



The ROCKET FUEL Newsletter



Greetings from the President:

I thought that the close of summer might bring an end to some of our car activities but I was wrong. September was very busy with Frankenmuth, GM's 100th anniversary celebration and the annual trip to Traverse City. All were fun events and Oldsmobile was well represented at each one.

Last month it was stated that we would try to get back to our regular meeting schedule, which is usually the third Sunday of each month. However, this month we have a chance to view Ken Lingenfelter's car collection in Brighton. This will serve as our October meeting. The day and date is Saturday, Oct. 25. Specific details will be forthcoming regarding time, location and lunch afterward.

ATTENTION! October is the time for officer nominations. Consider serving your club as an officer. (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) You can nominate yourself or someone else. Please check with your nominee to be sure he/she is willing to run. Send your nominations to our secretary, Tom Bejma. (tcbracing@comcast.net) All nominations need to be returned to Tom by Oct. 31. When all nominations are in, Tom will send out a ballot via e-mail or snail mail and you will have the chance to vote your choice. All ballots need to be returned by Nov. 30. The results will be tabulated and announced at our Christmas party.

Steve Apking



Editor's Notes:

Kelly Ferry and I have decided to step down as the newsletter's co-editors. It will be two years in February of 2009 since we took over the reins from Denise Tucker. We feel it is time for others to have all the fun. It can be a single or joint venture. In our case, we were a joint venture. Although I enjoy writing, I lack in computer skills. So I would send all info to Kelly, who has excellent computer skills and she formatted it beautifully. We worked well together and enjoyed bringing you stories and keeping you informed of our meetings and activities.

We will take you into the new year with the January issue but need someone to take over from there. We will help any way we can. Please contact Steve, Kelly or me if you are interested in this position.

Sue Apking



INDEX

Page 1	GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT
	EDITOR'S NOTES
Page 2	CALENDAR
	UPCOMING EVENTS
	NEW MEMBERS
	25th ANNUAL FRANKENMUTH AUTOFEST

Page 3	GMnext FEST VINTAGE CAR SHOW
	TRAVERSE CITY 2008
Page 4	INTERESTING & FUN TIDBITS
	IDENTIFY THE THIEF
	MCR SERVICE TEAM



			OCT 2008				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
28	29	30	1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16 Kelly Ferry	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Tour of Lingenfelt Car Collection Brighton, MI	
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	1	

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 13 - CHRISTMAS PARTY



New Member:
A warm Motor City Rocket welcome to Greg Skiver.

25th ANNUAL FRANKENMUTH AUTOFEST

It's ironic how things happen. The Motor City Rockets, as a club, never planned to go to this year's Autofest. It's true that a few members were going but most of us were taking a breather from the Nationals so we did not treat this as a club event. However fate stepped in and gave us the opportunity to do so.

Each year, the Autofest selects a car club to be featured in the main "Zehnder" park in downtown Frankenmuth. It's a primo spot to display cars and two years ago, we had that distinction.

For some reason, this year's featured car club could not attend so we received a call asking if we could fill in. Since this call came just about ten days before the event, we had to scramble. It's not that we didn't want to go; the problem was getting hotel rooms for the three-day event at such short notice. After some doing, we were finally able to get a group of about twenty to represent us at the 25th annual show. Some went for the entire three days while others chose to go for just one day.

Friday kicked off the weekend with a Big Block party. Main Street was closed at about 5:00PM and the public got to walk the street to view classic cars, hear live music and eat. Later that same evening there was a display of fireworks and we had ringside seats. On Saturday morning, a few more of our members showed up and the day was spent looking at probably every make and model of car that you would want to see. Sunday came and most of the members had to leave early. It was unfortunate because on Sunday a special award is given to recognize the featured club and none of us were there to see Lanny Yankee receive this German stein for his beautiful 66 Cutlass.

Sue Apking



GMnext Fest Vintage Car Show:

Although General Motors celebrated its 100th birthday on Sept. 16, the entire week was filled with events to mark the occasion. One of these events was the GMnext Fest Vintage car show. While GM's focus is on the future, this show was a chance to look at past GM vintage cars. The show was held at the General Motors Tech Center on Friday, Sept. 19. The Motor City Rockets were one of six car clubs invited. Other car clubs in attendance were: Cadillac Lasalle Club; Pontiac Oakland Club International, Buick Club of America; Vintage Chevrolet Club of America; America's Corvette Club of Michigan.

Our club had 39 vehicles in attendance, ranging from a 1949 to the last Olds built, the 2004 Alero. We had a beautiful day to display our vehicles and with music in the background, we were provided free lunch and beverages. There were other cars on display too like the 2010 Volt, the 2010 Camaro and the 2009 ZR1 Corvette.

The show took place from 11:00 AM to 2:00PM but afterwards the attendees also got the opportunity to visit the GM Heritage Center for an Afterglow celebration from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Again there was music, food, beverages and the chance to view the collection of GM's classic cars that the Heritage Center houses.

There was an "Employee Choice award given earlier in the day and then each car club president got to choose a vehicle from their club for an individual award. Steve Apking chose Lee Elliott's 1957 Olds for that honor. As a club, we felt proud to represent Oldsmobile at such an historic event.

Sue Apking

TRAVERSE CITY 2008

It just keeps getting better! At least, that's the sentiment of this author regarding the Traverse City trip. For six years now, this event has been our official welcome into fall. Beginning on Friday and lasting through Sunday, the three days afforded us the opportunity to enjoy a perfect Motor City Rocket weekend. That is if you agree that viewing beautiful scenery while cruising in your Oldsmobile, eating a little, (did I say little?) shopping a lot and laughing even more constitutes perfection.

Friday started with the arrival of members. These arrivals were staggered as some couples left early in the morning and got there in time for a pre dinner cruise to the Black Star Farms winery. Other couples took off later after the GMnext Fest which was also on Friday. Somehow we all got to the restaurant that evening within minutes of each other and the dinner was excellent as it always is at Boones Long Lake Inn.

Saturday took us to a new venue to display our cars. Formerly we were at Cherry Capital Cadillac but this time we parked our cars at the Perry Hannah House. This house is now the Reynolds Jonkhoff funeral home and is across from the Grand Traverse Heritage Center. Perry Hannah, the so-called father of Traverse City, intended this house to be "the finest residence in Northern Michigan". It is rich in history and has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Built on a granite foundation, the house has three stories and has close to 40 rooms. Most of the rooms are done in native woods, except for the dining room, which is trimmed in Brazilian mahogany. Solid oak doors, a hand-cut chandelier, a double-spindled stairway are just a few of the beautiful elements of this home.

It was certainly an added bonus to be able to tour this great home. Because we were located across from the Traverse City Heritage Center, some of us visited the museum and the nearby gardens and saw historical re-enactments before having lunch. Others of us walked a few blocks, did some shopping and had lunch downtown.

After lunch, a dozen Oldsmobiles took off, some top down, to Fish Town. We toured the town and made a few stops at the local shops before heading to Jack Tokies storage building where we were to have dinner that consisted of grilled chicken and brats with all the 'fixins' and plenty of goodies for dessert.

Conversation flowed during dinner about the day's events and afterwards we held a raffle and presented Dave & Cindy Klemm with a card and a bottle of champagne for their 34th anniversary. The occasion of their anniversary led us into more interesting conversation around the bonfire. It started with asking Dave and Cindy how they met and then we went around the group asking each couple how they met their partner. It was hilarious as well as heartwarming. We then continued with asking each couple about their marriage proposals. Some remembered, while others had to be reminded about certain details like when, where and how. Every account was endearing as well as humorous. All I know is that I hadn't laughed that hard in a long time.

Sunday brought the weekend to an end. We met once more for breakfast at the Cracker Barrel and then most of the group headed home while a few stayed on for another day. As always, this trip is the highlight of our car season. If you've never had the chance to go, please try next year to attend. It will be one of the best times you've ever experienced.

All of this fun would not have been possible without the time and effort of Jack Tokie and Dorothy Maseles. They come up with something new and different each year and it is so appreciated. This year too, Dennis and Karon Piskowski helped Jack and Dorothy with some of the preparation. Thanks to all for another great time!

Sue Apking





INTERESTING & FUN TIDBITS:

- Bob Wheeler sent us this website. (<http://www.lostlansing.com/features.asp>) It provides great memories of Lansing. Check out the links to Oldsmobile.
- John Denyer, with his 1949 Olds 88, won a 1st place award in his class at the Milford Car Show held Sunday, Sept. 21.
- Jerry Garfield has shared some important information concerning the following question. **If a car or truck goes through a total restoration, can the odometer be set at zero (0)?** Per the state of Michigan: The odometer **cannot** be set at zero (0) for a restored vehicle. If the mileage exceeds mechanical limits or the vehicle is ten years or older, the mileage on the title can be marked “**not actual**”. Other states or provinces may treat this differently. Any questions, contact the State of Michigan at 888 SOSMICH (888-767-6424)
- The Average American: A recent study conducted by Harvard University found that the average American walks about 900 miles. Another study by the American Medical Association found that Americans drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. This means, on average, Americans get about 14 miles to the gallon. **KIND OF MAKES YOU PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN.** Submitted by Cindy Klemm

If anyone knows the identity of this suspect who is attempting to take a voltage regulator from this 1959 convertible, please contact the proper MCR authorities.



MCR SERVICE TEAM

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