

Rocket Rumbblings

Newsletter of the New England Oldsmobile Club

Home of the 2010 Oldsmobile Club of America National Meet

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WWW.NEOLDS.COM

Edited by Jim Schmitz

July/Aug 2011



Fifteen shows and still going strong!

club and everyone who helps out should be proud of their efforts.

Again this year, we will have our well received Show Booklet. With the economic times affecting just about everyone, our goal is to maintain the success level of the Show Booklet. This is where each member can play an integral role by soliciting just one ad.

For those who donate to the booklet they will have a great source to advertise their business. What better way to introduce your business than to have it permanently displayed, and in the hands of those who can relate to it. For the NEOC it will allow us to put on a quality show and maintain our donation level to the **SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN**.



We're also going to keep the pricing we had in 2009. A donation of \$100 will be recognized with a full page display. \$50 will be a half page and \$25 will be a quarter page. The inside front cover, the back inside cover and the back cover will be reserved for the first three donations of

Dates to Remember

- July 27-31 - OCA 2011 Nationals
Reno, NV
- Aug 4 - NEOC Mtg - Thursday 7 PM
Day's Inn, Berlin, CT
- Aug 7 - Main Street Show
Manchester, CT
- Aug 9-14 - Hot August Nights Car Show/Cruise
Reno, NV
- Sept 8 - NEOC Mtg - Thursday 7 PM
Mike Barillaro's - Kensington, CT
- Sept 11 - NEOC's 15th Annual All Olds Show
Sunday at The Days Inn
2387 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin CT
- Oct 6 - NEOC Mtg - Thursday 7 PM
Charlie Roy's - East Hartford, CT

\$200 or more. For those members who can't solicit any ads, they can contribute \$25 and have a picture of their pride and joy (Olds that is) displayed in the Show Booklet. This was a very well received feature of our Nationals magazine.

Letters have been sent out to each of our prior donors, some of whom you may have initially solicited. It would be a great help if you could follow up with them. Personal contact is always the best approach.

If you have any questions about the Show Booklet or need a copy of the form, you can call me at (203) 457-1459 or email at dragonflyfarm@att.net Prior Show Booklets can be used as an ice breaker when talking to a potential donor, so I'll bring a number of 2009's Booklets to the next meeting, or if you need them ahead of time, let me know and I will mail some to you. Thank you in advance for your help in making this car show as successful as the past ones. **RR**

June Meeting Minutes

By Larry Gagain

The June meeting was held at the home of Glen Morris in Wallingford CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM.

Old Business:

The meeting minutes of the May meeting were read by Larry Gagain. Business Cards are now complete and were distributed. The Event Coordinator position is still open...please contact any of the club officers if you are interested. We are looking for articles for the news letter...please forward to Jim Schmitz. Bill Black reviewed the treasurer's report.

New Business:

Club stickers – A quantity of (500) 2.5 inches were ordered. GMO Spring Dustoff...there was a total of 85 cars. Twenty Nine (29) Oldsmobile's attended Mark's Cruise Oldsmobile Night on June 6th. Larry Gagain took home 1st place with his '68 442. The club picnic was discussed...need a host and date.

NEOC Car show:

The group discussed the judging form and judging options (one judge vs. judging teams), getting hats for the judges was voted down, we are considering getting a one raffle prize specifically for judges.

Advertising...Bill Black and Mike Barillaro working but need more.

Clothing status and needs...John Lenihan and Basil Treco compared notes and came up with quantities of hats and shirts to get the supply up to where it needs to be for the show.

Raffle items... in addition to the standard array of item we typically have at the show, we are considering looking into having 1 big prize such as a flat screen TV. Please let Mike know what raffle prizes you have so he has an idea. You can also bring them to any club meeting or to the show.

Goodie Bags... As a 9/11 tribute we will have an American flag to included in each of the bags.

Food...As of this writing we have a new food vendor (1st one went out of business) and DJ lined up.

July meeting is to be held at Basil and RoseMary Treco's home in New Britain CT.

August meeting will be held at the Days Inn in Berlin CT. **RR**

My 50¢ - Change Back!

By Ed Palmieri

Hi Jim, I agree with your '50 Cents' column in the last newsletter. In fact, I wrote to Jerry Wilson after the Nationals in Sturbridge last year on this very subject. My letter to him was to urge him to take a position and the opportunity to look at OCA's mission statement. It says we are a club dedicated to "preservation" but seems to be more of one of "restoration". This "preservation" notion appears in every issue of JWO page 2.

I find it remarkable that we, as club members, drool over restorations that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars but are not representative of how the factory produced the cars. These cars should actually loose points for being over restored. But be damned if anyone has the courage to judge them accurately. I encouraged Jerry to open a new class for trailer queens and the \$100k plus club. This is easy; make it similar to the seniors division. They all participate against each other. Assuming the one with the cleanest trailer wins!! And gets a trophy so he can prove it to the next bunch of droolers.

I for one will not judge another event until the hobby is returned to the hobbyist nor do I want to sit through another buffoon judges meeting dwelling on overspray in fender wells----stop.

Jerry was nice enough to respond to my mailing a week prior to the April issue of JWO. He states in his article though, how Olds goal is to preserve *and restore* Oldsmobile's. Nice, but time to act and encourage not discourage new younger membership. Without endless pocket depth are we to believe younger members will be encouraged or discouraged to bring their car when their pride and joy is kicked to the curb by the "golden nuggets" rolling down the ramp???

So I support your thoughts and wonder if that's all they are. Does anyone *really* care??? I believe not. Hey I've been known not to drive the Olds much, but when the Olds is out, it's out.....just got back actually. Let's hear some more people with thoughts on this subject, it appears to be one raising more eyebrows than we may have thought. **RR**

The proceeding is a public service and is not necessarily the position of the NEOC but simply one of its members. We encourage ALL members to voice their opinions on matters affecting the club and our hobby.

Mark's Cruise Night

NEOC arranged an Oldsmobile night at Mark's Classic Cruise on Monday June 6th. With almost 30 Olds in attendance there was a nice selection of cars for the spectators to view. Mark your calendar next year and make sure you have your carb running good! **RR**

Joe Cool

From restored '50's thru the blown '80's, variety was the key word!

One ride is a hair blowing experience, the other a hair raising one!

Larry Gagain takes home the top Olds award.

President's Message

By Glen Morris

The GMO Spring Dust off car show is now history but it was a worthy show. We had a good turnout of NEOC members and were personally thanked and recognized by GMO President Dave Consoli and George Berejik for our support and attendance. In return, the GMO has pledged to support our upcoming 9/11 car show in Berlin CT.

Oldsmobile Night at Mark's Cruise on June 6th was another huge success. We would have had 30 Oldsmobiles in attendance except yours truly didn't bring an Olds. You see, shortly before this date I began to experience carb problems on the Ram-Rod and didn't want to risk driving it on the highway. The '69 had not been driven much and I didn't feel secure driving that either. (More on this later). But, we did manage to possibly recruit two new NEOC members and hand out over 15 flyers for our 9/11 car show. Larry Gagain was awarded Mark's King of Cruise for his beautiful triple black '68 442.

Speaking of our upcoming 15th annual Olds show, we have had our share of ups and downs through the planning phase. Our food vendor informed us that he was going out of business and didn't want to leave us hanging. In the meantime, an Italian ice vendor requested to be a part of our show. Mike Barillaro immediately followed up on the food vendor issue and as of this writing has a good alternate in mind. There has been a lot of discussion about judging criteria, raffles, sponsors, and goodie bags. Many good ideas have been presented and discussed at the monthly meetings. Do you have any new ideas? Try to attend the next couple of meetings and bring along your ideas. We will focus on the car show at these next two meetings.

While behind the scenes car show work was being done, I was still battling the carb issues with the Ram-

Rod. I was also pulled over by a Good Samaritan while driving my '69 one day and told that I had NO brake lights. Turns out, the Samaritan liked the car and used to own a '69 Cutlass many years ago! (Good thing I didn't take it to Mark's.)

So this retired(?) guy has been busy. I've spent hours doing internet research, reading service manuals (I had to be re-taught how to read), and making phone calls. Hopefully all my issues will be resolved by the time you read this. The point here though is the support I have received from NEOC members Dan Alessandrini, Dave Richter and even former member Carl Dudash throughout. Thanks guys!


So after I threw in the towel on the Ram-Rod for the 3rd time, I decided to take the trusty Intrigue out for a splash of gas. It hadn't been driven in a while pending my son's decision to take the car off my hands to replace his throw-away Hyundai. Well, the Intrigue went totally dead at the gas station. Several other Samaritans offered to help jump start the car to no avail. But they hung with me while awaiting AAA and spoke of their experiences with the 3.1 Intrigue starters.

I also received a phone call from John Appleby, an old time member of OCA from Rochester NY. He was interested in a 1970 98 for sale from Manchester and was asking if someone could save him the nine hour trip and look the car over. I contacted NEOC members Dennis Lumbr and Jim Reilly who live in the Manchester area. They BOTH offered to go out of their way and check on the car. Dennis took several videos and sent them along with a description to John. This helped John make his decision...he did not buy the car but was very appreciative of the efforts from NEOC.

Seems like these Olds Samaritans are everywhere and always willing to help. In the words of former OCA President Pat Yancey, "You meet some of the nicest people in an Oldsmobile". Better words have never been spoken.

See you all on the road.

Glen Morris NEOC President



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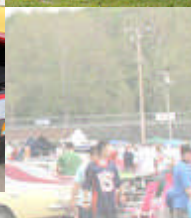
Hemmings Musclepalooza

Once again Hemmings held their Musclepalooza at Lebanon Valley Dragway in West Lebanon, NY. The weather attracted quite a crowd including quite a few nice Oldsmobiles.

There were quite a few racers that were running as well as some cars For Sale. If you've never had the opportunity, it is a great day to take a peek at some of the best muscle the northeast has to offer. **RR**



Plenty of '60s Olds muscle was in attendance!



Looking for a top down ride? This '68 was available.

There were quite a few Olds running down the strip all day!



How Cool are You?

by Dan Alessandrini

Since the 1980's, after my engine rebuild, I have had a cooling issue. To try and solve this issue I have installed a 4 core radiator, fan shroud, and have tried multiple fans, with no real change. It cools fine while cruising down the road, (runs about 180° with a 160° stat) but the minute you stop and idle on a hot summer day, you can watch the Temp Gauge climb. If I got caught in a traffic jam, it would definitely over heat.



So, what to do? Well the first thing I did was blame the radiator. A 1964 non air conditioned Cutlass has a down flow radiator with the inlet and outlet on the same side. I thought the coolant flowed too fast through the radiator and did not have enough time to cool. I was wrong. If your car is cruising down the road at the proper temp (depending on your stat) you have plenty of radiator.

After talking with many members of our club and the Pontiac club, I now know this is a very common problem. I had received the answer a few years ago from working with Evans Cooling on getting the proper flow. The result of my testing is best described in the June 2011 "Ask Ray" column of Hemmings Muscle Machines. Ray Bohacz shared some more of his knowledge concerning cooling systems and specifically coolant flow. To summarize, Ray said "you want your water pump pulley to spin 1.25 to 1.50 times faster than your crankshaft pulley". This is accomplished through different pulley sizes.

My results:

My '64 came from the factory with a 6 ¼ inch diameter crank pulley and a 7 ¼ inch diameter pump pulley giving you a lousy 0.86 ratio. Because the '64 used a one year only water pump, my selection of pulley's that fit was somewhat limited. I ended up with 7 ¼ inch crank and a 6 ¼ inch pump pulley, and a 1.16 ratio. Certainly a step in the right direction and a vast improvement at idle. It takes a longer time before the temp starts to climb, but it still does creep up somewhat and I would not want to get caught in a traffic jam on a hot day.

The closest combo to Ray's ideal ratio that I have found to date is what came stock on my '72 Supreme with A/C. It has an 8 inch diameter crank pulley and a 6 inch diameter water pump pulley for a ratio of 1.33, this is a 3 belt pulley. Last I checked Fusick did not sell these but maybe if we ask nice? Perhaps these sizes in a 2 belt pulley would help out those with cooling issues on their 900+ point show winners? If you are going to use a 3 belt pulley you may need a long shaft water pump (Fusick sells these also). **RR**

Member Information

by Ed Palmieri

Our current membership is currently around 60. We are typically short a few members around this time of year and pick some back up at the car show. As the membership coordinator I routinely scan over OCAs monthly "new Member" list and solicit them for membership in NEOC. We have welcomed several new members in the past few months.

Additionally membership cards are in the mail to all current members (well actually, mine's already here). You should see them soon, if you haven't received yours yet. Any issues or problems with your info let me know, I included my email in the envelope. This is my first shot at making this type of item and all in all it looks like they came out OK. We tried several different designs before settling for the version you received (its an OCA look alike for now). We tried using logos / plain / black and white and color and in the end we agreed to keep it simple. Of course its probably my ancient printer that gave me the most heartburn. The current plan is to reissue these yearly. So with that I hope they all arrived in good condition and don't forget to pay your 2012 dues early (helps make my life easier). Just do as I do and add it to the Holiday party payment envelope, sure makes it easy, one envelope one check-----done. **RR**

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Directions To The Next Couple of Meetings

The **August meeting** will be on **Thursday August 4th**, at the Day's Inn.

The Days Inn 2387 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin CT

From Hartford and points north/east: I-91 South to Exit 22N (Route 9 North). Follow route 9 North for 2.5 miles. Take Exit 22. Make a right turn at the light and follow signs for Route 15 South, Berlin Turnpike. Days Inn will be on your left side 3 miles down.

From the South: Take I-91 North to Exit 17. Stay in the left lane and follow signs to Berlin Turnpike, SR-15. The Days Inn is 3 miles on the right. **From the West:** Take I-84 East to 691 East. Take exit 8 for Rt-5 North. The Days Inn is 3 miles on the right.

The **September meeting** will be on **Thursday September 8th**, hosted by Mike Barillaro.

Mike Barillaro (860) 828-3812

228 Lower Lane, Kensington CT 06037.

Note: If you are using a GPS, you may have to use "Berlin" for town name instead of Kensington

From Hartford and points north: I-91 South to Exit 22N (Route 9 North). Follow route 9 North for 2.5 miles. Take Exit 22. At the bottom of the ramp (there will be a vacant car dealership to your left), take left onto Frontage Rd. Follow Frontage Rd to the end (approx 2/10 mi). At the traffic light, take left onto Webster Square Rd. Follow Webster Square Rd to the end (approx 3/10 mi). Take right onto Mill St. Follow Mill St (Becomes Farmington Ave) for 4/10 mi, to second traffic light. Take left onto Lower Lane. Follow Lower Lane for 4/10 mi. #228 will be the white house on the right.

From the South: Take I-91 North to Exit 22N for Route 9 North and Proceed as above.

From the East: Take I-84 West to I-91 South and proceed as above.

From the West: Take I-84 East to Exit 39A for Route 9 South. Follow Route 9 South for 7.5 Miles to Exit 23 for Christian Lane. At end of ramp take right onto Christian Lane and proceed to the second traffic light (1/2 mi). Take a left onto Farmington Ave. Follow Farmington Ave for 3/10 Mi to first traffic light. Take right onto Lower Lane for 4/10 Mi. #228 will be the white house on the right.

The **October meeting** will be hosted by Jean Roy on **Thursday October 6th**.

Jean Roy - (860) 568-4280

139 O'Connell Dr., East Hartford, CT

From the North, East and West;

From I-84, take Rout 2 south out of Hartford towards Norwich/new London. At SR-2 Exit 5C, turn off onto Ramp.

Turn LEFT (East) onto Maple St. for 1.0 mile. Turn RIGHT (South) onto Forbes St. for 0.2 mi. Turn LEFT (East) onto O'Connell Dr. and go 0.4 mi. to #139.

From the South;

From I-91 (North) get off at Exit 25-26, for CT-3 / Glastonbury / Old Wethersfield.

Merge onto SR-3 [Maple St] (North) for 1.4 mi. Turn off onto Ramp and proceed 0.3 mi to Main St / Glastonbury.

Turn LEFT (East) onto Glastonbury Blvd for 0.3 mi. Continue (East) on Griswold St. for 0.6 mi.

Turn LEFT (North) onto Prospect St for 0.4 mi. Continue (North) after Prospect turns into Forbes St for 0.2 mi.

Turn RIGHT (East) onto O'Connell Dr. Go 0.4 mi to #139

Rocket Classifieds

Wanted: 1969 Cutlass 2 door Hardtop

I am looking for a '69 Cutlass S, 2 door, hard top. With a 310hp 350 cu-in, 4-speed, bucket seats, console, power steering and brakes, Sable exterior, gold interior, reasonable mileage, clean driver or better condition. This is a pretty specific wish list, if you can come close, call me. This is the description of a car that I used to own a long, long time ago, and I would like to find another. Like many other owners, I'm sorry that I sold it. It was a great car.

Contact: Roy Nepveu 603-225-6733
12 One Stack Drive, Bow
New Hampshire 03304
rneveu@comcast.net

Club members are entitled to ONE free ad per issue. There is no charge for members. Insert a photograph for better results. Please submit ads by the 15th of the month. Email submissions are preferred, but snail mail is fine. If you need photos scanned and returned, please include a SASE..

To submit a classified ad:

Email: Jim70442w30@aol.com

Snail mail: Jim Schmitz 860-379-5221
24 Pioneer Dr.
New Hartford, CT 06057

For Sale: 1969 Cutlass differential (complete)

Drum to drum, 2.56 gears, non-posi. Worked fine when removed. Heck it's worth \$50 in parts alone!

Contact: Glen Morris 203-269-4365
gmorris01@aol.com

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