

# Classy Chassis

Volume 55

Westerly-Pawcatuck Region AACA

June, 2021



## Kinney Azalea Garden a Great Success

The Fayerweather Craft Store and the Kinney Azalea Garden were the primary focus of a delightful tour that our members enjoyed on Tuesday, May 18.

Eleven of our members attended the event. Upon arrival we all collected in the Fayerweather parking lot until everyone had arrived. We then car pooled to the Kinney Azalea Garden and explored the beautiful grounds. The azaleas were amazing!

After absorbing as much nature as possible we returned to Fayerweather for shopping and a nice picnic under the trees on the grounds. Later some members traveled to the nearby Farmer's Daughter garden center.

A big **Thank You** goes out to Margaret Moone for organizing this fun event and helping us discover a mostly unknown RI treasure. ([short film of Kinney Azaleas](#))



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**Mark's Cruise Night, by Gerry Lynn**  
Within a mile of Hartford's Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, CT. Monday nights May-Sept except 7/4 and Labor day 5P to dark. Sponsored and run by [Mark's Used & Recycled Auto Parts](#)

In 20 years of going to weekly cruise nights this is by far the best one I have ever been to. It bills itself as the largest WEEKLY cruise night in New England (as opposed to the bigger BIWEEKLY cruise at Bass Pro Shops in Foxborough, MA ).

Mark's Cruise regularly attracts between 400 and 800 cars. There is no admission charge. They have hot dogs, burgers, pizza and desert and drinks. All the parking is on grass. There is good sound, parking lot lighting, a stage, sometimes live bands. All volunteer helpers are in uniform. All old cars enter down a driveway with bleachers on either side so you can just sit and watch the cars arrive if you like. There is a separate parking lot for the spectator cars and you can set up folding chairs by your old car if you like. The staff awards one trophy per cruise night.

**We are planning of attending as a group of old & new cars on Monday 6/28 (the day before our June meeting.** To be clear, we are talking about a drive of 75 mi. each way or 150 mi. total with about 65 of those miles on divided highway with average speeds of 55-65 mph. That's about 1 1/2 hr driving time. Then your cars can rest at the cruise night while we check out the scene and eat for about 2 hr. Then we will retrace that same route for a 1 1/2 hr drive home. Let me know if you would prefer to go all 2 lane roads and I'll give you a route.

Please folks, if this sounds at all interesting I urge you all not to miss it. If you're unsure about your old car going that distance, ride with a club member friend or take your modern car. If any club member tells me he was not happy with the trip I will pay his local club dues for 2022!!

On Monday 6/28 we plan on leaving the Rt. 2 & 78 RI commuter parking lot in Westerly at 3:30 P. From there our route will be Rt. 2 W to Interstate 95 S through New London to CT Rt. 85 N in Waterford. We'll go past the Crystal

Mall, Waterford Speed Bowl, Nascart go cart building and nature's art dinosaur on Rt. 85 until we get to the traffic circle in Salem and go 3/4 of the way around the circle till we take CT RT. 82 W for only about 1/2 mi. till we take the entrance ramp for CT Rt.11 N.

That is a divided highway as is the rest of the route to Bradley Airport region. Rt. 11 N merges onto the left lane of Rt. 2 W in Colchester, CT. From there, stay on Rt. 2 W. for about 20 mi. through Marlborough, Glastonbury and into East Hartford. When you go over the CT river almost into Hartford take a right exit #51 onto Interstate 91 North to Bradley Airport and Springfield MA. Keep going straight on I-91 N. to Exit 40 to the Bradley airport Connector Rt. 20.

Now you're almost there. Take the last exit ramp off of the Bradley Connector before you enter the airport property. It will say Rt. 20. stay straight on that road till the first intersection. Turn right there onto East St. and then take a right onto Russell Rd.

We plan on leaving the cruise night about 7 PM to retrace our route and be back in Westerly about 9:30 P. and, as an extra reward, if you've all been good boys & girls, we will make a stop at the end of Rt. 11 in Salem CT at Salem Valley Farms ice cream. That is imho the best ice cream in CT with a high butter fat content.

So there you have it folks. Anybody planning on going on this fearless expedition whether you're going to give your old car a work out, if you want to ride with someone else who is taking their old car (if you need a driver's name, give me a shout) or if you just want to check it out with your everyday car. **Let Me Know!**  
**Gerry Lynn, 860-495-2312 [GerLynn@aol.com](mailto:GerLynn@aol.com)**

If you would prefer to drive yourself and meet us there, please let me know. Make your own arrangements if you want to stay overnight at a national chain hotel.

## The Experience of selling my Jeep on Craigslist and buying a replacement, by Ralph Roark

Fifteen years ago I bought a pile of rusty metal supposedly a 61 Jeep CJ5. Over the next ten years I put it back together. I loved the Jeep but my back did not, so I decided to sell it. I thought I would try Craigslist to sell it. I started the experience on April 1<sup>st</sup> and got my first response 36 minutes later. It was a person



who lived a mile away. He came and looked at it but did not buy it. Over the next month I received an additional 15 contacts. They were from Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, New York and Colorado. After many emails to each, additional pictures and phone calls it was eventually sold. The person who bought it was from Colorado and wanted it for their summer home on Cape Cod. It also turned out to be a relative, a cousin who we knew of but never met. They were excited and pleased with the

jeep.

I also had experience with a possible Craigslist scam. One of the Responses wanted the jeep and could not come to see it and was sending his representative to pick it up. He was going to send a cashier's check large enough to pay for the jeep and for the representative to pick it up and deliver it to the buyer. When asked to send cash he blamed a Covid emergency, and said that being a cashier's check it would be good. I eventually ended this by telling him it was sold, before it was actually sold. About a week later I received a cashier's check with no information, another name on the check. It was from a Credit Union in the state of Washington and in an envelope from the state of Michigan. What I did next was call the Credit Union about the check and it turned out that it was not a check that came for them. It was a scam.



While selling the Jeep Anne and I started looking for a replacement. It had to be a unique automobile, a convertible, a standard and a color Anne liked. It also had to have a roof, windows, doors and a heater. All of which was not in the Jeep. It also had to be able to be driven in the excess of 40 MPH. What we eventually came up with was a 2 seat roadster. A green BMW Z3. It was a 1998. You may think that it would be as uncomfortable as the Jeep but it was not as we found out. We also found out that another buyer was on the way to test drive it the same day. Luckily we put down a deposit and got the car. It was almost as if it was meant to be, we hope.

# Cruise Nights Listing

**Mondays** • Mondays: Oak Harbor Village Shopping Mall 567 S. Main St. (RI Rt. 2) South County Trail Exeter, [RI DJ car guy](#) 4-8 P May to Sept. grass parking, music, no fee, restaurants.

**New London, CT** [Ocean Beach Park](#) ,WLNC sponsor, no fees after 5. Cruise 6-9 PM.

## Tuesdays

[A & W root beer](#) Rt. 44 Greenville, RI just West of intersection with I-295, 25<sup>th</sup> year, crusing Bruce, music, food, no charge, 5-9 P May-Sept. Average 50-100 cars 25<sup>th</sup> year

[Oakland Beach](#) 905 Oakland Beach Ave. Warwick, RI, Greter Warwick Lions Club 4-8 PM \$2 admit. Food & music. Nice location on Naragansett Bay asphalt & grass parking, average about 100 cars

## Wednesdays

[Fredrickson Farms](#) Junction of RI Rt 101 and 102 Situate, RI, crusing Bruce, music, food no charge

**Thursdays** [Bass Pro Shops](#), Patriot Place, 1 Bass Pro Dr. next to Gillette Stadium, Foxborough, MA 02035 Mass Cruisers car club every other Thursday. Largest cruise in New England. Can be cancelled due to conflicts with scheduled Gillette Stadium events Crusing Bruce, music food paved parking 5-9 P. Begins 6/3/2

## Fridays

Little Rhody Lobster and Clams, Frontier Rd. (East off of RI Rt. 3 near I-95 exit 2 junction with Rt 3 Hopkinton, RI DJ car guy, grass parking music, food, drinks \$2 admission.

McDonald's RI Rt. 122 in Southern Cumberland, RI, food 23<sup>rd</sup> year

## Saturdays

[Tri State Cruisers car club](#). CT Rt. 169 & 101 Pomfret Center CT, Loos & Co. grass lot, Exit 93 off I-395 3 P- dusk, music food awards, no charge 100 cars

**First Tuesday of the month:** Yesteryear Car Club of Oakland at [Natures Art Dinosaur](#) 1050 Hartford New London Tpk. (CT Rt. 85) Oakdale CT. food, music, paved parking, May to Sept.

**Third Wednesday of the month:** [Good Times Motoring Club](#) of Colchester, CT Colchester town green CT Rt. 16 Limited to cars 30 or more years old only Grass parking, music, food 200 cars.

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed.** each month: Morah Moose Lodge 950, 115 Fitchville Rd Bozrah, CT(CT Rt. 2 exit 24) 5:30-8 PM. 32 mi. from Westerly

**Third Saturday of the month:** [Southeast CT Mustang Club](#) 801 Rt. 32 Montville, CT paved parking 5 to dusk

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.** each month: Moriah Moose Lodge #15 AF & AB Masons 221 Providence Pike (CT Rt. 6) 1-4PM. 37 miles from Westerly

**Once every 2 weeks:** Newport, RI area [Audrain Auto Museum Cars & Coffee Cruises](#). 6/13 and 6/27 at the Newport polo field 250 Linden Ln. Portsmouth, RI. 7/11 Salve Regina college Newport 8/8 Newport polo 8/23 Salve Regina 9/5 Ft. Adams Newport 9/19 Newport polo 10/3 Ft. Adams Newport 10/17 Marble House Newport 10/31 Ft. Adams Newport. Must pre register.

**No cruises in 2021:** Misquamicut Beach Westerly RI formerly on Thursdays. May return in 2022.

## Newsletter Contributors:

Ken Carr      Gerry Lynn      Ralph Roark

## Club Officers

President:              Merrill Moone

Vice President:      Charlie Nash

Secretary:            Ken Carr

Treasurer:            Dave Calabrese

## Volunteers

Newsletter:            Ken Carr & Gerry Lynn

Sunshine:             Camille Carr

Trip Coordinator:    Don Oster

Webmaster:            Ken Carr

## Meetings:

**Executive Meeting, Tuesday, June 29, 6:00 PM, Westerly Senior Center**

**Club Meeting, Tuesday, June 29, 7:00 PM, Westerly Senior Center**

