

The 2024 New Hope Automobile Show

New Hope-Solebury High School
New Hope, Pennsylvania
August 10 & 11, 2024

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1969 Chevrolet COPO Camaro

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Letter from the New Hope Automobile Show Committee

Welcome to The New Hope Automobile Show.

2024 marks the end of production for the Chevrolet Camaro. To mark this momentous event, we're paying tribute to this automotive icon. Our poster car this year is a 1969 Chevrolet COPO Camaro owned by Mike Lamond of Warrington. Mike was kind enough to share this beautiful car with us for our poster and program book. It will be on display on the show grounds both Saturday and Sunday, so be sure to see it while you walk the show.

Once again, we want to thank everyone who contributed to making this annual event happen, including our sponsors, auto dealerships, vendors, advertisers, and volunteers. Most of all, we thank the show car owners and spectators who return each year to support our fund-raising efforts. The money raised at our show helps the people of our community in countless ways. You make possible everything we do. Thank you!

– The New Hope Automobile Show Committee
 and the Board of New Hope Helping.



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2024 NEW HOPE AUTOMOBILE SHOW

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The New Hope Automobile Show is presented by the New Hope-Solebury Community Association, DBA New Hope Helping, a 501(c)(3) organization.

P. O. Box 62, New Hope, PA 18938
(215) 862-5665 | newhopehelping.org

New Hope Helping News

New Hope Helping awards six scholarships.

Since its founding in 1949, The New Hope-Solebury Community Association (now New Hope Helping) has contributed over \$1.7 million to the community to fund educational needs for students in the school district and to provide scholarships to New Hope-Solebury High School graduating seniors.

This year we gave scholarships to the six outstanding New Hope-Solebury High School seniors pictured below.

In 2023, New Hope Helping took a giant step toward its expansion into helping with not only education, as our history shows, but also assistance in matters of health and relief.

We are an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) charitable organization that welcomes volunteers who want to give their time and talents to improve the lives of everyone living in this thriving community.

Take some time to read a bit about us on our website, and consider becoming a volunteer to help us plan future fundraising events.

newhopehelping.org

Scholarships awarded.

2024 scholarship recipients:

New Hope Helping Steve Buck/Hardy Bush Scholarship recipient of \$7,500:
Madie Thistlewaite

New Hope Helping Scholarship recipients of \$5,000 each:

Isabella Genuardi
Hannah Mandel
Mia Patino
Jack Pellegrino-Paul
Brooks Aaron Saft



Visit our website at www.soleburytwp.org and click on Parks & Recreation under the Government tab at the top of the page to explore our great park facilities, recreation programs and special events!



Shown here at the awards ceremony, l to r: Madie Thistlewaite, Isabella Genuardi, Brooks Aaron Saft, Jack Pellegrino-Paul, Mia Patino, and Carl Glassman, New Hope Helping board member. Not pictured, Hannah Mandel.

Cars, concerts, golf, tennis, and more.



In addition to The New Hope Automobile Show, Cars & Coffee, and the Road Rally, New Hope Helping presents a variety of events including our New Hope Concert Series, USTA Youth Tennis Tournaments, and the Steve Buck/Hardy Bush Memorial Golf Tournament.

The New Hope-Solebury High School needed a gymnasium. It was 1949 and a group of local residents formed the New Hope-Solebury Community Association to address the need, and by 1953, with funds raised by the Association, the gym was built.

Today, 75 years later, our name has changed to New Hope Helping, though our mission remains dedicated to helping our greater community. Assistance to residents and small businesses affected by natural or economic challenges, contributions to charitable organizations throughout the region including Fox Chase Cancer Center, scholarships for young students to pursue their academic or trade skills, and many community

projects, including our financial assistance to other local charitable groups, have all come to fruition.

Our new name, New Hope Helping, asserts our reaching out farther and further than ever into our community. And it brings with it new ways to connect with our community via cultural events, sports, music, and more.

Our free outdoor Summer Concert Series fills the night with music at the high school campus and at special sites within New Hope throughout the summer. Earlier this year we held our third annual USTA-sanctioned Youth Tennis Tournament, and our Steve Buck/Hardy Bush Memorial Golf Tournament. These events allow New Hope Helping to pursue its

mission and obligation to helping the community.

Of all the activities created by New Hope Helping, our longest-running event, The New Hope Automobile Show, remains our most visible, important, and successful effort. The show has become a Bucks County tradition and has raised nearly \$2 million for scholarships and other community projects and organizations.

New Hope Helping is a nonprofit organization that relies on local residents, businesses and other non-profit organizations to help make our area a great place to live. If you'd like to get involved, you can learn more at newhopehelping.org, or call us at 215-862-5665. ■



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THE RARITY OF THE COPO CAMARO

The COPO Camaro is a specialty vehicle, initially created by dealers using a loophole in the order sheet mechanism to outfit cars in a specific way. COPO stands for Central Office Production Order. This was a way to provide your Camaro with racing components not available on the regular dealer order sheet.

| Continued on the next page



Our 2024 Poster Car

In this way, you could get a Camaro with 425hp, in a 427 cubic inch engine. The result was a powerful, street-legal machine that exceeded expectations and has become a coveted vehicle among collectors. Assembled in 1969 as the ZL-1 COPO Camaro, the car was a product of Chevy's special-order system, a method used by dealers during the 60s that allowed them to create high-performance vehicles that were not otherwise available. General Motors mandated their biggest engines (more than 400 ci) could not be installed in any of their mid-sized cars like Camaros (or Chevelles, or Novas.)

In 1969, a few clever dealerships, including Baldwin Motion, Nickey, Yenke Chevrolet, and Fred Gibb Chevrolet, found a way to circumvent the GM edict (see below) and order a more powerful automobile, by ordering Camaros using the Central Office Production Order (hence the name COPO), which was generally reserved for adding alterations to municipal fleets.

Using Central Office Production Orders 9561 and 9560, a total of just 1,015 COPO Camaros were produced, with 201 going to Yenke. Because these machines were produced in obvious small numbers, often used for racing, and unimagined as future collector's items, they are scarce, especially in "stock" (as delivered) form, so those that are tend to be extremely valuable.

Our feature car is owned by Michael Lamond, a "Chevy guy," but more importantly, a "car guy." In love with cars, particularly muscle cars, from an early age, it is fitting that he own an extremely rare, numbers-matching, true restoration of the 1969 COPO Camaro. Through his ownership, the car has been completely restored to original specifications, and even sports the original manufacturer window sticker to verify its special-order equipment. Michael, as part of a three friend consortium in 2006, purchased the Camaro for the princely sum of \$2,000. He is

| Continued on page 12



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Our 2024 Poster Car

Continued from page 10 |

at least the third owner of the car, and possibly the fourth or fifth including his two close friends. At that time, the Camaro had been repainted maroon and sported Z28 badges. The second of the three owners next purchased it in 1995 and painted it black. By the time Michael had a chance to purchase the Camaro it had passed through the second friend's ownership and another unknown owner, and it found its present home with Michael for the sum of \$6,500.

The Camaro was originally ordered by, and delivered to Malcolm Kormer Chevrolet of Paramus NJ, significant because local Chevy dealer Don Yenko ordered fully one-fifth of all COPO Camaros of that era. Among the items included in this COPO order are the 427 cid/425 hp engine in the #9561 package, and the #9737JD, which is the sports car "conversion" package that includes 15" x 7" tires, larger diameter anti-sway bar, and 140 mph speedometer.

Michael began collecting parts for the restoration in 2006 and completed the car in 2016. He estimates that he invested approximately 3,000 hours in body and mechanical



work to restore the COPO car. The engine has been rebuilt, but not restored, at least twice, resulting in a slightly wilder cam than the original configuration. The body has been sprayed with the original factory color, #5050 Dover White as part of the restoration, with "medium red vinyl trim" for the interior (aka white over red).

When you see this 1969 Camaro, you cannot detect anything rare or mysterious about it. There are no radical scoops or bulges, badges or exotic colors, or even wild wheels or tires, though it does have the DL2 cowl induction hood with an air damper. Only devout muscle car fans, or fans of the COPO cars, will realize and appreciate the rarity of this Camaro, one of 1,015, with tire-shredding performance. It is valued at over \$100,000, but one suspects at auction or the open market, it could bring at least twice that.

Michael's Camaro is rarely, if ever, driven and is stored in a secure climate-controlled garage. He cherishes his stewardship of the car and plans to keep it and hand it down to his children, or alternatively, to be buried in it, indicating his love for the car. ■



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The Chevrolet Camaro. A history.



1968

The first-generation Camaro went on sale on September 29, 1966, for the 1967 model year, approximately two years after the Ford Mustang's enormous success, which established the so-called Pony Car class.

Small, lightweight, sporty, and infinitely configurable, this class of cars easily lent itself to individual style and personality. The Camaro's late arrival as the third such Pony Car (the Plymouth Barracuda actually appeared before the Mustang) meant that it was more a conformer than trailblazer.

Chevrolet merchandising manager Bob Lund and General Motors vice president Ed Rollett named the car after finding the word "camaro" in the French-English dictionary stating that it was slang, to mean "friend, pal, or comrade." The accepted French word with the closest meaning is "camarade," from which the English word "comrade" is derived.



Some might submit that this was not a competitive image to a muscular and wild horse, but most do not know the origin of the name.

There have been six generations of Camaros with a pause in production of some seven years after the fourth generation. A fifth generation was introduced as production began on March 16, 2009, lasting until 2015, whereupon the sixth and final generation arrived and lasted until the 2024 model year, with production ending in December 2023. It can be assumed that a future Camaro is a possibility, given the car's history.



2007

Photos by Michael Furman .



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Summer For Seniors Fundraiser



This summer, New Hope Helping is conducting a matching-funds initiative to benefit area senior citizens.

New Hope Helping recognizes the many needs of our area senior citizens to help them pay for rent, electric, gas, heating fuel, transportation, and more.

This summer, New Hope Helping is teaming up with the Gene and Marlene Epstein Humanitarian Fund to raise money to help the seniors living in our communities.

Gene and Marlene Epstein have pledged to match all the funds we raise, up to \$25,000 for this special initiative. ■

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THANKS TO OUR JUDGES

Our show would not be possible without our volunteer judges who show their integrity and professionalism every year. Thank you!



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The 2024 Road Rally

by Ern Valtri

A beautiful day for a ride in the country.

What was needed? A street legal car, two people, and a pen and paper probably came in handy too.



Drivers line up for the big send-off.

Forty-one cars participated in our event this year, all seemingly enjoying the challenge despite the occasional, inevitable wrong turn, backtracking, or missed clue.

Our New Hope Helping Road Rally is a blend of casual driving and a scavenger hunt. With some keen observing, a bit of problem solving, and a little good luck slipped in, we have our 2024 winners!

Darlette Jenkins and her navigators Jenn Belmont and Aimee Anastasia finished in **first place**, correctly answering every single clue. Nice job!

Finishing in **second place** were Cindy McHenry and Scott Schied, just one correct answer behind our winners. Also on the awards podium was our **third place** team of John Scarpiello with his navigators Nancy and Meghan Scarpiello. Of course, winning isn't the entire story. As

is our treasured tradition, driver Fred Meseck and navigator Kim, arriving in **last place**, won the coveted Wooden Spoon for their persistent effort, boundless determination, and innumerable smiles. By Rally's end, everyone was smiling and recounting fun stories from their adventure.

Cars of all kinds are always welcome. Participants this year, from a 1971 Beetle

to a classic Mercedes Benz 190SL, eagerly started off in one-minute intervals, looking for fun and success. While the drivers kept their eyes on the road, the navigators read (okay, maybe sometimes "interpreted") the intriguing list of clues, helped spot landmarks, and solved a few creative, fun tasks along the way.

Even though most entrants have been living nearby for years, after the event, many described new sites, landmarks, tree-lined country roads or secluded public places they otherwise were unaware of.

Thanks to Jeff Jacobs of the Sports Car Club of America, Philly Chapter for assisting our Road Rally. As one of their authentic, official events, the SCCA ensures safety standards for the cars and the route.

One hundred percent of the entry fees will enhance New Hope



1st Place Winners: Jenn Belmont and Darlette Jenkins



2nd Place Winners: Scott Shied and Cindy McHenry



Last Place Winners: Fred and Kim Meseck

Helping's ongoing efforts to address the health, education, and relief needs of our community. While enhancing New Hope Helping's charitable goals, everyone also felt like a kid again... having fun! ■

Thanks to everyone who made our show possible.

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Golf for a good cause.

For the 29th year, the Steve Buck/Hardy Bush Memorial Golf Tournament teed off at the Makefield Highlands Golf Course with 132 golfers gathering to honor the legacies of Steve Buck and Hardy Bush. The tournament raised \$5,700 bringing the total raised throughout the years to \$150,000.00.



This year's winning foursome was Mike Nocar, Marc Currie, Andrew Zambella, and Matt Hartigan.

Congratulations to the winners, and all the golfers and sponsors who made this year's tournament a success.

Ken Isler congratulates Mike Nocar on his team's win at the 2024 Steve Buck/Hardy Bush Memorial Golf Tournament.

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