

The Wheel Spin



The Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

*Volume XXXIV, Number 4
Winter, 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 6:45 PM for coffee, with the meeting starting 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. | - | Dan Fisher |

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 an antique vehicle driven by Santa Claus

President's Message

VIRAC Members:

I trust everyone is ready for the Christmas Season. December 25th is rapidly approaching and will be here sooner than later. Remember, the Birth of Jesus is the reason for the season.

Our Club Christmas Party is planned for December 11, at the Crave Appetite Restaurant in the homesteader Inn and Hotel. Hopefully everyone will be able to make it. Our recent scholarship award winner has been invited, and hopefully he will be able to attend.

We hosted a special theatre showing of American Graffiti on Monday, October 21. This was open to the General Public with the cost of admission being a donation to the Vegreville Food Bank. It was quite successful with some cash and a fairly good amount of food collected for the Food Bank. There were some 60 people in attendance. We are planning another one of these for the near future.

On November 29, I presented the Vegreville Iron Runners Memorial Scholarship to Ryan Sturrock. This scholarship is worth \$1000.00.

Have a great Christmas Season and stay safe and drive carefully if you are travelling over the Holiday Season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

William Smolak, President

Editor's Message

Welcome to another edition of "The Wheel Spin". I enjoy putting the newsletter/ bulletin together and hopefully I will be able to continue doing so for some time to come,

however Arthritis in the hands and fingers is making it more difficult.

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 **March is February 15, 2025.**

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. This year's recipient is Ryan Sturrock of Vegreville.

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 members at the March meeting. All membership fees are due at the February meeting. Once you have paid your membership dues, the membership card will be prepared and issued to you at the next meeting.



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
American Graffiti Movie Night At the Theatre*



VIRAC President Bill is standing by the donations received.



Vice President Dan presenting the donated food to Linda Wilkinson, the Vegreville Food Bank Co-ordinator.



The back of Dan's Truck filled with the donations for the Vegreville Food Bank.

American Graffiti Night at the Vegreville Capitol Theatre was a great success. The large attendance at the Theatre produced a truck load of much needed food donations for the Food

Bank. There are plans to hold another Movie night in the near future. The Movie Night was a win win win event for the Capitol Movie Theatre owner, the Vegreville Food Bank and the Iron Runners. A huge thank you goes out to Vice-President Dan for organizing this event.

Presentation of Vegreville Iron Runners Memorial Scholarship

On November 29th, I had the distinct pleasure of presenting the 2024 Vegreville Iron Runners Memorial Scholarship to Ryan Sturrock. Ryan received several awards throughout the evening.



Presenting the certificate to Ryan Ryan with his certificate and me with his plaque

Christmas Day in the Morning

by Pearl S. Buck

He woke suddenly and completely. It was four o'clock, the hour at which his father had always called him to get up and help with the milking. Strange how the habits of his youth clung to him still! Fifty years ago, and his father had been dead for thirty years, and yet he waked at four o'clock in the morning. He had trained himself to turn over and go to sleep, but this morning it was Christmas, he did not try to sleep. Why did he feel so awake tonight? He slipped back in time, as he did so easily nowadays. He was fifteen years old and still on his father's farm. He loved his father.

He had not known it until one day a few days before Christmas, when he had overheard what his father was saying to his mother. "Mary, I hate to call Rob in the mornings. He's growing so fast and he needs his sleep. If you could see how he sleeps when I go in to wake him up! I wish I could manage alone."

"Well, you can't, Adam." His mother's voice was brisk. "Besides, he isn't a child anymore."

It's time he took his turn."

"Yes," his father said slowly. "But I sure do hate to wake him."

When he heard these words, something in him spoke: his father loved him! He had never thought of that before, taking for granted the tie of their blood. Neither his father nor his mother talked about loving their children--they had no time for such things. There was always so much to do on the farm. Now that he knew his father loved him, there would be no loitering in the mornings and having to be called again.

He got up after that, stumbling blindly in his sleep, and pulled on his clothes, his eyes shut, but he got up. And then on the night before Christmas, that year when he was fifteen, he lay for a few minutes thinking about the next day. They were poor, and most of the excitement was in the turkey they had raised themselves and mince pies his mother made. His sisters sewed presents and his mother and father always bought him something he needed, not only a warm jacket, maybe, but something more, such as a book. And he saved and bought them each something, too.

He wished, that Christmas when he was fifteen, he had a better present for his father. As usual he had gone to the ten-cent store and bought a tie. It had seemed nice enough until he lay thinking the night before Christmas.

He looked out of his attic window, the stars were bright. "Dad," he had once asked when he was a little boy, "What is a stable?"

"It's just a barn," his father had replied, "like ours."

Then Jesus had been born in a barn, and to a barn the shepherds had come... The thought struck him like a silver dagger. Why should he not give his father a special gift too, out there in the barn? He could get up early, earlier than four o'clock, and he could creep into the barn and get all the milking done. He'd do it alone, milk and clean up, and then when his father went in to start the milking he'd see it all done. And he would know who had done it. He laughed to himself as he gazed at the stars.

It was what he would do, and he musn't sleep too soundly. He must have waked twenty times, scratching a match each time to look at his old watch -- midnight, and half past one, and then two o'clock. At a quarter to three he got up and put on his clothes. He crept downstairs, careful of the creaky boards, and let himself out.

The cows looked at him, sleepy and surprised. It was early for them, too. He had never milked all alone before, but it seemed almost easy. He kept thinking about his father's surprise. His father would come in and get him, saying that he would get things started while Rob was getting dressed. He'd go to the barn, open the door, and then he'd go get the two big empty milk cans. But they wouldn't be waiting or empty, they'd be standing in the milk-house, filled.

"What the--," he could hear his father exclaiming. He smiled and milked steadily, two strong streams rushing into the pail, frothing and fragrant. The task went more easily than he had ever known it to go before. Milking for once was not a chore. It was something else, a gift to his father who loved him. He finished, the two milk cans were full, and he covered them and closed the milk-house door carefully, making sure of the latch.

Back in his room he had only a minute to pull off his clothes in the darkness and jump

into bed, for he heard his father up. He put the covers over his head to silence his quick breathing.

The door opened. "Rob!" His father called. "We have to get up, son, even if it is Christmas."

"Aw-right," he said sleepily. The door closed and he lay still, laughing to himself. In just a few minutes his father would know. His dancing heart was ready to jump from his body. The minutes were endless -- ten, fifteen, he did not know how many -- and he heard his father's footsteps again. The door opened and he lay still.

"Rob!"

"Yes, Dad--" His father was laughing, a queer sobbing sort of laugh.

"Thought you'd fool me, did you?"

His father was standing by his bed, feeling for him, pulling away the cover.

"It's for Christmas, Dad!"

He found his father and clutched him in a great hug. He felt his father's arms go around him. It was dark and they could not see each other's faces.

"Son, I thank you. Nobody ever did a nicer thing--"

"Oh, Dad, I want you to know -- I do want to be good!"

The words broke from him of their own will. He did not know what to say. His heart was bursting with love. He got up and pulled on his clothes again and they went down to the Christmas tree. Oh what a Christmas, and how his heart had nearly burst again with shyness and pride as his father told his mother and made the younger children listen about how he, Rob, had got up all by himself.

"The best Christmas gift I ever had, and I'll remember it, son every year on Christmas morning, so long as I live."

They had both remembered it, and now that his father was dead, he remembered it alone: that blessed Christmas dawn when, alone with the cows in the barn, he had made his first gift of true love.

This Christmas he wanted to write a card to his wife and tell her how much he loved her, it had been a long time since he had really told her, although he loved her in a very special way, much more than he ever had when they were young. He had been fortunate that she had loved him. Ah, that was the true joy of life, the ability to love. Love was still alive in him, it still was. It occurred to him suddenly that it was alive because long ago it had been born in him when he knew his father loved him.

That was it: Love alone could awaken love. And he could give the gift again and again. This morning, this blessed Christmas morning, he would give it to his beloved wife. He could write it down in a letter for her to read and keep forever.

He went to his desk and began his love letter to his wife: My dearest love... Such a happy, happy Christmas!

THE END



*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**

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 56 Alberta Vintage, Modified, Street Rod and 4-wheel Clubs, in Alberta, representing 2000 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 (2024)

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

Something For The Chefs In Our Lives
Chocolate Marshmallow Puffed Wheat Squares

yield: 15-20

prep time: 10 MINUTES

total time: 10 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS - FOR THE PUFFED WHEAT SQUARES:

- 1/2 cup of butter, plus more for greasing pan
- 1/2 cup corn syrup
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 10 large marshmallows
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 8 and 1/2 cups puffed wheat

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Grease a 9x13 pan with butter and set aside.
2. In a large (8-quart) pot at low heat, melt the butter.
3. Add corn syrup and brown sugar. Mix well.
4. Add the marshmallows, stirring frequently until the marshmallows are almost completely melted.
5. Stir in the cocoa powder and vanilla extract, incorporating the ingredients well.
6. Remove the pot from the heat and add in the puffed wheat.
7. Stir to coat the puffed wheat with the rest of the ingredients before turning it out into a

9x13 pan.

- 8. Using your fingers, gently press the mixture down to form an even layer in the pan (don't press down hard).
- 9. Let cool and cut into portions. Serve and enjoy.

2024 Members

Darry Anderson	
Laurence Anderson	
Richard & Margaret Densmore	
Dan Fisher	
John & Madeline Kitz	
Denise Komick	Honorary Life
Orest Lazarowich	Honorary Life
Ron Reese	
George & Velma Sample	
Bill & Sylvia Smolak	Honorary Life
Jerry Wilde	Honorary Life

Richard & Sylvia Marchenko and Ryan Sturrock are members for 2025



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: _____

