

West Michigan POCI  
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Hudsonville MI 49426

Ron & Elaine VanZytveld  
4101 Byron Rd.  
Hudsonville MI 49426

exp. Jan '13



## **PONTIAC-OAKLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

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### **WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER**

# **THE ARROWHEAD**

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**Newsletter for the Pontiac Enthusiast**

**February 2012**

## CHIEF'S CHATTER

I want to thank Ron for his service the last 2 years as President, we had a lot of good times. You did a real fine job!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the club for electing me as President once again, I'll do my best to represent the West Michigan Pontiac Club in this position. You all can help me by keeping us informed of events you have interest in and if anyone has an idea of a Service we can provide for a future meeting please inform one of the officers.

At our meeting the first of January we had a presentation given by the Geezer Gang on their land speed records, it was very interesting and a special thanks goes out to George (Joe) Turner for bringing his gang to our meeting. You can read more about it in Dan's message.

Now a little about what I have been doing the last couple of years. I've been keeping real busy restoring a few cars for a close friend of mine from Australia whom many of you have met, and was thinking of how hard it was some years back when you needed to find parts for the car you were working on. You either had to join a car club like I did, go to a junk yard, leaf through magazines and catalogs or use referrals etc. and now how easy it is to find and buy pretty much what you're looking for on the internet. What a great invention! Just think of how computers have changed our lives. So If anybody needs to find me, you'll find me in my garage. I do come out for work and food!

Until next month *Keep the Rubber Side Down.* Bob



The "Geezer Express" crew: From left, John McLellan, car owner George Turner, engine owner Ben Herr Jr. and driver Brian Acton aim to set a record in their Pontiac Firebird.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2012

**February - Detective - Presentation on Fraud Awareness**

**March - Tour of GR Auto Gallery**

**April - Tour of Hospice facility that the club donates to.**

**May - 5 - 6 Dust Off - Pontiac Illinois**

**June - Progressive Drive/Progressive Dinner to club members homes.**

**July - no meeting (Convention: St. Charles Illinois - July 17 - 21)**

**August - Club Car Show on the 10th at Elhart**

**September 4 - Beach Picnic**

**October -**

**November - Valve Cover Races**

**December - Dec. 7 Christmas Party**

**This is a tentative schedule with slots to be filled in so watch your newsletter for changes and additions.**

You can now check out our [WMPOCI chapter on Facebook](#). Be sure and sign up as a friend.



## January 2012 Meeting Report

Happy New Year! Everyone had barely recovered from celebrating the new year and we were already attending our first meeting on the 3rd! But the weather was fine for traveling and we had a good turn out at Famous Dave's Restaurant, close to 30 people!

New president Bob DeBoer started off our business part of the meeting by going over Terri Miller's Treasurer's Report. Everything looked good there. Being January, club dues of \$25 are due. You can pay Terri at the next meeting, or send them to her at the address listed in this newsletter.

The Grand Rapids auto show is January 26 through the 29<sup>th</sup>. We can get group tickets for \$7 each, which is \$3 off the regular price.

Bob read a thank you letter from the Rockford family we made a donation to last year. Their daughter has cancer and the family was having financial difficulties with all the health care bills. They were very appreciative for our gift.

Bob went over our schedule of events for 2012. October is still open and it was suggested that the club donate time to some charitable organization like God's Kitchen, or something else. If you have any good ideas, bring them to the next meeting or contact Bob.

Jane Dowling won the 50/50 raffle of \$25! Congratulations!

Our guest speakers were the member of the Geezer Express! The members being George Turner and his crew who campaign a 3<sup>rd</sup> Gen Firebird land speed racer at various tracks around the country. George used to drag race his Firebird and decided he wanted to go faster. So he joined with fellow WMPOCI'er, Ben Herr (engine builder), and friends John Pranger (car builder), Brian Acton (driver), John McLellan, and Rick King (crew members). George is car owner and driver too. George let John McLellan share their experiences with us. The goal was to go faster than 200 MPH. The first "track" they went to was Maxton, NC. Despite being a newly built car and yet untested, Brian was able to go 172 mph with some problems. The following fall, they were able to go 197 mph. Closer! Finally in April of 2011, they went 200.7 mph!

Next they went to Loring AFB near Limestone, Maine. Brian managed

203.4 MPH in B/Blown Fuel Altered Coupe class. George went 202.6 mph in B/Blown Gas Altered Coupe class. The car was bumped to A/Blown Fuel Altered Coupe and Brian went 204.7. These were all records in their respective classes! The car liked the smoother surface of Loring AFB!

For 2012, the Geezers are getting more serious. The current Firebird has been retired and they bought a purpose built land speed 3<sup>rd</sup> Gen Firebird to race in the street legal classes. They are shooting for even faster speeds at a new track in Wilmington, OH. It is the former DHL runway that they were going to use for their 747s. The first event is April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, with other events in June, July, and September. The Geezers ultimate goal is to take their car to the Bonneville Salt Flats, pass tech, and break some records on the salt! Good luck guys!

Geezer Express Member John McLellan works for Lane Automotive, and he wanted us to know that they have a big Memorial Day car show. Lane Automotive is at Exit 41 off of I-94.

Also, the Kalamazoo Swap meet is the first weekend of February. Ron and Marsha Hammers' names were pulled for the club lotto, but they weren't present so the kitty grows for next month!

See you at the next meeting!  
Dan Jensen



Crazy about cars: George Turner of Hickory Corners stands with his 1987 Pontiac Firebird called "The Geezer Express".



# 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	616-540-8710
Vice President	Doug Troost	616-399-1423
Treasurer	Terri Miller	616-875-8069
Secretary	Dan Jensen	517-647-2474
Arrowhead Editor	ElaineVanZytveld	616-284-7939

**Tuesday, February 7**

**@ Famous Dave's in Grandville**

**There will be a presentation given by a detective**

**on Fraud Awareness**

**The meeting will start approximately 7:30. Come earlier for a bite to eat and socializing.**

Sadly, Dave Bennett the POCI president passed away Dec. 29. You can check POCI's website for more information and tribute.

REMINDER: WEST MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW  
JANUARY 26-29 AT DEVOS PLACE

ALSO

KALAMAZOO SWAP MEET : FEBRUARY 4-5 AT THE KALAMAZOO  
COUNTY EXPO CENTER AND FAIRGROUNDS

## 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

## WMPOCI 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