

Rocket Rumbblings



Newsletter of the New England Oldsmobile Club

Vol. 18

WWW.NEOLDS.COM

Edited by Jim Schmitz

Spring 2013

Spring 2013 - MIA?

More editorial 2¢

OK, we all made it through this winter with the snow and cold and now we can enjoy the nice moderate temperature and occasional rain showers associated with this time of year. Hmm, moderate temperatures? I'm just waiting for the mercury to stay above the freezing mark overnight. Yeah, maybe its just the northwest corner. No one told us we were buying into our own little microcosm of weather.

Last year I already had the W30 out and about in March, this year its still resting all snug in its cover. Those nice vinyl seat covers are not only hot in summer they are cold in the winter. No such thing as seater heaters in the 70's. Just 455 cubic inches to make heat for you.

This issue we have some new contributors to help get your oil flowing. Don Mucci is putting together a calendar of car shows and cruises. Its nice to have a 100 point show car to boast about in your garage, but its even nicer to have a car you can take to the cruise with your special lady (or you ladies can take your special guy). Or I guess to be more politically correct, your "significant other," that covers all the bases.

Important Dates to Remember

May 3 - Drag Day—Friday

Lebanon Valley Dragway - Lebanon, NY

Jun 6 - NEOC Mtg - Thursday 7 PM

Dean Franco - New Hartford, CT

Jul 20 - NEOC Annual Picnic

Don Mucci - Enfield, CT

See page 5 for Don's full listing of important dates!

In the next issue we plan to have the first column from Dean Franco and Steve Minore covering a variety of technical issues. Some will deal with restoration, others with day to day issues that you may encounter with your Olds.

With the price of gas slowly dropping and the sun staying out longer due to "Extended Daylight Driving Time" being in effect, you should have no reason to leave that classic Olds in the garage. There's no need for ice scrapers or heated seats, open the windows or go topless if you can.

All this is aimed at getting you and your car out of hibernation and out on the road, where they were designed to be! **RR**

Where were you in 1983?

As everyone knows, I have been a member of the OCA for over 30 years. And, I am a hoarder of old JWO newsletters from that time and to date. So I thought it might be interesting to look back into 1983 and see what was happening in the Olds world.

Were you aware that there used to be a "New England Chapter" of the OCA before NEOC? Manny Leitao headed this chapter in the late 70's and early 80's. But the chapter disbanded in 1983. How about our NEOC elder statesman, Bob Hellstrom. He was an OCA B.O.D. representative for the Northeast. Yes he was in 1983 and years prior to that!

OCA membership was around 4000, Newell Stuhlfaut was the President, and Dennis Casteale was the JWO newsletter editor in 1983. Dennis went on to write several Olds related publications including "The Cars

(Continued on page 5)

NEOC Meeting Notes

Meeting Minutes – March 2013

The March meeting was attended by 12 members and held at the home of John Lenihan in Holyoke MA. The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM.

Old Business

The group discussed whether Club insurance was needed. We had a guest at the meeting, Paul Brodeau, president of the Pioneer Valley GTO club who indicated their club only had office insurance as their events are covered by their parent club as well. Further discussion will take place on this.

Bill Black read the treasurers report.

For the 2013 Nationals the NEOC ad is ready and a check will be sent out.

Don Mucci reported Olds night at Mark's is confirmed for June 10th with a rain date of the 17th. Paul Brodeau handed out flyers and gave a presentation on the Pioneer Valley GTO car show, indicating this year they are featuring Oldsmobiles. A special section of the show field has been allocated for any and all Oldsmobiles so please bring your car to Feeding Hills MA on June 2nd. There is no rain date. The National Antique Oldsmobile Club (NAOC) will host a National's in Elmira NY on June 18-22.

New Business

The issues confronting the OCA have not been resolved...enough said about that.

NEOC Car show - The 17th annual car show will be



Sunday September 22 with a rain date of September 29th at the Day's Inn in Berlin CT. We are looking for committee heads and volunteers.

The April meeting will be held on Thursday the 4th @ 7 PM meeting and needs a host. The May meeting will be held on Thursday the 2nd at Larry Gagain's home in Somers CT.

Reported by Larry Gagain – Club Secretary

Meeting Minutes – April 2013

Larry decided he had something better to do than hang around with us as we pilfered Steve Minore's stash of Olds parts at this meeting. At first I was curious about the metal detector at the door to his basement, but then it started to make sense.

Somewhere I had notes, but not sure where I put them so suffice it to say we talked about some really important things and made the best possible decisions!

Oh yeah, after we changed a tire, I got to reminisce as I sat shotgun for a QUICK trip around the block in his W31!

Meeting Minutes – May 2013

The May meeting was attended by 7 members and held at the home of Larry Gagain in Somers CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

Old Business

Glen read the treasurers report in Bill's absence. For the 2013 Nationals the NEOC ad has been sent and paid for.

The GMO formally announced they will not host the 2015 Nationals.

The GMO spring dust off is on for Sunday May 19th at Kimall Farms in Lancaster MA. with a rain date of June 2nd.

Olds night at Mark's is confirmed for June 10th with a rain date of the 17th. Pioneer Valley GTO car show, featuring Oldsmobile's set for June 2nd. NAOC National's scheduled in Elmira NY on June 18-22.

NEOC picnic is scheduled for Saturday July 20 at the home of Don Mucci in Enfield CT.

New Business

NEOC Car show - The 17th annual car show will be Sunday September 22 with a rain date of September 29th at the Day's Inn in Berlin CT. We still need some committee heads and more volunteers.

The issue with the access road has been resolved. We will put a ¼ page ad in the ad book for the condo association.

Slight changes to the field layout were discussed...we will move the BIG cars to the outer rows.

The June meeting will be held on Thursday the 6th @ 7 PM at Dean Franco's home in New Hartford, CT. The July meeting will be held in conjunction with the club picnic on the 20th at Don Mucci's home in Enfield CT.

Reported by Larry Gagain – Club Secretary

Presidents Message

April 2013

Is it Spring yet? The calendar says so but as I write this it's a chilly 40 degrees and raining with a chance of sleet later in the day. But I did manage to do more work on the Ram-Rod the last few days when it was warm.

And to think, a few months ago, we woke up to this:

Yea, that's my GMC Yukon under 35" of snow!

So, a lot has happened recently and now the cruise and show season is on our doorstep instead of snow. As far as club business, I will fill you in on the past few months.

John Lenihan will now be handling our club merchandise. If you want to replace that old oil stained NEOC t-shirt or get a clean NEOC wax rag, contact John.

Jim Schmitz will now be writing a quarterly (or better)

newsletter depending on available material. Please provide Jim with articles or information to support our newsletter. Dean Franco and Steve Minore have partnered up to write a tech article series and are looking for suggestions from the membership. I will do my part to give Jim material also. (Look elsewhere in this newsletter for my gibberish).

I am still hanging in as the NEOC President but am open to offers for anyone who wants to train for this position. It's a great way to gray and thin your hair.

NEOC membership is fairly healthy at 64 paid up for this time of year. I believe this is good considering all the noise and issues that have befallen the OCA recently. As you all know, the NEOC has taken a neutral stand at this time. I am also trying to restrain Ed Palmieri from commenting!

The GMO officially remains a chapter of the OCA in order to retain their votes and have a say in future OCA elections. Dave Consoli has resigned as the Northeast zone director but remains President of the GMO. The bad news is that the GMO voted to withdraw from hosting the 2015 OCA Nationals in Massachusetts. I do not know what will happen in 2015 so stay tuned.

Don Mucci is working diligently on maintaining a list of shows and cruises and wants to get more participation from our members. There are several events coming up soon so please consider attending and let Don or myself know. It's a great feeling when several members in their Olds drive and arrive together at any event. A list of these events is in this newsletter.

Our own all Oldsmobile car show is scheduled for 9/22 and will be held at the Days Inn again this year. Mike Barillaro is always looking for volunteers so please let him know where you can help. Bill Black is also looking for ads for the show booklet so contact Bill if you have anything to offer. A show flyer is now available and will also be in this and upcoming newsletters.

There will be a lot more information shared in the upcoming months. Please try to attend one of our monthly meetings and provide your input. YOU are what makes this club work. Be there or be square.

(Now, where did I put the bumper bolts for the Ram-Rod.....)

Glen Morris



NEOC Test

(How much do YOU really know?)

- What does 442 stand for?
 - 4-barrel, 4-speed, dual exhaust
 - 4-barrel, 4-speed, 2 miles per gallon
 - 4 parts Gin, 4 parts vermouth, 2 parts 10W-30
- What is a W-31?
 - An optional performance package for the Olds 350 engine
 - WD-40 minus D-9
 - Slightly more viscous than W-30
- The new Oldsmobile model introduced in 1966 got the name "Toronado"...
 - From the Spanish for "no bull"
 - Because some GM exec misspelled "Tornado"
 - From its ability to go around in tight circles at over 200 mph when the front wheel drive malfunctioned.
- "NOS" refers to...
 - Not on straight
 - Used old parts with enough rust to hide the wear marks
 - Acronym for a Latin phrase which translates, "always over priced"
- "Synchromesh" is...
 - Design feature in a manual transmission to facilitate shifting
 - The kind of nylon stockings Linda Vaughn used to wear
 - Something that used to be in Dave Richter's transmission
- What is "compression ratio"?
 - The combined volume of the cylinder and combustion chamber with the piston at bottom dead center divided by the combined volume of the piston at top dead center
 - The overall length of a car divided by the overall length after you hit something
 - The thickness of the rug under the gas pedal of Larry Gagain's 442 at a red light divided by the thickness when the light turns green.
- "Drag racing" is...
 - form of auto racing that tests acceleration

- A contest to see who could smoke a cigarette the fastest
- What guys who drive fords do in dresses

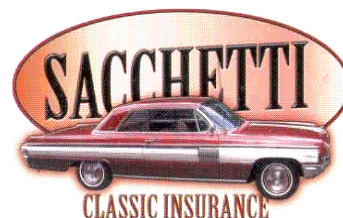
- The term "dump the clutch" refers to...
 - Quickly releasing the clutch in order to produce maximum acceleration
 - Replacing a manual transmission with an automatic
 - What you do about 15 hours after eating a clutch
- In an ad for a used car, the term "mint condition" means...
 - The vehicle is in excellent condition throughout
 - There's a peppermint scented stinky tree hanging on the mirror
 - The seller has poor vision
- What is "ignition"?
 - The electrical system which provides the timed spark at the spark plug
 - The actual process of lighting off the fuel/air mixture by the spark plug
 - A process for turning an insured piece of personal property, such as a car, into liquid assets

NEOC Cub Merchandise

We have the following club merchandise available;

- NEOC 40th Anniversary Nationals Magazine - \$5
- NEOC 40th Anniversary Show Plaque - \$5
- NEOC club logo window sticker - \$2
- NEOC t-shirts - \$15 (have 2XL, XL, L, M, S)
- NEOC denim shirts - \$20 (have XL only)
- NEOC polo shirts - \$20 (have XL, L)
- NEOC hats - \$10

Contact Glen Morris. , 203-269-4365



RICHARD P. SACCHETTI
TEL. 401-461-0600
FAX 401-781-1375
1-888-526-0900

Licensed in
RI, MA, CT, FL, NV

PO BOX 8230
845 POST RD.
WARWICK, RI
02888

www.sacchettiagency.com



Where were you? (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

of Oldsmobile" in 1981. OCA dues had been \$15 with no 1st class mail option until this year when dues went up to \$18.

The "Best Ever" Oldsmobile National meet was hosted by the IVOC 6/23-6/25 1983 (only a two day event back then). It cost \$5 for a family registration for this event. Some 400 cars and 100 vendors attended in 1983. This was also the first year requiring pre-registration for a National meet.

The "Gallant Men of Olds" (GMO) advertised a display at the 1983 Nationals. (I'm not sure if this was the original Eastern Massachusetts chapter?)

NEOC CRUZIN' CORNER

Listed below are some suggested cruises or shows you might be interested in:

MAY	3	Spring Drag Day, Lebanon Valley Dragway, NY
	5	Long Island and NYC Olds Club Spring Dust Off, Merrick Road, Merrick, Long Island
	18	Wheels of Wellesley Show, Wellesley, MA
	19	Eastern Massachusetts GMO All Oldsmobile Spring Dust Off, Kimball Farm, 1543 Lunenburg Road, Lancaster, MA
JUNE	2	Pioneer Valley G.T.O Club, Rt. 57, Southwick, MA (3 Oldsmobile Awards)
	10	Oldsmobile Night at Mark's Cruise Night, Granby, CT (Rain Date: TBA)
	16	17 th Annual Dream Cars for Kids Dreams Car Show, Solnit Childrens Center North, 36 Gardner St., East Windsor (Rain Date: June 23)
	23	Elm Bank Show, Rt. 16, Wellesley/S.Natick Line
JULY	23-27	OCA Nationals
AUGUST		See weekly cruises
SEPTEMBER	8	Long Island Cruzin for a Cure
	22	NEOC annual all Oldsmobile Car Show to benefit the Shriner's Childers Hospital, Berlin, CT (Rain Date: September 29)
	?	Fall Drag Day, Lebanon Valley Dragway, NY

WEEKLY SHOWS

Monday	Mark's Cruise Night, Granby, CT
Tuesday	East Windsor Trolley Museum, Rt. 140
Friday	Over The Hill Gang, Hooters, Berlin Turnpike
TBA	Berlin Pizza, Berlin Turnpike

Contributions to this list are welcomed! Please contact Don Mucci at 860-745-2284

The OCA by-laws were completely overhauled in order to maintain a no profit, tax exempt status for the club in 1983 and several issues of JWO were dedicated to this.

Now, how about some of these advertised cars and prices from 1983:

- 1968 H/O, 62k miles, CA car. \$5500.
- 1970 W-30, 50k miles, CA car. \$3500.
- 1965 Cutlass Conv. 330 4bbl, NC car. \$2500.
- 1970 W-31 SC car. \$4500.
- 1953 Super 88 2 dr. hardtop, 65k miles. \$2200.
- 1970 442 W-30, \$5995.
- 1968 442 4 speed, \$2600.
- 1970 Rallye 350, \$3995.
- ♦ 1972 442 W-30 4 speed. Restored, \$3500.

Don't you wish you could go back in time sometimes? Glen Morris

GMO Spring Dust Off

Once again the GMO hosted their Annual Spring Dust Off at Kimball Farms . Even under the threat of rain, they had quite a good showing!



Directions To The Next Couple of Meetings

The **June meeting** will be on **Thursday June 6th at 7 PM** hosted by Dean Franco in picturesque New Hartford, CT.

Dean Franco - (860) 460-2198

32 Shadybrook Road Extension, New Hartford, CT 06057

From Waterbury area

Take Rt 8 to Exit 44 for Litchfield Turnpike (Route 4 & 202). Turn right on Rt 202 (East) for 4.5 miles to Cedar Lane. Go left on Cedar Lane (North) right (North) follow Cedar lane for about 3/4 mile to Winchester Rd and take a right. Follow Winchester for 4/10 of a mile to Shadybrook Rd. and go left, then take a quick right onto the extension. The house is number 32 on the left.



From Bradley Airport (91 north of Hartford)

Take Rt 20 west (for approx 12 mi) to Rt 219, go left on Rt 219 (for approx 14 1/2 mi) through the town of New Hartford to Dings Road. Turn right (West) onto Dings Rd. for about 1/2 mile and then at the end make a left onto Maple Hollow Road for 1/10 of a mile and take the first right onto Winchester Rd. After about a 1/4 mile, take a right onto Shadybrook Rd. then a quick right to the extension. The house is number 32 on the left.

From Downtown Hartford

Follow 44 West (about 14 mi.) to Rt 202. Follow 202 left for approx. 6.4 miles to Cedar Lane and take a right (North) follow Cedar lane for about 3/4 mile to Winchester Rd and take a right. Follow Winchester for 4/10 of a mile to Shadybrook Rd. and go left, then take a quick right onto the extension. The house is number 32 on the left.



The **July meeting** will be on **Saturday July 20th** around 1 PM

The July meeting will coincide with our annual picnic at the home of Don Mucci in Enfield, CT.

OCA Nat's Update

Just a reminder need a room for the Nationals? call the Crown Plaza first, cancellations do come in, ask to speak with Darlene 217-585-2871 or you can call the Candelwood at 217-522-5100 their rooms are \$89 per night ask for the Olds club rate. The Residence Inn by Marriott should still have a few rooms as well. Call 217-527-1100 ask for the Olds Club National Rate also \$115 per night.

See you their, make sure you read the National up dates in JWO every month. We will have a shuttle bus to all parking lots for trailers and hosting hotels

Rich Barnas Co-Host 2013 OCA nationals

E & G Automotive

NOS / Used Oldsmobile Parts

EVERETT HORTON

ANTIQUOLDS@AOL.COM

Fax (401) 435-5580

Cell (401) 573-6361

54 Redland Ave.

Rumford, RI 02916-1215

Rocket Classifieds

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

New England Oldsmobile Club

Business Address:

77 West Dayton Hill Rd.
Wallingford, CT 06492-5324
Email: gmmorris01@aol.com

Membership Information:

77 West Dayton Hill Rd.
Wallingford, CT 06492-5324
Email: gmmorris01@aol.com

Newsletter Publication:

24 Pioneer Dr.
New Hartford, CT 06057
860-379-5221
Jim70442w30@aol.com

Executive Board:

President - Glen Morris
Vice President - Frank Tupka
Treasurer - Bill Black
Secretary - Larry Gagain
Membership Coordinator - Ed Palmieri
Activities Coordinator - Open Position



Oliver

Autobody Co., Inc.

1519 Dwight Street
Holyoke, MA 01040

Phone 413-532-9413

Fax 532 - 7218

Riley & Scranton Automotive Service Center, Inc.

Earl Bancroft - Manager Shelly Bancroft - President

**Complete Auto Repairs
Foreign & Domestic**

138 Welles St.
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Phone 860-633-3669
Fax 860-659-8459

To:

Place
Stamp



From:
New England Oldsmobile Club
24 Pioneer Dr.
New Hartford, CT 06057