

The Arrowhead

West Michigan Chapter



August 2020

Chief's Chatter

Doug Troost-WMPOCI President

Well it sure has been a different summer with full lockdowns to partial lockdowns to mandatory mask wearing and with all forms of entertainment venues being canceled from car shows to music events. So, it is with great regrets that I have to inform you that our car show is cancelled. The Elhart Group considered the liability too high, so we must adhere to their wishes.

The Elhart Group has been very generous to our club for many years and we are grateful for that. Hopefully next year they can once again host our car show.

We all read and enjoy the *Smoke Signals* and I see that once again TIM DYE is receiving the GOLDEN QUILL AWARD. I receive some other monthly car magazines, but I consider *Smoke Signals* superior in quality and content. A Big "that-a-boy" to Tim Dye and his associate writers.

Because of no car show and a planning meeting not needed, the Tuesday night August 4th meeting is being moved to The Ver Hage Auto Museum. We will meet there at 7 PM on Tuesday August 4th, 2020. **Address is** : 343 E 8th Street, Holland, MI

Well we wanted summer and boy we got it. Makes for great cruising weather (little better if you have AC) While we wish it would cool off, before we know it, it will so, get out and drive those Pontiacs.

Doug

MEMBER'S SHARE

We look forward to an awesome story from Tom Ensing in the next issue.

Here are some pictures from our visit to Vander Zee Motorplex in South Haven.



Monthly meeting Minutes

We met at the McDonalds in Zeeland and cruised down to Vander Zee Motors in South Haven. Several members met us there because of their locations. Ray had arranged for us to gather in the upstairs room of the Three Blonde's Brewing, which is his daughter's business. We were served our supper selections and some sampled their brews.

Ray Vander Zee of Vander Zee Motors in South Haven shared his stories of growing up with his dad a Pontiac Dealer. His parents bought a farm in South Haven that grew produce and fruit and then another one which went well for several years. But when some bad years hit they needed an income.

So his dad got a job with the International Tractor Dealer in 1949. In 1957 he bought South Haven Auto Sales. Ray helped with sweeping floors for 25 cents a week. As he got older he began doing more of the jobs. They also had gas pumps so he was able to pump gas which included washing the windows, checking the oil and checking the air in the tires. Then he progressed to doing oil changes.

In 1963 he placed his first order for a car, a Lemans convertible. He detailed it when it arrived and it sold the next day. When the GTO's were coming out in 1964 he could not wait to see one after reading all the literature available. His dad was scheduled to attend a Dealer's meeting at Cobo Hall in Detroit. He begged his dad to request a ticket for him, too. He was 12 years old but when they arrived they learned that no women or children were allowed in the meeting. He waited in a room with the few women who were there. After a while he tried sneaking into the meeting room but was caught by a security guard. As the guard was escorting him out he spotted John DeLorean. After telling DeLorean all the facts he knew about a 1964 GTO and begging to get in he was successful.

He progressed to working in the Parts Dept, being the Service Advisor and Manager. In 1966 he was checking the cars as they arrived on the car hauler from Pontiac, MI. One day he was allowed to back a car off the hauler in late November when it was icy and snowing.

Later his dad wanted to go to an American Motors show at McCormick Place in Chicago. He chose to drive his Bonneville because it was more comfortable and would get there faster. As they arrived the parking lot attendant would not allow them to park there because it was not an AMC car.

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Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

He then showed pictures he had taken of our cars in the parking lot and made comments on several of them.

The first car he drove was a 1947 Silver Streak.

A few notes from President Doug Troost. Our next meeting/event will be a tour of the Ver Hage Motors Museum in Holland on August 4, 7 pm. We are still planning to have our September meeting at Holland State Park. Dan Jensen informed us that the Pure Stock Muscle Car Drags are still being held on September 18 & 19 at Michigan Motorplex near Stanton.

Scott Van Tamelen is planning our Fall Cruise/ color tour. The vote was to do an over-night trip to the Charlevoix and Petoskey area on October 9 & 10. Scott will pursue lodging and sightseeing plans.

In Dan Jensen's absence, Judy Hirdes

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 PM

Meet at the Ver Hage Auto Museum

343 E 8th Street, Holland, MI
(on the curve across from Russ" Eastown)

We will try to go somewhere for dessert afterwards.



2020 CLUB EVENTS

- August 4 7:00 PM, Ver Hage Auto Museum, Holland
September 1 Picnic at Holland State Park
October 9-10 Fall Cruise—Charlevoix/Petoskey
November 3 Valve Cover Races, Election of officers
December Christmas Dinner—Beechwood Inn, Holland

CRUISE INS

EVERY TUESDAY—FRICANOS in Comstock Park 4—10 PM
5808 Alpine Ave NW Through September 15
<https://www.fricanospizzaalpine.com/calendar/cruisenight>

EVERY WEDNESDAY—FRICANOS PLACE 5:30—8 PM
1050 W. Western Ave., Muskegon (weather permitting)

EVERY THURSDAY—ROCKFORD 5-8 PM
Flo's Wood Fired Pizza, 4425 14 Mile Road

EVERY THURSDAY through SEPTEMBER 24 4:30—8 PM
Das Essenhaus, 240 US 20, Middlebury, IN (weather permitting)

AREA EVENTS

Sunday, August 2 Noon—4 Rock & Drift
Don Miguel Restaurant, 1011 136th Ave., Holland

September 17-19 Pure Stock Muscle Car Drags—Stanton, MI

September 19 11 AM—3 PM Allendale Community Park
Proceeds to Veterans, Craft Show AutoBody Experts

Thurs., September 24 5-8 PM Ver Hage All Makes Car Show
343 E. 8th Street., Holland

Care Corner

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.

Check out our latest events and activities on our website

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	616-403-4416
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 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