Aging gracefully: Classic Car Show rolls into town

By Nadya Korytnikova reporter@warehamweek.com

Wareham residents took a trip down memory lane on Saturday thanks to the 50 classic cars on display during the Classic Car Show at the Tremont Nail Factory hosted by the Onset Bay Association.

Cars from 1954 to 2012 were showcased outside during the event, meant to provide some fun and free entertainment over the weekend. The show has been held for three years in a row.

"You have got to collect any special car, from old to almost new, there is no discrimination," said one of the organizers and a proud owner of 1947 Buick Roadmaster convertible, Paul Girard. "Motorcyclists are not here today because of the rainy weather, but they can bring their motorcycles as well.



Doll Rebecca inside a 1967 Chrysler Newport. Photo by: Nadya Korytnikova

You can bring a boat if you want."

While many participants admitted that antique vehicles are a costly investment, they said that such cars carry great sentimental value.

"I grew up with these cars," said Steve Parent, as he polished his 1965 Buick Wildcat. "My grandfather had a Buick, my father was a car salesman back in the 60s, so I just remember riding them."

Parent explained that the cost of antique car ownership grows over time due to the constant repairs, rare spare parts, and high gas expenses.

"You have to be able to fix a lot of your own stuff. Years ago, you would be able to go anywhere and anybody could fix it, but no more. Batteries, tires, all these things now are almost impossible to find. Some companies still make them, but it is

expensive," said Parent.

Similarly, Rick Clark said his 1955 Chevy truck brings fond memories of the past, and puts smiles on people's faces. It's an especially big hit with older visitors.

"You are bringing back history. It is 64 years old now and I am still driving it. I would like to see if some of the newer cars will be still driving in 64 years," said Clark.

Nevertheless, maintenance and restoration expenses can be substantial for classic cars and vastly surpass its market price, explained multiple participants.

Everett Philloa, who still owns a 1955 Ford Thunderbird which his father gave him for his fourteenth birthday 56 years ago, said that his car "is too valuable to drive every day" and that he only drives it to car shows.



Rick Clark polishes his 1955 Chevy truck. Photo by: Nadya Korytnikova



Rick Clark with his 1955 Chevy truck.



Everett Philloa with his 1955 Ford Thunderbird.



1955 Chevy truck. Photos by: Nadya Korytnikova



Nathan Lavelle, 3 tests the honk of a 1955 Chevy truck.



Most car owners said they don't use their antique vehicles for everyday travels.



1928 Ford Model A Tudor Sedan.