

ENGINES REV UP IN POINT PLEASANT

Enthusiasts turn out for All American Car Show



MARK R. SULLIVAN THE OCEAN STAR

Lee Messina, of Lumberton, showed his one-of-a-kind 2017 Mustang during Sunday's show. His car pays tribute to Air Force Master Military Training Instructors with blue accents that symbolize the blue cord worn on the hats of the instructors.

BY HOPE PATTI
THE OCEAN STAR

A variety of classic cars were on display Sunday for the 48th annual All American Car Show sponsored by the Surf Corvette Club at the Jersey Shore.

The show, which was held at Crystal Point Yacht Club, was originally scheduled for June 7, but had to be postponed due to outdoor occupancy limits as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Don Hermann, the club's president, said although the event was smaller than usual the turnout was great.

He added that in addition to being a fundraiser for the club, a portion of the event's proceeds benefit local veterans groups.

"Last year we gave money to a veterans group for a person that was going to college, so to offset their tuition we donated money to them," Mr. Hermann said, "because some people come out of the military and they want to go to school, but they can't really afford it."

The Surf Corvette Club was founded in Point Pleasant in 1963 as a social club for Corvette enthusiasts. Today, Mr. Hermann said the club includes members from all over the state who have a passion for classic cars.

"We're having a great time. It was a great show — we have a lot of cars and everybody is very happy," said June Weiner, a member of the Surf Corvette Club.

Wendy Hudson, of Brick, said she made an impromptu stop at the show with her 7-year-old son Dylan, and both were having a great time walking around and admiring the classic cars.



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Car enthusiasts admire classic cars on display at the 48th annual All American Car Show sponsored by the Surf Corvette Club on Sunday, June 28.

"These people keep their cars immaculate, there's not a fingerprint on them. I think that just shows that they really take a lot of pride in their cars and put a lot of work into them," Ms. Hudson said. "It's more than just a hobby, it's a passion and an art."

Ms. Hudson added that she has an appreciation for classic cars and wanted to expose her son to cars that are different from today's "cookie cutter" models.

"There's so much more to motor vehicles than what we see on a daily basis," she said.

Carol and Tom Bertone, of Wall, said they also hap-

"I think the show is very well organized. People are very friendly and it's been nothing but a good time since I got here."
ANDREW ESPOSITO, participant

pened to stumble upon the car show while driving home and had to make a stop.

"We love car shows ... we like the older cars," Ms. Bertone said, adding that she and her husband own a 1974

MGB GT and have shown it at local car shows before.

For Mr. Bertone, car shows are also reminiscent of this teenage years and pay tribute to the class and distinction of older cars.

cially after many were canceled.

Mr. Messina's passion for cars also encompasses his passion for the Air Force in which he spent 21 years as active duty and 28 years teaching basic training.

His Mustang pays tribute to Air Force Master Military Training Instructors [MTI] with blue accents to symbolize the blue cord worn on the hats of MTI.

"The purpose of all the blue accents is to honor that group of people that teach basic training," he said.

Andrew Esposito, of Brigantine, showed his Ford Fiesta MK1 on Sunday. Mr. Esposito said he has always been a car enthusiast, but took a hiatus from cars in 1984 after getting into an accident that totaled his first Ford Fiesta and left him with back injuries.

He added that he has frequented car shows for the past decade since purchasing his car.

"I think the show is very well organized. People are very friendly and it's been nothing but a good time since I got here," Mr. Esposito said.

He added that his only complaint about car shows, in general, is that not enough young people are attending them and are thus missing out on chance to catch a glimpse of earlier times.

"When kids come here I encourage them to sit in the car and see what 1978 was like," Mr. Esposito said.

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