

West Michigan POCI  
5574 Whitetail Court  
West Olive, MI 49460



**PONTIAC-OAKLAND  
CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

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*west michigan  
chapter*

*the arrowhead*

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Newsletter for the Pontiac Enthusiast

January 2008

## Chief's Chatter

I have not gotten into the swing of being 'Pres' yet so I'm very late in getting this to Melanie, much less into the newsletter. I was not expecting this especially when there was no campaigning like on TV, so this is more of a mandate than an election.

I thank Doug (and Joan) for being president last year and also the board members who stayed on this year.

Thanks to last years' board for the Valve Cover racing last month. It was like the Pinewood Derbies I did with Cadets only LARGER. I had a blast and hope we continue this annually. Maybe next year Carl can have the survivor car ready to RACE. I wonder how long the track will hold up with the heavy 'cars'.

On a personal note, there are many members we have not seen in quite a while and I'd like to know why. If it's time constraints or loss of interest, I'd like to hear from you. The club needs all of the members to be active to sustain its operations. PLUS, we miss you. See you in February.  
Cary



VALVE COVER CARS

## January Meeting Minutes

The January meeting held a lot of firsts for us; it was our first meeting in 2008, it was our first meeting at Famous Dave's, it was Cary Hirdes' first meeting as our 2008 president, and it was our first valve cover race! Before we get to the action, here is the business discussed.

Wendell Miller wanted to remind everyone that this April we will be voting for POCI directors. The ballots will be in the issue of the Smoke Signals. It is very important that as many of us vote as possible. Not only is it important that we get involved in the national organization, but if enough of us vote, our chapter could win \$200.

Rox and Bob DeBoer won our 50/50 raffle of \$11! Al and Dee Hudson would have won our Club Lotto worth \$62, if they had been at the meeting! So it will roll over to a higher amount at the February meeting. Remember, you have to be at the meeting to win!

Now, on to the races! Before we get to the action, a big THANKS goes to Bob DeBoer and Wendell Miller for the trouble they went to build the race track for our valve cover competitors!

A "best of three" racing format was used to determine the winner of each round. Our first competitors were Doug Simon's team (with Bob Postma and Doug Troost) racing their sharp gold "highboy" against Ron VanZytveld's team's (with Wendell Miller and Dan Jensen) sleek stock Pontiac cover. The race was one-sided but very close, with the VanZytveld car winning the round.

Next two teams to race were Carl Thorwall's (with Bryan Thorwall and Tom Plochocki), in their 'survivor/rat rod' small block Chevy cover and Carl Schulte's (with Doug Kamphuis and Herb Howes), in their stock Pontiac cover. The Carl T. cover was suffering from some wheel alignment and 'drag' issues, allowing Carl S.' Pontiac to win the heat.

Continued-

## January Meeting Minutes

The last team in round one was Tom Ensing's (with Cary Hirdes and Bob DeBoer) in their "old Yeller" highboy pitted against a mystery street rod. Even though the street rod wasn't a legal contender, old Yeller beat it anyway!

Round two pitted the Ron VanZytveld stock Pontiac against the Tom Ensing highboy. The racing was close but the stock Pontiac barely edged out the highboy.

With an odd number of cars, Carl Schulte's cover got the bye, putting it in the finals against Ron VanZytveld. Both stock Pontiac valve covers ended up racing for the overall win—how fitting! Both covers ran neck and neck in both heats, but Ron's cover emerged triumphant both times to take first place! Carl's came in a close second!

Finally, we had a vote for Best of Show. Going against the norm here, Team Thorwall's 'survivor/rat rod' cover was the most popular!

The winning teams and their members received gift certificates to Famous Daves'!

See you at the February meeting.

Dan Jensen

## We Need Your Vote

We need all of our club members to vote for their Regional POCI Directors and Officers. The information to vote will be in either the March or April issue of the Smoke Signals. The club with the greatest percentage of members who vote will win \$200 for their Club. So VOTE!!!!



## Gift Boxes for our Soldiers

### A Word of Thanks

David, our son-in-law, called from Iraq to thank the car club for all of the packages that were sent. They were very much appreciated, especially the cookies. They were really good! All of David's buddies came over and he shared with them, and they took what they needed of the other supplies.

Doug and Joan Troost

### Congratulations to Carl Schulte

Carl has been a member of the POCI for 20 years.

He is a member of our local club!! Please congratulate Carl on his long time interest and support in the POCI.

January is 'dues' month. The Club would appreciate any member who owes dues to pay them in January or as soon as possible. The dues help to pay for the next years' events and newsletter. Please send your checks for \$25 (made out to WMPOCI) to Terri Miller, 8830 Taylor Street, Zeeland, MI, 49464 or bring your dues to the January meeting. Thanks much. See back page of this newsletter for more information.

# THE ARROWHEAD

## The 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 and services to its members.

## Club Officers

President	Cary Hirdes	616-772-5494
Vice President	Robert DeBoer	616-538-6712
Treasurer	Terri Miller	616-875-8069
Secretary	Dan Jensen	517-647-2474
Arrowhead Editors	Greg & Melanie Thorwall	616-399-4701

Website: WWW.POCI.ORG, click on 'Links' to West Michigan Chapter

## Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at Famous Dave's

In January we started meeting at a new place and night. We will be meeting the first Tuesday of the month at Famous Dave's at Canal and 44th Street. Please note the changes. We will start the meeting at 7:30 PM. As usual, you can come earlier and order food! This month, Cary Hirdes, our new club president, will be presenting information about his car restoration. We hope to see a good turnout. There's always a good time of fellowship with other car enthusiasts.

## Membership Info

**Chapter Dues** are to be paid January 1st  
\$25.00 payable to WMPOCI  
Please give to Terri Miller at the meeting, or mail them to:  
Terri Miller 8830 Taylor St. Zeeland, MI 49464

**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.

## Membership Application

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 Payable to WMPOCI