

Annual Boothe Memorial Park & Museum Antique & Classic Car Show

By Ann Minton and Gwen Ackley, volunteers of Friends of Boothe Park

It's back! After an interlude because of the pandemic, the Port Five Naval Veterans return this year on Sunday, May 15th with their annual car show at Boothe Memorial Park & Museum in Stratford, CT. The car show begins at 9 am and is \$15 per show vehicle. Port Five is now under the command of Jim "JB" Bogos who along with the Officer of the Deck, John Buehler, and many veteran volunteers are running the event. Best of all, public admission is FREE!

We all look forward to Spring with its longer daylight, milder weather, and colorful flowers. It's great to get outdoors again in beautiful surroundings. What better place for activities with family and friends than at Boothe Memorial Park and Museum on its Opening Day weekend.

Opening Day honors the birthday of David Beach Boothe, who, along with his brother Steven, owned the Stratford estate. The Visitor's Center in the East Barn has a wonderful video previewing the many highlights to be seen at the park and museums. A timeline of the family's history in Stratford and their accomplishments is displayed on the interior walls.

There will be tours of the Boothe homestead museum, set at the turn of the century with many items owned by the Boothe family still in place. In addition, many of the unique buildings will also be open including the clock tower, carriage house, Americana Museum, planetarium, windmill, trolley station, chapel, model train museum, and a working blacksmith shop. Local student art exhibits and other activities round out the selections for all ages.

To start the day, DJ Seth Carley will be spinning some great oldies. In the later afternoon, the music will continue with a lively concert by the Stratford Community Band until 4 pm.

Enjoy delicious hot food available for both breakfast and lunch provided by the Port Five Naval Veterans. The Ladies Auxiliary will provide culinary delights with a bake sale along with having a basket raffle with terrific prizes.

At noon the park celebrations commence with a military flag raising ceremony. Military groups and Veterans are invited to attend with their

families; they are our true heroes of today. Join a tribute ceremony with Color Guard with a live performance of the National Anthem by singer Karen Milosky. Honor your families' veterans by enjoying a fun-filled day together reminiscing, and creating new memories to cherish.

Feast your eyes on the unique variety of vehicles that display on the South grass lawn of the park. Relive your past through the decades of stunning cars in pristine condition. Marvel at exotic super cars and Concours d'Elegance beauties. Experience a fabulous exhibit of automotive history in cars, trucks, service vehicles, and military vehicles. Reminisce days gone by in viewing interesting nostalgia such as Ford Model T's, Model As, and Packards.

This year's car show will be judged by a team of judges due to the increasing size and prestige of the event. In order for a vehicle to be eligible for judging, it must arrive early and stay throughout the event. There are a large number of field trophies to honor the winners. There also will be both prestigious and memorial awards; the Richard Iannucci Best in Show Trophy, Best Antique, Best Paint, Best Ford, Best Mopar, Best GM and Best Truck trophies.

The first 200 car owners will receive a dash plaque and a goody bag. All Car Clubs are welcome with no cut off year. There is no rain date; the show is held rain or shine. \$15 for show vehicles. The museum activities are open from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and the car show hours are from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Entrance to the park and the car show are free and open to the public. Boothe Park is located at 5744 Main Street Putney in Stratford. Bring the family to the Opening Day events to be held on May 15, 2022 from 9 am to 4 pm.

For information, ad book and trophy sponsorships please go to:

<https://www.portfiveusa.com/carshow>

For additional information please call John Buehler at 203-650-2009. For more photos from past years' shows, go to:

<http://www.ctseaportcarclub.com>