

# Idle Pursuits

## Classics Against Cancer

BY DEBORAH QUAILE

Here's one way to raise funds for the fight against cancer and have a great day out at the same time.

It's the 16th annual Classics Against Cancer on Sunday, June 15 on the scenic lawns of Cedarvale Park, Georgetown. Antique and classic road cars, modern exotic and high-performance autos, race cars, kit cars, trucks, military vehicles and modified cars built in 1980 or earlier will purr into place and offer a look at some fine pieces of engineering. There's even a special interest section where the lineup

could include concept cars, gas/electric vehicles, Indy 500 pace cars and more. Gates open to the public and exhibitors at 7:30 a.m., and registration continues until 11:30 a.m. The pancakes will be flipping from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for a hot breakfast, while judging of all entered vehicles begins at 9:00 a.m.

The Classics Against Cancer folks have got something special planned for lunch: good old-fashioned drive-in food to incite memories of bygone days spent cruising with a favourite somebody. You'll

find entertainment for the whole family including a children's corner with car-colouring and face-painting, and the music of Rolly Rocker and the Hemi Heads. Awards presentations begin at 3:00 p.m. for the best cars in the show.

Proceeds from the day benefit the Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills. The event costs \$6 a person and children 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. For further information visit the website at [www.classicsagainst-cancer.on.ca](http://www.classicsagainst-cancer.on.ca).

## Local history comes online

BY DEBORAH QUAILE

In association with Images Canada, Halton Images was launched at the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre Gallery in mid-April. Originating in July 2001, and hosted by the National Library of Canada, this project is a photographic collection of people, places and events in developing towns and communities during the 19th and 20th centuries. These images have been contributed by individuals, historical societies, museums and libraries to reflect moments in Canada's history.

"We have a very rich and distinct cultural and natural history," noted Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle, in her opening remarks. She acknowledged the fine body of work developed by the Halton Hills and Oakville libraries. The project, spearheaded by Gail Richardson, Walter Lewis and Geoff Cannon of the two libraries, doesn't necessarily require volunteers to work in the branches. Many individuals enter data and photos via their personal

computers. Building on work done over the last 18 years, the local database has over 4,000 catalogued, historical images, some of which are in colour. The catalogue is full-text searchable. After a quick glance through the archives, visitors will find that most photos are dated, named and denote even our smallest hamlets such as Glen Williams, Ashgrove, Norval, Hornby and Speyside. Family faces, street scenes, village overviews and special occasions bring the past alive, and offer a valuable tool for researchers.

"It's an astounding resource," added Jane Diamanti, Director of Halton Hills Public Library. "We anticipate 30,000 plus images on the website shortly."

Halton Images joins pictures from Canada's Science and Technology Museum, Natural Resources Canada's Earth Science Information Centre, the Glenbow Library and Archives, the Nova Scotia Museum, the Toronto Public Library, the City of Calgary Archives, Simon Fraser University Library, The University of Toronto, The University of New Brunswick and the Canada Aviation Museum. Brenda Campbell from Images Canada in Ottawa hopes that the model will continue to spread to other communities. "Local images are now available in the national community," Ms. Diamanti stated, "and are part of an electronic photo album."

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Quaile Reviews

## Reflections on Automotive History, Volume III

By DEBORAH QUAILE

The very modest amount I've picked up over the years regarding classic cars is because of the enthusiasm of my brother. Through him, I gained an appreciation for sweeping lines, deep gloss and smooth performance. But even for a novice like me, the third book of *Reflections on Automotive History* is a comfortable read: It's not too technical, and it's full of engrossing history. Bill Vance has an easy, relaxed style of writing that reads as if he were chatting about the merits of a straight-8 or V-16 with you over a cup of coffee and, best of all, you can get the gist of the conversation.

"The aim of this volume," he notes, "is to provide readers with an authoritative yet not burdensome overview of automotive history... The *Reflections* books were inspired by my weekly automotive history column that is syndicated to newspapers in Canada and the U.S. *Volume I* was, in fact, a compilation of expanded columns prepared at the request of readers. Its success encouraged me to write *Volumes II and III*, which are not column-based but original material."

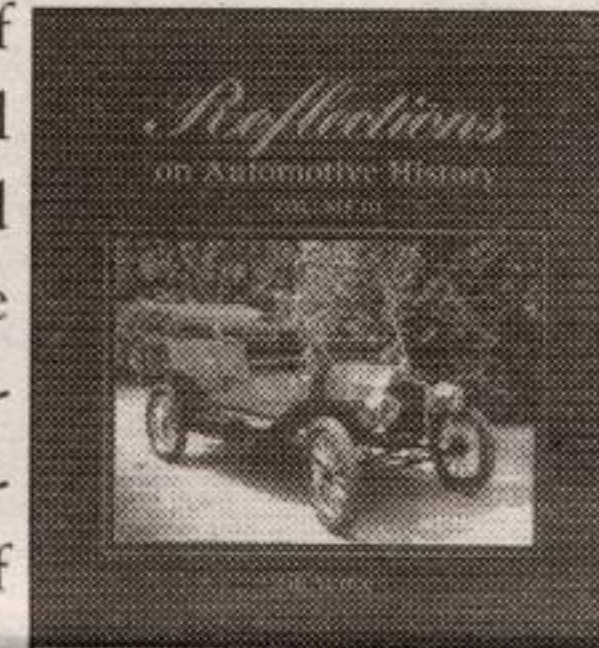
Bill has been a freelance-automotive journalist for 30 years, covering a full spectrum of subjects with a special interest in history and technology. He was one of three Canadian members of the Amsterdam-based, worldwide Car of

the Century jury that selected the Model T Ford as the vehicle that had the most significant impact on automotive history during the 20th century, and thus he used a photo of a 1911 locally owned Model T for the cover of his book.

Sections include an overview of automotive history decade-by-decade, from 1900 to 2000; engineering and evolution; the 10 most significant developments; the car of the century; and Bill's personal selection of 25 men who made a difference in the field including entrepreneurs, engineers, inventors, labour leaders and writers.

"As a long-time student of the automobile and its history, I have found writing about it to be enjoyable and rewarding. One of the reasons is that I am always learning. Since history is subject to the interpretation and prejudices of the historian, this book represents a take of an automotive enthusiast, not an academic."

Obviously *Reflections on Automotive History Volume III* would make a great Father's Day gift. Call Eramosa Valley Publishing for copies or purchase one at *Legendary Motor Car*, Milton, 905-875-4700.



BILL VANCE  
REFLECTIONS ON  
AUTOMOTIVE HISTORY  
VOLUME III  
ROCKWOOD: ERAMOSA  
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(519-856-1065)

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