



**PONTIAC-OAKLAND  
CLUB INTERNATIONAL**

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**WEST MICHIGAN  
CHAPTER**

**THE ARROWHEAD**

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**Newsletter for the Pontiac Enthusiast**

**June 2013**

# *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   | Carl Thorwall     |              |
| Treasurer        | Terri Miller      | 616-875-8069 |
| Secretary        | Dan Jensen        | 517-647-2474 |
| Arrowhead Editor | Elaine VanZytveld | 616-284-7939 |

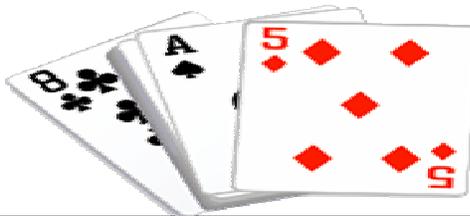
**June 4**

**We will meet at Famous Dave's.**

**We plan on leaving there at 7:00 to begin our Poker Run**

**So come earlier for instructions and to get a bite to eat if you want.**

**We will try to finish the night about 9:00 - 9:30.**



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

Is it human nature or just me that makes me wait until the last tick of the clock before writing the monthly letter?

I'd like to give a big Thanks to Jim Maddison for coming from the other side of the state to speak at last month's meeting. Jim was very informative about the demise of PONTIAC and the downfall of GM in the market. It seems hard to accept that a series of poor leaders spelled the end to our marques.

On the brighter side, the new web site seems to be working well. Every month new faces join us at our meetings, many of who find us via the Internet. A Big hand to the guys that keep our web site up to date. We really appreciate you!

We would like to welcome four new members this month. Robert and Margaret Chaplin and Mary Beth and Dan Maley from the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo area. We hope you enjoy your Pontiacs as much as we do.

Next month we have something new, a "POKER RUN". I can hardly wait so fill the old Poncho up with gas and oil and meet us at Famous Dave's for some driving fun.

See you then,

Doug

## May 2013 Meeting Report

Wow, we had beautiful weather for our May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting at Famous Dave's! Sunshine and temps in the 70s. About time! Perhaps that's one of the reasons 32 members and guests were in attendance! It was good to see Herb and Judy Howes back too. Herb had knee surgery recently, and looks to be on the mend! President Doug Troost reported that our April Dust Off cruise to Shipshawana was a big success! He thanked Doug and Linda Kamphuis, as well as Bob McCarthy for organizing the cruise.

Terri Miller presented her Treasurer's Report and she's happy to report that we are still in good financial shape.

For next month's meeting, we will be having a Poker Run, organized by Ron and Elaine VanZytveld. We will meet at Famous Dave's first, and begin our run from there. Eventually, we will end up at the VanZytveld's home, and wind things up between 9 and 9:30 PM. See details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Doug asked for a show of hands of those who were planning to go to the Convention this summer in Dayton, Ohio. Surprisingly, not many raised their hands. All I can say, this will be the biggest all-Pontiac show ever, and it may never happen again. Plus it is fairly close to home. If you can spare the time, I can promise you, you won't regret going.

Our guest speaker was Jim Mattison, owner of PHS (formally known as Pontiac Historic Services). Jim has spent his entire career with the auto industry, starting out at Chevrolet, handling the COPO orders in the late sixties. He then went on owning several businesses tied with the auto industry, ultimately starting PHS in the early 90's. The topic of Jim's presentation was his perspective of the death of our beloved Pontiac Motor Division. It all began in 1992 when the GM Board went outside the corporation to hire new leadership. That new leadership decided to merge Pontiac and GMC Divisions. To Jim's eye, it was a takeover. It's unfortunate that all the managers in charge, from this point on, did not have Pontiac's best interests in mind. None of them made any attempt to preserve Pontiac's "excitement" image that earlier managers had created, starting with Bunkie Knudsen in the late 50's. The only bright spots were Bob Lutz and Jim Bunnell who pushed to get exciting cars for Pontiac like the new GTO, the Solstice, and the G8. But it was too little, too late. The GM bankruptcy had them crawling to the federal government for help, with their car czar saying they had too many divisions. The

result was GM dumping Hummer, Saturn, and either Buick or Pontiac. Even though Pontiac outsold Buick six to one in the US, Buicks were popular in the emerging China market because they were status symbols there. (U.S. Generals drove Buicks there during WWI and WWII.) With that, Pontiac officially closed its doors October 31, 2010.

On a brighter note, Karen Shillito won the 50/50 raffle of \$39.50! Then Tom Ensing won the attendance drawing, worth \$89.00! Congratulations to both!

See you June 4<sup>th</sup> at Famous Dave's for our Poker Run!

Dan Jensen

### **POKER RUN**

We will meet at Famous Dave's where you will be given your first card. We intend to leave there at 7:00. We will be making three other stops where you will receive another card at each. The last stop will be at the VanZytveld's where you will receive your last card. Maps of the route will be handed out at Famous Dave's in case someone lags behind. We won't be going far because of time restrictions. People would like to wrap up the evening about 9:00 - 9:30. The winners will be determined and prizes awarded. We will have a short meeting and dessert to finish the evening.

Even though this is called a Poker **Run** it is not a race. We will be getting to the stops at roughly the same time. The idea is to have a fun safe night.

**This was the sign on the hotel door welcoming our group for the Dust Off in Shipshewana.**



**This was the group that attended the overnight Dust Off**



# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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 WMPOCI



West Michigan POCI  
4101 Byron Rd  
Hudsonville MI 49426