Classics
Against Cancer

By Chris Miller

It was 1988 when a group of local auto enthusiasts began hosting the annual Classics Against Cancer auto show.

Well-known local businessman Neil Young, who is a classic car enthusiast and race driver, got together with some friends, including former Georgetown mayor Weldon "Steamer" Emerson and volunteers with the local cancer society. They were going to organize a classical concert tied to a garden party— which he named Symphony, Seeds and a Strawberry Social— but Young instead came up with the idea of a classic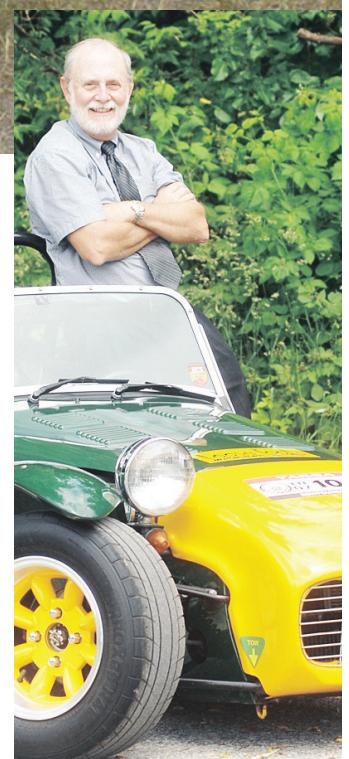 car show. It was decided to have the Classics separate from the other event and so the first Classics Against Cancer event was held. The original organizing team consisted of Young and 12 friends. Over the last 23 years this annual event has grown into one of the prime events held annually in Halton Hills.

This year's show— the 24th edition— will take place Sunday, June 19 at Cedarvale Park in Georgetown. The park is located at the corner of Maple Avenue and Main Street. Gates open at 7:30 a.m. and the show runs until 4 p.m. Between 350 and 400 autos are expected to be on display. Chris Miller will emcee the event for the fourth year.

Over the years, funds have been donated to the Canadian Cancer Society, Cancer Assistance Services-Halton Hills (CAShh) and Childhood Cancer Campaign. This year proceeds will go to Sick Kids Research and Learning Tower which focuses on young people and cancer.

Key players with Classics Against Cancer include longtime chairman and local businessman Moe Lamothe, who is still involved in the arduous task of computer work with the judges and another chairman, Dan Wagstaff. Wagstaff is a huge Chrysler fan as an owner of six different models as well as a beautiful award-winning classic car, which he has shown at the event a number of times.

For the last few years Dan Edwards has been at the helm of a committee with as many as 100 volunteers to make the shows

Neil Young is the father of the Classics Against Cancer show.