

Jan-July 2023

Scott Phillips—Editor



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### Save the Dates!

- **Sat, Aug 5th - Annual All GM Show. Visit [www.capitolcityrockets.com](http://www.capitolcityrockets.com) to pre-register.**
- **Sun, Sept 10th— 12:30 pm, MD location TBD**
- **Sun, Oct 8th— 11:00 am Meeting @ Eagle Ridge MS**
- **November Meeting TBD based on Annual trip to White Post Restorations**

Capitol City Rockets — Oldsmobile Club of America  
Winner of the 2019 OCA Editorial Excellence Award and  
11 time Old Cars Weekly Golden Quill Award

# The Rocket Review Quarterly

## Summer Edition, 2023



One of our newest members, Bill Treadwell, (rear left) made these two Golden Anniversary celebrants very happy with an Oldsmobile surprise! Details inside on page 3.

## All GM Show Preview—Cory Correll, VP

We want to invite again everyone and their friends to this August 5<sup>th</sup> All-GM Show at the Eagle Ridge Middle School in Ashburn, VA. We always have a great turnout of GM cars, trucks and GM RVs every year and it's always fun to see ones we've never seen before.

This year, we have breakfast, Award winning BBQ from Old Virginia Smoke for lunch, & Hershey's ice cream coming, as well as vintage music and new General Motors trivia to give away door prizes. Eagle Ridge middle school will also have an indoor cooling center with nearby re-

strooms to take a break from the weather if needed. We are constantly told how nice this venue is and we have more & more shade from the trees each year.

"Top 25" prizes are given out, as well as Best Chevy, Best Pontiac, Best Olds, Best Buick, Best Cadillac, 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Corvette, Best GM Truck, Best GMC-RV, Best Pre-WW2, Best Paint, Best Of Show Stock & Best of Show Modified. And...for the first time we have a sponsor for our awards—Lafayette Federal Credit Union. Be sure to stop and check them out at their tent on the showfield.

It's a great car party and fun is had by all! **So come on out, pre-register online at [www.capitolcityrockets.com](http://www.capitolcityrockets.com) or just show up day of and bring your Olds!** Rain or shine, we'll be there for our 33rd Annual Show!

- Cory  
Show Chair



## Capitol City Rockets Info

*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 33rd year. We split monthly meetings between Eagle Ridge Middle School 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 60+ members from Virginia, Maryland, DC, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Florida, and West Virginia. A membership form is located in the back of this newsletter. One need not own an Oldsmobile to join, and dues are \$20 dollars per year, payable each year, 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.*

**Editor's Note:** (Post) Pandemic school leadership has been tough on me! I skipped a Spring issue, and surely missed some pictures, requests, or events. Please feel free to email me any and all things of interest to you as members. I tried to capture as much of this past 7 months club activity as I could. My sincere apologies! —Scott

## All GM Awards Ready!



**Above:** Check out the 2023 “Best Of” awards, with accompanying make specific gas pump. As always, design of the All GM artwork is by Cory Correll. This year, for the first time, Lafayette Federal Credit Union is sponsoring our awards, and will have a showfield presence. Go check em out!

**Below:** The Capitol City Rockets Annual Holiday Party was held at Leesburg Public House in December of '22. Many thanks to Robin Robinson, who arranged, hosted, and made adorable dessert “Twinkie cars.” As you can see, we had a great turnout. Thanks, Robin!





## Cutlass Supreme and Wedding Bells—Ericka Cotton

What are the ingredients for the perfect Golden Anniversary Bash? Let's see... great location, delicious catering, a fun DJ, and professional photography to capture all the special moments comes to mind. Of course the guests of honor should arrive in style. Perhaps a limo? What about a 1973 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme!

That was the task put before me and my sisters as we wanted to deliver surprise and delight to our parents and guests of The Cotton's 50th Anniversary Celebration. Irby and Carolyn Cotton were married on February 16th, 1973. On their wedding day, Dad gifted Mother with a shiny new green Cutlass Supreme with a vinyl top. I can imagine Mother, beaming with that "new bride" glow as her husband presented a brand new car. "Wouldn't it be neat if we could arrive to the party in one?" My Mother thought.

The challenge was on! We made her promise not to put a deposit on any other transportation unless we couldn't find one. My Mother's fanciful idea became a real quest. Where do you begin tracking down a 50 year old Cutlass Supreme? You don't see these big machines out for a Sunday drive, pulling up next to your mini SUV at a stop light. We started putting out inquires on Nextdoor App, Facebook, even Craigslist. Not only did we want a nice '73, its owner needed to be a willing chauffeur!

Well-wishers who replied to our posts thought it was a lovely, romantic idea. But no Cutlass. Visions of banged up Supremes abandoned in car graves like ancient ships felt closer to reality with every failed response. Mother had moved on, resigning to let Dad polish up his sporty convertible for their arrival. "It'll still be nice," she said. After all, we never told Dad about our quest. No one would feel disappointed. But I wasn't ready to give up. We may not find the exact color, or even year, but if we could just come close.. it would be magical. Then I thought, *there's a historical society, social club, and meet-up group for everything.* The Oldsmobile is a huge part of America's automotive history so it must have a preservation club!

I titled my email to the Oldsmobile Club of America, "*Cutlass Supreme and Wedding Bells*", hoping the headline would grab someone's attention, sharing the story of the wedding gift and the plan we had for their special arrival. The club responded almost immediately, connecting me to Jeff Neischel and the Capital City Rockets. Jeff was excited and sent inquiries to club members within range of Newport News, Virginia. One of the members, Bill Treadwell, responded and the rest of this story is well.. Golden!

My parents theme song is "Love's Theme" by Barry White's Love Unlimited Orchestra. As family and friends gathered on the patio of the Hampton Roads Event Center, we rolled out a golden carpet. The DJ announced that the "carriage" was arriving and to "get your cameras ready for the surprise"! As Barry White's violins danced out of the speakers, Bill's "carriage" - a shiny white and red 1973 Cutlass 442 turned the corner. Everyone cheered! Bill (a finely dressed chauffeur!) opened the door for Dad who came around to other side, with this huge grin waving to his surprised fans, he opened the door for his blushing bride of 50 years.

The evening was the most amazing night for my parents and our entire family. We'll forever be grateful to the OCA and CCR who responded with eagerness and assisted in bringing "full circle magic" to this celebration.



## Lokar Throttle & Kickdown Cable 200-4R I-6 Conversion

As many of you may have considered, this past fall we installed a built 200-4R transmission in our 1969 F-85. Brief history—in '69 if you got the base level F-85 (not the Cutlass or 442), you got the Chevy built 250 cubic inch Action Line 6 and the Super Turbine 300 two speed transmission (which some confuse with the Powerglide, but they are not the same) if you opted for an automatic transmission. As documented in a previous *Rocket Review Quarterly*, we decided to upgrade the Inline 6 in our F-85 to a 4 barrel Edelbrock 500 cfm setup using an Offenhauser intake scored at a Carlisle swap meet.

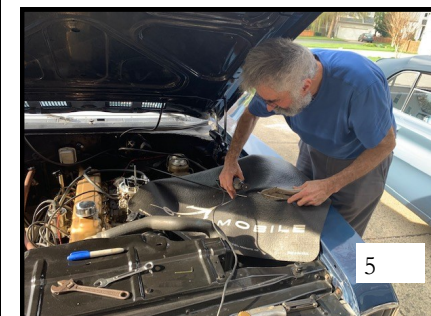
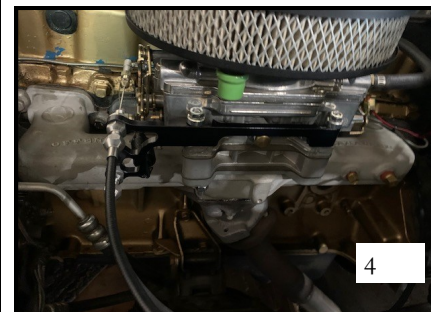
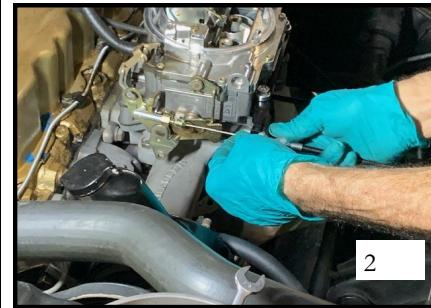
While we loved the four barrel upgrade, the trans felt sluggish behind it. Through OCA and Joe Padavano's recommendation, we worked with CK Performance in Brooklyn, NY to build the trans to not only work with the current engine, but also be stout enough so that if we decided at some point to install a V-8 it would handle the output. Joe had been kind enough to assist with the 4 barrel linkage, but with the 200-4R, it proved fairly problematic. The biggest issue being that in order to feed all 6 cylinders equally, the Edelbrock needed to be turned so that the throttle and trans linkage wrapped around the side, which is not ideal, but was a reality.

Fortunately, I like to spend my early winter weekend mornings watching mind-numbing car shows on *Motor Trend* and *Maverick TV*, and one morning on the *Lokar Garage* show, they had a feature on Lokar linkage kits. I have to tell you that after looking online at individual pieces and kits for both Throttle and Kickdown cables, I was super impressed. I was not only able to search by transmission type, but also by carburetor make/model and engine type—I saw right online at Lokar.com the exact linkage and cable kits I would need to make this work. For both the throttle and kickdown cables, bracketing, and all of the related hardware, I spent about \$300—not cheap, but the Lokar equipment is really well made, adjustable, and cables can be ordered and cut to size.

A few supporting pics on the install:

- 1—Joe P securing the throttle cable and checking range of travel.
- 2—You can see here the adjusting nuts to get full pedal range.
- 3—Side view of throttle (top) and kickdown (bottom) attached
- 4—Best part—stout Lokar alloy bracket that aligns and stabilizes all of the above, matched to the Edelbrock carb we are using.
- 5—Joe P trimming the throttle cable a bit after the test drive.

We cannot say enough as to how the 200-4R and the Lokar linkage have transformed the driving experience and performance of our '69. It is responsive immediately at the pedal, the trans provides power through the upshift that wasn't there before, and when it hits overdrive, the Action Line 6 now has plenty of get up on the highway. A pleasant surprise is it has significantly improved our gas mileage, from 12 to about 19 mpg. As you can tell, I'd highly recommend Lokar linkage! - Scott Phillips, Editor





# Area Spring Cruise Ins Surprise with Volume



Cars and Cigars monthly cruise April 8th was their Kickoff event at DC Prime Restaurant. What a scene!



Parked near us on this decent April day was this clean (and rare) Buick Skylark convertible.



Saw quite a few race ready cars at Cars & Cigars, including this 'Ultimate Street Car' Nova.



In a "prime" spot near the DC Prime Steakhouse was this sweet '55, with a great rumble if memory serves.



Guy Stevens and I like the Cars and Cigars events—they're close to home and afternoon fun.



The Mikey and Mel's cruise in Columbia was on March 25 –cool weather for this turbo Buick GN.



It's hard to show how huge this cruise is, but we saw Scott Hoffman's 442 there, and never saw him.



Parked in a side lot (likely due to late arrival as no spots were left) was this nice Vista Cruiser wagon.



These guys brought out a fleet of drag lawn tractors on Mikey and Mel's. Pretty awesome!

Two monthly Cruises in the area surprised CCR members with the size and turn out. Cars & Cigars in the Ashburn, VA area (pic right) regularly draws 400+ vehicles, while the Mikey and Mel's cruise in Columbia, MD had over 700 cars and trucks this April. The variety and cool was on high!



Pictures by Scott Phillips, Editor



## *CCR Spring DustOff—Burtonsville, MD, April 16*



The Burtonsville Cars and Coffee is on Sunday mornings runs roughly from 8-10 am every Sunday. As you can tell from this Spring pic, well attended.



Barry and Jenny Bartimo from Severn, MD own this spectacular 1971 442 and brought it out to the cruise. We loved this beautiful ride!

Sunday, April 16th turned out to be a gorgeous Spring day, perfect for the Capitol City Rockets Spring Dust Off cruise. This year, we shifted plans a bit to attend the “Church of the Holy Donut” cruise at the Burtonsville Crossing Shopping center in Burtonsville, Maryland. As you can tell from the pictures, we had a really nice turn out of Oldsmobiles, club members and not, and the cruise is very well attended overall, with lots of great cars from around the area. Those that frequent the Burtonsville Cars and Coffee say it’s one of the best in the area—there’s a Dunkin Donuts in the shopping center, a Green turtle for an early brunch, and a nice wide lot with a bunch of great car people hanging out with their rides. We definitely felt like it was a great day to “dust off” the Oldsmobiles, and Marvin, Guy, Scott, Allen, Toby, Barry, Ivory, and I had a great morning!



A full line up of Olds was on hand, with Marvin Jackson’s plush ‘78 Delta far left and Ivory Newton’s ‘57 98 sedan far right.



Long time CCR member Allen Swim was able to come down, and drove his OCA Best in Class slightly modded ‘72 Cutlass.



The Burtonsville location made it a nearby cruise for Toby Turpin, who ‘96 LSS keeps going at 250+ thousand miles...



## *Sully Father's Day/Tyson's Ballpark Show Highlights*



Featured at the Sully Historic Site Father's Day Show was Greg Smith's recently purchased 1969 Hurst Olds, which was incredibly correctly restored.



It's always a treat to look over this 1960 Olds, which has been in Cindy King's family since its purchase by her grandfather in August of 1965.

June saw a few local shows—the Sully Historic Site (renamed recently) again hosted its Annual Father's Day Antique Car Show, which serves as a meet for Ford Model T and Model A's, as well as always a huge turn out of domestic and foreign makes. This year's weather was warm and sunny, and drew cars and people in droves. Turns out Mike Horton and I have a similar approach to local shows, trying out some different ones we have not participated in before. Mike expressed interest in the "Hot Rods and Home Runs" show at the Capital One Ballpark, which is located right off the 123 exit of 66. The park is relatively new, and hosts the summer "Wooden Bat" Potomac League of college players. The show was new, had about 40 terrific cars, and participants got game tickets and food voucher. Awards were real wooden bats and a drive on the field.



This nicely appointed 1966 Cutlass convertible was shown by James Haskins.



The inaugural "Hot Rods and Home Runs" show was held on July 22nd in Tyson's, under the Metro line. Mike Horton's '70 Cutlass and many other nice cars showed up.



Scott Phillips' 1962 F-85 "Jetfire" Sports Convertible won a "Best Interior" award, which was a real wooden bat, and a drive on the field!



# Carlisle GM Nationals "Poured" with Olds Power



Early on, you can see cars pulling and setting up in classes, here a '69 Hurst and a few Rally 350's.



In the featured vehicles from the "Malaise Era," tent was this 1982 Chevette 'tribute woody' 1.6 liter.



Same tent this clean and nicely appointed 1985 Cutlass Calais 500 69th Indy Pace Car.



In a nice truck class at GM Carlisle, this mildly customized 1965 C-10 with 383 Stroker and 4:11 gears was a hit!



Scope of GM Carlisle from on high. Not at all full as Spring or Fall Carlisle, but still strong showfield.



Had a Facebook Live encounter with Lou Santiago of *Garage Insider TV*. Fun enthusiastic car guy!



CCR member Paul Myers of Spotsylvania's 1976 Cutlass Supreme won a Celebrity Choice Award and 2nd place in '73 and up Cutlass class.



Showing in a smaller 1961—72 Cutlass class, the 1962 convertible won a Best Of Class award and DVOC/BG Club award.



Ken Prowell (back left of previous picture) was camped out near this modified 350 Vega. Cool!

One of the neat things about the Carlisle GM Nationals is that the Delaware Valley and Blue Gray Olds clubs hold a "show within a show" at the event, with club selected awards and fellowship—thank god, because just after this, as you can tell, the skies opened and it provided needed shelter!



Pictures/captions by Scott Phillips



# 2023 Capitol City Rockets Treasurer's Report/Events



**Ken Quincy's  
Corner—CCR  
Treasury Report**

Balance as of 3-8-2023 \$2,728.39

**Income:**

Dues \$ 40.00

**Expenses:**

\$0

(NOTE: Balance did not change in April or May of 2023 as no income reported, and no expenses).

Balance as of 6-19-2023 \$2,768.39

**Income:**

Dues \$ 30.00

**Total Income \$30.00**

**Expenses:**

2023 Rallye GM Show awards \$ 1178.39

**Total Expenses: \$1178.39**

Balance as of 7-10-2023 \$ 1619.50

**NOTE: Club Dues Were Voted in July '22 to be increased to \$20 per year from \$15.**

## Club Calendar 2023

- ◆ Saturday, Aug 5—Annual All GM Show, 9– 2 pm, Eagle Ridge Middle School, Ashburn, VA. Pre-registration \$15, Day of \$20. Register at [www.CapitolCityRockets.com](http://www.CapitolCityRockets.com) That's our new website.
- ◆ Sun, Sept 10—12:30 pm—Regular Meeting at MD location TBD
- ◆ Sun, Oct 8—11:00 am—Regular Meeting at Eagle Ridge Middle, Ashburn, VA
- ◆ Sat, Oct 14—11-3:30 pm—Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, Rockville, MD Civic Center park. We will sponsor an Oldsmobile section of this terrific show.
- ◆ Sun, Nov 12—Tentative Date for Annual Tour of White Post Restorations in White Post, VA.
- ◆ Sun, Dec 10—Tentative date for Annual Holiday Gathering location To Be Determined.

## CLASSIFIEDS :

- ◆ **Custom Car Signs/Desk Plaques.** Customized with your name and car information. Order now to be ready and delivered to the All Gm Car Show. \$25 to \$100.

**Contact Mike Horton for details**

[Mikehorton2139@gmail.com](mailto:Mikehorton2139@gmail.com) 703-625-3118



- ◆ **Oldsmobile emblems:** all came from Fusick. New reproductions, plus 2 sets of 69 H/O mirrors and 67-68 passenger Chrome mirror. Have lots of emblems, too much to list. Go to Fusick & get part # and I will match it up at a much lower price. **Carl Shaffer 703-220-6895**
- ◆ **1968 455 Engine Short Block.** C heads. \$300. Contact Owen Griesemer, 240-357-5696.



# CCR Classifieds

Classified ads are free to chapter members. We take cars, parts, services, anything. Submit your typed or printed ad to the Chapter PO box, marking it ATTN: ROCKET REVIEW, or simply email the editor at sphillips16@msn.com You may run your ad for up to 2 issues at a time. Ads must be resubmitted for reprinting after that time, and please let Scott know if you wish to discontinue the classified ad due to sale of the parts or car.

## CLASSIFIEDS : (cont)

- ◆ **Lead from member, June '23:** '71 Cutlass convertible (below) that needs a new home. Owner passed last fall and his brother is settling his estate. I am told it has a free and clear title. Pics are from earlier this spring. I have not seen it personally, but I have known of this car since the 80's. Original 350 2bbl is not in the car, but I am told it is in storage with the car. Currently has a non-running 403 in it. Bucket seat car. Been in the same "family" for decades. Car is located in Beltsville, MD. If you have any interest, you can reach Charlie at 717-586-8356.



- ◆ **1989 Cutlass Cruiser Wagon (above):** has just under 75K miles, been serviced recently, and drives nicely. Rear facing seat, and very nice original interior. Belongs to a principal friend of Scott Phillips. Asking \$9,000 negotiable. **Contact Paul Vickers at 703-973-2863 or plvickers8@gmail.com**
- ◆ **Auto Body/Paint Shop:** Met Nick at Katie's Cars and Coffee in a sweet 50's custom (his wheelhouse), owns multiple 50's Olds. **Website is finefinishesrestoration.com and phone is 443-340-7049 or email is : nick@finefinishesrestoration.com**
- ◆ **Show Awards Sponsor:** For your banking and "Hot Rod Financing" Needs!

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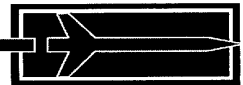
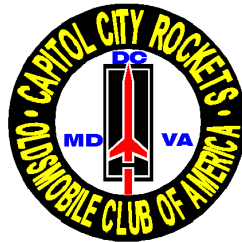
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# Rocket Review



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