



**PONTIAC-OAKLAND
CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

WEST MICHIGAN
CHAPTER

THE ARROWHEAD

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PONTIAC ENTHUSIAST

FEBRUARY 2006

West Michigan POCI
1147-32nd St SW
Wyoming, MI 49509

CHIEF'S CHATTER

Another month has come and gone and we are getting closer to warmer weather when we can again get our cars out. I know many of the guys are working on their rides for the coming summer and others are working on a new ride for the future. Everyone is keeping busy doing odd jobs around the house or helping others work on their cars.

We had a good turn out for our February meeting and it was fun seeing Johnny Carson videos and having some laughs while having Sweetheart Dessert (that we all needed so desperately).

Our monthly events are getting filled up and I think the only thing needed for this year is a person to take charge of the Christmas Dinner. If you would like to do this, please call any of the board members and let them know.

Please remember **March 1st** is our **Annual Auction!** This is a way that we as a club raise money to help pay for the summer events, picnics and also the donations to Hospice and car shows. So please bring some good items that we can sell and make some money for the coming year. Feel free to go out and get donations from area businesses for anything from restaurants and movies to car washes and we will have a good time at this event.

Until then, keep the rubber side down!

Bob

MEETING MINUTES

Sometimes it pays to attend our meetings the first Wednesday every month. If you didn't attend the February meeting at Jerry's Country Inn, you missed the club treating everyone there to a dessert of their choice! There's nothing like a turtle sundae after a delicious sandwich!

Information was passed out about the June 3rd cruise to the Midland Antique & Car Show. Plans are to spend the night at the Fairview Inn in Midland Saturday night, June 3rd. This is optional; you don't have to stay over. But if you want to, everything is all set up. The club has a block of twelve non-smoking rooms available. Make sure you mention you are with the West Michigan Pontiac Club, code # Pontiac. The room is "first come, first serve".

The rest of the club events are coming together for 2006. About the only event unconfirmed at this point is the Christmas Party. Doug and Joan Troost have volunteered to organize our color tour. Did I hear someone mention winery tours?

The 28th Street Cruise is scheduled again for 2006! The date is August 26th. Rats, that's the same weekend as the TA Nationals in Dayton!

The Woodward Dream Cruise should be the week prior to the 28th Street Cruise. Tom and Sandy Ensing need to know who's interested in attending. Parking along Woodward, or in any of the cities along its length, is very precious. The Widetrackers have room for us at a Detroit Free Press satellite lot. Call Sandy and Tom if you want a parking spot ASAP!

Remember, our March meeting is our annual Auction. Please bring cool car stuff, as well as household things to sell. (No junk!) Oh yeah, bring lots of money too! Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend; I'll be getting a car ready to take to the Detroit Autorama that following weekend. Have fun at the auction!

Dan Jensen

Special Recognition

For those of you who missed our February meeting, I had a piece on info that I shared that I think is worthy of putting in the newsletter. A member of our club who joined last year, Vincent Rasch had his car make it to the pages of Hot Rod magazine. I believe it was the January issue. It was a coverage of the first annual Hot Rod drag week in which racers have to race at 5 tracks (I might be mistaken on the # of tracks) in as many days, and they have to drive the cars from track to track in race trim. Vincent exploded the differential in his GTO rag top, so there is some coverage on the repair of that, and some other pictures. Congratulations Vincent on your car being published in such a largely circulated magazine. Definitely a big accomplishment.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

"They've done so much for us, and this is just a small way to show our appreciation."

More than a few veterans recalled Christmases past as they opened their gifts, which included a Meijer gift card and clothing that ranged from sweatpants to socks.

"Some years, it was hard," said Stella Creisher, who served with the Women's Army Corps. "I remember one Christmas when I saw tears in my father's eyes, and I said 'What's wrong, Daddy?' He said he was so sorry because he couldn't do more that year."

Robert Opalek, 74, focused on the spiritual meaning of Christmas. "I'm giving thanks for being alive," he said. "It's the birth of Jesus, and I'm thankful for that, because as a Catholic, I worship him."

Alphonzo Carr, 65, originally of Philadelphia, said he lost track of shirttail relatives years ago. "They have no idea where I'm at," he said. He was thrilled though, to be the recipient of three model airplane kits. He'll build them to add to a collection that decorates his room.

In a recreation room all by herself, Marilyn Hileman, 62, sat in an electrically powered chair. Twenty-four hours daily, she uses an oxygen tank. She couldn't believe someone had given her not one, but two sets of White Diamonds perfume. "That's the most expensive kind. By Elizabeth Taylor, you know."

Her eyes wandered off to a place she couldn't describe, only relate in nonsequiturs that had to do with family from Reed City and grandkids she was happy to see last week.

"You know," she eventually said, "I couldn't have asked for a better Christmas."

Grand Rapids Press December 26, 2005 B1-2

Thank you West Michigan POCI members for helping to bring Christmas to many of our Veterans. It is obvious by this article copied from the GR Press that gestures like this can mean the world to someone you may not even know. Let's continue this tradition of our club and our giving!

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

Nimble fingers that once manned artillery and dug foxholes now fumbled with the gentle trappings of Christmas—ribbons, bows, giftwrap.

Some things never change though: Old soldiers who marched off to wage our battles still don't ask for anything in return. Even at Christmas.

"I'm just so thankful, that's all I can say," said Harold French, 79, one of more than 700 men and women who were surprised on Christmas morning with gifts from people who shipped in to donate presents for those living at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. That generosity fueled a "Veterans Christmas Star" project which asked visitors to pluck a star from a Christmas tree in the lobby, then return with a gift for a member there.

Sunday morning, more than 80 volunteers showed up to deliver packages throughout the facility at 3000 Monroe Ave NE, an institution that opened 1886 to first accommodate Civil War veterans.

"Some of our residents have no visitors at Christmas," explained Jan Rosochacki, who helped coordinate the event. "For others, it's not possible for them to go home for the holidays because of their medical condition."

Linda Rose, a 12-year employee at the home, said working on Christmas Day has its benefits, and they're not all monetary: "To a lot of these vets," she said, "we're the only family they have. This job can be a challenge, but it always feels good to give."

The gifts seemed to make everyone's Christmas a little brighter, even those having an especially tough time accepting their fate. "I hate this place," one vet muttered, as he wheeled himself down a hallway. "But I am grateful," he said of a giftbox that rested on his lap.

Just a few feet away, Robert Stebins, of Sparta, recounted how he spent the other evening putting together 37 packages for vets, each containing two paperback novels, a Snickers bar and a candy cane. Why 37? "I ran outta books."

Stebbins, a veteran himself who is on disability, said he feels it's his patriotic duty "to help these guys who did so much for our country," adding that "maybe someday, if I'm ever here, someone will do something nice for me."

Mark Zemaitis, of Marne, arrived with his son, Dan, 13, a student at Coopersville Junior High, to help spread cheer. "We owe them our freedom," said Zemaitis.

additional events

The following are car shows we were asked to advertise for by other clubs. If you are interested in going let us know at a club meeting and there may be others who would like to join you!

Northern Illinois Region of the Walter P. Chrysler Club

Sunday April 30th, 2006:

23rd Annual NIR-WPC Car Show/Swap Meet

Larry Roesch Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep

200-260 W. Grand Ave. — Elmhurst IL

Car Show

All Makes Welcome

(1986 and older)

Spectator admission FREE

Show Car—\$12

Registration 8-11 am

Trophies & Raffle at 2pm

Swap Meet

8am-2pm

Admission \$3 per person

Vendor Space \$15

MORE INFO: 630-721-0062

Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival

"Hot Summer Fling"

July 15, 2006 at Kruse Auction Park — Auburn, Indiana

Car/Truck Show including all makes/types/ages!

Goal: To be one of the largest spectator events in the country

*Car Show

*GM Truck Plant Tours

*Vera Bradley Tours

*DeBrand Fine Chocolate Tours

*Children's Activities

*Vehicle Demonstrations/Information

Register by March 15 for \$15 fee (\$20 after this date)

Contact: Marvin L Bok, Show Chairman

mbok@vintagearchonics.com

260-925-3600

Something for the Ladies

Inside every older lady is a younger lady -- wondering what the heck happened.
-Cora Harvey Armstrong-

*inside me lives a skinny woman crying to get out.
but i can usually shut her up with cookies.*

A MALE GYNECOLOGIST IS LIKE AN AUTO MECHANIC
WHO NEVER OWNED A CAR. -CARRIE SNOW-

I REFUSE TO THINK OF THEM AS CHIN HAIRS. I THINK OF
THEM AS STRAY EYEBROWS. -JANETTE BARBER-

*a man's got to do what a man's got to do!
a woman must do what he can't.
-rhonda handsome-*

I'M NOT GOING TO VACUUM TIL SEARS MAKES
ONE YOU CAN RIDE ON! -ROSEANNE BARR-

I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several
days attack me at once. -Jennifer Unlimited-

The phrase "working mother" is
redundant - Jane Sellman

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH SMOKE SIGNALS

In the upcoming issue of the Smoke Signals there will be a ballot on the back. This is for the national POCl board members. PLEASE vote and send in your ballot by the due date on the form. The club that has the highest percentage of its members that vote will receive \$200! Let's be the club that gets 100% participation!

WEDNESDAY MARCH 1 7:00 PM

This is the Annual Auction!! Come ready for a good time. Please bring any new, donated or gently used items you would like to sell. Your "old treasures" could be someone else's great find!
H o p e t o s e e y o u t h e r e ! !

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5 7:00 PM

Regular meeting at Jerry's. We will have a speaker and the ladies can have a craft night. Bring your knitting squares or any other project you would like to work on. Any craft is welcome!

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	Robert DeBoer	616-538-6712
Vice President	Linda Kamphuis	616-392-5074
Treasurer	Terri Miller	616-875-8069
Secretary	Dan Jensen	517-647-2474
Arrowhead Editors	Scott & Angie Van Wyk	616-257-1597

CLUB CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Weller—March 16 Pam Simon—March 27
Bruce Klenk—March 19 Bob Walker—March 27

HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Karen Brower—March 11
Bob & Kay Postma—March 18
Bob & Barb Weller—March 18
Herb & Judy Howes—March 25

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Chapter Dues are to be paid January 1st
\$15.00 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 for more information or to register.

Pontiac-Oakland Club International, Inc
PO Box 9569 Bradenton, FL 34206

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 _____

\$15.00 PAYABLE TO WMPOCI