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# Connecticut *Cruise* NEWS

New York, New Jersey & Massachusetts *Cruise* NEWS

The Region's Most Diversified Motorsports Publication — Motorcycle, Automotive, Entertainment and more...

**Special Year in Review \* Springfield Auto Swap Special Issue**

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# A Year in Review with the CT Seaport Car Club – 2025

Story and Photos by Lissa Seeberger  
Director, CT Seaport Car Club  
georgelissa@optonline.net

This has been another excellent year for the CT Seaport Car Club! It was our 16th Anniversary.

One of the most standout occurrences was that we had a record attendance at our June car show at Fairfield Ludlowe High School of 264 show cars and about 1,000 spectators. This year the weather cooperated at our new location and the turnout was impressive. We received a tremendous amount of support from the Town of Fairfield once again, News 12 covered our show again, and Hello Neighbors ran an article on our show, as did several other online news publications, including Fairfield HamletHub and RIDE-CT.

Additionally, our membership base keeps growing larger and larger, we were recognized by the Town of Stratford with an award for helping them with a parade, and we moved our Fairfield cruise to a much more popular location at Elicit Brewing Company, where we get about 50 cars showing up on a Thursday night.

Furthermore, we helped at 3 other car shows, marched in 4 parades, and put on 12 cruises. Best of all, we donated the highest amount ever in our club's history to our charity, Operation Hope, and had so much fun doing it all!

Thank you to the members of the CT Seaport Car Club and all the other car enthusiasts who helped or attended one of our many events this past year! The support and camaraderie are such a highlight. You make this Club great! And thank you to Don Clady for his support with publicizing our car show.

We have a whole host of events planned for 2026, including our main event, the 10th Annual Antique and Classic Car Show, which will be on Sunday, June 7th, 2026 at Fairfield Ludlowe High School's back parking lot. Once again, the show will feature a live band, Jukebox 45 Show Band, a dog demonstration by the Fairfield Police K9 Unit, and there will be a blessing of all the show cars by a Jesuit Priest. Please mark your calendars!

Check out our new website for a full list of our upcoming events in 2026 at [www.ctseaportcarclub.com](http://www.ctseaportcarclub.com). Thank you!

**Hope to see you in 2026!**



# A Year in Review with the CT Seaport Car Club – 2025



# Well Deserved Awards

By Gwen Ackley

Photos by Henry Kutash, Mark Milosky and Parker Ackley

It is rare to have a car club resident who volunteers so much time, energy, and resources to promote the car collecting hobby, whose passion has inspired and motivates others. Rarer yet is to have this position filled by a woman. To make this person extra special, she also owns, drives and maintains a very original 1926 Ford Model T.

Connecticut Seaport Car Club has been blessed to have such a person. Her name is Lissa Seeberger. At the club's recent holiday party on December 7, 2025 at Brownson Country Club in Huntington, CT, club Treasurer Henry Kutash bestowed on Lissa a beautiful Award of Appreciation. The plaque reads:

Presented With Sincere Appreciation to  
**LISSA SEEBERGER**  
For your dedication, determination,  
Commitment, support and guidance to the  
CT Seaport Car Club  
These past four years as President  
You have made CT Seaport Car Club  
Number One in Connecticut,  
With record after records broken, CSCC  
Has been turned around, through  
Your hard work. Our Club has a higher  
Caliber, that other car clubs have to achieve.  
Thank you for your Love of Cars, Friendship,  
And Leadership in guiding our Club.  
**WELL DONE LISSA – WELL DONE**  
2025

Everyone in attendance stood and applauded after Lissa read the inscription. Afterwards, Lissa thanked all of the officers and many club members for their help during her years as President.

The final car club meeting for the year was held at the Port 5 facilities in Bridgeport, CT on December 17, 2025. A vote for board positions occurred at this meeting. Lissa changed her role from being President to being a Director. The Commander of Port 5, Dave Algarin, and the Executive Officer, Brian Turco joined the meeting to make a surprise presentation to Lissa. The plaque presented from Port 5 reads:

WITH OUR GREATEST APPRECIATION  
Presented to  
**LISSA SEEBERGER**  
In recognition of your hard work and dedication  
To the CT Seaport Car Club and continued support  
for the veterans of Port 5. During your tenure as  
President of the Car Club you have worked tirelessly  
To combat hunger and homelessness supporting  
Operation Hope. Additionally, your leadership and  
welcoming personality has strengthened the relationship  
between the CT Seaport Car Club and the Port 5  
Naval Veterans. You are part of the Port 5  
Family and will always be welcome here.  
The Port 5 National Association of Naval Veterans  
Bridgeport, CT  
December 2025

There was another standing ovation and round of applause for Lissa. The two plaques that she received are very well deserved. Congratulations also go out to the newly elected club officers: President Sal Sinardi, Vice President Matthew Kopnick, Treasurer Henry Kutash, Secretary Laura Rachinsky, Webmaster Dean Radcliffe, and of course, Director Lissa Seeberger. We are all looking forward to many more years of motoring fun with get togethers, cruises, and the annual car show at Fairfield Ludlowe High School, held this year on June 7 in 2026.



# CT Seaport Car Club Announces New Board

Story and Photo by

Lissa Seeberger

Director, CT Seaport Car Club

georgelissa@optonline.net

The CT Seaport Car Club is very pleased to announce the appointment of its newest Board Members for the 2-year term of 2026-2027. Six members of the club were sworn into office at the December 17th, 2025 monthly meeting at Port 5, the National Association of Naval Veterans, in Bridgeport. The new Board Members are (from left to right): Sal Sinardi (President), Matthew Kopnick (Vice President), Laura Rachinsky (Secretary), Henry Kutash (Treasurer), Lissa Seeberger (Director) and Dean Radcliffe (Webmaster).

Originally founded in 2009 by Mark Milosky and team, the CT Seaport Car Club is now in its 17th year. Lissa Seeberger was the 3rd President of the Club, the first female President, and she held the position for 4 years (2022-2025). Prior to Lissa, Dean Radcliffe was President for a 2-year term (2020-2021) and Mark Milosky was the President for the first 11 years (2009-2020).



When asked about his new post, Sal said "I'm honored to step into the role of President of the CT Seaport Car Club. Our focus is on preserving automotive history, growing participation, and strengthening the sense of community. Whether you own a classic or simply enjoy car culture, the CT Seaport Car Club is about bringing people together through a shared passion."

There are almost 150 car enthusiasts from Fairfield County on the roster of the very active CT Seaport Car Club. In addition to having monthly meetings,

the club has 2 cruises per month between May and October at either Elicit Brewing Company (111 Black Rock Turnpike, Fairfield on the first Thursday of the month) or Port 5 (69 Brewster St, Bridgeport on the third Thursday of the month), will have a major car show on Sunday, June 7th, 2026 at Fairfield Ludlowe High School, marches in the Fairfield Memorial Day Parade (Monday, May 25th, 2026), marches in the Southport Blessing of the Fleet (Saturday, June 13th, 2026), and helps out at several other car shows.

The first of our events in 2026 are the car cruise at Elicit Brewing Company on Thursday, May 7th, 2026 at 5:00-8:00pm and then Thursday, May 21, 2026 at Port 5 also at 5:00-8:00pm. These cruises have produced about 50 cars each on Thursday nights in the past.

If you're interested in becoming a member of this friendly group of car enthusiasts, please go to our website at [www.ctseaportcarclub.com](http://www.ctseaportcarclub.com) for a full list of upcoming events and a new member application. The club meeting are on the last Wednesday of each month, and all the dates are posted on our website.

**Looking forward to seeing you all in 2026!**



## The 33rd Annual Terryville Bug-A-Fair will be held on Father's Day June 21st, 2026 at the Terryville Lions Fairgrounds 171 Town Hill Rd. Terryville CT 06786 from 9am to 3:30pm.



Last year was our biggest turnout yet with 50+ campers Saturday night, 400 show cars, 80+ swap meet vendors, and over 1800 spectators on Sunday. Our best attendance ever!

Show car registration begins at 9am, judging starts sharply at 12 noon and awards ceremony will begin by 3:30pm. The show also has a huge swap meet with vendors selling new and used parts, toys, and t-shirts and automobilia. If you're looking for that special hard to find part or need to unload some of your extra VW stuff this is the place to be at!

There are 40 show classes with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards for both Air-Cooled and Water-Cooled VW's plus 21 Special Awards and Best of Show Trophies for Air-Cooled Stock, Air-Cooled Custom, and Water-Cooled.

Cars are judged using a point system based on condi-

tion of Exterior, Interior, Chassis/Pan, Engine, Trunk Area, and Display (optional). Please have your hoods and deck lids open for judges to get a good look at your VW. Convertibles, please have your tops up in closed position.

Breakfast, lunch, and beverages will be available for purchase all day Sunday provided by the Terryville Lions Club. All proceeds go to the Terryville Lions Club.

There's plenty of camping space available Saturday night for those who want to circle their wagen's. Fair-ground bathrooms will be available to campers throughout the night. All campfires must be contained.

Show Car and Driver	-----	\$20
Spectator Admission	-----	\$10
Camping per Vehicle	-----	\$20
Show Shirt	-----	\$20
Swap Space 20feet (Single Site on Sunday)	-----	\$30
*****Bug-A-Fair Rules*****		

\*All show cars must enter event under its own power. No car will be allowed in under tow, on a flat bed, or trailer. NO EXCEPTIONS!

\*No trailers will be allowed in the show car entrance. Please unload your show vehicle in the spectator parking lot area and drive your VW into the show. We need all the extra space we can get for the show plus it's for your safety and ours. Thank you for your cooperation!

\*Early Swap Meet set-ups Saturday Night. Vendors who want to set up the night before MUST ABSOLUTELY PREREGISTER with Bill Arute (860) 395-9964 or [bill@ctvwa.org](mailto:bill@ctvwa.org). Cost for early set up is \$100 for swap

space plus \$35 for camping (includes electrical hook up). No vendors after 9pm will be allowed in swap area. NO EXCEPTIONS!

\*Please do not drive into show field area Saturday afternoon as we are busy setting up the show. Please do not arrive before 2pm Saturday. The gate for campers and early vendors will open at 2pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

There is no selling on the show field do not put items for sale out near your vehicle a swap space must be bought to sell in designated area.

-----Frequently Asked Questions-----

\* Friendly leashed dogs are permitted but must be tended to. Please pick-up after your pooch!

\* Entrance to show is cash only but food may be purchased electronically, a ATM is onsite

\* Camping area gate will open Saturday afternoon at 2pm. Please do not show up before then. DO NOT DRIVE INTO THE SHOW FIELD AT ALL ON SATURDAY! Lions Club will by Saturday evening to collect camping fee, \$20 per vehicle.

Special thanks go out to the Terryville Lions Club for all their help running this event and supporting the VW hobby over the last 32 years!!! All show proceeds go to the Terryville Lions Club and their local charities.

For more information, please contact Bill Arute Show Director (860) 395-9964 or [bill@ctvwa.org](mailto:bill@ctvwa.org) or Jeff McBride [jeff@ctvwa.org](mailto:jeff@ctvwa.org) or Chris Fox [chris@ctvwa.org](mailto:chris@ctvwa.org)

# The Legend of The Blown Hearse



Any of you who have attended our event in the past 20+ years have seen this car parked in the same place in the center of the show year after year. Many of you know the story behind that but for those who may not, the car and the history behind it are connected to the founder of our event, the late Terry Hawley. Since its involvement with the show, most of us now also have a connection to it and to its owner, Dick Doyle of Plymouth.

But what most may not know is that the current Blown Hearse is a street version of the original Blown Hearse, a legendary drag racing car from over 60 years ago.

A documentary has been created showing the history and the evolution of the Blown Hearse through old photos

and clips of the original car during the formative years of drag racing and continues up to the current day version that is a mainstay of our event. The documentary, "Legend of The Blown Hearse", is due to be available on YouTube on January 7th.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dick for all that he has done for our event and to wish him an early Happy Birthday, the day on which he will be shown the film for the first time. Just to make it even better, the documentary was created by his grandson, Owen Doyle.

This should be a great story about a passion for cars blended with a love for family and friends. Take a look at the documentary along with us when it's available next week. Enjoy!



Thank you Dutchess Cruisers who donated to Mental Health America of Dutchess County Food Pantry to benefit our Veterans.



From our cruise night raffles and on-line fundraiser, the Southeastern Connecticut Mustang Club raised \$3100 for Connecticut Children's Medical Center this year.



In June, the Connecticut Seaport Car Club hosted its 9th Annual Antique and Classic Car Show at Ludlowe High School. It was a beautiful day to enjoy the stunning cars, live entertainment and more. We are honored that proceeds from this year's event once again benefited Operation Hope's efforts to end hunger and homelessness, one person at a time. Pictured here is the CT Seaport Car Club's Board presenting Operation Hope's Executive Director Carla Miklos with a check for \$6,000 at the club's monthly meeting on August 27. It was the largest donation ever made by the car club, and all members present felt very proud of this accomplishment. Pictured from left to right: CT Seaport Car Club Treasurer Henry Kutash; Vice President Dave Stilson; Webmaster Dean Radcliffe; Secretary Laura Rachinsky; President Lissa Seeberger; Director Sal Sinardi; and Operation Hope's Executive Director Carla Miklos.

Many thanks to the generosity of CT Seaport Car Club and its Board and members, all of the event sponsors – Danbury Dodge Jeep Kia; Joe Pramer and Rick Krollman of Morgan Stanley in Fairfield; Z2 Motorsports; MGM ATM Service & Supply - Fairfield HamletHub; ConnectFairfield CT; the Town of Fairfield, CT; Fairfield Parks and Recreation; Fairfield Police Department - Connecticut; the car entrants; Jukebox 45 Show Band; and attendees. We are grateful for all of you, and especially to the CT Seaport Car Club, as together, we continue to fight to end hunger and homelessness, one person at a time.