

# Automotive Art Combines With Arts in the Park Show

**By Buzz Diehl**

Towson Arts Cooperative hosted their Spring 2011 Arts in the Park exhibition May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at Cromwell Valley Regional Park on a beautiful spring weekend.

By invitation, Chesapeake Region members, both veteran and new, as well as some non-members gathered in the Park to display their antique and collectible cars. Many visitors and exhibitors came by to admire the automobiles, and maybe ponder getting into the hobby themselves. We talked to them about the fun we have with our collections, and how much we enjoy being members of such an active club.

On the lawn in front of the historic Sherwood House, under those familiar folding canopies, were a variety of impressive creations made by many local and regional artists. Pottery, photography, jewelry, drawings and paintings were among the exhibits. Accompanying the sights were the sounds of local musicians. Though the

names of the artists may not have been recognizable to most visitors, their talents were certainly apparent. In the their afternoon, everyone was treated to the art of the belly dance.

I doubt there were any starving artists there. Amid the sights and sounds were the enticing aromas of roasting pit beef and turkey. The reasonably priced food and drinks were hard to resist.

But down the grass slope a bit, under the shade of the big trees you could see more really impressive art work. These creations, however, were by the likes of some rather famous and recognizable artists – at least to us car collectors: Harley Earl, Virgil Exner, Raymond Loewy, Richard Teague and their colleagues. Automobile design is a sophisticated art form.

Among the Saturday exhibitors were Julie & Ron Siegrist, who recently returned from Florida, with their 1946 Chevrolet; Lynn & John Horn, with their newly acquired 1966 Thunderbird; Barbara Muldowney & Henry

Chaudron, with their 1955 Pontiac; Terry & Dan Materazzi, with their 1958 Corvette; and new member Nick Prevas, with his 1964 Chevrolet. Also attending were Dee & John Voelkel, with their 1941 Ford; George Spicka, with his 1969 Chevrolet; Paul Habicht, with his 1959 Cadillac; Rick & John Gambo, with their 1961 Metropolitan; and Richard Nast, with his 1987 Buick.

On Sunday, more exhibitors came out to display their cars. Among them were Bill Schmuck & Ruth Synodinos, with her 1947 Cadillac; Joan & Walt Meyers, with their 1953 Pontiac; Henry Ver Valen, with his 1951 Jaguar; Jim Turner, with his 1953 DeSoto; Jack O'Hara, with his 1947 Ford; and Don Sloat, with his 1965 Ford.

As usual, Club members gathered their chairs together for our always interesting discussions about cars, events and personal experiences. After all, that's part of what makes Chesapeake Region membership and event participation so enjoyable!



*Shown from the top by rows:  
#1. Ron Siegrist with his 1947 Chevrolet; Nick Prevas, with his 1964 Chevrolet. #2. John Horn with his 1966 Thunderbird; Dee & John Voelkel with their 1941 Ford. #3. The artist's canopy tents; Dan Materazzi's 1958 Corvette.*

