

The Wheel Spin



The Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

Dedicated in Memory of the late Mike Sturmay

*Volume XXXIV, Number 1
Spring, 2024*

The Wheel Spin
Official Newsletter Of the
Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club shall be to unite persons interested in restoring and preserving special interest motor vehicles; to encourage fellowship between members and their families in social, as well as auto Interests; and to promote and assist in the promotion of competitions, trials, and other events In which such vehicles can participate in their respective classes.

Important Items To Remember

The Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club meets at 6:30 PM for coffee, with the meeting at 7:00 PM, on the **FIRST Wednesday** of each month, except in January and August, at the Club House (Vegreville Regional Museum). Vehicle ownership is not a requirement for membership. Our meetings are open to both Husbands and Wives. Membership Fees are due at our February Meeting.

2024 Executive

President	-	William Smolak
Vice-President	-	Dan Fisher
Secretary	-	Darry Anderson
Treasurer	-	Richard Densmore
Events Chairs/	-	Sylvia Smolak
Phone Committee	-	Denise Komick
Communications	-	William Smolak
Car Show Committee	-	William Smolak
	-	Dan Fisher
	-	Ron Reese
	-	Richard Densmore
	-	Darry Anderson
Media Master	-	Laurence Anderson
Past President	-	Denise Komick
Bulletin Editor	-	William Smolak
Bulletin Distributor	-	N/A
Archivists	-	Denise Komick
	-	Orest Lazarowich
SVAA Rep.	-	

Past Presidents of The Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

1989 - 1990	Orest Lazarowich
1990 - 1992	Sylvester Komick
1992 - 1993	Paul Buoy
1993 - 1994	John Sokoluk
1994 - 1995	Don Bilocerkowec
1995 - 1997	Ray Welsh
1997 - 1998	John Skladen
1998 - 2000	Ron Lindquist
2000 - 2002	Tim Charuk
2002 - 2004	Gerald Granger
2004 - 2006	George Sample
2006 - 2008	Mike Dowhun
2008 - 2010	Orest Lazarowich
2010 - 2015	Denise Komick
2015 - 2024	William Smolak

Title Page Photo

The title page photo is that of the late Mike Sturmay's 1971 Chrysler Newport Custom

President's Message

VIRAC Members:

This issue of "The Wheel Spin" is dedicated to the memory of the late Mike Sturmay, who passed away on February 9, 2024. Mike was a well-liked and respected member of the "Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club.

One of the biggest issues facing our club is the declining and aging membership. Many of our members are getting up in age and we are finding it difficult finding a sufficient number of young able bodied people to work at our events, consequently we are having to rely more and more on volunteers. Another major issue is finding new members who may or may not be owners of collector type automobiles, but who have an undeniable interest in the preservation of the classic automobile/truck. Remember, ownership of a collector car is not a requirement for membership. Another major issue facing us is our continued participation in the annual Fathers' Day Event. We are facing a crisis in terms of mustering sufficient manpower to continue the same level of participation as in previous years, and will probably limit our participation to the show and shine portion of this event, providing we have the volunteers to do this.

As we get ready for a new show and shine season, we must also contend with proposed government legislation which threatens the collector car hobby and its related businesses.

Until next time, take care, stay safe, and have a joyous Easter and a wonderful spring.

William Smolak, President

*Fathers' Day Event Committee Report
30th Annual Father's Day Event*

The Annual Father's Day Event (FDE) has been a 'joint venture' between the Vegreville Agricultural Society (VAS), and the Vegreville Iron Runner's Auto Club (VIRAC).

The Show and Shine is the one event most affected by the weather and the weather certainly didn't co-operate last year. Hopefully this year will be much better, with warm and sunny weather.

Editor's Message

Welcome to another edition of "The Wheel Spin". I am still looking for a way to resume making hard copy versions of the newsletter available to our club members and others.

Our web site is <http://vegironrunners.ca>. Laurence Anderson is our media master and he would appreciate receiving photos and articles to put on our web page and on face book.

"The Wheel Spin" is the official publication of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club and is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. The publication is included as part of your membership fee. Articles and opinions are welcome from club members. The Want Ads and For Sale Ads are free to club members. Deadlines for articles and ads are the 15th day of the month preceding the publication date. The deadline for the next issue in **June is May 15, 2024.**

This is your Bulletin; it is only as good as the effort you, the members, are willing to put into it. The drop off point for your contributions, suggestions and comments is my residence at 5701 – 43 A Street or you may also e-mail me at bsmo47@telus.net.

Opinions expressed in "The Wheel Spin" are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club or its members.

"The Wheel Spin" takes no responsibility for the accuracy of copied ads. Other Clubs are welcome to use published materials, except where prohibited by the author/s.

William Smolak, Editor

Submissions and copies of Newsletters may be forwarded to:

"The Wheel Spin"

C/O William Smolak

5701 - 43 A Street

Vegreville, Alberta, T9C 1E3

or by e-mail at bsmo47@telus.net

Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club Web Page

<http://vegironrunners.ca>

Specialty Vehicle Association of Alberta Web Site

See: **www.svaalberta.com**

Did You Know

The "Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club" has continued its spirit of involvement with the community. In the past, the "Vegreville Iron Runners" have provided financial support for the various groups in and around Vegreville.

As well, the "Vegreville Iron Runners" have instituted a scholarship at the high schools, in Vegreville, called the "Vegreville Iron Runners Memorial Scholarship ". The scholarship is for \$1000 and is awarded annually to a student who is registered in a post-secondary automotive related program. We have not received any application for the 2023 Scholarship.

This year, the Club donated a total of \$600 to the Vegreville and District Christmas Bureau, and \$500 to the Vegreville Food Bank.

Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club Archival History

Work on a history of the Iron Runners that was begun by the late Sylvester Komick and Orest Lazarowich is continuing under the leadership of Denise Komick. Your utmost attention and assistance in completing this project would be most appreciated. This is only one of the legacies left to our club by the late Sylvester Komick. We still need all Past-Presidents to please submit a review of their year or years as President and to go through their files and turn over all materials they think would be appropriate for inclusion in our Archives. Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Club Builders Award

The Vegreville and District Special Interest Motor Vehicle Club came into existence on the second day of October, 1989. The Iron Runners Auto Club name was officially accepted at the November, 1989, meeting and the first twenty five members were designated as charter members. The first annual meeting was held in September, 1990. The club is now known locally as the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club.

The original Charter Members who are still members of the Club, at this time include: Denise Komick, Orest Lazarowich, and Jerry Wilde. Joining them as 25 year members are William and Sylvia Smolak.

On a motion passed at the May 2nd, 2001, regular meeting of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club, It was agreed that the Club would recognize individual members who have maintained continuous membership In the Club.

A Club Builder's Award will be presented to members who have achieved or demonstrated continuous contribution and support to the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club locally and provincially.

This recognition will be in the form of a plaque presented, at the annual meetings, to Individual members who are in the 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, etc. year of continuous membership. This will be determined by the membership records kept by the Treasurer. The plaque will list the member's name, membership number, and the years of continuous membership.

Members with 25 years of continuous membership shall be awarded **Honorary Life Memberships.**

New Membership Cards

Thanks to Dan Fisher and his office staff, we will have a new style of membership card that is plasticized and features our new logo. These will be issued to all paid up and life members at the March meeting. Once you pay your membership dues, the membership card will be prepared and issued to you at the next meeting

In Memory of Mike Sturmay

We have lost a valuable member of our car club and he will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Mike was a very friendly man who was easy to get along with and who was always ready to offer his help to anyone who requested it. Mike's pride and joy was his 1971 Chrysler Newport Custom. Mike was very proud of the accomplishments of his children and his grand-children. Mike was a dedicated follower of the accomplishments of Selena and Karsten, competitive curlers at the provincial and national level.

There's a Handyman In Heaven

So there's a handy man in heaven now,
Who built his life on dreams,
No tasks, no chores, no obstacles.
But loved the challenges of extremes.
A caring, honest provider
That unselfishly gave his all,
A heart of gold and hands of steel
That responded to the call.
A husband, a Dad, a Granddad too,
That would help you to the end,
A reliable person of integrity
That all wanted and enjoyed as a friend.
There's a handy man in Heaven now
Who's fixing Heaven's gate,
Oiling the hinges with pride and care,
so that they will open for all who wait.

1971 Chrysler Newport Custom

The **Newport** was a name used by Chrysler for both a hardtop body designation and also for its lowest priced model between 1961 and 1981. Chrysler first used the Newport name on a 1940 show car, of which five vehicles were produced. From 1950 to 1956, the Newport name was then used to designate any Chrysler model with a hardtop body style (for example, the 1956 Chrysler "New Yorker 2 Door Newport"). In 1961, Chrysler introduced the Newport as a new, low-priced model, offering large, comfortable two- and four-door Chrysler models that were modestly priced compared with the Chrysler 300, the Chrysler New Yorker and the Imperial. For 1961, the Newport was priced below the Chrysler Windsor (which originally replaced the Chrysler Royal) in the Windsor's final year.

The Newport was completely redesigned in 1969, and featured the distinctive "Fuselage Styling" that would become symbolic of Chrysler's full-size cars until the end of the 1973 model year. Although retaining the same 124 in (3,150 mm) wheelbase that it shared with the premium New Yorker, this generation Newport was longer, lower, wider, and several hundred pounds heavier than the 1965–1968 Newports.

Although still offered in 2-door and 4-door hardtop, 2-door convertible, and 4-door sedan models, station wagons were no longer part of the Newport series, as the Town & Country became a separate model outright. Newport convertibles were discontinued after 1970, following a drop in sales of 48 percent that year, to 1124 convertibles; while total Newport sales were down almost 30 percent, to 110,292 units, despite the restyling.

Available in 2- and 4-door hardtops and 4-door sedans, the Newport Custom would still be offered as the top-line Newport through the entire 1969–1973 design cycle. First appearing in 1971, the Newport Royal was an entry-level model in the Newport Series. It borrowed the name of the entry-level Chrysler from 1937–50. The Newport Royal name was discontinued for the 1973 model year and the Newport became the base model Chrysler. For 1970 a special appearance trim package was introduced on the 2- and 4-door hardtop called the Newport Cordoba.

For the 1971 model year, the Royal came standard with the 255 hp (190 kW) 360 cu in (5.9 L) V8, with optional 275 hp (205 kW) or 300 hp (224 kW) 383 cu in (6.3 L) engines, but not the 440 cu in (7.2 L); the Custom was standard with the 275 hp (205 kW) 383 cu in (6.3 L) V8, and the 300 hp (224 kW) 383 cu in (6.3 L) or 335 hp (250 kW) 440 cu in (7.2 L) V8s as options. For 1972, the Royal came standard with the 190 hp (142 kW) 400 cu in (7.2 L) V8 with 190 hp (142 kW) engines unavailable, while the Custom was standard with the 190 hp (142 kW) 400 cu in (6.6 L) V8, and the 225 hp (168 kW) single- and 245 hp (183 kW) dual-exhaust 440 cu in (7.2 L) V8s were optional. Power output would steadily decrease on all engines during this generation due to stricter emissions standards and rising fuel prices.



1971 Chrysler Newport two Door Hardtop

A Unique Classic Collect Car



*Vegreville Iron Runners Memorial Scholarship
Sponsored by the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club*

The Scholarship shall consist of a **One Thousand Dollar (\$1 000.00)** cash award, a presentation plaque and a one (1) year membership in the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

This Scholarship fund shall be administered by a selection committee consisting of:

1. President or designate of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club.
2. Two or more members of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Scholarship shall be awarded to a deserving Grade XII student, male or female, who is registered at **Vegreville Composite High School**, or at **St. Mary's Catholic High School**, and is enrolled in **Work Experience or RAP** continuing his/her education at a post-secondary institute in any of the fields of **Automotive Mechanics (Automotive Service Technician); or Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics; Agricultural Equipment Mechanics; Auto Body Mechanics (Automotive Collision Repair Technician); and/or Auto Parts Technician.**

The selection committee shall review all applications for the Scholarship, and shall, when making its decision, consider the criteria outlined below and in its sole discretion give such weight to the criteria as it deems appropriate.

1. A certified statement of school marks issued by the High School.
2. A letter indicating the applicant's educational and future plans. In this letter, the candidate should include an explanation of why the automotive field or its related fields are attractive to him/her or why he/she believes they are a good fit for these fields.
3. Documentation of acceptance into a recognized apprenticeship program or a post-secondary education institution in the automotive field.
4. If there is no suitable candidate for the current year, the Scholarship shall be withheld.

Deadline for Application:

All Applications must be received by September 1, and no exceptions will be made. The scholarship application must be forwarded to **The Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club, c/o William Smolak, 5701 – 43A Street, Vegreville, AB, T9C 1E3.**

NB: Application forms may be picked up from our local high school counsellors.

Iron Runners Memorial Scholarship Application Form

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Age: _____

Alberta Student ID # _____ School: _____

Student's Cell #: _____ Student's Email Address: _____

Parents/Guardians: _____

Address: _____

Street/P. O. Box #

Town/City

Postal Code

Home Phone Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Parent/Guardian's Work Number(s): _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Telephone _____

Student Timetable

Semester 1 Subjects

Semester 2 Subjects

Period 1	_____
Period 2	_____
Period 3	_____
Period 4	_____

Future Plans

Work Experience/RAP Program: _____

Post Secondary Training Program: _____

Name of Post Secondary School: _____

Name of Current Employer: _____

Name of Current Supervisor: _____

Address of Current Employer: _____

Contact Information For Employer/Supervisor: Phone # _____

Cell # _____

Attachments Included: _____

Certified Statement of Marks From School

Personal Letter Regarding Future Plans

Notice of Acceptance into a Post-Secondary School

and/or _____

**Confirmation of Employment in Appropriate Field
and Employer's Certification of Enrolment in an
Apprenticeship Program**

To send information to our media master contact:
Laurence Anderson @ Laurenceanderson@telus.net

Reminder:

Membership fees are due at the February Meeting. Memberships must be paid in full and up to date in order to vote at the AGM.

Activities of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

Because of the Winter season, our activities were virtually non existent. However, our Christmas party has already been booked for December 11, 2024, and our new Events Chairs are hard at work planning activities for the coming summer season.

Specialty Vehicle Association of Alberta



Protecting the rights and privileges
of auto enthusiasts of Alberta since 1974

The SVAA was created in 1974 by a group of members of several Alberta vintage vehicle clubs for the original purpose of correlating event dates to avoid conflict This grew into a lobby group which over the years was able to bring antique (one-time) licensing for vintage cars (25 years and older) to Alberta, and recently was able to petition, with the National Association, the Federal Government in order to prevent the creation of pollution or junker laws with respect to old cars.

Today, the SVAA consists of some 45 Alberta Vintage, Modified, Street Rod and 4-wheel Clubs, in Alberta, representing 3700 individual persons.

Mission Statement

The Association is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and enjoyment of all antique, collector, vintage and specialty vehicles. Also, the Society is dedicated to bringing all auto related clubs in Alberta together, to promote and protect our common interest in the Automobile Hobby.



Suggested Disclaimer For Hosting An Event

The undersigned hereby agree to indemnify all officers and directors against any and all alleged wrongful acts, wrongful acts and/or claims resulting from attendance and participation in this tour and associated events. I/we certify the vehicle indicated above is properly and adequately Insured, licensed, registered and is in a safe operating condition

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Cruisin' The Dub

Be sure to check your local listings, for location & times, for more Information, check out www.cruisin@aw.ca

Calendar of Events (2023)

The SVAA publishes events throughout the year, so please forward your information to rds01@outlook.com or by mail. Some events are now included on the SVAA web site at www.svaalberta.com. Do not send events to this web site.

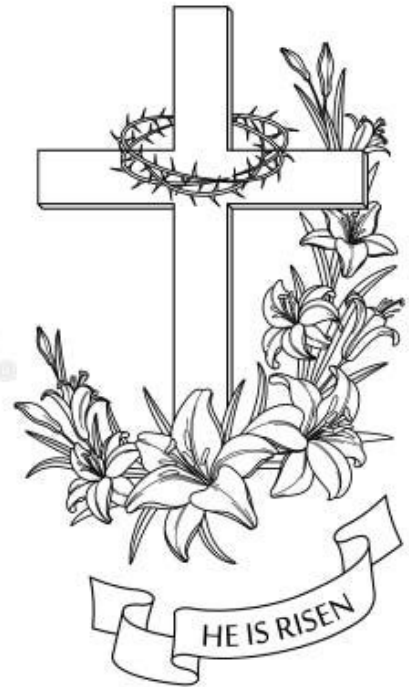


Please Complete the Following and Return To
Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club
C/o William Smolak
5701 - 43A Street
Vegreville, AB
T9C 1E3
Release and Consent Form

I, _____, (print full name) do hereby consent to the use, reproduction, and publication of any and all photographs, video/audio recordings, and/or movies taken by and/or supplied to local papers/and or other media pertaining to or as a result of my activities as a member of the Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club.

Signature

Date



Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

Membership Application

Please Print

Date: _____

Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Spouse: _____ Occupation: _____

Children: _____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Phone (Res) _____

City/Town: _____ Phone (Bus) _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone (Cell) _____

Province: _____ New Membership: ____ Renewal: ____

Type of Membership: Single: ____ Family: ____ Other: ____

Vehicles Owned

Vehicle #1 Make: _____ Model: _____

Year: _____ Body Style: _____ Colour: _____

Vehicle #2 Make: _____ Model: _____

Year: _____ Body Style: _____ Colour: _____

Vehicle #3 Make: _____ Model: _____

Year: _____ Body Style: _____ Colour: _____

Fees: Single: \$15 Family: \$25

This information is solely for club use only and will not be given out.

Date of Acceptance: _____

