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**PONTIAC-OAKLAND  
CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

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WEST MICHIGAN  
CHAPTER

**THE ARROWHEAD**

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Newsletter for the Pontiac Enthusiast

January 2007

West Michigan  
POCI

## ***January Meeting Minutes***

It was a bitter-sweet day for our first meeting of 2007. It wasn't but a couple hours before we gathered at Brann's Restaurant, that President Gerald R. Ford was laid to rest a few blocks away at his Presidential Museum. Since Gerald Ford had been in public service and part of our local news my whole life, I made it a point to watch the funeral activities all day on TV in the garage while I worked on engines. It was surreal to see all the national attention directed to Grace Episcopal Church in East Grand Rapids, on the corner of Hall and Plymouth, just a few blocks from my boyhood home. I used to ride my bike behind the church on a path that followed a creek further east deep into richer subdivisions. Who would have known that one day, many years later, that all of America's eyes would be watching where I used to play. My prayers went out to President Ford and his family.

A total of about 22 members showed up for the meeting, close to overflowing the number of seats Brann's had set up for our group! Former WMPOCI President Bob DeBoer opened the meeting by passing around a Thank You card from David's House for the embroidered vests we bought all the men for Christmas. It was a great feeling to know they all appreciated their gifts. Bob and Roxanne also brought our new club shirts to pass out after the meeting. Bob also wanted to thank Scott and Angie VanWyk for their great job of being our newsletter editors the last few years. Thanks for all the hard work from all of us! Bob's last official duty as the outgoing president was to introduce our new president, Doug Troost.

## ***January Meeting Minutes***

Before Doug dove into his list of topics to cover, he asked that our guest stand up and introduce himself. Greg Nicholson, from the Big Rapids area, heard about us and made a trip to see what the West MI Pontiac Club was all about. Greg currently owns a 1962 Grand Prix and his father has a 1933 Pontiac! We would all love to see both cars this summer!

Doug told us about the recent officer's meeting and what came of it. First and foremost, it was felt that the club needs some "supercharging", that is, we need to get more of our members involved with our activities, and that we need to recruit more members. One way to achieve that goal is to boost our advertising. Elhart Pontiac of Holland was approached and asked if they'd be willing to help cover the costs of advertising. They agreed readily as long as their name is in the ads. No one had any objections to that! To get more folks to come to the meetings, we will be having our own version of the Lotto. A kitty has been started and it will continue to build at every meeting until someone wins it all! To participate, you have to be at the meeting. One name will be drawn and if that person is there, they win the prize. If not, the kitty rolls over to the next meeting and the jackpot grows!

Doug thanked all last year's officers for their hard work with the club. He then introduced this year's officers who are President Doug Troost, Vice President Bob DeBoer, Newsletter Editors Greg and Melanie Thorwall, Treasurer Terri Miller (incumbent), and Secretary Dan Jensen (incumbent).

Continued on next page.



## January Meeting Minutes

Doug mentioned that our website needs some attention. Tom and Wanda Plochocki said they'd take a look at it to see if it was something they could handle. The main item that needs updating was our schedule of events for 2007. Though not finalized as of yet, Doug went over the tentative event schedule for 2007. (See opposite page.)

Wendell Miller volunteered to help Doug Kamphuis organize our August Car Show at Elhart Pontiac. Wendell also looked into the cost of renting a small van for the Detroit Autorama (March 9-22). It was determined that it is too costly @ \$129 per day. But if anyone is interested in going as a group, contact Doug Troost. Tom Plochocki reported on plans for this year's color tour. It will be during the weekend of October 19-21. The destination is a popular covered bridge in Indiana, about 50 miles west of Indianapolis.

Our guest speaker was our very own Tom Ensing, explaining all the trials and tribulations he endured during the restoration of his 1979 Trans AM. Tom found a very solid TA to work with and tore it down enough to put the body on a rotisserie so he could fix and detail the undersides. The results speak for themselves. The TA turned out beautifully.

Ironically, Tom and Sandy Ensing won the 50/50 drawing (\$15). Scott and Angie VanWky would have been our first Lotto Winners, but they had to leave the meeting early. The kitty will grow for the February meeting. Will you win it? Remember, you have to be there to win!!! See you in February.

Dan Jensen

## Chief's Chatter

The officers are pushing hard to get some exciting guest speakers. By the time you get this newsletter, Tom Ensing will have shown us his restoration on his Trans AM. There will be a meeting on digital cameras, accessories, and the ins and outs of picture taking, and a very special guest speaker, Don Heeringa, on his race through Mexico with a slide show. Only 200 Americans have ever entered this race. Tentatively at this point a speaker on detailing your car and products to use with little helpful hints to make your *Pontiac* look its best.

We also have celebrities in our club, "The Thorwall Family". Their '64 GTO is on display at the Gilmore's Car Museum in Hastings, Michigan, for the entire year of 2007. By the way in case you didn't know, they also are our new editors. Wow, what an honor for them and the club!

In closing, I'd like to thank our past officers: President for two years, Bob DeBoer, Vice-President for two years, Linda Kamphuis and Newsletter Editors for two years, Scott and Angie VanWyk. Thank you for all your time and efforts to keep our club strong. Without people like you, we would not have a club. So....think about volunteering to do something to help your club and keep the PONTIAC enthusiasm *ALIVE*.

Doug Troost



## Chief's Chatter

Well the holidays are over and 2006 is history and with that comes the changing of the guard. It happens on regular intervals around the world. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Buckingham Palace and other places, guards leave and the next ones silently take their place. The only difference with the PONTIAC CLUB is the replacements come in kicking and screaming, WHY ME? Well someone must do it, so I'll give it my best shot.

The new officers sat down for a thinking session at the end of December to try hard at coming up with some different and exciting meetings and activities. One thing we are going to try is a monthly attendance raffle. The details on how it works are in this newsletter, but everyone who is a member has a chance at winning some cold hard cash, so make sure you attend the monthly meetings.

Although it doesn't look like we will be having the Annual Auction we will still be having the Elhart Car Show (August) and the Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race (September). No one has an excuse not to help, that's why I'm telling you about it 8 months in advance (dates are in this newsletter). We'll still be having the dust off cruise, beach picnic, National POCI meet in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and color tour. Any input would be greatly appreciated and please let any one of the officers know if you would like to help plan any of the above events.

## 2007 West Michigan POCI Meeting Schedule

- February 7...**Tom Plochocki- Digital Cameras.
- March 7.....**Don Heeringa-owner of Trendway has a '54 Mercury custom built race car. Raced in Mexico for two years and in 2006, Nova Scotia.
- April 4.....**Rick Schaddelee-Detailing your Pontiac.
- May 2.....**Cruise to Gilmore's Car Museum with club meeting at Gilmore's.
- June 6.....**Potluck Picnic at Haggard Park (no desserts please). We will follow the leader for our dessert portion of the potluck, ending at an ice cream place.
- July 4.....**NO Meeting. POCI Convention in Tulsa, OK, July 10-14.
- August 1.....**Jim DeGraaf from Elhart will speak, along with final details of the Car Show.
- Sept 5.....**Picnic at the Holland State Park.
- October 3.....**Speaker: Bob and Rox DeBoer's son-in-law Matt- products that make a V-6 go fast!!
- November 7...**Build a Valve Cover Car to race at Dec. Meeting, Elections of Officers.
- December 5..**Valve Cover Races.



## *With Sympathy*

We want to extend our sympathy to former member Jimmie Hollebeck in the passing of Jimmie's mother on January 8, 2007. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family. Personal notes of sympathy can be sent to:

Jimmie Hollebeck  
3343 Woodward Drive  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

**Notice:** If anyone is going to the **Hot Rod Magazine Power Tour** and is going to Racine on June 4, 2007 and wants to take the Lakes Express Ferry, I have some spots open for the 10 AM crossing. Last check, the boat is full except for the open spots I have. Please call Vince Rasch at 616-813-8639.

### **Exciting New Item for Our Club 50/50 Meeting Attendance Raffle**

Here are the rules: The Club seeds \$25 kitty for a drawing that contains every member's name. During the meeting we sell 50/50 raffle tickets. 50% of the raffle ticket proceeds go to the winner of the pull at the meeting and the other 50% goes into the member kitty. At the end of the meeting we will pull a name from the member kitty, and if that member is not in attendance, the pot will roll over to the next month, where 50% of the 50/50 money from that meeting will be added to the pot. The pot will continue to grow until someone wins it. The club will only seed the kitty to start it and will start over when it is won.

Come to a meeting, meet some of your fellow club members, enjoy some great food and have a chance to win some cash! The amount of money in the Meeting Attendance Raffle kitty will be in the monthly newsletter along with the person's name who won or would have won if they had attended the meeting.

There is now \$40 in the Meeting Attendance Raffle.

## **2007 HERE WE COME!**

### **Some Highlights for the coming year!**

**March 9-11:** Detroit Autorama. The Club will be attending, probably on the 10th. Contact Doug Troost if you are interested. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$5 for ages 6-12 and under 5 is free. There will also be a charge for gas. How much depends on what and how many vehicles we will be using.

**May or June:** Dust Off Cruise. Date is not known at this time.

**June 2 & 3:** Midland Antique Car Show along with a flower/art show. Five double non-smoking rooms have been reserved in Doug Kamphuis' name. If you are attending, you need to put the room in your name. Cost is \$83.00 per night at the Fairview Inn in Midland. Phone: 989-631-0070. We didn't have a very good showing last year. Let's try to make up for it this year.

**July 10-14, 2007:** National Convention, Tulsa, OK.

**August 3, 2007:** Car Show-Elhart Pontiac, volunteers needed (This is our only fundraiser).

**September 14 & 15, 2007:** Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race-Dan Jensen, volunteers needed.

**October 19-21, 2007:** Color Tour-Covered Bridges in Indiana-Tom and Wanda Plochocki.

**Just a heads up: Dues may be increasing in 2008 to \$25.00 pending a member vote.**



# 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         | Doug Troost             | 616-399-1423 |
| 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 |

**Wednesday February 7, 2007 @ 7:00PM**

We will meet at Brann's on Leonard for the club meeting. Speaker Tom Plochocki will be on hand to discuss Digital Cameras. (As always, feel free to come earlier than 7 pm for Dinner!)



We would like to extend a warm welcome to a new Club Member who joined in January!

**Greg Nicholson from Big Rapids**

## 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](http://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