ROCKET REVIEW QUARTERLY

CAPITOL CITY ROCKETS

AN OLD CARS GOLDEN QUILL AWARD EXEMPLARY PUBLICATION 2024-25

SUPER FALL EDITION '26
SCOTT PHILLIPS - EDITOR



SAVE THE DATES!

- SAT, Nov 7th: Annual > White Post Restorations> Tour, Details in email!
- SAT, Dec 5th : CCR Holiday Luncheon, Bungalow Lakehouse, Sterling, VA 12:30 pm.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

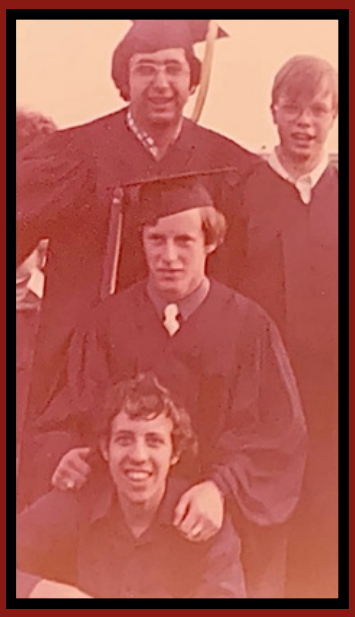
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PRESIDENT JOE PADAVANO'S MESSAGE

THERE ARE A LOT OF MEMES ON THE INTERWEBS THAT EXTOL THE VIRTUES OF THE CAR HOBBY IN MAKING AND KEEPING FRIENDS. THAT POINT WAS DRIVEN HOME TO ME RECENTLY AS I ATTENDED MY 50TH (GASP!) HIGH SCHOOL REUNION IN MASSACHUSETTS. THE PHOTO ON THE NEXT PAGE IS MY HIGH SCHOOL CAR BUDDIES AS WE MET UP TO CRUISE TOGETHER TO THE REUNION. PAUL HAS OWNED THE BLUE 1966 MALIBU CONVERTIBLE SINCE HE WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL. WHEN HE GOT IT, THE CAR HAD A 230/POWERGLIDE DRIVETRAIN. HE PROMPTLY ADDED SS EMBLEMS, AND THE "SS STANDS FOR STRAIGHT SIX" JOKES NEVER STOPPED.









Padavano's Message Cont.

It was sort of the anti-sleeper. Over the last half a century, the car has had at least one frame swap (actually, I think two) to combat the ravages of driving it in New England winters. The car also got a 327 for a while, and in the last restoration got a big block Chevy/Muncie combo. Jimmy got the 1972 El Camino shortly after high school. At the 40th reunion he had just had a tire explode at the drag strip, which tore up one of the fenders. That repair stretched to a ten year rebuild and he just got it on the road for the 50th. The ElCo runs a BBC 496/TH400 combo. After riding shotgun on the last two Power Tours, Ed broke down and got that 68 Mustang this summer. The car has a stroked 302 that now pushes 347 cu in with a C4 automatic. Ed claims he's driving it on Power Tour in 2027. My wagon obviously isn't the 68 Vista that I had in high school, but it's a pretty close surrogate.

President's Message

I definitely got a lot of thumbs-up and waves on the drive up to MA and back.

The four of us (and a couple of other hangers-on) pulled a lot of stuff back in the day, and we recounted (and embellished) those stories over the weekend. We also tried to recreate the graduation day photo, but this time we used a set of stairs to avoid anyone having to crouch down and require help getting back up.

Non-car people who saw my wagon invariably asked "Did you drive it all the way from Virginia?" Well, it really doesn't fit in the overhead bins… I don't know if the issue was that the car looks decrepit, I look decrepit, or that people today don't believe that it's possible to drive for eight hours without infotainment, integrated climate control, power everything, and a plethora of electronic nanny equipment. Of course, even car people seem to think that they can only drive their restored car to cruise night and back. While there are many ways to enjoy the old car hobby, and I understand that if you spent weeks detailing your car for the next show, you'd be reluctant to get it dirty, but personally I feel like those people are really missing out on the whole experience. I know a lot of folks who are just scared that their older car isn't "reliable" enough for such a trip. My response is, if that's the case, you have the wrong car. These cars were designed and tested to be daily drivers. There's nothing preventing that now. Of course, there's also the issue that most of the "upgrades" the people undertake to their old cars "for reliability" end up doing exactly the opposite. How many people with an electronic distributor carry a spare module in the glove box? While I'm not a "the car must be stock" purist, the fact remains that no aftermarket parts have had anywhere near the engineering and testing as the factory put into these cars when they were new.

In my case, I've put close to 7,500 miles on the wagon this year alone – Power Tour, OCA Nationals, and now my high school reunion. While I would NEVER exceed the speed limit, I will say that the car is very happy at 80 MPH. While higher speeds definitely eat up the miles more quickly, gas mileage is noticeably worse at 80 MPH than it is at 60. The second question I got from observers was "how's the gas mileage?" I responded that I considered gas costs to be an entertainment expense.

It's been a great car season this year with awesome weather. I look forward to seeing everyone at the White Post tour and the Holiday Party. For those who can't make it, enjoy fall and the coming holiday season, and keep those Oldsmobiles out on the road! - Joe Padavano, CCR President

The Capitol City Rockets is the Suburban Maryland, DC, and Northern Virginia chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America. The Capitol City Rockets originated in 1989, and is currently operating in its 37th year. We split monthly meetings between Eagle Ridge MS in Ashburn, VA and various sites in Rockville, with one peer judged show co-hosted each year with the Metro Buick Club. The club currently consists of over 65+ members, from Virginia, Maryland, DC & a few others. A membership form is located in the back of this newsletter. One need not own an Oldsmobile to join, and dues remain $20 dollars per year, payable either by check or using the PayPal button on our website. Current membership in the Oldsmobile Club of America is a requirement of CCR membership, as we are required to submit club rosters to OCA for yearly event insurance coverage.

OCA Nationals, July 22-25

The 2026 Oldsmobile Nationals were held in Indianapolis, IN this year. My oldest son Holden and I had a few reasons to attend - namely my '62 Jetfire engine kept flooding and the best Jetfire expert I know lives nearby, and Holden was going to enter our '69 F-85 in the driver class, as he would drive it from Virginia to Pittsburgh to Indy and back again, a distance of about 1200+ miles. We were meeting Joe Padavano there a bit later in the week as I arrived early for a trip over to Eric Jensen's garage outside of Terra Haute (way outside, as the corn field picture attests...). Turned out to be a bad float valve in the carb - new ones have a rubber tip, while the originals were all brass. Eric swapped that out, we adjusted the float, and bam - fixed. Joe had a bit of tuning to do on the wagon as well, and then the parking lots began to fill (see bottom!)





L) Trip started at Eagle Ridge Sun, July 19 with a new tow vehicle - '26 Chevy Silverado RST. R) Corn, corn, corn in Indiana...





L) That's Eric Jensen tweaking the Rochester side barrel carb on the '62. We had a little meet up there as he was working on a few Jetfires. R) Joe P servicing the '69 wagon pre-race day.



OCA Nats - Trip to Coan Engineering

Coan Engineering is an Automatic Transmission, torque converter, and transmission component pro - duction faciity in Kokomo, IN. While they can fix and service any transmission, they are actually manu - facturing their own high quality race/street components. They are the sole provider of transmissions for Monster Jam monster trucks! Founded in 1976, the Coan Family track tests in three divisions - Comp Eliminator, Super Comp, & Bracket racing, as well as sponsoring many others with “Made in the USA” parts.

















OCA Nats - Race Day at Bunker Hill Dragstrip











Race Day (and, in fact, the end of the week) couldn't have been better weather for summertime. If you haven't been to an OCA National, there is always a Racing event at a local drag strip that runs from a "test and tune" run down the strip in your show car to bracket racing for prizes and awards. This is something Holden Phillips, above left, has always wanted to do with the '69 F-85 we built when he was in high school, so it was a huge highlight for him. He got three turns against Joe Padavano's '69 flattop Cutlass wagon, but the 250 inline 6 cylinder just couldn't catch him. There was a nice crowd of folks from the Olds show, and some entertaining runs, like the Olds Hearse above. We'll definitely be doing Race Day again!

OCA Nats - Showfield Highlights



Thursday evening into Friday is a flurry of activity at the Oldsmobile Club of America Nationals as folks prepare their cars for judging, which begins on Friday morning. Once Judging is completed on Friday, most of the cars remain on the showfield until Saturday morning, which is great for catching all of the classes. Above are some local ties - Paul Myers '76 Cutlass, Charles O'Dea's '56 Super 88 (out of Suffolk, VA), Phillips' cars w board members from the Puerto Rico (!) chapter of OCA, and our Jetfire group outing. Below are just some magical restorations/preservations from the showfield of 400+ cars. Awesome.



All GM Show Highlights - Aug 8th

The Annual All GM Show was held again at Eagle Ridge Middle School in Ashburn. Despite a threat of rain in the forecast, we had a nice turn out of cars and below are some of them. The "Best of Show Stock" went to the '56 GMC truck, Bill Wrobel's "Green Machine" Motorhome provided smiles, Tom McQueen's '59 Buick stunned, Two Smooth Dudes again provided sustenance, the '64 Riviera and '67 Impala were award winners, and the seldom-seen '66 Dynamic 88 was a local Ashburn car. Thanks to all who attended!

















2026 All GM Show Awards

Award	First Name	Last Name	Year	Make	Model
Best of Show Stock	John	Lipp	1956	GMC	Suburban Carrier
Best of Show Modified	Gil	Driver	1963	Chevrolet	Impala SS
Best Buick	Tom	McQueen	1959	Buick	Electra 225 Convertible
Best Cadillac	Don	Tiaga	1959	Cadillac	Series 62 Convertible
Best Chevrolet	Reese	Burgoyne	1967	Chevrolet	Corvette
Best Oldsmobile	Chris	Weston	1972	Oldsmobile	442 Convertible
Best Pontiac	Scott	Wardinski	1969	Pontiac	GTO
Best Truck	Ed	Rollins	1948	Chevrolet	Truck 3100
Best Paint	Rich/ Sharon	Pople/ Claridge	1962	Chevrolet	Corvette
Spectator Choice	Estes	Thompson	1965	Chevrolet	Corvair Corsa

TOP 5 of TOP 20 Award Winners

	First Name	Last Name	Year	Make	Model
1	Rick	Koontz	1987	Buick	Grand National
2	Jonathan	Helmers	1976	Pontiac	Grand Safari Wagon
3	Richard	Muhr	1990	Chevrolet	Corvette ZR-1
4	Gary	Binge	1968	Chevrolet	C10 Truck
5	Kyle	Davis	1972	Oldsmobile	442 Convertible

Rockville and Leesburg Highlights - Oct '26



Pictured above, the 38th Annual Leesburg Car Show, sponsored by the Academies of Loudoun County Public Schools, took place on Oct 3rd. Early rain dampened attendance, but later turn out was great. Cars park up and down from the intersection of King and Market streets, and it's a celebration of Leesburg's historic downtown. Scott Phillips '62 'Jetfire' convertible won the 'Best 1960s' award. Pictured below, the Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show featured over 500 vehicles and 33 car clubs (including CCR) represented. Shane Sonnevelt's 1937 Bentley 4.25 Litre Derby won the Mayor/Council Award (bottom right). Owen Griesemer, Allen Swim, and Richard Sisson's Olds are pictured. Thanks to Bob Baer for pics!



Misc. CCR and Olds Fall Happenings









Top Row: The Fairfax City Labor Day Show did not disappoint this year. CCR members Terry Rose's '68 442, Tom Hyden's '72 Cutlass S, and Chris Weston's '72 442 Convertible.

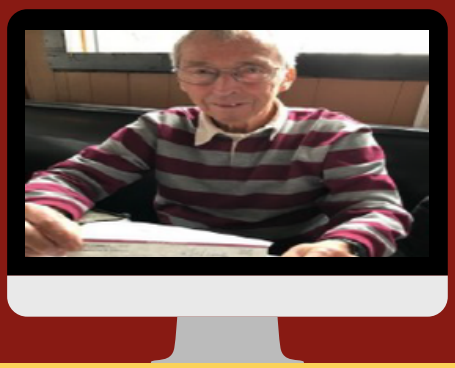
Bottom Row: Allen Swim took his recently restored '66 GTO convertible to the 100th Anniversary Pontiac National in Pontiac, Mi. He took a Gold Junior Award in Modified Class.

To Left: Scott's "new" '62 Jetfire project. All original, sitting since 1977 with plenty of documentation. Looks great in pictures, but lots of problems! It'll be while until this ultra rare example is roadworthy.

Below: RIP long time CCR member Guy Fansler. His decades-long restoration of ths beloved '56 88 debuted as our Best Olds at the 2024 All GM Show.



CCR Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports



KEN QUINCY'S CORNER: CCR TREASURY REPORT

BALANCE 6-8-26: $4,090.74
INCOME: $200 SHOW REGS
EXPENSES:
$258 P.O. BOX
$30.86 SUPPLIES
$347.04 RALLEYE PROD.
$145.55 FED EX
$49.43 EBAY
TOTAL EXPENSES: $830.88
BALANCE 7-15-26: $3459.86

JLY SHOW INCOME: $720.24

BALANCE FROM 7-31 TO 9-15-2026: $4,180.10
INCOME: ONLINE AUG CCR SHOW REGS $480.00
DUES $60.00
TOTAL INCOME: $540.00

BALANCE AS OF 10-11-2026 $4,720.10



COL NEISCHEL'S CORNER: CCR SECRETARY REPORT

- CURRENT MEMBERS: 69
  - FROM VA: 42 (61%)
  - FROM MD: 17 (25%)
  - FROM DC: 4 (6%)
  - FROM WV: 2 (3%)
  - 1 DE, PA, FL, MO (5%)
- THERE ARE 36 DIFFERENT OLDSMOBILE MODELS OWNED BY MEMBERS. MOST COMMON ARE:
  - CUTLASS: 21
  - 442: 20
  - ANY 88: 10
- YEAR TRENDS INCLUDE:
  - 1968-72: 33
  - 1961-67: 21
  - 73 & UP: 10; 49-53: 2
- DUES CONTINUE TO BE $20 PER YEAR.
- CLUB WEBSITE CAPITOLCITYROCKETS.COM & ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK GROUPS

Secretary/Webmaster Notes - Jeff Neischel

Secretary & Webmaster Notes
Jeff Neischel

Team CCR,

Our total membership is 69 strong, and that has steadily increased due to the diligent efforts of everyone paying $20 annual dues and getting others to see the value in joining our club and keep the Olds Legend Alive. I send out monthly emails when your membership is coming due, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions at neischel@gmail.com

The Oldsmobile Club of America also helps keep the Oldsmobile spirit alive and benefits local chapters by staying connected via geographic zones, providing free insurance for chapter shows, the annual national show and the monthly Journey with Olds magazine. Our President joe Padavano stays connected to OCA, and in particular attends monthly Northeast Zone meetings to keep us synched up with the clubs in neighboring states.

New to our website is the Resources tab at https://www.capitolcityrockets.com/resources These are not advertisements or paid endorsements, they are businesses and services that have been used and recommended by members of the Capitol City Rockets. We have many members who want/need some help getting their ride back on the road, and these are just a few that can lend a hand in doing that. My 1972 Supreme needed some brake and suspension help, so shout out to local Olds ace Paul Frederick for helping me make it safe to drive and handle a lot better.

Also check out the CCR member rides at https://www.capitolcityrockets.com/members-vehicles
If you don't see yours, send me a picture. I hope to see you at the world-famous White Post Restorations tour on November 7th, and our Holiday Luncheon on December 5th.

V/R, Jeff

Capitol City Rockets, PO Box 4244, Ashburn, VA 20148
Web: capitolcityrockets.com
Twitter: twitter.com/capitol_rockets
Facebook: facebook.com/groups/Capitol City Rockets

CCR Classifed Ads and Preferred Vendors

Please Note: Classified Ads are Free and can be emailed to the Editor @ scott.phillips@lcps.org

- **OPG Resto Parts Bucket Seat Foam: 66-70 BOPC - fits Chevelle, Cutlass, etc. Contact Ed Eturmanian@yahoo.com**

- **'68 442 Parts: front fender, doors, rechromed front bumpers, 14 x 6 SS II wheels (4), wheel well molding, headlight surrounds, oil pan, misc. Also Chevy 12 bolt 2:73 posi. Make offer(s), want to get them to someone who can use them. Contact Owen 240-357-5696 or ogriesemer@comcast.net**

- **1962 Olds 'Jetfire' F-85 Sports Convertible. Turbocharged, Alcohol Injected 215 ci that runs right, Borg Warner T-10 4 speed, restored bucket seat interior and Electron top. Wedgewood Mist blue with dark blue accents and top. 15" rims and redlines. Extensive restoration documentation. Best in Class at OCA Nats and GM Carlisle. Asking $40K or best offer. Get it before it goes to auction. Contact Scott 571-233-5193 or scott.phillips@lcps.org**



Below are some notable Olds vendors you may wish to contact:







CCR Club Info, Dues, and Membership App

THE CAPITOL CITY ROCKETS IS A CHARTERED CHAPTER OF THE OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA, LANSING, MI. CHAPTER DUES ARE $20.00 PER YEAR DUE EACH YEAR. VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT WWW.CAPITOLCITYROCKETS.COM TO RENEW ONLINE, OR SEND IN THE FORM TO THE RIGHT TO OUR CLUB PO BOX. CURRENT OCA MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED.

CHAPTER OFFICIALS:

- President: Joe Padavano
- Vice President: Cory Correll
- Treasurer: Ken Quincy
- Secretary: Jeff Neischel
- Editor: Scott Phillips

CHAPTER MODEL ADVISORS:

- Toronado: Ken Quincy, Cory Correll
- 61-63 F Body: Scott Phillips
- 64-64 A Body: Mike Stillwell
- 68-72 A Body: Joe Padavano
- 78-80 A Body: Michael Coxen

The Rocket Review Quarterly is created by Scott F Phillips, CCR editor, @2026, and content belongs to the Capitol City Rockets Oldsmobile Club.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

CAPITOL CITY ROCKETS
CHAPTER OF THE OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL

OCA # _____ OCA EXP. DATE_____

NAME_____

STREET_____

CITY_____

STATE ZIP_____

PHONE # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

LIST OLDSMOBILES CURRENTLY OWNED:

_____

_____

O.C.A. CHAPTERS AFFILIATED WITH:

_____

SEND NEW/RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS TO:
CAPITOL CITY ROCKETS
P.O. BOX 4244
ASHBURN, VA 20148

AS OF JULY, 2022, CCR YEARLY DUES ARE $20
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
CAPITOL CITY ROCKETS
CURRENT MEMBERSHIP IN THE OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA IS REQUIRED.