



4th Quarter 2023

Volume 40, Issue 4

# The Breakdown

Serving all Sides of the Marque since 1983

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## Letter from the President



*Safety Fast!*

Greetings to All,

I am truly proud of all the BOA members who helped to make this year's Autumn Sports Classic (ASC) the biggest success in years! Mr. Sunshine gazed favorably upon the event and provided the perfect weather for a gathering of car enthusiasts in search of a fun time.

In spite of the steady stream of unanticipated entrants, everyone working the event knew what to do and displayed the teamwork of a first-rate organization with loads of talent and experience. Your contributions both large and small are always needed and are a key factor in the club's continuing success.

Judging by the high volume, quality of entrants and the marvelous maintaining of the show schedule, it almost seemed like the ASC did run itself! Promotion, setup, registration, kitchen, basket raffle, and music staff all were put to the test and came through during a weather-perfect day.

As a result, our designated charity – the Center for Handicapped Children – will benefit from our good work and share in our success. A big thanks to all entrants (both repeat and first-timers) who ultimately contributed to that cause.

President's Message (continued)

I hope those new to our event, who had fun, will tell their friends about the great super cruise the BOA provided and next year's ASC will be an even bigger success in all categories.

Noteworthy of mention is that we want to thank Anjie Grzybek for several years as Membership Chair and we welcome Craig Johnson to this role. Craig will also be handling our Facebook site. Thanks to both Anjie and Craig for your support of the BOA!

In closing, watch for news on the Fall Steak Roast in October and Holiday Party in December just around the corner.

Hope to see everyone out there!

*Safety Fast* and good health with humor to all,

Peter Calabrese ([MGcarnut@aol.com](mailto:MGcarnut@aol.com))



**CONGRATULATIONS ON A SUCCESSFUL**

**39TH ANNUAL AUTUMN SPORTS CLASSIC—SUPER CRUISE**

Jim Borkman—Editor

Congratulations to everyone who participated in our 39th annual Autumn Sports Classic Super Cruise this year. What a year this has been, with the celebration of our 40th year and very successful Super Cruise. 102 cars graced the field at Como Park to provide one of our best shows in recent history. We are grateful to all of the volunteers that helped to put on the show this year. Special thanks to our show Chairman Dan Grzybek for his leadership as show chairman. The BOA has shown over the years the desire and ability to bring a first class car show to our area and we should be proud of that. Well done BOA!

## **Just Rambling - Autumn Sports Classic—by Jim Pellitterie**

Although it's believed that the largest event that the Buffalo Octagon Association hosts comes together in a blink of an eye, the rumor is that the Autumn Sports Classic (ASC) runs itself. We have talked about this many times, and it's become a running joke among those who are behind the scenes.

Actually, planning for the next ASC starts right after the new year. One major hurdle is finding people who want to step up and handle a specific job. The show chairman is the ringmaster and coordinates with all the sub chairmen to make it all come together to look like a seamless effort.

I have been Master of Ceremonies for a long time and feel somewhat comfortable in that role. I would not feel that way if I was to head the concessions per se. If the ASC is to survive for a few more years, new members will need to step up and take on certain responsibilities. Unfortunately, none of us are getting any younger. The drawback is that there is no compensation for your efforts, but there is satisfaction in knowing that you were on the inside of making this event happen.

The 2023 version of the ASC was greeted with a sunny although windy morning. Cars started to trickle in and then came a tsunami of cars that we have never seen. It seems there was a show in West Seneca scheduled for the same day, but for some unknown reason the event was cancelled at the last minute, so our little event became the place to be. It was a beautiful sight to see some really nice cars on the field. It was very difficult to judge the cars because they were very well done, but it came down to little things that separated winners and losers.

Special thanks go to Marvin Barberich of Steve's Pig and Ox Roast for his generous donation of all the food for the concessions. It must have been delicious because we ran out with the bigger crowd. One of the biggest hits is the basket raffle. Some folks really get fired up and love to take home a basket of goodies. This year we had over sixty baskets, so there was something for everybody. As I read the winning tickets there were a lot of smiles and happy people. We even gave away cash money which is a bonus. Just think, go to a car show, and go home with a pocket full of cash, only in America.

Thank you to all that helped put the show on whether during preplanning or day of. Without you the show could never run by itself.

## **Chairman's Thoughts - Autumn Sports Classic—by Dan Grzybek**

The 39th annual Autumn Sports Classic, what a day! I'd like to start out by thanking all the committee chairs and volunteers that helped. With everyone pitching in and doing a tremendous job, we had a great show. The show does not happen without the tireless work of everyone.

I got a lot of great feedback from the attendees that hadn't been there before. They were glad they had chosen to come. They enjoyed the atmosphere, the grass field, and our organized approach. Many people were happy it was back on its 'classic' weekend. I'm hopeful for increased attendance in the future as word of mouth is the best advertising you can't buy.

I enjoy chairing this event. It's a big undertaking and a hectic day, but rewarding when you get a turn out full of happy car owners. Again, however, without all the dedicated volunteers, the show doesn't happen.

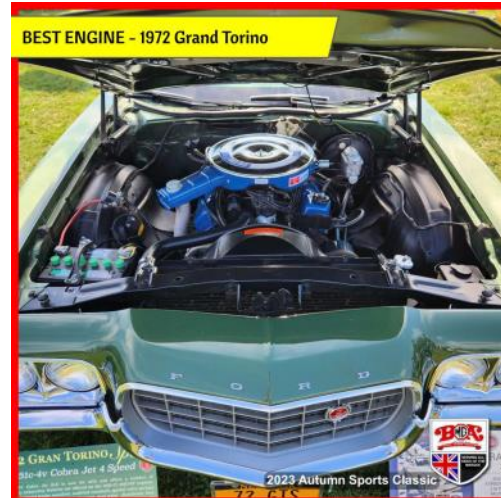
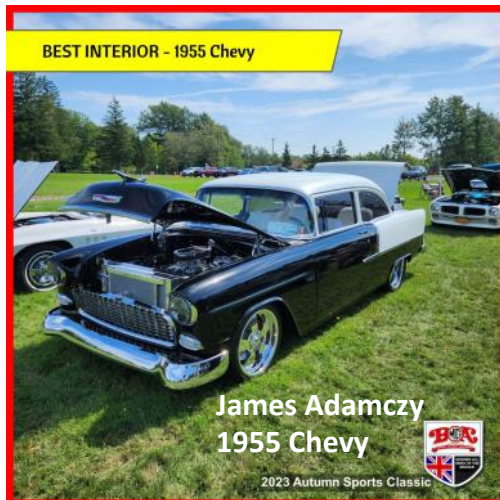
I think we need to remain cognizant of what is happening in the collector car and car show world. Things are changing every year. Clubs and shows are disappearing, event formats change, and what attendees like evolves. I'd like to think we have seen the changes and adjusted our show to be able to continue to thrive. But we must remain able to do that by approaching new ideas with an open mind and keeping up to date with what's happening.

The show 'that runs itself' has yet again proved that. Personally, I'm looking forward to the future and to the 40th Autumn Sports Classic.



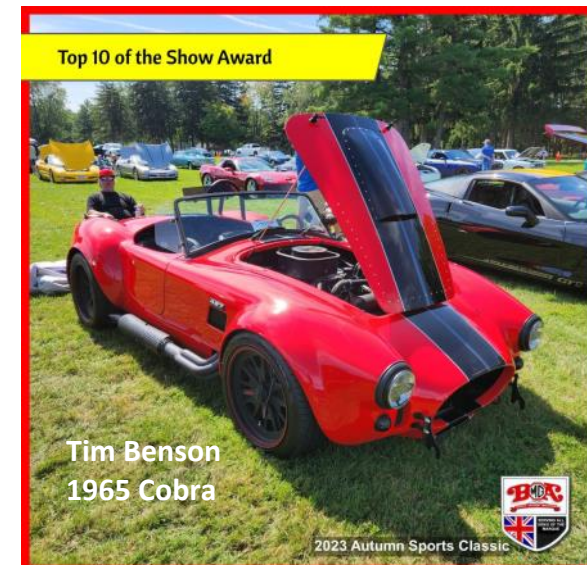
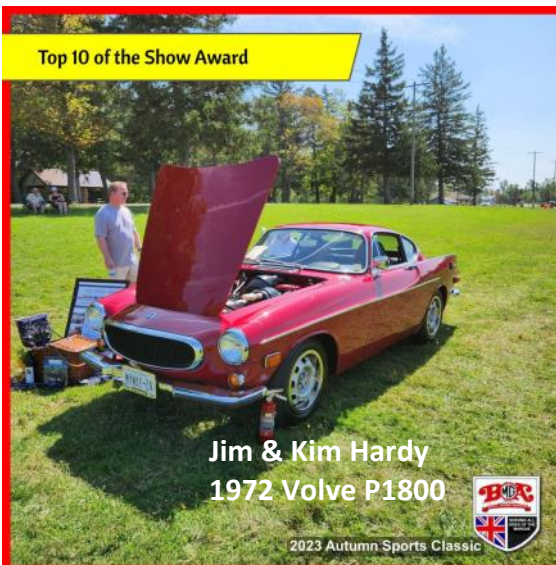
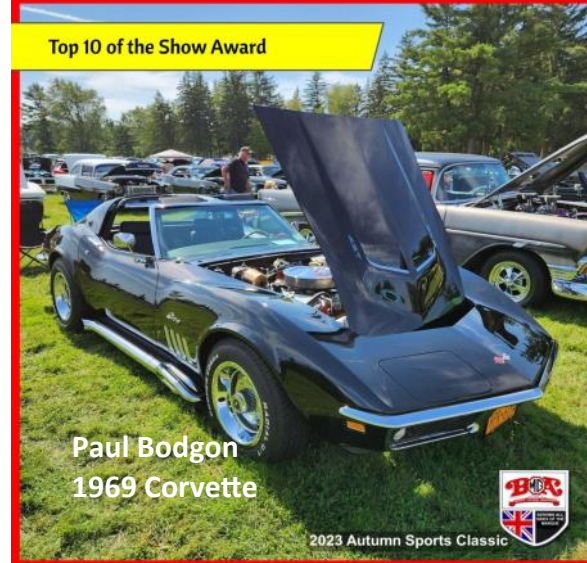
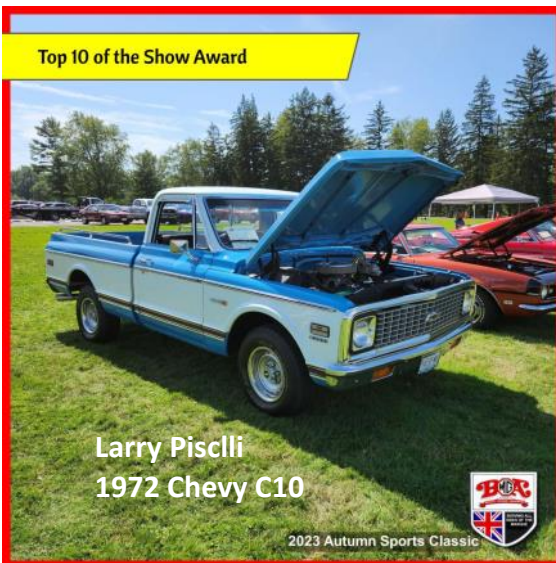
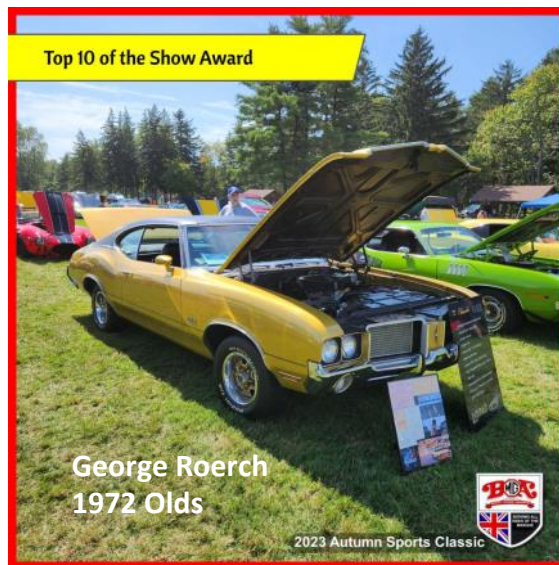
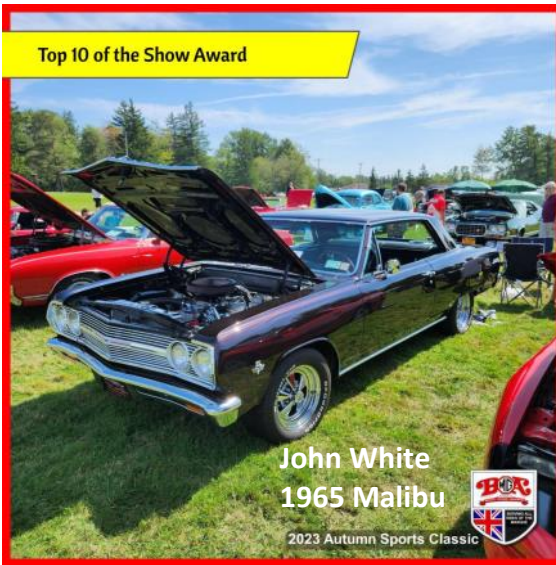
## AUTUMN SPORTS CLASSIC—Show Highlights and Winning Entries

Many excellent cars were on the field that were worthy of awards. Our show draws some of the nicest cars in Western NY.



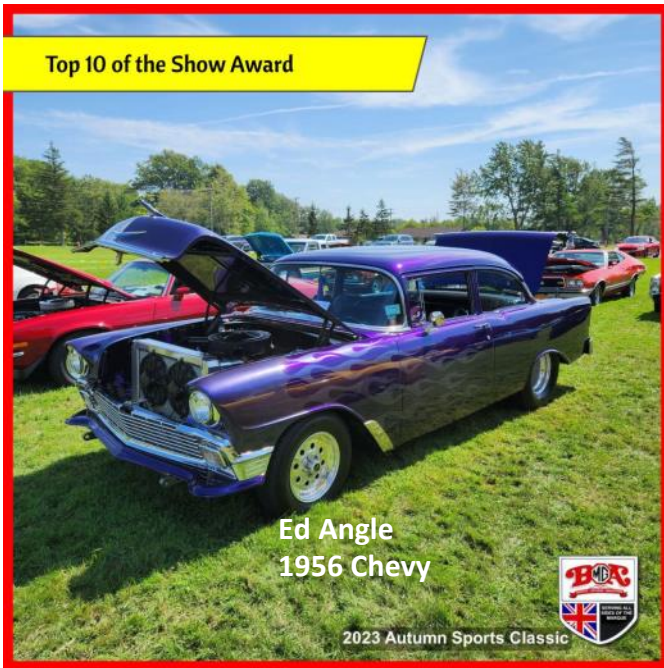
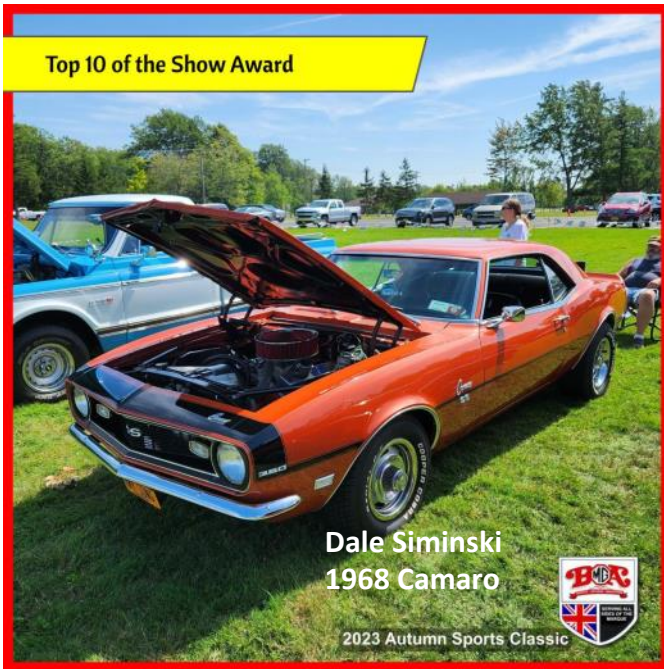


# Top 10 of the Show Award—AUTUMN SPORTS CLASSIC





# Top 10 of the Show Award—AUTUMN SPORTS CLASSIC





## The Members Make it all possible – Thank you so much.

Our 39th Annual Autumn Sports Classic is a tradition among car shows that is quite an achievement that few clubs have attained. Not only do we hold a fantastic show. We provide an opportunity to meet new car enthusiasts and share stories about our cars and experiences. Working with everyone in the club is a privilege and rewarding. It is especially meaningful to know that a portion of our proceeds are donated to the “The Center for Handicapped Children”. It is gratifying to know that we consider the needs of other s as part of our mission. Thanks BOA!





# The BOA Helpers—Autumn Sports Classic 2023





## British Car Night at the Wurlitzer

It's always a fun time to gather with our friends at the Wurlitzer. Thanks to John Leible a night was set aside to feature British cars. We had the opportunity to gather our cars around the fountain to put them on display!





COMING SOON—OCTOBER—YOU CAN STILL CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

# Buffalo Octagon Association Fall Foliage Steak Roast

## Sprague Brook Park

Glenwood, NY @ Shelter # 6



*Picnic Basket Optional*

*Sunday, Oct 8, 2023 @ 3:00pm*

**Meet at TOPS Lot on 65 Grey St in East Aurora at 2:00 pm!!!**  
**\$7/person** for everyone who wants Steak and a Baked Potato.

We'll caravan to the park together along a scenic route @2:15 sharp!

**R.S.V.P.**

**by Oct. 1** for accurate **Steak and Potato** count  
to [MGCARNUT@AOL.COM](mailto:MGCARNUT@AOL.COM) (pay at the park)



Salad and Bottled Water provided free for all.  
Feel free to bring your own culinary delights to pass!

**Fires** will be provided !!!



## Upcoming Events

### **STEAK ROAST**

Get your appetites ready for our Annual Steak Roast. Steaks cooked to perfection by our Master Chef, Peter Calabrese. Bring your favorite picnic dish to pass. We will provide baked potatoes and a delicious salad. Drinks will also be provided. Hope to see you at Spraguebrook on October 8th at 3:00 pm. SEE THE FLYER ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR DETAILS.

**OCTOBER MEETING**—October 9th—The Tavern at Windsor Park

**NOVEMBER MEETING**—November 13th—The Tavern at Windsor Park

Our regular October and November meetings will be at “The Tavern at Windsor Park”. Please come and share your thoughts for activities next year. Dinner at 5:30 followed by our meeting at 7:00 PM.

### **HOLIDAY PARTY**

It’s hard to believe but our Christmas Party is close at hand. Held early in December on the 2nd to help avoid the Holiday rush. We will be returning to the Columns where we held our wonderful anniversary banquet. A delicious buffet is planned with our memorable gift exchange MCed by Jim Pelletterie. We hope you can all come and celebrate the final gathering of our 40th anniversary year and to enjoy the Holiday Season with fellow club members.

Watch for your invitation.



Please be sure to follow our Facebook page—Buffalo Octagon Association  
Check out our Website at [www.buffalomg.com](http://www.buffalomg.com)



# MOWOG ???

By Jim Borkman

Have you ever seen the **MOWOG** inscription on your engine block, transmission, cylinder head or other parts on your MG?

Have you ever wondered what it stands for? Well, the research I have done shows that this foundry mark is still somewhat inconclusive, as you'll see.

Historically, MOWOG precedes the BMC merger. We also know that the MG came from the Morris Garages in Oxford and was later built in Abington.

Perhaps it stands for “**Motor On With Our Guarantee**”

Or maybe, “**My Only Way Out Guaranteed**”

Or: “**MO**rris **WO**rks **G**arages”, or “**Minis Of Windsor Owners Group**”

Well, I believe the mystery has been solved. The Morris Garages, as it was called, later became the Morris-Wolseley Garages. Special cars developed from this garage were called Morris-Wolseley Special. Being an awkward and long name the foundry started to use the MOWOG mark for MG's as well as other Austin products. You see the **MOWOG** on many British cars, not just MG's. So the use of **M** was not likely use the **M** from MG. But there is a connection. We all know that the MG brand came from Morris Garage so it is thought that the **MO** in **MOWOG** comes from the **MO** in Morris. After all, the roots of MG go back to a garage owned by William Morris and later with the direction of Cecil Kimber the standard Morris cars were modified and the MG brand was born.

But what about the rest, where did the **WO** and **G** come from.

Well, if you recall, there was another player in the British car parts supply chain and that company was Wolseley. Before the merger with Morris Motors in 1935, Wolseley and MG were owned as the personal property of Lord Nuffield. After the merger, the identification number for chassis and engines on Wolseley was assigned a “**WO**” and the letter “**G**” was assigned to **MG** (**M** was already assigned to Morris).

Now there are two schools of thought that argue that the last letter G represents Group or perhaps Garage or even Grainge. Whatever the real answer you can be assured if you see the letters **MOWOG** it's British and you're sure to find its inscription pressing through the paint on your car.



*Useful as a pet name:*

*Have you considered using MOWOG, Morris or Wolseley as a pet name. Others have. I'm enticed by Morris myself. I think if I ever get a cat I will name it Morris. After all, a friend of mine has two Yorkies; one is Ferrari and the other Lotus—Funny*

# LOGO's are FUN





Photo of the Month—BOA Tent and Banner



**BUFFALO CARS & COFFEE** WNY's premier car enthusiast meet is back for 2023!

**2023 Schedule:**  
 May 21<sup>st</sup>  
 June 18<sup>th</sup> Father's Day Events  
 July 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Sep 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Oct 15<sup>th</sup>

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