



**PONTIAC-OAKLAND  
CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

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**WEST MICHIGAN  
CHAPTER**

# **THE ARROWHEAD**

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**Newsletter for the Pontiac Enthusiast**

**April 2014**

# *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	Carl Thorwall	616-566-2661
Vice President	Gary Laarman	616-392-5773
Treasurer	Terri Miller	616-875-8069
Secretary	Dan Jensen	517-647-2474
Arrowhead Editor	Elaine VanZytveld	616-284-7939



**April 1**  
**Famous Dave's**  
**Scott Tiemann will be our speaker for the evening**  
**Scott is a car restorer extraordinaire**  
**Come join us for food and fun**

## ***CHIEF'S CHATTER***

Hello Pontiac Club

I cannot believe how fast the months have been going by. We are almost already a quarter of the way through the year! I am encouraged to have seen the sun a few times in the past week and been able to walk outside without feeling the need to wear five layers of clothing to avoid frostbite. The weather has also reminded me of the fact it is now Spring! This means it's time to start dusting off the Pontiac and getting ready for the Spring Dust-Off Cruise. Serious planning is underway for that Pontiac Club adventure, which is planned to occur on Saturday May 3rd. I'm really excited to get my Pontiac out on the road and enjoy it for an entire summer, the first full summer since it was restored.

I've got some loose ends I need to finish up on my Pontiac before it's road-worthy. Mainly gears, the ones in my Muncie are done, toasted, and kaput. I'm sure the condition of the synchronizers, bearings, shift forks and gears have nothing to do with hot-rodding and 'prompt' shifting and everything to do with the 167,000 original miles it has on it ;). The last few weeks I have been reading articles on Muncie 4 Speed rebuilds and the plethora of opinions on good parts and bad parts. I've decided to purchase a master rebuild kit that includes all of the bearings, seals, synchros, shift forks, spring rings, needle bearings, etc. I've also decided to upgrade. The transmission is an M20 wide ratio. I've learned that now make a wide ratio replacement gear set with the M22 'Rock crusher' gear cut. The ratios of the M22W are very similar to an M20 but will have the aggressive sound of the M22. We'll see how it goes. There has been a lot to consider and learn while rebuilding a transmission. I'll keep you all posted on my progress.

I've heard of many member's winter projects and upgrades and look forward to the next time we get our cars out and get to see and hear some of the fun changes.

Till Next Time!

-Carl

## March 2014 Meeting Report

Winter's cold grasp hasn't eased much. At least the weather was dry for our March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at Famous Dave's. Around 20-24 of us were in attendance. Not bad for the time of year. As I write this, we are finally seeing temps at or slightly above average and I can actually see the snow banks shrink a little bit! Let's hope it continues. I know we are all anxious to get our cars out in a month or two.

President Carl Thorwall kicked off the meeting by handing out to everyone the latest issue of the Cruise News, which is published in Sterling Heights, MI. Their Michigan West-side writer, Scooter, wrote a nice article on our August car show at the Elhart campus. If anyone is interested in subscribing, Scooter urges us to use the application form and envelope stuffed inside each magazine.

Discussion turned to our May Dust Off Cruise and the fall Color Tour as to if one, both, or neither should be an overnight trip. It was decided to make the Dust Off Cruise a one-day trip and the Color Tour an overnight trip. Look for details in future newsletters.

More cars were added to the West Michigan members inventory! Both the VanZytvelds and the DeBoers bought 2002 Trans Ams! Ron and Elaine brought home a Sunburst Orange WS-6 convertible with less than 600 miles on the odometer! Bob and Roxanne are going to cruise in their White WS-6 T-top! We're looking forward to seeing both cars this spring!

We had new members at the meeting. Bob and Roxanne's son and daughter in-law, Randy and Liz DeBoer. They have a 1989 Firebird Formula 350! Welcome to the club!

Carl read us Terri Miller's Treasurer's Report while she and Wendell are still in Texas. It's good to report that we are in good financial health!

Our guest speaker was Herb Howes. Herb shared with us his wisdom in what to look for in buying a classic car.

- 1) Decide what kind of car you want
- 2) Budget what you want to spend
- 3) Take your time during the whole process
- 4) Look the car over with a fine tooth comb

Don't be afraid to spend some money up front to go look at a car yourself. It's better to have spent \$1000 on travel and walk away from the car than to

spend thousands and be stuck with a car that is worse than you expected.  
Thanks for all the tips Herb!

The 50/50 raffle, worth \$20, was won by Gary and Pam Laarman! Congratulations!

Art and Karen Shillito's names were pulled for the attendance drawing, worth \$136! However, Art and Karen weren't present, so the kitty builds for April's meeting!

Speaking of the April meeting, Scott Tiemann will be our guest speaker sharing restoration procedures (with photos) performed on various Pontiacs.

See you there!

Dan Jensen

1956 Star Chief Wagon



**REMEMBER THAT THIS YEARS DUES WERE DUE THE FIRST OF JANUARY FOR MOST MEMBERS. IF YOU HAVE'NT PAID YET PLEASE MAIL THEM TO TERRI MILLER OR BRING THEM WITH TO THE NEXT MEETING. THANK YOU!**

### **Schedule of Meetings for 2014**

April 1 – Scott Tiemann on Pontiac restoration

May 3rd – dust off cruise

June 10 – possibly visit the Ottawa County Jail (stay tuned)

July 8 – cruise to Gilmore Car Museum

August - 5 meeting Famous Dave's

August 8 - Car Club Car Show at Elhart

September - picnic at Ottawa Beach and help at the Pure Stock Drags on 12th-13th

October activity – Color Tour to Run Right Classics at Houghton Lake (overnight)

November 4th – officer elections and valve cover races

December 5th – Christmas Party at the Doubletree

We are open to any thoughts and ideas you may have. Bring them to the next meeting.

**Watch for updates and changes to the schedule**

# 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 POI to be a member of the West Michigan POI. 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 & POI) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 Payable to WMPOCI

West Michigan POCI  
4101 Byron Rd  
Hudsonville MI 49426