

Rocket Review

Published by **ROLD'S** Chapter - Oldsmobile Club of America
Serving Mid-Michigan

January-February

2014



2014 R. E. OLDS CHAPTER OFFICERS SWORN IN BY STEVE ZABAN

L to R-President Bruce Powelson; Secretary Ed Shand; OCA Rep. Eva Cooper; VP Chris Heminger; Treasurer Jerry Garfield; and Steve Zaban presiding.

At right is the winning display most representing Oldsmobile Spirit displayed by Ashley Jones at the Annual Banquet. Featured were multiple Olds clocks, signs and even music. More banquet details and photos are inside this issue.



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Board members are elected for a one-year period of time at the Annual Banquet Meeting. Officers assume their office beginning January 1st of the subsequent year in which they are elected.

General Club meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at various locations, but usually at the R. E. Olds Museum in Lansing. Contact Bruce Powelson at the number shown above for more information.

Editor's message.....

This issue is bigger than normal as you have all been so good about sending interesting articles I was able to do an extra 4 pages to end the year. That doesn't mean I don't need articles, it just means I want to keep the newsletter current AND interesting. DO YOU OWN A FINAL 500 VEHICLE? Send me an article/photo for the next newsletter. That issue will be dedicated to remembering Oldsmobile (It's been 10 years since the closed the doors.) Enjoy the newsletter and your family this holiday season and I wish all of you a Happy and Healthy 2014.

Until we meet again.....keep those rockets rolling and stories coming,

Judy Badgley

Send newsletter articles, classifieds, etc. to **Judy Badgley** at **djbadgley@gmail.com** or **4631 Doane Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876**

New President's message.....

"Howdy folks-

I eagerly look forward to working with the dedicated, excellent, and friendly team that composes our R. E. Olds Chapter officers, board members, and chapter members.

We hope to have the best Oldsmobile Homecoming in 2014 ever and many things will bring smiles to our fellow Oldsmobileistas! Who knows? We may even have a Diesel Oldsmobile or two at our Greatest Oldsmobile Show on Earth!

Happy New Year [or "Prospero Ano Felicidad!"]. Bruce Powelson

Past President's message.....

THANKS FROM YOUR PAST PRESIDENT

By the time this newsletter is published I will assume my new role on the Chapter Board as Past President. My thanks to the membership for entrusting me with the leadership role of President for the past six years. It has been a truly enjoyable "chapter" in my life. No president of any organization can maintain or grow its membership, and advance its purpose, without the support of its members and Board. Our members are the best, and always step up to help the Chapter meet its goals. Thank you to the Board: Chris Heminger (Vice President), Ed Shand (Secretary), Jerry Garfield (Treasurer), Eva Cooper (OCA Representative), Don Cooper (Membership Chair), Troy Collins (Bylaws Coordinator), Ken Nicholas (Past President and Zone Director). Thank you to Judy Badgley, for producing our newsletter, and to Wayne Mason, our webmaster. Most of all, thanks to all of you for your friendship.

I'm looking forward to the next "chapter" as Bruce takes the reins and brings his unique perspective, knowledge, and enthusiasm to the Board. Best wishes to all for a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2014.

Vicki aka Rocket the Clown
(Bruce doesn't get that title☺)

NEWSWORTHY CHAPTER "STUFF"

R. E. Olds Chapter Calendar of Events 2014 Happy New Year

- January-**
7 Chapter Meeting 7 PM
R. E. Olds Museum
- 18 Jackson Swap Meet
Fairgrounds
- February-**
1 & 2 Kalamazoo Swap Meet
Fairgrounds
- 4 Chapter Meeting 7 PM
R. E. Olds Museum
Homecoming flyer mailing
- March-**
4 Chapter Meeting 7 PM
R. E. Olds Museum
Museum Guided tour
- April-**
1 Board Meeting 6PM
Chapter Meeting 7 PM
R. E. Olds Museum
(This is no April Fools Joke)
Guest Speaker, see pg.6
- May-**
6 Chapter Meeting 7 PM
R. E. Olds Museum
Appraisals, see pg.6
- June-**
14 **OLDSMOBILE
HOMECOMING
Volunteers Needed**

Happy Birthday to you..... Celebrate

January-

- 4 Mary Nordbeck
5 Chris Heminger
7 Ron Reichle
9 Rod Dimon
Abel Gonzales
Katherine Johnson
19 Reg Riddle
Doug Songer
22 Don Greiner
28 Jerry Garfield
Wayne May
Pennie Vance
29 Roger Andrzejewski
30 Alan Wilcox

February-

- 2 Jill Gilbert
Kris Kuerbitz
5 Jan Hummer
8 Jerry Phaner
11 Doris Badgley
12 Rosemary Snider
13 Sue Walters
15 Cindy Songer
16 Pat Walker
18 Jim Cameron
22 Eva Cooper
23 Willis Dennis
27 Kurt Barber



The R. E. Olds Museum is pleased to announce that the 2013 raffle car project was a huge success. There were more tickets sold than any other previous raffle car project. The winning ticket was drawn November 11 at the museum's annual business meeting. The 1985 442 winner lives in Dewitt, Michigan and was notified the evening of the drawing. Bill Adcock further stated that an early calculation on the raffle car netted the museum over \$17,000.

Several members of the R. E. Olds Chapter help with this project by serving on the raffle car committee, taking the car to various events to sell tickets and in general spreading the word about the project. In addition, the Oldsmobile Homecoming has provided a front-and-center parking space for the museum to sell tickets during the show. The Chapter also promotes both the museum and their fund raisers in the newsletter. All of these help to make the project a success.

Anyone interested in volunteering at the museum, they are always looking for help. From Board member to cleaning and everywhere in between they would gladly welcome you aboard. To volunteer give them a call at 517-372-0529.



Welcome New Members

Larry & Ruth Hartwig
Bath, MI
1972 Cutlass Supreme

Robert & Joan Neely
Freeport, MI
1987 442

Tom Snider
Lansing, MI
No current Oldsmobile

James & Judy Cameron
Tecumseh, Ontario Canada
1968 Cutlass "S"

John & Kathy Nee
Canadian Lakes, MI
1983 98 Regency



VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Several years ago Chapter member Wayne Mason set up our fantastic website www.reolds.org. Since that time he has updated and maintained the site. He is ready for a "break" and has asked for someone else to step up. The person will need to know how or learn to use Microsoft Front Page software, since that is the software our web site was created in. Wayne will be glad to answer any questions for anyone interested in taking over this job. Please contact Wayne at wemas@comcast.net or Ed Shand at jes@handofshand.com. We need someone to come forward and help with this critical part of our communication system.



WHO AM I

I was born in early 1946 in Lansing MI. When I went home from the hospital, I lived and grew up in Williamston, Mi. I graduated high school in 1964 and then graduated from Lansing Community College in 1967 with an Associate's Degree in mechanical technology. Of course, after graduation, Uncle Sam said, "I need you" and I was drafted and inducted into the U.S. Army in October 1967. I left Williamston on Oct. 5th, and took basic training at Ft. Knox, KY, then AIT at Ft. Polk, Louisiana. I was then sent to Vietnam in March 1968, serving with the 3rd Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division. I drove and worked on tanks while in Vietnam.

Upon returning home in 1969, I married my 1st wife and have one daughter (Divorcing in 1977). I went to work driving semi-trucks, hauling bulk milk and farm pickup.

I really didn't like this job because cows don't take any days off - not even Christmas. So, I decided another line of work might be for me. I went to work at Max Curtis Ford - Fix Or Repair Daily - I knew there would be lots of work there! That didn't work out either, so went back to driving truck. I hauled overhead garage doors for Frantz Mfg. out of Sterling Illinois. I delivered to lumber yards in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. I drove for Frantz from 1976 to 1986. In 1984, I married my 2nd wife, Linda, and in 1986 changed jobs again. I went to work for Pepsi Cola driving a transport truck based in Howell, Michigan.

After returning home from the Army, I continued my interest in drag racing. In 1985 bought my first race car - a 1971 Cutlass Supreme. I still have it, and still race this car

today. One of my proudest racing days was when I won the IHRA Division 3 points race at Osceola, Indiana in 2008.

In 2008, I was in my 37th year of driving "big trucks," and with just over 3 million "accident free" miles, I decided to retire. I still drive part time a couple months a year. Now I drive a semi for a greenhouse hauling flowers between Williamston, Mi. and Petoskey, Mi. I switched from hauling Pepsi to hauling "posies!"

I cherish all the friends I've made over the years, but my Oldsmobile friends are a very special group of people that I really enjoy being with.

Can you guess "who this is"? See if you are right, find the answer on page 14. Send your "WHO AM I" article to Judy Badgley, contact info on page 2. Tell us about yourself and how or why you are interested in cars or Oldsmobiles.

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50th ANNIVERSARY by Judy Badgley



2014 marks the introduction of the muscle car, the Oldsmobile 442. We will be celebrating this milestone at the Homecoming car show by featuring the 1964 442. Oldsmobile introduced this car to compete with the GTO, introduced earlier by Pontiac.

The 442 designation was originally a 4-barrel carb, 4-speed transmission and 2-exhaust pipes. This designation changed quickly as in 1965 the 442 was available with an automatic transmission and the designation was then for the 400cid engine, 4-barrel carb and dual exhaust. Over the years the designations changed many times and resulted in representing Oldsmobile's muscle car offering rather than a specific description.

The 1964 442 330 engine had a 310 horsepower rating. The highest horsepower rating ever in the 442 was in 1970 with a 455 engine. That engine provided a whopping 380 horsepower rating. The 442 earned respect among those driving muscle cars and even more these days with those collecting muscle cars.

The 442 was introduced on both the F85 body and the Cutlass body. The Cutlass was the more luxurious of the two body lines. The additional cost for the 442 option was \$285.14. The 1964 442 was available on the mid-sized body in any style except the station wagon. They built hardtops, convertibles and even 10) 4-door sedans according to factory records.

The option for the 442 was technically the "B09 Police Apprehender Pursuit" option. The engine had heavy-duty valve gear in the 330 engine along with a hotter camshaft. The package also included posi trac, a stiffened frame, boxed rear suspension control arms, adjustment holes in the frame for the upper rear control arm, a heavy duty driveshaft, oversized brakes with heavy duty wheels, the heavy-duty police-package suspension, higher-rate coil springs front and rear, heavy-duty shock absorbers, a larger front anti-roll bar, and an additional rear anti-roll bar. The 442 was ready for track use!

Sales for these vehicles did very well especially considering their late

introduction in the model year. 2,999 was the figure for 1964. *Following are the production year and figures:

1965	25,003
1966	21,997
1967	24,833
1968	33,607
1969	27,272
1970	22,877
1971	7,589
1972	10,344
1973	9,797
1974	7,204
1975	7,324
1976	9,576
1977	11,649
1978	2,518
1979	3,119
1980	886
1981-1984	no 442's were built
1985	3,000
1986	4,273
1987	4,208
1989	no 442's were built
1990 (Quad 442)	2,629
1991 (Quad 442)	1,364

Total number of 442's was 244,068 units. *These figures came from Oldsmobile's production records.

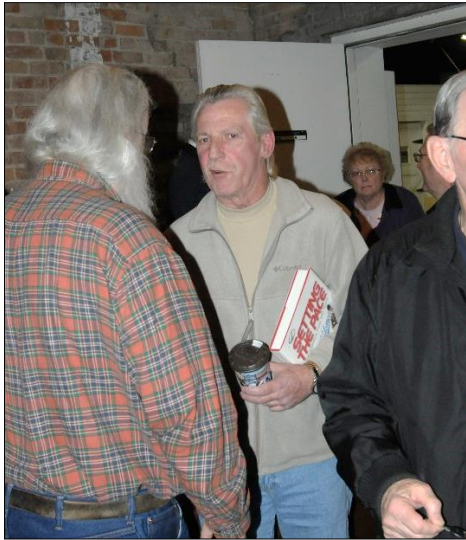
Below is Chapter member Jim and Sharon Brehm's 1964 442.



GET YOUR KICKS ON October 9-19, 2014



Chapter members attending the December meeting were treated to a presentation by special guest, Craig Parrish. Craig is well known in the Lansing area as the organizer for the "Cruising the Gut" car show that was held in downtown Lansing for many years. He is also the creator and coordinator for the week-long Old 27 Tour that goes from Auburn, IN to



Cheboygan, MI. He has also been the organizer for car shows in many other areas, including Litchfield, IL, near the start of Route 66.

Route 66 is the American highway made famous in both song and television in the 60's. The road is also referred to as "The Mother Road" and "Main Street USA". It travels from east to west starting in Chicago, IL and nearly 2500 miles later, reaching the Pacific Coast at Santa Monica, CA.

Craig filled us in on his project for 2014. He is planning a 10-day driving tour starting in Joliet, IL and going all the way to the pier in Santa Monica. Participants will be travelling as much of the old highway as is possible, in some places the interstate highway and Route 66 are one in the same. The route has been sectioned so the daily drive will be about 250 miles. This will allow for exploration of the historic sites along the way, and there are many of those.

The registration fee for going on the tour is \$40. That will get you a t-shirt and a "cling" for your car that designates you as part of the tour. Any profits from the fees will go to charity.

Chapter members asked several questions after Craig's presentation. Here are some of those.

- 1.If you only want to do only part of the tour can you do that? YES
- 2.Do you have to drive an old car? NO, you can also drive your modern car.
- 3.How do arrange for a hotel at the stopping places? Participants will be given a list of hotels for each night when they register for the event. Each person is responsible for making their own reservations for lodging.

Other information will be posted on the website at www.route66motortour.com as it is available. Several Chapter members are interested in doing this tour. Sounds like a great adventure.

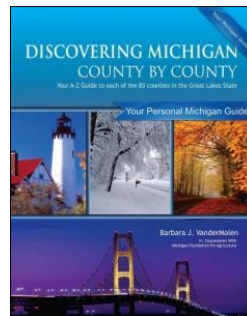
FUTURE GUESTS SCHEDULED FOR OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Chris Heminger has been busy getting guest speakers and activities for our meetings in 2014. Everyone that has attended one of our meetings with a guest speaker has enjoyed the information shared. These planned guests will be no exception.

Our **March 4th** meeting will have a guided tour of the R. E. Olds Museum. The plan is to have Bill Adcock provide the tour of the various exhibits and cars and explain about what is on display.



April 1st (yes, April Fools Day) will be a guest speaker, Barbara VanderMolen. She has written a book titled *Discover Michigan County by County*. Barabara has been a Michigan resident all of her life and has assembled a pictorial and informative book about the Great Lake State. This will be an interesting evening.



May 6th, we will have a certified automotive appraiser and the owner of Ride-On- Appraisals, Dennis Parus. Dennis has been doing this for many years and will demonstrate what is

involved in doing an appraisal. Dennis will be coming from the Chicago area for our meeting and anyone interested in having their vehicle appraised by a professional can arrange to have it done while he is here. He charges \$295 for an appraisal. You can check out his background on his website at www.rideonappraisals.com. Chris will be organizing a schedule for Dennis's visit. He takes about an hour or so to do a car. He values all makes and models of antique, classic, muscle, sports, street rods, etc. If you or someone you know would like to make use of his service while he is here, contact Chris Heminger at 517-655-3514 to be included. If you know a non-Olds owner that might want to use this service, let Chris know as well.

ORIGINATION OF THE CENTERLINE

In the United States, the first documented use of a painted center line was in 1911 along Trenton's River Road in Wayne County, Michigan. According to the state of Michigan, the idea of using a painted center line was conceived in 1911 by Edward N. Hines, the chairman of the Wayne County, Michigan, Board of Roads, after watching a leaky milk wagon leave a white trail along a road. Hines was inducted posthumously in 1972 into the Michigan Transportation Hall of Honor for his innovation, and was honored in 2011 with the first Paul Mijksenaar Design for Function Award.

In 1917, the idea of using painted center lines on rural state highways was conceived and/or put into action in at least three states (Michigan, Oregon, and California), apparently completely independent of one another. At some point in 1917, a white highway center

line was painted along "Dead Man's Curve" on what is now County Road 492 in Marquette County, Michigan,



under the direction of Kenneth Ingalls Sawyer, who served as engineer-superintendent of the Marquette County Road Commission. Sawyer was inducted posthumously into the Michigan Transportation Hall of Honor in 1973.

Following is information provided in Marquette County-

According to the marker, the road that is now CR 492 was originally Michigan Highway 15, later called U.S. 41. Sharp curves and increasing traffic during World War I caused an increasing number of traffic fatalities between Marquette and Negaunee, particularly at a curve northwest of the marker that became known as Deadman's Curve.

At the suggestion of his foreman, William S. Skewis, Kenneth Ingalls Sawyer, superintendent of the Marquette County Road Commission, placed a painted centerline to help drivers stay in their own lanes. In 1918, the Marquette County Road Commission painted centerlines on other county roads.

HOMECOMING JUNE 14, 2014

The Homecoming committee has been hard at work. Plans are underway for the best ever show. By now you have your 2014 calendar, so flip to June and save June 14 to participate at Homecoming. If you don't have a new calendar yet, you can purchase an Oldsmobile calendar at the R. E. Olds Museum. Their calendar features several Oldsmobiles in full color on each month. Now back to Homecoming.

The committee has decided to have two feature vehicles this year to celebrate two Oldsmobile milestones. First will be the 1964 442. It has been 50 years since this popular model was introduced. The second feature car will be all versions of the Final 500 series vehicles. This includes Alero, Intrigue, Aurora, Bravada and Silhouette. April marks 10 years since Oldsmobile closed the doors. The 1964 442's and Final 500 cars will be parked in the

feature lot right at the front of the car show.

The flyers for registering for the car show are about finished and the February Chapter meeting will be when they are prepared for mailing. At that meeting we will be labeling, stamping, stuffing and sealing over 2500 flyers to be sent out. This is a good time for you



to help out, we need as many hands as possible to make this go quickly.

Speaking of help.....we also need help on the committee. We need someone to oversee set-up and tear-down. Experienced volunteers are signed up to do the work, but we need someone to organize and make sure everything is done. Ken Nicholas and Don Cooper (22 years each of Homecoming experience) are available to help out so you know what needs to be done. Pick up the phone and call them to find out the exact details. Ken 517-388-1265 or Don 517-290-7455. We really need your help.

The design for the 2014 t-shirt is ready. It will feature a 1964 442 on the back and a Final 500 design on the front "heartbeat" area. Another outstanding shirt. Be sure to order one on your registration form as extras will sell out quickly on show day.

ANNUAL BANQUET AND

President, Vicki May welcomed all to the Annual Meeting Banquet at the R. E. Olds Museum. The room was decorated with white tablecloths, red napkins and centerpieces with bowls of candy, Oldsmobile gas pumps, Oldsmobile emblems and little plastic Oldsmobile cars. There were 72 present this year. Our time began with a social time with some light refreshment.



Several members brought Oldsmobilia displays and they were set up around the area of our gathering. While viewing the outstanding displays, attendees were asked to vote on their favorite ones by specific categories.

Dinner/Dessert was served at 6 pm. Vice President Chris Heminger drew table numbers for the buffet. A delicious meal was served by Saites Catering and everyone enjoyed the delicious meal. As always after the meal comes dessert. Several chapter members had provided dessert for all to enjoy. Thanks to Vicki May (pineapple upside down cake), Ed Shand (lemon meringue cheese cake), Jan Hummer (diabetic apple cake), Marsha Nicholas (both chocolate AND peanut butter sheet cakes), and Judy Badgley (apple crisp). Nobody went away hungry!



Following dinner, Judy Badgley facilitated the games.

- The first game was license plate trivia where various historical information was provided about plates and the players had to select what state the listed description took place. The winner was Teresa Abraham and she was presented with a "Love my Olds" license plate.
- Next Judy asked for the first person to hold up a photo of their Oldsmobile. Debra Hilliard won that prize of an OCA cap. Before the cap was presented, a protest from Mike Ross who had quickly shown a photo of his car on his cell phone screen had to be decided. Debra won! See photo at right.
- 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the 442, so a 442 Trivia game was appropriate. Participants had to answer multiple choice questions related to the 1964 442. Max Hineman and Ken Nicholas tied for the most correct answers and with a tie breaker (pick a number between....), Max Hineman prevailed and received a 442 poster



BUSINESS MEETING

- The next game was to determine what model year particular Oldsmobile nameplates were introduced. Gary Armitage won that game and was presented with a 2014 Museum calendar and a History of Oldsmobile booklet. See photo at right.
- Next Judy asked for the first that could show their R. E. Olds Chapter membership card. Terry Pinkney was the quickest to show his and won the book *The Last Chapter of Oldsmobile* authored by Helen Earley and Jim Walkinshaw.
- The final game was an Oldsmobile word search provided by Bruce Powelson. Jan Ross was the winner and received a copy of the book *The Helen Earley Story* written by Jim Walkinshaw.



With the games over, Judy asked if there was anyone that did NOT have a copy of the book *Setting The Pace* by Helen Earley and Jim Walkinshaw. New members Bob and Joan Neely raised their hand and were then presented with a copy of the book by Vicki May. See photo at left.

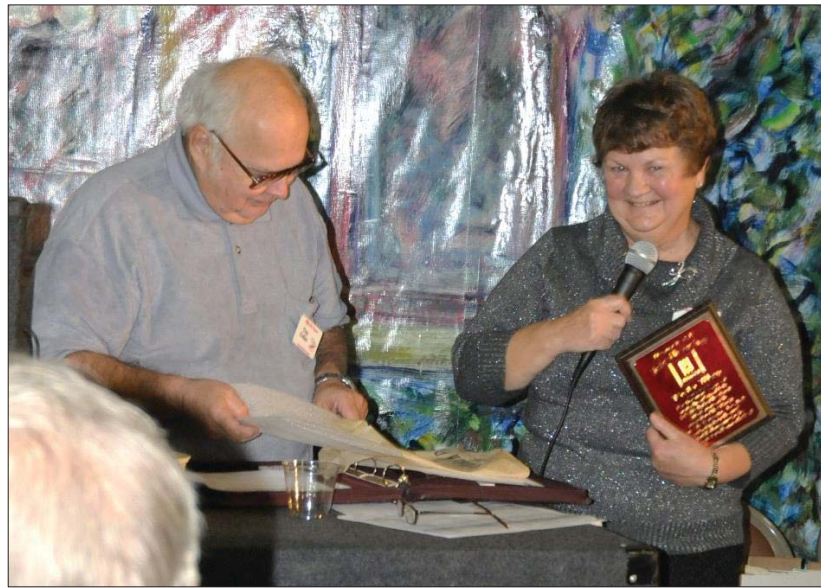


During the time that guests were playing games, Eva Cooper, Marsha Nicholas and Vicki May were counting the voting ballots for the Oldsmobilia displays. SEE WINNERS ON PAGE 8.

With the eating, games and Oldsmobilia awards presented, it was time to “Get Down to Business”. Vicki May opened the business meeting and introduced the following for reports: Vice President, Chris Heminger reported on possible guest speakers for our monthly meetings and activities for Chapter members; Secretary, Ed Shand read the minutes of the October meeting; Jerry Garfield provided a financial status report; a report was given by Don Cooper on Membership status; Eva Cooper reported on the OCA changes and bylaw requirements; Troy Collins reported he is working on Bylaw

updates because of changes within the OCA. Judy Badgley thanked contributors to the newsletter and requested stories. Ken Nicholas, as OCA Zone Representative, reported that business on the national level is proceeding smoothly and he also reported on Homecoming. Bill Adcock gave a report on the R. E. Olds Museum for 2013.

All the reports were completed and the next order of “business” was the presentation of the “Member of the Year” award. Vicki introduced Troy Collins as the 2012 recipient to present the 2013 award winner. This award is selected by nominations being sent to the board and then they determine the winner from the names suggested. This year was a little different as the Board, without the knowledge of the president, selected our president Vicki May as the winner. Vicki was surprised, to say the least, and graciously accepted the plaque.



Now it was time for elections. Troy Collins read the slate of officers: President, Bruce Powelson; Vice President, Chris Heminger; secretary, Ed Shand; Treasurer, Jerry Garfield; OCA Representative, Eva Cooper. With no other nominations were received and nominations were closed. The group were unanimously elected. Steve Zaban provided entertainment while doing the interesting swearing-in ceremony.

The evening was over and everyone had a good time. Thanks to Bruce Powelson for providing pictures.

ANNUAL BANQUET OLDSMOBILIA AWARDS

A major portion of our annual banquet is the Oldsmobile displays provided by our attending members. Each year the displays get better and this year was no exception. All those attending are provided with ballots to vote on their favorite display in each of the categories. Each year it is increasingly difficult to select winners in each of the categories. After the ballots for the displays were counted, the following winners were presented with a trophy and were asked to tell about their display. All of the displays were enjoyed by everyone there.

Best full-sized Oldsmobile AND Best Model Car Display went to Andy Gilbert



Most Original Display went to Doug Badgley



Most Historical Display was won by Jill Gilbert & her Fisher Body items



Most Unusual Display was won by Max Hineman

Best Cutlass 442 Display was presented to Dave Hilliard



Most Colorful Display went to Bob Shorman



OLDSMOBILES AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION by Tom & Jan Hummer

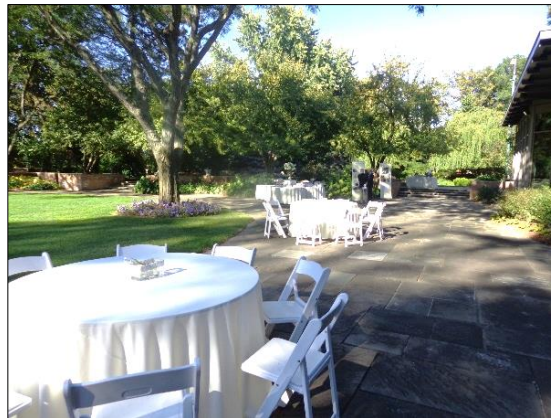


September 26, 2013 was a very special evening for two 1957 Oldsmobiles and their owners. The Michigan History Foundation was holding their fund-raising event at the Governor's residence in Lansing on that evening. Because the Governor's residence was built in 1957 and Lansing was the hometown of Oldsmobile, the event organizers decided to invite two 1957 Oldsmobiles to be parked in front of the home.

The organizers contacted the R. E. Olds Transportation Museum, and they were given our names for our rose mist & white 88 two-door hardtop and Doug and Judy Badgley's names for their blue and white 98 four-door hardtop. We four were contacted and, of course, we agreed to drive our 57's to their event.



Invited attendees paid \$125 each to attend this affair. The fund-raiser also included having art pieces for sale that were made by Michigan artists. The art pieces were on display in the various rooms, so we were able to tour all of the lovely rooms that were not in the private area of the residence.



It was a perfect sunny and warm evening to sit on the patio overlooking the beautiful landscaping and enjoy the very delicious food from three different buffet areas. All of the guests were very friendly, and we enjoyed interesting conversation with several people. Some of the people were the

artists, who had their art on display, and they told us about their pieces.

Sweetie-licious Bakery from Dewitt provided the delicious desserts. At the end of the evening's event, while we were standing by our car, the two gals from the bakery asked if they could get their picture taken with our Olds. They had so much fun posing by and in our car for pictures. Several other people, as they were leaving, thanked us for bringing our Oldsmobiles and said that the cars brought back fond memories.

It was really great that our Oldsmobiles were invited to this event, and that we four got to "go along for the ride".



OLDSMOBILIA AT BADGLEY'S by Judy Badgley



October 20, several members of our Chapter and members from the R. E. Olds Museum attended our open house. It was a beautiful fall day and as guests arrived they knew where the party was as the front yard was filled with Oldsmobile signs and go-carts. There was also our three full-size 98's – the 53, 57 and 91 Elite.



Once they were inside, they were directed to the upstairs display area. Along the stairway walls guests viewed several examples of framed Oldsmobile records and advertising including a record of "In My Merry Oldsmobile" from the early 1900's.



Al and Carole Scholten with Doug

As visitors arrived in the upstairs, Doug greeted and provided information on the various items showcased in the upstairs. The displays range from the days of the Olds Motor Works to 2004 when Oldsmobile was closed down. There is an area featuring the Olds racing program and the Hurst/Olds, complete with Doc Watson.



Another area is dedicated to the celebration of Oldsmobile's various anniversaries, including the 100th birthday celebration.



Rebecca & Terry Pinkney enjoy the display

There was a lot to take in with the displays of all Oldsmobile key fobs, jewelry, sports memorabilia, printers blocks, pens, pencils, books, clothing, etc., etc., etc. One of the frequently asked questions was what the oldest item we had was. The answer is a piece of stationary from 1904.

After guests had taken in all of the displays, they returned downstairs for homemade cookies, apple crisp, cider and visiting.



Below is a poem I wrote about our "addiction" several years ago.

Twas the day of the swap meet, and all through the aisles, we were all there searching those parts in the piles.

The parts boxes were sorted and stacked by year, we'll find what we need, we're sure that it's here.

The chrome is all polished and bright in the sun, the right nuts and bolts and our car will be done.

Mama had her fanny pack and I with my Hemmings bag set out for the treasure with a low price on the tag.

When down aisle "T", I spied a rare dash, I ran to the vendor and gave him the cash.

As I turned to show mama the prize I had got, she was nowhere in sight, she was lost in the lot.

I looked and I looked but to no avail, she was nowhere around, had she found a great sale?

I got me a hot dog and kept looking around, a Coke and fries, she must now be found.

Aisle after aisle and row after row, I passed all those parts, watching for mama to show.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear, I spied mama. "Where have you been dear?"

"Wait 'til you see the treasures I bought", and she showed me the bags of items she sought.

Key fobs, some literature and glasses with rockets, she had so much stuff it was falling from her pockets.

A floating car pen from 1949, a neon clock with the world, it looked so fine.

We loaded the van, the back was so full, the dash went on the roof, and that is no bull.

Many swap meets later the car's still undone, our house is full of Oldsmobilia, mama had fun!!

EMBLEMS OF OLDSMOBILE by Judy Badgley

Oldsmobile logos appeared in various versions throughout the division's 107-year history. Many of the emblems used on the vehicles were "company" logos while others were a variation designed for a particular vehicle.

The first emblem was titled the "Florid Crest" and included the Oldsmobile banner. It first



appeared on the Curved Dash. This design was introduced in 1900 and was used through 1928. In 1901, 425 Curved Dash Oldsmobiles were built, making Olds Motor Works the FIRST mass producer of gasoline automobiles in America.



The "Winged Spur" crest was introduced in 1929 and used through 1948. This emblem

symbolized Oldsmobile's ever-increasing prominence in the automobile industry. The winged spur at its center represented harnessing horsepower; the acorns acknowledged Oldsmobile as a seed that helped grow the automobile industry; the Lamp of Knowledge centered at the top signified research; the micrometer on the top left was to indicate exactness; the triangle on the top right showed precision. An insert in this newsletter, a reprint of an Oldsmobile communiqué, includes

a more detailed explanation of this emblem. This design was used on the service gifts presented to employees for their devoted service.



1949 brought about a new look in Oldsmobiles and a new emblem entitled the "Ringed Globe". The company wanted to express their global influence with this design. This lay out was continued as the "official" logo through 1958. The emblem first appeared on Oldsmobile's first official pace car of the Indianapolis 500, the 1949 Rocket 88. The series was powered by the industry's first high compression V8 engine.

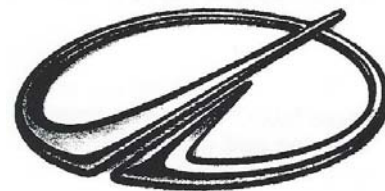
The popularity of the Rocket V8 engine brought on the next design, the "Rocket". This design was introduced in 1959 and continued as the official emblem through 1995. This emblem was used on the



Oldsmobile line-up as it climbed to the number three position of auto sellers in the USA in 1975. (The number 1 and number 2 sellers were Chevrolet and Ford, both of whom included truck production in their figures.) The rocket emblem was proudly worn by the Cutlass, which became the nation's best selling nameplate in 1976. This emblem was the most recognizable

Oldsmobile emblem through all of the years of production.

In 1996, Oldsmobile wanted a more contemporary design. This led to the introduction of a horizontally oriented, open oval shape incorporating the rocket heritage form positioned at an angle. This was to signal a new direction for Oldsmobile. The "rocket" pierces the oval, suggesting Oldsmobile is going outside the boundaries-beyond the conventional. This log continued to the end of Oldsmobile production in 2004.



Although the Oldsmobile cars sported variations of these logos throughout the years, these five are considered to be the "Official" company logos.

Included in this newsletter is a copy of the explanation of the emblem used on the service jewelry and in many other locations. It is one of the most recognized emblems of Oldsmobile and is considered by most to be THE official representation for the company. This information was provided by Oldsmobile Division, GMC in publications and as a giveaway for guests to reinforce the strength of the Oldsmobile product.

Information for this article was provided by Dave Pfaff and the R. E. Olds Museum archives. Chapter member Bud Hilliard prompted this research project during his visit to the Badgley Oldsmobilia open house.

Oldsmobile

R. E. OLDS CHAPTER IN OLD CARS WEEKLY

A few months ago a request was sent to our membership for articles for the newsletter. Our members answered the call with several items to be published in our *Rocket Review*. Two different members came up with similar ideas and the accompanying articles. Both Ed Shand and Fred Pirochta sent in the idea for a “WHO AM I” series that would provide some background on a member and then the readers would see if they could guess who the member was. This series had been well received by the membership and will continue as long as the stories are provided.

The Chapter sends the newsletter to all active members. In addition a copy is sent to the OCA Editor, OCA President, NAOC Editor and Old Cars Weekly. If you are not familiar with Old Cars Weekly, it is a weekly publication for car hobbyists. One of their regular columns features items from the various newsletters they receive. The December 5, issue featured our WHO AM I series with Fred Pirochta from our own newsletter. They are encouraging other clubs to do the same type of article.

CLUB CLIPS

Clipped by Gerald Perschbacher LL.D.

Roll out the welcome mat to outsiders

“Who am I” was the headline over a short item that bears mention. It was Fred Pirochta, a chapter member of the R.E. Olds Michigan Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America (publication: *Rocket Review*, P.O. Box 80101, Lansing, MI 48908-0101; Judy Badgley, editor).

Fred was shown standing beside his 1967 Cutlass, which often is seen at cruise gatherings. Even though Fred has been a regular at events, there are always some people who wonder who he is, as is the case with so many other club members — including at least a few in your own club.

The small article went right to the heart of Fred’s involvement from president (1985-1988) to technical advisor (with “many articles over the years to our *Rocket Review* and also did a series of ‘Tech Tips.’” An OCA master judge, Fred also had an influence on the judging standards and has been active in volunteering for events.

Atop of that is Fred’s “career as a service writer,” which was mentioned at the tail of the tale. “Watch future issues of our newsletter for some interesting experiences during Fred’s career.”

How does this apply to you and your club? You’ve probably got several people with interesting stories to relate. Plow that ground and watch results sprout. Moreso, it’s a good way

for members to learn more about others in their club — folks who might just help them enjoy the hobby even better — or possibly become the next owner of their old car.

Bottom line: do what you can to help members get acquainted.

Early Ford V-8 Museum gets room to stretch out

Growth has its benefits, and Ford folks are watching the progress at American Heritage Village, “where our Museum is located,” says an official with the Early Ford V-8 Foundation & Museum. The story appeared in early *Fall in Foundation News*, P.O. Box 284, Auburn, IN 46706.

The facility has added 8.73 acres to the 2.5 acres it had previously. “We now have over 11 acres,” says the report.

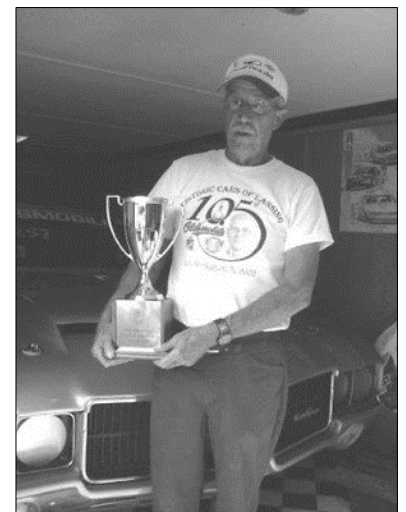
It was done wisely without borrowing funds. “How did we do it? We negotiated a price of \$13,000 an acre” (total: \$113,490 — a bargain price). “But with a donation and a Grant-in-Aid of a combined total of \$110,000, the Foundation got the bargain of a lifetime. It cost us just under \$3,500.”

Now, the organization plans to focus more strongly on building its rotunda for Ford-related exhibits. Having more land to host meets will increase revenues, making the dream plausible. The place is expected to be a great spot to host some national meets!

The answer to “WHO AM I” is Chris Heminger. Chris joined the chapter in January of 2000. It wasn’t long before he jumped in to help. He is an active volunteer on the Homecoming Committee and is currently in charge of the trailer parking area (How appropriate is that!) He has been Vice President since 2011 and has made his mark in that position

by searching for guest speakers to make interesting

presentations at our monthly meetings. Chris is pictured here with his race car and his trophy which is currently on display at the R. E. Olds Museum.





**R. E. Olds Chapter
Annual Business
Meeting/Elections
November 16, 2014**

Presidents Report:

Vicki may welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting.

Vice

Presidents Report/Programs:

Chris Heminger: Thank you for the opportunity to be your Vice President. At our December General Session meeting Craig Parrish will be making a presentation to the membership. He facilitates the Old 27 tour and next year will be heading up the Route 66 tour. It will run from Joliet, Ill to Santa Cruz, Calif.

Treasurers Report: Jerry Garfield reported on the finances of the Chapter.

Secretary Report: Ed Shand reported the minutes of the general session meeting for October 2013 were highlighted and presented to the membership. There were no corrections offered by the membership.

Ed also said "First of all, thank you for giving me the opportunity to be the club secretary over the past years. I have enjoyed assisting in this capacity and with your approval continue."

Newsletter Report: Judy Badgley spent 2 days preparing an official report for the Annual Meeting. So here goes

1-I have enjoyed doing the newsletter these past 2 years. It has been a great experience and I'm sure will look great on my resume in case I ever decide to go to work.

2-I would like to thank the Coopers especially Eva for all she does in proofreading the newsletter.

3-I appreciate all of you that have continued to send articles and information for the newsletter.

4-Also I would like to point out to ALL new members that although it doesn't appear on the membership application, a requirement for joining is sending at least 1 article to me.

5-The new series of articles entitled ("WHO AM I") has had a great response from both contributors and readers. I'm grateful to both Ed Shand and Fred Pirochta for sharing the same idea at the same time.

6-My last item is an announcement. I have a new computer. My 12 year old model was beginning to indicate problems. We purchased a new computer that has Windows 8. I really am of the mindset that YOU CAN NOT TEACH OLD DOGS (EDITORS) NEW TRICKS! Thank you all for your continued support & patience.

By-Laws Chairman Report: Troy Collins: Some changes in the by-laws to come next year for our Chapter to be in line with the OCA bylaws.

Membership Chairman Report: Don Cooper reported: Vicki reported for Don: Great job Don, We have 126 active members gaining 17 new members. The Founding members Doug Badgley Tom Hummer Jim Harsant, Max Hineman, Fred Pirochta, were acknowledged and given an applause from the membership. Two new members were

present for the first time at our annual meeting, Neely's and Snider's.

OCA Chapter Representative Report: Eva Cooper reported: OCA changes changed the responsibilities since there is no longer a compliance report due OCA. Eva is doing a great job communicating to the membership through email.

OCA Zone Report: Ken Nicholas: OCA is coming along and some of the questionable people are not running for re-election and some major issues are being addressed.

Museum Liaison Report: Bill Adcock Artwork hanging on the wall is from the quality dairy store in REO town. It was cleaned, touched up and resealed. Thanks to the R. E. Olds Chapter for supporting the museum and for being here tonight

New Business: Troy Collins (last year's Member of the year the 2013 Member of the year. Troy provided a bio to introduce the member of the year. (Vicki May).

Elections/ ballots: There were no additional nominations for any officer position other than those presented tonight.

- President Bruce Powelson
- Vice President Chris Heminger
- Treasurer Jerry Garfield
- Secretary Ed Shand
- OCA Chapter Rep Eva Cooper

Troy Collins closed the nominations. The officers were elected. Steve Zaban performed the swearing in of the officers.

Committee members Judy Badgley, Eva Cooper, Jan Hummer and Vicki May were thanked for the excellent planning and bringing forth a great evening.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted: Ed. Shand, Secretary.

**R. E. Olds Chapter
General Session Meeting
December 3, 2013**

President, Vicki May called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 37 present at the meeting. There was one guest, Craig Parrish the speaker for this evening.

Presidents Report: Vicki introduced our guest present and the membership introduced themselves and some presented items of interest to the group.

- 1.Vicki introduced President-Elect Bruce Powelson
- 2.Thank you to Eva, Judy, and Jan for their work on the annual banquet.
- 3.Board Meeting Items: Troy will be recommending some changes to our bylaws to coincide with the OCA membership requirement changes.

Vice Presidents Report/Programs: Chris Heminger: Marsha Nicholas has a lead for a guest speaker, Dennis Parus a professional classic vehicle appraiser. If there is an interest, it's possible to schedule him for the May meeting. See page 6 for details

Treasurers Report: Jerry Garfield:

- 1.Operating Budget: the Chapter operating budget for 2014 will be reviewed and approved at the January Board meeting.

2.Homecoming: The Board approved the homecoming 2014 budget during tonight's meeting.

Secretaries Report: Ed Shand

The minutes of the general session meeting for November, 2013 were presented to the membership and opened for discussion. Judy motioned to include the wives of the Charter members in the minutes. The minutes were updated to reflect the recommended changes. Bill Adcock motioned to accept the minutes as read. Ken Nicholas seconded the motion. The membership approved the motion.

Newsletter Report: Judy Badgley: For the past 6 months Judy was sending our newsletter to NAOC. Based on some information in the newsletter NAOC printed an article on Fred Pirochta. Judy read the article. The Newsletter will be released between Christmas and the New Year.

By-Laws Chairman Report: Troy Collins: We will be making the wording changes in the chapter bylaws to conform to the changes in the OCA membership requirements.

Membership Chairman Report: Don Cooper reported: New Applications: Two new members James Cameron Ontario, Canada 1968 Cutlass "S", John Nee Canadian Lakes, MI 1983 98 Regency. We currently have 128 active members.

OCA Chapter Representative Report: Eva Cooper reported: No new information to report. Compliance Report: OCA changes in membership requirements may change the reporting function of this position. Vicki thanked Eva for doing a wonderful job keeping the membership up to date as Email coordinator.

OCA Zone Report: Ken Nicholas: Things are going smoothly at OCA.

Museum Liaison Report: Bill Adcock Nice to see Craig Parrish again. He did a wonderful job with the museum show this past summer. We will be sprucing up the museum in January. Vicki, thanks for the fine job you did leading the chapter as President and the support that that the Chapter provides to the museum.

Old Business:

- 1.Homecoming: Going well, we need a setup teardown chairperson, the flier is almost ready for printing, and the artwork for shirts and flier are in final stages.
- 2.Jim Walkinshaw tribute is still in the development stage and progress is being made. There will be a recommendation made to the membership shortly.

New Business:

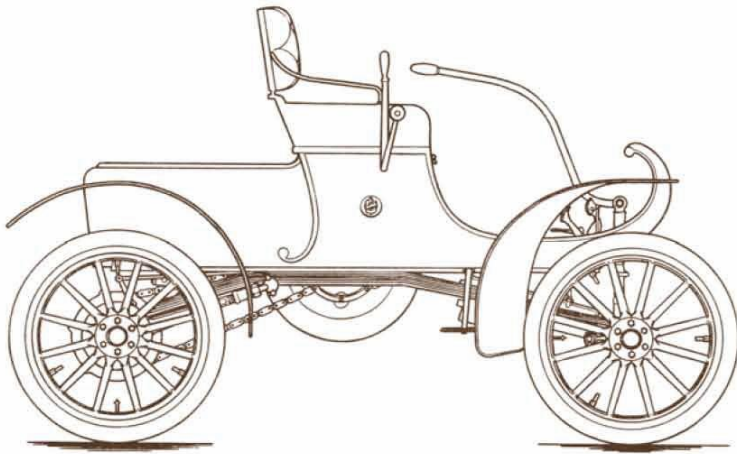
- 1.Bruce Powelson introduced himself to the membership and is anxious to begin his term as president next month.
- 2.Wayne mason would like to shift the responsibilities of the Website to another member. There were no volunteers.

Motion to Adjourn: Harry Emmons motioned to adjourn and Jim Brehm seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted: Ed. Shand, Secretary.

There were no expenditures approved at this meeting.

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Rocket Review - a publication of the R. E. Olds Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America

**A Great turnout for the Annual Banquet
Great food, Great displays, Great entertainment and best of all Great people**

