

# Rocket Rumbblings

Newsletter of the New England Oldsmobile Club

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

Volume 16 Issue 9

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Edited by Jim Schmitz

September 2011



## 2011 OCA Nationals are now history!

Well, for some July was a month of record high temperatures and summer vacation. For others it was the month they trekked west to Reno to participate in the 2011 Oldsmobile Club of America National Meet. As much as I would have liked to visit the west coast without any business needs to attend to, my schedule dictated otherwise and I ended up staying home this year.

Between football, baseball and two basketball teams I felt all I did this summer was drive. And, no, I did not play on ANY sports team. I simply played the all to typical chauffeur of a teenager. Meanwhile the steps for the deck that I planned to finish in June along with the ice damage still need to be completed. Not much other than typical maintenance got done to any of my Oldsmobiles, I almost feel guilty working on the cars till I finish the household projects. Therefore, my car is going to look *just* like it did last year at the Nationals, I just hope I can convince the kid to clean and wax it again.

Of course I could go out and work on them now, but I am old and tire easily so I'm thinking about relaxing in the lake with a tube and my Big Bobber. Don't kid yourself, the tube had a nice back/head rest and a couple of drink holders. The Big Bobber is a floating cooler that is tied to the tube that allows me to literally float away and not worry about refills for hours! Meanwhile, we'll let those that actually went to the nationals fill you in on their trip to the Grand Sierra Resort! **RR**

## Dates to Remember

- 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
- Sept 24 - NEOC picnic - Saturday 1 PM  
Don Mucci's - Enfield, CT
- Oct 6 - NEOC Mtg - Thursday 7 PM  
Charlie Roy's - East Hartford, CT

## A Presidential Trip

By Glen Morris

I am replacing my President's Message this month with a summary of our trip to the 2011 OCA Nationals in Reno Nevada. We combined this trip with a mini vacation in San Francisco.

7/25/2011 (Monday): Nancy and I are almost awake at 3:30 a.m. in order to catch our 6:05 a.m. flight. Before leaving, I check my e-mail and Face book. It seems that Jean and Helene Roy are now in Iowa on their way to Reno. Jean is driving across country and back! We arrive in San Francisco

*(Continued on page 2)*

# July Meeting Minutes

By Larry Gagain

The July meeting was attended by 14 members and held at Basil and RoseMary Treco's home in New Britain CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

## Old Business

The meeting minutes of the June meeting were read by Larry Gagain.

Club stickers – A quantity of 500 2.5 inches were received and are now ready for sale. Several were sold during the meeting.

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.

## New Business

Bill Black reviewed the treasurer's report.

The club picnic will be at the home of Don Mucci in Enfield this year. We have a tentative date of Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup>.

## NEOC Car show

The group again discussed the judging form (100 point?) and judging options (one judge vs. judging teams), one raffle prize for judges. Steve Minore volunteered to be the coordinator for the judges.

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

Clothing status and needs...hats and shirts are on order.

Raffle items...pricing out a 32" flat screen TV, Fusick provided (2) \$100 certificates. They also committed \$200 to the Shriners.

Goodie Bags...The American flags have been ordered for the 9/11 tribute.

The food vendor as well as the DJ are lined up.

We still need help with parking and registration.

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

The September meeting will be held at Mike Barillaro's home in Kensington CT.

The October meeting will be held at Charlie Roy's home in East Hartford CT.

# A Presidential Trip (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

where we will spend the next three days sightseeing and vacationing. I notice a 1957 slightly modified red Chevy Bel Aire driving on the hilly San Francisco streets by a middle aged business man while talking on a cell phone. We also see a 50's something Studebaker outside a local bar (which we will visit later



The Studebaker Bar



Pier 39, popular with locals **and** New Englanders!

in the week). Around mid afternoon, we decide to visit Pier 39, a very busy shopping and eating Mecca on San Francisco Bay.

As we were working our way through the crowds, we stop dead in our tracks. Here we are all the way on the left coast and we run into people we know, Mike Barillaro and Mary! Seems they stopped in the area on their West Coast

vacation while on the way to Reno also. Small world. We are in bed by 8:00 PST, which is 11:00 EST (that early flight is getting to us). Somehow it seems wrong going to bed when the sun is still shining!

7/26/2011 (Tuesday): After sleeping for eleven hours, Nancy and I are now *somewhat* accustomed to the three hour time difference. We had previously planned to meet Bill Black and his sister Pat at "Alioto's" restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf at 1:00. We arrive right on time but I am hesitant to be seated when they call "reservations for Black table for four". Just doesn't sound right. Bill's sister is from the San Francisco area and provides us with information for things to see and do in the city.



We decide to tour "The City" on an open air double decker bus. Little did we know that the wind chill on the Golden Gate Bridge would be about 30 degrees! We are both sun-burned and frost bitten after our tour!



We decide to return to Pier 39 to spend more money on food and drinks. We find it very easy to spend *too* much money here.

7 / 2 7 / 2 0 1 1

(Wednesday): Today we take the Hyde Street Trolley to see the city from another perspective. Seeing the hilly streets in person makes me wonder how Steve McQueen ever navigated these streets in the movie Bullitt. I personally will not attempt to drive while here.



Nice tour up top on a lovely day... kinda.



The 'Colden' Gate - (yeah, cold). We couldn't see it all at once.



We end the day by stopping at a 7-11 for a night cap! Those Pier 39 prices are taking their toll, and we're still not in Reno. Ed and Barb Palmieri, Mike and Mary arrive in Reno today and join Rob Brainard and Katie, Everett, and four GMO members who have already arrived. Jean is somewhere close by now.

7/28/2011 (Thursday): We finally arrive in Reno for "The Biggest Little Car Show in the West". Bill Black and Pat, and Jean and Helene also arrive today. After checking in, I attempt to find the registration room and make note that the time to walk here is equivalent to the time it took to get to trailer parking last year! When I finally get to the registration room, I notice that it is laid out identical to our 2010 registration room. The only thing missing was the friendly greeting from Ted and Clair Loran. Elaine Haggerty (Wife of Chairman Dan Haggerty) thanks me for all our help and

guidance from last year. It's good to hear that someone listened to us. I also notice an abundance of 2010 OCA Nationals shirts being sported by numerous show attendees.

Most of us

"Nor'easters" take part in the Lake Tahoe dinner cruise tonight. The venue, food, music, and company of our New England friends make for a great ending to the day.

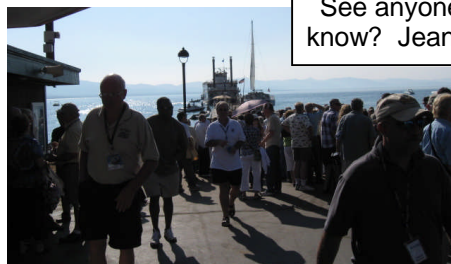
7/29/2011 (Friday): The weatherman says this will be the hottest day so far this year. And Reno has not had rain in over a month (but, keep in mind that the NEOC influence has arrived). Mike Barillaro and I have volunteered to help judge today. "Tabulator" Bill is helping in the score tabulation room. Ed and Barb are gambling in several casinos and reported to be winning. Jean and Helene leave today, next stop Wyoming. We are on "Don Jack" patrol as his name shows up as a participant. It is extremely hot on the show field inspiring most of us to finish judging by noon. Later in the day, we corral all the "Nor'easters" for dinner and drinks. Nine of us manage to get together at 7:00 in one of the hotel's restaurants. Shortly after sitting down, a hotel security guard notices our show affiliation and tells us that we may want to move our cars because dangerous rain, hail and wind are imminent! (Remember that NEOC influence?). After dinner we look at the new show field with many cars arranged under the hotel's two large canopies. No 11' X 20' parking spaces here!

7/30/2011 (Saturday): Another extremely hot day is forecast with late day severe weather. (The NEOC influence is still here). Several of us attend the OCA general membership meeting. Nancy and I make a short trip to the National

See anyone you know? Jean? Ed?

Auto Museum around midday. The museum

houses over 220 unique and interesting vehicles from the late 1800's through the 1970's. I highly recommend this museum for anyone who visits the area.



No umbrella in Mike's drink this year!

(Continued on page 6)



The San Francisco hills.



# NEOC 2011 Picnic

Yes, we are having our annual NEOC picnic again this year. The scheduled date is Saturday September 24 with a rain date of Sunday the 25th.

Don Mucci has offered to host this year at his place in Enfield. The start time is 1 PM and the end time is whenever Don kicks us all out!

Don has room to park 15-20 Oldsmobiles on the street adjacent to his house and all the neighbors have blessed our arrival.

If your last name begins with A-K please consider bringing a side dish, salad or equivalent. If you are L-Z please consider a dessert, appetizer or chips and dip. NEOC will provide the burgers, dogs, rolls, condiments, plates, plastic-ware, various sodas, cups and napkins for any oil spills.

And as always BYOB as you see fit and for those with tired feet, bring lawn chairs or walkers as required.

Directions to: 29 Eastgate Lane, Enfield, CT. 06082

Take I-91 north or South to Exit 46 for King Street. Take a left onto Route 5 Take the first left onto Weymouth Road (at light). About 1.3 miles you will come to a stop sign (Steele Road, there is Enfield Market on the right) continue straight through the stop sign for another 0.4 mile and take a right onto Deepwood (after the school but before the firehouse). Take the first left onto Brentwood and follow it to Eastgate. Take a right onto Eastgate and then another right onto Center Circle for parking.

Don Mucci (860) 745-2284  
29 Eastgate Lane, Enfield, CT 06082

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# 2011 OCA Nationals



Just need a few more parts...



Cool California Customs





# 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**



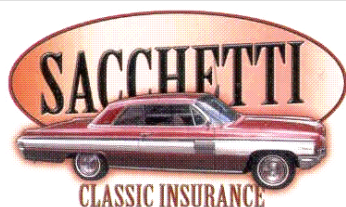
Plenty of '60s Olds muscle was in attendance!



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



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



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# A Presidential Trip (cont'd)

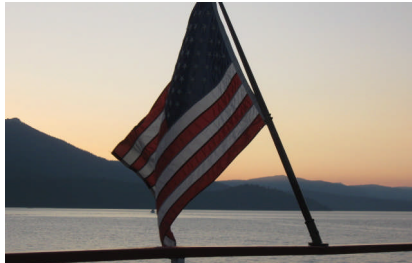


(Continued from page 3)

Really unique copper car.

Ed, Barb, Bill, Mike and Mary must be missing driving their

Oldsmobiles. They all decide to race go-carts later in the day at the hotel supplied facility. We run into the elusive Rob Brainard this morning. And no, he's not on his honeymoon....yet. Rob helps me straighten out my return flights on Southwest since I have not been able to get on line boarding passes all morning. You have to be young to figure this stuff out. Later in the afternoon, we all find time to chat with Dave Consoli right before the awards banquet. Dave reports that some great progress was made at the BOD meeting held on Thursday. Dave was also interviewed

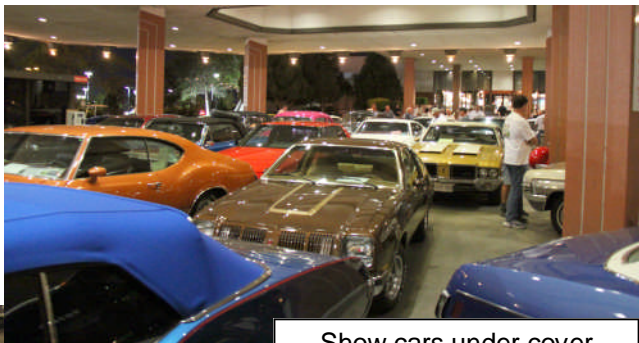


Sunset off the stern



NEOC Dinner

about the car show by a reporter from the Reno-Gazette Herald. The awards banquet goes well later in the evening. Boy Scout troop 35 does a fine job displaying the flags in a brief ceremony. While at the banquet, we hear that wind,



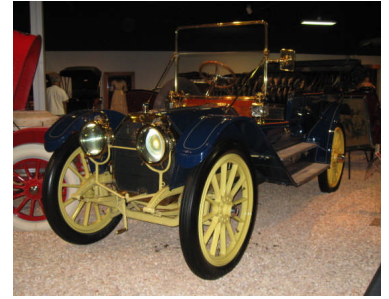
Show cars under cover



Remnants of a tent destroyed in storms.



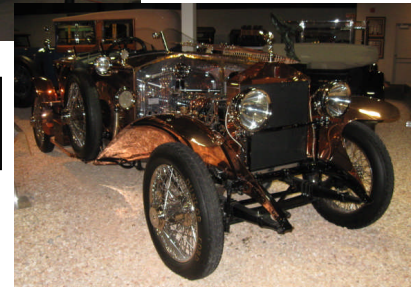
Oldsmobiles in the museum



Thomas Flyer Race Winner



Really unique copper car



hail, and even blowing snow is happening outside the hotel. The NEOC claims innocence.

## Summary:

- There were roughly 280 show cars pre-registered plus about 100 participants without cars. (Mostly people from New England)
- The swap meet used about 1/2 the allotted space. There was a LOT of space available for the swap meet and trailer parking.
- It was hot!
- Don Jack was never spotted.
- My car didn't get rained on this year.
- Jerry Wilson is trying very hard to make this a car club again.
- Jerry Wilson still owes Bill Black and me a few beers.
- Future Nationals are Des Moines, Iowa in 2012, Springfield Illinois, in 2013 and Cincinnati Ohio in 2014.
- I will never use Budget rent-a-car again, but that's another story.

Glad to be home!

Glen Morris



# Directions To The Next Couple of Meetings

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](mailto: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](mailto: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  
[gmmorris01@aol.com](mailto:gmmorris01@aol.com)

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Jim70442w30@aol.com



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Vice President - Dave Richter  
Treasurer - Bill Black  
Secretary - Larry Gagain  
Membership Coordinator - Ed Palmieri  
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