

SUNNY AND HOT!**Nice Day (Almost) And A Good Turnout For The 2014 Fire Museum Show***By Bill Wurzell, Editor*

At last year's show at the Fire Museum Of Maryland, in Lutherville, the weather was overcast and threatening all day. The weather forecast for the 2014 show called for hot and sunny, with little chance of precipitation...sure.

It was hot and sunny until, just as the show ended at three o'clock, the skies turned dark and the rains came. Members with top down convertibles were scrambling. Consider: 'Buzz Diehl's Corvette with manual soft top was getting drenched; so was Buzz as he quickly put it up.'

Driving my DeSoto in a pouring rain on the beltway is a little scary. I love driving the car but NOT in the rain! I'm thinking: rain and metal equal 'rust'! For a sixty year old car it performs nicely, unfortunately, the windshield wipers are also 60 years old! They are inferior to windshield wipers on modern cars; thank the stars they are electric and not vacuum operated.

I also thought to myself; well, this will put the kabosh to any thoughts of 'Marley Station' cruise in. The further south I drove on the Beltway, the less it was raining. I decided to continue to Glen Burnie, put some gas in 'Delovely' and get something to eat. By the time I came out of the Boston Market, it was beautiful. I went to the cruise-in and had a delightful time.

Now, back to the subject of this article. The 'Officer Of The Day' was Bud Currey, who would present the sponsor's award at the end of the show. There were 20 Chesapeake Region members and 10 nonmembers present. As with any car show during the summer, people seek out shade and this show wasn't any different. A tree-line at the east end of the museum's large parking lot provided the most shade, make that the *only* shade to be had. In order to maximize as many cars as possible in shade, President Gary Wilmer and Buzz Diehl got everybody to back up, under the trees on an angle. This way they were able to get about a dozen people and vehicles under shade. Of course this meant, late arrivals were smack in the middle of the lot, under the sun.

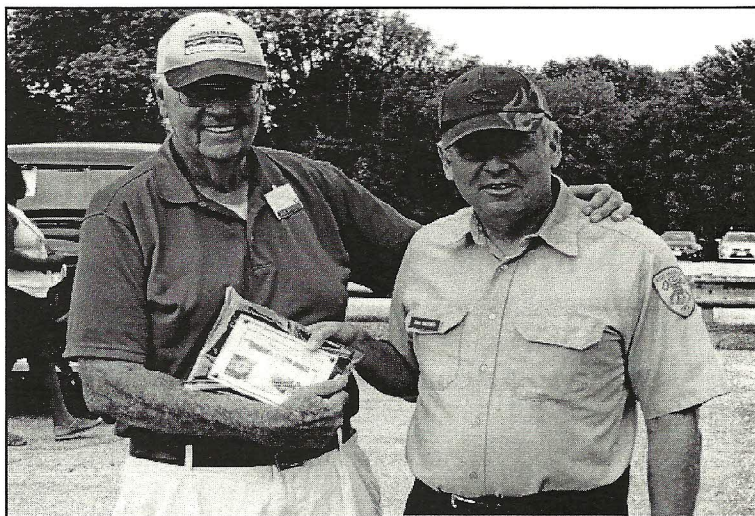
This show attracts a fair share of spectators. One spectator was an eleven-year old lad, Nicholas or 'Neeko', which he preferred. This young man was about as enamored with the antique cars as I was at his age. You could tell he was having a total blast. Neeko was with his aunt whom he is visiting for three weeks during the summer. Neeko, resides in upstate New York.

Neeko was in love with all the cars, he sat behind the steering wheel of my car so his aunt could take his picture. He was excited and having a great time. He also sat behind the steering wheel of Ruth Synodinos', 1947 Cadillac sedan. After that, Neeko nearly collapsed when Henry Ver Valen arrived in his rare, 1967 Jaguar E type coupe. Neeko said that was his 'favorite' car and he really never saw one until now. It was so pleasant to see a lad of Neeko's age be so enthralled about old cars, as many of us were at his age. I notice fewer and fewer young folks interested in '40's, '50's and '60s automobiles.

In spite of the sudden rain at the end of the Fire Museum show, it was well attended and also lots of fun. Chesapeake Region

members got to visit with each other and talk about their cars and families. Many members took advantage of the free admission to the Fire Museum, including me. As many times as I've been there, I always find something different and intriguing.

The Maryland Fire Museum show as does the B&O (Page 2 story) and Streetcar Museums, present one 'Sponsor's Award'



Ron Siegrist is beaming as he accepts the Sponsor's Choice Award from Gary Hartner of the Maryland Fire Museum in Lutherville, July 12, 2014

which is selected by a volunteer staff member of the museum. This year, Gary Hartner made the selection and chose everybody's favorite 'honeymoon' couple and longtime CR members, Ron and Julie Siegrist's absolutely fabulous 1952 Oldsmobile Ninety-Eight Convertible. This car was purchased 'brand new' by Ron sixty-two years ago! What a history; we want to extend, on behalf of all the members of Chesapeake Region a hearty '**CONGRATULATIONS**' to Ron and Julie; you guys deserve it. Ron and Julie attend many club sponsored events every year and it's much appreciated. Immediately after the award presentation to Ron, Officer of the day, Bud Curry, read a proclamation regarding 'Collector Car Appreciation Day.' This endeavor fosters continuing interest in the old car hobby and legislation that effects the hobby and those involved.

Members attending Maryland Fire Museum show:

Buzz Diehl, 1990 Chevrolet Corvette; Dave and Thelma Johnson, 1956 Ford Thunderbird; Mike Natale, 1965 Chevrolet Corvair Corsa; Bob Natale, 1965 Buick Riviera; Ruth Synodinos, 1947 Cadillac Sedan; John & Lynn Horn, 1971 Ford Torino, Ron & Julie Siegrist, 1952 Oldsmobile 98; Craig Whitcraft, 1934 Ford Pickup; Dan & Terry Materazzi, 1956 Chevrolet Corvette; Ed Butler, 1953 MG T/D Roadster; Nick & Linda Prevas, 1966 Chevrolet Corvette; John Boksz & Otto Sanders, 1965 Rambler Classic; Andy Gerstmyer, 1966 Chevrolet Corvair Corsa Convertible; Henry Ver Valen, 1967 Jaguar E-type coupe; Charles Samoradin, 1957 Ford Thunderbird; Neal Haynie, 1969 Ford Thunderbird; Bud Currey, 1965 Pontiac Grand Prix; Gary Wilmer, 1973 Pontiac Firebird; Beth Muscedere, 1916 Ford Model 'T'; Jerry Gordon, 1964 Lincoln Continental Convertible; Bill Wurzell, 1954 DeSoto Firedome.