

Rocket Rumbblings

Newsletter of the New England Oldsmobile Club

Home of the 2010 Oldsmobile Club of America National Meet

Vol 17 - #5, 6 & 7

WWW.NEOLDS.COM

Edited by Jim Schmitz

Summer 2012

Croozin' 2012

The more things change the more they stay the same. Funny how that saying really does apply to almost everything in life. Take for example cruising. We all remember fondly "American Graffiti" and the infamous

cruise. Some of us even remember the 50's & 60's personally and can recall the drive-in burger and malt shops.

Even at my young age, we had limited cruising in the late seventies. Before the establishment determined it was detrimental to society at large and high school and college students in particular and did everything they could to not only discourage it, but outlaw it.

In high school my best friends parents had a weekend place in Janesville, Wisconsin. Many of you may recognize the name as GM had a huge truck facility there. On the weekend evenings there was a "circuit" that people cruised downtown Janesville. This went on from about dusk until 12-1 AM. The vehicles ranged from hot cars to farm trucks and everything imaginable in between. Was there racing afterwards? Possibly. Mostly it was social hour, a bit different from the kind of social hour we have now where our high schooler's

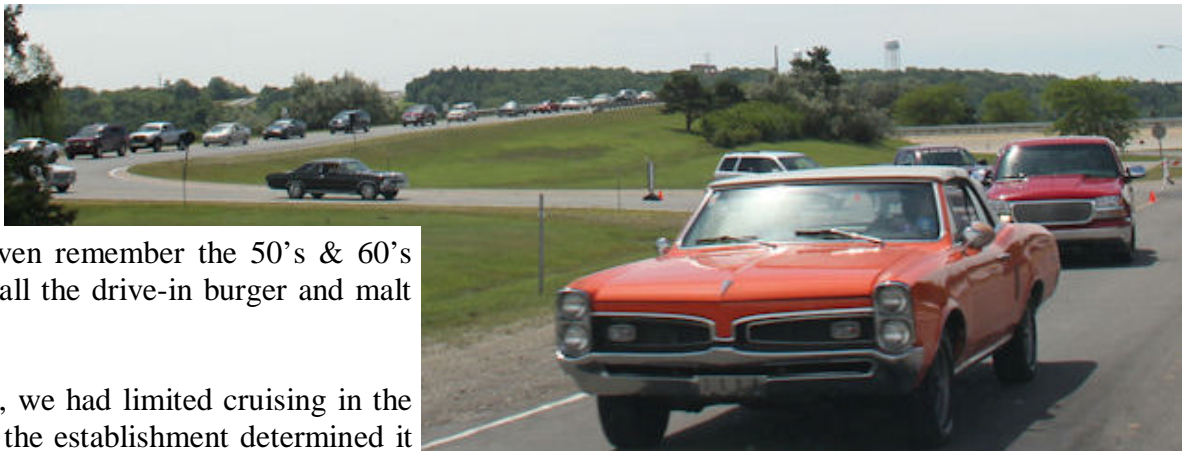
Dates to Remember

July 4th-7th - OCA Nationals, Iowa

Jul 5 - NEOC Mtg - Thursday 6 PM
Glen Morris - Wallingford, CT

Aug 18 - NEOC Picnic & August Meeting
Saturday - 1 PM
Don Mucci's Enfield, CT

play video games online or farm their virtual farms on Facebook's "Farmville". No this was social interaction. This was kids and young adults getting together with their friends and having a good time on a Friday or Saturday night. This had to be bad, right? What



Cars lined up heading into the start of PowerTour 2012 at the GM proving ground in Milford, MI

would all these young people do when gathered like this? Create a revolt? Ignore parking meters that only

(Continued on page 4)

GMO Spring Dustoff

Those who have not yet checked out one of the GMO's spring dust offs are missing out on a great opportunity to meet up with our Olds loving neighbors. 2012 was my first dust off, after years of planning to go but never making it, and it was truly worth the trip. The day of the show, myself and a few other NEOC members met up at a rest stop on I-90 and cruised up to the show in Lancaster, MA. After a nice



ride through a beautiful part of Massachusetts on a nice spring morning, we arrived at Kimball Farm.

(Continued on page 6)

NEOC Meeting Notes

Meeting Minutes – April- 2012

The April meeting was hosted by Bruce Plourde at Schaller's Auto Body in New Britain. With 9 members attending we got down to business at 7:15 PM.

Old Business

Bill Black let us know we are still in the black with respect to our bank account.

New Business

The NEOC membership is 100% compliant with 58 paid up members to date for 2012.

The car show t-shirt is out for pricing.

Glen Morris has the club tables for the car show. If anyone has a need to borrow these tables (or the club tents) for any occasion, please contact Glen Morris for tables or Don Mucci for the tents.

The group discussed taking out an ad in the Olds Nationals showbook this year. Bill Black indicated with the current bank account balance we can do a full page...the group agreed we can send in a combination 'Best of Luck' ad with our September show information to the folks in Iowa. The Mark's Cruise Night Olds Night has been scheduled for Monday 7/23.

The GMO dustoff is 5/20.

The club is still in need of an activity coordinator.

NEOC Car show

Our car show date will be Sunday 9/23/12 with the rain date of Sunday 9/30.

This year the raffle will consist of a few large ticket items such as a flat screen TV, Fusick certificates, an overnight stay at the Days Inn as well as a Schaller car detail package worth \$200 donated by Bruce Plourde (Thanks Bruce!!!) and a 50/50.

Mike Barillaro confirmed our food vendor Crusin' Café. Their menu is appropriate and they are self contained with a generator so no need for external power.

We will use the same DJ this year. As there is no need to share power with the food vendor, he can go back to the gazebo this year.

We are still looking for someone to assume the duties of head judge for the show.

Bill Black has a sign-up sheet for folks looking to advertise in our show book. If you know anyone who would like to take an ad out please contact Bill.

We will welcome swap meet type vendors this year so if you know of anyone who would like to set up a spot, please let Bill Black know. The fee will be either 10% of sales or \$50 (this includes an ad in the show book).

The local Shriners chapter will be there again this year to help out with the raffle and judging.

The May meeting will be held at Larry Gagain's house in Somers CT.

The June meeting needs a host.

Reported by Larry Gagain – Club Secretary

Meeting Minutes – May- 2012

The May meeting was attended by 9 members and held at the home of Larry Gagain in Somers CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

Old Business

April meeting minutes were read by Larry Gagain
Treasurer's report was read by Bill Black.

Mike Barillaro is checking with Berlin Pizza to see if they would be receptive to us holding our monthly meetings there as they host a cruise night as well on Thursdays.

Thanks go out to Don Mucci for accepting the position of Activities Coordinator.

As always...looking for Newsletter articles.

New Business

If you haven't seen them yet in the May issue of JWO, check out the articles from Frank Tupka and Bill Black.

The NEOC full page ad for the 2012 Nationals has been submitted and paid for...nice job Jim Schmitz.

The car show flyer t-shirt update...Thanks to Bruce Plourde we now have a sponsor, DuPont, who has graciously agreed to produce 75 shirts for us.

NEOC Car show Sunday September 23

The raffle will consist of a flat screen TV, Fusick certificates, an overnight stay at the Days Inn as well as a Schaller car detail package and a 50/50.

Our food vendor Crusin Café is locked in. They will set

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up by 9AM for breakfast and continue until the show ends.

Bill Black has a signup sheet for the show book, this includes swap meet vendors who get a free ad with their space fee.

The local Shriners chapter will be there again this year to help out with the raffle and judging.

The June meeting will be held at Jeff Walsh's house in Southington CT.

The July meeting will be on the 5th or 12th (after the holiday) and needs a host.

Reported by Larry Gagain – Club Secretary

Presidents Message

By Glen Morris

I am drafting this month's message on a beautiful and sunny Sunday afternoon. I just returned from a leisurely ride around town in my 69 Cutlass. The only reason I didn't take the Ram-Rod is because I took her out last weekend. (I try to alternate). Today I drove by a 70 Chevelle, a 67 GTO, and a 65 Buick Skylark....all exchanging a wave or thumbs up! What a great feeling to be cruising around in your classic Olds on a sunny Sunday afternoon!

I am guiltier than most when it comes to exercising (driving) our prized Oldsmobiles. I rarely participate in cruises, take my car to a meeting, or attend a car show. But I need to do this more often. When the NEOC was organized some 16+ years ago, most of our monthly meetings were garnished with member's Oldsmobiles. We need to get back to that.

So, I am throwing out a challenge to all our members to bring your Olds to the next meeting (weather permitting, of course). I will be hosting the next meeting on 7/5 at my Oldsmobile ranch in Wallingford (directions below). I will open the gates to Oldsmobiles at 6:00 p.m. and depending on attendance and weather, we will have a brief and informal meeting at 7:00. Our new head judge volunteer, Tom Tardiff will also be here for a meet and greet session. The goal here is to get our Oldsmobiles out for a meeting and socialize accordingly. Spouses and significant others are always welcome. Hope to see many of you there?!

Now, I do NOT want to detract from the NEOC picnic and meeting the following month. The picnic will be held at the home of Don Mucci (your new activities coordinator) on 8/18. Additional information on that will

be elsewhere in this newsletter. We also need to see many Oldsmobiles at the picnic. (No Subaru's allowed!).

As far as other club business, there is a lot going on. I will attempt to list some here:

Don Mucci has accepted the position of Activities Coordinator and is looking for suggestions and events for the club. Don can be contacted at 860-745-2284 or e-mail damucci@sbcglobal.net.

Monthly meeting attendance has been very low. Please try to attend and give us input to improve the club. If you cannot attend, feel free to contact me with any input or suggestions that you may have. 203-269-4365 or gmorris01@aol.com.

Jim Schmitz (your newsletter editor) is always looking for newsletter articles. We cannot support a newsletter without stuff to put in there. You can contact Jim at 860-485-8788 (cell) or jim70442w30@aol.com.

We will be having a pre car show meeting on 9/22 at the Days Inn on Berlin Turnpike. At this meeting we need to determine spectator parking, traffic flow, and the car show lay-out. Times for this will be discussed and decided at the next two meetings.

NEOC picnic 8/18. Be there!

Car show advertising in our car show ad book is needed to help support the show. Bill Black organizes this and can be contacted at 203-457-1459 or dragonfly-farm@att.net.

We still have ample club apparel and merchandise supplies. Contact me.

Other recent good stuff: Tom Comer, Larry Gagain, Frank Tupka and Jeff Walsh all received trophies at the GMO Spring dust off. Congrats! Bruce Plourde also received a trophy at the (cancelled) Hooters cruise. Congrats! Speaking of cruises, we have Oldsmobile night at Mark's cruise scheduled for 7/23. We need to get at least 30 Oldsmobiles for this. One Olds will be chosen as Marks Auto Parts "King of Cruise". Will it be you?

In closing, please give us any suggestions you may have to help improve the club. Try to attend our monthly meetings, and drive them Oldsmobiles. I will do the same and if I see you on the road, I will give you a hardy wave!

Glen Morris

NEOC President

NEOC Cub Merchandise

We have the following club merchandise available;
NEOC cookbook - \$5
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
Gmorris01@aol.com

2012 NEOC Picnic

We are having our annual NEOC picnic again this year. The scheduled date is Saturday August 18th with a rain date of Sunday the 19th. We'll try to keep Glen out of the date selection! LOL

The picnic will be at the Mucci's place in Enfield, CT. The start time is 1 PM and the end time is whenever.

We have room to park 15-20 Oldsmobiles on the street adjacent to the house and all the neighbors have blessed our arrival. Subaru's and SUV's not allowed!

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.

Don Mucci (860) 745-2284
29 Eastgate Lane, Enfield, CT 06082
DAMucci@SBCGlobal.net



Croozin' (cont'd)

required paying until 9 pm? They might scare shoppers from the parking lots of the stores that closed hours earlier. Cruising was bad, we need to eliminate cruising.



College had me living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, gee, is there a

cheese-head theme here? Because I was only an hour and a half (72 minutes on my best day) from home, I actually had a car at college. Yep it was an Oldsmobile, a 1970 Cutlass but that's another story.



Those in the Milwaukee area had Hwy 100 in West Allis. A nice long street with several lanes in each direction with several miles of retail stores and parking lots lining both sides.

As I am sure there was some disturbances arising from all the cars and people, there always is when you get large numbers together, I was never witness to any. Of course that may be due in large part to the fact I was in college and was studying every evening.

Rather than take advantage of the cruisers, local law enforcement decided that the town would be better off without it. Before long, signs were erected warning any devious cruisers that they run the risk of being



ticketed. Then as computers became portable (remember this is the early 80's, a "laptop" was simply a PC that had the monitor, keypad and case all in

(Continued from page 4)

one, no way you'd want to hold it on your lap!) they police began to keep track of license plates. With one officer driving, the other entered plate numbers in the PC. If your plate was entered three times in an evening, you were rewarded with a ticket. Pity the poor fool that was attempting to work on a household or automotive project and had to keep running to the store as I typically end up doing. Best hope you have multiple vehicles or are lucky enough to miss the license brigade!

Now we see that businesses and towns are not only welcoming cruisers and car shows they are competing for them!



Last month I had the good fortune of taking part in the start of the 2012 Hot Rod Power Tour.

We started out on the sea of asphalt at the GM proving grounds in Milford, MI. Boy what I would give for a day or two there without all the security officers to insure you didn't use the test tracks for their intended purpose!



There were several thousand vehicles of virtually every configuration. I say there were cars, hot rods, foreign exotics, trucks, semi tractors, and just about every imaginable type

of vehicles.



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I want to work here!

hicle you can imagine present. They also ranged from new and fully restored to drivers and even a few that looked like they could barely make it out of the parking lot!



Variety was the name of the game here!!



If you are ever able to attend, I guarantee you will have a good time. You just need a little patience but the variety of people and their conveyances is just astounding. All were their for the

same purpose, whether they built their car from scratch, spent 10 years restoring it or bought it off the dealers lot the day before. Everyone was there for the same purpose. T get out and enjoy their ride in some of the back roads of America. The kind we all too often bypass for the high speed interstates that take us where we want to go with little to look at other than construction crews and billboards.

I have included a few photos of the Oldsmobiles and some of the more 'interesting' rides that started on Power Tour. Next time you are polishing your ride take it out and don't just stash it under that car cover waiting for the next show.

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Dustoff (cont'd)

KIMBALL FARM

(Continued from page 1)

Kimball Farm

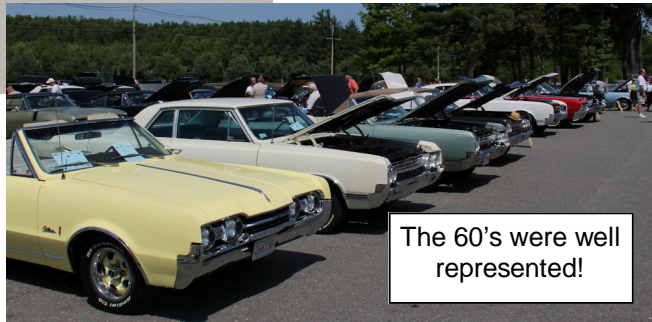
was a great location for the show, with a country store and hamburger stand to keep the other half occupied while I fussed over last minute details before the judges arrived. As the temperature climbed during the late morning and early afternoon we were able to find relief in the ample shaded areas off to the side of the show. Although I did not have a chance to try Kimball

Farms' famous ice cream, the huge

More late models every year.



line and many smiling faces vouched for it. Overall the GMO should be commended for picking a great location that had something for everybody.



The 60's were well represented!



I want one!

The show itself was great with a wide variety of Oldsmobiles and enthusiast. My 88 Tornado Trofeo was parked next to another 88 Trofeo that was owned by a local guy who shared my enthusiasm for these cars. After comparing notes on our '88's I met other Toronado owners including one from Maine who brought a very nice '68 and enough car stories to fill an

encyclopedia. The rest of the show was filled with great Oldsmobiles that ranged from rare classics to recent examples. It was



Love the early cars!

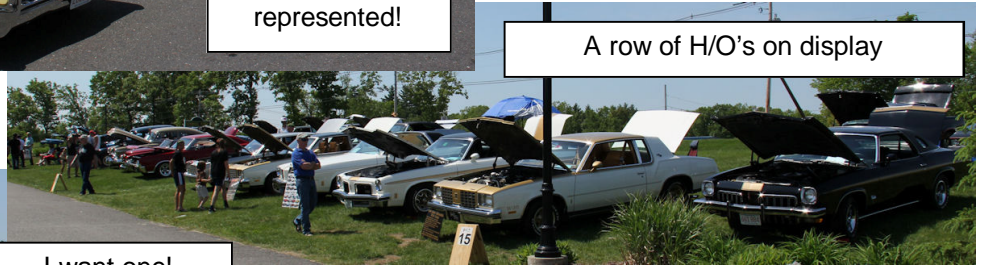


nice to see a wide variety of cars and people at this show, a reminder of just how big the

Oldsmobile hobby is. At the end of the show, the GMO announced that nearly 100 Oldsmobiles were in attendance, many of them had driven several hours to attend. In surveying the show field it quickly became clear that no one...or two...or dozen Oldsmobiles would be a clear winner. There were simply so many beautiful cars representing the long Oldsmobile lineage.

After a short charity raffle (where I

A row of H/O's on display



won my \$1 Berejik "trucker" hat) the awards were given out. The world's fastest raffle included a few neat Oldsmobile artifacts as well as some dust collectors but everyone involved had a good time helping raise money for charity. I'm pleased to report that the NEOC cleaned up with four of us taking home awards. My Toronado, Jeff Walsh's 85 Delta 88 coupe with over 200,000 miles on it, Tom Comer's '69 442 Convertible, and Larry Gagain's '68 442 all represented our club in the proverbial winner's circle. Congratulations to my fellow NEOC winners!

If you haven't been to a GMO dust off, or you simply skipped it the last few years, make sure you make it a priority next year. The GMO members I met were a great group of guys who love Oldsmobiles and know how to have a good time while raising money for a

Directions To The Next Couple of Meetings

The **July meeting** will be on **Thursday July 4th**, hosted by Glen Morris at the Old's Ranch in Wallingford, CT.

Glen Morris - (203) 269-4365
77 West Dayton Hill Road, Wallingford, CT

Directions:

I-91 North or South to Exit #13

At the end of the ramp, take a left onto Route 5/Washington Ave..

About ½ mile (just past Wharton Brook State Park) take a left onto Scrub Oak Road.

Proceed to the Stop Sign (about ½ mile), take a left and then a quick right onto Pond Hill Road.

Follow Pond Hill Road about 1 ½ miles, over the railroad tracks and past Pond Hill School to the Stop Sign.

Bear right onto West Dayton Hill Road.

Continue for ½ mile through the Stop Sign to #77 on the right side

Beige Colonial set back from the road

The **August meeting** will be held in conjunction with the picnic. We normally have a quick meeting before the beverages start to flow, although I have to imagine that the comments and ideas may be a bit more 'interesting' if we were to reverse that order!

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

Directions:

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

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.

great cause. Better yet, maybe next year we can bring home a few more awards!

- Frank Tupka



The NEOC Winner's Circle

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

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