



The ROCKET FUEL Newsletter



Greetings from the President

Well, spring is finally here, I think. But after the last few days I wonder. I'm sure though that warm weather will soon be here to stay. Then we'll complain about it being too hot. But now that we'll be getting the Oldsmobiles out and running, all's well with the world. As our gatherings will be taking us outdoors we will not be having any formal meetings inside until this fall. There are many scheduled events, as you'll see below. So come join us for some MCR fun and while you're at it, join us at the 2008 OCA Nationals later this year. You just can't beat seeing that many Oldsmobiles in one place.

Until next month, Steve

Editor's Notes:

The car season is heating up and we have plenty of events in which to participate. Please check our calendar for upcoming activities. Because of these events and all the graduations, weddings, etc that occur this time of year, there will be **no** dinner cruises planned for the summer.

Another call for Nationals' volunteers is going out. All that's required is a friendly smile, and a small amount of your time. We already know you possess the smile. So you just need to give a little of your time. Each committee head is waiting to be contacted to give you the necessary information so you can help. You can find a list of the committees and their contact persons at the end of this newsletter. If you need more information, e-mail Steve at (s442apking@aol.com.)

And as always, we're still looking for any articles, tech tips, for sale items or ads to place in the newsletter.
Sue & Kelly



New Member:

Please welcome Gary & Jane Kintz to the MCR family.

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| MAY 2008 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Bearing Burners Warren Tech Center | 5 Cindy Klemm | 6 Sue Apking | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
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UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUN 14
LANSING HOMECOMING

JUN 28
MCR PICNIC

JUL 30 - AUG 3
OCA NATIONALS

AUG 3
GRATIOT CRUISE

AUG 3
MEADOW BROOK

AUG 16
WOODWARD DREAM CRUISE

April MCR Meeting Minutes: submitted by *Sue Apking*

The April 19 meeting took place at the Dearborn Hyatt. While members signed in, president Steve Apking welcomed everyone and acknowledged April birthdays. There were 33 present including spouses. There were no vice president or secretary's reports. Treasurer, Alan Wilcox, reported on membership numbers and club funds. Alan also stated that club dues' renewal notices will go out in May. If you receive an e-mail from him, then you need to re-up your membership. If you don't receive an e-mail, then you are in good standing.

As Steve continued with MCR business, we had a visit from Uolanda Davis –Campbell. She is the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau (DMCVB) rep who is helping us with contact and PR information for the Nationals. She gave us an account of what the bureau can do for us and what specific items they will provide for our welcome bags. Several Nationals' committees specifically asked for her help and she obliged. After her presentation, we returned to club business. Items discussed included the Dust-Off, Homecoming, MCR picnic and Woodward. Details were reiterated concerning these events. All info is on our web site and separate e-mails will be sent for each one.

A request for volunteers for the Lansing Homecoming went out and we got 17 respondents. We were sent free passes for the RM car auction and they were given to those members who were interested. Cindy Klemm reported that club merchandise is in good supply. Two members, Greg Carriere and Jerry Garfield asked the club for some help on different projects. Please see the section marked "Help Wanted for the specifics and see if you can help them out. MCR meeting was adjourned. *Sue Apking*

Annual All Oldsmobile Spring Dust-Off

Day: Sunday

Date: May 18

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Directions: Pinckney Road, 4 miles south of I-96 Howell, MI

Grills will be provided as well as hamburgers and hot dogs.

Bring your own drinks, a dish to pass and chairs.





Wixom Tour Recap

On April 2, several of us got a real treat when we were able to tour the GM Performance Build Center in Wixom, MI. Although it's an engine assembly plant, it's nothing like the factories of old. First of all, the place is extremely clean. Second of all, it is quiet and the work force is small with under 60 employees. Arranged by one of our members, Sue Pashukewich, we were able to see Corvette engines being hand built. It just so happened that the day we visited, we were able to see the first ZR1 LS7 engines built.

The process is awesome to observe. It begins with an engine builder receiving his block. The block sits on a cradle that's mounted on a trolley. The parts are delivered to the individual's work area and the assembly begins. The trolley moves along different stations until the engine is completed. These master builders, with years of experience, stay with their engine, 'their baby', from beginning to end. Teamwork is evident. The engineers and master builders work hand in hand. Each has input. Engineers can bring new ideas right to the engine builder and changes can be implemented immediately. Likewise, the engine builder can have his say if he sees a better way to run the procedure.

Once an engine is built and meets approval, the cool thing is that the master builder lays claim to that engine by affixing a plate with his name on it. Another interesting note is that many of the workers there are ex-Oldsmobile employees from experimental assembly in Lansing. We were told that they are excellent employees and take great pride in their work. Not surprising to us Olds lovers. *Sue Apking*

Words from the VP

Well it is Spring and I know it now, I just came home from the Bearing Burners Swap Meet and Car Show at the GM Tech Center in Warren Michigan. The Swap Meet was very busy this year as opposed to last year; this was partially due to the change in location. Previous to the current spot you had to go to Freedom Hill in Sterling Heights and I think that many people didn't know that it was moved.

I arrived with my Dad around 9:45 a.m. to find the place Jumpin' and the parking garage filling up! We both had our shopping lists and the search began. Amazingly there were some Olds parts, mainly wheels and some 1970 era Cutlass sheet metal. I would say there was roughly 500 vendors set up with everything from License Plates to a complete 39 Packard for \$1,800.00 just waiting to be restored or turned into a Street Rod, possibly powered by a 1968 455 Olds engine; well that's what I would do.

I met some new Oldsmobile friends along the way and invited them to join the club! I also ran into several MCR members including our president, Steve Apking. Later I had a couple of car talks with Dave Klemm, then James Kryta and his brother John who recently joined the club.

Our tally for the day: A set of 2001 Chevy Monte Carlo wheels for \$60, Some other Monte parts, a very nice Oldsmobile service award tie tac, and a low mileage transmission for my 88 Chevy pick up for \$75. All in all it was a good day and the weather was great, especially since it didn't snow!

See you at the Dust Off!

Dan Evans, MCR VP

Help Wanted!

See if you can assist our fellow members in the following projects.

Greg Carriere would like a list of drive-in restaurants in your area. He is attempting to put together a cruise for sometime later in the year with the idea being we would cruise from one drive-in to another. If you have any questions or know the location of any of these restaurants in your area, please share that info with Greg. (soundhd@comcast.net)

Jerry Garfield also has a request. On Wednesday, July 23, there will be a classic/antique car show at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn and will run from 5:30pm until dusk. This event is part of the annual AYES Instructor training conference for high school automotive instructors. There is no entrance fee and participants will be provided with light refreshments (soda, water, dry snacks). They are looking for all makes and models and want to stick with antique, classic and muscle cars, not "tuners", drag cars etc. If you think you would like to participate or need more information, please contact Jerry. (lastolds@att.net)



2008 NATIONALS VOLUNTEER CONTACT LIST

| Committee | Head | E-Mail |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Registration | Jeff Pregler | jjimpregler@yahoo.com |
| Showfield | Doug Width | pdwidth@aol.com |
| Tours | Ken Kress | kkress7737@aol.com |
| Banquet | Paulette Width | pdwidth@aol.com |
| Security | Dave Tucker | dwtucker@ameritech.net |
| Ladies Lunch | Kelly Ferry | mrmdux@aim.com |
| Trailer Parking | Lanny Yankee | cutlass442@prodigy.net |
| Raffle | Dennis Piskorowski | dennis1970@yahoo.com |
| Tabulation of Judging | Jenn Ferry-Cronin | pamprdrbrat2676@yahoo.com |

MCR SERVICE TEAM

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|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| President | Steve Apking | president@motorcityrockets.com |
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| Treasurer | Alan Wilcox | treasurer@motorcityrockets.com |
| Secretary | Tom Bejma | secretary@motorcityrockets.com |
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| | Kelly Ferry | |
| Activities | Jeff Pregler | events@motorcityrockets.com |
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