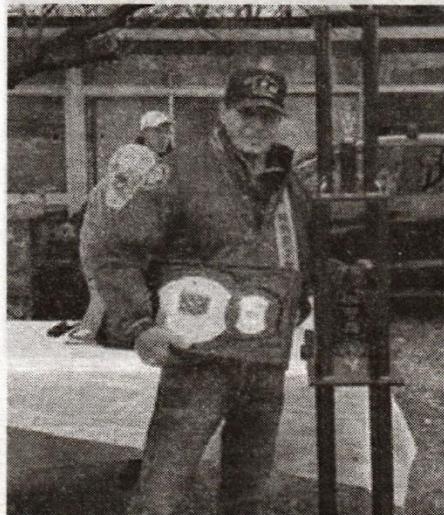


Jim Bogos Wins 2024 Connecticut Cruise News Ring Competition

Story by Lissa Seeberger
Photos by Bob Sabre and Lissa Seeberger



After attending a busy season of car shows, Jim Bogos ("JB") WINS the Connecticut Cruise News Get Your Ring On Competition for 2024 with his stunning aqua and white 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air Convertible. While JB didn't originally plan to pursue winning the championship, after receiving his 4th ring, and having a friend decide to go for it, JB did too. He mapped out the shows he wanted to attend which were mostly in CT, but also took him a distance away in NY, and he began his hunt for Official Ring Events.

In the end, JB managed to win 19 Rings with his show car and be crowned the 2024 Ring Competition Grand Champion on Sunday, November 10th at the 20th Annual Salute the Veterans Car Show in New Milford. Don Clady, Publisher of the Connecticut Cruise News, presented Jim with a massive 7-foot trophy, WWE style championship belt and a championship ring. JB was very happy and said "what a great year. I'm so blessed."

If you are unfamiliar with it, the way the competition works is that the first person to win ten (10) Connecticut Cruise News Rings at various participating car shows in a given season with the SAME show car, wins the overall competition. This is the 2nd year of this unique competition.

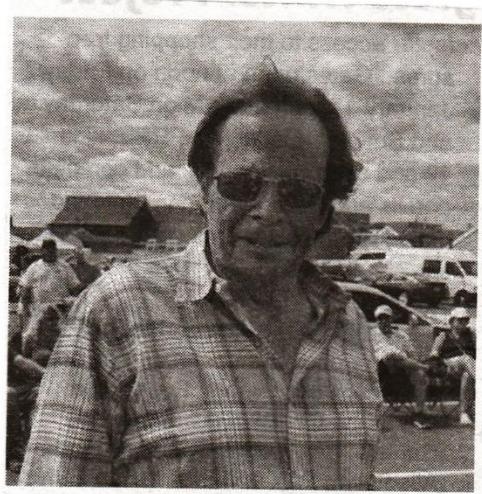
JB, who is a member of the CT Seaport Car Club, has a story that is not unlike many. Our first car makes an indelible impression on us, and JB's story is no different. His first car was

a '57 Chevy and he always wanted it back. In the last 6 years of car shows, he started thinking more seriously about getting a '57 Chevy like his first car. Then he found the exact one on eBay! It was a beauty, and it resided in the back hills of Virginia. He says once he saw it, he was "in love" and "to think it all started in the state of Virginia." What a thrill to achieve your dream to have a replica of your first car back again!

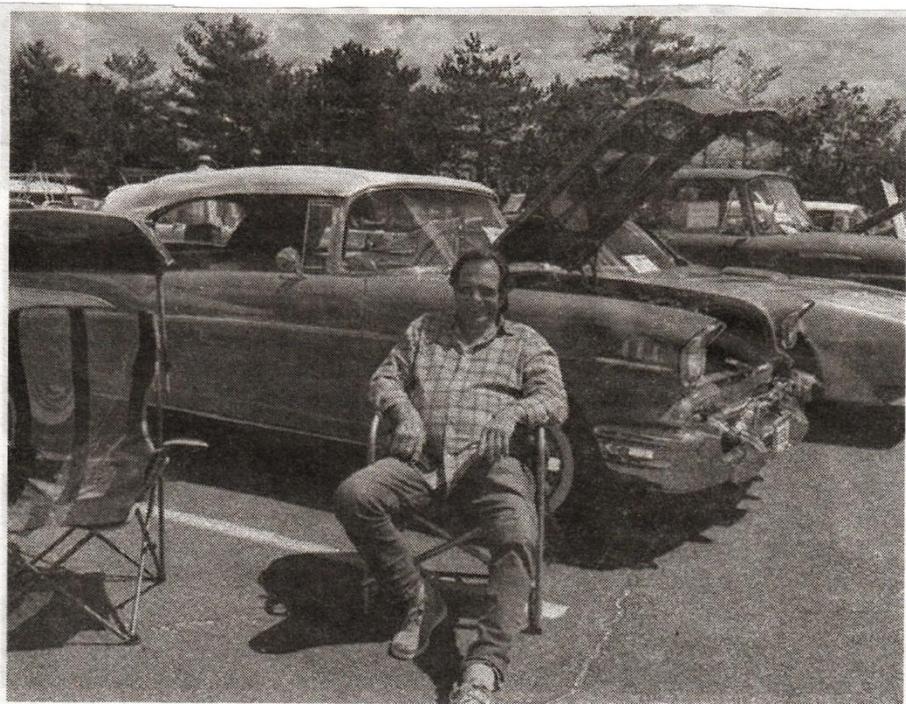
After attending 32 shows this season and winning 19 Rings, JB also got Best in Show 4 times and made a new friend, Tom Martin, the 2nd place winner.

Here is the full list of 2024 winners:

- 1st Place winner was Jim Bogos ("JB") with his 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air Convertible
- 2nd place winner was Tom Martin with his 1970 Chevrolet Monte Carlo "Green Goblin"
- 3rd place winner was Johathan Ortiz with his 2002 S10 GMC Sonoma DBZ NIMBUS
- 4th place winner was Joseph Domain with his 1988 Ford Mustang Fox Body Convertible
- 5th place winner was Anthony Martello with his Shelby GT 500



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All five of these winners should be congratulated for their outstanding show cars and for resisting the temptation to take a different show car to the car shows they attended, but instead focused on just one special car to show at each of their car shows this season.

The Ring Competition was established by Don Clady, and the inaugural First Place winner in 2023 was Bob Sabre with his beautiful green full custom 1946 Ford "Voodoo Idol." Second Place went to Daniel and Steve Gemmel (father and son) with their 2018 Dodge Durango SRT and Third Place went to Robert Vitetta with his 1926 Ford Model T Huckster Produce Truck.

Don Clady will be running this unique Ring competition again in 2025 at select car shows. The competition will start over again in the new year and will be open to an entirely different set of show cars. Come on out in 2025 to show your Ring worthy show car!

Congratulations again to the winners and best of luck to all next year for the 2025 Connecticut Cruise News Get Your Ring On Competition.



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