

**2012 General Membership Annual Meeting
Oldsmobile Club of America
Des Moines, Iowa
July 7, 2012**

President Jerry Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. In his opening remarks, he thanked all the people attending for being members of OCA and for attending this year's Nationals. The audience recognized the Iowa Club members for their work with applause. There were several positive comments about the venue. He thanked the Board members for their contributions and introduced the members of the Board who attended the meeting, as well as his wife, Caryl. He also recognized the Past President attending, Pat Yancey.

Mr. Wilson introduced the chapters of Archway Olds Club and Illinois Valley Oldsmobile Club who are hosting the 2013 Nationals in Springfield, Illinois. They spoke about the 2013 Nationals. He also introduced the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter who is hosting the 2014 Nationals in Cincinnati, Ohio. They spoke about the 2014 Nationals. The Eastern Massachusetts GMO chapter spokespeople talked about the 2015 Nationals to be held in Marlborough, Massachusetts.

Mr. Wilson asked people to be thinking about hosting the 2016 Nationals.

Review of OCA business

Mr. Wilson gave an overview of the business of the OCA Board during the past year. He talked about the new OCA Website. The committee consisting of Karl Sup and Lois Liconte recommended retaining Cistern Media to do website. The implementation of the website is a deliberate process which will help to contain cost.

The REO museum has a new director, Bill Adcock. There have been several changes to museum, such as painting, decorating, and a capital raising campaign. The Museum is working with Michigan State University who found a 1903 Curved Dash Olds in a storage area. The car had been donated by Ransom E. Olds to Michigan State University. It is going to the REO Museum, and it will be shown unrestored.

The Road Show program found several banners which had not been used. The chairman of the Road Show decided to send out banners and not ask for their return to help curtail cost. The program also sends out copies of the JWO. The program is being revamped and the Board has approved a reimbursement amount of \$200. The new chairman is Larry Sybert.

The Merchandise Manager is Acme Apparel who has a large display area at this show. There is an expanded product line, and Steve Hall will add more products based on comments from people. There is a direct link from the new website to Acme Apparel. The Board has extended the Merchandise Manager's contract through 2013. A member asked about the Merchandise Manager's commitment to USA made merchandise. Mr. Wilson replied that all cotton used in products is grown in USA and assembled in other countries. Acme Apparel has discontinued using products from Vietnam because of

some bias of members. Acme Apparel can try carrying products made in USA, but the products cost more. Mr. Wilson said he would talk to Steve Hall about tracking customers' buying.

The Racing Program is continuing to do well. There was a race Friday night at Eddyville, Iowa. There were over 100 cars. Unfortunately, the Willys threw a rod in the first pass. The track scheduled a race for today, Saturday, for Buick/Pontiac/Olds.

For the 30-year membership program, a sample of a member's jacket will be at the banquet. There is also a spouse's jacket that can be purchased by the member.

New membership:

As a group, we need to encourage new members. Mr. Wilson stated that so far 75 applications had been given out. There are already six new members signed up during the week.

Mr. Wilson asked for chapters to put forth ideas for new membership. A member of the audience suggested someone from OCA be at the Barrett Jackson Auction to promote membership in OCA.

2012 Nationals:

Mr. Wilson stated because the Event Center tracks visitors, there were 500 visitors on Wednesday and Thursday. There is the projection of 700-1000 visitors on Friday and Saturday. There is a local car show occurring on 5th Street outside the Event Center which is in conjunction with the Nationals. The local car show's proceeds will be given to the Iowa Club to help this year's Nationals be a great success. A member wanted to recognize the quality of this Nationals and said that the bar had been set high with an indoor show. Members of the audience again thanked Iowa Club for a well run Nationals and a great venue. A member suggested that the Iowa Club have the Nationals again in 5 years.

Mr. Wilson gave a history of Clay Mollman who recently passed. Clay Mollman was the Journey with Olds editor from 1998 – 2005. Mr. Mollman's speciality was 1950's Olds. A member made the suggestion that the OCA donate some money in Clay Mollman's name to REO Museum.

Financial Report:

Mr. Crowdis, Treasurer, presented information about the OCA's finances. He stated that he appreciates the confidence of members. His report included that he has made 60,000 entries since 2004. Income by membership is down \$4000 and net worth is down by only \$1000. This is result of careful spending. Membership equity was \$315764 and is now currently \$314354. That is a loss of \$1110. The total amount of money or "member's equity" is \$54 per member.

The cost for publishing the JWO is about the same as previous year. need to encourage new membership

There is \$248,000 in a CD. Mr. Crowdis stated that the reason there was that much money set aside was that if the OCA ever quit being an organization, the OCA has an obligation to print the JWO for 2 years after last member joined.

Mr. Crowdis went through the different accounts and gave amounts: accounting, awards, bank fees, internet, independent contractors, Insurance policies, licensing fees, long term members jackets (\$3450 last year & \$5800 for this year), annual meeting. memorial expense for Joe Mondello, printing (\$9000), letterhead (\$1600), road show, and telephone.

Mr. Crowdis stated that he was notified during the year that banks would charge \$15 to \$40 for checks from outside the United States. He is working with members who might be affected by this charge.

Mr. Crowdis extended an offer for anyone who wished to see the financial report to contact him.

Negative issue:

Brian McCallister spoke about buying the 68th Oldsmobile for the family who has a long history as OCA members. He stated that he was appointed in 2004 as Legal Advisor. He addressed a negative issue of letters being sent to chapters and members that are filled with hateful statements and misinformation. When Mr. McCallister asked for a show of hands who had heard of the Member Information Network, about half of the members had never heard of the Member Information Network and about half had heard about them. Mr. McCallister stated that the Board of Directors were asking that anyone who knows the identity of members of the Member Information Network report that information to Mr. McCallister, and Board will deal with them.

A member of audience wanted to know the motive of the group. Mr. McCallister stated that he didn't know the motivation, but the letters are negative and vicious attempting to tear down the Board.

Mr. Consoli stated that the letters have had the opposite effect with Board. The Board of Directors are united as a Board.

A member asked what are is being done about this situation. Mr. McCallister stated that the letters have been submitted to postmaster and the police.

Members' questions and suggestions:

A member suggested that the JWO be published on-line. Mr. Winn stated the JWO seems to be shrinking. He suggested that members submit ideas about cars and the editor should write stories because that's his job. Mr. Crowdis stated that the JWO is 32 pages every month. Brad Bishop is waiting for an influx of articles. If members sent pictures, they need to be high density pictures and a good presentation.

A member brought up a chapter compliancy issue that happened at a time when the chapter was wanting to do a Zone Show. The member stated that the chapter was concerned about getting insurance. Mr. Wilson stated that this issue had been addressed at Board meeting. He stated that he didn't want this situation to happen again, either.

A member asked why Nationals are so far from where he lives. Mr. Wilson stated that people/chapters have to volunteer for Nationals to happen. Mr. Martinson stated that he has traveled to 46 states since 1997 because of attending National meets. Mr. Wilson stated that while cars are important, relationships are more important. Nationals are great excuse to travel and see the United States and meet people. Mr. Wilson suggested that chapters hold zone shows on regional basis.

Interesting upcoming event:

Mr. Wilson told about a lady from England who plans to cross the United States in 1908 Curved Dash Oldsmobile. Mr. Wilson will be contacting chapters along her scheduled route to help schedule events as she travels.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Dalene DeLong
OCA Secretary