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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

WOW!!!! Where has the summer gone?

The last few weeks have been jam packed with action. In July the Rockets went to Albuquerque, NM for the OCA Nationals, and I can proudly say we rock! 29 Rockets made the trip, we had the most from any chapter in the country for the second year in a row and believe me when I say we had some pretty good competition from other chapters. The Gateway Olds chapter had 28 and are working hard to knock us out of the lead. We have already been challenged for the 2018 Nationals, so come on Rockets lets show the rest of the country how it’s done and go for the hat trick.

Next year the Nationals are in Gettysburg, PA, the dates are July 31 through August 5, 2018. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us. Currently the host hotel is sold out, but the good news is the secondary hotel, COURTYARD GETTYSBURG, is next door and is still being built. They will begin accepting reservations starting August 28. Their phone number is 717-334-5600 and ask for the “OCA Group Block.” From what we’ve been told there are some great tours and events planned.

Ok, enough about next year, yesterday was the Woodward Dream Cruise and again we had a great turnout. Saw a lot of Oldsmobiles and well you know those other cars. Our new location at the National Shrine of the Little Flower was spectacular, right in the center of the action, the weather was amazing and everyone who attended asked that we return next year. Your Board of Directors discussed it and reservations are being made later this month for next year. The only drawback to the location was the limited number of parking spots but we still made it work. Thank you Pat Macaluso and crew for all your hard work.

Next up on the agenda is the rebirth of the annual Fall Cruise Event. This year we are cruising to the west side of the state with a stop at the Gilmore Museum, a couple of wineries, great restaurants (because no MCR event goes without good food) and an automotive parts supplier warehouse. I'm not sure if there are any more rooms available but if you'd like to join us contact Pat Macaluso the MCR Events Director for more info as soon as possible.

In October is the Annual PumpkinFest in Howell, watch your email for more details.

After I read the current issue of JWO, with all the chapter stories, I would like you to all to put your thinking caps on and see if we can come up with some new and unique ways to have fun and maybe help our community. The fun part is easy but many of the other chapters host and occasionally support charity events and that is something we haven't looked at yet, maybe it's time. This is your chapter and we need your input and ideas.

Speaking of input Jill Woodward works very hard at putting the newsletter "Rocket Fuel" together for us every two months, but she shouldn't have to do all the writing, it isn't her newsletter it everyone's newsletter. So we need your stories, technical advice or just a bunch of fun facts, everyone has at least one tidbit of info or story to share.

I'm sure I forgot something but Jill is waiting for this letter soooooo.....

Keep the shiny side up and I'll see you on the road in a merry Oldsmobile!

Cindy Klemm

President

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MCR Activities & Meetings 2017

Sept:	Sept 15–17th Touring Activity (RSVP response date expired, Discounted hotel block ended, Sunday vineyard tour full)
Oct:	Saturday October 14th–Great Pumpkin Charity Car Show–Howell (Livingston County Airport, same location) Communication will go out soon!
Nov:	Nothing Planned yet
Dec:	Bus. Meeting, Dinner, Christmas Party & White Elephant exchange, Dec 2nd

MCR Activities & Meetings 2018

With Labor Day, just around the corner we need to start thinking about next year and what we would like to do for activities. We would like to get activity ideas from the membership. We are looking for things such as car collections that we can visit. We know many of you are aware of private, semi-private or public venues which we might be able to visit as an activity. How about restoration shops which would host us for a tour it would need to be something to keep everyone's attention. Maybe another multi day touring activity like we did a few years ago to Auburn IN, or are doing in September. A single day cruise activity. Maybe Cruise In's you are aware of that would be good for the club.....

A couple things on my radar over and above our more core activities is the possibility of Lingenfelter car collection, and Mob Steel's new facility tours.

With 120 members out there, I am sure you have connections and ideas. Your feedback will be appreciated, please send it to me at olds442guy@aol.com titled MCR Activity Idea. We can discuss these ideas at our next membership meeting.

Thanks, Pat Macaluso, Activities Director

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

I have a few corrections to make from the last newsletter.

First off: Erick Drake's birthday was July 6 not the 3rd as I had in my spreadsheet.

Second: Concerning Homecoming - Johan Lindberg with his 1976 Cutlass from Luxembourg won the R E Olds award selected by the Olds family members in attendance. The Long Distance Award went to Mike Strange of Graham Washington (the state), 2811 miles in his 1967 442.

Third: I missed the anniversary of Bill and Suzanne Wagner on July 25. Happy Anniversary.

Fourth: Don and Eva Cooper celebrated their 50th Anniversary on June 17. Congratulations you guys.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS –

September –

- 6 Karl Kimball**
- 15 Diana Kimball**
- 24 Ed Pash**
- 30 Jeff Pregler**

October –

- 6 Jeff Briggs**
- 16 Kelly Ferry**



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

September-

3 Al and Kelly Ferry

October -

19 Glen and Marilyn Riess

IF YOU HAVE A BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY AND
WOULD LIKE US TO HELP CELEBRATE THE OCCASION
LET US KNOW SO WE CAN GET IT IN THE NEWSLETTER!

OTHER CELEBRATIONS -

From the Car Capital Celebration that was held in Lansing July 29 the Rockets had 5 winners. Jack Tokie and Jerry Garfield won awards in each of their respective classes. Bob and Judy Burger were a Class Award winner in the Toronado class. Donna Franks took home a 3rd place award in the Oldsmobile class. AND... Doug Width took home Best of Show with his 1932 Oldsmobile. Congratulations to everyone.



Doug's
Car



Tim's
Car

Meanwhile, in Carlisle, PA, the Hurst Nationals Inaugural Event took place July 14-15. There were 11 former employees of Hurst, an Hurst historian and co-authors of the book *Hurst Equipped*. These 14 special guests each picked a vehicle as their favorite to be given an award. As it happened, judge, Howard Maseles, (think Dorothy) picked our own Tim Holliday and his 1969 Hurst/Olds Cutlass clone. Congratulations Tim. I want to thank Paulette and Dorothy for getting the information to me for these two celebrations.

EAGLE EYE

Congratulations go out to:

Dave Engel

Sue Apking

Dorothy Maseles

Steve Apking

Pat Macaluso

Barbara Cook

Erick Drake – by the way, Erick tried to hunt for the rocket while in Japan but he could not get it until he returned to the States. Thanks for getting the “Long Distance” award (it’s really just a mention here but it sounds good 😊)

Thanks for playing and keep your Eagle Eyes open for the hidden rocket in this edition of the newsletter.



DOWN MEMORY LANE – This came from Pat Kress. It is a look at what may have been the original MCR logo. Thanks Pat.



JULY EVENTS –

Number 1 – Route 66 road trip (on the way to Albuquerque, NM and OCA Nationals.)

Day 1 – Pat Macaluso had planned out a tentative itinerary for our 4 days on the road. Because of his diligent work I gave him a pin that read: “Trip Supervisor aka Road Trip God” (if you are a fan of *The Big Bang Theory* you will understand ☺). He put his pin on his new hat that Anne Drake gave to Pat and Suzi, Phil and I, and of course, Erick and Anne. The hats read: “Cutlass Amigos” (and were embroidered the same color as our respective cars) as the cars we were driving were a red 1993 Cutlass convertible (Drakes); a teal 1994 Cutlass convertible (Macalusos) and a dark teal (green) 1995 Cutlass convertible (Woodwards). It was a wonderful gift. The fourth car, a red 1972 442, to join the caravan in Howell belonged to Glen and Marilyn Riess. We slapped on the “Cruising with the Motor City Rockets” magnetic signs, only to have Glen’s fall off! It wouldn’t stick on the trunk. Too many layers of paint or so I am told! We tried it on the side and it seemed to stick only to fall off before he had gone 100 feet on the entrance ramp to I-96! We picked it up and on we drove to Marshall, MI where we were to meet Sonee Lapadot and Steve Yankee. Steve was pulling the trailer with Sonee’s car inside.

The day was beautiful. Sunny without a single cloud in the sky. Anne started identifying the plants and wildflowers that were flying by her window and I started to make a list of the animals we saw (including roadkill). It was going to be a long trip after all and you have to do something to keep from getting bored! Boredom lasted until the 7 mile marker on I-69S in Michigan. That’s when Steve’s trailer blew a right rear tire and rubber came flying at our windshield. We pulled off to help Steve and contacted the others and they waited for us at exit 3. It took Phil and Steve only 12 minutes to change the tire as Steve was prepared for anything. The blow out popped the fender trim(ripped the rivets out) so he duct taped the trim back on and we drove to exit 3 to add some air to the spare tire. As luck would have it, about a dozen folks pulled into the gas station the same time we did and Steve got the air and then he couldn’t pull out! Phil had to direct traffic so Steve could exit and we drove to BestOne Tire and Auto Care in Angola, IN to get a replacement tire.

Now comes the joke “How many Rockets does it take to buy a new tire?” Apparently it takes 6! ☺ (the 5 guys and Sonee) Steve opted to get 4 new tires and since we were there for an hour Glen decided to replace his old (1974) bias spare tire for a newer radial and got the “tourist discount!” (Paid a LOT!) Tires taken care of, the owner wanted a photo of the Oldsmobiles and the ladies got to stand beside their vehicles. Looking out at the guys, (there were about a dozen now), all had their cell phones out taking photos of us. It felt like being hunted by the paparazzi! It was now lunch time! We had gone 123 miles in 6 hours! At this rate we might have gotten to Nationals by..... never?! But we were having fun and getting to know each other and luckily there was no sight-seeing planned for this first day.

We were headed to Indianapolis (at this point) and passed by many lush farms and the crops were looking good. Anne and I started hunting license plates from other states and kept each other informed via text. We entered Illinois and the landscape turned to woods. Finally, the Gate Way Arch, and Missouri, came into view, we crossed the Mississippi River and arrived at our hotel for the night around 7 pm Central time. We feasted on bar-b-que at Bandana’s BBQ and then put a close on our first day.

Day 2 –

Sunny and a beautiful start to the actual Route 66 trip! It was going to be a hot one so we left the hotel with the “Rag-Tops Down!” Our first stop was going to be the Toy Museum, but sadly, it closed.....7 years ago!!!! Time to throw THAT guide book away! We did go next door to the Jesse James Museum for a short look around before we headed out to Cuba, MO. Stopped at the Cuba Visitor’s Center for a look around and the dear woman manning the place that morning was named Barbara. It just so happened that her grandfather had built a gas station in 1932 so we headed there first. Cuba is known for its murals and there was a nice one on the side of the station. Further down the road were several murals depicting the Civil War and we lined up there for a look and a photo. Around the corner of one of those buildings we came across a gentleman painting a new mural. He was Norman Akers, a Prof. of Art at the University of Kansas and a member of the Osage Nation. His mural was a tribute to the Osage Nation in Missouri.

From Cuba, we headed down 66 to the World’s Largest Rocking Chair. And it WAS BIG!!! After photos were taken we were headed back to our vehicles when someone shouted “Let’s ROCKET and Roll!” So we did ☺. On to Rolla and the Totem Pole Trading Post for some shopping and the purchase of cold drinks. The gentleman behind the counter tried to sell us his father’s 1976 Toronado with 66,000 miles but he got no takers. Next door was the Sirloin Stockade where we had a nice buffet lunch. Next stop would be Uranus. (No jokes please as we heard more than our fair share while we were there!)

On the way to Uranus, Suzi noticed that her binder with all of the maps and sites was missing so they headed back to the restaurant while the rest of us headed to the destination. TOURIST TRAP! Personally, I don’t recommend anyone stop there unless you are a fan of the humor of a 7-year old, but that’s just me. But, I DID want to stop and see what all the hoopla was so I can’t blame anyone but myself. Suzi and Pat had rejoined us there WITH the missing binder. Apparently it had been put on the roof and when they put the top down after lunch it had gotten folded up in the top. (Now you can laugh ☺. We did!) Off to Munger Moss Motel for more photos; saw a “Tow-Mater” wannabe (it was a Dodge NOT an IH!); and then hit a gem of a stop in Gay Parita and the Sinclair gas station there. The care taker, Steve, could not have been nicer. He let us drive our cars inside the fence for photos, told us the history, shared car stories and then gave each of us a postcard of the place. I could have stayed there longer than we did, but it was getting on to dinner time and we were all hungry.

We drove to Galena, KS and had wonderful Mexican food at Mi Torito; saw a beautiful sunset; then drove the last short distance to Vinita, OK for the night. By the way, we ALL LOVED the 75 mph speed limit in Oklahoma.

Day 3 –

The day started out HOT so the tops are UP on the convertibles and the A/C is on high! The landscape has gone from farm land/crops to pasture/ranch land and there were a lot of horses and cattle and VERY slow armadillos! Gas is around \$1.85 and we are driving through different Indian Nations as we head down the toll-road.

Getting off the toll road we stopped at the World’s Tallest Totem. Beautifully painted with a turtle as the base. Back in our cars and “On the Road Again” our next stop was the iconic Blue Whale. I think we had the place to ourselves! Some climbed the tail; some climbed up the ladder and stuck their heads out; basically I think we were 10 little kids having fun at the ‘park’! A semi-driver, going down the road, saw all of our Oldsmobiles and had to park his rig, jump out and come talk to the guys. It seems he is the proud owner of 5 Oldsmobiles! A 1984 Toronado; (2) 1976 98’s and I can’t remember the other two. It is SO fun to meet fellow Oldsmobile lovers and there have been quite a few on this trip and they were not headed to Nationals like we were. Just Oldsmobile lovers.

We wanted to have lunch at the Rock Café but they were waiting for a large motorcycle group in from Europe and couldn't fit us in so we headed on down the road. Good thing too as we ran across the Motorcycle Museum in Chandler, OK. They have over 200 cycles there! It was great! The man running the place saw us park and came running out to greet us. We had to see what was inside. He had shelves and shelves of unusual things for sale and several of us walked out of there with goodies. The most interesting was quite a few cast iron cars with the word Oldsmobile stamped on the bottom. We were there nearly an hour and were now quite hungry so back in the cars and on down the road to POPS passing the historic Round Barn as we went. We had just been seated for lunch when in walked Bill and Terry Mozurkewich so they joined us. After lunch Bill and Terry went on to the hotel and would wait for us there. There were a few oil wells popping up and many, many wind turbines sprouting from the ground. What a different view from what the first drivers of Route 66 must have seen.

Last official stop for the day was the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum. The displays and history was fascinating. I enjoyed this a lot. Steve and Sonee took off for the hotel shortly after finishing at the museum and the rest of us took a little more leisurely drive in the 100 degree weather to Shamrock, TX, our stop for the night. The Cutlass Amigos stopped at a couple of gas stations in Shamrock for photos ops. Finally checking in at our hotel and then the 12 of us headed out to a nearby steakhouse for dinner.

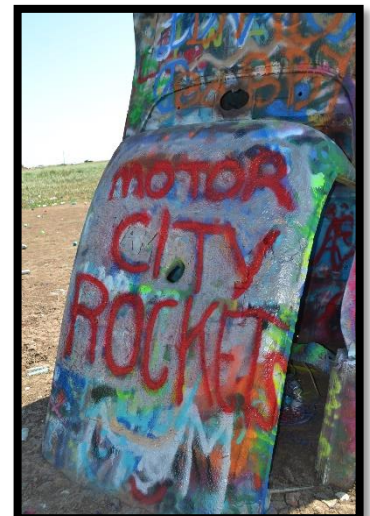
Day 4-

Steve, Sonee, Bill and Terry headed out to Albuquerque planning on going straight there while the 4 remaining vehicles looked forward to the day's Rte 66 treasures. Landscape is brown with a lot of scrub brush, REAL windmills and LOTS of wind turbines. Macaluso's and Woodward's lost their 'Cruisin with the Rockets' magnetic signs when a motor home towing an SUV going over 90 mph zipped past us and the magnets went flying. Oh well. They lasted longer than we thought they would.

Our first stop was Groom, TX and the 'Leaning Tower of Texas'. A water tower that for some reason is tipping. The guide book said it was built to look like that. Go figure! We left the Tower for Amarillo. Stopped first at the Big Texan just to see what was there. Had fun taking some photos of US not the cars and then went down the road just a bit to the Cadillac Ranch. We had been told that we would stop here and to bring along a can of spray paint. Well, Phil and I brought a small box of cans of paint and a good thing as at least 2 of the couples forgot to bring some. The 8 of us all had a hand at painting the cars and leaving 'our' mark – when we left everyone to come would see "The Motor City Rockets" painted on one of the cars. It was the most fun at graffiti painting I have ever had! It was the ONLY graffiti painting I have ever done!

On to Adrian, TX and the MidPoint Café. It was noon and we were hoping to eat..... you guessed it! The gift shop was open but they DON'T serve food on Tuesdays and it was Tuesday! Just our luck. Might as well go on to New Mexico. Glen said he knew of a good place to eat in Tucumcari – Watson's BBQ. What we didn't know, but Glen did, was that 2 of Glen and Marilyn's sons were meeting us there to surprise Marilyn then they would go on to Albuquerque with us. A third son and his wife had had a baby a couple of months ago and the family was meeting the new member for the first time. So glad you joined us Victor and Scott. The owners were great people. They have a tradition where patrons sign the walls, and we did, and then they took a group photo of us to put on THEIR Facebook page. The temperature in Tucumcari was 110! "But it was a dry heat!" Our next, and LAST, stop was the host hotel in Albuquerque and now we get to enjoy the OCA Nationals.

It was a great 4 days with great friends and great Oldsmobiles. "There is a special feel, in an Oldsmobile!"





Number 2 – OCA Nationals

I had a wonderful time in Albuquerque. I hope the other 28 Motor City Rockets did as well. That's right! There were 29 of us. I think we tied with the St. Louis group for the most members present. Pat and Suzi, through the luck of a draw, were upgraded to a suite much to their surprise. The hotel was beautiful.

Out of the 29 Rockets present there were ONLY 5 of our cars on the showfield. Can you guess whose cars they were? Yep! The 5 who caravanned Route 66 together. Of those 5 only 2 were to be judged, Suzi's and Sonee's. Both earned first place points in their class.

Congratulations ladies. The other 3 vehicles were 'Show Only' and looked pretty good to me, especially since I didn't have to detail the car to get ready for judging! Kuddo's, also, go out to Cindy doing the 30 year jackets and Phil for the power point presentation at the banquet. I love that the Rockets are always there to help out. Way to go folks.

On to some of the tours. Several of us took the tram up the Sandia Mountains. What an awesome sight at the top! I learned that the so called "mountains" I was seeing in the distance weren't really mountains but dormant volcanoes! I didn't know New Mexico had volcanoes!

Ladies shopping in Old Town provided lunch on our own, which was delicious, and some great shops. I don't think anyone went home empty handed. Old Town is quaint and my favorite part of the city.

The Nuclear Science Museum was fascinating! More so than I had expected. So much to learn about and see there. I think we could have stayed a little longer but we took the last bus back as it was.

And now, my favorite tour... The Al Unser Museum. When Al heard there would be large groups coming through he made a point to come out and talk to us, sign autographs and let us take photos with him. What a nice guy! He had his Oldsmobile Pace car on display and we had him get inside for the photo. He joked "Where's the clutch?" Our tour guide was very knowledgeable and funny. We had a great time. On the way back to the hotel we even

managed to get the bus driver to tap into the MCR website and play the MCR theme song over the intercom system. It was a great day.

We ate GREAT! Finding several amazing restaurants. My favorite was the Route 66 diner. It was the décor and the company that made it great. After dinner there we tried to find the singing highway. We got lost a couple of times getting there and by the time we found it it WAS dark and staying on the part of the road that made the music was a little tricky. It did provide MUCH laughter and was a fun way to end the evening.

For those of you who were not there, we missed you and hope to see everyone in Gettysburg next year for Nationals.



AUGUST EVENT –

Wooly Bully's – a little local car show on Wednesdays



Woodward Dream Cruise – (I'm taking the easy way out and pasting Pat's email here ☺)

Rocket's

I wanted to let you know our new location at the Woodward Dream Cruise this year couldn't have been better. All 30 parking places were taken up by our members who attended with their cars, friends and family. We had plenty of green space under mature trees to watch the show go by on Woodward. The weather could not have been better, the church had a great reasonably priced brat & dog cook out with live bands.

We had a special treat donated by Jill Woodward. It was a large Anniversary cake celebrating the Motor City Rockets official charter on September 2, 1977 as the OCA's 1st Chapter, making us 40 years old this year. Also the cake was celebrating Oldsmobile's start on August 21, 1997, which if still in business would have been its 120 Anniversary.

We had nothing but compliments on the location from the attendees, and because that expression of satisfaction we have already committed to contract the location for next year.

It is our hopes we will be able to get a few more car into the lot next year now that we have experienced the venue, more to come at a later date.

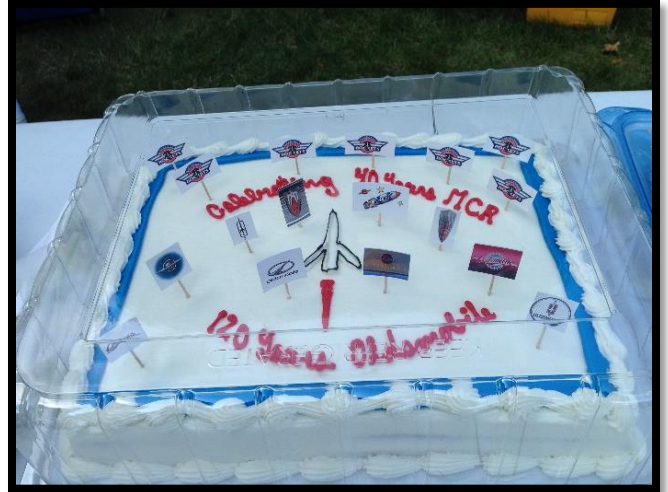
Pat Macaluso
Activities Director
Motor City Rockets

(From Jill) Now for my 2 cents worth. I want to thank the "E & S Fire Department" for giving us rides atop their fire truck. It was SO much fun and what a different perspective from up there! That was very special and I really appreciated it.

I, also, want to thank Bob Burger for getting IHop to give up a knife so we could cut the cake as I forgot to bring one and I thank Clay Cook for having a little knife in his car that we used as a spatula. We couldn't have enjoyed the cake without you 2.

If you go to 'Woodward Dream Cruise, photos... - Detroit Free Press' and then click on the section marked "The art of classic cars" you will see a few of our own Rockets cars as the photographer came through our area taking photos. I got to talk to her about our club but only her photos made it onto the site.

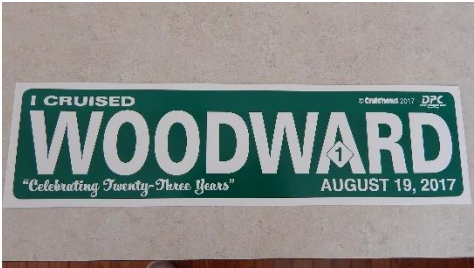
And to our dear friend, Brock.... I'm not going to give you another 'D.A.' Award, as I don't feel locking yourself out of your car was your fault this time. So how about we just call it the "Not Again!" Award! Glad you were able to carefully break into your car and drive it home. Those are my highlights. Until next year.



Woodward fun facts –



Woodward, OK – we're not related to.



Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI – we're not related to.



Woodward St., Lapel, IN – we ARE related to!

In preparation for the Dream Cruise, Phil and I 'cruised' ALL of Woodward St., all 10 blocks, in under 5 minutes! ☺
They are VERY short blocks! And that is your Woodward history fun facts for the day.

Public CAR SHOWS/Activities & Swap Meets in Michigan

August:

Sterling Hgts – Michigan Veterans Car Show – 26th – 12:00-5:00 – 586-615-3976

Westland – Cruisin' Hines Dr. – 27 – Westland – donnicholson.net for info - No charge to cruise

September:

Frankenmuth Auto Fest – Heritage Park – Frankenmuth – 8th – 10th – wwwfrankenmuthautofest.net

Dearborn – Greenfield Village – 9-10 –Dearborn - Time Open until 9:00 PM – Cost varies based on age \$27 down

Pickney/Hamburg – Livingston County Conservation Club – 6060 E. 36th – 5:00pm-Dark – MCR member, Bill Mozurkewich is putting this together.

Ypsilanti – Orphan Car Show – 17 – 100 East Cross Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48198 – 10:00 Am – Spectator \$6

Livonia – All T-Bird Day – 17th – Historic Wilson Barn Middlebelt & West Chicago – www.michigantbirds.org

Farmington Hills – Sellers Buick & GMC Indian Summer Car Show – 24th – 3800 Grand River – 800-766-8422

Milford- 1st Annual “Gathering” of Oldsmobiles- 24th- 2025 South Milford Rd. Noon-7 pm – free event – Hosted by the Motor City Rockets

1ST ANNUAL

“GATHERING” OF OLDSMOBILES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2017

WHERE: BAKER’S OF MILFORD

(LAST SUNDAY CRUISE-IN OF THE SEASON)

2025 SOUTH MILFORD RD.

MILFORD, MICHIGAN 48381

(3 MILES NORTH OF I-96 EXIT 155B)

http://www.bakersofmilford.com/1/252/visit_us.asp

TIMES: NOON – 7PM

FREE EVENT: NO RSVP’S NEEDED

HOSTED BY THE MOTOR CITY ROCKETS

PARKING ON THE GRASSY AREA EAST OF THE MAIN PARKING LOT

**(IF YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN TO THE SUNDAY CRUISE-IN, BAKERS
HAS A RESTURANT, OUT-SIDE GRILL PROVIDING BURGERS, ETC...,
THERE IS A DIARY QUEEN ACROSS THE STREET AND A PUTT-PUTT
GOLF TYPE FACILITY AND A PARTY STORE NEXT DOOR.
A FAMILY EVENT**

October:

Howell - Saturday October 14th – Great Pumpkin Charity Car Show – Howell (Livingston County Airport, same location) –
3480 Grand River – Raffle, Door Prizes, DJ, Food – 517-545-8651 - <http://www.paulsonsconstruction.com/>

November:

December:

DON'T FORGET –

Labor Day – Sept 4
Patriot Day – Sept 11
Rosh Hashanah – Sept 20
Autumn begins – Sept 22
Yom Kippur – Sept 29
Columbus Day – Oct 9
Halloween – Oct 31

MCR SERVICE TEAM

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