



CarClub



The Monthly Planet

Central Ohio Saturn CarClub — Chapter 4

Issue #73 — May 2003

Words from the President

At the regular CarClub meeting on April 10th, held at Saturn/West, a representative of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) spoke to the members about the importance of the CarClub's Adopt-A-Highway efforts. Our efforts help make the community safer, look better, and save ODOT time and tax money that can be used for other projects.

The first **Adopt-A-Highway** cleanup of 2003 was held on April 12th. Nine CarClub members participated and had our two-mile stretch of highway clean in near record time. The CarClub members who participated each received two points toward active members status, a free oil change coupon, and seven members also received a free lunch, courtesy of Saturn of Columbus. The next Adopt-A-Highway cleanup will be on Jun 14th.

A big CarClub welcome to two new members:
James Clapsaddle
Jeanne Warner.

We hope to see you at future meetings and/or events.

On May 3rd, Saturn of Columbus and the Columbus Zoo are sponsoring the **Cycling Safari** at the Columbus Zoo. If you can help out any time between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., please call Becky Harrass or the CarClub Hotline. See the Events article later in this newsletter for more details.

The May meeting will be a combined picnic and meeting at **Highbanks Metro Park**, Northern Shelter, starting at 6:30 p.m. See the Events article for more details. Plan to join us for great food and fun.

The **Saturday meeting** for the second quarter will be held at 10:00 a.m. on May 10th at Saturn/North. If you cannot make the regular meetings during the week, take this chance to discover what the CarClub is all about!

Mark your calendars and plan to support Bingo on Thursday May 15th at **Villa Angela** at 7:00 p.m. The residents really appreciate being able to play Bingo and look forward to our coming each month.

On May 17th the CarClub is planning a day trip to the **Air Force Museum**. If you have never been to the Air Force Museum, or if you have not been there in several years, plan to go! Many new exhibits have been added and the display area has been greatly increased. This is the number one attraction in the state of Ohio. See the Events article for more details.

The plan for the **annual CarClub trek to the Saturn Plant** at Spring Hill TN is to caravan to Spring Hill on Thursday, October 9th, tour the plant on Friday the 10th and have the Columbus Day holiday weekend to see the sights in the area. Mark your calendars and plan to join the trek. Watch future newsletters for further details.

Each newsletter will have a short "biography" of one of the current CarClub officers. Later in this newsletter you will find information about our **Membership Chairperson, Becky Harrass**.

The CarClub Board would like your input as to **what type of activities you would like to do** as a CarClub. There are many ways to do this. You can talk to any Board member, call the CarClub Voice Mail Hotline at 614-470-3517, send an e-mail to the CarClub at Saturn@centohiocarclub.com, or submit a suggestion in writing to the suggestion box at any of the regular CarClub meetings. We hope each one of you will make the effort to attend as many CarClub events as possible and to let us know what you would like to do as a CarClub.

Remember that you are the CarClub!

Jim

EVENTS

Easter Bunny Visit at the Villa

BINGO was held on April 17th at **Villa Angela**, with 35 residents were in attendance. The Easter Bunny rewarded the CarClub members who attended with a free oil change coupon. Everyone had a good time. Plan to attend our next BINGO.

You Can Help at the Cycling Safari

On May 3rd, Saturn and the Columbus Zoo are sponsoring the Cycling Safari. This is a bike ride starting at the zoo. We are in need of volunteers to help at the zoo for a few hours that day, very similar to what we do at the Auto Show. Saturn will have cars at the zoo and CarClub members will talk with guests about Saturn experiences. Please call Becky (614-457-5945) or the hotline if you can work anytime between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Early Start for May Meeting at Highbanks

Our May meeting will be held on May 8th at the Northern Area Reservable Shelter at Highbanks Metro Park. We will have a picnic, with the meeting following. The picnic will start at 6:30 p.m. We are asking everyone to contribute \$1.00/person to defray the cost of the shelter. For the \$1.00, you will be given a ticket and drawings will be held during the picnic. More tickets can be purchased for 3 for \$2.00. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to feed 10. The club will provide the meat. For those of you who would like to come, but didn't sign up at the last meeting, we would like to ask that you call Becky Harrass at 614-457-5945 and make her aware you are coming. This makes the job of purchasing the meat much easier.

Day Trip to the AF Museum This Month

The activity for the month of May will be a trip to the **Air Force Museum** on May 17th. All those planning to go should meet at the Meijer Store off Interstate 70 at Hilliard-Rome Road at 9:00 a.m. Lowell Lutman will be leading the group to the Museum. Even though this event was scheduled on short notice and Lowell is recovering from surgery, he jumped at the chance to head a CarClub caravan to Dayton.

June Meeting at Saturn Southeast

Our June meeting will be held at Saturn Southeast on 12th and the activity will be an ice cream social. This month we start at the regular time, 7:00 p.m., and the ice cream comes after the meeting.

Bicentennial Celebration in June

June 21st is the date for our fun activity for the month. We understand that this activity is a little more expensive than most of the CarClub events, but we thought this being the bicentennial birthday for Ohio, it would be appropriate.

This activity is the "Big Buckeye Birthday Bash and Ohio Bicentennial Train Ride." The train leaves Newark at 9:30 a.m. and arrives back at 7:00 p.m. On board will be famous Ohio celebrities, Tecumseh, and Clark Gable, to name a couple. The train arrives in Dennison at 12:30 p.m., at which time everyone disembarks and can enjoy the activities. These include a parade, a walk through the WW2 Canteen, and observing the world's largest peanut butter Buckeye. Many, many other activities will be taking place.

The only cost is \$40.00/person for the train ride. There is no cost for the activities in Dennison. You can also drive your car to Dennison to join in the activities. Nothing will be sold on the train, so bring your own snacks etc.

Trips to Roscoe Village, Rolling Ridge Ranch Planned for Summer Months

For the July activity we are planning to go to Roscoe Village in Coshocton. It is a very interesting place, reminiscent of the canal days. There is no cost unless you choose to go on the guided tour. There is also a boat ride on the canal with a cost of \$6.00. The tentative date for that activity is July 26th. More information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

A trip to Rolling Ridge Ranch, near Berlin OH, is being considered for August. This consists of riding a wagon out on the range and seeing 350 different animals. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Hope to see you all at the picnic,

Peggy and Becky

Meet Your CarClub Officers

Membership Chairperson Becky Harrass

My life began in a town on the west side of Ohio about 50 miles north of Dayton. I lived there until I moved to Cleveland to go to school and became a Medical Technician. I also met and married Jim while living there. I worked at the hospital in Shaker Heights until we moved to Texas. While in Texas we had two children, David and Donna. After six years we moved to Columbus for two years and then to Dayton. Most of the time we lived in Texas and Dayton, I was a stay at home mom. I had another son while in Dayton, Daniel.

After living in Dayton 14 years we moved back to Columbus to where we live at the present time. We now have added two grandchildren, a daughter-in-law, three dogs and two cats to the family.

Shortly after we moved to Columbus, a friend called and asked if I would interview for a company in Chicago. I did this for about six years and then became a supervisor over other interviewers. I am now working for Research Triangle Institute International in North Carolina, supervising 12 interviewers from my home. We are presently working on a government sponsored survey concerning investigations of child abuse, interviewing the children, the care giver, and the case worker at the Department of Human Services.

I have been in the CarClub since its beginning. I remember going to the first meeting and wondering what this club was all about. I have enjoyed being a member and involved with all the various activities, including being president in 2000.

Auto Show Highlights

As CarClub President Jim Harrass mentioned at the last meeting, we received a nice letter of appreciation from the Carlson representative who gave the demonstrations at the Auto Show. The spotlight was on the Ion Quad Coupe, which was featured on the turntable. For some people it was such an exciting car that they wanted to be able to test drive it right away. We had to tell the auto show visitors that the new vehicle was expected to appear in the Central Ohio area in 6 to 8 weeks. As it turned out, there was one at Saturn West the evening of the CarClub meeting. The wait is over at last.



Jim and Becky Harrass take a break at the Columbus Auto Show at the Ion Quad Coupe display.

Saturn Announces the Red Line Series

The Wheels section of *The Columbus Dispatch* issue of Saturday, April 12, carried an item in the column **Inside Track** with the heading **Saturn to rev up Vue, Ion Models**. The item apparently was based on a press release from Saturn Corp. announcing the Red Line series (the *Dispatch* made it "Redline"), a more powerful, sportier line of vehicles. The Vue and Ion models will have increased horsepower, performance-based suspension, and additional styling. Your newsletter editor visited the web site at Saturn.com and left a query about the new line, wondering whether there might be plans for a White Line and a Blue Line. The next day I heard back from Saturn:

"The Red Line insignia ushers in an exciting new era for Saturn," said Jill Lajdziak, Saturn's vice president for sales, service and marketing. "The name connotes the spirited performance that will be an essential part of all Red Line production vehicles. This series will generate a new level of interest in Saturn among those who appreciate a blend of horsepower, handling and sporty looks."

At this point in time there are no further designations for a white line or blue line. The names on our other Saturns will remain the same.

I hope that helps! If you need any additional information or assistance, please feel to e-mail us again or call us at 1-800-553-6000, option 3. The consultant who answers the phone will be happy to assist you.

Now that was a fast response. I am sure that as there are new developments or opportunities to see or drive this new car, our champion Al Clapsaddle will keep us informed.

Adopt-A-Highway

Conventional wisdom would say the first cleanup after winter is the worst in the Adopt-A-Highway program because litter has been accumulating all winter. After participating in a couple of first and a couple of later cleanups, I would have to say that it is not the amount of litter, but rather the wetness of the litter that makes all the difference. Even if there were few of us, the morning was pleasant and we all had a “Can Do” attitude.



We earned a gold star! Photo taken August 2002.

Before showing a new video (ODOT was unable to cast Catherine Zeta Jones in the starring role), the ODOT representative thanked the CarClub for taking care of our little strip of the highway, and allowing his short-staffed department to shift resources to other areas.

The video presentation stressed the importance of safety awareness at all times: wear a vest, protective clothing (hats, gloves, shoes), and work facing traffic. We were also advised to leave very heavy or bulky objects alone, as well as dead animals. Rather than handle these, we were to make a note of where they were, and let the professionals take care of them.

The pictures below show the CarClub members getting ready for the April cleanup effort. The staging area is at the Blacklick Square; when the job is done we retire to a nearby restaurant.



A true Buckeye fan (or two) stands behind this Vue.



All geared up to go, with buckets and plastic bags.

Central Ohio Saturn CarClub Activities Calendar

Date	Meeting / Event	Location	Time
3-May-03	Columbus Zoo Cycling Safari	Columbus Zoo	8 AM – 2 PM
8-May-03	Monthly Meeting & Picnic	Highbanks Metro Park	6:30 PM
10-May-03	Saturday Meeting for 2 nd Quarter	Saturn / North	10:00 AM
15-May-03	Bingo	Villa Angela	7:00 PM
17-May-03	Air Force Museum	Meijer on Hilliard-Rome Rd	9:00 AM
12-Jun-03	Monthly Meeting & Ice Cream Social	Saturn / Southeast	7:00 PM
14-Jun-03	Adopt-A-Highway	Near Frank's Garden Center	9:00 AM
19-Jun-03	Bingo	Villa Angela	7:00 PM
21-Jun-03	Bicentennial Train Ride	Newark OH	TBA
10-Jul-03	Monthly Meeting	Saturn / West	7:00 PM
17-Jul-03	Bingo	Villa Angela	7:00 PM
26-Jul-03	Roscoe Village	Coshocton OH	TBA
14-Aug-03	Monthly Meeting	Saturn / North	7:00 PM
16-Aug-03	Adopt-A-Highway	Near Frank's Garden Center	9:00 AM
16-Aug-03	Saturday Meeting for 3 rd Quarter	Saturn / North	2:00 PM
21-Aug-03	Bingo	Villa Angela	7:00 PM
??-Aug-03	Rolling Ridge Ranch	Berlin OH	TBA
9-10-Oct-03	Annual Spring Hill Saturn Tour	Cracker Barrel at I-71, Exit 100	9:00 AM

2003 CarClub Officers

President:	Jim Harrass
Vice President:	Lowell Lutman
Secretary:	Ruth Albert
Treasurer:	Peggy Williams
Events:	Peggy Williams Becky Harrass
Membership:	Becky Harrass
Safety/Historian:	John Williams
Newsletter:	Michael Steve
Champion:	Al Clapsaddle

CarClub Hotline

Need information about the Central Ohio CarClub meetings or activities?

Call our hotline at (614) 470-3517

An officer will call you back, usually within 24 hours. If you don't hear from anyone within that time, please call back and leave a second message/ Occasionally a message is hard to understand or gets deleted unintentionally.

Newsletter: If you would wish to submit an article for this newsletter or have any suggestions pertaining to this newsletter, please mail them to the address listed on the table of contents page or e-mail them to the Newsletter editor at:
centohioeditor@mail.saturnfans.com



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