY WARNING

1. Never inflate beyond 40PSI (275kPa) to seat beads.

2. Tires should always be installed by qualified technicians following USTMA (formerly RMA) installation procedures.

3. Never mount tires on rims which are damaged or not smooth and clean.

4. Never mount a tire with a torn bead.

5. Never inflate a tire that is lying on the floor or other flat surface.

6. Always use a tire mounting machine with hold-down device or safety cage, or bolt to vehicle axle.

MOUNT ONLY ON A RIM OF EXACT SAME DIAMETER AS THE TIRE.

Speed Rating System

SR	MPH	KM/H
B	31	50
C	37	60
D	40	65
E	43	70
F	50	80
G	56	90
J	62	100
K	68	110
L	75	120
M	81	130
N	87	140
P	93	150
Q	100	160
R	106	170
S	113	180
T	118	190
U	124	200
H	130	210
V	149	240
W	168	270
Y	186	300
(Y)	Above 186	Above 300

Load Capacity Index

Load Range	Ply Rating	Load Range	Ply Rating
A	2	G	14
B	4	H	16
C	6	J	18
D	8	L	20
E	10	M	22
F	12	N	24

Load Capacity Index

LI	LBS	KG	LI	LBS	KG
67	677	307	101	1819	825
68	694	315	102	1874	850
69	716	325	103	1929	875
70	739	335	104	1984	900
71	761	345	105	2039	925
72	783	355	106	2094	950
73	805	365	107	2150	975
74	827	375	108	2205	1000
75	852	387	109	2271	1030
76	882	400	110	2337	1060
77	908	412	111	2403	1090
78	937	425	112	2469	1120
79	964	437	113	2535	1150
80	992	450	114	2601	1180
81	1018	462	115	2679	1215
82	1047	475	116	2756	1250
83	1073	487	117	2833	1285
84	1102	500	118	2910	1320
85	1135	515	119	2998	1360
86	1168	530	120	3086	1400
87	1201	545	121	3197	1450
88	1235	560	122	3307	1500
89	1279	580	123	3417	1550
90	1323	600	124	3527	1600
91	1356	615	125	3658	1650
92	1389	630	126	3748	1700
93	1433	650	127	3858	1750
94	1477	670	128	3968	1800
95	1521	690	129	4079	1850
96	1565	710	130	4189	1900
97	1609	730	131	4299	1950
98	1653	750	132	4409	2000
99	1764	775	133	4542	2060
100	1819	800	134	4674	2120

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2026 IMPA TEST DAYS at CAMELBACK

photos & article by Bob Walton



On Wednesday, October 28, members of the International Motor Press Association gathered at the Camelback Resort in Tannersville, Pennsylvania for the annual "Fall Test Day." Several manufacturers provided their latest 2027 models, usually the "top of the line", for us to drive. It is then hoped the writers will return home and provide reviews for the automotive publications they represent and the general public. This year there were cars from Stellantis, Ford, Hyundai, Toyota, Lexis, Honda, Lucid, Acura, and McLaren. General Motors was conspicuously absent, as was Volkswagen, BMW and several others. The vehicles ranged in price from the Hyundai Venue ($24,975) to the McLaren 750 Spider ($430,726). Most of the sampled road test vehicles were at the "top end" of the manufacturer's model price range.









IMPA INTERNATIONAL MOTOR PRESS ASSOCIATION

After breakfast together, members walked to the parking lot where the 2027 test vehicles were parked. The manufacturers' representatives had set up pop-up canopies emblazoned with their corporate logos and names. Having previously registered by displaying our credentials, we were giving wristbands, the only ID required to get in these cars and go. It was suggested that we spend not more than twenty minutes with each car as many others would be waiting their turn. Driving took place on regular roadways, some of which were in a state park. Some of the vehicles I drove were: Ford Raptor pickup, Hyundai Palisade, Hyundai Venue, Toyota C-HR BEV AWD XSE, Ford Explorer Tremor, Lexus IS 350 AWD, Lincoln Navigator, Chrysler Pacifica, Ford F-250 Lariat FX4, Acura ADX AWD, Honda Pilot, and of course, The McLaren 750 Spider.





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2026 IMPA TEST DAYS at CAMELBACK

CONTINUED FROM ***Page 7***

The most surprising car was the Ford Explorer Tremor ($63,000). I was not expecting the excellent driving manners I experienced. It felt absolutely solid all around. The impression was it would do whatever you asked it to do accelerating, steering, braking. The ride was decidedly NOT truck-like. The Honda Pilot had me briefly wondering if I should have bought one of those instead of my Odyssey, but the extra cargo room in the Odyssey was the decisive factor.

As I was getting into the Lincoln Navigator, the factory rep said, “When You return don’t get out of the car. There is a feature I want you to experience. You will be glad you did.

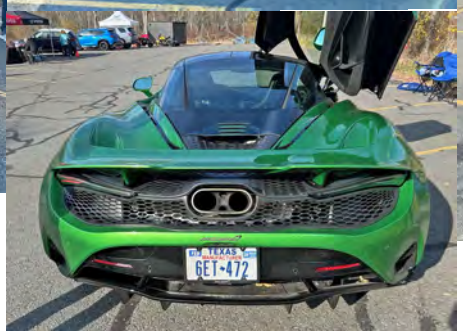
As directed, after my drive I parked the Navigator. I was instructed to leave the engine running. The rep then activated the touch screen and selected “Rejuvenate.” A new menu appeared with six or eight choices. I selected “Waterfall.” I then had to select five or ten minutes. I selected five. The minute I made my selection the wall-to-wall screen displayed a beautiful waterfall. Soft music played and my seat began to automatically recline. My back was treated to an excellent massage as were my hips. A soothing voice conducted a breathing exercise. All too soon the “Rejuvenation” ended and I returned to the real world. By the way, the model with the Rejuvenate feature sells for $132,890!



I’m sure you are all wondering what it was like to drive the McLaren Spider. It was exquisite!
A few stats: 740 hp, 900 ft lb of torque, zero to 60 in 2.7 sec., and a top speed of 206 mph. Unfortunately, this was the only vehicle in which the factory rep was required to accompany us, so the experience was minimal but thrilling, nonetheless. At one point I tapped the brake and the car nearly stood still. Incredible braking. I guess if you’re planning on speeds north of 200 mph you’d better have good brakes. It was definitely worth waiting my turn. The McLaren was the most expensive car I have ever driven ($430,726).









The most expensive car I had ever driven at previous IMPA Test Days was a Mercedes Benz Maybach priced around $300,000. These two vehicles, the Maybach and McLaren, are built for very different purposes, so comparisons do not apply.
The 2027 Lucid Gravity departed early, so I didn’t drive it, but previously, I had driven a Lucid Air.

On test day, regardless of age, all participants do their best to not appear like children on Christmas Day, rushing to unwrap each gift, but I think we probably failed to fool anyone, particularly when it came to getting behind the wheel of the McLaren. I am looking forward to the follow-up ” IMPA Spring “Brake” 2027 that will be taken place in May for another tank-away Chrismas Day experience with the latest rides being marketed.

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December and Beyond Car Shows & Events

by John Buchanan



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DEC 6,,TAUNTON,,CHRISTMAS PARADE,,239 BROADWAY (RTE. 138),,NOON START,, ENDS AT 15 SUMMER ST.
DEC 11,,NEW BEDFORD,,ZEITERIAN THEATER,,684 PURCHASE ST.,,A DO0-WOP CHRISTMAS 7:30 PM

MARK THESE FUTURE MASS CRUISERS CLUB MEMBER ATTENDED EVENTS* ON YOUR 2027 CALENDAR

*** JAN 16-17,,SPRINGFIELD,,**ANNUAL AUTO PARTS SWAP,,BETTER LIVNG CENTR,,apswapnsell.com,,860 871-6376
JAN 16-17,,STOW,,BATTLE OF THE BULGE,,COLLINGS MUSEUM BARTON RD,,collingsfoundation.org,,978 562-9182
FEB 20,,SUTTON,,MID WINTER BLUES BUSTER VIDEO SHOW 19 HOUGH RD,,,,12-4pm,,DOM,,508 410-9631
*** FEB 20,,MILFORD**,,THE GATHERING OF CLUBS,,DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON 11 BEAVER ST,,,,6-11PM
FEB 28,,HANSON,,CRANBERRY FLYWHEEL ANTIQUE ENG. SHOW FERRY SUNOCO STA. RTE58,,JACK,,781-974-2531
*** MAR 7,,NORFOLK**, MARCOM FLEA MKT,,7:30-11,,HOLMES TRANSP CO,,22 MYRTLE ST,,,DEAN,,508 285-3211
MAR 14,,,,EVERYWHERE,,DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS AT 2AM,,,TURN THE CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR
*** MAR 19-21,,FOXBORO,,**WORLD ON WHEELS SHOWCASE AT GILLETTE STADIUM FIELD HOUSE







