



# *The ROCKET FUEL Newsletter*

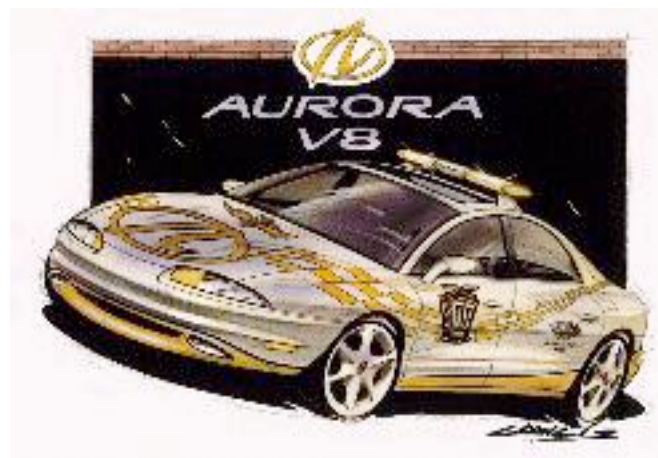


## CAN WE DO IT?

## YES, WE CAN!

**(Or how the Motor City Rockets came to host the 2008 OCA Nationals)**

**The idea of hosting a national meet was first introduced at our chapter's initial meeting in January 2005. Pat Yancey, OCA president, approached Bill Szlag, our activity director, with the proposal. Bill then brought the idea to the membership and the rest is history. Con't on Page 4**



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## Greetings from the President

### 1<sup>st</sup> MCR Dinner Cruise A Success

We had our first ever MCR dinner cruise last month. It was held at Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia and there were 20 present. The idea came from Greg Carriere because he thought it would be good for members to meet together socially apart from our regular car related activities and learn a little more about each other. So the dinner gave us the opportunity to do just that. Most of us know each other by the kind of Olds we drive but how much more do we know about our fellow members? I know that I sometimes refer to a new member as the guy who drives the '442' or the couple who has the 'eighty-eight' until I get to know them better. We love our Olds but we are so much more than our cars. So we met, ate dinner and talked about everything from our parents to our kids and grandkids. We discussed jobs, cruises, vacations, pets, our health, the super bowl, the weather and maybe even a little about cars. It was a lot of fun. We hope to keep this an ongoing activity and have scheduled it on the first Saturday of each month. We need to take turns as members to volunteer to select a restaurant, reserve it for about 20-25 people and then get the word out to the membership. The March dinner has already been planned. The April dinner will be skipped because it falls so close to Easter. However, we do need a location for May.

**Steve Apking**

Curious when she found two black-and-white negatives in a drawer, Jane had them made into prints. She was pleasantly surprised to see that they were a picture of her as a younger, slimmer person, taken on one of her first dates with her husband.

When showing him the photos, his face lit up. "Wow, look at that!" he said with appreciation. "It's my old Cutlass!"  
submitted by Jeff Pregler

## Editor's Notes

*By now you've had a chance to take a look at the new format of our newsletter. Hope you like it. Kelly and I are still getting our feet wet, so you may see some more changes along the way. We were very pleased that Dave & Cindy Klemm shared their Olds experience to give us a great story for our first "Members' Spotlight" article. If anyone else wants to share his/her story, please let us know. We'll be glad to put an article together for you. We've also had suggestions about having a "tech tip" section and perhaps a service directory. These are good ideas and we welcome any and all of them. Remember this is your newsletter and we want to make it relevant to you, the membership. Send any stories, tips, ideas or comments to: [s442apking@aol.com](mailto:s442apking@aol.com).*

**Sue Apking & Kelly Ferry**



Oldsmobile



MARCH 2007						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 MCR Dinner Cruise Hamblin Pub Shelby Twp
4	5	6	7	8	9 AutoRama	10 AutoRama
11 AutoRama	12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day MCR AND NATIONALS MEETING
18	19	20	21 Vernal Equinox	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

UPCOMING EVENTS: APRIL 21 MCR AND NATIONALS MEETING

MAY 20 DUST-OFF

## Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome our newest members, **Lowell Petersen, Alan Agauas, and Ernie Frazier** to the club. We look forward to having you join us at future activities. Come and share meetings and for upcoming the fun!



**CAN WE DO IT? YES, WE CAN!** con't. from Page 1

It would be a huge undertaking. Would the Motor City Rockets be interested in hosting a national meet? Where would we begin? Would enough people volunteer? How would we finance it? Could we handle something so big? Several members got busy, very busy. They prepared questionnaires to elicit the interest level of the club. The questionnaires were followed by phone calls. The results were very encouraging, with the majority of the club showing interest and a willingness to work.

From there a core team was put together to gather information on what it would take to put on such a feat. We knew we would need some help, so we went to those who had experience in such matters. In that regard, the North Texas Oldsmobile Club (NTOC) and the Cadillac Club proved to be invaluable by supplying us with information such as the numbers of committees needed and the duties of said committees. In fact, some members had already stepped up to coordinate some of these committees.

Now what? Well, if you're going to host a car show, you have to have somewhere to put those people and their cars. So the next step was securing a host hotel. We started looking at area hotels. We approached the Hyatt in Dearborn because they had hosted car shows previously including the Cadillac Club 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary meet. After many meetings, their venue was selected and negotiations were underway. More planning was underway and a proposal was presented to the OCA board at the Seattle's Nationals. We found out later that our club had been selected to host the 2008 Nationals. Now it was official. Later the contract with the Hyatt was signed.

In February of 2006, we held our kick-off meeting for the 2008 Nationals at the Hyatt, the host hotel. It gave members a chance to see the Hyatt and become familiar with the surroundings. A lunch was provided and it was well attended. It was decided that from that point on, we would combine our regular MCR meetings with our Nationals meetings. At this time, our co-chairs, Bill Szelag and Alan Wilcox gave an overview of the entire event. We voted on our theme and the "Motor City Rocket Reunion" was off and running. Committees were formed and the functions of those committees were defined. An executive group was also formed to oversee all decisions. With the 2006 Nationals being held in Dallas, several members decided to attend that event, volunteered and came away with loads of information. We also presented to the OCA board an update on the progress we had made up to that point. As the rest of 2006 passed, a project plan was put in place and more members came forward to help.

Now with two meetings under our belt in 2007, we've made significant progress. All committee coordinators and associates are busy with their specific duties and reporting monthly on their progress. As this year's Nationals approach, some members are preparing to go to Bowling Green. We will again present another update on our plans to the board. In addition, over 30 of our club's members and spouses/friends will be volunteering there. The goal is to have much of the framework events and pricing done by June so when we man our MCR Reunion information table we will have a finalized registration form!! When the 2007 Nationals end, our club will be even stronger with more and deeper friendships formed having accomplished such a major project as a team. Although a lot of work is getting done we are also having much fun in the process. There'll be much more to report as we get closer to August of 2008 and don't forget, it's never too late to get in on all the fun.

So to answer the question, Can we do this? **You bet we can and we are!** It's just another testimonial to the talents, friendships and the work ethic of the Motor City Rockets.

Please contact Bill Szelag or Alan Wilcox if you want to join the fun and contribute your talents!!

*Sue Apking*

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# MCR Meeting Minutes

Feb 17, 2007

Dearborn Hyatt Regency



Meeting called to order at 9:30AM

- \* Sign in sheet passed around for volunteers to work at Bowling Green Nationals
- \* Lunch today at TGIF in Fairlane Circle at 12 Noon
- \* Welcome new Member Ernie Frazier
- \* Happy Birthday to members with Birthdays in February

Treasury Report

- \* Up to 104 Members now
- \* Name tag supplier cannot supply any more. Checking on new supplier. Might go up from \$8 to \$15. Would have magnets and pins to attach.

Future Events

- \* March 3<sup>rd</sup> Dinner Cruise – February had good turnout – Need location for March – Bill suggested Hamlin Pub at 21 or 22 Mile at Hayes.
- \* March 17<sup>th</sup> Next Membership/Nationals Meeting
- \* April Dinner Cruise – Need location
- \* April 21<sup>st</sup> Membership/Nationals Meeting
- \* May 20<sup>th</sup> – Dust Off at Livonia Rotary Park – Have insurance and OCA Roadshow Event – Announced in Cruisin' News, OCA and any other event site that anyone can think of. Steve to check into putting in Hemmings. Jerry to put in REO newsletter.
- \* Greg has offered to have a working type "Picnic" event where you can work on your car (oil change, etc).
- \* Dennis and Karon Piskorowski have volunteered to have a picnic at their place on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- \* Oldsmobile Homecoming June 16<sup>th</sup>. Contact Judy Badgely from REO Club if you want to volunteer to work. This year it will be a non-judged event.
- \* Bowling Green Nationals in July.

New Business

- \* Autorama in March
- \* Bearing Burners (not at Freedom Hill this year) at GM Tech Center

Issues

- \* Member's information showing up on Google Search – If anyone is sensitive to this information being out there and it will not be included in newsletters. Let any officer know if you want to be excluded from any published item.

Merchandise

- \* Suzi Macaluso does embroidery will add small MCR Logo to anything that you purchase.
- \* See Mary for any merchandise

Woodward

- \* Dennis – contacted Oakland Press for Woodward parking – no luck
- \* Jeff – Charter One Bank doesn't own some of the buildings – some that are possibilities are being checked into. Probably no decision until closer to event.
- \* Bill will still plan to talk to owners of what used to be Wendy's.
- \* If anyone has any other sites, let the officers know.

Meadowbrook

- \* Club was invited to the Concours de'Elegance in August to be on the grounds. \$20 Tickets required. Need to know by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Minimum of 10 tickets needed. Based on show of hands, club will commit to be there.

New Banner

- \* Current Banner starting to wear. Going to wait until Nationals logo is done and then get both a MCR and Nationals. Investigate a movie screen type mount. Please contact Alan with any other suggestions for banners.

Tom Bejma – MCR Secretary



## OCA 2008 NATIONALS Meeting Minutes

Saturday, February 17, 2007

### Dearborn Hyatt Regency

\* All items in bold are action items/  
requests for help or information

Meeting called to order at 10:30AM



- \* Bowling Green 2007 ahead of the game as far as registration – 150 so far.
- \* **MCR will be providing a sheet showing MCR volunteers available for the Bowling Green 2007 Nationals. Need to turn in by next month, Steve has put together sheet and will pass around/send out to those going to 2007 Nats.**
- \* Today's meeting is for general information for each committee. Send email with details to Bill or Alan with specifics on your activity so Exec team can act/make decisions.
- \* Very important for coordinators to send dates/key action steps to Dave Tucker to update Master timeline.
- \* Need from Coordinators: Do you have expenses? Timing. Details required that affect the Registration Form. Anything that affects another Team.
- \* Reviewed proposed schedule of events
- \* Possibility of Friday Hines Drive Cruise, DJ, BBQ outside, possible Drive-In Movie in the parking lot showing Olds commercials etc.
- \* **Any suggestions for entertainment – contact Hotel Committee**
- \* Racing Class has to go to Milan Dragway on Saturday for their Class racing activity. Garfield to check further for details/new activity as there is an OCA person assigned to this for 2007 BG Nats, we will not be directly responsible.
- \* Master Timing on the secure, Members Only, section of the MCR Website. Send Brian Lorway email to set up user name and password.
- \* Ladies Luncheon – Laurie – all activities at Hotel for lunch. Proposals being reviewed. Theme – pamper your Oldsmobile Lady, massages in AM, speaker.
- \* Raffle and Auctions – Dennis and Karon Piskorowski just recently volunteered to head this up. Send any ideas and any donated items to them.
- \* Vendor area – Al Ferry working on getting vendors for 1.5 to 2 days (Thursday morning to Friday night). Set up in half of the Hubbard Room. Different than Swap Meet. Services and new garage Equipment, etc. **Add vendor names in Show Book. If anyone has any contacts, let Al know.**
- \* Onsite activities – Paulette – Welcome party with banquet – possibly Taste of Detroit – Fast Food on Thursday – Friday feed the judges, move Fast Food outside – Friday night BBQ, DJ, alcohol TBD (confined area), Drive-In – Saturday Banquet, limit number of people to 750, Cash Bar, due to size no major

Entertainment, – Need help with table decorations, simple entertainer (possible comedian, short spot 10-15 minutes), A/V Set up, Photos, recruits to help.

- \* Swap Meet – Dan contacting OCA Swap Meet Representative
- \* Security – Anyone with any experience or suggestions, please contact Dave Tucker or Mike Anderson. New member Ernie Frazier volunteered to help.
- \* Communications – Developing this area – can wait until later to get details
- \* Off Site Activities – 25% complete for plan – deciding between 2 bus companies – Wednesday GM Proving Grounds, Edsel Ford Estate? – Thursday Heritage Center, Rouge Tour/Greenfield Village – Friday Hines Parkway Cruise, Detroit City Tour – Saturday Detroit River Cruise – Need guides and any suggestions to the Coordinators
- \* **On-site Transportation/Grounds/Trailer Parking – Have 2 donated Golf Carts – need more, if anyone has any information contact Lanny Yankee** – Porta Johns still working on requirement
- \* Judging – Judging, Limiting cars to 600 entries, possible 150+ judges, need someone to help on Awards, Ernie Frazier volunteered to help
- \* Information/Issue Assistance – No updates yet – can wait until later
- \* Merchandise – Need logo finalized before vendor selection and prices
- \* Publications/Meet Magazine – Prices estimates pretty much finalized, need to make final decisions
- \* Website – Dave Tucker talking to Brian, possible website registration
- \* Registration – Adding information from Texas Database – Will be able to have output on events and monies
- \* **Budget – Alan needs everyone to keep sending costs – Meeting with bank to see if possibility to get Credit Card payments online**
- \* Graphic Design – Brad Bishop working on concepts, should have before next Exec meeting

#### Round Table

- \* One pager for Oldsmobile Homecoming
- \* Oldsmobile Hot Air Balloon – Pat knows owners, willing to have tether rides for a fee

Meeting adjourned at  
12 Noon





## ATTENTION

Below is the list of committees in place and the coordinator/coordinators responsible for said committees. To any interested members who have not yet volunteered for the 2008 Nationals, please look over this list. Perhaps there is an area where you can supply your talent or a person you know that you would like to work alongside. It's really interesting and fun to be in on the planning and we always meet for lunch after our monthly meetings. Contact Bill or Alan for details.

## 2008 OCA NATIONALS COMMITTEE COORDINATORS AND ASSOCIATES

Area	Coordinators	Associates
1. Meet Chairman	Alan Wilcox, Bill Szelag	NA
2. Executive Committee	Steve Apking, Alan Wilcox, Bill Szelag, Dan Evans, Jeff Pregler, Dave Tucker, Tom Bejma, Pat Macaluso, Al Ferry, Jerry Garfield, Scott Wozena	NA
2A. Graphic Design	Brad Bishop, Exec Committee	NA
3. Meet Hotel Liaisons	Bill Szelag, Pat Macaluso, Al Ferry	Bernie Biske, Sue Pashukewich
4. Treasurer/Budget	Alan Wilcox, Jeff Pregler	NA
5. Registration/Entry Packets/Data Base	Jeff Pregler, Sue Pashukewich, Tom Bejma	Jim Biske, Bernie Biske, Pat Yankee, Sue Apking, Denise Tucker, Dorothy Maseles
6. Web Site Master	Brian Lorway, Alan Wilcox	TBD, TBD
7. Volunteer Scheduling	Greg Carriere, Jerry Skinner	NA
8. Sponsor/Advertising/DMCVB	Steve Apking, Sue Apking	Pat Kress
9. Publications/Meet Magazine	Denise Tucker, TBD	Dave Tucker, Chris Carson
10. Meet Merchandise Sales	Mary Szelag, Pat Yankee	Glen Ross
11. Information/Issue Assistance	Suzi Macaluso, Dorothy Maseles	Denise Tucker, Kelly Ferry
12. Show Field/Judging/Awards	Jerry Garfield, Ernie Frazier, Doug Width	Mike Anderson, Ken Kress, James Kryta
13. On-site Transportation, Grounds, Trailer parking	Lanny Yankee, Pat Yankee	Bob / Lori Kanas, Jack Tokie
14. Off-Site Activities	Scott Wozena, Ken Kress, Bill Tumidanski	Bob Andersen, Dennis Dust
15. Communications	Greg Carriere, TBD	TBD
16. Security	Dave Tucker, Mike Anderson, Ernie Frazier	Ellen / Doug Rosenthal, Dan Bost, Mary Dunlap, Lanny Yankee, Stacey Rose
17. Swap Meet	Dan Evans, Ed Pashukewich	Matt Roediger
18. Banquet	Paulette Width, Bill Szelag, Pat Macaluso, Al Ferry	Glen Ross, TBD
19. On-site Activities, Welcome Event, Entertainment	Bill Szelag, Pat Macaluso, Al Ferry	TBD
20. OEM Supplier Display	Al Ferry, Glen Ross	Bill Tumidanski, TBD
21. Raffle/Auction	Dennis / Karon Piskorowski	TBD, TBD
22. Women's Activities	Laurie Hill, TBD	Paulette Width, Denise Tucker, Sue Apking, Suzi Macaluso, Mary Szelag, Gina Carriere, Kelly Ferry
23. Photography	Bill Szelag, TBD	Gina Carriere





# MCR SERVICE TEAM

## MCR OFFICERS

MCR President Steve Apking

[president@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:president@motorcityrockets.com)

MCR Vice President Dan Evans

[vicepresident@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:vicepresident@motorcityrockets.com)

MCR Treasurer Alan Wilcox

[treasurer@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:treasurer@motorcityrockets.com)

MCR Secretary Tom Bejma

[secretary@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:secretary@motorcityrockets.com)

## MCR HISTORIAN

Dorothy Maseles

[historian@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:historian@motorcityrockets.com)

If you have any Oldsmobile or MCR Club items that you would like to provide.

## OTHER MCR POSITIONS

MCR Newsletter Editors Sue Apking

Kelly Ferry

[editor@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:editor@motorcityrockets.com)

MCR Activities Director Bill Szelag

[events@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:events@motorcityrockets.com)

## MCR WEB MASTER

Brian Lorway

[webmaster@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:webmaster@motorcityrockets.com)

If you have any comments or suggestions for the MCR web site.

## MCR MERCHANDISE

To view our merchandise please visit



<http://www.motorcityrockets.com/merchandise.htm>

To Purchase please contact

Mary Szelag

[merchandise@motorcityrockets.com](mailto:merchandise@motorcityrockets.com)

## MCR WEB SITE

[www.motorcityrockets.com](http://www.motorcityrockets.com)

The MCR web site includes:

- \* **An Event Calendar** – Where all MCR members can schedule or post club events
- \* **Chat Application** – Rocket Chat – Where MCR members can host chat rooms
- \* **An Archive Area** – Where all prior years event photos and documents are stored
- \* **An Event Photo Gallery** – A display of current year event photos
- \* **The Bulletin Board** - Club member details and National updates - register to gain access.