

# The Arrowhead

## West Michigan Chapter



February 2020

### Chief's Chatter

#### **Doug Troost-WMPOCI President**

Well the holidays are over. Maybe we can get a little bit back to normal and into a schedule again.

With the onset of cold weather many of our group will be headed to warmer climates, so a smaller group will be the norm for the next few months. But smaller does not mean we are less passionate about our cars. Speaking of cars, how's your winter project coming? I have been picking away at the punch list on the Hotrod, sometimes it seems like one step forward and two steps back. Well keep plugging away, spring will be here before you know it or should I say before the car is ready.

You may or may not know that Famous Dave's has closed their doors, ending our long term relationship as a meeting place, The board is digging hard along with the help of others in the club to find a new place, so bear with us as we might move around a little bit until we find the right fit.

I'll be out of town for awhile but VP Scott will fill in. I'm confident he will do an excellent job. Any questions, regarding car club, cars or whatever, just call we are all here to help one another.

Also we have a few in the club with health issues, Please keep them in your prayers.

Doug

## MEMBER'S SHARE

My Goal is to get club members to write a short story on, What lead you to the West Michigan Pontiac Club. I'll break the ice and start. In 1956 I was five, dad had a 1955 Starchief with Fender skirts, you got it my job was to back it up so he could wash the other half of the back tires. I was hooked at the first drive.

Dad was a Pontiac man, yes he drove other brands, but was never happy and kept going back. 1957, 1961, 1963, 1968, 1972 and the list goes on.

My first car was the left over 1963 Starchief, when dad moved on to others. Senior year in high school on towards college. Oh no, cars not allowed the freshmen year of school. So I sold the 63 and studied hard, well sort of. Home for the summer, dad had found a 64 Tempest convertible that needed work, so I fix it, sold it, then a 1966 Tempest with a bad motor, fixed it, sold it, then a 1968 VW bad oil leak fixed it and sold it.

By this time I had made enough money to buy a 1966 Ford 500 Convertible (we all have our weak moments) and then it burnt up in a fire, which is a long story. All the hard work gone, but there was a bright spot coming. My mother felt so sorry for me that we found a used 1966 GTO for sale and she bought it for me. I had already had some cars but this was the first one I could say I fell in love with. Drove that car thru college and first 2 years of marriage, but by this time she (GTO) was getting a little ragged, and with a baby on the

way, it was time for a new car. Traded it for a 1973 Lemans, great car , but it was not my GTO.

One day I said to my dad you find a 1966 GTO let me know. Long wait 2 years, 3 years can't really remember. One day my phone rings it was dad. Hey, I'm in Dayton, Ohio and they are advertising a Goat for sale, want me to check it out? Me: Sure. Dad called back doesn't run, dent in every panel but it's all there, asking \$300.00. Me: offer \$250.00. Dad calls back, said you bought a car. So July of 1978 I'm back in the GTO business.

With a wife, kids, mortgage, work and life 11 years passed.

One day in 1989 I said that's it I'm tired of walking around this car, so I tore it apart. 14 months later it was back together and I'm in love with my GTO again. During this process a body shop friend of mine said, you need to meet my neighbor he has 2 GTO's. The fall of 1990 Greg Thorwall (former member of our club) takes me to a meeting and just like that I'm totally hooked. A room full of people, just like me that love Pontiac's..

That was 30 years ago, lots of cars, lots of miles, but 30 years of the best friendships anybody could ask for. Yes, I've counted I have owned 19 Pontiacs.

Doug Troost

## Monthly meeting Minutes

Famous Dave's Restaurant closed a few days before our scheduled January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, so Russ' of Grandville was able to accommodate us on short notice. As you can see, the West Michigan Pontiac Club Curse is still alive and well! Unfortunately, the room at Russ' isn't large enough to hold our normal meeting headcount of 30 people, give or take a few. However, for the 17 that showed up, it was fine. And we will hold our February and March meetings there as well. After that, we may have to find someplace with a bigger room to hold us all. If you have any suggestions, contact Scott, or one of the board members.

VP Scott VanTamelen conducted the meeting in President Doug Troost's absence. (And will for the next couple meetings while the Troost's are wintering in the southwest.)

The meeting was kicked off with Brian Martinie giving us his Treasurer's Report. We had income from 2020 dues, Christmas dinner payment, and donations. Expenditures included Christmas Party entertainment, dinner, and dessert. Also, the gift for Ryan Snyder, and the donations to Hope Packages and Living Threads.

Brian also suggested that if you haven't paid your 2020 dues yet, you may want to ASAP before he and Amy leave for Arizona in early February.

Scott went over the 2020 Schedule of Events that the board members came up with in December:  
February 4 Meeting – video of the 1969 Prototype Trans Am

March 3 Meeting – Scott VanTamelen to talk about insurance, maybe a guest speaker on photography

April 7 Meeting – tour VerHage's Auto Museum in Holland

May 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting – (new location?) guest speaker Glen Bevis to show a rare John DeLorean/GM film. May 16 Dust Off Cruise to Lansing to tour the REO Museum, visit an old Pontiac dealership, and have dinner on the Michigan Princess riverboat.

June 2 Meeting – tour Gentex (Wide Trackers Dust Off Show – date TBW)

July – no official meeting due to PO-CI National Convention. However, we will possibly do a "follow the leader" ice cream cruise later in the month. (Motor City Chapter show at Bakers in Milford – TBD)

August 4 Meeting – our Elhart Car Show meeting. The show is on Friday, August 14.

September 7 Meeting – picnic at Ottawa State Park. Pure Stock Drags the 17 thru 19.

October - no meeting. Overnight Fall Cruise up north to the Charlevoix, Petoskey, and Boyne City area. Hotel is TBD. Probably be leaving Friday the 9<sup>th</sup>.

November 3 Meeting – at the VanZytveld's Cave, WMPOCI board member elections, and our Valve Cover Races.

December – no official meeting. Christmas Party to be held at the Beechwood Inn (Holland) on Thursday, Dec. 3. Dinner will be served "family style". The menu will include beef, chicken, fish, vegetable, and potato. Cost is \$10 per person.

Minutes Con't:

President Doug Troost wants to liven up our newsletter with the following: Members submitting write-ups. Can be any topic.

Create a For Sale section – car related only.

“Why you are part of the Pontiac Club” write-up. Doug is going to do the first one. Then he will nominate who will do the next. Then that person will nominate the next author. And so on....

The Kalamazoo Swap Meet is the first weekend of February. Ryan Snyder volunteered to bring our Car Show flyers.

Our Go Daddy website is up for its two-year renewal. The cost is \$386.59. Scott put it up for a vote If we want to continue with this. The measure was passed.

Doug Simon won the 50/50 Drawing worth \$24. And the DeBoers won the Attendance Drawing worth \$60. Congrats to you all.

I hope to see everyone at the February Meeting (at Russ').  
Dan Jensen

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**REMEMBER** it is time to renew your membership  
and pay your dues of \$25.00/person/couple.

**NEW FOOD VENDOR NEEDED:**

With the closing of Famous Dave's we will need a new food vendor for the car show in August. If you know of someone that would be interested, contact Cary Hirdes.



We would also like to have an ice cream vendor, so please share any suggestions you have.



**NEXT MEETING**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 7 PM**

**RUSS' IN GRANDVILLE**

**4440 Chicago Dr., SW, Grandville, MI 49418**

Come early and enjoy your supper with club members.

Scott Van Tamelen will show a video of the  
1969 Prototype Trans Am



## 2020 CLUB EVENTS

- March 3 Regular meeting—at Brann's in Grandville  
Scott VT will talk about Michigan Auto  
Insurance changes coming this summer. Possibly also a  
speaker on photography.
- April 7 Tour the Ver Hage Auto Museum in Holland
- May 5 Meeting—Guest Speaker, Glen Bevis, will show a rare  
John DeLorean/GM film
- May 16 Dust off Cruise—Lansing area
- June 2 Tour Gentex Factory in Zeeland
- July 7-11 National Convention—Catoosa, OK  
Ice Cream cruise—Date TBD
- August 4 Regular Meeting—Plan for Car Show
- August 14 Car Show at Elhart Automotive in Holland
- September 7 Picnic at Holland State Park
- October 9 Fall Cruise—Charlevoix/Petoskey
- November Valve Cover Races
- December Christmas Dinner—Beechwood Inn, Holland

## AREA EVENTS

- Saturday, Feb. 1** Swap Meet in Kalamazoo
- Friday, June 5** Holland Vintage Club show in Holland
- Saturday, June 13** - MICHIGAN WIDETRACKERS ANNUAL  
SPRING DUST-OFF—Springfield Oaks County Park,  
12451 Andersonville Rd, Davisburg, MI Preregister by June 1st
- Saturday, July 13** - 6th Annual Pontiac Summer Round Up at  
Bakers of Milford 8 - 2:30pm
- AUG 16 & 17- Friday & Saturday** - 25th Annual Woodward Avenue  
Dream Cruise
- Sept 6 - 8** - FRANKENMUTH AUTO FEST
- September 17-19** Pure Stock Muscle Car Drags—Stanton, MI

### Care Corner

*We extend our sympathy to Bob & Roxanne De Boer in the passing of Bob's mother, Lois, on January 13. Bob's son Randy and Liz, have also been club members.*

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*We intend to include announcements whenever we learn of a serious illness, accident, surgery, or death of a close relative of one of our members. Please inform a Board Member if you have an item to share.*

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Check out our latest events and activities on our website  
[www.wmpontiac.com](http://www.wmpontiac.com).

### Preamble

*The West Michigan Chapter of the Pontiac-Oakland Club International is dedicated to the ownership and preservation of Pontiacs, all models and years.*

*It is the goal of the chapter to encourage and unite area Pontiac enthusiasts in Chapter sponsored activities and events.*

*The Arrowhead serves as one of the tools to which the Club can fulfill its goals, as well as, provide information.*

### **Club Officers**

President	Doug Troost	616-399-1423
Vice President	Scott Van Tamelen	616-450-8450
Treasurer	Brian Martinie	616-836-6040
Secretary	Dan Jensen	517-896-0398
Arrowhead Editor	Judy Hirdes	616-772-5494

## Membership Info

**Chapter Dues** are to be paid January 1st

\$25.00 payable to WMPOCI

Please give to Brian Martinie at the meeting, or mail them to:

West Michigan Pontiac Club

430 E 8th St, PMB 157

Holland, MI. 49423

**National Dues** are YOUR responsibility.

You must be a member of the

National POCI to be a member of the West Michigan POCI.

Log onto [www.poci.org](http://www.poci.org) for more information or to register

### WMPOCI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Full Member (Chapter & POCI) \_\_\_\_\_

If full member include your POCI# \_\_\_\_\_

Non POCI member (Chapter only) \_\_\_\_\_

Pontiac Owned \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Style \_\_\_\_\_ Motor \_\_\_\_\_

National POCI # (must have) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 Payable to West Michigan Pontiac Club

West Michigan POCI  
1586 Ridgecrest Dr.  
Zeeland, MI 49464