

# THE PUGET SOUND ROCKET

## Newsletter of the Puget Sound Olds Club

An Official Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America

APRIL 2020



What if...you sold the 1968 442 that your father had purchased new to buy a pickup truck. And then, you find it again! This is the kind of story that you sometimes hear about that sounds too good to be true...but this one is!

Puget Sound Olds Club member Jim Peek is the author of the story of the history of this 1968 442 featured in the "Between the Bumpers" column in this newsletter.

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### OCA Elections

In your March issue of the JWO is the election ballot. If you are a current OCA member, would you please take the time to vote for the National Offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer? And of course, the Pacific Northwest Zone Director. You CANNOT vote for any the directors in other zones. The ballot must be postmarked by April 15.

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# President's Message

PSOC Members,

Greetings,

The April 5<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting has been cancelled. All the libraries in King and Pierce county are closing the conference and meeting rooms for the next 30 days. When we determine if a May meeting can be held, we will let everyone know in the May newsletter.

While we are now required to stay at home...what a great time to spend time in your shop or garage organizing and doing the cleaning that you have promised to do for a long time.

This is indeed a very uncertain time in our country. It is important that we take all necessary steps to keep ourselves and our families safe. Please observe all the recommendations from health officials and as they say over and over, "**wash your hands!**"

If you forgot to renew chapter dues for 2020, a renewal form is on page 12 of the newsletter. Please make a copy and send your renewal to Kathi.

If you are a current OCA member, please be sure to send in the ballot that you received on your April JWO by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The OCA Board of Directors has put on the Oldsmobile Club of America web page an announcement regarding the upcoming 2020 National Meet. That announcement is printed on page 8 of this newsletter.

*Stay safe!*

*Ed Konsmo  
Editor*

## **DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE NEWSLETTER:**

Information to be considered for submittal into the newsletter needs to be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please send your information as an e-mail or attach it to your e-mail in word document form. If you have problems or questions, call Ed or Pam at 253-845-2288. Please e-mail your submittal to: [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com).

## **Puget Sound Olds Club 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **President**

Ed Konsmo

[ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com)

253-845-2288 home

253-576-1128 cell

### **Vice President**

Ed Straw

[ekstraw@comcast.net](mailto:ekstraw@comcast.net)

425-485-3093

### **Secretary**

This position is open

### **Treasurer**

Kathi Straw

[ekstraw@comcast.net](mailto:ekstraw@comcast.net)

425-485-3093

### **Membership Chairpersons**

Ed & Kathi Straw

[ekstraw@comcast.net](mailto:ekstraw@comcast.net)

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### **Newsletter Editor**

Ed Konsmo

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### **OCA BOARD MEMBERS**

PNW Zone Directors

Jamie Cox

[jamiecox2@shaw.ca](mailto:jamiecox2@shaw.ca)

Ed Konsmo

[ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com)

### **PSOC Website:**

[www.pugetsoundoldsclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundoldsclub.org)



## “BETWEEN THE BUMPERS” ... By Ed



### Jim Peek's 1968 Oldsmobile 442

Many times, we decide on actions that we greatly regret and unfortunately never have a chance to re-create again. This is a story of lost, found and my redemption.

It all started in the fall of 1967 when my dad went to the Seattle Auto show. He came home and said he ordered a brand-new red Oldsmobile 442 hard top on the spot. He loved the lines and cared less about the performance. I was almost 15 years old and it seemed like it took forever until it finally arrived in February of 1968 at a dealer in Arlington, Washington. When I was 15 ½, I got my drivers learners permit and it was the car I used to take on my driving test on January 6, 1970... my birthday.

I was a very lucky kid since it was my dad's habit to let you have the car, he was driving at the time you turned 16 and he would buy another new car. He did this for my two older brothers, and he did the same for me. I drove the 442 through high school and acquired a VW bug to drive in college. For the most part, the 442 just sat in my dad's driveway while still in his name until 1988 when he made it official and transferred the title to me. The paint was in poor condition with rust in all the typical places.

My first redemption of the car took nearly 10 years and about \$42,000. Every part of the car was restored... I loved the process of buying parts and adding W-30 parts like the air induction system, factory tach, Cragar wheels, stripes, W-32 cam and headers ... just like I'd dreamed about doing in high school.

I enjoyed going to car shows including the 2005 Oldsmobile Club of America Pacific Northwest National meet held in Seattle and was given a "Best in Class" wood plaque which I treasure. I continued to show the car until 2009 when I got a wild idea to sell the 442 and buy a Toyota Tacoma, a small travel trailer and a Kubota tractor for up at the cabin with the car proceeds.

After the car sold, I knew I had made a big mistake. The 442 went to a new owner in Idaho who was blind. He had owned one just like it before losing his sight and remembered how much he loved the shape of the car. He would put on thick cotton gloves to feel the car and run his hands over the curves. His wife would start the car and back it out of the garage so he could listen to the engine. I told them if they ever wanted to sell the car, "please call me". After a few years I wanted to buy it back, but they moved with no forwarding address and the phone was disconnected. I had no contact information about the car for 10 years. I found myself watching car auctions expecting to see it on the block. Other times I went to the dark side thinking maybe the car was wrecked and in a scrap yard somewhere.

Out of the blue in December 2019 I received a general Christmas updated letter from the now widowed first buyer. There was no phone number but the address of her nursing home in Idaho on the envelope. I wrote her a letter and 4 weeks later she answered that the car had been sold to a car collector in Idaho and she gave me the phone number and contact info. Well, within 30 minutes of acquiring the owners contact information we had negotiated a buy back price.

During our conversation the owner informed me that the car was part of a 26-car collection of mostly Mopars and I was very lucky since he was preparing the car to be sold at the March Mecum Auction in Arizona. He also advised that he had put only 100 miles on the car since I sold it in 2009! I lucked out again by finding an enclosed truck available in Idaho in the winter and my car was delivered near my home within 5 days after the purchase where it is going to live forever in my life. We are reunited once again! It is as if I had put the car into heated storage and it was frozen in time for 11 years.

## MEMBER NOTES & CHAPTER INFO

This page features notes of interest for and about our members. If you have something interesting to report, please send an e-mail to your editor at [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com), or call 253-576-1128.

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### Welcome New Chapter Members

Larry & Kristin Moore    Mill Creek, WA    '68 Hurst, '57 Fiesta Wagon, '66 Toro  
Steven & Kristin Parr    Bremerton, WA    '91 Custom Cruiser, '70 98 LS

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**Chapter dues for 2020 are due now. The renewal application is on page 12 of this newsletter.**

**There are many members who have not sent in their renewal for 2020. If you are among those, please send your renewal today. Thank you. You will receive two rolls of toilet paper with your renewal. They may be collected at the next chapter meeting we are allowed to hold.**



# CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

## OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA PUGET SOUND CHAPTER MINUTES

**March 1, 2020**

President Ed Konsmo convened the meeting at 1:10 pm. 8 members were present.

Treasurer's Report - Kathi Straw reported that chapter finances are in order.

Meeting minutes – February meeting minutes approved as printed in the newsletter.

### **Old Business.**

Agenda item: 25-chapter members have renewed dues for 2020.

The PSOC received two new chapter members, Jim and Debbie Peek of Bainbridge Island and Doug and Naomi Frost of Hoodspport, WA.

### **New Business.**

Agenda item: Flyers for the Zone Show and BOP Show are under construction by Kathi.

The April chapter meeting will at the Renton Library at 1pm on the 5th.

Meeting adjourned at 2 pm



***Happy Birthday  
to our Chapter Members  
and Their Spouses  
in April***

<b>9</b>	Cathy Bumb	Washington, MO
<b>15</b>	Rod Hewiston	Olympia, WA

**2020 CHAPTER MEETING HOSTS\***

**APRIL – Meeting cancelled**  
**MAY – Bob Gaunt**  
**JUNE – Hugh Russell**  
**JULY – Zone Show**  
**AUGUST – Rhodes River Ranch Show**  
**SEPTEMBER – BOP Show on Aug. 30**  
**OCTOBER – Derik Martinson**  
**NOVEMBER - OPEN**  
**DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DINNER**

**\*Meeting host provides snacks for the meeting**



## Swap Meets and Shows in April

### Swap meets and shows are selected based on convenient locations

**WASHINGTON --** In compliance with the actions announced by Washington Governor, Jay Inslee, plus state and local health officials' events with over 250 persons are hereby cancelled to help combat the spread of the Corona virus. Therefore, the ALMOST SPRING SWAP MEET for March 14-15 has been cancelled.

**OREGON --** In compliance with the actions announced by Oregon Governor Kate Brown, Multnomah County, and health officials regarding events with over 250 persons: The PIR SWAP MEET scheduled for April 2- 4 at Portland International Raceway and the PORTLAND SWAP MEET Sat the Expo Center scheduled for April 3 - 5 have both been cancelled to help combat the spread of the Corona virus.



# **Future Oldsmobile National Meets**

**2020 July 28-Aug 2 Murfreesboro, TN  
Hosted by the OCA at the Embassy Suites**

## **Oldsmobile Club of America Activity Update**

The past weeks have been a challenge for all of us as we deal with community health issues. In efforts to ensure the health of our fellow citizens, government entities at the national, state, and local levels are doing their best to protect us from the effects of the COVID-19 virus. Virtually all of us have been impacted – and recent plans have been changed in the context of the evolving knowledge of the disease and how we can minimize the impact on society.

We have been corresponding with representatives of the Embassy Suites (our host hotel for the 2020 OCA National Meet), Gray Line Tours (our tour transportation resource for the 2020 OCA National Meet), and Music City Rockets, and have been assured that while events that were or are scheduled in March and April may have been impacted, there have been no changes for events scheduled in July and August. Accordingly, we are proceeding with plans for the event while monitoring the evolving situation. If there are any changes, we will notify members soon after we learn them.

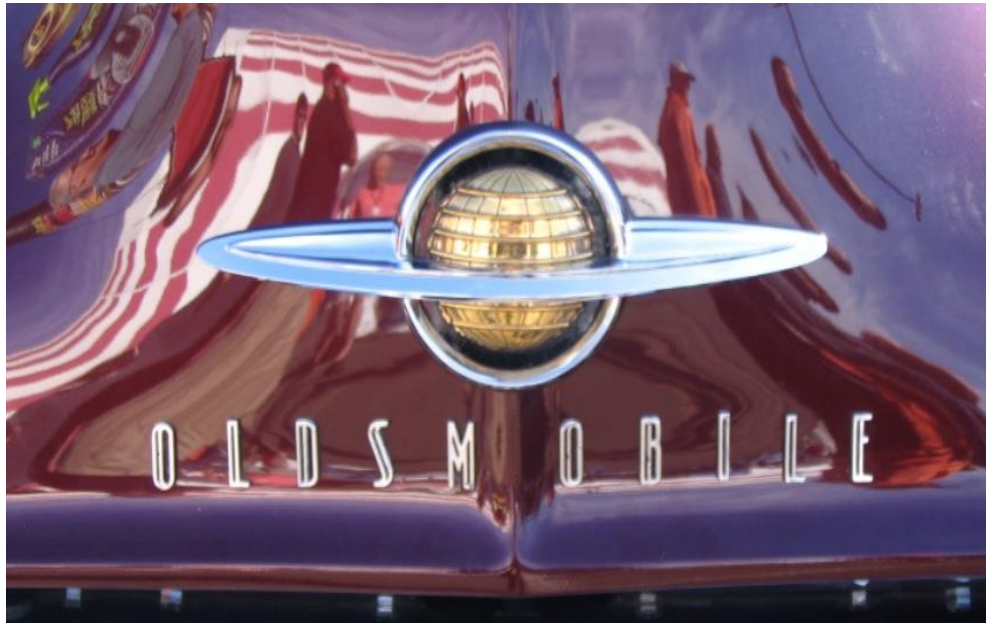
Concurrently, we are aware that there are changes in plans for chapter and zone event activities. We are doing our best to update the OCA Website to reflect those changes (rescheduling and cancellations) for events by posting the information we receive. If you are aware of any changes, please send them to us so that we can make the appropriate updates to the website. In addition, please confirm that an event has not been cancelled before attending.

In the meantime, please pay attention to the guidance and direction that is designed for your health and safety.

We look forward to seeing you at local and national events when circumstances permit.

**Oldsmobile Club of America Board of Directors**





**\*\*\*\*\* OCA News \*\*\*\*\***

**OCA Election ballots are to be postmarked by April 15. If you are a current OCA member, please be sure to vote. We here in the Pacific Northwest Zone may vote for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Pacific Northwest Zone Director.**

**You are not allowed to vote for directors in any of the other Zones.**

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**Below is a message from Jerry Wilson regarding the 2020 National Meet.**

Following is a summary of my conversation with our contact at Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro, Tennessee:

- We are still scheduled for the OCA Nationals in July 2020.
- Right now, the hotel is busy dealing with current events – so nothing has changed for our event.
- Current occupancy levels at the hotel are approximately ten guests (in 283 rooms) per night.
- Many events have been cancelled for the next few weeks – room nights have plummeted, and food and beverage services have been curtailed.
- They hope that the current challenges will subside soon.

**The message to our members is that the 2020 OCA National Meet is still on – and the activities are still planned.**

We will continue to keep in contact with the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro and will provide updates.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Classified ads are free, unlimited words, within reason. Ads will ONLY run for three consecutive months unless renewal is requested. Please submit your classified advertisement in electronic format by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com).**

## FOR SALE:

**1940 60 Convertible** – Frame off resto. New top. Yellow w/red leather; \$40,000 - Paul Leoine 250-826-0243 (1)

**1957 98 2 door** – 90% restored. New upholstery on the way. \$30,000 obo. Call Chris Nelson 206-915-4773 (1)

**1963 Cutlass Conv.** – Okay condition, runs great. \$14,000 – Call Bruce Lyle 360-799-1717(3)

**1964 Starfire** – Parts car. Fully loaded and complete. Special wheels. \$1800. No offer refused. Must go! Jim Long 360-893-8293

**1978 Olds 98 Luxury Sedan** – All power options; only 86,800 miles; 455 ci, 360 HP; Asking \$10,000; Call Robert F Chlipala, 148 141<sup>st</sup> Place NE, Bellevue, WA 98007; 425-747-8712 (1)

**1985 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme Brougham** 5.0L V8 4BBL Coupe 2D 49,444 ORIGINAL miles - runs great! Car has always been in the same family. Free AutoCheck Vehicle History Report. Interested? Please email [oldsmobilecutlass85@gmail.com](mailto:oldsmobilecutlass85@gmail.com) Car located in Indianola, WA (1)

**1990 Trofeo** – 190k, Transmission issues – needs overhaul. \$500 obo, Call Ken Stacey; 425-259-3399(1)

**1992 Cutlass Supreme Conv.** – 62,384 miles. White with white top and gray leather. This is the editor's wife, Pam's car. \$4,995 obo. Call Ed at 253-576-1128. (2) **PRICE LOWERED!**

**Chapter member, Jim Long, has a number of cars for sale and is offering bargain prices; Two 1970 Toronados - \$4300 for both; Call 360-893-8293 for more info. Jim also has several Cadillacs and a Chrysler Imperial for sale. (1)**

## NEEDS and LEADS:

**NEED – 1936 – 6 Cylinder engine parts** – 213 Cl; Frank Geyer 206-949-9087 (1)

**NEED -1941 98 – Rear axle shaft;** Call Ralph 253-222-5098; [TacomaRain@gmail.com](mailto:TacomaRain@gmail.com) (1)

**LEAD – 1955 88 – Fender skirts** – E-mail Russ at [m13rj@hotmail.com](mailto:m13rj@hotmail.com) if interested (1)

**LEAD -1968 Cutlass Convertible 442 (clone)**. Has 350 block and power glide automatic. New interior kit ready to install. Paint is fantastic, just cut and polished. Runs and drives, just needs interior installed and dash/ electrical put back together. Low mileage. \$16,740 as is (interior parts included) or \$23,500 finished with interior completely installed and finished. Call Jim 206-406-1313. Located in Gig Harbor, WA. (1)

**NEED - 1970-1972 442, W30, W31, SX conv. or hardtop** – OCA and PSOC club member looking for true collector car. The more original and documented the better. Prefer numbers matching. Any condition – from restorable car to showroom condition. Also looking for NOS or used parts for these cars. John Bumb, St. Louis, Mo. (314) 713-3444 or email me at [jbc3735@gmail.com](mailto:jbc3735@gmail.com) (1)

OCA and PSOC club member looking for NOS or used parts for 1970-1972 442, W30, W31, SX conv. or hardtop. John Bumb, St. Louis, Mo. (314) 713-3444 or email me at [jbc3735@gmail.com](mailto:jbc3735@gmail.com) (1)

Call my any time

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING ADS:** We will run your ad for another month. If you have sold the car or item listed, please send an e-mail to [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com) and let us know and we will remove the ad. The same applies if you find the item you are looking for, let us know.

# OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

## **PUGET SOUND CHAPTER**

### 2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check here if this is an address change

HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY      MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE          MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_

**\$20.00 annual dues payable. Make checks payable to Puget Sound Chapter and mail to:**

**Kathi Straw  
PSOC Membership Chairperson  
P.O. Box 82042  
Kenmore, WA 98028**

**Please assist us in updating our roster by listing your current Oldsmobile(s) below:**

1) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

2) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

3) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

4) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print this form and mail to Kathi**

## The parting shot...

worrying won't stop  
the bad stuff from happening  
it just stops you  
from enjoying the good.

