

# Rocket Rumbblings

Newsletter of the New England Oldsmobile Club

*Home of the 2010 Oldsmobile Club of America National Meet*

Volume 13 Issue 3,4

WWW.NEOLDS.COM

Edited by Jim Schmitz

March/April 2008

## Insure for the right value!

As I opened my mail last month I saw the ever familiar logo of my classic car insurance. Yep, it was that time of year once again. As I opened the policy and read it I was thrilled that my premium had remained within \$10 of last year's premium. What threw me for a loop was the attached letter concerning the value of my cars.

While I often watch the auctions on television and the astronomical prices these cars command, I was not prepared for my insurance company informing me that the value of my vehicles had risen substantially and they suggested raising the policy value.

Now I can just see you sitting back and saying, "So what?" My insurance routinely advises me to raise the value of my car. Mine has also, but this year they were recommending a 150% increase in the value of my car. Yep, you saw that correctly, 150%! Now you can see why I was stunned.

The website they recommended I visit ([www.classicarvalues.com](http://www.classicarvalues.com)) lists most muscle and specialty cars from the 40's through the 80's and has quite a selection of option packages available to determine the worth of virtually any Oldsmobile that I knew enough about to look up.

For example they had the 4400 Series from 1970 ( the 442 series) in 18 different base configurations; Club Coupe, Sport Coupe, Convertible, 3 & 4 speed, automatic, W-30, OAI, Pace Car, etc.

I looked on line and found that the value they recommended I adjust my car to was slightly less than the 150% the insurance company recommended, it was well

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah, Hey, Hey, Good-Bye!

Well as another year passes, we must say goodbye to our fellow Olds lovers that have failed to keep either their NEOC dues or OCA dues current.

If you know anyone that starts complaining about the lack of a newsletter, ask them if they kept their dues current. If you are sitting there thinking, I haven't paid yet and are reading this, enjoy it because it will be your last!

Memberships in NEOC are still only \$20 for the year and OCA has a few plans available based on Journey with Olds delivery options. Go to our website, [www.neolds.com](http://www.neolds.com), click on "join" and then "NEOC application page 2" to get a copy to fill out and send to our club address. You can also find a link to OCA.

Also remember to get the newsletter electronically, you get it sooner, in color and can keep a copy on your PC, PDA or phone! **RR**

## Dates to Remember

April 5 - NEOC Mtg - Saturday at 12 noon  
Steve Minore's, Meriden, CT

April 23-27 - Spring Carlisle  
Carlisle, PA

May 10 - NEOC Mtg - Sturbridge Host Hotel 11 AM  
Sturbridge, MA

May 2 - Drag Day - Friday  
Lebanon Valley Dragway, Lebanon, NY

May 4 - Eastern MA Spring Dust Off - Sunday 8-3  
Haskin's Auto Sales, Wellesley, MA

September 28 - 12th Annual NEOC Olds Show  
Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA

## March Meeting Notes

The snow delayed March meeting was eventually held at Basil's place in New Britain on Thursday the 6th of March. A dozen members joined us as we set the stage for some interesting fun this year.

Once the pizza was gone, Prez Bill got the meeting rolling by starting on some club activities for the upcoming year. Starting with another Dyno Day, Bill was looking for interest in holding another one this year. All of the responses were very favorable with the exception of Larry Gagain. Bill will be looking to set it up preferably on a Sunday in late April. Details will be forthcoming.

Also associated with performance is the annual spring pilgrimage to Lebanon Valley for Drag Day on May 2nd. See the info in this issue. Another cruise to Hemmings is being planned, possibly July 24th, any feedback on the date please contact Bill.

The last activity discussed is the club picnic, with various venues being discussed. Please come to the next meeting and add your input on these as well as other club activities that will pop up throughout the year.

We will be cutting the roster for those folks that have not paid or are not in good standing with their OCA dues.

If you haven't joined us on any of these cruises, shows or activities, why not set aside a little time to do so. It is a lot of fun and you will undoubtedly learn something each time! **RR**

## Spring Dyno Day

Our Spring Dyno day is scheduled for **Sunday April 27th** at New England Dyno & Tuning in Douglas, MA. Douglas is located in Southeastern, MA about half way between Worcester and the Rhode Island border on Route 146. NE Dyno is just about a mile from the highway and easy to find. I will reserve **9 spots** so reply now, don't miss this excellent opportunity.

Last summer's event was a blast! The Dyno will be ours for the day! Who will be King of the Hill this year? BTW, you don't necessarily have to register your car to join the fun, spectators are welcome.

Cost is dependant upon participation, expect to pay only about **\$70** for at least three pulls and expert tuning advice. This is event is not just for racecars and high horsepower street machines. Take advantage of the opportunity to check and tune your air/fuel ratio to maximize the performance of any car you own! Sorry, lawnmowers, trimmers, power brooms, mopeds and snowmobiles are not allowed! Bring the Old Ladies Honda if you prefer. Coffee and donuts will be served in the morning followed by lunch in the afternoon. If you can't make a day of it, I will glad to reserve a time slot for you, just let me know. I do recommend that you stay and watch the other pulls, it rocks!

If you are even remotely interested let me know right away, it wont take long to fill 9 spots. Go to [www.nedyno.com](http://www.nedyno.com) for more info on the dyno facility. **RR**

Bill LaPierre 860-763-3134



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# Spring Drag Day

By Carl Dudash

To hell with the snow, the cold and gas prices. It's time to talk drag racing. Our LVD track rental this spring is Friday, May 2 with a rain date of the following Friday, May 9.

We were rained out for both our original date and our rain date last fall so the entire roster and all the deposits were held over till this year. Consequently, the spring roster is already full. There was a lot of juggling of names for last year's fall roster with people taking spots of those who couldn't make the rain date. Below you will find a list in alphabetical order of the names of the folks on the final roster for last year. This is therefore the spring 2008 roster. If anyone on the list can't make the May 2 date please let me know and your spot will be offered to the people on the rest of my racers email list. I hope this isn't going to turn into a bookkeeping nightmare. I got a little crazy last year when we got rained out.

Just a note about rain dates - they may become a thing of the past. Word is out about Friday track rentals, thanks in no small part to the article about our rental a while back in Hemmings Muscle Machines. The track is booking a lot of the Fridays in the racing season. We are the only group to get a spring rain date. It means that the track has to leave that date open for us and risk losing another rental. While this is great for us it's not so great for the track which is so vulnerable to the whims of weather. LVD needs all the opportunities it can get to earn its keep otherwise there might not be an LVD. Tracks are closing down all over the country so the time is probably coming for us to give up rain dates. I will negotiate with the powers that be at the track to see if the deposits received for our track rental can be honored for other dates in case of a rainout. No promises right now because this would be a pain to bookkeep. I'll keep you informed.

See you May 2!  
Peace, Carl

Below is the list of names currently registered for Spring Drag Day.

Name	Car	# of Drivers
Alessandrini, Dan	64 Cutlass	1
Attanasio, Carmine	88 Monte Carlo	1
Bancroft, Earl	67 442	1
Bernard, Pete	87 Buick GN	1
Bigelow, Jason	66 Chevelle	1
Bowman, Mark	69 Chevelle	1
Brindley, Rhys	70 442	1
Bucchi, Paul	?	1
Cannon, Brian	70 Cutlass	1
Caprio, Mike	?	1

Citro, John	04 Subaru	2
Couture, Jean-Guy	66 Satellite	2
Couture, Pete	73 Challenger	1
Couture, Steve	80 Mirada	1
Cubit, Darren	70 Camaro	1
Davis, Bruce	69 Mustang	1
Davis, Heather	05 Mustang	1
DiCarlo, Rich*/	86 Mustang /1	*took Dave Mador's spot
Dombrowski, Stan	75 Camaro	1
Donor, Gene	Mopar	1
Dudash, Carl	69 Corvette	2
Eliason, Sean	70 Cutlass	1
Ferraro, Dan	89 Mustang	1
Francisco, Todd	70 Camaro	1
Gagnon, Dave	?	1
Gagnon, Dave	?	1
Gagnon, Dave	?	1
Gagnon, Dave	?	1
Gagnon, Dave	?	1
Gamble, Steve	?	1
Garrity, Dennis	71 Dart	1
Gathers, Chris	69 Chevelle	1
Gianno, Emillo	70 Duster	1
Gosselin, Mike	71 Dart	1
Grigerek, Andrew	72 Camaro	1
Hogan, Steve	Car, Bike	1
Iacoboni, Tom	60 Dune Buggy	2
Jacobson, Craig	89 Ford	1
Johnson, Walter	69 442	1
Jones, Vinnie	00 Corvette	1
Kadner, John	02 Camaro	1
King, Steve	442	1
Lach, Derek	87 Buick GN	1
LaGasse, Ron**	/S-10/ 1	** Took Mike Gan's spot
Lander, Sean	?	1
LaPierre, Bill	66 Cutlass	2
Liimantainen, Dave	05 CBR600	1
Manchester, Norm	70 Chevelle	1
Manchester, Norm III	72 Camaro	1
Marinko, Ernie	71 Cutlass	1
Markewicz, Bob	70 Cutlass	1
Meehan, Danny	Car, Bike	1
O'Connor, Jim	69 Cutlass	2
Owens, Daryel	88 Mustang	1
Rasmussen, Kyle	00 Corvette	1
Riso, Nick	67 Valient	1
Salvas, Steve	71 Skylark	2
Santacroce, Joe	81 & 98 Corvette	1
Sherba, Peter	96 Snowmobile	1
Smith, Bill	68 Mustang	1
Smith, Paul	06 GTO	2
Stockwell, Robert	82 Mustang	1
Sullivan, Brian	80 Camaro, 00 Pontiac,	1
Sullivan, Tom	73 Cuda	1
Sutkaitis, Paul	88 Mustang	1
Valentine, Jim	71 Chevelle	1
Waskewicz, Joe	?	1
Welsh, John	67 442	1
White, Tim	87 Buick GN	2
Wingfield, Dave	72 El Camino	1
Zdancewicz, John	69 Chevelle	2

## 2008 Nationals Transporter

As many of us know getting time to drive to and from the Nationals. Well last year several members of the Eastern Mass GMO club got together and shipped half a dozen cars to the Nationals in Bowling Green, KY for the '07 Nats.

Steve Bricker hails from Maine and was one of those who shipped a car. Steve is looking to see if anyone is looking to ship a car this year. If so, Steve might be interested in shipping a car (or two) to Dearborn for this year's Nats.

## Insured value (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

in excess of a 100% increase in the value.

Because I didn't want to put all my proverbial eggs in one basket I decided to surf a bit further to the Blue Book of classic car values and see what was listed in Edmens. Once again I was completely floored by the recommended values for the different condition levels of these cars.

So there I was pondering the question, should I raise my agreed to value up to \$92,000 for a measly \$210 per year? Why not? Check out YOUR car's value, at these prices it can't make an April fool out of you! Now don't you wish you had sent me something INTERESTING for this month's newsletter? **RR**

## Eastern Mass GMO Spring

Once again the Eastern Mass GMO Club is having a Spring Dust Off on May 4th in Wellesley, MA. The location is Haskins Auto Sales located at 467 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA (781) 235-4850 (just east of Wellesley Center on Route 16. The show starts at 8 AM and goes until 3 PM, rain or shine. There will be dash plaques, judging, a DJ, etc. Pre-registered cars are \$15 and day of the show is \$20.

For more information please contact;

David Consoli (978) 807-7350, pleasantvalley-land@comcast.net

Ted Loran (508) 561-7613, ted@teds-olds.com

## Better than a barn!

Have you ever wanted a collector car but don't think you can afford one? While this isn't your typical barn find, it is an opportunity to save one of Ransom's fleet.

The following letter was received from someone looking to save their car. Check it out. If it interests you, drop her a note.



1980 Cutlass Supreme

Hi Dave,

My sister and I are moving from NY to AZ in a few months (possibly sooner). Unfortunately we cannot take my 1980 Cutlass Supreme with us. We are located in Red Hook, NY, which is 50 miles south of Albany and about 120 miles north of NYC. The car has 98k original miles on it. I've had it since 1994 when it only had 37K miles on it. The car runs great, the body is straight. The interior is mint except for tears on the drivers seat. The dash has one straight crack in the center. The body has some surface rust and there is some rust building up on the 1/4 panels behind the rear wheels. The only mechanical problem is the choke. It also may need a new exhaust system.

Below is a website with additional photos of the car; <http://www.geocities.com/kostopocars/MYCUTLASS.html>

I want to give my car free to someone that can restore it. An olds enthusiast is my hope. 1980 was a one year model and now that olds went out of business I am sure the car is worth something. I want it to go to a good home. I am so devastated but I have no other choice.

Please email me at: theaboo1961@webtv.net  
or: jetdogy@aol.com

Thanks,  
Jane

## May meeting notes!

We will have our May NEOC meeting at On May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. This is intended to allow us to check out the provisions of the hotel as well as make tentative parking plans.

As you all know, this will also be the site for our 2010 OCA National event. Having our next annual NEOC show at this location will go a long way to help us get familiar with the area as well as establishing a relationship with the hotel and area businesses.

Our regular club meeting will start at 11:00 inside the hotel atrium area. This is adjacent to the lounge and grill so that we may order a lunch if desired after the meeting.

So, come early if you would like to check the area, bring your Olds for another cruise type event, and even bring the family to visit the historic surroundings while we meet.

Take a look at the photos from our last cruise to Sturbridge! **RR**



## April Meeting Info

Steve Minore is hosting April's meeting and is also cleaning out his garage, attic, basement as well as several miscellaneous hiding (er, storage) places. If you need a part for a Cutlass (and other assorted Oldsmobiles), bring your wallet to the April meeting along with your Vista Cruiser, Cutlass Cruiser, Custom Cruiser or pickup (in that order of preference).

If you think you have a lot of spare parts hanging around your place, wait till you see what Steve has! **RR**



### Directions:

Located on Route 20 West in Sturbridge, MA

From the North East & West, take the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) to Exit 9, Route 20 West. From the South, take either Interstate 84 or Route 131 to Route 20 West. The hotel is located less than one-quarter mile from the first set of traffic lights, on the shore of Cedar Lake.



## New Oldsmobile Hybrids to launch in late 2009!

So you want to know what all those years of design classes have allowed the newest wave of automotive designers to come up with? Take a look at these gems!

Thank goodness none of them say Cutlass on the side! **RR**

In order to help get young people involved in the Classic and Musclecar hobbies, Hagerty Insurance is sponsoring a model building contest. In order to participate, our club needs to have a minimum of 5 kids looking to build a car.

The idea is to get kids involved and while they can accept some adult help, the contest is for kids, so let's see how they do!

### The Basics:

- Your club will find kids ages 8 to 14 to participate in the contest at a local level, and will sign-up to host the contest by April 17, 2008.
- Hagerty Plus will provide your club with the plastic model kits, awards and detailed instructions.
- Your club will distribute the kits to the contestants, oversee the building process and select a winner internally. Then, you'll send the winning model to Hagerty Plus by May 9, 2008 for the second round of judging.
- The top five models will be chosen by popular vote at [www.hagerty.com](http://www.hagerty.com). The winning builders will head to Monterey, California in August of 2008 and their sponsoring clubs will receive \$500!

### Prizes

Clubs are eligible to win cash prizes when their sponsored builders advance in the contest! If your club's winning builder is selected as one of the five national finalists, your club will win \$500.

The kids win great prizes, too!

- The winner from each club will win \$50 and a trophy. Additionally, they'll be recognized in Hagerty's magazine and on [www.hagerty.com](http://www.hagerty.com).
- The top five builders and a legal guardian will be treated to a trip to Monterey during the week of the famed Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance for final judging.
- 

For more information, please see the contest's Rules and Regulations at [www.hagerty.com](http://www.hagerty.com).

Anyone interested please contact; Jim Schmitz at 860-485-5623 or [jim70442w30@aol.com](mailto:jim70442w30@aol.com). I hope to have the kits for the meeting on April 5th at Steve's house. **RR**



No the photos haven't been manipulated!



# Directions To The Next Couple of Meetings

The **April meeting** will be on **Saturday** the 5th at Noon  
and will be hosted by Steve Minore in Meriden, CT.

**Steve Minore (203) 237-2001**  
**37 Longmeadow Drive, Meriden, CT 06450**

## **From Hartford and points north**

Head South on I-91 from Hartford. At exit 17 turn off onto ramp (CT-15/W. Cross Pkwy/E. Main St.)  
Turn RIGHT (West) onto E. Main St. for 0.2 mi, Turn LEFT (South) onto Paddock Ave. for 0.8 mi.  
on the left. Turn RIGHT (West) onto Overlook Rd. for 0.3 mi. Turn LEFT (South) onto Longmeadow Dr. and proceed to #37.

## **From New Haven and points south**

Head North on I-91 from New Haven. At exit 16 turn off onto ramp (E. Main St.) Bear LEFT (West) onto E. Main St. for 0.4  
mi, Turn LEFT (South) onto Paddock Ave. for 0.8 mi.  
on the left. Turn RIGHT (West) onto Overlook Rd. for 0.3 mi. Turn LEFT (South) onto Longmeadow Dr. and proceed to #37.

## **From Waterbury and points west**

Head East on I-84 from Waterbury, At exit 27, take I691 East. At I-691 exit 10, turn off onto ramp (CT-15/W. Cross Pkwy/E.  
Main St.). Merge onto SR-15 [Wilbur Cross Pkwy] South. AT SR-15 exit 67W, turn off onto ramp. Turn RIGHT (West)  
onto E. Main St. for 0.2 mi, Turn LEFT (South) onto Paddock Ave. for 0.8 mi. on the left. Turn RIGHT (West) onto Overlook  
Rd. for 0.3 mi. Turn LEFT (South) onto Longmeadow Dr. and proceed to #37.

The **May meeting** will be on **Saturday May 10th.**

This meeting will be held at this year's new show location at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, Ma.  
Please see article in this month's newsletter for directions.

The **June meeting** will be on **Thursday June 5th** at 7 PM.

This meeting will be hosted by Larry Gagain in Somers, CT.

**Larry Gagain 860-763-1394**  
**465 Springfield Rd, Somers, CT 06071**

## **Directions From I-91 North or South :**

Take Exit 47E and follow Hazard Ave. (SR-190) East for almost 7 miles. You will come to a traffic light just beyond the new  
Fire House (on your right), Sokol Rd.

At that light take a left onto Sokol Rd. and follow it for about 1 mile to stop sign.

Go straight through onto Avery Rd. and proceed to the end (about ¼ mile) at the stop sign.

Take a left onto RT83 (also know as Springfield Rd.)

My house is # 465 about 1 ¼ miles up on your left. (Grey Cape with Blue Shutters). There is a large yellow sign with a pic-  
ture of a stop sign and an arrow pointing straight ahead...my driveway is directly across the street from that sign. If you get to  
the traffic light you went too far.

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  
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turned, please include a SASE..

Note: ads only run for 1 month, please renew  
monthly.

### ***To submit a classified ad:***

Email: [Jim70442w30@aol.com](mailto:Jim70442w30@aol.com)

Snail mail: Jim Schmitz  
24 Pioneer Dr.

860-379-5221

## Rocket Classifieds

### **For Sale: 1972 Cutlass Supreme**

Excellent driving car with 72,000 mi, 350-4bbl, auto on  
floor with console, Yellow/Beige with Black vinyl top and  
Dark Saddle interior. Functioning A/C, AM/FM Stereo (just  
serviced). Solid quarters, doors, floors and frame. \$11,500  
with free car cover. (if needed, free storage until April 1st).  
If interested contact Gene Miller at 860-794-0524

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