



1st Quarter 2022 Volume 39, Issue 1

The Breakdown

Serving all Sides of the Marque since 1983

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Buffalo Octagon Club

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Letter from the President

Dear BOA family,

If you attended the annual Holiday Party at the Italian Village Restaurant held December 4th 2021, you already know that merriment was abounding, the food was abundant and delicious, and the evening was full of surprises!

For those who prepared your meal at home that evening, I'll highlight some of those surprises. First, the open bar initially wasn't open. Second, not every available seat at a table was really a place to be sitting.

Third, trying to claim the favored, popular, holiday gift exchange item as your own was a truly temporary experience. Lastly, the award of the *Herb Bradt Memorial Cup* usually presented by the BOA president to a lucky, startled member was instead surreptitiously awarded by the BOA vice-president to the BOA president.

Vice-president, Jim Borkman, spoke well of me that evening citing my good deeds in the name of the BOA. But in reality, I didn't do it all myself. I had help from the other officers and a cadre of BOA members.

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Letter from the President—*continued*

Let me make clear the strength of this organization rested on our ability to pull together, as one, toward a common goal. Looking back over this past year, all of you have distinguished yourselves in the name of the Buffalo Octagon Association.

Whether you contributed your ideas during a Zoom gathering, hosted an outdoor meeting, contributed to the success of the Autumn Sports Classic, donated your time or materials to facilitate one of our other successful events, or simply mustered the courage to venture outside of your safe home environment for an in-person social function; you have raised us all up during this challenging time, and you are forever hereby recognized.

I feel it is befitting that I share the *2021 Herb Bradt Memorial Cup* with the entire body of the Buffalo Octagon Association in recognition for keeping the faith.

Over the course of the year, I will be passing the *Herb Bradt Memorial Cup* around to anyone who wishes to retain stewardship a little longer than that favored, popular, holiday gift exchange item!

Thank you,

Peter Calabrese, BOA President



The Herb Bradt Memorial Cup

Who was Herb Bradt? — by Jim Pelletterie

Who is Herb Bradt and why do we give an award associated with his name?

Way back around 1982 Paul Garland and Jim Pelletterie, two complete strangers, got together because they both had MGB's. Paul was an experienced MG guy and talked Jim in to going to a national meet of the American MGB Association in Kingman, Ontario.

At this convention they met very enthusiastic MG owners that were fun to be around. Later, on Jim's kitchen table, a flyer was crafted and stuck in every window and parts place they could find.

The very first meeting was attended by more people that they thought would show up. Paul did not want to talk so Jim became the first unofficial spokesman. They had no idea how to organize or run a car club.

In the small group was Herb and Marcia Bradt. Herb had a MGB-GT and a few other cars at different stages of restoration. It was a blessing to have a couple that was so knowledgeable about car clubs. The pair were very involved with the SCCA and also the founding members of the Volvo club. It was Herb and Marcia that were the foundation of what became the Buffalo Octagon Association.

Marcia was the force behind the duo as Herb was a very quiet man that never said much but was always there when needed. Herb was the person to get input from others and got things done without drama or excuses. His enthusiasm was contained and never questioned.

Upon Herb's passing The Buffalo Octagon and other groups he was associated with lost a fantastic supporter. The BOA at that time decided to honor Herb Bradt by establishing the "Herb Bradt Memorial Award". The award is presented annually to the member that best exhibits the qualities of enthusiasm and dedication that Herb freely displayed. Receiving this award is truly an honor for being recognized as dedicated to the Buffalo Octagon Association as Herb was.



The Herb Bradt Memorial Cup

Upcoming Meetings

Always check our Facebook or Website www.buffalomg.com for the latest scheduled events.

January 10th Monthly Meeting at Steve's Pig and Ox Roast—951 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY. Phone 716-824-8601

Meet for Dinner at 6, Meeting at 7.

February 14th Monthly Meeting (Valentine's Theme) 7 PM - Location TBD

March 14th Monthly Meeting (Irish Theme) 7 PM—Location TBD

Upcoming Events

Kimber Festival at the Buffalo Transportation Center and Hyatt Regency — April 22 & 23, 2022.

April 17th—Ancaster Show and Flea Market—Ancaster, Ontario

June 6—10th NAMGAR—GT47, Colorado Springs, CO

June 12th, 2022—Euro Car Day sponsored by the BCC of WNY.

June 19th—June 23rd—NAMGBR, 2022 International Meet—Peterborough, Canada

MG 2022—The Next Generation

NAMGBR—EVENT

The MG Car Club of Toronto and the North American MGB Register are excited to invite you to Peterborough, gateway to the scenic Kawartha Lakes region of Ontario next June 19-23 for MG2022. Peterborough is located roughly half way between Toronto and Ottawa and the area boasts some fantastic MG driving roads in Central Ontario's idyllic cottage country. Peterborough is a vibrant small city that is home to some excellent local attractions. We are thrilled to be heading back to Peterborough after hosting the very first annual convention of the North American MGB Register there back in 1992.

Registration is now open. You must register for the event to be able to book a room at the Holiday Inn or Best Western's MG2022 discounted rates. NAMGBR members will receive a discount on the convention's registration fee. The host hotels are likely to fill up fast so we encourage you to register as soon as possible.

Please go to:
www.mg2022.org to register.



North American MGB Register

Upcoming NAMGAR, and Other MG Events



NAMGAR
North American **MGA** Register

NAMGAR—GT47—Colorado Springs, CO - June 6—10, 2022

This is NAMGAR's yearly get together. The Colorado Chapter has been working on this for quite some time now and this is going to be a great meet. Please check their Website to www.MGCC.org for the latest information.

New England MG "T" Register

Kimber Fest - Buffalo, NY - April 19—22, 2022

This annual event is being held at our own Buffalo Transportation Museum with Technical Sessions at the Hyatt Regency downtown. One of the organizers is Peter Gilvary of our club and he would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Please consider attending all or part of this event—more information to follow.



Other Local Shows



March 4— 6, 2022

www.cavalcadeofcars.com



www.buffalomotorama.com

THE YEAR IN REVIEW—by Jim Borkman

2021 was certainly a challenging year for everyone and similarly a challenging one for car clubs. I am pleased to report that the BOA has come through the year in-tact and potentially stronger than before. Although it was more difficult to meet in person, the use of Zoom meetings through May, and creative on-line technical sessions made our group gatherings both interesting and informational. We enjoyed live streamed tech sessions from Dan Grzybek's and Jim Pelletterie's garages. Dan explained some of the metal and frame work restoration he had recently accomplished on his Rambler while Jim filled us in on making better electrical connections and dealing with electrical problems.

In June of 2021 some of our members attended the MG International in Atlantic City, NJ.



Although our 2020 Autumn Sports Classic was cancelled, we were able to hold our 2021 ASC with great success. 55 very nice cars embraced the field and everyone enjoyed themselves. Instead of the category award, 10 special car awards were given. The show was successful from a fund raising standpoint.

In early June we met at Niawanda Park just as a get together and to enjoy the Niagara River. During the outing we all enjoyed the historic Edward M. Cotter Fireboat spraying water at the boats on the river, it was a beautiful day.



Club members gather for
Cruise Night at the Wurlitzer.

We held our first in person meeting at Como Park in early June. It was a chilly day, everyone brought their own lunch and enjoyed each others company. It was great to get the cars outdoors. Later in August we held a meeting/cookout at Ellicott Creek Park .



We also held a meeting at the home of Jim & Sharon Trembath's and had a chance to enjoy the sunset over Lake Erie.



As always our ice cream social at Bubbaloos was well attended and delicious. Our October meeting was held at the home of Jim & Gail Borkman where all enjoyed a pot luck dinner.

Donation to Center for Handicapped Children Learning Center —Buffalo, NY

Each year the Buffalo Octagon Association makes a donation to a charity in Western, NY. This year we decided to make a significant \$1000 contribution to the Center for Handicapped Children on Eggert Rd. in Buffalo. Members from the BOA visited the Center to tour its facilities and see first hand the excellent work they are doing for handicapped children. Our presentation was filmed by Channel 2 MORE Buffalo segment, and played on TV. We are proud to support such a worthy organization. Those present include; Jim Borkman, Peter Calabrese, Larry & Janet Vito (CHC Director Janice Gentz) and Jim Pellitterie. The presentation ceremony can be viewed on our web site, www.buffalomg.com.



Center For Handicapped Children Learning Center Donation Presentation

In November the club met at Steve's Pig and Ox Roast in Lackawanna to show our appreciation to Marvin Barbarich for his continued support with donating the food for the Autumn Sports Classic. At that meeting we finalized the Christmas party and dinner plans.

We just completed our Christmas gathering at The Italian Village in Depew. Needless to say all who attended enjoyed a great meal and each other's company. Pictures from the party follow on the next page.

This is but a snapshot of the many activities of the club but let it be said that 2021 was a significant year for the BOA. Let's try to make 2022 just as special. Thanks to all for your continued dedication and support to our club and its members.

BOA 2001 Christmas Party



Wishing
Everyone
A Happy New
Year



More from the Christmas Party



2021 BOA Officers

L to R—Larry Vito, Peter Calabrese, Jim Borkman & Beverly Rice



Plaque Awarded to Beverly Rice,
2019 & 2020 Herb Bradt Memorial
Award Recipient



2021 Herb Bradt Memorial Cup Awarded
to Peter Calabrese

