



“The Breakdown”



“Serving all sides of the Marque” 1983-2009

Volume 26, Issue 2

March/April 2009

Upcoming dates to Remember

- April 13th, BOA meeting at Otto’s Restaurant.
- May 11th, BOA meeting at Otto’s Restaurant.
- Celebrate Cecil Kimbers birthday at the April BOA meeting.
- June 8th, BOA Summer Picnic at Como Lake Park.

New Meeting Location:

Starting with the April 13th meeting, we will now be gathering at Otto’s Restaurant located at 3972 Union Rd. in Cheektowaga We will meet at 7:30 in the second floor banquet room.

The BOA has reserved a block of 10 rooms for MG2010 in Toronto Ont. More details to follow.

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From the Membership Chairman:

By John Leible

Now is the time of year to start thinking about getting our cars out for the season. Now also is the time of the year for our membership renewals. Renewals have been going well so far. We are waiting for about 17 renewals for next season. So if you

have not sent in your renewal please do so soon so you don’t miss any issues of our newsletters or listing of fun events that will take place this year. If you have not participated in any of our events in the past please consider doing so this year, the events are

fun and the people are great. Come and share your stories about your car. We know you all have them. I am looking forward to seeing everyone and their cars this summer.

John Leible

From the Regalia Chairman:

By Chuck Privitera

We still have a good number of items left for sale, priced to move. I will have a sample of everything we have available at all upcoming meeting, so come prepared to shop.

If you are interested in anything in particular please feel free to contact me, Chuck Privitera at 716-873-5339 or cjprivitera@juno.com

If you would like to order directly from the Lands End catalog, call: 1-800-338-2000 or go to www.landsend.com.

Our customer number is 4339815. We have two logos available presently.

Logo #0850121C is the new BOA Logo without “Serving all sides of the marque” on it.

We also have Logo # 0825015W which is the new BOA logo with “Serving all sides of the Marque” on it. There are pictures of the two logos on page three of this issue.

Chuck Privitera

President’s Message

By Joe Puma

Brrrr...it’s been a long winter, hasn’t it? The cold (but sunny) days of February really have me thinking of spring and car season. You know you’re a “car guy” when the year is divided into just two seasons – car season and non-car

season. Like many of you, I’ve accumulated a bunch of new parts - go-fast parts for the race car and maintenance parts for the Midget, all hibernating in boxes in the basement just waiting for a warm day or two. A stack of catalogs

and car magazines sits on the nightstand next to the bed, with parts and ideas for this year’s projects circled in red.

The B.O.A. has had a good start to the new year,

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President's Message continued

with the restyled newsletter, online calendar, email messaging and a couple of events already under our collective belts. The tech session at Jim Pelletterie's shop on replacing MGB rocker panels was superb and well attended, while those who made it to AJ's for go-kart racing in February had a blast and walked away fatigued but happy.

For those who haven't yet had a chance to check out the B.O.A. online message board that TJ put together last year, you really should give it a try. It's a great way to keep in touch and talk car stuff even in the dead of winter. We're slowly growing our online community, and some old friends have popped up - so stop by, join in the discussion and say hi to old friends and new friends alike. It can

be accessed from our home page at www.buffalomg.com. While you're there, check out the new online calendar, which is being continually updated as new events and outings are planned.

Speaking of events, we're working on a spring "Northtowns" garage tour event, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 23rd. By that time, most of our cars should be on the road and I'm envisioning meeting at a convenient Tim Horton's in the morning for coffee and donuts and taking a guided tour of 4 or 5 interesting garage workshops located in the Northtowns area. More on this to come as the plan unfolds. We're still looking for ideas for club events in March and April, and don't forget about the Ancaster Ontario British Car flea market on April 19th - is

anyone interested in putting together a caravan to this event?

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Brian Aldous, who underwent coronary bypass surgery on February 17th. As of this writing, Brian is doing well and expected home during the last week of February. Our thoughts and prayers are with Brian and Jean as he recovers.

If you haven't already, please be sure to return your membership renewal to John Leible ASAP, and don't forget to check the appropriate boxes at the bottom with your messaging preferences and NAMGBR membership status. Thanks!

Joe Puma

February 9, 2009 Meeting Minutes

By Celeste Kray

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by President Puma. Minutes from January meeting were read by Celeste Kray. Motion made to accept by Jerry Urban seconded by John Leible, motion carried. Lisa read treasury report, membership dues are coming in, website renewal was paid, money for copying newsletter and stamps were paid for, healthy. Motion made to accept by Dave Kray, seconded by Don Bogdan, motion carried. TJ reported on the global calendar of events. Thanked Jim Pelletterie for a great tech session. Three people RSVPD and there were about 15 members who attended, had to go for second donut run. Ancaster, Carlyle, Euro Car Day, Autumn Sports Classic just a few that are on the calendar. Our website is buffalomg.com. On Saturday, February 21st we will be going to AJ's go carts on Niagara Falls Boulevard and Rt 290 from 2 to 4 pm. It is across from the Holiday Inn. It will be approximately \$15.00 per heat. John Leible reported on

membership, no new members. Don Mobrnick was in attendance he has an MGA and B, his A is not finished yet. There have been 37 renewals returned from 76 members. Nine members have responded that they are NAMGBR members. When turning in renewal please check off the appropriate boxes so that information can be updated. Patti Hain made a motion to accept, Jerry Urban seconded, motion was carried. Chuck Privitera brought an assortment of regalia, he will have a price list in the newsletter along with the number to request for apparel from Land's End.

Old Business

Keys - originally had four keys, we have two keys. Many people commented how good the newsletter looked on the website. Newsletter will be archived on the website. Electronic photo gallery will be added to website. If we are going to host a convention we really should start working on it soon, it will be here before you know it.

Ancaster has a new location, from flyer looks like its just down street from old place, there is no address on the flyer. They have really good signage for this event - should look up where its going to be - it is on Sunday, April 19th.

New Business

Car Show National MG 2010 Convention will be approximately 1.5 hrs above Toronto. There is a race track near it. It seems like most people would like a roster - please remember when paying for renewal - if you do not want to be included in it, please state that. Discussion regarding request from a tool company who would like a list of members and they would give us a donation for Chinese auction at car show. Members did not feel that this was that would interest them. Motion was made to publish a private roster

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Bury me in an Old Mowog Parts Box March '09

By Jay Lockrow

Before we get into the main part of this months MOWOG there are two items that I want to get into publication before I totally forget and leave them out entirely.

The first is a new British Car Show called "UK Car Day" being put on by the Triumph Touring Club of Rochester. This new show will be Sunday, August 23 at Riverbend Lodge at Genesee Valley part. I looked this up on a map and it is located in the southwest corner of Rochester. All British Cars and Motorcycles are welcome. This will be a judged show and it looks to be quite interesting. For information call (585) 872-6536 or go to www.UKCarDat.com. The featured marques will be Morgan at 100 years and the Mini at (believe it or not) 50.

The other event is also Triumph related. Seems some Triumph owners want to spend the summer driving back and forth across the United States. Anyway go to Triumph-Transamerica.org.uk and get all the answers. They start sometime in June in Florida and come up the coast and are in Montreal in July. From there I don't recall but they do go across the US so if you are interested, fire up your computer and sign up. I think my Triumph might

make it but I don't think I could. I crossed the US from North to South one June in a TC and that was forty years ago and that was enough. I also did it in a Lotus a few years later and from Phoenix back to Western New York in a pickup truck in 1984 and I'm still recovering.

Returned late last night from a visit to the Toronto Auto Show. If you want to see just about any car that is in production you may want to take in this extravaganza. If you go next year be sure to take a good pair of walking shoes as you are on your feet the best part of the day. We had a good car full and we arrived at the Rogers centre about 10:30, we parked the car underneath and went up to the top floor. We walked and looked at cars, cars and more cars until about 5:00 when we decided to call it a day and have some dinner.

Like I mentioned, there is just about one of everything that is in production from Smart Cars to Rolls Royce. Unfortunately, you can't get near the Rolls, Aston Martin or Bentley type stuff but there is plenty more to look at. I found some of the spokespersons at various displays quite attractive also. Over all I particularly liked the Mercedes Benz SLR sleek two-seater with retro

styling looking a good deal like the Mercedes Benz 300SL of the mid 50's. It cost a good deal of pocket change so I'm going to have to cross it off my list.

There is a very nice Mitsubishi coupe that that I was quite fond of. It was sporty looking and not really a big car. Just right but then I really don't need another car at the moment.

I have never been a big General Motors fan but I thought the Pontiac Solstice coupe was particularly attractive. I have heard that GM is dropping this model in the near future which is a shame because I really liked the looks of this little coupe

.The Ford Mustang I have always thought to be a very attractive car and if it was not for the fact that I like cars that get very good mileage I might consider a Mustang in the future. The retro styling of the 65 fastback coupe is just a good looking car. If only it was a little smaller and with a four cylinder. I just can't see feeding a big V8 with today's gas prices and this economy.

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B.O.A. Logos available at Land's End



Logo # 0850121C



Logo # 0825015W

February Minutes continued

that would go to membership. Motion seconded, motion was voted upon carried – all in favor, passed. The roster will have members name, address, phone number, car info and e-mail address. Next year in membership letter will be requesting an update about cars members own.

A member said that they would like to be the first stop on a Northtown garage tour, members interested would meet at Tim Horton's. Tour

will be on May 23rd, more information on website, newsletter.

Need an Autumn Sports Classic Chairperson, basically runs itself. Chuck Privitera volunteered. Chuck said that there would be an organizational meeting first week in March @ Ottos. First meeting will be putting flyer together with the car classes so it will be ready for distribution at car shows, cruises. Jerry Urban stated that he had contacted the MG C register and gave

them the date and link to the web page. It will take four cars to open up a new class for event. Next meeting will be March 9th. Motion was made to adjourn meeting (8:22 pm), seconded, passed. Rick Magro won 50/50 \$17.00, no winner for joker game – Lisa had big smile on her face.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Kray

MOWOG March '09 continued

Where the automotive world is heading is a mystery to me. There were all kinds of hybrid vehicles but I am still not convinced this is the way to go. Battery technology still has not come to the point where cars will run for days on end without recharging. At present, there is no alternative energy source so the automakers can play with there electric vehicles if they want but I'm going to stick with the petrol engine

for a bit longer. The big question with one of these hybrids is... "What happens when you need to replace the batteries?" These things are really expensive! What are they going to do with the old batteries? Talk about a possible pollution catastrophe, these batteries are not normal acid batteries they have such wonderful stuff like sodium and other neat stuff in them that I'm sure the environmentalists will love.

I think the motorcar will be here for a bit longer so let's just keep our sports cars going for a few more years. Besides, of all the cars I looked at and admired at the auto show the display I liked the best was from the Toronto MG Club with a nice assortment of British, Italian cars for your viewing pleasure.

Jay Lockrow

March 9, 2009 Meeting Minutes

By Celeste Kray

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by President Puma. Minutes from February meeting were read by Celeste Kray. Motion made to accept by Chuck P. seconded by Pat Hain, motion carried. Lisa read treasury report, membership dues are coming in, Erie County Parks shelter rates have increased to \$175.00. Motion made to accept by Dave Kray, seconded by Jerry Urban, motion carried. John Leible will be sending out membership due reminders to approximately 15 people who have not paid their dues. There are 14 members who are registered with NAMBGR. TJ reported

that the people who attended the Go-cart activity had a great time. Thank you to Garrett for setting the activity up. Activities coming up: Ancaster – April 19th, Carlyle – May 15-17th, Northtown Garage Tour – May 23rd (meet at Tim Horton's on Grand Island at 10:00 am ((tour a couple of garages, possible stop at K&S Body Shop on River Road for a tour), Multi-Club Picnic in Canada – June 13th, Euro Car Day – June 14th.,

Don't forget our website is Buf-falo.MGEvents@gmail.com. Chuck Privitera brought an assortment of regalia, he will have a price list in

the newsletter along with the number to request for apparel from Land's End. Joe Puma mentioned that Brian Aldous is doing well from his surgery, we sent a plant. Joe has been trying to get in contact w/Joe Gioffre in regards to the mini-convention

Chuck P. announced that the planning committee did meet and most of show is in place, in need of a food chairperson. Jerry & Lynn will be heading Chinese auction and said that if anyone needs a basket to give them a call.

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March Minutes continued

They will accept loose donations and put them in a basket for the auction if you would like, because of the economy we will probably be relying on the membership for donations instead of companies. . Jerry Urban said that the newsletter will be sent out this coming weekend

Has contacted Jay Lockrow and will be publishing the last two years of MOWOG in the next newsletter.

New Business

Myron Sielski went to car show in Toronto and picked up information on MG 2010 – Hotel is taking reservations now. The hotel is the Ramada Inn, Belleville Ontario, Jerry Urban asked for show of hands for people interested in attending – made a motion to book a block of ten rooms in the hotel. Members agreed that would be the way to proceed. Jerry said he would call

tomorrow to set up rooms around Myron since he has already booked a room. Someone suggested that we take Highway 2 it is a much more scenic tour. Information will be in newsletter. Shannonville race track is very close to Belleville. We will be leaving on Wednesday, June 23rd.

While having ASC meeting at Otto's, someone looked into the availability of Monday nights as possibly changing our meetings to there – in the upper room. It has a clubhouse atmosphere, parking is better, well lit, TJ suggested that a motion to move the meeting to Otto's be considered. Don made a motion, seconded, voted that we move to Otto's. Jim Pellittere invited all members if they would like to meet at Otto's during summer a group of them meet on Wednesday's around 7:00 pm. During class season they meet at Otto's at approximately 9:45 pm if anyone would be interested in joining them.

John Leible mentioned that during summer Paulter's has a cruise night on Tuesday's, a group sometimes gathers there. TJ said if people are going to cruise nights they can post it on message board so that others can join in. Someone asked if Otto's has WYFI? The club picnic will be on June 8th – Gallo's Grove. It is not booked yet, do we have a volunteer to be chairperson – Bill Hain volunteered. Bill will book tomorrow. Leible's will be backup chair if needed. Joe Puma handed out maps to Ancaster. Motion was made by Pat Hain to adjourn, John Leible seconded, motion carried. Adjourned at 8:19 pm. Split club winner Don Bogdan \$16.00 – All Joker Game players were losers – Lisa continues to smile.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Kray

Bury me in an Old Mowog Parts Box April'09

By Jay Lockrow

You can imagine my surprise when I opened my latest issue of Classic & Sport scar and within the pages was a full page portrait of Barbara Cartland. Those of you who do not recall who Barbara Cartland was means you never read one of those syrupy romance novels that she wrote. (I never did either but I remember seeing her name on them in the paperback department of the bookstores) According to the article she published over 750 books in her lifetime and wrote some 600 novels herself. She also wrote a gossip column for one of the London papers as well as magazine articles. My first impression was "What in heavens name did Barbara Cartland have to due with mo-

torsports of any kind. The story is quite interesting.

It seems in about 1931 at a party one night Barbara Cartland claimed that a woman could drive as well as any man and would prove it by promoting a ladies race at the famed Brooklands track. Brooklands was glamorous in its post WWI day and Barbara Cartland was not as much interested in automobiles and racing as she was in men. Among her favorites were the "Bentley Boys" which included Jack "Babe" Barnato, (Blue Train Bentley) Jack Dunfee, her favorite Glen Kidston along with Tim Birkin, who was responsible for the famous 4.5 liter Blower Bentley. (W.O. Bentley frowned on this modification but,

per rules, enough were made so they could enter LeMans.) All of these characters were London high society which I'm sure was why she had her eyes on one of them. Cartland never did any racing but she did comment she went "around the track a few times with the boys holding on to her hat and eyelashes." If you are unaware of the Bentley Boys get yourself a history of Bentley motorcars.

Brooklands was run by the BRDC or British Racing Drivers Club and did not permit lady drivers. However there were other clubs that did and eventually a race was set up promoted by Barbara Cartland.

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Meeting will start at 7:30 PM.

Meeting will be in the second floor banquet room.

MOWOG April '09 continued

Four drivers were mentioned and if you know your MG history you will recognize Kay Petre and Doreen Evans there were also Elise Wisdom and Joan Richmond. MG supplied the cars, I believe J2s, and the race was held. There was no mention in the article of how it turned out but it was about three laps of the circuit with at least one spinout.

This whole scenario got me to thinking wouldn't this make a great column for MOWOG. It touches on MG but some of these gals never really got the coverage they should have. For example a few years after this in 1935 George Eyston put together a ladies team for LeMans and used three MG PAs. They were

called "The Dancing Daughters" and included Betty Skinner, Barbara Eaton, Margaret Allen, Margaret Simpson and the previously mentioned Joan Richmond and Doreen Evans; as much as I looked I could not find how they finished but will look further.

A few years back I did a column on a racecar called the Derby Maserati which was used to promote the Derby front wheel drive car which in itself was French. The Derby was driven by a gal by the name of Gwenda Stewart. The Derby was handled in Britain by a gentleman by the name of W.D. Hawkes. Gwenda Stewart later married Hawkes and later gained much

publicity for Derby driving a front wheel drive Miller named the Derby Miller. Gwenda Stewart sHawkes set several class records with this Miller which still exists and is back on this side of the pond.

Lest we forget our more modern counter parts of the gals namely Lyn StJames, Janet Guthrie and several others that have broken into what was at one time a male dominated field. We should of course not end without a mention of Danica Patrick and her career. Danica came very close to winning the Indianapolis 500 a few years back so don't write her off just yet. The gals are making giant headway.

Jay Lockrow