

# Classic cars fill the streets in Port Huron

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Take in some of the sights and sounds of the Mainstreet Memories Car Show. Bob Gross, Times Herald



*(Photo: Bob Gross, Times Herald)*

Bill Riley of Sarnia can tell you that Thursday will be the 22nd anniversary of when he and his wife, Deb, bought their 1948 glossy black 1948 Plymouth convertible. The Sarnia man has a little difficulty telling you when they were married. "It was May 19," said Deb Riley.

The Riley's and other members of the Sarnia Street Machines car club were in downtown Port Huron on Saturday for the Mainstreet Memories Car Show. "We've been into cars forever," Deb Riley said. "Thirty years or so we've been going to shows."



**Bill and Deb Riley of Sarnia brought a 1948 Plymouth convertible to the 2017 Mainstreet Memories Car Show.**

*(Photo: Bob Gross, Times Herald)*

The show is in its second year and benefits the Council on Aging. It's a revival of a show that filled the city's streets in the 1980s and '90s.

"This is our first time back," Bill Riley said. "We used to come here all the time. I had a 1933 yellow Plymouth coupe." The Rileys were part of what looked like Canada Row with about 15 cars bearing Ontario license plates lined up on the west side of Huron. Paul Martin came from Aylmer, east of London, Ontario, with a 1936 Chevrolet coupe painted Chili Pepper Red.

"I just love to do it," he said. "It keeps me out of the wife's hair." He said he showed the car at the Atlantic Nationals in Moncton, New Brunswick, at the beginning of July and was rewarded by being named to the Top 25. "I couldn't believe it," he said. Martin said he went to last year's inaugural Port Huron show. "This is the second time I've been here, and I like it," he said. "They have a good selection of cars."



**Paul Martin of Aylmer, Ontario, buffs the Chili Pepper Red paint job on his 1936 Chevrolet coupe at the 2017 Mainstreet Memories Car Show. (Photo: Bob Gross, Times Herald)**



**Car buffs admire Gil Clark's Spitzer dragster at the Mainstreet Memories Car Show on Saturday, July 29, 2017.**

Gil Clark, of Crosswell, brought one of the fastest and loudest cars — a Spitzer dragster that puts out 1400 horsepower and can hit about 200 mph in the quarter mile. "I'm the owner and driver," he said. "I'm a one-man crew and I'm 78 years old." He said he was enjoying the car show.

"I haven't walked around too much, but I think it's great," he said. "I love to see the cars come out."

Mike Hudson, of Sarnia, had a brilliant two-tone yellow and white 1956 Chevrolet 201 he shares ownership of with his wife, Mary. He said he's been in love with cars "since I was 15 years old." "When I was 15, I started working in a wrecking yard and I got the bug."



**Bill Shaw, left, of Brights Grove, Ontario; Hector Sein, of Port Huron; and Reese Sein, of St. Clair, talk about Shaw's 1974 Corvette convertible at the Mainstreet Memories Car Show. (Photo: Bob Gross, Times Herald)**

Bruce Ramsey, of Sarnia, had the bug — a 1969 Volkswagen Beetle. It was parked between two muscle cars: a 1971 Chevelle SS and a 1967 Mustang. "In Volkswagen world, this is a muscle car," he said, noting that it's been chopped, dropped and otherwise modified. "I have to keep up with these guys and actually get to pass them as they pull into the gas station."