



Sept / Oct 2013
Volume 2, Issue 5

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Motor City Rockets

The Rocket Fuel Newsletter

2013 OCA Nationals

The Land of Lincoln welcomed the Motor City Rockets with open arms during the 2013 OCA Nationals. Most of us arrived on Wednesday while a few came early on Tuesday. All in all we came with 13 show cars and 32 people. For the most part the weather treated us kindly although rain came our way Thursday evening with some lingering showers occurring on Friday, judging day. However, those showers came and went quickly and didn't impact judging too much. There were some 360 cars with 250 of them judged. Registrations included people from 36 states, Canada and Switzerland. Vendors were both inside and outside this year. Jack Tokie and James Kryta had the privilege of showcasing their cars indoors where there were many admirers. Also available inside were meet merchandise, OCA items, craft and food items. The Crowne Plaza hotel was an excellent host venue and from the 14th floor one could see the entire show field. The Holiday Inn Express adjacent to the host hotel made it very convenient for those of us who stayed there.

Our members did very well at this year's Nationals and came away with many first place awards, several Best of Class awards and two specialty awards. Pictures of winners are on page 6.

While many of us did not attend the scheduled events, we did manage to make our own fun. Groups of us had lunches and dinners together. One night several of us hit a local eatery, *The Cozy Dog Drive Inn* followed by a drive to a local *Dairy Queen*. Healthy? No. Fun? Yes! And yet another evening found some of us on a portion of Old Rt. 66. It was great to see others admire our cars as we drove around.

There was a general membership meeting held Saturday. I did not stay for the entire meeting so please check a forwarded e-mail dated 8/3/13 from Alan Wilcox. In it is a summary of issues that were addressed at that meeting. It is from Vicki May, president of the R.E.Olds chapter. Also check the details below of next year's Nationals.

The 2014 Oldsmobile Nationals Cincinnati, Ohio

July 30 – August 3

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn & Suites
Cincinnati-Eastgate

4501 Eastgate Blvd. Cincinnati,
Ohio 45245

**“Reservations can be made
beginning August 18, 2013”**

**Hotel recommends calling “local
hotel number” for best results**

(513) 752-4400

Event Name: Oldsmobile Club of
America, Nationals Meet 2014

Room Rate: \$109.00 (standard)
\$129.00 (suites)

All other info:
www.cincyoldsclub.us

Editor's Notes

Welcome to the fall issue of the MCR *Rocket Fuel* newsletter. This edition covers the club's summer activities, including a recap of the 2013 OCA Nationals as you have read on our front page. MCR made a great showing in Illinois. Look for pictures on page 6. You'll also see that our club had a very busy August attending the Gratiot Cruise and the Woodward Dream Cruise. At time of publication, I have no information for any fall meetings or future activities for the club so be aware that when that info becomes available, it will be sent to you via e-mail. However I would like to remind you of the 30th annual **Frankenmuth Auto Fest**. It's scheduled from Sept. 6- 8. While it's not an official club event, I know many members will be attending. There is also a car show in Leslie, MI on Saturday, Sept. 7. It's part of the Leslie Fall Festival. Contact Jerry Garfield for more info.

lastolds@wowway.com

While in Illinois, I was given a great tip from Dennis Piskorowski. At the Nationals, Dennis observed one car that had its chapter newsletter displayed on the dash. The front page article showcased a member's car. Dennis thought this could be something we should try for our newsletter. It's a great idea and one I endorse. In fact it's something this editor and my predecessor, Denise Tucker have tried before. For example, note the February 2007 *Rocket Fuel's* front page article about Dave & Cindy Klemm's convertible. So let's try to resurrect **Member's Spotlight** for our newsletter. If you would like your car to grace the front cover of our newsletter, please send a write-up with pictures.

As you may know, we recently lost a fellow MCR member. Dave Klemm passed away August 17. Please keep Cindy in your thoughts and prayers. There is my personal remembrance of Dave on page 5. I also ask that you continue your prayers and good wishes for Sharon Tumidanski. When last I spoke with Sharon, she tells me she's doing very well.

Deadline for the Oct/Nov issue is **Oct.28**.

Sue Apking

Birthdays/Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

September 3 Sharon Tumidanski
September 6 Karl Kimball
September 24 Ed Pashukewich
September 30 Jeff Pregler
October 16 Kelly Ferry

Happy Anniversary

October 1 Bob & Deb Wheeler

Member Spotlight

Congratulations to Ed Pashukewich. He received a pin and jacket commemorating 30 years of OCA membership.

Welcome New Members

John Chioini Dennis Hatmaker Louie DiLorenzo
Terry/Janice Laughlin Jim/Dottie Wogan

September 2013



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 Labor Day | 3 Sharon Tumidanski | 4 | 5 Rosh Hashanah | 6 Karl Kimball Frankenmuth | 7 Frankenmuth Auto Fest |
| 8 Frankenmuth Auto Fest | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Yom Kippur |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 1 st day of Autumn | 23 | 24 Ed Pashukewich | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Jeff Pregler | | | | | |

“Be sure to check the **MCR Website** calendar for additional details.”



An asterisk * denotes a “club” activity.

October 2013

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|----------|
| | | 1 Wheeler's Anniversary | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 Columbus Day | 15 | 16 Kelly Ferry | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Halloween | | |

Activities Recap

Gratiot Cruise

On Sunday, August 4 the Motor City Rockets attended the 11th annual Clinton Township Gratiot cruise. We were the guests of MCR member, Cliff Carson. Cliff is a gracious host and always allows us to park our cars in the lot of Baker College. This affords us a terrific view of the day's events. Cliff also provides the best "goodie bags". This year we received a Baker college tee shirt, hat, mug and note pad.

The cruise started at noon with a parade headed by Grand Marshall, Michigan Supreme Court judge, David Viviano. Others heading the parade included Clinton Township and Macomb County executives with fire and police personnel in tow. They cruised the 2 ½ mile route that began at Gratiot and ended at Harrington. We set up our canopy and watched the many beautiful cars. They ranged in age from the very old to the current models. There were also busses, motorcycles, dune buggies and trucks. The weather was good, perhaps a bit breezy but the sun did manage to pop its head out every now and then.

We extended our day with supper at Dave & Cindy Klemm's house where the food and the desserts are always fantastic. It was another great day of friends making memories. Thanks to Cliff Carson for hosting the cruise and to Dave and Cindy for providing the grub.

Woodward Dream Cruise

Saturday, August 17 was the date for the 19th annual Woodward Dream Cruise. As a club, we have participated since 2001. Although we started at the Wendy's in Royal Oak, the Long Lake branch of the Charter One bank has now become our home. We love it there for many reasons: the price is right; we have a great restaurant conveniently located next door, along with clean bathrooms; we have the ability to come and go when we please; there is plenty of room to park cars and set up canopies.

This year the weather was absolutely perfect and I believe that accounted for a great turnout. We had 35-40 cars in attendance. Our parking lot was pretty diverse this year. In addition to all the Oldsmobiles, we had trucks, vans, Fords and a Tiger sports car. We even had one of the original dune mobiles. We set up three canopies and had a table displayed with OCA and MCR info. Newcomers stopped by and they seemed very interested in joining our ranks. I believe we'll soon have more members.

A highlight of the day was the appearance of a freelance journalist. She wanted to do an article about the history of cruising Woodward. She spoke with MCR members, Jack Tokie and Doug Width. She discussed with them the early Woodward days before the official formation of the dream cruise. I'm sure she got some great stories and I hope her article gets chosen for publication.

The remainder of the day we spent watching other cruisers drive by and of course, we all had different opinions as to what was cool and what was not. Dan held a short meeting later in the day. Our dear friend, Dave Klemm was on our minds and we honored him by choosing his 1970 SX as the car for the dash plaque that each participant received in their goodie bag. There was also a larger depiction of that same car on a plaque and was to be presented to Dave & Cindy. Sadly though we learned right after the meeting ended that Dave had lost his battle with cancer. It was bittersweet for all of us. Somehow we felt Dave was there with us.

After a long day, everyone gathered their belongings, packed up and headed for home. Huge thanks go to Jeff Pregler, Pat Macaluso, Phil Woodward and Alan Wilcox for the organization and execution of the day's event. As in past years, a donation was given to the bank from the fees charged for the parking spots.

Dave Klemm

“One of the Good Guys”

How do you say goodbye to a friend? It's never easy. If they simply move away, you know you can always call or go to visit them. You have time and you have opportunities to see them again. But when death takes away that friend, those opportunities cease. You feel robbed. You feel sadness and anger at the same time. You can't understand the unfairness of it all. And the questions arise: Why him? Why now? Why at all? There are no answers that will satisfy us or help us to make some sense of it. There are only memories.

If ever there was an all-around sweet, kind and gentle man, it was Dave Klemm. He enjoyed being around people and we sure enjoyed spending time with him. I'll forever remember all the fun times spent at our club's events. It was really his love of cars that brought Dave and Cindy into our lives. They immersed themselves fully into our club and we are all the better for it. When Cindy took over the merchandising for our club, Dave was right there, hauling all the merchandise around and helping in setting up the displays. And don't forget the famous breakfasts at Traverse City. I think Dave hauled most of Cindy's kitchen in the back of their car and again helped in setting it up and tearing it down. Trips to Frankenmuth, Traverse City, OCA Meets and car museums and "cruisin" Woodward and Gratiot will always be treasured memories. Perhaps it was the "after parties" in the lobbies of various hotels where we had the most fun.

When I first took on the position of newsletter editor, I asked for articles. Dave and Cindy were the first to respond. When I returned to the position after a few years away and again needed and begged for anything to put in our newsletter, Dave was there again to supply a tech tip.

I also remember Dave at our MCR bowling parties. He was a terrific bowler. If you praised him on his game, he would shrug it off, saying; 'Oh, it's just I've had years of practice'. He was never boastful and would give you tips only if you asked him. I can see him too on the deck of their house grilling and serving up hamburgers. And he was always the most gracious host, along with Cindy at our MCR Christmas parties. Suffice it to say, he was there, ready and willing to help out whatever the need.

I cannot claim to know all that Dave was. I cannot sum up Dave's life in this short piece, but I can claim this. Dave loved Cindy. Dave loved his cars. Dave loved us and we loved him.

He was "one of the good guys".

Sue Apking

“THE MEASURE OF A MAN”

***Not- How did he die? But- How did he live?
Not- What did he gain? But- what did he give?
These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.
Not- What was his station? But- Had he a heart?
And – How did he play his God-given part?
Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer?
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?
Not-What was his church? Not- What was his creed?
But- Had he befriended those really in need?
Not-What did the sketch in the newspaper say?
But-How many were sorry when he passed away?
These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.
Author Anonymous***

2013 OCA Nationals Winners



OCA Nationals' Winners

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Car</u> | <u>Award</u> |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Steve Apking | 13G | 1985 442 | 1 st place/BOC |
| Jim Biske | 14A | 1966 Toro | 1 st place |
| Mike Franks | 10B | 1971 Cutlass Convertible | 1 st place |
| Karl Kimball | 8A | 1961 Super 88 | 1 st place |
| Sonee Lapadot | 13D | 1971 442 Convertible | 1 st place |
| Brock Loewen | 16B | 1969 442 | 1 st place/Joe Mondello |
| Pat Macaluso | 11B | 1988 Supreme Classic | 1 st place |
| Doug Width | 20D | 1932 Olds | 1 st place Seniors/BOC R.E. Olds Pre War |
| Phil Woodward | 14C | 1985 Toro | 1 st place/BOC |

Summer Fun MCR Style





MCR SERVICE TEAM

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--|
| President | Dan Evans | president@motorcityrockets.com |
| Vice President | Phil Woodward | vicepresident@motorcityrockets.com |
| Treasurer | Alan Wilcox | treasurer@motorcityrockets.com |
| Secretary | Barbara Cook | secretary@motorcityrockets.com |
| Newsletter | Sue & Steve Apking | editor@motorcityrockets.com |
| Activities | Jeff Pregler | events@motorcityrockets.com |
| Merchandise | Cindy Klemm | merchandise@motorcityrockets.com |
| Historian | Dorothy Maseles | historian@motorcityrockets.com |
| Webmaster | Brian Lorway | webmaster@motorcityrockets.com |

