



February 2015
Volume 4, Issue 2

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Motor City Rockets

The Rocket Fuel Newsletter

Greetings from the President:

Greetings Rockets!

We have made it to February. The club enjoyed a really nice visit to the Arsenal of Defense Museum in St. Clair Shores yesterday. It was a small museum but quite nicely done. I was able to see (and sit in) a Halftrack for the first time.

Afterwards we lunched at Pat O'Brien's Tavern. The service was rather slow, but the company was good so we didn't really mind much.

Don't forget our next meeting is coming up fast. The Valentine's bowling event at Drakeshire Lanes in Farmington Hills is on the 15th of February. RSVP to Jeff Pregler to get put on the

winning team (or just come and cheer the bowlers on!).

Well, stay warm out there, the nice weather is coming and we'll have our cars out and about (about for our Canadian members) before you know it.

Get ready to light those Rockets!

Alan

Remember your Valentine on February 14!

Editor's Notes

Thank you for your support on my first ever newsletter. I didn't make TOO many mistakes so I guess I get to continue doing the newsletter.

I DID make one BIG mistake, though, that I would like to correct. In the story on the Christmas party I said that 'Dave' Carriere did the "steal" count. It was actually GREG Carriere. I am SO sorry Greg!

Eagle Eye was a big hit so I will continue it. Look for who was the first to send me the location under the **Eagle Eye** section of the newsletter. One point I would like to clear up, the Olds logos on the very last page ARE NOT what you are to look for. Those symbols are left over from Sue's newsletters that I liked so much I kept in. That was my mistake in not being clearer on what you are to look for.

If you would like to submit ANYTHING for use in the newsletter, please have it to me no later than the 28th of each month. Sue put out the newsletter every other month, at this time I would like to send one out the first of EVERY month as we have a lot going on that I want everyone to be aware of. Of course, this may change but I will give everyone a heads up before I make any changes like that.

Please continue to send me your photos for **Down Memory Lane**. I received a wonderful photo for this month. If you have a business card you would like advertised, send it to me; if you have car related items you wish to sell OR purchase and would like to get the word out I am willing to put it in the newsletter.

The MCR calendar is still available, just find me at a MCR event. Remember that if you are getting a 2nd or 3rd it will cost you \$5.00. And PLEASE make this correction to the calendar, if you have one, **IN THE MONTH OF JUNE: ALL of the events I put in are one week TOO early. So, move Homecoming from the 13th and put it on the 20th; Eyes on Design goes to the 21st and the Toronado Nationals starts on the 29th.** So sorry for the mistake, my fact checker (ME) must have been asleep at the wheel (pun intended) for that month.

Jill Woodward

Happy Valentine's Day everyone!

happy
birthday

FEBRUARY

7 – Ron Whittenbach

12 – Al Ferry

14 – Dorothy Maseles

19 – Alan Aguas

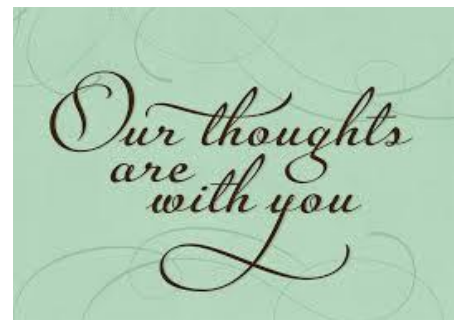
22 – Eva Cooper

Cliff Carson

28 – Terry Garfield

Our Deepest Sympathies go out to:

Donna Franks and family at the passing of Mike on Jan. 11.



EVENTS:

ROCKETS 2015 Valentine Meeting, Bowling & Just Fun Event

When: Sunday, February 15, 2015

Where: Drakeshire Lanes
3500 Grand River Ave.
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
Phone: 248-478-2230
<http://www.drakeshirelanes.com/our-location.html>

Time: Meeting - 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Lunch - 12:00 PM – 01:30 PM
Bowling - 01:30 PM - Until our 3 games and awards are done, it should be near 4:30 PM

Cost: Lunch (\$12.00) per person
Bowling (\$9.00) per person
Lunch & Bowling (\$21.00) per person
Shoe Rental (\$2.50) (You will pay this separate at the desk since some people have their own shoes)

Please try to have the correct change for the lunch & bowling since we will be collecting it.

We want everyone to wear their favorite bowling shirts, so if you don't have one make one up, it's all for Fun. Ladies don't forget your

BLING or Pat Kress will be upset 😞 !

Special Note: If you do not or cannot bowl that's OK we need cheerleaders also! The more people in attendance the more **"FUN"** we all have!

Please **RSVP** to motorcityrocketsevents@gmail.com . Contact Pat / Suzi Macaluso with any questions. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the February MCR Valentine event!

Happy Oldsmobiling,
Jeff Pregler
MCR Events Coordinator: 248-740-9898

Hopefully everyone received this email from Jeff already.

MCR Meeting Feb. 15 @ 11am before Bowling

March: 6-8 Autorama

21 Ford Rouge Plant Tour/Tour, Lunch and MCR meeting

April: 25 MCR Mystery Road Trip (dates and time may change)

May: 30 DUST OFF/ Car show, pot luck lunch, MCR meeting

**June: 19 Diamondale rolls out the red carpet for the night before
Oldsmobile's Homecoming**

**20 Oldsmobile Homecoming in Lansing/car show, swap
Meet, club meeting**

**20 R.E. Olds Museum after Homecoming's "Night at the
Museum" in Lansing**

20 East Pointe Gratiot Cruise

21 Eyes on Design

29-July 3 Toronado Nationals

July: 15-18 National Antique Olds Club Nationals

22-26 Oldsmobile Club of America Nationals

25 R.E. Olds Car Capital Celebration

26 Concours D'Elegance of America

August: 2 Clinton Gratiot Cruise

15 Woodward Dream Cruise/Cruise and MCR meeting

Sept.: 11-13 MCR Fall Cruise (still in planning)

**Oct.: 10 Great Pumpkin Car Show in Howell/Show and MCR
Meeting**

Dec.: 5 MCR Holiday Party/dinner, gift exchange, MCR meeting

Detroit Arsenal of Democracy Museum – January event

What a wonderful, little known gem was found in this museum in St. Clair Shores. Many thanks to Ed and Sue (MCR members) and John Lind and Patrick Kopytek of the museum for their knowledge and love of the museum that they shared with all of us. Some of my highlights were: J. Edgar Hoover's car where the bullet proof windows were over 1" thick and the heavy armored plates inside the door panels; the jeep where the driver's seat was on top of the gas tank!!!!!! And Ed told me that there would, also, be sand bags on the floor in case you ran over something that went "BOOM" so there was VERY little room for the driver's or passenger's feet. Then, there was a vehicle with this weird metal bar in front. Ed told me that was because the German's would run barbed wire between trees and that bar would cut the wire before the wire could cut you.



There was a fabulous diorama made to a 1:6 scale of the Battle of the Bulge. One of the members of the museum does these dioramas as a hobby and he did a great job. The museum has a little competition where the first person each day to find the "Kilroy was here" sign gets a small prize – well, I was the lucky winner of a "Kilroy" key ring. My father was a clerk during WWII and I got to see a field typewriter and it gave me a better feeling of what my father used in the war. Finally, a few of us were able to climb into a couple of vehicles for photo ops playing with the "Big Guns!" Our President, Alan, said "I learned that to be a soldier you had to be short!" as he had a little trouble climbing while ducking into the vehicle.



Those are my highlights. If you missed the event, I encourage you to visit at least once. But, go more than once as they like to change out their displays. This is a great collection of military history.

More pictures from the museum are on the next page:



A funny sign.



Sitting on the gas tank.



Diorama.



Looking for good captions for this photo of our MCR President "in action!" Send them to me and I will put them in next month's newsletter.



Summer of 1938 at Island Lake, near Brighton. Our own Ken Kress is the adorable towhead boy, looking AWAY from the camera, sitting on his father, Leo's, knee on the left. Next to them is Ken's mother, Marion, her sister and Ken's Godmother, Florence, holding cousin Joyce and uncle Jim Telfer and his 1937 Packard, which he was STILL driving in 1950.



Eagle Eye -

The Oldsmobile Rocket I hid was on page 4 on the GM building right below the GM sign. Our ***Eagle Eye*** was:

Dave Tucker time in: 1:36 A.M.! What were you doing up THAT early?!

Dave was followed closely by:

Donna Franks; Brock Loewen; Karl Kimball; Sue Apking; Dave Engel; Dan Evans; Don Cooper; Jerry Garfield; Doug and Judy Badgley; and Clay Cook. Congrats everyone. I hope I have made the Rocket a little less obvious so look closely.

Send Eagle Eye guesses to: mar22pjrc@aol.com

Memo: Eagle Eye

The holidays are over and "cabin fever" is setting in, and Baby it's just plain cold outside. As we look forward to getting the cars out and on the road, what about your cruising wardrobe? The Motor City Rockets have one of the coolest logos in the Oldsmobile world so just a quick reminder to dig out those t-shirts and hats and see if it's time for a new one. We have plenty on hand and if you require a new size (because you really did follow through on your New Year's resolution) let me know. I will be placing an order before Dust-off so it any of you guys or girls need a tall or any other special size or color(to match your car) let me know soon.

We also have the new Key Fobs on hand and if you attended the Christmas Party you got the NEW MCR ink pen. Both are \$5.00 each.

See you on the road.....Cindy



PLAYING TAG!



One Is Not Enough

It was the Saturday night of Easter weekend 2007 Suzi had gone to bed and I was still wide awake as usual. I had the TV on but there was nothing of interest to watch so I started looking for 1964 parts on E-Bay. I had been looking for an hour and a half but not finding a thing. Now it is about 12:30AM, and yes I was still wide awake. I said to myself, what should I do now. I decided to look at the Oldsmobile car listings going through car after car for another hour or so. I started getting tired so I decided I would finish this one page of listings and call it quits. I got to the last car on the page and I started reading the listing and said to myself NO WAY!! 1988 Cutlass Supreme Classic original owner's estate from North Carolina with only 27,500 miles. Black with gray interior, black landau, buckets, center counsel, 307 V8, automatic. The auction was going to end in 36 hours, and yes I am excited but now dead tired so I went to bed.

The next morning I couldn't wait to tell Suzi what I found and her first response was why do you need another car, **isn't one enough?** I first said I wasn't really looking to buy anything but how could I pass up a jewel like this if it is real, and **"NO, one is not enough"** if it's the right one.

Further conversation led to: I will call the person listing the car and talk with him and we can then talk more. I called the guy later that day and he explained the car was his grandmothers and that he and his mother were settling his grandparent's estate since his grandfather recently passed. His grandmother had passed away two years prior but his grandfather would not allow them to sell the car. He said his grandfather started the car multiple times a week and let it run and sometimes he would just drive it locally. He then tells me he put a very high reserve on it because he hadn't done anything like this before and felt it would not sell for that so would I call him after the auction was over the next day. I then asked him where in NC he was located and he said just outside Charlotte.

Suzi and I now had the **"is one enough"** discussion and we agreed if I could buy it for our agreed maximum amount it was a go!! ☺ <<Pat Of course I watched the auction like a hawk during those 36 hours.

Since I had a day to wait I called my longtime friend Steve who lives in Charlotte to see if he would be willing to look at it for me. And of course being a car guy the answer was an overwhelming YES. A lot of you met Steve when he came up a few years ago with his 1960 baby blue corvette and attended Woodward Dream Cruise with us. A little side note he and I bought our first cars well before our 16th birthdays - me at 14 and him at 15 years old. His a worn 1960 corvette but still pretty good and mine a 1955 Ford Pick Up and then a

1961 Pontiac Tempest like new but the little old lady went off the road and hit a stump so I had to put a fender and oil pan on it. Steve was one of the smart ones, he kept his first car. Haven't we all said this before, **"If I would have only kept that one?"**

The auction is over so it's now time to call the grandson and I am getting more excited by the minute. I gave him a call and yes it was still available so it's time to discuss price at a high level since I was planning on having Steve go look at it for me. We came to an agreement on price. I then made arrangements for Steve to call him and go look at it the next day. Steve called late that afternoon and the seller tells Steve he has sold it to someone else. Steve calls me and of course I am P _ _ _ _ d, so I call the guy and he tells me some guy made a big commitment locally and was going to come and pick it up by noon the next day. I called him just after noon to see if the guy showed up and no the guy did not show so Steve could come and look at it.

Steve went and looked it over, heard it run and then called me at about 7:00 PM and of course I was still at work downtown. I had Steve make him a final offer based on the inspection and he accepted it but not without a challenge for me. Steve tells me (now mind you this it Thursday night after 7:00 PM) there is one glitch you have to pick the car up this weekend since they have nowhere to store it after then.

Now the race is on, I need to take Friday afternoon off, get my truck and trailer ready. Obviously I called Suzi right away to give her the news. By the time I got home Suzi had told our girls and had arranged for my son-in-law Ben to go with me. It is now Friday I had to go downtown for meetings that morning so Ben met me there and I parked his truck in my parking garage and we went to Warren and picked up the trailer, stopped at the bank got the money for the car and hit the road.

My plan was to drive all night, get there and catch a cat nap in the truck, meet Steve and go get the car. Well that didn't happen, around 10:30 PM I get a call from the grandson and he tells me "OH" I forgot I am an assistant pro at the golf course and we have a big event going on so I won't be able to meet you until 1 to 2 tomorrow!!! I asked is everything ready with paperwork... answer YES. What can I say but OK and a few choice words when I hung up. I called Steve to let him know and he said no problem I will meet you and then take you to my Dad & Mom's and my brothers to visit since you haven't seen them in years.

Ben and I continue the 650 mile drive and got to the exit about 4:00 AM and proceeded to get some shut eye at a truck stop. It wasn't a problem for me but Ben at 6'7" about 300lbs could not get comfortable in the truck cab but finally made it work (somewhat). Steve meets us at 7:00 AM and says hey you have a low tire on the trailer "GREAT"!! We took the rig to a local tire store to get it fixed and went to breakfast.

Picked up the rig and took it to the truck stop and parked it and went to visit Steve's family until it was time to head for the car. It was now time to get the car. We met the grandson and his mother at the grandparents' house where the car was in Burlington NC. I proceeded to look the car over very closely and found a few things that were not shared which allowed me to get a price adjustment of \$500 (Diesel fuel money☺). Now it was time to get the paperwork done and he says we need to get the title notarized, I thought everything was ready! Didn't he get to it?? It is Saturday about 2:30 PM he had me follow him and his mother to the first dealership where he had a contact and their notary left at noon, went to dealership #2, closed?? All the time his mother is telling him "just go where I just bought my new Buick" so we finally did and low and behold MOM was right! The sales manager was there and he was a notary. While we were there Mom tells me this is where her Mom bought the Cutlass from Stanley Olds, Cad, GMC. Paperwork now done we go back to the house pay for the car, load the car and get back to where we met Steve so he can now get his truck. Since it was so late we went to dinner at a real country BBQ place (Great food) then hit the road for our 650 mile trip.

We are on the road and just as we get into the mountains the sky's open up, starts raining as they say "like cat's & dog's". I couldn't see two truck lengths in front of me but I pushed on. Ben struggling to stay awake was in no position to drive so I got us to just outside Cleveland OH where I had to give it up. We found a hotel and caught a few hours of sleep, got up and hit the road arriving in downtown Detroit early afternoon so Ben could get his truck and head to Battle Creek and me home.

It is all history now, Suzi and I are very proud of the car and enjoy it whenever we have time. The car has taken 1st place at every Olds Nationals it's been in and in 2013 received senior status.

"Remember one is not enough when you have Rockets and Oil running through your veins"

A few points of interest about the car:

Bought new @ Stanley Olds, Cad, GMC Burlington NC, on 11/4/1987 for \$15,500

It was a one owner car, we have all the supporting paperwork service records, bill of sale, original title, and the grandfather's death certificate.

I purchased the car on 4/14/2007, with the mileage of 27,515 which makes this an average of 1,376 miles per year over its 20 years of life.



Next month's **TAG YOU'RE IT!** Is this your car?

Remember – you have several options when playing this game!



1. DO NOT Respond
 2. Just give us the bare facts about the car
 3. Give a short story
 4. Give a medium length story
 5. Give a "Pat Macaluso" length story
- The choice is yours.

If you choose to play the game, then you owe me you owe me a story by February 28!



MEMBERS GARAGE.....

From Dan Evans – I am beginning a complete restoration on the 1968 442 that I bought from Dave Klemm two weeks before he left us. I can't seem to bring myself to sell it and certainly not in the shape it is in. Dave really wanted me to come to Kissimmee, FL to the Mecum Auction in 2012 to look it over first. I was in Louisville, KY at a Ford plant for work and couldn't get away. I did look on the website for the auction and noticed that the W-36 fender stripes were too far forward on the car. This was a dead giveaway the car had been worked on. I told Dave to look it over carefully. I go to a lot of shows and auctions. Not everyone does the same quality of work, and some people have a different perspective of a good job than I do.

I watched Velocity channel during the auction when I could, and even caught a glimpse of Dave and Cindy in the auction hall. 2 cars were purchased from that event; the '68 442 and Cindy's 1970 442 Pace Car convertible. When the '68 442 came home, Dave emptied the trunk and called me immediately. He said he thought he was going to be sick. The original intake manifold, exhaust manifolds, carburetor, and air cleaner were all in the trunk. They just happened to be placed over a hidden secret. I didn't even find the cause until August of 2013 when I drove the car home and got caught in a bad rainstorm.

The rear window leaked BAD. It was also not a new issue. This car was a one family car. I don't have all of those facts, but I do know the outcome. The leaking rear window concentrated moisture on the left trunk floor pan. When Dave called me, he said there were pin holes in the trunk floor! I stopped by after work that day and he had already started cleaning up the mess. Anyone that really knew Dave, also knew that he was all about detailing his cars. He would not stand for a messy engine bay, and the trunk area was just as important.

(Since this is an ongoing project, Dan's story will continue in upcoming newsletters.)



Dave working on the car



“Found the Leak!!!!”

MCR SERVICE TEAM

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