



memories of the 'happy days' of bobby socks and saddle shoes, drive-in restaurants where waitresses roller skated trays of fast food to car windows, 50s dances, rock n' roll and muscle shirts, are revived every Tuesday evening at the town dock when the Parry Sound CruZers Car Club hosts its CruZe Nites.

"It's reliving an era when we used to have a ton of fun," says Parry Sound CruZers President Tudor Randell.

But the wide array of cars gathering at the 30,000 Island Cruise Line parking lot every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. includes far more than the 'sweet rides' from the 50s, 60s, and 70s era, when baby boomers first began revving up behind the wheel and tinkering under the hood.

From Bill Corbett's brand new 2007 Mustang Shelby GT 500 to Michael Bondi's 1924 Model T Ford, the club boasts a wide range of 90 vehicles among its ranks. Even a motorcycle or two, and a "semi-amphib" Canadian Army jeep are part of the CruZers' collection. What's most popular seems to be a matter of personal taste. Some seek out muscle cars like the Ford Gran Torino of Starsky and Hutch fame or the Dukes of Hazzard's Dodge Hemi Charger. Others are dazzled by the hot rods like Tudor's 1929 Pontiac Tudor Sedan or the fenderless and hoodless varieties. Some gravitate to classics like Michael Bondi's straight-line 12-cylinder 1932 Packard. And, not surprisingly, Paul Hannon's new custom C-6 Corvette and Bill Corbett's Shelby always rank high as crowd pleasers.

Curious visitors at CruZe Night will also be treated to an impressive show of out-of-town cars which join the CruZers' classic, vintage, muscle cars (like the Chargers, Barracudas, Camaros, and

Firebirds), hot rods and modern tuner and custom cars. With so many cars traveling here from Aurora, London, Barrie, Orillia, North Bay, Sudbury, Timmins, South River and beyond, regular CruZe Night followers never know what classic beauties might show up.

It's gained quite a reputation in Ontario as a northern cruise night well worth attending on Tuesday nights. One of the big attractions - besides the waterfront rock and roll atmosphere - is the unique trophies.

"They come from all over Ontario to get those, and they're made by CruZers who make 50 to 60 a year from old car parts, donated to us. Mechanical men we call them," says Tudor.

These are drawn prizes - not judged - given to one local and one visiting registered car owner, just for showing up. Prizes are supported by the club's 240 sponsors.

CruZe Nites in the Island Queen lot have developed into a significant tourist event. "It provides a focus for tourists, and locals," says the club president. "Anyone coming down here can't miss the crowd, and I'm sure its one of the best

promotions for this harbour for a Tuesday. You have the Bands on the Bay over at the Stockey Centre in the summer, and we get a lot of people coming over here, who have been walking on the fitness trail and bingo; all of a sudden they've got a rock and roll car show going on every Tuesday until September 4."

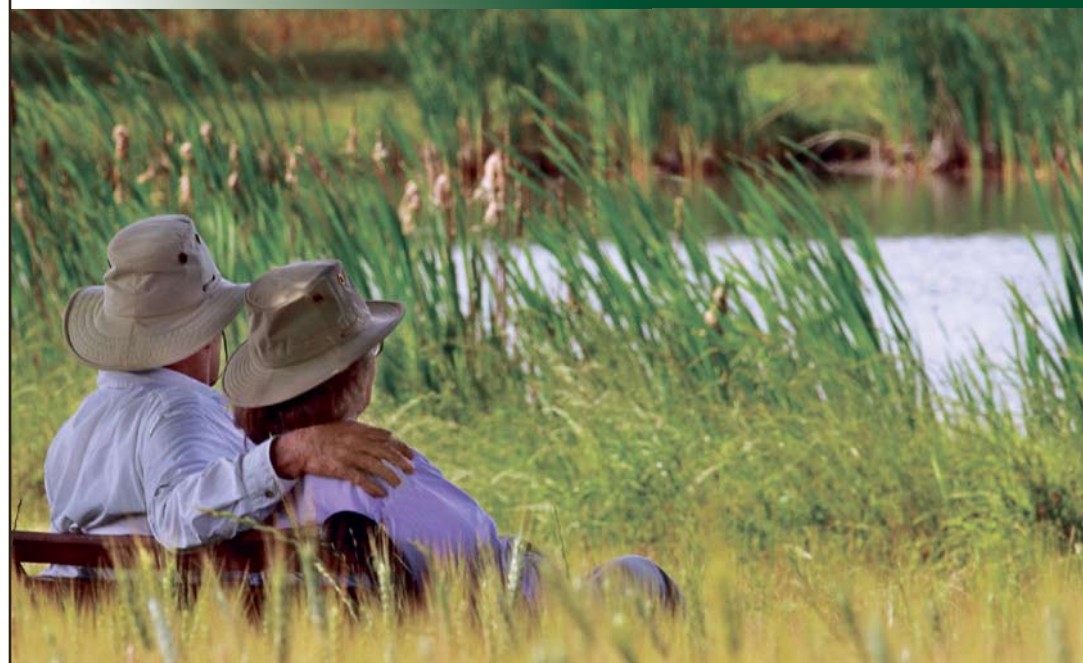
The nostalgic American Graffiti-like atmosphere of CruZe Nites at the town docks also attracts happy visitors disembarking from the 30,000 Island Queen boat cruise, dining at a waterfront restaurant or seeking an entertaining break away from their yacht docked in the harbour or at Big Sound Marina.



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