

## Vintage vibes

The Atlantic region is replete with classic car events

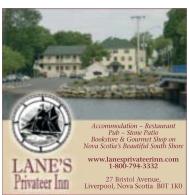
Story and photography by Sandra Phinney

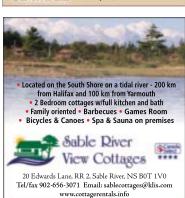
Street rods, Model Ts, muscle cars, and old 'vettes are as common as smiles in the Maritimes. Vintage car aficionados like to share their experiences and stories, and they also like company, and anyone who wants to listen and learn can choose from a plethora

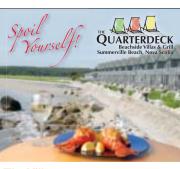
The biggest challenge is trying to figure out where to go and what to attend. For example, in New Brunswick there are a number of Show 'N' Shine events, like the one in Memramcook in August. More than 300 cars take centre stage; the models and colour schemes are staggering. At the end of May, the Golden Age Auto Club in Truro organizes a spring show, the largest such event in Nova Scotia. And the Halifax Antique Car Club, one of the oldest clubs in Nova Scotia, hosts a show in August.



In front, a 1932 Plymouth, owned by Alex and Lauretta Varner. In back, a 1931 Ford Model A Hot Rod.







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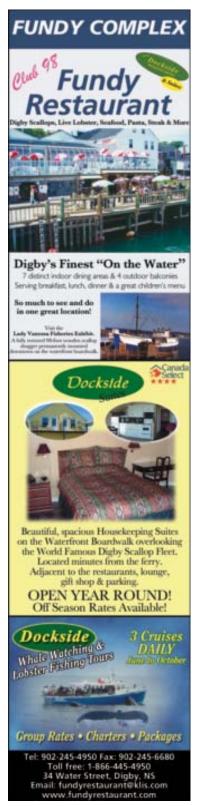
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The owner of a bright gold, 1970 Mustang Boss, Paul Belliveau has been involved with old cars in general and New Brunswick's Show 'N' Shine, in particular, for years. He says it's a good way to meet

cars, special interest vehicles, trucks — even antique motorcycles," he says.

Moore is especially fond of Cruise Nights - weekly excursions organized by club chapters in various parts of the province.

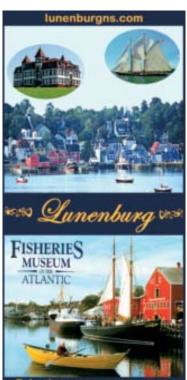
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people. "We love to have visitors. The welcome mat is always there and the camaraderie is great." For a detailed listing of what's going on, Belliveau suggests picking up a copy of Auto Seller, Old Car Trade magazines or the Old Autos newspaper. Maritime Classic Cars' website also lists most car clubs in the Maritimes, as well as several main events.

Don Moore has been involved with the Valley Cruisers Club in Quispamsis, NB, for the past 26 years. He's passionate about street rods and owns a calypso green '48 Plymouth, a '75 red Maverick and is currently building a '52 Chev pickup. Moore helps set up the annual car show in Rothesay, NB. It's a two-day event and open to anyone with a penchant for old cars. "There are antique cars, street rods, muscle Guests are welcome. Some clubs have BBQs, corn boils or poker runs. For a roster of cruise nights, car shows and contact information, visit www.valleycruisersnb.com.

For an automotive extravaganza, check out Canada's largest car show, the Atlantic Nationals, in Moncton, this July. It features a model car show as part of the four-day event

Fast fact: The oldest running and currently licensed car in the Maritime Pre-War Car Registry is a 1903 Oldsmobile located in Halifax County. It was driven at the Oldsmobile 100th anniversary in Detroit a few years ago, but doesn't get out much these days. The oldest preserved, authentic car is an 1897 Victorian on display at the Museum of Industry in Stellarton.







and various club-sponsored tours throughout the Maritimes, sponsored by various clubs.

David Trefry from Yarmouth, NS, is part of the Roaring '20s Antique Car Club — one of the oldest in the region. Trefry is the proud owner of a yellow, 1930 Model A Ford Cabriolet that he'll be taking to a three-day antique car tour planned for the August holiday weekend. On the first day, the group will travel from Digby to Bear River, NS, backtracking a bit to follow the Digby Neck to Tiverton and Briar Island, NS. On the second day, participants will visit Ken Hankinson in Weymouth, NS, to see his collection of 30 special-interest vehicles, including nine pre-ŴWII Buicks.

These are just a few of the region's classic car activities.

Happy motoring. 🍼



**ONLINE RESOURCES** 

Golden Age Auto Club:

www.goldenageautoclub.com

www.hacc.chebucto.org/main.htm

Newfoundland Antique Auto Club:

NB Antique Auto Club: www.nbaac.org

Valley Cruisers Club: www.valleycruisersnb.com

Halifax Antique Car Club:

www.nlclassics.com

Atlantic Nationals: www.atlanticnationals.com

Maritime Classic Cars: www.maritimeclassiccars.com

