



“The Breakdown”



“Serving all sides of the Marque” 1983-2009

Volume 26, Issue 3

May/June 2009

Upcoming dates to Remember

- May 23rd, Northtowns Garage Tour
- June 8th, BOA meeting at Como Park
- June 13th Multi –Club Picnic Queenston Heights Park
- June 14th, BCC Euro Car Day Show
- July 13th BOA meeting/Ice Cream Rally
- August 10th BOA Meeting at Lockport Cruise Night
- December 12th BOA Christmas Party at Pane’s Restaurant

President’s Message

By Joe Puma

Spring has sprung! (I think – you never know for sure around here). The Midget moves under it’s own power again, with new clutch hydraulics and a NYS inspection sticker that won’t stick to the wind-shield. The race car is pretty much finished, just waiting for numbers and graphics and for its’ owner to go to racing school.

For most of you, this is the first newsletter to be delivered electronically, allowing full color graphics and pictures while saving the club considerable \$\$ in postage. Hopefully you are finding this evolution to modern information technology, including the web page, message board and email reminders useful.

Please mark your calendars for the Saturday, May 23rd Northtowns garage tour. We’ll meet at Tim Hortons on Grand Island (Grand Island Blvd., just

North of the south G.I. bridge) at 10:00am. We’ll plan on departing Tim’s at about 10:30, with 3 stops planned on Grand Island, then 3 in the Tonawanda area, finishing at Andersons on Sheridan Dr. about 2:00 for an informal “cruise” and ice cream.

Remember, the June 8th business meeting and & season kick-off picnic will be held as usual at Como Lake Park, at the Gallo’s Grove shelter (shelter #1, the first shelter at the rear entrance to the park off Bowen Road). Hot dogs and beverages will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to pass. Because we’re limited by daylight hours, please plan on getting there as early as possible - the grill should be going by about 6:00

For those who haven’t yet made it to the recently rejuvenated multi-club picnic at Queenston Heights Park

in Ontario, this is a not-to-miss event, held this year on Saturday, June 13th, 9:00am-4:00pm. It’s a gorgeous location, with clubs from as far away as Cleveland, Rochester and Toronto participating – lots of nice people and cars that you don’t see everyday . Remember, you’ll need enhanced I.D. at the border (passport, passport card or enhanced driver’s license) to cross after June 1st. The following day is the annual B.C.C. Euro Car Day show at the Rose Garden, so why not make it an all LBC (Little British Car) weekend.

In the meantime, get out and drive that car!

Joe

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2009 Christmas Party

The 2009 Buffalo Octagon Association Christmas Party has a date and a location. The date is Saturday December 12th, 2009 and it will be held at Pane’s Restaurant which

is located at 984 Payne Avenue in North Tonawanda. The party will begin at 6:00PM. The entertainment for the evening will be our infamous gift exchange.

Mark your calendars and plan on attending one of our most popular events.

Crusin Cuisine;

By Jim & Elaine Pawlak

We're back after trekking hundreds of miles from Wisconsin to North Carolina. We dined in a lot of places and we have our favorites but no place is as unique as Buffalo. Chicago is great but drive around town for two hours and the prices make you wish you had your meal at LaBella's.

We took the short drive from Holland to East Aurora to dine at one of our favorite places, The Roycroft Inn. The Restaurant is open for lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch. The chef serves a signature menu that change with the seasons. I like the Larkin Room which overlooks the gardens. Soups and Starters begin with Soup for \$4 a bowl to Shrimp and Lobster Bisque with saffron croutons for \$6 a bowl or

Maryland Crab Cakes with corn salad and roasted red peppers \$11. We shared a Shrimp stuffed Crab-meat in vanilla sauce appetizer \$12. The Salads include a Tuscan Caesar Salad with Kalamatra Olives, roasted red peppers, aged Asiago Cheese and Cesar Salad dressing \$8.

The Entrees Filet of Beef Tenderloin \$29, New Zealand Rack of Lamb \$30, Atlantic Salmon \$24, Honey Roasted Chicken Breast \$20, Roasted Vegetable Strudel \$18. Elaine chose the New Zealand Rack of Lamb with sun dried tomato, kalamat olives, basil and feta cheese risotto, served with a tomato and chili butter. You can't go wrong with the Lamb. It was as good as it sounds. I opted for the Ahi Tuna pan seared with a sesame seed crust,

hoison sauce, pickled ginger and wasabi horseradish over a soba noodle and Asian vegetable salad \$24. I would order the Tuna again! It was that good.

Desserts were \$8 each. We shared a flourless Chocolate Cake and a Peanut Butter Cake with Cream Cheese frosting. The coffee was very good.

Drop the top and fire up the MG and head down Route 400 to East Aurora and visit the Roycroft Campus. Reservations 652-6552.

Enjoy

April Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by President Puma. Minutes from March meeting were as printed in newsletter. Motion made to accept, seconded, motion carried. Lisa read treasury report – healthy balance. Motion made to accept by Dave Kray, seconded by Chuck P., motion carried. John Leible will be sending out due reminders to 9 people who have not paid their dues. There are 3 new members, two from our website. Jerry Urban apologized for the

confusion with the address labels on the newsletter. The Club of Rochester will be possibly bringing ten cars to our Autumn Sports Classic Show. Jerry has reserved ten rooms for the 2010 Convention – please call asap mention Buffalo Octogan Association so that we are all together. Carla Brennan was Jerry's contact. The convention is June 23-27, 2010. Activities coming up: Ancaster – this Sunday, Meeting – May 11, 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), Victor – June 7th BOA Picnic – Gallo's Grove, Como Park – June 8th, Multi-Club Picnic in Canada – June 13th, Euro Car Day – June 14th, Ice Cream Run – July 13 *Continued on Page 3*

Bury me in an old MOWOG parts box. May 2009

BY Jay Lockrow

After reading MOWOG all these years you have probably guessed by now that I'm a bit of an incurable motor head. Yes I have other interests but always in the back of my mind is the automobile and what makes it interesting. I have had people tell me that they think cars are boring and cannot for the life of them understand what I see in

them. "Yes, I say" a good number of cars are boring and completely uninteresting but there are a distinct few that will always create a stir among those of us that have petrol in our veins instead of blood.

For some unknown reason I have always had a particular fascination of the brand Frazer Nash. Now

most people have never even heard of this particular make less seen one. The noted author Ken Purdy once wrote a wonderful article about the Frazer Nash for *Boys Life*

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April Minutes continued

Don't forget our website is www.buffalomg.com. Chuck Privitera brought an assortment of regalia, he will have an advertisement in next newsletter. Joe Puma mentioned that Brian Aldous is doing well. Joe Gioffre would like to get a committee together to host a convention in 2011.

New Business. We have an invitation from Island Fun Center so it was decided that the August 10, 2009 meeting will be there. They have all brand new go carts for an evening of family go-carting. It was mentioned that President

Puma was on PBS telling everyone how to attach their antenna for there television – he knows it all. We will be celebrating Cecil Kimber's birthday and have a cake. Pinewood Derby Night will be next month. There will be an exhibition run tonight for those interested. There are flyers available for the car show for anyone interested in distributing them. Lynn Puma said that if no one had started a Christmas Party – they had recently gone to Payne's Restaurant in North Tonawanda and they have many banquet rooms that we could reserve –

she will look into there availability for December 12th.

Motion was made by Dave Kray to adjourn, John Leible seconded, motion carried. Adjourned at 8:16 pm. Split club winner Jim Black, \$21.00 – All Joker Game players were losers – Lisa continues to smile.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Kray

May MOWOG continued:

magazine and told about the fact that these cars are under a covenant, are considered national treasures and seldom let out of England. Even I, who has read as much as I could find about them, has never seen a LeMans Replica but I have seen, I believe, four examples of the pre-war TT Replica or I should clarify the chain drive model. Not all chain drive models were TT Replicas. Now before we go any farther I should clarify a few points.

The Frazer Nash was built by Captain Archie Frazer-Nash. His name has a dash between the names the car does not. This car has absolutely nothing to do with the American Kaiser Frazer or Nash automobile, these were two totally different cars built on this side of the pond. The Frazer Nash was built in England and was of very limited production. In fact at one point the company used an old laundry building for production and used much of the piping from the laundry in the production of the cars and I doubt that any two were alike.

The pre war Frazer Nash was of the chain drive variety. The transmission was basically a system of chains, sprockets and dogs not unlike a multi gear bicycle but on

the car the chain does not swap sprockets like the bicycle but gear changes are similar. There were several different models and you could order what you wanted with various front axles available as well as bodywork and engine types. There were several types of engines available including the Meadows, a twin cam Anzani, Blackburn and Gough. All had advantages and disadvantages.

I have never driven a Frazer Nash nor ridden in one but from what I have read the chain drive model was a real handful. The fact that the rear axle was solid and had no differential made cornering a treat. Because of this oddity the car had a natural tendency to go straight when the steering wheel is turned. The proper course of action was to induce a slide so the tail would come around which would be relatively easy on gravel but a paved street created a different scenario and a good deal more tyre wear. I have no idea how traffic is handled. The rear track of these famous sports cars was a good deal narrower than the front for this reason. One of the reasons I have always wanted to try one of these beasts.

As mentioned the chain drive was a pre war car. I did read one time that one was produced post war for a customer. The post war Frazer Nash was an entirely different animal. The Aldington brothers had taken over the Falcon works at Islesworth in the mid 1920 and produced the chain drive models up to the start of the war. About this same time the brothers were more interested in importing the BMW from Germany. After the war the Frazer Nash name was introduced in a very different form. The chassis having large tubular side members leaf springs independent front suspension and normal type gearbox and the Bristol engine. The post war model had several body styles available including the famous LeMans Replica with cycle wings. These cars had a wonderful competition history with the late Ken Wharton having numerous victories. Again these cars were not made in large quantities so today these are relatively rare. Supposedly there are about ten chain drive models in the USA and a few more of the post war model. This being so I will never be able to afford either. Even so I still hope to see a LeMans replica one of these days.

May Meeting Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 7:36 pm by President Puma. Minutes from April meeting were read by Celeste Kray. Motion made to accept made by Debbie Leible, seconded by Pat Hain, motion carried. Lisa read treasury report – made a payment for \$89.00 for park – June picnic and a \$100.00 deposit to Payne's Restaurant for the Christmas Party. Motion made to accept by James Black, seconded by Dave Kray, motion carried. Carlisle is this weekend, May 15-17, May 23rd is the garage tour, June 7th – Victor – Rochester MG Car Show in Farmington Town Park usually about 800 cars. June 8th is the picnic at Gallo's Grove in Como Park, June 13th is Multi Car Picnic in Canada, June 14th is Euro Car Day, July 4 is Chaffee Car Show, July 13th is Ice Cream Run, August 7-8 is the Roadster Summer Party in PA, April 18 is Ancaster, May 15th is Mercy Flight Dedication Ceremony. John Leible has two new members Schroeder's from Lockport and Creed's from Dewitville. Dave Klock from Grand Island is in attendance – car is red and lots of fun, Ed Werit – 75 MG Midget, and Rich Bechen were in attendance. There are only seven members who have not renewed. Regalia, Chuck has some with him for people interested. Joe Puma said that the Garage tour will be on May 23rd we will all meet at Tim Horton's on Grand Island Blvd., it will be from 10:00 – 2:00pm. Garages we will visit: Dave Klock, Rick Magro, Tom Arigo, Joe Puma, Tom LaRusso and then stop at Anderson's on Sheridan Drive for lunch. Reminder that pic-

nic will be start at 6:00 pm at Gallo's Grove in Como Park it's the closest to Bowen Road entrance. Hot dogs, soft drinks will be provided – bring a dish to pass. June 13th is the Multi car picnic in Queenston – Ontario – just a reminder you will need a passport or enhanced driver's license to be admitted back into the United States. The Chataqua Boat Show has been cancelled, the SCCA Vintage tour will be in August 16th, registration starts at 10:00 am at the East Aurora Plaza.

Old Business: Class is almost completed for the year, we will be meeting occasionally for food and fun at Otto's on Wednesdays. Watch the website for dates and times. Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 12th at 6:00pm we will need a minimum of 35 people. The Connecticut MG Car Club is having a meet @ Cooperstown NY, September 17-20, 2009. One of the days there is a trip planned to a museum. Suggestion was made that when a club member is attending a cruise night to post it on message board so other club members can join in.

New Business. Jerry Urban said that there will be a newsletter going out in the next ten days. If you have anything to submit please send to Jerry Urban. The BCC has a show on June 14th a motion was made by Bill Hain to give a sponsorship donation of \$25.00. Motion was seconded by John Leible, motion voted upon and passed. Question was asked do we solicit corporate sponsors for Autumn Sports

Car Show? Answer: Yes. Reminder to everyone for Autumn Sports Classic we will be looking for membership to donate baskets – corporate gifts are leaner this year because of economic conditions. It was announced that August 10th is British Night at the Lockport Cruise. Thunderbird convention will be August 24th in Buffalo at the Lockport Holiday Inn there will be a cruise in Lockport that week highlighting Thunderbirds. Motion was made to change the August 10th meeting night to the Lockport cruise night at 6:00 pm – you can start parking at 5:00 pm. Seconded, voted to change meeting to Lockport Cruise Night. Lisa said that she had never received any info regarding Braille Rally this year – would have been first weekend in May, possibly stopped after last year's 50th Anniversary. Pinewood Derby cancelled for tonight. Motion made by Dave Kray to adjourn, seconded by Linda Peet, motion carried. Adjourned at 8:36 pm. Split club winner Lisa \$26.00 – Dave Kray won \$10.00 in Joker game – Lisa continues to smile.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Kray

3rd Annual Multi Club Picnic June 13th, 2009

Featuring lots of activities including Valve Cover Racing, Funkhana, Car Display and Picnicking. New for this year we will have a model car display, so bring your model cars for everyone to see. This is a great op-

portunity to come out and enjoy a day out with the family in the scenic Niagara Region meeting new friends from all over the Great Lakes area. The 6 clubs involved are committed to bringing you an enjoyable event,

come see friends and cars old and new.

Saturday June 13th in Queenston Heights Park. 10:00am-4:00PM with a \$5.00 admission to the park.



Presents...

EUROCAR DAY 2009

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 9:00 a.m. TO 3:30 p.m. Rain / Shine

At the Rose Garden Restaurant Grove 2753 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, NY
(Grove is behind restaurant) (716) 632-9871 Restaurant)



Over 150
European Cars
shown in 2008

All European
Marques
Welcome

Awards in
all Classes

Popular Vote &
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Well Drained
Grassy Show
Area

FREE
Spectator
Admission

FOOD & BEVERAGES
AVAILABLE ALL DAY

Featured Marque
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The British Car Club Reserves the Right to Alter Classes

- BEST OF SHOW!**
Automobile Classes
- A. MG B/C/GT chrome
 - B. Alfa Romeo
 - C. MG B/GT rubber
 - D. Swedish
 - E. MG T series, MG A
 - F. Healey/Jensen Healey
 - G. Sprite, Midget-Chrome

- H. Midget Rubber
- I. Jaguar F type
- J. Jaguar other
- K. To Be Announced
- L. Triumph TR2/3/4
- M. Triumph 250/TR6
- N. Triumph Spitfire/GT6
- O. Triumph TR7/8 & Stag
- P. Mini (all)

- Q. British other
- R. Italian (all)
- S. Lotus
- T. Mercedes
- U. Porsche 356/911
- V. Porsche other
- W. Volkswagen/ Karm Ghia
- X. French (all)
- Y. European other

- Z. European Unrestored
(daily driver, not judged)

- European Motorcycles
- AA. BMW
 - BB. British
 - CC. Classic



DIRECTIONS: NYS Turnway Exit 40 Left (North) onto Rt 78 (Transit Rd.),
6/10 mile Right on Wehrle Dr., 6/10 mile Right into Rose Garden
Restaurant Grove.

For Information: email <http://clubs.hemmings.com/bccwny>
Call Dave Kray (716) 633-4586 or George Barbari (716) 694-7366

REGISTRATION
9:00 am till NOON
AWARDS 3:00 pm
(No awards mailed)

Euro Car Day 2009 Registration Form

Entry Fee * \$10.00 Before June 1 * \$15 after. Payable to British Car Club of WNY

Mail to: EuroCar Day, David Kray, 30 Belvoir Rd., Williamsville, N.Y. 14221 Info (716) 633-4586

WARRANTY OF LIABILITY (Must be signed): I, my heirs or assigns will hold the British Car Club of Western New York, their officers, members or agents harmless for any suits or occurrences affecting me, my vehicle or personal property while engaged in, or to or from the event.

Entrant(s) Signature(s) _____ Date _____
 Entrant(s) Name _____ Phone# (____) _____
 Address with State/Province and Zip/Postal Code _____
 _____ E-Mail _____
 Marque _____ Model _____ Year _____
 Class _____ Club Affiliation(s) _____

*** DISPLAY ONLY; DO NOT JUDGE Park in Class

PLEASE PRINT INCLUDE ALL INFORMATION



Buffalo Octagon Association
P.O. Box 236
Bowmansville, N.Y. 14026

Bury me in an old MOWOG parts Box. June 2009

By Jay Lockrow

Every few weeks a good friend of mine gives me back issues of the "Wheels" section of the Saturday Toronto Star. If you have never seen this particular section then you should obtain a copy of the Saturday Toronto Star for no other reason than to view this superb automotive section. Yes, it is about cars. You expected maybe Bingo at the senior centre? Generally I am overwhelmed at the quality and quantity of the writing about automobiles, motorcycles, auto repair and subjects having to do with automobiles like what the Provincial Police are doing or what the government is doing to get more revenue from the motorist. Sounds vaguely familiar eh!

Anyway the writers are very well versed in automotive lore and on occasion do a piece on antique autos, motor racing, vintage racing and street racing along with stock car racing, auto technology with things like global positioning, electronics and electric cars. A recent issue was about street racing and now if caught street racing in Ontario your car is impounded and destroyed by crushing. What a delightful way to get the public on their side especially if you are a motor head.

This bit aside the rest of the section is wonderful. One of the better known writers is a chap named Jim

Kenzie who appears to be a real motorhead and last year at one point totaled a Mini Cooper road racing. There are several more writers and all of them excellent and at least one gal named Lorrain Sommerfield who writes wonderful "color" articles about the automotive world. Recently she wrote an interesting piece about her dad and the fact that he always bought American Motors products over the years. When American Motors went out of business he purchased an Austin and when it quit on him somewhere in Toronto he just left it and walked home. "Always hated that car anyway" her father said. Shortly after that she wrote a column on car washing and how she used to make a few extra dollars washing the family car along with one of her siblings. This was in the same issue where car washing was covered on the front page with a lengthy story about the do's and don'ts of car washing in Toronto. Did you know it is illegal to wash your car in suburbia in Toronto? It has to do with detergents, brake dust, and other contaminants washing into the streams and lakes and contaminating the water. Whether this is strictly enforced I rather doubt and I for one would find a way around this by washing the car behind a wall or hedgerow. I find this totally ridiculous and I think I could count on one hand the number of times I

have ever used a commercial car wash which is what they recommend in the article. At present I have four cars that I maintain and none of them have ever been in a commercial car wash. I have always done this job myself and will continue to do so as commercial car washes do a lousy job. They do not clean the door jambs, the inside of the windows or windscreen and a good number of them do not vacuum the inside and on top of this they want money!

Getting back to "Wheels" the writers do road tests continuously on various vehicles from Suburban Uasult Vehicles to things like the Smart Car and even some of the new electric or hybrid vehicles. I always look forward to road tests on affordable sports cars and maybe someday I'll shoot the works and buy one. These are serious road tests and the results are as good as any of the car magazines. I always felt the local newspaper did a horrible job on the yearly automobile sections using all "canned stuff" available from UPI, AP or other source. There was rarely a local story and I always felt the sections fell flat. Yes the Toronto Star is a lot bigger with a much larger circulation but they put out an excellent auto section every week. Our paper couldn't put out one good one a year