



A bit of extra money, a chance to buy to the car of his dreams and a desire to help other car lovers is part of the inspiration behind [MaritimeClassicCars.com](http://MaritimeClassicCars.com).

In 2002, Steve Cooper had been downsized out of his job of 20 years. He received a settlement and put some of it away to buy a classic car when the right one appeared.

“In the past as a teenager, I owned a 1972 Challenger and a 1973 Dodge Duster,” he says. “I wasn't looking to capture the glory years but was genuinely interested in the classic car scene.”

He eventually found another job but it wasn't until 2007 that he found that special vehicle, a '78 Nova in the Liverpool area.

“Now that I finally found my classic car, I started having questions about what classic car clubs were out there, what and when were the shows that I could attend? Where would I get my service done, where can I purchase parts for my classic car?” Lots of questions but Cooper soon realized that if he wanted the most up-to-date answers, he had to take on the project himself. With a background in website design, Cooper knew he was the person for the job and [MaritimeClassicCars.com](http://MaritimeClassicCars.com) was born.

It wasn't long before classic car lovers and organizations across the Maritimes began contacting him with information for the website.

“After the first year we had about 1,500 visitors monthly during the peak summer months.,” he says. “Not bad for our first year. “

By 2009, the site had expanded to almost 200,000 web pages viewed and Cooper began marketing the website. By Christmas Day of 2010, the site reached one million web pages viewed.

Today, the site has expanded to include Newfoundland and people now approach them with event information.

“This year we have added a new functionality to the website which will allow people to list classic car parts that they have for sale or are looking for.,” he says. “We are hoping that this will make it much easier for people to find that hard to find part to help complete their restoration of their classic. Our next venture is to create an on-line registration capability for classic car event organizers. “

Cooper says the website is not an economic sure thing and was never set up with that intention. But it does help car lover's link with the objects of their desire and for Cooper, that's compensation enough.

“Classic cars are a passion like any other hobby,” he says. “I don't think you can describe the feeling of a particular passion and the rush it gives you... you just can't put it into words.”

[Elizabeth Patterson](#)  
Contributing Writer