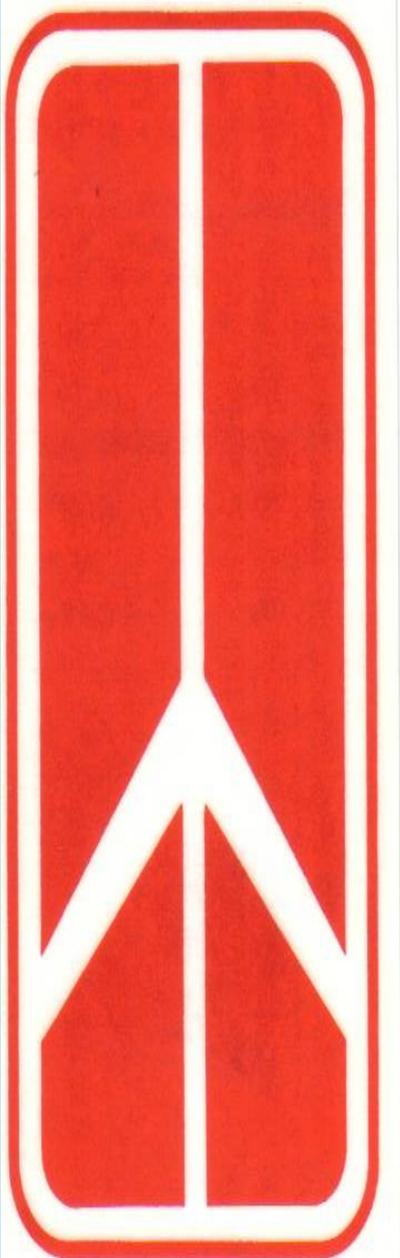


# THE PUGET SOUND ROCKET

## Newsletter of the Puget Sound Olds Club

An Official Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America

MARCH/APRIL 2014



Now we all know that you do not have to dig out your car from the snow. But, why don't you take off the car cover, if you put one this winter, and join us at the chapter meeting this Sunday? If it was not covered, a quick dusting with your California duster will bring back the shine. It would be a real pleasure to see you and your Olds. Maybe you have not even been to a chapter meeting for several year - surprise us! We will be having fewer meetings this year since we decided to meet every other month. The officers of your Puget Sound Chapter are trying desperately to encourage members to participate in chapter events and cruises. We are sure that you are very proud of your Olds. Why not bring it out for all of us to see. Oldsmobiles should be seen and heard!! It is our desire to see both you and your Olds at the March meeting at the Newport Way Library.

**Between the Bumpers**  
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**HERE'S MY RIDE**  
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**Puget Sound Olds Club  
2014  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**

Nina Rogers

A **New e-mail** for The Roger's

[ninaanjim@outlook.com](mailto:ninaanjim@outlook.com)

360.651-6246

**Vice President**

Ed Straw

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

425.485-3093

**Secretary**

Ed Konsmo

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

253.845-2288

**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)

425-485-3093

**Newsletter Editor**

Ed Konsmo

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

253.845-2288

**OCA BOARD MEMBERS**

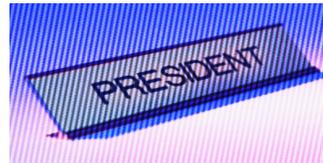
Ed Konsmo, OCA Chief Judge

Erik Martinson, PNW Zone Director

Jamie Cox, PNW Zone Director

**PSOC Website:**

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



## President's Message

Dear Oldsmobile members,

Hi to you all. January's meeting was our first every-other monthly meeting. How do you like our meetings being held every-other month? Our next meeting will be 1:00 p.m., March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Newport Way Library. We hope more of our members will be able to attend.

In January I approached Jose, from the XXX Root Beer Drive Inn, in Issaquah. We discussed, and scheduled a car show for August 31<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to mark your calendar. We have invited the Buick and Pontiac clubs to join us as well. I'll let you more about it as time get closer. This will be a get together, no trophies, but each club can do something for their clubs, if they wish. We will still have our annual July Zone Show.

Has anyone thought of a cruise destination after the March meeting? It would be great, especially if we have a little more sunshine these last couple of days it has been beautiful.

News about a couple of our dear members: Ed Booth has been ill again. He has had several times in and out of the hospital. Esther Thompson is still not feeling well. Please say a prayer for them both.

See you at the Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting!

***Nina Rogers***

President

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

Information to be considered for submittal in to the newsletter needs to be received by the 25th 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)



## "BETWEEN THE BUMPERS" ... By Ed



Gathering one of each of GM's triumvirate of show-car-derived limited-production 1953 convertibles – the Cadillac Eldorado, Buick Skylark, and Oldsmobile Fiesta – is a fairly popular pursuit among hardcore car collectors, but it usually takes quite a bit of planning and legwork to track down all three. Then again, the task would be made much easier if all three appeared at the same auction, as is the case when Richard and Linda Kughn's trifecta collection crosses the block in March.

While 1953 was a banner year for automotive styling, few cars made as big an impression as the Eldorado, Skylark and Fiesta, all introduced as Motorama show cars in 1952. Despite the fact that all three were sold for staggering prices when new, it's said that GM lost money on each example sold, as the cars were essentially hand-built with the utmost attention to detail. The Buick and the Cadillac marked the 50th anniversary of their respective brands, and all were seen as adding prestige to the models they were based upon.

While each boasted unique styling, all featured common design traits such as a shortened windshield, a convertible roof and cut-down doors, adding a custom touch to each example's appearance. The Cadillac and the Oldsmobile, the most expensive of the trio, featured a wraparound panoramic windshield that required modification of the standard car's cowl, hood and dash, and both wore rear fender skirts (the Buick, on the other hand, boldly displayed its rear wheels). All came with leather upholstery and virtually every option available on "lesser" models as standard equipment, and each was built in a very limited quantity designed to maintain exclusivity.

Though initially less expensive, many collectors believe that the 1953 Oldsmobile 98 Fiesta convertible is the most desirable of the trio, thanks to its rarity. Only 458 were constructed before production ended, as consumers failed to embrace the car's \$5,715 sticker price, nearly double that of the \$2,963 Oldsmobile 98 convertible on which it was based. The Fiesta did include the only modified engine of the bunch, with its 303-cu.in. V-8 rated at 170 horsepower (five more than the 98), thanks to slightly higher compression and a revised intake manifold. Like the Cadillac, power accessories were standard, and the four-speed HydraMatic transmission handled shifting duties. Chassis 539M26760 will cross the block at RM's Amelia Island sale, where it last changed ownership in 2009, selling for \$143,000. This time, RM estimates that it will sell for \$120,000 to \$160,000.

The Kughns, based in Michigan, put more than two dozen of their cars up for auction at RM's St. John's, Michigan, sale last year, including a pair of supercharged Packardbakers and a number of Full Classic American cars. RM's Amelia Island auction will take place in Amelia Island, Florida, on Saturday, March 8; for additional details, visit [RMAuctions.com](http://RMAuctions.com)

**LET'S GET PERSONAL**

# MARCH & APRIL BIRTHDAYS



**Happy birthday  
to you all!!**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Lives In</i>
<b>March</b>		
<b>15</b>	George Potter	(Pleasant Hill, OR)
<b>April</b>		
<b>4</b>	Fraser Rose	(Qualicum Beach, BC)
<b>12</b>	Mary Lindholm	Everett, WA
<b>12</b>	Jay Secord	Redmond, WA
<b>14</b>	Art Gamash	Sequim, WA

**UPCOMING CLUB MEETING HOSTS \*  
2014 MEETING HOST**

Mar./April...Kathie & Ed Straw

May/June.....Mary Lindholm & Ken Thompson

July/Aug.....Zone Show

Sept./Oct.....Ned Peterson

Nov./Dec.....Christmas Party (Nina & Jim)

**\*Host provides refreshments**



# MEETING MINUTES

## OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

January 5, 2014

Meeting held at Newport Way Library

- Meeting called to order by Chapter President Nina Rogers
- Treasurer's report given by Kathi Straw – the chapter is solvent.
- Kathi reported that five donations were given to charity in December.
- A thank you letter from Army/Navy/Air Force was read.
- A discussion regarding how many members constituted a quorum for conducting chapter business was held. The chapter Bylaws only requires only six members to conduct business on behalf of the chapter. This discussion was a result of the question referring to the decision to hold chapter meetings every other month instead of monthly.
- The monthly raffle has been discontinued due to the decline of members in attendance.
- The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

## 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 and leave a message, 253-845-2288.

### **A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE!!**

*It has become apparent that a number of chapter members have not sent in their dues for 2014. **If you do not plan to renew your membership for 2014, would you please send an e-mail or call us?** We will remove you from future newsletters or notification of chapter events. If you do plan to continue as a Puget Sound Olds Club member, would you please print off a copy of the application on page 7 and send it to Kathi Straw when you receive this newsletter? Thank you for your attention to the membership renewal. If you have changed your e-mail address, please be sure to update it on the form so that you can continue to receive the chapter newsletter by e-mail.*

*OCA membership is no longer a requirement to belong to a local chapter. However, it is still a benefit to continue your OCA membership for news on the national level.*

***The March 2 chapter meeting will be at  
the Newport Way Library at 1 pm.***

**OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA**

**PUGET SOUND CHAPTER**

**2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

OCA# \_\_\_\_\_ (It's on the cover of your JWO)

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 \_\_\_\_\_

**\$15.00 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 \_\_\_\_\_

5) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Here's my Ride ...Bobby Darin's Custom Car



The 1960 Di Dia 150 was a luxury, custom-designed iconic, handmade car also known as the "Dream Car" forever associated with its second owner, singer Bobby Darin. The car was designed by Andrew Di Dia, a clothing designer, who Bobby Darin had met while on tour in Detroit in 1957. Darin telling Di Dia at the time that he would purchase the car if he ever "hit it big".

For seven years, from 1953 to 1960 the Di Dia 150 was hand-built by four workers at a cost of \$93,647 but sold to Darin in 1961 at a cost of over \$150,000 (1.5 million today).

At the time the car was listed as most expensive 'custom-made' car in the world by the Guinness Book of Records. The body was hand-formed by Ron Clark and constructed by Bob Kaiser from Clark Kaiser Customs. Built in Detroit, Michigan, clothing designer Andrew 'Andy' Di Dia designed this "unrestrained and unconventional" automobile. Only one example was ever built.

The normal V8 engine is located at the front with an engine displacement of 365/427. It has a rear-wheel drive, the body and chassis is hand-formed from 064 aluminum with a 125-inch wheelbase alloy tube frame. It has a glass cockpit in back, a squared steering wheel and thermostatically controlled air conditioning system.

The interior is rust colored in contrast to the ruby paintwork. The design included the first backseat-mounted radio speakers and hidden windshield wipers, that started themselves when it rained. Other features include retractable headlamps, rear indicators that swivel as the car turns, 'floating' bumpers and a trunk that was hinged from the driver's side. Each of the four bucket seats have their own thermostatically controlled air conditioning, individual cigarette lighters and ashtrays, as well as a radio speaker. The original engine, a Cadillac V8, was later replaced by a 427 high-performance by Ford when it was taken on the show circuit.

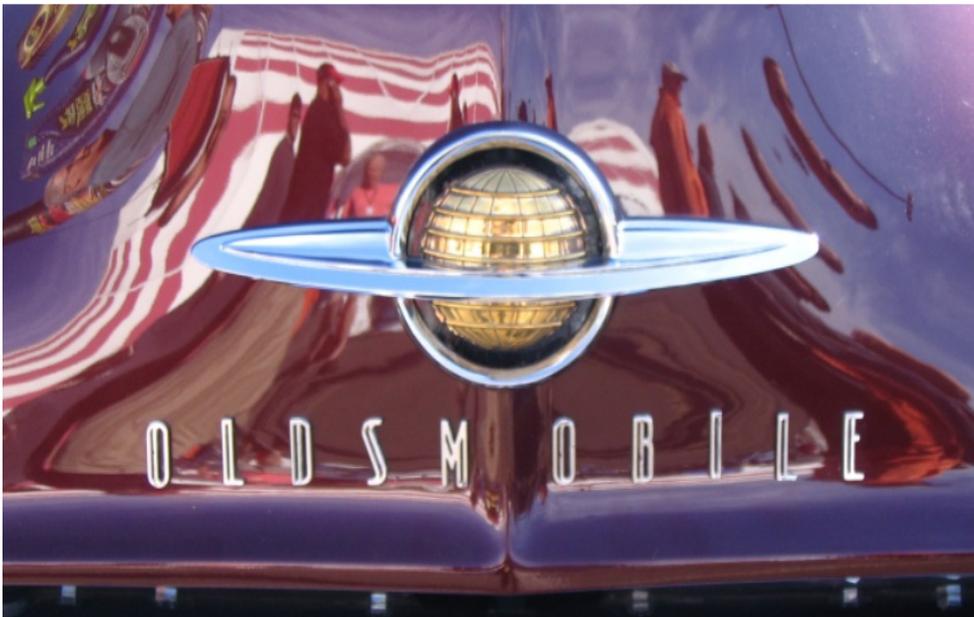
Di Dia toured the car around the country, when Darin wasn't using it for public appearances. After publicity and film use, Darin donated his "Dream Car" to the St Louis Museum of Transportation in 1970 where it remains.

## Swap Meets & Shows to attend in March/April

- MAR 14-16 Portland, OR; 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Portland Roadster Show**  
Portland Expo Center; 6020 N Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97217  
10 am – 9 pm, 10 am – 9 pm, 10 am – 6 pm; Adm. Fee - \$15;  
Multnomah Hot Rod Council; 503-232-4567; [prs@mhrc.org](mailto:prs@mhrc.org);  
[www.portlandroadstershow.com](http://www.portlandroadstershow.com)
- MAR 15 Puyallup, WA; Almost Spring Swap Meet**  
Washington State Fairgrounds, 110 9<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Puyallup, WA 98371  
No Reg. Fee; Gallopin' Gertie Model A Club; 253-833-3926;  
[mandmsgarage@q.com](mailto:mandmsgarage@q.com); gertieas.org
- APR 3-5 Portland, OR; PIR Auto Swap Meet**  
Portland International Raceways, 1940 N. Victory Blvd. Portland, OR  
97217; 7am – 5pm each day; Adm. Fee - \$5; Reg. Fee - \$40;  
Portland Intl. Raceways; 360-426-8741; [Twobauers@msn.com](mailto:Twobauers@msn.com);  
[www.portlandraceway.com](http://www.portlandraceway.com)
- APR 4-6 Portland, OR; Portland Swap Meet**  
Portland Expo Center, 2060 N. Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97217;  
7am – 5pm Fri/Sat; 8am – 1pm Sun; Adm. Fee - \$7; Baxters;  
503-678-2100; <http://pdxswap>
- APR 10 Tacoma, WA; Cruise In**  
LeMay-America's Car Museum, 2702 E. D St. Tacoma, WA 98421  
5pm – 8pm; No Adm. Fee; No Reg. Fee; LeMay America's Car  
Museum; 253-779-8490; [diane.fitzgerald@lemaymuseum.org](mailto:diane.fitzgerald@lemaymuseum.org)
- APR 25-26 Ocean Shores, WA; High Rollin' Hotrods**  
Quinault Beach Resort and Casino, 78 State Route 115, Ocean Shores,  
WA 98569; 12-6pm; 9am – 3pm; No Adm. Fee; Reg. Fee - \$20;  
PushRods Car Club; [pushrodsofhoquiam@comcast.net](mailto:pushrodsofhoquiam@comcast.net);
- APR 26 Mt. Vernon, WA; Mount Vernon Swap Meet**  
Skagit County Fair Grounds, 1410 Virginia St. Mount Vernon, WA  
98273; 7am – 4pm; Adm. Fee \$2; Reg. Fee - \$5; North Cascade  
Street Rod Assoc.; 360-757-6333; [doranss1@frontier.com](mailto:doranss1@frontier.com)
- APR 27 Tenino, WA; Spring Coming Out**  
Tenino High School, Sussex Ave, Tenino, WA 98589; No Adm. Fee;  
No Reg. Fee; Centralia-Chehalis Vintage Car Club; 360-273-6961;  
[tamitchell2@yahoo.com](mailto:tamitchell2@yahoo.com); [www.ccvac.com](http://www.ccvac.com)

## Future Oldsmobile National Meets

- 2014 - July 30-Aug 3; Cincinnati, OH; Holiday Inn Suites; Hosted by the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter**
- 2015 - July 22-26; Brookfield, WI; Brookfield Milwaukee Sheraton Hotel. Hosted by the Olds Club of America**
- 2016 - The OCA Nationals Site Selection Committee is considering Nashville, TN and will be visiting the site for confirmation. Dates to be announced.**
- 2017 - The OCA Nationals Site Selection Committee is considering Albuquerque, NM and will be visiting the site for confirmation. Dates to be announced.**



## CLASSIFIED – For Sale/Leads & Needs

**CLASSIFIEDS:** Classified ads are free, unlimited words, within reason. **Ads will ONLY run for four 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:

- **1954 Hood lower front lip molding**, \$275. **Hood Rocket** \$275; both show quality re-plated, never installed. Package price \$525. Don Monroe 253 566-8488. (2)
- **1956 324 Motor**, 2 barrel manifold with '56 HydraMatic. Core motor complete w/heads; 371 Tri-Power Manifold, \$100; Erik Martinson 425-433-6480 (4)
- **1957 Olds parts and tires** - Four P225R75/15 w/ 1" ww tires on rims. Call Ed Booth (253) 752-6158 (4)

Chuck O'Donnell 253 661-2728 Federal Way has the following items listed for sale: He states that the items at these prices will go fast once they hit Hemmings, so act now!

1. **Olds** (5 on 5 full size) **stock 14" rims** with 4 slightly used **narrow whitewall 8.25 x 14" tires** mounted. Only used at the Oldsmobile show each year. \$100.00 for the set. Chuck O'Donnell 253 661-2728 (3)
2. **1965 Olds 4 BBL stock manifold** fits 400 /425/455 \$75.00. - Performance jetted carb for same, also & \$75.00 Chuck O'Donnell 253 661-2728 (3)
3. **1964 & 1965 Four N-95 - 14" Wire wheel covers for 442, Cutlass or Full size Olds.** Two spinner style – hard to find in this condition - \$100.00 set. Chuck O'Donnell 253 661-2728 (3)
4. **1965 Complete 10 piece Delta 88 2 Door Coupe Side trim.** Very rare pieces in like new condition. \$600.00. One door piece alone often sells for that much. Chuck O'Donnell 253 661-2728 (3)

**NEEDS:** **Need: radiator shroud** for '58. Call Erik (425) 433-6480 (4)

**Need:** Emergency brake switch and flasher for '53-'55. Ken Thompson 206 930-1741 or 106 932-8898 (2)

**Need: Air control unit for '65 "98".** Call Art Gamash 360 683-4749 (3)

**Need: A 394 motor in good condition, low miles is okay. Call Jim (360) 651-6246. (1)**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING ADS:** A number at the end of each listing indicates how many months the ad has already run. If you have a **FOUR** after your ad, you need to contact us if you wish to renew the ad for following issues.

## "PARTING SHOT"



### **1966 Toronado**

**GM's 100 Millionth car rolled off the assembly line on March 16, 1966**