



Puget Sound Rocket

*Newsletter of the Puget Sound Olds Club
Official Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America*

January-February 2023

**Puget Sound Olds Club
2023
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President
Ed Straw
ekstraw@comcast.net
425-485-3093

Vice President
Position open

Secretary
This position is open

Treasurer
Kathi Straw
ekstraw@comcast.net
425-485-3093

Membership Chairpersons
Ed & Kathi Straw
ekstraw@comcast.net
425-485-3093

Newsletter Editor
Ed Konsmo
ekonsmo36@gmail.com
253-845-2288 home
253-576-1128 cell

OCA BOARD MEMBERS

PNW Zone Directors

Cole Irving
Cole.irving@hotmail.com

Second position open

PSOC Website:
www.pugetsoundoldsclub.org



A New Year - A New Face

After 15 years with the same format, your editor decided that it was time for a change in the structure of the newsletter. Hopefully you will find the new style agreeable. This new style will allow us to feature the photos of the cars at shows in a better manner along with more articles.

We will continue to feature the "Between the Bumpers" column, Classifieds and the Swap Meet and Car Show pages. They will just look a little different.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays to Club members

Hope everyone has their Oldsmobiles tucked in their nice warm garage and ready for a long winter's night. They won't like the current weather. I know I am looking forward to the spring already.

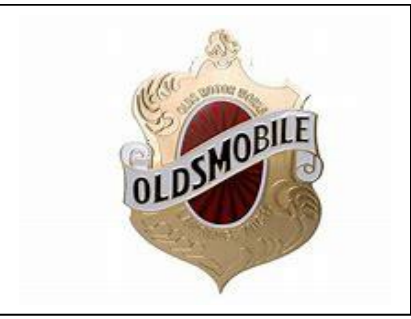
Next year, an option for a fun evening, the third Saturday in December, Snohomish has a parade of cars with lights and decorations on them. We went and watched; they must have had 400 cars. It took over an hour for them to leave the staging area and there were more cars already driving thru town. Woodinville has a parade on Sunday with the lighted cars. Not as many that night, however.

I believe Santa is bringing my Christmas list for Fusick this year. Needed new top parts before the warm weather and car shows.

Remember, we will not be meeting as a chapter next year. We will have the 2 cars shows, July 8 at Edmonds and the BOP in August. If anyone wants to get together any other times email me or call 425-485-3093. We can get together for lunch. Also, we can join up for car shows.

Ed Straw

President



Member Notes and Chapter Info

An update on the health of Hugh Russell; Hugh is now at the Richmond Beach Rehabilitation Center for therapy for the hip he broke. **He can have visitors.** The address for the Center is 19235 15th Ave. NW, Shoreline, WA 206-546-2666

This is the time of year for your membership dues. Please complete the application in this newsletter and send it to Kathi. Thank you.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

January

- 10 - Mike Badgley
- 17 - Ray Fairbanks
- 24 - Leonard Barlow
- 25 - Ed Konsmo
- 28 - Derik Martinson

February

- 20 - Bob Bass
- 21 - Hugh Russell
- 26 - Larry Bergstrom



EDITORIAL

We are trying to figure out what will encourage more participation in chapter events.

Each month we send out about 115 emails with the newsletter attached. Yet, we had only 16 cars at the chapter Annual Zone show last July. We also had the fewest cars entered in the BOP Show last August compare to the Buick and Pontiac Clubs.

We understand that there is a big draw on family time throughout the summer. We would like to know what we as a chapter could do that help you to attend the car shows that the chapter sponsors.

If, you have an interest in 2023 helping to have a greater showing at our car shows, would you please send a note to us when you receive this newsletter?

The officers of the chapter will appreciate it.

Your Editor

MEETING MINUTES

On Monday, November 7, the officers of the Puget Sound Olds Club convened a meeting at the Ram Restaurant in Kent.

Chapter Treasurer, Kathi Straw, stated that the chapter bank account was solvent.

Since there were no members other than Derik Martinson present at the October meeting, no nominations for officers for 2023 were made. As a result, the current officers agreed to serve in 2023. Your editor also agreed to continue for 2023.

As was discussed in the "editorial" in the October issue of the *Puget Sound Rocket*, the newsletter will be published every other month in 2023.

Submitted by

Your editor,

Secretary ProTem

Great Olds

Engines from the Past





BETWEEN THE BUMPERS



Here's What Only True Gearheads Know About the Oldsmobile F-88

Once upon a time in the late 1950s, the legends themselves, including Zora Arkus-Duntov (the godfather of the Corvette), Harley Earl (the father of the Corvette), Ken Pickering (former GM Executive Director, Engineering, and Design Services), and Bill Mitchell (we dare say, the father of the Stingray Corvette) huddled together to mastermind a roadster for Oldsmobile. What these legends were putting together scared others, particularly the car's would-be siblings – scared them enough that they all agreed the project must not see the light of day for their own collective and miserably selfish good. Everyone knows this new car suffered demise because its siblings were afraid it would threaten their place at the table. It was such that even GM's most profitable division then (and now) campaigned vigorously against bringing the vehicle to the market. The car's burly V8 scared the Chevrolet Corvette. In the end, the GM acquiesced, and left the V8-powered car to rot in the annals of history. In the process of creating this car, Duntov and Co designed several bold and magnificent prototypes compared to the regular Oldsmobiles. But only two copies got left standing by the time the show was over – its name, the Oldsmobile F-88 Convertible Concept, also called Rocket 8.



What Is The 1954 Oldsmobile F-88? Bill Lange penned the initial sketches of the concept car (we prefer 'dream car' in this application) that would get known as the Oldsmobile F-88 in 1954. The dream car rode on the Corvette's chassis, shared its 102-inch wheelbase, and wrapped itself in fiberglass, the same as the Pontiac Bonneville Special and the Chevrolet Corvette. And that big old V8 we mentioned? It's a 185-hp 5.3-liter V8 from the Super 88 featuring a four-barrel carburetor and a small, flat air cleaner.

The modified F-88 V8 mated to a four-speed Hydramatic transmission could churn out 250 horses (advertised as 249 horsepower). Corvette hated the idea of the new Oldsmobile because it didn't have that V8 and was dealing with poor sales at the time. Duntov and friends used a Corvette-derived rear axle with a ratio of 3.55:1 and a modified console lifted from the previous year's Oldsmobile. They just added a tach and restyled the gauges and fascia. This console would later feature on the 1961 Oldsmobile Cutlass.

Fast-forward to 2005, John and Maureen Hendricks bought the only surviving Oldsmobile (gold-colored convertible) F-88 for a respectable \$3.24 million at the prestigious Barrett-Johnson auction in Scottsdale, Arizona. In case you're wondering, Mr. Hendricks is the founder and chairman of broadcasting and film production company Discovery Communications that owns the Discovery Channel, TLC, and Animal Planet cable TV networks, among other ventures. Now you know. (Editor's note: The F88 was owned by PNW collector Gordon Apker before being sold at Barrett-Jackson.)

They don't have the car stashed in some secret climate-controlled garage underground somewhere. The F-88 is on a rotating display at the Gateway Auto Museum. If you've heard the rumor of how the only other surviving F-88 met a grim end at a fire between display shows, you might get comforted to know that this last Oldsmobile F-88 has its own showroom at the museum

The Shadowy Tale of the 1954 Oldsmobile F-88. We won't think you're crazy to compare the mystery shrouding the F-88's story to an Agatha Christie murder mystery. For starters, in a world where all is right and fair, who'd think the Oldsmobile F-88 would die an untimely death at the hands of its own sibling – the Corvette? The star of its future was evident in that showroom at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City on January 21, 1954, where it made its debut.

Finished in metallic gold, it stole virtually all the Cutlass fastback coupe's shine. The show lasted six full days, with GM showing off its finest alongside its "dream cars" like the 1954 Oldsmobile F-88. But its star shone so brightly that Chevrolet, blinded by the F-88's shine, did the devil's work to ensure the concept was no more than a Motorama show circuit star. But that's not where the Agatha Christie effect ended. The natural question any gearhead would ask is, what happened to the F-88 post-Motorama? The consensus is that the car got dismantled and passed around between various owners. Who they were and in what time frame is another Agatha Christie mystery.

So, you can imagine the palatable puzzle surrounding the surviving copy that was supposedly the same that the Hendricks couple bought at the Barrett-Jackson auction. Aside, there's still the question of what exactly happened to the other three F-88 concepts. That's right. The F-88 was one of four. Four F-88 examples escaped the guillotine that fell upon the others still in the conceptual phase. Still, legend has it that only two copies of the F-88 concept ever got assembled. One got destroyed, while the other got disassembled and stored in wooden crates. Speak of a murder mystery, A huge part of the F-88's shadowy tale is the unproven story that Harley Earl had a duplicate red F-88 made for himself and drove it to his son's races. Whether this is true or not, no one can deny Earl was especially fond of the F-88, crating and saving it from getting scrapped. You may have heard that Earl designed the car, but he was essentially the overseer, while Bill Lange, Art Ross, and Jack Humbert penned the exterior and interior. For some gearheads, the real mystery is why GM never thought to bring back the Oldsmobile F-88. This sawed-and-crated copy is supposedly the same that the Hendricks couple bought at the Barrett-Jackson auction. You may have heard that Earl designed the car, but he was essentially the overseer, while Bill Lange, Art Ross, and Jack Humbert penned the exterior and interior. For some gearheads, the real mystery is why GM never thought to bring back the Oldsmobile F-88. *This article written by Philip Uwaoma - Hagerty Media. The November issue of the JWO had a photo of the F88 on pg. 33*

This space reserved for photos of cars at shows in 2023

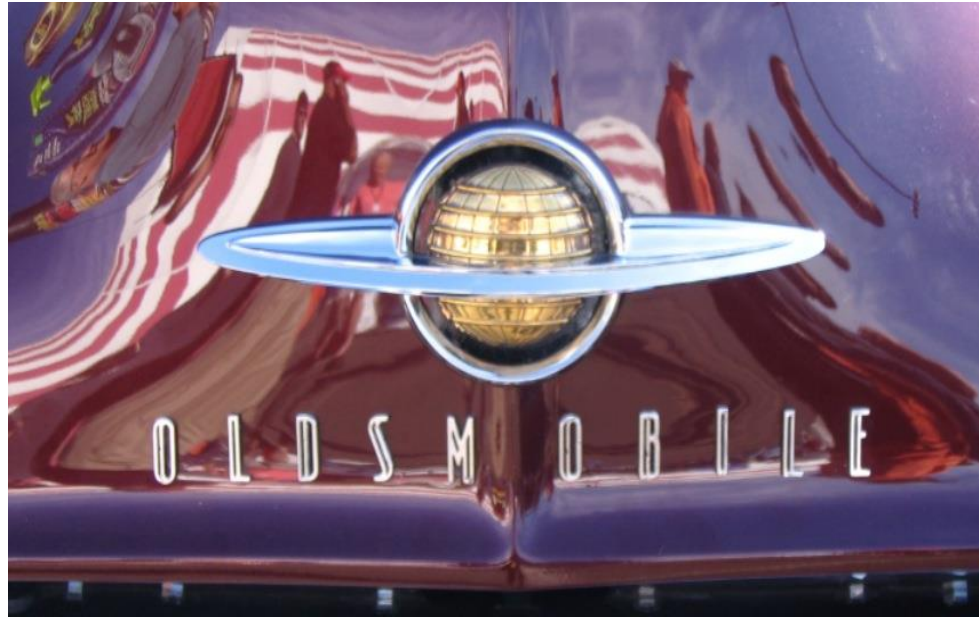
Below are memories from 2022



Future Oldsmobile National Meets

2023 August 9-13 Dayton, Ohio

University of Dayton Marriott



Hurst Olds in the indoor display



Your editor's 1950 98 Town Sedan

Photos from the 2019 Nationals in Wichita

Membership Application

OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

2023 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NAME: _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE: _____

Check here if this is an address change. -----

HOME or CELL PHONE: (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

BIRTHDAY MONTH _____ DAY _____

SPOUSE MONTH _____ DAY _____

\$20.00 annual dues payable. Please make check payable to Puget Sound Olds Chapter and mail to:

**Puget Sound Olds Club
9113 NE 179th Place
Bothell, WA 98011**

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 _____



Oldsmobile

SWAP MEETS IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Swap meets and car shows are selected based on convenient locations

- Jan 7** **Tacoma, WA; Caffeine & Gasoline**
*First Saturday of Every Month. Free Donuts and Coffee if you get
If you get there early!*
Griot's Garage & Events Center; 3333 S. 38ty St; Tacoma, WA 98409
8am - 11am; 800-345-5780; customerservice@griotsgarage.com
- Jan 14** **Tacoma, WA; LeMay Private Garage Tour**
*See the family's garages, home to over 300 vehicles, an old-fashioned soda
Shop, general store, toys and more.*
LeMay Collections at Marymount; 325 152nd St. E. Tacoma, WA 98445
10am - 12pm; Adm. \$25; LeMay Collections at Marymount; 253-272-2336
- Jan 20-21** **Albany, OR; Winter Rod and Speed Show and Winter Swap Meet**
*Linn County Expo Center; 3700 Knox Butte Rd. E
Albany, Oregon 97322; Admission Fee: Adults - \$10.00
Kids 8 and under are FREE, FREE parking!
Questions? Contact Rich Bailey at (503) 370-9164 or
Jim Billings at (503) 930-7151*
- Jan 29** **46th Annual Hi-Performance Automotive Swap Meet**
*Clark County Event Center Ridgefield, WA Opens at 8AM
Admission Fee - \$10; Free Parking; Questions? Call (503) 644-5707
or (503) 656-0872*
- Feb 5** **Tacoma, WA; Caffeine & Gasoline**
*First Saturday of Every Month. Free Donuts and Coffee if you get
If you get there early!*
Griot's Garage & Events Center; 3333 S. 38ty St; Tacoma, WA 98409
8am - 11am; 800-345-5780; customerservice@griotsgarage.com
- Feb 11** **Kent, WA; 4th Annual All Motorsports Swap Meet**
*Pacific Raceways, 31001 144th Ave SE, Kent, WA 98042.
9am - 5pm; Adm. Fee - \$15; Vendor Fee \$50-\$70; Pacific Raceways,
253-639-5927; dianah@pacificraceways.com*
- Feb 18-19** **Puyallup, WA; Early Bird Swap Meet; Buy, Sell, Trade!**
*Washington State Fair & Events Center, 110 9th Ave SW, Puyallup, WA 98371
8am - 5pm; 9am - 3pm; Adm. Fee - \$10; Vendor Fee -\$45+; Model T Ford Club.
253-863-6211; charlios@q.com*
- Feb 19** **Hoquiam, WA; Pushrod Chinese Auction**
*Hoquiam Elks Lodge, 624 K St. Hoquiam, WA 98550; 11am - 3pm; Adm. Free.
Reg. Free; No Vendor Fee; Pushrods of Hoquiam; 360-581-9911.
fristaidcpr@comcast.net*



CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are free, unlimited words, within reason. IF YOU HAVE SOLD YOUR CAR OR ITEM, PLEASE LET US KNOW. Please submit your classified advertisement in electronic format by the 20th of the month to ekonsmo36@gmail.com.

FOR SALE:

1949 Sedan - In running condition. \$25,000 OBO. Call Erika at 509-659-1022 or 509-659-1757.

1950 88 Convertible. This car is still available. A museum quality example with only 811 miles.



Offered at a reduced price of \$56,999. Call Ed Konsmo for more details and photos. 253-576-1128

1950 Oldsmobile sedan delivery...custom built in Memphis, TN; interior completed by a custom upholstery shop in New Orleans, LA. **No, Olds did not build this car.** Olds' last sedan delivery was in 1934. **Firm price \$47,800.** Don Bougher, memoryshelf558@gmail.com, 503-393-4500, Keizer, OR.



1958 88 Holiday 4dr - A driving car \$16,000 Larry 206-779-8764

1963 F85 Cutlass Conv. – Okay condition, runs great. **PRICE REDUCED!** \$11,000 – Call Bruce Lyle 360-799-1717 Another Cutlass for sale – motor frozen \$3900

1966 Toronado – Great condition, \$3,000. Call Jim Long 360-893-8293. Jim also has two 1970

Toronados, \$2,000 each or best offer!

1968 Cutlass Conv. - new brakes, new belts, new radiator, new alternator, new tires, new shocks, new tune up plugs, points, cap and rotor. This is a survivor car not restored, not perfect. It runs and drives well. A fun car to drive and a real attention getter. \$14,950. no trades. This was my late wife's car. Howard Musolf 206-919-1949. brasscarguy@comcast.net



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 Auto Check Vehicle History Report. Interested? Please email oldsmobilecutlass85@gmail.com Car located in Indianola, WA.

We will gladly include a photo of your car in your ad in the classifieds. Simply e-mail a photo to ekonsmo36@gmail.com and we will include the photo with your ad. If you still have your car for sale in this issue, send us a photo and we will include it with the ad next mont

NEEDS and LEADS:

NEED – Wheel rims for 1976/1977 Cutlass Supreme – Call Mike Challenger 425-753-3368

NEED – 1936 – 6 Cylinder engine parts – 213 CI; Frank Geyer 206-949-9087

LEAD - Olds 15" wheels -two ways. First set - Four powder coated with standard wheel covers \$160. Second set - Unpainted with either standard covers or dog dish \$150. Have four minimum mileage Coker 2-1/2" white for \$200. You pick up and inspect in Tacoma. Don Monroe 253-566-8488

LEAD – 1973 442 – This is a car that was used as a donor car for another restoration. Still has rust free body panels. Interior panels and dash are excellent. \$500. Call Gus at 206-571-3804.

NEED – 1967 442 Both F/H & R/H lower rocker molding, chrome (pot metal) that runs along the bottom rear fender from the rear wheel to the rear bumper (approx. 30" X 2"). Also, the front L/H (driver side) side grill cover that goes on the kick panel (non-A/C car). Any help would be greatly appreciated. Dave Lyle 360-678-6546

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

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



Let's get started shopping! I don't see a salesman anywhere!



This makes a catalytic converter more difficult to steal!

Parting shot...



“The HOA said that I could only have ONE dog, but I could have as many cats as I wanted!”

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