

TowsonTown Spring Festival – Maryland’s Largest Street Fair

By Jerry Gordon, Photos By Tom Kenney

It’s amazing how the calendar turns from April into May, and presto we jump into spring. Well, it seems that’s what happened at the TowsonTown Festival! On the first weekend in May, the 3rd and 4th, Towson celebrated its 41st Spring Festival, which included a two-day car show. The Festival followed Friday’s Classy Chassie Car Show at the Baltimore FlowerMart. What a way to start the active car season – car shows at festivals on three consecutive days.

The TowsonTown Spring Festival started 41 years ago as an art exhibit, held in the county courthouse inner yard. Today with the help of hundreds of volunteers, sponsors and many Baltimore County Agencies, the TowsonTown Spring Festival has turned into the largest outdoor festival in Maryland and one of the largest on the east coast. Approximately 250,000

visitors attend the two-day event with more than 450 vendors. There were six different stages throughout the festival area featuring bands and music groups, dance teams, entertainment for children, and other acts. The emphasis of the Festival is family-fun with lots of things for children to do.

Traditionally, there is a car show held in the center of the Festival at the Calvary Baptist Church parking lot, sponsored by the Antique Motor Club of Greater Baltimore. This year the Chesapeake Region co-sponsored the show with the AMCGB – our first year. Besides our cars, there was a NASCAR display stage, the first time for this event at the Festival.

We had an interesting mix of cars to show off to the public – antiques from the ’20s to the ’70s, some British sports cars, some ’60s muscle cars, and a few

street rods. There were 68 cars in the show, with about one-third from our Club.

Chesapeake Region members who showed cars were: Les Horn 1952 Buick; Robert Natale, 1965 Buick; Buzz Diehl, 1966 Pontiac; Henry Ver Valen, 1967 Jaguar; Michael Natale, 1965 Corvair; Gary Ruby, 1941 Buick; Ron Siegrist, 1952 Oldsmobile; Tom Kenney, 1955 DeSoto; and Norm Williams, 1964 Ford Falcon.

Also participating were: Brent Francis, 1966 Ford; Beth Muscedere, 1916 Ford Model T; Allen Weinstein, 1938 Hupmobile; Dave Cavey, 1959 Edsel; Walt Meyers, 1930 DeSoto; Ben Harris, 1965 Mustang; John Boske, 1965 Rambler; Allen Weinstein, Corvette; Alan Aronson, 1967 Rolls Royce; and Bruce Solomon, 1931 Pontiac.



New member Brent Francis’ 1966 Ford Galaxie 500



Car show organizer John Horn’s 1952 Buick



Henry Ver Valen’s 1967 Jaguar getting the engine looked over



Buzz Diehl’s 1966 Pontiac LeMans